

NEW PRIZE RULES.

GERMANY CAUSES APPREHENSION IN WASHINGTON.

Possible That Submarine Activities Will Again be Brought into Question—No Statement at Present.

Washington, April 22.—Press dispatches from Berlin announcing important amendments to the German prize rules were noted at the state department today with some concern.

Officials will await the text of these amendments before making any statements for publication, but apprehension is expressed privately that if the new rules are outlined correctly in the dispatches, they make a notable advance by Germany towards the absolute exclusion of neutral commerce from the high seas.

Difficulty in maintaining the right of neutral nations to ship conditional contraband to other neutral powers is foreseen by officials as a result of adoption as a German prize rule of the same provision as that in the British order in council regarding goods consigned "to order" over which there has been so much discussion.

Since submarines alone of the German naval craft can navigate the open seas now, it is supposed that enforcement of these new rules would be accompanied by assertions of right to destroy ships and cargo on the plea of inability to take them into port.

A reflection of the views of the American government on this subject probably will appear in the note to be addressed to Germany in regard to the case of the American ship William P. Frye, sunk in the South Atlantic by the German cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich.

THE U. C. V. REUNION.

Officers Re-elected and Committee Appointed to Lobby for More Pensions.

Columbia, April 22.—Major General B. H. Teague was re-elected commander of the South Carolina division, U. C. V., at the meeting this morning. H. H. Newton, of Bennettsville, was elected commander of the First Brigade and C. A. Reed, of Anderson, re-elected commander of the Second Brigade. The selection of the next place of meeting was left with General Teague.

The annual reunion was brought to a close this afternoon with a great parade. The annual ball will be danced at the Jefferson Hotel tonight.

The veterans took up a large part of the session this morning with a discussion of the pension money, and finally adopted a resolution to name a committee to look after the passage by the Senate of the Smith bill, removing the property qualification on pensioners and letting all Confederate soldiers and widows of soldiers share in the pensions. Several rapped the State for "parsimony" in the amount of pensions appropriated.

KRONPRINZ LEAVES BERTH.

German Cruiser Now at Anchor in Harbor, With Armed Guard Around Her.

Newport News, Va., April 22.—The German converted cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm was floated from drydock at the shipyard here today, after having had her hull painted and repaired. She was towed to an anchorage in the harbor and tonight the guard from Fort Monroe returned to that post. New boiler tubes for the vessel arrived today and will be installed by shipyard mechanics.

WOMAN ASSAULTED TEACHER.

Mrs. Hattie Ponder Fined \$50 for Assault on School Teacher.

Spartanburg, April 22.—Mrs. Hattie Ponder, wife of a prominent citizen of the Dutchman section of Spartanburg county, pleaded guilty in the court of general sessions here today to the charge of assault upon Miss Nannie Huckabee, the school teacher whom she attacked last February at the school house in Dutchman, and was fined \$50. Judge Smith said that he would decline to accompany his sentence with a reprimand, but took occasion to state that the teacher was acting within her rights in punishing the child of the defendant, and that Mrs. Ponder had not shown the proper discretion in forcing an interview on Miss Huckabee.

Miss Huckabee had punished Mrs. Ponder's son, which enraged the mother to such an extent as to cause her to attack the teacher with a whip.

THAW WINS VICTORY.

Jury to Pass Upon His Sanity at Last.

New York, April 23.—Justice Kenrick today handed down a decision granting Harry Thaw a hearing before a jury to determine whether he is insane. The trial is set for May seventeenth. Thaw took the long sought victory calmly and smiling.

HAD BIG TRADE BALANCE.

EXCESS OF EXPORTS OVER IMPORTS DURING MARCH SAID TO HAVE BEEN \$140,969,347.

Complete Fiscal Year May Show a Total Exportation of About \$2,750,000,000—Best Record in History.

Washington, April 22.—Excess of American exports over imports in March this year was \$140,969,347, the largest favorable trade balance for March in the history of the American commerce. Exports for the month were \$298,009,563 and imports \$157,040,216.

"For the nine months ending with March," says a department of commerce statement tonight, "imports have decreased from \$1,401,844,183 in 1912-13 to \$1,398,352,578 in 1913-14 and \$1,213,671,843 in the current year. Exports, which receded from \$1,908,058,373 in the first nine months of the fiscal year 1912-13 to \$1,883,221,915 in 1913-14, have now reached the unparalleled total of \$1,933,475,580, indicating that the complete fiscal year may show a total exportation of approximately \$2,750,000,000."

Gold imports during March aggregate \$25,620,467, against \$7,842,24 in March, 1914. Exports were \$923,891, against \$2,632,049 in March, 1914.

BARNES LIBEL SUIT.

Roosevelt Still on the Stand Telling His Opinion of His Political Enemy.

Syracuse, April 23.—Col. Roosevelt continued on the stand at the libel suit trial today. He testified once that he regarded Barnes as a Jekyll and Hyde person. He tried to reform him but eventually Hyde "swallowed up the Jekyll element." There was considerable acrimony at times. Immense crowds are present and Roosevelt is being lionized by the people.

NEGRO SAFE IN PRISON.

Jules Smith is Said to Have Confessed Assault on White Woman.

Columbia, April 23.—Jule Smith, a negro, wanted in Fairfield county for assault upon a white woman, was captured near Blythewood early yesterday and rushed to the State penitentiary for safekeeping. Smith is said to have made a full confession of his act to his captors.

The crime was committed last Tuesday about eight miles northeast of Winnsboro. Continuously since that time the fugitive has been chased in the direction of Columbia by indignant citizens and Sheriff Hood of Fairfield county and his deputies. To avert a lynching yesterday, the prisoner was turned over with dispatch to Sheriff Hood, who hurried him to the penitentiary.

J. M. Hawley, a citizen of Blythewood, caught the negro. Mr. Hawley put the negro in charge of Dr. Langford, a magistrate, and his deputy. These officials transferred their charge to Sheriff Hood.

Smith was first seen in the Blythewood community by D. B. Boney, a merchant, as the negro walked along the railroad track. Smith was recognized and when ordered to halt turned and fled.

Sheriff McCain was notified over telephone of the appearance of the negro in Blythewood and together with W. C. Cathcart and Jule Isom hurried to Blythewood in an automobile. Mr. Isom's bloodhounds were taken along to trail the negro.

Smith has been in trouble in Richland county at different times on the charges of housebreaking and larceny.

FLOOD IN TEXAS.

Many Drowned and Enormous Property Damage Reported. Special to The Daily Item.

Austin, April 23.—Fifteen are dead, and enormous property damage has been done by floods in this section of Texas today. Later reports are expected to increase the number of dead. Unconfirmed reports state that thirty-five have been drowned. Communication with the flood districts is interrupted. Many railroad tracks have been washed out.

BUSINESSES HOUSES SUSPEND.

Flood Causes Much Damage in Texas Towns.

The Brazos rose eleven feet eight inches after the rainfall of three hours. The lightning and wind caused considerable damage. Many business houses have suspended operations in Austin, Waco, Dallas and Fort Worth.

Flood Victims Recovered.

Austin, April 24.—Seventeen bodies of flood victims have been recovered from the debris in Austin and surrounding cities. Twelve are still missing. No trains are running into Austin. The flood is moving southward, menacing many towns.

NATION AIDED THE SOUTH.

HOW M'ADOO CAME TO RESCUE OF THIS SECTION FROM DESPERATE SITUATION.

Member of Federal Reserve Board Writes to Southern Club at Chicago Telling What Wilson Administration Has Done for South.

Washington, April 22.—W. P. G. Harding, member of the federal reserve board, in a letter to J. L. Hughes of the Southern Club of Chicago, a copy of which was made public here tonight, tells at length what the Wilson administration, through Secretary McAdoo, did for the South during the past nine months, which he characterizes as one of the most "desperate" situations that he had ever seen in his 28 years of banking experience.

Among the things done by Mr. McAdoo, as enumerated by Mr. Harding, were his recommendation of a bureau of war risk insurance, his work for a government owned merchant marine and his indorsement of the establishment of a cash fund of \$100,000,000 to be subscribed by the banks throughout the non-cotton producing States, out of which loans should be made on cotton.

"Under the conditions that prevailed last fall," said Mr. Harding, "the creation of a fund of this magnitude to be loaned upon a commodity which was then regarded as unmarketable, was a tremendous undertaking, but Secretary McAdoo devoted all of his energy and ability to the task. In the face of enormous odds he was successful and as soon as it became evident that he would succeed in raising the fund a demand for cotton, at prices slightly above the loan values fixed, sprang up, and this demand has continued without intermission, so that the best grades are now selling in the South at around 10 cents per pound, a price, which, in the opinion of experts, is as great as would have obtained had there been no war. While the benefit of the cotton loan fund was therefore confined to its moral effect, it was unquestionably a great factor in restoring confidence and in initiating a movement of cotton which has developed beyond all expectations.

"Having lived in the South all my life, and having been engaged in the banking business 28 years before coming to Washington last summer, I feel warranted in saying that I have never seen a situation in the South apparently so desperate as that which existed last fall, that was worked out so rapidly and as satisfactorily, and I wish to say that never before within my recollection has a secretary of the treasury devoted as much time and energy to the solution of Southern problems, nor shown such knowledge of and sympathetic interest in the necessities of that section. The relief afforded the South by Secretary McAdoo was intelligent and effective and his spirit of helpfulness was restrained only by the limitations of law and the obligations of his oath of office. The deeds and motives of the administration will be more and more appreciated in the South with the passing of time."

PROMISES TO GIVE DETAILS.

Mayor Grace is Having Report Compiled on Charleston Law Enforcement.

Columbia, April 23.—Answering a telegram from Gov. Manning, Mayor Grace of Charleston wired yesterday that he was having a detailed report prepared on the law enforcement campaign in that city.

Yesterday morning Gov. Manning sent the following telegram to the Charleston executive: "Your telegram received. Am I to understand that it is a final answer to my request for a report giving names and places? Please wire answer."

Later in the day Mayor Grace sent the following telegram to the governor:

"Answering your telegram of today, my telegram of yesterday was not intended as a report but a reply. I am having the chief of police make up a detailed statement, to be submitted to me as soon as possible, certainly within a few days, and I will then advise to what we have done."

Gov. Manning yesterday refused to discuss the Charleston situation. He said that he was waiting for results.

RE-ELECTS OFFICERS.

High School Oratorical and Track Association Meets.

Columbia, April 23.—All of the officers of the South Carolina Inter-high School Oratorical and Track association were re-elected at a meeting held yesterday afternoon at the University of South Carolina. The officers are: R. C. Burtis, Rock Hill, president; W. D. Roberts, Clio; D. T. Kinard, Dillon; J. B. Coleman, University of South Carolina, vice president; M. E. Brockman, Greenville, secretary and treasurer; F. H. H. Calhoun, Clemson, member of executive committee.

MARION SHOOTING MYSTERIOUS

THREE MEN AT GRESHAM AROUSE SUSPICION AND ARE FOLLOWED BY CITIZENS.

Marion Man Shot in Wood and Strangers Flee to Dillon—Boarded A. C. L. Freight and Escaped.

Marion, April 22.—Late Wednesday afternoon Mr. Whaley, a young white man, and two friends noticed that three men were concealed in the bushes near the railway at Gresham, on the North and South Carolina railroad, in this county. Arming themselves the three citizens went out to investigate, two going in one direction and Mr. Whaley in the other. The latter was the first to come upon the suspects, and when he asked them what they were doing around there, they replied "Attending to our own business and you had better leave." After this remark they began to walk away into the woods, and Mr. Whaley followed them to a wire fence, which the suspects crossed. As Mr. Whaley started to cross the fence the larger of the three men told him not to come any further, but Mr. Whaley continued to climb. The large man raised his pistol and shot Mr. Whaley in the abdomen, inflicting a serious wound. Mr. Whaley's companions, hearing the shot, rushed to the scene and found Mr. Whaley, but the men had disappeared into a swamp. Friends phoned to this city for Sheriff Dozier, who left for the scene promptly, taking Rural Officer Davis with him. They began an all-night chase, beginning at Gresham, where the strangers got back on the railroad, which they followed to Mullins. At the latter place the sheriff found that the men wanted had just passed Smithboro, headed for Dillon, and were concealed in a box car. Dillon was advised to be on the lookout, but when Sheriff Dozier reached Dillon it was found that the N. and C. freight, upon which the men reached Dillon, arrived there just at the time a northbound freight on the Atlantic Coast Line pulled in, and the suspects quickly changed trains and made a get-away. Mr. Whaley, in speaking of the appearance of the men, said that two of them were white men, one a large man and the other a small man, and that the third party was a negro. One of the trio carried a bag, which appeared to be partially filled with tools, this latter fact giving cause for the belief that the men were yeggs.

CAMDEN MAN STRUCK BY TRAIN.

Cotton Mill Manager Hurt When Thrown from Motorcycle in Front of Train.

Camden, April 23.—J. W. Monroe, manager of the Pine Creek cotton mill of the Parker merger, was horribly mangled by this afternoon's Southern train while attempting to cross the track at Sixteenth street near the cotton mill. It is said that Mr. Monroe was riding at his usual motorcycle gait and did not see the train in time to stop at the crossing but attempted to turn down the track when the pedal of the machine struck an extended cross-tie and threw him in the centre of the track, where he lay when struck by the train.

One of his legs was mashed so badly above the knee that it will be necessary to amputate it. His head was severely gashed and it is thought possibly that his skull was crushed. His body also received severe injuries. The cowcatcher threw him to a side of the track and the steps of the passenger coaches were blood spattered, showing that they also struck him.

The train was stopped and the young man was put on board and hurried to the station, about one mile distant. Dr. Burnett was at the station at the train's arrival and did everything possible for him. An ambulance was summoned and the injured man was taken to the hospital, where it is said that there is a fighting chance for recovery.

Mr. Monroe came to Camden from Greenville a few months ago to assume the position of manager of the Pine Creek cotton mill, made vacant by the resignation of J. J. Workman. Mr. Monroe is a young man 27 years of age.

Several weeks ago he was thrown severely from his motorcycle and suffered several broken bones and only during the past few days has been able to ride it again. He has been very cautious since then while riding.

He is originally from New Orleans, where his father is a prominent judge of the circuit court.

His mother and sister arrived in Camden only a few days ago and were visiting him at the time of the accident.

He has a brother who is a prominent business man in Cleveland, Ohio. Until he recovers from the shock the extent of his injuries can not be ascertained or an amputation attempted.

Hon. Geo. M. Stuckey, senator from Lee county, is spending a few days with his brother, Dr. H. M. Stuckey.

ENDORSE BOND ISSUE.

DIRECTORS OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RECOMMEND INCREASE IN SCHOOL EQUIPMENT.

Resolutions Adopted Endorsing Plan of City School Board to Purchase Additional Land and Erect New Building—Secretary Directed to Circulate Petition for Bond Election.

At a special meeting of the directors of the Sumter Chamber of Commerce the question of maintaining adequate and up-to-date school facilities for this city was up for consideration. The directors agreed that Sumter, having outgrown its present equipment for public school purposes, is a splendid indication of the progress of Sumter.

The directors further felt that the past results in better citizenship, obtained through Sumter city schools, shows that no better investment can possibly be made than keeping up the most efficient educational institutions within Sumter's financial ability.

It was pointed out that Jacksonville, Fla., which city has made wonderful strides and bids fair to be one of the leading cities of the country has recently voted one million dollars for increasing its school efficiency, and Columbia, S. C., another splendid example of industrial and municipal progress has voted a quarter of a million dollars also for additional school buildings, additional teachers, etc.

Sumter, while smaller than either of the above mentioned cities, nevertheless enjoys an enviable national reputation for efficiency in its city schools. That this city has such a great demand for education among its boys and girls that every few years it is necessary to erect more school buildings and employ more teachers is the surest evidence of Sumter's growth and progress.

The Chamber of Commerce directors, successful and progressive business men and financiers, are quick to grasp the importance of keeping up Sumter's better citizenship enterprises. The following resolutions adopted by the directors show that these business men appreciate the value of education.

Whereas, the Sumter Chamber of Commerce representing the organized business and other interests of this city, has ever since its first organization fully appreciated and recognized the great value of the splendid city school system of Sumter.

And Whereas, it is a well established principle of progress in every important prosperous city in the United States of America that the very best and most efficient public school systems are the most valuable methods of industrial progress as recognized by millions of dollars being spent annually to thoroughly equip their schools.

Therefore Be It Resolved by The Board of Directors of The Sumter Chamber of Commerce that we do hereby endorse the plan to increase the school facilities of Sumter school district No. 17, acquiring additional real estate and the erection of needed buildings, and to levy a tax of one mill for the employment of additional teachers.

And Be It Further Resolved, That the Sumter Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors fully realize that the city of Sumter should furnish ample school facilities so that every boy and girl of this city shall have adequate opportunity to secure needed education.

And with this end in view, we do hereby authorize the managing secretary of the Sumter Chamber of Commerce to immediately circulate or cause to be circulated, the necessary petitions for the signatures of the necessary number of qualified electors and freeholders asking the city Board of Education to order a special election to determine whether or not the said school district shall issue coupon bonds, not exceeding the sum of \$50,000.00, and bearing interest payable semi-annually, at not exceeding 6 per cent, due and payable twenty years from date of issue.

G. A. Lemmon, V. Pres. E. I. Reardon, Managing Secretary, Sumter Chamber of Commerce.

COTTON VESSEL HELD.

Britain to Purchase Southerner's Cargo.

London, April 22.—The Danish steamer Southerner, from Charleston for Rotterdam with cotton, has been detained at Falmouth, pending negotiations by Great Britain for purchase of the cargo.

ASKS FOR CLEMENCY.

Petition for Leo M. Frank is Filed. Atlanta, Ga., April 22.—Attorney for Leo M. Frank today filed a petition with Gov. Slaton and the Georgia prison commission, asking that the sentence of death imposed upon Frank for the murder of Mary Phagan be commuted to life imprisonment.

ASSAULT AND THEN ROBBERY.

NEGRO CHARGED WITH ENTERING GREENVILLE HOME.

Commits Double Crime and Then Escapes—Sheriff and Posse Search for Fugitive.

Greenville, April 25.—Sheriff Hendrix Rector and a posse are scouring the upper end of this county and also Fickens in search of a negro who Saturday night at 8.30 o'clock entered the home of a white woman near Traveler's Rest, in the upper section of this county, and after assaulting her robbed the house. The negro called in the afternoon and talked to the woman and asked where was her husband. He retired to the woods until dark and then surprised her.

A negro suspect was arrested early this morning by the sheriff, but he was not the man, according to the victim. She said the negro had bad scars on both cheeks and no mustache; the man caught had the scars but a mustache. He also proved a good alibi.

Reports are that the citizens in the upper part of the county are aroused and several have called at the jail to know if the right negro had been caught, promising a visit in case he had.

Sheriff Rector announced that he would not bring the negro here, but would hurry him to Columbia in case he catches him tonight.

FIGHT FOR JOHNSON'S SEAT.

Candidates for Congress from Fourth District Open Campaign in Greenville County.

Spartanburg, April 24.—The congressional campaign in the Fourth South Carolina district opened last night at Judson mill in Greenville county. The race is for the seat made vacant by the resignation of Joseph T. Johnson of this city, who has been appointed judge of the newly created district of western South Carolina. At the meeting last night Spartanburg was represented by three candidates for the office, S. J. Nicholls, R. J. Gantt and I. C. Blackwood. B. A. Morgan of Greenville spoke also. So far he is the only candidate from Greenville county. Union county will be represented in the race by W. W. Johnson of Union. The date of the election has not been set.

EXAMINING BOARD TO MEET.

Will Pass Upon the Qualifications of Militia Officers Recently Elected.

Columbia, April 25.—Appointment of a board to examine the newly elected officers of the National Guard of South Carolina has been announced by W. W. Moore, adjutant general. The examination will be held in Columbia, May 6. The election was held April 17.

Members of the examining board are: W. W. Moore, adjutant general; Henry T. Thompson, brigadier general; C. H. Cabaniss, military secretary to the governor; John D. Frost, major, quartermaster corps, and J. Shapter Caldwell, major, inspector general.

The order in part follows:

"Lieut. Col. H. B. Springs and Maj. E. M. Blythe, colonels-elect; Maj. J. H. Claffy and Capt. P. K. McCully, lieutenant colonels-elect, and Capt. R. F. Watson and Dibert Jackson, majors-elect, will report for examination at Columbia May 6.

"Majs. W. B. Moore, A. L. Silcox and J. W. Bradford, having been elected to command the Second battalion, First infantry; First battalion, Second infantry, and Third battalion, Second infantry, respectively, are hereby directed to assume command of these organizations without further examination."

An election for major, Third battalion, First infantry, National Guard, was held yesterday. The candidates were W. J. Tiller of Chesterfield and R. B. McKorrell of Hartsville. The result will be announced this week by the adjutant general.

RICHLAND DISPENSARY LEADS.

Statement for March Business in 15 Counties Compiled by Auditor.

Columbia, April 25.—The dispensaries in 15 counties of the State sold \$240,548.23 worth of whiskey in March, according to a statement issued by L. L. Bultman, State dispensary auditor. The operating expenses amounted to \$16,433.75. The Richland dispensaries led in the matter of sales with a total of \$51,453.54. The operating expenses for the county amounted to \$3,434.88. The expenses for the State auditor's office were \$496.30.

Following are the sales by counties: Aiken \$10,903.40, Bamberg \$9,478.01, Barnwell \$8,738.86, Beaufort \$8,928.15, Calhoun \$4,346.95, Charleston \$38,914.61, Dorchester \$6,832.90, Florence \$28,993.94, Georgetown \$11,327.92, Jasper \$1,662.20, Lexington \$12,504.22, Orangeburg \$20,746.55, Richland \$51,453.54, Union \$12,806.33, Williamsburg \$4,766.55.