

WEATHER FORECAST.

North Carolina—Cloudy tonight and Tuesday probably rain, continued cool. South Carolina—Cloudy tonight and Tuesday, probably rain.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

FINAL EDITION

VOL. XXIII. NO 109.

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, MONDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 7, 1917.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

ROAD CHOKED WITH HUNGRY AND DYING

Turks Force Jewish Population of Jaffa, Palestine, to Flee.

SOME WERE HANGED TO ACT AS EXAMPLE

Homes Were Raided and Robbed of Valuables and People in General Cruelly Mistreated — Many Mutilated Bodies Found

(By Associated Press.) New York, May 7.—The entire Jewish population of Jaffa, Palestine, about 5,000 men, women and children of many nationalities, were forced by the Turks, on April 1, to evacuate their homes and flee from the city, according to a cablegram received here today by the Provisional Executive committee for general Zionist affairs.

The roads leading from Jaffa were thronged with starving people some dying by the roadside, and mutilated bodies of rich Jews were found on the sand dunes, the message said.

Two Jews were hanged, "as an indication of the fate in store for any Jews who might be so foolhardy" as to oppose looters. Bedouin men and women sacked the Jewish homes while the dwellers were departing and all valuables were stolen. Mohammedans and Christians were allowed to remain if they had individual permits, the cablegram stated, but every Jew, even those who were Austrian, Hungarian, Bulgarian and German, was ordered out.

Prior to the evacuation of Jaffa the message said, 300 Jews were deported "in a cruel manner" from Jerusalem. The Zionist committee, said the cablegram, was reliably-informed and from one whose name they withheld for fear the Turks might visit the sender with retribution if they learned his identity.

LOUISIANA SUGAR CROP DOUBLES LAST YEAR'S

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 7.—The Louisiana sugar crop of 1916 was practically twice as great as the crop of 1915.

Figures compiled by the Department of Agriculture show the 1916 crop was 67,500,000 pounds, as against 27,500,000 pounds in 1915. The average cane yield was 15 tons an acre in 1916 as against 11 tons in 1915.

THOMAS TO BE GIVEN LIBERTY

Governor Pardons Bank Cashier Sentenced to Prison—State Com. Organizes

(Special to The Dispatch.) Raleigh, N. C., May 7.—Governor Bickett pardons Thomas Thomas, convicted of false entries in the Bank of North Carolina, and sentenced by Judge Stacy for two years.

The announcement was made this afternoon. Governor Bickett gives eight reasons for his act, which was universally urged, save opposition of a Methodist minister. Thomas was shown evidence of personal use of any money, but cashed his father's overdrafts when the senior Thomas was fellow officer. Judge Stacy did not oppose the pardon and Judge Oliver Allen, urged it. Judge Stacy was quoted favorably toward it, but felt he could not acquit him on a nolo contendere plea.

Governor Bickett, in pardoning Thomas today, gave him liberty on the burial of his favorite sister, Mrs. G. D. Potter, who died last evening in a Richmond hospital. Mrs. Potter dying in his infancy, his mother had him in his infancy. She went to the seek the pardon.

GENERAL INCREASE IN FREIGHT RATES HEARING BEGUN

The Eastern Railroads State Their Case Before Interstate Commerce Commission

GREAT INCREASE IN MAINTENANCE COST

Shown in Tables Giving Prices of Material at Present Compared With Few Years Ago

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 7.—Hearings on the proposed 15 per cent. freight rate increases were begun here today before the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The railroads were represented by counsel having a great quantity of statistical matter intended to prove that the railroads as well as he public are feeling the increased cost of living and to show that the increased revenue which would be derived from a 15 per cent. advance would not in fact, cover the higher expenses. Shippers who oppose the increase were represented by counsel who intended later to show that railroad earnings have been proportionately high notwithstanding what is alleged to be over capitalization, and that at best only a few roads may need increased revenues. This class of shippers contends that if increases are needed for some roads they should not be accomplished by blanket raise in rates covering the entire country.

By its order, fixing procedure in the case, the Interstate Commerce Commission has very largely put the responsibility for showing the need of advanced rates squarely on the railroads.

Eastern railroads, at the opening on the application of all roads for a general increase of 15 per cent. in freight rates, stated that the advance sought would fall \$75,000,000 short of the \$217,000,000 increase of 1917 operating expenses over 1916.

Cost of coal, wages and materials has gone up so rapidly in the last year or two, declared the eastern roads, who will be followed by southern and western lines, and by shippers, that income from present rates cannot keep pace. Higher rates are necessary to maintain their credit and to make efficient service possible, they said.

The proposed 15 per cent. advance would yield all railroads a sum estimated at between \$300,000,000 and \$400,000,000, based on last year's record earnings. Of this amount, roads east of Chicago and north of the Ohio and Potomac rivers, operating 60,000 miles of line and carrying about half the country's traffic, stated today their share would be \$142,000,000.

Coal has advanced an average of 84 cents a ton in the last year, and eastern roads consumed 69,000,000 tons.

Wages under the Adamson Act add \$36,000,000 to the eastern pay roll, and increases to other employes, declared necessary to keep men from going to other industries, amounted to \$33,000,000, making a 10 per cent. average wage boost since last year. An average advance of 43 per cent. was shown in cost of such material as rails, ties, ballast structural steel for bridges and stations, other metal manufactures, equipment parts and oil. In addition, the carriers cited unprecedented increase, not included in the tables, in prices of locomotives, some of which have gone from \$33,000 in 1914 to \$55,000 this year, and freight cars, whose prices have jumped in many instances from \$825 in 1914 to \$1,800.

Last year's earnings, though the largest ever recorded, made only a 6.53 per cent. net income on investments, the eastern roads stated, and the average charge for hauling freight has decreased gradually for the past 14 years.

By intensive development of existing railroad systems, the carriers pointed out, they had been able since 1903 to keep pace in a measure with the growing demand for transportation, but the diminishing return on

Easier If We Could Feed 'em This Way



U. S. TROOPS TO GO TO FRANCE

ELABORATE PLANS FOR RECEPTION

Of Foreign Commissioners in New York City — Columbia University Confer Degrees

(By Associated Press.) New York, May 7.—Plans have been completed for New York's reception to the French and British war commissions and, according to announcement today, a program is contemplated that will eclipse anything since "Dewey Day."

The French commission will reach New York Wednesday afternoon, and almost at the same depot at the Battery where LaFayette landed in 1824 they will be met by an escort of cavalry and police and taken to City Hall, where the official welcome will be extended.

The decoration in City Hall will include the tattered battle flags and bunting that saw service under Washington and LaFayette.

The French commissioners then will be escorted to the home of Henry C. Frick, the residence of the commissioner during their stay in the city.

The British commission is expected to reach the city on Friday. During the visit of the commissioners degrees will be conferred by Columbia University, which long had close, personal and academic relations with the Sorbonne and other universities of France and with Oxford and Cambridge and the Scottish Universities.

KAISER WILLIAM TO CROWN PRINCE

Telegram to Latter On His Thirty-Fifth Birthday, Wishing Victory

(By Associated Press.) Amsterdam, May 7 (Via London).—The German Empire has sent the following telegram to the Crown Prince: "Your birthday falls this year in a serious and decisive time. In grateful and full confidence the Fatherland and I look upon you and the other battle fronts, which imperturbably resist all attacks and which will stand invincible in the new battles. God grant the Fatherland, in your new year of life, a full victory and a peace filled with blessings."

ORDER ISSUED THIS AFTERNOON

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 7.—The War Department announced today that orders had been sent out for the raising of nine regiments of engineers for duty at the earliest possible moment on the communication lines in France. These troops will be in addition to the forces contemplated in the Administration's army plans.

Recruiting points for the regiments will be Atlanta, New York City, St. Louis, Chicago, Boston, Pittsburgh, Detroit, San Francisco and Philadelphia.

This order may include the Wilmington company of engineers, recently returned from the Mexican border and now doing patrol duty at different parts of the State. This organization is composed of nearly all Wilmington men and with Wilmington officers, headed by Captain Gillette.

AVIATOR ROBINSON A GERMAN PRISONER

(By Associated Press.) London, May 7.—News was received today from Geneva, confirming the report that Lieutenant William Lee Robinson, of the Royal Flying Corps, has not been killed, as was announced last month, but is a prisoner of the Germans.

CORONER'S JURY PROBES CASE TODAY

Sensational Developments Expected in the Hale Tragedy This Afternoon

(By Long Distance Phone.) Burgaw, N. C., May 7.—Sensational developments are expected from probe of the alleged murder of J. T. Hale, one of Pender county's well known citizens, whose dead body was found several hundred yards from his home, near Rocky Point, Saturday afternoon. The discovery of the body, bearing three pistol wounds, caused a sensation, which was increased when the coroner's jury ordered the arrest of D. L. Hale, a younger brother of the deceased, who was brought here and placed in jail.

Just what evidence there is against him had not been divulged up to 2:30 o'clock this afternoon and will hardly be until the coroner's jury meets and probes the case. The jury is to meet at Rocky Point this afternoon and Coroner H. A. Burton, of Pender, has gone from here to that town to conduct the investigation. Domestic trouble is said to have figured in the tragedy and which first cast suspicion upon the accused man.

FRENCH MISSION FETED IN ST. LOUIS

Parade Across the City Preceded by Breakfast—Gold Medals for the Frenchmen

(By Associated Press.) St. Louis, May 7.—The welcome accorded former Premier Viviani, Marshal Joffre and other members of the French war mission at the coliseum last night was outdone today when the distinguished visitors took part in a parade that crossed the city.

The parade was preceded by a breakfast in honor of the city's guests at the Missouri Athletic Association, where 700 prominent citizens toasted France and the United States.

Mayor Kiel, of St. Louis, who was to have delivered a welcoming address at the breakfast, was unable to be present because of illness. The mayor, however, appeared in time for the parade and took his place in the first automobile with M. Viviani and Marshal Joffre.

The welcoming address was made by Louis F. Aloe, president of the board of aldermen. Mr. Aloe emphatically proclaimed the loyalty of the city to the National cause.

At the plate of each guest at the breakfast was a miniature French flag.

During the breakfast, gold medals of honor were presented to former Premier Viviani and Marshal Joffre on behalf of the French society of St. Louis.

After the parade the French mission were driven to their special train, which left for Springfield, Ills., where Marshal Joffre will place a palm leaf on the tomb of Lincoln.

STORM SIGNALS ORDERED RAISED

Disturbance In Southeast Ga., Moving Northeastly — Northeast Winds Tonight

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 7.—A disturbance over southeast Georgia today is moving northeast and probably will cause strong northeast winds on the coast tonight, the weather bureau announced today. Warnings were ordered up at 3 o'clock at all stations from the Virginia Capes to Charleston.

FRENCH GUNS ROAR AND BATTER DOWN GERMAN DEFENSES

TWO COMMISSIONS OF ALLIED POWERS WORKING JOINTLY

To Co-ordinate Resources of United States to Benefit of European Allies

REGULATION OF TRANSPORTATION

Of Foodstuffs By Rail to Points and Shipment By Sea—Good Results Anticipated

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 7.—Two allied war commissions sitting continuously, one in London and the other here, appeared today as one of the first actual steps to co-ordinate the powerful resources the United States brings into the war with those of the Allies across the sea.

The commission in London, with representatives of all the allied nations, including the United States, would receive and decide upon the apportionment of seaborne traffic. The commission here would then charge itself with getting such supplies to the seaboard, either by direct purchase or through present agencies.

While the inroads of the submarine menace continue it is absolutely essential to conserve every ship for the most needed freight, and the only way that this can be done is to have the Allies submit their needs to a central body in London, which shall have power to give priority to the most pressing.

At the same time the commission in this country, knowing exactly how much was wanted, would buy it judiciously and keep the railroad lines open to the seaboard. So far the Allies have confused their own situations to a certain extent in this country both by competitive buying and by congesting the railroads and terminals with supplies for which there was absolutely no tonnage available.

The plan now being worked out sprang from the general meeting on trade questions at Secretary Lansing's office last week. It has not been decided upon as yet and may receive modification.

With the great bulk of the retail work now distributed among various sub-committees, British Foreign Minister Balfour now is awaiting reports. Today he was officially received at the Supreme Court. Later the new Belgian Minister to the United States paid a visit to Mr. Balfour, Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, called with the British labor leaders, who have just arrived in this country, upon his invitation.

GERMAN AIRPLANE ATTACKS LONDON.

(By Associated Press.) London, May 7.—A hostile airplane dropped four bombs north-east of London this morning, it is officially announced.

The statement announcing the plane raid reads: "In the early hours this morning a hostile airplane appeared over the outskirts of Northeast London and dropped four bombs. One man was killed and a man and a woman injured. Slight damage was done to buildings."

(By Associated Press.) Baltimore, Md., May 7.—It has become known that the lachrymose or tear gas of the allies is the invention of Dr. Robert W. Wood, professor of experimental physics at Johns Hopkins University. Professor Wood sent the formula for it to a friend, Professor Cotton, in Paris, and it was turned over to the French War Department. Dr. Wood is a member of the naval consulting board's submarine sub-committee.

Fighting Continues With Unabated Fury In Western Area

BRITISH FORCES STORM BULLE COURT

Have Entered The Town and Desperate Hand-to-Hand Fighting Ensues — French Have Taken Almost Thirty Thousand Prisoners in Two Weeks

French guns have battered down the back door to Laon and the politics of General Nivelle are now only six miles from the German stronghold. One formidable barrier lies between them and their goal—the Ailette river—but from the captured heights along the Chemin des Dames (the road of the ladies) the French guns overlook the stream.

Like the Chemin des Dames, the Ailette runs east and west, paralleling the French lines. It is hardly worthy of the name of river, but its bed is in a deep gorge which makes it a grave obstacle. Laon will not be captured except at a heavy price, but the French victories of the last week have brought its capture appreciably nearer.

Bulle court, directly on the Hindenburg line, has been entered by British troops, who this morning, were fighting the Germans within the town for its possession.

Giving the Germans no time to bring up reserves from the hard-pressed Aisne front, where the French are driving through the Siegfried line for Laon by the back way to that stronghold, General Haig's troops began today to widen the breach they have made in the Hindenburg line in the Bulle court region.

Counter attacks of extreme violence rapidly repeated had failed to shake the British grip on the line here, and have not prevented them from striking again when they were ready. Bulle court had been hemmed in on all sides except on the north, the British having worked well to the east of the village.

Driving back toward it, they have fought their way into the place, pressing back desperately resisting Germans. On the French front north-east of Soissons and along the Chemin-des-Dames, the Germans have been forced to employ fresh troops in an effort to stem the French advance. Last night they drove masses of men against the lines all along this front, but were unable to shake General Nivelle.

(Continued on Page Six).

GERMAN CANARD FOR HOME USE

Alleged Secret Treaty Between United States and Great Britain

(By Associated Press.) Copenhagen, (Via London), May 7.—As the latest means of keeping the German people aroused the German newspapers have discovered a "Secret Anglo-American treaty" whereby Germany in the future is to be allowed no colonies whatever, Germany's surplus population to be directed to the Anglo-Saxon controlled regions, where "they are to be absorbed as the Germans have been in the United States."

The Hamburg Fremdenblatt prints the story "from an absolutely reliable source," and draws a two-column moral on the necessity of complete victory over the authors of this alleged treaty.

AMERICAN INVENTOR OFF LACHRYMOSE GAS

(By Associated Press.) Baltimore, Md., May 7.—It has become known that the lachrymose or tear gas of the allies is the invention of Dr. Robert W. Wood, professor of experimental physics at Johns Hopkins University. Professor Wood sent the formula for it to a friend, Professor Cotton, in Paris, and it was turned over to the French War Department. Dr. Wood is a member of the naval consulting board's submarine sub-committee.