

WEATHER FORECAST.

North and South Carolina—Fair tonight and Friday.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH



FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 17, 1917.

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DELAY LOOMS IN THE PATH OF ARMY BILL

Measure Reported to The Senate and Starts Another Long Debate.

"HAIR SPLITTING," SAYS CHAMBERLAIN

If Bill Goes Back to Conference It Will Be Delayed a Month, He Declares—Hot Contention Over Draft Period.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 17.—When the army bill came up in the Senate today for final action on the conference report, it was thrown into a long debate over technicalities which Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the Military committee, openly characterized as "hair splitting."

The principal contention was over whether soldiers were being drafted for "the existing emergency" or "the war."

"Here we are at war," declared Mr. Chamberlain, "and the Senate is splitting hairs on this proposition with danger at our doors and threatening to send the bill back to conference."

Senator Fletcher pointed out that the "existing" emergency could not be stretched to continue men in service for some future exigency.

Senator Chamberlain served notice on the Senate that if it sent the report back to conference, there would be no military legislation for 30 or sixty days.

Senators Smith and Hardwick, of Georgia; Reed, of Missouri, and LaFollette, were among those who raised objections.

Senator Smith, of Georgia, argued that returning it to conference would not delay raising an army as the men being trained to officers would not be ready for ninety days.

"Our real work is being done across the Atlantic by the navy," said Smith. "We ought to write into this bill an express declaration that the draft system dies with this German war."

Senator Lodge opposed delaying the bill.

Senator Chamberlain's declaration that the delay was being caused by Senators who had lost the fight against conscription seemed to be made good by the onslaught on conscription which was delivered in the wrangle that followed.

Despite the pleadings of the supporters of the bill for no more delays, Senators continued to talk.

DR. J. W. CHAPMAN FOR MODERATOR

Likely to be Chosen by The Presbyterian Assembly in Session at Dallas.

(By Associated Press.) Dallas, Texas, May 17.—Election of a moderator was the chief business before the 123rd General Assembly of the Presbyterian churches in the United States of America at its second session late today.

The forenoon session was devoted to the sermon of the retiring moderator, Dr. John A. Marquis, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and to arrangements of routine for the convention, which will last nine days.

AMERICAN STEAMER TORPEDOED

(By Associated Press.) New York, May 17.—The American steamship Hiltonian has been torpedoed and sunk off Genoa, Italy, with a loss of four members of the crew, according to a cablegram received here by the owners, the Universal Transportation Company.

MILLIONS MORE REQUIRED NOW BY REVENUE BILL

Leader Kitchin Causes Surprise in House by This Announcement

URGES SUPPORT OF PROPOSED RAISE

Explains That Treasury Department Says More Revenue Necessary—Lenroot Amendment Adopted

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 17.—Democratic Leader Kitchin announced in the House today that the Treasury Department had notified him it would be necessary to raise \$2,245,000,000 instead of \$1,800,000,000 by the War Revenue bill now under debate.

The fight to raise surtaxes on incomes of more than \$40,000, 25 per cent. by amendments to the War Revenue bill, was still on in the House today.

The higher rates would yield an additional \$100,000,000, it is estimated. If they prevail, an effort will be made to eliminate the freight, light and heat taxes, and perhaps the proposed new second class postage rate.

The bill as reported to the House was estimated to raise between \$1,800,000,000 and \$2,000,000,000 which was expected to defray one half of the expenses of the first year of the war.

Kitchin's announcement was a great surprise. When the movement to increase the income taxes was started yesterday by Representative Lenroot, Republican of Wisconsin, and Representative Sherman, Democrat, of Kentucky, Mr. Kitchin fought it vigorously.

The Woman's Missionary Union, an auxiliary to the convention, began its annual meeting today, receiving reports of officers and committees. The treasurer's report showed that during last year various societies of the union raised a total of \$481,111 cash, of which \$247,619 was for foreign missions, \$129,449 for home missions, \$47,803 for the union's training school and \$45,000 for the foreign mission debt.

In addition, clothing and merchandise worth \$10,701 were sent to mountain schools, and frontier missions. There were 2,878 new societies organized during last year, making a total of 15,840 societies in the churches.

The committee appointed last night to make recommendations on the report of the committee on consolidation of boards and also on the questions of the legality of the organization which were raised by Mr. Brownlow, through M. H. Wolfe, of Dallas, chairman, presented separate reports today on each matter, both of which were adopted by the convention.

The report on consolidation of boards as amended by the special committee provided that the boards remain separate as at present, and that an executive committee of seven be appointed to supervise arrangements for annual meetings and act in an advisory capacity only on questions arising between the boards when requested to do so.

Under the committee's recommendations on the Brownlow questions, the president of the convention was authorized to appoint a committee of seven lawyers, ministers and business men empowered to fully consider the questions involved, and employ counsel if necessary and report to next year's convention full recommendations as to any action needed.

MORE LOANS MADE FOREIGN POWERS

One Hundred Million to Russia and Forty-Two Million To Belgium.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 17.—The United States yesterday loaned Russia \$1,000,000,000, bringing the total amount loaned to the entire governments up to \$670,000,000.

THE BAPTISTS IN CONVENTION

Southern Body to Discuss The Brownlow Suggestion—Work of Auxiliary.

(By Associated Press.) New Orleans, La., May 17.—Delegates to the Southern Baptist convention expected to receive a report at today's session from the committee which late last night was entrusted with considering and making recommendations concerning a motion to adopt the report of the committee on consolidation of a three church board, and the substitute motion of J. F. Brownlow, of Columbia, Tenn., that the whole matter, together with the questions raised as to the legality of "incorporated units" of the convention, be referred to a special committee for report at next year's meeting.

The delegates early today still were discussing the surprise presented by Mr. Brownlow late yesterday when he declared that, because of the separation of the Southern Baptist convention, and the foreign and home mission boards and the Sunday school board, the denomination's system of operation was illegal, and that the convention had no legal authority over its various boards.

Lively discussion of these matters was predicted when the special commission reports.

Foreign missions and related questions were before the convention for today under the regular order of business.

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BRITISH STEAMER GOES TO THE BOTTOM

(By Associated Press.) New York, May 17.—The British steamship Harpagus has been torpedoed, according to a cablegram received here today by the agents, J. W. Elwell and Company.

The Harpagus of 5,866 tons gross, left New York on April 21 for Marseilles, France.

GERMANY'S TRAP FOR RUSSIANS

The Chancellor's Cunningly Chooses Language in His Answer to Interpretations

(By Associated Press.) London, May 17.—Only three or four morning papers commented on the speech of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg in the Reichstag.

The general tenor is that the chancellor's words were cunningly chosen to flatter Russian idealists without definitely renouncing his hopes of annexation.

It is noted that the German premier's declaration of complete agreement with the army chiefs was greeted with especial enthusiasm.

The opinion is expressed that the Russian revolutionists are in danger of falling into the German trap and it is urged that Great Britain, France and America should send their ablest Socialist speakers and thinkers to Russia to help and guide those who are trying to construct the new government.

BRITISH FACE BIG BARRIER OF HUMAN BODIES PILED HIGH

Germans Making Great Sacrifice in Effort to Stop The Rush.

BUT ALLIES PUSH SLOWLY FORWARD

Violent Efforts of Teutons to Stem The Tide Have Failed. Italy Looms Again as a Powerful Force Against The Wavering Dual Monarchy.

The Germans have piled high their dead before the British lines, but have failed to stop the British advance. The most furious and sustained counter attacks have withered before the blast of the British artillery and the sapping of the Hindenburg line goes on, slowly but without halt.

The tremendous efforts made by Field Marshal von Hindenburg to stem the tide of victory which was steadily setting against him have given the battle of Arras an appearance of ebb and flow, but the net result is that the most violent efforts of the Germans to regain the initiative have failed.

Von Hindenburg apparently used every ounce of strength at his command to wrest from the British the villages of Boeux and Bulle Court and the outcome is summed up in the almost monotonous repetition by the "British war office" of the statement: "Our troops made progress in the Hindenburg line."

Possibly more ominous for Berlin in view of the wabbling condition of her Austrian ally, is the news of the great blow struck by Italy in the direction of Trieste. The Italians have opened their spring offensive in brilliant fashion, attacking on a wider front and apparently with greater forces than at any other previous operation.

The Isonzo, a turbulent mountain stream bordered by mountains and cliffs, is in their hands at a distance of 15 to 20 miles north of Gorizia. General Cadorna appears to plan a great flanking movement against the Corso plateau, nature's great rampart defending Trieste. The operation is, however, in too early a stage to permit judgment of its exact import.

The allied offensive in Macedonia continues with considerable success for the British forces, but the fighting is on such an extended front and so sporadic in character that its meaning is obscured.

Reports from Bulgaria of nationwide discontent and weariness of the war may be significant in connection with General Sarraill's campaign.

The Russian factions have patched up a truce, but the outcome is still dubious. The news of the resignation of Generals Gurko and Brusiloff is now supplemented by a disquieting rumor that General Alexieff, Russia's commander-in-chief and generally credited as her most brilliant strategist, is also about to resign his office.

In any event it seems certain that little can be expected from Russia in a military way for a long time to come.

GREENSBORO MAN ELKS' CHIEFTAIN

Gate City Also Gets Next Convention—Old Wilmingtonian Being Boasted.

(Special to The Dispatch.) Raleigh, N. C., May 17.—The State Elks' convention has elected ex-Mayor Thomas J. Murphy, of Greensboro, president; D. D. Daughtridge, of Rocky Mount, and B. P. Beard, of Salisbury, vice presidents, and T. B. Kehoe, of New Bern, secretary and treasurer.

Greensboro also landed, and unanimously, the next convention. The fraternalists went on high gear all day yesterday. They have banqueted and smoked and otherwise entertained themselves all day but did more business last night about 11 o'clock. The parade late yesterday afternoon brought a circus crowd.

In the line of march, Durham put up the biggest number and took highest honors therefore. New Bern, dressed fit to kill, jeopardized the trophy, but missed it; and Durham got the New Bern prize. New Bern then took the Raleigh prize, and Greensboro the Jolly-Wynne award. All are handsome. New Bern won individual "cut" and "handsome man's" prizes. That bunch was wonderfully rigged up. These awards were predicated on men in ranks, dress, miles traveled and looks, everything that made effective show.

And the purple-clad fellows from the coast were uncommonly handsome. The delegates are advertising Fred Harper, native Tar Heel, as the next grand exalted ruler to succeed Rightor. There appears to be nothing in the way of his winning.

A memorial service for the late Joseph H. Choate, former American ambassador at London, will be held in St. Margaret's church, Westminster Abbey, on Monday. The service will be conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Cannon Carnegie.

The Commercial Cable Company announced today its New York-Havana cable was restored. Cablegrams to Havana City would be accepted. It was stated, in any one of the codes authorized by the United States censorship.

RUSSIAN CABINET CRISIS SETTLED BY A COALITION

Several Members of Both Factions of Socialists Taken Into The Ministry.

THE APPOINTMENTS WELL RECEIVED

By Army and Working Men—Coalition Cabinet Indispensable—Resignation of Generals.

(By Associated Press.) Petrograd, (Via London), May 17.—The cabinet crisis may be considered as settled. A declaration of the government's policy accepted by the representatives of the council of workers' and soldiers' delegates with merely verbal alterations, will be signed by both parties without delay.

It has been decided to take into the cabinet five representatives of different socialist groups, which, with A. F. Kerensky, who assumes the war portfolio, will make a total of six of these groups sharing in the government. Three of the appointees will be Social Democrats, and three, including M. Kerensky, Socialist Populists.

Of the former, M. Skobelev, vice president of the council of workers' and soldiers' delegates, and M. Malantovitch, an Odessa lawyer, have been chosen definitely. The third appointment has not yet been made. Two of the Socialist Populist ministers will be M. Tchernoff and M. Pechekonoff.

Generals Alexieff, Dragomiroff, Gurko and Brussiloff arrived in Petrograd today for a conference on the military situation. They declared the formation of a coalition ministry was indispensable, as it would make possible strong measures to re-establish discipline and the fighting spirit in the army.

The generals expressed the opinion that the appointment of M. Kerensky as minister of war would be received by the army with great enthusiasm, as he is very popular among the soldiers.

There are rumors that General Alexieff has resigned as commander-in-chief, or that his resignation is impending.

FIRST SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY

Of The Presbyterian Churches of The United States—Election of Officers Taken Up

(By Associated Press.) Birmingham, Ala., May 17.—When the 57th General Assembly of the Presbyterian churches in the United States (the Southern Presbyterian church) convened here this morning at 11 o'clock there were present commissioners representing 86 Presbyteries, constituting the 16 synods of the assembly.

The number of commissioners was about 550, composed of an equal number of ministers and laymen, the latter being elected from the ruling elders in the Presbyteries.

The opening sermon was delivered by the Rev. C. W. Grafton, D. D., retiring moderator. Dr. Grafton is from the Presbytery of Mississippi and has been pastor of Union Church for 44 years.

Following the sermon, and the observance of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, the assembly recessed until afternoon.

At the afternoon session the election of officers was taken up. Two temporary clerks were lectured at this session, and other items of business temporary clerks were elected at this organization of the assembly. Work on the appointment of 20 standing committees was begun. It was expected this would extend well into the morning session of Friday.

COUNCIL MEETS NEXT IN THIS CITY

Episcopalians Decide to Hold Next Annual Event in Wilmington at St. John's.

(Special to The Dispatch.) Elizabeth City, May 17.—After fulfilling its mission of the present year, the Council of the Diocese of East Carolina last night selected Wilmington for its next meeting and adjourned. Council will assemble in 1918 on the third Wednesday in May at St. John's church.

The report of Archdeacon Thomas P. Noe, showing great work in the missionary field, was read and highly praised.

Council paid honor to Rev. Edward Wooten, of Wilmington, by a rising endorsement of Bishop Darst's fine tribute to this clergyman, who for half a century has served the church so well and faithfully.

The following examining chaplains were appointed by the Bishop: Rev. R. B. Drane, D. D.; Rev. W. H. Milton, D. D.; Rev. Nathaniel Harding and Rev. T. P. Noe.

A new system of accounting adopted by the General Convention in St. Louis was discussed in its application to the Diocese of East Carolina.

Perhaps the most important topic brought to the attention of the Council was the pension fund and the method of securing payment of seven and a half per cent. of the stipend paid to the minister in order to keep the fund going. Bishop Darst named as members: Rev. J. H. Griffith, Rev. R. E. Gribbin, Mr. V. R. C. King, Judge Geo. Rountree and Mr. Frank Wood.

The Girls' Friendly Society held a splendid meeting presided over by Mrs. T. P. Noe.

A feature of the Woman's Auxiliary meeting today was the anonymous gift by a member of the Woman's Auxiliary of St. Paul's, Edenton, of a chapel urgently needed for the work of Rev. Frank Drane, at Chena, Alaska.

Resolutions were passed asking Senator Simmons to use his power in having the army chaplains properly equipped for their important service to the country.

Resolutions of thanks not only to the members of Christ church, but to the citizens of Elizabeth City, were adopted, expressing the Council's appreciation of hospitality.

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