

WEATHER FORECAST
North Carolina: Fair and cold tonight; heavy frost in interior; Sunday fair.
South Carolina: Fair tonight and Sunday; frost in interior in exposed places.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 20 1917

PRICE FIVE CENTS

U-BOAT SINKS AMERICAN TRANSPORT

INCLUDED IN 70 LOST ARE 16 SOLDIERS

Transport Was Homeward Bound When She Was Struck by Torpedo

DETAILS OF DISASTER ANXIOUSLY AWAITING

Had Ship Been Going Over-Toll Would Doubtless Have Been Heavy—Stricken Ship Sank Quickly

(By Associated Press.)
Wilmington, Oct. 20.—The German U-boat has claimed its first victims from America's war forces. Within 24 hours after an American destroyer had been disabled in an underwater attack, a torpedo crashed into the engine room bulkhead of the homecoming transport Antilles, and sent her to the bottom with the loss of 70 lives. Sixteen soldiers and several enlisted men were included in the subsurface's heavy toll.

Administration officials were awaiting with profound interest today a publication of the meagre details compiled to the Navy Department yesterday by Vice Admiral Sims. Names of the great majority of the victims are lacking, yesterday's dispatches giving only those of four naval seamen and three engine room officers of the transport.

It was impossible early today to ascertain the identity of the casualties among the crew and soldiers. The list cannot be completed until the body is rolled made up at the French coast of embarkation, can be compared with the roster of survivors.

While the deepest sympathy was expressed in official circles for those who militantly gave up their lives, relief was general over the fact that the vessel had met her fate while homeward bound and not on the way over with large numbers of troops aboard. Had the successful attack been delivered while the Antilles was on her trip to France, the loss of life probably would have been appalling. She was struck in a vital spot and plunged below so swiftly that but comparatively few could have escaped.

Intense is the manner in which the admiralty managed to elude the torpedo and discharge the bodies of the vessel. Naval officers are of the opinion that the German commander lurked beneath the surface of the moving destroyers passed overhead and then waited for the transport to come into easy range before releasing the deadly missile.

It is inferred from Admiral Sims' report that the ship went down in a few minutes. This fact, coupled with the necessity of rescuing survivors, made it impossible, it is believed, any attempt to locate the U-boat.

The heaviest loss of life, it is thought, was among the engine and first deck crew. Stunned or maimed by the explosion that virtually broke the ship in two, these men must have had little time to gain access to the deck with its chance for life. The absence of casualties among the army and navy officers aboard is attributed to the fact that their state rooms lay along the upper decks from which they could have been picked up.

It is believed that the attack was made well out at sea, since it took two days for news of the disaster to reach Washington. Survivors are thought to be safe ashore in France, England or Ireland.

The loss of the Antilles marks the first abandonment of a transport service that has operated successfully since America's active entrance into the war. Since the unsuccessful attack on the convoy of the first con-

GENERAL MANAGER ALBRIGHT ISSUES PLAIN STATEMENT

Reports of Walkouts of Coast Line Clerks Are Exaggerated

THE COMPANY HAS MADE NO THREATS

Explains Why the Company Opposes Union of Clerks Thinks the Situation Will Adjust Itself

General Manager P. B. Albright, of the Atlantic Coast Line Railway Company, when asked this morning by a representative of The Dispatch concerning the possible effect of the numerous reported walkouts of clerks on the company and just how far reaching these walkouts would be, issued the following statement:

"Reports being published are exaggerated as to the number of our clerks who have left the service at various points.

"On last Tuesday morning 28 out of 42 men quit work at our Richmond agency, and their places were promptly filled.

"On yesterday morning about 27 clerks quit at Jacksonville, Fla., and 21 at Florence, S. C., this morning. During the past few days several men at South Rocky Mount, and a few clerks at each of four other smaller agencies quit.

"At all points vacancies are rapidly being filled, and there has been absolutely no delay in the handling of freight, and we expect none.

"There have been no complaints from our men at any points justifying the action that has been taken by them. The clerks at Richmond stated that their action was the result of the railroad's failure to recognize the clerks' organization. The company's position in this matter is that it naturally does not desire a clerks' organization because of the confidential relationship existing between the company and this class of employees, the nature of whose work makes them representatives of the company and its officials.

"No threats, as alleged, have been made against the men by the company.

"There were no demands made by our clerks at any point except Richmond for recognition of their organization, and at no other point were any demands made.

RUSSIAN ACCOUNT OF NAVAL BATTLE IN GULF OF RIGA

Defenders Put Up a Brave Fight Against Overwhelming Odds

GERMANS ATTACKED WITH STRONG FLEET

Twenty Ships in First Squadron Attacking and These Were Reinforced, Forcing Retreat

(By Associated Press.)
Petrograd, Friday, Oct. 19.—The Russian ministry of marine has issued the following detailed statement regarding the naval battle in the Gulf of Riga:

"Tuesday night an enemy squadron of 20 ships penetrated the Gulf of Riga and at 9 o'clock the next morning was discovered making its way through the channels south of Moon sound. The squadron included two battle ships of the Koenig type. Our detachments under Admiral Bahkireff aboard the cruiser Bayan, accompanied by the battleships Grijadin and Slava steamed from the eastern part of the Moon island to engage the enemy, preceded by torpedo boat patrols which withdrew before the enemy.

"At 9:30 o'clock the enemy opened fire on our torpedo boats and our detachment, issuing from the channel, took up formation in a radius between the Werden and Weiland light houses near Moon island. While approaching the enemy the cruiser Bayan was attacked unsuccessfully by a hostile submarine.

"At 10:30 o'clock our detachments engaged the enemy squadron. The fire of the hostile dreadnoughts was directed from a distance often beyond the range of our old type vessels. At noon, in view of the enemy's superiority and the appearance of new enemy warships, Admiral Bahkireff ordered the detachment to retire into the interior of Moon sound. Our ships then turned northward and withdrew from the fighting.

"The battleship Slava, the last of the line and which had been damaged severely under the water line, finally sank by the head and foundered in the deep entrance of Moon sound.

"The remainder of the squadron entered this channel. Part of the enemy squadron began to fire on the Moon and Werden batteries and silenced and destroyed them. Our vessels suffered some damage. After shelling the batteries, the enemy entered the southern part of the Kullwest roadstead.

"During these movements, the cruiser Admiral Makaroff and some gunboats and destroyers in inner Moon sound protected the channel and the mouth of Kassar bay between the islands of Dago, Oesel and Moon. Some of these ships remained throughout Tuesday night near the coast of Oesel island and repeatedly attempted to make their way into the eastern portion of Kassar bay.

"The rest of the statement is a repetition of the official statement issued today in which it was announced that two trawlers had been sunk by the Russian fire and that two enemy torpedo boats had been sunk by striking mines in the Moon sound region Thursday. It adds, however, that a German torpedo boat escorting the main squadron ran into a Russian mine and sank.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET DID WELL AGAINST A SUPERIOR ENEMY

Lost One Ship—Germans Lost Two Trawlers and Three Torpedo Boats

ZEPPELINS SHOWER BOMBS ON LONDON

Last Night's Raid Resulted in Death of 27 Persons and Injured 53—Artillery Active in Flanders

Just when it appeared that the Germans had virtually abandoned the use of the Zeppelin for air raids on England because of the effective defense that had been established against them, another Zeppelin has penetrated the Eastern and Northeastern counties and reached at least the edge of the London area.

The bombs dropped by the raiders killed 27 persons and injured 53 others, it is officially announced. These casualties cover all the districts visited. Houses and business structures were damaged to some extent, says the brief statement issued.

All the big raids in recent weeks have been conducted by means of airplanes which proved extremely difficult to combat on the moonlit nights chosen for their operations. After the last series of raids during which heavy casualties occurred, it was announced that a reprisal policy had been decided upon by the British government.

The last previous use of the Zeppelin for raiding purposes was on September 24 when an aeroplane raiding fleet also was in action. The airplanes reached London and wreaked considerable havoc, but the Zeppelins barely succeeded in crossing the coast line.

The Germans lost two of their big airships on November 23, of last year, when a raid was being attempted and thereafter, all through the spring, summer and early fall of this year, airplanes have been used almost exclusively for these death-dealing visits.

German Zeppelins last night raided the Eastern and Northeastern counties of England and approached London. Six or seven airships participated and bombs were dropped in various places but they did not carry out a very definite attack.

Although a few bombs fell in the London area, the protective batteries were busy only a few minutes and it is believed the raiders were checked effectively from making any serious attempt against inner part of the city. No reports have been received as to the damage or casualties caused, if any.

Apparently the Russian fleet in the Baltic and around Moon sound, north of the Gulf of Riga, Wednesday, gave a good account of itself against the superior enemy. The Russian admiralty says the entire third and fourth squadrons of the German high seas fleet and probably the fifth squadron took part in the engagement. The three squadrons comprise two-thirds of the German fleet.

INTEREST INCREASED BY PUBLICATION OF LEADERS

Three New Leaders Today—Many changes in Standing of Contestants as Result of Voting Yesterday—Six More Days to Secure 140,000 Votes on Each \$15 Club of Subscriptions

TODAY'S LEADERS.

Elizabeth Bullard 64,650
Ruth Teachey 64,520
Bernice Martin 64,150
Ella McCarley 63,915
Bertha Allsbrook 63,500
Nettie Lewis 63,360
Sallie Garrell 63,175
Mrs. A. C. Sessoms 62,990

Interest in the contest was greatly increased by the publication, for the first time yesterday, of the "Honor Roll." Voting was heavy and as a result there are three new names among the leaders today.

Yesterday, one of the out-of-town candidates won first place, but this position was captured today by one of the Wilmington candidates. Friends of Miss Elizabeth Bullard will no doubt be agreeably surprised to see her name at the top of the list today. Miss Bullard is closely followed by Miss Ruth Teachey, of Wallace, and Miss Bernice Martin, of Marion, S. C., who occupy second and third places, respectively.

Miss Ella McCarley, of Wilmington, was in eighth place yesterday. Today Miss McCarley is in fourth place. Other towns represented today are:

Allsbrook, S. C., Chadbourn, Tabor and Lumberton.

Many candidates, aside from those who are among the leaders for today cast big votes, and are so near the top, that before many days have passed, it is expected that they will be in positions of honor.

Only six more days and the second period of the contest will be a thing of the past. Six more days to get 140,000 extra votes for each \$15 worth of subscriptions. Just six more days to work for the \$60 diamond ring, offered as a special prize. All of these offers will close at 9 o'clock next Saturday night.

The candidates will be required to do some effective work during these six days, if they expect to be numbered among the winners on November 12. Most of the candidates are doing better this period than they did the first, and are securing subscriptions from people who failed to assist them when first approached. Public interest is much greater now than any time since the contest began, and wherever one goes in the territory reached by The Dispatch he hears the contest discussed. In a number of the towns the most important topic of conversation each day is, "Who's ahead in the contest?"

(Continued on Page Two)

CAVELL AND HARI CASES DISSIMILAR

Cambon Says One Was Charitable Worker, and Other a Spy

(By Associated Press.)
Paris, Oct. 20.—The Associated Press today asked Jules Cambon, general secretary to the ministry of foreign affairs, if he had seen the attempts of the German press to point out similarities between the execution of Mata Hari and Edith Cavell. M. Cambon replied:

"The German audacity in daring to compare Mata Hari with Edith Cavell, surpasses belief. Miss Cavell was a woman respectable and respected, and devoted to charitable work. She was shot for aiding Belgian soldiers to escape to Holland. This in German eyes may be a crime, but not one that endangered their army.

"Mata Hari was a courtesan. It was proved that she was a spy and the center of a spying system. Her correspondence showed that she received money from Berlin. She herself admitted that she was one of Germany's chief spies in France who used the observations she had been able to make by her mode of life. She merited no indulgence. No comparison is possible between charity and spying."

ALSACE-LORRAINE MUST BE RESTORED

Paris, Friday, Oct. 19.—In the discussion preceding the passing of a vote of confidence in the government by a great majority in the Chamber of Deputies, several members criticized the policy of the ministry as becoming incoherent and lacking in energy.

"I have already said when expounding our war aims," Premier Painleve replied, "that it is the restitution of Alsace-Lorraine that we are determined upon. There must be restitution whatever may be the fate of battles. For this, we should push the war to the bitter end."

VIRGINIAN INJURED ON BRITISH FRONT

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Oct. 20.—First Lieutenant P. G. Hamlin, of the Medical Reserve Corps, was wounded October 5 while engaged with British forces. His father, W. B. Hamlin, lives at 1020 West Main street, Richmond.

CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR ALL SAMMIES

Each American Soldier and Sailor to Receive a Red Cross Package

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Oct. 20.—Every American soldier and sailor will have the best Christmas the Red Cross can give him. Each one in this country or abroad, will receive a Christmas package, approximating a value of \$1.50 and containing chewing gum, tobacco, writing material, games, dried fruit, candies, puzzles, mouth organs, or other articles. Each package is to be wrapped in a khaki colored handkerchief and tied with red ribbons.

To expedite this million Christmas packages, Harvey D. Gibson, general manager of the American Red Cross, today apportioned the making of the packages to the 13 Red Cross divisions into which the country has been divided. The work will be divided among the 2,800 Red Cross chapters, and one-third of the allotment will have to be in the division warehouses by November 1.

Money for the purchase of the packages is being raised through contributions by individuals for this specific purpose. No part of the Red Cross war fund will be used.

FITZSIMMONS STILL DANGEROUSLY ILL

(By Associated Press.)
Chicago, Oct. 20.—The condition of Robert Fitzsimmons, former heavy-weight champion, critically ill here of lobar pneumonia, was reported early today by his physician as "unchanged" from that of the last 48 hours.

While his vitality was considered remarkable, it was said that his chance for recovery was slight.

FAIR WEATHER FOR EARLY NEXT WEEK

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Oct. 20.—Continued fair weather with rising temperature the first half of the week, becoming unsettled with rain and lower temperature by Saturday, is the forecast for the South Atlantic and East Gulf States during the week beginning Sunday.

BUY YOUR LIBERTY BONDS TODAY AND HELP WIN THE WAR