

WEATHER FORECAST
North Carolina—Cloudy, probably rain tonight; Friday fair, colder in west portion.
South Carolina—Rain on the coast; fair in interior tonight; Friday fair.

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HALIFAX WRECKED BY EXPLOSION OF A MUNITIONS VESSEL

Scores of People Killed and Hundreds of Buildings Destroyed
ALL COMMUNICATION COMPLETELY CUT OFF

Crews of Two Ships Lost—Fire Started in the City—Explosion Heard 61 Miles Away

Three hundred and many hundreds injured were estimated this afternoon of the disaster resulting when a large ammunition ship rammed a passenger liner at the piers at Halifax today.

The impact caused the ammunition ship to explode, setting the vessel afire. The flames spread to the piers and adjoining buildings, many of which had been wrecked by the explosion. The ammunition ship was backing from her pier preparatory to sailing when the accident occurred. The force of the collision started a fire which spread to the piers and adjoining buildings, many of which had been wrecked by the explosion.

The explosion was so terrific that it destroyed the installation in the telephone and telegraph offices for 30 miles around Halifax, while it was being repaired, 61 miles distant. It was reported that the American munitions ship was moving out from the harbor when it was rammed from behind by a British military and naval vessel. Instantly a tremendous explosion occurred, which destroyed the two ships and caused the railway depot at North Halifax to be water front for a mile and a half damaged. The premises were damaged in many places caught in the concussion was so great that the tracks along a stretch of 10 miles were wrecked.

Halifax has been a British military and naval base since the American continent. It is one of the most spacious harbors in the world.

GASTON B. MEANS RELATES STORY OF MRS. KING'S DEATH

Defendant in Concord Murder Trial Went on the Witness Stand Today
TELLS OF HIS WORK PRIOR TO SHOOTING
Began His Story Several Years Before Blackwelder Spring Tragedy—Told of His Employment by Burns' Detective Agency.

(By Associated Press.)
Concord, N. C., Dec. 6.—Gaston B. Means beginning the story of his relations with Mrs. Maude A. King, at his trial for her murder today recounted before the jury his activities as an agent of German interests before the entry of the United States into the war.

Because he exposed to American officials a German plot to back Huerta in an effort to involve this country in war with Mexico, Means said he was discharged. Later he said he had told Secretary Daniels or other plots he had discovered while in German employ to destroy munitions plants and had told the Secretary of the plot to wreck the capitol at Ottawa four weeks before the explosion occurred.

Means had just begun his narrative covering his business relations with Mrs. King, which the State contends furnish a motive for the killing, when court took a recess.

His version of occurrences at Blackwelder Spring on the night of August 29, when Mrs. King met her death, was expected to be related at the afternoon session.

ATTACKS ON ALLIES RESUMED IN ITALY AND NEAR CAMBRAI

AMERICANS FOUGHT AND DIED BRAVELY WITH THE BRITISH
Terrific Assaults Made by Effort to Dislodge the German Forces
ALL EFFORTS SO FAR HAVE BEEN FAILURES
Byng's Men Hold Tenaciously to Their Newly Acquired Positions, While Italians Withstand Austro-Hungarian Charges

In the Cambrai sector and on the Northern Italian front the enemy has resumed his efforts to dislodge the Allied troops. The British repulsed German efforts near Cambrai, and east of Asiago the Italians are engaged in a furious battle with the Austro-Germans.

German attacks in the Cambrai area were against the Southern and Northern legs of the salient. After the British had repulsed minor attacks in the regions of Gonnelieu and LaVaqueurie, southwest of Cambrai, the Germans hurled strong forces against LaVaqueurie. General Byng's men checked the Germans in severe fighting. On the Northern end, the attack was against the line between Bourlon wood and Moeuvres. This was repulsed by the British artillery.

The Austro-German push to break through the Vicenza and the Venetian plains evidently is in force, but the Italians are standing the shock well. The attack is against a line from Monte Simeol, north through Monte Meleta and east to Monte Badeneche, west of the Brenta river, a front of about 10 miles. The first effort of the enemy was from northwest between Simeol and Meleta and this was broken up in hand-to-hand fighting in which the attackers suffered severe casualties and left several hundred prisoners in Italian hands.

British merchantmen lost last week were 16 of more than 1,600 tons, and out of less than that weight. In the previous week 21 vessels, including 14 of more than 1,600 tons, were sunk. Russian emissaries dealing with representatives of the Central powers for an armistice and peace are finding the replies to their proposals "evasive," according to an official statement issued in Petrograd. The Germans declined to discuss peace terms and plans to extend the armistice to all fronts.

The Russians demanded that the Germans agree not to take any troops from the Eastern theatre to other fronts, and to evacuate the islands in the Gulf of Riga. These were refused by the Germans, who proposed that the armistice affect only the front between the Baltic and Black seas, which the Russians submitted to their military experts for examination. Twenty-eight days were agreed upon as the length of the temporary armistice.

RELIEVE BERNSTORFF OF "DR."
MADISON, Wis., Dec. 6.—The board of regents of the University of Wisconsin yesterday rescinded the action taken in 1909 when the degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on Count von Bernstorff, former German ambassador.

AMERICAN TROOPS PROBABLY BE SENT TO HELP ITALIANS

GREENSBORO GETS NEXT CONVENTION OF THE BAPTISTS
Rev. B. D. Gaw, of Durham, Chosen to Preach Annual Sermon
A MILLION DOLLARS FOR ITS SCHOOLS
Crowning Event of the Convention Was Decision to Raise Large Sum for Educational Institutions

(Special to The Dispatch)
Durham, N. C., Dec. 6.—Greensboro gets the next session of the Baptist State Convention. Rev. B. D. Gaw, pastor of the First Baptist church, Durham, or his alternate, Rev. J. D. Harte, of Oxford, will preach the annual sermon.

The convention committed itself today with enthusiasm to the program of launching a movement to raise within the next four years, beginning January 1, \$1,000,000 for the endowment and equipment of the Baptist educational institutions of the State. This is considered the crowning act of the convention.

W. L. Poteat, R. T. Vann, B. C. Henning, J. J. Hurt, Q. C. Davis, R. H. Gower and others spoke advocating the movement.

STORM WARNING
The following was received by the Wilmington Weather Observatory this morning from the Government Weather Bureau in Washington:

NEW ENEMIES.
Washington, Dec. 6.—(By Associated Press.)
The United States and were being nationalized. The number of women brings the total to more than 1,000,000.

ONLY 15 MORE TOY DEPT.
DAYS LEFT TO SHOP
READ THE ADS