

WEATHER:
North and South Carolina: Fair, colder to night, probably frost; Saturday fair.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

10 PAGES TODAY

VOL. XXIV. No. 66 WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1918 PRICE FIVE CENTS

AMERICANS OCCUPY GERMAN TRENCHES

All-Russian Congress Ratifies German Peace Treaty

FIRST PERMANENT ADVANCE MADE BY PERSHING'S ARMY

Trenches Taken and Held Against Enemy Efforts to Retake Them

NEW WORKS HAVE BEEN CONSOLIDATED
American Raids and Artillery Fire Had Forced Germans to Abandon Trenches—Is Higher Ground

American troops have made their first permanent advance into the German positions on the Western front. The new position gives the American and French troops higher ground from which to operate against the common foe. Badonvillers is eight miles west of the German front and is almost directly west of Strassburg, capital of Alsace. The American position here is about 18 miles south-east of the Rhine-Marne canal, where the Americans first entered the trenches last November.

HINDENBURG SAYS DRIVE MUST GO
Amsterdam, March 15.—According to news received here, Field Marshal Hindenburg has stated in an interview in Berlin that the Entente had shown an unresponsive attitude toward Germany's peace intentions and that the great German offensive therefore must go on.

WARRANTS ISSUED FOR FORTY-THREE OF OMSK'S CREW

Held at Norfolk on Charges of Violating the Espionage Act
CREW HAD PLANNED TO SEIZE THE SHIP
Were to Operate as a Bolshevik Committee and Run the Vessel to Russian Port

WILMINGTON MAY YET LAND A BIG SHIPYARD

Representative of the Shipping Board to Come Here Next Week
GOVERNMENT WANTS SITE FOR PLANT
Story Carried by Associated Press Today Came as a Pleasing Surprise to Wilmington People.

Washington, March 15.—Another new government shipyard may be established on the South Atlantic coast, and a representative of the Shipping Board will visit Wilmington, N. C., next week to inspect available sites.

TRAVELING MEN ARE WILLING TO LEND EVERY AID

Organization Meeting Will Be Held at Odd Fellows Building
IDEA IS TO SUPPORT CHAMBER COMMERCE
Every Member Both Organizations Expected to Attend. Public Invited—Meet Saturday Night.

Wilmington should not allow Charleston to receive the dampening effect of the carrying out of the naval budget plan and that Charleston receives will not in any way conflict with what this city may or may not receive at the hands of the government.

LONG CASUALTY LIST.
Washington, March 15.—General Pershing's casualty list today, it is learned at the War Department, will be longer than any previous issued and may not be available for publication before tomorrow morning.

AMERICAN FORCES TO BE WELDED IN ONE GREAT ARMY

Neighborhood Character of National Army and National Guard to Vanish
SIX DIVISION CORPS WILL WORK CHANGE
Each Commander on Front Will Have Two Division Lines Three Lines Deep, According to Plans

Washington, March 15.—The neighborhood character of National Army and National Guard units is certain to vanish as the war progresses, in the opinion of army officials. British and French forces already have undergone the process and it now is being felt by American front line divisions as the direct result of the three-line system of defense, held indispensable by General Pershing and the Allied chiefs to keep the front line at full fighting strength.

BERLIN REPORTS FRENCH ADVANCE
Berlin, March 18.—Strong French detachments gained a footing yesterday west of the Nauroy road on the German Crown Prince's front (Champagne district), says today's army headquarters announcement.

BOULDERS WRECK AN EXPRESS TRAIN IN PENNSYLVANIA

Several Persons Were Killed and a Number Injured Today
TRAIN WAS PASSING THROUGH DEEP CUT
One of the Rocks Weighed 20 Tons—Two Sleepers Wrecked—Steel Cars Prevented Heavy Loss

Harrisburg, Pa., March 15.—Two persons were killed and 8 injured, only a few seriously, early today when a landslide in the Elizabethtown Cut, about 15 miles east of Harrisburg, struck the Cincinnati, Indianapolis & Chicago express on the Pennsylvania Railroad. Miss Rena Palmer of Morgantown, W. Va., was crushed to death in a sleeping car in which Miss Vera Ravenscroft, of Pittsburgh, was fatally injured, dying on the relief train. Conductor E. E. Edwards, of this city, was probably fatally hurt.

NO BIG CALLS NOW FOR SHIP BUILDERS
Washington, March 15.—Men who volunteered for shipbuilding will not be called in any large numbers for some time, the Department of Labor announced today.

ANNIVERSARY OF NICHOLAS' ABDICATION

MRS. HIRSCH ON WITNESS STAND TELLS HER STORY

Defendant in Atlanta's Sensational Blackmail Case Gives Her Side
SPECTATORS BARRED FROM COURT ROOM
Not Even Were the Newspaper Representatives Permitted to Hear Mrs. Hirsch's Testimony.

Atlanta, March 15.—Mrs. Margaret A. Hirsch, charged with attempted blackmail of Mayor Asa G. Candler, this morning took the witness stand in her own behalf. Before starting her statement, the courtroom was cleared of spectators, at her request newspaper representatives being also excluded.

Washington Hears the News.
Washington, March 15.—Aside from press dispatches, Washington had no information today on the decision of the All-Russian congress of Soviets at Moscow, ratifying the German peace terms.

GERMANY TO GET A RICH TERRITORY

Under Peace Ratified by Congress of Soviets, Russia Loses Thousands of Miles of Land
One year ago today Emperor Nicholas abdicated as autocrat of Russia and yesterday the All-Russian Congress of Soviets by an overwhelming vote agreed to German peace terms.

Officials had no means of knowing whether the action was taken before or after receipt of President Wilson's message to the people of Russia, promising American aid in obtaining for Russia full independence from German aggression.

It is believed that ratification of the peace terms will bring an early move by Japan in Siberia. Any move by the Japanese, it is believed, would be made chiefly as a measure of protection for Japanese and American supplies at Vladivostok. There is no real danger, officials say, of German armies moving that far East, but there is a probability that supplies at Vladivostok might be sent into German hands.

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