

WEATHER.  
North and South Carolina: Fair tonight and Tuesday, slightly warmer tonight.

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# THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

TODAY'S NEWS  
TODAY

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, MONDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 15, 1918.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## GERMAN ATTEMPT TO ANNIHILATE BRITISH APPEARS A FAILURE

### German Drive West of Arrmentieres Seems Almost Definitely Stopped

### AMERICAN TROOPS BEAT OFF ATTACKS

### Enemy Repeatedly Hurls His Storm Troops against Americans Only to be Repulsed with Severe Casualties.

Fighting heroically in hand to hand engagements, British troops have checked the German drive in the region west of Arrmentieres and this enemy effort, like the one in Picardy, seems almost definitely stopped. The Germans have spent thousands of lives in reckless and insistent attacks to break through the British lines or to destroy the British army, but the effort has been without the result desired.

Against the American sector south of Verdun, German storming troops hurled themselves Sunday. American infantrymen beat the enemy in his fighting. The enemy withdrew to his trenches with the loss of nearly 100 men. Northwest of Toul the Germans have not repeated the attacks which cost them 400 casualties. About Neuve Eglise and before Bailleur, Field Marshal Haig's battered divisions have been putting up a desperate resistance to the Germans. Neuve Eglise has changed hands several times in furious fighting and is now held by the enemy, after a fight in which the enemy suffered grievously. It is an important strategic point as it is one of the outposts of the Meuse river.

Although they have been but a little more than a mile from Bailleur, German positions for two days, the Germans have not been able to advance more than several hundred yards. West of the town they have been repulsed in heavy attacks and such around Merville their efforts also have been for naught.

On the remainder of the battle front in Artois, there has been no change. Near the apex of their salient at Merville, the Germans attempted an attack but were dispersed by artillery fire. In Flanders and along the Meuse ridge, there have been no further actions and the British still hold the heights on the South unchallenged.

On either side of the sharp salient around St. Mihiel, the American troops in the last few days have been meeting and besting off in fine fashion numerous German attacks. The enemy has not followed his efforts northwest of Toul and east of St. Mihiel where he was repulsed in two days of hard fighting by the Americans in Apriment forest. The artillery duel here is heavy with the American gunners keeping up their end of the exchange.

Sunday's attack on the American sector between Verdun and St. Mihiel came after a violent bombardment and was made by picked enemy troops. Prisoners were captured by the Americans and 44 German dead and 10 wounded were found in the American trenches while just beyond them were 20 more enemy dead.

The Americans with hand grenades and bayonets met the oncoming Germans. Two American aviators have brought down two German fighting airplanes, the enemy fliers being captured.

There has been no activity on the Meuse battlefield on the remainder of the West front except for artillery duels.

Count Czernin has resigned as Austro-Hungarian foreign minister and Emperor Charles has accepted his resignation. The steps leading to the Count's act are not disclosed as yet, but the publication by the French government of the Emperor's peace offer letter to France early in 1917 probably hastened his withdrawal. Semi-official attempts are still being made to deny the letter but neither the Emperor nor Count Czernin has denied flatly the existence of the letter, which was not only a peace move but divulged damaging evidence concerning intrigue against Serbia.

Count Czernin remains in office until a successor is announced.

### MISS WISE BEREAVED.

Mother of Wilmington Girl Passed Away Sunday Afternoon.  
A sympathy of the entire city is extended Miss Wesley Wise in the death of her mother, which occurred yesterday afternoon at her home in Chester, S. C., following a long period of sickness. Miss Wise was called to the bedside about a week ago and remained there constantly until the end came. The funeral services will be conducted there and interment made in that city.

## CITY OF WILMINGTON DESTROYED BY FIRE

The American steamer that caught fire off the Nova Scotia coast Friday night and was completely destroyed, mention of which is made in a Sydney, N. S., dispatch, as reported by an agent of the marine department, is believed to have been the City of Wilmington, owned by the cotton exporting firm of Alexander Sprunt & Son, of this city, although it was stated from the offices of the company this afternoon that no confirmation of advices received from New York concerning the loss of the boat had been made by the skipper of the vessel, Captain Laird.

According to advices received here today from New York shipping interests, the City of Wilmington caught fire Saturday evening and after doing everything within their power to save the vessel she was abandoned by members of the crew and that all were picked up yesterday by the steamer Millais, who heard her distress calls and hurried to her assistance. None of the members of the crew were from this city, her skipper being from Savannah.

The City of Wilmington was en route for a European port and was carrying a cargo of cotton and foodstuffs valued at from two to three million dollars. This was the value of the cargo alone and does not include the worth of the big steamer. The cargo was, of course, lost along with the vessel.

The City of Wilmington was purchased over a year ago by the Messrs. Sprunt, for use in their cotton trade. She has been in this port, and had been across once or twice since she was made over. She was an oil burner and worth a considerable sum of money as bottoms go today.

## BATTLE NOW RAGING AROUND NEUVE-EGLISE

### Another Assault on Bailleur is Expected to Begin Any Moment

With the British Army in France, April 15.—The battle about Neuve-Eglise near the Belgian border, which has been re-taken by the Germans, continued to rage this morning with the same intensity that has marked it for days and the British are pounding the Germans hard. Another assault on Bailleur, four miles west of Neuve-Eglise, is expected momentarily.

The latest reports this forenoon showed that the British line was being strongly held as a whole in this northern zone, and in some instances had been considerably improved by counter strokes.

The British last evening followed up their success of Saturday when they pushed the Germans back from Robecq on the Clarence river. Local counter attacks delivered on the German positions 3,000 yards to the east of this town, were completely successful and the enemy again was forced to fall back somewhat.

The British, in the course of the afternoon, also pushed out several posts north of the canal between the Leawe and Clarence rivers.

These operations indicate that the defense of the Entente Allied troops has stiffened.

## ANOTHER BIG BREAK IN COTTON FUTURES

New York, April 15.—Overwhelmed by a rush of selling orders largely from the South, cotton sustained another sensational break in prices during the forenoon trading today. July contracts dropped to 29.45, a decline of 130 points from the high point of the morning.

October broke 122 points, selling as low as 28.85. This represented a loss of values of not less than 435 points, or more than \$21.50 a bale, from the high point of the season early in April.

The selling was largely on hedging account and in an effort to readjust values to the marked improvement in crop prospects, as a result of further general rains in the Southwest. The break here was preceded by a drop of 100 points in the Liverpool market.

### Norwegian Steamer Wrecked.

Baltimore, April 15.—The Norwegian steamer Hermod has been wrecked on Winter Quarter shoal, off the Virginia coast, with the loss of several of her crew, according to word received here today. The report, which was meagre, said the ship broke in two and sank in four fathoms of water. The Hermod was an ore-carrying vessel of 1,928 tons register.

## CASUALTIES AMONG OFFICERS

London, April 15.—A casualty list published by the war office today, contains the names of 504 officers. Seventy-nine were killed, 285 died of wounds and 140 are missing.

Presumably this is the first casualty list from the heavy fighting on France in the past three weeks.

## ST. LOUIS DISTRICT IS LEADING LOAN RACE

### Over One-Third of its Quota Subscribed—New York Climbing

Washington, April 15.—According to latest advices to the Treasury Department the St. Louis district has obtained a larger per cent of its quota of the Liberty Loan than any other district in the country. Subscriptions totaling approximately 38 per cent, quota of \$130,000,000 already had been reported to the Federal Reserve Bank and this figure, it was said, did not include the subscriptions of the City of St. Louis.

The reported subscriptions in this district by States included: Arkansas, \$9,626,850; Tennessee, \$3,955,150; Mississippi, \$3,037,600. New York Exceeds Day's Quota.

New York, April 14.—Third Liberty Loan subscriptions in the New York Federal Reserve district totaled \$248,400,000 at 11 o'clock today. This was an over-subscription day gain of \$10,327,550.

Formally Launched in Atlanta. Atlanta, Ga., April 15.—This city's campaign in behalf of the Third Liberty Loan will be formally launched at a mass meeting tonight. Governor Hugh Dorsey, of Georgia, and Lieutenant Merrick, of the Canadian expeditionary forces, will be among the speakers. Atlanta's quota is \$9,000,000.

Active canvass for subscriptions will begin tomorrow. Charlie Chaplin in Columbia. Columbia, S. C., April 15.—Charlie Chaplin, movie comedian, spoke to the men at Camp Jackson at 11 o'clock this morning at the Liberty theatre, in behalf of the Third Liberty Loan. Later in the day he delivered an address to a large crowd in a downtown theatre.

Total is \$620,947,550. Washington, April 15.—Liberty Loan subscriptions tabulated today at the Treasury showed a total of \$620,947,550, which is \$67,000,000 more than was reported Saturday. This did not include reports from the Minneapolis district which started its campaign today.

New England Doing Its Duty. Boston, Mass., April 15.—In the first week of the Liberty Loan campaign the Boston Federal Reserve district, comprising New England, subscribed \$68,590,000, or more than one-fourth of its allotment.

## AMBASSADOR ISHII HAS ARRIVED IN AMERICA

### Declares Japan's Only Motive is to Protect Allies From Germany

A Pacific Port, April 15.—Viscount Ishii, Japanese ambassador to the United States, succeeded Ambassador Sato, arrived here today en route to Washington. Discussing suggested Japanese activities in Siberia, Ambassador Ishii said that if the Imperial Japanese government deemed necessary to undertake the sending of a military expedition into Siberia such intention would be for the benefit of the Entente Allies and not for Japan. He declared any suggestion of a Japanese-German alliance to be absurd.

"Germany may establish bases in Pacific waters by a successful drive through Siberia," he said. "In this event," he continued, "it would be up to Japan to sweep them away. We cannot guarantee that Japan could do this, but we would try our best and we must not relax our vigilance."

He admitted that there was a possibility of Germany gaining a foothold in the Pacific by successful operations in Siberia. Ambassador Ishii would not discuss the landing of Japanese troops at Vladivostok.

## OFFICIAL WASHINGTON AT FUNERAL OF STONE

### Missouri Senator Died Sunday Afternoon as Result of Paralytic Stroke

Washington, April 15.—Official Washington turned from its war duties today to attend the funeral of Senator Stone, of Missouri, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who died at his home here yesterday as the result of a paralytic stroke suffered last Wednesday. It was announced that the service would be conducted at 4 p. m. today with Rev. J. Forrest Brettingham, chaplain of the Senate, in charge. The family and a congressional committee will accompany the body to Jefferson City, Mo., where it will lie in State Wednesday at the Missouri capitol. Burial will take place at Nevada, Mo., Senator Stone's old home.

## FIVE SOLDIERS KILLED IN WRECK

New York, April 15.—Five soldiers were reported killed, eight seriously injured and 35 slightly injured early today in a wreck on the Long Island railroad near Islip, New York. All of the dead and injured are said to be stationed at Camp Upton, at Yaphank, N. Y. The injured were removed to the State Hospital at Central Islip and to hospitals at Camp Upton.

The hospital authorities in refusing to disclose the names of the killed and injured said government officials had taken charge of the situation and had ordered that no information be given out.

A car near the middle of the 13-car train jumped the track, taking four others with it. Three of the cars toppled over an embankment. The accident is believed to have been caused by a broken rail.

## TEXAS TOWN HIT BY HEAVY SYCLONE

Fort Worth, Texas, April 15.—About 60 houses, including a two-story brick school and several churches were demolished by a storm at Boyd, 30 miles north of Fort Worth, late Sunday afternoon, according to reports to Fort Worth by messenger this morning. No one was injured.

Both telegraph and telephone wires were down this morning.

## CZERNIN QUILTS AS AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

### Amsterdam, April 15.—Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, according to a dispatch from Vienna, has resigned.

Emperor Charles accepted the resignation and entrusted Count Czernin with the conduct of foreign affairs until his successor is appointed.

An official statement received here today from Vienna asserts that the latest statements of the French minister, M. Clemenceau, concerning the conversation between Austria and France regarding the possibility of opening peace negotiations do not alter the situation as regards the majority of Count Czernin's declarations. The Austrian foreign ministry, the statement says, is unable to ascertain who was responsible for delivering to the French what is said to have been a forged letter, substituted for the letter which was to have been delivered. Neither Prince Sixtus, whose character is beyond suspicion, nor any one else, is accused of falsification, continues the statement, which concludes:

"The affair is herewith declared to be at an end."

The recent publication by the French government of the futility peace appeal sent out by Emperor Charles of Austria-Hungary in March, 1917, and the efforts of the Emperor and the Austro-Hungarian foreign office to explain this letter to the satisfaction of Germany were the most potent factors in bringing about the resignation of Count Czernin.

Since he was appointed foreign minister on December 23, 1916, in succession to Baron Burian, Count Czernin has been very active in attempting to bring about peace and the moderate tone of his speeches has been in striking contrast with that of the German chancelleries and the foreign secretaries. However, his participation in forced peace upon Russia as well as that upon Rumania, did not show that his actions kept step with his words.

In the "peace offensive" of the present year Count Czernin in the Austrian Reichsrath on January 25 submitted an exchange of views between Austria-Hungary and the United States. He announced also that Austria based her negotiations with Russia on the policy of no annexations or indemnities, but there always was some doubt whether his pacific maneuvers were honest or were inspired by Berlin in an effort to bring about

## PROFESSOR'S WIFE IS CARING FOR RIVAL

### Calls the Woman "Silly Little Thing" and the Professor "Silly Boy."

Chicago, April 14.—The case of Dr. William Isaac Thomas, Chicago University professor, charged with disorderly conduct, was continued today in the Moral Court to next Friday. Mrs. R. M. Granger, wife of an army officer in France, with whom the educator is alleged to have registered at a hotel as man and wife, last Thursday, was not in court. It was said she was still at the professor's home, where Mrs. Thomas, assisted by a son who is a hospital interne, were trying to soothe her shaken nerves.

The continuance was taken at the instance of Peter Sissman, attorney for Dr. Thomas, who said they had no time to prepare his case.

Dr. Harry P. Judson, president of the University of Chicago, where Dr. Thomas holds the chair of sociology, was expected to return from Washington today. Faculty members met Saturday to prepare a formal statement of the case for him. It is understood to be a resume of facts admitted to Federal officials—the sailing of Lieutenant R. M. Granger, Signal Corps, for France; the farewell of his wife and the immediate solace she found in the company of Dr. Thomas; their long talks in the sequestered shadows of the university; the denouement at the hotel Thursday night, when they were taken into custody, and the charge which brought the professor into the disillusioning portals of the Moral Court.

Mrs. Thomas' interest in young Mrs. Granger—she is 24 while the professor is 55—showed no signs of abatement today. Years ago she accepted her husband's advanced theories of relations between men and women—the "wider view"—as many intellectuals term it, and she is now mothering both the girl and her husband. The girl she has called "a silly little thing," and her husband a "silly boy."

"So stupid of him," she said.

## MANY ALIEN WOMEN TO BE ARRESTED SOON

Washington, April 15.—Many German and Austrian women are under surveillance by government agents and will be arrested and interned as soon as President Wilson signs the bill which includes women in the class of enemy aliens. It was said today the number is more than 100.

## TURNING POINT OF WEST FRONT BATTLE IS BEING REACHED

## COLLIER CYCLOPS SIMPLY VANISHES FROM THE OCEAN

### The Big Vessel is Long Overdue From South American Waters

## ALL PATROL SHIPS SCOURING THE SEA

### Orders Go Out to American and Allied Vessels to Take Up Search—Speculation as to Its Fate

Washington, April 15.—Orders for greater efforts to find the missing naval collier, Cyclops, overdue from South American waters for more than a month, went out today to American ships. In addition, Allied naval craft on patrol duty in the South are aiding in the search. So far not one word has come to clear up the mystery of the collier's disappearance. Secretary Daniels said today, however, that he still clung to the hope that the vessel would report, as many other navy ships have done, after they had been given up for lost.

Naval officials were no nearer today to a solution of the disappearance than they were three weeks ago, when anxiety over the safety of the ship first developed. There is absolutely nothing on which to found an explanation. The big carrier has simply vanished from the sea.

No possible theory was rejected by officials in seeking an explanation. Suggestions heard most frequently were that German agents had boarded the ship in port and captured her from her people at sea; that she had broken in two and gone down in a sudden squall; that she had been overtaken by a submarine and sunk without trace, and that an internal explosion had sent her down.

All of these suggestions had flaws in them, it was said. A theory that she had been captured by a group of German agents aboard appeared to be the only thing that would account for the silence of her radio equipment.

Since the ship failed to appear naval vessels have patrolled all coasts in the vicinity of her route looking for wreckage or survivors. Nothing has been found. Every vessel known to have been anywhere in the region at the time has been communicated. None saw or heard anything of the collier. Reports from every source showed nothing to warrant the storm theory. It is the mid season of the year in those waters. The route the Cyclops would have followed was somewhat sheltered.

The ship had aboard an insufficient quantity of coal for a journey to the nearest German port had she been captured. Some officers think that if the ship was captured her captors may be holding her out of trade routes waiting for a chance steamer from which to secure fuel.

The explosion theory is really the fact that only sufficient ammunition for her few guns was on board. The ship's cargo of manganese ore was not explosive.

Secretary Daniels said the department had no word that would indicate the presence in Southern waters of a German raider. The sea lanes are busy with shipping, yet no vessel has sighted any suspicious craft.

It is the absolute silence of the radio that makes the case one of the most mysterious in naval annals. That fact alone inclines officials to the view that the ship might have been captured by persons aboard, for in no other way would it have been possible to silence calls for aid. In case of a storm or an attack by enemy craft, or even if the ship were torpedoed, there would have been time for such calls.

One of the Cyclops' engines was damaged, but it is not believed the engine trouble had anything to do with the disappearance.

Constructors said the Cyclops was one of the staunchest craft of the auxiliary fleet of the navy. They could not believe that a squall of such intensity as to overwhelm her had been encountered.

The possibility was suggested that explosives might have been put aboard mixed in large quantities with the manganese ore and a time bomb set to explode the mass. In that case, however, the sea would be covered with wreckage.

## American War Department's Weekly Review of the Military Situation

## GERMANS FAIL TO ACHIEVE VICTORY

### Enemy Will Soon be Forced to Resume Old Tactics—Advanc's Count Little Toward the Real Goal.

Washington, April 15.—The turning point of the battle in the Western front is being reached, says the War Department's review of the military situation for the week ending April 13, published today. The Germans have failed in their purpose to achieve victory in the field, the statement continues, and will soon be forced to resume their old tactics.

"We must bear in mind," the review says, "that the enemy is waging a battle of annihilation to achieve victory. He is fighting today with the sole aim of annihilating the British armies. Thus, terrain conquered counts for little.

"While it must be admitted that German operations since the beginning of the present offensive have resulted in more than a mere ploughing up of part of the Allied trench system and the capture of local objectives along a wide front, nevertheless the aim of the German higher command to obtain a decisive strategic success by these assaults has not been attained.

"The turning point in the West is being reached. The Germans have scored a distinct advantage which it would be unwise to endeavor to belittle. Yet they have failed in their great purpose to achieve victory in the field. They will soon be forced to resume their old tactics, seeking to gain limited objectives, striking first at one point, then at another, in order to render the Allied position untenable and give themselves greater security."

The review of operations follows: "As the time passes it becomes evident that the enemy is striking with renewed vigor at the weakest point he can find opposite him.

"In the offensive in Picardy, the Germans sought for a rift in the line where the French and British forces joined. Failing to achieve any definite far-reaching results from this operation, they promptly returned to the assault elsewhere and plunged forward hoping that by driving a wedge into the sector along the front held by Portuguese and British units they may be able to roll the British towards the sea and effect a break through.

"This is the operation attempted this week in the region of the famous battle ground of the early days of the war in front of Lille.

"Here, on a frontage of 16,000 yards stretching from Arrmentieres to the La Bassee canal, the segment held by the Portuguese troops, flanked on either side by British divisions was penetrated after an intense bombardment.

"On the first day of the assault the enemy was able to penetrate to a depth of from two and one-quarter to four miles on a front of 11 miles.

"On the second day the front of attack was extended to 20 miles while the impetus of the offensive was considerably slowed down and only able to reach a maximum additional depth of two and one-quarter miles. The front of attack has since been further extended and the British have been forced to abandon positions to the North and South of the Lys and West of the Lawe.

"The enemy has made headway along the LaBassee canal to within the immediate vicinity of Bethune, while other points Northwest of the city of considerable tactical importance have fallen into the hands of the enemy.

"The enemy now finds himself within 40 miles of Calais. The main lines of communication to channel ports radiate vertically from this battle front and thus facilitate the German advance.

"If the enemy can muster the driving power he will in all probability continue his assaults, hoping that by an enveloping attack on an oblique front, to use the classic Prussian definition, he may score a complete annihilating victory.

"There has been less activity along the Southern flank of the Picardy salient. Here the line taken over by the French is now fully consolidated. After the bloody battles which have been raging in the area between Montdidier and Noyon the enemy, fearing a counter attack along this flank of their new, deeply-curved salient, struck repeated blows to give themselves elbow room South of the Oise.

"The Germans, by stubborn and costly driven thrusts, were able to force the French out of the triangular area formed by the Oise, the Ailette and the old line stretching from the LaFayette Escadrille to the LaFayette Escadrille.

"An approximate 12-mile front the enemy advanced to a depth ranging from 100 to 200 yards.

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