

WEATHER.  
North and South Caro-  
lina: Cloudy tonight;  
Friday, fair; warmer  
interior.

# THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

HOME  
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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA. THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 16, 1918.

FIVE CENTS

## WILSON LIKELY TO CARRY FIGHT WITH SENATE TO PEOPLE

### Charges Senate With Dangerous Attempts to Usurp Authority.

### ACCEPTS CHALLENGE

### First Serious Clash Since He Became America's President.

### PATIENCE IS EXHAUSTED

### Upper Body of Congress Faces Two Courses, It Must Defeat Chamberlain Resolution or Defy Wilson.

(By FRANK P. MORSE.)

Washington, D. C., May 16.—President Wilson has thrown down the gauntlet to congress and challenged the ambitions of the senate committee on military affairs. Back of his letter transmitted yesterday to Senator Martin, in which he declared that the passage of the Chamberlain resolution calling for an investigation of the aircraft and other war activities would be regarded by him as a "direct vote of want of confidence in the administration," there is an unyielding threat to go before the country with a charge of dangerous attempts by the legislative branch of the government to usurp authority constitutionally guaranteed to the executive branch.

There is a remarkable similarity between the words written by the president of the United States and the language recently employed by Lloyd-George, when he informed parliament that the Asquith resolution would be interpreted as a vote of a lack of confidence in the British government's conduct of the war and that, if passed, would result in the immediate retreat of the Lloyd-George cabinet. That threat resulted in the defeat of the Asquith resolution. President Wilson's blunt letter to Senator Martin will have the same effect on the Chamberlain resolution.

It may be well to emphasize the fact that this is the first serious clash between the white house and congress since Woodrow Wilson was first elected president of the United States. Mr. Wilson thoroughly understands the importance of the step he took today. It means that his patience is exhausted. He has watched the steady efforts of the senate military affairs committee to encroach upon the domain of the administration and has given repeated hints that Senator Chamberlain and his associates on the committee were going too far. By his action today he puts the issue squarely up to congress.

The senate faces just two courses of procedure. It must reject the Chamberlain resolution or defy the president. In the latter event, which is practically out of the question, there is no doubt that Mr. Wilson would take the matter at once to the people of the United States. He would review the events that have led up to the impasse between the white house and congress, define the constitutional rights of the administration and arraign the resolution as an absolute defiance of those rights.

Refused to simple language, the president's letter to Senator Martin calls on congress to state unmistakably whether or not the legislative branch of the government stands behind the president of the United States and the present conduct of the war. Inferentially, the passage of the resolution would be accepted by Mr. Wilson as an expression of congressional belief that the American people are not behind the president. On that issue, he would take the question before the country.

Today's dramatic action will be better understood when it is known that President Wilson keenly resents the studied nagging of the administration by republican senators and representatives and the few democrats in the upper and lower house who have sided with them. At least a certain percentage of the attacks on George Creel, chairman of the committee on public information, is interpreted as attempts to hit at the president over Creel's shoulders.

President Wilson also resents the petty methods that have been utilized by senators who, obviously, have wished to irritate the Washington government. Government officials, particularly the officers of the shipping board, have been called from their work again and again to answer unimportant questions formulated by the senate military affairs committee. The frequency of these calls and the excuses advanced for them have been interpreted by the administration as systematic persecution of government departments actuated by ungodly motives and without apparent consideration for the costly loss of valuable time.

There is no doubt here in well informed circles that President Wilson's dramatic action will result in the immediate defeat of the Chamberlain resolution. The senate is not likely to follow a course that will be accepted as a vote against the president and on which the people of the

## FIGHT RENEWED AGAINST INQUIRY

### Wilson Says Resolution Would Mean "Drag Net"

### MAY DEFEAT MEASURE

### Thompson May Offer Substitute to Limit Probe of War.

### FIGHT WAXES WARM

### President Feels Revised Act is Too Broadly Drawn and Will Authorize General Inquiry into Conduct

Washington, May 16.—President Wilson today renewed his fight against adoption by the senate of Senator Chamberlain's resolution for a war inquiry by the senate military committee. He advised Senator Thompson, of Kansas, that the resolution as amended yesterday by the senate expenditures committee still is objectionable.

Considering all the circumstances, President Wilson told Senator Thompson, chairman of the expenditures committee, the Chamberlain resolution, even as modified, would, in effect, authorize a "drag net" investigation by the military committee.

The president informed Senator Martin, of Virginia, democratic leader, yesterday, that the Chamberlain resolution, calling for an investigation of aircraft production and other war activities, constituted a vote of lack of confidence in the administration and the expenditures committee amended it to eliminate all reference to an investigation of the conduct of the war.

"We are not to be even as revised," said Senator Thompson, after a conference at the white house. "The president authorized me to say that he is just as much opposed to the amended resolution as he was to the original."

Senator Thompson said he might offer a substitute proposing to limit the military committee's inquiry to the aircraft situation alone. The president, he said, feels that the revised resolution is too broadly drawn and still is subject to the construction that will authorize the general inquiry by the military committee into the conduct of the war.

Senator Thompson also said it was believed the military committee now has sufficient authority to proceed within its proper boundaries of inquiry, possibly with the exception of providing additional funds for expenses.

The original Chamberlain resolution authorized an inquiry into aircraft, ordnance and quartermaster affairs and into the "conduct of the war by or through the war department." This phrase was deleted and an express proviso was added prohibiting the military committee from interfering with the president's direction of the war.

## OPENING SERMON WAS PREACHED BY WELLS

### Main Interest in Presbyterian Assembly Centers in New Moderator.

Durant, Okla., May 16.—The 58th session of the general assembly of the Presbyterian church, south, the first ever held in Oklahoma, convened here this morning with delegates from approximately 25 southern and central states attending.

The Rev. John M. Wells, the retiring moderator, preached the opening sermon of the session. Principal interest in today's session centers about the election of a new moderator, which takes place this afternoon.

Deny Change in Command. London, May 16.—Reports that were in circulation that a change was imminent in the higher command of the British army in France were denied in the house of commons by Chancellor Bonar-Law, spokesman for the war cabinet.

Replying to a question, Mr. Bonar-Law said no change in the higher command had taken place, nor was any in contemplation.

United States would be asked, personally, by Mr. Wilson to express an opinion. Senate leaders practically admitted last night that the resolution is doomed.

## CARTOONS OF THE DAY



## ANGLO FRENCH UNITS BE UNDER PERSHING

### All Troops Put Under U. S. Command Where the Sammies Predominate.

Washington, May 16.—Divisions on the western front where American units are brigaded with the British and French, it became known today, will fight under American commanders whenever American troops predominate.

The plan, which means that General Pershing soon may be placed in command of British and French units, as well as his own Americans, is regarded here as especially desirable, and is expected to rapidly increase the size of the American forces on the fighting line and contribute effectively to the spirit of unity.

In addition to this, as illustrative of the unity of command under which General Foch directs the American and allied armies, it was stated officially that Foch commands Italian troops in Italy as fully as he does American, French and British troops in France and Belgium.

## FIRST AMERICAN ARMY OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE

### U. S. Aviators Brought Down Three Hun Machines in Lorraine.

Washington, May 16.—The first American official communique issued since the American troops entered the fighting line on a permanent basis was issued tonight. It reports increased artillery activity northwest of Toul and in Lorraine, as well as the destruction of three German machines by two American aviators.

The statement reads: "6 p. m.—Headquarters American Expeditionary Forces: Northwest of Toul and in Lorraine there was a marked increase in artillery activity on both sides.

"Today our aviators brought down three German machines. There is nothing else of importance to report."

An earlier dispatch Wednesday from the American front in France said that Captain Kenneth Marr, of California, had brought down an enemy biplane and that Captain David Peterson, of Honesdale, Pa., had brought down two German monoplane in the Toul sector.

## THREE TARHEELS IN TODAY'S CASUALTY LIST

### 91 Names are Reported by American Army in Dead and Wounded.

Washington, May 16.—The casualty list today contained 91 names, divided as follows:

- Killed in action . . . . . 8
- Died of wounds . . . . . 4
- Died of accident . . . . . 1
- Died of disease . . . . . 1
- Died of other causes . . . . . 1
- Wounded severely . . . . . 4
- Wounded slightly . . . . . 55
- Missing in action . . . . . 14

Officers named include: Lieutenant Carl O. Rosequist, Evanston, Ill., died of wounds; Captain Earl V. Morrow, Portland, Ore.; Lieutenants Lester S. MacGregor, Findlay, Ohio; Walter G. Nathan, Kansas City, Mo., wounded slightly, and Lieutenants Charles W. Chapman, Waterloo, Ia., and Robert Baker McDowell, Jersey City, N. J., missing in action.

Killed in action: Corporal John A. Johnston, R. F. D. No. 1, Box 63, Bryant, Ark.

Died of wounds: Private Clyde W. Bolling, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Wounded severely: Privates Baxter Hayes, 36 Harris street, Anderson, S. C.; Earl Matthews, Tulsa, Okla.

Wounded slightly: Sergeants Leonard Eddings, 201 Grand Central avenue, Tampa, Fla.; Claude N. Logan, Mooreville, N. C.; Privates Manning G. McCraw, R. F. D. No. 1, Flat Rock, N. C.; Walter D. Trussell, Hones Path, S. C.; Robert Weakley, 1784 Jackson avenue, Memphis, Tenn.; Porter A. Stevens, Cook Place, Tenn.

## FUNERAL OF BENNETT IN AMERICAN CHURCH

Nice, France, May 15.—The body of James Bennett, proprietor of The New York Herald, will be taken from Beaulieu to Paris next Sunday or Monday. Funeral services will be held in the American Church of the Trinity, in the Avenue Alma, and interment will be in Passy cemetery.

Mrs. Bennett has received a telegram from Foreign Minister Pichon conveying condolences from the French government on the death of her husband.

Russia Gave Notice. Washington, May 16.—A copy of the protest made by the soviet government to the German ministry of foreign affairs on April 28, against German oppressions, made public today by the state department, shows that the Russians gave notice of their intention to mobilize "all necessary forces in order to secure the freedom and independence of the Russian republic which is now menaced beyond the limits established by the Brest treaty."

## OFFICIAL REPORTS

### BRITISH.

London, May 16.—The artillery was active last night in the valleys of the Somme and Ancre rivers, east of Arras and on the Flanders battlefields, the war office reports.

The statement follows: "Our troops raided the enemy's trenches last night in the neighborhood of Gavrelle (northeast of Arras), and captured a few prisoners.

"Beyond artillery activity on both sides at different points, particularly in the valleys of the Somme and Ancre rivers, east of Arras, and on the northern battlefield, there is nothing further to report."

### FRENCH.

Paris, May 16.—Artillery actions occurred last night on the French front southeast of Amiens, in the Hailles-Castel sector, says today's war office announcement. West of Montdidier a German raiding detachment was driven off. The French took prisoners in patrol operations north of the Ailette.

The statement reads: "An artillery duel took place in the Hailles-Castel sector. A German raid west of Montdidier was repulsed by the French fire. "French patrols operating north of the Ailette brought back prisoners. "The night was quiet on the remainder of the front."

## FIGHTING IN WEST HAS CALMED DOWN

### Fire of Artillery Still Strong in Flanders and Picardy.

### HUN ATTEMPT FAILED

### French Drive Them From High Ground and Penetrate Front Positions.

### ATTACKS NOT RENEWED

### Pershing Has Issued His First Official Statement on Operations Since His Troops Took Over Sector.

Fighting has died down again in Flanders and Picardy and only the guns are busy. The artillery fire continues strong all along these fronts, as well as on the Arras and is most violent north of Kemmel and north and south of the Somme from Albert to the Avre.

These sectors have been the scenes of all the recent fighting and they probably will see the strongest enemy efforts whenever the Germans believe the time is opportune to strike anew.

In Flanders the Germans have been disappointed in their attempts to gain Hill 44, as the French not only drove them from the high ground, but also penetrated the enemy positions.

In Picardy the Germans have not renewed their counter attacks to drive the French from the wooded terrain captured near Hailles. German and French artillery fire continues heavy north of the Avre. The enemy bombardment of the French lines here has been most intense for the past two weeks, but the Germans have attempted no attacks except to react against successful French gains.

General Pershing has issued his first official statement on American operations since his troops took over sectors permanently simultaneously with announcement from Washington that where American, British and French troops are fighting together and the Americans are in the majority the control will be in American hands. The Germans put down a heavy barrage on the American lines northwest of Toul Wednesday, but no infantry attack resulted.

In aerial fighting in this sector two American aviators have accounted for three German machines. Increased artillery activity is noted on the Lorraine sector.

As on the western front, the lull in northern Italy remains unbroken but with expectation that, as in France, heavy fighting will break out soon. Observers in London believe the heralded Austrian blow will be against the Italian lines from the Stelvio pass to Monte Grappa, just east of the Brenta in the hope of breaking through the Italian defense and reaching Brescia and Milan. Rome reports lively artillery and patrol engagements along the mountain front and the dispersal of enemy troops at two points by Italian batteries.

An attempt by aerial and artillery raid Paris Wednesday night was frustrated by the aerial and artillery defenses of the city. The Germans, however, dropped a number of bombs on the more distant suburbs of the French capital. Aerial activity on the battle lines continued at high pitch, with French and British airplanes dropping many bombs on railway stations and concentration centers behind the German lines.

Germany's ambitions as regards Austria-Hungary's place in the Mitteleuropa plan, German newspapers indicate, were realized in the convention agreed upon by the two emperors at their meeting.

The agreement, which is not yet signed, calls for an alliance for 25 years with closer economy relations and more severe military obligations. Vienna is reported to look with apprehension on the probability that the Austro-Hungarian army will be Prussianized and believes such a step more important than any other feature of the new alliance.

Concentrate German Fleet. London, May 16.—The entire German Baltic fleet except a few light cruisers, was recalled last week to Kiel where important naval forces now are being concentrated, says a dispatch from Hamburg, received in Geneva and transmitted by the correspondent of the Daily Express.

## RIGHTS OF CHURCH ACCORDED WOMEN

### Action First in History of Southern Baptist Convention

### 1,700 DELEGATES THERE

### Many States at Once Placed Women Among Its Regular Representatives.

### WORK AMONG CAMPS

### Committee Named to Investigate Matter of Giving Pensions to Widows and Orphans of Ministers.

Hot Springs, Ark., May 16.—For the first time in the history of the church women of the denomination are participating in the deliberations of the Southern Baptist convention. Action of the convention yesterday in giving the women all church rights that are accorded men, was considered to be a "forthwith" action, and some states immediately accredited their women representatives. According to the official records of the convention Mrs. A. H. Bedoe, of Dallas, Texas, was the first woman to receive her credentials and appointment.

More than 1,700 delegates are attending the convention, which opened yesterday, and almost equal number of women are attending in sessions of the women's mission union.

Informal conferences were held this morning, at which the degree of insistence, the wording of a proposed resolution describing the rule against denominational work in military camps should contain, was discussed. Resolutions in connection with the work of the church among the soldiers were expected to be presented during the day.

Other important matters before the convention today included a discussion of the home mission board's work during the last year, together with the initial report of the commission non ministerial pensions. A committee was appointed to investigate the advisability of establishing permanent pensions for widows and orphans of ministers and to secure annuities to aged and dependent ministers.

## HAVE MILLION AND HALF TROOPS THERE IN YEAR

Paris, May 16.—The United States has promised to have 1,500,000 fighting men in France by the end of 1918, says L'Homme Libre, Premier Clemenceau's newspaper. These troops, it adds, must have their own organization and services, which will mean at least 2,000,000 specialists, workers, men in the quartermaster's department and others.

## Dishes New And Delicious

It's an ill wind that blows nobody good. War economy has brought us some new things to eat that taste mighty fine, besides saving money and helping the cause.

The Dispatch will send you free one copy of the new "War Cook Book," that tells you how to make some of these new dishes. "The War Cook Book" has just been compiled, especially for this purpose. You can depend on it. It is issued by the United States Food Administration.

Do you know how to make baked honey custard?, peanut soup, ivory jelly, date pudding, "fifty-fifty" biscuits?

These are a few of the things "The War Cook Book" tells. Get your free copy today. Send your name and address with a two-cent stamp for return postage to The Wilmington Dispatch Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, Director, Washington, D. C.