

WEATHER.
North and South Carolina: Partly cloudy tonight; warmer tomorrow.
Fair; warmer interior.

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FIVE CENTS

AMERICAN ARMY PLACED IN PATH OF HUN ADVANCE

Takes Over Zone of British Forces in Northern France

NO SIGN OF LIFE

Allied and German Gunners Harass Lines With Steady Shell Fire.

AIRMEN ARE BUSY

Now Believed Hun Preparations For Another Offensive are About Complete—Italians Give Austrians No Rest

With the American Army in France, May 17.—Troops of the new American army have arrived within the zone of the British forces in northern France and are now completing their training in the area occupied by the troops which are blocking the paths of the Germans to the channel ports.

Their commander already has commanded American forces in trenches on the French front.

The British officers and men who are training the new force say the Americans are of the finest material and are certain to give a most excellent account of themselves when they meet the Germans.

British troops greeted the Americans not only as comrades in arms, but as warm friends, and the work of instruction is being continued in that spirit.

The American forces on arriving in the British zone were cheered to the skies by the sons of Britain, many of whom bore unmistakable signs of battle. They had not seen the Americans before, but they knew they were coming.

The Americans, on the other hand, gained all the more enthusiasm by the heartiness of the greeting which they received from their battle-scarred comrades in arms.

Paris, May 17.—Announcement was made here today that the American troops have arrived in northern France, in the zone occupied by the British forces.

The announcement concludes with the statement that the relations between the British and American officers and soldiers are extremely cordial.

Germany still hesitates to renew heavy fighting on the main battlefields of the western front, but the increase in aerial and artillery activity indicates that intensive fighting on a larger scale than in the past two weeks soon again may be in progress.

Allied and German gunners are harassing the opposing lines with shell fire and this fighting continues marked on the front north of the Lys in Flanders and south of the Somme in Picardy. It has been the German policy to precede a strong infantry operation with a few hours of the most intense artillery fire, but the enemy bombardments have not yet reached the highest pitch, though it is believed the German preparation for another offensive move are about complete.

Recently British and French airmen have been meeting with little opposition in dropping bombs on railroad stations, troop encampments and other military targets behind the German lines. Now the enemy has become most active and has attempted bombing raids behind the lines as well as trying to prevent the allied bombers from carrying on their work.

Fifty-six German machines are reported accounted for by London and Paris. Of these, 43 machines were destroyed by allied aviators. Berlin, on the other hand, claims the destruction of 33 allied airplanes.

After a battle with German airplanes, British airmen on Thursday dropped bombs on Saar Brucken, German Lorraine, causing at least one explosion. Five German airplanes were destroyed while the British lost only one of their number, in a subsequent battle.

There was no infantry activity except patrols on all the long fronts from the North Sea to Switzerland, including the American sectors. American artillerymen in Picardy again have caused fires in Montdidier.

Between Lake Garda and the Piave, the Italian troops are giving the Austrians little rest. The success in gaining the summit of Monte Corno, south of the Brenna, has been followed by an operation against Monte Asolone, just east of the Brenna. At two places the Austrian trenches were entered, the part of the garrison not killed or captured fleeing.

Vienna says the Italian activities spread to Monte Pernice, east of Asolone. Both these heights are outposts of the formidable Monte Grappa.

Along the front from the Stelvio pass to Lake Garda, enemy patrols have been repulsed by the Italians. Between Lake Garda and the Brenna, on the Asiago plateau, the artillery fire has increased.

INTEREST WANING: FEW ARE PRESENT

All Speeches at Conference Limited to Five Minutes

PENSION PREACHERS

Widows be Paid on Basis of Years She Was Minister's Wife.

BAPTIST GREETING

Non-Concurrence Has Been Recommended in Petition to Change Law in Discipline of Church.

Atlanta, May 17.—With its most important work out of the way, a dwindling of interest was noticeable at today's session of the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, south. Only a few delegates were in their places when Bishop W. B. Murrah rapped for order. After the devotional service led by the Rev. G. H. Thompson, presiding elder of the Meridian, Miss. district, Bishop Murrah surrendered the chair to Bishop W. R. Lambuth, of California. A telegram of greeting was read from the Southern Baptist convention now meeting at Hot Springs, Ark. In order to facilitate business all speeches were limited to five minutes, except those of chairmen of committees who were allowed 10 minutes.

The report of the special committee on superannuated fund was presented. It recommends the election of a secretary who shall be elected by ballot as other connectional officers, his title to be "secretary of the board of finance." The report provided that funds available for appropriation be distributed to the superannuated preachers on a basis of years of service. A widow of a deceased preacher shall be paid on the basis of the number of years that she has been the wife of an effective traveling preacher, the amount to be two-thirds of that paid to the superannuated preachers.

The committee on revisals did not concur in a memorial from the Virginia conference which proposed a plan of dealing with church members who complain of a preacher for the purpose of preventing his return another year to the charge which he is serving.

Non-concurrence was also recommended in the petition to change the law in the discipline, so that a deacon may be allowed to administer the sacrament in the absence of an elder.

ANTI-GERMAN FELLING IN UKRAINE UNCHECKED

London, May 17.—Anti-German agitation in the Ukraine continues unchecked says a Vienna dispatch to the Lokal Anzeiger of Berlin and transmitted from The Hague by the Exchange Telegraph company. Ukrainians attack Germany bitterly and accuse her of using the Russian warships at Sebastopol for the purpose of seizing coal and Ukrainian merchant men. It is reported that the Germans have mined the strait of Yenikale, closing the passage into the Sea of Azov.

Serious trouble, it is added, has occurred at Nikolaijev, where the Germans have dismissed the city council.

FORCED MARRIAGES IN GERMANY LIKELY

London, May 17.—The German commission appointed to examine the decline in the birth rate in Germany has reported a recommendation for the compulsory marriage of Germans before their twentieth year is passed, according to a dispatch to the Daily Express from Amsterdam. Financial assistance would be granted by the state, according to this plan, which provides penalties for those failing to comply. Provision also is made for the punishment of married couples who remain childless.

Bidding for Next Assembly. Dallas, Texas, May 17.—Rivalry already is developing as to which state shall obtain the next general assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, which yesterday opened its 88th annual assembly here. Commissioners from Tennessee held a meeting last night with the purpose of concentrating their strength upon either Lebanon, Knoxville or Chattanooga.

HE WANTS TO BE CALLED "BUDDIE"



MISS MILDRED TAYLOR IS FIRST WITNESS

Was In Stutz Home Where Mrs. Johnson Took Fatal Poison.

Richmond, Va., May 17.—After four venires had been summoned many of the men had formed an opinion in regard to the case or are opposed to capital punishment, the jury to hear the trial of Dr. Lemuel J. Johnson, the young dentist of Middlesex, N. C., charged with murdering his bride, Mrs. Alice Knight Johnson, was completed in the Hustings court this morning and the examination of witnesses started shortly before noon. As soon as the jury was completed Johnson was ordered to stand up in order that the indictment against him might be read. The defendant was slightly nervous, biting his lips and staring toward the men who are to pass upon his fate. He seemed in a more serious frame of mind than on previous days while the jury was being selected.

Miss Mildred Taylor, chum of the dead girl, was the first witness. She told of being, on the night of December 15, last, in the home of Mrs. B. F. Stutz, where Mrs. Johnson took a fatal dose of poison. It was while telling of her regard for the dentist's bride and their friendship, which was formed in the medical college of Virginia, where both girls were employed, that Miss Taylor hid her face in her hands and wept. Judge Richardson had cautioned the counsel against any unnecessary severe questioning.

Miss Taylor was allowed five minutes in which to resume her testimony. She told how she herself had taken some medicine on the night of the tragedy and how Mrs. Johnson had later removed a capsule from a package. Mrs. Johnson had told the witness that the drug was very costly.

When Miss Taylor remarked about the capsule's unusually large size she said Mrs. Johnson told her that she had taken one just like it five nights before and she had been told to take one every five nights.

Mrs. Johnson confided in her friend that the capsule would "knock L out of me." What was meant by "L" was not explained.

On the night she died Mrs. Johnson was in Miss Taylor's room. She swallowed the capsule and immediately became unconscious. Fifty minutes later she died.

FOREIGN MISSIONS IS CENTER OF INTEREST

Russia, As it Affects Church Work, is Considered by Baptists.

Hot Springs, Ark., May 17.—Discussion of the work done within the last year by its foreign mission board held the attention of the 63rd session of the Southern Baptist convention today. Among the speakers were missionaries from several foreign nations. Virtually all of them had favorable reports to make on extension of church work, despite of war conditions.

The Russian situation as it affects church work was one of the principal points of interest and members of the convention already have indicated their ardent desire to reenter the church field in Russia. It was told that Germans now are in possession of much church property abroad, particularly in Russia and Italy, though the actual loss to the churches could not be estimated, either in terms of dollars or progress.

The foreign mission board has reported its most successful year in finance, and the delegates have evinced great desire to increase the goal for the coming year. There was some discussion, yet undecided, as to whether the work among the American soldiers on foreign soil was to be under the supervision of the foreign missions board or the home missions, but it was made clear that, in either event, the southern Baptists were determined to push that work to the utmost.

PORTO RICO LABOR TO BE TRANSPORTED.

Washington, May 17.—Porto Rican labor is to be transported to the United States within a month for farms in the southern states, in shipyards and other war industries along the Atlantic coast. Arrangements have been made by the Federal Employment Service with the war department to utilize returning transports which will carry supplies to the 15,000 drafted Porto Ricans at the army cantonment at San Juan.

Recruiting of Porto Rican labor has been going on for several months, and 75,000 are now available. Employment for 10,000 has been arranged and more can be used as fast as they can be transported.

Effeminization of Army. Berne, Switzerland, May 17.—Austrian newspapers are exhibiting concern at what they call the "effeminization" of the army. It appears that 36,000 women and girls are now employed in the auxiliary services at clerks, servants, etc., and that others are being enlisted at the rate of 150,000 a month. They are being enrolled at Vienna and sent into the field.

INFERNAL MACHINES USED ON AMERICANS

Check Sammys On No Man's Land.

With the American Army in France, May 17.—The Germans opposite the American sector northwest of Toul are resorting to infernal machines in an effort to check the activity of American patrols, numbers of which go every night to roam No Man's Land and even German land virtually at will.

A member of an American patrol stepped on a harmless-looking wire near the German lines yesterday and a bomb immediately exploded in the center of the patrol group. It had been planted by the enemy.

GERMAN PRISONERS AT HOT SPRINGS MUTINY

Start Trouble When They Learn of Moving to Georgia Forts

Washington, May 17.—Almost a mutiny broke out among the 2,200 interned Germans at Hot Springs, N. C., when they learned of the government's plan to move them before July 1 to army posts at Forts Oglethorpe and McPherson, Ga. It was necessary to increase the guards to preserve order.

COMMITTEE REPORTED SECOND DAY'S PROGRAM

Durant, Okla., May 17.—Consideration of committee reports and general discussions were on the program for the second day of the 58th annual session of the Southern Presbyterian general assembly today. The assembly met yesterday and elected the Rev. James L. Vance, of Nashville, enn., moderator, and heard the reports of some of the committees.

Official Reports

BRITISH. London, May 17.—The German artillery fire is increasingly active from Locon to Hinges, along the western side of the Flanders salient and between the forest of Lappe and to Meteren, on the northern side of the salient, the war office announces.

The statement follows: "A hostile raiding party was repulsed last night in the neighborhood of Moyenneville, south of Arras. There was great activity on both sides during the night in the Pasent wood sector, north of Hinges. The hostile artillery also has shown increased activity between Locon and Hinges, and from the forest of Nieppe to Meteren."

FRENCH. Paris, May 17.—Violent artillery fighting in the region of Hailles, southeast of Amiens, is reported in today's official statement.

The announcement follows: "During the night there was a violent bombardment in the region of Hailles. Near Meunil-St. Georges we repulsed a German raid and took prisoners. South of Canny-Sur-Matz (southeast of Montdidier), French detachments penetrated the German lines at two points, bringing back 40 prisoners, including one officer."

"On the southern bank of the Oise, German attacks on small French posts in the sector of Varennes were broken up by our fire. Elsewhere the night passed in quiet."

NORTH CAROLINA BOY IS DEAD IN FRANCE

106 Names on Casualty List of American Army Over There.

Washington, May 17.—The casualty list today contained 106 names, divided as follows: Killed in action 15 Died of wounds 6 Died of disease 4 Died of gas poisoning 1 Wounded severely 12 Wounded slightly 60 Missing 3 Officers named included: Lieutenant Averil Brazton Pfeiffer, Cleveland, O., slightly wounded; Lieutenant Charles W. Maxson, Baltimore, Md., missing in action; Lieutenant Harold A. Goodrich, New Haven, Mo., and M. S. Redmond, Pittsburgh, Pa., previously reported missing, now reported prisoners.

The list includes: Died of disease: Private Fred L. Harshaw, Murphy, N. C. Wounded slightly: Corporal John D. Wilson, Gaffney, S. C.; Privates Prentice Eaker, Paris, Tenn.; Ray M. Hicks, Finley, Tenn.; Less L. Knight, Macon, Ga.; John R. Weiler, Mengelwood, Tenn.

HAD NO INTENTION TO REFLECT ON CONGRESS

Creel Writes Pou Letter That May Clear Up Furor in House.

Washington, May 17.—George Creel, chairman of the committee on public information, has written Chairman Pou of the house rules committee that he had no intention of reflecting on congress in his much-discussed recent speech in New York, in which he was quoted as saying that, inasmuch as he did not enjoy slumming, he would not explore the hearts of congressmen.

The remarks attributed to Creel created a furor in congress, with demands for investigation of his committee and declarations that if correctly quoted, he was unfit to hold his office.

It was indicated yesterday by house leaders that the matter probably would be permitted to drop and Creel's letter to Pou probably assures such a disposition of the incident.

Chairman Pou told the committee today he had been advised the letter had been written and would be delivered today. Meanwhile, the committee has a session to decide what action it would take.

Given Another Chance.

Tampa, Fla., May 17.—The hanging of Jasper and Edward Mims, father and son, for the murder of A. D. Bule, has been postponed by Governor Catts to May 31, which will allow their cases to be taken before the pardon board May 28, in an effort to get a commutation of sentence.

House of Commons Adjourns. London, May 17.—The house of commons adjourned last night until May 28 without a sign of the long-delayed Irish home rule bill. Apparently the members of the government have no idea when the bill will be introduced.

CREATE PREJUDICE AGAINST IRELAND

Irish Party Says Conscription Bill is Breach of Faith

OUTRAGE OF RIGHT

Promises Made to Deceive America and Allied European Nations.

AN APPEAL IS ISSUED

Meeting is Held Presided Over by John Dillon and Statement Made That No Bill Was Ever Intended

Dublin, Thursday, May 16.—At a meeting of 45 members of the Irish party here today, with the Irish nationalist leader and John Dillon, presiding, a statement was issued that the bill for conscription in Ireland was adopted by parliament largely under the impression that no attempt would be made to use the power until a responsible Irish government and an Irish parliament were called into existence.

The latest developments, however, lead to the conviction, the statement says, that the government has no intention of producing any bill whatever, and that all the promises made were uttered simply to deceive the house of commons, the British public and, above all, the American government, the American people and the allied European nations, and of prejudicing the cause of Ireland in their eyes.

The statement says conscription would not only be an outrage of national right, but a breach of faith. The complaint is made that British propaganda is creating prejudice against Ireland in America and an appeal is made to the United States to listen to Ireland's case, as stated by Irishmen qualified to speak in her behalf. The statement concludes: "We beg of the American people and government in the memory of the bonds of sympathy which have existed between the American and Irish nations ever since the foundation of the republic, to urge upon their British allies the duty of immediately applying in the case of Ireland those principles of democratic freedom and national self-determination so magnificently set forth in President Wilson's declarations, the benefit of which is denied to Ireland, while the Irish people are called on to fight for them in foreign lands."

ALLIES STILL WAIT FOR VON HINDENBURG

Only Grumbling of Guns Now Heard Along Western Front.

With the British Army in France, Thursday, May 16.—The allies are still waiting for Field Marshal von Hindenburg to show his hand. No more magnificent weather could be imagined than has favored the western front in the last 48 hours. But even this has been brought no change in the military situation. The Germans continue to remain comparatively inactive in their un-baked defenses and were it not for the rumbling of the guns, the clouds of dust along the lines of transport and the flight of airplanes winging their way across the battle zone, it would be hard to realize that a war was going on.

Notwithstanding this, there has been no relaxation of the tension which has existed along the front for many days. It is realized that the enemy may strike at any time. Certainly, no one doubts that an ambitious offensive is in preparation, and the time necessary to complete the plans must have about run its course. The delay is in itself an added indication that the next German push is to be one of great magnitude and fierceness. This next battle may easily be the crucial one, for the Germans undoubtedly will attempt once more to smash entirely through the allied lines.

Dr. Carrel Promoted. Paris, May 17.—Dr. Alexis Carrel, of the Rockefeller institute, has been promoted by the French government to the rank of commander of the legion of honor. The new decoration was bestowed upon him yesterday by M. Mourier, under secretary of state, for medical service, in the presence of a distinguished company.

Ten Passengers Killed. Paris, May 17.—Ten passengers, one European and nine Arabs were killed when the French steamer Atlantique was torpedoed in the Mediterranean early this month. The steamship managed to reach a port by her own means, it is announced. She measures 6,447 tons.