

WEATHER.  
North and South Caro-  
lina: Partly cloudy  
tonight and Saturday.

# THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

HOME  
EDITION

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## RACE IS ON BETWEEN WOODROW WILSON AND GEN. VON HINDENBURG

### Huns Strain Every Muscle to Reach Goal First

### EVE OF GREAT ATTACK

Lloyd George Says Allies Are  
Confident of Final Result

### RUSSIA AID TO ENEMY

Premier Is Most Optimistic  
Over Sub-Situation—Ships  
Being Built Faster Than  
They Are Sunk

Edinburgh, May 24.—For the Germans, as well as for us, the next few weeks will be a race between Hindenburg and President Wilson, said Mr. Lloyd-George, in an address here today. "The Germans are straining every muscle to reach their goal first, on the eve of an attack which will be available for the ally. The com-  
"I can honestly say," the premier declared, "that the government has neglected no possible means of finding out whether there is an honorable outlet out of this war, its horrors and tragedies."  
Mr. Lloyd-George's address was delivered in connection with the conferring of the freedom of the city upon him.  
"We are on the eve of a great German attack," the premier asserted. "Those who know best what the prospects are feel confident about the result."  
Speaking of the time necessary for the United States to prepare for full participation in the war, the premier said that after all her exertions America at the present moment, did not have what was equivalent to one-fifth of the fighting strength which the enemy had received owing to the collapse of Russia. He added that it took time to train and equip armies, and that American help could not be reckoned on for some time.  
The premier's statement about the submarine situation was most optimistic. He said that in April the output of shipping for the first time exceeded the losses.  
Mr. Lloyd-George was received with great enthusiasm by the people rising and cheering again and again.  
Since he had taken office, he said, Great Britain and her allies had had to deal with two adverse circumstances. The collapse of Russia had been of enormous help to the enemy at a time when the man power of all the belligerents was almost at the point of exhaustion. The other adverse development was unrestricted submarine warfare—a perfectly unexpected proceeding which the allies had no right to expect, even from Germany. In the whole history of piracy, he remarked, there was no example of conduct like that.

Mr. Lloyd-George read a report he had just received from the admiralty in which it was said:  
"As regards the matter of enemy submarines, that is going satisfactorily."  
That, said the premier, had been the official language since the beginning of the year. The naval staff was confident that the allied navies were sinking more submarines than the enemy was able to build. As a means of inflicting injury, the submarine was still formidable, but as a danger which might mean the losing or winning of the war, he declared, the allies could rule it out. Not only were submarines being sunk faster than the Germans could build them, but the allies, as a whole, were constructing merchant ships faster than the Germans could destroy them.

Mr. Lloyd-George said he felt happier than at any other time during the war over the prospects of making the most effective use of the whole forces of the alliance.  
"We are dealing with a ruthless Prussian despotism that is out for plunder, loot and pillage," he said. "Treaties restrain them just as little today, as in the day of Belgium. They do not intend to bring the war to an end until their basket is as full as it can hold."  
From the data at present available, the premier told his hearers, the admiralty was of the opinion that in April a record had been made in the destruction of enemy submarines.

## CONVICTS BE SENT TO WESTERN FRONT

Washington, May 4.—As an indication of the strain being made by Germany to meet the strain on her man power, convict battalions are being formed, according to a dispatch received by the state department today, a neutral newspaper. Other drastic measures being taken, according to the article, include the stripping of munition factories of men and substitution of women, children and prisoners, and the moving of convicts from the garrisons along the western front, and from the Rumania front to the west. The latter troops have been described as being unfit for intensive action because of the "soft war" of recent months on the southern front.

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## HUGE IRISH FUND TO BECOME FACTOR

### Nearly Million Has Been Raised For Anti-Conscription

### TO INFLUENCE ACTION

Has Greater Financial Power  
Than Any Political Body  
In Ireland

### FROM MODERATE MEN

Subscribers Are Firm Supporters  
Of War and Equally  
Firm Opponents of Sinn  
Fein Movement

Dublin, May 24.—The anti-conscription fund which in less than a month has grown to nearly \$1,000,000 bids fair to become one of the most important factors in the development of the internal political situation. It is the largest fund ever raised in Ireland for political purposes and being in control of the Mansion house conference, that body finds itself in a position of greater financial power than any political organization in Ireland today.  
Thus the conference said if it was managed scrupulously it would be able to influence tremendously the action of any nationalist political organization. This opens many dangerous possibilities to which the moderate leaders in Dublin have devoted anxious attention.  
Many subscribers are moderate Irish men and women, who, while objecting to the forcible application of conscription, are firm supporters of the war and equally firm opponents of Sinn Fein and everything for which it stands. But should the representatives of this moderate opinion attempt to restrain their extremist colleagues it is evident a situation might arise where the resignation of the moderate would be inevitable. Serious problems regarding control of the fund then might be presented.  
The resignation of the moderate delegates to the conference would be regarded as a tremendous victory for the Sinn Fein and Sinn Feiners may do all in their power to embarrass their nationalist opponents. This is the reason the situation which John Dillon and Joseph Devlin find themselves in one of the most delicate in the history of Irish politics.  
Unionists' critics, alive to the situation, are doing their utmost to make capital for themselves by pointing out a moral to the Irish. The Irish Times, referring editorially to the decision of the conference to use the fund for aiding the dependents of "men whose activities are gravely incompatible with the safety of the nation," asks if Dillon and Devlin were to sit silent while the conference "resolved away Ireland's honor," and asks if the bishops have nothing to say about the use of the fund.

## MISSION REACHES U. S. ON ITS WAY TO JAPAN

### Is Headed by Prince Arthur of Connaught — To Call on Wilson

An Atlantic Port, May 24.—Prince Arthur, of Connaught, son of the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, former governor general of Canada, and a cousin of King George, arrived here today from an English port as head of a British mission to the United States. The mission made the voyage aboard a British cruiser.

The prince and his party were met by Assistant Secretary of State Long, Colonel E. M. House, General White, head of the British recruiting mission in this country, and Clive Bailey, British consul general, and other British and American officers.

On Way to Japan.  
Washington, May 24.—The mission headed by Prince Arthur, the state department announced today, is on its way to Japan. It will come to Washington to call on President Wilson.

Resumes Presidency.  
Philadelphia, May 24.—Announcement was made today that L. E. Johnson has resigned the presidency of the Norfolk and Western railway. N. D. Maher resigned as president and a director effective June 1 to become regional director for the newly created Pocahontas region. This action was taken at a meeting of the directors of the company in this city on Wednesday.

## HOMAGE TO BE PAID TO AMERICAN DEAD

### Commanders Will Pay Tribute To Fallen Memorial Day

### FRENCH WILL ASSIST

Faded Stars and Stripes Will  
Be Replaced With New Flags

### TO DEEPEN GRAVES

Tri-Colored Flags Over Rem-  
ains of Heroes Buried  
in French Soil

With the American Army in France, Thursday, May 23.—The American dead, sleeping in the soil of France, will receive the homage of the American army on memorial day. Many of those who have given their lives for their country are buried in graves over which shells and bullets are flying close to where they fell. But wherever they are resting their comrades will bear them in mind and pay tribute to their memory.

To many Americans now fighting in France memorial day heretofore simply has meant a holiday. In a vague way they appreciated the meaning of the decoration of graves by the survivors of Civil War days, but now they regard memorial day in a different light, for it means honoring the memory of men they have known, bled with and fought with.

Throughout all the zones in which there are American soldiers plans have been made for ceremonies, in which the French will largely participate. At one place is a row of mounds under which lie sons of New York. Men of the same regiment will gather there to replace the faded American flags with new ones and deposit wreaths of fresh flowers, and others, which will withstand time and weather.

Similar ceremonies will take place at the graves of boys from other states. In the same locality roadside graves of French soldiers, buried where they fell in the earlier days of the war, will be decorated by Americans.

At general headquarters all graves of American and French soldiers in that vicinity will be decorated with flowers and crossed flags—the Star Spangled Banner and the Tri-Color of France. Led by a band, a body of soldiers will march to the main cemetery. There the troops will be drawn up while American and French army chaplains repeat prayers for the dead. A squad will fire a salute.

## JAMES A GRAY HEADS BANKERS ASSOCIATION

### Annual Session of State Bank- ers Closed Today—Mc- Adams' Great Speech

(Special to The Dispatch.)  
Raleigh, May 24.—The North Carolina Bankers association concluded its business session here this afternoon at 2 o'clock, and adjourned without naming a convention city for next year. However, it is the generally accepted belief that Greensboro will be the choice of the executive committee, and that the occasion will be used for the purpose of christening the new O. Henry hotel.

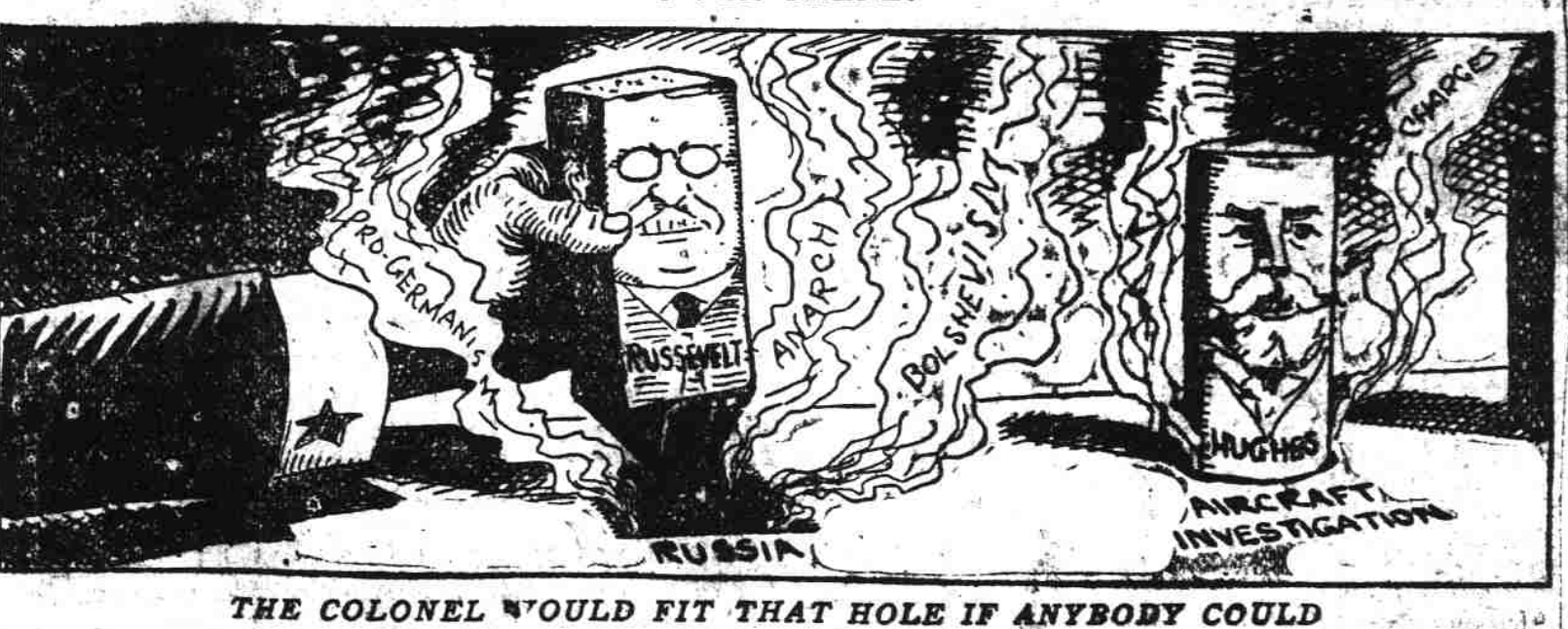
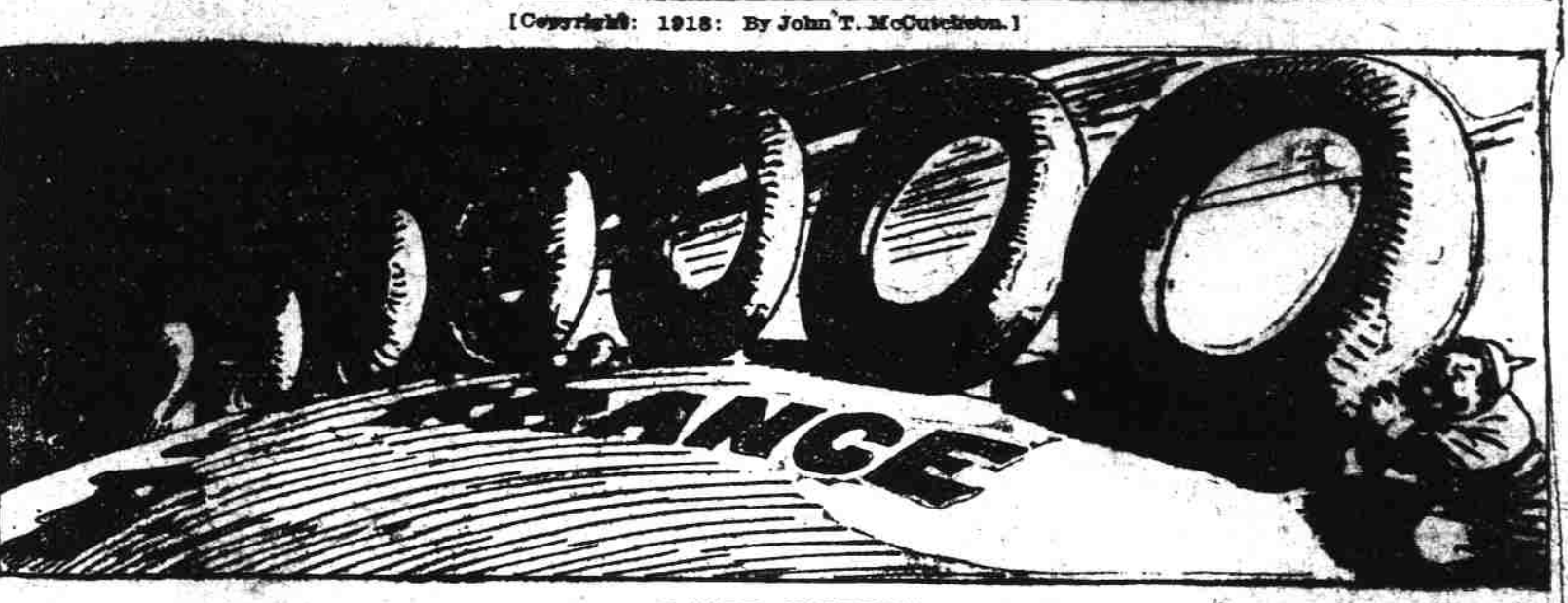
The following officers of the association were elected:  
President, James A. Gray, Jr., of Winston-Salem.  
First vice president, James B. Ramsey, of Rocky Mount.  
Second vice president, Edwin Sluder, of Asheville.  
Third vice president, A. M. Dumay, of Washington.

Director of State War Savings of Virginia, McAdams made one of the more hooping up speeches this morning ever listened to by a staid body of bankers. Even the republicans in attendance cheered Mr. McAdams' declaration that Woodrow Wilson is the greatest president the country ever produced. The speaker also declared that bankers should not lend a penny to any man who made disloyal remarks about his country.

Tonight the bankers will hold a social session at the Raleigh Country club, concluding with a dance.

As the convention closed, Col. W. A. Blair, of Winston-Salem, on behalf of the association, presented a beautiful silver tray to retiring president, W. B. Drake.

## CARTOONS OF THE DAY



## PROHI LEADERS PLAN TO FORCE THE ISSUE

### Would Stop \$6,100,000 Appropria- tion Unless Wilson Forbids Use of Foodstuffs

Washington, May 24.—Prohibition forces in congress laid plans today to obtain senate approval of an amendment to the food production bill, withholding the main appropriation of \$6,100,000 unless President Wilson issues a proclamation forbidding the use of foodstuffs in the manufacture of liquors. The amendment to the bill, which carries a total appropriation of \$10,864,400 to increase food production, was attached by the anti-liquor advocates of the house by a vote of 177 to 133. The appropriation contained in the amendment is for salaries of county agents.

## JOHNSON TAKES STAND IN HIS OWN DEFENSE

### Denies Emphatically He Gave Poison to His Young Bride

Richmond, Va., May 24.—Dr. Lemuel J. Johnson, the young dentist of Middlesex, N. C., on trial here for wife murder, went on the stand in his own behalf shortly before noon today and denied all the damaging evidence that has been offered against him.

In a clear and collected manner, Johnson denied that he was engaged to Miss Ollie White of Zeblun, N. C., the "other girl in the case," but admitted that she was a sweetheart of his boyhood days. He did not deny giving her a diamond ring, however, and told in a clear manner how he had planned to have his bride, the former Miss Alice Knight, of Richmond, join him in his home in Middlesex. He said he had looked forward to a happy and successful future there. Johnson was especially emphatic in denying that he had planned to get rid of his Richmond bride by giving her poison in order that he might wed the North Carolina girl. He said that both he and his bride had planned to make their home in Middlesex as soon as he could establish himself in practice there.

## FIFTY THOUSAND MARK APPROACHED

### Biggest Contribution of Day Not Entered in the Records, However

Today's noon reports of the various teams and neighborhood solicitation committees, working in the interest of the second war fund drive of the Red Cross, boosted the grand total to date dangerously close to the \$50,000 mark—almost double the quota asked. An additional 5,570 was reported at the noon luncheon at the Y. M. C. A., running the total up to \$48,129.54. The luncheon was not so well attended because of the showers that preceded it, many being kept away and consequently many teams did not report. Had all teams reported it is believed that the total would have gone beyond the \$50,000 figure. Today's luncheon was served by the women of the Presbyterian churches and was a delightful affair.

The biggest subscription of the day, however, was not entered in the records. It was a penny contribution—made by a little boy who chanced to overhear conversation between two women workers and the proprietor of the store which he was visiting for the purpose of investing his entire fortune in chewing gum. The chewing gum sale was not effected—the Red Cross received the child's penny and many could learn a wonderful lesson from the incident—the lesson of giving, not what one can without inconvenience, but until it hurts. That contribution hurt. Dr. Milton was morally certain of it, for who has not been a child and seen some coveted article go aglimmering—an article that could have been used in a pinch for several days, in the opinion of Dr. Milton. Another incident of the morning was a similar gift by a half-witted boy whose mother was being solicited by one of the neighborhood teams.

The meeting was addressed by Rev. T. P. Noe, who outlined graphically the work that is being done by the Red Cross—not alone for the boys in the trenches and the poor maimed fellows who have been moved back behind the lines after injury, but for the mothers and wives and other dependents of the men in the service. Mr. Noe noted several cases where aid had been given wives who had not received their government allotments for their husbands' services. Continuing he said that the organization was just now preparing to send a young colored woman to Illinois in order that she may visit her soldier husband—a selectman—who lays dangerously ill in a hospital there, having been obliged to undergo an operation. It is work of this kind that the Red Cross is doing, continued Mr. Noe, and all should consider it a pleasure to give.

The meeting was also addressed by Dr. E. C. Cronk, present as a visitor, who said that the person who would hoard money now was unpatriotic and  
(Continued on Page Sixteen.)

## SIDE STEPPED REAL ISSUE WITH WILSON

### Senate Bows to Wishes of White House in Probe of War

By FRANK P. MORSE.  
Washington, D. C., May 24.—A clever exhibition of side-stepping a direct issue with President Wilson was offered by the United States senate when the committee on contingent expenses secured the unanimous adoption by the senate of a substitute for the Chamberlain resolution. By eliminating the earlier proposal, to which the president took exception, the element in the upper house favorable to continued investigations by the senate military affairs committee obtained prompt approval of an expedient for financing the investigation.

The resolution allows a diversion of money from the contingent fund of the senate for traveling expenses and the employment of experts to assist investigations. Specific authority for the investigation is granted under a previous resolution that authorized the committee on military affairs, or any subcommittee "to send for persons and papers" and print reports of hearings in connection with any subject pending before the committee. It also authorized the committee to continue its activities during recesses of the senate.

The fact that the new resolution was passed unanimously is accepted as proof that it will not arouse objections from the white house. As the case stands, the senate has sent the famous Chamberlain resolution into the discard and practically announced that the upper house bows to the wishes of the administration. As a matter of fact, however, the senate military affairs committee is now in a position to continue investigations into the conduct of the war. There is no doubt that the plan to send subcommittees on tours of investigation through aircraft and munitions factories, a plan that was held up by the dispute over the Chamberlain resolution, will now be put into effect. The proviso about traveling expenses, emphasized in today's resolution, unquestionably was inserted specifically to meet the cost of such tours by the subcommittees.

Future activities by the senate military affairs committee will be followed with close attention by the administration. The government welcomes assistance and constructive criticism appears to be a grave problem. The from Senator Chamberlain and his committee associates, but the president will not countenance obvious encroachments by the committee into a domain that belongs purely to the executive branch of the government.

## HUN PLANS READY TO RESUME BATTLE

### Allies Confident in Ability to Meet Shock of Enemy

### ARTILLERY NOW READY

German Leaders Seem Not  
Prepared to Test Their  
Fate Yet

## MORALE MUCH WEAKER

### Berlin Claims Three American Airplanes Were Downed on Lys Battlefield—Is First News

Heavy fighting operations on the western front still are in the stage of anticipation. Continuation of the present calm much longer is hardly possible, with both sides prepared for a renewal of extensive operations. The Germans are known to have completed their preparations and the allies are confident in their ability to meet the shock of enemy attacks, whether and whenever they may come.

What really is going on behind the German lines is uncertain, but it is known the enemy has large numbers of men along the front from Ypres to Rheims. His artillery is in position and weather conditions have been favorable, but the German leaders are not yet ready to test their fate, or, at least, they have given no indication of doing so. The German morale is reported to be much weaker than before the attack of March 21.

Meanwhile, the allied mastery of the air is production of much damage to German billets, airdromes, artillery concentrations and other military targets. For more than a week now British and French armies have been dropping ton after ton of bombs in the area immediately back of the German lines. In aerial fighting the German fliers have been bested and on Wednesday British aviators accounted for 15 enemy machines, while losing three of their own.

Raids into Germany continue, and British bombing squadrons have again visited Mannheim, on the Rhine, where two fires were caused. An electric power station near Saarbrücken, German Lorraine, was damaged severely and more explosives have been dropped on railway stations at Metz.

Berlin claims that three American airplanes have been brought down on the Lys battlefield. This is the first indication that American airmen were with the American troops on this front.

Infantry raiding operations and artillery firing is at a minimum along the entire front from Switzerland to the North sea. Activity on the American sectors has been below normal.

Italy begins her fourth year of the war today. As in France, the enemy withholds his offensive operations heralded as certain some weeks ago. On the mountain front there has been no fighting of moment, while along the Piave the Italians have repulsed another Austro-Hungarian attack against the new bridgehead of Capo Sile.

## ARMY BILL READY TO PRESENT TO CONGRESS

### Two Important Steps Taken to Put Nation on New War Basis

Washington, May 24.—The army appropriation bill giving President Wilson authority to call to the colors all men of draft age who can be equipped and trained, stood completed today by the house military committee and ready for presentation to congress.

Perfection of the bill constituted one of two important steps taken yesterday putting the nation on a new war basis and the committee's action came soon after Provost Marshal General Crowder had promulgated a drastic amendment to selective draft regulations requiring every man of draft age to work or fight.

Secretary Baker addressed the committee in executive session and recommended the increase in the army by empowering the president to call out draft registrants as fast as they can be handled by the war department.

The committee promptly voted such authorization into the bill and completed the measure to provide for the pay of 3,000,000 men and carrying ordinance appropriations on the basis of an army of 4,000,000.

The bill will be laid before the house with an actual total appropriation of \$9,569,129,000, and an authorization for contracts amounting to \$2,464,416,000 more.

Protests Against "Birth of a Nation."  
Columbia, S. C., May 24.—Protests having been filed with the state council of defense and city council against the presentation of the picture, "The Birth of a Nation," scheduled for one of the local theaters next week, an announcement was made today that the engagement for the picture had been cancelled.