

THE WEATHER

Generally fair Thursday and Friday; not much change in temperature.

WILMINGTON THE MORNING STAR

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WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 9, 1915

WHOLE NUMBER 39,877

BACK HIM UP!

When a manufacturer advertises his goods in this newspaper, readers are buying these goods about as fast as they can be produced. It is not philanthropy, it is self-interest.

SUBMARINE RETURNS TO BASE AND REPORTS SINKING LINER ARABIC

German Commander Says He Fired Torpedo Because of Fear of Attack by Her.

AS INDICATED BY ACTS

Was Pursuing a Course Directly Towards Submarine While on Surface.

Ambassador Gerard Handed Germany's Note on Incident

Berlin, via London, Sept. 8.—

The commander of a German submarine which has returned to its base, has reported to the admiralty that he torpedoed the liner Arabic in the belief that the Arabic's action indicated she was about to attack the submarine, and that he fired in self-defense.

The submarine commander said his boat was engaged in destroying a freighter when the Arabic was sighted. The submarine then was on the surface.

The Arabic, the commander declares, swung around and headed toward the freighter, as if to attack the submarine. The commander remained in doubt as to her intentions when she changed her course a few points, but still kept headed in a direction bringing her nearer to the scene.

Says Submarine Charged Him.—The submarine commander said he continued to observe the actions of the liner until he saw her again change her course and head directly for the submarine as if she had sighted the undersea boat.

Then the commander, believing his craft in danger, he declared, submerged and fired a torpedo.

This news was communicated immediately to Ambassador Gerard for transmission to Washington. Prior to receipt of the report of the submarine commander, Admiralty officials believed the submarine had been lost. No reason for her delay in returning to port has been given.

A high foreign official, discussing the case with the Associated Press, said the submarine commander evidently had adequate reasons for believing he was to be attacked and was justified in taking steps to save his boat and crew.

News of the return of the submarine and the commander's report has not yet been published in Germany.

There still is no report available here with regard to the sinking of the Hesperian.

EXPECT NOTE IN FEW DAYS.

Washington Officials Withholding Judgment on the Arabic Case.

Washington, Sept. 8.—Germany's promised communication in regard to the sinking of the Arabic is expected here within a few days, in view of press dispatches announcing that a submarine commander had reported he torpedoed the Arabic because he thought he intended to attack him.

Officials did not comment on the press reports. Through the German ambassador assurances have been given that full attention would be accorded the United States in connection with the destruction of the Arabic on which American passengers lost their lives. Some officials indicated that the submarine commander's explanation seemed unconvincing, but there will be no judgment until Berlin is heard from formally.

Meantime, attention is being given the Hesperian case. Secretary Lansing today cabled Ambassador Gerard at Berlin asking that he report any information available there. Although all reports from London declare the Hesperian was torpedoed the belief that she struck a mine still is prevalent in circles here, and at the State Department no conclusion has been reached.

No confirmation has been received so far of reports that an American named Wolf, a member of the crew, was lost when the Hesperian. It was pointed out that this proved to be true. The American government has taken the view that the placing of American lives in jeopardy by illegal acts is as grave an offense as the actual destruction of life. No further case would be altered by the fact that Wolf was a member of the crew instead of a passenger.

GERARD HAS NOTE ON ARABIC.

Expresses Regrets and Offers to Refer Questions to The Hague.

Berlin, Sept. 8.—Germany's note to the United States concerning the sinking of the White Star liner steamer Arabic by a German submarine was delivered to American Ambassador Gerard last night.

The note ascribes the destruction of the liner to an act of self-defense on

SUNK THE ARABIC IN SELF DEFENSE

Says Note from Germany to the United States.

WAR NEWS SUMMARIZED

Action of Emperor Nicholas Surprises Allied Nations—Hard Fighting on Eastern Front and in France—Report on Hesperian.

Germany, in a note to the United States, has acknowledged that the White Star liner Arabic was sunk by a German submarine. The note declares self-defense was the motive of the submarine commander. Regret is expressed that American lives were lost and offer is made to submit questions of reparation to The Hague.

The transfer of Grand Duke Nicholas to the Caucasus and the Russian Emperor's assumption of command of all his land and sea forces has caused surprise among the Allied nations, but the opinion is expressed that the Emperor merely is following Russian traditions that the Russian troops will give a better account of themselves in the knowledge that "the little father" is personally directing their efforts.

Hard fighting is in progress along the eastern front, as well as in France, Germany has made an attempt at a raid on the London district, loss of life and material damage resulting. Heavy fighting has been going on in Gallipoli, the troops on land being assisted by the fleet.

It was a German submarine that sunk the White Star steamer Arabic August 19 with the loss of 39 lives, among them two Americans. The commander of the U boat responsible for the disaster, at last has returned to his base and has reported. He declares that while the submarine was torpedoed and headed toward the scene as if to attack or ram the submarine and that he fired in self-defense.

Germany also has spoken officially concerning the sinking of the Allan Line steamer Hesperian. In a message to Ambassador Bernstorff, the German foreign office says it appears improbable that the Hesperian was torpedoed and that it is much more likely the boat ran on a mine. Washington, however, still is awaiting Germany's formal statement.

For the first time in several weeks on the western line there has been no fighting and in it the Germans were successful in gaining a foothold in some advanced French trenches in the western Argonne region. Paris admits the gain, but says the new attempt to break the French front was repulsed.

On the Russo-East Galicia front, running from Radziwillov to Podkarnon, the Russians, according to Vienna, have been forced to retreat on a line of 56 miles to behind the river Ikwa. The Russians, however, are on the offensive and giving hard battle to the Czar's troops along the Sereth and South of Tanopol.

In Courland, in the region of Friedrichstadt, the Germans are making progress in the fighting directed toward the Baltic coast. In the south, in addition to the capture of Wolkowysk, a railway junction east of Bialystok, the Teutons on various sectors are continuing their gains.

VAST INCREASE SHOWN IN MUNITIONS EXPORTS

Greatest Increase is in Shells and Other Ammunition.

Converted Munitions Plants of the Country Are Getting Into Full Swing—Mules and Aeroplanes in Demand.

Washington, Sept. 8.—American exports of war supplies are increasing enormously now that converted munitions plants are getting into full swing. Figures made public tonight by the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce show that shipments of horses, mules, automobiles, aeroplanes and explosives, all classed as war supplies, aggregated nearly \$30,000,000 in July, the only item to show a material decrease, dropped from \$14,500,000 to \$11,000,000.

Horses and mules to the value of \$12,000,000 were exported in July as against \$10,500,000; 138 aeroplanes, valued at \$80,836 were shipped, compared with 82 machines worth \$25,212 in June. July exports of cartridges were valued at \$2,427,761 about the same as the preceding month; of dynamite \$100,989, a slight increase, and of gunpowder \$4,687,929 compared with \$2,234,849 in June.

BELIEF IN BERLIN IS THAT HESPERIAN MAY HAVE HIT MINE

Some Other Agency Besides Torpedo Assigned as Cause of Liner's Destruction

OPINIONS ARE POSITIVE

Theory Seemingly Advanced on Knowledge of Recent Instructions to Commanders

Berlin, via London, Sept. 8.—Persons in a position to speak with authority here assert positively their conviction that the Hesperian was not torpedoed by a German submarine; at least, under the conditions thus far described.

Although authorized quoted comment is withheld for the time, the positiveness of the opinions expressed informally by individuals who may have obtained authoritative information is noteworthy. In these quarters it is believed the Hesperian must have struck a mine or possibly was destroyed by some agency from within; that it may be regarded as certain she was not torpedoed by a German submarine under the conditions set forth in press dispatches and in accounts given by passengers.

It is pointed out that details given in press reports such as the shock of the impact, the column of water thrown up and the flying fragments of metal may be adapted quite as well to the theory that the Hesperian struck a mine as the assumption that she was torpedoed.

The assurance with which this theory is advanced seems to be based on knowledge of additional instructions issued to submarine commanders since the Arabic was sunk.

BERNSTORFF GETS MESSAGE.

Says It Appears Improbable Hesperian Was Torpedoed.

New York, Sept. 8.—Count Bernstorff, the German ambassador, received a wireless from the Berlin foreign office today saying that it appears improbable that the Hesperian was torpedoed, and that it was much more likely the boat ran on a mine.

The dispatch, as given out by the ambassador at his hotel here, follows: "According to information available in Berlin it appears improbable that the Hesperian was torpedoed. Much more likely the boat ran on a mine."

ONE AMERICAN DROWNED.

Established That New Jersey Man, a Member of the Crew, Was Lost.

Queenstown, Sept. 8.—It has been established that an American named Wolf, who was lost on the Hesperian, was assigned as an able seaman of the Hesperian's crew. He came from Newark, N. J., and was of Dutch parentage.

NO DOUBT AS TO GUN.

No Secret Being Made as to Its Presence on the Hesperian.

Queenstown, Sept. 8.—There is absolutely no doubt that a gun was mounted on the Hesperian. It is understood the gun was visible, no secret being made of its presence.

PEARY OFFERS SERVICES

Retired Admiral and Discoverer Sends Letter to Secretary Daniels.

Portland, Maine, Sept. 8.—Robert E. Peary, who was retired by act of Congress with the rank of rear admiral in recognition of his discovery of the North Pole in 1909, today offered his services to the War Department for any duty he may be called upon to perform. The offer was made in a letter to Secretary Daniels.

Use Trench Warfare Tactics to Rob Bank

ROBBERS ERECT BARBED WIRE ENTANGLEMENTS AROUND THE BUILDING WHICH SERVES AS A BARRIER.

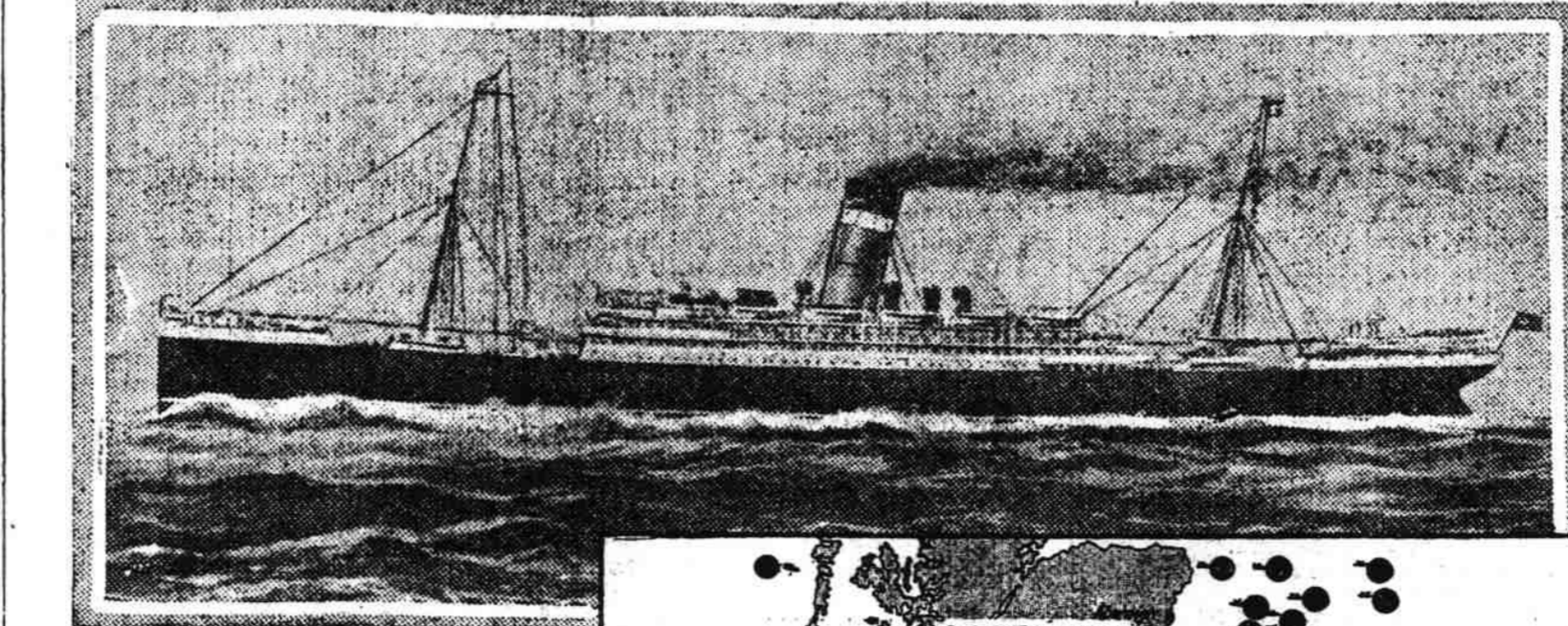
Jefferson, Okla., Sept. 8.—Tactics borrowed from the trench warfare in Europe enabled three robbers to loot the Farmers' State Bank here early today. Before entering the bank the men broke into a hardware store and procured several coils of barbed wire, with which they erected entanglements about the bank.

Four charges of explosives were used to wreck the safe. The first aroused the townspeople, but before the citizens could devise a way of overcoming the wire barrier, the robbers had taken \$2,000 and escaped in a motor car. Posses followed them as far as Hummel, Kan., but they lost the trail.

RUSSIANS CAPTURE 8,000 PRISONERS AND 30 GUNS

Petrograd, Sept. 8 (via London, Sept. 9).—Near Tanopol the Russians have defeated the third German division and the 48th reserve division with an Austrian brigade, capturing 8,000 prisoners and 30 guns besides a quick-firer, according to tonight's war office statement.

Allan Liner Sunk by Torpedo, and Map of German Operations.



SPEND TOO LITTLE TO PREVENT DEATH

Secretary Redfield's Speech Before Health Association.

PAPER BY DR. RANKIN

Urges Need of Improving Rural Sanitation—Declares It Should be Initiated by the Various State Governments—A Waste.

Rochester, N. Y., Sept. 8.—Speaking tonight before the American Public Health Association, William C. Redfield, Secretary of Commerce, urged Americans to view with sober minds the waste of war abroad and consider ways of preventing the waste of peace.

"It has always seemed a sad thing to me," he said, "that while there are many among us ready to denounce the slaughter of war, they do not get actively excited over the needless slaughters of peace. We spend, and in my judgment we spend wisely, millions for a battleship against the possible coming of war. We do not spend, in my judgment, most unwisely fail to spend, sufficient sums to meet the certain coming of needless deaths in times of peace.

Speaking of the waste caused in inadequate industrial economy, Secretary Redfield said:

"We are among the world's great industrial peoples, striving mightily for our place in the commercial situation, but we omit a necessary thing to win and hold that position for which we strive. The great problem of teaching the artisan's sons and daughters how to labor productively is all but untaught."

Paper by Dr. Rankin.—The need for improving rural sanitation was strongly urged by Dr. W. S. Rankin, Secretary of the North Carolina State Board of Health, in a paper read before the association, when he pointed out that the field of rural sanitation embraces more than 99 per cent of the area of the United States and more than half of the country's population.

Dr. Rankin declared that the work of improving rural standards of sanitation should be initiated by the State governments and conducted by the local or county governments. He pointed out that there are 2,953 counties in the United States, an average of 95 to a State, and that this multiplicity of governments should be reduced.

GERMAN COTTON MEN ARE ANXIOUS TO BUY

Offer to Take Million Bales at Fifteen Cents, Delivered

Intending Purchasers Would Provide Guarantees That the Cotton Would Not be Used for Military Purposes.

Berlin, via London, Sept. 8.—German cotton men are taking up earnestly the plan to purchase American cotton. They sent a wireless to the German consulate in New York August 31, offering to buy 1,000,000 bales at 15 cents per pound on delivery in a German harbor. The message was signed by the Deutsche Dresdner and Disconto Bank of Berlin, and the National Bank of Bremen.

The intending purchasers, through the president of the Bremen chamber of commerce, have assured the consulate and the embassy at Washington that they were in a position to provide adequate guarantees that the cotton would not be used for military or naval purposes but purely industrially. They added, as substantiation, that the military and naval authorities have on hand cotton enough for over two years, and that cotton for explosives is not included in this, as new processes have enabled the government to dispense with the use of cotton in making explosives.

MAY ALSO ACT IN BEHALF OF RUSSIA

Anglo-French Financial Commission May Seek Joint Loan.

IS NEARING NEW YORK

Delegates Last Night Were Believed to be Within Few Hours' Sail. Name of Vessel Bearing Them Yet Unknown.

New York, Sept. 8.—The six English and French financiers on their way to this city to borrow half a billion dollars or more to pay for American supplies for the Allied armies and other imports were believed to be within a few hours' sail of New York harbor at 10 o'clock tonight. The exact date of their sailing from England and the name of the ship they took have been withheld by the British censor.

It was learned from unofficial sources tonight that not only would the commissioners represent their own countries in negotiations here but in all probability would act for Russia.

Passengers reaching here on the steamer Ryndam told of reports of the imminence of the commissioners' departure from England when they left Rotterdam and brought word of their plans which the British censor apparently had barred on the cables.

According to this information a meeting had been arranged in London for the latter part of August by Reginald McKenna, British chancellor of the exchequer; Alexander Felix Ribot, French minister of finance, and Pierre L. Bark, Russian minister of finance.

The conference, it was reported, established a joint action by the three governments in obtaining a mammoth credit loan in the United States.

This matter had been discussed a short time previously at Boulogne-Sur-Mer, France, at a meeting between Chancellor McKenna and M. Ribot, and the two commissions were organized to visit America with a view to establishing a credit here, the like of which the western world had never seen before, which would solve for months to come the vexing question of paying for supplies bought in America and shipped abroad.

It was agreed, it was reported, to present the plan to the Russian finance minister when he should join his colleagues in London and ask for his approval of joint action by the Anglo-French commission on behalf of Russia, too.

M. Bark's visit to London, according to reports, was deferred because of pressing duties at Petrograd. When (Continued On Page Eight)

OPPOSES STANDING ARMY OF 500,000

Webb is Against \$500,000,000 Appropriation for Navy.

NOT NECESSARY, NOW

Says There Might Have Been Sense in Such Expenditures Two Years Ago But European Nations Have Enough of War.

(Special Star Telegram.)

Washington, D. C., Sept. 8.—Representative Yates Webb, chairman of the House judiciary committee, is opposed to an appropriation of \$500,000,000 for the navy and is also opposed to a standing army of 500,000. He, like Representatives Claude Kitchin and Robert Page, favors a strong, adequate navy, equal to the necessities of the country.

"I certainly shall not vote for any 500,000 standing army nor an appropriation of \$500,000,000 for the navy, as some of the advocates of a larger navy favor," said Mr. Webb. "There might have been some sense in such expenditures two years ago, but if ever there was a time when we need not waste money for the army and navy it is now. With all Europe in a death-like struggle and with billions of dollars of debts hanging over them and increasing every day, we need have no fear of any of the European countries making war against us for years to come."

"I am in favor of a strong, adequate navy, equal to the necessities of our country, but, I do not want any overgrown, bullying army and navy. I want both to always be subordinate to the will of the American people."

Mr. Webb came here today to attend to departmental matters. He will call on President Wilson tomorrow to discuss matters of legislation which will be handled during the coming session of Congress and will also call on Director of the Census Rogers and Secretary of the Navy Daniels.

Mr. Webb said the people in his section of the country are incensed over England putting cotton on the consular band list. He hopes the note of protest will soon be on its way to London and that it will be strong enough to convince the British government that we mean business.

Indianapolis, Sept. 8.—Eleven of the twelve men to try Mayor Joseph E. Bell for alleged election conspiracy, had been tentatively passed by the State when court adjourned today. Three new men had entered the jury box since it was passed by the defense this morning.

FIGHTING RESUMED IN THE EAST WITH GREAT INTENSITY

In Southern Galicia Russians Are Making Determined Efforts to Gain Initiative.

STILL HOLD THE DVINA

Austro-Germans Continue to Increase Their Advantage in Center of the Line.

London, Sept. 8.—Almost simultaneously with the announcement that Emperor Nicholas personally had replaced Grand Duke Nicholas as commander of the Russian forces, the fighting along the eastern frontier has been resumed with great intensity. In the south the Russians are making determined efforts to regain the initiative, while in the center the Austro-Germans continue to increase their advantage.

Von Hindenburg and his commanders in Courland still are being denied their objective, the Dvina river, while von Mackensen and the Austrian general at the other end of the line are engaged in opposing the Russian offensive. In the center, Von Eberhard and Prince Leopold are pushing forward, and, according to Berlin, have occupied Wolokow, an important railway junction immediately east of Bialystok. It is for the railways that the Austro-Germans are fighting, for when the autumn rains turn a great part of the country into an impassable morass they will need them to keep their armies supplied.

Another day of heavy artillery engagements is recorded on the western front where also there has been a series of air raids, as well as a bombardment of German coast batteries by the British fleet.

The Italians claim to have captured several Austrian positions on the Cadore frontier. On the rest of the Austro-Italian front artillery actions continue.

Long distance fighting appears also to be a feature of the operations in the Danubian district, according to Constantinople, the Turks have successfully bombarded the Allies' positions at Anafarta and Seddul Bahr.

Zeppelin Raid on England.—The Zeppelin raid on England Tuesday night resulted in the death of 13 persons of whom ten were women and children and the wounding of 43, of whom 30 were women and children. This brings the grand total of casualties from Zeppelin raids up to 102 killed and 263 injured.

AIR RAIDS ON ENGLAND.—Casualties and Fires Caused by Bombs Dropped Wednesday Night.

London, Sept. 9.—Air raids on the eastern counties of England and on the London district were reported in last (Wednesday) night. Aircraft dropped a number of bombs, and casualties and fires resulted.

An official statement says: "Hostile aircraft visited the eastern counties and the London district Wednesday night and dropped incendiary and explosive bombs. At midnight a few casualties had been reported and some homes which were then well under control."

"The number of casualties will be communicated through the press in the course of the day."

FIVE PASSENGERS ABOARD.

French Steamer Bordeaux Was Warned Before Being Torpedoed.

Paris, Sept. 8.—There were five passengers on the French steamer Bordeaux, whose destruction by a submarine off the western coast of France was announced yesterday. The Bordeaux was on her way from Morocco with a cargo of wheat.

The submarine first fired two shots, then hoisted signals ordering the passengers and crew to leave the Bordeaux. It was 6:20 o'clock in the morning and the captain of the Bordeaux could not distinguish the signals clearly.

The submarine fired eight or ten more shots, some of which struck the Bordeaux. Thereupon the captain ordered that the boats be lowered. Within ten minutes the boats were clear of the vessel. The submarine then discharged a torpedo which struck the ship near the boilers.

NEW DUPONT COMPANY HAS \$240,000,000 CAPITAL.

Financial Re-Organization of Firm Perfected Yesterday.

Wilmington, Del., Sept. 8.—Financial re-organization of the Dupont Powder Company, in accordance with recently announced plans, was accomplished today. The directors of the E. I. Dupont de Nemours & Company held a meeting at which all the assets and business of the company were sold to E. I. Dupont de Nemours & Company, it was announced.

"The purchasing company," an official statement said, "is a newly incorporated with a capital of \$240,000,000 under the laws of Delaware. The re-organization meetings were held today at which the assets and liabilities were elected. The personnel of the officers and directors of the new company are the same as those of the old company."

The new company will take possession of the assets and business as of October 1, 1915, and will assume and discharge all the liabilities of the old company including the bonus, pension, benefit and welfare plans of the old company. The effect is merely a financial re-organization of the business." Pierre S. Dupont is president.