

Fair Friday, somewhat colder except extreme west portion; Saturday fair.

THE MORNING STAR

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 8, 1918

WHOLE NUMBER 39,345

MEN AND SUPPLIES MOVING TO FRANCE ON SCHEDULED TIME

Shipping Board is Supplying All Transportation Requirements of Army. Major Operations Near American Army Officers Believe That They Can Not be Much Longer Delayed.

ALLIES MAY MAKE DRIVE Germany's Great Preparations Probably for Defense. Washington, March 7.—Troops and supplies for General Pershing's forces are now being moved to France on scheduled time, it was learned today on high authority.

Reports Eagerly Scanned. In view of this assurance that the United States will be able to maintain its place as a fighting unit on the battlefield, reports from the western front are being scanned more eagerly than ever by officers here for the first signs of the 1918 campaign.

Mad Determining Factor. Mad has been the determining factor of many previous western front operations. So long as the ground is soft with the winter rains, it is impossible to move forward great guns and necessary transport trains to support an advancing line.

French Attacked Too Soon. To others it appears probable that no offensive will be undertaken on any considerable scale before May 1. They found that view on reports that the French offensive in 1916 started in April, proved to be at least two weeks too early.

Allied Plans Unknown. While much has been said both officially and unofficially of an expected German offensive, nothing as to probable aggressive moves by the allied forces has come over the cables.

Americans Went to the Front Over Dusty Roads. With the American Army in France, Wednesday, March 6, (By the Associated Press)—The American troops which were taken up their position on the Lorraine front were billeted in towns and villages which they had to reach by receiving orders to move to the front.

SEVEN MONTHS AT SEA. American Bark, Out Since August 24, Reaches Port. Buenos Aires, March 7.—The American bark Normandy which it was feared had been lost, arrived today at a South American port.

AURORA BOREALIS CLEARLY SEEN IN NORTHERN SKIES

Made the Most Brilliant Display Last Night Ever Observed in This Latitude.

INTERFERES WITH WIRES Lights Took the Form of An Eagle With Full Spread Wings at Duluth

Washington, March 7.—Brilliant lights in the sky over the capital tonight brought a large part of the population into the streets to observe what was thought to be a big fire. It was the aurora borealis and officials of the naval observatory said the display was the best they ever had seen in this latitude.

THOUSANDS IN NEW YORK OBSERVED THE LIGHTS New York, March 7.—The aurora borealis was observed by thousands of persons here tonight. The phenomenon was visible from 8 to 11 o'clock when apparently it reached its maximum brilliancy.

WAS THE MOST ELABORATE EVER SEEN IN DULUTH Duluth, Minn., March 7.—The most elaborate display of the aurora borealis ever seen in Duluth appeared tonight. The lights took the form of an eagle with full spread wings.

GREAT INTEREST AROUSED IN THE LIGHTS AT NORFOLK Norfolk, Va., March 7.—Great interest was aroused through Norfolk and vicinity tonight by a strange illumination of the northern horizon and there were for some time fears that a ship at sea was on fire or that some large tract of timber on the coast was destroyed.

VISIBLE IN TAMPA FIRST TIME IN A GENERATION Tampa, Fla., March 7.—For the first time in the present generation the aurora borealis was visible in the northern sky from Tampa tonight.

WIRELESS APPARATUS FOUND IN BETHEL HOME Pastor Russell's "Successor" Tells Government Agents Apparatus Was For "Amusement."

REBEL LEADERS ARRESTED. Will Have to Pay Expenses of Expeditionary Troops. San Jose, Costa Rica, March 7.—All the leaders in the recent rising in various parts of Costa Rica have been captured, with the exception of Fernandez Guell.

DIED AT FORT CASWELL. Death Claims Cecil S. Pierce, Soldier From Hillsboro. The remains of Cecil S. Pierce of Hillsboro, who died at Fort Caswell, were brought to the city yesterday.

Will Act For Italy. Bern, Switzerland, Wednesday, March 6.—The Italian government has requested that the Swiss ambassador at Petrograd take charge of Italian interests in Russia.

BOLSHEVIK TREATY "SCRAP OF PAPER" FOR THE GERMANS

Despite Formal Signing of Peace the Teutons Continue to Advance in Russia

PEACE MADE WITH FINNS Rumania Bound to Transport Teutonic Forces Through Moldavia and Bessarabia

(Associated Press Summary) In spite of the fact that a formal treaty of peace has been signed by the central powers and the Bolshevik government of Russia, fighting continues at various points along the eastern front.

Not only are the Teutons advancing against the demoralized Slavs, but the Turks also are agitating in Asia Minor. Reports state that the Ottoman troops are operating near Trebizond, on the southern shore of the Black Sea.

Germany has negotiated a peace treaty with the republic of Finland by which the latter agrees not to cede any territory or grant territorial rights without the consent of Germany.

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MARCONI IS REQUESTED TO BE SPECIFIC IN CHARGES Washington, March 7.—Charges in Rome by Senator Marconi that there have been scandals and irregularities in connection with purchases for the Italian government.

HEARINGS IN WAGE ARBITRATION CLOSED. Six Questions Submitted by Packers' Employes. "We Must Take Care of the Workmen at the Stockyards as Well as the Hogs," Attorney Walsh Tells Arbitrator.

Chicago, March 7.—Hearings in the wage arbitration between employers and employes in the meat packing industry before Federal Judge Alschuler, acting as arbitrator, which began February 11, were concluded today.

L'FOLLETTE AMENDS SUIT. Refuses to Appear for Examination in Libel Case. Madison, Wis., March 7.—United States Senator Robert M. LaFollette filed an amended complaint today in his \$100,000 libel suit against O. D. Brandenburg, editor of the Madison Democrat, and the Democrat Printing Company.

ADMIRAL THOMAS PERRY DIES AT SOUTHERN PINES. Washington, March 7.—Rear Admiral Thomas Perry, retired of Port Deposit, Md., died suddenly today at Southern Pines, N. C., where he spent the winter.

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MORE U-BOATS WERE SENT DOWN IN DECEMBER THAN THE GERMANS COULD BUILD

Whether This Record Has Been Maintained is Not Now Known in Washington



CORPORAL JAMES M. DARMOND U. S. M. "I see by the papers that an attempt is going to be made to put whale meat on the markets in America."

WASHINGTON, March 7.—More submarines were destroyed by the allied and American naval forces in December than Germany was able to build during that month, according to information reaching Washington.

To Increase Efforts. Whether succeeding months have shown a net loss in German submarines is not known here. It is believed, however, that the anti-submarine campaign has proved so effective that increased efforts this spring will see a steady decrease in the number of U-boats available to prey on allied and American shipping.

Re-Grouping According to the Physical Ability of the Men is Ordered. Men With Physical Defects Will Have Subject to Limited Military Service.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Re-classification according to physical condition of the men called in the next army draft is provided in revised instructions for medical advisory boards which are being sent to the local boards throughout the country.

NEW REGULATIONS ISSUED. Men With Physical Defects Will Have Subject to Limited Military Service. Washington, March 7.—Re-classification according to physical condition of the men called in the next army draft is provided in revised instructions for medical advisory boards which are being sent to the local boards throughout the country.

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RAILROAD BUYING WILL BE THROUGH THE GOVERNMENT

McAdoo's Organization to Supervise Expenditures of More Than Billion Dollars

BUY LOCOMOTIVES DIRECT Central Advisory Committee and Three Regional Committees to be Appointed

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Railroad purchases, amounting to between \$1,000,000,000 and \$2,000,000,000, this year will be made through the railroad administration assisted by a central advisory committee of three railway purchasing agents to be appointed soon.

The railroad administration will purchase directly all locomotives and all other rolling stock and engine parts, while most other materials and supplies needed for current operations will be purchased by the roads themselves.

Mr. McAdoo also announced that an advisory committee of three railroad executives, one from the north, one from the west and another from the south, will be named within a few days to assist John Skelton Williams, director of finance for the railroad administration in administering the railroads' money matters this year.

Coal and other fuel will be bought mainly by individual lines to supply their individual needs, but under supervision of the regional committees. Cross-ties and lumber are to be bought principally by the roads along their own lines, but may be ordered through the central organization if they cannot be bought in the territory through which the road passes.

All other supplies needed for current operations will be purchased for the time being, says Director General McAdoo's statement, through the purchasing department of the respective roads, but all contracts for periods of six months or longer must be approved by the regional committee before completion.

As fast as possible all purchases will be centralized and the regional committees are to draft recommendations for the accomplishment of this. In addition, the central organization will be expected to report details of costs and contracts to the railroad administration with a view to giving all roads the advantage of efficient methods which may have been developed.

Railroad administration officials believe that eventually they can save more than a hundred millions dollars a year by centralizing purchasing. Although no definite predictions are made for this year, it is expected that a slow process of organizing a nationwide buying system.

Members of the central advisory committee and the regional committees will be appointed soon. All will be practical purchasing agents or vice-presidents of railroads. The regional bodies, to be composed of three or more are to have headquarters respectively in New York, Chicago and Atlanta, and are to work in close cooperation with the regional rail executive directors with headquarters in those cities.

In his capacity as director of finance for the railroads administration, Mr. Williams also will be assisted by another advisory committee of three railroad financial experts, one from the north, one from the west and one from the south. These men will serve without pay and will help in the work of investigating and providing plans to meet the financial requirements of the railroads, whether these needs relate to the taking up and renewing of maturing obligations and the issuance of new securities or providing for betterments and additions.

Mr. Williams and his advisors will administer in a general way the disposition of about \$4,000,000,000 representing the gross earnings from operations in a year. In the past requirements for new capital to purchase equipment and make betterments and additions have been between \$250,000,000 and \$750,000,000 a year, depending on business activity and money market conditions.

ROOSEVELT RETURNS HOME. Colonel is Back at Sagamore Hill and Oyster Bay, N. Y. Colonel Roosevelt returned to his home on Sagamore Hill here this afternoon after having been for several weeks in New York City, where he underwent operations for his trouble. Mrs. Roosevelt accompanied him home. The trip from New York to Oyster Bay was made in an automobile, and Colonel Roosevelt declared that he felt fine.

Colonel Roosevelt said he expected to regain his strength and be his own self in a short time. He intends to rest during the next three weeks and then to be in condition to make some of the speeches which were canceled because of his illness. Very few visitors will be permitted to see Colonel Roosevelt during the period of convalescence. Most of his time will be spent in reading and walking about his estate.

REGISTRANTS WILL BE RE-CLASSIFIED

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