THE WEATHER

Pair Tuesday; Wednesday, increasing cloudiness, probably local rains.

PAGES TODAY

VOL. CI-NO. 178.

WILMINGTON, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 19, 1918

WHOLE NUMBER 39,356

ALLIES THREATEN TO START AN OFFENSIVE IN VARIOUS SECTORS

They Are Maintaining Their Control From the North Sea to the Swiss Border

Relieve British and French Forces in the Important Coast Region of Flanders

MERICANS ON THE ALERT

Their Airmen Take Pictures of the German Positions

(Associated Press War Summary) As the allied world has, day after isy, read the official reports from the slied and Teutonic war offices in the hope that some inkling of the real imation would present itself, the milization has come home that the mericans, British, Belgian and Portumese troops are maintaining their control over the front running from ery fire, at some points growing in intensity, is reported, but the allies have held their own and their raiding breaten to start an offensive of their wn at various points against the leutonic legions.

Possible Scenes of Offensives. There is barely a sector on the west m battle line which is not being marked by spirited action but Verdun id the Vosges regions are apparentwelon. At Verdun the opposing armeries have been thundering for several days and on Monday the chorus of the guns was kept up, especially on the right bank of the Meuse. in the Vosges mountains artillery fighting is reported to be very heavy, although no infantry actions been mentioned in the war office statements issued at Paris and Berlin.

Belgians Occupy Sector. One of the most encouraging features of the war news may be found in the fact that the Belgian army, reorganized and ready for battle, has aken over the important coast sector in Flanders. This part of the western front has heretofore been held by the French although British troops have appeared there at various points. The Belgian army, which is said to in excellent morale, has freed the French and British forces of action constructive work on the part of the elgian and allied army staffs. The atest official report said that attacks by German shock troops have been re-

American Guns Effective. leavy guns are battering the Ameran sectors along the front and many nells of large calibre have fallen. have replied with good effect and the scellent weathr of th past fw days is given American airmen on opporunity to take pictures of the terrain of the German trenches. Appafatus installed preparatory to another While American raiding parties folowing out their traditional Indian fighting tactics, have kept absolute control of the territory between the

Teutonic Invasion Continues. in spite of the fact that the all-Rusan congress of soviets has ratified the treaty of peace forced by the Gerans at Brest-Litovsk, the advance of Teutons, especially in Southern ussia, continues. In southern Ukainia the capture of the important hity of Nikolayev, where vast stores grain were reported to have piled has been officially announced by e Germans who have also followed their aggressive tactics in the proace of Tchernigov and Orel, in the uthern central regions of Russia. On the Italian front there have been aiding operations from the mountains o the sea and attempts by the Austrithe to cross the river Plave have been

Heavy Air Losses. The air forces of the armies have diptheria; Johnnie Wright, pneumonia. en very active during the past few days as might be expected there have been heavy losses. British naval airmen alone have disposed of ten enemy machines in the period from down five enemy machines on Satur- ing, John E. McCabe. day. On Sunday the French accounted for seven while four other German

AMERICA CALLED UPON TO

Newport News, Va., March 18 .- John Burke, treasurer of the United States, speaking here tonight in the interest

FINANCE DEMOCRACY'S CAUSE

American Army Observers

Does Not Intend a Drive Washington, March 18 .- American military observers have reached the conclusion that Germany's constant massing of men on the western front is for defense and that the long heralded Teutonic offensive never will materialize unless it develops as a defensive measure against the growing pressure of the allied and American

Conclude That Germany

This view, held for weeks by some officers, is expressed officially today in the war department's weekly review of operations at the battle fronts. Fresh German divisions are reported arriving in the west, the review says, and the density of the enemy forces has nearly reached the point where congestion of lines of communication may interfere with flexibility of maneuver.

The review records the first unassisted American assault upon the Germans, the trench raid at dawn of March 11, when the enemy was driven out and his position penetrated for a distance of three hundred yards. The Americans now are in the trenches along the allied line at five different points and are reported constantly active.

Referring to Secretary Baker's arrival in France, the review says has had interviews with the principal French authority and is about to undertake an inspection of American schools, training areas,

Casualty List Issued by War Department Yesterday Contains Forty-Four Names

Besides Those Killed, Six Died From Wounds, 12 From Disease and One From Accident-Captain Killed Or Is Prisoner.

Washington, March 18 .- Forty-four names appear on today's casualty list issued by the war department, including that of Captain James E. Miller, United States, their tonnage aggregateither killed in action or taken prison-

was severely wounded and Lieutenants John B. Graham and George H. Pened. Of the eight killed in action ave will be put to carrying foodstuffs, the previously had been reported wound-

slightly wounded.

The list follows: Killed In Action. Sergeant Paul H. Long, Robert L. Clausen, Wm. H. Hammet, Morril B. Morrison, Ira J. Rogers, William T. Smith, Trimble S. Sparks, Ray C. Walden. (Privates Clausen, Morrison Rogers, Smith and Walden

have ween previously reported wounded). Killed Or Prisoners. Captain James E. Miller.

Died From Wounds. Corporals Charles H. Burke, Robert Moffard E. Breese, Frank A. Coyle, law-which is in no wise applicable Herman D. Gentry.

Died of Disease. Sergeant Richard H. Ellis menin- OPINION OF DUTCH PRESS gitis; Corporal James A. Adams, pneumonia; Cook Lloyd T. Freeman, pneu-Grant H. Cutler, pneumonia; says: Anton Hillman, diphtheria; Elmer Jackson, pneumonia; Daniel F. Kelly, such rough misuse of power will not intestinal obstruction; George Schwab- be forgotten by our people." auer, pneumonia; John Sisson Slater. pneumonia; Robert Wells Williams the Handelsbladt says: Died of Accident.

Lieut. G. Kelly. Wounded Severely. hursday to Sunday. Italians brought M. Maxwell, Privates Scott W. Hard-

Wounded Slightly. Neek. The Germans claim to have Howard A. Lerch, Dott A. Warren, An- ernment will do and would not wish "ranch" boasts of about 1,000 fine shot down 22 allied machines last hony Dicello, Graham N. Negus, Don-Jolly, John H. McGlown, George Her-rancourt, Paul E. Eichel.

PRESIDENT MAY SOON MAKE STATEMENT AS TO RUSSIA

Washington, March 18 .- After a call of the third Liberty loan, said that the at the White House today Senator Entente allies were practically bank- Lewis, of Illinois, Democratic whip of rupt when the United States entered the Senate, indicated his belief that the war and that this country now is President Wilson would make known called meral on to finance the fight for demeral on to finance the fight for demachine came down on top of Simpson
government toward the Russian situafooting at some points but all were exments, adding:
ments, adding

TAKE OVER DUTCH SHIPPING TODAY

Government Momentarily Expect- Plans Laid at Meeting of the ing Holland's Reply to Anglo-American Ultimatum

Have Tonnage of 479,000, While Governor Harding of Reserve Vessels of 130,000 Tons Are in Island Possessions

Washington, March 18 .- Preparations for taking over Dutch merchant ships in American ports tomerrow were completed tonight while the government expected momentarily to receive from London the Dutch reply to the British-American shipping ultimatum.

mation of what the reply would be, whether it would accept the allies' demand for a transfer of Dutch tonnage now in American and British waters or would endeavor to open further parleys in an effort to satisfy both the allies and the Germans.

Will Be No More Dailying. ter alternative, officials plainly indied that such a course would not find favor here because the voluntary agreement for the transfer has been ternational law and they do not think a final decision should be delayed long-

Today was the last day given for the Dutch government to make reply. Alstates will wait until tomorrow and then will proceed to requisition the tonnage in accordance with the demand made several days ago. It was stated authoritatively that nothing had occurred to change either the terms of

Navy to Have Control.

The navy department will take control of the ships which will be provided with armed naval guards and man-THE NUMBER OF DEAD 27 ned with civilian and naval reserve crews to supplement the Dutch crews or replace such of the foreign sailors as desire to leave the boats. It is probable that the civilian soldiers and reservists will not be used together on the same boat because of differences in discipline and pay which might promote friction.

A previous suggestion for naval operation of merchant vessels was abandoned for this season. Around Million Tons.

It was learned today there are 68 Dutch ships in ports of the continental ing 470,000. Others with a tonnage o. about 130,000 are in the inland possessions of this country and upward of an accident; Lieut, Edmund P. Glover the vessels are in first-class condition and include some of the best merchant ships ever built, at least ten of them being among the fastest cargo carriers dieton were among the slightly wound- affoat. It is likely that most of them cargoes being allotted by the ship control committee.

Cargoes which some of the ships Eight men were killed in action, six have loaded provide one of the probdied from wounds, 12 died from dis- lems yet to be decided by American ofease, one died from accident, five were ficials who declined to say whether the severely wounded and eleven were ships would be allowed to proceed under the American flag or would have to unload or take other goods.

Privates HOLLAND IS ANGRY OVER SEIZURE OF HER SHIPS The Hague, Saturday, March 16 .- It is impossible for Holland to give an affirmative answer to the entente's proposal concerning Dutch ships, says the Nieuwe Courant.

"It is an act of violence," it adds. "to which we are subject by the rulers of the ocean and nothing makes us so bitter as the attempt being made to base it on the so-called rule of inter-West, Privates Crawford Z. Ables, national law-the antiquated Angary

> DIVIDED OVER SHIP SEIZURE Amserdam, March 16 .- Discussing

Privates Elek J. Berg, pneu- the Dutch shipping question the Tujd "We shall have to acquiesce but

In an aricle denouncing the allies,

refusing to give its approval to piracy er. Since then others have followed and leave the matter as it is, or will suit until the pig has grown into Lieut. Edmund P. Glover, Corporal it make the best of a bad job and make prominence as well as popularity iver N. Ginther, Mechanic William an exchange for what will be taken throughout the entire camp. away? If it is not exchanged will it request the ministers of these privati- ing the marines with splendid feasts, cal powers to pack their trunks and the pigs consume all table scraps and ed for seven while four other German Lieutenants John B. Granam and depart? We should not lose much garbage, thus saving much disagreeplanes were reported destroyed last George H. Pendleton and Corporals

Week, The Granam and depart? We do not know what the govable labor. At present the island to advise it. At such a moment it must young porkers." ald B. Swepston and Privates Harry O. be left to the government's discretion to take what decision is least harmful France, the marines over there are to the country and the people."

In the same article, however, the Handelsblad admits that it is unfortunately true that Holland is the only northern neutral which has done nothing to combat German submarine methods. It attributed the country's present position to the spirit which has dictated

such an attitude. The Telegraaf advocates acceptance

Southern Commercial Congress at Baltimore

SHIPS IN U. S. PORTS ANDRE TARDIEU A SPEAKER

Board Tells of Steps Taken by American Bankers

Baltimore, Md., March 18 .- Prepara tion for southern pusiness interests to take advantage of the great trade expansion regarded as certain with the ending of the war were made by the Southern Commercial Congress here tonight by appointment of a committee Officials here said they had no inti- headed by Barton M. Myers, of Norfolk, to study the situation.

The dinner was the culmination of a series of conferences held by several hundred men prominent in state and national affairs and representatives of commercial organizations of the south. dieu, French high commissioner to the only with future commercial activities held up two months by Germany's re- but with the necessity of speeding up fusal to recognize the principles of in- ship production to win the war. M. Tardieu was given an ovation at the conclusion of his address in which he urged increased cereal shipments to Tardieu was given an ovation at the France and the necessity of the Amerowing for cable delays, the United | ican people attending to additional food restriction. The theme of the conference preceding the dinner was "ships in the winning of the war and in the trade expansion after the war.' The committee headed by Mr. Myers was directed to make an exhaustive the proposals to Holland or the gov. study of commercial conditions ex-ernment's intention to carry the matpreparations necessary regarding merchant marine, trade routes, commercial education for the foreign field, standardization of raw materials and manu-factured products and branch banking

in foreign countries. Senator Ransdell, of Louisiana, advocated use of the nation's waterways to move freight, stressing the value of the Warrior river in Alabama and the Mississippi for Memphis and New Orleans. Another speaker was W. P. G Harding, governor of the federal reserve board, who in predicting great expansion of American trade after the war, said the foundation had been laid establishment of foreign branches

of American banks. "Our exporters and manufacturers." said Mr. Harding, "should keep constantly in mind the possibilities of world trade after the war is over and they should lose no opportunity of arousing a sentiment favorable to American goods in those country with Lieutenant John G. Kelly died from 400,000 tons are in British waters. All | which our trade has heretofore been

"National banks having capital and surplus of a million dollars are authorized by the federal reserve act to they learn of the preparations which are today many branches of American ization of the material which they send branches operating in Latin-America, South America as well as European

"The foundation, therefore, for financing our foreign trade properly through the medium of American institutions has already been laid and when the war is ended and the restrictions on commerce can be removed and a greatly augmented merchant marine can spread its sails upon the seven seas an carry to, all the nations of the world products of the farms, the mines and the factories of America, branches of American banks will be found at the distant ports to welcome these messengers of commerce and o finance both their incoming and outgoing cargoes.

"The foundation of an American fi nancial structure extending throughout the world has been carefully conceived and securely laid and the superstructure will follow as conditions scome more favorable."

U. S. MARINES RAISE PIGS.

Helping to Conserve and Produce the Meat Supply.

Paris Island, S. C., March 18,-Probably no cantonment in the country is conserving more food than is that of the United States marines here, through the raising of-pigs. The movement started some months "We cannot think what our govern- ago when several "rookies" purchased ment will do. Will it publish a protest a litter of pigs from a Georgia farm-

> Besides conserving food and furnish-According to the latest reports from

do, "kitchen police." Falls to His Death.

adopting pigs and training them to

San Diego, Cal., March 18.—Coming out of nose dive upside down, Flying Cadet Ralph T. Simpson, of the North Island aviation school here, was thrown out of his airplane today and fell 100



STOP THIEF!

Will Be No More Dailying. While declining to discuss the lat- It was given in honor of Andre Tar- GRAVE REPORTS CONTINUE TO COME OUT OF SIBERIA

AVIATION SCHOOL

Finds New-Born City Has Sprung Up in France With a Population of Americans

MEN DARING AND SKILLFUI

Declares When the Airplane Manufac turers In America Learn of Preparations Abroad They Will Make Fresh Efforts.

On Board Secretary Baker's Special Train in France, Sunday, March 17 .-(By the Associated Press) -Secretary Baker in leaving an aviation center to-

"Just before leaving America 1 investigated the progress of our aviation program. I found our manufacturers enthusiastic as to the outcome. When establish foreign branches and there have been made in France for the utilthey will have a further incentive to speed up their efforts.

"Upon level fields which were without a single building when we laid our spur track from a neighboring station, has arisen a city of barracks, officers, shops and hangars with a population of Americans, entirely occupied as a training school for aviation. In this, as in all our other preparations in France, we aim at a service commensurate with our part in assisting the French and British in gaining complete, unbroken mastery of the air which is one of the prime requisites if not the prime requisite for victory.

"The spirit of every man in this camp seems in keeping with the mission which brought him to France. The camps, appointments and organizations are admirable. It is gratifying to learn from their French instructors that our young aviators are proving themselves daring, cool and skillful."

ABROAD WILL TAX SHIPS Washington, March 18 .- When the aircraft board holds its weekly session tomorrow the special investigating committee headed by H. Snowden Marshall, of New York, recently appointed by the war department, may be present to receive further information about the industry directed by the board. It is understood also that the board will discuss charges that there has been profiteering by airplane manufacturers made some time ago by Gotzun Borglum. It is known now that Borgwere not responsible for the investigat- ed at Vologda and apparently intended amination. Ford, who for years was ing committee but board members want to inquire into them.

progress of the plants working on bat- was due to some misunderstanding at srenuous active service with the tie planes members of the aircraft the Korean capital. board and signal corps officers are convinced that the production program is now "going over the hump," meaning that the period of quantity production is about to set in with accumulating Press)-The workmen's and soldiers'

carry it. That is worrying us more than investigations of delays we have order, including the chairman. encountered."

The best estimate of delay still is expressed in time and it is still maintain-

Action by Japan Still Held in Abeyance With No Indication of What May be Done

FRANCIS ON WAY TO JAPAN

American and Allied Representa tives Expected to Reach Korean Capital Monday

WASHINGTON NOT ADVISED

Six Japanese Killed in Fighting at Blagovieshtchensk

(By the Associated Press) Action by Japan in Siberia is still neld in abeyance and there is no indication of what may be done there. Reports from Siberia continue to be grave. Liberated German prisoners of war are said to be co-operating with the Bolshevik leaders and on March 6 participated in a battle with the forces led by General Semenoff, the non-Bol-

SIX JAPANESE KILLED AND

TWO WOUNDED IN FIGHTING Washington, March 16 .- State department dispatches today from Peking fighting at Blagovieshtchensk at six and the wounded at two. Press dispatches from London put the number killed by the Bolsheviki at 150, alvia London gave the number as three.

AMBASSADOR FRANÇIS IS Press)—The American ambassador to ing for the construction of a channel Russia, David R. Francis, the Japanese ambassador, Viscount Uchida, and and Los Angeles on the Pacific coast. the diplomatic representatives of Great | "Of course, the failure to include this Britain and France were expected to new project for the further improvearrive at Seoul today, according to ad- meth of the lower Cape Fear river vices from the Korean capital. They was not intended in the slightest to are on the way to Japan.

February, going to Vologda. The safe appropriated for the improvement of arrival there of Mr. Francis was re- the Cape Fear and this new project ported February 28. About two weeks proposing to increase the detph across ago a report was current that Ambas-sador Francis and the Japanese minis-consideration along with a number of ter were being held at Vologda but this other meritorious projects throughout report was not credited at Washing- the country when the limitaions im-

WASHINGTON THINKS THERE IS SOME MISUNDERSTANDING

Washington, March 18 .- When the state department received its latest reached an Alantict port Saturday dispatch from Ambassador Francis night and arrived in Washington toto remain there indefinitely. It is as- connected with the United States en-As the result of a careful survey of due at Seoul today on his way to Japan France last August and has seen some

EFFORTS BEING MADE TO

FORM SIBERIAN REPUBLIC sent back home. Tokio, March 18 .- (By the Associated association has been making efforts to North Carolina have received a letter "Before July," an official said today, form a separate Siberian republic, ac-"all this agitation will have been for- cording to a special dispatch from Irk- netifying them that a get-together gotten. The flow of fighting planes to utsk. A meeting of this purpose was meeting will be held in that city on France will tax available shipping to ordered dissolved and red guards ar- March 27 and inviting all of the state's rested those who rerused to obey the representatives to be present. It is as-

Belgians Repulse Attacks. velopment of the Caps Fear and the Paris, March 18.—Attacks by German probabilities of the port being used as

sterm troops in the regions of Nieu- a port of entry.

30-FOOT CHANNEL

Small Announces That Committee Cannot Grant Request for \$400,000 Appropriation

'NOT A WAR EMERGENCY"

Mayor McNeill Invites Congressional Delegation to Meeting at Fayetteville

By PARKER R. ANDERSON. Washington, March 18 .- Representative Small stated today that the rivers and harbors committee could not grant the request for an appropriation of \$400,000 for the purpose of providing a channel depth of 30 feet across the bar for a width of 400 feet on the Cape Fear leading out to the ocean. Existing projects, Mr. Small says, provide for a depth of 26 feet at mean low water and 300 feet wide in the river from Wilmington to the sea and a similar depth across the bar with a width of 400 feet. There is now a depth of 26 feet from Wilmington to ne ocean. Existing war conditions prevent a larger appropriation at this

Mr. Small's Statement.

Mr. Small's statement follows: "I have received a number of telegrams and letters with reference to the further improvement of the Cape Fear river at and below Wilmington, urging the committee on rivers and harbors to appropriate a sum amounting to about \$400,000 for the purpose of providing a channel depth of 30feet across the oceanbar for the width of 400 feet. The committee after care-ful consideration decided that this appropriation could not be made in the present bill. A brief statement of the facts will explain the attitude of the

committee." "The existing project for the improvement of the Cape Fear river at and below Wilmington provides for a channel depth of 26 feet at mean low water and 300 feet wide in the river from Wilmington to the sea, a distance of about 30 miles, and a similar depth of 26 feet across the ocean bar with a width of 400 feet. There is at present a depth of 26 feet from Wilmington to the ocean and across the bar but in some sections the entire

width has not been obtained. "On January 3rd, of the present year, the secretary of war submitted a report of the chief of engineers recommending a new project for further improvement by increasing the depth across the ocean bar from 26 feet to su feet at an estimated cost of \$398,-625. It is this new project with the recommended appropriation which the committee has been urged to include

in the pending bill. "Under existing war conditions the committee have not included any new projects in the pending bill except such as were so intimately associated with the prosecution of the war as to constitue a war emergency and so recommended by the secretary of war.

"This policy has the endorsement of both the president and the secretary of war. This particular new project for the ocean bar at the mouth of the Cape Fear river was not considered as though a later dispatch from Tien-Tsin a war emergency and therefore was not included in the bill. "It is appropriate to state in this connection that only one new project

REPORTED ON WAY TO JAPAN carrying an appropriation was included Tokio, march 18 .- (By the Associated in the bill, this particular project beconnecting the harbors of Long Beach disparage the commercial importance of this river or of the city of Wilmington. The lower Cape Fear has, not diplomatic representatives of the en- been neglected in the past. More than tente powers left Petrograd late in six million dollars has been heretofore

posed by existing war conditions shall be removed. H. H. Ford Back From France. H. H. Ford, of Wilmington, one of

the first to go to the front in France, day to undergo a thorough medical exgineers' office in Wilmington, went to American engineers division "somewhere in France." Last December he had to go to a hospital and was later

MeNeill Sends Invitation. Senators and congressmen from from Mayor McNeill, of Fayetteville, sumed that the Fayetteville folks wan to talk about cantonments, the development of the Caps Fear and the