The Weather.

Local rains and thundershowers Saturday and probably Sunday.

THE MORNING STAR

FOUNDED A.D. 1867

Complete Service —of the— Associated Press

VOL. CI—NO. 328. WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 17, 1918 WHOLE NUMBER 39,506

GERMANS FORCED TO WITHDRAW FURTHER ALONG FRONT SOUTH OF THE SOMME RIVER TO NOYON

French and Canadians Now Virtually Knocking at the Door of Roye.

TOWN IS A VITAL POINT

The French Forces Also Are In a Position to Outflank Lassigny.

BRITISH GAIN IN NORTH

Huns Evacuate More Positions Near Albert.

(By the Associated Press.)

Evidently it is not in the plans of the entente allies to leave the Germans secure in their possession of the line they now are holding in the region between the Somme and the Oise. Though the front from the south of the Somme past Chaulnes and running through Roye to Noyon has been studded with fresh reinforcements and innumerable guns in order to keep back the allied troops, the Germans nevertheless have been forced to give ground and at points where seemingly their defense soon must crumble and the retreat eastward be resumed.

French and Canadian troops Friday night between Goyencourt and Lauchelaurt, on a front of about three miles, had fought their way west of Roye, until they were virtually knocking at the door of the town which is one of the keystone positions of the German defense in Picardy while to the immediate north British troops fighting near Albert were still in possession of Dauchy and Lamarvillers, following heavy counter attacks by the Germans to dislodge them. West of Roye the allied line is now only a scant mile and a quarter distant.

Adding materially to the danger of Roye by direct assault on the part of the French and Canadians at its western gates and from a flanking maneuver by the British on the northwest, the French have carried out successfully an advance five miles to the south which seemingly lays the town open to a turning movement from the Loges wood which has been penetrated deeply. Not alone, however, is Roye menaced by this latter advance, but debouching from the woods southeastward the French troops in the Oise valley near Ribecourt also strategically placed to begin a rolling up process, which if successful would obliterate the hill and wooded country now standing as a barrier to the capture of Noyon.

Taken altogether, the position of the allied troops on the Somme-Oise salient is materially better than it has been for several days past.

The retirement of the Germans on parts of the northern front continues but these maneuvers as yet lack definite explanation. Following closely upon the evacuation of front line positions north of Albert, which were taken over by the British, has come another voluntary relinquishment of trenches in the Lys sector. The village of Vieux Berquin has been given up and ground over a front of about nine miles to a depth of from one to two miles has been ceded without fighting. All the way between La Bassee canal and Ypres the Germans still are exhibiting signs of nervousness and daily are bombarding the British heavily with shells and gas projectiles.

Along the Vesle river front the Germans are similarly deluging the positions held by the French and Americans with shells, gas projectiles and bombs from airplanes, but their effort has gone for naught so far as causing a relinquishment of territory is concerned. The American aviators are busily engaged in bombing operations behind the German lines, especially against the bridges leading northward across the Aisne river. The American artillery also is paying strict attention to the areas behind the line to harass the Germans.

On the other battle fronts little fighting of moment is taking place, although the Italians have been forced to sustain several counter attacks by the Austrians in the Tonale region.

BERLIN SAYS ATTACK ON THE AVRE RIVER FAILED

Berlin, via London, August 16.—"On both sides of the Avre strong enemy attacks failed with heavy losses," says the official communication issued from general headquarters tonight.

BERLIN OFFICIAL REPORT ON THURSDAY'S FIGHTING

Berlin, via London)—August 16.—The German official communication issued today, dealing with the fighting of Thursday says:

"There have been forefield engagements at Kemmel and near Vieux Berquin. Strong enemy thrusts south of the Lys near Ayette, and north of the Ancre were repulsed.

"West of Roye and southwest of Noyon there was a vigorous artillery engagement in which was followed by enemy attacks on both sides of the Avre against Lassigny and on the heights west of the Oise.

"South of Thiecourt the Attiche farm remains in the enemy's hands. Otherwise we have beat back his attacks before our fighting positions, partly by counter-attacks. The enemy suffered losses in the fighting for Lassigny. Here he vainly stormed our line six times and after ten hours of bitter fighting

(Continued on Page Two).

Government of Northern Russia Is Now Organized

M. Tchaikowsky Named President and Minister of Foreign Affairs.

ITS PROGRAM ADAPTED

Will Expel Germans and Other Invaders With the Aid of the Allies.

CREATE NATIONAL ARMY

Dispatch Tells of Allied Advance From Archangel.

London, Aug. 16.—(British Wireless Service.)—"The government of northern Russia" has been formed with M. Tchaikowsky as president and minister of foreign affairs. The other members of the government include socialists of various parties.

The political program of the new government which has just been issued, contains the following clauses:

"First, the recreation of Russian democratic pow; second, the re-establishment of local government on a basis of universal suffrage; third, the re-creation of the Russian national army and a renewal of the war on the eastern front; fourth, the expulsion of the German invaders and other enemies of Russia to be carried out with the aid of and in co-operation with the entente allies."

CECHS ENTHUSIASTICALLY RECEIVED AT HARBIN

Harbin, Monday, Aug. 12.—(By the Associated Press.) — One thousand Czechs on their way to join Gen. Semenoff arrived here today and were given an enthusiastic reception in which the allied consuls and members of the American railway commission took part. After speeches and the singing of the Czech national hymn, the Czechs marched through the streets followed by cheering crowds. They received many gifts of food.

On the journey from Vladivostok they were everywhere hailed as the deliverers of the country.

FIRST CONNECTED STORY OF ADVANCE OF ENTENTE

Amsterdam, Aug. 16.—The first connected story on the advance of the entente forces southward from Archangel, northern Russia, is given in a special dispatch to the Dusseldorf Nachrichten from Stockholm. The dispatch, which is dated August 14, says:

"Last Monday six thousand entente troops, reinforced by three thousand Russians, assembled at Archangel and the same night the order was given to proceed southeastward. Three thousand Russians embarked on eleven river steamers and a number of barges towed by tugs, the destination of which was Kotlas, on the Dvina river. The remainder of the troops marched along the Archangel-Vologda railway with orders to halt at Trusanivskaiya, 70 miles south of Archangel.

"The flotilla was first fired upon from both river banks near Kakutzkaya, and a half mile further on encountered a barricade of sunken boats which impeded further progress. Here the troops

(Continued on Page Two).

Austria to Send Troops To West Front Provided Berlin Moves For Peace

London, Aug. 16.—According to a dispatch to the Daily Mail from The Hague, Germany has demanded that Austria send ten to fifteen divisions to the western front. Austria assented to this, the dispatch said, on condition that Germany would accept Austria's solution of the Polish question and make a strong peace move, including the evacuation and restoration of Belgium. Germany promised to accede to Austria's solution of the Polish question, including the naming of an Austrian archduke as king, the dispatch asserts.

TWO FORESTS ARE TAKEN BY FRENCH

"Z" Wood and Damery Wood Wrested From Huns After Stiff Fighting.

ARE IMPORTANT POSITIONS

Their Capture Means the Improvement of the Allied Lines On Either Side—British Punish Enemy Severely.

With the British Army in France, August 16.—3:15 p. m. (By the Associated Press.)—By a brilliant maneuver the French have finally captured "Z" wood and Damery wood. In these two wooded tracts, the Germans have been holding out desperately for several days, realizing the value of those positions.

The little patches of forest which are now in the hands of the Allies are virtually on the extreme right of the British line and from their eastern borders it is possible to observe closely quite a wide stretch of ground. The allied positions for several miles on each side of the two woods has been materially improved by their capture.

These were virtually the last of the really more important positions on the new front to which the nemy has been holding and which the allied forces desired. The enemy launched a heavy attack late yesterday against the new positions at Damery. After sharp fighting he was repulsed, leaving 150 prisoners.

Other purely local actions had been fought here and there along the new front for the purpose of improving positions. During these combats during the past 24 hours the British have captured 260 prisoners and four machine guns. The casualties in killed and wounded inflicted upon the enemy in these local affairs are estimated to be at least 1,300.

To the north in the direction of La Gouronne the lines of the British have also been advanced. slightly. Artillery activity continues along the entire front, especially in the new Somme battle area, but the enemy does not seem to desire to launch any extended infantry attacks even at Roye and Chaulnes, where he is the strongest.

It is learned from prisoners recently captured that the British artillery during the past few days has caused considerable destruction within the enemy lines. The British guns have been especially active in searching out German ammunition dumps, a number of which have been destroyed. It was partially for doing just this work that such speed was made in the forward movement of the guns. From the start of the offensive not a moment has been lost in moving up the artillery. That it has been profitable is proved by prisoners statements as to the havoc wrought by shell fire.

Some slight troop movements eastward are reported occasionally to the rear of the German lines along the Somme, but they are insufficient to warrant any conclusions regarding the enemy's intentions.

TWO KILLED WHEN PLANE CRASHES TO THE GROUUND

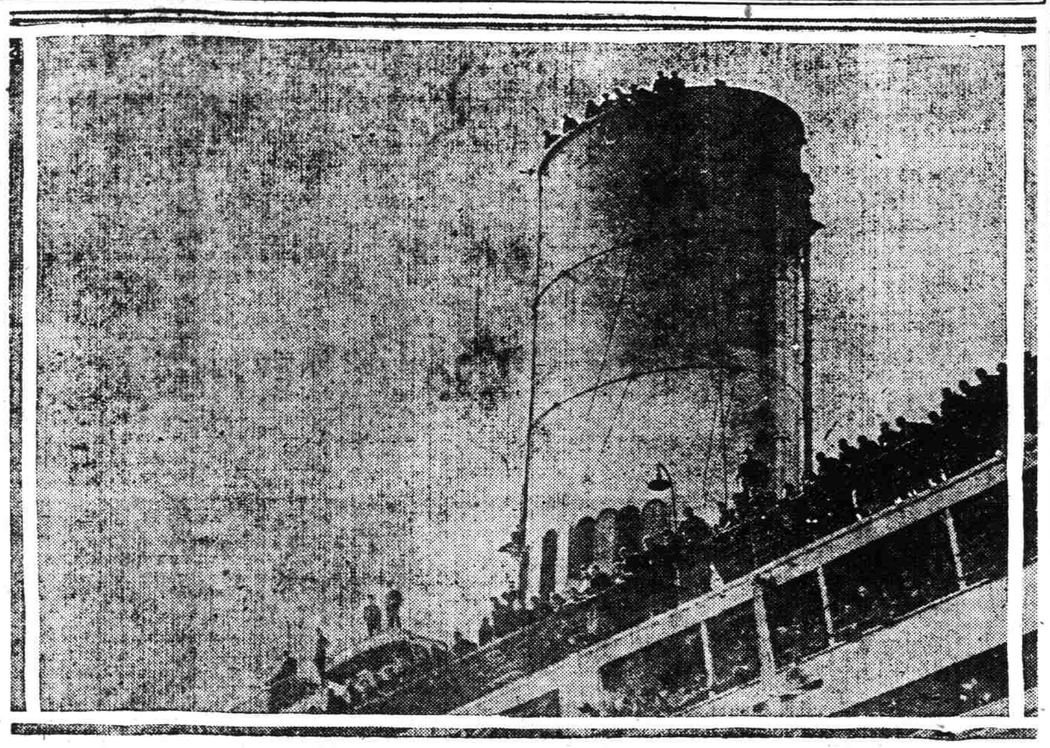
Commac, N. Y., August 16.—Lieutenant Harold F. Maxon, of Los Angeles, and Cadet G. F. Gedeon, of Titusville, Pa., were killed today when their airplane crashed to the ground in a hayfield near here.

The machine was one of the group of seventeen from Brinley field, Long Island, which were flying in this vicinity. An explosion in midair, it is reported, hurled Gedeon from the airship. Maxon was crushed under the machine when it struck the earth. Maxon was 25 years old and Gedeon 24.

Woman Causes Party Row.

Amsterdam, Aug. 16.—The election of the first woman to the Dutch parliament has already caused trouble in the social democratic labor party, to which she belongs. Her comrades charge her with forsaking the party anti-militaristic principles because she declared in favor of national defense, and consequently resignations from the party are rumored.

ONCE THE PRIDE OF GERMANY, NOW AMERICAN TRANSPORT SHIP.



If the Germans could see this picture it would be with sad regret. The Vaterland, once the largest ship afloat, was the pride of Germany. Now it is being used by the United States to carry American soldiers to Europe.

LABOR CONDITIONS AT MINES SERIOUS

Problem Will Be Discussed At Conference in Washington Next Week.

COAL OUTPUT MENACED

President Hays of United Mine Workers Says Substantial Flat Wage Increase is "Only Logical Solution."

Indianapolis, Ind., August 16.—Labor conditions in the coal mining industry for whach "the only logical solution is a substantial flat wage increase to be applied to all classifications of mine labor" will be discussed at a conference of district presidents of the United Mine Workers to be held in Washington, August 22, according to an announcement made here tonight by Frank J. Hayes, president of the United Mine Workers of America.

In announcing the conference President Hayes said it had been called to "avert, if possible, a rapidly developing labor condition within the coal industry which, if permitted to go unchecked, would undermine coal production plans."

The wage increase "can be met and applied by the coal operators without the necessity of an increase in the selling price of coal to the consuming public" asserted the miners official who added that the paying of bonuses by many mines owners now "is indisputable evidence that the industry is able to bear an advance in wages."

The labor condition, in brief, has been caused, President Hayes said, by many mine owners paying bonuses in excess of the wage scale in order to obtain and keep miners in their mines.

GIBSON IS ACQUITTED OF THE CHARGE OF MURDER

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 16.—J. L. Gibson, former deputy sheriff of Walter county, was acquitted in Fulton superior court here today of the charge of murdering Elgin Stewart, of Atlanta, on August 4. The verdict was ordered by Judge Ben H. Hill, at the request of Solicitor General Boykin. Judge Hill indicated that from evidence it was evident Stuart had attempted to interfere in the domestic affairs of the Gibsons. "A man's home is a sacred circle," declared the judge, "and when another man attempts to break into it, the husband is justified in defending it."

PRESIDENT AND MRS. WILSON HAVE ANOTHER PLEASANT DAY

Manchester, Mass., Aug. 16.—President and Mrs. Wilson had another delightful day for their brief outing on the North Shore. Business cares, except for a few conferences with Col. E. M. House, who has a summer home nearby, apparently were dropped.

Word that the president was here drew hundreds of automobile parties to this resort, but the marine guard extended their picket. The president's desire for absolute rest and seclusion was carried out to the letter. This evening the president and Mrs. Wilson went on a long motor ride with Col. and Mrs. House.

Senator James Weakening.

Baltimore, Md., Aug. 16.—The condition of Senator Ollie James of Kentucky who has been at Johns Hopkins hospital for more than two months, is tonight reported by persons who came in contact with him at the hospital as very serious. The extreme heat the last two weeks has weakened the senator. Transfusion of blood has been resorted to and the hospital physicians report his condition as unchanged.

RAILROAD BUDJET IS NOT SUFFICIENT

Billion Dollar Fund Falls Short of the Needs.

This is Disclosed in Report on Capital Expenditures Issued by Director General McAdoo Yesterday.

Washington, August 16.—The so-called billion-dollar budget approved early this year by Director General McAdoo for railroad improvements and equipment has proven insufficient to meet war needs and it has been increased to $1,097,398,000, or $156,000,000 more than the original aggregate of budgets of all federally controlled roads. This was disclosed today in a detailed report of capital expenditures authorized to date.

Most of the increase was made necessary by the growing need for cars and locomotives. Originally $486,000,000 was authorized for purchase of new rolling stock, but this has been raised to 655,685,000 by huge orders placed by the railroad administration.

For additions and betterments, including new yard and industry tracks, terminal facilities, stations and bridges, the budgets of first class roads provided originally for $433,000,000. This has been pared down to $404,000,000 chargeable to capital accounts, but additional work costing $105,000,000 has

(Continued on Page Two).

AMERICAN LIGHTWEIGHT USED FIST ON GERMAN

Terry Murphy Couldn't Get His Bayonet Quick Enough So He Proceeded With a Knockout.

Paris, Aug. 16.—Forced in close bayonet fighting to use the butt of his gun across the head of a boche to lay him out, Terry Murphy, the Pittsburgh lightweight, unable to recover his gun rapidly enough, next swung with his right fist upon a German lieutenant who was ready to draw upon him and knocked the Hun into unconsciousness. It was Terry's first knockout in France.

Terry's unit was brigaded with the French in the sector about Chateau Thierry. He was one of hundreds of volunteers from his regiment to seek duty in the front line.

It was the intention at first to have the volunteers proceed brigaded with a French battalion. They were given their proper formation and told to advance with the French poilus only to a certain point, the idea being to familiarize them with actual fire. Further advance was to be made by the poilus leaving the American volunteers behind. At the point they were to stop they were overcome with eagerness, went right along with the poilus and made a creditable showing.

SAN FRANCISCO PAYS RESPECT TO M. METIN

Flags Fly at Half Mast Because of the Death of Head of French Economic Mission.

San Francisco, Aug. 16.—Throughout the city flags were flown at half-staff, the city hall was draped in black and it was announced that while the city went officially into mourning, the body of Albert Metin, head of the French economic mission to Australia, now in the United States, would lay in state in the city hall by order of the mayor. M. Mein died last night from apoplexy. His body will lay in state in the city hall rotunda from 5 o'clock tonight until 10 o'clock tomorrow night.

After consulting other members of the mission is was decided to hold simple services Sunday morning before starting the body on its journey to M. Metin's home in France.

AMERICAN PLANES PROVE A SUCCESS

Squadron of 18 De Havilands Raid Germans.

Built In This Country and Equipped With Liberty Motors—General Pershing Sends Report to Secretary Baker.

Washington, August 16.—General Pershing today advised the war department that early in August a complete squadron of 18 De Haviland airplanes built in the United States and equipped with liberty motors, successfully carried out the first reconnaissance flight of American-built machines behind the German lines. They returned without loss.

In making this announcement Secretary Baker said Brig. Gen. Foulois of the American air force led the expedition. This was the first report from General Pershing on the performance of American built De Havilands to be made public.

Secretary Baker said his advices contained no other information regarding the flight except that Lieut. Blair Thaw also was on the trip. The time and place of the flight, Mr. Baker considered advisable to withhold.

The announcement was considered by officers as setting at rest rumors that the De Havland machines were not a success and also showing that the liberty motors have proven themselves in actual war conditions.

ENEMY RETALIATES ON THE AMERICANS

Delivers Combination Attack for Bombing Bridges Across the Aisne.

MADE IT HOT FOR HUNS

American Airmen Dropped Bombs at Numerous Points While the French and American Heavy Guns Were Also Active.

With the American Army on the Vesle, Aug. 16.—(By the Associated Press)—The Germans launched a combined gas, artillery and air bombing attack upon the French and Americans along the Vesle early Friday morning. This was in retaliation for a bombing raid by American airmen upon bridges over the Aisne late Thursday.

The German artillery continued shelling the cross roads south of the Vesle for hours, on the assumption that the French and Americans were bringing up troops. German aviators bombed the woods and villages south of the Vesle, apparently working in relays.

A group of 12 American aviators participated in the raid on the Aisne bridges. Early Friday other American fliers went up and took photographs for the purpose of ascertaining the effects of the bombs dropped. A great deal of traffic had been reported passing over the Aisne bridges and the French and Americans increased the fire of their heavy guns in an attempt to destroy as many bridges as possible.

As a result of the reports of observers the French and Americans laid down a box barrage during Thursday night on machine gun nests in the hills to the northwest of Fismes. Observers and patrols reported Friday morning that 12 machine guns had been destroyed and every German gunner killed.

The Aisne bridges bombed by the Americans were located between Pont Arcy and Gernicourt, a distance of about 12 miles. The same district also is within range of the French and American heavy guns. The Allies are desirous of harassing the enemy as much as possible, owing to reports that large ammunition trains, southward bound, have been sighted using the bridges.

The northward traffic has consisted principally of infantrymen and trucks loaded with goods taken from houses in villages, according to reports by aerial observers and three Italians who escaped from the Germans and reached the American line. The Italians say they saw enormous shipments of household material and similar articles and expressed the belief that the Germans had brought them from south of the Vesle during the retreat.

The Italians before they reached the American lines hid during the day and traveled during the night. They told the American officers that the Germans were particularly active after dark when their troop movements were carried out and when also there was much traffic north and south.

AMERICAN AVIATORS BOMB CONFLANS RAILWAY YARDS.

With the merican Army in France, Aug. 16—(By the Associated Press)—An American bombing squadron commanded by Lieut. Gundelach dropped 20 bombs on the railway yards at Conflans yesterday. Eighteen direct hits were observed in the center of the tracks in the east portion of the yard and two on the roundhouses.

The squadron was pursued by 11 enemy planes, six of which were speedily left behind. One of the remaining five was hit by the American machine gunfire and forced to descend near Joinville. Lieut. Gundelach was slightly wounded.

LARGE OIL TANKER REPORTED ON FIRE WITH U-BOAT NEAR

Presumed the Ship Was Set Ablaze By Shells From the Raider.

IS OFF CAPE HATTERAS

Members of the Vessel's Crew Have Been Taken Off By Life Guards.

Beaufort, Aug. 16.—A large oil tank steamer is afire about 25 miles off Cape Hatteras, according to reports brought here tonight. A submarine is lying close by. The members of the crew have been taken off by life guards. It is presumed the submarine is a German and the tanker was set on fire by shell fire.

NAVY DEPARTMENT SAYS NOTHING TO BE GIVEN OUT.

Washington, Aug. 16.—At the navy department tonight it was said "there is nothing to be given out" regarding the attack on a large oil tank steamer by a German submarine off Cape Hatteras reported in a dispatch from Beaufort, N. C.

It was generally believed that the German U-boat, probably the same one which recently destroyed the Diamond Shoals lightship off Cape Hatteras had run short of oil and had attacked the oil tanker with the purpose of replenishing its supply. After taking aboard the needed oil it was thought probable that the submarine had shelled and set fire to the tanker.

Through such attacks on all tankers and cargo vessels, officials here have said, a German submarine commander may replenish his supplies of oil and food and thus remain indefinitely on this side of the Atlantic.

JEWS IN PALESTINE JOIN ARMY READILY

Striking and Significant Enthusiasm Marks the Opening of Recruiting Offices.

London, Aug. 16.—The enthusiasm that has marked the opening of recruiting offices in Jerusalem and Jaffa for the enlistment of the Jews of Palestine as reinforcements for Jewish battalions sent out from England has been striking and significant, according to dispatches received by Reuter's, Limited. The volunteer movement began in Palestine some weeks before the arrival of either the Zionst commission or the first Jewish battalion from England.

The dispatches say that there was a spontaneous movement among the young Jewish colonists, mostly of Russian origin, who felt it to be their duty to share in the task of liberating their homes from the hated Turk. The recent declaration of A. J. Balfour, British secretary of state for foreign affairs, that Great Britain was in sympathy with Zionist aspirations formed an additional reason for their resolve to enlist in the British army. Virtually all the able-bodied Jews of Palestine have applied at the recruiting offices for service.

VERMONT'S GOVERNOR IS ASKED TO RESIGN

Discrepancies Amounting to $20,000 Fund in His Accounts While State Auditor.

Burlington, Vt., August 16.—Governor Horace Graham today was asked to resign his office, in resolutions adopted by the republican state committee at a special executive session. This week discrepancies amounting to $20,000 were said to have been found in the accounts of the governor when he was state auditor.

Governor Graham was invited to the meeting but did not attend. Leading republicans of the state were present.

In a public statement following the disclousure of the discrepancy in the accounts, Governor Graham admitted that he was at fault in handling his salary and official expenses, but said that he was not aware that any vouchers were missing. He asked the people of the state to suspend judgment pending an examination of his accounts. Examiners are now working on his books.

War Hurts Big Universities.

Birmingham, England, Aug. 16.—The effect of the war is more marked in the big English universities this year than ever before. In the University of Birmingham, all the graduates receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts this year were women. On the science side the degrees of Bachelor of Science were equally divided between English girls and Japanese students. Two-thirds of the Masters of Science were Japanese, and four-fifths of the Bachelors of Medicine were girls. The University of Birmingham is one of the newest and most modern of English universities, specializing in scientific training along modern lines. Practically all its graduates this year will become teachers.

Children Burned to Death.

Roanoke, Va., Aug. 16.—The two small children of Mr. and Mrs. John Purdy of Bay Branch, Va., were burned to death this morning when their house was destroyed by fire, according to information reaching here tonight. Mr. Purdy was at work and Mrs. Purdy, leaving the children asleep, was visiting at a neighbor's, it is reported, when the fire was discovered.