

FALL OF LENS ONLY A MATTER OF HOURS

BRITISH APPEAR TO SQUEEZE RATHER THAN TO BOMBARD

The Germans Are Reported to be Actively Razing Town Fast as Possible

DUEL OF BIG GUNS ABOUT SOISSONS NOW

There Is the Greatest of Activity on Long Front and French Indulge in Many Raiding Operations on the German Trenches.

Fighting on the western front has assumed the proportions of a general engagement along the whole line from the North Sea to the Swiss border.

Were attention not centered about the dramatic situations of Lens and St. Quentin, the fall of both being imminent, the great artillery battle between Soissons and Rheims which has been going on for several days doubtless would have attracted more notice.

In this connection the probability of a northward push by the French from the Hindenburg line to the left flank of the Hindenburg line as the British have turned the right flank at Vimy, has come to the front while the artillery battle has been raging.

Desperate German resistance and probably a desire by the English to squeeze the Germans out of Lens rather than to drive them from the factory and coal town by a direct bombardment has delayed the fall of the city.

COTTON MARKET

New York, April 16.—Cotton futures opened steady. May 20.45; October 18.55; December 18.80; January 18.94.

STOCK MARKET

New York, April 16.—Gains and losses for the most part fractional were quite evenly distributed during today's early dealings.

PRESENTS A WAR EMBARGO ACT

Washington, April 16.—With the approval of the administration chairman Edmundson of the House committee to introduce a war embargo bill to empower the President to forbid exports of any war when he deemed it to be in the public interest to do so.

THE FRENCH SHOW NO LET UP IN THEIR MONSTER DRIVE

They Last Penetrated German Second Line at Several Places in Alsace

FIND MANY GERMANS DEAD IN TRENCHES

The Germans Fight Desperately But Fall Victims of the Heavy Guns of the French on a Long Line in Alsace Sector.

Paris, April 16.—The French penetrated the German second line at several points in Alsace, the war office reports, and that great numbers of German dead were found in the trenches which had been torn up by the French shells.

HEAVY LOSS OF AEROPLANES

Berlin, April 16.—Between Soissons and Verdun, says the official statement issued today by German army headquarters, the British and the French yesterday lost seven air planes mostly of the latest type.

NEWS AGENCY CASE COMES UP IN MAY

New York, April 16.—The United States circuit court of appeals placed up its May calendar the appeals in the cases of the Associated Press versus the International News Service.

BRITISH TANKER SENT TO BOTTOM

New York, April 16.—The British tank steamer Narva, a ship of 1,900 tons and one of the largest carriers of bulk oil ever built, has been torpedoed and sunk somewhere off the Irish coast, according to word brought here today by officers on a British steamer.

THREE ROCKY MOUNT BOYS JOIN ARMY

Rocky Mount has three representatives in North Carolina's honor roll which includes those who have enlisted for service in either the Navy or Army. These young men are: Edward J. Pitt, David T. Powell and Ephraim E. Jones, all of this city.

A few days ago it was shown that North Carolina and Vermont had contributed less men to the country than any state on the Atlantic seaboard and in view of that fact there has been considerable agitation for getting recruits for the Army and Navy in the Old North State.

WOMAN SAVES HER DROWNING CHILD

Norfolk, Va., April 14.—In an effort to save one of her twin sons from drowning off the naval hospital yesterday afternoon Mrs. Roderick Triplett, wife of Attorney Triplett, living at 422 North street, this city, plunged into the water and rescued the child after he had fallen overboard, and was being carried away from the shore.

EDITORS TO MEET AT MOREHEAD CITY

Raleigh, April 14.—Line 27.30 was selected as the date for the next annual meeting of the North Carolina Press Association which will be held at the Atlantic Hotel, Morehead City, in accordance with a decision of the association at its last convention in Durham.

WHEAT MAKES NEW WILD ASCENT TODAY

Chicago, April 16.—July wheat sold at \$2 just before the close of the market today at an advance from Saturday of 8-12 cents. May jumped 12-14 cents to \$2.37 3/4.

TEDDY'S ARMY PLAN IS CONSIDERED BY THE SENATE TODAY

The Senate Committee Has Not Finally Decided as to Public Hearings

WEIGHS APPLICATION MADE TO PRESIDENT

Members of the Committee Give Careful Study To Proposal But No Indication As to Their Course is Given Out.

Washington, April 16.—Theodore Roosevelt plans for raising and accompanying a volunteer expedition abroad were laid before the Senate Military committee today at a meeting called to consider the administration's army selective draft bill.

Members of the committee gave careful study to the proposal but there was no definite indication what action will be taken. The committee was expected to determine today whether to hold public hearings on the administration bill.

READY TO SERVE IN ANY WAY

Washington, April 16.—Mr. Bryan replied to the President his offer recently made by telegram to be of any service he could to the government during the war.

ALL WIRELESS TO BE DISMANTLED

Secretary of Navy Orders all Wireless Not Operated by Government Orders to be Discontinued.

Washington, April 16.—All wireless telegraph stations not operated by the government were ordered dismantled during the war today by direction of the Secretary of the Navy.

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PRESIDENT WILSON THANKS PEOPLE OF CITY FOR SUPPORT

Secretary of War and Secretary Daniels Send Congratulations

DANIELS IS PROUD OF PEOPLE OF THE CITY

Mayor Tillery Receives Letters From Government Officials in Reply to Resolutions Passed at Mass Meeting Last Monday.

Mayor Tillery has received a letter from President Wilson, the Secretary of War and Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels, thanking the Mayor and people of Rocky Mount for their patriotic action in endorsing the administration and offering their services.

NEW PUBLICITY BOARD MEETS

Organization That Is to Give News of Government Has First Session

MAP OUT THE COURSE

The Bureau Plans to Profit by the Mistakes Made by the Allies About the Relations of the Press of the Nation.

Washington, April 16.—Secretaries Lansing, Baker and Daniels and George Creel, which composed the new government publicity bureau, created by President Wilson, held their first meeting today to map out a course of action.

AIRPLANE PASSES OVER ROCKY MOUNT

An airplane passed over Rocky Mount about a few nights ago. It became known today that Officer Taylor of the local force said that he saw a flying machine pass over the city about twelve o'clock a few nights ago.

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STRIKES ARE NOW WORKING HAVOC IN GERMAN EMPIRE

General Strike is Reported as Having Started in Germany Today

RIOTS OCCURRING IN THE GERMAN CAPITOL

Arrivals at The Hague and Amsterdam Tell of Serious Outbreaks Among the Trades in Many Sections of the Nation.

London, April 16.—Travelers arriving in Holland from Germany, according to dispatch from Amsterdam to the Central News Agency say that a general strike was commenced this morning in Berlin and that riots have taken place in the German capital.

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SENATE IS TO PASS BIG WAR FUND ON TOMORROW

PLAN TO RECEIVE THE BRITISH AND FRENCH MEMBERS

The British Representatives Headed By Balfour To White House

AN ELABORATE PLAN OF ENTERTAINMENT Delegations Representing The Army, The Navy and Civil Department of the Government to Take a Hand in Entertainment.

THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE GIVES THE BILL ITS O. K. TODAY

To Be Taken Up as the Only Matter for Passage on Tuesday

Washington, April 16.—The administration's seven billion dollar revenue bill which has passed the house was today approved by the Senate finance committee and will be taken up tomorrow in the Senate for passage.

WILMINGTON A. C. L. EMPLOYEES MEET

Wilmington, April 14.—At a largely attended meeting held in the local freight office of the Atlantic Coast Line last night, Mr. L. D. Terry, of Richmond, Va., an inspector of the Bureau of Explosives, gave a very instructive and interesting lecture, demonstrating by the use of stereopticon slides, the correct methods for the handling of explosives and inflammable articles and the disastrous results of failure to observe the rules issued by the Interstate Commerce commission.

U. S. GUNBOAT IS INTERNED

The Scorpion Held in Turkish Waters Until End of the War. Many Bluejackets Left.

London, April 16.—An official statement issued by the Turkish war office announces that the American gunboat Scorpion has been interned.

NO SURPRISE TO THE NAVY

Washington, April 16.—The internment of the Scorpion has been expected here for some time, and is in accord with the rule necessitating the internment and such action for a belligerent war vessel not leaving port within a prescribed time.

WILSON MAYOR URGES ECONOMY

Wilson, N. C., April 14.—At a meeting called by Mayor Killebrew and presided over by that dignitary the necessity for planting every available foot of ground in foodstuffs was emphasized.

GERMAN CAPTIVE BURNS BIBLES

London, April 16.—Lieutenant Emil Lehmann, a German naval captive, ran a career of frightfulness even after his capture and temporary imprisonment in England. Breaking loose from his guard, Lehmann escaped from Manchester and took refuge in a Methodist church where he made a bonfire on the floor with all the Bibles he could find. Lehmann is charged with sacrilege.

W. A. NELSON TRIAL BEGINS AT TARBORO

The trial of W. A. Nelson, who is charged with the killing of Officers Gwatney and Biggan, of the Tarboro police force, and the wounding of Mayor J. P. Keuch recently when the officers and Mayor attempted to serve a warrant for Nelson's arrest began at Tarboro today.

COLLEGE TRAIN MEN IN SERVICE

University of North Carolina Has Daily Drills and Asks For Instructor. South Carolina Students Busy.

Raleigh, April 16.—Reports received here today from Chapel Hill, declared that 500 University of North Carolina students who have been learning military tactics and drilling nightly, have decided to drill every afternoon and have requested that a regular army officer be detailed as instructor. The students are at present being drilled by men who have had military experience.

SOUTH CAROLINA DROPS ATHLETICS

Columbia, S. C., April 16.—That more time may be given to the military training class which numbers 252 students and 25 faculty members, the athletic advisory board of the University of South Carolina has decided to cancel all intercollegiate athletic contests after the game of baseball here next Saturday with the University of North Carolina.