



REPORTS SAY HOLLWEG WILL PROFFER PEACE

GERMAN MINISTER WILL MAKE PEACE OFFER SAY REPORTS

German Censorship Lifted
but Nothing Definite As
to Conditions Known

DISQUIETING RUMORS
HEARD FROM RUSSIA

Demonstrations in Petro-grad against Foreign Minister Milukoff. Soldiers and workmen demanding his resignation. Germans clamor for annexation of Belgium.

The German censorship has lifted so far as to allow newspapers and mails from Germany once more to reach the outer world but there is little information as yet as to what has transpired within the border of the German empire during the last week.

The German Chancellor is once more reported to be about to make a pronouncement on peace before the Reichstag and his hand has apparently been forced by the junkers.

Those reactionary-angled are alarmed by the apparent dominance of the socialist party with its program of peace without annexation.

Announcements of indemnities have prevented an interpretation to the Chancellor of the Reichstag demanding that he clarify his position. The junkers are still clamoring for the annexation of Belgium and all reports indicate that the government must very shortly take a definite stand both on the question of war aims and internal reforms.

Disquieting reports come from Russia of the attitude of elements among the soldiers and workmen toward the provisional government. Demonstrations are occurring in the streets of Petrograd against Paul N. Milukoff, the minister of foreign affairs. His resignation being demanded. Professor Milukoff is considered one of the strongest men in the new Russian regime, a true friend of the Entente cause, as a whole and thoroughly in favor of an energetic prosecution of the war by Russia. The military elements opposed to him appear not to have been excited to action by the provisional government's communications to the allied nations, made public yesterday, which committed the government to continuation of the war without slackening of effort. They declare they should have been consulted in this matter.

RUSSIAN MISSION WILL LEAVE FOR U. S.

Petrograd, May 4.—A commission representing the Russian provisional government will leave soon for America to confer with American government officials concerning the industrial, economic and financial relations of the two countries. This information was obtained by the Associated Press from a high official source. The personnel of the commission has already been decided upon but the names of the commission are not yet available. They will be escorted with the fullest powers similar to those of the British and French commissions.

COTTON MARKET

New York, May 4.—Cotton futures opened steady. May 19.74; July 19.50; October 18.72; December 18.82; January 18.88.

New York, May 4.—The cotton market opened steady today at a decline of 17 to 29 points with July selling off to 19.45 and October 18.70, under further scattering liquidation and local pressure. Trade interest were buyers around the initial figure, however, and the market steadied right after the call, July selling at 19.57 and October 18.78, or 8 to 11 points above the low point.

STOCK MARKET

New York, May 4.—The increasing gravity of the foreign situation precipitated further selling of records in the opening of today's session. Declines to one to three points were made, rails leadings. Substantial recessions were made in Mexican Petroleum, Steel and Industrial Alcohol. United States Steel and other standard industries held firm at the outset but recoiled slightly under the weight of heavy offerings elsewhere. A brisk rally was in progress before the end of the first half hour, steel and other active issues rising above yesterday's final prices.

SERIOUS REVOLT OCCURS IN BERLIN

Amsterdam Paper Says Demonstrations Were Accompanied by Violence

STORY NOT CONFIRMED

Paper Says that Revolutionists Became So Menacing That Guns Had to Be Used to Suppress Outbreak. Said to Have Occurred Last Week.

Amsterdam, via London, May 4.—A Maatschappij newspaper says that serious revolts occurred in Berlin last week. According to the paper the revolts became so menacing that guns were used against them. The story is not confirmed from any source.

PITT COUNTY BOY LOSES RIGHT HAND

Greenville, N. C., May 4.—Mr. John Tyson, whose home is in this county, about two miles from Farmville, suffered the misfortune on Tuesday to lose his right hand when a gun which he was handling accidentally discharged mangled the hand so bad that amputation was necessary.

Mr. Tyson is a member of the North Carolina National Guards stationed in Raleigh, and came home a few days ago on a brief furlough. He had taken a shot gun in the home to explain to the members of the family what his daily routine of service consisted of, and it was while he was thus engaged that the gun was accidentally discharged, the bullet lodgng his hand close to the wrist.

The young man is very popular in the Farmville section where he is well known, and his misfortune will be sadly learned by his numerous friends.

HOOVER ARRIVES AT WASHINGTON

Will Begin Duties as Head of Nation's Food Board. Will Report on Food Situation Abroad.

Washington, May 4.—Herbert C. Hoover, director of Belgian relief and now chairman of the food committee of the Council of National Defense, arrived here today to report on the food situation abroad. He will present a preliminary summary of conditions in the allied countries as a basis for working out a plan for apportioning American food abroad. No secret is made of the seriousness of the food shortages in both England and Italy. France is now faring somewhat better, but is now in need of coal. Mr. Hoover's reports deal also with conditions in the northern European neutral countries and will show how much food must be sent from the United States. Mr. Hoover will retain chairmanship of the Belgian relief commission directing the work from Washington.

His duties with the government have been defined by the defense counsel as advisory, but it is understood that after the administration food control bills are passed by Congress he may be given wide powers in supervising food distribution abroad and perhaps in the United States.

WANTS \$25,000 FOR DEATH OF SON

New Bern, May 4.—The case of George W. Britz, administrator for the late James Britz, versus the Norfolk Southern Railway Company, was taken up at yesterday's session of Federal Court, which is being held this week, with Judge Henry G. Connor presiding. The hearing of evidence has not been concluded yet and it now appears that the jury will not get the case before late this afternoon.

The plaintiff is suing the railway company for \$25,000 for the death of his son, James Britz, in the fall of 1915. The deceased was passing between two cars at the union depot when a yard engine backed up against the cars, catching the young man between the couplings of the two cars. The young man's body was crushed and he died a few days later in a local hospital. The contention of the plaintiff is that the death of Britz was due to negligence on the part of the defendant company.

BALFOUR AND VIVIANI AT THE TOMB OF WASHINGTON



M. Viviani (insert) and A. J. Balfour speaking at the tomb of Washington.

Sunday, April 29, 1917, will be a cherished day in the hearts of Americans. On that day Right Honorable Arthur James Balfour of Great Britain paid a tribute to George Washington, the father of the United States of America, the man who led and won a war upon Great Britain. The day was further made memorable by the tribute to Washington of M. Viviani of France, a great statesman of the country which helped the colonies gain their freedom.

C. OF C. MEMBERS TO MEET TONIGHT

All Members and Citizens Urged to Attend. Questions and Plans for City's Benefit to Be Discussed.

At the first general membership meeting of the re-organized Chamber of Commerce, which is to be held in the new quarters on the second floor of the Phillips Building tonight at eight o'clock, the members will consider the adoption of a constitution and by laws and will discuss plans for the work of the coming year. The directors have drafted a constitution and by laws which they will offer for the approval of the members.

The meeting is open not only to the members, but to every loyal citizen of Rocky Mount who wishes to have a part in the growth and development of our city. A large attendance is expected, and it is hoped that every man who attends this meeting will come prepared to offer some constructive suggestion. Blanks will be passed around so that every person present will have an opportunity to write down his recommendations should he not choose to take part in the discussions.

There will be short talks by the president and the new secretary, and by a few other business men. The program will be short and interesting, and very informal.

The directors are very proud of the new quarters which have been secured and they are anxious for every citizen of Rocky Mount to come up and see their new home, and also to get acquainted with the new Secretary. Let every man interested in a better and bigger city be present at the meeting tonight.

GERMANS SEIZE BELGIAN RELIEF SHIP

London, May 4.—Confusion by the Germans of the Belgian relief steamer Carimetta, is reported in Central News dispatch from Copenhagen. A Danish sailor who was a member of the crew is authority for the report. He says the Germans ordered the crew to leave the ship and placed a prize crew on board to take it to a German port. The men from the Carimetta in two sail boats, asked for provisions but the Germans refused. After six days of terrible suffering the men in one of the boats reached the Norwegian coast.

MR. AND MRS. WELLS ENTERTAIN SCHOOL

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Wells, entertained the school and children of the Juvenile school on Wednesday evening at their beautiful home near Rocky Mount. Miss Rosa Bailey and Julian Worsley of Rocky Mount furnished the music for the occasion. Mr. Rudy sang several solos also. The children gave several appropriate selections and showed the fruits of careful training by the teachers.

After the exercises of the entertainment were over, Mrs. Wells served ice cream on the lawn, which was beautifully lighted and decorated with Japanese lanterns. The occasion was highly enjoyed by all present and declared Mr. and Mrs. Wells, to be delightful hosts.

SURVIVORS OF THE ROCKINGHAM SAVED

London, May 4.—The admiralty reports that the missing boat from the Rockingham with all the fourteen men has been picked up by a British steamer.

VAWTER'S DEFENSE RESTED ITS CASE DURING MORNING

Mrs. Vawter Not Called Back to the Stand to Resume Examination

PROSECUTION BEGINS TAKING OF TESTIMONY

Began Introduction of Testimony in Rebuttal to Insanity Plea of Defense. Only Two Witnesses For Vawter Questioned This Morning.

Christiansburg, Va., May 4.—The defense in the trial of Prof. Charles E. Vawter, charged with murdering Stockton Heth, Jr., rested this morning after presenting two witnesses who testified they saw Vawter between 8:30 and 10:30 on the night of the shooting and that he was not drinking.

Mrs. Vawter was not called to the stand today for continued cross examination as had been expected. After a brief recess the state then began the introduction of testimony in rebuttal.

Mrs. Charles E. Vawter, testifying yesterday in the trial of her husband, charged with murdering Stockton Heth, Jr., declared that Heth, Jr., declared that Heth attempted to assault her in her home a few minutes before he was killed by Vawter, but that she was in defense of her husband, and that always she had repelled Heth's advances when not under the influence of liquor.

The climax of Mrs. Vawter's testimony came yesterday when she related happenings immediately prior to and following the shooting. After Heth had been shot, she testified, Vawter said:

"I have avenged the family honor and I will go to trial with my lips sealed to protect your honor."
"You will not," Mrs. Vawter said she told her husband, "I will atone for my past sins by hating myself to save you."

Mrs. Vawter told a dramatic story of her home life at Blacksburg. Going back to May 1910, she asserted that Heth had become "logging her tracks," Heth's phrase for wife beating. Once she said her husband, seeing her emerging from Heth's room, denounced the guest and a few minutes later Heth brought Vawter into his bedroom, apparently unconscious.

The witness told of another occasion when Vawter saw Heth trying to embrace her. Vawter again denounced Heth, and later Heth again brought Vawter into his room and put him to bed. On the following morning she said she found finger prints on her husband's throat.

Mrs. Vawter, attired in a blue serge suit, with large lace collar, entered the court room at 9:30 o'clock and was sworn. The witness answered the questions put to her in a low clear voice.

PLANS FOR RAISING ARMY DISCUSSED

Making Arrangements For Training First 50,000 Men During Three Coming Months at Training Camps.

Washington, May 4.—A full outline of the plan for training the first ten thousand officers for the first 50,000 troopers raised by selective conscription, was made public by the War Department.

After three months' instructions at the training camp the ten thousand officers for sixteen infantry and two cavalry divisions will be selected on merit from the total of forty thousand and assigned to the regiments which will be called to the colors a month or two later. The other thirty thousand men who are found qualified will be commissioned in the officers reserve corps and called out four days as needed.

After for the mobilization camps have not been announced by they will be in each case within the limits of the districts prescribed for the officers' training camps. For their first trainings the officer-candidates will be organized into fourteen infantry companies and drilled by such as regular and national guard officers and such of their own numbers as may be qualified for duty. They will be organized by individual fitness into nine infantry companies, three batteries of artillery and two troops of cavalry.

JOY RIDERS STOLE CAR LAST NIGHT

The automobile of Mr. C. C. Cockerell, of Nashville, was stolen last night while he was attending the chauntauqua by some person or persons, who, Mr. Cockerell said, expended about four gallons of gasoline in an extended joy ride. As the front guard and fender of the car was slightly damaged and red paint was found on them, Mr. Cockerell said that it was apparent that the machine had collided with some wagon or vehicle that was painted red while the joy riders had it under their supervision. The car was found on Franklin street just about four hundred yards below the place where the machine had intended to return before the chauntauqua was over, failing to do so, they left it at that place. Mr. Cockerell found his machine about eleven thirty o'clock last night and he said that out side of the expenditure of the gasoline and the bending of the guard and fender that he had not discovered any further damage. He said that so far he had found no clue that would identify who the guilty parties were. He suggested that whoever collided with the machine and left the red paint on the car would know who ran into them and maybe they could identify those who were in the car.

FAYETTEVILLE MILL TO INSURE EMPLOYEES

Fayetteville, N. C., May 4.—The Tolar, Hart & Holt Mills Company, of this city, has announced that the company will henceforth insure the lives of all employes in its cotton mills who are 15 years of age or over. The employe will be the beneficiary of the insurance, the policies beginning at \$3000 and increasing to \$10,000, the company paying the premium. The policy will be kept in force as long as the employe remains with Tolar, Hart & Holt company, but will lapse on the severance of the connection unless the beneficiary wishes to keep it up by paying the premium.

British Begin Great Attack On Wotan Line

BRITISH ATTACK IS TWO WEEKS AHEAD

Balfour Says Advance of Troops Has Been Faster and Losses Smaller

CASUALTIES DECREASE

Number of Men Lost Fifty Per Cent Less Than That of Somme Offensive. This Is Attributed to Artillery Preparations on Part of British Gunners.

Washington, May 4.—The British forces on the western front are two weeks ahead of their attacking schedule according to a cablegram received here today by Secretary Balfour from the foreign office. The advance, it is said, has been much faster than expected and the losses are smaller.

The losses were said to be only half as large proportionately as those on the Somme offensive last year. This is attributed by members of the mission to an incomparatively artillery preparation and the fact that men are not allowed to run the guns.

SIX MORE BOYS GO TO FORT OGLETHORPE

Six more Rocky Mount boys have gone to Raleigh and passed the examination preparatory to going to Fort Oglethorpe to the officer's training camp. With the four young men announced yesterday this makes ten from this city who have enlisted for this service. The names of those who passed, of whom there are six, are: Buck Wimberley, J. E. Gooch, W. Ezma Griffin, H. J. Thompson, R. David Bulluck and W. Carter Darrow. These young men together with the other four will take the three months training at the camp for officer's commissions and also under condition that they will be subject to the orders of the Secretary of War during their period of training until they are released.

It is understood that still more have been to Raleigh to take the examination, but whether they have passed is not known as yet but as soon as this is ascertained their names will also be announced. The boys here are making a fine showing in the enlistments for the training camp and the representation from Rocky Mount is a credit to the city.

STILL DISCUSSING ESPIONAGE BILL

Will Reach Final Stages in House By Tonight, It Is Expected. Still Considering Bill in Senate.

Washington, May 4.—Consideration of administration espionage bill continued in both houses today. In the House debate reached final stages with prospects of a vote before night.

Opponents of the censorship provision kept up their fight to have it stricken out and expressed confidence of success.

In the Senate debate on the provision authorizing the President to declare export embargoes was debated. Strong opposition has developed to the provision.

The influence of President Wilson's approval of the newspaper censorship section of the espionage bill failed to sway it in the House today and it was stricken from the bill by a vote of 229 to 167.

NEW FERTILIZER CO. FOR WILSON

Raleigh, N. C., May 4.—The Farmers Union Trading Company of Wilson, capitalized at \$100,000 was chartered today by the Secretary of State. The firm proposes to buy and sell fertilizers and promote food protection.

TWO FRENCH ARMY OFFICERS ARRIVE

New York, May 4.—Two French army officers arrived today on a British steamship to join the French war commission. The officers are French aviators. Arriving on the same vessel was Joseph Davis, one of the secretaries of David Lloyd George.

AMBASSADOR OF AUSTRIA LEAVES

New York, May 4.—Count Tarnowski Von Tarnow, the unrecalled Austrian Ambassador to the United States before sailing today for his home land, issued farewell greetings to his countrymen here and advised them to "honor the land whose hospitality they enjoy and in which they earned their livelihood."

BRITISH PENETRATE OPKY LINE DURING ATTACKS YESTERDAY

The Bloodiest and Sternest Fighting of Present Offensive Taking Place

MAKING ATTEMPT TO SMASH WOTAN LINE

Germans Resist With Grim Determination New Attack. No Definite News of What Transpired in Germany Has Been Received as Yet.

The British have burst through the Okpy line and are fighting the bloodiest sternest battle of the present offensive in a great effort to smash the famous Wotan line before its organization is completed. The Hindenburg line outflanked and pierced in several places has failed to stop the forward surge of the British army and Wotan line is probably the last great barrier barring the road to Douai and Cambrai, Germany's richest prize in France, the great coal and iron fields north of the Lens.

Realizing the menace of the situation the Germans are fighting with a grim determination which reckons no cost in blood if it halts their advancing foe.

The renewed fury into which the great battle of Arras has flamed has diverted attention to the possibly more significant events which are shaping behind the battle front.

FOOD COMMITTEES FOR EDGECOMBE

Food conservation committees are being appointed in the different townships of Edgecombe county for the object of urging the farmers and people to raise more food and curtail all extravagance in the food line in order to cope with the food danger that confronts the county.

Speakers will speak at the different school houses in the county to impress upon the people the necessity of raising more food and helping the country in this time of need.

This is in line with movements in other counties who have also appointed these committees and it is hoped that it will spread all over the state.

Besides Edgecombe county in this vicinity of the state, Pitt county has also launched a similar movement and according to reports received here the movement in both counties is meeting with success.

It is expected that a food conservation committee will be named in Nash county for the same purpose in the near future.

This is a good thing for the counties and the people do not realize what a serious problem as to the food supply is existing and they should be made to understand what is needed and what they will have to do. Every farmer is urged to plant all the food crops possible and do everything he can for the help of the country, for the farms are the guns behind the lines and without their help and co-operation the nation will be in a bad position to carry out its part in the war.

WILL JOIN FRENCH COMMISSION WHICH JOFFRE DISCUSSES WAR PLANS WITH OFFICIALS AT WASHINGTON.

New York, May 4.—Two French army officers arrived today on a British steamship to join the French war commission. The officers are French aviators. Arriving on the same vessel was Joseph Davis, one of the secretaries of David Lloyd George.