

Boys' Get Ready for the Third Liberty Loan

WEATHER FORECAST
Cloudy tonight and probably
Rain Sunday.

Salisbury Evening Post

ONE EDITION
2 CENTS

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VOL. 11. NO. 63.

SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1918.

PRICE TWO CENTS

AMERICAN TALK

UNTO GOD WE TURN.

"Amid the storm of sea or the shut and shell of the battlefield, amid the temptations of life, and in the lonely hours, when, with aching hearts their thoughts turn to the dear ones at home, be thou, O God to our defenders on land and sea an ever-present help. Comfort them with more than a mother's tender love, whisper cheer into their straining ears and touch their hearts with the peace of God which passeth all understanding, and unto Thy name shall we give praise now and forever more."—Manufacturer's Record.

While the battle rages in France, the battle that some believe will decide the issues of the war, the fight which the Germans say will force the peace for which they are fighting—A German peace—while the heroic soldiers of Great Britain, France and America battle against the brutal murderous Huns, it is the duty of the churches, the homes and the individual to uphold the hands of these men by their prayers and by every way possible. Let Americans pray while our soldiers and the soldiers our gallant allies holding back this hord of Prussian pirates and murderers.

LIBERTY.

Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery. Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me Liberty, or give me death!—Patrick Henry.

The God who gave us life gave us liberty at the same time.—Thomas Jefferson.

Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.—John Philpot Curran.

Like Patrick Henry, Americans today prefer death to slavery, especially such slavery as this gang of Prussians would inflict on a weakened and whipped world. Truly would death be preferable to life under the iron heel of the Huns, and it is the solemn duty of every American worthy the name to fight and pray until the dirty Huns are whipped and forced to surrender their will scheme of world conquest.

The following program which is set forth by citizens of Mississippi may well be the program of our own lives:

To furnish a full quota of able-bodied fighting men.

To go over its allotment in every Liberty Loan and War Savings Stamp Campaign.

To stamp out treasonable rumors, words and acts as it would contagious, death-bearing diseases.

To observe to the letter the regulations of the food administration in every home and public dining-room.

To produce sufficient food and feed—corn, hogs, poultry, milk, potatoes—in every community for the needs of that community.

To lay in sufficient wood during the summer to forestall a fuel shortage in the winter and to release coal for trains and ships.

To contribute its part toward the Red Cross, Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. work.

To sacrifice and keep cheerful.

The time has now come when the American must show courage and confidence. The year is certain to bring heavy fighting in which our men will take part and the losses will perhaps be heavy and the result disheartening at times. But the courage of the allies has held out and will continue to hold out until this fight is over. Those of us at home must fight against the enemies of America and to strengthen the courage of the American people as well as our allies.

It will be hard year in Europe and it may be in some particulars a hard year with America, but we should remember that so far we are untouched. Our resources are great and untouched. Our soldiers are brave and will prove worthy the cause and the land they represent, let us see at home that we are exemplifying the same spirit of real Americans.

While we work to support the soldiers at the front, to prepare our land for the struggle it is engaged in, let us pray for our men at the front, in the danger zone, and in the faith of God go forward unafraid, undismayed to victory.

W S S

The United Commercial Travelers will tonight elect officers for the year and also representatives to the national council convention.

W S S

A family living in Putney, Vt., which purchased a barrel of sugar recently, has been notified by the government that they must sell it in five-pound lots.

GERMANS BREAK THROUGH DEFENSE SYSTEM

South St. Quentin On British Line Germans Push British Back

BRITISH RETIRING TO OTHER PREPARED POSITIONS

BREAK THROUGH SOUTH OF ST. QUENTIN

Dispatches from the western front today state that the Germans attacking in great force have broken through the British defense system about 15 miles south of St. Quentin. The British are retreating to prepared positions and fighting is terrific in some places.

The objective of the Germans is not indicated. It may be that they are seeking to break through and force their way to Paris or it may be they hope to capture French channel ports and intercept shipments to the allied armies.

The British army and people are quietly and confidently watching the issues as they are being fought out on the western line. It is likely that the French also had a part in the big battle which is raging.

BRITISH FIGHT GALLANTLY ON SOLID FRONT

(By Associated Press.)

British Army Headquarters in France, March 23.—11 A. M.—The British, gallantly fighting, still present a solid front to the fiercely attacking Germans, although the defensive troops have withdrawn their lines in certain places for strategic reasons.

All day yesterday and much of last night the conflict raged with increasing violence as fresh German divisions were hurled into the fray in an attempt to smash through the British lines.

NEW PROBLEM ARISES IN MERCHANT SHIPPING

Undertaking Survey With View of Increasing Bunker Facilities at Various Ports—Is Co-operative Effort.

Washington, March 22.—America's fast growing merchant marine has developed a new problem for the shipping board—improvement of bunkering facilities so that cargo carriers may not waste valuable days in waiting for fuel before beginning a voyage.

Chairman Hurley announced today that the shipping board was undertaking in conjunction with other branches of the government, a survey of the Atlantic Gulf and Pacific ports, to see how the coal arrangements can be enlarged and improved. Present facilities must be doubled at least to expedite the movement of ships, which will increase two and perhaps three times, according to existing plans. Opportunities for taking on fuel oil also must be enlarged, as 35 per cent of the new ships will be oil burners.

Many ships that formerly were bunkered in England for round trips across the ocean, are beginning the practice of taking coal only for the outward voyage and re-coaling here for the return, adding to the demands on port facilities.

Bunkering arrangements in the east will be improved to the greatest practicable extent, but as eastern ports already have almost, all the business they can handle, officials believe the greatest relief to be afforded will be in sending new ships to other ports on the south Atlantic, gulf and Pacific coast ports. They say trade with South and Central America, for instance, will be expedited if handled from ports farther south than New York, which is the natural origin for European shipments. The possibilities of all ports will be investigated, as all probably will be utilized.

The railroad administration is being asked to co-operate in the survey of ports, so that access to plentiful coal supplies may be secured. The navy department also is interested, and it is possible all government agencies interested may join in recommendations to congress if any appropriations are wanted to carry out the work.

ALLEGED DISLOYAL JUDGE IS IMPEACHED IN MONTANA

Helena, Mont., March 22.—Charles L. Crum, former judge of the 15th judicial district, was impeached today by the senate, on six articles of impeachment. Judge Crum was charged with disloyalty and sedition.

WORKMEN'S BILL PASSED OVER GOVERNOR'S VETO

Virginia Legislators Adjourn After Slashing \$1,000,000 From \$29,000,000 Appropriation Bill.

Richmond, Va., March 22.—After five days of stormy session during which time one million dollars were slashed from the \$29,000,000 appropriation bill, members of the Virginia legislature adjourned at noon today. Legislators passed the workmen's compensation act over the governor's veto, which will cost the state approximately \$200,000.

Before leaving the legislators passed a resolution giving each member \$50 and five cents mileage for the return session.

Many of the legislators today expressed themselves that the million cut from the appropriation bill will not mean a saving because in each case, it was contended, the sum voted was unnecessary. Others, among them Governor Davis, however, declare that a million dollars has been saved for the state. Salary cuts of \$15,000 were made, the smallest slash on the records, while \$500,000 taken from the school and road funds was the largest.

WHEREABOUTS OF SPENCER NOT REVEALED BY SHERIFF

Winston-Salem, March 22.—Sheriff Flynn stated late this afternoon that the whereabouts of Napoleon Spencer, the young negro charged with killing Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Hester would not be revealed until Forsyth court convenes next week.

Solicitor Graves was here this afternoon and heard the evidence against the prisoner, as related by 15 or more of the state's witnesses. It was decided not to hold a public preliminary hearing, as the grand jury will meet Monday. Examination of witnesses this afternoon was private, being heard only by the solicitor, counsel for defense and officers.

A training course for women dental hygienists has been provided at the Harvard dental school.

TWO FULL DAYS OF TERRIFIC BATTLING

Great Weight of Enemy Infantry and Artillery Force the British Forces Back in Good Order.

THIS MOVEMENT MAY NOT AFFECT OTHER DEFENSES

Indications Are That the French Will Soon Be Participating in This Great Struggle.

(By Associated Press.)
After two days of terrific battling in the great offensive on the western front the Germans have finally succeeded in bringing action at one point on the front somewhat more into the open.

Field Marshal Haig reports that the British defensive system west of St. Quentin and near the southern edge of the system of a 50 mile front under attack had been broken through by the great weight of the enemy artillery and that the British here were falling back in good order.

That the yielding of the line at this point had by no means been unexpected and possibly had been foreseen as ultimately inevitable is indicated by the statement that the retirement is to prepare positions further west across the devastated district.

There is nothing in the report to indicate that this retrograde movement would affect the defensive lines to the north or in any way seriously as it is explicitly stated these positions continue to be held by the British forces.

Just what the effect will be upon the entente lines to the south is not yet apparent. The British hold the front to a point 15 miles south of St. Quentin to the river Oise, about the town of LaFere where the French line begins.

No report has been received from Paris as to whether the French forces have become involved in the battle. From the nearness of the point of the German penetration to their line it seems probable they will soon be taking part in the struggle.

There is another factor to be considered also should the German thrust develop more seriously. There was created last winter by the Supreme War Council at Versailles an "entente army maneuver" understood to be made up of troops of all allies which was designed to be available for action at any point on a wide front from the North sea to the Adriatic wherever it might be needed. It has doubtless not been the entente's intention to throw this army into action hastily, but it unquestionably stands ready for use in any emergency and might easily prove a vital factor in any general engagement which the western front fighting develops.

England Watching Western Front

London, March 23.—The attention of all England is centered today on the western front. There was no boastfulness but the feeling was one of supreme confidence and pride in the army which stands on the first line of defense between democracy and autocracy.

Newspapers warn against undue optimism, but they point out that the fighting instinct still lives in the British breast, notwithstanding the long years of peace and of ignorance in military training and that when the fighting instinct dies the world will see the end of the British nation. Since it has developed that this is indeed the great heralded German offensive the most colossal struggle in the world's history the public and press are unanimous in the opinion that failure will mean the end of the war.

GREAT INTEREST CENTERS ON THE WESTERN BATTLE FRONT

GERMANS ARE FIRING ON PARIS

French Capital reports that shells are being sent into the city, and that some casualties have resulted.

(By Associated Press.)

Paris, March 23.—The German have been firing on Paris with long range guns. Since 8 o'clock this morning shells of 240 millimeters have been reaching the capital and suburbs at intervals of a quarter of an hour, killing about ten persons and wounding about fifteen.

The shortest distance from Paris to the front is over 100 kilometers (62 miles).

The announcement that Paris was being bombarded was heard officially this afternoon afternoon. Measures for counter attacking the enemy's cannon are under execution.

Air Raid Alarm.
Paris, March 23.—9 a. m.—An air raid alarm has just been given.

villages, army headquarters announced. The British counter attacks failed. So far, the statement announces, 25,000 prisoners, 400 guns and 300 machine guns have been taken. The two villages taken are on the Fontaine-Mouevres front where Vaux-Vivroucort and Morchies) the former village about 3 1-2 miles and the latter 2 1-2 miles behind the former British front). Between Gonnelle and the Omignon stream the statement says the first two enemy positions were penetrated and the heights west of Gouzeacourt-Heudicourt and Villieres, Faucon were captured.

Oise Crossing is Forced.
Berlin, via London, March 23.—A crossing over the Oise west of La Fere (12 miles south of St. Quentin) was forced by Jaeger battalions, it is announced. Between the Omignon stream and the Somme after the capture of the first enemy position the Germans made their way through Holm wood and fought across the heights of the Savy and Roupay, penetrating into the third hostile position. South of the Somme the Germans broke through the hostile line, adds the report, and in an uninterrupted forward movement drove the enemy over the Cratzat canal toward the west.

French Reported in the Fight.
London, March 23.—The Germans this morning were pressing hard the British forces defending Hermies about 2 1-2 miles back of the old line in the region southwest of Cambrai. Through the night the battle front extended southward and it was reported this morning that the French army was now engaged. Most of the intense fighting appears around Roisel and Trincourt. The slaughter in the enemy ranks was appalling.

Many Divisions of Germans Concentrated with Large Reserve Forces Behind the Line and a Terrific Infantry and Artillery Assault is Being Made on the English Positions—Break Through in the British Lines was Made at Mory, 15 Miles South of St. Quentin; North on the Fifty Mile Assault Position the British are Holding Firm—British are Quietly Confident They can Withstand the German Assaults.

(By Associated Press.)

London, March 23.—Powerful enemy attacks delivered with great weight of infantry and artillery have broken through the British defense system west of St. Quentin, the war office announces.

The British troops on the northern part of the battlefield are holding their positions. Very heavy fighting with the enemy forces is in progress. In some places the British are withdrawing to prepared positions behind their lines. The official statement says:

"Heavy fighting continued until a late hour last night on the whole battle front. During the afternoon hostile attacks developed with great weight and the artillery broke through our defense system west of St. Quentin, our troops are falling back in good order across the isolated territory to prepared positions. Our troops to the north are holding their position. Very heavy fighting with fresh hostile forces is in progress."

For the first time during the war on the western front since the opening forces established themselves in their systems of defense the zone has been broken through. Many critics believed that on account of the strength of the line thought it would be impossible to break them until one side was weakened down to the point where it could no longer defend the positions and maintain their stronghold.

Unless the British are able to restore their positions or make strong counter attacks it will be necessary for them to withdraw on a wide front with an open field of battle.

Germans Fight Their Way Into Moray.
The Germans have fought their way into Moray, but a smashing counter attack dislodged them, says a Reuter's dispatch. A large party was surrounded and their capture is likely.

Scenes of activity behind the battle front baffle description, but everywhere there is the same well ordered organization and quiet confidence. The weather is wonderfully fine, although visibility is handicapped by local mists.

Moray is on the northern battle front, fifteen miles below Arras. It is four miles back of the lines held by the British before the German offensive began.

London, March 23.—The point at which the British line is broken is near the southern end of the German attacking front which extends from Arras to LaFere, 15 miles below St. Quentin. Below this sector is the great arch in the line where it nearest approaches Paris and turns to the east.

The German offensive has developed with almost unparalleled rapidity. One reason is given that the Germans have so many reserve troops and are constantly bringing these into action to relieve the others. The British war office statement says that there is reason to believe that the Germans have fifty divisions to throw into the struggle, with as many more in reserve. Under the tremendous assault the British are falling back in order to maintain an unbroken front.

Most Stupendous Effort of the War—Thousands of Guns Mashed.

British Army Headquarters in France, March 22.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Germans today continue their assault against the positions in the Cambrai sector, notably in the region of Croisettes and Hargicourt. At least 40 divisions have been identified on the battle front. No such concentration of artillery has been seen since the war began. On the Southern battlefields fierce and bitter struggles were waged today. The enemy had a thousand guns in one small sector this morning.

Germans Throw Gas Shells at American Lines.

With the American Army in France Friday, March 22.—The Germans launched a heavy gas attack against a certain town on our line northwest of Toul last night. No wind was blowing and the gas fumes hung over the trenches for several hours. The battery that was firing the gas was located and was silenced. The firing batteries were to the right of Rige-court and our artillery was busy all the morning with a retaliation of shells.

Germans Try to Get Across With Bombs.

Paris, March 23.—At 9 o'clock last night a group of enemy airplanes crossed the lines and bombs were dropped on Cambrai and other towns in that region. Several machines advanced further to the South but were forced to turn back by our artillery fire. Soon the alarm was given in Paris but it was not long until the "all clear" alarm was given.

GERMANS CLAIM BIG BATCH OF PRISONERS

London, March 22. (British Admiralty, per Wireless Press.)—Sixteen thousand prisoners and 200 guns have been captured by the Germans, according to a German official communication received by wireless tonight. The text of the communication follows:

"The successes of yesterday in the fighting between Arras and La Fere were extended in the continuation of our attack.

"Sixteen thousand prisoners and 200 guns have so far been reported captured. Before Verdun the artillery duel continued. From other theatres of the war there is nothing new to report."

Claim 16,000 Men Captured.
as an indication of the sanguinary nature of the fighting, the Berlin foreign office states that 16,000 men and 200 hundred guns have been captured. This may be compared to the British losses in the German counter offensive on December 4, 1917, when 6,000 men and 100 guns were captured.

The first reports of infantry fighting were indicative of an attempt on the part of the Germans to drive wedges into both sides of the Cambrai salient. (Continued on Page 8.)