

# Fayetteville Observer

WEEKLY EDITION

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FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1918.

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## A TRAGEDY

### 364 American Soldiers Lost in Collision at Sea.

(By The Associated Press)

An Irish Port, Oct. 12.—American soldiers to the number of 364 or 366 perished when the British armed mercantile cruiser Otranto and the transport Kashmir collided in the North Channel between Scotland and Ireland last Sunday. Three hundred American soldiers and 30 French sailors, and 344 members of the crew of the Otranto have been landed at a port in northern Ireland. Sixteen other survivors have been picked up at Islay. More than two hundred bodies have been recovered this morning, and many of them have been buried. The Otranto is a total wreck on the island of Islay. The Kashmir landed its troops at a Scottish port without loss of life.

The troop ships collided while a heavy storm was raging, and the Otranto, with a large hole in her side, then drifted helplessly towards the rocky coast.

A number of the troops aboard were from the interior of the United States and were without experience at sea. They had preferred to remain on the bigger ship rather than risk jumping to the small destroyer Mounsey, which gallantly came to the rescue, and they seemed to be cheered by the sight of land.

The hopes of the men that they would be able to make a safe landing, however, were dispelled by the Otranto's captain when he shouted from the bridge: "Well, boys, we will have to swim for it!"

About that time the troop ship sank with hardly a jar on to a shelving rock, which as a wave receded bit its teeth into the ship's timber and held her in a vice grip. After that the tragedy moved quickly to its climax. The fury of the storm seemed to be centered on the plumed and helpless vessel and in league with the vicious sea which began to rend and tear her to pieces.

As was the case with the victims of the troop ship Tuscania, the loss of the Otranto's papers prevents the army authorities from learning the names of the missing.

All the names of the survivors are being cabled to Washington, where they will be checked against the official list kept at the port from which the vessel sailed.

In this way the list of the dead will be ascertained. One officer of the Young Men's Christian Association named Brown is among the missing.

London, Oct. 12.—More than 360 American soldiers were lost on the transport Otranto, sunk in the collision with the steamer Kashmir off the south Scottish coast. This developed from checking the Otranto list at American army headquarters, where it was found the death roll of soldiers stood at 364 or 366.

More than 200 bodies had been recovered up this morning. Many of these were given burial by a party sent from Liverpool.

## BRAVE FIGHTERS AT THE FRONT

But Bond Slackers Back Home.

We Southerners are fighters. BUT we are not bond buyers, to our shame be it said! Being Southerners, we can say it. Do you want the proof? There are 7,882,000 people, old and young, white and colored, in this District who did not buy a bond of either the Second or Third Loan. 3,780,000 of them live in North and South Carolina. Similar conditions prevailed in the rest of the District, and a similar report has been made to the other states. The report of the Treasury Department shows that the South responded to the Third Loan, as to the number of subscribers, to a smaller extent than any other part of the country. This has been commented upon in a country wide publication.

WIPE OUT THE STIGMA—NOW—before it is too late. BUY FOURTH LIBERTY BONDS! BUY THEM FOR THE CHILDREN—each one will count as a bond buyer. If we have been misrepresented by your failure to report the full number of subscribers, we entreat you to correct it.

LIBERTY LEAGUE ORGANIZATION.

5th Federal Reserve District.

MARKETING HOOPS. Deals buying from. Slave Hoover, Mr. Pleasant, Iowa writes, "Commenced feeding my herd of about 100 head B. A. Thomas' Hog Powder over two months ago. They were sick and we did not lose one—they are well and growing fast." A. P. Hulse—Adv.

## Text of President Wilson's Official Reply to Germany

Washington, Oct. 14.

"Sir: In reply to the communication of the German government dated the 12th instant, which you handed me today, I have the honor to request you to transmit the following answer:

"The unqualified acceptance by the present German government and by a large majority of the Reichstag of the terms laid down by the President of the United States of America in his address to the Congress of the United States on the 8th of January, 1918, and in his subsequent addresses, justifies the President in making a frank and direct statement of his decision with regard to the communications of the German government of the 8th and 12th of October, 1918.

### AUTOCRACY MUST GO!

"It must be clearly understood that the process of evacuation and the conditions of an armistice are matters which must be left to the judgment and advice of the military advisers of the government of the United States and the Allied governments, and the President feels it his duty to say that no arrangement can be accepted by the government of the United States which does not provide absolutely satisfactory safeguards and guarantees of the maintenance of the present supremacy of the armies of the United States and of the Allies in the field. He feels confident that he can safely assume that this will also be the judgment and decision of the Allied governments.

**MUST FIRST STOP INHUMANE PRACTICES.** "The President feels that it is also his duty to add that neither the government of the United States nor, he is quite sure, the governments with which the government of the United States is associated as a belligerent, will consent to consider an armistice so long as the armed forces of Germany continue the illegal and inhumane practices which they still persist in.

### JUSTLY REGARDED WITH HORROR AND BURNING HEARTS.

"At the very time that the German government approached the government of the United States with proposals of peace its submarines are engaged in sinking passenger ships at sea, and not the ships alone, but the very boats in which their passengers and crews seek to make their way to safety; and in their present enforced withdrawal from Flanders and France the German armies are pursuing a course of wanton destruction which has always been regarded as in direct violation of the rules and practices of civilized warfare. Cities and villages, if not destroyed, are being stripped of all they contain—not only that, but often of their very inhabitants. The nations associated against Germany cannot be expected to agree to a cessation of arms while acts of inhumanity, spoliation and desolation are being continued which they justly look upon with horror and with burning hearts.

### MUST BE DESTROYED OR MADE IMPOTENT.

"It is necessary, also, in order that there may be no possibility of misunderstanding that the President should very solemnly call the attention of the government of Germany to the language and plain intent of one of the terms of peace which the German government has now accepted. It is contained in the address of the President delivered at Mount Vernon on the Fourth of July last.

"It is as follows: 'The destruction of every arbitrary power anywhere that can separately, secretly and of its single choice disturb the peace of the world; or, if it cannot be presently destroyed, at least its reduction to virtual impotency.'

"The power which has hitherto controlled the German nation is of the sort here described. It is within the choice of the German nation to alter it. The President's words just quoted naturally constitute a condition precedent to peace, if peace is to come by the action of the German people themselves. The President feels bound to say that the whole process of peace will, in his judgment, depend upon the definiteness and the satisfactory character of the guarantees which can be given in this fundamental matter.

### MUST KNOW WITH WHOM WE ARE DEALING.

"It is indispensable that the governments associated with Germany should know beyond a peradventure with whom they are dealing.

"The President will make a separate reply to the royal and imperial government of Austria-Hungary.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurance of my high consideration.

(Signed) ROBERT LANSING.  
Mr. Frederick O. Ederlin, Charge d'Affaires ad interim, in charge of German interests in the United States.

## PEACE MOVE

How Plain People, Diplomats and Others Regard Germany's Efforts to Avert Military Extinction.

(By The Associated Press)

London, Oct. 14.—When workers quit the factories in the suburbs of Berlin Saturday night many thousands of men and women thronged to the center of the city and waited for hours for Germany's reply to President Wilson, according to a Copenhagen dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company. Extra editions with the text were issued at ten o'clock, and were received with enthusiasm, many women bursting into tears.

The Vorwarts of Berlin published an article warning the Pan-Germans, who are preparing counter action to secure the continuation of the old system, that they were pursuing a dangerous course and should beware of exhausting the people's patience. It declares that every conspiracy will be stopped with a strong hand.

A proclamation demanding a Socialist republic has been published, but the papers printing it have been seized. Scandinavian papers believe that peace is near.

London, Oct. 14.—No temporary armistice nor any armistice at all, unless accompanied by Germany's unconditional surrender, is the determination noted in most of the comment on the peace situation in this morning's newspapers.

"The Allies will take nothing less than unconditional surrender in this field, and there must be no armistice until defeat in the field is acknowledged by the enemy," says the Post. "Otherwise the war has been fought in vain."

The paper sees in Germany's endeavor to open peace negotiations merely an attempt to avoid disaster and save her military reputation, and adds:

"It is not the first time that the Germans have erroneously assumed that President Wilson does not understand the people with whom he is dealing. Germany's idea in this discussion is to steal the advantage. Her design is to first create dissension between the United States and the Allies. If Doctor Solz, with a sham democracy, can get the Allies and Americans to talking, he will have achieved the purpose for which he and Prince Maximilian were appointed."

The Chronicle says: "We must insist upon such terms as will virtually disarm the Central Powers. We cannot contemplate withdrawing her armies intact, reconstituted with a shorter line, and then rattle the sword again at the peace conference. It must be remembered that the conference will last a long time, at least six months, and possibly a year. Fighting must be finished once and for all, and the Allies must be unambiguously secure against its renewal. This is the point of principle to be decided by the Allies, and the conditions requisite constitute a naval and military, not a political problem. It must first be referred to Marshal Foch and the British admiralty."

London, Sunday, Oct. 13.—London streets, parks and public places were crowded today. Everybody wore their best clothes, and the crowds had an almost festive aspect. They exhibited the general spirit of the people of Paris. Such cheerfulness has long been unknown here.

The people believe that peace is near, and that it is a peace with victory.

Thousands of Sunday idlers paraded through Whitehall and gathered about the government buildings, awaiting the latest news. None was more cheerful than the hundreds of officers, soldiers and sailors with contingents of American, Belgian and French always present.

London, Oct. 14.—While certain developments are taking place, the Central News Agency says it learns it can be said that the British government will resolutely oppose the granting of any armistice to Germany unless absolute guarantees, both military and naval, are forthcoming.

Washington, Oct. 14.—The Swiss Charge appeared at the State Department shortly after 11 o'clock and delivered the German note without comment.

## \$1,500,000

Appropriated to Buy Land on Which Camp Bragg Is Located.

(By The Associated Press)

Washington, Oct. 14.—The military efficiency bill carrying \$6,240,765,000 for the enlarged war programme was reported today to the House by the Appropriations Committee. It provides \$6,162,062,000 for the army; \$10,247,000 for the navy, and \$70,000,000 for family allowances of soldiers and sailors. Leaders said the measure would be passed tomorrow.

Artillery ranges at Fayetteville, North Carolina, and West Point, Kentucky are provided for, \$1,600,000 being appropriated for buying land at Fayetteville.

## DEATH OF MRS. J. C. CARSON.

Mrs. J. C. Carson died Tuesday afternoon at 6 o'clock at her home on 4th street after a few days illness with influenza. Mrs. Carson was in the prime of young womanhood, just 20 years old. Her death was very sad and regretted by all who knew her. Besides her husband she is survived by three children—Louise, Eunice and Mary Alice, the youngest being only three weeks old.

The funeral was conducted Wednesday at 11 o'clock by her pastor, Rev. Joel S. Snyder, and the interment was in beautiful Cross Creek Cemetery. The grave was covered with beautiful flowers.

The following were the pall-bearers: D. T. Perry, Jarvis Jones, G. H. Williamson, W. T. Jones, J. B. Buckingham and W. B. Moore.

Mrs. Carson was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Malloy of this city.

peace with the German government except upon conditions amounting to unconditional surrender.

It is assumed that since Saturday night at least, informal exchanges have taken place between Washington and the capitals of the co-belligerents. Informed of the views of the Allied premiers, the President may determine before the day is over whether his reply to the German request that he propose an armistice and peace negotiations shall be a refusal to make any such proposal at the instance of the present German government or a renewed statement of the conditions under which peace must be restored.

It was suggested that the President might ask for a joint session of the House and Senate to communicate his decision and the reason for it to Congress, the country and the world.

## AN APPRECIATION.

Leaving for my Kentucky home, I cannot see personally all of those who have shown my sister and children such loving attention the past week and so I am by this means expressing my appreciation of their wonderful kindness.

I shall not soon forget the great hearted people of this community.

May the flag for which our boy gave up his young life protect homes like these in perfect peace.

With grateful hearts we thank you.

B. S. GRANNIS and SISTER.

## TO THE POINT.

To the Editor of The Observer: Sir:—I note that the call for workers to make influenza masks, pneumonia jackets and nurses' aprons, to be used in fighting the influenza epidemic here-at-home brought the largest attendance ever recorded at the Red Cross work rooms in Fayetteville. There should, of course, have been a ready response to this humanitarian call; but isn't it a little strange that there should have been so great a difference between this and the response to the call to work for the soldiers FIGHTING FOR US overseas? There is a need here, but a THOUSAND men are dying in France and Belgium to ONE here. Surely, a little fear sooth a long way.

I am, sir,

N. P. ULTRA.

## NO OCTOBER TERM OF COURT.

The Board of Health of Cumberland County has ordered that the October term of Cumberland Superior Court, fixed to convene on Monday, October 21, be not held.

ADVERTISE IN THE OBSERVER, THE PEOPLE'S FORUM.

## GERMANY'S REPLY

(By The Associated Press.)

Washington, Oct. 14.—Germany's reply to President Wilson reached the Swiss legation in official form by cable this morning. It was in German text a translation of which was identical with that received by wireless Saturday night.

Instead of taking the note directly to the White House as he did Prince Maximilian's peace plea, the Swiss Charge communicated with the State Department. He was asked to present it to Secretary Lansing at 11:15 o'clock. In the meantime President Wilson had Secretaries Lansing and Baker at the White House for a conference. The President and Mr. Lansing had been considering the German communication since Saturday night when the unofficial text reached them and Secretary Baker, just back from France, was prepared to give first-hand information about the situation on the battle front, which has brought about the German eagerness for peace.

The text of the note follows: "In reply to the questions of the President of the United States of America the German government has accepted the terms laid down by President Wilson in his address of January the 8th and in his subsequent addresses on the foundation of a permanent peace of justice. Consequently its object in entering into discussions would be only to agree upon practical details of the application of these terms. The German government believes that the governments of the powers associated with the government of the United States also take the position taken by President Wilson in his address. The German government in accordance with the Austro-Hungarian government, for the purposes of bringing about an armistice, declares itself ready to comply with the propositions of the President in regard to evacuation.

"The German government suggests that the President may occasion the meeting of a mixed commission for making the necessary arrangements concerning the evacuation. The present German government, which has undertaken the responsibility for this step towards peace, has been formed by conference and in agreement with the great majority of the Reichstag. The Chancellor, supported in all of his actions by the will of this majority, speaks in the name of the German government and of the German people.

"Berlin, October the twelfth, nineteen hundred eighteen.

(Signed) "SOLF,  
"State Secretary of Foreign Office."

## A CHANCE FOR FARMERS.

Opportunity Given Them to Obtain Quantities of Stable Manure for the Hauling.

In the Camp Bragg Notes in The Observer Saturday Col. D. W. McHenry, chief surgeon of the cantonment, gave notice that farmers and truckers could get stable manure and garbage from the camp for the hauling. Here is presented the opportunity to farmers and truckers in the vicinity of Camp Bragg to enrich their soil during the winter and have it in fine shape for raising vegetables next Spring and summer. There is going to be a great demand for vegetables at Camp Bragg and in Fayetteville, and he who makes a good crop will do well.

## DEATHS.

### Mr. Clarence Blue.

Mr. Clarence Blue, son of Mr. David Blue, died at his home in Seventy-First Township, near Curries Mill, Saturday night after a sickness of about a week with influenza. He was a farmer and merchant, a leading man in his community and deservedly popular in Fayetteville and throughout the county. He was aged about 39 years. He leaves a wife and several children.

### Mr. T. B. Williams.

Mr. Thomas B. Williams, well-known and highly esteemed merchant of this city, died at his home here Saturday night, his death resulting from pneumonia which followed an attack of Spanish influenza. Mr. Williams' illness was of ten days' duration. He leaves a wife, who before marriage was Miss Bertie Britt, four children and an adopted daughter. He was the son of Mr. Rufus Williams, of Flea Hill Township.

Mr. Williams had been engaged in business in Fayetteville for the past 14 years, first becoming associated with Mr. J. A. Holmes in the conduct of the livery firm of Holmes & Williams, and later, under the same firm name, in a grocery business on Person street, which had been built up to a considerable and prosperous concern. Mr. Williams was highly regarded by all those who knew him, for his kind heart and integrity of character.

The funeral services were held at the home of his father in Flea Hill Sunday afternoon, being conducted by Rev. Mr. Owen.

### KUKER-MALONEY.

The marriage of Miss Elizabeth Gertrude Maloney and Mr. Otto Kuker was solemnized at St. Patrick's church Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Because of the prevalence of Spanish influenza, invitations which had been issued were recalled and only the families and close friends were present. The ceremony was performed by Father Walkins of Dunn. The bride's maid of honor was Miss Fannie Burns, and the groom's best man was Mr. Herbert Gay of Florence, S. C. The bride wore a traveling suit of brown cloth with hat to match and carried bride's roses. After the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Kuker left for a trip to Jacksonville, Fla., after which they will be at home in Florence where the groom is a Government mechanic. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Maloney. She is admired by a large circle of friends, drawn around her because of many lovable traits of character.

Mrs. Kuker and Mrs. King of Florence, mother and sister of the groom, were here to attend the marriage.

## FOREST FIRES

### In Minnesota Cause Loss of Life and Property.

(By The Associated Press)

Duluth, Minn., Oct. 15.—More than six hundred bodies of persons burned to death in forest fires which swept over northeastern Minnesota last Saturday had been recovered today and it was expected this number would be increased by three hundred and possibly four hundred when the entire devastated district has been gone over.

Searching parties today took up the work where it was left off last night. During the night relief stations received many truck loads of badly burned half starved settlers who had escaped death by the fire and who were then wandering about in a dazed condition. Many of the bodies brought in today bore indications that death was caused by exposure and lack of food rather than from burns.

Chicago, Ill., Oct. 15.—Property damage in Minnesota amounts to \$75,000,000, insurance men say. Their estimate does not include the standing timber and the other uninsured property. The loss to insurance companies, it is believed, is the heaviest since the San Francisco fire in 1906.

## CONVENTION POSTPONED.

General Orders No. 13. Owing to the influenza having become epidemic throughout the state and the boards of health of the state and counties having requested that no assemblies of any organization be held, it is deemed best to revoke the call for a convention of the North Carolina Division of the United Confederate Veterans October 23rd in Raleigh. It is deeply regretted that the state is so afflicted as to necessitate the issuance of this order.

JAMES I. METTUS,  
Major General Commanding.

## FOOD NOTES

The following orders have been made relative to the handling of cotton seed:

1st.—Cotton seed dealers, ginners and individuals are forbidden to load care before they have an order for the carload of seed.

2nd.—Shippers are forbidden to ship seed to any crusher or dealer who has not ordered such seed.

3rd.—Ginners, dealers and individuals are forbidden to leave cotton seed where they will be exposed to the weather, or to store them in such manner as will result in loss of food and feed value through heating.

JOHN A. OATES,  
County Food Administrator.

## RAIN DROPS.

Dark shadowy clouds,  
That weigh upon the spirit,  
Ye have your bounds,  
And must away.

Sorrowful the rain  
Does fall and all is gloom,  
But days of pain,  
Last not away.

They have their ending  
And make more fall the shine  
Of sunbeams, wending  
To us in May.

—NENA M. J. ROW.  
Greensboro, 1903.

## DEATH OF CAPT. J. D. ROBINSON.

Capt. John D. Robinson, a freight conductor running over the A. & Y. between Wilmington and Fayetteville and Sanford, died at his home near Wilmington Monday night of pneumonia and influenza, and the funeral was held in Wilmington Tuesday evening.

Captain Robinson was well known and liked in Fayetteville, and his death in the flush of manhood at 30 years of age, is learned of with sorrow. He leaves a wife and two small children. He was a member of the Methodist church and the Mason's order.

## Fayetteville Monumental Works

Manufacturers of fine cemetery monuments in marble and granite. Workmanship and material guaranteed. Equipped with latest improved machinery we give the best prices with courteous treatment. Your work well cited.

N. V. ROOPER, Prop.