

The LARGEST CIRCULATION of any Halifax County Newspaper Established 1882.

THE COMMONWEALTH

ADVERTISING MEDIUM IN EASTERN CAROLINA

State Library

L. MILLS KITCHIN, Editor and Proprietor.

"EXCELSIOR" IS OUR MOTTO

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, \$1.00 PER YEAR.

VOL. XXXI.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 1915.

NUMBER 20.

Call 1-7-4--It Pays You

Quicker Deliveries Less Expensive

One horse being inadequate to the demand of my business for delivering large packages, the question arose as to which would be cheaper, another horse and wagon or dispose of my horse and get a MOTOR TRUCK?

After carefully considering the COST of Feeding two horses, the up-keep of two wagons, extra shelters, two drivers, etc., I DECIDED TO GET A MOTOR TRUCK.

With my SAXON MOTOR TRUCK, I believe I can deliver your Groceries, More Quickly than with TWO Horses and at less expense than with ONE Horse.

I also have FIVE BICYCLES for the Smaller Packages.

Quality--Stock--Service

The Lowest Prices To Be Made.

Both Telephones 1-7-4

Clee Vaughan

Hancock-House Co., Inc.
EUBALMER
Romeke Rapids, N. C.
Day or night service anywhere
W. C. Williams, Licensed Embalmer

J. E. Woolard
Transfer
Scotland Neck, North Carolina
Cars for hire. Cars repaired. Police attention. Quick service. Telephone--Residence 45, Office 69.

Alden Allsbrook
House Mover
Scotland Neck, North Carolina
If you are thinking of having a house of any kind moved see me at once. Prices reasonable.

Chas. L. Staton
Attorney at Law
Scotland Neck, North Carolina
Practices wherever his services are required.

Ashby W. Dunn
Attorney at Law
Scotland Neck, North Carolina
Money to loan on approved security.

Dr. T. D. Kitchin
Physician and Surgeon
Scotland Neck, North Carolina
Office in Postoffice Building over North End Drug Store. Telephone--Office 10, Residence 24.

Dr. A. D. Morgan
Physician and Surgeon
Scotland Neck, North Carolina
Office in building formerly used by Dr. J. P. Wimberley.

Dr. R. L. Savage
Rocky Mount, North Carolina
Will be in Scotland Neck on the third Wednesday of each month at the hotel to treat the diseases of the Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat and fit glasses

Dr. A. C. Livermon
Dentist
Scotland Neck, North Carolina
Office up-stairs in the Whitehead Building. Office hours from 9 to 1 and 2 to 5 o'clock.

Willie H. Allsbrook
Life Insurance
Scotland Neck, North Carolina
Representing the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., of New York.

GERMANY REFUSES FINAL DECISION

WITHHOLDS HER INTENTIONS UNTIL UNITED STATES REPLIES TO HER NOTE, ACTING IN SELF-DEFENSE

Reasons For Sinking Lusitania and Other Ships.—Tone of Reply is Friendly Throughout.

Berlin.—Germany withholds its final decision on the demands advanced by the United States Government in connection with the sinking of the Lusitania, until the receipt of an answer from the United States, to the note which Herr von Jagow, the Foreign Minister, has delivered to Ambassador Gerard in reply to the American note received by the German Government on May 15.

In its reply the German Government declares that it is not its intention to submit neutral ships in the war zone, which are guilty of no hostile acts, to attacks by submarine or aeroplane, that it is investigating the circumstances in connection with the attacks on the American steamers Cushing and Guilford and that in all cases where neutral vessels, through no fault of their own have been damaged, Germany will pay indemnification.

The reply urges that in the case of the Lusitania, which Germany alleges, was armed and carried large stores of war munitions "it acted in justified self-defense in seeking with all the means of warfare at its disposition to protect the lives of its soldiers by destroying ammunition intended for the enemy."

The German Government recalls the proposals submitted by the United States Government to Berlin and London, designed to end the submarine warfare and the shutting out of food supplies from Germany which, it declares, failed of their purpose because of the refusal of the British Government to accept them.

The following is the text of the German note:

"The undersigned has the honor to submit to Ambassador Gerard, the following answer to the communication of May 15, regarding the injury to American interests through German submarine warfare."

"The Imperial Government has subjected the communication of the American Government to a thorough investigation. It entertains also a keen wish to cooperate in a frank and friendly way in clearing up a possible misunderstanding which may have arisen in the relations between the two Governments through the events mentioned by the American Government."

"Regarding, firstly, the case of the American steamer Cushing and Guilford. The American Embassy has already been informed that the German Government has no intention of submitting neutral ships in the war zone, which are guilty of no hostile acts, to attack by a submarine or submarines or aviators. On the contrary, the German forces have repeatedly been instructed most specifically to avoid attacks on such ships.

Isolated Cases.

"If neutral ships in recent months have suffered through the German submarine warfare, owing to mistakes in identification, it is a question only of quite isolated and exceptional cases, which can be attributed to the British Government's abuse of flags, together with the suspicious or culpable behavior of the masters of the ships.

"The German Government is in all cases in which it has been shown by its investigations that a neutral ship, not itself at fault, was damaged by German submarines or aviators, has expressed regret over the unfortunate accident and, if justified by conditions, has offered indemnification.

Cushing and Guilford.

"The cases of the Cushing and Guilford will be treated on the same principles. An investigation of both cases is in progress, the result of which will presently be communicated to the Embassy. The investigation can, if necessary, be supplemented by an international call on the International Commission of Inquiry as provided by Article III of The Hague agreement of October 18, 1907.

Sinking of Falaba.

"When sinking the British steamer Falaba the commander of the German submarine had the intention of allowing the passengers and crew a full opportunity to escape. Only when the master did not obey the order to heave-to, but fled and summoned help by rocket signals, did the German commander order the crew and passengers by signals and megaphone to leave the ship within 10 minutes. He actually allowed them 23 minutes time and fired the torpedo only when suspicious craft were hastening to the assistance of the Falaba.

Lusitania Disaster.

"Regarding the loss of life by the sinking of the British passenger steamer Lusitania, the German Government has already expressed to the neutral Governments concerned its keen regret that citizens of their states lost their lives.

"On this occasion the Imperial Government, however, cannot escape the

ANOTHER BRITISH BATTLESHIP SUNK

GERMAN SUBMARINE SINKS THE MAJESTIC.—OFFICERS AND CREW SAVED.

London.—The British battleship Majestic, another of the ships supporting the Allied army on the Gallipoli Peninsula, was sunk by a German submarine. Nearly all the officers and crew were saved.

At about the same time the steamer Princess Irene, built last year for the Canadian Pacific-British Columbia Coast survey and which was taken over by the Admiralty at the commencement of the war, was destroyed by an accidental explosion while at anchor at Sheerness, where she was undergoing repairs. All her crew, numbering about 250 except one seaman, and 78 dockyard workers, aboard at the time, lost their lives.

The Majestic, which was the oldest battleship in the British Navy, was the sixth battleship lost by the Allies since the beginning of the Dardanelles operations, and the second which has fallen a victim to German submarines which recently arrived in those waters. The submarine menace is a growing one, both in the Aegean Sea and home waters and these vessels promise to take an active part in the operations in the narrow waters of the Adriatic, which, as in the Aegean Islands, afford good shelter.

While the warships are able to escape submarines in the waters around the British Isles, the increase in their numbers makes the carrying on of sea-borne trade more and more hazardous.

The Admiralty still believes that the American steamer Nebraskan, now on her way to Liverpool was torpedoed. The British steamer Nebraska bound for Canada and the Danish steamer Betty have been sunk by submarines. Only a few days ago the commander of a submarine informed a Danish captain that he had no orders to sink Danish vessels.

WANT MARKET FOR EXCHANGE.

May Make Americans Legal Tender For Export Duties.

Washington.—A definite plan for creating a market for bills of exchange drawn on banks in the United States payable in dollars was presented at the conference between business and financial representatives of the United States and the Chilean delegation attending the Pan-American Financial Conference.

It was said that the Guggenheim copper interests, the Bethlehem Steel Co. and the Dupont Powder Company, all of which have large interests in Chile, are behind the plan, which would involve exchange aggregating some \$20,000,000 a year.

Representatives of the United States in this conference group were told that Chile exacted an export duty on nitrate and had provided that 90 day bills of exchange on London payable in pounds sterling shall be practically legal tender in the payment of these duties and for other purposes. It was suggested that a law be enacted to make bills drawn on banks in the United States legal tender to the same extent to facilitate the business of the interests in the United States which spend millions each year in wages and in purchases in Chile.

Battleship Damaged.

Newport, R. I.—The battleship Rhode Island dragged her anchors during a heavy gale that swept Narragansett Bay and was blown against the battleship Nebraska, carrying away a portion of the Nebraska's bridge and injuring some of her guns. Both vessels lost considerable side gear.

Engineers Endorse Suffrage.

Cleveland, O.—Woman suffrage was endorsed by the annual convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

President of Portugal Resigns.

Lisbon, via Paris.—The President of Portugal, Manuel de Arriaga, has resigned. President De Arriaga officially announced to the president of the Portuguese Congress his determination to resign his office.

C. & O. Buys Locomotives.

Richmond, Va.—The Chesapeake & Ohio Railway has ordered 24 mallet type locomotives from the American Locomotive Company at a cost of \$720,000, according to an announcement by the railway company.

Pay for Cargoes Promptly.

London.—The foreign office announced that the government had informed the representative of American cotton interests whose shipments on 17 vessels have been purchased by the government that it was ready and anxious to make payment at once. The representative, however, admitted his inability at present to make any definite claim in respect of any one of the cargoes of these vessels, but he has undertaken to obtain the necessary information in order to present his claim as soon as possible.

GERMANY'S REPLY IS UNSATISFACTORY

NOTE FROM GERMANY IS PROFOUND DISAPPOINTMENT TO WASHINGTON.

Washington.—Germany's reply to the American note concerning the sinking of the Lusitania with a loss of more than 100 American lives produced a feeling of profound disappointment here. Disappointment at the failure of Germany to answer the demands of the United States was reflected in government circles generally.

It was generally predicted that a prompt answer would be sent to Berlin at once. This is expected to give the American government's understanding of the facts, that the Lusitania was unarmed and carried no concealed guns, that she sailed from the United States a peaceful merchantman and that under all rules of international law and humanity, the vessel should have been visited and searched and her passengers transferred to a place of safety, whether she carried ammunition or not. American law does not prohibit ammunition from being carried on passenger ships, it will be asserted, but only self-expanding material and lines in the past have been permitted to carry arms and ammunition by special ruling of the state department on the meaning of Federal statutes.

Germany's failure even to discuss the reparations demanded by the American note, and evasion of the request that guarantees be given to American vessels and lives be not endangered in the future are the main points, however, which the United States government, it was generally believed, would advert to in the second note. The expressions of regret and offers of reparations for unintentional attacks on neutral ships are expected to have little weight in determining the nature of the response of the United States.

When the note of May 13 was sent it was pointed out that such promises did not remove the risks to which American vessels and lives were subjected—and to support this contention, the United States will add, it is said, that the American steamer Nebraskan was torpedoed without warning within the last few days.

While it is generally thought the United States will answer Germany's request for facts with a re-statement of the circumstances as recited in the American note of May 13, the promptness with which the reply will be dispatched is counted upon to serve as an indication that the American government wishes an early answer and does not desire to engage in a protracted diplomatic discussion.

Persons close to President Wilson have learned that he is determined to obtain reparations for the Lusitania victims and assurances of respect for American rights in future, and that falling this, he would not hesitate to sever diplomatic relations with Germany.

DEAL FIRMLY WITH MEXICO.

President Wilson in Statement Says Fighting Must Stop.

Washington.—There were plain indications that from now on the Administration will vigorously seek to end the chaos in Mexico. Until President Wilson makes public a statement he has prepared, details of his plans will not be known, but it is understood that the Mexican leaders will be informed that the time has come for them to stop fighting between themselves and agree on a government which the United States can recognize.

It is expected that the statement will recite famine conditions in the Southern Republic as Du val West and other Government agents have portrayed them.

The President will point out how patently the American Government has waited for the Mexican factions to adjust the problem themselves and how helpless the Mexican people generally have become in the hands of the military elements.

The statement which is to be sent to all the factional leaders will not announce the course the United States expects to follow in case an agreement does not result, but will point out that conditions have become intolerable and must be remedied by outside influences if there are no such elements in the country.

The advisability of placing an embargo on the exportation of arms and ammunition to Mexico has been urged as one means of putting a stop to fighting there.

Mighty Battles Raging.

London.—Around the great fortress of Przemyśl a mighty battle is still raging. The Austro-German armies are making a supreme effort to cut off the stronghold and free these armies for operations against Italy and the Allies in the west.

PRESIDENT TO GIVE MEXICANS WARNING

INTOLERABLE CONDITIONS MUST CEASE THROUGH MEXICANS OR OTHERWISE.

Washington.—President Wilson has decided to serve notice on the warring factions in Mexico that conditions in that country have become intolerable and that unless they themselves compose the situation soon some other means may have to be employed to accomplish the result.

The first intimation of the President's taking this step came in an appeal issued from the head of the American Red Cross setting forth that "several years of internal disturbances in many parts of Mexico have reduced the people to starvation" and urging contributions to relief funds.

Officials at the White House and State Department declined to say what the President's forthcoming statement contained but denied that recognition of any faction was contemplated.

The President's action, it was said, was to demand, in effect, that the Mexicans arrive at an early settlement of their troubles or at least provide for the sustenance of the starving population.

High officials referred to the President's forthcoming pronouncement as not meaning "immediate intervention." The impression in executive quarters would be to place responsibility for the present state of affairs squarely on the military elements in the Republic, which have over-run the country and appropriated its food supply or prevented the tilling of the soil.

While anxious to continue the policy of allowing the Mexicans to settle their difficulties without interference the President is said to be determined that the civilian population of the country shall not be starved in the meantime.

NO REPORT ON NEBRASKAN.

Germany Knows Nothing of the Ship.—Sank the Guilford.

Berlin, via London.—The Foreign Office and the Admiralty are still without news concerning the reported torpedoing of the American steamship Nebraskan, and appreciate all discussion of possible effect on German-American negotiations pending an authoritative confirmation of an attack on the ship. German newspapers have printed nothing about the Nebraskan incident since the first Rotterdam dispatch reporting that the ship had been torpedoed and that she was still afloat with the crew safe in her life boats.

The torpedoing of the steamship Guilford is now established as due to a German submarine the report of the commander of the submarine in question having been received by the Admiralty. The commander stated that when he first saw the Guilford she was being convoyed by two patrol boats and he concluded that she must be a British vessel or was carrying contraband. The presence of the patrol boats, the commander reported, made closer investigation dangerous.

Seizing Food Supplies.

Douglas, Ariz.—To relieve the situation at Hermosilla and Guaymas, Villa forces are raiding the Campus district, seizing all available supplies of wheat, according to information received here. The district, it is said, will be left without food and the population, consisting of women, children and old men unable to bear arms, will be reduced to absolute starvation.

Russians Possess Urumiah.

Petrograd, via London.—Urumiah, Persia, has been occupied by the Russians after an engagement with the Turks in the direction of Dilman and near Bachkala, according to a statement issued by the General Staff of the Army of the Caucasus.

Southern Republics Invite Delegates.

Washington.—Another step toward the improvement of business and financial relations between the Americas was taken at the Pan-American Financial Conference when delegates from the Southern Republics unanimously approved a resolution calling upon the business and commercial interests of the United States to unite within the next six months in naming a delegation to visit all the South and Central American countries. Members of this delegation shall be the guests of the various nations.

Captain Grant Heads Submarines.

Washington.—In line with his announced intention to develop the submarine arm of the navy and eliminate its present faults, Secretary Daniels designated Captain A. W. Grant one of the highest ranking officers of his grade to command the Atlantic submarine flotilla and exercise general supervision over that branch of the service. Captain Grant, who now commands the battleship Texas, will assume his new duties this month, with headquarters aboard the flotilla flagship.

Spring Cleaning

—CALLS FOR—

Mattings, Druggetts Grass Druggetts Tapestry and Velvet Art Squares and Rugs Oil Cloths and Linoleums Window Shades Curtain Poles Hall Poles, Etc.

We have a complete line of the above and it will pay you to call and look over our line.

Scotland Neck Furniture Company

—AT—

New Ice House

Womack's Grist Mill

We have equipped a storage for ICE and have received our first shipment.

Ice will be delivered from wagon any hour and anywhere in town.

Prompt attention given to every order for ice and your patronage will be highly appreciated.

Full supply of ice will be kept through the entire year—summer and winter.

Call 1-5-4.

WOMACK'S ICE HOUSE
S. H. ALEXANDER, Mgr.

A Long Day's Work

The day's work won't seem so long when you go about it with energy and enthusiasm. Your nerves must be in proper shape and you must have the right amount of endurance, if the work of any day is to be successfully accomplished.

NYAL'S TONIC

tones your nerves, gives you vigor and vitality and makes up for lost vital energy. It is a real beneficial tonic medicine that aids every organ of the body to more properly perform its functions. Put your system in shape by taking it.

\$1.00 PER BOTTLE

The North End Drug Store

Phones (Store 96 Room 96)

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children

In Use For Over 30 Years

Always bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Watson*