

THE COMMONWEALTH.

AFTERNOON DAILY

SLOGAN: "EVERY ONE FOR EACH OTHER AND ALL TOGETHER FOR SCOTLAND NECK."

VOLUME TWO AFTERNOON DAILY SCOTLAND NECK, N. C. TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1917. TELEGRAPH SERVICE NUMBER 36.

Worlds Greatest Battle In Progress Over An Area Extending 435 Miles

AUTONOMY FOR ALSACE LORRAINE PROVINCES

CHANCELLOR MICHAELIS WILL THIS AFTERNOON IN THE REICHSTAG ANNOUNCE THIS TO BE GERMAN'S DECISION.

PROBABLE SOP TO HOLD ALLEGIANCE

(By UNITED PRESS)
Zurich, Aug. 21.—German Chancellor, Dr. George Michaelis, will announce Germany's decision to grant autonomy to Alsace and Lorraine provinces at this afternoon's session of the main Reichstag committee, according to a special agency dispatch.

FREIGHT RATE CASE POSTPONED

(By United Press.)
Raleigh, N. C., Aug. 21.—The Corporation Commission indefinitely postponed the hearing set for August 30 the petition of the North Carolina railroads to have what is known as the Georgia freight rate tariffs applied to North Carolina with a view to having a schedule adopted throughout the southeastern freight zone.
This probably means the abandonment of the move by the railroads.

War Mars N. Y. Boat Excursions

New York, Aug. 21.—The war has put pep into harbor excursions. No longer does the small motor launch, the cat-boat or the houseboat wend its way down the harbor unchallenged and unmolested.
Every chaff, large or small, is held up by the government patrol boats and asked for an account of itself. Of course the large steamers are easily discernible and therefore not stopped.
But woe betide the private yacht or craft of any description that attempts to get by. It may cruise along for miles, its occupants smiling at the thought of putting one over on Uncle Sam. At this juncture a business like little patrol boat is liable to come alongside. A murderous looking mounted gun may be seen and from the boat a stentorian voice directs that the craft put back and report to the mother ship. And the craft that tried to run the gauntlet goes back.

LABOR PARTY WITH SOCIALISTS

(By United Press.)
London, Aug. 21.—By a vote of 1,234,000 to 1,231,000 the labor party members decided to participate at the Stockholm peace conference.

WILSON PLANS PEACE REPLY

(By Carl D. Groat.)
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)
Washington, Aug. 21.—President Wilson postponed the discussion with his cabinet on the pope's peace suggestions in order to give his undivided attention to war work.
The whole question now is what is to be included in the constructive reply the president will send since he must accept those provisions in the Pope's proposals calling for disarmament and arbitration of future international differences.
He cannot accept "status-quo" ante-provisions because he declared against this in his Russian message, and he cannot admit willingness to sit about a peace table with German people represented by a pawn of the Hollenollers.
He must further demand guarantees that will not be regarded as "mere scraps of paper," and such a guarantee would be impossible except from a democracy.
The president will doubtless point to a peace for the German people but will make it clear that this cannot come through the offices of the Kaiser's iron autocracy.
A first reply to the Pope seems to be a general allied offensive of tremendously increasing violence along all fronts except Russia.
It is the general opinion that while the Pope's message may not meet with immediate success it will lay the groundwork for peace negotiations that may see an end of the struggle within another year.

FRANCO-GERMAN MARRIAGE IN FRANCE.
Bordeaux, Aug. 21.—For the first time during the war a purely Franco-German marriage has taken place here. Local papers carried the message without comment. The contracting parties were Ernest-Carl Braunschweig "German subject" and Miss Marie-Jeanne Huni. Braunschweig is an employe of a commercial house at Libourne near here.

JAPAN REAPS A RICH HARVEST
Tokio, Aug. 21.—Japan has made \$50,000,000 from ships since the outbreak of the war. Thirty-two merchantmen, aggregating 200,000 tons have been sold to England, France, Italy, America, Spain and Norway for \$42,500,000. The money obtained from the sale of ninety trawlers is estimated at \$7,500,000.

GERMAN COUNTER ATTACK FAILS

(By UNITED PRESS)
London, Aug. 21.—The third most powerful German counter attack to regain ground captured by the British southeast of Epehy was thrown back by the British fire today, according to a report from Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig to the war office.

VA. EPIDEMIC HAS VANISHED

(By United Press)
Richmond, Aug. 21.—Halting as inexplicably as it broke out the infantile paralysis epidemic in northwest Virginia today had apparently come abruptly to an end. Nearly 100 victims who were smitten recovered during the swift course of cool weather, and this change in atmosphere is attributed the cause by the health authorities.

French Are To Study English

Paris, Aug. 21.—It has been suggested by a state functionary, who resides in the zone where the American army has taken up its quarters, that the tradesmen and officials of this district be made to take a course in elementary English. This idea was inspired by the difficulties "Sammy" has in making himself understood.
The practical means of realizing this, says the writer, would be a wholesale distribution of a pamphlet giving the simplest English and American phrases and their French equivalents. The proposal is favorably commented on and may shortly be realized.

BOOKLETS OF SELECTED DRAFT ARE READY

MADE UP WITH EVERY NAME OF THE 3563 MEN WHO REGISTERED JUNE 5, WERE GIVEN SELECTIVE NUMBERS JULY 20, AND FIRST CALL EXAMINED AUGUST 13, 16 AND 20.

PUBLISHED IN ROTATION WHICH CALLED

The Commonwealth has prepared a booklet of forty eight pages in which the names and numbers of all the young men of Halifax county, between the ages of 21 and 31, who were called upon to register on June 5, and who were part of the selective "lottery" drawing held in Washington, D. C., on July 20, and of whom 662 have been examined in Halifax, August 13, 16 and 20.
The work of preparing this book has been an extensive one, as well as expensive, and but for the fact that the necessity of retaining a list of these men for a long time to come, perhaps always, the publication in the columns of The Commonwealth would have been sufficient.
This booklet has been printed in limited numbers and as long as they last can be obtained from the office of The Commonwealth at the price of ten cents each, which is considerably less than cost.
These names will never be published again in their entirety so send in your orders and receive what you want now.

LABOR WAGE TO BE RAISED

(By United Press.)
Washington, Aug. 21.—A nation wide strike in the steel shipyards, working on government contracts, will be prevented by wage increases paid by the government.
In his first clash with organized labor on war work Uncle Sam will recognize the claim that for increased cost of living warrants a higher wage scale.
The final decision is to be left with a committee of three appointed by President Wilson, Samuel Gompers and the shipping board.

NEW LIBERTIES FOR RUSSIANS

(By UNITED PRESS)
Petrograd, Aug. 21.—Under the regime of the Czar no secret societies of any sort were permitted to exist and lodge night was a pleasure unknown to Russian males.
It has developed there are some 10,000 Masons in Russia, who held lodge meetings behind guarded doors.
Steps are being taken to form a national organization.

HINDENBURG ON EAST FRONT

(By UNITED PRESS)
Washington, Aug. 21.—Field Marshal Von Hindenburg has been personally conducting the Austro-German operations against Russo-Rumanians in the drive against Jassy in Rumania, cables to the Russian embassy here report.

ALLIES HOLD SWAY ON WESTERN FRONT

FROM THE SEA COAST TO THE SWISS FRONTIER THE ALLIED ARMIES ARE FIGHTING A CONTINUOUS OFFENSIVE OVER ENTIRE FRONT.

GERMANY MAY LOST WESTERN FRONT

GRAND ARMY PARADE TODAY

(By United Press.)
Boston, Aug. 21.—The "soldiers of yesterday"—veterans of the G. A. R., more than 7,000 strong, marched in a huge parade here today,—the second of the national reunion.
With the veterans marched other allied organizations, among which was the Navy Medal Honor League which is holding its annual convention in conjunction with the G. A. R. encampment.
Many a young soldier just beginning the game of war watched with a thrill the veterans march by with a swing that might be envied by many a regiment of today.
In the evening the veterans will attend a camp-fire when prominent officers of the organization will speak.

HOGS SOLD FOR \$20 HUNDRED

(By United Press.)
Chicago, Ills., Aug. 21.—Hogs sold at \$20.00 a hundred pounds, fifty cents higher than yesterday. Pigs were also twenty-five cents higher to \$18.50 per hundred pounds.

DOWNED AVIATOR MUCH ALIVE.

Paris, Aug. 21.—Adjutant Edmond Thieffry, a Belgian aviator, who has just distinguished himself by bringing down two German machines in the same combat, has another distinction of which today he is still the sole possessor in the entire aviation world.
In the course of desperate aerial fights Thieffry has himself been brought down no less than five times by his adversary, and has figured in the German official account of these combats as having been killed. No other aviator has ever survived an equal number of defeats.
The fact that Thieffry has been downed five times by enemy machines demonstrates his qualities as an aviator rather than his lack of them. Each time that he has been "downed" he has been engaged in the closest, deadliest combat with his adversary in which the latter merely happened to get the advantage, the "drop" as it were, that must come to every aviator once in awhile.

(By Henry Wood.)
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)
With the French armies of the world is being fought today.
From sea-coast to the Swiss frontier—over four hundred and thirty five miles—the allies are fighting a practically continuous offensive.
France's great assault at Verdun is still driving on and has completed a chain of battle welded forge of war into one gigantic action unprecedented in the extent of power.
The German offensive started with the attack on the Yser in Flanders, and thence to the French attacks around St. Quentin, then the French offensive at Chemin des Dames, Moronville and Verdun, concluded with heavy artillery fighting in Alsace-Lorraine and down to Switzerland.

The western front has never seen such an offensive battle, nor has the allies supremacy everywhere been so thoroughly demonstrated.
With three months more of fighting weather this year Germany's hold on the western front may yet become precarious before winter.
Paris, Aug. 21.—German picked troops flung violently, but vainly, against four points of the French fighting line last night the war office reports.
At three places, Chemin des Dames a special "Stosstruppen" battled desperately to loose the French grip around Verdun.
Petain's fighters repulsed the assaults, which were of the most violent nature, and all French ground was held.

ENGLAND REPLIES TO POPE'S PEACE

(By United Press.)
Rome, Aug. 21.—England is the first belligerent power to answer the Pope's peace suggestions by presenting a formal note to the Vatican, through the British minister Desalis, declaring that the Holy Father's plan would be examined "in benevolent and serious spirit."
Cardinal Gasparri, the papal secretary of state, expressed gratification at the response.
Master Raymond and Linwood Lovegrove arrived on the morning train from Norfolk, where they have been visiting Mr. Emmett Lovegrove.