

THE COMMONWEALTH.

AFTERNOON DAILY

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

VOLUME THREE.

AFTERNOON DAILY

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1917

TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

NUMBER 26

GERMANS PREPARE FOR GREAT OFFENSIVE

HEAVIEST ATTACK BY ENEMY SINCE INVASION OF 1914 IS SAID TO BE IN PROCESS OF PREPARATION BY THE GERMANS.

HINDENBURG MAKE POILUS OPPONENTS

(By United Press.) London, Dec. 11.—German artillery is roaring on the whole western front challenging the French and British. It is believed that Germany is preparing to make the heaviest attack since the invasion in 1914. Airmen report that the bombardment is being made from masked locations, and from these positions the enemy is impartially scattering shells over every sector of the British and French lines. Recent reports indicate that Hindenburg has chosen the Poilus as the opponents for his massed armies, which have been reinforced by divisions transferred from the Russian front.

JEW REJOICE OVER PALESTINE

Odessa, Dec. 10.—A great Jewish demonstration was held here on the receipt of news of the British declaration in favor of the Jewish national home, being Palestine. The procession included 100,000 persons, who marched to the British and American consulates, where there were speeches. The attitude assumed in certain social revolutionary Jewish circles and in the Jewish Bund shows a hostility to the British decree, Great Britain being accused of insincerity and a desire to create a diversion in the Jewish ranks in order to weaken the democratic effort for peace. This attitude was doubtless inspired by Bolsheviks' German influence.

SHORT SEASON FOR BASEBALL

(By H. C. Hamilton.) New York, Dec. 11.—Because of Gov. Tener's calm and firm stand against requesting the Government for special exemptions for ball players, the National League began its meeting here today more firmly entrenched in favor of the public than for many a day. Some argument will be brought to the fore—perhaps a test of Gov. Tener's strength, for there is a certain amount of agitation for a shortened schedule next year. "Business as usual," however, is a slogan, Gov. Tener has adopted for the National League. He wants to play the usual 154 games and is in favor of that plan for both big leagues. In view of the fact that Ban Johnson of the American League has declared in favor of a curtailed program calling for only 140 it is probable there will be some opposition in the National's meeting to clinging to the old form. Gov. Tener's strength, it is believed, will carry the league once more into the old number of games, regardless of what the

(Continued on Last Page.)

QUESTIONNAIRE OFFICIAL NOTICE

North Carolina, Halifax County: Having been notified by the Local Exemption Board of Halifax County that on December 15th, 1917, said Local Board expects to receive instructions to mail questionnaires to all registrants under the selective draft in Halifax county except those who are already in camp, and being requested by said Local Board to appoint committees throughout the county whose duty it will be to assist the postal authorities in delivering the questionnaires and to assist said registrants in answering said questionnaires, I have appointed the following committees:

Roanoke Rapids:— W. L. Long, J. Murphy Jackson, Geo. L. Hayes.

Weldon:— A. B. Stainback, A. W. Ardleton, Wm. L. Knight.

Littleton:— Jos. P. Pippen, J. M. M. Vinson.

Scotland Neck:— Ashby W. Dunn, F. P. Shields, C. F. Burroughs.

Halifax:— S. M. Gary, F. M. Gregory, Swain Norman.

Hobgood:— L. W. Leggett, Leon Shields, W. N. Herring.

Palmyra:— Charles Staton, W. H. Newell, L. J. Baker.

Tillery:— J. O. Applewhite, N. Fitzpatrick, G. C. Howell.

Aurelin Springs:— John Taylor, W. P. Harris, A. E. Carter.

Airlie:— S. T. Thorne, J. G. Daniel, J. R. Patterson.

Pingwood:— J. E. Ayers, Jr., B. M. Nicholson, C. A. Williams, Jr.

Hillister:— A. B. Schliester, Dr. Palmer, Orin Schlieter.

Enfield:— J. C. Branch, J. F. Whitehead, A. M. Atkinson.

Essex:— G. L. Knight, B. C. Hamlet, H. W. Quarles.

It will be the duties of this committee, first, to see that the registrant receives the questionnaire (Continued on Last Page.)

GERMAN AIDED TURKS MURDERS

(By United Press.) New York, Dec. 11.—German army officers aided the Turks in their wholesale killings of the Armenian Christians, declares Henry Morgenthau, former Ambassador to Turkey. He states that Germany was principally to blame.

COAL NEEDS CLOSES PLANTS

(By United Press.) Cleveland, Dec. 11.—Eight American steel wire companies plants have been closed down today due to the lack of fuel. Ten thousand hands are thrown out of work temporarily.

HALIFAX WANTS NO SIGHTSEERS

(By UNITED PRESS) Halifax, Dec. 11.—Those morbidly curious, who sought to enter Halifax this morning, were confronted by armed guards and hurriedly shipped out as special trains were made up ready for deportation. The dead are being buried as rapidly as possible. Volunteer grave diggers are hard at work day and night. The storm hampers relief work. Nine ships are reported damaged when the Monte Blanche exploded.

NEGRO PAY JUST PENALTY

(By UNITED PRESS) San Antonio, Texas, Dec. 11.—Thirteen negro soldiers were hanged this morning for participation in the Houston riots on August 24, and forty one were sentenced to life imprisonment. The sentences of others were for eighteen months, two and three years, and five were acquitted.

COSSACKS GETTING HOLD ON RUSSIA

WITH CONTROL OF COUNTRY'S FOODSTUFFS AND THE RAILROADS BOLSHEVIKI FEAR FOR THE FUTURE

TROTSKY ATTACK COSSACK TRIUMVIRATE

(By United Press.) London, Dec. 11.—The Bolshevik government is beginning to get panic stricken over the gradual grip of the Cossacks acquired over the Russians' food stuffs and railroads, and forsee an isolation of Petrograd and other Bolshevik centers if the revolt continues. The Cossacks are mounting guns on top of houses for the purpose of terrifying the people. Trotsky charged General Duffoff, that the Trimvirate of Cos-

SENATE ORDERS INVESTIGATION

(By UNITED PRESS) Washington, Dec. 11.—A searching investigation into the whole military situation, particularly that of organizing, training, and equipping the national army has been ordered by the senate military affairs committee. The investigation will start in a few days.

SHARK CAUGHT OFF FLORIDA

(By UNITED PRESS) Savannah, Dec. 11.—A fourteen foot shark was caught by fishermen in a shrimp trawler at the south end of Amelia Island, Florida. Owing to the enormous size the shark was carried to Fernandina to be dissected. A gruesome find was the discovery of a man's head and hands in perfect condition, also the body of a whole marsh hen. No accidents have been reported from the two hundred boats fishing off Fernandina.

PORTUGUESE ACCEPT REVOLT

Lisbon, Dec. 11.—Portugal's successful revolution cost the country one hundred dead and five hundred wounded, in clashes between the rebels and the old government forces. Complete order has again been restored. The colonel in command has issued orders for execution of all those caught looting or rioting.

ZANGWIL DREAM JEWISH NATION

(By United Press.) London, Dec. 11.—Israel Zangwill saw the dream of the Jewish republic coming true, and such a separate independent state as Palestine, such as Jewish leaders hoped for the future, as she expected it.

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN PRESS BELITTLE U. S.

CIRCULATES DOUBT OF THE UNITED STATES EVER PUTTING FORCES INTO THE BATTLEFIELDS OF EUROPE.

IMPOSSIBLE FOR MILLION TO ARRIVE

NEWS FROM THE STATE CAPITOL

(By Maxwell Gorman.) Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 11.—Good morning: Did you have "Shark steak" for breakfast? Smoked shark, a new substitute for beef, is being placed on the market in the interest of animal meat conservation. A representative of the United States Bureau of Fisheries has been in Raleigh several days "introducing" the new dish. Many who sampled it say it is good and palatable and the experts declare it is nourishing as any of the higher priced fish. Raleigh, having lost its Commission of Public Safety, E. M. Uzzell, who died when only seven months of his two year term of office had expired, is now enjoying the usual scramble of seekers for the job. The two remaining commissioners have the selection of a new colleague, according to the new charter (to the surprise of the public) and some of the seekers were busy pushing their "claims" before the body of the former incumbent was cold. There is a growing feeling here for a change to the city manager plan, or a return to the old board of aldermen system, because the "commission plan" has failed to measure up to what the citizens demand of it. Egg negg will be a scarce article of diet in Raleigh this Christmas—with "bottled in bond" whiskey, or brandy, fetching \$7.50 a quart and hard to get at that price. The federal anti-shipment (Reed bone dry) law has well nigh shut out importation of "spirits" and sales on the sly are reduced to the minimum by reason of scarcity of supply. The only recourse of the lean purse element is the "moonshine corn," which the tigers dose up with lye and demand \$6.00 per quart for the poison. So its sheaper and much safer to have a "spiritless" Christmas this year.

(By UNITED PRESS) Amsterdam, Dec. 11.—The Austro-Hungarian press belittles the power of the United States, when it states "America's warfare against Austria is important only in the preparation of the number of troops she can send." From Budapest, Lloyds send the following from the North German Gazette: "It will be impossible for one million Americans to appear upon the battlefields of Europe."

VAUGHAN FARM AT AUCTION

Mr. W. L. Vaughan, of Washington, N. C., an old Scotland Neck boy, but now a prominent lawyer in our sister city, was in town today to arrange with an official of the Atlantic Coast Realty Company for the sale of the old Vaughan farm, two miles from town, on the Tarboro road. Mr. Vaughan states that there are but he and his brother, L. T. Vaughan, also prominent in the practice of law in Nashville, Tenn., and they have come to the conclusion that the farm should be subdivided and let smaller farmers get the land and cultivate it more intensively. The sale of the Vaughan farm will take place on the property on Wednesday next, December 19.

ITALIAN FRONT IN JEOPARDY

With the French Armies in Italy, Dec. 11.—British and French troops on the Italian front are duplicating the impregnable defense of the west front.

Germany and Austria on the other hand are preparing the greatest assault to break through. Geographical advantages are with the enemy. He occupies the crest of the southern slopes of the Alps, positions that dominate the entire Venetian and Lombardy plains. Brenta, Piave, Adige, and other valleys known to travellers in the alps, furnish doorways of invasion exceedingly difficult to defend.

French and British veterans have taken over the vulnerable sectors on the Italian lines.

COTTON MARKET

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	29.55	30.55	29.55	30.40
Jan.	28.98	29.72	28.98	29.51
Mar.	28.75	29.48	28.75	29.37
May	28.60	29.23	28.60	29.15
July	28.22	28.98	28.22	28.78

Local Market 27 1/2 cents. COTTONSEED MARKET. \$1.05 per bushel in wagon loads.