

THE COMMONWEALTH.

AFTERNOON DAILY

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

VOLUME THREE. AFTERNOON DAILY. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C. FRIDAY FEBRUARY 22, 1918. TELEGRAPH SERVICE. NUMBER 84

RUSS. NORTHERN ARMY RETIRES IN DISORDER

ENEMY MOVING RAPIDLY DEMANDS OCCUPATION OF PETROGRAD AS GUARANTEE OF THIRTY YEAR TRADE AGREEMENT

BOLSHEIKI ABANDON ATTACK ON FINLAND

(By United Press.)
London, Feb. 22.—Germany demands the occupation of Petrograd as a guarantee of its peace treaty with Russia and the thirty year trade agreement demanded by them, according to dispatches from Petrograd, dated Thursday, received here today.

By Shaplen
Petrograd, Feb. 22.—The entire northern portion of the Russian front has been occupied by the Germans. The Russians are retreating in disorder, and their cavalry is being rushed northward.

Petrograd, Feb. 22.—The Peoples Commissaries have ordered the Russian forces to evacuate Finland.

This is accepted as meaning the Bolsheviki have abandoned their attempt to conquer the new republic of Finland, which has been fighting for its independence.

Petrograd, Feb. 21.—(Night)—Russian forces are reported to be evacuating Kakroff and Polesk.

The capture of Minsk gravely endangers Mohileff where huge supplies of ammunition and food-stuffs are stored.

The Austrians are reported to have taken Lutsk and Dugna.

COBURNS HERE TONIGHTS SHOW

The Columbia State says, "J. A. Coburn's Greater Minstrels closed their engagement last night at the Columbia Theater. The aggregation delighted three audiences and they move on to other points to help make the world laugh. Coburn has everything a minstrel ought to carry. The evening's entertainment is replete with music, song and dancing, and the performers win the good graces of their audience from the start. Charlie Guano fully sustains his reputation as a black face entertainer, and the mystery show, Denton, carries the house by storm.

Charlie Gano as "The Cook of the Club" made good with a rush. His "jokeshop" is heaving stocked with clean witty sayings and his songs compels the audience to look, listen and laugh.

George and George do some very clever acrobatic work, and their performance on the springing mat is entertaining and amusing. They are bouncing bouncers of a high class variety. The five syncopated saxones and the jazz jugglers and jiggers execute a clever stunt that pleases. Kent Gage gives a musical treat with his harp. His selections include a ragtime and the classical. The mysterious Miss Denton got her "her" full share of applause. Vocal selections and searching for "cue balls" in the audience was

MUTTON EATEN MEATLESS DAYS

(By United Press.)
Washington, Feb. 22.—Lamb and mutton may be eaten on meatless days until April 15.

The food administration in making this announcement indicated clearly that there was no chance for lifting the ban on beef and pork.

GERMAN ASSAILS HERTLINGS PLANS

(By United Press.)
Washington, Feb. 22.—The Committee on Public Information has received the following excerpt from a speech in the German Reichstag by Herr Ledebour joint leader of the Independent Socialists:

"Again has an opportunity been neglected to satisfy the world's longing for peace. It is plain that step backward has been taken and that the political authorities have completely adopted the military views of the Conservatives. It is very disquieting for friends of peace to hear the Chancellor say that we now have a free hand in the west. Czernin's speech is a striking refutation of Hertlings, for Czernin accepts Wilson's proposals as the basis of understanding, whereas the Chancellor rejects them. We hope, nevertheless, that we shall soon have the negotiations, which Czernin's action permits us to expect. We can not agree to Czernin's and Kuehlmann's interpretation of the right of self-determination. We want general peace on a democratic foundation. The pretended popular manifestations in the occupied territory were brought under the influence of the German administration. The creation of the kingdom of Poland was a tremendous mistake. The German Government must give up its false methods, and we shall soon have peace in the east. The true opinions of the nations can only be expressed by a referendum after evacuation. The Fatherland Party wanted to replace Hertling with Prince Buelow, but that is no longer necessary. Militarism has won the day, and the proletariat must force peace on the basis of the reconciliation of all nations."

a whole show in itself and the house shook when she revealed herself as a him. The cabaret four rendered good quartet selections and the entertainment closed with a laughable sketch entitled "The Dark Town Submarine Chaser."

TERRY McGOVERN DIED TODAY

(By United Press.)
New York, Feb. 22.—Terry McGovern, the former World's featherweight champion died in Kings county hospital, Brooklyn, today.

ARMY HEALTH HAS IMPROVED

(By United Press.)
Washington, Feb. 22.—The general health condition of the regular army, and the national guard, in the several camps, were reported officially by the Surgeon General as showing improvement for the week ending February 15.

BEWARE, KILLING CARRIER PIGEONS

(By United Press.)
Washington, Feb. 22.—Complaints have been made to the pigeon section of the Signal Corps that carrier pigeons of the racing-homer type, being trained throughout the United States for communication service with the American Army, have been shot by persons on hunting expeditions.

HOLLWEG OWNS LIBERTY BONDS

(By United Press.)
Washington, Fe. 22.—Former German chancellor, Von Bethmann Hollweg has subscribed to American Liberty Bonds.

The caretaker of the ex-chancellor's real estate holdings at Waco, Texas, has been asked that the total income from the property, representing about seventy five thousand dollars per year be converted into bonds, the proceeds of which are being used to defeat the Kaiser.

It is assumed that the caretaker is acting upon instructions from Von Hollweg himself.

JERICHO TAKEN BY BRITISH

(By United Press.)
London, Feb. 22.—Jericho, the famous city in Palestine is reported captured today, according to the London war office dispatches. It was announced officially yesterday that General Allenby's forces were within four miles of Jericho on Wednesday.

TWO MILLION WOMEN FARMERS

(By United Press.)
Washington, Feb. 22.—According to a late report of the 1,800,000 women engaged in agriculture in the United States, 750,000 are under 20 years of age and 1,050,000 are negroes. A majority of the women workers are found in the Southern States.

The lines of work in which women will be likely to increase their farming activities, according to the report, are vegetable gardening, poultry raising, butter making, hog raising, etc. It is suggested that women who know how to operate motor cars may with little additional training operate tractors.

INCOME TAX BLANKS RECEIVED

The Commonwealth has just received from Collector J. W. Bailey six individual income tax return for those whose income does not exceed three thousand dollars during 1917, and blanks for individuals returns on incomes over three thousand dollars.

This is but half the quantity requested of the collector, as there are a good many more needed in this section, but more will assuredly be received in reply to another urgent request that is being sent in today.

Nothing accompanying these blanks indicate that the time limit for return of income reports to the collector has been extended beyond March 1, as has been reported.

AMERICAN ARTILLERY POUNDS ENEMY POSITION

EXCELLENT RANGE U. S. GUNS TRADES OUT GERMAN SECRETOR CREATING CONSTRICTION IN ENEMY CAMP

AEROPLANES WORK WELL IN CONCERT

HOME SERVICE MEETING HELD

(By United Press.)
With the American Armies in France, Feb. 22.—Heavy exchanges of artillery continued all day yesterday on the American front. In a brisk fight the American guns pounded the German positions, doing considerable damage behind the enemy lines and destroying wire entanglements. American aeroplane observers, working in conjunction with the artillery, did excellent work. The infantry is doing its usual patrolling duty without any encounters. Rain the previous night transformed the American sector into a mud puddle.

A supplementary branch of the Civilian Relief of the American Red Cross is the Home Service, and it is this branch of service to enlisted men and their families that the local branch directed its attention. Headquarters recently appointed a committee of local citizens to this very important work, with Rev. Reuben Meredith as chairman and Mrs. W. C. Albertson, secretary. The other members are Madames H. I. Clark, B. W. Martin, C. Frank Burroughs, G. W. Bryan and R. C. Josey, Jr. Miss Mattie Josey and Messrs D. E. Josey and R. G. Shackell.

At the call of the chairman this committee held its first meeting yesterday afternoon at residence of Mr. Henry T. Clark, and went over carefully the work that has been laid out for it to accomplish, which is by no means as slight as the name may at first indicate, for it will mean, if carried out to the letter, a comfort and help to both the men in the service and their relatives, for this committee is supposed to keep in close touch with the men and also the dependent relatives.

There are three important duties to perform. First, to get in touch with every local man at camp or at the front and find out how he has left his affairs at home; whether proper powers of attorney have been made out so that dependent ones may be protected in the event of disaster. Second, to see that each soldier going from this section is protected with insurance that he, and his dependents may be provided for in case of disability or death.

Third, to see that each man drafted into the army or navy has made provision that part of his salary is paid to his dependents, so that the government allotment of extra allowances to his family can be applied for.

These are the three immediate needs to attended to, and the committee has agreed to look after these matters before the next meeting which has been set by the chairman for Tuesday, March 5, at five o'clock.

In view of the heavy work of communication to all these men who have left Scotland Neck and vicinity in the last few months, and to aid the committee that none may be forgotten or missed, the committee would feel deeply obliged if any citizen would send in names and addresses of men whom they know have gone into service, that they too may be communicated with at once.

COTTON MARKET

Washington's Birthday. No cotton market report today.

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DANIELS SENDS OFFICERS PRAISE

Washington, Feb. 22.—Secretary Daniels has sent letters of commendation to Commander Walter N. Vernou and Lieuts. J. W. McClaram and James A. Saunders, United States Navy, for their gallant conduct during the action between the U. S. S. Cassin and a German submarine on October, 15, 1917.

The letters to Lieuts. McClaram and Saunders praise them for their "highly" commendable conduct in going down into the smokeroom adjacent to the magazine to ascertain the extent of the damage done to the Cassin after that vessel had been struck by the enemy's torpedo.

REPORT OF T.H. EXPLOSION FALSE

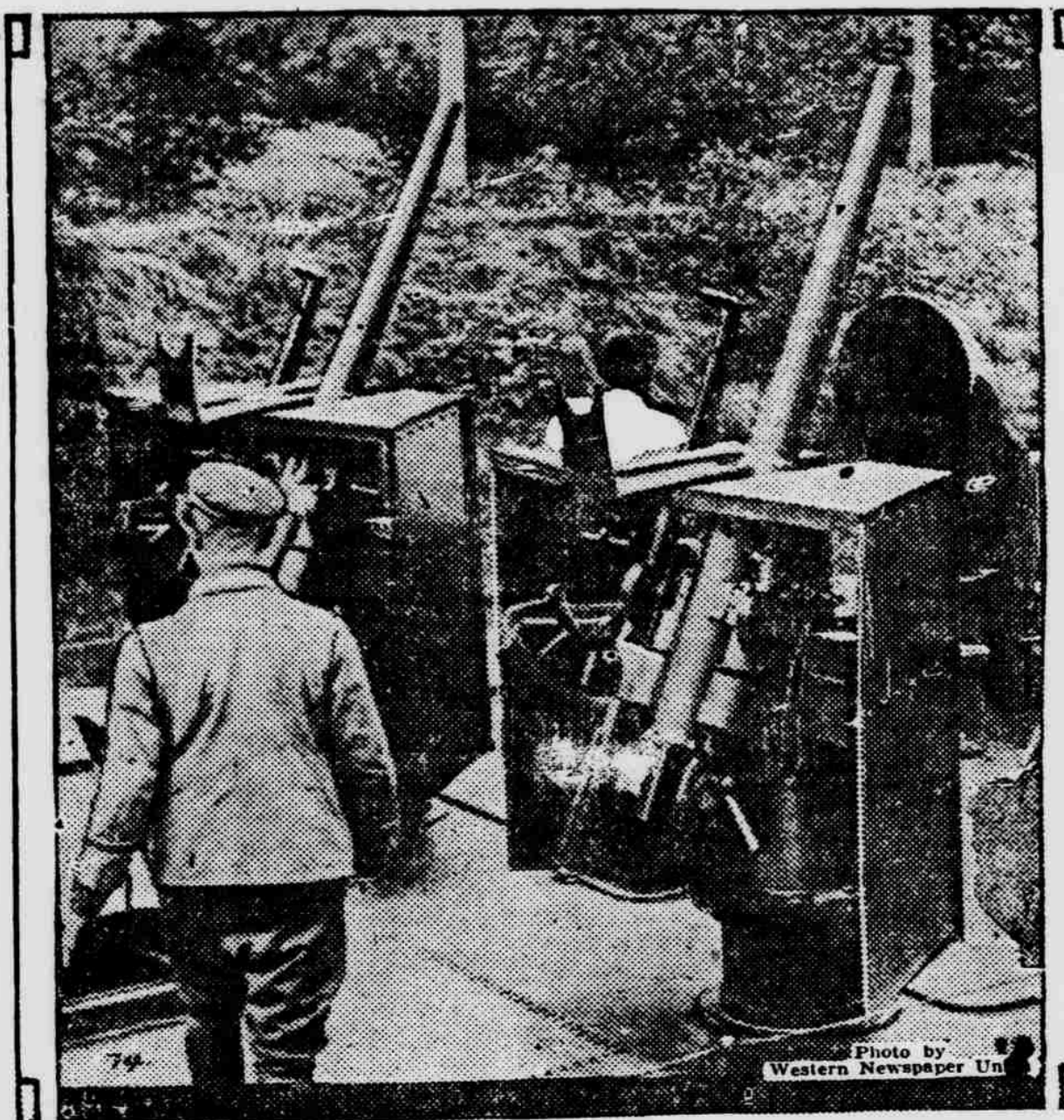
Washington, Feb. 22.—The Navy Department has received a radio dispatch from the commander stating that the report, published in a number of newspapers that an explosion had occurred on the Battle ship Utah is untrue. Lieut. Commander Baush, who was reported killed in the alleged explosion, was fatally injured by falling down a coal hatch. There was no explosion, and no one else injured.

VAST QUANTITY SMOKE POWDER

Washington, Feb. 22.—Plans and contracts are completed for the construction of two smoke-powder plants, each to cost approximately \$50,000,000. The estimated capacity of each is 1,500,000 pounds of powder a day, and from 10,000 to 15,000 men will be employed at each plant.

The initial output at each factory is expected not later than next August. Much of the product will be available for the allied nations.

FRENCH GUNS OF LATEST TYPE



Newest type of French cannon mounted on Aisne canal boats. They are used both against aircraft and for keeping the enemy patrols from approaching the canal.