

# THE COMMONWEALTH.

AFTERNOON DAILY

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

VOLUME FOUR.

AFTERNOON DAILY

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C. FRIDAY MARCH 22, 1918

TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

NUMBER 3

# GREAT WESTERN BATTLE IS NOW RAGING

## ENEMY HELD BEHIND BRITISH FRONT TRENCH

FIELD MARSHAL HAIG CABLES "WE HOLD THE ENEMY IN OUR BATTLE POSITIONS"—BEHIND FIRST LINE TRENCHES

## BRITISH FIGHT WITH KNIFE & BAYONET

(By United Press)  
With the British armies in France, Mar. 22.—British troops are holding the Germans every where, driving them back in places, and the latest reports indicate the attack is of tremendous strength.

Yesterday at least nineteen divisions are identified which by noon succeeded in penetrating the British first and second defenses. At five o'clock in the afternoon the Germans attacked heavily north west from Fontaines les Crosiles, but machine gun fire mowed them down, holding up the attack.

Berlin, Mar. 22.—The German troops stormed broad sections from points east of Arras and southward to Laffrevert they captured the enemy's first line, the war office announced today.

London, Mar. 22.—British field Marshal, Douglas Haig, wires "we hold the enemy in our battle position."

The battle positions are defenses directly behind the first line trenches.

Haig's statement would indicate that the German penetrated a limited portion of the front line trenches, and that they are held there by a barrage fire.

Copenhagen, Mar. 22.—"We have entered a decisive battle for general peace" is the declaration of the Tagelisch Rundschau, copies of which have been received here today. "This single combat" continues the editorial "between Germans and England will decide our future position in the world."

Berlin, Mar. 22.—The news of the battle on the west front was received quietly here.

A few Bulgarian regiments are on the west front fighting with the Germans and Austrians.

Washington, Mar. 22.—Berlin advices today that Bulgars are now fighting alongside alongside the Germans and some Austrians aroused the immediate speculation here as to the probability of the United States declaring war against the Bulgarian government.

Authorities here said that a decision would await further

## LENINE BECOMES SEC AGRICULTURE

(By United Press)  
Petrograd, Mar. 22.—Premier Lenin has reported that he will assume the agriculture portfolio in the new Russian cabinet in order to help the peasants. He is also said to be taking this step in order to win over the left element.

facts as to the extent of the Bulgarian participation, and as to whether they are facing only the British or also the Americans.

The Germans hurled their storm against the British right flank following a brief bombardment on the forty five mile front.

The British artillery and machine guns cut swaths in the enemy ranks.

High velocity guns of the enemy began shelling town far in the rear as the battle commenced. These were fired regularly throughout the morning at five minutes intervals and stopped only to cool off the guns.

The German preparations prior to the attack were stupendous and carried out with the utmost attempt at secrecy.

General Haig knew what was happening as his airmen reported every ammunition dump from the railway line strategic road and aidome as soon as they commenced.

Day by day the British airmen have watched Hindenburg's preparations and day by day Haig took counter precautions accordingly so that it looks as if the great offensive is on.

With the British armies in France, Mar. 22.—(1.15 A. M.)—British troops, with their customary coolness, bobbed up after the German barrage of gas shells and high explosives which started the enemy attack, and met the first rush wearing gas masks and machine-gunning the advancing waves.

Hand to hand fighting was frequent. British soldiers, occupying strong points in the line, fought with knives and bayonets.

## BRITISH SHIP REACHES HARBOR

(By United Press)  
London, Mar. 22.—The British destroyer Manley has reached a British harbor safely. She was damaged when the depth charge aboard exploded, killing four men and injuring several others.

## FRENCH SHAKE OFF ATTACKS

(By United Press)  
Paris, Mar. 22.—Strong German raids over a wide French front were repulsed the French war office reported today. At one point the French drove the enemy from advanced positions.

Fighting increased on the whole of the western front the war office also reported.

## AMERICAN BOYS "OVER THE TOP"

With the American Army in France, March. 22.—American troops at dawn went over the top in a wooded fog, which shrouded the sector.

This is the second time within twelve hours that our men have entered the German second line of trenches.

They were accompanied by French units and found no enemy troops, and they returned to their own line shortly after cleaning up the German trenches.

W. Dickerson, of North Carolina, among the honored dead, was killed in the Luneville sector.

## DUTCH DISPUTE SEIZURE SHIPS

(By United Press)  
Rotterdam, Mar. 22.—Crowds gather Thursday around the bulletin boards to read of the action of President Wilson in directing the seizure of all Dutch ships, except the Nieuw Rotterdam.

The Sche Courtant says "The American government has been guilty of seizing another's goods. This action is a stain upon United States history, and will be unfaceable for a decade.

"The Dutch people will bear the blow with dignity, which is a small country's best answer to a big power for grievous injury."

## MUCH INTEREST IN PURE STOCK

The praiseworthy interest shown by the Scotland Neck Bank in inducing the community to interest itself in pure bred and registered cattle is bearing fruit, for already the bank has heard from four other counties for information and noting a desire to be identified with the movement.

Mr. R. H. Mason, of the Dairy Field Office, leaves today for Ohio to make his selection of eight registered and pure bred Jersey cows to be brought to Scotland Neck as soon as they can be secured, and these will be on exhibition on Depot street as soon as they arrive.

It should be of interest to the farmers to know that the bank is willing to start the movement for better dairy stock and will finance those who wish to secure these good breeds.

## TREATY BETWEEN U. S. AND ENGLAND

SINCE WAR BEGAN MANY DELICATE QUESTIONS HAVE CALLED FOR ADDITION AND REITERATIONS IN DRAFT SUBMITTED

## WITH FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

## PURCHASE SMALL COAL SUPPLY

(By United Press)  
Washington, Mar. 22.—Householders were urged by Fuel Administrator Garfield today to make only their customary purchases of coal April 1. Domestic consumers should buy their coal in the same amounts as in normal years to prevent dislocation of the coal industry, the fuel administration believes.

"I urge that domestic consumers make their spring coal purchases in the normal way, buying neither more nor less than in former years," Fuel Administrator Garfield declared. "It is our object to guard against either an excessive drain on the mining industry or against undue depression through neglect to contract for the usual spring deliveries."

## BABIES CRY MUSICALLY

Cleveland, March 22.—The cry of the baby, analyzed, is music, not noise, says G. J. Jones, of the Cleveland public school music instruction staff.

"Most babies cry in three or four tones," he said today.

Jones carries a tuning fork and a pitch pipe with him as he goes from school to school and analyzes the tones of the city's crash and clamor.

## HORSE MEAT PRICES SOAR

Washington, March 22.—Horse meat is beginning to take a prominent place on America's food-plate.

So great is the demand for this food introduced not very long in several American cities, that prices have jumped considerably.

In one western city the price of horse meat has risen from 9 cents a pound, the price several months ago, to 15 cents, according to reports to the Food Administration and the Department of Agriculture.

Washington, Mar. 22.—Draft of a treaty between the United States and Great Britain is to be rewritten.

Trouble over some delicate questions which have arisen since the treaty was submitted to the senate foreign relations committee, has made this necessary the committee has been informed.

## PEOPLE BUYING WAR STAMPS

Winston-Salem, Mar. 22.—Forty four counties reporting \$1,702,000 in pledges to the War Savings Campaign have been enrolled at State Headquarters here as a result of the Limit Club drive which has been on in the State for the past two weeks. The counties enrolling thousand dollar members are Forsyth 182, Wake 130, Cleveland 117, Buncombe 110, Edgecomb 110, Gaston 107, and Wilson 100. Guilford 93, Iredell 75, McDowell 76, Duham 51, Craven 43, Cumberland 40, Franklin 39, Stanly 35, Wayne 30, Randolph 26, Harnet 25, Cherokee 25, Union 23, Montgomery 20, Halifax 20, Pamlico 20, Beaufort 20, Burke 18, Surry 18, Warren 17, Swain 16, Granville 15, Chowan 15, Jackson 10, Johnson 10, Alleghany 9, Orange 7, Lee 6, Hyde 4, Hope 4, Yancey 3, Stokes 3, Person 3, Madison 2, Avery 1 and Tyrrell 1.

North Carolina's sale of Thrift and War Saving Stamps reported by the Post Office up to March 1, and by the banks to March 15, to State Headquarters here, \$1,208,000.81. This amount raises her per capita sale to fifty eight cents which places her in the class with Massachusetts and Vermont and a little further from the bottom where she has been holding sixth place. The only state having less per capita sale than North Carolina are Michigan, with a per capita sale of 31 cents, Mississippi 22, Georgia 22, Alabama 19 and South Carolina 15.

Local Market 31½ Cents.

## COTTON MARKET

	Open	High	Low	Close
Mar.	34.02	34.07	32.02	34.07
May	32.82	33.16	32.82	33.16
July	32.12	32.23	32.12	32.23
Oct.	30.94	31.05	30.94	31.05
Dec.	29.73	29.90	29.73	29.90

## A MEAL IN THE TRENCHES

