

THE COMMONWEALTH.

AFTERNOON DAILY

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

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AFTERNOON DAILY

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C.

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TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

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OFFENSIVE THE GREAT-EST WAR CONCEPTION

SINCE CHECKING THE ENEMY'S GREAT DRIVE MILITARY CHIEFS SUM UP THE ST TWO WEEKS AS THE MOST STUPENDOUS PORT OF WAR

THRUST ON THREE CRUCIAL HIGHWAYS

(By United Press)

With the French armies afield, April 2.—The complete checking of the German advance renders possible the comprehension of the stupendousness of the enemy's offensive plans, which comprised three simultaneous thrusts each along three important highways towards the three railway, industrial and political centers.

A gigantic battle has been raging between Lasseigny and Mareuil for the possession of the Amiens highways. The completeness of the check between Lafrance and Montdidier has been shown by the Germans slackening their drive.

Paris, April 2.—Last night was comparatively calm between the Oise and Somme, the French war office announced.

The Franco-British forces made some progress between the Somme and Demuin last night.

"In the region of Calonne we made two coup de main and took some prisoners."

AMERICA LEADS IN WAR STRUGGLE

(By United Press)

Washington, April 1.—America found itself today on the anniversary of President Wilson's request for war on Germany, a great part of the world struggle, with a remarkably vast record of achievement.

More thousands of men are now in France than army men a year ago dreamed could be put there; American naval vessels, cruising the submarine zone, are doing their bit—and a big one—to stamp "schrecklichkit" out of the world; a vast army has been trained and is now being seasoned; American war wheels are whirring grinding out ships, guns, shells, rails—a tremendous stream of material to back a growing enthusiastic army.

And, there is abroad in the land a war spirit, deep-seated and fervent, a spirit born of the realization that Germany is now controlled by militaristic plunders, who in their madness are stretching forth their gory hands to crush the weak and the strong and to make the world unfit and unsafe for democracy.

Some of America's mighty task is still in the making. There have been, and still are delays in war work. Some of our expectations were exploited too boldly, and there are disappointments ahead.

But, all in all, the conversion of the country from a peaceful land to the biggest single reservoir of strength to back up the Allies has been a story of progress upon which history will doubtless look with praise.

RUCHSTOFEN HAS REAPPEARED

(By United Press)

London, April, 2.—The Germans are disputing the mastery of the air, according to dispatches from the French front.

Their greatest aviator, Ruchstofen, has reappeared commanding a powerful squadron of airplanes.

ARRAS SECTOR BEING BOMBED

(By United Press)

Paris, April, 1.—Arras and St. Pol have been under bombardment since Thursday it has been officially announced, several civilians being killed.

Arras is less than three miles from the battle line, while St. Pol is twenty miles west and north of Arras, St. Pol is three miles further beyond the furthest German advance in 1914.

ENEMY TOO BADLY MAULED TO ATTACK

IT IS SAID HINDENBURG NOW REALIZES THE STRONG POSITION OF ALLIES, AND FEARS TO ATTACK UNTIL REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVE

FIFTEEN GERMAN DIVISIONS INVALIDATED

(By United Press)

SEN HARDING SPEAKS TONIGHT

Tonight at half past eight Senator F. C. Harding, of Greenville, will speak in the interest of the War Savings Committee, and generally upon the features of the war.

A large audience has been promised this illustrious orator, who will be introduced to the people of Scotland Neck from the stage of the Dixie Theatre by Mr. Ashby W. Dunn in the absence of Mr. A. Paul Kitchin.

There have been but two public addresses in this community during the past year, which is far less publicity than towns the size of this have had, but our people have hitherto done their part when called upon and it is hoped that they will not fail in this instance when so noted a man is in our midst.

Whether you can aid much in the work that all are trying to do or not come out to hear him speak on the war and gather such inspiration as may prepare you for the more serious work as it develops.

While Senator Harding is in the city he will be the guest of the Chamber of Commerce at the Hotel.

AMERICA NOW ALLIES BANKER

Washington, April 2.—One year of war finds America today the banker of the allies.

In 12 months, the American people have poured \$10,000,000,000 into the allied pool. Of this, nearly half has gone in outright loans to the various allies. The international ledger balanced up about this way today: indebtedness to the United States: Great Britain, \$2,500,000,000; France, \$1,440,000,000; Italy, \$550,000,000; Russia, \$325,000,000; Belgium, \$93,400,000; and Serbia, \$6,000,000.

To raise this stupendous outlay, the United States floated two immense Liberty Loans, yielding well over \$6,000,000,000; and imposed special war taxes, chief among which was raising the postal rate from two to three cents. The close of this strenuous year finds the country well launched on a war savings movement which promises a large steady income; and marks the opening of a third great Liberty Loan.

COTTON MARKET

	Open	High	Low	Close
May	33.50	33.50	33.40	33.50
July	33.38	33.38	32.73	32.82
Oct.	32.47	32.49	32.43	32.49
Dec.	31.26	31.32	31.20	31.32
Local Market 31½ cents.				

TEAM WORK TO WIN WAR

Winston-Salem, April 2.—"I am more convinced every day," says Col. F. H. Fries, State Director of War Savings, "that before we get anywhere in winning the war or even in raising the amount of money necessary to finance the war that we must get together as a people with but one motive. No one man or a group of men has ever saved a Nation. Wherever a country's fate has been in jeopardy, it has taken the exertions of all the people to save that country. Rudyard Kipling gave us the secret of winning wars and saving nations when he said: 'It ain't the individual, Nor the Army as a whole, But the everlastin team work Of every bloomin' soul.'"

NEWS FROM THE STATE CAPITAL

By Maxwell Gorman

Raleigh, N. C. April, 2.—The transactions of several "agents" in Raleigh and elsewhere in the state of the so-called Empire Steel Company, and which is alleged to be an unsound concern, show that there are more suckers and easy marks in this latitude than better informed people believe possible.

Some of the agents of the concern have been arrested this week and will be given a hearing by Insurance Commissioner Young on the charge of selling worthless stock violating the "blue sky" law. Numbers of men are said to have paid over perfectly good money and given negotiable notes for large sums in payment of which is alleged to be worthless "stock", the company having no mines or plants in existence anywhere.

Easter Sunday (the most perfect day here in many years) was observed gloriously in all the churches, and later in the day the bulletins to the morning papers brought good news about the allies and Americans in the fighting Sunday that the enjoyment of the people was considerably augmented.

The people are looking with much anticipation to the visit and address of Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo next Tuesday, April 9, on the third Liberty Loan movement. In his visit we may possibly be entertaining the next president of the United States. Certainly there are many who regard him as a most likely successor to his father-in-law, President Wilson. Sure he can beat Teddy Roosevelt at the polls and there are other democrats also who can do that.

GENERAL FRENCH IS TRANSFERRED

(By United Press)

Washington (Mar. 2.—Because of physical disability Major General Francis H. French, of the national army, has been transferred to the regular army with the rank of Brigadier General, the war office announced.

General French retains his old command of the thirty-first division at Camp Jackson. The general has returned from a tour of observation at the front.

YEAR TODAY WILSON ANSWERED WAR GUAGE

TONIGHT IS FIRST ANNIVERSARY WHEN PRESIDENT LAUNCHED TASK FOR AMERICA, THAT WILL BE RECORDED IN HISTORY

VIEW OF ADMINISTRATION WAR LEADERS

Washington, April, 2.—It was just a year ago tonight that President Wilson called upon Congress to answer the war challenge of Germany—and launch a task which will go into history as the greatest ever faced by a nation.

From that time on members of the House and Senate earnestly set themselves to the tremendous effort of throwing a peaceful nation into the gear of war power. Here is what some leaders in this work say today:

Chairman Dent of the House Military Affairs Committee:

"The American people may rest assured that the army achievements have surpassed the expectations a year ago of the most optimistic officials in Washington. I look on the Selective Service System as one of the great army achievements of the year."

Chairman Flood of the House Foreign Affairs Committee:

"After one year of war President Wilson stands out as the greatest spokesman of democracy in the world. I believe his international messages in years to come will be regarded as epoch-making events in the world history."

"Through his open air diplomacy and policy United States has clearly explained its unselfish war aims and has swung neutral opinion to the side of the allies. That, I believe, is one of the great achievements of the first year of the war."

Chairman Padgett of the House Naval Affairs Committee:

"The navy's record for the first year of the war as shown by the sub-committee appointed to investigate it is one of the most remarkable achievements of the war."

"In no way was the navy found wanting. Although the personnel was increased six times, every man who enlisted was most carefully taken care of, our destroyer force in a year will be the largest in the world, and the sea fighters are well equipped with all kinds of supplies. All is well with the fleet as Admiral Mayo said."

Claude Kitchin, Democratic Floor Leader:

"In my judgement the United States has done more in the first year of the war, than any nation ever achieved in so short a space of time. Congress is due some credit, for without the co-operation and support given the President he and his advisors could have accomplished little. Undoubtedly some mistakes have been made, but, taking the broad view, the errors are insignificant and the achievements great."

Senator Lewis, Illinois, Democratic whip:

"America can look back on the first year of the war with a consciousness of some lesson well learned, and she can look ahead with fullest confidence that those lessons will be applied with the greatest vigor and devotion. May she see victory before the second year has closed."

Senator Swanson, Va., Chair-

(Continued on back page)

With the British armies in France, April 2.—Hindenburg is paying the allies a compliment in recognizing their strong positions.

His commanders have obviously reported that their armies are too badly mauled to undertake a general advance before they rest and have reinforcements to back up the heavy artillery, therefore only local activities were reported Monday.

It is estimated that fifty divisions of about six hundred thousand men were used by the Germans between Arras and Mareville, about thirty-seven miles in an airline, fifteen of which received such a drubbing that they are unfit for immediate use.

The bulk of the enemy is still north of the Somme, and so far as the British lines are concerned the second blow against Arras is likely any time.

All day the German artillery has been busy astride the Scrape. The enemy had not risked a general battle since Thursday.

The small advances made were seldom accomplished by direct assault but by infiltrations and flanking local positions.

London, April, 1.—Fifty prisoners and thirteen machine guns were taken yesterday in the fighting between Avre and Lucem in the Moreuil region.

Between Aere and Luce a number of German dead were found. Two enemy counter attacks were broken up with heavy losses by our artillery. A German battery was successfully engaged at short range and silence by machine guns.

Successful raids were made in the neighborhood of Aspville and Hollebeke, where several prisoners were taken and a number of the enemy killed.

In the neighborhood of Hebuton eight miles north of Albert, local enterprises resulted in the capture of seventy three enemy prisoners and three machine guns. Here too many Germans were killed. Hostile counter attacks were all repulsed.

WON'T MAKE WAR ON BULGARIA

Washington, April, 2.—Investigation by the American government revealed that no Bulgarians participated in the west front battle, the war department announced.

Consul General Murphy, at Sofia, cabled under date of March 21, that after careful investigation it showed that the Bulgarians were only on the Macedonian front.

It is assumed this information came directly from the Bulgarian government, and indicates that the United States will not now alter its position of not declaring war on Bulgaria.