

WEATHER.

Unsettled and warmer to night. Rain Tuesday.

THE EVENING DISPATCH

THE PAPER THAT LEADS—OTHERS MAY FOLLOW

FINAL EDITION

VOLUME TWENTY-TWO.

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1916.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

FURIOUSLY THE GREAT BATTLE STILL RAGES

Second Week of the German Onslaught in Mighty Effort to Take Stronghold.

BACK AND FORTH THE BIG ARMIES SWAY

Reports From Paris and Berlin Are Conflicting As to Attack on Verdun—French Start a Counter Offensive Movement.

The great battle of Verdun, now entering its second week, is continuing with unabated fury, with the German armies driving hard at the French stronghold, the lenthening line now running far beyond salient in which the bringing up of heavy reinforcements of the French army has been checked, but the French claims a continuance of the forward march on the French stronghold.

Along the Meuse, to the north of Verdun, the Germans have been unable to make as rapid progress as at first although it continues with intensity. On the Woevre front, where the French at first fell back, they now appear to be offering effective resistance. Pressure here is particularly menacing to the fortress, as a crushing in of this eastern line of the Verdun salient for any great distance would spell disaster for the stronghold. The French defensive operations at that place are taking on the nature of an offensive, as in the attack on Fort Douaumont, four miles north-east of Verdun.

This development has been forecast in a dispatch which told of the expectation in Paris. The French where they have fallen back to positions they could hold indefinitely have driven back over the ground they yielded in the face of terrific German artillery and infantry attack.

According to a statement by Aristide Briant, the French premier, this happened after the fourth day of the battle. The French brought up strong reinforcements at an unexpected moment and the infantry sweeping down on the Germans, already suffering heavily from the effects of French artillery fire, stopped them short and drove them back. The premier declares the French regained the advantage, beginning with a counter-attack marking the turning of the battle, now in its second phase.

The German accounts fail to agree with this French version of the fighting. Berlin having announced a further advance for the Crown Prince's troops, including the taking of Hardaumont, east of Fort Douaumont, and the German right flank, while the French attack on Fort Douaumont was repulsed. The French themselves do not claim the recapture of the outlying defense of the main fortress but declare the Germans who had gained a foothold to the east and west of this position are being hard pressed in maintaining them. They say the fort is closely encircled.

A German attack against the French position at Manherles resulted in complete failure, the French war office says.

Certain advance trenches near Navarin Farm, in the Champagne, were taken by the Germans by a surprise attack, the French admit. The sinking of the Russian steamer Potoshanga, of 1647 tons, is anounced today, fifteen persons on board being saved.

Now that the Italians have evacuated Durazzo their military efforts, so far as Albania is concerned, will be confined to Avlona, eighty miles to the south, according to the Italian newspapers.

Durazzo is declared to have been held merely as a base for the rescuing of the remnants of the Serbian army and was given up when that purpose was effected, but Avlona, near the entrance to the Adriatic, is regarded as of great strategic importance.

REPUBLICANS RALLY.

Delegates to Conventions Will Be Named by Committee Tonight. Republican voters of New Hanover county will meet Monday evening, pursuant to a call of Mr. J. W. Brooks, chairman of the Republican county executive committee, for the purpose of electing delegates to the State and Congressional conventions. The delegates will be elected separately by the voters of each political district of the county. The meeting will be held in Duls' Hall, No. 22 South Front street.

MANY STILL MISSING OF SHIPS COMPLEMENT

Within Sight of Land Steamer Strikes Mine and Goes Down.

London, Feb. 28.—Of the total complement of 411 passengers and crew on the Peninsular and Oriental Line steamship, Maloja, which struck a mine and sank in half an hour two miles off Dover yesterday, only 260 are known to have been saved.

Of the total of 119 passengers, sixty-four names of persons saved have been registered at the steamship company's offices. It was stated that there is hope that more names of persons saved still will be received. The bodies of three more Lascars of the crew of the Maloja have been washed ashore, bringing the total of bodies recovered to 47. Many relatives are arriving at Dover for the purpose of endeavoring to identify bodies.

Among those rescued yesterday was a baby warmly clad, which was floating on its back. The child was discovered by a patrol-boat and was taken into the engine room. After being warmed it smiled at the rescuers and seemed none the worse off for its immersion.

STILL REMAIN IN THE WINSTON JAIL

Why Warren Woman and Accomplice Not in Penitentiary Causing Talk.

Winston-Salem, N. C., Feb. 28.—Although daily expecting orders to transfer from the Forsyth county jail to the State penitentiary, Mrs. Ida Ball Warren and Samuel Christy, now under sentence of death, the sheriff today stated he had heard nothing from the State authorities. The sheriff said he knew of no reason why the transfer should not have been ordered.

AGAIN, WEST DURHAM POSTOFFICE ROBBED

"Yeggs" Get Busy and Blow Safe There—Stamps Torn To Shreds.

Durham, N. C., Feb. 28.—For the fourth time in a little more than one year "yeggs" entered the postoffice in West Durham early today and blew open the safe. Stamps valued at approximately \$200, were torn to shreds by the force of the explosion, and the robbers made off with \$30 in cash.

In the three previous robberies more than \$5,000 in stamps and cash was obtained. The only clue the authorities have to work on in an effort to locate the perpetrators of today's robbery are numerous foot prints left on the floor of the postoffice.

DR. ROUSSEL TUESDAY

French Divine to Address Two Wilmington Meetings.

The noted French divine, Rev. Stuart L. Roussel, B. A. B. Sc., B. D., who comes to this city tomorrow as a representative of the French Huguenots to appeal to the sister churches in the United States and Canada, will arrive in the city Tuesday and will hold a public meeting at the Grace Methodist church on Wednesday night.



JERRY TRAVERS

New York, Feb. 28.—Jerry Travers announces that he will not go to Minneapolis in June and defend the open golf title he won last year at Baltusrol. The four times former amateur title holder says he is not retiring from all competitions, but that his cotton exchange business will prevent him this summer from taking long trips.

RELIEF WORKERS HAVE STILL MORE BLOCKS

Heavy Rain and Sleet Adding to Suffering of Refugees in Flood Zone.

New Orleans, La., Feb. 28.—Although conditions in general are regarded as improved in the flooded section of Northern Louisiana relief workers in remote areas today expected increased difficulty owing to weather conditions. The rain and sleet, which started Sunday, continued today and suffering was reported intense in some localities, particularly among the refugees camping on levees and in lots of cabins, without fire or warm clothing.

Details are expected today on the recommendations which were made to the War Department by Captain Hunt, of the quartermaster's division of the army, and by Captain Hetrick, in charge of the relief work. These government officials started on a trip Saturday to investigate the condition in the lower Concordia parish, where appeal for government aid had been made from several towns.

Seepage water today was reported to be causing considerable trouble at Virdalia, La., across the river from Natchez, the water being pumped out at the rate of 2,000 gallons a minute, it was stated, but was still continuing to rise. A special levee for protection against back-water has been built and is holding against the pressure of the rising water, it was stated in the latest report coming to that city.

The Briars plantation, formerly owned by Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, located near Natchez, was today reported flooded with water running to the tops of the cabins in the negro quarter.

COMMITTEES FAVOR A NURSE FOR SANITARIUM

Joint Meeting of Representatives City and County Governing Bodies Held.

At a joint meeting of committees of City Council and the County Commissioners at noon today it was decided that the request of the Red Cross Sanitarium for a monthly appropriation of \$25 from each of the bodies was a worthy request, and it was decided that the respective committees would report favorably to their boards.

The requested appropriation for the employment of a nurse at the Red Cross Sanitarium.

The meeting was held in the mayor's office. Mayor Moore presided. Others present were Councilmen McCaig and Hall, and Commissioners Yopp and MacMillan, Capt. Thos. D. Meares, city clerk and treasurer, was present. Representing the Red Cross Society were Dr. J. C. Wessell and Mr. J. M. Solky.

GERMANY STANDS BY SUBMARINE POLICY

Washington, Feb. 28.—In a note presented to Secretary Lansing today by Count Bernstorff, the German ambassador, Germany assures the United States that it has no intention of revoking the pledges given in the Lusitania case.

The note says that Germany can conceive of no reason for change or to postpone the new instructions to her submarine commanders to treat as warships enemy merchantmen armed "defensively" and that special precautions have been taken to prevent ships unarmed from being attacked.

The note at the outset reiterates the previous pledges on September 1 and October 5, of last year, for the safety of unresisting liners and then goes on to say that the German government does not believe these assurances have been modified by the new memorandum.

THE CRESCENT WRECKED OFF CAPE HATTERAS TO BE ANNOUNCED TODAY

A Ward Liner Reaches New York With Crew of Ill-fated Steamed.

New York, Feb. 28.—The Ward Line steamer, Mexico, in today from Havana and Nassau, brought eighteen men, the crew of the Steamer Crescent, which she found in a sinking condition fifteen miles north of Cape Hatteras yesterday.

The Crescent, a 400-ton steamer, loaded with coal, sailed from Newport News for Santiago, Cuba, last Saturday. Her engine became disabled under the stress of weather. Later she sprang a leak and her pumping gear broke-down. The vessel has been abandoned.

COMPLAIN OF CONDITION AMONG POOR CLASSES

Berlin, Feb. 28.—The French papers have published a great many letters found on German prisoners of war complaining of the conditions among the poorer classes. The German authorities are about to take action to see that the soldiers who fight are not discouraged by letters from home. The best means of preventing tell-tale letters from reaching the enemy seems to be to ask the women at home to keep their feelings and worries to themselves.

"All sensible persons deplore," says the "Berlin Tageblatt," "that so many relatives of soldiers, principally women, are inclined, in their letters, to give an exaggerate description of the hardships they have to suffer. In doing so, these women commit an act injurious to their country. The State, which at the present time has become all powerful and which systematically has suppressed all individual initiative, has the duty of providing for the families whose heads are away fighting, but the families have no right whatever to give the soldiers who have worries enough already tragic descriptions of their annoyances and sufferings, most of the petty kind at home."

Certain of these letters may be truthful enough, at least they are truthful enough, but at least they are useless. I is certainly worse than useless to send such letters to the father and husband, who in the midst of the dangers of the trenches need all the freedom from worry he can get. German women must make up their minds to bear their sufferings in silence."

BELIEVES DISASTER DUE TO GERMAN MINE

London, Feb. 28.—It is believed that the Maloja, the vessel just sunk near Dover, was the victim of a German sown mine.

Chefs Disclose Secrets of Cookery. New York, Feb. 28.—An exposition to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the forming of the Culinary (Philanthropic) Society opened today in Grand Central Palace. The chefs of the prominent clubs and hotels of New York are furnishing information to housewives about the hundreds of prepared dishes that are exhibited.

CHARLOTTE COTTON MAN KILLS HIMSELF

Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 28.—O. P. Heath, senior member of the cotton firm of O. P. Heath & Co., committed suicide in his office here at 11 o'clock today.

Mr. Heath was one of the oldest merchants in the cotton business in this section and one of the largest operators. Two years ago he met financial reverses, but apparently was doing a thriving business at this time. He was about 60 years old and leaves a family; also several brothers, who are prominent cotton manufacturers in this section.

OFFICER WAS SHOT WHEN HE WENT TO ARREST OFFENDER

Deputy in Halifax County, This State, Was Fatally Wounded Yesterday.

HIS ASSAILANT HAS BEEN PUT IN JAIL

Feeling Runs High But No Violence Towards Prisoner Anticipated—Leaves a Large Family.

Rocky Mount, N. C., Feb. 28.—Deputy Sheriff C. M. Hawkins, of Halifax county, was fatally wounded yesterday and died last night as result of a gunshot said to have been fired by George Collins.

Hawkins went to Fayette township yesterday to arrest Collins on a minor charge. Collins, it is charged, resisted arrest and fired on the deputy. Collins was captured last night near Littleton and lodged in the Halifax county jail. Strong feeling against him is manifest, but no violence has been threatened. Hawkins leaves a wife and seven children.

ELABORATE DECORATIONS FOR BROTHERHOOD BAZAAR

Committee Is Busily Engaged Today Erecting Booths and Furnishing Hall.

Flags of many nations will adorn the walls and booths of the bazaar of St. George and St. Andrew which is to open as a benefit for the war sufferers of the Entente Powers, Wednesday night on the second floor of Woolwin building on Princess street.

Brilliant decorations, a veritable riot of color, are being arranged, a committee for this purpose having begun today to place the booths and decorations. Deep interest in the movement has been created in Wilmington, and even elsewhere, ladies of Southport have energetically set to work to help the cause, sending valuable donations and otherwise assisting in the movement. Donations have been received from as far north as Baltimore and as far south as Tampa, Fla.

The Wilmington ladies and the committees of the Brotherhood are having wonderful success in their efforts, and all indications are for splendid results for the aid of sufferers in the war-stricken countries.

NOTHING NEEDED BUT JARS FOR CANNING

Seaside Factor For Sea Foods Now Ready to Begin Operation Near Supply.

Wilmington people have been much interested in the new Brunswick county venture of canning sea foods, as begun by Mr. F. S. Webster, believing that this is the entering wedge for the development of a great industry through this section of the coast.

That the new factory near supply is now ready to begin operations, waiting only for the arrival of the canning jars, is reported in the Brunswick Eagle, as follows:

"The Sea-food canning factory which Mr. F. S. Webster has been erecting at Seaside for some time is completed and the machinery has been installed, and it will be in operation in a very short time.

"As was stated in this paper some weeks ago, Mr. Webster has already canned a few products at his factory for sample purposes, but as soon as the samples were put up he shut down and went North to purchase jars and some material which had been overlooked in the first shipment, and as soon as he returned he went to work to put everything in tip top condition before he began running regularly. He informs us that everything is now in excellent condition, and that he will begin operation just as soon as the jars arrive and they are now on the road.

"Mr. Webster states that in all probability his factory will be run regularly when it starts as products seem to be plentiful."

Forgery Charged—Robert Barnhill, colored, will be tried before Justice Harris tomorrow morning on a charge of forgery.

GERMANY READY TO HAND REPLY TO UNCLE SAM

British Merchantmen Go Armed for Purpose of Attacking Submarines.

CITES INCIDENTS TO SHOW THIS SITUATION

Declares New Policy, Squares With International Law, According to Interpretation of U. S.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Germany's response to the reply of the United States for assurances regarding the conduct of submarine war in future is in the hands of Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, who was prepared to present it to Secretary Lansing today. The reply is in the form of instructions to the ambassador and will not be put in the form of a note unless the secretary desires.

The ambassador's instructions were to inform the United States that the assurances in regard to the future conduct of the Teutons' submarines, given by Germany in the Lusitania and Arabic cases, still are binding, but that they apply only to merchantmen of peaceful character.

Germany contends that British merchantmen armed ostensibly for defense carry guns for the special purpose of attacking German submarines and thus show themselves not to be peaceful and are subject to destruction. To support this claim, Berlin foreign office sends a list of a score of incidents where the British merchantmen attacked submarines. The instructions call attention to the claim of Germany that despite assurances of Great Britain that her merchantmen were armed for defense and "will never fire unless first fired on, and that they will not attack any vessel," British ships are not only resisting, but attacking.

Germany claims that the new policy towards armed ships squares with international law inasmuch as British merchantmen violate the law as interpreted by the United States. Germany realize that if it should sink an armed ship upon it rests the burden of proof regarding the guns, but contends upon the government owning the ships is the burden of proof that the guns were of a non-offensive character.

The ambassador was instructed to call attention to the fact that French ships are not armed and that British ships entering American ports are not armed and consequently the Berlin government considers remote the chance of difficulties with the United States as a result of the new policy of sinking all armed enemy merchant ships beginning tomorrow midnight.

MIGRATORY BIRD LAW NOT BEEN SUSPENDED

Washington, D. C., Feb. 28.—A misleading statement has recently become current in newspapers of the Mississippi valley and elsewhere, to the effect that the Department of Agriculture has suspended the enforcement of the Federal regulations under the Migratory Bird Law and by this has enabled sportsmen, under State laws, to shoot wild fowl the coming spring.

Under the Federal regulations as they now stand, the season on all migratory wild fowl is closed until next autumn throughout the United States. Federal inspectors and wardens are required, and others interested in the protection of wild fowl are requested, to report to the Department of Agriculture all cases of violations of the regulations, in order that proper action may be taken.

The Department of Agriculture has no power to suspend the law or to pardon violations of the regulations. Doubtless the erroneous impression, on which the newspaper statements are based growing out of the pendency of litigation involving the constitutionality of the Act of Congress approved March 4, 1913, under which the regulations were promulgated. The lower Federal courts disagreed as to the validity of the statute and the issue was carried to the Supreme Court of the United States. The case was argued in the Supreme Court in October, 1915, but has not been decided, following the lower court decisions. Congress appropriated money for the purpose of continuing the enforcement of the law. The Department of Agriculture is bound to report to the Department of Justice violations of the regulations, if the Supreme Court should declare the law unconstitutional. All persons should, therefore, be warned of the danger they incur from failure to abide by the regulations.