

WEATHER FORECAST.

North and South Carolina—Fair tonight and Saturday. Much colder tonight. Cold wave.

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 9, 1917.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

THREE NEUTRAL SHIPS SUNK BY SUBS

GUNS SWEEP DECKS OF ONE SHIP, KILLING MATE AND STEWARD

Norwegian Shipping Provides All Victims For One Day For New Campaign. ONE VESSEL KNOWN NOT BEEN WARNED

Six Thousand Tons Is the Toll Taken by German Undersea Boats in Past Twenty-four Hours—One Vessel Sunk Formerly in American Service.

Another British Steamer Sinks. London, Feb. 9.—The British steamship, Hanna Larsen, 1,310 tons gross, has been sunk by a submarine. Her captain and chief engineer were taken prisoner. The remainder of the crew was landed.

Three Norwegian ships have been added to the list of victims of the new German submarine campaign. The sinking of these aggregating 6,030 tons was the day's result of the operations of the under-sea craft in the war zone as reported during the morning and early afternoon.

The largest of the sunken vessels was the Hanskinck of 2,667 tons, while the next in size, the Storskog, registered 2,191 tons. On the third vessel, the Ida, of 1,172 tons, the chief mate and steward were reported killed by gunfire, while the submarine continuously shelled the steamer without warning until she sank.

In the field of military activity the feature remains the British operation north of the Somme, in Northern France, where General Haig's troops are steadily pressing forward on both banks of the Ancre.

Berlin today, while declaring the British attacks of yesterday unsuccessful as a whole, admits the loss of some ground north of the Ancre and near St. Pierre Vaast wood, north of Peronne.

London, Feb. 9.—Lloyds' this afternoon announced that the Norwegian steamship, Hanskinck, formerly the American steamer Satilla, of 2,667 tons gross, has been sunk.

Sunk Without Warning. London, Feb. 9.—The Norwegian steamship, Ida, of 1,172 tons, has been sunk by a German submarine. Surviving members of the crew were landed today. The captain stated that the chief mate and the steward were killed while on deck by gunfire, the submarine firing continuously without warning until the vessel sank.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN AMERICANS

Children Missing From the California Could Have Become Citizens.

Philadelphia, Feb. 9.—The three children of Mrs. Mary J. O'Donnell, two of whom, with their mother, were reported among the missing passengers of the Anchor Line steamer, California, sunk by a submarine, were born in Philadelphia and according to authorities here, were "potential Americans."

PRESIDENT WILSON BEING KEPT BUSY

Plans to Frequently Visit Capitol and the Executive Departments.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 9.—President Wilson plans to visit the capitol and executive departments frequently when he desires information quickly, or wants to take any steps in connection with legislation. It was said officially today that no surprise or alarm need be felt if the President suddenly goes to the capitol at any hour of the day or visits any member of his cabinet. So many pending questions have to be taken up that the President has found it too slow to call to the White House all the men he desires to see.

TO DECIDE ON THE NEW CONGRESSMAN

South Carolina Primary To Be Held Feb. 16—Election Three Days Later.

(By Associated Press.) Columbia, S. C., Feb. 9.—The State Democratic Executive committee announced the primary to nominate candidates for the vacancy in both the unexpired and full terms in the Fifth Congressional District caused by the recent death of Representative D. E. Finley, will be held February 16th. Governor Manning announced that the date of the general election called for the Congressional vacancy had been changed from February 22 to February 21.

NEW HAMPSHIRE MAN NAMED BY PRESIDENT

Washington, Feb. 9.—Raymond B. Stevens, of New Hampshire, was nominated by President Wilson today as a member of the Shipping Board, to succeed Bernard N. Baker, who resigned soon after being confirmed.

VINCENT ASTOR DOES DUTY AS NAVAL MILITIAMAN.

(By Associated Press.)



Vincent Astor, who inherited the millions of his father, Colonel John Jacob Astor, is doing a twelve-hour tour of duty, beginning at 6 a. m., these days, as aide to Commander Forshev, of the New York Naval Militia. Vincent Astor reports to Commander Forshev at the Custom House every day in the early dawn. Ensign Astor's duties consist of general office work and handling the newspaper men. Officially, Astor is a member of the Flying Corps of the Naval Militia.

NOTHING NEW TO GERMAN SITUATION.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 9.—Before today's Cabinet meeting, the Council of National Defense, which includes a majority of the Cabinet members, held a meeting in Secretary Baker's office. As the members arrived at the White House they said that nothing to materially change the German situation had occurred.

NAVY TO RECRUIT MANY THOUSANDS

Agents Given Instruction to Immediately Enlist 25,000 Additional Men.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 9.—Navy recruiting agents have been instructed to immediately enlist 25,000 additional men. While the current Naval bill authorized peace strength of 74,000 men, it carried appropriations for considerably less since the Department had estimated that not more than 10,000 recruits above the number necessary to replace men discharged could be found. Officials have been encouraged by recruiting returns, however, which have brought the actual strength up to nearly 58,000 men already. In the event of war probably the first act of the President will be to authorize the enlistment of the maximum war strength of 87,000. Probably this could be quickly accomplished by a provision in the Department's regulations permitting volunteers to enlist for the duration of the war.

WOMEN IN RICH GOWNS DRINK, HE DECLARED

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 9.—Advocating the Senate bill to prohibit liquor advertising and solicitation in the mails entering "dry" territory, the Rev. James Cannon, of Richmond, told the House Postoffice Committee today that there has been a great increase in drinking in public places by fashionably gowned women over thirty years of age. He spoke as National chairman of the legislative committee of the Anti-Saloon League.

PROMINENT LAWYER KILLED HIMSELF

(By Associated Press.) Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 9.—Walker Percy, prominent lawyer, counsel for the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company, who late yesterday was found dead in a room in his home here, with a gunshot wound in the breast, killed himself, Assistant Coroner J. R. T. Rives, officially announced today. Melancholia was given as a cause of Percy's act. Mr. Rives made public today a statement which reads: "Walker Percy, 2217 Arlington avenue, city, came to his home by shooting himself with a No. 12 bore shot gun, pressed against his left breast."

SUDDENLY FINDS HE'S A BRITON

Methodist Minister Thought Himself an American Citizen for Years.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 9.—After having believed for a half century that he was an American citizen, the Rev. Joseph Beech, of Dixon, Ill., a Methodist missionary to China, has discovered that he is a British subject and has asked Congress to pass a bill to give him full American citizenship. Senator Smith, of South Carolina, chairman of the Immigration Committee, today introduced one for that purpose. Mr. Beech came to this country from England when four years of age and believed his father had afterward become an American citizen.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE BILL KILLED BY HOUSE TODAY

Also Voted Down Motion to Refer the "Bone Dry" Prohibition Bill.

PAGE MEASURE GOT SNOWED UNDER

Senate Discussed in Rambling Way Educational Matters—Burgwyn Bill Killed By Close Vote.

(Special to The Dispatch.) Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 9.—The municipal suffrage bill, set as special order today, was killed before the eyes of hundreds of women, who looked down from the amphitheatres and saw it die. The vote was forty for and 63 against. It wasn't talked to death, thought the "pros," decidedly ran over the "antis."

Representative McCrackin, of Columbus, made one of the most effective speeches in reply to Speaker Murphy, who left the chair to oppose the bill on the ground that it opens a new negro issue that cannot be met. Grant, of New Hanover, made a three-minute speech supporting the bill.

Attended by Burgwyn, of Northampton, as chief mourner, the Bertie county educational bill was buried by the Senate this morning, after an argument prolonged and for the most part rambling and disjointed. The vote of 24 to 22 showed that the Senate's mind is not so clearly made up as to the formulation of a State-wide educational policy.

The House killed the Page bill for the popular election of county boards of education by a vote of sixty to forty-one. It also voted down a motion to refer the "bone dry prohibition bill," which had received unfavorable report. It then passed on to a prolonged discussion of the Roberts municipal suffrage for women measure.

THE WATERWAYS BILL REPORTED

Senate Now Has Before It the Rivers and Harbors Measure.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 9.—The Rivers and Harbors bill, carrying \$38,500,000, was reported to the Senate today by Chairman Fletcher, of the Commerce Committee. The amount is an increase of about \$127,000 over the bill passed by the House.

Senator Kenyon, Republican, of Iowa, gave notice that he would propose a substitute, carrying a lump sum of \$22,000,000 for such improvement as the War Department deemed necessary.

Changes from the House bill include: Deep Creek, Florida, \$9,000; Waterway, Pensacola Bay to Mobile Bay, to provide a seven-foot channel 75 feet at bottom, \$50,000.

Red river, Arkansas and Texas, for improvement and repair of levees, \$50,000.

Increase for completing improvement of Beaumont, Texas, harbor and Neches river at that point, \$20,000 to \$70,000.

Increase for Cumberland river improvement above Nashville from \$200,000 to \$340,000.

GERMANS ASSAIL FRENCH ALONG VERDUN FRONT

But Attack Was Repulsed, Claims Paris—Civilians Killed by Bombs.

REGION OF DUNKIRK MADE THE TARGET

German Aircraft Drop Projectiles—Little Doing in the Rumanian War Theatre Just Now.

(By Associated Press.) Paris, Feb. 9.—A German attack last night in the region of Vaux Lee Palameux, southeast of Verdun, was repulsed by the French, today's official statement says. Violent artillery actions occurred in the Woerre region. Last night and this morning bombs were dropped by airplanes in the region of Dunkirk. Four civilians were killed.

The announcement follows: "East of the Meuse an enemy attack in the region of Vaux-Les-Palameux was repulsed completely by our fire. In the Woerre there was violent artillery fighting as well as activity on the part of the patrols north of Flirey.

"In the Vosges, east of Noirmont, one of our detachments took a German post by surprise. The occupants were killed or made prisoner. "Last night and this morning German aviators twice dropped bombs in the region of Dunkirk. Four civilians were killed. In the region of Frontard also projectiles were dropped. Four persons were wounded."

Little Doing in Rumania. Petrograd, Feb. 9, via London (British Admiralty press wireless press).—Only minor operations along the Russian and Rumanian fronts are reported in today's war office statement which reads:

"Western front: South of Brody the gallant General Kardinalovski was killed by a rifle bullet. The enemy artillery bombarded the town of Stanislau with 12-inch shells which destroyed a house and wounded several inhabitants.

"Rumanian front: Infantry firing is proceeding. "Caucasian front: The situation is unchanged."

British Gain Ground. Berlin, Feb. 9, via avyille.—The British made attacks at three points on the Somme front yesterday. Today's announcement from army headquarters say they gained a small amount of ground.

In the Italian Arena. Rome, Feb. 9, via London, (British Admiralty press wireless press).—In the uguna valley Wednesday the enemy right bank of the Brenta with in the right bank of the Brenta with incessant artillery fire," says today's official communication. He was counter attacked vigorously by our batteries which by concentrated fire completely stopped the enemy's offensive.

In the Polesina Valley, at Astico, in the Plezzo sector, before Sagora, and in the vicinity of Bos Comalo and Hudlog, the activity of our reconnoitering patrols led to minor skirmishes which were favorable to us."

Virginia Regiment Leaves Sunday. San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 9.—The Second Virginia Infantry will leave Brownsville for home February 11.

BERLIN REPORTS GERARD IS SAFE; WILL SOON LEAVE

Declares Delay Due to Time Necessary to Move Large Party. TIME OF DEPARTURE SET FOR TOMORROW. United States Has Not Heard From Gerard In Days—Germany Has No Right to Hold American Ambassador as a Hostage.

HOUSE MEMBERS TRADED IN STOCK

Broker Promises to Furnish Names—Got Stung on "Leak" Information.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 9.—George B. Chipman, local manager for Harrison & Company, New York brokers, testified at the "leak" hearing today that certain members of the House dealt in stocks with him.

Chairman Henry called for the names and Chipman promised to furnish them. Chipman testified that so far as he knew no member of Congress sold stocks "short" during the "peace note leak" period. He said he had no Senators' names on his books, but was unable to say whether his customers included secretaries to Senator and Representatives.

Chipman declared that he had not paid for "tips" on governmental activities since 1914. He found, he said, that information he bought usually was of no value.

Examination of correspondents who were told in confidence by Secretary Lansing on December 20 that a note was coming then began. After interrogating Stephen T. Early, of the Associated Press, Carl B. Groat, of the United Press, and Charles D. Warner, of the Christian Science Monitor, the committee recessed.

Swiss Minister Takes Charge in Japan. (By Associated Press.) Tokio, Feb. 9.—Switzerland has taken over German interests in Japan which were cared for by the United States before its breach with Germany.

Whitlock Will Remain in Belgium Unless Expelled. (By Associated Press.)

A special train will leave Berlin Saturday evening at 8:10 o'clock for Switzerland by way of Basel and Bern. The party will then travel to Spain, where Mr. Gerard will embark on the first available steamer for the United States. The former ambassador and Mrs. Gerard will be accompanied by nearly all the embassy secretaries and attaches and members of the consular service in Germany, except a few ordered to Scandinavia or Holland, and by most of the American newspaper correspondents. The train will carry some 200 persons. Two representatives of the foreign office will accompany the train to the border which is expected to be reached early Sunday afternoon.

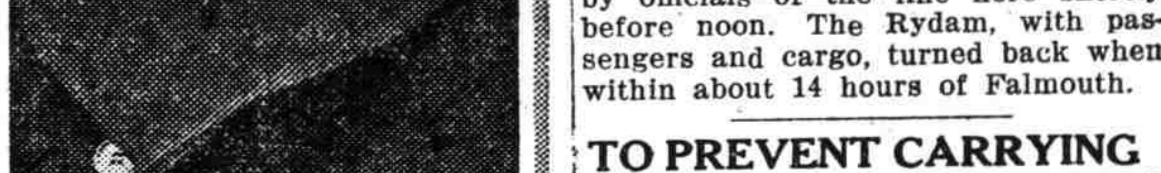
RYNDAM NOT FAR FROM SANDY HOOK

(By Associated Press.) New York, Feb. 9.—The Holland-American Line steamship, Rydam, returning here, after starting for Rotterdam via Falmouth January 29, was reported early today 1,400 miles east of Sandy Hook and due to dock here Wednesday.

A wireless message from the Captain, stating his position, was received by officials of the line here shortly before noon. The Rydam, with passengers and cargo, turned back when within about 14 hours of Falmouth.

TO PREVENT CARRYING SUPPLIES TO SHIPS

(By Associated Press.) Newport News, Va., Feb. 9.—Local customs officials today inaugurated a strict watch to prevent steamer leaving this port from carrying stores and supplies to foreign warships at sea, according to Deputy Collector of Customs Edloe Morecock, in charge of the Newport News office. Mr. Morecock stated that there has been no trouble in this respect so far as he was aware, but that his men would leave no stone unturned to enforce this, as well as other neutrality regulations.



According to dispatches from Washington, Brand Whitlock, United States Minister to Belgium, will remain in the little kingdom unless directed by the Germans to leave. Minister Whitlock has been of a great deal of service to the Belgians suffering under German military regulations and has played a large part in the distribution of clothing and foodstuffs.