

WEATHER FORECAST.
North Carolina—Fair tonight with heavy frost. Tuesday, fair and warmer.
South Carolina—Fair tonight with frost in interior. Fair and warmer Tuesday.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

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FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, MONDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 19, 1917.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

UNCLE SAM TO SOON MAKE NEW MOVE

Railroad Act Declared Valid By High Court

PRESIDENT LIKELY GETTING READY TO STRIKE IN THE WAR

'DAWN OF NEW DAY' HAILED AS TREATY SIGNED TODAY

ADAMSON BILL UPHELD TODAY BY THE COURT

Wilson Conferred Today With Members of His Cabinet Over Sub. Situation

SIGNS POINT TO SOME NEW ACTION
Congress May Be Called Sooner Than Expected, In Order To Meet the Situation—Arming Ships Going Steadily On—American Warships Needed to Protect Home Waters.

NAVY MAY MAKE A MOVE
(Associated Press.)
Washington, March 19.—After conferring with the President this afternoon, Secretary Daniels summoned Admiral Benson, chief of operations, and Captain Oliver, chief of intelligence. There appeared to be ground for the belief that steps were being taken to have the navy take steps to protect American shipping.

Washington, March 19.—New and aggressive action to protect American shipping against German submarines appears certain as a result of yesterday's sinking of three unarmed merchantmen with possible loss of American lives.

Calling of Congress in extra session before April 16, loomed as the strong probability, although President Wilson was understood to have other courses under consideration.

With American ships already being armed, the most probable step would be an active campaign to clear submarines out of the shipping lanes.

There appears to be no plan to have the United States enter the war in the sense that the European nations have entered it.

The fact that some American ships are on the other side of the ocean and against submarines, as large warships are ineffective, the problem for the government is to get smaller submarine chasers. Most of the American fleet is needed at home to guard against operations of German submarines in American waters.

There seemed to be no doubt that steps to supplement arming of American ships would be taken and the only question was whether the President would take such steps on his own responsibility or wait for Congress to grant specific authority.

BIGGEST MILITARY MOVE SINCE THE BATTLE OF MARNE

Germans In Full Retreat On a Front of About Hundred Miles

ALLIES FOLLOWING UP THE TEUTONS
Important Developments Taking Place In Persia—Russians Advance On Disorganized Turks

The greatest military movement on the Franco-Belgian front since the Battle of the Marne is still in full swing with the Germans in retreat on a front of nearly 100 miles.

French territory approximately 620 square miles has been abandoned.

The retirement of Field Marshal von Hindenburg's western armies has already virtually resulted in the straightening out of the famous Arras and Noyon salients and apparently the retrograde movement is still in progress.

Should the expectations of many military observers who have been watching the operation be realized, the retreat will not stop short of the powerfully fortified line running from Lille to Laon, through the strong defensive position of Cambri and St. Quentin.

Today's German official statement speaks of the movement with a certain note of finality as if it were entirely completed. The previous retreat in the Somme region, however, was marked by such a statement made in the midst of its progress. The broad scope of the operation is succinctly indicated in the Berlin announcement that the ground evacuated was a strip of land between the Arras district and the Aisne, which takes in virtually the entire front, from a short distance south of Lille to the Soissons-Laon district.

Both the British and French are sharply following up the retreating Germans, employment of cavalry having enabled the pursuers to keep in close touch.

PRESIDENT IN CONFERENCE

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, March 19.—Secretary Lansing was called to the White House by the President early today and they discussed the policy of the government.

FATE OF CAPTAIN STILL UNKNOWN

Master of City of Memphis and Companions Not Yet Accounted For
(By Associated Press.)
London, March 19.—Captain Borum and the eight men who formed the complement of his boat are among those missing from the sunken American steamer City of Memphis. Four of the eight sailors are Americans. The boat was picked up at 10 o'clock Sunday morning empty and it is hoped that its occupants were rescued either by a patrol or by a vessel carrying no wireless and landed at some out-of-the-way port.

The survivors say that the captain's boat became separated from the others about 1 o'clock on Sunday morning.

The City of Memphis left Cardiff with 58 persons, of whom 29 were Americans. The survivors who have thus far reported to the American consulate number 33. The steamer carried no guns. She was equipped with wireless but did not use it after the submarine appeared. The survivors say the weather was squally and there was a heavy southwest wind.

Fifteen men from the American steamer Vigilancia, sunk by a German submarine, are now listed as missing. The American embassy learns that the submarine fired two torpedoes at the Vigilancia. The first missed by a considerable distance. It was followed immediately by the second, which found the mark.

FARM LOAN INTEREST WILL BE 5 PER CENT.

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, March 19.—The Farm Loan Board announced today that the interest rate on all loans made to farmers throughout the country by Federal Land Banks would be 5 per cent.

ENGLAND TO CONGRATULATE RUSSIAN DUMA

(By Associated Press.)
London, March 19.—Premier Lloyd George today announced in the House of Commons that on Thursday he would move a motion of congratulation to the Russian Duma.

TO SOON BE FREE FROM INVADERS

French Will Free Two Important Departments From German Grip
(By The Associated Press.)
Paris, March 19.—Tomorrow or the day after two entire French departments, the Oise and Aisne, will be liberated from the German invader, according to reports from the fighting front. The total territory now regained is roughly calculated at 620 square miles.

The nature of the ground over which the Germans retreated was almost all against them and they were hurried by cavalry which is now being used in force for the first time since the battle of the Marne.

At a few points where nature offered an opportunity for resistance the Germans tried to make a stand and fell back only after considerable fighting. The principal of these points were the forest of Ourscamp and the village and part of the wood of Carlepoint, south of Noyon.

There was also a sharp struggle for the important Crouy Plateau, across the river from Soissons, the capture of which is believed likely by military critics to be followed by highly favorable developments. In this section the French have approximately restored the line which existed before the battle of Crouy, fought in the Spring of 1915 by General Berthelot, who is now in Rumania. The battle was lost by the French, owing to a sudden rise in the River Aisne. The situation in the whole section was at one moment compromised, but was saved by General Nivelle, who was given credit for the French being able to retain the bridgehead at Soissons.

HOME RULE NEW POLICY FOR FINLAND

(By Associated Press.)
London, March 19.—Home rule for Finland is the policy of the new Russian government, according to a Reuters correspondent writing from Tammerfors, Finland's greatest manufacturing city. The correspondent says that the Finnish diet will be convened shortly and asked to establish a government possessing the full confidence of the people.

MAIL BAGS RIFLED ON CUNARD LINER

(By Associated Press.)
New York, March 19.—Twenty-six mail bags addressed to Washington and the British embassy at Washington were found to have been rifled on board the Cunard liner, Saxonia, upon her arrival here today.

End of Railroad War Marked When Employees and Employers Signed PATRIOTISM HELD SWAY; FORCED ISSUE

Heads of Great Systems Conceded Eight-Hour Day On Account of International Situation—Great Work of President Wilson's Mediators.
(By Associated Press.)
New York, March 19.—The railroad strike has been averted. Yielding to the appeal of President Wilson and facing the probability of this country's entrance into the war, the railroad heads early today granted the demands of the four employees' brotherhoods for a basic eight-hour day. The decision is regarded as a complete surrender to the brotherhoods. The President's mediators were not successful in their mission until after more than fifty hours of conference. Secretary Lane said to Elisha Lee, spokesman for the railroads:

"This is a magnificent thing that you have done for your country. It will go down in history as one of the greatest things you ever did."

The number of workmen profiting by this increase will be more than 300,000.

The crisis resulting from the sinking of three American ships by German submarines was the prime factor in clearing the situation and restoring the country to normal conditions insofar as its transportation facilities were concerned.

The railroad managers had been dismissed temporarily by the mediators, who made no secret of the fact that they viewed the outlook with pessimism. Secretary Lane a short time before word came that the managers had yielded issued a statement that the conferences would be resumed today, but intimated that he was none too hopeful of a settlement.

The railroad managers and the brotherhood chiefs had been told of the seriousness of the international situation, but the warning had apparently fall on deaf ears. It was evident that the strike undoubtedly would become effective.

The mediators again communicated with the railroad managers, however, with the result that they are said to have voted unanimously to yield to the demands of the brotherhoods "in order that neither at home nor abroad should there be fear or hope that the efficient operation of the railroads of the country will be hampered or impaired."

The mediation negotiations and their result are summed up in the following statement issued by the committee from the Council of National Defense:

AIRSHIP ATTACK ON LONDON

(By Associated Press.)
Berlin, March 19 (Via London).—An attack on London by Zeppelins lasting one and one-half hours has been made, the war office announced today. Bombs were dropped successfully and the airships returned safely.

WORD COMES FROM CONSUL FROST

Reports to State Department On Sinking of American Vessels
(By Associated Press.)
Washington, March 19.—The following dispatch undated from Consul Frost, at Queenstown, reached the State Department very late last night and was given out today:

"Thirty-three survivors City of Memphis do not include Captain L. B. Borum and four other Americans and four non-Americans, but indications are that they are safe on board some merchant or admiralty vessel which has no wireless. Captain's boat did not separate from others until 1 a. m. today and was picked up empty at 10 a. m., weather meanwhile remaining moderate."

"Vessel cleared Cardiff 16th in ballast with 58 persons including 29 Americans. At 3:55 p. m., 17th, submarine fired warning shot from three miles on starboard quarter, vessel was stopped, submarine approaching to one mile, fired once more, fragments striking vessel, ship then only being able to read submarine's signal to abandon ship. Instantly Captain replied by long blast of whistle signifying comprehension, then gave four short blasts signal to crew to take to boats immediately which was done in five minutes, about 4:15. No injuries. Submarine then came up, hailed Captain's boat, fired eight shots, sinking vessel about 4:40 p. m., apparent time. Location of Captain's boat at present unknown. Weather heavy, southwest swell, moderate southwest breeze, sky squally, weather improved during night. First of ship's boat picked up by admiralty ship 3:45 a. m. today. Chief engineer's boat, 6:30 a. m. today by same vessel. Landed Queenstown 4:30 p. m., today without accident. City of Memphis carried wireless, but did not use it."

"Survivors here include E. J. Officer Charles G. Laird, Chief Engineer; Fred Beville, Third Officer M. J. Dierlam, Third Engineer W. M. Thompson, P. J. Donohue and T. J. Welch, wireless operators, and eight other Americans, ten Spaniards, two Danes and one each Swede, Russian and Chilean."

"City of Memphis was stopped by submarine February 4, off Scilly Islands. Failure to use wireless this time was due to experience of former occasion inducing belief that ship would probably be passed if wireless not started. Survivors were assembled Queenstown pending instructions from owners, Ocean Steamship Company, New York."

PISTOL DUEL TODAY WITH PAIR BURGLARS

(By Associated Press.)
Memphis, Tenn., March 19.—In a pistol duel between two burglars and J. M. Johnson, a night watchman in the Southern part of the city, early today, one of the robbers was killed and the other wounded.

Court Stood Five to Four Validity of the Eight-Hour Act

JUDGE HOOK'S DECISION REVERSED
Act Held Constitutional In All Respects—Chief Justice White Announced the Decision for the Majority of the Tribunal.

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, March 19.—The Adamson eight-hour railroad law was held constitutional and valid in all respects today by the Supreme Court. The decision makes eight hours the standard of a day's work and wages for men in operation of trains and legalizes the wage increases which went into tentative effect on its passage. The decision was 5 to 4. Justices Day, Pitney and Van DeVanter announced their dissent from the bench and later Justice McReynolds announced his.

Federal Judge Hook's ruling, in the Missouri, Oklahoma & Gulf Railroad test case enjoining enforcement of the Adamson act and holding it "unconstitutional, null and void," was reversed.

The immediate, temporary wage increases won by the railroad employees affect 400,000 trainmen, as of January 1, and are estimated to total between 40,000,000 and \$50,000,000.

Justice McKenna concurred in the majority opinion, but on slightly different grounds. Justice Day read his own dissenting opinion and Justice Pitney delivered the other dissenting opinion in which Justice Van DeVanter joined.

Justices Pitney and Van DeVanter in their joint dissenting opinion, held that the law should be held unconstitutional and void "because Congress, although confessedly not in possession of information necessary for intelligent and just treatment of the controversy, arbitrarily imposed upon the railroads the entire and enormous cost of an experimental increase in wages."

Justice Day, in his dissenting opinion, said the legislation amounted to deprivation of the railroads' property without due process of law.

In concurring in the majority opinion, Justice McKenna differed in that he believed the law "an hours of service" statute and only secondarily a wage-fixing law and thus within power of Congress.

ONLY ONE BOAT MISSING.
(By Associated Press.)
New York, March 19.—A cablegram saying that all but one boat from the steamer, City of Memphis had been reported safe and that it was expected the missing boat in which the Captain took refuge would soon be accounted for, was received here today by the Ocean Steamship Company.

Germans In Full Retreat.
Paris, March 19.—The German line at last accounts was in full retreat over a section which represents at most one-fifth of the vast front pressed by the French and British.

BRITISH DESTROYER SUNK.
(By Associated Press.)
London, March 19.—A British destroyer and a merchant vessel were sunk and another destroyer was damaged in the German naval raid at Ramsgate, the Admiralty announced today.

DUTCH SHIP SENT OUT CALL FOR HELP
(By Associated Press.)
New York, March 19.—The Dutch steamship Saga, a freighter, on her way here from Cuba, sent a wireless message ashore from a point off the New Jersey coast, saying she was in no danger of sinking as a result of her collision early today with an unidentified bark.

Memphis, Tenn., March 19.—In a pistol duel between two burglars and J. M. Johnson, a night watchman in the Southern part of the city, early today, one of the robbers was killed and the other wounded.

The dead burglar has not been identified.