

WEATHER FORECAST.  
North Carolina—Rain and warm tonight. Saturday, partly cloudy, Sunday, probably fair.  
South Carolina—Rain and warm tonight. Saturday and Sunday, probably fair. Colder in west.

# THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH



FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FRI DAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 23, 1917.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## MONEY AND MUNITIONS TO BE PROVIDED THE ENTENTE ALLIES; CABINET IS MEETING TODAY

### President Wilson Now at Work on His Address to Extra Session of Congress

### ALERT FOR ANY MOVE BY GERMANY

### Felt That Teutons Will Attempt to Block Path by Mediation—President In Close Touch With Army and Navy.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 23.—President Wilson's address to Congress was taken up in its tentative form at today's cabinet meeting. Practically all the secretaries had been asked to bring material for points upon which to touch.

While the exact nature of the President's address necessarily will be determined by the developments of the next ten days, it is expected to be of a specific character and probably will outline comprehensively just what steps he believes Congress should take to meet the warlike operations of German submarines.

Administration officials realize that during the period of waiting a sustained effort is being made in Germany to place the responsibility for war on the United States. The hint of an offer of mediation is regarded as an added evidence of this movement, but the President and all his advisers are determined that if war actually comes, it shall be clear to the world that it has not been of America's choosing.

The President to keep in touch with army and navy preparations, cancelled practically all engagements today except one with Governor McCall of Massachusetts who wanted to confer on ways which the State might cooperate with the federal government.

The subject of financial co-operation of the Allies which is expected to take on the form of extension of credits for supplies is being discussed in a tentative way, with the idea of having a concrete plan ready when the occasion for using it comes.

Officials say consideration of the matter had not advanced to a stage where anything definite could be disclosed.

The question of co-operation on supplying munitions is understood to be more pressing. It is understood that the allied governments are fearful in preparing the American army and navy for war operations the supply of munitions to the armies in France might be decreased at a vital moment.

Plans are being considered for a cooperative distribution of output which would be most effective.

### THE GAUNTLET THROWN DOWN

### Defiance of President Wilson By The German Press.

(By Associated Press.) Berlin, Thursday, March 22 (Via London, March 23).—The Lokai Anzeiger accused President Wilson of criminal carelessness in his conduct of American-German relations. The paper says:

"Dispatches from America and other neutral countries repeatedly play with the idea of the possibility of Germany according American a different treatment from that given other neutral steamers, on the ground that Germany must have an interest in avoiding a conflict with America. It seems a fact that America also is keeping alive the hope that at the last moment we may find a way to compromise with the American standpoint. After the chancellor, as well as the other officials involved, have repeatedly emphasized that there can be no going back for us, it is only necessary now to lay stress upon the following:

"The policy of President Wilson since the breaking off of diplomatic relations has been characterized by carelessness and criminal errors. He has played with the destinies of great peoples. He desires to make his further course depend upon whether Germany commits an overt act, that is, an openly hostile action against an armed American merchantman. At the same time he let it be known that he has commanded these armed merchantmen to open fire, on their part, on all submarines immediately.

"In the face of the reasons we have given the whole world as the basis for unrestricted warfare, it is unparalleled rashness if the President risks the lives of American citizens in the careless belief that we will not dare to injure them. Even apart from the fact that our naval authorities declare that it is practically impossible to distinguish American from non-American merchantmen, the German government must emphatically decline to consider any discrimination. If President Wilson rashly wants war he should start it and he will have it. On our side it only remains to assure him that we have put an end to negotiations about submarine warfare once for all. The monstrous guilt for a German-American war, should it come, would fall alone upon President Wilson and his government."

### SUICIDE PACT AND TWO DEATHS

### The Two Young Women Who Committed Suicides in Cafe Identified.

(By Associated Press.) Portsmouth, N. H., March 23.—The two young women who were killed in the Portsmouth cafe last night were definitely identified today as Margaret (Peggy) Spalding, daughter of George F. Spalding, of Newton, Mass., and Ethel Stanton, daughter of J. L. Stanton, city passenger agent of the Rock Island railroad, with headquarters at Los Angeles.

A note signed "Peggy and Ethel" found in a room in the Rockingham hotel which they had occupied Wednesday night and Thursday indicated that they had agreed to commit suicide together.

Miss Spalding was 18 years of age and Miss Stanton was 22. The girls came here Wednesday. After a day and night spent at the hotel where Miss Stanton had registered in her own name and Miss Spalding as "Rose King," they went to the cafe for dinner. They spent more than two hours over the meal, prolonging it by repeated calls for black coffee.

Just before 11 o'clock the waiters and the few remaining diners heard two shots. They rushed to the booth and found Miss Stanton dead, lying half across the table. Miss Spalding lay on the floor unconscious and died shortly afterward. Each girl had a bullet wound in the temple. Miss Stanton's fingers were closed about a .32-caliber revolver and beside Miss Spalding's body lay a pearl handle .22-caliber revolver.

The police expressed the opinion that each girl held a revolver at the others head and fired. It was planned to hold an inquest today.

The note found in the girls' room was addressed to Miss Spalding's mother. Through inquiries made at her home in Newton, it was learned that Margaret Spalding was a graduate of the Newton High School, where she had been a prominent basketball and hockey player. Since last fall she had been a teacher-pupil in the gymnasium department of the Garland school in Boston. Miss Stanton was a pupil at this school until two weeks ago when she began studies at the Dana Hall School in Wellesley, Mass. They were close friends.

No definite reason was given in the note for the act. It is said they had decided that it was better that they should die, and they asked their parents not to be grief-stricken "because they would all be happy and peaceful when reunited in the better world."

A note left by Miss Stanton asked that C. F. Malsbury, Johnson building, Cincinnati, be notified. Mr. Malsbury was executor of the estate of Miss Stanton's mother, who was killed in an automobile accident.

Dr. H. L. Taylor, assistant medical referee, after an examination of the bodies today, said that each girl had shot herself in the right temple. The young women were in normal and apparently healthful condition, he said. An inquest did not appear necessary.

The police today received a telegram from Mr. Malsbury, asking that the body of Miss Stanton be removed to Cincinnati.

Miss Spalding, last summer, was a director at the Quanset Camp in New Orleans, and it is stated that she met Miss Stanton at the camp. She had attracted some attention in exhibition dancing.

Light was thrown on the suicides later today, when the police made public a paragraph from the joint note left by the young women. It read: "We have experienced perfect love for each other and cannot bear the thought of separation. So we will end it all."

The police said, also, that wish was expressed that the bodies be buried together. The separation referred to is supposed to have meant the departure from the Garland school of Miss Stanton, when she was transferred to the Dana Hall school, at Wellesley.

No inquest will be held.

Plans were made to remove the body of Miss Spalding to Newton, Mass., and to place the body of Miss Stanton on a train for the West tonight.

### A SENTINEL SHOT BY UNKNOWN PARTIES

(By Associated Press.) Portland, Me., March 23.—Private John Poor, of the Third Company, Coast Artillery Corps, at Fort Williams, was shot and fatally wounded early today while attempting to capture two men who had made their way into the reservation despite the presence of a heavy guard, and had reached a point near one of the batteries of 12-inch guns. The men escaped.

Because of the reported presence of suspicious characters near the forts, the guard force has been greatly increased.

On Wednesday night a shot was fired at a soldier on guard at Portland headlight. More experienced men were later detailed for duty at the fort and early today two men attempted to pass in the darkness. Poor grappled with them and was shot in the groin. His chances are against his recovery. The bullet was from a revolver of large calibre.

### OLD WARRIOR FOUND DEAD IN HIS OFFICE.

(By Associated Press.) Nashville, Tenn., March 23.—A Tuscaloosa, Ala., special says that Colonel A. E. Prince, insurance agent and member of the staff of the commander of the United Confederate Veterans, was found dead in his office there last night. Heart trouble is given as the cause.

### CHAMP CLARK SURE HE'LL BE RE-ELECTED.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 23.—Speaker Clark who returned today from New Orleans, predicted his re-election by a majority of from one to five within one hour and forty minutes after the opening of the extra session of congress at noon on April 2.

### Emperor of Germany Has Suffered A Nervous Collapse

(By Associated Press.) London, March 23.—Private messages have reached The Hague that Emperor William is suffering from a severe nervous breakdown, an Exchange Telegraph from The Hague reports.

The Emperor's physicians are said to have ordered him to take the cure at Hamburg.

### FORMER EMPEROR OF ALL RUSSIA IS BEHIND THE BARS

Conducted by a Committee of The Duma to His Prison.

CONFINED IN TSORSKOE-SELO PALACE.

Double Line of Sentries Around The Palace—Other Members of Royal Family Confined There

(By Associated Press.) Tsarskoe-Selo, Russia, Thursday, March 22 (Via London, March 23).—On his arrival here today in the custody of four members of the Duma, Nicholas Romanoff, the deposed emperor, was turned over immediately to the Tsarskoe-Selo commander and taken to the Alexandrovsky Palace where the former Empress Alexandra already was interned. The special train carrying the former ruler arrived at 1:30 o'clock on the branch line outside Alexandrovsky Park. On leaving the train Nicholas entered an automobile accompanied by his adjutant, Prince Dolgorokoff, and by the four Duma commissioners. They were driven to the palace.

Nicholas was met at the door in the left wing of the palace by Count Benckendorf, who was his marshal of the court, and is now under arrest. The former ruler held himself erect, looking calm and indifferent. A battalion of the First Rifle Guard regiment was at the depot. The commander at Tsarskoe-Selo is Colonel Kobulinsky, formerly commander of the Petrogradsky regiment, stationed in peace time at Warsaw. To him the Duma commissioners announced:

"Our mission of handing over the Emperor is finished. We now go to Petrograd to announce this fact to the Duma."

### WOULD SUMMON NEW YORK'S HEAD BEFORE SENATE

### Member of Legislature Calls on Him to Make Good His Charge.

### RESOLUTION GOES OVER TO MONDAY.

Mitchel Alleged Senator Wagner Aiding Germany By Blocking Legislative Action.

(By Associated Press.) Albany, N. Y., March 23.—A resolution summoning Mayor Mitchell of New York, to the bar of the Senate to explain grounds for his allegation that Democratic Leader Robert F. Wagner was aiding Germany by delaying the Rockaway fortifications site bill, was introduced today by Senator Wagner. Consideration was deferred until Monday night, at the request of the introducer.

Senator Wagner, who was born in Prussia and came to this country at the age of 8 years, said:

"The mayor of the city of New York has given to the press a statement in which he makes against me the vilest and most serious charge that can be made against an American citizen. I denounce this charge as wickedly and atrociously false and known to him to be false."

### Names of Widow of Army Officer Postmaster.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 23.—Mrs. Annler F. Cardwell, widow of an army officer, was given a recess appointment by President Wilson today as postmaster at Fortress Monroe, Va.

## GERMANS TURN TO DELIVER BLOW AT ONCOMING FRENCH

### GERMANY EXTENDS SUB. WAR ZONE

### Notifies Norway of Inclusive of Part of The Arctic Sea.

(By Associated Press.) London, March 23.—A Reuter dispatch from Christiania says the German minister had communicated to the Norwegian government an order from his government that the part of the Arctic sea, lying east of 24 degrees, east longitude, and south of 75 degrees, north latitude, excepting Norwegian territory, is to be regarded dangerous for all navigation.

Ships will be met with all weapons. Neutral vessels entering those waters must do so at their own risk.

Neutral ships already on the way for, or returning from, ports in this zone, will not be attacked without warning until April 5.

### INTERNED SAILORS TO BE SENT SOUTH.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, March 23.—The Seventeenth infantry will probably arrive tomorrow at Forts McPherson and Oglethorpe, Ga., to guard the German interned sailors to be removed from the Philadelphia navy yard. Six companies, A, B, C, D, E and F, have been sent to Fort McPherson, and G, H, I, K, L and M to Oglethorpe. The regiment left Fort Bliss Tuesday.

Secretary Daniels will order the interned Germans south as soon as the Seventeenth arrives and completes its arrangements. A marine guard will act as escort for the sailors.

The correspondent drove to the old Tsarskoe-Selo Palace which is entirely deserted and without guards and then to the new palace where the former imperial family is interned. The palace, which is in the park, is surrounded by a plain spiked fence, five feet high, coated with silver paint. From the corner nearest the old palace, the new palace is partly visible through the thick wood. Within the park over the expanse of snow, not a single person was visible.

Apparently there were no guards within the park, but outside the fence every fifty yards along the roadway were double sentries from the Petrogradsky regiment, in long blue coats, with fixed bayonets.

An astonishing circumstance, in view of the attitude of Nicholas toward the population of Tsarskoe-Selo which lived entirely upon imperial favor, was the lack of public interest.

### Teutons Smashed Way Into French Lines But Were Afterwards Thrown Back

### RUSSIANS RUSHING FORWARD IN PERSIA

### Powerful Blows Being Struck The Turks—Berlin Claims The French Offensive is Dying Out—Heavy Losses Inflicted.

New interest is attaching to the campaign in Western Persia and Mesopotamia as the converging forces of Russians and British approach each other northeast of Bagdad.

With the latest Russian advance to Kerindia, less than 45 miles from the Mesopotamian border, reported today, the two bodies of entente troops can hardly be more than 100 miles apart and may be much nearer.

Little has been heard recently from the British, who may, by this time, be considerably further up the Tigris and Diarra from Bagdad than at the last reports.

The initial phase of the battle in Northern France has apparently turned in favor of the French, who are reported to have forced their way across the Ailette river and the Crozat canal at several points. Along these waterways the Germans elected to make their first stand in defense of LaFere, toward which General Nivelle is rushing his advance troops in a desperate effort to break the Hindenburg line before the German defense is consolidated.

Further south the French are attempting to batter their way toward Laon, but between them and their goal lie the great forests of Coucy and St. Gobain, and the comparatively meagre advance reported from Paris indicates that the issue is still very much in doubt. Some ground has been gained northeast of Soissons, but the fact that the French report having inflicted "very heavy" losses on the Germans is an intimation that (Continued on Page Eight)

### Wireless Operator Rescued.

Philadelphia, March 23.—Herman H. Parker, the wireless operator aboard the Healdton, was saved, according to a cablegram received here today by his father, William Parker. The message was dated Terschelling, Holland. Mr. Parker said his son was 19 years old and a native Philadelphian.

Loss from Sinking of the Healdton. Washington, March 23.—The American tanker Healdton, torpedoed and sunk off the Dutch coast, Wednesday night, was insured by the government's war risk bureau for \$498,000.

The loss of the Healdton is the greatest yet sustained by the bureau. The next largest was the loss of the steamer Illinois, insured for \$250,000. Approximately \$64,000,000 in insur. (Continued on Page Eight)

## SHOT TO BITS U.S. SIGN ON STEAMER

### SIX AMERICANS ONLY SURVIVE THE DISASTER

### Sinking of The American Tank Steamer Healdton.

### OUTSIDE OF THE PROHIBITED ZONE.

### Precaution Taken to Keep Within The Safety Zone. No Aid By Submarine—Rescued by Trawler.

### The Captain a Survivor.

London, March 23.—A Reuters' dispatch from The Hague says that Captain Christopher, commander of the American steamer Healdton, is among the survivors. The dispatch says a Healdton life boat with seven occupants was picked up by a Dutch destroyer.

### Account of The Attack.

Amsterdam, March 23.—(Via London)—The Handelsblad says that the Healdton was within or on the border of the German danger zone east of the free channel. Nothing could be distinguished of the nationality of the submarine which fired without emerging fully and disappeared immediately without paying any attention to the shipwrecked men. The Healdton was flying the American flag and had her name painted on both sides.

### Then Submarine Hurling Two Torpedoes Into The American Oil Tanker.

### SHIP WAS PLAINLY MARKED AS AMERICAN

### Crew Just Had Time to Take to Boats and Many Lost Lives—Fire Broke Out on The Ship Due to Nature of The Cargo.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE AMERICANS SAVED.

(By Associated Press.) Rotterdam, March 23.—(Via London)—The six Americans saved from Healdton are: Captain Charles Christopher, of Brooklyn; J. Caldwell, of New York, chief engineer, and G. W. Embury, of New Orleans, first assistant engineer, all of whom landed at Ymuden. O. O. Willerup, chief mate; Y. Swenson, second assistant engineer, and W. C. Johnson, third assistant engineer, who landed at Terschelling.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Hague, Netherlands, March 23 (Via London).—A second boat from the Healdton has been brought to Terschelling by a Dutch torpedo boat with eight men, including one badly injured. One Dutchman had jumped overboard, losing his life. The third boat, containing 19 men, was overturned when the ship capsized. All were drowned, making a total of 20 lives lost out of the crew of 41. Of the 13 Americans on board, only six were saved. Two Dutch also were among the victims, others of whom were Spaniards, Norwegians and a Finn.

On Wednesday, about 8:15 p. m., notwithstanding the electrically illuminated words, "Healdton, N. Y.," between the masts, the vessel was bombarded suddenly by an invisible submarine, which first shot away the illuminated name and then, without warning, twice torpedoed the vessel. Fire broke out at once. The crew immediately sought safety in the boats, not having a minute to dress or collect belongings.

All efforts to save the 19 men in the overturned boat were fruitless. The boat with 13 men, including the captain, was sighted on Thursday by the steam trawler, Java, which had just put to sea, but immediately returned to Ymuden with the shipwrecked men. A number of survivors were in their underclothes and all were terribly exhausted by the night's fatigue and exposure in the open boat to bitter cold and snow. They had not even enough strength to come alongside the trawler. Once on board the trawler some of the survivors fell to the deck in a faint.

The captain of the Healdton said one of the torpedoes hit his vessel in the stern and the other amidships.

In a dispatch it is said that apparently the Healdton was within or on the border of the German danger zone east of the free channel. Nothing could be distinguished of the nationality of the submarine which fired without emerging fully and disappeared immediately without paying any attention to the shipwrecked men. The Healdton was flying the American flag and had her name painted on both sides.

### AMERICAN AIRMAN PROBABLY LOST

### Two U. S. A. Boys Daringly Engaged German Aviators In Battle.

(By Associated Press.) Paris, March 23.—Sergeant J. R. McConnell, an American aviator with the aviation camps in France, has been missing four days since last seen engaged with two German machines over the German lines.

McConnell was scouting with Aviator Jenny, another American, when they encountered two German machines, which McConnell engaged with Jenny protecting him from a higher level. Jenny was wounded in the head and drew away, regaining the French lines. When he last looked back he saw both German machines above McConnell and attacking him. Nothing has been heard of McConnell's fate.