

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 20, 1917.

The Business Specials Columns of The Dispatch will find a buyer for your property.

WEATHER FORECAST. North and South Carolina—Partly overcast, with probably local showers tonight or Saturday.

VOL. XXIII. NO. 82.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

UNITED STATES BE CONSULTED ON ALL MATTERS

So Intimates Chancellor Bonar Law in House of Commons Today.

TO HOLD IMPORTANT SECRET MEETING

Entente Attitude Towards Greece Will be Taken Up. America Will Likely Play Part.

(By Associated Press.) London, April 20.—Chancellor Bonar Law informed the House of Commons that the government had decided to hold a secret session of the House, the date of which would be announced next week. One of the subjects of discussion, Mr. Bonar Law told the House, will be the situation in Greece, which is now under consideration by the allied governments. Laurence Ginnell asked whether the United States was being consulted with regard to Greece. The chancellor replied: "Up to the present the United States has not taken any part in the discussion, but I have no doubt that as soon as arrangements are completed they will be consulted in every matter in which their interests are concerned."

WELL KNOWN HOTEL MAN DIED LAST NIGHT

(Special to The Dispatch.) Fayetteville, N. C., April 20.—One of Fayetteville's most prominent citizens and one of the city's most popular men, passed away last night in the death of Mr. Malcolm McIntyre Matthews. For years he was joint proprietor of the Lafayette Hotel and had a host of friends. He was familiar and affectionately known as "Mac" Matthews. He is survived by two sisters, Mrs. James P. Gray, of New York, and Mrs. E. H. Jennings, of Fayetteville. Death followed a stroke of paralysis.

DR. FAISON HEADS MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

(Special to The Dispatch.) Asheville, N. C., April 20.—The 64th annual session of the North Carolina Medical Society, which convened here last Tuesday, adjourned yesterday, following the most interesting convention perhaps that the society has ever held. The following officers were elected: President, Dr. I. W. Faison, of Charlotte; first vice president, Dr. William DeB. McNeider, of Chapel Hill; second vice president, Dr. Jos. Green, of Asheville; third vice president, Dr. Ben F. Royal, of Morehead City; secretary, Dr. Benjamin B. Hays, of Oxford; and the treasurer, Dr. W. M. Jones, of Greensboro, hold over until the next meeting, which will be at Pinehurst.

AMERICAN NAVY TAKING OVER PATROL DUTY.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, April 19.—It became known officially today that the American navy is rapidly taking over the patrol which the British and French vessels established on the American coast.

ALLEGED SPY NABBED IN JACKSONVILLE.

(Special to The Dispatch.) Jacksonville, N. C., April 20.—Charles Forbes, native of Bermuda, arrested here Wednesday for beating his fare on a freight train and on suspicion of being a spy, was tried before Magistrate H. C. Canaday. There was evidence that he had made seditious remarks and urged the train-riding charge he was charged to jail for 30 days. Government authorities will be asked to investigate remarks he is alleged to have made at Hampstead.

SPANISH CABINET QUILTS JOB

(By Associated Press.) Madrid, Spain, April 19 (Via London).—The Spanish cabinet has resigned. The Spanish cabinet has resigned without official information of the resignation of the cabinet and the minister said he was at a loss to estimate the cause of the breaking up of the ministry. All his dispatches for the last two weeks, the ambassador said, indicated that the country was quiet, following the workingmen's disorder of some time ago.

FRENCH CONTINUE HURL THEMSELVES AGAINST ENEMY

More Progress Reported in Big Spring Drive On The Germans.

TURKS STILL IN FULL FLIGHT.

British Forces in Egypt Make Advance—General Maude Reports Further Successes.

While the French attack last night was not as spectacular as on the preceding days of the great battle along the Aisne and in the Champagne, progress was nevertheless continued in important sectors. This was notably true of the action northeast of the Soissons, where the lines of envelopment are gradually being drawn nearer to the important railway center of Laon, the strategic objective in this division of the front. The French here gained ground in the vicinity of Lauffaux, the advance being characterized in the official statement as "considerable." The Germans reacted strongly, but were unable to make any impression on the new French lines. General Nivelle's pressure here is calculated to force the Germans speedily out of the salient to which they have clung, projecting toward the Aisne in the direction of Conde.

The advance towards Laon also was continued on the Vanclerc plateau, almost directly south of this city, where the French are pushing northward off the Rheims-Laon road. On the plains north of Rheims, where the Germans are clinging stubbornly to their strongly entrenched positions, several of the trenches near Courcy were carried in grenade attacks. Headway also was made east of Loivre in this sector. In the Champagne, notably near Moronvilliers, the Germans launched their expected violent counter attacks which the French troops, their artillery brought up, were amply prepared to meet. The artillery and machine guns cut loose on the advancing columns, reinforced by the fresh contingents recently thrown in from other fronts and from the reserves. The result was that the Germans, although their attacks had been prepared by heavy bombardments, were badly cut up and failed to attain their object. Signs of renewed activity also appeared yesterday in the British front in the Arras battlefield, where some gains in the Lens region and east of Fampoux were reported, extended last night to the district northwest of St. Quentin. London today reports British progress in the neighborhood of Villers-Guislain, midway between St. Quentin and Cambrai.

Violent Night Fighting. Paris, April 20.—Violent fighting continued during the night, in the course of which the French made further gains in the regions of Lauffaux and the Vanclerc plateau, the War Office announces. Several lines of trenches east of Loivre were captured. Heavy counter attacks by the Germans in the Champagne were repulsed, severe losses being inflicted on the enemy.

British Gain More Ground. London, April 20.—"We gained ground during the night in the neighborhood of Villers-Guislain," says today's official statement. "Elsewhere there was nothing especially interesting." General Maude, commanding the British forces in Mesopotamia, has forced passage of the Shatt-el-Arab, attacked the Turkish main positions, and completely routed the Turkish forces, says an official statement issued today by the British war department. So far, 1,244 Turks have been captured.

The general officer commanding the British forces in Egypt reports in an official statement to the War Office that on April 17 the British advanced north to Wadi Ghuzze, in southern Palestine, and captured the Turkish advanced positions along a front of 61-2 miles.

HONORS RECEIVED BY NORTH CAROLINA LADY

(By Associated Press.) Washington, April 20.—Mrs. George Thacher Guernsey, of Kansas, was elected president-general of the Daughters of the American Revolution for the next three years, last night, over three opponents by a majority of 25 on the first ballot. Mrs. Guernsey received 677 votes. Mrs. George C. Squires, of Minnesota, 263; Mrs. John Miller Horton, of New York, 225; and Mrs. James Hamilton Lewis, of Illinois, 121. Among the other new officers elected was Mrs. B. D. Heath, of North Carolina, director-general, in charge of the report to the Smithsonian Institution.

IN THE WAKE OF THE GERMAN RETREAT.



BRITISH IN BAPAUME. British officers in the streets of the burning French city of Bapaume after the German evacuation which formed a part of the great retreat to the "Hindenburg line." While the British moved cautiously they followed the German retreat with considerable rapidity, as is evident by the fact that the city was still in flames when Australian regiments occupied it. The Germans were forced to evacuate Bapaume after repeated and increasing vicious attacks by the English. Nothing remained of Bapaume but burning ruins. German machine-gun companies, ensconced in wrecked buildings, remained behind in many parts of the city to hinder the British occupation. (Australian Official Photo.)

FOR RECRUITING RALLY FOR STATE

An Address by The Governor on Subject—Death of Raleigh Official.

(Special to The Dispatch.) Raleigh, April 20.—Governor Bickett has issued an address to North Carolina people urging enlistment in the navy, and calling upon mayors and governing bodies of all towns of 2,500 inhabitants and more to inaugurate campaigns for enlistment. Governor Bickett suggests that, beginning April 23rd, this campaign be carried on until the 30th, when it should close with mass meetings, in which the paramount importance of the navy as our first line of defense should be set forth. At these meetings the actual work of the men in the navy, with the chances of promotion, should be fully explained. The Governor calls attention of the State to the recruiting stations at Wilmington, Raleigh, Fayetteville, Goldsboro, Charlotte, Greensboro and Winston-Salem.

Richard Bullock Seawell, Commissioner of Public Works, died noon today after an illness of less than a week. He was a member of a prominent Raleigh family. He had been many years the city's engineer, and on its change of governmental form he became head of the constructive department. He was 49 years old and unmarried. One month ago today Mr. Seawell buried his mother, who was perhaps the city's most interesting woman.

MEET FRIDAY NIGHT

Discuss Free Factory Site Question Pro and Con.

All loyal citizens are extended a cordial invitation to attend and to participate in a general mass meeting to be held Friday night at 8 o'clock at the Court House in the interest of the elections to be held May 1st, to determine whether the free factory sites question shall be adopted. Officers and members of the Rotary club and other disinterested citizens who are interested in seeing Wilmington prosper and go ahead in a material way have planned the meeting. It is hoped and believed that the attendance will be such as to tax to its limits the hall where the session is to be held. A very cordial and pressing invitation is especially extended to those voters who desire to receive more information on the subject. The meeting will be in the nature of a free discussion of the question. Every point of interest pro and con will be discussed. For this reason it is hoped that every person who favors the question, and everyone else who wishes to have one or several points cleared up before the election is held, will make it a point to attend.

FIRST DEATH UNDER AMERICAN FLAG

Was That of Edmond Genet, of The American Aviation Corps in France.

(By Associated Press.) Paris, April 19.—Edmond C. C. Genet, the American aviator whose death was officially announced today, was the first American to die in France fighting under the American flag. Genet, who was a grand son of former governor Clinton of New York and great grandson of Citizen Genet, French minister to the United States, in revolutionary times, was killed near Ham while escorting Sergeant Raoul Lufberry. Genet was known as a daring and skillful flyer and was very popular on account of his cheery and optimistic nature. His home was in Ossining, N. Y.

SNIPERS AT WORK ON TEXAS BORDER

Fire on American Sentry—Shots Returned—One Mexican Seen to Fall.

(By Associated Press.) El Paso, Texas, April 20.—Snipers who fired at an American sentry stationed at the village in the suburbs of this city were fired upon in return by a squad of United States soldiers late yesterday. One Mexican was seen to fall after the volley had been fired across the border. The sentry was patrolling his beat when two shots were fired from entrenchments on the Mexican side, according to the official report received at military headquarters. The sentry returned the fire and called the members of his squad. They fired more than twenty shots across the line. When Mexican Consul Bravo reported the affair to Brigadier-General George Bell, Jr., the latter informed the consul that the American sentry had been fired upon and had obeyed orders in returning the fire. "I have ordered the outposts to shoot to kill when fired upon," said General Bell, later. "I will court-martial a man who fires across the border first, and I also will court-martial one who fails to return the fire when he is fired upon."

MAKES ATTACK ON CENSOR PLANS

Borah Grows Bitter as He Defends The Freedom of The Press in Senate.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Apr. 20.—Senator Borah, of Idaho, made a long attack upon the press censorship feature yesterday. Congress, he contended, is utterly devoid of power to interfere with liberty of the press. The censorship proposal, he declared, is nebulous, drastic and omnipotent, the consequences of which no man can foresee. "Whatever may be the construction placed upon the constitution in these days of somewhat latitudinous construction," said Senator Borah, "there is no doubt that their framers thoroughly understood and were agreed that the national government should be absolutely excluded from all power over the press. There was no difference of opinion on that." The first constitutional amendment, Senator Borah said, was added to make certain that interference with liberty of the press by the Federal government was expressly denied. Senator Knox suggested that the bill does not expressly provide for press censorship. The committee amendment permitting discussion of governmental acts or policies, Senator Knox said, he thought would be construed by the courts as a declaration that press censorship should not be among the espionage "regulations" conferred upon the President. Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, a newspaper publisher, said the committee amendment would protect only the editorial pages of newspapers. "That's the least important part of a newspaper," said Senator Borah. Senator Brandegee said he thought evident that the bill intends to authorize a press censorship. Regarding the contention that preservation of national safety is now advanced as the reason for proposing censorship, Senator Borah said: "The public interest has always been the basis for all attacks upon the press. Kings and dictators have suppressed publications because they believed them against public interest."

The condition of Sarah Bernhardt again showed a slight improvement today. The actress passed a comfortable night, her physician said. A bulletin issued read: "Madame Bernhardt's condition is distinctly improved and the outlook is better."

ALL ON BOARD SAVE ONE LOST

Scandinavian Steamer Torpedoed By German Submarine—Norwegian Press.

(By Associated Press.) London, April 20.—The torpedoing of an unnamed Scandinavian steamship with the loss of all on board, except Captain Karstein Olsen, is reported in a Reuter dispatch from Christiania. The captain says the submarine rose to the surface after the torpedo had been fired and watched 29 persons drown without offering assistance. The Norwegian press comments bitterly on this incident. The Shipping Gazette says the present situation of Norway is worse than if she were at war. It adds that the United States should have the most cordial co-operation of all the Scandinavian countries in the effort to shut off Germany from exports, even from neutral countries. "All neutrals ought voluntarily to break off commercial relations with Germany," it says.

WANTS ATTACK ON CENSOR PLANS

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PROPOSED INCREASE IN FREIGHT RATES

Washington, April 20.—All railroads were yesterday granted tentative permission by the Interstate Commerce Commission to file supplemental tariffs increasing freight rates generally 15 per cent. effective June 1, next.

In this manner the commission disposed of the question of procedure in dealing with the applications of the roads in every section for general increases. The commission's order is tentative, subject to recall or change prior to the effective date of the rates. In this way the commission brings the issue squarely before the railroads and the shippers in a definite form. Hearings will begin today at which each side will be given an opportunity to state its views and a full investigation of the proposed increases seems likely before the commission issues its final finding.

WANT BETTER MOVIES

Sorosis Starts a Campaign For Educational Pictures.

A movement has been started by North Carolina Sorosis to encourage moving pictures of a more moral and educational type for the children of the city and to secure necessary funds for this work a benefit performance will be given at the Victoria theatre on Saturday of next week. "Alice in Wonderland," a film made particularly for young folks, will be shown. Tickets will be sold by the school children. The schools of the city have been divided into two districts, the Hemenway school and the Union school in the first district, and the Cornelius Harnett, William Hooper and Isaac Bear schools in the second district. To the school disposing of the most tickets will be given a handsome portrait.

SOLEMN SERVICES TO COMMEMORATE AMERICA'S ACTION

TAR HEELS FRONT ON INCREASE IN FOOD PRODUCTION

Big Tobacco Firm to Put All Vacant Lands in Food Crops.

CORN FOR FAMILY SON IN THE ARMY

The Slogan of Wilson County Farmers—Heavy Reduction in Tobacco Acreage Advocated.

(By Associated Press.) Durham, N. C., April 20.—All vacant land owned by the Liggett & Myers Tobacco Company will be devoted to the promotion of food crops this year, according to an announcement by local representatives of the corporation. Advice to this effect were received here yesterday from the general office of the company.

SERIOUSNESS OF FOOD SITUATION RECOGNIZED

(By Associated Press.) Washington, April 20.—The food situation, officials realize, presents one of the most serious problems the country will have to meet during the war. The Department of Agriculture is building up an organization of State and county boards through which to reach both producer and consumer in every corner of the country. Secretary Houston today named R. A. Pearson, president of the Iowa State College of Agriculture, to serve indefinitely as an assistant secretary of agriculture.

RAILWAY SYSTEMS TO COOPERATE

In National Defense—Complete Organization For Purpose Effected.

(By Associated Press.) New York, April 20.—Complete organization of the railroads of the country as a national system for co-operating with the government during the war, together with the administrative personnel appointed to have charge of its operation, was announced here yesterday by the special committee on national defense of the American Railway Association. Fairfax Harrison, president of the Southern Railway system, and chairman of the executive committee on national operation, was announced as chairman of the general committee.

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In Taking Part on Side of Allies in The World War.

IMPOSING SCENE IN OLD ST. PAUL'S

British Royalty and High Dignitaries of Allied Powers—Impressive Religious Ceremonies—Beautiful and Stirring Music—Veterans of Civil War Participate.

(By Associated Press.) London, April 20.—The British people and Americans in this country celebrated America's partnership in the world war by a religious service today in St. Paul's Cathedral, attended by the official heads of the nation and a great congregation which included hundreds of Americans and many prominent British men and women. There was a great display of American flags in London and all other English towns and a popular demonstration by the crowds which surrounded the cathedral. The Stars and Stripes floated from the highest tower of the parliament buildings at Westminster—the first time a foreign flag was ever displayed on that eminence—and they above all government buildings in the British capital.

The service in the historic cathedral, where the most momentous occasions of national rejoicing and mourning have been solemnized, was unprecedented in commemoration of an act and decision of another nation. Overhead in the dim arches hung the dust-weighted and battle-torn flags of famous British regiments, some of which had been carried in the American War of the Revolution, while among the tombs and memorials of famous soldiers ranged about the walls were the names of those who fought against the colonies in that war.

The cathedral seats nearly 4,000 people and was filled to its furthestmost recesses. All seats were occupied when King George and Queen Mary entered, followed by the mayors and aldermen of the twenty-six boroughs of London, wearing their scarlet robes of office. The American embassy and consular staffs occupied front seats with representatives of the Pilgrims, the American Society, the American Luncheon Club, and the American Chamber of Commerce. In the diplomatic section were officers in the uniforms of France, Russia, Italy, Belgium, Serbia, Montenegro, Rumania and Japan.

Throughout the cathedral the army khaki and the navy blue were conspicuous. In the reserve seats there were a large number of wounded officers and soldiers, including many Canadians and several Americans serving with the Dominion forces. Chancellor of the Exchequer Bonar Law, represented the cabinet in the absence of Premier Lloyd-George.

The King and Queen and Princess Mary were received at the west entrance by the Lord Mayor and Sheriff, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the dean and chapter of St. Paul's and United States Ambassador Page. The congregation rose while the majestics walked down the center aisle, and remained standing until the royal party was seated. Then the hymn, "Oh, God, Our Help in Ages Past, Our Strength Through Years to Come," was sung in a deep and mighty chorus, with a heavy droll of drums from the band of the Welsh Guards. The service which followed consisted of the Lord's Prayer, Psalm XVI, and LITV, lessons from Isaiah LXI, the Apostles' Creed, a prayer, the battle hymn of the republic, a sermon by Bishop Brent, the hymn, "Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow," benediction by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the singing of "The Star Spangled Banner" and "God Save the King."

The clergy of St. Paul's conducted the service, assisted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Bishop of London. The text from which Bishop Brent spoke was chosen from Macaulay's second chapter, thirteenth verse, "Having gone apart from the elders he resolved that they should go forth and try the matter in fight, by the help of God. And committing the decision to the lord of the world and exhorting that were with him to contend manfully, even unto death, for the laws, the temple, the city, the country, the commonwealth, he pitched his camp—having given out to his men the watchword 'Victory is God's.'"