

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH



FINAL EDITION

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

WEATHER FORECAST.

North and South Carolina—Fair tonight and Wednesday; continued cool.

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, TUESDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 8, 1917.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

OLD GLORY MADE TOOL BY THE ENEMY

UNDER AMERICAN FLAG SUBMARINES RECEIVED STORES

Supplies Said to Have Been Given German Submarines In Atlantic. GOVERNMENT NOW MAKING INQUIRY Crew of Ship Detained at St. Thomas Make Damaging Admission—The Steamship Company Operates Out of New York.

Washington, May 8.—The government is making a rigid investigation of the activities of the steamer Manitowoc and other vessels of the American Trans-Atlantic Company, which are said to have carried supplies to German submarines in the Atlantic. This was admitted at the Navy Department today.

The American Trans-Atlantic Company has offices both in New York and Boston and its ships fly the American flag. Officials would not say what had aroused their suspicions, but said that the ships had been held for investigation at St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

German Submarines Supplied From United States. San Juan, Porto Rico, May 5 (Correspondence of the Associated Press).—There are German submarines in the Atlantic and until very recently have been supplied from the United States by ships flying the American flag, according to statements by members of the crew of the steamer Manitowoc, which for several weeks was detained in the harbor at St. Thomas. Twenty-one of the crew are returning to the United States after difficulties with Captain F. Hogstead, master of the ship. The Manitowoc, Muskegon and Allagash all belonging to the same line, shortly before the Danish islands became the Virgin Islands, U. S. A., put into the harbor at St. Thomas, bound from Buenos Aires to New York, supposed to be awaiting orders. They were still waiting for orders when the islands were transferred to the United States. According to their manifests all three ships carried coal and other fuel supplies. Members of the crew of the Manitowoc say all the vessels were loaded with contraband for German submarines.

"When we left New York last week we were supposed to have a cargo of coal exclusively," said one of the crew. "Underneath the coal were all sorts of fuel and food supplies. Supposedly the cargo was destined for Buenos Aires. Between St. Thomas and Buenos Aires we got rid of our cargo in the high seas to German submarines. We had no cargo when we reached Buenos Aires."

At Buenos Aires, that ship, the Muskegon, and the Allagash, all took on general cargoes, oil and other fuel supplies which were covered over with several hundred tons of coal, they said. On the Manitowoc there were also placed two iron chests filled with gold, each supposed to contain \$250,000. These, according to the men, were also hidden under the coal.

While waiting in St. Thomas for orders the Danish islands were transferred to the United States and the crew of the Manitowoc tried to get some of their pay while idle in the harbor, but Captain Hogstead refused to make any payments. The men then made complaint to Rear Admiral Oliver, governor of the islands, who required Captain Hogstead to guarantee that he would not supply any more enemy ships before being permitted to leave the harbor, presumably for Buenos Aires. Captain Hogstead said he was unable to get any instructions from the owners in New York.

One morning, according to the crew, the captain ordered the ship's flag hoisted upside down. Indicating there was mutiny aboard, when officers from ashore came on board to find out what the trouble was and when the men insisted there was nothing wrong except for the fact that they had refused to work unless their pay

MAY WHEAT GOES TO THREE DOLLARS. (By Associated Press.) Chicago, May 8.—May wheat sold at \$3 a bushel today, the highest price on record. It was an advance of 17 cents. The close was at \$2.97. July wheat rose 7 1/2 cents to \$2.33 3/4.

OTHER VICTIMS OF SUBMARINE

Greek Vessel Parthenon Torpedoed—Ship and Cargo Valued at Four Millions. (By Associated Press.) New York, May 8.—The Greek steamship Parthenon, which left New York on April 14, for Havre, has been sunk by a German submarine, with a loss of \$4,000,000 in vessel and cargo, according to a dispatch received here today by the owners.

No Report as to Crew. New York, May 8.—The Parthenon, a ship of 2,934 tons gross, was under charter to the Royal Belgian Lloyd. She carried Greek officers and crew. The cablegram did not say whether they were saved. The vessel was destroyed April 30, presumably off the French coast.

Three Norwegian Steamers Torpedoed. London, May 8.—The Norwegian foreign office reports the Norwegian steamers Tolska, Vale and Tromp sunk by German submarines, says a Central News dispatch from Christiania. Three men were lost from the Vale.

Norwegian Bark Sunk. London, May 8.—The Norwegian bark Dione was sunk by gun fire on May 2. Her crew of 12 were rescued, including two Americans, C. H. Edwards, of Normal, Tenn., and H. K. Parker, of Trents street, Portsmouth, Ohio.

Claim Recapture of Fresnoy. (By Associated Press.) Berlin, May 8 (Via London).—German troops have recaptured Fresnoy, says the official statement issued today by the German army headquarters staff.

HORSE PLAY HELD AS NO DEFENSE

Judgment Against Grand Lodge, Order of Moose for Death From Initiation. (By Associated Press.) Washington, May 8.—By refusing to review Alabama court proceedings the Supreme court yesterday put into effect its decree awarding \$18,000 damages against the Supreme Lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose for the death of Donald A. Kenney during initiation at the Birmingham, Ala., local lodge. Kenney died after receiving an electric shock from a "branding board." That this feature was not a regular part of the initiation, but impromptu "horse play" of the local lodge members, was contended unsuccessfully by the Supreme Lodge.

THE INCREASE OF FREIGHT RATES ARGUMENT MADE

Before The Interstate Commerce Commission by Railroad Presidents SOUTHEAST ROADS GIVEN HEARING Norfolk and Western, Southern and Seaboard Air Line Presidents Tell of Their Road's Condition. (By Associated Press.) Washington, May 8.—L. E. Johnson, president of the Norfolk & Western Railroad, was the first of the executives of the southeastern railroads to be heard today by the Interstate Commerce Commission on the application of all lines of the country for a general 15 per cent. increase in freight rates. Mr. Johnson emphasized the emergency existing in railroad operation and asserted that the increase asked for would not offset advances in wages and the increased cost of fuel and material.

"The Adamson law," said Mr. Johnson, "does not in itself create the emergency. It is simply contributory to a condition which became critical because of the country's entry into the war. It is difficult to determine at this time what additional burdens will be imposed upon the railroads, but it is certain that special train service and terminal facilities will be necessary on a broad scale."

Mr. Johnson said he felt that future dividends of railway securities should be assured in order that they may subscribe to war loans. The witness read figures detailing increased operating expenses of the Norfolk & Western.

Replying to questions, Mr. Johnson said the Norfolk & Western now pays 7 per cent. on its stock. Coal increases averaged 98 cents a ton over last year. Representatives of eastern railroads who appeared before the commission yesterday said that they were required to meet increases of \$2 a ton. Mr. Johnson said his road could purchase coal cheaper, because it ran directly into mining regions. He attributed the raise in the price of coal to the extraordinary demand, shortage of labor, and lack of transportation facilities, principally motive power.

Further questions by the commission brought out the fact that the Norfolk & Western recently had bought two coal plants to supply its own coal. Mr. Johnson emphasized the need for increasing credit facilities, which, he said, was impossible unless freight increases should be granted. Fairfax Harrison, president of the Southern, discussed the finances of that system and the increased cost of everything that enters into its operation. An increase of 15 per cent. in freight rates, he said, would fall \$2,000,000 short of meeting the expected income necessary for the proper operation and development of the line. Mr. Harrison told the commission that some of the coal now bought by the Southern cost \$2 a ton, whereas as before, it had cost \$1.25.

The trouble with the Southern, the witness declared, is not so much a lack of equipment, but the embargoes that are encountered: the Southern not yet having had the trouble that confronts roads in other sections of the country. Mr. Harrison said a 15 per cent. increase as proposed actually would amount to a total increase of freight rates of 11 per cent. W. J. Harahan, president of the Seaboard Air Line, gave figures to support his plea for the increase.

GOVT. OPTIMISTIC OVER SOLVING THE BIG SUB. PROBLEM

A BILLION WILL BE SPENT SOON FOR NEW SHIPS

Something Definite Expected Soon in Invitation, Declare Officials. CHAIRMAN SAUNDERS AT CAPITAL TODAY

Think That Remedy For The Evil Will Be Found In Near Future—Plans Are Being Kept Secret. (By Associated Press.) Washington, May 8.—Some definite developments in the near future may be expected from the experiment of American inventors and scientists working on means to combat the submarine menace.

This summary of the situation was obtained authoritatively today in connection with the visit to Washington of Chairman W. L. Saunders, of the Naval Consulting Board, and members of the special committee of the board dealing with the subject. Officials of the Navy Department most familiar with what is being done stated today that the outlook was hopeful.

"They are getting down to brass tacks," was the way one official expressed it. It was again said by Navy officials, however, that no intimation of plans that are being laid would be given out. It is upon the fact that all that is being done seems to be tending toward certain definite points that the belief is based that a remedy for the submarine will be found at some not distant date.

AMERICANS IN TURKEY LEAVING THERE. (By Associated Press.) Stockholm, (Via London), May 8.—The American minister here, Ira Nelson Morris, has been advised through the Swedish foreign office that a party of Americans, 70 in all, left Constantinople on Thursday for Bern, and that arrangements have been completed for the departure from Turkey of twenty American consular officers.

MACHINE GUNS TRAINED ON OUR CONGRESSMEN (By Associated Press.) Washington, May 8.—Four machine guns trained from the well of the House upon the members, along with a great array of rifles, revolvers and other weapons, formed an exhibit yesterday to accompany a speech by Representative Tilson of Connecticut, former national guard officer and member of the House Military committee urging that the United States should use the British army rifle to equip its war army. He argued that there would be a great advantage in having any American force sent abroad use the same ammunition as the British.

PROTEST AGAINST PROPOSED COTTON TAX (By Associated Press.) New Orleans, May 8.—W. B. Thompson, prominent in the cotton industry of the South, and other members of the New Orleans exchange, today sent telegrams to members of Congress protesting against the proposed tax on cotton production \$2.50 a bale as a war revenue measure. Mr. Thompson in his telegram to Chairman Lever, of the House Agricultural committee, declared a sufficient supply of cotton was necessary both for offensive and defensive purposes during war and that its production should be stimulated by the government.

WOULD HAVE MILITARY PARK AT GUILFORD (By Associated Press.) Washington, May 8.—An appropriation of \$8,100 to begin the establishment of a national military park at the battlefield of Guilford Court House, N. C., was recommended to Congress today by the War Department.

CROWDS CHEER FRENCH IN INDIANAPOLIS TODAY (By Associated Press.) Indianapolis, May 8.—The French war commission arrived in Indianapolis at 12:13 o'clock this afternoon. A reception committee composed of State and City officials immediately escorted the party along business streets which were lined with cheering throngs. The commission remained here about one hour.

GEN. HAIG'S FORCES CLOSING IN ON THE GERMAN ARMIES

VIGOROUS ATTACK BY GERMANS ON THE CHANCELLOR Charged With Failure of Teutons to Win Complete Victory Early in The War HIS HESITANCY AT BEGINNING Accountable For Allies' Victory on the Marne—Opposition to Submarine Warfare Prevented Ending

Rolling Up of Important Teuton Sector a Matter of Only a Few Days. DESPERATE EFFORT TO CHECK BRITISH In Their Enveloping Movement—German Realization of Menace in Alternate Sledge-Hammer Blows of Allies—Significance of Kaiser's Late Utterance. The great human nippers which General Haig has forged around the southern end of the Drocourt-Queant switch line are steadily closing and the rolling up of this important section of the German defenses appears to be a matter of a few days. The Drocourt-Queant line is the hastily improvised barrier thrown up by Field Marshal von Hindenburg to protect Cambrai and Douai after the more famous line, named in honor of himself, had been smashed by the British.

The bitter resistance offered by the Germans to the British advance has centered in their defense of Bullecourt, two and a half miles west of the rolling up of this salient which have forged well beyond Quant, but have been forced to mark time until Bullecourt falls. The capture of the village was entrusted to Australians and these hard fighting colonials have almost surrounded the German stronghold so that its surrender or extinction is expected momentarily. The Drocourt-Queant line forms a broad salient in the British front, 18 miles at its top and paralleling the Douai-Cambrai line. The crushing in of this salient will mean that the German grip on the great Lens coal region will be broken and the entire German line in northern France imperiled.

There are many signs that the Germans realize the menace to them in the alternate sledge-hammer blows of the British and French, beneath which their choicest troops are being steadily driven from position after position. News from the western front is not merely being suppressed in Berlin but is being doctoring for the consumption of German newspaper readers. Discrepancies between the German and allied official versions are apparently arousing suspicions in some German minds, at least, and the Berlin newspapers are being bombarded with questions that their military critics seem to find some difficulty in answering. There is significance also in the fact that the German Emperor, in the latest of his congratulatory telegrams, speaks of a "serious and decisive" time, instead of exulting over victories, real or imaginary.

Apart from France, the only fighting of significance reported from the war theatres is taking place in Macedonia. The reports from this front are meagre and they indicate an increasing activity which may presage a general offensive by the Allies.

GOLDSBORO TO HAVE CITY MANAGER FORM. (Special to The Dispatch.) Goldsboro, N. C., May 8.—Goldsboro is to have a city manager form of government. It was adopted in the city election here yesterday by a majority of 37 voters.

John R. Higgins, having no opposition, was re-elected mayor. The entire board of aldermen, with the exception of J. W. Sadler, were re-elected. J. W. Cole succeeds Mr. Sadler as a member of the board.

HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS PAID FRANCE (By Associated Press.) Washington, May 8.—France today received the \$100,000,000 the United States has decided to lend her to meet her expenses in this country during May. The amount was transferred by Secretary McAdoo to Ambassador Jusserand today by treasury warrant.

WOMAN ARRESTED AS GERMAN SPY Taken Into Custody by Guardsmen at Railroad Bridge Near Moncure. (By Associated Press.) Raleigh, N. C., May 8.—A woman, giving her name as Mrs. B. C. Perrin, of Elira, Ohio, was arrested by guards on a railway bridge near Moncure, thirty miles from here late Sunday night, and is being held under suspicion of being a German agent, pending further investigation. She explained to National Guardsmen on duty, when arrested, that she had walked there from Raleigh, but, it is learned, she carried a letter urging her to cut her hair and adopt male attire and also suggesting a trip to Canada. The woman gives her age as 65 and explains that she is a professional hobo.

SNAG STRUCK ON ROOSEVELT MOVE

Conferees Become Deadlocked Over This Question in Army Bill. (By Associated Press.) Washington, May 8.—Conferees on the army bill today fell into such a deadlock over the amendment to permit sending Colonel Roosevelt's division to France that they suspended work and considered returning the bill to the House and Senate and asking for instructions.

The conferees professed to be in complete ignorance of the Administration's wishes and some of the members said a few words from the White House would clarify the situation. The prohibition amendment, the age limits for the selective conscription, and the amendments for raising volunteer patrol regiments for the Mexican border also are stumbling blocks.