

WEATHER FORECAST.

North and South Carolina—Cloudy tonight and Saturday; probably local rains.

VOL. XXIII. NO. 113.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE



WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 11, 1918.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

SERBS RALLY AND HIT THE ENEMY HARD

After Long Wait They Again Attack and Take Advanced Trenches

GERMANS FURIOUSLY ATTACK AND REPULSED

Australians Held Their Line and Threw Off The Teutons—Germans Frantic to Hold Northern Part of The Village of Bulle Court.

BRITISH REPULSE LIQUID GAS ATTACKS.

(By Associated Press.) London, May 11.—German attacks were delivered last night on the British positions east of Arras and south of the Souchez.

Advanced trenches in the neighborhood of Dobropolye, on the Macedonian front, have been captured by the Serbians.

In several localities our infantry carried out successful surprise attacks on enemy trenches, especially in the region of Dobropolye, where we again captured some advanced enemy trenches, took prisoners one officer and 54 men, and captured one machine gun.

Desperate Attacks. British Headquarters in France, May 11 (Via London).—The Australians have held their ground like men of iron and the losses inflicted upon the attacking forces have been as heavy as any in the most bitter fighting during the battle of the Somme.

Late last night the Germans delivered a number of heavy attacks from Gatreville all along the line as far north as the Souchez river. They were repulsed everywhere. Just south of the river they made three different attempts against British positions during the last of which liquid fire was used in great quantity.

There was heavy fighting this morning around La Couloie, just west of Avion, where the British had made a material advance. Near Arras the Germans made a severe attack. All their assaults are now preceded by the heaviest artillery preparations which the Germans have ever employed, but many of their guns are silenced by the British batteries.

The Germans appear absolutely frantic in their efforts to hold the northern half of the village of Bulle Court, and to oust the Australians from their grim hold on the Hindenburg line, a short distance to the east. The fighting here has been marked by all the most terrible devices of war, for in addition to liquid fire, gas has been used time after time, boiling oil has been thrown and hand grenades, rifle grenades, trench mortars and every character and calibre of artillery has been employed.

FELIX DIAZ SAID TO HAVE BEEN SHOT

(By Associated Press.) El Paso, Texas, May 11.—A report that General Felix Diaz, nephew of Porfirio Diaz, former president of Mexico, had been shot and killed by General Callimayor, a former Zapata commander, was brought to Mexican government secret service officials today by a Mexican from Southern Mexico. This statement was made officially today by Andres Garcia, inspector general of Mexican consulates in the United States.

AMERICANS ARRESTED AS GERMAN SPIES

(By Associated Press.) Geneva, May 11 (Via Paris).—Dr. Charles Somers, of Chicago, his daughter, Alice, and two German friends named Rothschilds and Hopf, were arrested here as German spies, Dr. Somers, who has an American passport, is said to be a native of Frankfurt.

ITALY'S URGENT NEED IS SHIPS

So Declares Head of Italian Mission to America—Expresses Appreciation.

(By Associated Press.) New York, May 11.—Enrico Arlotto, head of the newly arrived Italian commission, discussed with newspaper men today the purposes of his mission and the war situation generally.

"We desire to establish an absolute accord with the United States. We do not need men at the front because we have accomplished the greatest work any nation could accomplish in providing men for the war. We, of course, shall be glad to arrange a war loan in America with which to pay for what we have purchased here without disturbing exchange rates.

SHIPPERS WANT L. AND N. HEAD TO GO ON THE STAND

Counsel Seek to Have President Smith Testify Before Commission.

WHY DID NOT DO SO IS MYSTERIOUS

To Grant Carriers' Demands Might Tend to Get Nearer Government Ownership, Declares Attorney

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 11.—A formal request that Milton H. Smith, president of the Louisville & Nashville railroad, be required to appear before the Interstate Commerce Commission in connection with the hearing on the application of the railroad for a 15 per cent. advance in freight rates, was made today by counsel for shippers, particularly the Southern Hardwood Traffic Association.

J. W. Norman, counsel for the association, told the commission that Mr. Smith has been present at the hearings during the first two days, but that after counsel for the carriers had conferred with him, he left Washington and was not put upon the stand.

Commissioner Hall merely announces that the commission would be very glad to hear from Mr. Smith. Mr. Norman, in making the application for the appearance of Mr. Smith, said: "It was my hope and expectation that he would take the stand and give all of his views on the vital questions that we have under consideration, but he did not do so, and I am advised that he has left the city. Mr. Smith is generally recognized as the ablest railroad operative in the country. He has built up under adverse circumstances in a territory where most other roads have failed to prosper, a strong and successful road."

"It may be that the carriers should have additional revenues in order to properly perform their function in this time of crisis, but on the other hand to grant their demand may bring to a head the ever growing demand for government ownership which, I believe, is fraught with many dangers under our form of government."

"In such circumstances I feel that the commission and the country is entitled to benefit of the advice of Mr. Smith."

"It may or may not be significant that my friends who are counsel for the carriers failed to put Mr. Smith on the stand after having him here, and consulting with him. However that may be, I feel that the country is entitled to Mr. Smith's views as to whether an emergency exists and to whether under all the circumstances it is wise to add at this time a transportation tax of some \$350,000,000 annually to the other heavy burdens of the people."

Julius Kruttschnitt, chairman of the Southern Pacific, told the commission that an important reason for the increase is that the railroads soon will be called to carry great quantities of military supplies and troops at government rates.

For twenty years, said Mr. Kruttschnitt, all commodities, except transportation had risen in cost, and universal bankruptcy has been avoided by the carriers only by heavy capital expenditures to reduce grades, eliminate curvature and purchase heavier locomotives and cars, all incurred for the purpose of increasing efficiency in train movement by hauling more tons per locomotive.

RUSSIAN WORKMEN TO HAVE PEACE CONFAB

(By Associated Press.) London, May 11.—The executive committee of the Russian Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates has resolved to convene in a neutral country an international Socialist Conference to discuss peace, a Reuter dispatch from Petrograd says.

ITALY'S URGENT NEED IS SHIPS

So Declares Head of Italian Mission to America—Expresses Appreciation.

(By Associated Press.) New York, May 11.—Enrico Arlotto, head of the newly arrived Italian commission, discussed with newspaper men today the purposes of his mission and the war situation generally.

"We desire to establish an absolute accord with the United States. We do not need men at the front because we have accomplished the greatest work any nation could accomplish in providing men for the war. We, of course, shall be glad to arrange a war loan in America with which to pay for what we have purchased here without disturbing exchange rates.

"What we want above everything else is ships to carry provisions and war materials and we are sure the great industrial power of this country will be amply sufficient for our wants."

STRONG ASSAULTS BEING MADE ON THE WAR TAX MEASURE

Public Hearing By Senate Finance Committee Brings Forth Many Protests

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 11.—Public hearings on the war tax bill began today before the Senate Finance Committee. Attorneys and other representatives of industries, facing heavy taxes under the House bill, protested against many features.

MANY AUSTRIAN SUBS. DESTROYED.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 11.—Advices to the Italian embassy here say 13 Austrian submarines have been sunk in the Adriatic by Italian patrols in the last few weeks.

WILMINGTON MEN TAKEN FOR ARMY

List of Those Accepted by The Government For Work at Fort Oglethorpe.

(Special to The Dispatch.) Chattanooga, Tenn., May 11.—The following have been accepted from Wilmington for the Reserve Officers' Camp at Fort Oglethorpe:

- C. F. Andrews. P. J. Baschon. J. S. Bryan. W. H. Burnside. M. B. Cavanaugh. R. D. Cronly. W. A. Davis. J. R. Finna. M. S. Grove, Jr. C. C. Cashwell. M. A. Hicks. C. D. Hogue. C. E. Hussey. J. R. Hutchinson. S. S. Ives. Empie Laprade. Fred E. Little. Charles C. Loughlin. Joseph J. Louglin. W. A. Marshall. H. M. McCreary. Charles D. O'Neal. David S. Oliver. Charles B. Parmele. S. M. Solomon. J. B. Sprunt. A. H. Styron. L. J. Stein. A. R. Piner. E. H. Waiaker. L. M. Woodward.

INSURANCE MAN ARRESTED TODAY

Former Secretary of Big Pennsylvania Company Charged With Stealing

(By Associated Press.) Philadelphia, May 11.—Jesse E. Williamson, 2nd, former secretary of the Pennsylvania Company for Insurances on Lives and Granting Annuities, has been arrested, it was announced here today, charged with misappropriating funds of the company. The sum named in the warrant is \$35,000. Officials at Harrisburg said the amount was between \$650,000 and \$755,000. A statement issued by the company says: "A defalcation through forgery by a former employe has been discovered. The amount is a large one, and has been definitely ascertained, but a substantial part of it will be recovered through employer's liability insurance and from other sources."

The company is one of the strongest in the State. Williamson, who is 36 years old, is alleged to have abstracted securities over seven years, bonds being taken from estates of women, one of whom missed \$250,000.

All losses have been replaced. Williamson is a member of the First Troop, Philadelphia City Cavalry, which includes members of the best families in Philadelphia. He once was a widely known amateur oarsman.

RUSSIAN THIEVES ASK RECOGNITION

Hold Mass Meeting and Ask For Chance—Officials Present.

(By Associated Press.) Petrograd, May 10 (Via London, May 11).—A mass meeting of thieves was recently held at Rostoff on the Don to demand a share in the freedom and a chance to turn over a new leaf. The chief of the local militia and the president and several members of the council of workmen and soldiers' deputies were present on invitation.

Practically all branches of the profession of thievery were represented and several of the most accomplished members made speeches in which they outlined the difficulties confronting them and declared that it was impossible to return to honest pursuits without the help and support of the community. The speakers complained that recently the population had risen against them and, in some instances, went so far as to lynch some of their brothers.

Chief of Militia Raimkoff asked for help and support by the people in aiding the efforts of the thieves at reformation. One of the bystanders complained that he had been relieved of his purse containing six rubles. The thieves roundly protested that it was not the work of a professional, and took up a collection to reimburse the victim.

TAR HEEL LAWYER MAKES BIG KICK

Cameron Morrison Appears For The American Cotton Manufacturers' Association. House Debating The Bill In Open Session.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 11.—Public hearings on the war tax bill began today before the Senate Finance Committee. Attorneys and other representatives of industries, facing heavy taxes under the House bill, protested against many features.

ROARING GUNS NOW MARK WAR ON EAST LINE

From Monastir to Lake Doiran The Allies Have Opened an Offensive

BITTER STRUGGLE IN CERNA RIVER BEND

Deadlock Continues in France But Allies Massing Men and Guns For Another Great Attack.

Along the entire front in Macedonia, from Monastir to Lake Doiran, a distance of about 100 miles, the Allies have opened a great offensive. On every section of the line, General Sarraill's artillery is roaring day and night, but the campaign is in its initial phase and there is little to indicate as yet where the main attempt at an advance will be made.

Bitter fighting is proceeding in the bend of the Cerna river and in the neighborhood of the Vardar, the two points on the Macedonian front where the wild barbarous country of mountains and sterile deserts is broken by fertile valleys. Military critics are agreed that it is up one of these valleys that the allied forces must force a way, but the operations have not advanced far enough to indicate which is the chosen point of attack.

In France the deadlock continues, but behind the fighting line, the Allies are massing men and guns for another tremendous blow such as that which broke the Hindenburg line and loosened the grip of the Germans at Champagne. General Maurice, chief director of British military operations, announced that the coming drive will be mightier in force and extent than those which opened the battles of Arras and the Somme, and the indications are that the blow will not be long delayed.

The comparative lull on the fighting front in France has once more directed attention to the political situation, which appears to be rapidly approaching a crisis or rather a series of crises. The news from Russia is increasingly gloomy and it becomes more and more a question whether the provisional government can weather the storm which has been precipitated by the radical Socialists and visionaries. In any event, there seems little likelihood of any effective military action on the part of Russia for a long time to come.

From Austria come renewed reports of a desire by the government to break the shackles imposed upon it by Berlin. An Austrian commission is reported on its way to Switzerland, with the object of opening negotiations with France for a separate peace. The complete absence of any reliable news from the dual monarchy for many weeks, renders, however, a correct judgment of conditions there impossible. The tide of reform is obviously growing rapidly in Germany and it seems certain that the government cannot resist very much longer the demand for a more democratic form of government. The efforts of the Emperor to placate the people at home while conducting a strenuous peace propaganda abroad are signs that the internal situation in the empire is far from comforting to the autocracy.

ATTEMPT TO PREVENT STRIKE OF MINERS

(By Associated Press.) Johnstown, Pa., May 10.—The United States government, through Secretary of Labor Wilson, late yesterday took steps to avert a strike of nearly 45,000 bituminous coal miners in the central Pennsylvania field. A telegram was received by both the miners and the operators asking that they send committees to Washington to confer with Department of Labor mediators in an attempt to compromise their differences. Committees were named and left immediately.

GERMAN OFFICER ARRESTED AS SPY

Had Become Member of American Aviation Corps in California.

(By Associated Press.) San Francisco, May 11.—Lieutenant Frank Wolf alleged deserter from the United States aviation corps at San Diego and said to have been a lieutenant in the German aviation corps early in the war, was arrested and interned here today by federal authorities.

In Wolf's effects federal authorities said were found maps of roads and highways about San Francisco and the bay cities, and complete plans of fortifications on San Francisco bay.

According to the federal authorities, Wolf, who is 23 years of age, was wounded in the earlier fighting about Verdun and after his recovery was sent to America, it was said, by the secret service agents. He enlisted in the aviation corps at San Diego last October and is understood to have made a splendid record.

WATER MAIN BREAK WORK OF WRECKERS

(By Associated Press.) Lynchburg, Va., May 11.—That a break in the 30-inch main which brings water 22 miles to Lynchburg was the result of design is the belief here today of city officials. The break, which occurred Wednesday, eight miles from the city, was where the conduit was bedded in concrete, and a nearby manhole covering was found open. There is not yet the slightest clue to the perpetrator of the apparent crime.

RUSSIA'S PLAN IN GREAT WAR NOW DEFINED

Enthusiastic Meeting Held by Leaders to Discuss Present Conditions in Country

NO SEPARATE PEACE THE DECLARATION

Of the Leading Speakers—They Pledge Russian Support to the Allies—Surrender to German Influence Destructive to Revolutionary Reform.

(By Associated Press.) Petrograd, May 11 (Via London).—Thursday being the anniversary of the opening of the first Duma, an extraordinary session of delegates and ex-delegates was held at the Tauride Palace. The members of the provisional government and foreign diplomats were also present.

Prolonged applause greeted a speech by President Rodzianko, in which he repudiated any idea of a separate peace. There was an enthusiastic demonstration later when he proclaimed the loyalty of Russia toward her Allies. The whole assembly stood and cheered the Entente ambassadors.

"The war, which was forced upon us, which we did not desire, and for which we are in no way responsible, must be brought to a successful termination in such a manner that the integrity of the country and the national honor of Russia shall be entirely maintained," said President Rodzianko.

"The innumerable sacrifices we have laid upon the altar of this war demand that the peace should correspond with the immensity of our efforts and that the aim for which we are struggling, the triumph of the ideals of justice and liberty, be assured."

"The Germans oppose to these splendid ideals their own program, which is totally different, the hegemony of the world and the enslavement of the nations."

"The struggle for the principles so mutually contradictory cannot terminate in a draw, but only by a decisive victory by one or the other of the adversaries. Only the complete defeat of German militarism will assure the happiness of the world."

"The gulf separating the Germans—the devastators and destroyers of civilization—from the Allies is too deep for the war to be concluded without the realization of the ideals I have mentioned. Peace in the present conditions would be only an armistice of greater or less duration. Do not forget that the working classes of Germany, however socialist they be, ardently desire victory, for Germany cannot reduce her vast industry, and her defeat by the Allies would be like the blow of a club for the workers of Germany, who naturally support the imperialistic aspirations of their government."

"That is why I declare emphatically that the Russian people must make every sacrifice to bring this war, in concert with their allies, to a complete victory, all the more because such a victory would consolidate forever the liberties we have just won."

"Russia cannot betray the Allies by whose side she has been fighting for three years and she will remain faithful to them."

Prince Lvoff, the premier, also addressed the Duma gathering.

"It is not the wonderful, almost magic, character of the Russian revolution, it is not the power displayed and the rapidity of development which astonish the world, but the idea which directed it, and which embraces not only the interests of the Russian people, but those of all the nations," said the premier. "It is true that this revolution compels us to endure a period of great trials and raises in our paths to social happiness the grim spectres of anarchy and despotism. But you representatives of the nation may be sure that the work you inaugurated and have pursued despite all obstacles, disillusionments and hostile elements will not have been in vain. The work of the great revolution is not concluded, but every day strengthens our confidence in the creative forces of the Russian people and the greatness of its future."

GERMAN U-BOAT OFF NEW ENGLAND

Unverified Rumors of Such Craft Sighted Near Cape Ann, Mass.

(By Associated Press.) Rockland, Maine, May 11.—An unverified rumor of the presence of a submarine off the New England coast was circulated here yesterday after a British merchant steamer had put into this harbor unexpectedly. The captain of the vessel came ashore and called upon the local naval representative, but the subject of the conference was not made known.

The story heard here was that the steamer had run for this port because her officers believed they had sighted a submarine somewhere off Cape Ann, on the northeastern coast of Massachusetts, Wednesday night. Members of the crew who could be reached declined to say whether the report was true, although one of them admitted that "something sensational happened last night off Cape Ann."