

WEATHER FORECAST. North and South Carolina—Thunder showers this afternoon; fair to night and Friday, cooler tonight.

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 14, 1917.

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WILSON UNMASKS "INTRIGUE OF PEACE"

GREAT NATION NOW MAKING BIG DRIVE FOR THE PINNACLE

Country Enthused Over Liberty Loan Which Will End Tomorrow Noon. WASHINGTON MAKES REPORT TODAY

No Other Until After Books Close—Many Cities Holding Ceremonies Today—Tar Heel Cities Hard at Work.

CERTAIN OF SUCCESS. (By Associated Press.) Washington, June 14.—Secretary McAdoo, in a statement issued today, in which he urged all Americans having the means to do so to subscribe to the Liberty Loan, declared that the loan "will find its successful consummation" tomorrow.

Old Bell Sounds. Philadelphia, June 14.—A faint peal from the Liberty bell in Independence Hall reverberated, with the aid of the telegraph, from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast today when Mayor Smith struck America's most revered relic with a golden hammer to call last minute subscribers to the service of the nation.

House Canvass in This State. Raleigh, N. C., June 14.—Bankers, chambers of commerce and Rotary club committees, Boy Scouts and hundreds of other workers throughout the State today were making a house-to-house canvass in the interest of the Liberty Loan.

New Englanders at Work. Boston, June 14.—Thousands of business men in New England put aside their own work today in a final effort to reach the \$300,000,000 maximum quota of Liberty Bonds allotted to this section.

TROUBLE DUE TO GARBLED REPORTS

Declare Washington Officials as to Japanese Resentment Over Note to China.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, June 14.—Japanese resentment over the American note to China is ascribed by officials here wholly to the publication of a garbled version in Japan.

It is admitted here that although both countries have been striving for a better working understanding they have not succeeded in reaching it. Despite efforts of the government, Japanese effort often has been interpreted here as in denial of China's sovereignty, and American policy has been interpreted in Tokyo as undue interference in Chinese affairs.

HOUSE WAR TAX BILL AGAIN DECREASED

(By Associated Press.) Washington, June 14.—The House War tax bill was decreased about \$8,000,000 more today by the Senate Finance committee in deciding to reduce the manufacturers' tax on athletic goods, patent medicines, perfumeries and cosmetics from 5 to 2 per cent.

RUSSIA WANTS CONFERENCE

(By Associated Press.) Petrograd, June 14. (Via London).—The cabinet has decided to suggest a conference with the Allies to examine the various treaties among the several allied powers.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN SUGAR REFINERY

Caused by Explosion in Condenser—The Casualty List Heavy.

(By Associated Press.) Brooklyn, N. Y., June 14.—Two men are dead, two are dying, 15 others are in hospitals seriously injured, and fully 20 others are missing as the result of a fire which destroyed an 11-story building used as a refinery by the American Sugar Refining Company on the Brooklyn waterfront late tonight.

ALL CANTONMENT SITES SELECTED

(By Associated Press.) Washington, June 14.—The War Department announced today approval of the following four national army cantonment sites, completing the sixteen sites to be selected: Petersburg, Va.; Rockford, Ill.; Yaphank, South Haven, L. I.; Annapolis Junction, Md.

THE DIFFERENCES SMOOTHED OUT

In Administration Priority Shipping Bill in Conference of Senate Leaders

(By Associated Press.) Washington, June 14.—Differences delaying passage of the administration's priority shipment bill were smoothed out by Senate leaders in conference late yesterday, and an agreement was tentatively reached to change the measure so as to empower the President only to direct shipment of military forces and supplies.

CHARGED WITH THREAT TO KILL HER HUSBAND

(By Associated Press.) Atlanta, June 14.—Mrs. Mattie Stokes Adams, who was recently acquitted at Macon, Ga., of the murder of Captain E. J. Spradling, of the Fifth Regiment, Georgia National Guard, was arraigned in municipal court here yesterday on plea of her husband, H. C. Adams, that she had threatened to kill him to get possession of the children.

NEXT PYTHIAN MEET FOR HENDERSON

Grand Lodge, Knights of Pythias, Ends 1917 Sessions—"Dokies" Much Evident

(Special to The Dispatch.) Rocky Mount, N. C., June 14.—The Grand Lodge of Knights of Pythias, of North Carolina, brought their meeting of 1917 to a close today, with a record of splendid work.

MOVIE MEN ARE IN POSSESSION OF THE BEACH

Fourth Annual Convention Was Opened at Oceanic Hotel Today at Noon.

GRANT DISCUSSED TAX SITUATION

Visitors Welcomed by Mayors Moore and Wright—Response Was By Mr. H. B. Varner, of Lexington

With scores of delegates in attendance from every nook and corner of the State and many additional ones from elsewhere, including some of the foremost men of the motion picture world, who are on the program for addresses, the fourth annual convention of the North Carolina Motion Picture Exhibitors' League, of which organization Mr. P. W. Wells, of this city, is chief executive, was convened for a three-day session at the Oceanic Hotel, Wrightsville Beach, today at noon.

The city, along with the beach, is in full possession of the movie men, the keys to both having been turned over to the theatrical moguls and they have been told to enjoy themselves, remain as long as they care to and come often in the future.

Mayor Moore's address was replete with patriotism, the movie men being given warm praise for their generous use of slide and screen in advertising stimulating interest in recruiting. The mayor dwelt at length upon the historic interest of the Cape Fear and while admitting the city to be small in point of population, declared that it did things and stood as one man behind the flag in an effort to assist in meeting every emergency and combatting every evil that threatened.

MR. H. B. VARNER.



Delivered Response Today

must spend a certain period each year away from work. If the picture men do not enjoy themselves it will be their own fault for they have had the beach officially turned over to them with instructions to use its very pleasure for their own and they have been invited to the city for an inspection of anything or everything that might interest. In fact the things of most interest have been pointed out by city and beach officials and no time need be lost in searching for those things which will interest.

KAISER WILLIAM GREATLY ANNOYED AT ABDICATION

Of King of Greece, While the Episode Creates Painful Impression in Germany.

PROCLAMATION POSTED IN STREETS

Announcing Surrender of Throne by King and Crown Prince—German Press Comment.

(By Associated Press.) Athens, June 14.—(Via London, June 14).—Delayed.—The proclamation of former King Constantine, announcing his abdication, was posted throughout the streets today. It says: "Obeying the necessity of fulfilling my duty toward Greece, I am departing from my beloved country with the heir to the throne and am leaving my son, Alexander, my crown. I beg you to accept my decision with calm, as the slightest incident may lead to a great catastrophe."

Germans Worried. The Hague, (Via London), June 14.—A Cologne dispatch says that the news of King Constantine's abdication created a painful impression at German headquarters. The Emperor expressed great chagrin and sent his brother-in-law and Queen Sophia a message of sympathy.

German Press Comment. Berlin, (Via London), June 14.—The absence of adequate telegraphic connection with Greece has left Berlin without authentic information regarding events there since the news of the abdication of King Constantine was received. The impression prevailing here is that the new state of affairs will have no bearing on the military situation in Macedonia.

"It is plain as sunlight that Constantine laid down his crown only because he had not the heart to deliver up his people to starvation at the command of England and France." The Tageblatt suggests that it is possible that the role Constantine played in Greece is not yet concluded. "If for the moment," the paper says, "Constantine was forced to retreat in the face of over-powering opposition, a source of comfort left to him outside the consciousness of duty well done is the knowledge that the new turn of things has disposed of his worst enemy, the man who has been opposing him in his own country."

"Venezillos and his movement, as is now plain, are but episodes in the progress of the tragedy of which we have been spectators. Venezillos, a willing tool, is the grave digger of Greek independence. The pit, however, is also prepared for him, since the scope of his power and influence have proved a disappointment."

PROHIBITIVE TAX ON CRUDE OIL

By Mexican Government—German Scheme to Cut Off Allies' Supply.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, June 14.—Publication of the new Mexican oil taxation decree has disclosed that by the expedient of placing an enormous over-valuation on the crude product the Mexican government proposes practically prohibitive taxation upon exports from the great East Coast oil fields, upon which the allied fleets have depended for fuel. German agents are charged with responsibility for the scheme. It was learned today that American owners of Mexican oil properties have brought the matter to the attention of the government with an urgent request that representations be made to General Carranza for modification of the decree. The tax rate on crude oil is fixed at 10 per cent. ad valorem on a valuation of \$9.50 a ton in the Panuco fields, or just about twice the present selling price.

KAISER WOULD END WAR WHILE HE HAS GRIP ON CONQUEST

GERMAN LINE NOW CRUMBLING UNDER THE BRITISH DRIVE

Teutons Forced to Retreat Along a Two Mile Front

HAIG'S MEN ARE IN HOT PURSUIT

Entente Strengthens its Position in Greece—More Troops Landed and Harvest Will be Protected.

The German line in Belgium is crumbling under the British offensive there. Evidence of this appears today in the announcement by London of a German retreat on a front of approximately two miles in the area southwest of Warneton.

After wiping out the Messines-Wytschaete salient in the crushing attack last week, General Plumer continued attacking the Germans from time to time east of Messines and gained additional ground there. Further south the British also have exerted pressure upon General Von Armin's lines.

Having lost the last of the commanding artillery and observation positions in this region, when the Messines ridge fell into British hands, the Germans are finding the pressure at some points beyond their ability to meet. One of the first results has been abandonment of important sections of their first line between the rivers Lys and Stives.

General Haig announces that the British are following the Germans closely and are moving forward east of Ploegsteert wood and in the neighborhood of Gaspart village. On the French front conditions remain comparatively quiet. Last night the Germans, after bombardments, attacked French posts in the Aisne region and northwest of Verdun. The French easily repulsed the assaults.

In Greece the entente is making good its grip on the situation shown in the abdication of King Constantine and the accession of Alexander, by landing troops to occupy various strategic positions. French cavalry, doubtless for the purpose of protecting the ripening crops of Thessaly, already has penetrated far inland and occupied Larissa. Today the landing of other entente forces on the coast near Athens is reported. Preservation of order in the capital and control of the situation near the seat of government seems the object in view of this move.

GERMAN AGENT FOUND GUILTY

Jury Convicts Horn, Who Attempted to Blow Up International Bridge.

(By Associated Press.) Boston, June 14.—Werner Horn, who declared himself an officer of the German landwehr, was found guilty yesterday in the Federal court on a charge of unlawfully transporting dynamite in interstate commerce. Horn was arrested in February, 1915, after an attempt to blow up the international bridge at Vanceboro, Me.

In Stirring Flag Day Oration President Wilson Warns the American People.

CENTRAL POWERS ONE BIG AUTOCRACY

Clearly Sets Forth Why Germany is Endeavoring to Establish Peace While Her Aggressions Are Secure—The Questions to be Answered.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, June 14.—President Wilson warned the American people in the Flag Day address on the Washington monument grounds today that Germany has carried into effect the greater part of her immediate plan of conquest and now is negotiating a new "intrigue of peace" designed to end the war while her aggressions are secure.

All the Central Empires, the President declared, have been cemented into one great autocracy—empire, "throwing a broad belt of German military power and political control across the very center of Europe and beyond the Mediterranean into the heart of Asia." This, he said, is easy to understand why Germany is fostering a propaganda for an early peace.

"Peace, peace, peace has been the talk of her foreign office for now a year and more," said the President. "A little of the talk has been public, but most of it has been private. Through all sorts of channels it has come to me and in all sorts of guises. The military masters—under whom Germany is bleeding—see very clearly to what point fate has brought them. If they can secure peace now with the immense advantages still in their hands, which they have up to this apparently gained, they will have justified themselves before the German people; they will have gained, by force, what they promised to gain by it."

The President recalled again the German aggressions, which dragged the United States to war. He declared the purposes for which American soldiers now carry the Stars and Stripes to Europe for the first time in history, are not new to American traditions, because realization of Germany's war aims must eventually mean the undoing of the whole world. He spoke as follows: "My fellow citizens: We meet to celebrate Flag Day, because this flag which we honor and under which we strive, is the emblem of our unity, our power, our thought and purpose as a nation."

It has no other character than that which we give it from generation to generation. * * * We celebrate the day of its birth, and from its birth until now it has witnessed a great history, has floated on high the symbol of great events, of a great plan of life worked out by a great people. We are about to carry it into battle; to lift it where it will draw the fire of our enemies. We are about to bid thousands, hundreds of thousands, it may be millions, of our men, the young, the strong, the capable men of the nation, to go forth and die beneath it on fields of blood far away—for what? For some unaccustomed thing? For something for which it has never sought the fire before? American armies were never before sent across the seas. Why are they sent now? For some new purpose, for which this great flag has never been carried before, or for some old, familiar, heroic purpose for which it has seen men, its own men, die on every battlefield upon which Americans have borne arms since the revolution? "These are questions which must be answered * * *"

"It is plain enough how we were forced into the war. The extraordinary insults and aggressions of the Imperial German government left us no self-respecting choice but to take up arms in defense of our rights as a free people and of our honor as a sovereign government. The military masters of Germany denied us the right to be neutral. They flung our unsuspecting communities with violence * * *"