

WEATHER FORECAST.
North and South Carolina—Probably thundershowers tonight and Saturday.

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 6, 1917.

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U. S. SEIZES LETTERS SMUGGLED THROUGH BY GERMAN SPIES

Messages Were Intended For Former Austrian Consul General at New York
BROUGHT IN BY SCANDINAVIAN SAILORS
Seamen Admit They Were Paid to Smuggle the Letters. Some Intended For Australia and India.

(By Associated Press.)
New York, July 6.—Federal authorities investigating suspected methods of communication between the United States and Germany announced here today the seizure of a bundle of letters intended to reach Alexander von Nuber, formerly Austrian consul general here after the government investigated charges that he shipped reservists to Austria under fraudulent passports in 1915.
How the letters were to reach von Nuber has not been disclosed nor was his present whereabouts announced. The letters were brought here by sailors on a Scandinavian steamship and delivered to a saloon keeper in Hoboken. The plan, according to the investigators, was for the mail to be addressed to her, so that it would appear to be correspondence from the United States.
The sailors admitted they were paid a sum of money to smuggle the letters. Some of the letters were addressed to persons in New Zealand, Australia and India.

ANOTHER FOREIGN MISSION IN NEW YORK.

(By Associated Press.)
New York, July 6.—For the fourth time since America entered the war, New York City today had as its guests the members of a foreign mission. The honor of a military escort, not accorded other distinguished visitors in the last two months, added interest to the official reception to Prof. Boris A. Bakhmetoff, the new Russian Ambassador to the United States and his fellow members of the Russian war commission. A detachment of sailors and marines from the New York navy yard and a detachment of regular infantry from Governor's Island were assigned to escort the visitors from the Battery to City Hall, where the official reception will take place.
Doubt as to the flag to be displayed in honor of the visitors was settled by Mayor Mitchell who ordered that the Russian National emblem of the old regime should be used to decorate the city hall.

GOOD RECORD MADE SOUTHERN LAST YEAR

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, July 6.—The Southern Railway handled substantially 18,000,000 passengers during the fiscal year ending June 30, last, without loss of a life, President Fairfax Harrison announced today. His statement said this record reflects "not only greater human care and efficiency in operation, but the improved facilities which have been installed on the Southern in recent years. In handling these passengers, 71,775 trains and 249,780 cars were required.

REGISTRATION HAS ENDED IN PORTO RICO

(By Associated Press.)
San Juan, Porto Rico, July 6.—Registration under the selective draft law ended in San Juan at 1 o'clock this morning with more than 7,500 men registered, 2,900 more than the registration committee estimated with probably a few hundred additional remaining to be registered.
Incomplete preliminary reports from the entire island of Porto Rico show a total registration last night of from 90 to 95 per cent. of the estimate.
The committee today advised all the local boards to notify persons who had not registered that they might do so without penalty up to Saturday night.

RAILROADS SHOW INCREASED REVENUE

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, July 6.—May reports of 130 of 186 railroads to the Interstate Commerce Commission show an increase in net revenue of approximately \$1,700,000. The decrease in earnings of eastern roads of \$1,800,000 was more than offset in the total by a slight increase in Southern roads earnings and a rise of more than \$3,000,000 in net revenues of Western roads.

WAR AIMS MEAN DESTRUCTION OF THE FATHERLAND

Declares President of Reichstag in Addressing That Body Yesterday.
GERMANY TO RESIST COST WHAT IT MAY
Declares Allies Should Have Accepted "Magnanimous Peace Offer" of Emperor William.

(By Associated Press.)
Berlin, (Via Amsterdam), July 6.—The Reichstag was opened yesterday with a speech by the president, who said that the war continued to rage and asked what a "shocking amount of misery and distress would be spared the world if Germany's enemies had agreed to the magnanimous peace offer of Emperor William and his allies to find a peace which would preserve the honor and the interest of all nations."
The Reichstag president declared that the war aims of Germany's enemies meant disruption and destruction of Germany and her allies but that against this existed the usual unanimous duty to resist with all her power and defend Germany's future, cost what it may.

FIRE BROKE OUT AMONG MOVING PICTURE FILMS.

(By Associated Press.)
Bordeaux, July 6.—A fire broke out today among some moving picture films in the forward part of a steamship in dock. The flames badly damaged the upper structure of the ship and spread to the merchandise on the wharf. The conflagration was extinguished after considerable loss. An official inquiry has been opened into the cause of the fire.

SPEEDY AIRPLANES WILL END THE WAR

(By Associated Press.)
Baltimore, July 6.—Dr. Joseph S. Ames, professor of physics at Johns Hopkins University, and chairman of the commission of scientists appointed by the government to study the conduct of the war in France, stated here last night, after a number of conferences in Washington, that speed and size in aeroplanes will end the war most quickly.

FEDERAL CHARGE DISMISSED TODAY

United States Judge Grubb Decides Case in Favor of Coal Operators.
(By Associated Press.)
New York, July 6.—The Federal indictment against the Aileen Coal Company, of Mount Hope, W. Va., and J. Frank Grimet, one of its officers, and the West Virginia Pocahontas Coal Company, charged with restraining trade and fixing prices in the production and sale of semi-bituminous coal, was dismissed here today by United States Judge Grubb.
Tentative dismissal was allowed in cases of the Algonquin Coal Company and the Ashland Coal and Coke Company. Government attorneys announced they would on Monday undertake to prevent these two dismissals from being made permanent.
Later Judge Grubb dismissed the indictments against S. W. Patterson of Vivian, W. Va., general manager of the Bottom Creek Coal and Coke Company; W. Stephenson of Roanoke, Va., president of the Buckeye Coal and Coke Company; John T. Wilson, of Bluefield, W. Va., treasurer of the Dry Fork Colliery Company and the Newlyn Coal Company; Kenney Green Colliery Company, Arlington Coal and Coke Company, Nichel Colliery Company and Bailey H. Wood Coal Company.

THEY DON'T THINK MEXICO IS LIKELY TO ENTER WAR

Government Officials Regard Such Step as Very Improbable.

FLETCHER'S MISSION THOUGHT IMPORTANT

May Bear Tidings of German Activity in Mexico—Interest in Heavy Oil Tax.
(By Associated Press.)
Washington, July 6.—Enough importance was attached to the mission of Henry P. Fletcher, ambassador to Mexico, who hurriedly left Mexico City, to arrange for a conference today with Secretary Lansing on the train which is carrying the Secretary to Henderson Harbor, N. Y., for a three weeks' vacation.
By some officials it was assumed the ambassador wished to explain personally to the Secretary the extent to which German activities have been carried on in Mexico and the influence German agents have had on the Mexican government and people. Reports that Mexico would enter the war as an ally of the Entente powers is not regarded by most officials here as probable.
Deep interest has been displayed in government circles here in the persistence shown by the Mexican government in imposing on the oil companies heavier export taxes and in the recent decrees governing the holding of land by mining and other corporations. The Mexican government has declared the decrees are not confiscatory, but representations have been made to the American government by the companies that the enforcement of the new orders will result in the forfeiture of a large part of the properties now held by American and British corporations. The American government's protests against the enforcement of the decrees has not yet caused a modification. July 10 is the date fixed for the decrees to become effective.

BRITONS RETURN HOME TO JOIN THE COLORS

(By Associated Press.)
London, July 6.—A contingent of 103 British residents of the United States who have just arrived in Great Britain to join the army was reviewed by General Sir Francis Lloyd on the Horse Guards Parade this morning. The ceremony attracted a large crowd which hailed the contingent as "Yanks" and cheered the men lustily, believing they were the van guard of the American army.
"You are the first contingent to come here from America to join in the war in which the whole Anglo-Saxon race now is engaged," said General Lloyd. "I am absolutely certain that the advent of America will put the final touch to the war and finish it quickly."

GERMAN LOSSES DURING THE WAR

(By Associated Press.)
Paris, July 6.—The total number of Germans killed from the beginning of the war to March, 1917, is not less than 1,500,000, according to an estimate reached by French general headquarters. This computation has been made after careful study of documents bearing on the subject.
From April 15 to June 30, the Franco-British troops on the western front captured 63,222 prisoners, including 1,278 officers, says an official summary of the operations issued yesterday. The war material taken in the same period included 509 guns, 503 trench mortars and 1,318 machine guns.

RUSSIANS FAILED TO BE DUPED.

(By Associated Press.)
Petograd, July 6.—German soldiers near Baleshtel, on the Roumanian front, yesterday held up white flags and called upon the Russians to fraternize, says the Russian official statement issued today. The Russian artilleryillery fired on the flags.

FEDERAL CAVALRY AT SCENE OF TROUBLE

(By Associated Press.)
Globe, Ariz., July 6.—The presence here today of four troops of United States cavalry and a machine gun company was expected to have a quieting effect on the Globe-Miami copper district, which has been in a state of nervous tension since 7,000 copper miners were called out on strike last Sunday. Immediately upon their arrival last night the troops were dispatched to stations at the Old Dominion mine, and to the smaller properties in the Copper Hill district, where trouble has been feared most.
The soldiers were given an enthusiastic reception by citizens and there was no evidence of hostility on the part of the strikers, who dispersed to their homes promptly at the suggestion of the commanding officer.

MORE SLACKERS TO PRISON.

(By Associated Press.)
Freeport, Ill., July 6.—Seven Federal registration law in Rockford, Ill., last month, were sentenced to a year and a day in the Chicago House of Correction by Judge K. M. Landis here today.

ALLEGED GERMAN SPIES ARRESTED.

(By Associated Press.)
New York, July 6.—Agents for the Department of Justice this afternoon arrested two Germans, one reputed to be a paymaster for the German spy system in this country, and the other alleged to have been formerly associated with Captain Franz von Papen, at one time military attache at the German embassy in Washington.

TAR HEEL "VETS" MEET IN AUGUST

Dates For Annual Reunion of Confederate Host In Durham Decided On.
(By Associated Press.)
Durham, N. C., July 6.—Members of the North Carolina division, United Confederate Veterans, will hold their annual re-union in Durham, August 21 to 23, inclusive, it was announced today by officials of the Durham Chamber of Commerce. Until recently, because the country is at war, many veterans were in favor of dispensing with the State reunion this year.

"BONE DRY" BILL UP IN THE SENATE

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, July 6.—An amendment today by Sen. Chamberlain was adopted providing that the minimum price of any necessities sold by the government shall not be less than the minimum guaranteed price of products.
Vice President Marshall laid before the Senate the report of the Chicago Federal grand jury into prices of foodstuffs in that section. It was read and ordered inserted in the record.
Senator Curtis introduced the bone-dry prohibition provision contained in the bill as it came from the House. Consideration of committee amendments was interrupted by Senator Borah, who spoke for the prohibition section. He said prohibition was not only needed to conserve the supply of food products, but was necessary to conserve human energy and efficiency "in order to meet the industrial stride when the war is over."
When he cited the decrease of drunkenness and crime in England with the curtailment of the liquor traffic by the government, Senator Reed called attention to London press dispatches announcing an increase in the allowance of beer.

SOCIALISTS BUCKING IN GERMANY.

(By Associated Press.)
Amsterdam, July 6.—A dispatch from Berlin says the Socialists in the German Reichstag will refuse to support the votes of credit unless certain conditions are complied with.

NEGROES LEAVE EAST ST. LOUIS

Decline Offer of Big Corporations to Remain—Many May Return to Mississippi.
(By Associated Press.)
East St. Louis, Ill., July 6.—Efforts of large corporations here to induce negro workers who fled from the city, after the riots of Monday, to return have not been successful. An agent for a large factory today went to the municipal lodging house in St. Louis, Mo., where 400 men refugees are sheltered and said he had work for 20 men. Only five negroes came back with him.
An offer by three Mississippi business men and plantation owners to charter a steamboat or special train to take 500 to 1,000 negro families to Mississippi has been made to the St. Louis Red Cross, which is helping in the work of providing for the refugees from East St. Louis, who came to St. Louis.

IRISH CONVENTION MEETS JULY 25.

(By Associated Press.)
London, July 6.—Premier Lloyd-George announced in the House of Commons this afternoon that the Irish convention would meet July 25 to deal with preliminary business, including the appointment of a chairman.
Mr. Lloyd-George said the government had suggested that Mr. Henry E. Duke, chief secretary for Ireland, act as provisional or temporary chairman.

MAKES DEMAND OF SPANISH GOVERNMENT

(By Associated Press.)
Madrid, July 6.—Sixty Catalan senators and deputies met in Barcelona yesterday and asked the government to give administrative autonomy to all provinces.
They decided also that if the government did not immediately summon parliament that they would themselves call upon members of parliament to meet in Barcelona July 19.
Ninety-nine Liberal senators and deputies met in Madrid and approved the international policy of Count Romanones, former premier.

FOOD QUESTION CAUSES ANXIETY AT STOCKHOLM

Uneasy Over Prospect of Continuance of Imports of Food Products
COST OF LIVING ALREADY VERY HIGH
Crops Below Average—No Raw Materials For Factories—Reshipment to Germany Denied.
(By Associated Press.)
Stockholm, July 6.—Washington advices of the last few days forecasting the sharpest limitation or possible discontinuance of all exports to neutrals caused anxiety in government circles and among the people generally. The situation is already grave and the prospect pictured by news from America renders it still more disquieting.
Crops are likely to be below the average. Many factories in various lines are closed by lack of raw material. Manufacturers cannot maintain production much longer. Benzine and petroleum are nearing exhaustion. Leather is scarce and so dear that a pair of ordinary shoes cost from \$10 to \$12. Automobile tires bring \$500 a piece. The cost of living is steadily increasing. The stocks of coffee in the kingdom will be exhausted in a month. Long lines of people standing outside the stores waiting to buy coffee may already be seen.
The government has already taken extraordinary measures to deal with extensive unemployment, which is considered inevitable if the war lasts another winter and it becomes impossible to import needed commodities. In view of the assertions in some quarters that Sweden's imports were not intended solely for Swedish consumption, the Associated Press asked Herr B. Trolle, formerly Minister of Foreign Affairs and now president of the government war trade commission, for a statement. He said:
"Official statistics of Sweden's imports for 1916, which are now nearly complete, demonstrate conclusively the absolute erroneousness of assertions that we are bringing in American products for the purpose of passing them on to the central powers."
"In several instances our total imports from America show a decided decrease compared with 1913, the last normal year, and in many instances where our imports from the United States increased, this increase fell considerably short of making good the deficit caused by the decrease or total discontinuance of our pre-war imports from belligerent countries."
"A Paris paper recently declared that exports to Scandinavia and Switzerland rose from \$40,000,000 in 1913 to \$183,000,000 in 1916. Leading American papers have published similar statistics, and asserted that the increase was largely due to the fact that Sweden had been re-exporting to Germany. This assertion will not stand the test of examination."

NO ACTION TAKEN IN M'GRAW CASE

(By Associated Press.)
New York, July 6.—The board of directors of the National League did not take any action during the re-hearing of the McGraw case today and adjourned for a week so as to give Manager McGraw of the New York club an opportunity to produce two witnesses from Pittsburgh.
The four newspaper men who wrote the interviews in which Manager McGraw was said to have cast reflections on President Tanager were heard in their own behalf at today's session. Manager McGraw, who repudiated the interviews, also gave testimony and said if given an opportunity to do so, he could produce two Pittsburgh men who were present at the time he is said to have been interviewed.

ALASKANS ARE TO REGISTER FOR WAR

(By Associated Press.)
Juneau, Alaska, July 6.—Alaskans are given from July 2 to September 4 to register for war service under the selective draft, under the terms of a Presidential proclamation issued public here today.

RADICALS WANT NEW REICHSTAG

They are Advocating Such Without Waiting For the End of the War.
(By Associated Press.)
Copenhagen, July 6.—Tentative suggestions as to the advisability of electing a new Reichstag without waiting for the end of the war are being put forward in German radical circles. Dr. Bernhard Dernburg, former secretary of state for the colonies, said in discussing a radical convention in Schleswig Holstein, that it would be improper for a Reichstag of such out of date origin, elected under such different conditions to venture to pass upon the question of peace.
The Tageblatt points out that the bill extending the life of the present Reichstag another year, which will be voted upon this week, would result in a seven year term, which would be contrary to the constitution. Although elections in time of war are conceded to be different, the Tageblatt says it would not be impossible to hold them, remarking that there is no prospect of early restoration of peace. Other parties have manifested no desire to hold elections and as the radicals are not pressing the matter an extension of the present Reichstag probably will be voted.

MAKES REPORT ON THE COCHIC CASE

(By Associated Press.)
Rome, Thursday, June 6.—Emmanuel Fano, an Italian lawyer, who, on behalf of the district attorney of New York, is investigating the case of Alfredo Cocchi, murderer of Ruth Cruger, sent a long telegraphic report to New York, after an interview with Signor Sacchi, minister of justice. Signor Fano explained the impossibility, under the Italian law, of interrogating the prisoner, but said all facilities had been granted for pursuing such an investigation through Judge Zucconi, who is in charge of the case.

GERMANS ATTACK BUT FRENCH SOON HURL THEM BACK

FAIRS IN CHINA FAST APPROACHING SERIOUS CRISIS
Large Bodies of Troops Being Assembled by the Two Contending Factions.
FIGHTING BEGUN IN PEKING SECTION
Troops Advancing on Capital. Looting Feared—Government Warned by Diplomatic Representatives
(By Associated Press.)
Tien Tsin, July 6.—Fifty thousand soldiers of the Republican forces are converging on Peking and the attempt to restore the Manch dynasty appears to be at the point of failure. By midnight Tuan Chi Jul, who has been appointed commander-in-chief of the punitive expedition, is expected to have 200,000 between Tien Tsin and Peking. Large forces are coming from the south. Along the Hankow railway 1,000 soldiers are advancing. General Chang Hsun, the dictator, who attempted to restore the monarchy, has only some 3,000 men. Tuan Chi Jul today addressed an ultimatum to Chang Hsun's troops, promising them more favorable treatment if they would lay down their arms. The northern military leaders do not expect fighting. They believe Chang Hsun will be deserted by his troops when the strength of the Republican forces is realized. It is rumored that part of Chang Hsun's forces already had deserted him. Fifty provinces are supporting Tuan Chi Jul.
Fighting Begins.
Peking, July 6.—Fighting began yesterday at Lang Fang, about 35 miles southeast of Peking, between the troops of Chang Hsun, supporter of the monarchy, and the forces of the Republicans.
Fear of Looting.
Peking, July 6.—(Via Tien Tsin).—The position of General Chang Hsun, the leader of the Royalist movement, apparently, is hopeless. It is feared that when this is realized his troops will loot Peking. The legations are prepared for all eventualities.
Three thousand imperialist troops and 1,000 of Chang Hsun's soldiers have taken positions astride the Peking-Hankow railway, 4 miles from this city, ready to oppose 10,000 troops commanded by Tsao Kuo, who have reached a point 25 miles from Peking. The diplomatic representatives have warned the government that the protocol of 1901 requires maintenance and free passage on the Peking-Shanghai railway.

GERMANS ATTACK BUT FRENCH SOON HURL THEM BACK

Crown Prince Turns His Attention to Champagne Region and Makes Drives
ARTILLERY FIGHTING CONTINUES WITH FURY
Signs Point to Renewal of British Offensive—Bulgars Grow Active in Macedonia But Without Success.
Having failed disastrously in their recent effort to drive the French from their commanding positions on the Chemin-des-Dames, on the Aisne front, the Germans are now turning their attention to the Champagne, apparently with a similar purpose.
Attacks were made by the Crown Prince's troops last night on the French lines west of Mont Carnillet, and southeast of Tahure. The drives evidently were not of such intensity as was that earlier in the week along the Aisne, and the Paris official report says they were easily repulsed.
The artillery fighting is proceeding vigorously in these and other sectors of the Champagne. In the Verdun region also the French guns are active. With the evident effort of making the German trenches west and north of Hill 304 untenable, General Petain's artillery is pouring a destructive fire upon them. Apparently the Crown Prince has none too secure a hold on such ground here as his troops were able to seize in their sudden rush a few days ago.
London is reticent as to what is going on along the British front in France, where there have been indications that some important movement was in prospect. The very activity reached was a nocturnal raid on British posts near Bullecourt, which was repulsed.
In Macedonia there is some revival of activity, but seemingly not on a large scale. Enemy troops, probably Bulgarians, launched an assault on the ridge west of Doljeil, southwest of Lake Doiran, but were compelled by a British counter attack to relinquish the footing they obtained.
Italians Made Surprise Attack.
Rome, July 6.—The Italians made a surprise attack northwest of Selo on the Carso on Wednesday night, and advanced their line, the War Office announces. Outposts were captured with prisoners. The gains were maintained against violent counter attacks.
Violent Artillery Battle.
Berlin, (Via London), July 6.—An artillery battle of great violence developed yesterday between Zborow and Brzezany, in Eastern Galicia, says the official statement issued today by the German army headquarters staff. The bombardment diminished during the night but increased in intensity again at daybreak today. The artillery activity was also very lively at intervals further north on the eastern front at Zwyzyn, Brody and Smorgon.
The Fight on the Gallician Front.
Petograd, July 6.—The heavy gun fire of both the Russians and the Poles in the region of Zlochoff on the eastern Gallician front, was increased yesterday, says the Russian statement issued today. It reads:
"Western (Russian) front: in the direction of Zlochoff there has been increased artillery activity on both sides.
"In the region northwest of Rybniki, near Dal'elany, there was a number of brief, sharp encounters between our detachments. The enemy's artillery conducted an intense fire against our positions east of Lipnicadolina. Fusillades were reported on the rest of the front."
Germans Repulsed.
Paris, July 6.—The Germans attacked on the Champagne front and were repulsed, the War Office announces. Assaults were made west of Mont Carnillet and southeast of Tahure. The artillery was active around Verdun.
The statement follows:
"The artillery fighting was rather spirited for a time between the Miette and the Aisne. Three attacks on small posts in this region were repulsed by our fire.
"In the Champagne there was very active artillery fighting, especially at Le Casque and LaTeton. We easily repulsed enemy attacks west of Mont Carnillet and southeast of Tahure. On the left bank of the Meuse (Verdun) front, our batteries directed a destructive fire on German defenses west and north of Hill 304. Petrol encounters near Lovomont on the right bank of the river enabled us to take prisoners. There is nothing to report from the remainder of the front."

MAKES REPORT ON THE COCHIC CASE

(By Associated Press.)
Rome, Thursday, June 6.—Emmanuel Fano, an Italian lawyer, who, on behalf of the district attorney of New York, is investigating the case of Alfredo Cocchi, murderer of Ruth Cruger, sent a long telegraphic report to New York, after an interview with Signor Sacchi, minister of justice. Signor Fano explained the impossibility, under the Italian law, of interrogating the prisoner, but said all facilities had been granted for pursuing such an investigation through Judge Zucconi, who is in charge of the case.