

WEATHER FORECAST
North Carolina—Fair tonight and Wednesday, preceded by showers tonight in northeast portion.
South Carolina—Fair tonight and Wednesday; not much change in temperature.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS.

WILMINGTON TROOPS FIRST TAR HEELS TO GO TO FRENCH FRONT

Engineer Train of This City and Now Here Will be First to Go.
WILL BE PART OF "RAINBOW" DIVISION
New England Regiments Not to Report to Charlotte But Will Train in France, Near War Scene—This Information Divulged in Washington.

(By Geo. H. Manning).
Washington, D. C., Aug. 21.—The Engineer Train, with headquarters at Wilmington, a unit of the North Carolina National Guard, will be the first organization from the Old North State to set foot on French soil in the war of the Allies against Prussianism, and to "make the world safe for democracy."

The North Carolina Engineer Train has been included as a part of the Forty-second Division, known as the "Rainbow" division, which is to be sent to France at once.
In addition to the Forty-second Division, another division, the Twenty-sixth, made up of the New England National Guard organizations, is to be sent to France at once.

The orders directing the National Guard organizations of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and the other New England States to proceed to Charlotte, N. C., at once for training are to be cancelled, and the troops from New England, to be known as the Twenty-sixth Division, are to be concentrated near their headquarters in their home States and transported to France as soon as possible. Instead of being trained in the Southern camps, they will get their training near the Western front in France under real war conditions.

This information was obtained here today from an indisputable source and even though confirmation of it may be withheld by the War Department it may be put down as a fact that cannot be denied.
Preparations are now being rushed by the War Department for sending the Forty-second and the Twenty-sixth Divisions to France at once, but announcement of this fact will possibly be withheld by the Bureau of Public Information and the War Department until the troops have been landed safely on French soil.
The Forty-second Division is to be commanded by Major General William H. Mann, now chief of the Militia Bureau, while the Twenty-sixth will be commanded by Major-General Clarence Edwards.

ALLIES TO CONFER ON POPE'S PROPOSALS

(By Associated Press).
London, Aug. 21.—Lord Robert Cecil, minister of blockade and under-secretary for foreign affairs, announced in the House of Commons this afternoon that the entente allied governments would hold a conference before a reply to the Pope's peace proposals would be sent to the Vatican.

Washington, Aug. 21.—Lord Cecil's statement in British Parliament today that the entente governments would hold a conference before replying to Pope Benedict's peace proposals, is understood at the State Department as meaning that the governments will exchange views, not that there is to be a gathering of premiers or foreign ministers for a formal conference.

APPLICATION FOR REDUCED RATES

(By Associated Press).
Washington, Aug. 23.—Reduction in freight rates of all classes between Macon, Ga., and Jacksonville, Fla., is sought by the Macon freight bureau in a complaint filed today with the Interstate Commerce Commission, alleging that since January 1, 1916, rates have been advanced from 27 to 33 per cent.

AUTOMOBILE PARTY KILLED BY TRAIN

(By Associated Press).
Saybrook, Conn., Aug. 21.—A freight engine running light over the Shore Line division of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad late last night, struck and crushed at a crossing an automobile owned and driven by Robert H. Rohlf, of New Haven, who had with him a party of four adults and four children. All the members of the automobile party were killed except Louise W. Weyel, aged 9.

FIFTY MILLION MORE.
(By Associated Press).
Washington, Aug. 21.—A loan of \$50,000,000 was made today by the government to Great Britain. This brings the total advanced to the Allies up to \$1,966,400,000.

DECLARE WAR ON WATSON MEETING

Officials of Macon Determined "Protest Meeting" Shall Not Be Held There.

(By Associated Press).
Macon, Ga., Aug. 21.—Authorities of the city of Macon, of the county of Bibb and of the United States government, are determined that the State convention called to meet in Macon on Thursday for the purpose of protesting against the Conscription law, shall not meet in the city or the county. Thos. E. Watson has called the convention and says he will be the principal speaker. Delegates have been appointed from many counties.
The city has declined the use of any of its public buildings or parks. The county has done the same. The entire police force of the city will be used in suppressing the meeting if it is attempted to be held. If the anti-draft people go outside the city, Sheriff Jas. R. Hicks will swear in the entire police force as deputy sheriffs and disperse the gathering anywhere in the county. If these officers are not sufficient in number, it is understood that the United States Marshal will ask for some of the troops at Camp Harris.

BUBONIC PLAGUE ON BRITISH STEAMER

(By Associated Press).
London, Aug. 21.—The British steamship Mahana arrived at Gravesend from Bombay on August 13 with three convalescent cases of bubonic plague. At one time during the voyage there were nine cases on board. Six of the victims died and were buried at sea. Another case died in hospital. The patient had since died in hospital.
The ship, crew and cargo are being closely guarded.

PROFESSOR METCALF SUCCEEDS DR. SMITH

(By Associated Press).
Richmond, Va., Aug. 21.—John C. Metcalf, dean of Richmond College, has accepted the Edgar Allen Poe chair of English at the University of Virginia, succeeded C. Alphonso Smith, who resigned to become professor at the Naval Academy at Annapolis.

MISSION TO RUSSIA IN WASHINGTON

For Purpose of Closing Up Its Official Business—No Publication.

(By Associated Press).
Washington, Aug. 21.—Elliott Root and other members of the American mission which visited Russia recently have returned to Washington to close upon the affairs of the mission.
Former reports by Mr. Root for the commission as a whole and of the individual members upon the subjects which they were especially charged to investigate already have been submitted to Secretary Lansing and have been referred to the State, War and Navy departments. It is not the present intention to make any of them public, although the substance of some may appear later in development of the government's war plans.

Mr. Root is deeply interested in the immediate adoption of some of the measures for relief of Russia which were touched upon in the reports. That is particularly true of the need of the Russians for American locomotives and rolling stock to keep the Russian armies in the field properly supplied with food and munitions, absolutely necessary for the successful defense of the wheat fields of Rumania and Southern Russia.

ALLOWED TIME TO SETTLE AFFAIRS

Before Going to Federal Penitentiary—Remarkable Excuses to Draft Board.

(By Associated Press).
New York, Aug. 21.—Dr. A. S. Bernfeld and Louis Chery, the two members of exemption board 99, under sentence of 2 years in the Federal penitentiary following their pleas of guilty to accepting bribes for granting exemptions to men liable under the Selective Draft Law, will be allowed a week to wind up their business affairs before being taken to the Atlanta prison. Meanwhile they will be confined in the toms.
When the trial of Kalman Gruher was resumed here in the Federal court, it was expected the case would be completed and in the hands of the jury by noon. Gruher, who was indicted with Bernfeld and Chery, declined to enter a plea of guilty and elected to stand trial. He is accused of being the "go-between" for the convicted men.

The usual long list of applicants for exemption came up today before the district board. Revised figures for the work of the board yesterday show that 20 cases of exemption were allowed out of 178 called. A number of new and rare diseases are discovered daily by those who seek exemption. One man told the board yesterday he would like to serve in the army, but felt that he should claim exemption because of a "mental rupture," which he said would be an obstacle to carrying a gun. The board ruled otherwise.

BOOK PAPER PRICES DECLARED EXCESSIVE

(By Associated Press).
Washington, Aug. 21.—The advance in prices of book paper last year were excessive and unwarranted, the Federal Trade Commission reported today to the Senate. As a result of its investigation the commission has ordered proceedings against certain practices of manufacturers.
The price advances were not warranted either by the increase in costs or by the changes in conditions of supply and demand, the commission found. The advances were brought about in part by the activities of members of the Paper Manufacturers' Association and the secretary of the Bureau of Statistics maintained by the manufacturers. On account of those activities, the proceedings were ordered.

ANOTHER TRAGEDY OCCURRED GOLDSBORO

(Special to The Dispatch).
Goldsboro, N. C., Aug. 21.—Noah Bethea, a negro who hails from South Carolina, was shot and killed here last night at 11 o'clock, by a negro named Oscar Welch.
Both men were employed by the Virginia Box & Lumber Company and the killing occurred near the factory, in the southern section of the city. The motive of the crime is unknown. Welch made his escape immediately after the killing and has not yet been apprehended.

THE COAL QUESTION BEFORE PRESIDENT

(By Associated Press).
Washington, Aug. 21.—President Wilson canceled the usual Tuesday cabinet meeting to devote his attention to the coal situation. The President is about to appoint a coal administrator, but he has not selected the man for the place.
Officials say the President feels there is no question that the price of coal is too high and is anxious to remedy that condition as soon as possible. He realizes, however, the necessity for the selection of a highly qualified man for the coal administration position.

BALTIMORE MAN NAMED BY WILSON

(By Associated Press).
Washington, Aug. 21.—John W. Garrett, of Baltimore, was today nominated by President Wilson as minister to The Netherlands and Luxemburg.
Mr. Garrett succeeds Dr. Henry Van Dyke, who resigned some time ago. Although accredited also to Luxemburg as the custom of the diplomatic service, Mr. Garrett hardly will go there as the duchy has been overrun by the Germans and now is under military control.

DRAFT WEALTH TO PAY COST OF WAR, DECLARES SENATOR

LAW CANDIDATES BEFORE SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

Number of Applicants Small, Although Larger Than at First Indicated.

CASE AGAINST WARDEN OF PENITENTIARY

Charged With Brutally Whipping Prisoner—Fugitive From Justice Brought Back—Charters

(Special to The Dispatch).
Raleigh, Aug. 21.—Fifty-three candidates for license to practice law presented themselves yesterday and took 66 questions which usually comprise the requisition. The number was far above the expectations a week ago when less than 30 had sent in their fees. When the time limit expired 54 had qualified by depositing their money, but one failed to show up. Among the class, not older nor younger than the usual licensees, were several soldiers in uniform, many of conscriptive age and few above 31. Three attractive young women and three colored men were in the list of the examined.
The three women make a record for a single class. Each examination for the last four or five years has had one woman, but none ever produced two or three. Some of the women lawyers have been heard from, some have married and some have not. One has become both marital and professional partner of her husband.

Though Judge Walker gets the credit for the questions, many of them have the unmistakable trademark of Chief Justice Clark who asks not a few about the power of upper courts to declare legislative acts unconstitutional, the abridgments of the rights of office, suffrage amendments, et cetera.
Warden S. J. Busbee came back from New Jersey today with his Rockingham prisoner who is to serve a sentence for murder in the second degree and the warden put up his bond of \$100 for appearance August 28 when he will answer the charge of unmerciful beating brought against him by one N. W. Smith.

Mr. Busbee was in New Jersey when the warrant by the ex-convict was sworn out. The allegation is ancient. It sets out that Smith was whipped by Mr. Busbee more than 11 months ago. Mr. Busbee indicated his purpose to fight the charge.
Warden Busbee's prisoner, named Henderson, escaped from the Rockingham authorities when they were removing him preparatory to bringing him here to serve his sentence. A number of the companies recently incorporated are: The Eastern Carolina Packing Plant, of New Bern, with \$75,000 of its \$100,000 paid in, backed by Dr. W. L. Hand, W. F. Aberly and others. The Advance Manufacturing Company, of Fayetteville, with \$6,000 of its \$100,000 paid in, will do a yarn business. J. M. Butler, St. Paul's; E. H. Williamson, Fayetteville; O. R. McEachern, of St. Paul's, and others are subscribers.

MOSQUITO BITE CAUSES DEATHS

Three Persons Die From This Cause—Disease Known as Blackwater Fever
(By Associated Press).
Richmond, Va., Aug. 21.—The theory that one mosquito communicated "pernicious" malaria to Mrs. John A. Skinner, Sr., Frank Skinner and John A. Skinner, Jr., of Highland Park, a suburb of Richmond, was strengthened when the last named died this morning, following the death of the other two in quick succession.
The end of both was violent. Hiccoughs is the last stage of the disease, which is more frequently, than otherwise, fatal.
A difference of opinion prevails as to the kind of mosquito that is supposed to have communicated the fatal disease to the Highland Park victims. One theory is that it was a kind of mosquito found in the dismal swamp in certain sections of North Carolina, parts of the far South and Panama, where the disease is sometimes known as blackwater fever and is very often fatal.

LaFollette Takes Floor to Air His Views On The Great Strife

PEOPLE NOT FAVOR OF WAR, HE ASSERTS

Loans to The Allies May or May Not Be Paid, He Charges—Pictures Possibility of Bread Line This Winter.

(By Associated Press).
Washington, Aug. 21.—Conscription of wealth to pay for the war was urged in the Senate today by Senator LaFollette in presenting the minority plans of the Finance committee for higher rates in the War Tax bill on war profits and incomes. He suggested increasing the \$2,000,000,000 bill to more than \$3,500,000,000 by such increases, with elimination of consumption taxes.

The Wisconsin Senator declared governments were demanding war while their peoples were asking for peace and contended that 85 per cent. of men drafted are protesting. Large bond issues desired by wealthy interests, he contended, inflate prices and increase the present high cost of living.
The Liberty Loan, he said, was made possible by an "iron hand" within a kid glove" and persistent advertising methods.

The pending bill, Mr. LaFollette stated, provides by taxes but 17 per cent. of this year's expenses while Great Britain imposes 26 per cent. Next year's expenditures, he predicted, may reach \$300,000,000 or \$400,000,000 and he urged that huge war profits and incomes of wealthy persons, by higher tax-rates, be made to bear the burden of the war.
By keeping down taxes and increasing the money supply, LaFollette said the masses are being "mortgaged to the money lenders."

Loans to the allies, the Senator said, may and may not be repaid, certainly not for many years after the war.
Russia, he said, is in the throes of a revolution and "Italy, if reports are correct, is on the eve of one coming." "England and France," he said, "will be in no position to repay loans for a long time and if this war should last for several years what political transformation may occur in any country in Europe no one can foretell."

Possibility of bread lines this winter, because of the high cost of living, he picture thus in conclusion:
"Always remember that the high prices already upon us have taxed the common people of this country for the support of this war to a much greater extent than the wealthy class would be taxed if every dollar of income of the members of that class were taken by taxation. When bread lines shall be a familiar sight in every city of this land, as they are bound to be, if the present price of simple necessities of life as maintained during the coming winter, when cold and hunger are daily visitors in many thousands of homes which have known only comfort heretofore, a condition certain to exist during the coming winter months, unless relief from present prices can be found, it will be small satisfaction, I think, to the members of Congress, to realize that they have contributed to the want and suffering of the mass of people by refusing to place even an approximately fair portion of the financial burden of this war upon the rich."

"Rich slackers" were scored by Senator LaFollette, who read a letter from a United Mine Workers' official of Illinois, addressed to himself and Senator Stone, of Missouri, predicting that "the peoples' patience over the mounting cost of living had reached its limit and that Congress should act for the people's good."
The letter also said the people could not express their views on the war, with the average man "bullied into silence," while armies are slaughtered in battle for the benefit of those desiring war for enormous profits.

"I believe that represents the views of a great many millions of people in this country," said Senator LaFollette.
Senator Weeks, of Massachusetts, in reply to Senator LaFollette, declared the plan worked out by the finance committee should be adopted, and took exceptions to Senator LaFollette's attack on "rich slackers," declaring it was a "scandalous libel" to say that wealth or the wealthy class were not doing their duty in this war.

STRICT DRAFT RULE AS TO MARRIED MEN

(By Associated Press).
Washington, Aug. 21.—"If there is to be any modification of the present rigid rulings of the provost marshal general regarding exemptions of married men from draft, it is known to President Wilson who alone has authority to alter or modify those regulations."
The war department, so far basing its ruling on what it interprets as the intention of congress in passing the draft law, has gone on the theory that a man's exemption was based on a consideration of dependency, rather than on the mere condition of the marriage. The department still holds to that view and will urge it upon the President.

GERMANIC ALLIES ARE BEING ASSAILED ON EVERY FRONT

FRENCH HAIL IT WITH GREAT JOY

Victory at Verdun Showed Unity of Action of the Allies.

(By Associated Press).
Paris, Aug. 21.—Yesterday's French victory on the Verdun front was welcomed by the French people not only because after it the Germans no longer hold one of their dearly bought conquests won since the first onrush on the Verdun fortress in February, 1916, but as proof that the unity of action among the entente allies is at work.

The British, Italian and French fronts are all active at the same time, making it possible that weakness may develop somewhere along the German and Austrian lines confronting them.
It is admitted in military circles that an offensive with a three days' preliminary bombardment cannot be a surprise. The German press has shown for 10 days that the present attack had been expected, even the exact extent of the front from Avocourt wood to Ornes being stated. The precise minute when a bombardment will cease or rather change to a barrage fire, cutting off the first stage of the offensive, will, however, remain a secret.

Thus the Germans were surprised at 4:40 o'clock yesterday morning when the French made a bound along 15 miles of front and it was 12 minutes before the German barrage fire opened.
This delay allowed the French to occupy the first German lines without losses. They were found to be almost empty at one point. Only on the slopes of Talon hill did a single company succeed in holding out in a subterranean stronghold. With its young second lieutenant as the only officer, the entire company was taken prisoner.

The Germans used only asphyxiating shells for their barrage fire, placing the French troops under the handicap of wearing masks.

A BILLION DOLLARS FOR SHIPBUILDING

(By Associated Press).
Washington, Aug. 21.—A billion dollars probably will be the sum asked of Congress by the shipping board for completion of its eighteen months building program.
Contracts soon to be placed for a great fleet of fabricated steel ships, ordinary contracts about to be let and the cost of commandeering ships under construction, it was learned today, will send the total far above the \$500,000,000 additional estimated by the old board. President Wilson's approval of the request for the appropriation will be sought immediately.

JUDGE BIGGS ACCEPTS TENDER

Well Known Tar Heel Jurist Will Succeed Late E. J. Justice.

(By George H. Manning).
Washington, Aug. 21.—Sometime today or tomorrow Attorney General Gregory will sign the papers appointing J. Crawford Biggs, formerly North Carolina Superior Court Judge, but recently an active attorney as a special assistant to the Attorney General, filling the vacancy caused by the recent sudden death of E. J. Justice, of Greensboro. A letter from Judge Biggs, accepting the place and agreeing to take up the assignment held by Mr. Justice, that of prosecuting the Government's cases against the Southern Pacific Railway, in California, was received at the Justice Department today and preparations were also made for his appointment.
Judge Biggs came to Washington last week and conferred with Attorney General Gregory. The place was offered him then and he took the proposal under advisement, saying he would think it over a few days and reach a conclusion as to whether to accept the place. Just what influence, in any way, exerted to secure Biggs' appointment, is not apparent as his appointment was not urged by Senators Simmons or Overman or any of the Congressmen so far as can be learned.

RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE MEETING WITH SUCCESS

Teutons Make Counter Stroke to French Attack But Are Repulsed—British Airmen Continue to Carry Out Bombing Campaign.

French and Italians Have Taken Fully Fifteen Thousand Prisoners

(By Associated Press).
* The Austrian lines on the Isonzo front is beginning to bend and * give way at various points under * the furious attacks of the Ital- * ians. Rome announces officially. * The Italians are making progress * toward a success which, the * statement says, is becoming delin- * eated in spite of undiminished * resistance by the Austrians. * More than 10,000 prisoners have * been taken in the new battle of * the Isonzo and strong Austrian * defenses have fallen into the * hands of the attackers. Seldom * during the war has an official * communication been worded in * such confident terms and unless * the Austrians are able to rally * their shattered forces, develop- * ments of far reaching importance * may follow quickly.

The German reaction to the successful French stroke at Verdun came last night and the new French line stood firm in the face of counter attacks of extreme violence. On the front north of Verdun the fighting was particularly bitter, the French war office reports. The Germans, beaten back, met with heavy losses. The number of prisoners taken by the French now exceeds 5,000.
The Germans also returned to the attack on the Aisne front at Cerny and Hurlbise. Paris reports the repulse of these assaults.

On the British front the Germans last night made their third attempt to re-occupy positions recently wrested from them near Epehy, northwest of St. Quentin. A determined attack was made in which the Germans employed flame throwers, but they were repulsed completely by the British.
Heavy fighting continues on the Southern Rumanian front. The Rumanians and Rumanians are offering stiff resistance but they have been forced back further at several points.
Austro-German troops reached the southwestern outskirts of the important Moldavian town of Ocna, 75 miles southwest of the provisional Rumanian capital. In the direction of Fokshani the Germans took the offensive along the railroad, advancing on both sides of it. A counter-attack west of the railway resulted in restoration of the Russo-Rumanian positions.

On the Northern Russian front increasing activity is reported. Germans are bombarding heavily the Russian trenches west of the Riga-Mittau railroad.
The new Russian offensive on the Caucasian front has resulted in further victories. Capture of a series of villages south of the Belmer-Bidumer sector is reported by the Russian war office. The Turks made an attack in the direction of Kharpuz and gained initial successes, but subsequently were expelled from the captured positions.
British aviators carried out another bombing expedition in Belgium last night. They dropped many tons of explosives on military objectives, the British admiralty reports. All the airplanes returned safely.

Italians Take Many Prisoners.
Rome, Aug. 21.—More than 10,000 prisoners had been taken by the Italians in their new offensive up to yesterday evening, the war office announces.
Canadian troops around Lens, in Northern France, made another attack early this morning. Germans who advanced at the same time, made a hurried retreat on encountering the Canadians. Few details have been reported of the subsequent fighting which developed into one of the most desperate hand-to-hand struggles of the war.

Attacking Southern Rumania.
Petograd, Monday, Aug. 20.—(British Admiralty press wireless press).
Austro-German forces are making vigorous attacks on the Southern Rumanian front. The war office announcement of today says that stubborn resistance is being offered by the Rumanians and Rumanians who, however, were forced back at several points. On the Caucasian front where the Rumanians recently took the offensive a fur-
(Continued on Page Eight.)