

WEATHER FORECAST

North Carolina: Fair Sunday and Monday, somewhat cooler Monday in part portion. South Carolina: Fair Sunday and Monday.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

12 PAGES TWO SECTIONS

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

VOL. XXIII.

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 18, 1917.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

HUN ATTACKS FLUNG BACK BY ITALIANS

Italian News Shows That The Ferocious Hun is Being Held.

CLIMAX OF DRIVE GETTING NEARER

Teutons Hurl Masses of Men Forward in Attempt to Break Line Before Arrival of Reinforcements.

(By John H. Hurley, United Press Staff Correspondent)

Rome, Nov. 17.—Italy's line is holding. Her doughty troops have flung back enemy attacks, and at one point where the Austro-Germans succeeded in crossing the Piave river, have been flung back, broken and bleeding.

The official statement today brought out nothing in the capital tonight. Italy knows great forces of men and guns from her allies are on the way to supplement her own efforts.

On the Adriatic coast, British monitors are likewise co-operating with Italian naval vessels in bombarding enemy positions around Venezia. With the present Piave river line holding, these reinforcements in men and guns soon to be in action will run the tide completely against the Teutons, according to the public's belief.

But the exploit of the Italian forces which arouse the greatest joy here was the war office announcement that between Saffold and Santa Andrea Di Barberano, the enemy yesterday at dawn had forced a crossing of the Piave, only to be driven back later. The enemy suffered terribly from the Italian attacks.

Some Andrea is about three miles north of the Zenson loop about midway in the Piave river line. It is on the main highway to Treviso.

The war office also asserted the enemy's chief zone of eruption in the Zenson loop of the Piave "was being more and more restricted. Violent fighting is in progress here, the Austro-German forces being desperately to keep their precarious foothold on the far side of the river."

Great speculation was aroused here tonight by the possibility of a sea battle in the Adriatic. The war office, in reply to the right wing of the army's news, mentioned that naval squadrons were being sent to the Adriatic to meet any enemy destroyers before Corfuzza.

Corfuzza is located almost at the mouth of the Piave river, on the Adriatic.

Italian naval forces are known to be in the Adriatic. During the retreat to the Piave the war office announced that the navy had landed squadrons to assist in the retreat of the army to prepared positions.

The war office also mentioned the fact that the Austro-German forces are being driven back to the Piave river line. The war office also mentioned the fact that the Austro-German forces are being driven back to the Piave river line.

These facts stood tonight from the State Department messages received from Ambassador Francis at Petrograd, under date of the 13th, 12th and 9th. He had been abjectly smuggle word across the border but he reported that no State Department cables had reached him since the third.

RUSSIA STRUGGLES IN VAIN ATTEMPT TO RESTORE ORDER

Chaotic Conditions Prevail in Capital Under Revolution's Rule.

AMERICA TO DEAL WITH NO ONE NOW.

Socialists Seem to be in the Saddle, But No Definite Government Established. Lenine Stops Bank.

(By United Press)

Washington, Nov. 17.—Russia is now struggling toward formation of a new governmental regime, but Petrograd conditions are chaotic still. Bolsheviki and socialists have formed a compromise ministry. Bolsheviki control the city.

These facts stood tonight from the State Department messages received from Ambassador Francis at Petrograd, under date of the 13th, 12th and 9th. He had been abjectly smuggle word across the border but he reported that no State Department cables had reached him since the third.

His last message dated the 13th said the socialist faction had agreed to a compromise ministry, composed exclusively of socialists, including some Bolsheviki, but he was not advised as to personnel, and had had no communication from those in power.

This word indicated that the radical group anticipates that it will remain in power, and likewise showed the first symptoms of a return to something resembling a government.

The United States government will deal with the socialist when cases touching American interest arise, but thus far there is no suggestion of recognizing the existence of a de facto government. The bloody fighting in Petrograd harmed no Americans, Francis reported. The cadets and women soldiers battled with the malcontents.

A Stockholm message reported that Lenine had tried to cash a check for 100,000,000 rubles, whereupon the bank immediately closed.

Diplomats here foresaw that the Bolsheviki and Maximalists are destined to get the upper hand if they remain in power a time longer, as their support is growing constantly through their promises of peace, food and land.

The Russian embassy remained outwardly optimistic, though it had no word from Petrograd.

Enemy Attack Stopped. Paris, Nov. 17.—Northwest of Altkirch, French fire completely stopped an attempted enemy attack, tonight's official statement asserted.

SHIPS ARE WANTED AT FASTER RATE

Government Calls Henry Ford to Aid in Speed-Up Work.

(By United Press)

Washington, Nov. 17.—The War Department wants ships faster than they are being built. That is one of the reasons Henry Ford has been called to the help of the shipping board.

The Department is confronted with the task of moving much larger bodies of troops to France than have been going, as well as food supplies and munitions for the men.

AMERICA EXPECTS UNITY OF PURPOSE IN WAR'S CONDUCT

Allies Will Be Asked to Lay Their Cards on the Table.

UNITED STATES MEANS BUSINESS

This is No Time For Nursing Secret Ambitions, But All Must Unite in Defeating Hohenzollernism.

(By C. D. Groat, United Press Staff Correspondent)

Washington, Nov. 17.—Military unity, unity of purpose during the war and unity of aims and conditions is what America expects to see grow out of the Allied War Council soon to convene in Paris.

All Allied Powers, it is expected, will lay all of their cards on the table. The United States has but one aim in the war—the crushing of Hohenzollernism.

If any other nation has any secret treaties or agreements, the United States will expect that they be made known.

That the American mission, headed by Col. E. M. House, and now in England, will enter the council with this view was learned on high authority by the United Press today.

It is hoped that the Allied atmosphere, which has been clouded from time to time, will be entirely cleared by the council. The "pulling and hauling," that has marked the conduct of the war to date will disappear, it is believed.

The American mission headed by Colonel House, is a war mission in that its business is to try and find out the quickest way to win the war.

It is, therefore, a military mission and to all intents and purposes discuss only military matters. This must be interpreted, however, in a broad sense. The thought and condition of the people of the various countries have their bearing on military success or defeat on the battle front.

These subjects, therefore, will come up for discussion along with various others that enter into the broad field.

The people of the United States know what they are fighting for. It has been made clear that America expects no gain out of the war other than that which will be gained by all humanity in stamping out the world's menace to democracy. Complete understanding among the peoples of the Allied Powers is one of the factors that will aid in winning the war.

And out of the Allied Council may grow a clear statement of war aims, based on an exchange of views and conditions over the Paris conference table.

The feeling of officials in Washington is that there can be no more than a "general" understanding of the war. The Allies must pull together. This might be accomplished through some central directing body composed of representatives of the various nations or through some medium that may be established as a result of conferences of the council.

Certain it is, the Allies must fight in unison. The United States is interested in just one thing now—winning the war. The members of the American mission have that alone in view. They have been conferring with British officials for the past week and the construction put upon the work ahead of them gives promise of the Paris council being one of the most important conferences since the beginning of the war.

As casualties arrive in increasing numbers and the course of German propaganda appears to point certainly to another "peace drive" from Germany during the winter, the determination of the government to speed up every wheel of its war machine is becoming more pronounced.

"Drafting" of Henry Ford into the government shipbuilding business is "one of the steps being taken to bring every department up to the highest efficiency."

The "political offensive" against Germany is also to be continued with renewed vigor. News of first real fruits of this came this week in official reports of German prisoners surrendering, giving "republic" as their name over their French captors. These surrenders were the result of pamphlets dropped over the German lines of firing special consideration to Germans who are willing to work for a German republic.

PERSHING VISITS MEN AT FRONT

(By J. W. Pegler, United Press Staff Correspondent)

FORMAL DEMAND THAT GOVERNMENT DIRECT RAILROADS

Shippers Plan to Inaugurate A Nation-Wide Movement At Early Date.

RAILROADS' DEMANDS ARE UNJUSTIFIABLE

Interstate Shippers Appear Before Interstate Commerce Commission in Hearing of Rate Increase.

(By United Press)

Washington, Nov. 17.—Goaded by what they term the "wholly unjustifiable demands" of the railroads, interstate shippers tonight made formal demand that the government at once assume a directing hand in the wartime management of all railroads.

Immediately following the Interstate Commerce Commission decision of the 15 per cent rate increase, the shippers will inaugurate a nationwide movement and carry their case to President Wilson.

"Government operation of the roads," the shippers declared, "is the only efficient way to bring about an immediate elimination of duplicating competitive service."

Should the government fail to assume this "directing control" the shippers urged as "next best" government action to the roads to finance their necessary war extension; or outright government purchase of all rolling stock and terminals with the government itself undertaking the expansion of facilities.

The 15 per cent rate advance sought by the roads, the shippers' statement held, would be wholly inadequate for extension. "But present rates are giving a reasonable profit on investment. It was never intended that railroad profits should pay for vast extension which should be built from stock sales according to the shippers."

Clifford Thorne, shippers' counsel, told the Interstate Commerce Commission that Eastern roads during the past two years had net revenues exceeding \$1,000,000,000—for the first time in their history. "The actual returns by the roads since the rate increases of last June have exceeded the expectations of the commission by \$543 per mile of road operated according to Thorne. For the first nine months of this year, the roads net operating income exceeded their own estimates for the entire year by more than \$60,000,000, he said.

Fire works at today's hearing were furnished by Benjamin C. Marsh, high cost of living opponent of New York City, who accused the roads of scheming to force ownership and unload billions in water securities. This led Chairman Hall to inform Marsh tartly that "Testimony only was wanted, whereupon Marsh left the stand."

GERMANS TO BURN AMERICA TO HELL

(By United Press)

Mobile, Ala., Nov. 17.—James Aleya, a German shot tonight by guards at the magazine of a hardwood mill, predicted a fate for America more horrible than Belgium.

He said if the German armies failed to invade America, German agents here would "burn America to hell."

STILL NO COMICS.

The following telegram was received last night from the News-Paper Feature Service, of New York, from whom The Dispatch purchases its comic supplements:

New York, N. Y., Nov. 17, 1917. Mr. W. E. Lawson, General Manager The Dispatch, Wilmington, N. C.

Deeply distressed over your wire notice that you have had no comics last three weeks. Have suit on Southern railroad under way. Have exercised every expedient, but could not locate freight shipments to lift to express service. Beginning December second will send by express, meanwhile arranging transfer your printing.

Newspaper Feature Service.

MACHINERY WILL WIN THE WAR IS BELIEF OF FORD

Great Automobile Manufacturer Begins Whole-Hearted Work For Government.

DESPISES MAN WHO PROFITS FROM WAR

Declares That This Will Be World's Last Armed Struggle—Cantonments Should be Kept for Peace Uses.

(By United Press)

Washington, Nov. 17.—"Machinery will win the war," Henry Ford declared here in a statement made public tonight. Ford, who has become connected with the shipping board to speed up production of America's merchant vessels to beat the U-boat, asserted that "the nation that knows best how to use tools and machinery will win."

To be victorious, he declared, business men must stop thinking about profits. "I despise the profiteer," Ford said. He urged standardization of shipping.

Predicting that this would be the last war, Ford urged that the government should preserve its great cantonments when peace comes for training men in industrial pursuits.

The factories and personal organizations of the Ford Motor Company are at the disposal of the United States government and its allies, said Mr. Ford. The production of automobiles for pleasure must be reduced.

The idle cars standing along the streets show that enough cars have been built to last for a while. Transportation for armies and supplies is a basic need of war times. Railroads alone cannot handle the freight. The Germans are reported to have moved recently an army of 900,000 men from the Eastern to the Western front by auto trucks.

The Ford plants can produce 2,000 one-ton trucks daily, and its production can be increased in a few weeks to 3,000. Each truck can haul eight soldiers with full equipment. During the first month our shops could furnish trucks to haul an army of 480,000, thereafter for 720,000 men in each month.

"We are ready to furnish the government these trucks at shop cost without profit. I will take no profit for anything produced for my government during the war. I despise the man who desires to make money out of the war."

"The tractor for plowing needs immediate attention. We can save ships by sending tractors to plow the land in Europe to grow crop there."

"Our government must never abandon the barracks and army cantonments that are being built. When peace comes the world will be ready for disarmament. The people will understand the wrong of killing each other. The German will see that the American and Frenchman he went to kill is just as good as he is, and the American will feel the same way about the German. Then we must develop a great national army for training our young men between the ages of 18 and 21. We can bring them together from farms and cities in the winter to the barracks and training places. Young America needs discipline. In this service army the government can teach them order and train them to work. They should have a few hours of gymnasium drill, and five or six hours in factory every day."

"We must think more about machinery. If this war is to be won, it will be won by the nation that knows best how to use tools and machinery; that knows the secret of quantity production through standardization of one model. I have been disappointed during this visit to Washington to find our government planning different sizes and kinds of equipment and machinery where one model could be used. Ships can be built faster—better and cheaper if standardized to a single model."

"Business men must stop thinking so much about profits. If you shoot craps or play poker for money, it is gambling. To play for profits with the titles of factories in the stock market is gambling, too."

"We can all cheerfully give President Wilson our full support. It is an act of Providence that he is our President today. He will strike inward for power. He builds on the motives that are rooted in the hearts of the people."

FOOD PRICES IN UNITED STATES

(By United Press)

Washington, Nov. 17.—How high is the H. C. or L. in your city? You may determine by coming staple food prices there with these average figures for 805 United States cities, based on reports to Food Administration:

Wheat flour, 1.8 sack, \$1.66; corn meal, pound, 6.8; oat meal, pound, 8.8; potatoes, peck, 44.7; Beans, pound, 18.9; onions, pound, 5.1; sugar, pound, 6.9; butter, pound, 5.1; cheese, pound, 35.1; eggs, dozen, 49.8; bananas dozen, 97.6; ortatoes, can, 18.4; corn, can, 17.8; fish, pound, 24.2; pork chops, pounds, 36.8; bacon, pound, 48.9; ham, pound, 41.2.

NINETEEN LOST ON STEAMER ROCHESTER WHEN SUBMARINED

KERENSKY'S STAR APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN OBLITERATED

Once the People's Idol, Now Lost in Abyss of Russia's Strife.

NOT ALL HOPE HAS BEEN DESTROYED

In Some Quarters There Is Faith That Out of the Turmoil Good Will Yet Come.

(By Webb Miller, United Press Staff Correspondent)

London, Nov. 17.—Kerensky's meteoric star has risen, flashed spectacularly across Russia's firmament and tonight had apparently been lost in the abyss of Russia's internal strife. Tonight it appeared that Kerensky, once idol of the hour, unknown abroad before last March, had risen to supreme heights since that time, was a fugitive in disguise, fleeing somewhere from his enemies.

The Bolsheviki apparently have strengthened their hold on Petrograd. In Moscow they were rapidly gaining complete control of the city. Direct dispatches from Petrograd reported the city rapidly assuming a normal aspect, with negotiations proceeding for a permanent government to replace the makeshift structure erected by the Bolsheviki, which Nicholas Lenine and Leon Trotsky, at his head. The fact that the moderate socialists were reported to have attained such strength as to force the Bolsheviki leaders to concede their party representation in the future government was one source of optimism here.

Not all observers of Russia had given up hope of Kerensky's rehabilitation in power. It was pointed out that several times in his rapid rise to power Kerensky has overcome almost insurmountable obstacles, moreover, Moscow and Finland do not represent all of Russia—the great peasant population of the steppes has not yet been heard from. Kerensky always has been the idol of the peasants and is a member of their political party.

The only information regarding the former Premier today came from Bolsheviki sources and was naturally colored to make it appear that his downfall had been absolute and complete. Dispatches apparently under control of the provisional government and the Bolsheviki forces alike, however, united in declaring that Kerensky and his troops had been defeated. One Haparanda message stated the intervention of 30,000 Gettish troops had thrown the balance in favor of the Bolsheviki, forcing surrender of the provisional government forces somewhere in the neighborhood of the capital. This same dispatch declared (Continued on Page Three)

MANY APPLY FOR FEDERAL LOANS

North Carolina Farmers Ask For More Than \$6,000,000 in Loans.

(By Geo. H. Manning.)

Washington, D. C., Nov. 17.—The farmers of North Carolina applied to the Federal Land bank for loans of \$6,132,419 during the month of October under the Federal Farm loan system, and loans of \$284,615 were made to them during the month.

During October applications were received by all the Federal Farm Loan banks for loans of \$27,417,463; loans of \$20,119,240 were approved, and \$7,374,044 was actually loaned out by the banks at five per cent per annum.

These figures are about double those of the previous month, and Federal Farm Loan bank officials state it indicates that the process of making loans to the farmers is being materially speeded up.

The total applications for loans in the hands of the 12 Federal Farm Loan banks is now \$193,250,945, and the amount paid out to farmers is \$21,040,138.

Seventeen Additional Deaths Were Reported Today by Admiral Sims.

THE MEN WERE LOST AFTER LEAVING SHIP

Boat Load of 12 Men Missing. Several Others Died Before Making Shore—Two Killed by Explosion.

(By United Press)

Washington, Nov. 17.—Seventeen additional deaths on the torpedoed American steamer Rochester were reported by Admiral Sims today. The killing of two crew members by the explosion was previously reported.

Ernest H. Gragg, of the naval guard, perished in an open life boat along with three members of the ship's crew before they could reach shore. One crew member was lost at sea. Twelve persons in the second officers' boat are missing and undoubtedly lost, including five gunners.

The Rochester was sunk Nov. 2. Today's announcement follows: "Dispatches received from Admiral Sims today state that Ernest H. Gragg, seaman of the naval guard, and three of the ship's crew who left the Rochester in an open boat when that vessel was sunk by a German submarine, died before the boat reached shore."

"One member of the crew was lost at sea. The chief officer and third officer of the ship and Stephan J. Stavish and Joseph P. Hoff, seamen, of the armed guard were landed safely. Gragg was buried in Ireland. He enlisted at Houston, Texas, February 20, 1917, and gave as his next of kin, his mother, Mrs. Cora Gragg, 615 Gregg street, Corpus Christi, Texas.

"The second officer's boat in which was 12 persons has not been found, and it is believed to have been lost. "In this boat were the following members of the armed guard: "Bernard Joseph Donovan, seaman, second class; aunt, Katie Lynch, 92 Peckman street, Phillipsburg, N. J. "Marshall Underwood Coroun, seaman, second class; mother, Annie Coroun, R. R. No. 1, Lexington, Ky.

"Edward Norton McCausland, chief boatswain's mate; father, Harry McCausland, St. John's, N. B. "George Franklin Wheeler, Jr., seaman, second class; father, George Franklin Wheeler, Spring Lake Road, Waterbury, Conn.

"James Crowley, seaman, second class; mother, Catherine Crowley, 359 East 140th street, New York. "Five members of the armed guard were picked up by a British patrol vessel. The following of the armed guard are now known to have been saved: "William Frederick Eisenhardt, seaman, second class; father, John Edward Eisenhardt, 2343 Garfield street, New Orleans, La.

"Thad Fellows, seaman second class; father, Harry Ed Fellows, 1232 Clay avenue, New York. "William Foulis, gunner's mate; mother, Sarah Grassick, 479 West 146th street, New York. "Joseph Hoff, seaman second class; mother, Carrie Hoff, Doyle, La.

"Edward Norton McCausland, chief boatswain's mate; father, Harry McCausland, St. John's, N. B. "Stephen J. Stavish, Coxswain; uncle, John Granksky, 30 Van Kasen avenue, Bound Brook, N. J. "Warren Brown Thompson, seaman, second class; mother, Julia Thompson, Imlayson, N. J."

NATION BACKS WAR.

(By United Press)

Washington, Nov. 17.—With Congress only a fortnight away, leaders were returning here today after heart-to-heart talks with the folks back home. Here are the results: "Chairman Clark: "The people in the West are more loyal for war than Washington realizes. "Officials here think the people must be educated. The people think the officials ought to get busy."

"Senator Gallinger, Republican leader: "It will be a non-partisan session. Our party will support the President every minute. "Chairman Flood, of the House Committee, is conferring with State Department officials over possible international action. "Congress may be called on to take.