

WEATHER FORECAST

North Carolina: Probably rain in east portion; Saturday fair. South Carolina: Generally fair tonight and Saturday.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 30, 1917

PRICE FIVE CENTS

FORMER GUARDSMEN FROM EVERY STATE NOW AT THE FRONT

Americans Aided British In Last Week's Drive Toward Cambrai. ROADS FOR ADVANCE BUILT BY AMERICANS Engineers Have Been With British Four Months—Vanguard of Aero Fleet Arrives. No Heavy Fighting.

American engineers played a large part in the preparations leading up to the successful British blow toward Cambrai last week.

These are the first American troops to take part in operations on the P. 17. In front, and a delayed Associated Press dispatch says that they have been building railroads in the Somme district for nearly four months and for a long time have been working within range of the German artillery. Not content with building and running the vital communication lines, the American engineers entered the firing line during General Byn's push to act as volunteer stretcher bearers.

National Guardsmen from every State in the Union and the vanguard of the American aero fleet have arrived behind the front in France.

Many of the former guardsmen already are undergoing training within sound of the guns at the front.

Meanwhile American aviators are training actively with the American troops.

Germany is ready to discuss peace with Russia if envoys with full powers are sent to Berlin. Count von Hertling, the new Imperial Chancellor, declared yesterday before the Reichstag.

He expressed the wish that the present efforts of the Bolsheviks would bring peace. In a review of the military situation, the Chancellor said that the armies of the Central powers have been generally successful and that the submarine warfare was successful and that the Allies were unable to make progress against it.

The Chancellor declared that the Central Powers still stood by their answer to the peace note of the Pope.

He said that the Central Powers were not responsible for the prolongation of the war and held out as a warning to others "the glorious advance" into Italy. Apparently the Chancellor did not state Germany's peace terms specifically, nor did he mention the League of Nations in favor of peace without annexations and indemnities.

Conditions in Russia apparently remain greatly unsettled. It is reported that the Leninist government has given up to a Socialist coalition cabinet, in which the Bolsheviks are represented.

On the various war fronts there has been little change. The British are pushing forward toward Cambrai and have made a slight advance west of Boulogne. Heavy artillery activity continues in the Ypres sector. No indications of importance are reported from the Italian front, but the Italian campaign are very busy. Berlin reports the repulse of Italian attacks against positions west of the Breno and west of the Piave.

Much discussion has been provoked in England by the publication of a letter from the Marquis of Lansdowne, a veteran political leader. He pleads for a revision of the war aims of the Allies and an attempt to obtain peace before the war leads to the ruin of the civilized world. The letter has caused such a sensation that it is understood it will be the subject of debate in the British House of Commons probably early next week.

Good News in Germany. London, Nov. 30.—The newspapers in Germany today publish the Lord Lansdowne letter on their front pages, telegraphs the Amsterdam correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company. The German newspapers consider it the beginning of England getting reasonable.

Russian Army Peaceful. (By Associated Press.) Petrograd, Nov. 30.—No statement was issued at the Russian army headquarters today, according to an official announcement made at the war office.

WAR DEPARTMENT MUCH PLEASED AT ANNOUNCEMENT

News of the Safe Arrival of Guardsmen Causes Much Gratification.

THOUSANDS OF MEN HAVE BEEN MOVED

Despite Handicaps and Dangers, Not a Single Guardsman Was Lost on the Way Over.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Nov. 30.—Announcement of the arrival in France of the first National Guard units gives the first official notice that an extensive troop movement has been accomplished, despite hostile submarines, shortage of troop and supply ships, and other obstacles but without the loss of a man.

Thousands of men have been moved to the seaboard from all parts of the country, loaded on transports and safely landed in France without any general knowledge of the facts having been disclosed to the country at large.

War Department officials were gratified at General Pershing's decision to announce the arrival of the National Guard forces but permission to publish the designations of the guard units now at the training centers in France still is withheld. Unless General Pershing sees fit to release information, there is no present prospect of its publication.

It can be stated, however, that the brief dispatch of today covers a large movement that has been in progress for several weeks. The next stage will be actual occupation of front line trenches.

Guard units to be sent later will be more sectional in character, the grouping of the old divisional organizations as possible. The entire organization having been adhered to as a rule, however, shares in the honor of having its representative units now at the front in the world war.

Secretary Baker has announced that as fast as men and ships are ready, they will be combined and additional forces sent to join General Pershing. By this means guard divisions first to show themselves fitted for transportation to the training camps in France, will be first to go.

It appears possible that the re-grouping of national army divisions made possible by the use of the drafted men to fill up depleted national guard divisions, will determine the order of the first national army units to be sent over. In that re-grouping two national army divisions were re-formed, one representing the whole eastern section of the country and one equally representative of all Middle Western States. All of the far West is already in the national army division at Camp Lewis, American Lake, Washington.

If the same policy is followed with relation to the national army that has been followed in connection with the national guard it seems likely that these three divisions, other things such as training and equipment being equal, would be the first of the national army to go over, as every State in the Union would then have national army men at the front as it now has national guardsmen.

Patrol Boat Floated. (By Associated Press.) An American Port, Nov. 30.—An American patrol boat which ran ashore on a ledge off the North Atlantic coast two weeks ago, was floated to day and taken in tow for a nearby port for repairs.

Berlin Has Little to Say. (By Associated Press.) Berlin, Nov. 30.—The German general staff in its statement today regarding the battle fronts in Russia, Macedonia and Northern Italy says: "There was no important operations."

ALL GUARDSMEN SENT TO FRANCE ARRIVED SAFELY

Former National Guardsmen Are Now Training Behind the Lines.

HAVE BEEN ARRIVING FOR SOME WEEKS

They Are Quartered Over a Wide Area at a Place Prepared For Them By Regulars.

With the American Army in France, Thursday, Nov. 29.—Every State in the American Union has representatives behind the fighting lines in France. For weeks units composed of former National Guardsmen have been arriving in France until now they occupy a wide scope of the training territory especially prepared for them, and are entering upon their period of preparation for active fighting with remarkable enthusiasm.

They are showing a spirit in keeping with the purpose to make the American expeditionary force a homogeneous American army in which each division, whether regular, national guard or national army, cannot be distinguished in efficiency from the others. The former State troops are billeted over a wide area and are pronounced excellent soldiers.

The guardsmen have been arriving in the American zone for many weeks. They are scattered somewhat, but as far as possible, the units from the same State have been kept close together. They found the regular army had made preparations for them, and while many are billeted in houses in French towns, others have been quartered in low wooden barracks specially erected.

The troops from the various States have been recognized by the French population and have been welcomed enthusiastically. Many of the units wore the French red, white and blue cockade pinned to their campaign hats. After a sufficient time to rest from the journey, the troops have been set to work training for actual service at the front. In all quarters they are declared to be most enthusiastic and their soldierly qualities have drawn high praise from the French instructors.

During the last few days one unit has been working with grenades and automatic rifles, while another has been working out military problems in maneuvers. Another unit has been in the instruction trenches which bring them as near as possible to actual fighting conditions.

The guardsmen are all in good health. The reason why it is not permitted to mention units by name is that if one is mentioned the way is open to mention all others which means the revealing of identification numbers and other information which is of importance to the enemy.

But for the information of the relatives and families of the men, every one who sailed from the United States has arrived safely in France.

AFRICAN CAMPAIGN NEARING AN END

(By Associated Press.) London, Nov. 29.—The end of the East African campaign before Christmas is predicted by the Reuter correspondent at Nara. He declares that by that time the German commander-in-chief will either be a prisoner or in exile.

FORMER SECRETARY OF THE NAVY DEAD

(By Associated Press.) Concord, N. H., Nov. 30.—William Eaton Chandler, who as Secretary of the Navy in President Arthur's cabinet, was largely responsible for the beginning of the modern United States navy, died at his home here today.

Young Hoover Operated On. (By Associated Press.) Baltimore, Nov. 30.—Allen Hoover, the 10-year-old son of Herbert C. Hoover, Federal Food Administrator, underwent a successful operation for appendicitis here today.

BURMEISTER SAYS MRS. KING DID NOT FIRE FATAL SHOT

AMERICANS PLAYED IMPORTANT PART IN BYNG'S DRIVE

Engineers Built Roads As the Troops Moved Toward Cambrai.

STRETCHER BEARERS DURING THE FIGHT

Engineers Volunteered to Go After Wounded Combatants—Have Been on Somme Front.

British Army Headquarters in France, Nov. 26.—(Delayed) The American engineer corps, the first American troops to arrive in France played an important part in successful breaking of the Hindenburg line last week. As the British troops would advance the engineers could be seen in the rear building roads.

One of the most striking sights along the front has been that of the engineers laboring coolly at their tracks while great shells were bursting one hundred yards away.

At one time the Germans cut across with their guns on a section of the tracks and tore up three miles of rails but they scarcely had finished this bombardment when the twin lines of steel began to creep forward once more. After the engineers had reached a point where they were exposed on the sky line it was necessary to work at night or on foggy days.

There have been three forces of Americans employed in this region since about August 1. Two of them have been occupied with the operation and maintenance of the light railroads and the other has been constructing narrow gauge lines. The correspondent has visited many of these engineers since their arrival and has found them fit and eager for work.

The correspondent was talking with three officers today and the only anxiety they expressed about the future was the fear that they might later be compelled to work far back of the lines out of the fighting zone. The engineers love to hear the guns and to get as close to the firing line as military orders permit.

Some of them had an unusual experience, much to their liking, on the first day of the offensive. The British called for volunteer stretcher bearers to go forward to the battlefield and bring in wounded British and Germans. A large number of the engineers offered their services which were accepted. They just had finished a hard day's work on the railway, but they gladly undertook the new, arduous and dangerous task and worked through the night getting injured soldiers back to the dressing stations. They were highly complimented by the British for their efficiency in this line.

RUSSIAN SITUATION.

(By Associated Press.) London, Nov. 30.—The Russian envoys sent to treat with the German government at Petrograd, have telegraphed the Bolshevik leaders that the Russo-German plenipotentiaries will meet Sunday noon, at the crossing on the Dvinsk-Vilna railroad west of the village of Kukharishky, between the opposing military lines.

Thence they will travel by special train to German headquarters at Brest-Litovsk.

Austria Willing.

Amsterdam, Nov. 30.—The Austro-Hungarian government, according to a dispatch from Vienna, has sent an official reply accepting the Russian government's wireless proposal to enter into negotiations for an armistice and a general peace.

LENINE OUSTED.

London, Nov. 30.—The government of Nikolai Lenine has fallen, according to a Petrograd dispatch to "The Daily Chronicle," dated Wednesday. It has been succeeded by a coalition cabinet of advanced Socialists, in which, however, the Bolsheviks are represented.

Advertisement for Christmas shopping: NOW THAT THAT IS FINISHED LET'S SHOP FOR CHRISTMAS ONLY 20 MORE DAYS. Includes an illustration of a child and a turkey.

Physical Impossibility to Have Shot Herself, Says Expert.

CASE WILL CONSUME MOST OF NEXT WEEK

Progress of Trial is Slow—Chicago Coroner Gives Damaging Testimony Against the Defendant.

Concord, N. C., Nov. 30.—Dr. W. H. Burmeister, coroner's physician of Cook county, Illinois, testifying for the State, on cross examination in the trial of Gaston B. Means, charged with murder of Mrs. Maude A. King, this morning swore that the pistol that inflicted the wound causing Mrs. King's death was not in contact with the head when fired. E. T. Cansler, of counsel for the defense, brought from the witness repeated and emphatic declarations of his opinion that it would have been a physical impossibility for a woman of Mrs. King's stoutness to have held a pistol in the position necessary to have caused the wound he found in her head.

Cross examination, re-direct examination and cross examination of Dr. Burmeister delayed the expected introduction by the State of Mrs. Anna L. Robinson, mother of Mrs. King, and it was stated by a member of counsel for the defense that she would not go on the stand until the afternoon session. She spent the forenoon at her hotel in her room where she spent the night.

Progress of the trial has been so slow that there is growing apprehension among the court officials that the case will consume most of next week.

Dr. Otto Schultze, of New York, was called to the stand shortly before noon.

Dr. Schultze testified in reply to hypothetical questions, that in his opinion it would have been impossible for Mrs. King to have fired the fatal shot, his opinion being based upon the description of the wound in the question propounded which followed the description by Dr. Burmeister. On cross examination, Dr. Schultze steadfastly held to his declaration. He also testified that the fracture just above Mrs. King's left ankle was made before death.

On request of Mr. Cansler, Dr. Schultze took a 25 calibre automatic pistol and demonstrated to the jury why he considered it impossible for a person to self-inflict such a wound as killed Mrs. King. "Now that is the way you do it, but couldn't somebody else do it differently?" asked Mr. Cansler.

"I presume a contortionist might be able to put his head under his left knee," said Dr. Schultze, which remark brought hearty laughter from the crowd in the court house, and Judge Cline rapped for order. Under a hot fire of questions from Mr. Cansler, the witness adhered to his main declaration.

A Leonard Johnson, secretary of the Merchant's Loan and Trust Company, Chicago, followed Dr. Schultze on the stand and told of a trust agreement made by Mrs. King and her husband in 1911 by which the institution was to hold in trust stocks and bonds amounting to \$125,000, market value, from the proceeds of which \$600 a month was to be paid to Mrs. Robinson, mother of Mrs. King, during her life and the remainder of the income should go to Mrs. King.

Gaston Means called at the bank in 1915, as Mrs. King's business agent to check over her trust affairs. Later he came and reported that Mrs. King desired a loan on her reversionary interest in the trust. This was declined and in December, 1916, Means called at the bank and stated that Mrs. King desired to revoke the trust, the witness testified.

Court adjourned for dinner before Mr. Johnson's direct examination was finished.

TROOPS ENJOYED THANKSGIVING DAY

(By Associated Press.) London, Nov. 29.—Every American soldier in France spent a real American Thanksgiving day. He dined on turkey and all that goes with it until he could eat no more. The feature of the day was a football game in which a team from the engineers defeated a team from the infantry. The game was watched by thousands of American troops and a thousand French soldiers. The shouts from the respective rosters were heard far and wide towards the end of the game the French soldiers, getting the hang of it, became just as enthusiastic as the Americans. Virtually all instruction work and drilling was suspended for the day.

BRITISH CASUALTIES.

(By Associated Press.) London, Nov. 30.—British casualties reported during the month ended 120,089, divided as follows: Officers killed or died of wounds, 1,152; men, 24,292. Officers wounded or missing, 3,537; men, 91,108.

GERMANY IS READY TO DISCUSS PEACE SAYS CHANCELLOR

MEDICAL EXPERTS FEATURED TODAY'S BE SAULLES TRIAL

Jury Not Expected to Get the Case Before Next Wednesday.

A FIFTEEN THOUSAND WORD QUESTION ASKED

Long Hypothetical Question Read at Opening of Court. Try to Establish Irresponsibility of Defendant.

(By Associated Press.) Mineola, N. Y., Nov. 30.—The trial of Mrs. Bianca De Saullès for the murder of her divorced husband, John Linger De Saullès, was resumed today with indications that the case would not be given to the jury before Wednesday.

The testimony of alienists and other medical experts, some to refute and others to substantiate the claim of Mrs. De Saullès that she suffered a mental lapse at the time and 10 days immediately following the shooting of her former husband, was expected to consume all of today and probably tomorrow.

Mrs. De Saullès was the hostess yesterday to the other prisoners in the Mineola jail. The turkey dinner prepared by her brought a note of appreciation from the diners. Mrs. De Saullès enjoyed a visit from her young son and her sister with whom she dined in the sheriff's quarters.

Reading of the 15,000 word hypothetical question by attorneys for the defense was begun at the opening of court.

It begins: "Assume, doctor, that Bianca Errazuriz De Saullès was born near Santiago, Chile, April 29, 1894." Continuing it tells of the fall sustained when a child in which she is said to have received severe injuries to her heart; the three years spent in an English convent; her meeting the De Saullès on her return to Chile; of their marriage; their marital difficulties; the automobile accident in Chile a few years ago in which Mrs. De Saullès alleges she received further injury to her head, the divorce and finally, a resume of the defense version of the tragedy.

It concludes in these words: "Assuming the foregoing facts and having in mind your personal examination of the defendant, in your opinion, was the defendant mentally sound at the time of the shooting on August 3, 1917?"

"Assuming all the foregoing facts and having in mind your personal examination of the defendant, in your opinion, did the defendant know the nature and quality of the act she was committing?"

"Assuming all the foregoing facts and having in mind your personal examination of the defendant, in your opinion, did the defendant know that the act was wrong?"

It was learned by District Attorney Weeks that because of radical differences which he says exist in the defense's question as compared with the testimony, an entirely new hypothetical question may be put to the experts in support of the prosecution's case.

After reading of the hypothetical question had continued 30 minutes, "Juror No. 4" fell asleep. He was awakened by the juror seated on his left.

Mrs. Bianca De Saullès was not mentally sound, did not know the nature or quality of the act" and did not know "that it was wrong" when she shot her former husband, John L. De Saullès, at his Long Island home, according to experts who testified today in her behalf.

Count von Hertling Reviews War Situation Before the Reichstag.

HIS SPEECH WAS FULL OF OPTIMISM

Declared Submarine Campaign Would be Successful, Praised Army and Navy and Discounts Allied Successes.

(By Associated Press.) Berlin, Nov. 28.—(Via London, Nov. 30.)—British Admiralty via Wireless. The war situation was reviewed before the Reichstag today by Count George F. Von Hertling, the new Imperial German Chancellor. He declared that Germany was ready to enter into peace negotiations as soon as the Russians sent representatives having full powers to Berlin. The Chancellor said he hoped and wished that the present efforts would take definite shape and "bring us peace."

German arms, the Chancellor said, have been uniformly successful and the submarine warfare will reach the aim intended for it. He said that of those newly constructed, He praised the army and navy and extolled the home population for its patience and endurance under great privations. Political reforms would be carried out but the fundamental principles of the imperial constitution cannot and shall not be changed.

The Reichstag was packed. The new state secretaries, the new Prussian minister, the new Bavarian premier, the members of the reigning German houses, the Austrian, Turkish and Bulgarian ambassadors and all the neutral ministers were present.

The Imperial Chancellor opened his speech by asking the loyal co-operation of the Reichstag. He continued: "We are approaching the end of the year that has been full of far-reaching and decisive events in many theatres of the war. I am proud and thankful to say that the arms of Germany and her allies have been successful on almost every occasion and everywhere."

He recalled that the Flanders battle had continued almost without interruption since July and that the British army was superior in number and that several French divisions had taken part in the fight. Notwithstanding the loss of some villages and farms, the German frontier remained unshaken and the enemy was as far as ever from his object of reaching the Flemish coast to destroy German U-boat bases. He added:

"Recognizing the failure of their attacks in Flanders, the British are now seeking near Cambrai a decisive result. The hope which Great Britain placed upon the wholesale use of tanks has not been fulfilled. They lie destroyed on the battlefield by successful German counter measures. The initial British success was parried by the entrance of our reserves."

"The French also have had local successes northeast of Soissons and before Verdun, but every strategical exploitation of these has been prevented by the German army command. Every one remembers the events in the east which led to the conquest of Riga and Jacobstadt."

"The glorious advance of the armies of the Central Powers in Italy holds the world in suspense even today. Overwhelmingly difficult tasks have been accomplished there by the fighting strength of the German and Austro-Hungarian troops in their surprisingly rapid attack and penetration of rough mountain territory. Italy's army has lost considerable part of its forces and at least half of its total war material. It also has lost stretches of land which provided it with rich supplies. It has not yet been possible to collect all the booty, calculated in money value at thousands of millions of marks, which has fallen into our hands."

"Further, the success of our victories from the Isonzo to the Piave is an effective relief to our own Western front. In the same way this victory also makes itself felt in Macedonia, as the enemy now appears to be giving up voluntary the slight success which he obtained west of Lake Ochrida."

"From the Sinai peninsula, the British are operating against the Turkish troops in Palestine and have been able to achieve certain initial successes there. These however, have no influence on the general war situation from a military point of view. In the theatre of war in Asia Minor and in Iraq the situation is unchanged."

After declaring that the German war fleet had thoroughly fulfilled the hopes and expectations placed on it. (Continued on Page Eight).