

WEATHER.
North and South
Carolina—Fair, much
colder tonight; Wed-
nesday, fair.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 15, 1918.

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GERMANS OBJECT TO PEACE TERMS OF THE RUSSIANS

Bolsheviki Delegates Did Not Talk as Conquered People Should

DISAGREED EARLY IN THE CONFERENCE

Argument Started Over First Clause in Proposed Peace Terms and Grew Warmer Until Adjournment

Amsterdam, Monday, Jan. 14.—The Wolff Bureau, the semi-official news agency of Berlin, publishes a Brest-Litovsk dispatch as follows: "A committee composed of Germans, Austro-Hungarians and Russians, for the discussion of territorial questions, held three long sittings on Friday and Saturday. It was agreed that the first paragraph of the peace treaty should be a clause announcing that the state of war between the parties had been concluded.

"The Germans proposed a clause reading: 'That the contracting parties have resolved henceforth to live in peace and friendship.' "Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik Foreign Minister, refused to endorse this, declaring that it was 'a decorative phrase, which does not describe the relations which in the future will exist between the Russian and German peoples.'"

"It was confirmed that the evacuation of occupied territory by both parties should take place on the basis of full reciprocity, so that the evacuation by the Central Powers of Russian territory would synchronize with the evacuation by Russia of the occupied regions in Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Persia. Later Persia was struck out as not being a peace treaty party and Trotzky proposed to add the following:

"Russia undertakes as speedily as possible to remove her troops from neutral Prussia."

"He said he had no other ground for this than a desire to emphasize the crying wrong committed by the former Russian government against a neutral country."

The Wolff Bureau report covers nearly 5,000 words, and shows that the question concerning the date of the evacuation was broken off by the parties failing to agree. A long discussion concerning which parts of the occupied territory should be evacuated also resulted in a disagreement.

A prolonged debate arose over the question of admitting representatives of Poland, Courland and Lithuania to the negotiations and in the question of what constituted self-determination by these provinces. The discussion grew embittered and the only result was a protest by General Hoffman of the German delegation, against the tone of the Russian delegation which he said "speaks as if it stood victorious in our country and could dictate conditions."

General Hoffman reminded the delegates that the Bolshevik authority as much as the German, was founded on force as instanced by what he termed the attempts to suppress the white Russia and the Ukrainian attempts at self-determination. General Hoffman finally declared that the German supreme army command must refuse to evacuate Courland, Lithuania, Riga and the islands in the Gulf of Riga.

Dr. Von Kuehlmann, the German Foreign Minister, then declared that he must reserve a further statement of the position of the Central Powers on all points. He protested against the position the Russians had adopted of presenting their views in written declarations and said that the conference must be adjourned in order that there might be a consultation between the Teutonic allies. No date for the resumption of the conference was fixed.

Investigate "Slandering Charges." Washington, Jan. 15.—Congressional investigation of "slandering charges" against the character of American troops abroad alleged to have been circulated by the Anti-Saloon League was proposed in a resolution today by Representative Carey, of Wisconsin.

WAR DEPARTMENT PREPARES SERIES OF DRAFT LAWS

One Provides for Registration of Those Reaching 21 After June 5, 1917

AGE LIMIT WILL NOT BE RAISED

Another Bill Provides for Furloughing Home Soldiers for Agricultural Work—New Basis for Quota

Washington, Jan. 15.—At the request of the War Department today, Chairman Chamberlain, of the Senate Military committee, will introduce a bill for the registration for military duty of all men who have become 21 years old since June 5, 1917, when the draft law went into effect.

Another bill which Senator Chamberlain introduced at the request of the administration would provide for furloughing National Army men for harvesting crops and other agricultural duty.

Another bill would put the quota of the States on the basis of available men in the first class instead of on population.

In determining upon the registration of men who have become 21 since the draft law was enacted, the War Department has rejected any plan to raise the age limits of the draft to take in men more than 31.

Registration of men who have become of age since the draft law was enacted, was recommended in the recent report of Provost Marshal General Crowder as one means by which to supply men for the National Army, without taking those who have others dependent on them. It could be done also, General Crowder pointed out, by extending the age limits above the present line of 31. The War Department has rejected this suggestion.

It is estimated that it will add about 700,000 men to the draft available each year.

Congressmen have been advised that further legislation would be necessary to perfect and carry on the draft and the passage of Senator Chamberlain's bill with administration support, is expected promptly in both Houses.

Another bill introduced by Senator Chamberlain would provide a distinctive badge or button for exempted men.

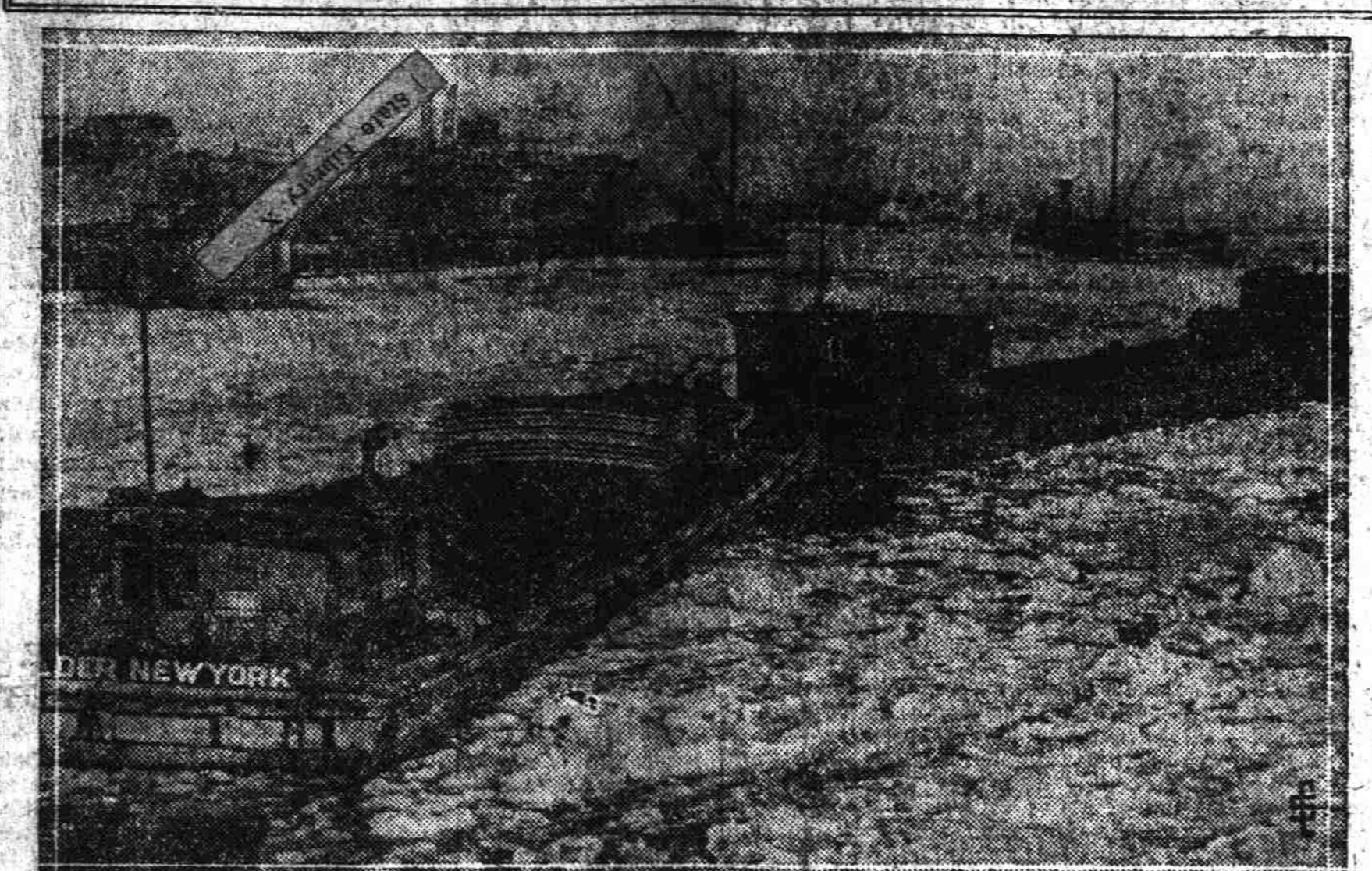
The bill changing the basis of State quota is believed to provide a more equitable system, as it will exclude entirely enemy aliens from the bases. Enemy aliens were included in the basis for the first draft and there was much complaint, heavy enemy alien populations in some congested districts forced Americans to early duty regardless of exemption claims to make up district quotas.

The bill to permit troops to go to agricultural work, merely would authorize the Secretary of War to furlough men for civilian duty. It is known, however, that the War Department intends to use the authority principally to provide men for harvest time and other agricultural work vital to the food supply.

To facilitate collection of private insurance policies held by troops, another bill would require private insurance companies to accept the official army record as proof of death of men among the army insured. It is designed to meet the cases of men reported missing to which there is no actual proof of death. In case of payment by insurance companies upon policies held by men reported missing and who later should appear the bill provides for reimbursement to the insurance companies by the government.

Exemption of the government from payment of the new war tax on automobiles is the purpose of another bill introduced by Senator Chamberlain, to deal principally with the large government purchases of motor trucks.

BARGES LADEN WITH COAL FOR NEW YORK GOING THROUGH THE ICE



Towed by heavy seagoing tugs these big fuel carriers are breaking their way through the big floes in New York harbor. For the first time in years the harbor has been almost solidly frozen over and shipping to a great extent has been tied up. The situation was so bad that calls were sent to the navy to rush ice breakers to the port to keep the channel open to shipping. The ice in the harbor added to the fuel famine, too, for it prevented the shipment of coal from the railroad terminals on the Jersey shore to the coal yards in New York.

COTTON CONSUMED IN MONTH OF DECEMBER

For the Month 516,880 Bales, and 2,794,761 for Five Months

Washington, Jan. 15.—Cotton consumed during December amounted to 516,880 running bales, and for the five months ending December 31st, 2,794,761 bales, the Census Bureau announced today.

Consumed by cotton growing States during December, 286,700 bales, compared with 269,822 the previous year, and for the five months 1,584,440 bales, compared with 1,576,484. On hand December 31, in consuming establishments, 995,075 bales, compared with 1,390,939 the previous year, and in public storage and at compresses 3,550,611 bales, compared with 3,775,033 the previous year.

Cotton spindles active, 14,196,799, compared with 13,638,924 the previous year.

In December, 1916, consumption was 536,675 bales and for the five month period 2,756,442.

Cotton on hand December 31 in consuming establishments amounted to 1,576,514 bales, compared with 2,360,565 the previous December, and in public storage and at compresses 3,826,225 bales, compared with 4,123,822 a year ago.

Cotton spindles active during December numbered 33,649,078, compared with 32,863,274 the previous year.

Imports during December were 14,577 bales and for the five months 51,090 bales.

Exports for December were 477,034 bales, compared with 765,321 the previous year.

Linters included in exports for December were 6,261 bales, and for the five months period 103,199 bales.

DEATH OF GARDNER STARTS INVESTIGATION

Washington, Jan. 15.—As a direct result of sentiment in the House over the death from pneumonia of former Representative Gardner at Camp Wheeler, Ga., Representative Gard, of Ohio, today introduced a resolution to direct the Military committee to investigate camp conditions.

Camp site selections, sufficiency of clothing, hospital facilities and treatment of sick soldiers would be investigated under the resolution. Many of Major Gardner's friends are supporting the movement.

SPOERMANN'S PAPERS FOUND IN BALTIMORE

More Arrests in Connection With Operations of Alleged German Spy

Baltimore, Jan. 15.—Two large boxes filled with documents belonging to Lieutenant Walter Spoermann, alleged German spy, arrested at Norfolk and understood to be on his way to Baltimore for a hearing in the Federal Court, were seized by the police found in the room of Maurus Asch, 31 years old, a German-born resident, who was arrested.

At the office of United States Marshal Charles H. Stockham, Asch said that Spoermann approached him the latter part of last month and asked him to take care of two boxes for him. He declared he did not know the nature of the contents.

Asch was the second person to be arrested here in connection with the case. Frederick V. C. Spoermann, a brother of Walter Spoermann, was taken into custody last night. He was technically charged with violating the President's proclamation by changing his residence without notice to the Federal authorities. He denies having had any connection with his brother's alleged activities.

Spy Was Helmsman.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 15.—Federal agents asserted here that a German spy, masquerading as a helmsman under the name of "William Swanson," stood at the wheel of the Alaska liner Spokane when she crashed into the rocks off Idol Point, British Columbia, on the night of November 11, 1917, while bound from southeastern Alaska for Seattle with 237 passengers.

A BIG DRIVE TO SELL MORE WAR INSURANCE

Every Soldier and Sailor Will Be Urged to Grasp the Opportunity

Washington, Jan. 15.—A concerted effort to bring the full benefits of the government war insurance to every soldier and sailor was begun today under the supervision of Secretary McAdoo.

Army and Navy officers, enlisted men, insurance companies, Councils of National Defense, the Y. M. C. A., women's organizations and State and local agencies will assist in popularizing the movement which will end February 12, the last day men now in the service can apply for insurance.

Up to the close of business Saturday, January 12, applications for \$3,633,213,000 of insurance had been received. This represents 427,811 policies. The average amounts of insurance applied for is \$8,493.

According to reports received by the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, to date Camp Wadsworth, at Spartanburg, S. C., has registered the highest insurance totals, with approximately \$175,000,000 on January 5.

Other high totals reported until January 5 are those of Camp Sheridan, Alabama, with about \$125,000,000; Camp Bowie, Texas, with \$100,550,000 and Camp Logan, Texas, with \$107,564,000.

CAILLAUX'S ARREST CAUSED BY LANSING

Secretary of State Furnished Evidence Against the Former Premier

Paris, Jan. 15.—The arrest yesterday of former Premier Caillaux was due principally to a cablegram from Secretary Lansing at Washington saying that in 1915 Caillaux had been in communication with the Berlin foreign office.

Secretary Lansing's cablegram stated that the American representative at Buenos Aires had been able to establish that M. Caillaux during his visit to Argentina in 1915 had been in communication with the Berlin foreign office through Count von Luxburg, then German minister to Argentina, with the object of concluding peace with Germany at any price, so as to permit the resumption of business.

It is understood this evidence will be published in America immediately.

The investigation of the Italian connection of former Premier Caillaux is said by The Matin to have resulted in the discovery of important military and political papers in the safe of the bank at Florence, which was rented under the maiden name of Madame Caillaux and used by the former Premier during his visit to Italy in December, 1916.

Among the political papers found in the safe, the newspaper asserts were a number of notes in which M. Caillaux, in the expectation of gaining office as Premier, drafted a cabinet, designated a generalissimo and sketched various "exceptional" measures. These measures included the arrest of certain politicians and generals, among whom Premier Clemenceau is said to have been one, and the dismissal of a number of officials.

In addition to these, The Matin says, there were documents of a military character which by their very nature seem to constitute the strongest evidence against M. Caillaux.

WAR AEROPLANE IS A HARDWARE STORE

Washington, Jan. 15.—The hardware going into a simple war type aeroplane is sufficient to:

- Nail 2,163 shingles on a roof.
- Screw down the coffin lid on a thousand Germans.
- Veneer 57 square feet of dining room table.
- Hang the kitchen with 65 pounds of aluminum.
- Wire a third of a mile of three strand fence.
- Spruce the porch for at least 244 square feet—and in addition, put 58 feet of pine on the chicken coop, 31 feet of ash on the dog house, and still have a few things left over, such as 798 forgings and 921 steel stampings and turn buckles for the junk man.

Nickel Coins Called In. Amsterdam, Jan. 15.—All nickel five and ten pennig pieces have been called in by the German government. It is announced that no more will be issued, and all citizens are ordered to take all nickel coins in their possession to the nearest postoffice for exchange.

Raids and Counters. London, Jan. 15.—Early yesterday morning a strong hostile raid north-east of Armentieres was repulsed, the war office reports. "During last night we raided the enemy's trenches north of Lens, bombing his dugouts and securing some prisoners and a machine gun. Otherwise there is nothing to report."

BOMBARDMENT OF CITY OF YARMOUTH BY ENEMY CRAFT

About 20 Shells From the Sea Fell Into City Last Night

THREE PERSONS KILLED AND TEN INJURED

First Attack on English Coast by German Naval Forces Since Last September—No Property Damage

London, Jan. 15.—Yarmouth was bombarded from the sea last night, it is announced officially. About 20 shells fell in the city. Three persons were killed and 10 injured.

The following official announcement was given out: "Yarmouth was bombarded from the sea last night. Fire was opened at 10:55 p. m. and lasted about five minutes, some 20 shells falling into the town.

"The latest police reports state that three persons were killed and 10 injured. The material damage done was not serious."

Attacks by German naval forces on English coast towns, of which there were a number early in the war, have been infrequent in recent months. The last previous occurrence of the kind officially reported was on September 4 of last year. On that day a German submarine bombarded Scarborough, causing the death of three persons and the injury of five.

Yarmouth is in the North sea, 115 miles north-east of London. It is a city of some 50,000 inhabitants with important ship building and fishing industries.

GERMAN ATTACK WAS NO SURPRISE

London, Jan. 15.—Andrew Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced in the House of Commons today that as a result of Field Marshal Haig's inquiry the general staff, war cabinet and the government considered that the British higher army command had not been surprised by the German attack in the Cambrai region November 30 and that all proper and adequate dispositions had been made to meet it.

COMPUL MEATLESS AND WHEATLESS DAYS

Washington, Jan. 15.—Bills to amend the food law so as to empower the food administration to compel observance of wheatless and meatless days or any other measures it prescribes were introduced today by Representative Lever and Senator Pomerene, acting for the administration.

STURM AND EDWARDS GIRL GET 30 YEARS

Entered Plea of Guilty of Second Degree Murder in Fayetteville

(Special to The Dispatch.) Fayetteville, N. C., Jan. 15.—Leon Sturm, of Berkeley county, South Carolina, and Rose Edwards, of Winston-Salem, who tendered a plea of guilty of murder in the second degree when arraigned in Superior Court here Monday afternoon for the killing of Angelo Moutos, a Greek cafe proprietor, were sentenced to 30 years each in State's prison by Judge George W. Connor today. The sentence came just before the noon recess of court after Judge Connor had heard the leading testimony in the case in order to determine the extent of the punishment. Sturm's sentence is at "hard labor," while the woman's sentence merely called for a 30-year term.

The man and woman who had been traveling with a carnival company, were arrested at Rocky Mount following the finding of the bound and gagged body of the Greek in a room of a local boarding house shortly after the hurried departure of the couple December 3.

MILITARISTS ARE GAINING CONTROL IN HEINE LAND

Chancellor Von Hertling Reported Ill and Ready to Hand in Resignation

GERMANY LIKELY TO ADOPT FIRM POLICY

Believed a Decision Either Favorable to Militarists or Peace Element is in the Making—Little Fighting

Control of the destinies of the German empire, press accounts from neutral countries agree, is passing into the hands of the militarists on the leaders who want to hold what has been gained by might and the sword. Chancellor von Hertling, the aged incumbent of the chief political office, again is reported ill and preparing to resign, while the militarists and Pan-Germans are demanding the dismissal of Dr. von Kuehlmann, the Foreign Secretary, who has headed the German delegations at Brest-Litovsk.

In connection with the reported illness of the Imperial Chancellor, it is reported from Berlin that Count von Hertling's address before the Reichstag has been postponed for several days. It was said previously that the Chancellor would answer the recent war aims statements of President Wilson and Premier Lloyd George before the main committee on Wednesday.

Coupled with these reports is the fact that the German Emperor and the Crown Prince have been holding conferences with the political and military leaders. It is reported also that the German ministers to Denmark and Holland have arrived unexpectedly in Berlin. Indications are that the present turmoil within the German ruling class will result in the adoption of a firm policy, either favoring the militarists or the peaceful element, with the probability that the Pan-Germans will be victorious. The Socialist Vorwaerts believes a military dictatorship is in the making.

No explanation has been vouchsafed by either the Germans or the Russians as to the reasons behind the temporary halt in the peace negotiations. Nor has it been announced officially why the conferences which are to be continued are to be removed to Warsaw.

A Bavarian newspaper says "Egyptian darkness enshrouds" Germany's peace terms.

The winter idleness on the Western and Italian fronts has not been broken by large operations. Raids and patrol engagements occur here and there and the artillery fire breaks into violence at important points now and then, but there is hardly anything in the official statement that Germany's huge reserve of 1,600,000 men from the Russian front is to begin its heralded blow very soon.

ITALIAN ATTACK GAINED GROUND

Rome, Jan. 15.—By an attack in the Adolene region on the Italian front, the Italians have gained considerable advantages and inflicted very heavy losses on the enemy, the war office announces.

OVERMAN AND HOOD ON THE SICK LIST

(By George H. Manning.) Washington, D. C., Jan. 15.—Two North Carolina members of Congress are on the sick list. Senator Overman is suffering with rheumatism in his right foot, and Congressman George Hood has been sick in bed several days with a complete physical breakdown brought on by overwork.

Senator Overman has not been able to leave his hotel since last Wednesday. It appears to be a recurrence of the trouble he had with rheumatism in his right leg and foot last year when for several weeks he hobbled around on one foot. The Senator believes the trouble was brought on by a sprain when he slipped on the ice about a week ago. He hopes to be able to return to the Senate early this week.

Congressman Hood has been home in bed four or five days. His physician says he is suffering from exhaustion and a complete physical breakdown from working too hard. He must remain in bed, the physician says, and rest another week. But Mr. Hood says he expects to return to the Capitol by Wednesday or Thursday.