

WEATHER.  
North and South Carolina.  
Probably local rains tonight; Saturday somewhat colder.

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## REPRESENTATIVES OF ALLIED POWERS LEAVE PETROGRAD

Stockholm Hears That American Consul Has Followed the Embassy

### BRITISH AND FRENCH AMBASSADORS LEAVE

Reported That the Three Great Entente Nations Are Now Unrepresented in the Russian Capital

#### ARRIVE AT VOLOGDA.

Vologda, Russia, Thursday, Feb. 28.—The American and Japanese ambassadors arrived here today on a special train. Their trip was an uneventful one.

Although the American, British and French embassies have left Petrograd under the menace of the German advance, the Bolshevik government is reported as intending to return to its headquarters in that city after having temporarily left the capital.

Apparently the Japanese ambassador is still in Petrograd, having postponed his departure, an agency dispatch states, because of negotiations going on between him and the Russian government.

Whether these reported negotiations have anything to do with the Japanese proposals for intervention in Siberia, now apparently a topic of the most earnest consideration in the Entente capitals, and in Washington, is not evident from the meagre advice received. Meanwhile the current reports from Petrograd indicate a renewal of the German forward movement in Russia, although at a more measured pace.

According to one account, the Germans are reported in possession of Pskov and are reported to be moving slowly towards Luga, midway between Pskov and Petrograd. They are also said to be advancing in other sectors in Northern Russia, notably north into the region northeast from Dvinsk, in the general direction of the Petrograd-Moscow railway.

#### Francis Leaves.

Stockholm, Thursday, Feb. 28.—The American consul at last has left Petrograd, where he remained after the American embassy's departure, according to information reaching the American legation here. The consul has been taken over by the Norwegian consul.

#### Gone Eastward.

Washington, March 1.—A dispatch from Stockholm to the State Department today announces the departure of the American consul from Petrograd, but makes no reference to the departure of Ambassador Francis or the other diplomats.

The latest dispatches from Ambassador Francis came in today, having been sent from Petrograd, February 27. It said the Ambassador was planning to leave with some of the other legations and go eastward.

The dispatch from Stockholm this morning, referring to the departure of American Consul Treadwell, said he had gone to Vologda, to the eastward.

#### British and French Go.

London, Feb. 28.—The British and French embassies have left Petrograd, according to a telegram from the Russian official news agency in Petrograd, and which bears no date.

As is indicated from Stockholm, Ambassador Francis has left Petrograd, the departure of the British and French embassies, takes from the Bolshevik capital the representatives of the three most important Entente countries.

Sir George W. Buchanan, the British ambassador to Russia, some weeks ago left Petrograd on a leave of absence; F. O. Lindley, the councillor of the embassy, has been charge d'affaires. The French ambassador to Russia is Laurence Paleologue.

#### Commissioners Return.

London, March 1.—The Russian Council of Peoples' Commissioners has decided to return to Petrograd, says a Russian official statement received today. The removal of elements of the population valueless in the defense of the capital is being continued, however.

Some of the other valuables continue to be shipped away from the city, the statement adds.

No previous indication that the peoples' commissioners had left Petrograd has been contained in the Russian official statements. These commissioners who comprise the Russian government body under the Bolshevik regime have had their headquarters at the Peoples' Institute in Petrograd. Dispatches from Petrograd bearing the name of the military committee of the government to a camp outside Petrograd, but stated that the commissioners were expected to remain in the institute.

## ENGLAND FAVORS PROPOSED ACTION BY THE JAPANESE

Many Newspapers Say Japan Should Have a Free Hand in Siberia

### SOME DISSIDENTING VOICES ARE HEARD

The Newspapers Think Japanese Should Be Permitted to Protect Allied Interests in Siberia

London, March 1.—Japan's proposals with regard to Siberia and their reception in Washington has brought the question of Japan's active participation in military operations to the forefront here, the developments dominating the news columns of the papers. A Reuter cablegram quoting an Associated Press dispatch from Washington is given great prominence in type and position by the morning newspapers, and is commented on extensively. Some papers display contributed articles setting forth the Japanese view of the situation.

The bulk of the opinion favors Japan's proposed action without qualification and the plea is made in some quarters that she ought implicitly to be trusted and given a free hand.

The Times says that while the attitude of President Wilson and the American State Department does not seem to be officially defined as yet, "it is clear from the important Associated Press statement that it would be a mistake to regard President Wilson's attitude as decidedly averse to Japanese intervention."

"Whatever view the American government may finally adopt," it adds, "it is certain to be received with the utmost deference by the Allies."

The Morning Post says: "Just as the United States was forced to a policy of intervention by the German menace in the West, so Japan is urged to activity by the German menace in the East. Japan is entirely justified by the danger which threatens her in taking steps to protect her interests in Manchuria and Siberia. It is to be hoped that the Allies will treat Japan with confidence and the hearty spirit of co-operation which she has the right to expect as an ally."

The Daily News is not surprised by the widespread cry raised for Japanese action, but hopes the Allies will carefully consider all that is involved in her proposal. It contends that the intervention of Japan on terms of conquest would be a crime, and that that ever is done, must be with the intention of conserving Russia's interests.

An article of a diplomatic correspondent in The Daily Chronicle strongly supports Japanese action. It says the logic of events is so forcible that it is difficult to conceive of the Allies failing to give the requisite invitation. In regard to American participation, the article says: "America has her hands full on the Western front, and any attempt to divert men, munitions or tonnage from that great objective is to be condemned. Moreover, any linking of America with Japan in this vast enterprise would be resented by Japan as a mark of distrust in her ability and disinterestedness."

The Daily Mail in the course of a statement purporting to present the Japanese view says: "Every intelligent Japanese thinks the mandate for action should be based on the broad principles of trusting Japan and that she should not be handicapped by any entangling advance conditions."

Some of the newspapers back up their arguments for Japanese action by emphasizing the danger to British interests in Asia from the threatened Germanization of Russia. The danger, they say, is equal if not greater than that menacing Japan and the Japanese recall the terms of the Anglo-Japanese alliance by which Japan undertakes to safeguard peace and tranquility in the Far East.

## FRANCIS DEPARTED FROM PETROGRAD WEDNESDAY NIGHT

The Ambassador and His Staff Left Russian Capital for Vologda

### WILSON'S ADDRESS WIDELY CIRCULATED

Millions of Copies Distributed in Russia, and Thousands Went Through to Austrians and Germans

Washington, March 1.—The Committee on Public Information today announced official advice from its representative in Petrograd that Ambassador Francis and his staff, the American consulate, the military mission and the Red Cross representatives, all left Petrograd for Vologda, on the night of February 27.

The advice came by cable from Edgar G. Sisson, the committee's representative in the Russian capital.

Representatives of the Information Committee, it was said today, will remain in Petrograd for the present to carry on the educational and informational work with which they are charged. Last reports show that the circulation of the President's address of January 8 is practically completed throughout Russia.

The total, it is said, is over 4,600,000 copies, including separate printing and distribution at Tiflis, Vladivostok, Odessa, Rostov, Omsk and Chita, but not including the 1,500,000 newspaper circulation and an incalculable amount of partial printing and editorial comment which automatically followed.

In addition, it was said 1,300,000 messages printed in German went through the Northern lines of the German army. About 300,000 were successfully worked through the Southern and Central fronts.

The committee also said that German and Austrian prisoners in Russia were provided with copies of the address.

### SPECIAL RATES FOR VETERANS' REUNIONS

Washington, March 1.—Director General McAdoo has decided that the Confederate veterans shall have special rates and no interference of transportation to their reunion this summer at Tulsa, Okla., and that the Grand Army of the Republic shall have the same for its meeting at Portland, Ore.

Because of the congested condition of the railroads, and also as a war measure, there was some probability that transportation facilities and rates might be denied to these special trains. The situation has cleared, however, and is expected to clear further before the reunions are held, so Director General McAdoo decided today that he could promise train facilities and special rates of one cent a mile.

### MERCHANT MARINE IS GROWING TWO A DAY

Six Months Saw 399 Sea Going Vessels Added to America's Fleet

Washington, March 1.—The growing American merchant marine was increased by 399 sea-going vessels in the last six months of 1917, government officials said today, or an average of more than two a day. Many of the vessels were built in the United States, having been under construction for foreign accounts and taken over by the American government. Others were interned German ships, but the large steamers like the Vaterland, which were commandeered by the navy are not included in the total of 399.

Figures previously made public showed that more than 1,000,000 tons of shipping were added to the American merchant marine in 1917.

### TWO MORE BRITISH SUNK BY U-BOATS

New York, March 1.—The British merchant steamship Tiberia, of 4,880 tons gross, owned by the Anchor Line was sunk by a German submarine about February 27, while bound for this port, according to information received in shipping circles today. The crew was rescued.

Sank Near American. An Atlantic Port, March 1.—The British freight steamship Manhattan, of 8,004 tons gross, was torpedoed and sunk while in convoy of warships and within hailing distance of an American merchantman. It was learned today, upon the arrival here of an American oil tanker.

## WILSON EMPOWERED TO TAKE OVER LUMBER

May Commandeer Timber and Lumber Needed for Army and Navy

Washington, March 1.—President Wilson would be empowered to commandeer timber or lumber needed for the army, navy or shipping board under a bill ordered favorably reported today by the Senate Military Committee. The difficulty encountered, particularly by the shipping board, in securing lumber for shipbuilding, and by the army aviation corps in getting spruce for airplanes, are the immediate situations which the bill is designed to remedy.

The measure was introduced by Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the Military Committee, and today received the committee's unanimous approval.

An amendment added by the committee would authorize the President to delegate his authority in commanding either timber or lumber for the three government departments to some one department or agency he might designate.

## BOMB FOUND IN CHICAGO BUILDING

Chicago, March 1.—Discovery of a bomb in the Federal building has furnished a mystery on which a number of government agents are working today. The bomb, a steel cylinder, was found yesterday partly hidden under a pile of rubbish in one of the rooms occupied by lawyers in charge of the I. W. W. prosecution. A fuse in one end had not been ignited. Experts of a powder company found the cylinder contained a number of metal slugs and an explosive powder. They say it is their opinion that the explosion of the bomb would have wrecked the entire wing of the Federal building.

## ENGLAND'S PRIMATE ARRIVES IN AMERICA

New York, March 1.—The Most Rev. Cosmo Gordon Lang, archbishop of York and Primate of England, who arrived at an Atlantic Port last night, came to New York today, en route to Washington, where he will call on President Wilson. On Thursday, the British prelate who has jurisdiction over the entire North of England, will be greeted in Carnegie Hall in this city at a patriotic mass meeting. Among the speakers will be Governor Whitman, the Right Rev. David H. Greer, bishop of New York, and Elihu Root.

The lord archbishop's visit to America, it is announced, "is mainly for the purpose of aiding the movement now under way to further unite the English-speaking peoples of the world in common cause of liberty and justice."

## ALHUCEMAS STICKS TO SPANISH CABINET

Madrid, Thursday, Feb. 28.—The Marquis de Alhucemas notified the King tonight that he definitely accepted the offer to remain in power. The Premier has appointed Count de Garalt, a Catalanist Minister of Finance, and Louis Silveira, minister of public instruction, in place of Senors Ventosa and Rhodes, whose resignations brought about the collective withdrawal of the cabinet early today. The other members of the cabinet retain their portfolios.

## WANT A RATE ON COTTON SERVICES

Washington, March 1.—Ten railroads operating in cotton States today asked the Interstate Commerce Commission to fix a rate of two cents per hundred pounds for services performed at intermediate points in connection with the operation of concentrating, compressing and re-shipping cotton.

## RETRIBUTION HAS FALLEN UPON ENEMY

American Gunners Obliterate German Minenwerfer Batteries in Short Order

### HAD BEEN ANNOYING AMERICAN TROOPS

Airplanes Located Hun Guns, and in Half an Hour the American Artillery Had Done its Work

With the American Army in France, Thursday, Feb. 28.—Swift retribution has fallen upon the German batteries which this week bombarded the American trenches northwest of Toul with gas shells. American heavy artillery concentrated its fire on the German minenwerfer batteries for half an hour today and obliterated the position.

Many direct hits with high explosive shells were made by the American gunners. Timbers were thrown high in the air and explosions, probably of enemy ammunition and gas, resulted. The ground about the German batteries was churned upside down, and if there were any German soldiers there, they certainly suffered death.

Thus far six men have died from the effects of the German gas shells. More than 80 are in the hospital suffering from gas poisoning. Most of the cases, however, are slight and only one man is reported to be in a grave condition.

Airplane photographs aided the American gunners in their destructive fire against the German batteries. The photographs, taken yesterday, disclosed the exact location of the minenwerfers with the result that it did not take the gunners long to even up the score with the enemy.

While the number of enemy shells falling within the American lines has decreased slightly in the past 24 hours, nevertheless the artillery fighting has been lively.

In a certain town behind the front, a German shell exploded near the door leading to a telephone dugout blocking the passageway. The operators in the dugout, although in considerable danger, continued to work the important line, at the same time calling for help. Soldiers were sent to the dugout and the passage was reopened.

The American artillery has kept up a constant harassing and destructive fire on many vital enemy points such as cross roads and towns. German working parties were dispersed effectively and once the 75s fired vigorously on a number of Germans in a first line trench, quickly blowing in the entire trench system. Ground mist and rain have prevented free observation but the guns have the enemy targets so well registered that they have been able to work effectively.

Late this afternoon the Germans attempted to retaliate for the destruction of the minenwerfer batteries. They bombarded the American heavy artillery with their biggest guns but their shooting had little effect.

American patrols were all over No. Man's Land last night, but did not encounter any Germans.

The American sector is now an ocean of mud and constant work is necessary to keep the trenches, gun pits and dugouts free from water.

From information reaching the American lines, it is apparent the enemy is taking advantage of the low visibility to do much work in his positions. Many noises of kinds impossible to suppress and other information make this certain.

### NEGRO WANTED IN ASHEVILLE ARRESTED

Asheville, N. C., March 1.—Willie Williams, a negro, giving his age as 16 today was turned over to county authorities by the Asheville police department, charged with attempted criminal assault on a young white woman on the evening of December 26, last, just outside the city limits. The young woman identified him as her assailant. The negro will be placed on trial Monday morning in Buncombe county superior court.

A reward of \$1,000, raised by city, county and citizens of Asheville, was offered for arrest and conviction.

### DRAFT LAW AMENDMENT

Washington, March 1.—The administration amendment to the draft law to bring in as they reach the age of 21, was brought up in the Senate today as emergency legislation for immediate passage, but finally was put over until tomorrow.

### Call Skilled Men

Washington, March 1.—Without discussion, the Senate passed a resolution authorizing the President to call into immediate military service skilled experts in industry or agriculture.

### To Buy Corn

Washington, March 1.—Corn to the amount of from 500,000 to 750,000 bushels a day will be purchased during the next three weeks at the various middle western exchanges by Federal committees for use abroad, it was announced here today.