

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

TODAY'S NEWS
TODAY

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1918.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

WEATHER.
North and South Carolina: Generally fair tonight and Sunday; slight change in temperature.

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AMERICAN SOLDIERS REPULSE AN ATTACK BY GERMAN TROOPS

Famous German "Shock Troops" Met for First Time and Outfought

ENEMY DRIVEN BACK
WITH HEAVY LOSSES

Reached American Lines But Were Driven Off After a Fierce Hand to Hand Fight, Leaving Many Dead

American soldiers on the firing line in France have met the famous German "shock troops" for the first time and have outfought them. In stock exchanges northwest of Toul and along the Chemin Des Landes—the Germans made in attempts to penetrate the positions held by the Americans. The fight northwest of Toul resulted in a desperate hand-to-hand struggle. The Germans reached the American line only to be driven back with heavy losses. Ten dead were found in the American trenches and many enemy bodies were scattered over No Man's Land. An American captain, a West Point graduate of 1917, was killed in a gallant exploit. When the Germans reached the American positions he led a party out in front of the wire entanglements and attacked the enemy from the rear as they retreated. On the other sector the Germans were driven back, but 10 minutes after they had captured 100 American prisoners. In both attacks the enemy left prisoners in American hands.

The French in Champagne have been hotly engaged with the Germans. After being repulsed in the southwest of the Butte Du Doua the enemy attacked again and continued a footing in part of the position from which he was driven by the French more than two weeks ago and which he had been trying to recapture since. The artillery battle on the Champagne front has been of great intensity.

No decision has yet been reached as to Japanese intervention in Siberia. Negotiations between the allied governments are proceeding. According to a London report Japan has been requested to do all that is necessary to guard allied interests in the East. This has not been concluded.

Story of the Battle.
With the American Army in France, March 2—American troops repulsed a strong German attack yesterday morning in the salient north of Toul. There were many American casualties, one of the killed being a captain who was graduated from West Point in 1917.

The attack was a complete failure. German prisoners remaining in the American trenches were strangled. Driving snow was falling this morning when the Germans opened fire on the American salient with their heavy machine guns and gas shells. The wind was blowing from the west in a perfect whirlwind on the American trenches for half an hour.

At the same time enemy shells in great numbers were dropping on the American battery positions. The Germans were evidently thinking the Americans in this section, having had one of the most severe attacks of the war in the past few days ago, would be too fatigued to loose great quantities of gas shells, but the men put on their gas masks and only a few were affected by it. So intense was the fire that the woods back of the salient were cut to pieces.

At 5 o'clock the barrage fire lifted the trenches on the right of the salient, and Germans numbering 240 were seen moving forward under protection of their line. They came forward intending to make a big advance, but were instead of the trenches. They came forward and were repulsed by the American troops. The American captain killed the German captain in a deadly fire but unfortunately the captain was killed during the fight. He is the first member of the 1917 class at West Point to be killed.

(Continued on Page Seven).

AFRAID TO RELINQUISH MILITARY ADVANTAGE

Germans Admit Raids on London Are Wrong—Americans Treated Well

Amsterdam, March 2.—The Nieuwe Rotterdam Courant prints a long interview with a "personage who returned recently from a week's visit to Berlin," where he talked with a number of prominent persons, including Baron von Dem Bussche-Haddenhausen, under secretary for foreign affairs; Dr. Drews, Prussian minister of the interior; Dr. Solf, minister for colonies, and Lieutenant General von Stein, Prussian minister of war.

The consensus of opinion, the visitor gathered, was that the greatest difficulty in arriving at peace negotiations is that Germany dare not or will not relinquish any military advantage unless certain that peace negotiations have a chance for success. He adds: "They agreed perfectly, for instance, with my objections against bombing London, and admitted that for the sake of peace it were better they stopped. Yet they said the raids must continue for military reasons."

NORTH CAROLINIAN KILLED IN FRANCE

Washington, March 2.—General Pershing has reported to the War Department that Corporal Myman Roosevelt, of Chicago, and Private Clarence Mooney, infantry, of Gastonia, N. C., were accidentally killed February 27. No details were given.

TO MAKE TEST OF LIBERTY MOTOR

Buffalo, N. Y., March 2.—The first important test of the Liberty 12-cylinder airplane motor fitted to a combination of the Bristol and the Curtiss type bi-planes will be made today. The speed of the bi-planes, estimated at 140 miles an hour, exceeds that of any airplane made heretofore in the United States. Major Davis of the British flying corps probably will pilot the machine.

GENERALLY FAIR FOR NEXT WEEK

Washington, March 2.—Generally fair during the week including Sunday, is the forecast for the South Atlantic and East Gulf States. There will be no decided temperature changes.

Disputed Points Still Unsettled.
Washington, March 2.—Virtually all disputed phases of the War Finance Corporation bill remained unsettled when the Senate resumed consideration of the measure today, but leaders agreed on the importance of speedy enactment looking for a final vote before adjournment.

WAR IS COSTING US A BILLION A MONTH

Washington, March 2.—The money cost of the war to the United States still is running near a billion dollars a month. Despite official forecasts of steadily increasing expenditures from month to month, the government's outlay in February, according to a treasury statement, was slightly less than in either January or December and would have been approximately the same if the month had been as long as other months.

PETROGRAD THREATENED.

London, March 2.—German forces are moving on the town of Bologolo, on the Moscow-Petrograd railroad which place is the chief freight center for the feeding of Petrograd, says a dispatch from Petrograd under date of Friday, received by the Exchange Telegraph Company. The Germans probably intend, the message adds, thus to cut off supplies for Petrograd and to compel the capital to capitulate by famine.

URGES PASSAGE OF WATER POWER BILL AS A STABILIZER

Measure Would Encourage The Building and Extension of Plants

POWER DEVELOPMENT IS URGENTLY NEEDED

Secretaries Baker, Lane and Houston Send Letter to Chairman of House Committee

Washington, March 2.—Changes in the pending administration water power bill to more clearly express the intent of the legislation were recommended today to Chairman Sims, of the House special water power committee, by Secretaries Baker, Lane and Houston, who drew the measure. They urged speedy passage of the bill so as to stabilize the power of industry generally and encourage the building of extensions to existing projects.

"Water power legislation," said the letter, "should have in view not only the maintenance of the rights of the public in the national resources, but also the adequate protection of private capital by which such resources are developed. The bill before you seems to do both. After careful consideration, however, it is believed that certain changes in language could be made which would more clearly express the intent of the proposed legislation.

"It is particularly important that the conditions which affect the disposition of the property at the termination of license should be so definite that uncertainties will be reduced to a minimum. If the properties are not taken over the conditions under which a new license may be secured should be entirely clear. If the properties are taken over, the price to be paid should not include alleged values not represented by investment, or, on the other hand, require needless amortization of capital during the period of the license in order to protect the investment. It is therefore believed advisable to define in specific language the items which should not enter into the price to be paid."

Development of water power is urgently needed, the secretaries wrote, if the United States is to maintain its proper place in world trade after the war, or even to supply its domestic needs. It also is necessary, in order to reduce the drain on the nation's coal and petroleum supplies, particularly the latter.

"The industrial expansion which has been necessary in order to produce the materials and equipment needed in the prosecution of the war," the letter continued, "has placed unprecedented demands upon the electric power industry, to such an extent, in fact, that the output of commercial central stations has increased more than 60 per cent. since 1914. * * *

"While the form of the bill which has been presented for your consideration is directly concerned with water power development only, an adequate solution of this problem will have a favorable and stabilizing effect upon the whole power industry. Probably no considerable increase in new water power development can be expected immediately, but legislation is urgently needed in order to put existing water power developments which have been made under inadequate law into a position of security which will enable them to make extensions and to meet maturing obligations upon favorable terms."

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Woman, 102 Years Old, Registers for Her First Vote



Mrs. Sally Gold is 102 years old, but never in her lifetime has she ever registered for voting. Mrs. Gold is not a feeble woman despite her age and does not appear to be within thirty or forty years of her age. She is able to do home work and she is shown here washing. Two children and seven grandchildren accompanied her to the registration place.

GERMANS CARRIED OUT RAID ON WIDE FRONT

Attacked Portuguese But Were Driven Back—One Party Annihilated

London, March 2.—German troops carried out a raid on a wide front against the Portuguese trenches in Northern France early this morning, today's British war office statement announces. A counter attack ejected the Germans and left the situation as it was before the raid.

Several raiding operations by the Germans were conducted last night. In one case near Hargicourt every German who succeeded in reaching the British trenches was either killed or captured.

British troops took prisoners in raids in the Armentieres region and near Arleux En Gohelle. The statement reads: "Norfolk troops carried out a successful raid last night south of Armentieres. They killed or took prisoners a number of the enemy. Prisoners also were brought in by our patrols in the neighborhood of Arleux En Gohelle."

EXPLOSION KILLS MANY GERMANS

Amsterdam, March 2.—In the capture of Pskov by the Germans, one of the German battalions suffered heavy losses through an explosion caused by the retreating Russians, according to a Berlin dispatch printed in The Volks Zeitung of Cologne.

Schupp Signs Giants' Contract.

Louisville, Ky., March 2.—Ferdinand Schupp, of Louisville, will again be a member of the New York Nationals' pitching staff, according to an announcement here today. Schupp recently announced that he had returned his 1918 contract to Manager McGraw with a demand for an advance in salary. McGraw came to Louisville and conferred with Schupp, who, it is said unofficially, will receive \$10,000 for the season.

GERMANS TO MEET STIFF RESISTANCE

GUNNER'S MATE COMMENDED FOR SINKING U-BOAT

Victory Came After a Battle of Two and One Half Hours

FORMER GERMAN VESSEL ATTACKED

Submarine Opened Fire on the Nyganza, But Was Sunk by the Gun Crew Following a Hard Fight

Washington, March 2.—Benjamin H. Groves, a chief gunner's mate, has been commended by Secretary Daniels for his zeal and efficiency on January 13, when the American ship Nyganza, on which Groves was commander of the armed guard, sank a German submarine, in a battle lasting two hours and a half. Groves' home is in New Bedford, Mass.

After the Nyganza had fired 92 rounds and the submarine approximately 200 rounds, Groves got the U-boat's range and fired four shells in quick succession, causing the submarine to come broadside and keel over. It then disappeared just as it was in position to discharge its destroying shot at the ship. The U-boat, Groves said in his report, did not quit from choice, but from necessity.

ONLY THREE AMERICANS ON THE PRIZE VESSEL

Captain of a Scooner and His Wife and Daughter Were Prisoners

Copenhagen, March 2.—John Cameron, captain of the American schooner Beluga, his wife, Mary, and their four-year-old daughter, Janita, of San Francisco, were the only American prisoners on board the Spanish steamship Igotz Mendi, which went ashore on the Northern extremity of Jutland, Denmark, while attempting to reach a German port.

A German official statement of February 25 stated that the German auxiliary cruiser Wolf had returned home after 15 months in the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific oceans.

Ten Americans Captured.

Berlin, via London, March 2.—Ten Americans have been captured by the Germans near Chavignon of the French front, army headquarters announced.

Bolsheviki Destroying Bridges and Roads and Gathering an Army

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS AGAIN CALLED OFF

Hun Ambition Not Yet Satisfied—German Armies Are Now Reported Within 80 Miles of Petrograd

Peace negotiations between Germany and the Bolsheviki government apparently have been broken off again. Resumption of the German forward movement and the fact that the Russian peace emissaries have asked that a train under military guard be sent to meet them near Pskov indicate that Teutonic aggression has not yet been satiated.

The Bolsheviki are making strenuous preparations to meet the German advance and Premier Lenin is sending forth proclamations urging all Russians to save the revolution. Moscow and the interior of Russia have declared against a separate peace and the local councils in the interior are making ready to resist the invaders.

WIRELESS MESSAGES FROM FAR NORWAY

Christiania, Friday, March 1.—A new wireless station just erected at Stavanger has succeeded in communicating easily with American stations during trial. Regular trans-Atlantic service between Norway and the United States will be started whenever the American government grants permission.

LIEUTENANT GRANT SECRETLY MARRIED

Spartanburg, S. C., March 2.—Lieutenant U. S. Grant, the fourth, who has been stationed at Camp Wadsworth, has been transferred to the ordnance department and left today for Washington. Before his departure Lieutenant Grant announced that he was married in Spartanburg on October 4 to Miss Matilda Bartikofsky, of New York City. The marriage had been kept secret, the groom prevailing upon the judge of probate for this county, not to file it on the records until today.

NAVAL TUG MARINER LOST IN HEAVY GALE

Washington, March 2.—The naval tug Mariner was lost in a heavy gale on February 26, the Navy Department today announced. All her officers and crew were rescued and taken to port, arriving yesterday.

Bank Condition.

New York, March 2.—The actual condition of clearing house banks and trust companies for the week shows that they hold \$12,510,810 reserve in excess of legal requirements. This is a decrease of \$45,275,230 from last week.

COTTON BURNED.

Wagner, S. C., March 2.—Approximately \$100,000 worth of long staple cotton was destroyed in a fire which destroyed a cotton warehouse here early this morning.