

WEATHER:  
North and South Caro-  
lina—Probably local  
rains; Monday, fair,  
colder.

VOL. XXIV. No. 61.

## SAMMIES ARE FIGHTING ON GERMAN SOIL

### American Troops Are Training in New Sector Near Swiss Border

### ENEMY ARTILLERY GROWING VICIOUS

### A Terrific Shell Fire is Poured on the Americans—Two Signal Men Displayed Great Bravery

With the American Army in France, March 8.—American troops, training on a new sector near the Swiss border, have been under heavy bombardment by the Germans for three days.

This announcement is accepted as a surprise, probably for the first time. The Western front, for about 50 miles north from the Swiss border, is in German territory. The War Department at Washington Saturday night announced a casualty list of 15 dead and 40 wounded. The announcement did not designate the names of the casualties nor the sectors.

The enemy artillery reached a new position today and tonight. Despite the terrific shell fire the morale of the Sammies is excellent.

The American troops in this new sector, the same as the forces on the American front, in the St. Mihiel sector, have no airplanes of their own.

The shelling of this position continued throughout the day and only ceased for a short interval this evening.

Two signal corps men distinguished themselves by maintaining communication with the rear defenses despite the fact telephone wires were repeatedly broken. A wire was torn from one of the men's hands by a piece of shell, but the interruption never feared them. When the shelling finally ceased they had their wires completed.

The bombardment on this sector during the last two days has been four or five times as heavy as it was on the St. Mihiel sector.

The afternoon a big shell struck a dugout in which more than 30 men were sheltered. They rushed out and into another dugout to have their new refuge demolished by a shell a few minutes later.

The German is known to have been killed in a patrol encounter in the sector occupied by Americans on the Dames front. It is probable the enemy suffered other casualties. There were no American losses.

## CARPENTERS' STRIKE AT BRUNSWICK YARDS

Brunswick, Ga., March 9.—Work at the plant of the American Shipbuilding Company was completely tied up last afternoon by a strike of 750 union carpenters. The walk out followed a disagreement between the company and President Sherod of the carpenters' union over the discharge of one of the union workers. The union also went out with the shipbuilding plant is working under government contracts.

## PETERSON'S CASE MAY REACH THE PRESIDENT

### Solicitor Norris Threatens to Go to Wilson to Get the Major

(Special to The Dispatch.)  
Washington, N. C., March 9.—Solicitor General E. Norris today declared his intention to carry the Peterson embecoid case to President Wilson, if the War Department declines to turn the Major to the civil authorities.

Major Peterson is in Camp Jackson. Solicitor Norris carries on an unending correspondence with the military authorities who will not answer his telegrams. The army officer on his soldierly rights and the Major cannot budge him.

What the trouble is nobody guesses. There has been a suggestion that the Major may be doing more to the State than Camp Jackson.

The Major's case is set for March 15.

### German Raid Failed.

Paris, March 9.—Failure of attempted enemy raids against Boispretre and Reillon and Leprieux were today announced tonight.

## WILMINGTONIANS SEE WASHINGTON OFFICIALS AGAIN

### Prospects Good for Extending Railroad From Southport to Fort Caswell

### OUTLOOK GLOOMY FOR RIVER MONEY

### Simmons Will Do All He Can to Get Increased Appropriation, But Offers no Encouragement

(By George H. Manning.)  
Washington, D. C., March 9.—A party of Wilmington town and port boosters spent what they considered two very profitable days here Friday and today, and left for home tonight thoroughly satisfied with the results of their efforts and the outlook for improved conditions in Eastern North Carolina.

In the party were Col. Walker Taylor, H. C. McQueen, M. W. Devine and M. J. Corbett.

On Friday they held a conference with General Goethals, quartermaster of the Army, with relation to the establishment of a large concentration and embarkation camp at Fort Caswell. They explained to him the advantages of Fort Caswell on account of its isolation and access to the ocean as an admirable place for concentrating American troops and embarking them for Europe. They felt convinced they had made a good impression on General Goethals and that there is more than a fair expectation that the proposal will be carried out.

General Goethals, as quartermaster-general, has charge of the equipment of troops before their departure, and their embarkation, and has considerable to say in regard to the point from which they shall sail.

Today the party talked with officials of Director of Railroads McAdoo's bureau, in regard to extending the lines of the Wilmington, Brunswick & Southport Railroad to Fort Caswell. The same men who composed this delegation, together with several others, were here about three weeks ago and received partial assurances that the railroad would be extended and that Fort Caswell would be put on the map. They found today that the government has already begun the preparation of the plans for carrying out this railroad extension, and that in all probability actual construction of the railroad extension will soon be begun.

The delegation also talked with Senator Simmons, a member of the Commerce Committee which has charge of the rivers and harbors bill, to urge upon him the importance of Wilmington attaching to getting a larger appropriation from Congress this year for improving the Cape Fear river than is provided for in the river and harbor bill as reported to the House by the committee. The House bill provides \$30,000 for maintenance of Cape Fear river at and below Wilmington, and \$12,000 for maintenance and \$40,000 for improvement of the river and locks and dams above Wilmington. Senator Simmons said it would be a very difficult task to obtain increases in appropriation over the House bill this year, which follows closely the recommendations of the board of engineers, but that he is fully alive to the situation and will do his best to see that Wilmington gets adequate funds for its waterway needs.

## GRAND DUKE MICHAEL HAS BEEN ARRESTED

### Charged With Plotting to Restore a Monarchy in Russia

Petrograd, March 8. (night)—The Grand Duke Michael, brother of the former Czar, was arrested here after discovery of a German plot to restore the monarchy and place him on the throne.

A number of Russian officers and Georgian Cavaliers also were arrested.

The plot is said to have been formed when German occupation of Petrograd seemed imminent.

The Grand Duke is a prisoner in Smolny Institute. His part in the conspiracy is not known.

The German militarists dictated preliminary peace agreements this week to Rumania and Finland, making these countries German vassals. Rumania's outlet to the Black Sea is now dependent upon Teutonic good will, and the vast Dobruja district has been separated from Rumania and made a ward of the Central Powers.

Bulgaria's claim to Dobruja, which she lost during the last Balkan war, has not been recognized by the Ger-

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF JAPAN'S DECISION IS EXPECTED SOON

### This Week Will Probably See Important Siberian Developments

### MIKADO'S ARMY IS READY FOR THE FIELD

### Oriental Ally is Ready to Plunge Into the Fray at the First Sign of Consent by Her Allies

Washington, March 9.—The coming week will doubtless see concrete developments as Japan's course toward Siberian intervention.

Indications about the Japanese and other Allied embassies today were that an early decision is expected. This decision will be communicated to the United States before intervention is undertaken, but the trend of indications was that Japan is even more anxious than a week ago to get into the world war with a military force in Siberia. Lord Cecil's statement of the German menace to Siberia and his advocacy of Japanese action inclined some international students to believe that he is paving the way for open British approval of an intervention, already thoroughly decided on. Such approval, despite American lack of assent, is entirely possible and could be based on the ground of necessity.

Official information that Lenin is an actual German agent, plotting with Germany to stir up strife in the United States, Japan and elsewhere, plus the reported resignation of Trotsky might, in fact, be seized by the British as justifying Japanese action at this time.

The Japanese press and persons close to the Japanese embassy are now stressing again the danger that Japan sees in the situation. This is taken as an indication that Japan herself is preparing for a step in Siberia, which she, too, will take as based on necessity and potential danger to herself.

Japan is well prepared for any action now contemplated. Her army is well developed and she is well supplied. And her emphasis upon the danger from the Germans freed from Siberian prison camps, and her suggestions of German air aggressions over Tokyo, are regarded as straws showing that the wind is blowing toward intervention.

Thus far the State Department professes to have nothing as a guide to Japan's plans, though it was said significantly today that the department doubted that any troops had been landed yet in Siberia, meaning apparently that this step will not be taken without advance notice to the United States.

## GENERAL PERSHING PUZZLES GERMANS

### Unable to Prepare for Any Offensive Americans Might Inaugurate

### SAMMIES ARE FOUND IN MANY POSITIONS

### Germans Encounter American Troops on Both Extremes of French Front and at Points Between, too

New York, Mar. 9.—Occupation this week by American troops of a new sector of the French front near the Swiss border is a continuation of General Pershing's successful efforts to conceal the area of his forthcoming offensive from the German general staff.

The alignment not only puts American troops on German soil in Southern Alsace, but also puts them within possible striking distance of the Rhine, about 15 miles away. Von Hindenburg has now discovered Americans at both extremes of the French front and at several places between. His plans for concentrations of reserves to meet the American offensive must, in consequence, be in a disorganized condition.

The German militarists dictated preliminary peace agreements this week to Rumania and Finland, making these countries German vassals. Rumania's outlet to the Black Sea is now dependent upon Teutonic good will, and the vast Dobruja district has been separated from Rumania and made a ward of the Central Powers.

Bulgaria's claim to Dobruja, which she lost during the last Balkan war, has not been recognized by the Ger-

## FIFTEEN KILLED IN THEATRE.

Louisville, Ky., March 9.—Advices received here are to the effect that fifteen persons were killed and more than 100 injured, some seriously, when the walls of an adjoining building collapsed and crashed down upon a moving picture theatre at Winchester, Ky. Rescuers were said to be at work removing victims from the debris.

## MOTOR TRUCK PARCEL POST FOR THIS STATE

### Network of Motor Routes to Be Operated by Postoffice Department

(Special to The Dispatch.)

Washington, D. C., March 9.—The United States Postoffice Department has definitely determined upon the network of motor truck parcel-post routes that will be put in operation in North Carolina. The routes have been inspected and there is an universal demand for the service according to statement made today by a post-office official.

A bushel of apples, a basket of potatoes, or a crate of eggs may now be traveling over these motor truck routes, pictured the Postoffice Department man.

The links in the North Carolina chain of motorized parcel post routes are thus itemized by the department: From Raleigh to Cheraw, S. C.; Winston-Salem to Charlotte; Statesville to Concord; Greensboro to Salisbury; Lynchburg to Salisbury; Charlotte to Camden and Camden to Columbia. The routes vary in length from 50 to 125 miles.

## NINE PERSONS KILLED IN RAID ON PARIS

### Many Enemy Planes in Raid. French Planes Cave Them Battle

Paris, March 9.—Nine persons were killed and 39 injured in last night's raid over Paris, it was officially announced tonight.

Between 10 and 12 enemy squadrons participated, successively, in the raid. They approached the city by way of the Oise and Mare valleys.

Sixty-one French airplanes ascended to meet the German fleets and stopped the greater number of them before they reached the city. Many of the bombs dropped by these planes that did reach Paris did no material damage.

French airplanes bombarded enemy camps at the same time the raid on Paris was underway.

## THE FRENCH OBJECTED TO PUBLICATION

## THE SHIP BUILDING PROGRAM FINALLY STRIKES ITS STRIDE

### Thirty-one Ships Turned Out During January and February

### BUT THE REAL WORK IS NOW UNDERWAY

### More Than 700 Ways in 132 Yards Completed or Being Constructed—Reorganization Likely

Washington, March 9.—Thirty-one ships—190,400 tons—were completed during January and February for America's merchant fleet, the Shipping Board announced tonight. In the present month 35 more with an aggregate of 220,951 tons will be placed in service.

Although the number of launchings was disappointingly low in view of rosette statements made last fall, officials of the United States Shipping Board believes the ship building program has hit its stride at least.

The shipping board is directing its efforts now at completing the more than 700 ships in the 132 yards under operation by the government. Of this number 77 can be considered as entirely new, since they were established since April, 1917. Chairman Hurley reported the new yards averaged 65 per cent completed.

"I don't like to deal in possibilities," Chairman Hurley said tonight. "I like actual figures. But I believe the output of ships during the last half of this year will more than double that of the first half. Our expectations for production for the first two months were not realized but the work has progressed this month to a point where we feel an estimate of thirty-five launchings is decidedly conservative."

It was reported in authoritative circles here that further house cleaning is to take place soon in the government yards. One official was quoted as having said many of the yards were carrying "deadwood" as officials and that such incompetency must go. While none would predict how far the re-organization would go, it is known the lopping off of heads will take place first in the yard construction branch of the service.

The 185 ship caulkers employed in ship yards in the Seattle district were standing together on their refusal to permit the imposition of additional men into that section. Vice Chairman Piez, of the United States Shipping Board, reported tonight. Officials of the Shipping Board believe the men who are blocking the completion of the wooden ships around Seattle will soon agree to let the work be pushed. Representatives of the Shipping Board have been interviewing the men personally and it is believed the "unpatriotic attitude" they have assumed will be changed without coercion.

## PROHIBITION FIGHT IN NEW YORK STATE

### Albany, N. Y., March 9.—The prohibition fight in the New York State Legislature will approach its climax Monday when Senate hearings are held on two dry bills.

One of the measures calls for war time prohibition. The other provides a dry amendment for the State constitution. Ratification of the Federal prohibition amendment is also coming up.

Governor Whitman is determined to veto the bills now pending calling for a referendum on prohibition. This bill is the wet's strongest card. Through it they hoped to send the liquor issue to the polls.

On all wet and dry issues the drys claim 24 votes in the Senate, where 26 are needed to win, and 78, or over half the membership in the assembly.

## SENATOR GOUGH ON STATE PRISON BOARD

(Special to The Dispatch.)  
Raleigh, N. C., March 9.—Governor Bickett today appointed Senator Frank Gough, of Lumberton, member of the State Prison Board, to succeed C. B. Armstrong, of Gastonia, who has resigned. Senator Gough was a member of the 1917 upper House.

### System of Announcing Casualty Lists Gave Enemy Much Information

### NAMES WITHOUT ADDRESSES GIVEN

### A Deleted List of Names Posted Order Was Issued Upon Request of the French Government

Washington, March 9.—Objection by the French government was the basis of the War Department order against publication of home addresses of casualty lists, Chief of Staff March revealed tonight.

The fact, hidden last night when the order became known, was passed on by Pershing and action by the War Department was taken at once. The Public Information Committee refused today to handle the deleted lists, so the department undertook to publish the lists itself. The lists for the past two days were followed tonight by a list of 16 dead and 40 wounded—the largest single casualty report to date.

France objected to the form of the casualty announcements heretofore made. General March explained, on the ground that it furnished information to the enemy. The French said the system of mentioning the date of action and the cause of death—such as "gassed"—gave the Germans just what they wanted to know—the result of an attack and a basis for knowing what to do next time. The American plan of mentioning the date of action connected the whole thing up for the Germans. Some doubt was left as to whether the French actually requested elimination of home addresses.

March appealed to the press to back up Pershing in the matter on the ground of patriotism. And he pointed out that France does not publish any lists, merely having the mayor of a city or town inform the relatives of the deceased.

Committee on Public Information members still insisted that the lists now given out would be identified to a greater or lesser extent in the men's home towns, and that local papers would print facts which would give the enemy as much or more information than the old system of publishing the address from Washington.

Senator New introduced a resolution asking the department to state the authority upon which it acted, but he could not get consideration of the resolution today.

The War Department announced that next of kin would be promptly notified of casualties and said that persons with kin whose names were similar to those printed in the deleted list could rest assured of the safety of their soldierly men if they had no department announcement quickly.

The latest casualty list is given herewith:

Killed in action: Captain Harry C. McHenry, Corporal Dean Parish, Sergeant Walter J. Porscib, Privates Albert E. Foschler, Edward Nash, Glen Ed. Pederson, Clifford J. Worden; Corporal Donald H. MacRae, Sergeant James W. Wedding; Privates Asa Davis, Byron Kan Raiden, Guy O. Worley, John F. Ellis, Russell L. Seitz, Elmer James McDonough; Sergeant Alva F. Eaton.

Those wounded in action are: Second Lieutenant Alex. W. Terrell, Private Mofford T. Brees, Corporal Marvin Dunn, Corporal Lewis Allyn Simmons, Corporal Lewis E. Deltz, Private Raymond L. Closson, Privates Dan P. Bracelin, Fred A. Plintz, Marcel B. Risson, Robert L. Clausen, Ira J. Rogers, William T. Smith, Ray C. Walden, Arthur M. Shorten, Jerry Nichultz, John V. Vomacka, Emil F. Kraft, Louis Holmes, Lawrence Weell, Joseph Chikowski, Fred S. Becker, Burton M. Baker, Ernest J. Rooney, Leo J. Miller, Clarence W. Dawson; Sergeant Pearl Edwards, Privates James F. Albert, Glenn H. Cray, Albin Demek, Archie R. Kindig, Chas. W. McLaughlin, Cook Charles Danielson, Privates Walter G. Smith, Otto M. Swannard, Kenmore Thorsen, Harvey A. McPheak, John A. Bender, John McGurl, Sergeant Raymond Quinn, Private Nicholas McFuaghan.

The following five deaths from natural causes also were reported: First Lieutenant George Adelbert Ward, Privates William Fryall, Dock Maxwell, Joseph H. Tremblay and Sergeant Samuel Torance.

## ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO FORM CABINET

Madrid, March 9.—King Alfonso has entrusted Garcia Prieta with the reconstruction of the cabinet.

Resignation of the Spanish cabinet was announced yesterday.