

WEATHER.  
North and South Carolina: Probably showers tonight and Thursday, except fair on the coast tonight.

# THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

TODAY'S NEWS  
TODAY

VOL. XXIV. NO. 98. WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 17, 1918. PRICE FIVE CENTS

## Contract Let For Building 12 Steel Ships Here

The following telegram came from Congressman H. L. Godwin this afternoon confirming the dispatches earlier in the day that Wilmington would likely be chosen for building steel ships:

"It is Now an Established Fact That Wilmington Will Get Another Shipyard. Senator Simmons and I Were Told This Morning by United States Shipping Board That Steel Ships Could Be Built There Upon A Large Scale. Contracts Have Already Been Signed For Construction of 12 Large Steel Ships of 2,600 Tons Each. The Yard Will Belong to the Government and Ships Will Be Built Under Government Directions. All This Will Be Permanent. I Congratulate Wilmington and North Carolina."

## BRITISH WITHDRAW FROM POSITIONS ON THE YPRES SECTOR

Salient In Southeastern Belgium Menaced By Advancing German Troops

RETIREMENT ON LARGE SCALE NOT EXPECTED

Believed That British Will Be Able to Hold Their Lines Intact, Even Though Forced to Give Way At Points.

With the Ypres salient in Southeastern Belgium menaced by the continued advance of the Germans on the front, the British have begun to withdraw from this advanced line.

The official report from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters announces what is at least a partial withdrawal from the Ypres sector. The British forward positions East of Ypres have been given up and a new line to the West occupied. The withdrawal was carried out in perfect order without enemy interference. Apparently the retrograde movement is a successful counter attack carried out upon the Germans who yesterday captured the town of Wytschaete, near the highest point of the Easterly Messines ridge and who presumably pushed out somewhat beyond the town. They are unofficially reported, indeed, as having advanced to St. Eloi, a mile and a half North of Wytschaete, two miles West of Hollebeke, and about six miles directly South of Ypres.

St. Eloi is on the old battle line as it existed before the British began their offensive last year, taking Messines ridge and later pushing on and gradually absorbing all of the Passchendaele ridge, the continuation of the spur to the Northeast.

This may be an indication that the British retirement is to the line of the spring of 1917, although such a withdrawal would include the abandonment of the entire Passchendaele region, as well as the Messines ridge area, from the greater part of which they have been driven in the present battle. It would leave the town of Ypres, however, still in British hands.

There seems no danger at present of a retirement on any such large scale than this on the Northern end of the Franco-Belgian line as the result of the recent German successes. The line as a whole appears likely to hold as long as the railway communications supporting it are intact. Apparently the security of these communications has been provided for by the massing of large forces in the Northwesterly sector of the Lys battlefield.

The German objective here, as has been frequently pointed out, is Hazebrouck, the important railroad junction about four miles beyond the point of the farthest advance Westward, near Nieppe wood, six miles Southwest of Bailleul. A British counter attack last night indicated the strength of the British line in his vital sector. It resulted in the driving of the Germans from the town of Metzen, a mile and a half West of Bailleul, which they had entered.

The Germans are still hammering the British line North of Bailleul, while to the Northwest they are reported to be close to Mount Kemmel, the towering height which dominates the situation in this sector. The British now seem able to deal with them along the Bailleul-Wytschaete line, however, and the repulse of re-

### BOLO PASHA MET DEATH AT HANDS OF FIRING SQUAD

Paid Extreme Penalty For Being a Traitor to His Country

Paris, April 17.—Standing before a firing squad in the forest of Vincennes early today, Paul Bolo Pasha, condemned traitor, lost entirely the attitude of indifference he had maintained subsequent to and during his trial. When the order to fire was given, the rifles spoke and Bolo crumpled up with several bullets in his head.

Escorted by several guards, Bolo left the Sante prison 45 minutes before his execution. After leaving the automobile at Vincennes, he listened to the exhortation of a prison chaplain. Then his eyes were bandaged and he went without a struggle to his place before the firing squad.

"So much the better; I am delighted," Bolo exclaimed when awakened this morning by Commandant Julien, whom that the hour of execution had arrived. These were the only words spoken by Bolo, except for instructions to the chaplain to take from his body a silk lace handkerchief which he placed on his chest and give it to his brother, Monsignor, Bolo.

The condemned man went to his execution in a new suit of clothes brought to the prison by his brother, and wearing white gloves.

Before stepping forth from the prison, Bolo asked to be permitted to partake of communion.

Before the execution the form an intermit at Vincennes was gone through and then the body was turned over to Bolo's family.

When Bolo was taken to the office to go through the formalities of his removal from prison for the execution he refused to sign the register. The officer insisted, upon which Bolo cried in an authoritative tone: "It is I who command here; no one has anything to impose upon me, I think."

The chaplain, after the execution, found lying over Bolo's heart, two embroidered handkerchiefs, which had been pierced by the bullets. One was given to Bolo's brother and the other to his widow.

### LOST HIS ATTITUDE OF INDIFFERENCE

Went to His Place Without a Struggle and Fell With Several Bullets In His Head. Talked Little

### SENTENCED TO SPEECHMAKING

Christiania, April 17.—M. Trannet, leader of the Socialists of the Left, was sentenced to 60 days imprisonment at Trondhjem today for making provocative speeches. He was also charged with inciting the workers to follow the example of the Bolsheviks in Russia and form workmen's and soldiers' councils. The imprisonment of the Socialist leader probably may lead to further troubles throughout Norway.

### BURIAN NAMED AS THE SUCCESSOR OF COUNT CZERNIN

The Austrian Minister of Finance Is Appointed Foreign Minister

Amsterdam, April 17.—Baron Burian has been appointed Austro-Hungarian foreign minister in succession to Count Czernin, according to a Vienna dispatch.

Baron Burian, in taking the foreign ministry, retains his portfolio as minister of finance.

Baron Stephen Burian von Rajecz was minister of foreign affairs from September 15, 1914, to December 23, 1916, when he was succeeded by Count Czernin, whose place he now takes. Baron Burian has been Austro-Hungarian finance minister since Count Czernin has been in the foreign office. Baron Burian took the place of Count Berchtold as foreign minister in 1914 and he was the author of the notes to the United States on the case of the Italian steamship Ancona, sunk in the Mediterranean with the loss of American lives in the fall of 1915.

### WAS MORE FRIENDLY TOWARD AMERICA

However, His Views May Have Since Undergone a Change — He Handled Ancona Affair

### LIBERTY SUBSCRIPTIONS NEARLY ONE BILLION

Reports Received This Morning Show a Total of \$931,156,050 Subscribed

Washington, April 17.—Subscriptions to the Liberty Loan as shown in reports to the Treasury today now total \$931,156,050. The first day's business brought in approximately \$25,000,000.

Reports to headquarters today told of a great flood of subscriptions from a great flood of subscriptions from Atlanta which started its campaign Monday noon had rolled up subscriptions of \$2,500,000 before work started today. The Mississippi Woman's Committee has harvested \$2,402,000, and encouraging reports are received also from the Georgia Woman's Committee. From the platform of one of the war exhibit trains touring the South, \$150,000 bonds were sold yesterday.

Negroes in Southern Georgia were reported today to be buying bonds generously, many of them securing \$500 each.

### WILMINGTON LOOKS TO BE A WINNER

Washington, April 17.—Recommendation against the establishment of a new steel ship yard at Charleston, S. C., has been made to the Shipping Board by its investigating experts and legal department after an investigation which was said to have disclosed almost insuperable difficulties which would have to be overcome in the location of a yard there.

Several other sites for the proposed yard are under consideration, the most suitable one apparently being at Wilmington, N. C.

The ground available for building the yard at Charleston was across the river from the city proper, without railway or power connection with the city. It would have been necessary to build 35 miles of railway, expensive dock terminals, and to have extended power lines a long distance at great expense. There also was a doubt as to whether sufficient power could have been obtained for the use of the yard.

Prices asked for the ground sought for the yard were exorbitant in the opinion of the experts who investigated the site.

### CAROLINA SHIPBUILDING COMPANY

(By George H. Manning)

Washington, April 17.—The United States Shipping Board signed a contract today with the Carolina Shipbuilding Company for the construction of 12 fabricated steel ships of 9,600 tons each to be built at Wilmington, N. C. "The work of constructing the yard is to be commenced as soon as possible," Congressman Godwin said. The yard is to be built by the company and to be owned by the Government. The Carolina Shipbuilding Company will act as the direct agent of the Government in building the ships. It is understood that this company had undertaken the building of ships at Charleston. The work there is to be abandoned and the construction done at Wilmington, N. C. Senator Simmons and Congressman Godwin went to the Shipping Board today with agents of the Carolina Shipbuilding Company and the contract for Wilmington was signed in their presence.

The enormous undertaking is entirely in addition to concrete ships to be built at Wilmington and contemplates about three times as much work as the concrete shipbuilding job.

### REPRESENTATIVE JONES BATTLE RAGING IN FLANDERS TODAY

Washington, April 17.—Representative Jones, of Virginia, died here today from the effects of a stroke of paralysis suffered more than a week ago.

Representative Jones was not only the dean of the Virginia delegation in Congress, but the dean of the Democratic side of the House. For 14 continuous terms of practically 28 years, he had represented the First District of Virginia in the House, outranking every other member for continuous service and ranking next to former Speaker Cannon, whose 21 terms in Congress has broken all records. He was 69 years old.

### Hearing Postponed.

Birmingham, Ala., April 17.—The preliminary hearing of William A. Denson, prominent Birmingham attorney, arrested April 11 on charges of disloyalty which had been set for today, has been postponed until April 26.

### Cadet Killed.

Hamilton, Ont., April 17.—Cadet B. Bonyne, of New Jersey, was instantly killed and his pilot was seriously hurt in an airplane accident a mile from Beamsville aviation camp today.

### WYTSCHAETE RECAPTURED.

London, April 17.—The greater part of Wytschaete and probably all of it is in the hands of the British, Major General Maurice, chief director of military operations at the War Office announced today.

Fire at Greenville, S. C. Greenville, S. C., April 17.—Fire of unknown origin destroyed Armstrong's pharmacy, Wharton's dry goods store and DeMulder's art studio early today, entailing an estimated damage of \$50,000, practically covered by insurance.

## SECRETARY BAKER CALLS ON PEOPLE TO SUPPORT ARMY

Declares That the American Soldier Has Made Good in France

BODY MUST SUSTAIN THE GOOD RIGHT ARM.

Secretary Says He Found the Boys Well In Every Respect—Secured Information He Wants.

Washington, April 17.—Secretary Baker, back from a seven weeks trip to Europe, today called on the American people for renewed support of the war. The Secretary expected to see President Wilson some time during the day to report on his observations abroad.

"The American soldier has made good in France," Secretary Baker today assured newspaper men, who met him at the War Department. "The French and British authorities are uniform in their praise of the courage, endurance and soldierly qualities of our men.

"The big thing for America to do is to support the war, support it financially and with firm belief. The right arm of America is in France. It is bared and ready to strike. The rest of the body is here in the United States and it must support the arm. This support should include subscription to the Liberty loans as well as moral support of high confidence.

The condition of the American troops, the Secretary said, is excellent. They all are well physically and "well in every other way." Their spirits are high, their behavior admirable and their relations with the French and British cordial and sympathetic, he said.

"One rarely meets an American soldier in France who does not smile and wave his hat," Mr. Baker said. "The only sad Americans there are those who fear they may have to come home before the job is done."

"The information I went to get, I got," Mr. Baker said. His trip, he said, would bring a closer and more understanding co-operation between the War Department and the Army. As for the Secretary himself, he feels that he is now equipped with the means of judging and appreciating the kind of co-operation needed.

"The American, British, French and Italian armies are filled with this tremendous spirit and the civilian populations show the same feeling," he said. "Every one is quite confident of the outcome. I would say that the general sentiment is one of inspired determination.

"So far as the work of our own forces is concerned, it gives one the impression of magnitude, thoroughness and speedy accomplishment. No hours of work are being observed and there are no limitations on labor. A glimpse of the tremendous extent of the American supply facilities, communications, warehouses and numerous schools for men and officers reminds one of a gigantic bee hive filled with energetic men."

Secretary Baker said he had been interested to note the extraordinary extent to which American newspapers carry the war news. European newspapers, he said, were immeasurably behind those of this country in that respect.

Mr. Baker declined to discuss the situation on the West front. He said the situation had been aptly covered by Premier Lloyd George when he stated that alternate periods of cheerfulness and anxiety must be endured for some time to come.

### BRITISH PREMIER STRONGLY URGES MAN POWER BILL

Declares Conscription Is the Only Fair Method For Raising Soldiers

MAKES REFERENCE TO UNITED STATES

Declares Sentiment In America Favors Conscription Provided There Is Self-Government

London, Tuesday, April 16.—In discussing the man power bill in the House of Commons, Premier Lloyd-George asked whether conscription in Ireland was to be the government's only answer to the report of the most remarkable convention ever held in Ireland. Such an answer would be regarded as unsatisfactory not only in Ireland, but in England, he said. If there was trouble in Ireland arising from refusal to legislate after the only conscription was offered, any resistance in Ireland would meet with sympathy here, which would paralyze the effort to enforce conscription in Ireland.

The Premier referred especially to the attitude of the Labor party, adding: "It is useless to put this bill on the statute book unless we intend to enforce it, and it is useless to try to enforce it unless behind the government there is a feeling that Ireland has been justly treated. Moreover, Ireland is not the only country to be considered."

"As to America, the opinion reaching the government is that sentiment in America supports the bill, provided self government is offered Ireland. It is vital to us at the moment that America is coming to our aid through the most remarkable decision ever taken by any executive. President Wilson's decision was not without difficulty, but it was the only way America could render practical assistance in this battle.

"In these circumstances America is entitled to expect from the British government—though they could not ask any government to carry out domestic legislation—that they would smooth these difficulties and at any rate, not increase them. I am certain nothing would help more at the present juncture to secure the full measure of American assistance than the determination of the British parliament to tender to Ireland her own parliament."

Parliament's use of the terms "offer" and "tender" evoked irritated cries from the Irish benches.

Premier Lloyd-George said he was afraid it was impossible to argue with those who refused to believe it a matter for congratulation that though an army of 5,000,000 had retired from the alliance the two or three nations that remained had been able to put up such a fight as they had until the great American republic came in.

Replying to Sir Edward Carson's criticisms, the Premier said that if it had been merely a matter of a year or two possibly no grave consequences would have arisen for Ireland.

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