

WEATHER.
North and South Carolina: Generally fair to night and Wednesday.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

HOME EDITION

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FIRST MILLION TONS OF SHIPS HAVE BEEN PLACED ON HIGH SEAS

Were Completed Under Direction of the Shipping Board.

SHOW STEADY INCREASE

Over Half of Tonnage Been Delivered Service First of January.

MANY REQUISITIONED

None of Vessels of Great Wood Program Has Yet Been Turned Over, Due to Delays of Machinery.

Washington, May 14.—The first million tons of ships completed and delivered to the government under the direction of the shipping board have been put on the high seas to help defeat Germany.

A total of 159 vessels of 1,108,621 tons was completed up to May 11, according to statistics recently compiled by experts of the shipping board. Since January 1, more than half of the total tonnage, 667,896, has been delivered and the monthly totals have shown a steady increase.

Most of the ships delivered were requisitioned on the ways or in contract form, when the United States entered the war. Virtually all are of steel construction. None of the ships of the great wood program has been delivered although 46 have been launched, due to delay in obtaining boilers and other machinery. The first completed wood ship built on the ways for the government is the Pa-

delvies of ships last week were made at Seattle, Sparrows Point, Maryland; Chicago, Ecorse, Mich.; Gloucester, N. J.; Wilmington, Del., and New York.

Eight steel ships totalling 48,150 tons, were completed during the seven days ending May 11. Fourteen vessels were launched with a total tonnage of 57,100, of which seven were steel with a total capacity of 31,100 tons.

The steel deliveries included one refrigerated ship, two tankers, and five cargo vessels.

The state of Maine during the week turned out its first wooden ships for the government, the Andra, a 3,500 ton vessel, built at Portland.

OVER 126,000 FARMERS APPLIED FOR LOANS

Washington, May 14.—About one-ninth of the farm loan business of the United States was done by the federal farm loan system during its first year of active operation just closing. A report issued today shows that since the first loans were extended last May 40,451 loans, totalling \$91,951,000, have been closed. More than 126,000 farmers applied for loans amounting to \$299,948,000, and loans approved, including those closed, were \$174,858,000. The total agricultural loans made in this country yearly is estimated at about \$800,000,000.

The St. Paul federal bank did one-sixth of the business and the Spokane bank was a close second. By districts, loans closed in the last year and in April, included:

District	Loans	Amount
St. Paul	15,424,000	\$2,870,000
Spokane	14,224,000	1,586,000
New Orleans	6,091,000	1,198,000

NEVILLE ISLAND PLANT BIGGER THAN KRUPPS

Washington, May 14.—Neville Island, in the Ohio river, near Pittsburgh, was selected today by the war department as the site for the great government ordnance plant to be built and operated in the interior. Work will be rushed as rapidly as possible.

The Neville Island plant will be the largest in the world, surpassing even that of the Krupps in Germany. It will be built and operated by the United States Steel corporation at the solicitation of the government. Heavy artillery and projectiles in great quantities will be made under the supervision of the steel corporation, which will detail experts from its organization to build the plant.

More Loans to Allies.

Washington, May 14.—Secretary McAdoo today authorized loans of \$200,000,000 to Great Britain, \$100,000,000 to France and \$100,000,000 to Italy, making the total loans to the allies \$573,350,000. Total loans to Great Britain now amount to \$2,995,000,000; to France \$1,165,000,000, and to Italy \$650,000,000.

Send Germans to Georgia. Washington, May 14.—The 2,200 Germans now wintered at Hot Springs, N. C. will be taken over by the war department and sent to Fort Oglethorpe and Fort McPherson, Ga., between now and July 1, it became known today.

METHODISTS ELECT SIX BISHOPS TODAY

Church Conference Decides to Adjourn Next Monday.

LARGE CROWD PRESENT

Talk of Moving Publishing House From Nashville Quiets Down.

GREETING TO BAPTISTS

Opinion is Voiced That Union of Methodists is Both Feasible and Greatly to be Desired

Atlanta, May 14.—With the election of bishops, the special order of the day, the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, south, today started holding both morning and afternoon sessions. A motion to adjourn finally next Monday evening, May 20, was adopted.

Anticipation of lively scenes connected with the balloting drew large crowds to the galleries of Wesley Memorial church, where the conference is sitting. Bishop E. R. Hendrix presided, and the religious exercises were conducted by the Rev. H. A. Boaz, of the Central Texas conference.

All talk of moving the church publishing house from Nashville to Atlanta was quieted when the committee on publishing interests presented a report recommending that there shall be a publishing house at Nashville, Tenn.

The committee on missions added an amendment to its first report requiring that the Southwest Texas conference embrace all the German charges in the state. If the report is adopted the present German mission conference will go out of existence but the work among the Germans will be continued.

A telegram of greetings was ordered sent to the Southern Baptist convention, now in session at Hot Springs, Ark.

Much interest is manifested in the report of the committee on church relations, which recommends the continuation of the commission on unionism, named at the last general conference. The report expresses satisfaction with the work of the commission in its meetings with the Methodist Episcopal church and the opinion is voiced that union of the two churches is both feasible and greatly to be desired.

The college of bishops sprung a surprise at this afternoon's session of the general conference when Bishop Collins Denny announced that the bishops had vetoed the actions of the conference in granting laity rights to women and changing the ritual from "Holy Catholic church" to "Christ's Holy church."

It was held the action of the conference was illegal and that both measures must be submitted to the annual conferences and not until two thirds of the annual conferences voted in favor of the proposed change in laws could the action of the general conference be held constitutional.

Heated discussions followed the reading of the bishops' veto.

Platinum Is Commandeered. Washington, May 14.—All platinum, iridium and palladium held by refiners, some importers, manufacturing jewelers and large dealers, has been commandeered by the government. The price fixed for platinum is \$105 per troy ounce.

CASUALTY LIST TODAY CONTAINS 72 NAMES

Eight Southern Men are Reported Among Dead and Wounded.

Washington, May 14.—The casualty list today contained 72 names, divided as follows:

Category	Count
Killed in action	14
Died of wounds	7
Died of disease	3
Wounded slightly	21
Missing in action	27

Officers named included Captain Lloyd Russell, Manchester, Okla., and Lieutenants Herbert Boyer, San Francisco, and Stephen E. Fitzgerald, Dorchester, Mass., killed in action; Major John I. Haskins, Minneapolis; Captain Michael J. O'Connor, Boston, and Lieutenants Edward M. Guild, Nahant, Mass.; William A. Murphy, Chicago, and Ray E. Smith, Rutland, Vt., wounded slightly; Lieutenant Benjamin C. Byrd, Hartford, Conn., missing in action.

The list includes: Killed in action: Private Willie B. Sanders, Converse, S. C.

Died of wounds: Private Wilmer L. Childers, R. F. D. No. 5, Paragould, Ark.; Willie J. Jones, Starke, Fla.

Died of disease: Private Sogunio A. Arnold, Greenville, Miss.

Wounded slightly: Cook Bon H. Schuster, Eureka Springs, Ark.; Privates James H. Carter, Surrency, Ga.; Cleave N. Vaughan, R. F. D. No. 2, Lynch's Station, Va.

CAILLAUX WITNESS IN TREASON TRIAL

Former Premier is Called For Landau, One of Accused

GERMAN FUND SUPPLIED

Asked If Marx Was Mentioned to Reporter on Bonnet Rouge in 1916.

DISMISSED BRUTALLY

Tells Court He Has Always Defended His Honor and Will Continue to Do So. Has Given Nothing

Paris, May 14.—Former Premier Caillaux was brought into court from his prison cell today to testify in the treason trials growing out of the Bonnet Rouge affair. He was called at the request of counsel for M. Landau, one of the accused, who was a reporter for the Bonnet Rouge. The former premier apparently was in splendid health.

Colonel Voyer, the presiding officer, admonished him to confine his remarks within the proper limits. "The only point at issue," said Colonel Voyer, "is whether the witness mentioned the name of Marx, of Mannheim (a German banker, through whom funds were supplied for the Bonnet Rouge propaganda) to M. Landau, in September, 1916. Please keep to that point."

M. Caillaux denied that he had mentioned Marx in 1916. He said he had never heard of the man until July, 1917, when the Bonnet Rouge case was discussed in the chamber of deputies.

"The only point at issue," said Colonel Voyer, "is whether the witness mentioned the name of Marx, of Mannheim (a German banker, through whom funds were supplied for the Bonnet Rouge propaganda) to M. Landau, in September, 1916. Please keep to that point."

M. Caillaux denied that he had mentioned Marx in 1916. He said he had never heard of the man until July, 1917, when the Bonnet Rouge case was discussed in the chamber of deputies.

"That is a sufficient answer," Colonel Voyer said. "You may go."

M. Caillaux insisted on speaking further, however, saying:

"I have never given one franc to the Bonnet Rouge since the war began. It is true that I subscribed 40,000 francs before the war, but this fund was exhausted at the beginning of hostilities. At the time I was engaged in defending my honor against a bitter press campaign. The Bonnet Rouge defended me, and therefore I helped it."

"I have defended my honor in the past and will do so in the future with all possible means at my command."

M. Caillaux exhibited emotion as he made this declaration. A ripple of applause broke out.

"It is my contention," said he, "that a public man in time of war must consider every possibility of bringing about a favorable peace, no matter whence it comes."

M. Caillaux's testimony seemed to be disturbing to the accused, who began to attempt to shift the responsibility upon each other. M. Marion, assistant manager of the Bonnet Rouge, accused M. Duval, the director, and M. Landau. The latter replied that M. Marion's declaration was untruthful. All the defendants except M. Joulia attempted to separate their cases from that of M. Duval, for whom alone the prosecution specifically demands the death sentence.

ATTACK BY TEUTONS REPULSED BY ITALIANS

Italian Army Headquarters in Northern Italy, Monday, May 13.—Italian troops repulsed with heavy loss a desperate enemy attempt last night to redeem the loss of Monte Corno. It is believed that this was only the first of a series of efforts to regain the lost ground, which to the value of the heights, commands the approach to the valley leading from Trent to Rovereto.

The fight last night was in the darkness and was a bloody hand-to-hand struggle over the rocky slopes of the mountain. The Italian positions, however, were maintained intact.

Thus far the fighting around Monte Corno has been of local character and not a part of any general offensive, although the outposts show increasing activity all along the mountain front.

Cannon Supports Wilson. Washington, May 14.—Former Speaker Cannon came to the support of the administration today in debate on the Overman bill giving the president power to reorganize government departments. Representative Gillett, of Massachusetts, republican leader, led the fight against the bill. Both democrats and republicans, Mr. Cannon said, would continue to support the president in the war until victory was won.

Daniels Commends Seamen. Washington, May 14.—Four enlisted men of the navy were commended by Secretary Daniels today for risking their lives to save men from drowning. One was Millard Frank Staton, of Jacksonville, Fla., who rescued a shipmate in a rough sea.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

BRITISH. London, May 14.—German artillery fire was violent last night in the Somme and Ancre sectors, says the official statement from Field Marshal Haig today.

"We carried out a successful raid last night northeast of Robecq (Flanders) and captured a few prisoners without casualties to ourselves. A party of the enemy which attacked one of our posts west of Marville was repulsed with loss.

"The hostile artillery was active during the night in the Somme and Ancre sectors."

FRENCH. Paris, May 14.—Heavy artillery fighting in the Champagne is reported in today's official statement.

Only patrol actions occurred on the main battlefield in Picardy. The announcement follows: "French patrols carried out operations north of Hangard (on the front before Amiens), near Courcy, and west of the Meuse, bringing back prisoners. We easily repulsed a German raid of small French posts northwest of Orville-Sorel.

"The artillery fighting was rather spirited in the Champagne near Butte Du Mesnil and in the Vosges. A German local attack north of LaFecht was repulsed by our fire.

"There is nothing to report elsewhere."

JAMES GORDON BENNETT DIED IN BEAULIEU TODAY

Owner of New York Herald's Last Words Were of His Paper.

Beaulieu, France, May 14.—James Gordon Bennett, proprietor of the New York Herald, died at 5:30 o'clock this morning, after having been unconscious for two days.

Mr. Bennett's last words before lapsing into unconsciousness were in relation to his newspaper interests.

Mrs. Bennett was with her husband when he died.

Dispatches from France early this month reported Mr. Bennett so seriously ill that his condition was giving cause for anxiety. He had been for some months at his villa at Beaulieu in the Riviera, after an illness, and advices from Nice at this time announced that he had had a relapse.

IRON AND STEEL RATES NOT UNREASONABLE

Washington, May 14.—Transportation rates on iron and steel from Pittsburgh to Newport News were found not to be unreasonable by the interstate commerce commission today.

Prevailing rates, however, subject Newport News consignees to undue prejudice and disadvantage, said the decision, as compared with lower rates on the same articles to New York and Baltimore. The complaint in the case was the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock company.

NAVAL AID OF AMERICA HELP TO BRITISH FLEET

Expert Says Have Co-operated in Convoys and Sub Fighting.

London, May 14.—American naval aid has been of the greatest help to the British fleet, says Archibald Hurd, the naval expert, writing in the Daily Telegraph on the new situation in the North Atlantic, resulting from the Zebrugge and Ostend raids, the extension of British mine fields and the generally increasing naval pressure against Germany.

"When the war is over," he says, "the nation will form some conception of the extent of the debt which we owe the American navy for the manner in which it has co-operated, not only in connection with the convoy system, but in fighting the submarines."

"If the naval position is improving today, as it is, it is due to the fact that the British and American fleets are working in closest accord, supported by an immense body of skilled workers on both sides of the Atlantic, who are turning out destroyers and other craft for dealing with the submarines, as well as mines and bombs."

"The Germans can have a battle whenever they want it. The strength of the grand fleet has been well maintained. Some of the finest battleships of the United States navy are now associated with it. They are not only splendid fighting ships, but they are well officered and manned."

"If Admiral Beatty were asked his opinion, there is no doubt of what he would say of the value of the aid which the United States has given in this respect. The conditions under which the Germans would engage us, therefore, are less favorable than two years ago."

RESERVES STOPPED GERMANS' ADVANCE

Gough Was Pushed Back Only by Superior Numbers.

DEFENSE WAS GALLANT

Deadly Cross Fire Was Poured on Attacking Enemy by The British.

TRIBUTE TO SOLDIERS

Reserve Divisions of Fifth Army Used Up at Start of Battle and Absorbed When Breaks Came.

(Correspondence Associated Press.) London, May 3.—Misty weather and an overwhelming weight in numbers, probably four to one, enabled the Germans to push back Major General Gough's fifth army in the opening days of the spring offensive and to gain a decided advantage. The line west of St. Quentin was held by the fifth army and it only fell back, fuller reports now received say, after a gallant defense.

Fighting desperately all the way, the divisions of the fifth army were forced farther and farther back until belated reserves arrived to stem the German tide.

The four army corps of the fifth army held a line 50 miles long. To provide against a determined attack a "deep system" of defenses had been built. The outer system was composed of concrete blockhouses and similar defenses, so placed and constructed as to pour a deadly cross fire on an attacking enemy from any point.

But this system of defense, relied upon to hold the enemy until reserves could be moved up, failed owing to weather conditions. The Germans made their attack in a dense mist through which the defenders could not discern the enemy until they were within a few yards of the blockhouses. The outer system did not have the opportunity to use its strong cross fire and, after a stubborn struggle, was overwhelmed and compelled to retire.

In the area known as the "bottle zone" behind the blockhouses, the enemy was held throughout the first day in desperate hand-to-hand fighting. Then the overwhelming numerical superiority of the enemy began to tell. The British line weakened and breaks soon developed. How doggedly the British line resisted is shown by the fact that all breaks occurred at the juncture of army corps and not along the line held by a particular corps.

One break necessitated a retirement for a considerable distance. This had to be repeated again and again as fresh breaks developed and the expected reserves, delayed by difficulties behind the front, failed to get up in time. The immediate reserve divisions of the fifth army had been thrown in at the beginning of the battle when the breaks developed and were immediately absorbed and used up.

General Gough and his corps of officers have nothing but praise for all the units concerned in the fight.

"They all did well," said one of the officers. Some perhaps did better than others, but none of them failed and no blame can be attached to any division of the fifth army.

MAY INCREASE FREIGHT AND PASSENGER RATES

Report Made to McAdoo Says Expresses Will be Over \$600,000,000 Higser

Washington, May 14.—An increase of at least 25 per cent in freight and passenger rates is indicated in estimates of railroad officials, a report of which was published here today. The report sets forth that the costs of fuels, wages, equipment and other operating expenses, will be from \$600,000,000 to \$750,000,000 more than last year.

Director General McAdoo's advisers have recommended that rates be increased by approximately this percentage and it is expected that he will act within the next six weeks and put the increases into effect.

RUMANIA SELLS GRAIN TO TEUTONIC POWERS.

Amsterdam, May 14.—A Vienna dispatch says that special economic treaty between Rumania and the central empire provides that Rumania will sell to Germany and Austria-Hungary her surplus production in 1918 and 1919 of all kinds of grain, including oil seeds, and also fodder, pulse, poultry, cattle, fibrous plants and wool. Rumania also agrees to sell this surplus to the central powers for a further period of seven years, if it should be requested.

HUN TAKING TIME TO RENEW BATTLE

Only One Assault in Two Weeks, It Was Repulsed.

ARTILLERY IS ACTIVE

Allied Airmen are Using Every Opportunity to Invade the Enemy Territory.

SIX MACHINES DOWNED

West of Montdidier the Americans are Harassing Germans with Heavy Fire. Heavy Damage Done.

Committed as they are to a continuation of heavy fighting on the western front the Germans apparently are taking their full time before beginning another forward operation on the line from Soissons north to the Belgian coast.

In two weeks the enemy has made only one determined attack at this time was repulsed by the allied forces south west of Ypres.

Along the vital sectors of the salients driven by the Germans since March 21, the enemy artillery has been active, but there are no signs of renewed infantry activity in strength. North of Kemmel, around Serre, on the line between Albert and Arras and on the southern end of the British line across the Somme and on the French sector immediately south the German big guns are hurling thousands of shells into the allied positions.

Allied airmen are taking advantage of every opportunity to invade enemy territory. Many more tons have been dropped on important railway centers and other military targets behind the German lines in Flanders and Picardy. On aerial fighting, the British have brought down six more enemy machines. While British naval airmen bomb the German submarine bases at Zebrugge and Ostend, army fliers continue the aerial bombardment of Bruges.

West of Montdidier, in Picardy, and northwest of Toul, America's artillerymen are harassing the Germans with a heavy fire. Considerable damage is believed to have been caused on both sectors.

The announcement from Ottawa that the American army was not to be employed fully against the Germans until it was a complete organization, it is declared in London, was due to an error, which has been corrected.

Lively fighting continues in the Monte Corvo region south of Asiago, with the Italians throwing back repeated Austrian efforts to regain the summit of the mountain. Elsewhere on the Italian front the artillery duel goes on, but there are no indications that the enemy is ready to start his heralded attack.

BRITISH LOST 41,612 DURING PAST WEEK

London, May 14.—The total of British casualties reported in the week ending today is 41,612. They are divided as follows:

Killed or died of wounds: Officers 501; men 5,095.

Wounded or missing: Officers, 2,123; men 33,923.

Reports of British casualties usually are not available for some time after the actions in which they are sustained. The largest total in the last week, evidently represents losses suffered when the fighting in Flanders and Picardy was at its height. Complete records have not been given out, but it is probable that the casualties reported in the last week are the heaviest British losses of any week of the war. The total last week was 38,691.

FATE OF AMERICAN AIRMAN IS UNKNOWN

New York, May 14.—While on an air patrol trip above the German lines in France, Lieutenant Frank K. Knapp, an American with the British royal air forces, disappeared on April 16 and his fate is not known, according to word received today by his parents in Brooklyn.

Two days earlier Lieutenant Knapp was attacked by five German airmen. He descended 10,000 feet and escaped without injury after downing one of the enemy machines. Knapp enlisted in Canada last June at the age of 24.

WILSON HAS REMOVED BANDAGES FROM HAND

Washington, May 14.—President Wilson today removed the bandages which have encased his left hand since he burned it four weeks ago by taking hold of an exhaust pipe in the British tank that visited the white house. The hand has healed, but the burns have left ugly scars which cover the entire palm. The president was compelled to give up golf, his daily recreation, for two weeks, but recently he has been playing a one-handed game, at which he became quite proficient.