

WEATHER
North and South
Carolina: Partly
cloudy tonight and
tomorrow; probably
showers.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

HOME
EDITION

VOL. XXIV. NO. 131

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA. MONDAY EVENING, MAY 20, 1918.

FIVE CENTS

TWO DISTINGUISHED VISITORS REACHED CITY THIS MORNING

General Carr and Dr. Owens Inspect Shipyards.

HERE FOR TWO DAYS.

Party Met at Union Station and Carried to Yards in Special Car.

MASS MEETING TONIGHT

Flag Raising Exercises at Steel Yard Early in Afternoon— Luncheon at Cape Fear Club.

THE DAY'S PROGRAM

Visitors reached city on train from the north at 10:15 a. m. Met at station by delegation of citizens and formalities exchanged.

Special car left Wilmington hotel at 11:30 carrying party direct to the yard of the Carolina Shipbuilding company.

Flag raising exercises at steel yard at 1:15 o'clock, with address by General Carr, who paid high tribute to Roger Moore, father of the mayor, of Civil war fame.

Visitation of concrete yard of Liberty Shipbuilding company at 2 o'clock. General Carr and Dr. Owens drove nails in the mould loft building, now in the course of construction, and General Carr went aboard the big suction dredge, pulling lever and starting work.

Luncheon at the Cape Fear club at 2:45 in the afternoon.

Mass meeting at the Academy of Music at 8:30 p. m., to be addressed by General Carr and Dr. Owens on shipbuilding matters of vital importance to Wilmington, Thomas W. Davis, presiding.

Tomorrow will be spent in detail work, the city's distinguished visitors leaving in the evening for Charleston and other points south in an effort to lend impetus to shipbuilding in government yards of the south.

Wilmington is today entertaining Gen. Julian S. Carr, of Durham, and Dr. Clarence J. Owens, here as representatives of the shipping board and the Southern Commercial congress, in an effort to speed up shipbuilding in the government yards. Wilmington is leaving nothing undone to make the stay of her distinguished visitors pleasant, and Wilmington is prepared to operate in every possible manner in the formulation of plans that will tend to speed up work in the yards here.

General Carr and Dr. Owens arrived in the city at 10:15 on the train from the north, and were met at the station by a delegation of representative business men. After the exchange of formalities the party repaired to the Wilmington hotel, taking a special car at 11:30 o'clock for the yard of the Carolina Shipbuilding company, located in the southern section of the city.

Flag raising exercises were held at the fabricated steel yard at 1:15 o'clock, General Carr speaking briefly of the pleasure that was his in being present. He paid a high tribute to the memory of Roger Moore, father of Mayor P. Q. Moore, who fought with daring throughout the War Between the States, declaring him to be the bravest man with whom he had ever come in contact.

Leaving the Carolina yards early in the afternoon the party went to the concrete yards of the Liberty Shipbuilding company and there General Carr and Dr. Owens drove nails in the mould loft, a big building now in course of construction. A few minutes afterward General Carr went aboard the big suction dredge lying in the river and pulled the lever, setting the machinery of the dredge in motion.

Both General Carr and Dr. Owens expressed themselves as highly gratified with the progress of the work at the two yards—well pleased with everything just as it stands.

The party returned to the city shortly after 2 o'clock and repaired to the Cape Fear club, where luncheon for General Carr and Dr. Owens was read at the luncheon by Dr. Owens.

A mass meeting will be held tonight at the Academy of Music at 8:30 o'clock and all Wilmington is expected to attend. Both General Carr and Dr. Owens will address on shipbuilding matters of vital importance to Wilmington and Wilmingtonians. The meeting will be presided over by Thomas W. Davis, prominent member of the local bar, who will introduce the speakers.

The visitors will spend tonight and tomorrow in the city. The entire morning and early afternoon were spent in visitation of the yards and the detail work will be done tomorrow. The idea is to speed up shipbuilding and the visitors will not leave until they are assured that their plans will get results. Dr. Owens and General Carr got to Charleston from here, thence on into Georgia, Florida and finally into Texas, where their tour of shipyards will be completed.

SCHWAB'S MESSAGE

The following message directed to the citizens of Wilmington from Charles M. Schwab, director general of the emergency fleet corporation, was read at this afternoon's luncheon at the Cape Fear club by Dr. Clarence J. Owens. It is a personal message, signed by Mr. Schwab himself, and follows:

May 17, 1918.

To the Citizens of Wilmington. Gentlemen: Permit me to convey to you my feeling of sincere friendship and desire for development of the shipbuilding industry in your community. We have reached a position in this country's history where every locality must perform its full service and every man must do his full duty. The industry established in your district will be developed as rapidly as the energy of your people will warrant and we enlist your enthusiastic co-operation in every direction, as the entire resources of every part of the United States must be made available for this national emergency.

I hope soon to personally visit your city to see the progress that you have made, and to convey my felicitations to you in person. Help me! Yours very sincerely, (Signed) CHAS. M. SCHWAB, Director General.

JOHNSON LETTERS ARE ADMITTED IN COURT

Driver Testifies Dentist Said Married Girl to Save Her.

Richmond, Va., May 20.—The fight over the admissibility of Dr. Lemuel J. Johnson's love letters to Miss Ollie White, a Zebulon, N. C., music teacher and letters from her to him was resumed today before Judge Richardson in the Hastings court, where Johnson is on trial for wife murder. The state's only hope of proving a motive is by getting the letters before the jury.

Judge Richardson will rule on each letter as it is introduced. The first one allowed to come in was one from Johnson to Miss White, beginning "Dearest Sweetheart." Letters from Miss White to Johnson were excluded for the present because it was not proved she wrote them.

Judge Richardson ruled to admit the letters found in Johnson's room in Wilson, N. C., at the time the young dentist tried to kill himself. The letters were addressed to friends and relatives.

W. G. Driver, of Norfolk, on the witness stand today, said Dr. Johnson told him he married Alice Knight "to save her." This was after he first denied being married.

Miss Lottie Holland, a stenographer in a Richmond bank, will be a witness against Dr. Johnson, it became known today.

She appeared in the court room today for the first time since the trial began. Court had not yet convened and Dr. Johnson, who was peering from the prisoner's room into the court room, beckoned to her. She entered the room and chatted with him until detectives noticed where she was. They called her out at once.

Miss Holland, it was learned, was employed in Dr. Johnson's office in Middlesex, N. C. She was there when he received a telephone message from Richmond telling of his wife's death. It is said Dr. Johnson told her an old college chum of his had died. What else she will testify to was being kept a secret today.

CHURCH COUNCIL WILL BE CONVENED TONIGHT

With dozens of delegates and visitors in attendance and with interest among Episcopalians at a high pitch the thirty-fifth annual council of the council of East Carolina will be convened in St. John's Episcopal church tonight at 8:30 o'clock, the sessions to continue through Wednesday night. Preliminary service will mark the opening of the council and will be followed by an educational address on "Religious Education," by Rev. Llewellyn N. Caley, D. D., of Philadelphia.

The opening session of the Tuesday meeting will be held at 9:30 o'clock, all daily sessions being devoted to church work while the evening sessions will be open to the public and will be of general interest.

Paralleling the church council the annual convention of the woman's auxiliary and parochial societies of East Carolina was convened for a three days' session at the home of Mrs. Nixon Davis, 515 Orange street, this afternoon at 4 o'clock, when convened on into Georgia, Florida and finally into Texas, where their tour of shipyards will be completed.

GERMANS WAIT FOR RETURN OF SPIRIT

Best of Divisions Tried Severely First Part of Offensive.

RANKS ARE FILLED

Impression of Terrific Ordeal in Battle Still Retained by Troops

FRONT LINES GIVEN REST

Objective When Renewal is Made Will Be to Divide Allied Armies—Extend Line.

With the French Army in France, Sunday, May 19.—The Germans apparently are awaiting the return of offensive spirit among some of their best divisions, severely tried during the first stages of the offensive before re-opening operations. Large numbers of their units lost a considerable portion of their effectives in the heavy fighting in Picardy and Flanders, and despite the fact that the ranks have been filled immediately from depots in the rear, strong impressions of the terrific ordeal through which they passed are still retained by them. Most of these shattered divisions have enjoyed only three or four weeks rest since which experience has demonstrated is hardly sufficient time in which to restore fighting qualities.

The German command knows this perfectly well, and therefore is holding back as long as possible before attacking so as to have more recuperated units available to add to those which have not participated in the fighting up to this time.

It seems to be indicated clearly that the objective of the Germans when they do commence heavy fighting again will be a desperate effort to divide the allied armies by assaulting their lines of communication. It seems probable, too, that they may even extend the battle front further south and east toward the distant lines between Lezard and Rheims, where the front is well served by railroads which would enable them to attempt a surprise upon the allies by making a big demonstration there with the intention of attracting General Foch's reserves while they carry out their main effort further north.

The allies, however, are well prepared for eventualities. The Americans are working in the greatest harmony with both the French and the British and the most complete confidence reigns among officers and men in all the allied armies.

64 CHARRED BODIES IN OAKDALE MORGUE

Probe Into Aetna Explosion Started by Coroner Jamison

Pittsburg, Pa., May 20.—Sixty-three charred and blackened bodies lay today in the temporary morgue at Oakdale, near here, where on Saturday the high explosive plant of the Aetna Chemical company, was destroyed by a series of explosions. Ninety-four injured were being cared for in Pittsburg hospitals and officials of the company said that 212 of the total working force of the factory had not yet been accounted for. Many of these it was expected would register during the day at the office which the company opened in the stricken town on Saturday night.

Investigation of the disaster by federal, state, county and village authorities was in progress while the search of the ruins went methodically on under the direction of Coroner Samuel C. Jamison. A heavy detail of troopers from the state constabulary and a large force of deputy sheriffs kept back the curious crowds which thronged the hillside overlooking the ruins.

Noxious gases from the explosion still hung in the valley and early today it was decided to clear away the remnants of the buildings with dynamite in the hope of more quickly exploring the ruins and ascertaining just how many bodies remained.

An official statement from the Aetna Chemical company that about 775 men were in the plant when the explosion occurred. The number known "positively to be dead" is forty. The plant is approximately 80 per cent destroyed and the stocks of tuloal and the shipments of wet T. N. T. which were on cars ready to go out were lost in the explosion.

"No plan has been formulated," the statement continues, "regarding the continuous operation at Oakdale or elsewhere of the manufacture of T. N. T. formerly conducted at Oakdale. The plans for the future will depend in large measure on the attitude of the United States government, for whom the T. N. T. was being manufactured.

RAID ON LONDON BIGGEST YET MADE

Gothas Flew at Great Height Raining Shells on City.

FIRE WAS TERRIFIC

Thousands Rush From Seashore to Learn Fate of Their Homes.

WAS MOST EXCITING

Four of German Aircraft Fell Before Defense of London. Usual Warning Had Been Given

London, May 20.—The latest aerial attack of the Germans on London and its environs probably was the most ambitious ever undertaken. Never before was there such a continued volley or firing from the British anti-aircraft batteries.

Thousands of people had their first experience in a raid. They were persons from many points of England, Scotland and Wales, who took advantage of the Whit Sun Tide holidays, which run from Saturday until Tuesday, to visit the metropolis. On the other hand thousands of Londoners had gone to the country and seashore resorts. They cut short these visits and hurried back to London to learn the fate of their homes and relatives.

Except for a few brief pauses, the gunners blazed away with a terrific concentration of fire. The raiding Gothas flew at a great height, the majority of them keeping well up to 12,000 feet in a very clear sky.

The raid was one of the most exciting Londoners have yet experienced. As the enemy machines approached the city was filled with bursting shrapnel. Perhaps the most dramatic moment came when the distinctive hum of one of the German machines suddenly became a splutter and then ceased. The plane was seen to burst into flames as it fell.

After the continuous barrage died away the searchlights were turned outwards and a lone shell was sent after the retreating raiders.

A calm summer-like night tempted the Germans to try last night their first air raid on London since March 7, and four of the raiders fell before the defenses of London.

The moon was shining brightly when the raiders crossed the southeastern point and headed for the metropolis.

The usual warnings were given promptly and the people had time to reach shelters before the guns in the neighborhood of London were heard. The firing was almost continuous for several hours and was unusually severe. Several bombs were dropped by the raiders. The number of enemy aircraft is not known, but they seemed to have been more numerous than usual.

NORTHERN FRANCS THICK WITH SAMMIES

Resolve of U. S. Troops to Fight Until Victory Is Won.

British Army Headquarters in France, May 20.—(Via Ottawa)—Parts of northern France have become within a short period thickly populated with American fighting troops, and great American training camps and depots are springing up where two months ago British khaki was normally seen.

The outstanding impression of American organization may be summed up in one word—thoroughness. One is conscious at every turn of the resolve of the Americans to fight until victory is achieved.

Intensified training is being tirelessly carried out in combination with the British and French. Large formations are steadily being drafted to augment the Americans already in the fighting line, and these are immediately being replaced by still larger numbers.

Overman Bill Signed. Washington, May 20.—President Wilson today signed the Overman bill giving the president broad powers to co-ordinate government departments.

ANOTHER FRONT STREET BUILDING SOLD TODAY

A realty deal involving approximately \$12,000 was consummated this morning when G. W. Penny acquired from Dr. R. D. Jewett, of Winston-Salem, the handsome building at No. 29 South Front street, now occupied by the purchaser, the deal being handled through the J. D. McCarter real estate agency.

VISITS SHIPYARDS HERE



GEN. JULIAN S. CARR

THREE SOUTHERN LADS ARE IN CASUALTY LIST

Report From Sammys Shows 45 Among Dead and Wounded.

Washington, May 20.—The casualty list today contained 45 names divided as follows:

- Killed in action 7
- Died of wounds 7
- Died of accident 1
- Died of disease 1
- Wounded severely 27
- Wounded slightly 2

Officers named were: Captain Harris D. Buckwalter, Royersford, Pa., killed in action and Lieutenant Tom W. Brown, New Britain, Conn., severely wounded.

Wounded severely: Privates Porter E. Compton, R. F. D. No. 5, Murfreesboro, Tenn.; David Z. Cox, Nram, La.; John S. Kirby R. F. D. No. 6, Box 63, Texarkana, Texas.

Wounded slightly: Corporal James L. Megee, Bengal, Okla.

U-39 AT CARTAGENA IN DAMAGED CONDITION

Is Submarine Which Sent Lusitania Down Off Kinsale In 1915.

Madrid, Sunday, May 19.—The German submarine U-39, says an official dispatch from Cartagena, entered that port last night in a damaged condition. The U-39, according to German advices, is the submarine that torpedoed the Lusitania off Kinsale, May 7, 1915. A dispatch from Munich, Bavaria, received in Switzerland on May 8, said that it was the U-39 that sank the British liner.

On March 11, 1916, it was reported in Washington that it was the U-39 which attacked the American tanker Petrolite off the coast of Egypt in December, 1915. It was possible that the old U-39 may be out of service by this time and that her number has been taken by a new boat.



John D. Berry, of Raleigh, grand secretary of the grand lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, here tomorrow for the sessions of the grand convention.

NEARLY BILLION WILL BE USED BY RAILROADS

Board Has Authorized \$937,961,318 to Improve and Equip.

Washington, May 20.—Nearly a billion dollars will be used by the nation's railroads this year for improvements and equipment, according to a budget approved and published today by the railroad administration, authorizing the expenditure of \$937,961,318.

Total capital expenditures approved which amount to approximately three times as much as spent in any one of the last three years provide \$440,071,000 for additions and betterments, such as stations and other property improvement; \$479,686,000 for equipment and \$18,208,000 for extensions.

By the figures Secretary McAdoo made it plain that the administration, while not encouraging extension of tracks during the war emergency, will allow the roads to make many improvements which they have neglected during the past three years.

WILMINGTON WOMAN DIED IN BALTIMORE EARLY TODAY

News was received here today of the death of Mrs. Annie Elizabeth Linder, which occurred in Baltimore this morning, following illness that had extended over a period of eight or ten months. The deceased was a daughter of the late James H. and Mary E. McGarity and is survived by 12 children, one brother and a sister, Mrs. Frank P. Meier. Two daughters, Mrs. Fred Mohr and Mrs. H. A. Kure, reside in this city. The deceased was 59 years of age and had spent the greater part of her life here, being born and reared in the city. She was universally liked and admired by all. Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday and interment made in Baltimore. Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Kure, Mrs. Fred Mohr and Mrs. Frank P. Meier leave this afternoon for Baltimore to attend the services.

FARRELL IS APPOINTED A SHIPPING DIRECTOR

BULLETIN. Washington, May 20.—James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel corporation, is the latest captain of industry to be asked to help the government win the war. He has been tendered the position of director of operations of the shipping board.

Mr. Farrell has not yet replied whether he could accept the position. Edwin F. Carry, the present director of operations, recently was made chairman of the board's port improvement committee, which will have charge of one of the most monumental undertakings ever launched in the United States. The task of reorganizing dock and harbor facilities throughout the United States will require so much of Mr. Carry's time that he will not be able to continue in both capacities.

BROOKLYN MERCHANTS TO CLOSE EARLY IN EVENING

Practically all merchants doing business north of Red Cross street have signed a petition, circulated by Councilman Loomis L. Shepard, himself a merchant, agreeing to close their stores at 7:30 o'clock each evening excepting Saturdays. The closed season will extend from this afternoon until the first day of September. The idea is to give employees more time for rest and recreation and to conserve fuel, needed in the generation of electricity. The petition carries the names of 23 merchants.

ALLIES GROWING MORE CONFIDENT

Battered Hun Divisions Need More Rest For Battle.

NO FIGHTING SPIRIT

Now Believed Front Will Be Extended South and South-east on Aisne.

RAIDING MORE LIVELY

Except For Storming of Cassatasson Bridge by Italians Activity Has Been Confined to Artillery.

From Ypres to Rheims, the allied armies await confidently the resumption by the Germans of the offensive they began two months ago. Good weather prevails along the fronts in Flanders and Picardy, but the enemy has yet shown no disposition to take advantage of it.

Lack of fighting spirit in the crack German divisions, it is reported, is holding back a renewal of the heavy battles. Most of the first class units were battered severely in the fighting of the last two months and require more rest before they can again take up active operations.

Indications are that the Germans may extend the fighting front further south an east along the Aisne, into the Champagne. It is thought they may strike south of Laon, seeking to gain the attention of General Foch and his reserves while their real effort is made further north in an attempt to separate the British and French armies.

Meanwhile, British raiding activity grows livelier. In a successful operation between the Ancre and Somme rivers, east of Amiens, Australian troops have occupied Ville-Sur-Ancre, and captured 360 prisoners. On the same front, between the Somme and Arras, the British have carried out minor raids northwest of Albert and near Hamel. Artillery and aerial work continues at high pitch.

There is increased local fighting on the Italian front, especially in the mountain in the western Trentino. Austro-Hungarian troops have attempted attacks on the Mantello and Adamello regions, but were driven back. In the Giudicaria valley, in the same zone, the Italians captured prisoners in breaking up an enemy outpost.

Except for the storming of Cassatasson ridge, north of Monte Grappa, by the Italians, who captured prisoners, the activity on the front between Lake Garda and the Adriatic has been confined to artillery bombardments.

Four German airplanes were brought down during an enemy raid on London and the southeast coast of England Sunday night. This is the largest number yet to fall before the British defense. The raid was on a large scale and many bombs are reported to have been dropped. It was the first enemy airplane raid on England since April 12, and the first on London since March 7, when 11 were killed and 46 injured in the British capital.

Anti-German demonstrations in Prague by Czechs and Jugoslavs have resulted in a state of siege being proclaimed in the Bohemian capital. The garrison has been reinforced and the Jugo Slavs ordered out of the city.

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