

WEATHER.  
North and South Carolina: Partly cloudy to night and Friday.

# THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA. THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 30, 1918.

FIVE CENTS

## FOCH SENDS RESERVES INTO LINE AND FLANKS OF ALLIES STAND FIRM

### While Soissons Is Lost Rheims Still Holds Out

### FRENCH HALT ADVANCE

### Attempt After Attempt to Debouch From Soissons by Huns Fail

### AMERICANS HOLDING

### Three Efforts Made Against Pershing's Men, But Are Thrown Back With Losses at Cantigny

General Foch's reserves have begun to come into action in the fight against the powerful German thrust southward from the Aisne and the enemy is finding his progress increasingly difficult in consequence.

Again the allied flanks are standing firm and while Soissons has been lost on the west, Rheims is still holding out on the easterly edge of the battlefield.

The chief progress of the Germans revealed in today's official reports was in the center of their advance, where some three miles additional have been covered from Loupeigne, 12 miles north of the Marne, to Fere-En-Tardenois.

The blunt edge of the German wedge is shown to run here from Fere-En-Tardenois about 10 1-2 miles directly east to Vezilly, 15 1-2 miles southwest of Rheims.

Along this line the Germans are about 18 miles south of the Chemin des Dames, giving them a penetration of approximately that distance at the beginning of the fifth day of their offensive.

The steadiness of the allied flanks under the heavy German pressure is one of the outstanding indications in the Paris official report. The Germans, for instance, made attempt after attempt to debouch from Soissons after gaining that town, but the determined French in the outskirts prevented the enemy from achieving this object.

To the southeast, the French reserves are coming into play and here the allies are resisting the enemy in engagements of extreme violence along the road from Soissons to Hartennes-Et-Taux, 7 1-2 miles southeast of Soissons.

Fere-En-Tardenois, 8 1-2 miles southwest of Hartennes-Et-Taux, apparently marks the limit of the German advance toward the southwest, with Vezilly 10 1-2 miles eastward, representing the extreme southeasterly progress of the enemy.

From Vezilly, the front trends north-eastward. Brouillet is the next point mentioned in the official communique, and it lies 3 1-2 miles north of Vezilly and only slightly to the east of a north-and-south line running through the latter town.

Brouillet is 13 miles southeast of Rheims and along the 10 mile line from that point to Thillois, three miles east of Rheims, and thence trending northeastward above the cathedral city, the Franco-British defensive line is reported to have broken all the German assaults and to have maintained the front intact.

On the Flanders front the Germans made a local attack on a British position northwest of Festubert in the Ghenvy sector, which met with a complete repulse. The British improved their line by an advance of some 200 yards in the Merris sector to the northwest.

Still further attacks have been made against the Americans established in the village of Cantigny, west of Montdidier, which they recently captured. The assaults have been almost continuous, news dispatches report, but each has been broken up by the American stone wall resistance.

Three counter attacks were made by the Germans against the American positions at Cantigny. General Pershing's men, however, maintained their line unbroken and threw back the enemy with strong artillery and infantry fire, inflicting severe casualties on the attackers. Berlin, which delights in officially announcing the capture of American prisoners, does not give the Americans credit for the success at Cantigny, but says "the enemy" carried out a local advance.

Hospitals far behind the American sector in Picardy have been bombed by German airmen. Scores of Americans were in danger but only a few were injured by flying glass. Several civilians and a French nurse were killed.

Fighting in gas masks the American troops east of Luneville have checked a German attack under cover of gas waves. The Germans retreated under a heavy fire from American machine guns suffering severely. At one point 14 Germans penetrated the American trenches. Nine were killed, one died of wounds and four are prisoners.

The Germans apparently are preparing for another attack against the American sector northwest of Toul. The enemy artillery fire has increased considerably and German airmen are very active.

### NATION BOWS ITS HEAD IN PRAYER

### Thought Centers Largely For Day on Battlefields

### CHURCH SERVICES HELD

### Wilson Will Attend Annual Ceremony at Arlington Later Today

### BUSINESS IS SUSPENDED

### Both Houses of Congress Have Adjourned to Permit Members to Observe Day and Attend Services

Washington, May 30.—Memorial day this year, carrying a deeper meaning because of the fuller participation of the United States in the war, and more significant because of the new American graves in France, was observed today by the American people as "a day of public humiliation, prayer and fasting," in accordance with the proclamation of President Wilson, issued in response to a resolution of congress.

While in no manner was the honor annually shown to the veterans of past wars lessened, yet the thought of the nation largely was centered on the battlefields of France, where the German military machine is engaged in another drive against the forces of democracy.

That American troops are aiding in the effort to stem the German tide was a source of satisfaction as well as the recent news that the Americans had carried out successfully their first offensive action. Further news of the German offensive was awaited with a feeling among high officials here that the onrush of the Kaiser's armies soon would be stopped.

In Washington the spirit of the president's proclamation was generally carried out. The president planned to attend church services this morning and this afternoon it was expected he will be present at the annual services at Arlington national cemetery.

Both houses of congress stood adjourned to permit members to observe the day. Practically all of the government departments and bureaus were closed.

### Columbia Observes

Columbia, S. C., May 30.—Business was generally suspended in Columbia and throughout South Carolina from 11 to 2 o'clock today in response to the proclamations by President Wilson, Governor Manning and the mayors of various cities and towns of the state setting aside today as a day of prayer. All courts throughout the state suspended sittings for the day. Services were held in churches throughout the state and prayers offered for victory for American arms in the war.

### AMERICAN SECTOR NEAR TOUL BECOMES ACTIVE

### Hundreds of Shells Thrown and Harrassing Fire Kept Up by Huns

With the American Army in France, Wednesday, May 29.—After a period of almost unprecedented quiet, the American sector northwest of Toul suddenly has become very active.

Last night and today the Germans threw over one hundred shells of all sizes and kept up a destructive and harassing fire. The American guns have been just as busy and are giving the enemy more than he sends. The artillery duel continues strong tonight. It is not improbable that the Germans have some plans in which they may employ their infantry.

German airplanes also were very active today, but as a strong wind was blowing from Germany and American aviators were constantly on the alert, few enemy machines ventured across the lines. Those that did were promptly driven back by the American fliers.

There were several aerial battles, but so far there have been no reports of enemy machines having been brought down.

### WILL RAISE FLAG AT CONCRETE YARD

### Address Will Be Delivered by Mayor Moore

### PLANS YET INCOMPLETE

### First Keel Will Be Laid Early in July—Launching in September

### CONCERNING THE FAITH

### Concrete Steamer Makes Four Knots in Eighty-Mile Gale—Behaved in An Admirable Manner

Plans are being formulated for exercises to be held at the yards of the Liberty Shipbuilding company, where concrete tankers are to be built, within the next few days and will include the raising of a flag and an address by the mayor. Definite announcement cannot be made concerning this matter at the present as the plans have not been developed to that extent as yet but will be given the public sufficiently early to enable all to be present.

The keel for the first ship will be laid early in July, it was announced from the offices of the company today, if plans do not miscarry and the initial launching will take place during September. Work is being hurried at the plant and it is necessary for one to visit the yards in order to get an idea of the activities that are in progress.

That the success of the concrete ship is established was borne out by a telegram received this morning by General Manager R. L. Ferguson from the Portland Cement company and concerns the Faith, the first concrete vessel of note to be built. It follows:

"Concrete steamer Faith, six days out of San Francisco, with full cargo of salt, reached Seattle yesterday afternoon, on her way to Vancouver, one of our roughest coast voyages recorded. Encountered eighty-mile gale with waves 25 feet high. Everything in perfect condition. Captain and government officials aboard expressed themselves as follows: 'Faith acted as any other good ship of wood or steel and with absolutely no vibration.'"

It was stated that the Faith made four knots an hour in the gale and that not a drop of water reached her cargo despite the mountainous proportion of the waves encountered.

### WAR EXPENSES BILLION MORE THAN LAST YEAR

### The Monthly Revenue Since America Entered War Shown in Table

Washington, May 30.—War expenses for the present month will total approximately one billion dollars more than the expenses for carrying on the war during May, 1917, according to estimates of the treasury department made public today. While loans to the allies for this month total practically the same as the loans of a year ago, the other expenses show a large increase. Revenues have more than kept pace proportionately with expenses, however, according to figures which do not include receipts from liberal loans, war savings and like sources. In May, 1917, the regular revenues of the government amounted to \$197,682,000, while the estimated revenues for the month ending tomorrow are placed at \$360,000,000.

The following table issued by the treasury since the United States entered the war, not including receipts from liberty loans, certificates of indebtedness, war savings and similar sources and the total of monthly expenditures, including \$5,406,820,000 in loans to the allies:

Month	Revenue	Expenditures
April, 1917	\$93,157,000	\$ 281,599,000
May	197,682,000	521,602,000
June	289,433,000	411,804,000
July	38,755,000	650,799,000
August	73,912,000	755,438,000
September	75,460,000	745,013,000
October	90,181,000	942,745,000
November	139,368,000	982,883,000
December	104,432,000	1,108,927,000
Jan., 1918	103,053,000	1,085,502,000
February	98,513,000	990,400,000
March	155,701,000	1,137,626,000
April	208,683,000	1,198,256,000
May	650,000,000	1,517,578,000

### HELP HIM! HE'S HELPING YOU!



### FIGHTING MARKED BY MORE VIOLENCE

### Soissons Has Gone; British Fall Back Toward Rheims

### ALLIES ARE CONFIDENT

### Unity of Command Puts Entente in Better Position Than in March

### TIDE SOON BE STEMMED

### Reserves Massing at Certain Points and Can Be Moved From Somme to Rheims in 48 Hours

Paris, May 30.—Increasing violence marks the progress of the fighting south of the Aisne. The Germans are every ounce of weight of man power ever yonced of weight of man power into the struggle.

On the center the enemy has again pushed forward, but his efforts to broaden his advancing front have met with less success. The allied wings have been obliged to give some ground. This action was carried out slowly and the full price was exacted from the enemy.

Soissons has gone and the British have fallen back toward Rheims, but in either case the enemy has only won a couple of miles of territory. In competent circles there is quiet confidence in the outcome and signs are not lacking that the advancing waves shortly will be stemmed. Unity of command puts the allies in a better position than they were in the March offensive. On that occasion French reinforcements came into action on the third day and on the eighth the Germans were stopped definitely. Today things should go more quickly.

The Germans have been obliged to leave their guns on the northern side of the original line which can be crossed only at a certain number of points which are highly vulnerable to allied airplanes. The enemy is thus prevented from reaping the full benefits of his rapid advance. Meanwhile, the allied reserves are massing at certain points without any of the confusion that attended the similar movement in March. So well perfected are the arrangements that an entire division can be moved by motor truck from the Somme to Rheims and arrive without a button missing.

### Sergeant Simms Drowned.

Savannah, Ga., May 30.—Sergeant George Simms, in quartermaster's department at Fort Screven, was drowned last night while sailing near the fort. The body was recovered this morning. Simms was from Arkansas.

### Teams Battle to Tie.

Newport News, Va., May 30.—A feature of the memorial day celebration in this city today was the opening of the Virginia league season here this morning, when Newport News and Norfolk battled 10 innings, the final score being 4 to 4.

### ONE MILLION AMERICAN SOLDIERS ACROSS SEAS

### Jim Ham Lewis Says by December 1 Will Be Same As England

Chicago, May 30.—Senator James Hamilton Lewis said in a speech here today that the United States now has one million soldiers in foreign lands and that by December 1 it will be numerically equal to that of England. He said that 700,000,000 pounds of explosives are in process of manufacture. The ordnance department has spent, he said, \$776,000,000 for projectiles, and 75,000,000 projectiles are on their way to General Pershing. We have 150 warships in European waters and 50 others of a war character. There are 400,000 men in the navy and by October 1 there will be half a million, he added.

### TEN DRAFT EVADERS ENTRENCHED IN CAVES

### Are Being Fed by Residents—Are Followers of T. E. Watson

Montgomery, Ala., May 30.—Officers here decided today to try further persuasive measures before attempting to capture 10 draft evaders who have entrenched themselves in a series of caves in Coosa county. The men are heavily armed and have defied arrest. They are being fed, it is said, by nearby residents, who, it is said, are afraid to refuse them food.

Nine of the men went to the caves when they were called in the draft. The tenth is a deserter from Camp Gordon, Atlanta.

Officers believe all of the men will give themselves up and are oath to try to capture them before giving them every opportunity to surrender. The men are avowed followers of Thomas E. Watson, of Thomson, Ga.

### COMPROMISE BEEN REACHED IN REFORM

Copenhagen, Wednesday, May 29.—The Berlin Tageliche Rundschau says it learns from a reliable source that a compromise has been reached on the Prussian franchise reform measure, after a conference between the conservatives, free conservatives and national liberals.

### AMERICAN FORCES HONOR THEIR DEAD

### Flags Flying at Half-Mast and Flowers on Every Grave

### SERVICES BEFORE DAY

### British and French Flags and Blood-Red Poppies Are Placed at Luneville

### CEREMONY AT HOSPITAL

### Resting Places of Women Who Died As Nurses Are Honored With Those of the Soldiers

With the American Army in France, May 30.—From Flanders to Switzerland and from the battle line to the sea, the American expeditionary forces are paying homage to their dead. Wherever American flags are flying they are at half staff and before the day is over the Star-Spangled Banner and flowers will be placed on virtually every American grave.

At one place in the vicinity of Luneville, the graves had been decorated in the morning darkness when the enemy could not see clearly, for the soldiers performing this duty might have drawn the German fire, as did the burial party. Here, both the British and French flags were placed on the mounds with bunches of wild flowers—great blood-red poppies and yellow and white daisies. Another early ceremony took place at one of the largest of the base hospitals, where the nurses and some of the less seriously wounded men covered every mound with a flag and crowned each with wreaths. The last resting places of American women who have died in the service of their country as nurses were honored equally with those of the soldiers.

Up close to the American lines, northwest of Toul, khaki-clad troopers, with the dirt of the trenches still clinging to them, participated in service in honor of the dead.

On the hillside between Nancy and Luneville, where the first Americans killed in the war are buried, in a little enclosed plot in the Franco-American cemetery, the ceremony was also held at an early hour. Here the graves were literally smothered under the heaps of flowers and wreaths brought by the French population.

From the air men of the American flying forces swooped down and scattered flowers over the spot where Major Lufbery and other American heroes of the air lie buried.

### American Doctors Prisoners.

Amsterdam, May 29.—A Wolff bureau telegram filed in Berlin on Tuesday, in giving an account of the fighting along the Chemin-des-Dames, briefly mentions that among the prisoners taken from the British were a number of American doctors.

### CHAIRMAN TRAVIS ABOUT TO RESIGN

### Maxwell Slated to Succeed Him on Commission

### IS ABSENT TOO MUCH

### Travis Spending Too Much Time in Washington, Say His Critics

### THE GOVERNOR TO ACT

### Washington Learns That Bickett Will Ask Chairman of Corporation Commission to Resign

By FRANK P. MORSE.

Washington, D. C., May 30.—The Dispatch learns from what it considers a reliable source that E. L. Travis, chairman of the state corporation commission at Raleigh, will within a very short time, tender his resignation as a member of the commission, and A. J. Maxwell, now the chief clerk to the commission, will be appointed in his place to fill the unexpired term.

It appears that Mr. Travis' absence from Raleigh during the past 12 months is becoming more and more embarrassing to Governor Bickett and other prominent members of the democratic party, and to make a blunt statement of the whole matter Governor Bickett, it is believed, will write Mr. Travis within a very few days asking that he tender his resignation.

Dame rumor has it that Mr. Travis has been here in Washington as the attorney for a number of corporations during the past year or so, and in this way he has been forced to absent himself from Raleigh, and at the same time more or less neglect his work as head of the corporation commission. Just what services or connections Mr. Travis has or has had with corporations The Dispatch is not prepared to say, but it is true that he has been here a great deal of his time for the past 12 months or more.

These rumors bring to mind the great shock the political powers had received when President Wilson refused to name the Raleigh man a member of the interstate commerce commission. Up to the last minute Senators Simmons and Overman had been led to believe that Travis would be named. Both protested vigorously to the president and some of the cabinet members assured the senators that Mr. Travis would be offered another position equally as dignified as the interstate commerce place, and perhaps carrying a large compensation for the service. But later on when senators approached the president regarding Mr. Travis' appointment to the federal trade commission, where it was believed a vacancy would soon occur, they were soon made to realize that the president did not intend that Travis should have any federal position under his administration. In fact, it is said the president very politely showed his visitors that he did not care to discuss the matter of appointing Travis to a federal job.

At the time when the president filled all the vacancies on the commission without naming Travis, it was rumored around Washington that some one close to the president had been fortunate enough to gain an audience with Mr. Wilson and had impressed him or rather prejudiced the president against Travis. It will be recalled, too, that the rumors circulated at that time intimated that Mr. Travis' connections with several corporations as an attorney for them at Washington had much to do with the president's refusal to name the Raleigh man.

All of these things, it is said, have impressed Governor Bickett. He has been told the time has come for him to act and that he should ask Mr. Travis to resign as long as he is not staying in Raleigh in accordance with the law which creates his position. The law, it is said, stipulates that the corporation commissioner must remain in Raleigh a certain number of days each month. As stated above, the governor is more than likely to ask Travis to resign for the reason mentioned.

### NARROW ESCAPE FOR "FRENCH TIGER"

Paris, May 30.—Premier Clemenceau had the narrowest possible escape from falling into German hands yesterday, according to the Petit Journal. He left a certain point only a few minutes before the arrival of a patrol of 40 Uhlans.

When the Germans entered the little town the premier had just quit, they cornered a few of the French who had remained, including a general who was examining positions with a field glass, the newspaper adds. The general was killed in the encounter.

### Only Slight Progress.

With the French Army in France, Tuesday, May 28.—The German offensive made only slight progress today. Seeing the heavy masses opposed to them, the allies gave way in the center and in some places the enemy crossed both the Aisne and the Vesle.