

## COUNTRY NEWS LETTERS

### SOME INTERESTING HAPPENINGS IN VARIOUS SECTIONS.

#### News Items Gathered All Around the County and Elsewhere.

##### Colston Clippings.

There will be preaching at Colston Branch church Saturday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock and Sunday morning at 11 o'clock by the pastor, Rev. Walter Black.

Mr. Vernon McMillan spent Saturday night with Messrs. Claude and Frank Kirkland.

Miss Dora McMillan, of Bamberg, spent last week-end at home.

Mrs. Thos. Clayton spent several days last week with relatives in Charleston.

Misses Sadie Boyd and Ethel Logan attended the teachers' meeting in Columbia last week.

Miss Alberta Kearse spent Saturday night with Miss Laura McMillan.

Misses Laura, Thyra, and Eleanor Goodwin spent Saturday night and Sunday with relatives in the St. John's section.

Messrs. Layton Kinard and Otis Bishop and Miss Inez Clayton spent Saturday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Clayton.

Mrs. S. P. Chisolm spent last week with her son, Mr. Henry Beard, in Bamberg.

Miss Bessie Kirkland spent Saturday night with her cousin, Miss Evelyn Kirkland.

Miss Lottie Rentz spent Saturday night with relatives in this section.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Clayton and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Clayton.

Mr. R. L. Jackson, who has recently put up a saw mill in this section, spent several days last week in Columbia.

Misses Reba Williams and Octavia McMillan spent Tuesday night with Miss Laura Goodwin.

Miss Nelle Clayton, of the Spring Branch section, spent last week-end at home.

Ladies, dont forget that Sunday is our regular missionary meeting day. Come prepared to meet all obligations.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Beard and family visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Folk.

##### Spring Branch Sayings.

Spring Branch, March 20.—The good old picnics have started and it's a time of the year that most everybody likes but it's a very busy time of the year for the farmers to enjoy such pleasure as that.

Miss Sanie Goodwin spent Saturday night and Sunday with Miss Lottie Crider.

Mr. E. M. Zeigler spent a few hours last Sunday at Mr. J. P. O'Quinn's. Messes Coonie and Jack Crider spent Saturday night with Mr. Monroe Crider.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Crider and daughter spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Emma Goodwin.

Miss Clara O'Quinn spent Saturday night with Miss Dottie Goodwin.

Messrs. James and Jesse Johnson spent Saturday night at the home of Mr. T. J. Crider.

Mr. Hansford O'Quinn spent Saturday night with Mr. Mayfield Bessinger.

Mr. Charlie Goodwin spent Sunday with Mr. Elige Goodwin.

Miss Reba O'Quinn spent Sunday with Miss Dottie Goodwin.

Miss Clara O'Quinn was the guest of Mr. T. J. Crider Sunday.

There will be a missionary meeting at Spring Branch Saturday, March 24th. It will be to the interest of the young and old to be present. The public is cordially invited to come and bring well filled baskets. Speaking will begin at 10.30 o'clock.

Mr. John Bessinger spent Saturday night and Sunday with his daughter, Mrs. Emma Goodwin.

##### Clear Pond Cullings.

Clear Pond, March 19.—Misses Pet and Doris Folk and Mrs. Avis Steedly were the guests at Mr. John Padgett's Thursday.

Miss Kate Korneyay attended the Teachers' association in Columbia.

The Misses Padgett were the guests at Mr. G. W. Folk's Thursday night.

Rev. Smith will preach his farewell sermon at Bethesda Sunday. His many friends regret to see him leave.

Mrs. G. W. Folk and daughters, Mrs. Avis Steedly and Misses Pet and Doris Folk, and Mrs. Herbert Folk, were the guests at Mr. B. F. Hill's Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Hill visited Mr.

## MEN HOMEWARD BOUND.

### All Units Mustered Out of Federal Service.—Camp Deserted.

Camp Moore, Styx, March 19.—The Second South Carolina regiment of infantry was mustered out of the service of the United States this afternoon, and tonight and tomorrow all companies will go to their homes. The Charleston battalion, comprising the Washington Light Infantry, the Sumter Guards, the Irish Volunteers, and the German Fusiliers, will leave in a special train for Charleston over the Southern railway at 6 o'clock tomorrow morning. With them will go the Tillman Volunteers and the band from Orangeburg.

### Sad Case of Paranoia.

T. C. Wrench, who made his annual visit to this office Saturday, had a supply of cigars he won from some other Republican on the proposition that Texas would go Democratic. The name of the loser is withheld for fear of action by the probate court.—Beloit (Kan.) Gazette.

David F. Houston, secretary of agriculture in a statement of the food situation says American housewives waste \$700,000,000 worth of food by carelessness in preparation, poor cooking, lack of economy, etc.

J. W. Hill Thursday night.

Messrs. J. D. DuBois and L. M. Ayer visited Mr. P. K. Hughes last week.

Misses Pet and Doris Folk and Mrs. Avis Steedly were guests at the home of Mr. Ed McMillan Saturday.

Miss Mamie Morris visited Ehrhardt Wednesday and Thursday.

Mesdames DuBois and Bunch were guests at the home of Mr. R. M. Morris.

Mr. J. D. DuBois and little son visited Mr. G. W. Folk Saturday.

Misses Mamie and Ruth Morris visited Mrs. P. K. Hughes.

Mr. and Mrs. P. K. Hughes and family were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Hill Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. DuBois visited at the home of Mr. J. D. Hughes Sunday.

### Kearse Klippings.

Kearse, March 20.—The home demonstration club held its regular meeting with Mrs. George Kearse Friday afternoon, March 9. Eighteen members and a few visitors were present. The March lessons on care of food, and several other bulletins along this line were discussed by Mrs. Faust. The next meeting will be held April 6, with Mrs. W. H. Ritter hostess. A splendid programme has been arranged for this meeting. After the meeting adjourned Mrs. Kearse served a delightful salad course and coffee, and all spent a pleasant social hour.

A committee of ladies met with Mrs. W. H. Ritter on Saturday afternoon of last week, in regard to raising funds for the church organ. Miss Ariel dispensed punch, while the ladies made their plans. At six o'clock Mrs. Ritter served a salad course.

The oyster supper given at White Point school house last Wednesday afternoon and evening was a success socially and financially. A nice sum of money was realized for the church organ.

### Buford Bridge Budget.

Buford Bridge, March 20.—Mrs. James Darlington, of Atlanta, is a pleasant visitor at the home of Mr. S. E. Neeley for a few weeks.

Mr. S. W. Copeland and family and Mr. W. C. Sease and family, of Ehrhardt, spent last Sunday very pleasantly with Mr. H. C. Kirkland and family.

Mr. A. L. Kirkland and son and daughter, of Bamberg, came home Saturday night. They were accompanied by Miss Hazel Armstrong.

Messrs. Henry Kearse and Frank Herndon and Miss Cleo Kearse, of Bamberg, were callers at the home of Mr. J. B. Kearse last Sunday.

Mrs. Roscoe Kearse was taken to Columbia to the hospital last week for an operation.

Miss Pearl Kearse is visiting in Olar.

Mr. R. M. Kearse came home from Ehrhardt Saturday to spend Sunday with his family.

Among those who attended the oyster supper at White Point last week from around here were: Misses Belle and Zelma Broland, Myrtle Everette, Ruth Shuter and Mr. Toney Kirkland.

Mr. S. E. Neeley and Dr. N. E. Kirkland attended the district conference at Denmark last week. They reported a great meeting.

BOAGUS.

## VIRTUALLY STATE OF WAR

### WILSON CONTEMPLATES IMMEDIATE SESSION OF CONGRESS.

#### Washington is Aroused.—Some Officials Declare President Has Power to Take Aggressive Steps.

Washington, March 18.—With the announcement of the ruthless destruction of three unarmed American merchant ships by submarines, it was unofficially admitted here tonight that virtually a state of war exists between the United States and Germany.

Technically the United States remains in a position of armed neutrality. Whether this shall be changed before April 16, the date fixed for a special session of Congress, the war making branch of the government, President Wilson has not decided.

One step the president is contemplating is a call for an immediate session of congress to hear an address asking for authority to adopt aggressive measures against the submarine menace.

Already American ships are being armed to defend themselves; the next move must be to send warships with orders to seek out submarines and clear the trans-Atlantic lanes.

### President's Powers.

Some of the highest officials of the government hold that the executive has power to declare that a state of war exists and to proceed with aggressive protective steps pending the assembling of congress. There is no indication, however, that President Wilson will follow that course.

Of the three ships destroyed, two were unloaded and homeward bound. All were American built. American owned and officered and manned largely by American citizens.

Meagre dispatches indicate that all were sunk with complete disregard for the safety of those on board and that some of the members of the crew may have been lost.

Today's developments brought the government face to face with the problem of formulating a definite policy for the nation in case the United States actually enters the war. This possibility was mentioned by the president in his inaugural address March 5.

All of the conditions outlined by the president in his message announcing the diplomatic break with Germany as leading to a state of armed neutrality have now been fulfilled.

"The overt act," described by him then has actually come, if, in fact, it had not already been committed when the president went before congress. Then, since he established a state of "armed neutrality" without the specific authority of congress.

President Wilson was out automobiling when the Associated Press dispatch telling of the three disasters came in quick succession.

Through Secretary Tumulty he was given all available facts immediately on his return. In the meantime Secretary Lansing and other State department officials, as well as cabinet members, were given the information.

Several hours later official reports came from Consul Frost, at Queens-town, and Consul General Skinner, at London, telling of the sinking of the City of Memphis, the Vigilancia and the Illinois. These dispatches confirmed press reports, but added few details.

International lawyers and constitutional experts here showed no hesitancy tonight in saying that President Wilson has full authority to interpret this as an act of war and announce that this country considers that an actual state of war exists by reason of Germany's flagrant assault on American shipping.

Such action would be subject to the approval of congress.

Despite the sinking of big passenger liners like the California and the Laconia, the jeopardizing of Americans on nearly a score of other vessels and the sinking of three other American ships, the Housatonic, the Lyman M. Law, and the Algonquin, since the unrestricted warfare began, some officials, inspired by the president's reluctance to believe that Germany would carry through her threat, have clung desperately to the hope that some slight respect for international law might still be shown.

German sea warfare may fairly be stated, however, to have surpassed even the most pessimistic forecasts here. That she actually means to send every vessel to the bottom that dares to venture within her forbidden zones is now accepted as a fact.

## THREE VESSELS SUNK.

### American Craft Go Down Before German Submarines.

London, March 18.—The sinking of the American steamships City of Memphis, Illinois and Vigilancia was announced today. Fourteen men from the Vigilancia are missing, as are some of the men from the City of Memphis. The crew of the Illinois landed safely.

The City of Memphis, in ballast from Cardiff for New York, was sunk by gunfire. The second officer and fifteen men of the crew have been landed. A patrol boat has gone in search of the other members of the crew. The Illinois, from London for Port Arthur, Texas, in ballast, was sunk at eight o'clock this morning.

The Vigilancia was torpedoed without warning. The submarine did not appear. The captain, first and second mates, first, second and third engineers and twenty-three men of the crew have been landed at the Scilly Islands. The fourth engineer and thirteen men are missing.

The American steamship City of Memphis, which left Cardiff Friday in ballast for New York, was sunk Saturday when she left port. The City of Memphis had the Stars and Stripes painted on both sides. She encountered a submarine about five o'clock Saturday evening. The German commander ordered the captain of the steamer to leave his ship within fifteen minutes.

The entire crew entered five boats and the submarine then fired a torpedo, which struck the vessel on the side, tearing a great hole, through which the sea poured. The steamer settled down quickly and foundered within a few minutes.

During the night the boats became separated and at 4 o'clock Sunday morning three boat crews were picked up by a patrol vessel and landed. These boats contained thirty-three men, mostly Americans.

All of the officers were Americans. The officers believe that the other boats will be rescued.

### Two Men Drowned.

Charleston March 18.—Alex J. Ferguson, chief clerk for the Carolina company here, and Herbert Rivers, of Atlanta, were drowned yesterday afternoon about 4 o'clock off the extreme end of the Isle of Palms, when their small boat capsized with them. Horace Rivers, also an employe of the Carolina company, and a brother of Herbert Rivers, was saved only by a life preserver, which kept him afloat until he was rescued by three Charleston young men, who swam out from the shore.

The three men, who, after returning to the beach after a stroll on the island, saw Horace Rivers struggling near exhaustion in the life belt, and swam out to the motor boat, which the unfortunate trio was attempting to reach, were Messrs. Harelston Lesene, Waring Hazelhurst and Lawrence Haig. They picked Mr. Rivers up and found that he could not have survived much longer.

### Strike is On.

New York, March 18.—An official of the conference committee of railroad managers announced at 12:45 o'clock that the railroad strike was off.

A few minutes after the announcement was made the railroad managers went from the Grand Central terminal to the conference hotel and were joined immediately by the mediators. They refused to make any statement on the way to the meeting room.

It was presumed the announcement would be made through Secretary Lane.

The mediators and managers were believed to be awaiting the arrival of the brotherhood chiefs, who had retired, before making the announcement that the strike had been averted.

### Uttered His Sentiments Anyhow.

The leader of the brass band was a British sympathizer.

"Any member of this band," he said, "who stands up for them barbarous Boers had better keep it to himself. The first man that raises his voice for old Kruger will get his walkin' papers. That's all I've got to say."

Five minutes later the band was playing and the twelve-eyed old German with the bass horn was defiantly shouting into it:

"OOM-Paul! OOM-Paul! OOM-Paul!"—Chicago Tribune.

The Thames carries to the sea an average of 1,865,903 cubic feet of sediment a year.

## RUSSIAN CZAR IS DEPOSED

### ROMANOFF DYNASTY COMES TO SUDDEN END.

#### With But Little Casualties, Revolution in Russia Overthrows the Government of Nicholas.

Petrograd, March 15.—The Emperor of Russia has abdicated and Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, his younger brother, has been named as regent.

The Russian ministry, charged with corruption and incompetence, has been swept out of office. One minister, Alexander Protopopoff, head of the interior department, is reported to have been killed and the other ministers, as well as the president of the imperial council, are under arrest.

A new national cabinet \* is announced with Prince Lvoff as president of the council and premier, and the other offices held by the men who are close to the Russian people.

For several days Petrograd has been the scene of one of the most remarkable risings in history.

Beginning with minor food riots and labor strikes, the cry for food reached the hearts of the soldiers and one by one the regiments rebelled, until finally those troops that had for a time stood loyal to the government took up their arms and marched into the ranks of the revolutionists.

### The Leading Figure.

The president of the duma, Michael V. Rodzianko, was the leading figure among the delegates who unanimously decided to oppose the imperial order for a dissolution of the house. They continued their session and R. Rodzianko informed the emperor, then at the front, that the hour had struck when the will of the people must prevail.

Even the imperial council realized the gravity of the situation and added its appeal to that of the duma that the emperor should take steps to give the people a policy and government in accordance with their desire and in order that there should be no interference with carrying on the war to a victorious ending.

The emperor hastened back from the front, only to find that the revolution had been successful and that a new government was in control.

The empress, who it is alleged has been influential in the councils opposed to the wishes of the people, is reported to be under arrest.

### Casualties Not Heavy.

Although considerable fighting took place, it is not believed that the casualties are large.

The early period of the uprising bore the character rather of a mock revolution staged for an immense audience. Cossacks tearing down the street did so in a half-hearted fashion, plainly without malice or intent to harm the crowds that they playfully dispersed. The troops exchanged good natured raillery with the working men and women and as they rode were cheered by the populace.

Long lines of soldiers stationed in dramatic attitudes across Nevsky prospect, with their guns pointed at an imaginary foe, appeared to be taking part in a realistic tableau. Machine guns firing roudades of blank cartridges seemed only to add another realistic touch to a tremendous theatrical production which was using the whole city as a stage.

Until Sunday night this pageant continued without serious opposition. Then in a flash the whole scene lost its theatrical quality; it became a genuine revolution.

The regiments had received an order from the commandant to fire upon persons assembled in the street. This caused immediate dissension among the troops, who did not understand why they should be compelled to take violent measures against fellow citizens, whose chief defense was that they were hungry and were asking the government to supply bread.

Several regiments deserted and a pitched battle began between the troops who stood with the government and those who refused to obey orders had mutinied.

### Last of the Romanoffs.

Petrograd, March 16.—via London, March 17, 3:35 a. m.—Emperor Nicholas abdicated at midnight last night on behalf of himself and the heir apparent, Grand Duke Alexis, in favor of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch.

At 2.30 o'clock this afternoon Grand Duke Michael himself abdicated, thus bringing the Romanoff dynasty to an end.

The government, pending a meet-

## WAS ON FIRST SUBMARINE.

### W. G. Reid, of Greenville, a Member of Hundley's Crew.

Greenville, March 16.—That other person has been found who went on the world's first submarine, the Hundley, and that is W. J. Reid, of Monaghan Mill, near Greenville. In a story from Columbia several days ago Col. D. W. McLaurin, State land agent, was quoted as saying that he was perhaps the only person now living who was on the submarine.

Mr. Reid is of the opinion that Col. McLaurin has the facts confused in regard to the ill-fated submarine. In the Columbia story it is stated that the submarine was not raised until after the war, many years after it sank. However, Mr. Reid says the vessel was raised only fifteen days after being sunk and that he was one of those who went on the submarine and viewed dead bodies of the crew. The crew consisted of eight men, according to both authorities and both are agreed on the general construction of the vessel. Mr. Reid said the submarine was propelled by hand, cranks being used and these were fashioned much on the order of brace and bit.

Mr. Reid was a member of the naval reserves at the time, having enlisted from Anderson. He remained in Charleston until the summer of 1864 when he returned to Anderson and enlisted in the First regiment of engineers. He was at the surrender of Lee at Appomattox, finally returning to South Carolina on May 29, at the age of seventeen years.

What is said to be the first submarine boat was tested in the Plymouth harbor in 1774.

ing of the constitutional assembly, is vested in the executive committee of the duma and the newly chosen council of ministers.

A manifesto to this effect was issued by the duma committee today and it will be telegraphed to the general army headquarters this evening.

### Michael to Rule.

London, March 17.—Grand Duke Michael has accepted the throne of Russia, conditioned on the consent of the Russian people, according to a statement here today from the semi-official Russian news agency.

The statement follows: "Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, accepting the throne from his brother declares that he does so only with the consent of the Russian people, who should by a plebiscite establish a new form of government and new fundamental laws."

The declaration made by the grand duke on his acceptance of the throne as given out by the news agency, reads as follows:

"This heavy responsibility has come to me at the voluntary request of my brother, who has transferred the imperial throne to me during a period of warfare which is accompanied with unprecedented popular disturbances.

"Moved by the thought which is in the minds of the entire people, that the good of the country is paramount, I have adopted the firm resolution to accept the supreme power only if this be the will of our great people, who by a plebiscite organized by their representatives in a constituent assembly, shall establish a form of government and new fundamental laws for the Russian State.

"Consequently invoking the benediction of our Lord, I urge all citizens of Russia to submit to the provisional government established upon the initiative of the duma and invested with full plenary powers, until such time which will follow with as little delay as possible, as the constituent assembly on a basis of universal, direct, equal and secret suffrage shall by its decision as to the new form of government express the will of the people."

### To Set Up Republic.

New York, March 17.—The Russian empress and crown prince are safe in Finland and the emperor at the Snotgorsky monastery in Pskoff, according to a cablegram made public here today by the Russian-American-Asiatic corporation. According to Ivan Norodny, head of the corporation, the cablegram was from their representatives in Petrograd and was transmitted through the Belgian minister.

Mr. Norodny announced the receipt of the dispatches also saying that the duma is promulgating orders for the formation of a government to be known as the United States of Russia with Prince Lvoff as president.

Read the Herald, \$1.50 per year.