

# The Watchman and Southerner.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Fast and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's"

THE TRUE SOUTHERNER, Established June, 1869.

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## LEGISLATURE NEAR CLOSE.

### MEMBER'S ILLNESS GIVES HOUSE MENINGITIS SCARE.

Fumigation Today of Hall Ordered—Matters Given Attention at Night Session.

Columbia, Feb. 8.—During the course of a speech in the house of representatives tonight Furman L. Long, of Greenville, became suddenly ill, complaining of a severe headache. He had to be taken to his room, after an emergency treatment by Dr. G. A. Neuffer, of Abbeville, another member.

The meningitis situation has had the general assembly slightly panicky for the past week, and Mr. Long's illness caused the house to adopt a resolution, introduced by Messrs. Senseney, of Charleston, and Walker, of Edgefield, instructing the sergeant-at-arms to fumigate the hall of the house before reconvening tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock.

Shortly afterwards the house adjourned, with Mr. Searson, of Barnwell, attempting to get up the bill providing for an election of the chief game warden by the general assembly. Members of the Greenville delegation said that Mr. Long is subject to severe headaches.

The free conference committee on the general appropriation bill was appointed by the presiding officers of the house and the senate tonight. The committee will commence its deliberations in the morning and expects to report the measure before night. The members on the part of the senate are Senators E. C. Epps, of Williamsburg; Nails Christensen, of Beaufort; and Alan Johnstone, of Newberry. The members on the part of the house are J. C. Duckworth, of Anderson; T. C. Duncan, of Union, and E. M. Seabrook, of Charleston.

The Boyd bill enjoining and abating houses used for immoral purposes and persons operating such places was given its final reading in the house tonight and was sent to the senate.

The Laney bill, which has already passed the senate, authorizing women to practice law in South Carolina, was given its second reading in the house.

The bill amending the present law prohibiting the enticing of labor under contract so as to increase the penalty was given its final reading in the house tonight and ordered sent to the senate.

The house did a full night's work, until the procedure was interrupted by Mr. Long's illness, and passed a number of local measures to the senate and through the second reading.

### CAN PROVE IT, SAYS LEE.

#### Brotherhood Official Replies to Railroad Operating Officials.

Cleveland, Feb. 7.—President W. G. Lee, of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, in reply to certain railroad operating officials who challenged statements made by Mr. Lee to the wage commission in Washington Tuesday, to the effect that the government was not getting the loyal support of certain railroad managements, today issued the following statement:

"We stand ready to file with the director general of railroads, when requested by him, numerous statements of employees in train, engine and yard service to substantiate our expressed belief to the commission that certain operating officials were endeavoring to make government operation a failure instead of a success."

Mr. Lee would make no reply to a telegram sent him in behalf of the associated banks of New York, challenging him to produce proof of his reported assertion that four banks in that city were behind the effort to make government operation of the railroads a failure.

### SURVIVORS AT BELFAST.

#### Two Hundred Americans Cared For by Irish Regiment.

Belfast, Feb. 9.—Between one and two hundred American soldiers from the Tuscania arrived here Friday. They were met by a battalion of the Royal Irish regiment and escorted to temporary quarters. They appeared little the worse for their terrible experiences, except for the nondescript clothing they wore.

#### John G. Richards for Governor.

Columbia, Feb. 8.—Major John G. Richards, of Liberty Hill, chairman of the South Carolina Railroad Commission, gave out a statement here this afternoon, in which he announces his candidacy for governor in the primaries next summer. He asks the support of all Democrats.

## BIG BATTLE COMING.

### OFFENSIVE BY GERMANS MAY COME DURING WEEK.

In Military Review Secretary Baker Expresses Appreciation to British for Saving Soldiers on Tuscania—Americans Fitted for Trench Warfare.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Development of Germany's long deferred offensive in the West from the reconnoitering thrusts launched during the past week around Cambrai and at other points is suggested as a possibility in the weekly military review issued tonight by the war department. So far, however, in spite of heavy fighting, the department says no actions of more than local character have been recorded.

The review tells of the torpedoing of the liner Tuscania, which carried more than 2,100 American soldiers and attributes the relatively small loss of life, estimated at about 113 men to the fine discipline of the soldiers and efficiency of those in command. Describing briefly the activities of the American troops occupying a sector of the Lorraine front, the department says they have shown themselves well fitted for their task and are rapidly becoming accustomed to trench warfare.

The review says in part: "At dusk on the evening of February 5, off the Irish coast, a torpedo launched from an enemy submarine struck the convoyed liner Tuscania, having on board American troops. Our loss at the latest report appears to be approximately 113 men.

"The fine discipline of the men and the efficient handling of a difficult situation by those in command contributed to account for these relatively slight casualties.

"At the same time, we must express our profound appreciation for the splendid work of the British navy in rescuing our forces.

"At the small ports of Ireland and Scotland where our troops were landed, they met with a most warmhearted reception on the part of the people, who did all in their power to administer every comfort and care.

"The sector in Lorraine where our forces are in contact with the enemy continued relatively active throughout the week. Artillery duels took place intermittently, but fog and heavy rains prevented infantry engagements. The Germans attempted no further raids, and settled down to systematic sniping and bombing of our positions.

"Our sharpshooters gave a good account of themselves, keeping the enemy parapets well cleared of Germans.

"One stretch of our line is very close up to the Germans' positions. Here bombing and a frequent exchange of hand grenades occurred.

"German aeroplanes made repeated attempts to push their reconnoitering sallies over our lines, but were invariably met with a hot fire.

"Our forces engaged have shown themselves well fitted for their tasks in the trenches and are rapidly becoming accustomed to the routine of trench warfare. The welfare of our troops, whether in the trenches or in rest depots, is the object of the immediate personal concern of all our commanders. The rations for the men in the trenches, in spite of the enemy's attempts to break up our transport columns, have been regularly assured. The care of our wounded at our field dressing stations as well as at our base hospitals is being carried out with efficiency and scientific skill.

"Here in America at our cantonments the training of our new armies is proceeding methodically.

"The arrival in the Western theater of additional German forces coming originally from the Russian front is noted. Further Austrian divisions have also been detached from other zones of operations and are being concentrated in reserve behind the German lines in the West.

"Much dissatisfaction is expressed throughout Austria-Hungary at the policy of dispatching their troops to fight Germany's battles along the Western front.

"The desire for peace is increasing daily in the dual monarchy, and it is only natural that the Austrians should resent sacrificing their forces on distant battlefields in the furtherance of German ambitions.

"Flanders was again the scene of numerous minor engagements, particularly of the Ypres-Staden Railway, where such fierce fighting took place last autumn.

"The Germans pushed forward repeated reconnoitering thrusts against

## HOOVER MODIFIES PLAN.

### REVISES ORDER AFFECTING FARMERS' FLOUR PURCHASES.

Lever and Byrnes Secure Ruling From Administration in Response to Appeal.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Not satisfied with the delay of the food administration in responding to their protests against its order which precluded the farmer from purchasing flour unless he purchased an equal quantity of a substitute foodstuff like meal, rice, etc., Representatives Lever and Byrnes yesterday called upon Mr. Hoover in person and entered a most vigorous protest against the wisdom and sanity of this order.

The situation of the South Carolina farmers was fully explained to Mr. Hoover and it was pointed out that this order, if permitted to stand, would not only work an injustice to the farmers of the State, but necessarily result both in waste and in a decreased production of other foodstuffs.

When the situation was fully understood by Mr. Hoover, he took steps at once to authorize the food administrators of the State to permit the farmers to purchase flour without having to purchase an equal amount of other foodstuffs which he himself had on hand.

Under the new ruling, all the farmer will have to do is to satisfy his grocer that he has on hand other substitute foodstuffs when he will be permitted to purchase 70 per cent. of his normal consumption of flour for 30 days at a time.

### BISHOP SAYS TAKE UP ARMS.

#### America's Cause in Keeping With Gospel as Taught by Jesus Christ.

New York, Feb. 10.—To take up arms in the service of humanity as America has done is not contrary to the spirit of the Gospel as taught by Jesus, but it is in reality carrying out the precepts of that Gospel, in the opinion of Bishop Luther E. Wilson, recently returned from the battle fronts of France and Italy.

"You who are followers of Christ," said Bishop Wilson, speaking here today, "have longed for some test of your faith, for some opportunity to show your loyalty. That hour of testing has come for the world. The day of testing for the individual life is with us at this present hour."

### TO ADDRESS CONGRESS.

#### President Wilson Decides to Make Another Address.

Washington, Feb. 11.—President Wilson has decided to address congress after a conference with Colonel House, his personal representative to the allied conferences abroad.

British positions northeast of Poelcapelle, in the Cambrai salient, and at a number of other points.

"Heavy fighting took place along the entire front. Though no actions of more than local character were recorded, it would appear that the long deferred offensive may develop simultaneously at different points of the line as an outcome of these engagements.

"The British took full measure of the enemy in these various undertakings and had the situation well in hand.

"The French front was also the scene of much lively fighting.

"In the Italian theater no important operations took place.

"The Austrians are continuing their policy of bombing the open towns of the Venetian plain. The priceless art treasures of Padua, Bassano, Treviso, etc., religiously respected through all other campaigns in Italy, were during the week the targets of Austrian aviators.

"The British in Palestine have advanced their lines slightly north of Jerusalem.

"In the Balkans there was a recrudescence of active operations. Allied patrols broke into Bulgarian positions at various points.

"The situation in Russia continues confused. The economic conditions have grown more serious and internal strife has broken out in various parts of the country.

"Though surrounded by foes, the Roumanians are still attempting to remain faithful to the allied cause.

"In spite of many adverse factors the Roumanian forces have hitherto held together and are today an efficient fighting unit. The combat strength of the Roumanian army has increased by 80 per cent. since last year."

## AN UNSINKABLE SHIP.

### MEANS FOUND TO MAKE TRANSPORT SECURE FROM SUBMARINES.

Vice Chairman of Naval Consulting Board Makes Far Reaching Statement at Dinner of Pennsylvania Alumni—No Reason for Secrecy.

New York, Feb. 9.—Means have been found to make transports unsinkable by submarines, according to a statement made here tonight by William L. Saunders, vice chairman of the naval consulting board, in an address at a dinner of the University of Pennsylvania Alumni.

Mr. Saunders said that one of the ships recently commandeered by the government "now lies at an Atlantic port and in such shape that she can not be sunk by an exploding torpedo."

"I can conceive of no reason why this information should be withheld," he added. "On the contrary, I believe it is well that the enemy may come to realize that the time has been reached when American transports are ready for the transportation of our troops which the enemy can not sink."

"This ship may have a hole 30 or 40 feet in diameter blown in her side and she will remain afloat. Such a hole would waterlog but one length of the honeycombed airtight cells."

Mr. Saunders described in detail the plan to keep ships afloat after they had been torpedoed and the manner in which it had been developed by William F. Donnelly, a New York engineer, working under authorization of the navy consulting board.

"Of course it will take some time to equip similarly the large number of transports we have," continued Mr. Saunders. "It is my belief, however, that nothing will be left undone by the administration to safeguard the lives of large troop contingents to be moved across the Atlantic."

Mr. Saunders in statement credited to him last May, asserted that a solution of the submarine problem had probably been found by the board and in the opinion of the board members the scheme as approved, would put an end to the submarine menace. He did not enter into details.

### CONFIDENCE FELT IN WASHINGTON.

#### Statement by Saunders Adds New Meaning to Statements of Government Officials.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Announcement by Vice Chairman Saunders of the naval consulting board that means had been found to make troop ships practically unsinkable lends new meaning to the air of confidence with which both American and British naval authorities are facing their task of clearing the seas of u-boats. Recent statements by Admiral Jellicoe, formerly first sea lord of the British admiralty, by Secretary Daniels and other officials have indicated that a campaign had been mapped out and the instrumentalities developed which are expected to curb, if not to eliminate the submarine entirely within the next months. Discussion of the devices developed is deplored by officials here. Investigations and experiments have been guarded closely.

Admiral Jellicoe went further than any other official by predicting that the submarines would be "killed" by August. At the same time, however, he warned that heavy ship losses were to be expected up to that time. Secretary Baker has insisted before the senate committee that a million and a half American troops could be taken to France and kept supplied during 1918. His replies to the question as to where the tonnage for the task was to come from have indicated that there was some information at hand which he did not care to disclose.

Without disclosing any of the new implement that may have been developed to meet the submarine menace, navy officials have pointed out that all of the lines of effort started when the United States entered the war are now on the point of bearing fruit. Additional destroyers and patrol boats are beginning to come forward rapidly. Swifter, more heavily armed vessels, fitted with every device that has been evolved, are being rushed to the support of Vice Admiral Sims' flotilla.

With the complete mobilization of all these agencies against an enemy already severely hampered by the skill and daring of American and British patrol fleets, it is pointed out that greater suppression of the submarine is certain to follow even if no master weapon has been evolved. Destroyers equipped with depth

## SKILLED WORKMEN WANTED.

### COUNTRY NEEDS RESERVE OF QUARTER MILLION.

Shipping Board Chairman Outlines Plan to Secure Service of Efficient Mechanics.

Washington, Feb. 10.—An attempt to enlist at least a quarter of a million skilled workmen in its shipyard volunteers' reserve will be made this week by the Emergency Fleet corporation through State Councils of Defense. The week has been designated as "registration week" in every State.

The purpose in establishing the reserve is to create a body of skilled workers who can be called off for service in the shipyards as they are needed. The classes of workers especially sought are acetylene and electrical welders, asbestos workers, blacksmiths, anglesmiths, drop forgers, flange turners, furnace men, boilerpackers, riveters, reamers, carpenters, ship carpenters, dock builders, chippers and calkers, electrical workers, electricians, wiremen, crane operators, foundry workers, laborers, loftsmen template makers, machinists and machine hands, painters, plumbers, pipe fitters, sheetmetal workers, coppermiths, ship fitters, structural iron workers, erectors, bolters-up, cementers and crane men.

"The organization," said Chairman Hurley of the shipping board tonight, "is to be composed of workmen who are not asked to sacrifice present positions to rush madly off to the shipyards which may not be able to accommodate them for the moment, but who stand ready when called upon, to do a particular job for a particular wage in a particular place and who enroll themselves so that when needed they may be readily reached.

"The need of the nation is great. The housing of men is being arranged for, the yards are being completed and the materials provided. All that now is lacking is the spirit in the nation that will send the best and most efficient mechanics into the yards. It is planned to make a careful selection of men whose places can be filled without hardship and when called upon to give up the job they now hold will have waiting for them definite positions at definite wages in definite yards."

### ENGLAND ON MEAT RATION.

#### Food Controller Issues Order Allowing One Pound a Week.

London, Feb. 9.—After much cogitation over various proposals Food Controller Baron Rhondda last night issued the meat rationing order. It gives each civilian approximately one pound of meat weekly. Children under ten are entitled to a half portion. It is understood that the present meat ration in Germany is about three-quarters of a pound weekly.

### MADDOO ISSUES ORDER.

#### Takes Over Car Service Association and Names Manager.

Washington, Feb. 11.—Director General McAdoo today took over the commission on car service of American Railway Association and created a car service section of railroad administrations division of transportation. W. C. Kendall was made manager. At the same time Mr. McAdoo appointed an inter-regional committee to study the problem of diverting of traffic from the more seriously congested gateways to more open ports.

### BRITISH CASUALTY LIST.

#### Loss Last Week Was Greater Than Previous Week.

London, Feb. 11.—British casualties reported last week totaled 7,977. This is slightly in excess of the previous week when the total was 6,354.

bombs have been rated as the most efficient foe of the submarines. The number of destroyers, the effectiveness of the bombs used and the means of hurling these charges have all been increased.

Ways of detecting the hidden foe at increasing range also have been worked out. The technique of this latest phase of naval warfare has also been perfected by the officers and men of the u-boat hunting fleets.

All of these things, supplemented by what they know of the devices evolved from the basis on which officers here have said repeatedly that the u-boats would be curbed this year, probably this spring.

## NO PEACE, UNLESS JUST.

### PRESIDENT WILSON'S FINAL WORD ON PEACE TERMS.

In Address to Congress President Answer's Recent Utterances of Chancellors of Germany and Austria.

Washington, Feb. 11.—President Wilson in addressing the joint session of congress today replied to the recent statements of Chancellors von Hertling and Czernin and reiterated his declaration that the United States had no desire to interfere in European affairs and "would disdain to take advantage of any internal weakness or disorder to impose her own will upon another people." The test, whether it is possible for belligerents to go on comparing views, he said, is simple and obvious, and the principles to be applied were first, each part of the final settlement must be based on essential justice to bring a permanent peace; second, peoples and provinces must not be bartered about like chattels to establish a balance of powers; third, territorial settlements must be for the benefit of the peoples concerned and not merely for the adjustment of rival States' claims; fourth, well defined national aspirations must be accorded all possible satisfaction.

Until such peace is secured we have no choice but go on, said the president.

### CONFERENCE COMMITTEE DEAD-LOCK.

#### Legislature Cannot Adjourn as the Appropriation Bill Has Not Been Passed.

Columbia, Feb. 11.—At 1.22 o'clock no report had been made by the free conference committee on the appropriation bill and the report around the State House today was to the effect that the conferees were no closer together than they were Saturday night. Yesterday there appeared a chance that they might get together, but this morning the breach is reported to have widened.

The conferees have asked for no further instructions from the houses which they represent, nor have they reported their inability to get together. The report has it that the \$50,000 law enforcement fund is one of the chief obstacles in the way of an agreement, although there are other items on which they are divided.

### HEATLESS MONDAYS TO END.

#### Fuel Administration Officials Announce Great Improvement in Traffic Conditions.

Washington, Feb. 10.—The East will observe tomorrow what fuel administration officials today predicted would be its last heatless Monday. Already the closing has been suspended in so far as it applies to eight Southern States south of Virginia and officials believe the good weather of the last few days with its consequent improvement in railroad traffic conditions will make enforcement unnecessary anywhere after this week.

Fuel Administrator Garfield is greatly encouraged over the prospects and is confident a situation will not arise again similar to that which brought the order suspending activity for five days in succession and the Monday closing.

### WILL ADJOURN TONIGHT.

#### Legislature Getting in Shape to Complete Its Work Some Time Before Morning.

Columbia, Feb. 11.—The senate adjourned about noon until 3 o'clock this afternoon, at which time it is believed the free conference committee will be able to make its report on the appropriation bill. It was reported at 2 o'clock that agreement was in sight, but the terms of the agreement are not known.

The State Council of Defense measure has also gone to free conference. The conferees on the part of the senate are Senator J. J. Evans, Charlton Durant and Reece Williams. The house conferees are Messrs. Crum, Dobson and Senseney.

It is believed now that adjournment sine die will be reached sometime between tonight and daybreak tomorrow.

### GERMAN POSITIONS RAIDED.

#### Australians Make Successful Night Attack.

London, Feb. 11.—A successful raid was carried out last night by Australian troops against German positions southeast of Messines, and twenty-eight prisoners were captured, says today's official report.