

Abbeville Press and Banner

50 A YEAR
IN ADVANCE.

ABBEVILLE, S. C., WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 1916.

ESTABLISHED
1844.

Aerial Torpedoes and 16-Inch Guns Used Against Foe

FOUNDED GERMAN, NOW IN BERLIN, TELLS OF NEW FRENCH "AIR MINES."

Berlin, July 7.—(Via London, July 9.)—An eye-witness account of the Anglo-French offensive is given in dispatches from Lieutenant Dambitsch, one of the editors of the Zeitung Am Mittag, whose company was stationed in the trenches near the Somme river.

The lieutenant was wounded during the preparatory bombardment, but was there long enough to witness the almost indescribable destruction wrought in the front-line trenches by the artillery. He says that the massively-built positions had been regarded as virtually indestructible and impregnable, but the event proved that the progress in the development of offensive tactics since the September offensive had not been realized.

"Right at the beginning of the artillery preparation," says the lieutenant, "the enemy showed the Germans a new thing in the destruction of observation balloons. An aviator swooped down on one of these and shot fire balls from above, a burst of flame marking the end of the balloon."

"The second day's bombardment, June 26, wrought another surprise in the shape of aerial mines of unheard of calibre, which were thrown in incredible numbers. The explosion of the first air torpedo shattered by its tremendous detonation the windows of the bomb proofs and threw up a massive pillar of black earth perhaps a hundred yards. This showered the whole neighborhood with roofs, bricks and earth. This was a regular Vesuvius eruption."

"The destructive efforts of this uninterrupted throwing of the heaviest mines were almost immediately visible. The entrances to two bomb proofs were buried and the inmates had to be removed."

A few minutes later an orderly sent with a message to the left of a company, returned, reporting that the trench had been completely leveled. Lieutenant Dambitsch, going to observe, saw as far as the eye could reach, crater after crater six feet deep, the earth being torn up in a wild, high chaos of trench timbers and wire entanglements.

"The work of day and night for nine months," says the chronicler, "was destroyed in a few minutes. Report after report arrived of bomb proofs demolished by aerial torpedoes, burying the inmates. The trenches became rapidly leveled, and communication between the sections was extremely difficult. The third line were so heavily shelled that it was impossible to traverse them. An orderly sent to a captain was hours under way. On the left flank, the company trench was so obliterated that it was difficult to trace it. The only means of progress was a dash from crater to crater fully exposed to the enemy fire while crossing the intervening ridges. Finally he arrived after a period of intense danger and found the left platoon of the company in the same condition as the right platoon. A number of men were still buried in the demolished bomb proofs. Their comrades worked for hours extricating them."

"During this work an intrepid battalion surgeon arrived with an oxygen apparatus and stood for hours under a heavy artillery fire, ministering to the half buried and attempting to revive those asphyxiated."

"The bombardment continued without cessation, aerial torpedoes being hurled from ranges such as was never before known for mine throwers, and the French artillery pounded every yard of ground with an intense fire of big shells."

The lieutenant describes how welcome reinforcements were sent that night "quite as much to assist in digging out those buried as to contribute to the defense." He was leading them to positions among the demoralized trenches when he and his orderly were wounded by an exploding torpedo. They were sent to the hospital, thus missing the infantry attacks."

SHIP CONSTRUCTION WILL BEGIN AT ONCE

Navy Department Hastens Drafting of Building Designs—May Make New Record.

Washington, July 9.—So that no time may be lost in beginning construction of the vessels to be authorized in this year's naval bill, the navy department is hastening the drafting of its building designs. Secretary Daniels announced tonight that he had approved complete plans for five of the ten classes of ships proposed and hoped to be ready to call for bids on all classes within six months after the bill passes.

"Starting the construction of ten different classes of vessels within such a short period after their authorization," said a statement issued at the department, "will constitute a record which has never before been approached in the United States, nor is it believed that any country has been able to approach such a record."

REGIMENT OF NATIONAL GUARD ON THE MARCH



TALK OF MEXICO WILL BEGIN SOON

Informal Negotiations Expected This Week. Border Still Quiet.

Washington, July 9.—The informal negotiations between Ambassador Arredondo, Mexican ambassador designate, and Acting Secretary Polk of the state department, which are expected to smooth out the differences between the two governments, probably will begin some time this week. It was said at the embassy tonight that the instructions from Mexico City awaited by the ambassador were expected tomorrow.

Absence of further reports of the outlaw band which Gen. Caranza warned the United States government might be headed for another raid across the border encouraged officials in hoping this new element might not be added to the other difficult problems which the Mexican and American conferees must solve.

War department officials said many thousand additional National Guardsmen would start for the border this week. No important movements of these troops at the border or beyond, were reported during the day.

PEOPLE LEAVE HOME.

High Water at Many Places in Tennessee.

Chattanooga, Tenn., July 9.—Reports from many points in the flooded sections of this district reached here of damages to crops, highways and railroad lines, estimates were made that the losses would amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Several towns reported that the high waters had driven scores of residents from their homes. Many bridges are down and train schedules have been demoralized. The almost continuous rainfall since Thursday night had reached a total precipitation of 9.13 inches here tonight, according to official observations.

Queen & Crescent trains are being detoured over the Southern railway on account of washouts near here.

SOCIALISTS CLAIM THE GERMANS ARE STARVING

Deny Statement That No Resident of Berlin Faces Starvation. Whole Scheme Wrong.

The Hague, via London, July 8.—During a debate on the food situation, at the Thursday evening session of the Berlin city council, the Socialists complained of the inequality and inadequacy of the distribution of food under the mass feeding scheme. Councillor Mommsen declared that no resident of Berlin was yet starving. This elicited a sharp contradiction. Municipal Physician Weber maintained there was no question of under feeding yet, where upon cries of strong dissent arose from the Socialists.

The Socialist Councillor Hoffman said that he himself had been a patient at the Rudolph Virchow hospital for months and knew how seriously the dietary had been reduced. Herr Hoffman demanded that President von Batocki of the food regulation board, should be told that sufficient food was available, but that the method of distribution was all wrong and the residents of Berlin would stand it no longer.

The population of Cologne is excited over the municipality's announcement that mass feeding has been postponed indefinitely, some say for weeks, owing to the lack of potatoes.

The so-called goulash-cannon traveling kitchens are entirely insufficient and are besieged by crowds of hungry persons, while housewives go dinnerless, the Vorwaerts says.

WELCOME VISITORS.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Klugh are in the city this week on a visit to Mrs. J. C. Klugh. Mr. and Mrs. Klugh were recently married in Rock Hill and are on their way home after a delightful trip to Atlantic City and other points of interest.

Mrs. Klugh was a Miss Roddey. She is endeavoring herself to every one with whom she comes in contact by her bright and vivacious manner.

Bible Society Will Picnic in Abbeville July 26th

The meeting of the Bible Society, as announced in another column, will be held on Wednesday, July 26, at eleven o'clock in Klugh's Park. A stand will be erected and all of the addresses will be made there. After the addresses and the completion of the reports, a picnic dinner will be served by the ladies of the Abbeville Branch Society to all members of the Bible Society in Abbeville County. The branch societies at the different points in the county are urged to send as large a delegation as possible to the meeting. Any member of any branch society who can arrange to be here is invited whether he is a delegate or not. All members of the society in Abbeville will be expected to attend the dinner. Messrs. Wm. P. Greene and A. B. Morse were appointed as a committee to arrange for this meeting and have appointed the following committees:

Dinner Committee.
Mrs. Jones F. Miller, Chairman,

Mrs. C. C. Gambrell, Mrs. W. P. Greene, Mrs. C. H. McMurray, Mrs. Wm. M. Barnwell, Mrs. C. L. Cochran, Mrs. E. R. Thomson, Misses Mae Robertson, Fannie Stark and Cara Morse. The chairman of this committee is expected to call the members of the committee together and to make arrangements as are necessary for serving the dinner.

Subscription Committee.
It will be necessary that a small subscription be taken up in order to meet the expenses of preparing for the dinner and the following are appointed a committee to solicit the subscriptions: Messrs. T. Gordon White, Chairman, J. S. Stark, H. R. McAllister.

Committee on Arrangements.
The committee on arrangements is as follows: J. L. Perrin, S. A. Graves and D. H. Hill. They will look after the grounds and have a suitable platform erected, and confer with the dinner committee as to any other arrangements.

FLOODED AREA INCREASING.

Thousands Homeless and Destitute in Path of Storm.

With thousands of persons homeless and destitute and with a growing death list, the federal government today took official notice of the serious flood conditions that have followed the tropical hurricane in the Southern States. At the request of Senator Underwood, the war department has ordered an engineer to investigate conditions in the Cahaba and Alabama river valleys, where 2,000 families are reported without food or shelter.

The floods have entered into Eastern North Carolina and rivers, creeks and branches in six Southern States are out of their banks and flooding thousands of acres of rich farm lands as a result of unprecedented rainfall since last Wednesday.

Eleven deaths reported today brought the storm toll to 78 dead and missing. Of these 55 were members of the crews of ten schooners reported unaccounted for at Biloxi. There is a possibility that some were saved, but marine men hold out little hope for them. The others are known to have lost their lives, about half of them off the coast of Mobile and the others in the interior of Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. The damage will total millions of dollars.

Take to the Boats.
At scores of places boats are being used to bring marooned sufferers from their flood surrounded homes and from tree tops.

In Alabama conditions have assumed the most serious aspect. A rainfall that has continued for more than 100 hours at some places has crippled wire and rail communication and demoralized business. Railroad yards and manufacturing plants in Montgomery are threatened by the rising waters of the Alabama river. Back water has overthrown the greater portion of North Montgomery but warnings by the weather bureau prevented loss of life.

Not more than a dozen of the 2,400 houses in Laurel, Miss., escaped damage. The corn crop in that section is reported 75 per cent. destroyed.

Four hundred persons driven from their homes in the Dayton (Tenn.) district on account of the overflow of the Tennessee river Sunday returned yesterday when the waters began to subside. A 10-year-old boy, missing since Sunday, has been discovered alive on a drift, but cannot be rescued until the waters subside.

CONGRATULATING MR. DICK

The host of friends in Abbeville of Prof. L. W. Dick are congratulating him this morning on the fact that he is to be married today to Mrs. Emma McLeod Ellis at her home in Hartsville. Mr. Dick is popular in Abbeville and everyone wishes him much happiness and hope that he will soon bring his charming bride to Abbeville.

BISHOP CANDLER TO BE HERE

At Meeting of Cokesbury District Conference This Week.

The Quarterly meeting of the Cokesbury District Conference will be held with the Abbeville Methodist Church, beginning Thursday and continuing through Saturday morning. Rev. Walter I. Herbert, the presiding elder of this district, will preside over the sessions. The business sessions will be held during the day and at night open sessions will be held, to which all the congregations of the various denominations of the city are cordially invited.

On Thursday evening Bishop Warren A. Candler will preach and a large number will doubtless hear him. Mr. Swope, the son of Dr. Swope of the Baptist church, will also sing that night. Bishop Candler will remain in the city and preach for the Methodist congregation on Sunday morning.

There will be preaching services by visiting ministers Friday and Saturday nights.

About 110 delegates are expected and they will be entertained in the homes of the members of the church.

DEATH OF MRS.

Laura A. Crawford

The sudden death of Mrs. Laura A. Crawford on Tuesday, July 4th, was a great shock to her friends and relatives. She was apparently in her usual health and left the residence of her daughter, Mrs. S. A. Graves, to call on Mrs. J. P. Billing, about 4 o'clock. As she was conversing with Mrs. Billings and Mrs. Duncan the end came without warning, apoplexy being the cause of her death. She breathed her last just as Mr. Graves reached her.

Mrs. Crawford was seventy-five years of age. Before her marriage to Mr. David Crawford in 1861, she was Miss Laura A. Black, of the Little Mountain neighborhood. For several years Mrs. Crawford was school commissioner of Abbeville county. Mrs. Crawford is survived by two sons and three daughters, A. B. Crawford of Hodges, H. R. Crawford of Due West, Mrs. W. E. Hagan of Greenville, Mrs. S. A. Graves and Mrs. L. M. Shaw of this place. Her oldest daughter, Mrs. Ellen C. Ferguson, of this city, died seven months ago. She also leaves four brothers and one half-brother, J. L. and J. C. Black, of Antreville, W. W. and P. K. Black of Mt. Carmel, and Dick Black of Anderson county.

Mrs. Crawford was a consistent member of the Little Mountain Presbyterian church and was active in church work during her residence in that vicinity.

The funeral services were conducted by Rev. H. C. Fennell, assisted by Rev. H. W. Pratt at Little Mountain Presbyterian church, Wednesday morning at 11:30 o'clock in the presence of a large number of friends and relatives. The pall bearers were as follows: A. J. Ferguson, T. M. Miller, C. C. and F. H. Graves, B. F. Shaw and Ralph Crawford.

KAISER ASKS BULGARIAN HELP

Germans Are Losing to Allies in the West.

Rome, July 11.—Kaiser Wilhelm and Emperor Franz Josef have sent an urgent request to Czar Ferdinand to dispatch Bulgarian troops to the Galician and Trentino fronts to help check the Russian and Italian offensives, according to Geneva dispatches.

A delegation of Austro-German diplomatic and military officials personally carried the message on Sunday to Sofia. They told Czar Ferdinand that continued Italian and Russian successes would bring Roumania into the war on the side of the Allies and Bulgaria then would be squeezed between Roumania on the north and the Allied forces in Greece on the south and crushed.

Czar Ferdinand replied that the withdrawal of the Bulgarians would invite an immediate attack from Salonika. He promised, however, to submit the appeal to the Bulgarian staff.

The steady advance of the Russians in Southeastern Galicia has caused the withdrawal of several Hungarian divisions from Trentino.

OBJECT TO DEUTSCHLAND.

Washington, July 11.—Great Britain and France will do everything in their power to prevent the United States recognizing the Deutschland as a merchantman, the Embassies of these governments admitted today.

They declare that the submarine is essentially a warship it being unable to determine whether an undersea boat is armed.

ANOTHER ONE COMING.

Rio De Janeiro, July 11.—The State Chancellor has been officially informed that a sister ship to the Deutschland is now crossing the Atlantic and will arrive here within ten days.

A Message For Wilson From German Ruler.

COMMANDER OF SUBMARINE IS SAID TO TELL OF WORD FOR PRESIDENT FROM KAISER.

Old Point, Va., July 9.—The German submarine Deutschland, unarmored and flying the flag of a merchantman, passed through the Virginia capes early today and proceeded up Chesapeake Bay to Baltimore, conveyed by the tug Thomas F. Timmins. Her commander told the pilot that she left a German port on June 23, that he had 1,000 tons of cargo and a quantity of mail aboard and brought a message from Emperor William to President Wilson.

The cargo is said to consist of dyestuffs and medicine consigned to a Baltimore firm.

The Deutschland is 300 feet long and carries a crew of 29 men. The information that the Deutschland brought a message from Emperor William to President Wilson was given out by Pilot Cocks, who said he was told of this by Capt. Kairig, the submarine commander.

The cutter Onondaga returned to Norfolk late tonight, having abandoned the chase of the submersible after sent to me," he said, "is probably carefully tucked away in a pigeon hole of the British admiralty office, but I don't care now. The Deutschland is here nevertheless."

Mr. Hilken is an American and his firm has been in business here operating ships under the American flag since 1824.

Carl A. Luederitz, the German consul, is a member of the firm.

When the Deutschland will return, or whether it is planned to have her make regular trans-Atlantic trips, Mr. Hilken refused to discuss.

Anxious to Trade.

"This project was conceived," he said, "by German commercial interests who wanted to reopen trade with the United States. It is a purely commercial proposition and that is all there is to it."

If present plans are carried out, the public will not be allowed to inspect the undersea wonder, nor will anybody except the federal authorities be allowed to board her.

The pier of the Eastern Forwarding company was boarded up today to shut out the view of the curious and the Schumacher firm arranged to surround the pier tomorrow morning with a cordon of police.

Six months ago came first reports that Germany was preparing to put into the trans-Atlantic trade a line of submarines that would dwarf in size and achievements the U-boats which have been Germany's chief reliance in her conduct of war at sea. London cable reports told of the organization of a company to inaugurate such a service and English experts were quoted as saying they felt no surprise at the announcement of the plans.

Long Range Interview.

Off the quarantine station both the submarine and the tug Timmins dropped anchor to wait until daylight. A yacht with Associated Press representatives on board met the Deutschland and her convoy off Sandy Point about 8 o'clock tonight and attempted to range alongside.

"Hello Deutschland," the newspaper men shouted.

"Hello, what do you want? Who are you," was the reply.

"Where do you come from and when?"

"June 23, Heligoland."

"Did you have any accidents coming over?"

"None."

"Did you see any British or French ships?"

"None."

"Were you chased by any British or French vessels near the coast?"

"No," answered the officer with evident impatience; "I said I didn't see any ships."

At this point the submarine showered sparks from her exhaust pipe and sputtered ahead, cutting short the interview. At the same time the tug Timmins approached the press boat and a man on deck who said he was the agent of the North German Lloyd line ordered the newspaper yacht to keep off, saying that there would be no news until morning. The yacht followed until the quarantine station was reached, but all other questions were unanswered.

The big submarine presented a picturesque sight as she ploughed through the tumbling white caps. Searchlights from excursion steamers threw her darkly painted hull into bold relief against the blackness of a rainy night. She was riding high out of the water and almost the whole ship's company walked about on the narrow deck.

Apparently the vessel is in perfect condition after her long voyage. She came up the bay with six or eight feet of free board showing, with conning tower standing high above. On each side of her bow is painted "Deutschland" and on her stern "Deutschland-Bremen."

BARBECUE.

There will be a barbecue dinner served at Bethel church on Thursday, July 20. It is given for the benefit of the church and everybody is cordially invited to attend.