

The Watchman and Southerner.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1880.

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

THE TRUE SOUTHERN, Established June, 1880.

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MORE TALK OF PEACE.

Stated That Kaiser Has Consented to Pope Acting as Intermediary Between German Allies and Their Enemies

A SEPARATE PEACE WOULD BE MADE WITH RUSSIA, AND BELGIUM WOULD BE RESTORED—RUSSIANS LOSE MORE CITIES AND ARE MAKING EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN FORTIFICATIONS LEADING TO PETROGRAD—IN SOUTHEAST ALLIES ARE ASSUMING STRONG OFFENSIVE MOVE WITH CONSTANTINOPLE AS ITS OBJECTIVE POINT—NO CHANGE ON WESTERN FRONT.

GERMANS CAPTURE LOM A.

Fortified Russian City Taken by Storm.
Berlin, Aug. 10.—The Russian fortified city of Lomza, which has been holding back the German advance across the Narew river was captured by German troops today. Four of the forts were taken by storm last night.

ZEPPELINS RAID ENGLAND.

Thirteen Persons Killed and Twelve Wounded Today.
London, Aug. 10.—Zeppelin's raided the east coast of England last night and early today. Thirteen were killed and twelve wounded.

BULGARIA AND GREECE FOR ALLIES.

Reports from Athens Indicate That Allies Will Have Assistance.
London, Aug. 11.—That the entente allies have won over Greece and Bulgaria and those countries will soon join in the war against Germany is indicated in advices from Athens which state that the Bulgarian legation there has announced that the allies' proposals to Bulgaria have been found satisfactory by the Sofia government. Roumania, which has withheld action because of the Teutonic victories over Russia, will undoubtedly follow Greece and Bulgaria into the fray.

FOOD RIOTS IN GERMANY.

Peace Propagandists Shot by Germans.
Amsterdam, Aug. 11.—The high cost of food is causing unrest in many parts of Germany. Food riots occurred today at Schweinfurt. Several persons were recently shot in Germany for advocating a peace propaganda.

SUBMARINES BUSY AGAIN.

Eleven Ships Sent to the Bottom Today
London, Aug. 11.—German submarines claimed eleven more vessels today. The British steamers Rosalie, of four thousand tons; Oakwood and Utopia, six trawlers, a Norwegian bark and the Russian bark Baltzel. All the crews were saved.

Russians Lose Kovno.

Petrograd, Aug. 11.—The evacuation of Kovno has been begun, which means that the new line of Russian defense from Brest-Litovsk has been found untenable.

Little Battle in East.

Paris, Aug. 11.—Official.—There was a sharp cannonade during the night around Saucheze. The enemy attempted to attack with Petards, but were repulsed. In the Argonne the enemy violently bombarded our positions east of the Vienne Binarville Highway. The night was calm on the rest of the front.

Germans Lose Two Ships.

Berlin, Aug. 11.—Two German mine sweepers were lost Sunday in a reconnaissance in the Gulf of Riga, was officially announced today. Russian claims that three German vessels were sunk is denied.

Lukow Falls to Germans.

Berlin, Aug. 12.—The Germans have occupied Lukow. Von Mackensen is within thirty-six miles of Brestlitovsk.

ATTACK ON PETROGRAD FEARED.

Russians Making Feverish Effort to Strengthen Defenses of Capitol.
Petrograd, Aug. 12.—The defenses of Pakov and Novogorod, commanding the gateway to Petrograd from the southwest are being hastily strengthened, and all available artillery is being planted on the heights dominating the Petrograd-Witebski railroad. Strong attacks are being directed against the enemy all along the line in Poland. At several places

the Austro-German advance has been checked, according to the war office. The newspapers, however, discuss the possibility of a German attack on Petrograd and the war office is evidently preparing for such a contingency.

DRIVE FOR CONSTANTINOPLE.

Allies Making Desperate Effort to Force Dardanelles.
Athens, Aug. 12.—Steady gains for the allies are reported from the most ambitious attempt yet made to force the Dardanelles. Two immense drives are under way, one eastward from Krithia, the other south from Avlornu. The Turkish cruisers Midirli and Sultan Selim (formerly the Breslau and Goeben), have been torpedoed by an English submarine. The allies have suffered enormous losses as the result of their attacks on Turkish positions, but have received fifty thousand reinforcements.

MORE PEACE TALK.

Germany is Negotiating With Pope to Mediate.

London, Aug. 12.—Dispatches from Milan stating that Germany is negotiating to secure mediation by the Pope to settle the war caused little surprise. For some time German newspapers, with the sanction of the government, have been stating that Germany is willing to listen to reasonable peace proposals. According to the Milan dispatch Germany offered to restore Belgium, but makes no mention of Russia. Advices from Petrograd state that the Kaiser offered to make a separate peace with that country.

Bavarian Regiments Destroyed.

Basle, Aug. 12.—Two Bavarian regiments were annihilated by the French near Thann. The Germans have evacuated Dornach, a suburb of Moelhausen.

Germans Send Reinforcements.

Amsterdam, Aug. 12.—The Germans are rushing reinforcements and guns to Flanders to meet another offensive movement by the British which is expected.

No Gain in France.

Paris, Aug. 12.—Hard fighting is going on at the center and on the right wing of the battle front. Neither side is gaining any advantage.

CORN CLUB BOYS AT CLEMSON.

Seventy-eight Young Farmers Enjoy Stay and Agricultural Course—Cheaper Peach Trees.

Clemson College, Aug. 11.—There are seventy-eight Corn Club boys up here taking the four weeks' course in agriculture, offered them by Clemson College. Wesley McCoy and Richard Wells are representing Sumter county. The boys are having the time of their lives and at the same time they are learning something about scientific farming, and what a regular course in Clemson College would mean to them. A number of boys here have never been away from home before for any length of time. As yet I haven't seen a boy that looked at all like he was homesick. It certainly is a manly, good looking set of boys.

Prof. C. F. Niven is planning to assist us still further in the way of securing cheap peach trees. Mr. Niven told me that if I would get four or five farmers to plant out five hundred to a thousand peach kernels each, that he would come down and bud them for us next June with the best varieties without any expense to us. In this way from three to five thousand trees may be produced in Sumter county at practically no cost to the farmers. Besides it will demonstrate to the farmers who do this work how cheaply peach trees can be produced. Anyone wishing to take up this work should communicate with me and begin saving up the peach kernels.

J. Frank Williams,
Local Agent U. S. Dept. Agric're.

WANT COTTON CONTRABAND.

BRITONS URGE BAN ON STAPLE BY GOVERNMENT.

South's Greatest Product Declared to be Absolutely Essential in Making Good Powder.

London, Aug. 11.—At a meeting held tonight to impress on the government the necessity of declaring cotton contraband, Sir William Ramsay, the scientist, declared cotton was the only substance required for the manufacture of munitions with which the Germans could not supply themselves. He said no chemical products can take the place of cotton in propulsive ammunition. Sir Charles Macara, president of the Master Cotton Spinners' Association of Great Britain, presided, and Sir William was the principal speaker.

An inspired statement published in most of the newspapers this morning deprecating the action to make cotton contraband and intimating that negotiations with the United States on this subject were proceeding lessened interest in the meeting but both the presiding officers and speakers were insistent that immediate action should be taken.

In opening the meeting Sir Charles said he had no doubt manufacturers of explosives had consumed a large part of the cotton surplus created by the war and added:

"We must utilize our command of the highways of the sea, both physically and diplomatically, to prevent cotton reaching enemy countries, while at the same time acting fairly in the interest of neutral countries."

He was sure the government had given anxious consideration to this complicated problem and said there was no doubt that the stocks of cotton accumulating at Liverpool had shown an improvement was taking place, but that it was necessary that strong and well considered measures should be carried out to keep cotton from the countries with which Great Britain was at war.

Sir William Ramsay, who seconded a resolution passed demanding that cotton be declared contraband, asserted that while substitutes for cotton could be used in making nitro-cellulose none had what was called the "ballistic power" of cotton, and if anything else were used by the Germans it would necessitate enlarging the chambers of their guns and altering the sights of their rifles, an expedient which not even Germany could be prepared to adopt in the course of a great war. He declared that cotton was going into Germany by devious routes. It was sold, he said, to Dutch and Swedish companies under a guarantee that it would not be sold to Germany or Austria. While technically this guarantee was not violated, Sir Charles contended it was in reality a subterfuge, for the Dutch and Swedish consignees sold the shipments to Swiss companies who, in turn, sold them to Great Britain's adversaries.

Sir Charles estimated that a thousand tons of cotton is used every day of the war and he protested that it was grossly unfair to the English soldiers and their allies that Great Britain should continue to supply Germany with this commodity.

"Had cotton been stopped at the beginning of the war," he said, "we might reasonably expect to see the war nearing an end."

A letter from Lord Beresford was read at the meeting, in which he said if cotton had been declared contraband last February the war now would be approaching its final scenes and added:

"Cotton is still entering Germany. She might just as well be allowed to import shells. Neutral powers should be informed that we intend to maintain our maritime rights as a belligerent. Of what use to us is the mastery of the sea unless we profit by its advantages?"

"We don't wish to hamper the trade of the great English speaking nation across the Atlantic. There are difficulties, but difficulties were created to be faced."

The solution of the problem proposed by Lord Beresford would be for the British government to buy up the entire American cotton crop and resell afterwards, even if at a loss.

NO LONGER NECESSARY.

Frankfurter Zeitung Says Germany Doesn't Need Cotton.

London, Aug. 11.—Announcement that Germany now is able to dispense with cotton in the manufacture of military supplies is made by The Frankfurter Zeitung, as quoted by Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam. This newspaper asserts that the desig-

KURDS SLAUGHTER ARMENIANS

BODIES OF VICTIMS IN VILAYET OF BRITISH MASSACRE ARE THROWN INTO TIGRIS RIVER.

Many Refugees at Igdir—Expected Fully 100,000 Armenians Will be Driven From Van Alone.

Tiflis, Trans-Caucasia, Aug. 10.—(Via Petrograd and London.)—The Armenian Bishop has learned that 60,000 Armenian refugees have arrived at Igdir, principal outlet of the Vilayet of Van. It is expected that fully 100,000 will be driven from Van alone and another exodus of Christians from Persia is feared.

Kurds are reported to have massacred 10,000 Armenians in the Vilayet of Bitlis, throwing the bodies into the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.

The war on this front has reached a degree of intensity hitherto unknown except in the period just preceding the Russian victory at Sary-Kamysh.

B. Varazdate, a member of the committee of Armenian Social Democratic party, writing to L'Humanite, of Paris, on August 2, said the committee had received word that the Turks, after massacring all the male population in the region of Bitlis, Turkish Armenia, assembled 9,000 women and children and drove them to the banks of the Tigris, where they shot them, throwing the bodies into the river.

Reports of massacres of Armenians at various points have been received frequently. Six thousand were said to have been slain at Van in May. The Armenians are defending themselves as best they can with whatever weapons are available.

The head of the Armenian church was reported early this month to have sent to President Wilson an appeal to the American nation to protest against "Armenian massacres and the violent removal of Armenians from Constantinople and Cilicia (Asia Minor) to Konieh and Mesopotamia, where they are doomed to perish."

MAYESVILLE CLUBS MEET.

Book Club Entertained by Mrs. Thames and Rook Club with Mrs. Mayes.

Mayesville, Aug. 12.—The last meeting of the Tuesday Afternoon Book club was held with Mrs. J. W. Thames at her pretty, new home on Salem street. Quite a large number of members and guests were present to enjoy the afternoon. A spirited rook contest was engaged in, Mesdames E. W. Mayes and C. D. Cooper, who were partners and did not lose a game, winning the prize, a handsome box of stationery. The score cards were daintily decorated with melons, and delicious cream was served in cantaloupes. The next meeting of the club will be held with Miss Sadie Mayes on Tuesday, the 17th.

The Rook club was entertained at its last meeting by Mrs. E. W. Mayes and a most delightful afternoon was spent by the large number who attended. Mrs. W. S. Chandler scored the highest in the contest. Refreshments of cream and cake were served during the afternoon.

Mrs. Adrian Miller and daughters of Augusta are the guests of the former's sister, Mrs. W. W. Gardner.

Rev. Ray Riddle of Florida is visiting relatives here for a few days.

Mrs. B. S. Crawford and children are visiting relatives in Manning.

R. A. Chandler and family spent several days this week at Society Hill, visiting Mrs. Chandler's relatives.

R. F. DesChamps and family are spending sometime at Chick Springs. H. C. Eland and family are at Waynesville, N. C., for a stay.

W. B. Cooper and family are spending a while at Glenn Springs.

Mrs. S. J. Grant and Miss S. I. Grant are visiting the Misses Burgess at Clinton.

Medal Contest.

A medal contest is being gotten up by the W. C. T. U. of Sumter.

The girls of the city between the ages of 13 and 16 are cordially invited to take part in this contest.

Those wishing to do so, are asked to send their names at once to Mrs. Laura Leiby, or Miss Mamie Chandler. Either of these ladies will cheerfully give any information relative to the rules of the contest.

nation of cotton as contraband of war would not solve Anglo-American difficulties, and adds:

"In the present condition of our technical science no cotton whatever is any longer used for war purposes."

SHERIFF-POSTMASTER FIGHT.

TRAXLER AND RECTOR COME TO BLOWS IN BARBER SHOP.

Greenville County Official Claims to Have Been Persecuted and Threatens to Use Force Against Enemies if They Molest Him.

Greenville, Aug. 10.—Postmaster Traxler and Sheriff Hendrix Rector engaged in a personal encounter here this morning as a result of hot words exchanged just after a recent political meeting. The sheriff cursed Mr. Traxler, it is alleged, using the vilest of language at the conclusion of the meeting. Mr. Traxler claimed that he did not hear the cursing and later in the evening the sheriff is said to have apologized to him. However, the sheriff made a statement in the afternoon paper of the next day to the effect that he cursed the postmaster to his face and had no apologies to offer.

This morning the two met in a barber shop and Mr. Traxler told the sheriff that if he had been going about over the county bragging of having cursed him to his face, he was a "damned liar." The statement was repeated, but the sheriff said he did not desire to have any trouble. Finally the sheriff started to rise and Mr. Traxler struck him a blow in the face. The two men fought for some time before being separated.

In the city court Mr. Traxler was fined \$50 and Sheriff Rector \$25.

The fight was the outgrowth of bitter factionalism in the county. For some time men cognizant of affairs have looked for a fistfight if nothing worse. This afternoon the sheriff asked the press to announce that he would "kill the next man who came at him, if it means my electrocution in ten minutes." The sheriff stated in court that he had three pistols on his person and that henceforth he would look out for himself. He says he will stand nothing more.

His feeling has recently been intensified by hot speeches which the sheriff has made over the county. He claims that detectives follow him continually, that the rural police are fighting him all the time and that the opposing faction gives him no peace whatever.

SUGGESTION IMPRESSES WILSON.

President Hopes to Discuss Feasibility of Buying 2,000,000 Bales of Cotton.

Columbia, Aug. 9.—President Wilson, in a letter to John L. McLaurin, State warehouse commissioner, says that he hopes to discuss with those who understand the matter better than he does the feasibility of the suggestion by Senator McLaurin that the United States government or the allies buy 2,000,000 bales of lowgrade cotton for use in manufacturing explosives in order to stabilize the cotton market.

The letter of Senator McLaurin was addressed to the White House at Washington and Secretary J. P. Tumulty notified Mr. McLaurin that he had forwarded the letter to Cornish, N. H., where the president is spending his vacation.

This afternoon Senator McLaurin received the following reply from the president:

"Cornish, N. H., August 7, 1915.

"My Dear Mr. McLaurin: Your letter of August 5 has been forwarded to me here and I have read it with genuine interest, finding it very suggestive, indeed. I shall hope to discuss with those who understand these matters better than I do the feasibility of carrying out your suggestions. Sincerely yours, Woodrow Wilson."

"The Hon. John L. McLaurin, State Warehouse Commissioner, Columbia, S. C."

Senator McLaurin expressed himself as being very much gratified over the interest President Wilson is taking in the cotton situation. "It is good to know that the president is open to suggestion," said Mr. McLaurin. He is confident that his suggestion for the government to buy 2,000,000 bales of low-grade cotton to use in the manufacture of explosives is going to receive serious consideration and he believes that it will mean the salvation of the cotton market.

TOO QUICK FOR CARRANZA.

Minister Withdrawn Before he Could Be Ousted.

Washington, Aug. 9.—Carranza officials here said today the Brazilian minister at Mexico City, the only diplomatic representative the United States has in Mexico, has been withdrawn by his government because Gen. Carranza was prepared to expel him from the country as he did Senor Ortega, the Guatemalan minister.

CHARGE LAID ON SIX MEN.

GRAND JURY IN CHICAGO TAKES ACTION IN CONNECTION WITH EASTLAND HORROR.

Four Sails of Company Owning Boat, Accused of Manslaughter—Engineer and Captain Charged with Criminal Carelessness—Careful Inspection of Vessels Urged.

Chicago, Aug. 11.—Indictments charging manslaughter and criminal carelessness were returned in the criminal court today in connection with the Eastland disaster.

The captain and engineer and four officers of the St. Joseph-Chicago Steamship company, owners of the boat, are named as follows: George T. Arnold, president; William H. Hull, vice president and general manager; W. C. Steele, secretary-treasurer; Ray W. Davis, assistant secretary-treasurer; Harry Pederson, captain of the Eastland; Joseph M. Erickson, engineer.

Bonds were fixed at \$20,000 each for officials and \$10,000 each for Pederson and Erickson. The two last named are charged with criminal carelessness and the officials with manslaughter.

The bill against the officials charged:

"That they knew the Eastland was unseaworthy and had no stability.

"That they permitted 2,500 passengers aboard the vessel, which is more than its carrying capacity.

"That they were negligent in hiring an incompetent engineer, who because of his lack of skill, was unable to control the boat properly.

"That the crew did not number enough hands to manage and control the Eastland properly.

"The ballast tanks were allowed to be out of repair and were not filled."

Against Capt. Pederson these charges were brought:

"That he permitted aboard the boat a larger number of passengers than she could safely carry.

"That he neglected to warn the passengers to leave the Eastland when it became apparent to him that she was about to overturn.

"That he was negligent in not seeing that the ballast tanks were in repair and were properly filled.

"That he was negligent in not seeing that the chalk-holes and gangways were closed when the ship was loaded."

Counts against Erickson are similar.

The report of the grand jury finds that the disaster was caused by "instability under conditions of loading," and states that the instability was due to "one of three main causes, or any two of all them," as follows:

The overloading of the vessel with passengers.

The mishandling of water ballast.

The construction of the vessel.

The report says that Eastland began loading passengers without water ballast and belated efforts to fill the tanks failed.

"That the instability of the boat was not corrected years before, we regard as indicating criminal carelessness or incompetency on the part of all persons connected with the design, construction, control, operation and inspection of the boat," says the report. It points out that federal inspectors had the right to refuse a permit to the boat, but that they are generally not trained men and failed to make stability tests.

"The handling of the ballast by the officers of the boat indicates an entire lack of understanding of the proper uses of water ballast and an absolute disregard for safety after repeated warnings and frequent indications of extreme instability," continues the report.

The jury recommends that expert federal approval be required for the construction of steam vessels, and constant inspection and supervision.

Haitian President Chosen.

Special to The Daily Item.

Port-au-Prince, Aug. 12.—

Sudre Dartignacay was elected president by Congress today.

Columbia, Aug. 12.—Mrs. Minnie Napier Johnson, aged 40, wife of J. C. Johnson, day policeman guarding the State capitol, committed suicide at her home here at 5 o'clock this morning by shooting herself in the right temple with her husband's revolver, death resulted in 30 minutes. Her health is given as the cause of the deed.