

# The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"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 SOUTH

Established June, 1866.

Consolidated Aug. 2, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1915.

Vol. XL. No. 52.

## PEACE RUMORS UNFOUNDED

### Premier Asquith Says Rumors in England and on Continent are Without Foundation in Fact.

**NO DECISIVE GAINS MADE ANYWHERE BY EITHER SIDE—TEMPORARY CHECK TO GERMANS IN NORTH BY RUSSIAN RESISTANCE—CROWN PRINCE CONTINUES EFFORTS TO BREAK FRENCH LINE IN FRANCE—BRITISH HAVE GAINED VANTAGE POINT AT GALLIOLI—IN SOUTH AUSTRIAN OFFENSIVE MOVE HAS CAUSED SHIFTING OF ITALIAN FORCES.**

#### BUTCHERY IN POLAND.

##### Russians Fight Bloody Rear Guard Actions to Check Germans.

Berlin, Aug. 13.—While Gen. Hindenberg is hammering at Kovno and Dvina, seven great Austro-German armies are being massed between the Bug and Vistula for a drive against Brest-Litovsk. The Germans are astride of two important railways running eastward from Warsaw, and the retreat of great number of Russians has been cut off. Fresh German troops are being sent into the north where the Russian resistance is stronger than elsewhere. The fierceness of the rear guard actions is shown by the fields and ditches being covered with Russian dead and the enormous number of wounded Germans returning from the front.

#### CROWN PRINCE LEADS DRIVE.

##### Effort Being Made to Break French Lines in Argonne at Any Cost.

Paris, Aug. 13.—The crown prince's efforts to break through the French lines in the Argonne is maintained night and day, but has resulted in failure thus far, according to the official statement. Unofficial reports state that the prince has been reinforced with the finest troops in the German army and has been ordered to cut the French lines at any cost. The attacks are terrific. There is nothing to report from the rest of the front.

#### GERMANS DRIVEN BACK.

##### Check is Only Temporary for Russians Continue Retreat.

Petrograd, Aug. 14.—The German forces in the Baltic provinces have been driven back twenty miles, but the general impression here is that this will merely delay for a few days the bombardment of the Niemen-Bug line of defenses to which Duke Nicholas' armies are retreating. The main Russian forces at Kovno have already withdrawn and only a small rear guard has been left to hold the Germans in check.

#### AUSTRIANS ON OFFENSIVE.

##### Attack on Juna Pass Cause Transfer of Italian Troops.

Rome, Aug. 14.—A strong offensive begun by the Austrians upon the crests fronting Juna Pass has caused the transfer of large bodies of Italian troops to that region from the Gorizia front. Despite the long continued bombardments and assaults on Gorizia and Tolmino the Austrians are still holding out.

#### IMPORTANT BRITISH GAIN.

##### Seize Strong Position on Gallipoli After Hard Fighting.

Paris, Aug. 14.—An important gain for the British on the western side of Gallipoli is officially announced. After fierce fighting they gained a foothold on the slopes of Saribair heights, five miles from the Dardanelles.

#### Attacks are Repulsed.

Paris, Aug. 14.—The crown prince maintains a desperate effort to break through the Argonne. Assaults lasting throughout the night were repulsed. Trench fighting at Arras continues.

#### Two British Boats Sunk.

London, Aug. 14.—The British steamer Cairo and the fishing smack Amethyst have been submerged. The crews were saved.

#### Peace Rumors Unfounded.

London, Aug. 14.—The International News Service has been authorized by Premier Asquith to state that the peace rumors being circulated here and abroad are entirely unfounded.

#### Outposts of Stronghold Taken.

Berlin, Aug. 14.—One of the outposts of Novogeorgievsk, the last Russian stronghold on the Vistula, was stormed by Germans, it is officially

announced. Eighteen hundred men and four machine guns were captured. A section of von Hindenberg's army has reached sixty miles east of Warsaw.

#### RECALLED ON PEACE MOVE.

##### Papal Secretary Needed in Rome because of Developments Toward Peace.

Paris, Aug. 16.—A Rome dispatch states that the papal secretary of state has been recalled from his vacation because of peace developments. A correspondent attributes the peace move to Germany and Austria.

#### ATTACK ON BELGRADE.

##### Austrians Open New Offensive Against Serbia.

Nish, Aug. 16.—The Austro-Serbian artillery duel on the Danube front which is believed to be the opening of a new Austrian offensive, is increasing in violence.

#### GREAT FORTRESS INVESTED.

##### Russian Garrison of Novo Georgievsk Will Stand Siege.

Petrograd, Aug. 16.—That Novo Georgievsk, Russia's great fortress at the junction of the Vistula and Narew rivers, has been invested by German troops, has been officially announced. A thrilling struggle is expected. Unofficial figures estimate the garrison at about forty-eight thousand men. With an adequate supply of ammunition the experts believe the garrison can hold the fortress for many months. There is no city—simply an armed stronghold dominating the Narew and Vistula rivers and nearby railways and highways.

#### GERMANS DRIVE ONWARD.

##### Russian Forces Cannot Stop Victorious Poles—Many Prisoners Taken.

Berlin, Aug. 16.—Only thirty miles separates the Austro-German armies from the Russian fortress of Brest-Litovsk, and the Russians are still retreating. The armies of Prince Leopold and Gen. von Mackenzen have joined and the investment of Novo Georgievsk is now complete. There is no chance for the garrison to escape. Kovno is still holding out, but the resistance is weakening. Gen. von Buelow has recovered from the Russian attacks and is again driving forward. So many Russians have been captured that the transportation of prisoners has become a serious problem.

#### BOMBARD ASIA MINOR.

##### Several Towns Destroyed and Garrison Driven Inland.

Athens, Aug. 16.—French and British warships are continuously bombarding the coast of Asia Minor. Several towns have been destroyed and the garrisons driven inland.

#### BULGARIA WON.

##### Allies Grant Territorial Demands and Bulgaria Will Enter War.

Lausanne, Aug. 16.—The entente powers have granted Bulgaria's territorial demands and the latter will soon enter the war on the side of the allies, according to Sofia dispatches.

#### Russian Lines Broken.

Berlin Aug. 16.—The Austro-Germans have broken through the Russian lines from Nerau to the Bug river.

#### Only Skirmishes in France.

Paris, Aug. 16.—Fighting last night was confined to intermittent cannonades and grenade combats.

#### Two Submarines Sunk.

Rome, Aug. 16.—The Austrian submarine U-12 was sunk today by an Italian submarine shortly after the U-3 was sunk by the French cruiser Bisson.

## BULGARIA TO REFUSE ALLIES.

### WILL NOT JOIN OTHER BALKAN STATES UNLESS SHE GETS MACEDONIA.

##### Serbia Will Not Yield Territory—Action Postponed—Present Issue Has Renewed Smoldering Feuds Among the Balkans.

London, Thursday, Aug. 12.—(Delayed by Censor.)—There are strong indications that Serbia will give a flat refusal to the demands announced by the Bulgarian premier, Vassil Radoslavoff, three weeks ago, and that the hopes of the Entente allies of bringing Bulgaria into the alliance will come to naught, according to some diplomats here.

Serbia's formal reply has not been given, but those best posted in diplomatic quarters say that Bulgaria's demands far exceed anything that Serbia possibly could yield.

The outcome is being watched with the keenest interest by the chancellors throughout Europe, as Bulgaria is the chief obstacle to united action by the Balkan States in joining the entente allies and thus throwing the Balkan barrier between the central powers and Turkey.

Bulgaria contends that by a treaty with Serbia, the latter ceded to Bulgaria about 7,000 kilometers of Macedonia, which Bulgaria was compelled by the great powers to relinquish during her enfeebled condition after the second Balkan war. Bulgaria now insists that the original treaty be carried out and that unless she receives the return of Macedonia she will refuse to join the other Balkan States in assisting the allies.

The present issue has renewed the smoldering feuds among the Balkans and much bitterness is said to have developed in the course of the negotiations, all pointing to Serbia's refusal to yield Macedonia and to Bulgaria withholding her support from the entente powers.

Officials of both sides say, however, that the negotiations have not yet been abandoned; and that much depends on the attitude of the Serbian parliament, which is to meet next Monday, although personally they see little prospect of accord.

#### INSPECTOR LOSES LEG.

##### L. C. Harris Falls Under Train at Morence.

Florence, Aug. 14.—L. C. Harris, an inspector on the Atlantic Coast Line railroad yards here, met with an accident while at work this morning. He attempted to board a shifting engine and made a misstep, falling to the ground. In some way his left leg was caught on the rail and the wheels of the engine passed over it, mangleing it so badly that amputation was necessary. The injured man was put in a cab and rushed to the Irby street crossing, where he was removed to an infirmary. A physician at once amputated the injured limb, taking it off about half way between the ankle and knee. Beyond this injury Mr. Harris was not hurt in any other way and the last report of his condition at the infirmary was that he was resting very well under the circumstances.

#### MORE COTTON CONSUMED.

##### American Mills Used Greater Number of Bales in July.

Washington, Aug. 14.—The government report shows that 498,476 bales of cotton were consumed by American mills in July, against 448,333 in July last year.

#### TOBACCO BRINGS FANCY PRICE.

From the Daily Item, Aug. 16. It was reported to The Item office that the average sales for tobacco today were about 9 1/2 cents, the prices generally being between eight and twelve cents, with few piles going so low as six cents. The sales were not as heavy as on some days last week, however, but heavier sales are expected later on in the week.

It is stated that some tobacco brought twenty-five cents on the local market Saturday.

#### Death.

From the Daily Item, Aug. 16. Mrs. Julia Moore, of this city, died this morning in the State Hospital, in Columbia, where she was taken for treatment several weeks ago. She was in her 87th year. The body will be brought to this city for interment. She is survived by one son, Mr. Willie A. Moore, of this city.

## TO MAKE COTTON CONTRABAND

### THAT IS PREVAILING BELIEF IN WASHINGTON, SAYS WRITER.

##### No Cotton Panic Feared as it is Believed England Will Get in Market and Take Large Share of Crop.

News and Courier. Washington, Aug. 13.—Opinion is crystallizing here, among those who have kept close to diplomatic developments, that Great Britain is going to cut the Gordian knot as to cotton by declaring the staple contraband of war. It was long ago pointed out that the inevitable result of continued complaint by this government against British interference with cotton shipments, though such pressure was loudly demanded by many agitators, would be just what it is now being pretty generally realized that England is about to do.

However, it is believed that before issuing the contraband declaration England will get into the American market vigorously and support cotton. Some of those who are experts in sizing up the trade are figuring that this English support, combined with the increasingly heavy purchases of cotton that are being made in the United States for German and Austrian takers, (looking to the future with the idea of storage here in the meanwhile if transportation is now impracticable,) will so steady the staple that there will be no serious collapse unless the crop is heavier than the government estimates indicate. Officials here have information that German agents are buying in particularly large quantities at this time in anticipation of Britain's probable course.

Now the same influences which have been for months demanding that the administration "compel" England to cease her interference with cotton cargoes under the terms of the celebrated orders in council are feverishly importuning the administration to keep England from declaring cotton contraband.

It is known that Mr. Wilson has given much of his time to the cotton situation during his recent stay at Cornish, N. H., and his intention is to do all that can be done, consistently with prudence, in behalf of the American shipper. There are some things that cannot be done, and there are others that would do more harm than good if they were done. The president has been fully acquainted with the facts as to the cotton trade and as to the needs of the cotton grower. He also knows the situation as to cotton in Europe.

There is no doubt that the Pro-German utterances of some of the politicians who have been agitating the question of English interference have been embarrassing to the government. Such methods of attacking the problem will have been responsible to a large degree for the classification of cotton as contraband if the present trend of English intention remains unchanged.

#### WEST INDIAN STORM COMING.

##### Disturbance Originating in Lower Antilles Passes Tampa but Does No Damage.

Tampa, Fla., Aug. 15.—Hurricane warnings are flying at every weather bureau station on the gulf coast between New Orleans and Brownsville, heralding the approach of the West Indian disturbance, which originated last week in the Lower Antilles. The disturbance is central south of the mouth of the Mississippi river.

The storm passed nearest to Tampa between noon and 4 p. m. today, occasioning a maximum wind of 32 miles per hour. The lowest barometer reading was 29.88 at 3 p. m., since which it has been gradually rising. No damage has been done here.

Galarmino Garcia, a Spanish cigar-maker, was drowned near here this afternoon when a rowboat capsized during the blow.

The weather bureau advises that shipping will now be safe in the southern and southeastern gulf.

#### PRaises THE SYSTEM.

##### Government Agent Commends State Officer.

Carl Crosland, special agent of the United States department of commerce, who has been compiling data on governmental cost in the comptroller general's office, has completed his reports and leaves for Nashville, Tenn., to engage in the same line of work in that State.

Mr. Crosland commends very highly the manner in which the State funds and accounts of South Carolina are managed by Carlton W. Sawyer, comptroller general.—The State.

## TWO MIDSHIPMEN DISMISSED.

### NAVAL COURT OF INQUIRY REPORTS FINDINGS.

##### Twelve Other Annapolis Men Ordered Disciplined as Result of Exhaustive Investigation.

Washington, Aug. 15.—Findings of the court of inquiry which investigated examination irregularities at the Naval academy, with disciplinary action approved by Secretary Daniels, were made public tonight. Two midshipmen—Ralph M. Nelson, Jr., of Peekskill, N. Y., and Charles M. Reagle of Wellsville, Ohio—are dismissed from the academy. Twelve others are ordered disciplined.

The court, appointed by Secretary Daniels last June, submitted a unanimous report after a long and exhaustive inquiry which created a sensation and delayed the sailing of the academy's practice squadron on its Pacific cruise. All of the disciplinary recommendations were approved by the secretary and the dismissals submitted to and were approved by President Wilson.

Sweeping changes in the methods of conducting examinations were suggested by the court and are under consideration by Secretary Daniels. Among its recommendations were:

That the practice of giving out "dope" or advanced information should be discontinued unless heads of departments issued it by memoranda.

That examinations should not be made so long and difficult as to make a "dope" system necessary for classes to pass them.

The superintendent of the academy had recommended seven midshipmen for dismissal, and 16 others were brought into the proceedings after the court began to hear testimony.

Midshipman Nelson was found guilty of having an advance copy of examination questions, and submitting his paper without reporting the fact; improperly assisting lower class men after obtaining examination papers; visiting the buildings at unauthorized times to obtain his examination marks; obtaining sheets with questions for future recitations and thus attaining a position in the class to which he was not entitled; and attempting to communicate with a segregated midshipman during the inquiry. Reagle was found guilty of surreptitiously obtaining his marks and advance information on examinations and with changing his testimony before the court of inquiry.

Leonard P. Wessel of Wilmington, N. C.; James E. Waddell, Louisville, Ky.; Horace R. Whitaker of Pennsylvania and William H. Hopkins, Jr., of Cincinnati are ordered turned back into the succeeding class. Wessel was found to have received an advance copy of an examination and to have failed to report it. Waddell and Whitaker were found to have visited the buildings at unauthorized times. Hopkins was held to have been aware that there were in his room blueprints that appeared in future examinations.

Ensign Elmer B. Hough of West Virginia is ordered placed at the foot of his class for unauthorized visits to the buildings. David Glick of Pittsburgh is to receive 75 demerits for improper visits to the buildings. H. W. Jackson of Kansas and A. L. Hudson of New Orleans will be given 50 demerits each for transmitting a threatening message from Nelson to another midshipman during the inquiry.

Raymond Burhen's commission as an ensign is ordered withheld three months, during which time Burhen is to be restricted to his ship or station for attempting to communicate with a segregated witness.

C. O. Kell of Nome, Alaska, H. E. Overbeck of Indianapolis and C. C. Vickrey of Kansas are to be reprimanded for "seeing" recitation sheets in advance.

The court found that no charges had been substantiated against C. E. Evans of Alexandria, Va., S. A. Hamilton of Connecticut, J. E. Moss of Annapolis, D. E. Duncan of Michigan and T. W. Harrison, Jr., of Winchester, Va., of the original defendants; or against K. Keller of Pennsylvania, E. H. Jones of Pennsylvania, J. H. Keefe of Maine, C. F. Holden of Maine, T. R. Denny of Montana, A. C. Rogers of Norfolk, Va., H. H. Harrison of Chicago, W. Conger of Ohio, A. D. Struble of Oregon, W. J. Nunnally of Atlanta, G. D. Price of West Virginia and R. J. Walker of Washington, D. C., who became involved during the progress of the inquiry.

Evidence that 62 midshipmen surreptitiously had visited the buildings to obtain their marks in advance is to be sifted further. The court did not investigate this phase thoroughly because of the sailing of the practice squadron.

## WOULD IMPOSE CONDITION FOR NEUTRALITY.

### WILL ASK WHETHER STATESMAN IS READY TO FORM NEW CABINET ON PEACE BASIS.

##### Rotterdam, Aug. 14. (via London).

—The Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant prints a Berlin dispatch saying that The Tageblatt learns from Athens that the King of Greece, after the opening of parliament next Monday and the resignation of the cabinet, will ask Eleutherios Venizelos, the former premier, whether he is ready to form a new cabinet on the principle of the strictest neutrality.

M. Venizelos resigned as premier of Greece in March on account of King Constantine's disapproval of the premier's policy in favor of Greece lending her support to the entente allies.

In the general elections of June the former premier's party was victorious.

#### GALVESTON HURRICANE SWEEP.

##### Seventy Mile Wind Drives Sea Over Great Sea Wall—People Prepared to Flee.

Galveston, Aug. 16.—The West Indian hurricane which blew all night increased to seventy miles an hour this morning and water is pouring over the great sea wall for the first time since it was re-erected. Warned by the weather bureau the people of the city are prepared to flee if it becomes necessary.

Thousands of people fled from the city as the storm grew worse. Beaumont and Port Arthur are also being evacuated. Advices from ships in the gulf state that the wind was blowing 75 miles an hour and its fury was increasing.

#### HIGH WATER AT GALVESTON.

##### Refugees from Island City Flee to Houston.

Houston, Aug. 16.—Refugees from Galveston began arriving here at noon. They state that the water is already over the sea wall and causeway.

#### GALE AT NEW ORLEANS.

##### Storm Holds up Ships at Mouth of River.

New Orleans, Aug. 16.—Two persons are dead as the result of the hurricane sixty mile gale at the mouth of the river which is holding up the gunboat Sacramento, with the Brazilian and Guatemalan ministers aboard, and other vessels. The property damage in Mississippi and Louisiana will be great.

#### MARINES SWEEP OVERBOARD.

##### Battleship New Hampshire Encounters Terrific Hurricane.

Washington, Aug. 16.—The battleship New Hampshire which is on the way in southern waters, encountered a terrific hurricane off Southern Florida. Marines Ray, of Mississippi and Robinson, of Ohio, were washed overboard and lost.

#### Hurricane Damage in Haiti and Jamaica.

Cape Haitien, Aug. 16.—Heavy damage was done in Hayti and Jamaica by the hurricane.

#### MUCH WHEAT GROWN.

##### Farmers of State Seed Many Acres.

The State. What is thought to be the first solid car load of home grown wheat sent out of Marlboro county this season was shipped by J. E. Willis of McColl several days ago. The wheat went to Silver City, N. C. According to the Pee Dee Advocate Mr. Willis has the distinction of being a first class farmer in many other respects.

A large shipment of wheat from Blackville, Barnwell county, was also recently made. This was also a car lot, and the joint owners were Herman and Isadore Brown. The story as published in the Barnwell Sentinel indicates that wheat growing with these two young men was largely an experiment last season. The yield was altogether profitable. The Barnwell grain was sent to the Bamberg mills. The establishment of proposed flouring mills in Barnwell will greatly enhance the growing of wheat in that section.

Installation of machinery for the new flouring plant at Manning has just been completed. Reports are that Clarendon county produced a fair crop of wheat, and expectations are that the mill will be rushed.