

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 SOUTHERN, Established June, 1850

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BULGARIANS TALK PEACE.

AGENTS SEEK TO LEARN ENTENTE TERMS.

Fear That Germany and Austria-Hungary May Not Prove Any Too True.

Copenhagen, Oct. 19.—While Emperor William and King Ferdinand of Bulgaria have been exchanging assurances at Sofia of the unshakable loyalty of Bulgaria and Germany to each other, Bulgarian agents abroad have been endeavoring to get into touch with the entente powers on the subject of peace and subsequent relations. Their efforts are declared to be inspired by apprehension that Germany and Austria-Hungary may not be overzealous in defending Bulgaria's part to escape from revolving in an exclusively German orbit after the war.

The Associated Press correspondent is able to report that a Bulgarian representative recently obtained an opportunity in a neutral European capital to lay before the entente government the special desires of his country with regard to a peace settlement and in a one-sided conference explained Bulgaria's aspiration to regain an independent political status as soon as the war was concluded and resume cordial relations with the entente powers. As the case was presented in short, the central European idea of an economic league in which Bulgaria would play a comparatively minor role does not appeal to the Bulgarian mind.

Attempts were being made to get before the public in America and in the entente countries a defense of Bulgarian pretension to Macedonia and the Dobrudja, the suggestion even being openly made from the Bulgarian side that Serbia should be compensated with Austrian territory from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The correspondent has of late heard of considerable ill feeling between the Bulgarians and their allies. Complaints are made that Bulgarian divisions were compelled to march long distances on foot while favored German troops rolled past them in trains.

The German attempt to maintain control of Bulgaria's principal coal district has caused much unfriendly feeling.

COMMUTES DEATH SENTENCE.

Will Stevens Will Not Die in Electric Chair—Three Other Cases of Clemency.

Columbia, Oct. 20.—Gov. Manning yesterday commuted to life imprisonment the sentence of electrocution passed upon Will Stevens of Greenwood county, convicted of murder in March, 1915. Judge Ernest Moore, who tried the case, recommended commutation, and Solicitor Cooper also said that the penalty of death is usually not imposed in such cases. The petition for commutation was also signed by members of the jury.

Stevens was convicted of killing another negro in a general negro brawl, in which all parties were drinking. The governor reprieved this case in July that it might go before the board of pardons, which met in October and also recommended commutation of the sentence of life imprisonment.

A parole during good behavior was also issued to Richmond Williams, a young negro boy, who was convicted in Anderson County in 1912 of burglary and larceny and sentenced to seven years. Both Judge DeVore and former Solicitor Bonham recommended a parole, which was concurred in by the board of pardons.

Gov. Manning also commuted the sentences imposed upon M. A. Wilson and M. B. Wilson, who were convicted in Ocoee County in March, 1917, of handling and delivering liquor, so that the sentence would be concurrent with the federal sentence.

RED CROSS XMAS PACKAGES.

Every Soldier at Home and Abroad Will Receive a Gift.

Washington, Oct. 20.—Every American soldier at home or abroad will receive a Red Cross Xmas package of the value of about one dollar and a half.

A DAY OF PRAYER.

President Wilson Sets Aside Sunday, October 28th.

Washington, Oct. 20.—President Wilson by proclamation declared Sunday, October 28th as a day of prayer for the success of American arms in accordance with a resolution of Congress.

THE GERMAN HORROR.

COLLEGE PRESIDENT TELLS OF PEOPLE'S SUFFERING.

Work of Invaders in France and Belgium Described as Atrocious—Treatment of Women.

New York, Oct. 21.—President Lyman Powell of Hobart College, who has just returned from a tour of England and France, where he was sent to investigate conditions as a representative of the President's Association of Colleges and Universities of the United States, in an address here today declared French villages and towns recently evacuated by German troops have been sacked beyond description.

"The need of an effective army to protect America from such atrocious conquest as I have just seen in Northern France and of such air raids as I have witnessed in and about London now is the most imperative thing in the history of this country," he said. "The army must go 'over there' and strike before the army from 'over there' gets an opportunity to come over here, or we are lost."

"If you people here could see half of what I have seen in two months—if you could see with your own eyes the terrible conditions—for only a day—the question in your minds then would not be how much money you could spend for Liberty bonds or contribute to the Red Cross, but how little you could live on so that you could give all the rest you have to these causes."

Dr. Powell described the fate that befell the town of Chauny, in the Aisne department of France. The little city, he said, was of 10,000 inhabitants and almost from the time of its founding, in 1664, had been a center of glass manufacture. It came into the hands of the Teutons in the course of their invasion, but last June or July they evacuated it.

"The Germans were not content with the misery they already had caused," he said. "First they dismantled the glass factories, then they herded all the young men for service of one sort or another behind the lines."

"Then they lined up the young women, according to rank in beauty. The highest official chose the fairest as his servant, the next highest officers made their selection and finally the common soldiers took their pick. At the time I arrived in Chauny only 300 of the original 10,000 inhabitants were left and these were old men and women."

SIXTY-SEVEN LOST.

Casualty List of Antilles Forwarded by Gen. Pershing.

Washington, Oct. 22.—Sixty-seven lives were lost when the Antilles went down by a German torpedo. The official casualty list, forwarded by Gen. Pershing, also shows one unaccounted for and one hundred and seventy survivors. Among the dead was Neptolin Bobin of Savannah.

SCHOOL CHILDREN STRIKE.

Three New York Schools in Revolt Against Long Sessions.

New York, Oct. 22.—Unless they receive assurance that the lengthened school day will be abolished ten thousand pupils in three schools threaten to strike. A committee of boys and girls from each school have arranged to confer with the board of education. After them the teachers will protest.

SENATOR HASTING KILLED.

Wisconsin Man Accidentally Shot by His Brother.

Milwaukee, Wis., Oct. 21.—United States Senator Paul O. Hasting of Wisconsin died in a farm house near Rush Lake, Wis., late tonight as the result of wounds accidentally inflicted upon him with a shotgun by his brother, Gustave, while hunting ducks today.

Senator Hasting recently returned to his home at Mayville after the close of the extra session of congress where he was one of the leading supporters of the administration's war program.

With his brother he had gone on a hunting expedition to Rush Lake and the two were in a boat when the accident occurred. He had sighted a flock of ducks and called for his brother to fire and at the discharge of the shotgun he rose slightly, received the full charge of the gun in his back. He was rushed to the farm house where all efforts to save his life were unavailing.

MEXICAN SILVER BOUGHT.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PURCHASES SIX MILLION PESOS.

These Coins Will be Turned Into Mint to Make Quarters and Dimes.

Washington, Oct. 19.—Six million Mexican silver pesos have been bought by the treasury department at 88 1-4 cents an ounce for minting into half dollars, dimes and quarters. The treasury acted when faced with the necessity of buying silver for coinage at steadily increasing prices, which at their height brought the value of the metal dangerously close to the minted value.

Now the price of silver in this country has dropped precipitately. The swift collapse, from \$1.16 to 85 cents per ounce, in three weeks has resulted in an investigation to determine whether the market had been manipulated. The high prices recently prevailing are regarded as wholly unwarranted by officials here.

This purchase of Mexican dollars, the largest by the government of the minted silver coin of another country ever recorded, places the United States in possession of a sufficient quantity of silver to run the mints for two or three months and withdraws from the silver market here the largest single buyer.

Negotiations have been proceeding between the representatives of the Carranza government and Director Bauer of the mint for some time past for the big sale. It is understood that the Mexican dollars are to be delivered soon and that federal reserve board officials have indicated their willingness to permit the exportation to Mexico of approximately \$5,000,000 in gold as payment.

In return the Carranza government is understood to have lifted its virtual embargo on the exportation to this country of silver and copper.

The net result of the transaction as regarded by officials here is that the danger of par silver for mintage has been averted, that Mexico will be in a stronger position financially than before, that the somewhat strained financial relations between the two countries will be eased perceptibly and that Mexican copper and silver, needed here, will be available in the future.

The imposition by the American government placing an embargo on the exportation of silver also contributed largely to the sudden lowering of silver prices in the domestic market. For some time past the government has been compelled to buy silver sparingly in the face of a soaring market. From approximately 52 cents an ounce in 1914, silver quotations went steadily upward until they touched 90 cents about two months ago.

Thereafter quotations began to evince symptoms of an utterly deformed market. Prices advanced spasmodically until the top was reached at \$1.16. At that time the market quotation was only 13 3-4 cents below the minted value per ounce. Had the minted value been reached it would have been without precedent and might have resulted in the cessation of silver coinage at a time when such coinage was imperatively needed.

NO PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

Allies Have Not Sought the Enemy's Terms From the Vatican, it is Stated.

London, Oct. 18.—Replying to a question in the house of commons today, Lord Robert Cecil, minister of blockade, denied that negotiations for terms of peace had taken place with the vatican or any of its agents or with any other religious organization.

Just previous to this, Lord Robert had been asked whether the British government intended to send any reply to Pope Benedict's peace note. His response was a request that notice be given of the question.

It had not been officially announced, he added, that Great Britain had adopted as its own the reply sent by the United States.

"The clear and powerful reply of President Wilson," explained Lord Robert, "was not the result of any consultation of the allies and I do not propose to comment on it in reply to the question."

SOLDIERS BUY BONDS.

Americans in France Subscribe For Several Million of Liberty Bonds.

American Training Camp, France, Oct. 20.—Several million dollars have been subscribed for Liberty loan bonds by American soldiers. There is the keenest rivalry between the units to get the largest amount.

AMERICAN TRANSPORT SUNK.

GERMAN U-BOAT SENDS SEVENTY TO THEIR DEATH.

The Reality of War Brought Home to Americans—Army and Navy Officers and Ship's Captain Among Survivors.

Washington, Oct. 19.—The American army transport Antilles, homeward bound under convoy, was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine in the war zone on Wednesday. About 70 men are missing and probably lost.

The army and navy officers aboard and the ship's master were among the 167 survivors. The missing are members of the crew, three civilian engineers, some enlisted men of the navy and 16 of 33 soldiers returning home for various reasons. Neither the submarine nor the torpedo was seen and the transport, hit square amidships, sank in five minutes.

This tragedy of the sea, the first in which an American ship engaged in war duty has been lost, is the first of its magnitude to bring home to the people of the United States the rigors of the war in which they have engaged against Germany. It carries the largest casualty list of the war so far of American lives and marks the first success of German submarine attacks on American transports.

That the loss of life was not greater is due to the safeguards with which the navy has surrounded the transport service and the quick rescue work of the convoying warships.

Secretary Daniels announced the disaster tonight in a statement based upon a brief dispatch from Vice Admiral Sims which gave few details and did not say whether it was a day or night attack. An accurate list of the missing can not be issued until General Pershing reports the names of the army men on the vessel and the list of the merchant crew. Following is the announcement:

"The department is in receipt of a dispatch from Vice Admiral Sims which states that the steamship Antilles, an army transport, was torpedoed on October 17 while returning to this country from foreign service. This vessel was under convoy of American patrol vessels at the time.

"The torpedo which struck the Antilles was not seen, nor was the submarine which fired it. The torpedo hit abreast of the engine room bulkhead and the ship sank within five minutes. One hundred and sixty-seven persons out of about 237 on board the Antilles were saved. About 70 men are missing. All the naval officers and officers of the army who were on board at the time were saved, as were the officers of the ship, with the exception of the following:

Walker, third engineer officer; Boyle, junior engineer officer, and O'Rourke, junior engineer officer. The following enlisted naval personnel were lost: E. L. Kinzey, seaman, second class, next of kin, Thomas M. Kinzey, father, Water Valley, Miss.; J. W. Hunt, seaman, second class, next of kin, Isaac Hunt, father, Mountain Grove, Mo.; F. D. No. 2, Box 44; C. L. Ausburn, radio electrician, first class, next of kin, R. Ausburn, brother, 2800 Louisiana Avenue, New Orleans, La.; and H. F. Watson, radio electrician, third class, next of kin, Mrs. W. L. Seger, mother, Rutland, Mass. There were about 33 of the army enlisted personnel on board of whom 18 were saved. The names of the army enlisted personnel and of the merchant crew of the ship can not be given until the muster roll in France of those on board has been consulted. As soon as the department is in receipt of further details concerning the casualties they will be made public immediately."

Upon receipt of the cablegram from Admiral Sims, the government kept its promise not to withhold bad news from the public. The issuance of the statement was delayed only until the navy could telegraph to the families of the men known to have been lost.

Secretary Daniels carried word of the loss of the Antilles to the White House when he went there late in the day with Admiral Mayo, who made his report to President Wilson on his visit to England at the direction of the president. The news added to the gravity of the hour that the secretary and Admiral Mayo spent in conference with the president.

Quick upon the wave of sorrow of the loss of the transport came a feeling of distinct relief because she had met her fate homeward bound and not on the way over with troops. The only soldiers on board were returning to the hospital or on special assignment. Had the full complement of the transport been aboard, the loss undoubtedly would have been

LIBERTY LOAN CAMPAIGN.

THIRD WEEK ENDS WITH TWO BILLION SUBSCRIBED.

West and South Lagging—Not Coming to the Support of Government as They Should.

Washington, Oct. 20.—With excellent prospects the third week of the Liberty loan campaign is closing tonight, with two billion subscribed, treasury officials announced. At the same time it is stated that over a wide area extending from the middle west south to Texas and east to the Atlantic general apathy prevails and this condition is "causing the greatest concern." In the eastern part of the South bad weather and delayed cotton sales are blamed for the poor showing.

American aviators in France are dropping Liberty loan posters over the German lines.

The Sumter Young People's Union has been postponed until Sunday, October 28th.

written in hundreds, as she was struck in the most vulnerable spot and went under so swiftly that few could have escaped.

Officials are confident that those who survived owe their lives to the careful attention given by the navy department to the equipping of transports with lifeboats and life rafts. It is a fixed rule that enough boats and rafts shall be carried to afford a place for every man aboard, even though the ship keel over and put half her boats out of commission.

The loss of the ship's engineer officers indicates the probability that no one of the engine and fire room force on duty escaped. Probably most of them died in the blast of the explosion of the torpedo, which tore its way into the engine room compartments.

The heavy loss among the army enlisted men indicated can not be accounted for until further details come in. Probably they and the navy men were in their quarters below and could not make their way on deck before the ship took her final plunge. The army, navy and ship's officers and the others who were rescued probably were on deck or in cabins from which a step took them to the deck and a chance for their lives.

Lacking details of the attack, beyond the fact that the submarine was unseen and the first warning to those aboard the Antilles came with the shock of the explosion of the torpedo, many theories were current as to how the u-boat crept through the destroyer screen, did its work and escaped unchallenged.

A majority of the officers who would comment thought the transport and her convoying patrols had run directly over a lurking submarine which saw them coming, calculated the distance and launched her deadly torpedo without ever showing more than her periscope. They regard it as probable that the u-boat commander picked his place, lay in wait below the surface until his microphone told him the patrols had passed and the transport was upon him, then shot his periscope above water only long enough to sight and fire before he ducked back to safety.

Any attempt to locate the submarine was made impossible by the necessity of rescuing the survivors. The vessel must have been virtually torn in half by the explosion to have gone down in the time she did.

Probably the attack was made well out at sea. It took two days for the news to reach Washington and the dispatch shows the time that must have elapsed before definite word could reach Admiral Sims. The survivors are believed to be already safe ashore somewhere in France or England.

So far as known no high officers of the army or navy were due to return on the Antilles. There is no definite information on that point, however, as only General Pershing knows who was sent home on the ship. The reports so far received show merely that a number of army officers and 33 enlisted men of the army were aboard. Evidently Admiral Sims rushed his tidings off before he communicated with General Pershing.

The loss of the Antilles marks the first reduction of the transport fleet that has been operating. A very considerable number of American troops workmen and others involved in the prosecution of the war have been carried safely to France and England and the unsuccessful attack on the first contingent is the only recorded previous instance where the u-boat has succeeded even in catching sight of the vessel.

WILL NAME SUSPECTS.

CONGRESSMAN HEFLIN SAYS HE IS READY TO CALL NAMES.

Members of Congress Who Acted Suspiciously and Laid Themselves Liable to Charge of Pro-German Sympathy to be Exposed.

Washington, Oct. 18.—Representative Hefflin, of Alabama, says he will soon name the men who he insinuated on the floor of the house of representatives might be participating in the Bernstorff \$50,000 corruption fund. At that time the Alabama congressman made a blanket indictment saying he suspected thirteen or fourteen men.

He has "extended" his remarks in the Congressional Record. In the final number of that publication, out today, he says: "I would name the suspicious members in this statement now but if I should do so my remarks would not be published in the Congressional Record. I will name them soon. The country is entitled to know them."

In another part of his written speech as reported in the Record the Alabama says when he asked for unanimous consent to be allowed to name the men he suspected:

"Lo! The colleague of one of the men I had in mind rose and objected."

This objector, according to the Hefflin statement in the Congressional Record, turns out to be Mr. Garner, of Texas.

Mr. Garner's colleagues are: McLeMORE, Daniel, Garrett, Black, Dies, Young, Rayburn, Summers, Hardy, Gregg, Eagle, Mansfield, Buchanan, Connolly, Wilson and Jones.

Mr. Hefflin says that three times he asked for unanimous consent "but the friends of the men who were afraid of being named before the congress and the country caused objections to be made." He also says that September 24, when called on to name the men, he refrained, "because I knew certain members would make points of order and prevent me from giving my reasons for naming certain members."

Mr. Garner, according to Mr. Hefflin, arranged with Mr. Moore, of Pennsylvania, to block unanimous consent so that "a personal encounter" between Mr. Hefflin and Mr. Norton, of North Dakota, would be avoided.

"This purely disinterested and unselfish consideration shown for me by these two members," sarcastically writes Mr. Hefflin, "is something that I must respectfully submit to the country. It is passing strange that in order to keep me from naming the few suspicious members a member from Pennsylvania (Mr. Moore) was going to object to Mr. Norton making a speech and Mr. Garner, of Texas, was going to object and deprive me of that privilege."

ZEPPELINS RAID ENGLAND.

Twenty-Seven Killed and Fifty-Three Wounded.

Zeppelins, last night about midnight, raided the eastern and north-eastern counties of England and approached London. They dropped bombs on several places, killing 27 and wounding 53 in all sections, it is officially announced. The statement also says that material damage was done to houses and business places. Although bombs fell in the London area, protective guns were busy only a few minutes, and it is believed the raiders were checked before making any serious attempt at the inner parts of the city.

Belated reports of the naval battle around Moon Sound Wednesday indicate that the Russians gave a good account of themselves. The Russian admiralty says the entire third and fourth squadrons of the German high seas fleet and probably the fifth squadron were engaged. The three squadrons named comprise two-thirds of the German fleet. No more ships have been reported lost by either side.

British aerial and artillery work continues in Flanders, probably pre-arranging another attack within a few days. The weather favors the aviators.

London, Oct. 20.—A dispatch to the Times from Odessa says that a hundred passengers were killed or wounded on a train that was held up by 200 brigands near Vladikavkaz in the Caucasus.

London, Oct. 20.—The American schooner Jennie B. Brighter, six hundred and forty-seven tons, was sunk by a submarine off Cape Villano, Spain Tuesday. Nine members of the crew have landed.