

WEATHER FORECAST:

Thunderstorms This Afternoon; Fair and Cooler Tonight. Full Report on Editorial Page.

The Washington Times

COMPLETE AFTERNOON

With 1:30 Wall Street

NUMBER 10,196.

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 14, 1917.

PRICE ONE CENT.

CAPITAL IS SWEEP BY HEAVY STORM

Hail, Rain, and Electricity Make Tumult.

ONE BUILDING IS STRUCK Temperature Falls 15 Degrees in 15 Minutes.

The proverbial "bolt from the blue" struck Washington shortly before 1 o'clock today, when a terrific clap of thunder and a blinding flash of lightning prefaced a torrential down-pour of rain and hail.

Although of brief duration, the electrical storm was most severe. While it lasted half an inch of rain fell and a shower of hailstones half an inch in diameter descended upon the city. The temperature dropped one degree a minute for a quarter of an hour.

Owing to the din made on the roof of the Capitol by the large-sized hailstones, the Senate and House were compelled to recess because the debate could not be heard.

Flagpole Shattered.

The first bolt of lightning struck the flagpole on the Waters carriage shop, behind the District building, ripping it apart in spiral fashion. A strip of slate was ripped off the roof of the shop.

The repeated flashes of lightning and thunderclaps caused consternation among the employes in downtown offices.

Senator Reed of Missouri was attempting to make a speech in the Senate when the storm began. He could not make himself heard.

On motion of Senator Hollis of New Hampshire, the Senate recessed for half an hour.

The storm interfered with the proceedings of the House to such an extent that Congressman Stafford's motion to recess was unanimously adopted.

Looked Like Snow Gusts.

The size of the hailstones and the severity of the down-fall caused the belief that considerable damage would be done to growing crops in the backyard gardens in Washington and on farms in the territory contiguous to the National Capitol.

For ten or fifteen minutes the white hailstones mingled with the rain gave the appearance of a midwinter snow-storm.

The storm was caused by the intense heat of the past several days, in the opinion of weather experts. Just before it broke the thermometer at the Weather Bureau registered 85 degrees. A quarter of an hour later the temperature was 70 degrees.

Because of the downpour the gutters in the downtown sections of the city ran like rivers, the streams measuring eight or ten inches in many places. The sewers were over-flowed and the water rushed over the sidewalks.

PERSHING IN COUNCIL WITH FRENCH LEADERS

Calls at Elysee Palace With Poincare and Other Notables.

PARIS, June 14.—Major General Pershing today called at the Elysee palace with President Poincare and other French notables. He was in close conference with French war office leaders most of the day, and his headquarters in the Hotel Crillon were a scene of constant activity.

This morning General Pershing visited the Invalides, the museum, and the tomb of Napoleon.

His staff attended a luncheon of the Military Club, and this afternoon was to accompany the commander on visits to the general aviation camp at Bourget.

This evening the entire American contingent will dine with the war office staff headed by Minister of War Painleve.

Tomorrow Pershing is to lunch with Marshal Joffre at the Military Club.

WOMEN LEARN ART OF KEEPING YOUNG

None Looks as Old as Her Age, Says Census Supervisor.

NEW YORK, June 14.—New York women are outgrowing their aversion to telling their ages.

More than 1,500,000 of them, from sixteen to fifty years of age, are required in registering in the State military census to tell just how old they are.

Mrs. Ruth K. Gardner, assistant supervisor of registration in the Twenty-third assembly district, says the women always look five years younger than the ages they gave.

Wilson To Speak At Flag Fete

President Due to Address Army of Government Workers on Significance of National Emblem at Sylvan Theater.

Under the leadership of President Wilson the army of workers in the executive departments of the Government were to mobilize in the Sylvan Theater, south of the Washington Monument, this afternoon to observe Flag Day.

Aside from the patriotic significance of the inspiring occasion, the assemblage is to mark a reunion of the entire official family in the National Capitol.

"The Flag Day program will be held if the weather clears by 3 o'clock."

This statement was made to The Times at 1 o'clock by Robert Watson, chief clerk of the Department of Labor and one of the committee in charge of the Flag Day program.

"No decision will be reached until the last minute," Mr. Watson said, "as it will be possible to hold the program as planned if the weather is cleared before 3 o'clock, the hour set."

The 40,000 Government employes were given a half-holiday to observe fittingly the day and to rally around the Chief Executive.

Secretary Lansing Presides. It is strictly a Government family affair, although thousands of men and women not employed in the departments expect to go to the Sylvan Theater.

Secretary of State Lansing is to preside, and all the other participants in the affair were employees of the Government, with President Wilson as the only speaker.

This is the first Flag Day on which the nation has been found at war. For that reason President Wilson's address was anticipated with the keenest interest, as he was expected to deliver a message to the American people regarding the significance of the flag at this time.

800 Voices in Chorus.

The interdepartmental chorus, composed of 800 of the best masculine and feminine singers in all the departments, will sing patriotic anthems during the celebration. The chorus, which acquitted itself with high credit last year, and has been better trained than ever for this year's observance of Flag Day, will be directed by Earl Carbaugh, of the Post-office Department.

Instrumental music will be furnished by the entire Marine Band, under the leadership of Lieut. William Santelmann. The band will play while the chorus sings, and also contribute several other selections to the patriotic program.

The exercises are to open with the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" by the chorus.

The President's address, which is held for official release, will appear in full in a later edition of The Times.

ARGENTINA INTERVENES TO END STRIKE RIOTING

Federal Government Seizes Port of Zarate, Scene of Killings.

By CHARLES F. STEWART. BUENOS AIRES, June 14.—Because of numerous clashes, in which there have been several killed and scores of shots fired, the federal government today intervened to assume control of the port of Zarate, on the Rio De Las Palmas, fifty miles northwest of Buenos Aires.

A general strike developed there late yesterday, following a strike of employes of North American packing houses.

The police forces have been augmented and drastic steps will be taken to enforce order.

HUGE SHELL STRIKES MARK AT TEN MILES

French Gunner Plants Projectile in German Tunnel's Mouth.

LONDON, June 14.—This story of modern warfare is related by an official authority who has been on the front in Champagne.

"On May 26 the French prepared to rush the impregnable positions on Mt. Cornillet and Mt. Teton. Photographs taken by their aviators showed an immense system of tunnels, which apparently concealed German reserves. A single entrance was located, and the operator of a French 15-inch gun ten miles away was told to put a shell in the entrance.

The gun started firing thousands of shells, and the infantry was ordered to advance at a certain minute. Two hours before the time set for the advance a half-ton shell plunged itself squarely in the mouth of the tunnel, killing half the men inside, blocking the exit, and wrecking the transverse corridors. The French advanced and took several hundreds of prisoners without suffering a loss.

"Two months ago a French attack on Moronville failed because this impregnable tunnel could not be captured."

MARSHAL QUIZZES UNITY LEAGUE HEAD

Splain Causes Sensation at First Meeting.

CROSS-EXAMINES STEINMETZ

Body Has Purpose of Destroying "Hyphenism," Says Program.

A sensation was sprung shortly after the opening of the first annual conference of the American League for National Unity at the New Willard this morning when Maurice Splain, United States marshal, interrupted Dr. Charles P. Steinmetz, the first speaker, and inquired of him the authority for the founding of the League of Unity and the names of those behind the movement.

Dr. Steinmetz seemed flustered for the moment, leaning farther over on his table and asking Marshal Splain to repeat the question. This he did. Whereupon Dr. Steinmetz turned to the last page of the program and referred Splain to a list of over two score names. Prominent among these names is that of Col. Robert N. Harper, Roscoe C. Mitchell, and William W. Bridge, all of this city, and that of Miss Ida M. Tarbell, of New York.

It is said Mr. Steinmetz came to this country from Germany in his early twenties. He speaks with a German accent.

Dr. Steinmetz Explains. As Mr. Splain did not immediately repeat himself, Dr. Steinmetz essayed to explain further.

"Understand, we have not yet really organized," Dr. Steinmetz said. Mr. Splain did not seem satisfied but seated himself, leaving shortly afterward to look further into the credentials of those concerned.

Dr. Steinmetz then went on with his talk on "The Importance of National Unity."

The words which caused Mr. Splain to interrupt Dr. Steinmetz were: "We have heard allegations that American citizens are more loyal to foreign nations than to our own country."

GETS BULLET WOUND WHEN HE KILLS BRIDE

U. S. Soldier Held for Wife Murder in Atlanta Hospital.

ATLANTA, Ga., June 14.—Private Joe E. Kirk, Seventeenth United States Infantry, shot and killed his bride of a few weeks early today. He was himself wounded when the bullet passed through his wife's body and buried itself in his arm.

Kirk was taken to the post hospital at Fort McPherson for treatment and there placed under guard. His wound is not serious, according to army surgeons.

KAISER IS CHAGRINED BY GREEK SITUATION

Constantine's Abdication Makes "Painful Impression."

THE HAGUE, June 14.—Abdication of King Constantine of Greece produced a "painful impression" at German great headquarters, according to dispatches received today via Cologne.

The Kaiser was greatly chagrined, and immediately dispatched a message of sympathy to the fallen monarch and his wife, Queen Sophie, who is the Kaiser's sister.

German newspapers declare that the new Greek King must obey the entente or else a revolution of the Venizelists forces will result in the establishment of a republic. The German press believes a declaration of war from Greece is imminent. Hope is expressed that Field Marshal von Hindenburg is prepared for such a contingency.

DRY PRINCE GEORGES IS MARYLAND THREAT

Legislature Plans to Cut Out Resort for Thirsty.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., June 14.—Developments of the morning at Annapolis where the special session of the Maryland legislature is in session, make it almost certain that Prince Georges, the only refuge of Washington's thirsty after prohibition goes into effect in the District, will be dry by May 1 of next year.

The measure is practically certain to pass, with or without the referendum, and the chances favor its passage without reference to a popular vote.

This is the form which it takes in the bill introduced by Delegate Blandford last night, the only measure before the legislature.

FEAR FOR RUSSIAN BOAT.

PETROGRAD, June 14.—The Russian submarine Barsetant, which put to sea on May 16, has not returned to her home base. It is feared the vessel has been lost.

BRITISH IMPORTS GROW.

LONDON, June 14.—The board of trade figures for May show an increase in imports of £3,827,706, and a decrease in exports of £3,887,156.

HALF SATURDAY OFF ASSURED TO CLERKS

President Will Not Amend Order Because of War.

EXCEPTIONAL CASES FEW

When Pressure of Work Compels Employes May Be Held.

Washington's army of Government employes will have Saturday half holiday during the summer.

This has been determined by the President. No change will be made in the standing executive order providing that four hours shall constitute a day's work on Saturdays from June 15 to September 15.

The war situation, however, will cause some employes to stay after the Saturday closing time. Whether they will stay will be left to the discretion of bureau and division chiefs, but wherever possible they will be given a half day off.

Workers Felt Alarmed. For several weeks Government workers have been apprehensive of a change in the order because of pressure of war work.

The President and his advisers agreed, however, that the holiday should be given to all employes where it will not hinder the work of the Government. A general speeding up of work is expected, so that as few as possible need remain after the Saturday closing time.

Decision Based on Fairness. It was learned when announcement of the holiday was made today that the President and his advisers considered that it would be unfair to those employes who could be spared to lengthen the Saturday work day during the summer months.

It is understood a vast majority of Government employes will get their holidays and that work after Saturday closing time will be rare.

MERGER PROMOTERS BEGIN WORK TODAY

Committee Will Ask Trade Bodies to Name Conferees.

The committee of ten business men of Washington appointed to meet with committees from the Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Trade, and the Retail Merchants' Association in an effort to bring the three organizations together under one directing head, is to hold its initial meeting this afternoon in the New Ebbitt Hotel.

The committee represents no organization, having been appointed at a meeting of more than sixty representative business and professional men of Washington, who met on Tuesday afternoon to consider the best means of persuading the various organizations to merge and work together for the best interests of Washington.

An invitation to the three bodies probably will be sent out this afternoon requesting that they name a committee to meet with the other committees and confer with a view to bringing about closer co-operation and better feeling. It is expected that these committees will be named and that a joint meeting will be held within the next two or three days.

Former Congressman James T. Lloyd has been chosen chairman of the committee of business men.

POLICE CHIEF OUSTS CHINESE PARLIAMENT

He Signs President's Order After Refusal by Premier.

LONDON, June 14.—The Chinese Parliament has been unceremoniously dismissed, according to a Tientsin dispatch received today by the Exchange Telegraph Company.

According to a Reuter dispatch to day from Peking, Chiang Cho Tung, chief of police of that city, has accepted the post of acting premier of China, and in such a capacity has counter-signed the President's order for dissolution of the Chinese parliament.

Wu Ting Fang, the premier, had refused to affix his signature to such an order. The Chinese constitution requires the premier's attestation to such an edict and thus the dissolution had been blocked.

Southern Chinese provinces, it was declared, have telegraphed their refusal to recognize the President's authority and civil war is feared.

DIGBY BELL GRAVELY ILL

Veteran Comedian Taken Home From Theater.

NEW YORK, June 14.—Digby Bell, the veteran comedian whose fame dates from the days of "Pinafore" and "Patience," is seriously ill in the Alston Sanitarium.

He was taken there last Friday from the Colonial Theater, where he had been playing. His physician is treating him for a general breakdown. Mr. Bell is sixty-seven.

CONSUL FROST SAYS THAT THE HORRORS OF U-BOAT METHODS HAVE ONLY BEEN HALF TOLD



WESLEY FROST.

UNRESTRICTED WARFARE MORE MURDEROUS DAILY

Submerged Attacks on Ships Give Crews No Chance For Their Lives—No Heed Paid to Drowning Victims.

"The submarine war grows more barbarous every day. It has now reached the plane of deliberate murder for every ship sunk, and will so continue to the end. It is not the fault of the Germans that every torpedo does not produce a Lusitania massacre."

"Death by slow torture for submarine captains who let big passenger liners escape them is reported to be the fate meted out by von Tirpitz."

That is the Kaiser's unrestricted submarine warfare in the words of the man who probably knows more about the human side of the sea tragedy than any other—certainly more than any other American.

He is Wesley Frost, American consul at Queenstown, the port on the southwest coast of Ireland where all the Atlantic ocean lanes to Britain come together. Off the shores near Queenstown the thousands of ships which feed Britain pass by day and night.

Split With Japan Is Averted

Bogus Note on Chinese Revolution Arouses Resentment at Tokyo—Text of True Message Dissipates Anger.

Relations between the United States and Japan, upset and delicate over a misunderstanding as to America's purposes in China, were straightened out satisfactorily today through explanations sent to the American embassy in Tokyo. At the same time, an investigation was started to ascertain the source of a bogus note purporting to have been cabled from New York to Tokyo, which aroused resentment in Japan.

MARYLAND TO CLEAR ADMIRAL CAMP SITE

Bill for \$100,000 to Be Pushed Through the Legislature.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., June 14.—The finance committee of the Maryland senate will make favorable report this afternoon on the bill providing the necessary appropriation to clear up the camp sites at Admiral, between Washington and Baltimore, where the local men taken under the selective draft are to be trained. It is believed that the legislature is now ready to conform absolutely to the conditions set by the War Department, assuring the location of the camp at Admiral, with its three railroads running to Washington and Baltimore and other substantial advantages.

The bill will provide an appropriation of not less than \$100,000, fix a dry zone of two miles beyond the limits of the camp and provide for condemnation proceedings if any difficulty is found in securing any portion of the grounds. These are the steps which the War Department regards as necessary to be taken by the State of Maryland before the selection of the Admiral camp is a certainty.

There is a question of whether the fund is to be expended by the board of public works, consisting of the governor, treasurer and comptroller, all Democrats, the executive committee of the preparedness survey or a body constituted by the bill or permitted to be named by the governor. The situation has been clarified in some measure by a strong declaration from William F. Stone, the Republican leader of Baltimore city, who urged the Republican members to support the plan to have the expenditures made by the duly qualified officials of the State.

TWINS FOOL ARMY DOCTOR

Physician Thinks He is Examining Same Youth Twice.

LONDON, June 14.—Twin brothers, who had just reached eighteen, appeared before a medical recruiting board yesterday for examination preliminary to enlistment. One of them, however, passed his examination, retired. Then the other brother appeared, but the doctor refused to examine him, declaring he could not give his attention to the same candidate twice. Not until the two went in together would he be convinced.

ROTHERMERE GETS BIG POST

Lord Northcliffe's Brother Reported to Be New Food Head.

LONDON, June 14.—Harold Sidney Rothermere, first Baron Rothermere and brother of Lord Northcliffe, now in the United States in charge of the British missions, is understood to have been chosen food controller.

Frost is in Washington for a rest. For over two years he has been in attendance at the funerals of merchant ships struck down by the underwater terror. It has been his task to collect the evidence as to sixty-five sinkings in which Americans were imperiled or slaughtered. He has seen the carnages on the Irish hillsides dotted with fresh mounds. He has heard the shrieks of mothers for their murdered babies, seen men stark mad with the tortures of hunger and thirst, brought in from days and nights in foodless lifeboats.

Says Germans Doubly Guilty. It is with difficulty that he can be induced to talk, but when he does, the full-throated indignation of this clean-cut young American is almost terrible in its intensity.

"The German guilt is double," said Frost today. "In the first place, an civilized government would have resorted to such methods, even when it was possible to sink ships occasionally without murdering non-combatants. Now that the arming of merchant ships and the effectiveness of the patrols makes it impossible for the submarines to risk giving warning, they would drop it if they were white."

The sporting word he uses explains the sort of man Frost is. Born back in Oberlin, Ohio, his life has been that of the sturdy young American who makes his way in the world by hard work and fighting fair. It is not strange that he has no use for the sophistries of "rightfulness"—and calls murder by its real name.

No Opportunity to Escape. Now that the submarines have been driven to attack ships submerged—using the torpedo almost exclusively—the murder roll is bound to grow. Frost explained. Most ships, when struck by a torpedo, go down in two or three minutes, which gives no opportunities of escape to those below decks.

Recent sinkings which came under his observation, since the beginning of the ruthless warfare, show this conclusively.

A freighter loaded with iron ore and conveyed by a destroyer went down in two minutes. Eighteen of her crew of twenty-six perished.

Another sunk in two minutes after being struck. She was hit in daylight, but the submarine was not seen. Twenty-eight of her crew of thirty-two perished.

The Abasco sunk in three minutes, and thirty women and children died. "Sinkings of this sort from now on will be the rule—not the exception," said Frost. Only the larger passenger ships will remain afloat long enough to launch the boats and those will not float so long if struck in vital spots or by more than one torpedo.

The submarines are now so fearful of exposing themselves to the dark guns of slowly sinking ships that they seldom come up to question the escaping crews of passenger ships. Out of six passenger ship sinkings investigated by him, this happened in only one case—that of the Laconia, which was sunk near midnight.

Warning Shots Kill. Hideous as this assassination from ambush is, it does not equal the wanton crimes committed in the days before "ruthless" warfare—when the submarines came to the surface and attacked with gun fire.

The warning given in these cases was simply the beginning of the attack and sailors were often killed