

The Daily Gate City.

THE WEATHER
Probably rain tomorrow. Local temp—7 p. m. 60; 7 a. m. 46.

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HAND TO HAND FIGHTING IN FRANCE

NEW ORLEANS LASHED BY TROPICAL CYCLONE

Great Damage to Property and Several Lives Lost by Short and Terrific Storm Which Swept That Vicinity During Night.

WATER IN THE STREETS OF BILOXI

News Can Only be Received by Wireless as all Wires are Down and Railway Traffic has Been Demoralized.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] BEAUMONT, Texas, Sept. 30.—Reports received early today stated that ten persons were killed and over 100 injured in New Orleans by the hurricane that swept that city last night. The property loss will exceed \$1,000,000.

The height of the storm was reached between 6 and 7 o'clock last night when the wind attained an average velocity of over eighty miles an hour. Occasional gusts reached 120 miles an hour. Railroad and wire communication out of the city has been cut off and telephone, telegraph, electric and electric service has been discontinued. The Masonic temple was wrecked and many schools and churches are badly damaged. Owing to storm warnings by the weather bureau, the danger to shipping was slight, save for small craft.

Some Loss of Life. SHREVEPORT, La., Sept. 30.—Shreveport has been cut off from communication with New Orleans and the Louisiana-Mississippi coast district since ten o'clock last night, but reports received that train service was discontinued and all wires went down told of heavy property damage and some loss of life. Many persons were caught in danger points and later advised as to expected to add to the list of fatalities, already reported at from five to ten. The wind last night attained a velocity of ninety miles an hour spasmodically at New Orleans, highest on record there, and at Mississippi gulf points it was described as being the strongest ever experienced.

New Orleans was reported to be in darkness last night on account of the power plant being flooded and a number of small buildings were wrecked and others damaged, including some of the old French market structures. Property loss in that city and vicinity will reach \$1,000,000, it was reported.

High wind was reported at points fifty miles inland in southern Louisiana, with which communication was cut early last night. The Peavy-Byrne lumber company's big saw mill at Kinder, La., was destroyed by fire with a loss of \$50,000. The wind fanned the flames so fiercely that the fire department was powerless and for a time the entire town was in danger of destruction. Kinder is a short distance from Lake Charles, La. The Texas-Pacific railway has annulled service to New Orleans because of danger in crossing the Mississippi river. The Yicksburg, Shreveport and Pacific railway lost communication with Yicksburg, Miss., after receiving a message from there late last night.

The War in Mexico

Latest Developments Among Our Revolutionary Neighbors of the South.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] GALVESTON, Texas, Sept. 30.—General Carranza has issued strict orders against violation of neutrality laws on the American border, providing severest punishment for infractions, according to a cablegram received here today from Vera Cruz. General Nafarrete, Carranza's commander at Matamoros, wired the local consulate that American troops near Brownsville, instead of aiding in putting down border troubles, were firing on his soldiers, killing and wounding many of them.

Letter from Bandit. BROWNSVILLE, Texas, Sept. 30.—Eneas Saldana, wealthy Mexican banker, received a letter today from his son, who is a member of a bandit gang, stating that the boy hoped he would soon see his father's body hanging from a mesquite tree, because the elder Saldana signed a petition with several hundred other Mexicans living on this side, declaring their allegiance to the United States and stating they would lend moral and financial aid in stamping out banditry. The elder Saldana notified the authorities several months ago that his son was a member of the bandits. The bandits have informed several of the signers of the petition that they would be killed if captured.

Reports were received here today that 1,500 additional Carranzistas soldiers have arrived at Matamoros. It is believed they will be used in driving out the bandits. It was also reported today that General Nafarrete would be removed as commandant at that city, being succeeded by General Ricaut, former commandant at Nuevo Laredo.

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FRANCE

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PARIS, Sept. 30.—On a six mile front extending from Loos south to Hill No. 140 the most intense struggle of the whole great battle of the western front is being waged. Closely linked in great combined attack, British and French are rolling up against the German lines, breaking through at some sectors and being halted by stubborn resistance at others. The objectives are Lens, the Vimy heights and positions on which the drive on Douai must depend.

The latest dispatches received in Paris indicated the Champagne fighting continuing with greatest fury and no cessation of the struggle at any point along the line of battle. Germans are attacking at several points in new efforts to draw off allied troops from the Artois and the Champagne to relieve the heavy pressure on their lines.

Men are going down to slaughter by the thousands in the bloody combat raging west of Lens. The Germans are counter attacking, battling desperately to hold their positions on this vitally important front. Every charge of the Anglo-French soldiers is met by a steady rush of bullets and a rain of shrapnel. Bomb fighting before the enemy's wire entanglements in the past three days has been the most furious of the war.

The first wounded officers from the Lens battle to arrive here reported that in the combined onslaughts against the German works, French and British divisions became hopelessly mixed. British tommyes found themselves fighting side by side with French soldiers, far from their own lines. Whole regiments were swallowed up in smoke fields and hills were blotted from sight and the roiling roar of guns made it impossible to hear commands.

"We got our directions at the start of a charge and just tried to keep running on that way," said one French officer, who was brought here with a wound on his head. "It was impossible to see through the dust and smoke. A bullet or bit of shrapnel would hit a man on the arm and spin him around and he might start off on the wrong direction. But when we got up close to the boche entanglements, we always knew right where we were. The din of the guns was great, but it couldn't drown out their through the wire. Every time there was a fresh yell, we knew another group had broken through and were giving the boches the steel."

The last official statement from the war office reported that Hill No. 140, four miles southwest of Lens, is being strongly held by the French. Tuesday captured the heights during the night's fighting. By drawing guns to the western slope, the French can begin the bombardment of the railway town. The British are driving hard at Lens over the Bethune road, but are meeting stiffening German lines south of Loos.

A famous French commander, it became known here today, participated in the cavalry charge that drove the Germans from their guns in the Champagne region on Saturday and Sunday.

German prisoners declare that no other action along the Champagne front proved such a surprise to their commanders as the appearance of the French cavalry in the thick of the fighting. It has been generally believed that cavalry could not be used effectively along the western front and particularly in the hilly country of the Champagne.

In Paris, however, it was a matter of common knowledge that General Joffre planned to use his cavalry to charge the enemy's guns. For many weeks French cavalry horses have been in training in southern France for just such an engagement.

MORE GAINS MADE. PARIS, Sept. 30.—French troops have occupied several new points in the second line of German trenches west of Tathure, in the Champagne region. It was officially announced this afternoon. Other gains have been made through the German lines west of Navarin farm.

The Germans have opened a violent bombardment of positions recently captured by the French east of Souchez and southwest of Lens. The artillery attack there is believed to be preliminary to a heavy counter attack to wrest from the French, Hill No. 140, captured from the Teutons in brilliant fighting on Tuesday.

South of Ripont in the Champagne in the region of Hill No. 185, French troops have improved their position slightly by capturing a German point of support.

GERMANY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] BERLIN (via wireless to London), Sept. 30.—German troops defeated both wings of the British armies in the great battles of yesterday and last night in the region from Loos, north to Spres, was officially announced this afternoon.

The war office, however, admits French gains in the fighting for the Vimy heights and temporary French successes in the Champagne.

North of Loos, our counter attack against the British proceeds slowly. A severe battle is going on at this point. "The French attacked yesterday and the British repulsed the remainder."

"In the Champagne region, south of St. Marie (western Champagne) a French brigade broke through our outer trench line. Our reserves attacked the enemy's forces, capturing 800 and destroying the remainder."

"The French attacked violently on a wide front between the Sommespey high road and the Challenge-St. Menchould railway (in the Argonne) but were repulsed after bitter hand to hand fighting."

"Northwest of Massiges, a strong French attack broke down, but we were forced to withdraw from Hill No. 191, north of Massiges."

IN RUSSIA. BERLIN, (via wireless to London), Sept. 30.—Russian troops are again in retreat southeast of Vilna after attempting to block the German advance by counter attacks.

East of Smorgon, we have broken the Russian positions, taking 1,000 prisoners, the war office reported this afternoon.

VON POHL KILLED. BERLIN, (via wireless to Tuckerton, N. J.), Sept. 30.—The only son of Vice Admiral Von Pohl has been killed in action. It was announced here today.

Vice Admiral Von Pohl, it was stated several months ago, had been placed in command of the German high seas fleet.

WARNING TO THE PEOPLE. BERLIN, (via wireless to Sayville), Sept. 30.—The Berlin newspapers today warned the public not to minimize the importance of the greatest offensive movement of the Anglo-French and admitted that the final decision is still in doubt.

The enemy's attacks thus far have nearly all failed and their losses have been gigantic, the newspapers asserted, but the Anglo-French onslaught have not yet ended. The press now is entitled to look forward with confidence and to trust to the heroic resistance of the German army in spite of the enemy's well organized and well prepared efforts.

BALKANS [United Press Leased Wire Service.] ATHENS, Sept. 30.—The Greek chamber of deputies today passed a decree. The deputies met late yesterday, continued in session until an early hour today. Great demonstration occurred when former Premier Gournariz, since the beginning of the war chief advocate of Greek neutrality, supported the Venizelos program in a brief speech.

Despite his expressions of hopefulness, Premier Venizelos made it plain that Greece will not wait for months while Bulgaria keeps the Balkans in suspense. "Mobilization cannot continue indefinitely," he told the chamber, "especially as Bulgaria no longer accepts the situation established between her and her neighbors. The Greek people are prepared to defend the integrity of their territory and to withstand the efforts of any other nation to make itself predominant in the Balkans."

PREPARING FOR WAR. ROME, Sept. 30.—Roumania is making hurried preparations for war, according to the Tribune, which also reported today that Bulgaria is making equally frantic efforts "to back out of

ENGLAND

[By Ed L. Keen, United Press Staff Correspondent.] LONDON, Sept. 30.—Conscription is drawing nearer with each fresh change of British troops against the German works in northern France. The successes scored by the allies in their great offensive, increases, rather than diminishes the possibility of compulsory service. Something must be done to replace the men who are dying or going out of action in what may prove to be the greatest battle of the war.

Lord Kitchener, it was learned today, put the situation frankly before a conference of labor unions in an address on Tuesday. The British army the war lord said, is now of the required size, but the most serious problem is the keeping up of a sufficient supply of trained men to replace the human wastage in the fighting in France and at the Dardanelles. He said he preferred the voluntary system of obtaining armies, but he told the labor officials with the utmost frankness that the present recruiting is wholly inadequate to fill the gaps that will be made in the British armies.

Lord Kitchener said that he did not want to press compulsory service except as a last resort. His personal plan, he said, was to divide the country into districts and to call upon each district for a specified number of men. If the quota was not forthcoming by voluntary enlistment, he said the government would then resort to the draft among men eligible for military service along the same plan used in the United States during the civil war. Kitchener's speech made a deep impression upon the union heads. As a result, it was announced today the laborites will conduct vigorously a campaign of their own to secure more men assisting in other recruiting campaigns.

This, seemingly, is the feeling everywhere in government circles. If conscription is found necessary, it is now likely that it will be reached by gradual stages, calculated not to arouse the public and profiting by the wave of patriotism that has swept the country since the reports of British success in France and Flanders.

The war office today sent the following telegram to all recruiting stations:

"Falling off in receiving of recruits recently causes Kitchener, and the war office greatest concern. If this message is not productive of results, the government will consider at once an intermediary plan, along the line suggested by Lord Kitchener in his conference with the labor heads. If conscription is found inevitable, it is probable that the government will limit itself at the start to unmarried men between certain ages."

TWO OFFICERS KILLED. LONDON, Sept. 30.—Major General George H. Theisger, a hero of the South African war, and Lieutenant General Sir Thompson Capper, a prominent figure in the Sudan campaign, have been killed in the new offensive movement in France, it was officially announced today.

AIR RAID COMING. AMSTERDAM, Sept. 30.—Six Zeppelins were sighted today flying westward over Aerchot, Belgium. Their course is maintained will take them over England.

ALLIES ARE ADVANCING. LONDON, Sept. 30.—Smashing their way through valiantly defended German entrenchments, the French are making steady progress toward their two main objectives in the allies' great offensive.

The Berlin official statement this afternoon admits that the French have made progress toward the Vimy heights, capturing two small trench sections. The French war statement contains no mention of the gain admitted by the enemy, but declares that all German attacks in this region have been repulsed.

Berlin officially admits that the French troops have captured Hill No. 191 north of Massiges in their drive northward toward the all-important railway junction. That the fighting in the whole Champagne region has been most furious in the last twenty-four hours is indicated by the Berlin statement that hand to hand combat are being waged on a front extending as far east as the Challenge-St. Menchould railway. In all probability the armies of the crown prince in the Challenge-St. Menchould region are attempting to stem the French advance toward the railway that feeds the German armies around Verdun.

Berlin makes the claim that the British have been pressed back still further in the fighting north of Loos. The British war office has issued no statement since Tuesday night, when Sir John French reported heavy fighting north of Loos.

Denver Has New Station. DENVER, Sept. 30.—Denver's great new union station will be opened to the public tomorrow. The new station is strictly up to the minute, and is one of the finest in the west.

HILLSTROM WILL NOT DIE WHEN NEXT DAWN BREAKS

Delay in Execution of I. W. W. Poet Who Was Convicted of Double Murder on Circumstantial Evidence and Sentenced.

PRESIDENT WILSON COMES TO HIS AID

Stay Will be Granted at Request of Swedish Minister Who Asked for Time to Look Into the Case.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—President Wilson today wired Governor Spry of Utah, asking him to delay the execution of Joseph Hillstrom, a Swedish subject, who was sentenced to be shot tomorrow for a murder in Salt Lake.

The president's action was taken at the request of Minister Ekengren of Sweden, who is making representations to the state department to obtain a stay until the matter could be taken up through diplomatic channels.

Under the Utah law, Hillstrom had his choice of being hanged or shot, and chose to be shot. Numerous persons have intervened in his behalf, claiming that he did not get a fair trial. Among these were Mrs. J. S. Cram of New York, and Mrs. Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, I. W. W. workers. The president had declined to take any action up to the time the Swedish minister requested his influence in obtaining a reprieve for Hillstrom.

Reprieve to be Granted. SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Sept. 30.—Anticipating receipt of President Wilson's request for a stay of the execution of Joe Hillstrom, convicted murderer, sentenced to be shot tomorrow, Governor Wm. Spry, today stated that he would grant the reprieve.

The length of the stay will be decided at a meeting of the board of pardons called for this afternoon. It probably will be until October 16. President Wilson's reported telegram had not been received shortly before noon.

"I most certainly shall honor the president's request if it is received," Spry stated.

Hopeless Early Today. SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Sept. 30.—Joe Hillstrom's last hope of escaping the firing squad tomorrow went glimmering today when Governor Wm. Spry announced that the state department at Washington transmitted the request of the Swedish minister for a reprieve, but made no recommendation. Spry has said that if the state department wanted a stay of execution he would give the matter his careful consideration.

Hillstrom's last chance seems gone. Only Hillstrom's confession of the

married woman's name at whose home he claimed to have been on the night in January, 1914, when two men were murdered in their grocery store here, can save him and the dreamy-eyed poet-prisoner said he would rather have the state's riflemen shoot him through the heart than he should be hanged.

The doomed man has resigned himself to his fate. He sent a message through his attorney to his I. W. W. comrades, urging them to continue their activities in behalf of the working class and declaring he would face the firing squad without flinching, as he was innocent.

Guards surrounded Governor Spry's house last night. The yard was illuminated by strings of electric lights. Armed details patrolled the business district to guard against threatened dynamiting and incendiarism. Suspected I. W. W. sympathizers who can not give a good account of themselves, were locked up or ordered out of town.

Chief of Police B. F. Grant today referred to the threatening letters as "mutterings of obviously ignorant and irresponsible persons to publish which would be the most gratifying flattery."

The state board of pardons is not expected to hold another meeting before the execution. Yesterday the board had Mrs. Virginia Snow Stephens brought before them for her activity in Hillstrom's behalf. She admitted she had no evidence to offer, but was convinced that Hillstrom had not been given a fair trial and that the death penalty was unwarranted.

"I think the records show no true identification," she told the board, "and the circumstantial evidence leaving much room for doubt and no motive, it would be a gross injustice to kill Hillstrom."

Operated Toll Bridge. [United Press Leased Wire Service.] NILES CENTER, Ill., Sept. 30.—Six men, armed and masked, early today held up autoists and farmers, as they passed over a bridge leading to the main road to Chicago, and collected at the point of a gun what they jokingly called "their toll."

The Niles Center police learned of the holdups when a machinist's site of Chicago cops drove into town. Chicagoans who had been held up, had reported it. The robbers got away in two automobiles before the arrival of the police.

What the War Moves Mean

By J. W. T. Mason, Former European Manager of the United Press.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] NEW YORK, Sept. 30.—A victory of large importance has been gained by the British in Mesopotamia, toward the very heart of the district which Germany has marked on the maps as the site of her future colonial expansion in Asia.

By capturing Kut-El-Amara, the British place themselves well on the road to Bagdad and make it probable that the Arabian nights city will fall into their possession before the end of the winter. With Bagdad lost, Germany's ambitions for colonial development in the most fruitful region of Mesopotamia must disappear, unless the Germans are prepared to make important concessions in the peace conference after the war.

Kut-El-Amara is midway between Bagdad and the town of Amara—itself, the entire distance being 190 miles. The British reached Amara on June 1. They have spent about four months, therefore, covering half the journey to Bagdad, and early next year they should be in the capital city. The Turks are unquestionably demoralized and are badly in need of munitions. The British are largely

out-numbered, but the Ottomans are conducting their retreat as if they themselves were the inferiors. The entire Mesopotamia campaign is permitting the British to demonstrate the truth of the German theory of warfare that inferiority in numbers must not be accepted as a necessary handicap.

The Germans at Constantinople are undoubtedly debarred from giving any help to the Mesopotamia troops or reinforcements would have been dispatched long ago. Only once, as far as is known, have the Turks sent a fresh army into the Mesopotamia campaign. That was after the British had crossed into the legendary site of the Garden of Eden at Kurma, which is at the junction of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. The Turks then attempted a flank attack from the west, but were driven off and eventually routed last July, when their ammunition gave out. As long as shortage of ammunition prevails in Turkey, the Germans must thus continue powerless to prevent the last and most valuable of teutonic colonial projects from being held up for ransom at a peace conference.

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