ONLY THREE AND A HALF DAYS MORE TO BUY LIBERTY BONDS

WEATHER FORECAST.
Rain to-day; moderate southeast gales; clearing and colder to-morrow.
Highest temperature yesterday, 54; lowest, 46.
Detailed weather reports on page 11.

The Sun.

IT SHINES FOR ALL

VOL. LXXXV.—NO. 54. NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1917.—Copyright, 1917, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association. ONE CENT In Greater New York | Elsewhere TWO CENTS.

LIBERTY DAY IS HERE; OFFICIALS CONFIDENT; $2,250,000,000 NEEDED

Yesterday Reported to Have Been Best Day of Campaign.

$300,000,000 TAKEN IN

Du Pont Powder Company Subscribes $50,000,000 in a Lump.

N. Y. GAIN $100,000,000

Steel Corporation Raises Its Boost to $43,300,000—Banks Give $403,791,000.

Subscriptions to America's second Liberty Loan crept close to the $2,750,000,000 mark yesterday, according to returns received last night from the twelve Federal reserve districts. This figure may have been passed, but on account of the difficulty in obtaining returns from widespread sections of the country it was impossible to gauge accurately the response for the day.

Returns covering part of the day placed the estimated total at $2,550,000,000, but this figure was very conservative in view of the marked increase in subscriptions announced everywhere.

Evidence from all of the districts that the momentum was increasing slowly to a point where it will carry the second Liberty Loan safely over the $5,000,000,000 mark by Saturday noon, together with the marked increase in subscriptions, brought cheer to the Treasury Department and to the local committee, who believe that there is more than a fair chance of reaching the maximum allotment by the time subscription books are closed. Approximately $600,000,000 must be raised daily, however, to reach the maximum allotment—just double the subscriptions filed yesterday.

Total official subscriptions filed thus far by all of the districts were placed at $1,501,392,150 last night by the Treasury Department. That total includes only subscriptions that have been filed with the initial 2 per cent. payment. It was admitted that the actual total was well over this figure, estimates received at the Department during the day indicating that subscriptions were in excess of $2,500,000,000.

Comparative Table.

Officials are much concerned over the wide difference between the two totals, but it is believed that the next day or two will see a large increase in the official total. The official and estimated totals follow:

District.	Estimated.	Official.
New York	$917,000,000	$809,620,000
Boston	230,000,000	184,200,000
Cleveland	193,000,000	183,750,000
Minneapolis	89,000,000	62,500,000
Richmond	113,000,000	62,189,650
Chicago	435,000,000	185,203,000
St. Louis	120,000,000	48,522,0[illegible]
San Francisco	178,000,000	65,234,000
Philadelphia	255,000,000	44,049,400
Kansas City	105,000,000	24,121,000
Dallas	80,000,000	16,120,600
Atlanta	80,000,000	12,962,100
Totals	$2,590,000,000	$1,501,392,150

By to-night it is hoped that the estimated total for the loan will be well beyond the $3,000,000,000 mark, which is the minimum amount wanted by the Government in the second Liberty Loan. A tremendous drive has been arranged for the day, which has been designated as Liberty Day throughout the country by President Wilson, and it is felt that the real success of the loan will depend upon the response to the President's appeal. It is hoped to raise $1,000,000,000 during the day, but the committees indicate that they will be satisfied if the subscriptions reach about $500,000,000.

Best Total for One Day.

The country hit a pace yesterday of approximately $300,000,000 a day, which was by far the largest total received in the present campaign in a single day. New York raised approximately $100,000,000, but the pace was not so fast as had been expected. It was expected that the Second Federal Reserve district would raise about $160,000,000. Thus far the Western districts have been setting a faster pace than New York has in proportion to their allotments. Chicago, striving to raise a maximum of $700,000,000, reached $435,000,000, more than 62 per cent. of her quota.

By far the biggest day yet experienced by the Philadelphia district sent its estimated total up to $255,000,000 at the close of business yesterday. This placed Philadelphia third in the percentage of subscriptions in relation to the maximum allotment. New York still retains fifth place in the percentage standing, but it was predicted that in a day or two her total will be such as to allow her to take first place. Following is a table showing the percentage standing of the largest reserve districts.

District.	Per Cent. of Mamimum.
St. Louis	67
Chicago	62
Philadelphia	61
Richmond	57
New York	55
San Francisco	50

The principal cause of the remarkable showing in the Philadelphia district yesterday was a subscription of $50,000,000 from the Du Pont Powder Company, the largest single subscription that has been entered in any district since the books were opened. This is many times more than the amount subscribed by the same company in the first loan, and it is believed to mark the first move on the part of large corporations to take advantage of the ruling by the Treasury Department that Liberty Loan bonds can be classed as invested capital under the new war profits tax.

The ultra wealthy investors are still showing lack of interest in the loan, their subscriptions thus far being hundreds of millions below the records established in the first Liberty Loan campaign, but it is hoped that corporations, investing in large amounts as the result of the ruling by the Treasury Department, will more than make up for the apathy shown by those who can afford to subscribe in amounts of $1,000,000 and upward. Subscriptions on the part

Continued on Eighth Page.

Liberty Loan Parade Moves at 11 o'Clock

THE Liberty Loan parade will start promptly at 11 o'clock this morning from the Plaza at Fifty-ninth street and Fifth avenue. It will proceed down Fifth avenue to Washington Arch, where it will disband.

Approximately 100,000 will be in line, and it is estimated that it will take more than six hours for the parade to pass a given point. A British tank of the type which is being used extensively on the French front will be in line.

More than thirty bands will be in the parade, thirty floats symbolical of war, and a model of an up to date destroyer, the type of craft which has proved the most deadly foe of the submarine.

TO HOLD 10 P. C. OF COAL YIELD

Garfield Plans to Store Fuel for Districts in Need.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Coal operators have received information that the fuel administration is about to requisition 10 per cent. of the coal output of the nation, both anthracite and bituminous. The amount requisitioned will run up to approximately 58,000,000 tons next year, the estimate being based on the rate of production in recent years.

Bituminous coal is coming from the mines now at the rate of about 43,500,000 tons a month. On this basis the fuel administration, as soon as its requisitioning order goes into effect, will have the monthly distribution of about 4,850,000 tons. There will also be from 550,000 to 650,000 tons of anthracite to distribute to shivering householders every month.

Orders taking over 10 per cent. of the output are expected within forty-eight hours. The fuel administration, it is understood, will direct operators to set aside the prescribed percentage of their production to await orders. This vast quantity of free coal will be diverted by Fuel Administrator Garfield into the districts where the greatest shortages have been found.

Dr. Garfield came to the conclusion that there was no other way to meet shortages caused by increased consumption as well as by the practice of hoarding. In most cases the free coal thus obtained will be moved at once. The operators will be directed to ship the requisitioned output to the section of the country where the need is the most severe.

Protests by the operators that their entire output is under contract will be met by the demand of the fuel administration that the contracts be shaved sufficiently to allow for the required diversion to other localities and firms. The requisitioned coal will be sold at prices set by the Government.

The contemplated action of Dr. Garfield will be the second striking example of the Government's commandeering power under war exigencies, the first being the taking over of 1,500,000 tons of ships on the ways and of 2,871,000 tons in the water.

The reason so great difficulty is met in obtaining coal, investigation has shown, is that many hundreds of extra foresighted firms and individuals who wished to guard against discomforts and inconveniences that war might bring last summer laid in supplies for the next year or two.

These hoarders will be dealt with by Dr. Garfield as soon as an investigation is completed which will reveal practically all of them. In the majority of cases probably future supplies of coal will be withheld. In more flagrant instances of hoarding, the power of requisition may be exercised and the private stocks distributed to the public.

OPERATORS WARNED.

Garfield Reminds Them of Power He May Use.

PITTSBURG, Oct. 23.—Asserting that the Government has as much right to take over a certain amount of capital and industry as it has to reach into a private home and take from it a son for the army, Dr. Harry A. Garfield, Federal fuel dictator, addressed 1,500 bituminous coal operators here to-day. Pleading that the operators in the mining industry take measures to overcome any differences with their men, he reminded his auditors that the Government has unlimited powers when the country is at war.

In concluding his remarks Dr. Garfield said:

"Do not forget that when you are considering the question of traffic, transportation and wage the country is at war. I do not say this as a threat, but as long as I am fuel dictator I propose to see that all the coal we expect is produced."

Conscription of labor if the emergency demands it was urged by John P. Reese, general manager of the coal properties of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, who declared:

"The laboring men, and especially the miners, must be made to realize that they must produce coal to whip the Kaiser. 'Wildcat' strikes must be eliminated, and it is up to Mr. Garfield and his Department to do it, even if the Government has to resort to labor conscription."

A resolution protesting against the sale of intoxicating liquor within a radius of five miles of a coal mine was adopted unanimously.

A resolution was adopted urging that coal be given preference on the railroads.

Another $20,000,000 for France.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—The Government to-day advanced another $20,000,000 to France, bringing advances to the Allies to date up to $2,776,400,000.

SUGAR FOR ALL BY NEW SYSTEM OF DISTRIBUTION

Refiners, Wholesalers and Retailers Agree to Relieve Shortage.

RATIONING TILL JANUARY

Price for Granulated Not to Exceed 11 Cents a Pound to Consumers.

Refiners, wholesalers and retailers of sugar got together yesterday and worked out a plan for an equitable distribution of the available stocks and agreed as to the prices at which sugar shall be sold. The sugar ration basis for the city will continue until January 1, by which time the new sugar crops will have arrived and the present shortage will be a thing of the past.

The "get together" meeting took place at 111 Wall street and was attended by representatives of the sugar refining companies and of the organizations of wholesale and retail grocers and by the chain store grocery concerns. The conference was called together by Dr. Henry Moskowitz, City Commissioner of Markets.

The agreement as to prices was as follows:

First—The refiners' price, in accordance with the agreement with the United States Food Administration, is to be $8.85 basis for bulk granulated.

Second—The wholesalers' price $8.60 per 100 pounds for bulk granulated in the original packages to the retail trade.

Third—The retailers' price for granulated sugar 10 cents to 11 cents per pound—not to exceed 11 cents per pound—to the consumer.

Basis of Distribution.

This basis of distribution was arranged:

The refiners agree to pro rate their distribution, on the basis of the available sugar, as follows:

The sales to each customer will be ascertained for the first six months of the year and his average monthly purchases computed. This figure will be used as the basis for distributing the sugar that the refiners will furnish to the New York territory.

The refiners will continue their effort to secure some of the beet sugar and Louisiana sugar that is at present available for the country, for the Eastern market, to relieve the situation.

The wholesalers agree to pro rate their distribution on the same basis as the refiners.

The retailers agree to sell not more than two, two and a half or five pounds at any one time to their regular trade—this quantity to last those customers from ten days to two weeks, according to the size of the family.

Methods of Enforcement.

The official announcement further set forth the methods of enforcement as follows:

"The refiners, the wholesale grocers and the retail grocers pledge themselves to cooperate through their respective associations and any agencies at their command in the enforcement of this agreement.

"The retailers will report any wholesalers to the Municipal Food Administration if they discover that they have been charged in excess of the agreed price.

"The consumers are asked to report to the Municipal Food Administration any retailers who sell sugar in excess of the agreed price. In the first instance these retailers will be reported to the wholesalers and to refiners if they are customers of the refiners.

"The refiners pledge themselves to refuse to sell to any wholesalers who are taking advantage of the emergency by selling in excess of the agreed price.

"The wholesalers and refiners pledge themselves to refuse to sell to any retailers who are taking advantage of this emergency by selling in excess of the agreed price.

"The Municipal Food Administration will do everything in its power to punish the profiteer or hoarder to the full extent of the law."

The joint committee in its announcement also said:

"In this plan cooperation on the part

Continued on Third Page.

Seat Sale Breaks Hippodrome Record

ACCORDING to Mark A. Luescher, who has been at the Hippodrome a long time and knows, the sale of seats for THE SUN Tobacco Fund's benefit performance has broken the best record of that popular playhouse for the first two days in any week. This remarkable accomplishment assures a packed house at the All Star Show next Sunday night. Several more boxes were sold yesterday.

More artists enlisted yesterday. While the bill is growing it maintains its exceptionally high flavor. The programme is chock full of musical, patriotic, mirthful and spectacular features which are certain to delight the vast audience. Read about a few of them on page 5.

The great military and athletic carnival in the Thirteenth Regiment Armory, Brooklyn, tonight, will be a splendid exhibition. Many star athletes will take part in the contests and spirited competition is promised.

WARNING! THE SUN TOBACCO FUND has no connection with any other fund, organization or publication. It employs no agents or solicitors.

Austrian Food Rioters Wreck War Factories

LONDON, Oct. 23.—The Austro-Swiss frontier has been closed owing to the serious internal situation in Austria, according to an Exchange Telegraph despatch from Berne to-day.

Several munition factories were wrecked in recent food riots in Vienna, Pressburg, Brunn and Laibach, the rioters being mostly women, the advices say. The police, according to the reports fired on the crowds, killing and wounding many persons.

CHICAGO RETAIL PRICES FIXED

Illinois Administrator Acts in Case of Sugar, Flour and Potatoes.

CHICAGO, Oct. 23.—Government supervision of food prices went into effect in Chicago to-day when the first of the daily quotations which Harry A. Wheeler, Food Administrator for Illinois, considers fair were formally announced.

Prices as they change will be published daily and from time to time as the committee can agree on quotations other staple articles will be added to the list. The rates the retailer should pay the wholesaler also will be published so that the consumer may know what the committee considers a fair profit for the retailer.

The schedules given out to-day include flour, sugar and potatoes and are regarded as fair averages asked by representative grocers in Chicago. Flour in quarter barrel sacks is from $2.95 to $3.15, for which retailers recently have been asking $3.15. On eighth barrel sacks the price was fixed at $1.49 to $1.60, as against $1.59 asked by the retailer. Five pound sacks were listed by the Food Administrator at 36 to 37 cents and retailers were quoting it at 38 cents.

Potatoes jumped in price over night and were quoted by the Food Administrator at 43 to 46 cents a peck, while grocers were selling them at 40 to 43 cents.

Sugar prices were fixed at 7¾ to 8⅛ cents a pound, while dealers were asking 8½ and 10 cents.

The scarcity of sugar, however, has compelled retailers to pay fancy premiums in order to get enough to supply their trade. Sales in nearly all cases to-day were limited to two pounds to a customer when other goods were purchased.

Reports from railroad officials promise some relief from the present shortage of sugar. It was reported that a shipment of 330 cars of beet sugar was on its way from the West. This shipment is said to be practically the first of the new fall crop and is expected to be followed quickly by others.

Mr. Wheeler points out that not all retail grocers have agreed to abide by these prices. The remedy suggested for consumers is to refuse to buy from all grocers who charge higher prices.

HIGH DRINKS EMPTY HOSPITAL.

St. Louis Has Not a Single Alcoholic Patient on Hand.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 23.—For the first time in the history of the City Hospital the alcoholic ward is without a patient. And to make it more remarkable there has been no patient sent there for treatment since 5 o'clock Sunday. The daily average number in the ward during the last year has been about fifteen, with a high record of forty-five. The one man now there to occupy the attentions of the ward physicians and nurses is being treated for the drug habit.

Superintendent Pringle says there has been a marked decrease in alcoholic cases since the high prices went into effect with the Government order stopping distilling, and that he attributes the lack of patients solely to the high cost of liquor.

ALICE PAUL'S APPEAL DENIED.

Suffrage Leader Held in Washington—Wears Prison Garb.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—The appeal of Miss Alice Paul, sentenced to seven months yesterday, to be treated as a political prisoner has been refused. The suffrage leader is held at the District of Columbia jail instead of being sent to the workhouse at Occoquan, where a great many of her companions are at present.

Miss Paul and the other pickets arrested with her must wear prison garb, may write only one letter a week and may receive mail only under supervision. No one may see the prisoners for a week. After that they may receive one visit a week from an immediate relative.

ITALIAN WARPLANE SETS NEW RECORD.

Lieut. Ballerini Flies From Virginia to Mineola.

A new record for the air trip from the Langley aviation field at Hampton, Va., to the aviation grounds at Mineola was established yesterday by Lieut. Ballerini of the Italian army, when he flew a two seated Italian warplane between the two fields in three hours and ten minutes, fifteen minutes faster than the time made on Monday by the scout machine that escorted the Caproni airplane which carried nine men. Lieut. Ballerini left the Langley field at 9:30 oclock and reached Mineola at 12:40.

Several exhibition flights were given by Italian aviators over the aviation grounds and Camp Mills yesterday. Lieut. Baldroli flew a scout machine to a height of 14,000 feet, and then electrified the crowds by looping the loop and going through various war manœuvres.

Plot Against President Denied.

MEMPHIS, Oct. 23.—Arrests at different points for sending threatening letters to President Wilson gave rise to-day to a story of a conspiracy against the President. It was officially stated that there was no warrant for the report.

NEW IRISH ARMS PLOT ARRANGED BY BERNSTORFF

Lloyd George Bares Plan for Landing Guns to Aid Revolt.

ARRESTS MADE HERE

Dublin "General," His German Aid and Others Seized in New York and Halifax.

A declaration of Lloyd George in the House of Commons yesterday that the Sinn Feiners, encouraged by Germany, plotted another uprising in Ireland, was accompanied by activity on the parts of secret service agents on this side of the water, and arrests were made in New York and in Canada that are believed to have direct connection with this latest conspiracy.

Agents of the United States Government seized a man in New York who had been a leader in the Dublin fighting in Easter week, 1916. With him was arrested a titled German, who was placed in the Ellis Island detention camp. In Halifax two Irish leaders and several Turks were arrested in connection with the Irish conspiracy.

Again Count von Bernstorff comes to the front as the directing figure in an interesting plot. He it is who was furthering the arrangements to get arms into Ireland. As the Count now is Ambassador to Turkey the arrest of Turks with the Irish in Halifax is significant.

IRISH POLICY UPHELD.

Secretary Says Military Is No Menace to Convention.

LONDON, Oct. 23.—In the course of a speech in the House of Commons to-day Premier Lloyd George declared the Government was aware that arrangements were again being made, partly by Count von Bernstorff, to land arms in Ireland.

The Premier said that the Government could not possibly forget what had happened only eighteen months ago. These speeches could not be treated as excited speeches delivered by persons of no consequence, which would end in nothing.

"In order to save those poor people who honestly believed they were doing their best for their country from being persuaded by others," continued the Premier, "I thought it essential that the Government should take action, not provocative action, but firm action.

Warning by Premier.

"There are three things the Government ought to make clear in the interests of Ireland. First, incitement to rebellion cannot be permitted. The Germans nearly landed arms for that purpose eighteen months ago. We know that arrangements are being made for arms to be landed again, and we know that it is partly done by Von Bernstorff. Second, a thing no Government can permit is organization for rebellion."

After referring to the drilling and the marching going on in Ireland and the exhortations of De Valera, the Premier declared that what was going on in Ireland was a deliberate attempt to enroll and drill thousands of young men—who in England would have been compulsorily enlisted—in preparation for rebellion.

The third point was that there was a deal of talk in Ireland among the Sinn Fein leaders, which, said the Premier, did not mean home rule or self-government, but separation or secession. There was a demand for the sovereign independence of Ireland, and, declared the Premier: "We had better say at once that under no conditions will Great Britain permit anything of that kind."

The Irish question was brought forward by John E. Redmond, leader of the Irish party in Parliament, in opening the debate on the motion which he announced on October 16 he would make. The motion, which was defeated, 211 to 78, read:

The House deplores the policy which has been pursued by the Irish executive Government and the Irish military authorities at a time when the highest interests of Ireland and the empire demand the creation of an atmosphere favorable to a successful result of the deliberations of the Irish convention.

Redmond Makes Protest

Mr. Redmond said his only motive was to ward off, and if he could not ward off, to minimize what he considered a grave and increasing menace to the Irish convention. He would not have raised the debate, he added, if he had not been convinced that there was at the present moment grievous danger of the destruction of the conference if the policy at present pursued by the Irish authorities were continued.

It was widely said in Ireland, Mr. Redmond continued, that there were people of Great Britain and Ireland who gladly would see the convention destroyed so that in the consequent anarchy and turmoil, and possible bloodshed, the last hope of self-government for Ireland would disappear. The speaker acquitted the Ulster Unionist party of any such "diabolical wickedness."

Mr. Redmond enumerated what he described as the irritating actions of the executives of Ireland. They had issued proclamations, he said, forbidding all kinds of harmless things, such as Swedish gymnastic exercises, and had arrested insignificant men on insignificant charges, making martyrs of them. He referred to the arrest of Boy Scouts for drilling. He said the result of all this was that there was drilling and carrying arms out of sheer defiance, and that under this treatment the Sinn Feiners were rejoicing and progressing.

No attempt, said Mr. Redmond, had been made to seize the Sinn Fein or

Continued on Second Page.

FRENCH WIN ON 6 MILE FRONT; 2 MILES DEEP IN TEUTON LINE; TAKE OVER 7,500 PRISONERS

Attack Between Soissons and Rheims Mows Down Invaders.

FORT MALMAISON FALLS

All Day and All Night Artillery Fire Precedes Charge of the Poilus.

ENEMY IS OVELWHELMED

Many Field and Heavy Guns Included in the Booty—Several Villages Reclaimed.

LONDON, Oct. 23.—More than 7,500 prisoners, with twenty-five heavy and field guns, were taken by the French to-day in one of the most brilliant drives of the war north of the Aisne, just east of where the battle line, coming down from the north turns eastward between Soissons and Rheims. The German line on a front of more than six miles was pierced for a maximum depth of two and a fifth miles. Several villages in this area which yesterday were held by the Germans are to-day flying the tricolor. The night report of the French War Office follows:

North of the Aisne the attack which we launched this morning developed under extremely brilliant conditions. Despite mist and rain, our troops attacked with admirable enthusiasm formidable organizations of the enemy which were defended by the best troops of Germany, supported by heavy artillery.

In their first dash our soldiers captured the line indicated by the crossroads of Fruty and Bonery. A little later Malmaison Fort, in the centre, fell into our hands.

Heights Reached on Left.

Pushing their advance still further our troops, after a desperate engagement in which they gave proof of their irresistible snap, drove the enemy out of the quarries of Montparnasse, which had been partly crushed by our flying shells.

On the left our progress was continued with the same success, the villages of Allemant and Vauclerson remaining in our power, while on the right our troops carried their lines on to the heights dominating Paissy-Filain.

Finally, in the centre, our troops drove fresh enemy reserves before them, skelter and captured, in a violent struggle, the village of Chavignon. At this point our advance reached a depth of three and a half kilometres (about two and a fifth miles).

The enemy losses in the course of the day were large, in addition to those inflicted on him by our artillery preparation. The number of prisoners counted up to the present exceeds 7,500. In the enormous amount of material captured we have counted twenty-five heavy and field cannon.

The British night report says explicitly that the German attack in Houtholst forest was completely repulsed, prisoners being left in the hands of the English. It asserts also that two attacks on the Poelcapelle road and on the Ypres-Staden railway ended in the repulse of the Germans, with heavy losses to them.

British Yield but Little.

To the north, in Flanders, bad weather prevented further operations on a large scale. The Germans attacked one of the new British posts on the southern edge of Houtholst forest and forced the British back a little. Berlin says the British objectives in this advance were nearly two miles behind the German front line, and since they did not penetrate that far "the engagement was completely successful for the Germans."

The German report tells also of heavy attacks on both sides of Gheluvelt by the British which failed. Field Marshal Haig does not mention any such action. The night report from Berlin says:

In Houtholst wood (Flanders) the enemy has been almost completely driven out of the positions he captured yesterday.

Northeast of Soissons (Aisne front) bitter fighting still goes on on the northern slopes of the Chemin des Dames and on both sides of the main road. The French have advanced close as far as Chevrington, south of Filain strong attacks failed.

The earlier German report described the fighting on the Aisne as follows:

Army of the German Crown Prince: After slight firing activity Monday, which was limited in the morning on account of fog and when only reconnoitring thrusts by the French were made, the artillery battle on heights of Soissons commenced again at sunrise with full force. In the evening the fighting in the region of the Aisne, under a brave expenditure of munitions of all calibre, reached considerable proportions. With the approach of darkness the enemy's attacks increased, but it increased from midnight forward to a continuous drumfire. At daybreak the infantry battle commenced with strong French attacks.

On the eastern bank of the Miraumont East Prussian companies and parts of a storming battalion after a violent flame projection was put to flight 326, southeast of Beaumont. More than 100 prisoners have been brought in.

HOSPITAL MOVED BACK.

Germans Prepare for Further Loss of Ground in Flanders.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN *from the London Times.*

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AMSTERDAM, Oct. 23.—(Delayed)—The Amsterdam Telegraaf learns from the frontier that the Germans seem to be preparing for the loss of more ground in Flanders. The great hospital at Meuscle has been withdrawn to the rear. This hospital, one of the largest

GERMAN CLUB OVER HOLLAND

Plans to Gain Control of Merchant Marine Now and After War.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN *from the London Times.*

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AMSTERDAM, Oct. 23.—The Germans are attempting to obtain control of the Dutch mercantile marine fleet during and after the war. Holland having no iron and steel for ship construction and repairs is obliged to obtain these materials from Germany. The conditions imposed by the Germans place Dutch shipbuilders and owners wholly at their mercy.

All Dutch shipyards receiving German iron or steel under contract with German firms must make report of all details connected with the ship construction or repair work and state the ultimate destination of the vessel. Should a dispute arise as to the interpretation of the contract, the Dutch shipbuilder or owner must bind himself to accept the decision not of a Dutch court but of the German court at Essen.

Not content with this, the Germans insist that all Dutch shipbuilders and owners receiving German iron and steel shall sign a contract running for five years after the war ends that they will not sell any ship without giving Germany the right of refusal and that for five years after the war they will not allow any of their ships to be employed directly or indirectly for the benefit of any of Germany's present enemies. The Dutch Government iron and steel committee has advised ship owners not to accept these last two conditions.

No ship is to be repaired with German iron or steel by any firm on the German blacklist, but the Germans are prepared to waive this prohibition on condition of a generous subscription to the German war loan.

A further measure intended to force Dutch shipping to serve Germany alone is applied to ships not necessarily built of German materials in Groningen province. These ships cannot enter the sea except through the River Ems, which the Germans illegally annexed from Holland recently. The Groningen shipbuilders who wish to send ships to the sea must first sign contracts giving Germany the right of refusal to the ships and promising not to serve Germany's present enemies for five years after the war. Failing this, the ships will be seized in the Ems on the way to the sea.

Dutch ship owning circles, while fully realizing England's need of iron and steel construction for the United Kingdom, believe it would be in Britain's interest to allow some iron and steel to go to Holland. Otherwise, as a Dutch ship owner said yesterday: "If we use only a couple of iron plates from Germany for repairing a ship the vessel is lost to free traffic. Unless something is done to counter the German action all Dutch shipping will soon be under German control."

BID MADE TO DENMARK.

Germany to Cede Land for Large Sum of Money.

LONDON, Oct. 23.—Details have reached London of a German plan to obtain ascendancy after the war in Denmark by ceding to Denmark a small strip of former Danish territory in North Schleswig in return for "a large sum of money" and, presumably also, certain economic and commercial concessions.

It is suggested by the Danish Liberal *Hovedstaden* that the sum of money involved is that which Denmark received from the United States as payment for the Danish West Indies.

BASE HOSPITAL ABLAZE.

Macon Apparatus Rushed To Aid Camp Wheeler.

MACON, Ga., Oct. 23.—The base hospital at Camp Wheeler, the National Guard camp for Georgia, Alabama and Florida here, caught fire late to-night and aid was asked of the Macon department.

Apparatus was immediately despatched to assist the military fire fighting company.

GERMANS HOPE FOR PEACE IN NOVEMBER

800 Soldiers Killed by Allies' Bombs at Essen.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—An Italian workman interned in Germany since the beginning of the war has escaped through the Alps to his own country with a report that the German people want peace and expect it to come in November.

Official despatches received here today tell the man's story, according to which the Germans have abandoned hope of victory at arms. Laborers are threatening to leave the factories if the war continues another winter and the civil population generally is living in terrible conditions. He said 800 soldiers attending a circus at Essen were killed at one time by bombs of allied aviators.

Interesting statements about Germany's unsettled political situation and treachery in the ranks of the army made by an East Prussian prisoner have been received in official despatches.

According to this soldier the socialistic and revolutionary spirit is growing so rapidly that it is expected to endanger the supremacy of the Junkers by spring and the military authorities are adopting most severe repressive measures. He also said German privates left their officers to their fate in the face of fire and that officers hated by their troops fell on battlefields with bullets in their backs.

100 Killed by Explosion.

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 23.—The *Echo Belge* says that 100 workmen, including forty Belgians, were killed and 100 injured by an explosion recently at Luttre, in Hainault province, Belgium.

The property damage is reported to have been considerable.

GERMANY LOSES HALF HER ZEPPS

Fleet of Superdreadnoughts of the Air Is Being Slowly Wiped Out.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Figures contained in an official French report received here to-day show that Germany probably lost one-half of her total effective fleet of super-Zeppelins in the attempted attack on England and return flight over France last week. The report tells of the attack made by French airmen against the Zeppelins, following the tenor of the previous War Office statements, and adds:

The Germans probably lost five of their Zeppelins, which were all of the new type from 234 to 244 meters (760 feet to 800 feet) in length and carrying seven and nine engines with from 1,500 to 2,000 horse-power.

Summing up the extent of the disaster to the German air fleet, the report says Germany altogether has constructed probably 100 Zeppelins, of which sixteen were destroyed before the war. The losses officially reported by the Allies were six in 1914, sixteen in 1915 twenty-five for 1916 and three for 1917.

Thus the minimum of sixty-six Zeppelins have been destroyed, to which must be added half a dozen more lost by accident and in experimental trials. Deducting machines loaned to Bulgaria, Germany now has on the western front only twenty-five super-Zeppelins. The greatest air fleet concentrated against England in Belgium and northern Germany has never amounted to more than sixteen Zeppelins.

All France is exultant over what the despatches declare to be the greatest defeat administered to an air fleet since the beginning of the war. The gratification is more intense because it is now known that the German raid was an attempt to carry out a fearful threat of vengeance made four days before.

WOMAN CAPTURED ZEPP.

Crew of L-45 Surrendered to French Peasant's Wife.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, Oct. 23.—Remarkable as was the disaster to the Zeppelins which raided England last Friday night, still more amazing are some of the incidents of the capture or destruction of four of these monsters of the air in France, where they were attacked on their return. One of these huge craft was captured on the ground, with all its crew, by a woman; another was taken intact by a peasant with a shotgun and is now the Mecca of thousands of sightseers, who are flocking to the scene from all over France.

The L-45 came down near the Swiss frontier with two of its motors dead and its supply of petrol short. Capt. Kellar, her commander, landed eleven of her crew and the two disabled motors, with one of her propellers, to lighten the craft and rose again with one motor, but the power was not sufficient and he came down again in a field.

Warned by a German prisoner of war who was working on the place Mme. Dupont, wife of the farmer, hurried to the scene and the Germans surrendered to her, but Capt. Kellar fired his revolver into the airship and set it afire. By that time the police had arrived and took away the prisoners.

Once Up 40,000 Feet in Air.

The other Zeppelin was the L-49, which came down near the Alsatian border. Her flight from Germany to England and back through France, a distance of about 1,100 miles, is one of the most remarkable on record. Her crew say that at times they were 40,000 feet up in the air. Probably this is an exaggeration; doubtless 20,000 would be nearer the truth, but it is certain that the men nearly froze to death.

Two young French aviators out on patrol sighted the huge Zeppelin in the early hours of the morning and instantly gave chase. As soon as they came within range they opened with their machine guns and attempted to ram the great gas bag. The Zeppelin finally was forced to descend. As it struck the ground a peasant farmer appeared with a shotgun and demanded the surrender of the crew. At the same moment the two aviators, who are little more than boys, made most perilous landings from their airplanes and ran up to the scene, revolvers in hand.

Burning of Airship Thwarted.

The captain of the Zeppelin was trying to destroy its machinery and set fire gas bag afire, but the arrival of the farmer and the two fliers prevented him. He and all his crew were marched off to the village prison, and for the first time in the war a Zeppelin practically intact was in possession of the French.

This occurred at Bourbon-les-Bains. Word was sent at once to Paris, and the village has been crowded with visitors, including many American officers, who are making detailed studies of the enormous war craft. It is remarkably well preserved considering what it has been through.

The Zeppelin is a vast black bulk, looking like a gigantic puff adder. It is some 700 feet long and 60 feet in height, painted black except on top, which is a grayish silver like the belly of a snake. Beneath are four gondolas connected by a narrow gangway. It is propelled by a twelve cylinder Diesel engine, and is equipped with wireless and also incendiary bombs. There was also a machine gun mounted forward, which the crew was unable to use.

34 KILLED; 56 INJURED.

Result of Zeppelin Raid Over England Last Friday.

LONDON, Oct. 23.—The total casualties in all districts from the Zeppelin raid of last Friday were 34 killed and 56 injured, it is reported officially.