WEATHER.
Probably showers and thunderstorms tonight and tomorrow; cooler tomorrow; fresh southerly winds.
Temperature for twenty-four hours ending 2 p.m.: Highest, 85, at 3:20 p.m. yesterday; lowest, 66, at 5 a.m. today.
Full report on page 17.

CLOSING NEW YORK STOCKS PAGE 17.

# The Evening Star.

"From Press to Home Within the Hour"

Sworn Net Circulation, Month of August, 1916, Daily Average, 74,969; Sunday, 55,712.

No. 29,455. WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1916.—TWENTY-TWO PAGES. ONE CENT.

## KING CONSTANTINE DECIDES TO WAR UPON BULGARIANS

### Ultimatum to Be Sent Demanding Instant Evacuation of Grecian Macedonia.

### MOBILIZATION PROBLEM WILL BE DIFFICULT ONE

**Revolution Expected to Be Proclaimed in Mitylene Tomorrow.**

**HYDRA JOINS ALLIED FLEET**

**Unconfirmed Report Says Several Other Vessels Have Gone Over. Venizelos Makes Known His Purpose.**

ATHENS, Wednesday, September 27, via London, September 28, 10:30 a.m.—The Associated Press is in a position to state positively that King Constantine decided this morning in favor of an immediate declaration of war on Bulgaria.

Reports that a general mobilization has been ordered are premature. After the session of the council of ministers at the palace this morning Premier Kalogeropoulos hastily called a cabinet meeting. The premier declared the government was giving the fullest consideration to the situation, and there might be addressed to Bulgaria a note of such character that mobilization would logically follow.

**Ultimatum to Be Sent.**

Later in the day it developed that the king had decided on a declaration of war against Bulgaria. The decision has not yet been announced publicly, as numerous details remain to be worked out. They include an ultimatum to Bulgaria demanding instant evacuation of all Greek Macedonia, as well as plans for mobilization under the difficult conditions presented by the occupation of Greek territory by the entente forces. The King this morning discussed the mobilization problem minutely with Gen. Mosothopoulos, chief of staff, and Gen. Yanakitsas, former minister of war. He probably will preside personally over a meeting of the crown council at noon tomorrow. Even the departure of former Premier Venizelos from Athens created nothing like the suppressed excitement evident everywhere this afternoon. The people feel that their long period of expectancy is about to end, and prospect of war with the Bulgarians apparently is welcome.

**Has No Designs on Government.**

The Venizelist morning papers publish declarations which the former premier left prior to his departure, in which he says the movement he heads is not revolutionary, but purely of national character, and that he has no design upon the integrity of the actual government of the country. M. Venizelos declares that his course is the only way by which national unity may be preserved, and that he will struggle for the salvation of Greece without the aid of the constituted government, if the government will not act. But if the king decides to defend Hellenic soil against the invaders he will be glad to turn over the forces he has gathered to co-operate in a common effort to save the country.

**Communicates With King.**

It is learned that communication between the king and M. Venizelos already has been established through the former minister of war, Gen. Yanakitsas, and that the outlook is favorable for an early arrangement of the difficulties at present dividing Greece. The greatest blow to King Constantine has been the departure of Admiral Coundouriotis, who, after the sovereign, is the most distinguished national hero.

**Revolution to Be Proclaimed.**

PARIS, September 28.—An Athens dispatch to the Havas Agency says that a monster meeting will be held at Mitylene tomorrow, at which the revolution will be proclaimed.

The Greek battleship Hydra has joined the allied fleet, according to a dispatch from Athens.

There is an unconfirmed report, the dispatch adds, that the Greek battleships Spetsai and Psara and four Greek destroyers have also joined the combined Anglo-French naval forces under Vice Admiral Du Fournet, in the Mediterranean.

**Venizelos Warmly Greeted.**

Another dispatch from Athens says: "Elipherios Venizelos arrived at Suda bay on Monday night and entered Canea, the capital, the next day. Several thousand of the inhabitants escorted him in triumph, and he addressed them from the balcony of the barracks. There was no disorder in the city, the royalist officials and officers keeping in the background. Candia also is quiet.

M. Venizelos has announced that he will send out from Crete in a few days a proclamation to the Greek people explaining his attitude and the necessity of fighting against the Bulgarians. The committee of national defense will have its headquarters at Saloniki, probably under the presidency of Admiral Coundouriotis. M. Venizelos will direct the policy and organize and extend the movement."

**$5,000 Job for Multimillionaire.**

DETROIT, Mich., September 28.—James Couzens, multimillionaire and former vice president of the Ford Motor Company, has accepted the appointment as police commissioner of Detroit. The position carries an annual salary of $5,000. He succeeds John Gillespie, who resigned last night.

## PRESIDENT'S STATE INVADED BY HUGHES

### Republican Nominee Makes His First Appearance in New Jersey.

### SPEAKS AT FAIR GROUNDS TO TRENTON AUDIENCE

**Protective Tariff His Theme—Administration Charged With Extravagance and Broken Pledges.**

TRENTON, N. J., September 28.—Charles E. Hughes today addressed an audience at the state fair here.

Mr. Hughes reached Trenton at 10 a.m. from Pittsburgh, where he spoke last night, and motored to the fair grounds. There he held a public reception for an hour, afterward speaking from the judges' stand at the race track.

With him on the stand were successful and defeated republican candidates for various offices at Tuesday's primary election.

It was Mr. Hughes' first appearance as a presidential nominee in President Wilson's home state. He spoke chiefly of the protective tariff.

**Grandstand Seats Sold.**

He found on reaching the fair grounds that seats in the grandstand which his platform faced had been sold, some of them three weeks in advance, for the trotting races. The crowd was permitted to stand on the race track and the nominee turned his back to the grandstand to address them.

Thousands who had bought cheaper seats in the stand were unable to hear him. Unwilling to risk losing their seats they remained in their places out of earshot.

Mr. Hughes spoke chiefly of the protective tariff. He assailed the administration vigorously for the Adamson law, extravagance and "broken pledges." He reiterated his declaration for enforcement of American rights. The crowd applauded frequently.

### Hughes Covered With Dust in a Tour of Steel Plants; Reviews Pittsburgh Parade

PITTSBURGH, Pa., September 28.—Charles E. Hughes went through the big steel-making district of Pittsburgh yesterday, addressed thousands of workingmen who left their work to hear, returned to the city last night covered with dust and ended the first day of his campaign in Pennsylvania with a speech in the music hall of the Pittsburgh exposition.

The chief theme in all of Mr. Hughes' addresses today was the protective tariff. To an audience of thousands of workmen at the Homestead steel plant he declared that present conditions of prosperity would not endure in the days when Europe would be at peace unless the United States should adopt a protective tariff.

To an audience that jammed the music hall he repeated this statement last night. He also dwelt at length upon his views on the Adamson bill, the administration's policy toward Mexico, the shipping bill and what he termed extravagant claims made by the administration for having aided business.

**Progressives Sit With Republicans.**

Mr. Hughes spoke from a platform upon which were seated republican and progressive leaders who have opposed one another in the state during the past four years. On his way here from Cleveland he was met and escorted to this city by Senators Oliver and Penrose and William Flinn, a former progressive leader. These, with Alexander P. Moore and other progressive and republican leaders, sat with him on the platform last night.

In his speech Mr. Hughes emphasized his belief that the republican party was reunited.

"The breach of recent years has been healed," he said. "And our national aims at this time are conceived to be of such transcendent importance that we know of no difference and are not allowing any former disagreements to impair our unity of effort. We are going straight to the mark of providing a sure basis for permanent prosperity in the United States.

"I should take little pleasure in my candidacy if I did not think that the reunited republican party was a great liberal party, the party of progress. We are truly progressive, sanely progressive, looking forward to the solution of important problems that this new century will place before us."

Mr. Hughes again assailed the administration for the Adamson law, the shipping law and the Underwood tariff.

He left at midnight for Trenton, N. J., where he speaks this morning, and Saratoga Springs, N. Y., where he will deliver an address tonight. His voice still showed signs of the strain under which he has been laboring, but was measurably improved.

**Candidate Dust-Covered.**

In the afternoon Mr. Hughes motored seventy-five miles over dusty roads through the heart of the steel-making district. He visited Homestead, Duquesne, McKeesport, Wilmerding and East Pittsburgh, addressing audiences of blue-jeaned mill workers at every stop. The smoke and dust and grimes of the journey were on him at its close.

To these audiences, the nominee spoke chiefly of the protective tariff. At one big plant, the 7,500 workers were given an hour off on full time to hear him. The managers of his tour estimated that it cost this company $2,000 in wages to have Mr. Hughes visits its plant.

After the long motor trip Mr. Hughes reviewed a big parade of republicans last night. They marched past his hotel, six and eight abreast, with white umbrellas over their heads, torches lighted and red fire blazing. Nearly an hour was required for the parade to pass.

With scant time for dinner, the nominee hurried away to the meeting, which was held in Exposition Hall. There he found an audience that packed the building and brimmed over into the street.

**Ten Infantile Paralysis Deaths.**

NEW YORK, September 28.—The number of new cases of infantile paralysis reported by the health authorities today remained at the same level set by the increase of yesterday, there being twenty-six. The number of deaths doubled, being ten, as compared with five yesterday. For the first time in more than ten days the borough of Richmond appears in the new case column, reporting one.

## TWO TOUGH JOBS FOR G. O. P. CHIEFS

### Must Keep "Eight-Hour" Issue Alive and Combat "Peace" Sentiment.

### HENRY FORD A CHAMPION OF THE WILSON POLICIES

**Indorsement of Railway Strike Legislation Matter of Concern to Republicans.**

BY N. O. MESSENGER.

CHICAGO, September 28.—Two tasks confront the republican campaign managers at this stage of the proceedings and employ their most earnest consideration. The first is to keep their new-born issue of the eight-hour wage coercion from being distorted to the advantage of the opposition, and the other is to combat that popular obsession that President Wilson kept the country out of war.

**First Problem More Exigent.**

The first problem is the more exigent, the second the more difficult. The woman voters of the western woman suffrage states are involved in the "he kept us out of war" proposition, and the futility of argument against a sentimental determination can be appreciated.

The democratic campaign managers have been prompt in getting to work to put their side of the eight-hour issue before the public. In passing, it may be said that the democrats appear to be a little quicker on their feet and handier with the gloves than the republicans, although it remains to be seen who will have the most staying qualities and the heaviest punch in the end.

**Ford Out for Wilson.**

The democrats have enlisted Henry Ford of Detroit in their first effort to divert the eight-hour issue to their own advantage. Mr. Ford has issued a statement praising the eight-hour principle, decrying the protective tariff, tying up Hughes, Roosevelt and Wall street in one bag and tossing the trio into the Bosporus of his disapprobation. It was a perfectly corking statement, and the democrats are counting upon it to sway the workingmen in the automobile industries of Michigan to an extent which will offset the big republican vote of the state and put Michigan in the Wilson column.

And thus it appeared to some of the republicans at first blush. Upon second thought, however, it occurred to them that Mr. Ford is not followed entirely by many other great manufacturers of the country, and certainly not in his appraisal of the protective tariff. It is said he has raised an issue among the manufacturers of the land as between Hughes and Wilson which will attract serious attention.

**Burden on the G. O. P.**

However, the statement of Mr. Ford on the eight hour principle is not lightly overlooked, and the fact is not lost sight of that while a statement is not an argument, in the present circumstances it devolves upon the republicans to bring out the argument. That is what they are going to do from now until election day. The republicans are giving devout thanks that the eight-hour climax came so far in advance of election day. If it had been sprung a fortnight before November 7 their problem would have been harder.

It remains to be demonstrated whether their speakers can keep the issue as clearly defined as did Mr. Hughes in his first stand upon the subject, or whether the opposition will be successful in giving it the humanitarian imprint of a stand for the principle of the eight-hour day of labor.

**Attitude of Woman Voters.**

Indications are at hand that on this, as on the war exemptive, the woman voters are inclining to side with President Wilson. Here is a sample, quoting verbatim from the speech of Mrs. Antoinette Funk of Illinois, a leader among the woman voters, delivered at Springfield, September 26, who said: "I came to President Wilson because I believe in his labor legislation, no matter what happens to the particular measure, the Adamson bill, whether it is amended or repealed. Quite regardless of the special controversy of the moment, I consider that this measure has put the advent of the short working day ahead a quarter of a century and in a very special manner it affects legislation regarding women."

There it is, "quite regardless of the special controversy of the moment." That is the keynote of the defense of the democratic position and from Henry Ford all down the line the democrats will sound it incessantly.

That it is offkey, a false note, it rests with the republicans to prove.

**FOOD SUPPLY BILLS HIGHER.**

**Beans and Corn Scarce, Navy Department Learns.**

NEW YORK, September 28.—Bids for food supplies for the United States Navy, just received here, are much higher than those of last year. Some of the items called for, such as beans and corn, are so scarce that many firms which usually bid on these contracts did not compete. Only two firms bid on the stringbean contract and offered to fill only part of the order of 500,000 pounds. One firm offered to supply 270,000 pounds for $22,120. The lowest bid for 1,140,000 pounds of canned corn was $85,174, while 2,305,000 pounds of canned tomatoes were offered for $112,945.

One of the largest items on the list was 640,000 pounds of canned peaches, which were offered at $51,319.

**Bread in Chicago Now 6 Cents.**

CHICAGO, September 28.—Housewives of Chicago today began paying 6 cents for a loaf of bread which formerly sold for 5 cents. Smaller bakers throughout the city will follow the example of the larger wholesalers in advancing the price, it was said.

## FLOUR AT HIGHEST LEVEL SINCE 1865

### May Jump to $14 a Barrel, According to Statements of Washington Dealers.

The price of flour in Washington today is the highest it has been since the civil war—$9.55, $9.75 and $10 a barrel—with the prospect that if wholesale shipment of wheat abroad is not stopped flour will within a very few months jump to $14 a barrel, according to statements made today by leaders in this line of business.

To safeguard the interests of the consumers in the United States business interests are considering the advisability of urging that an embargo be placed upon the shipment of wheat abroad, that wheat from Argentina, Canada and elsewhere be admitted duty free, that the American mills be kept going and allow the flour to be shipped to the needy of the world in such quantities as will not impoverish the American consumer.

At a meeting of the Washington Chamber of Commerce executive committee this noon this matter was considered and opinions were expressed that this condition should be brought to the attention of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States with a view to having it refer the question to the thousands of subsidiary chambers throughout the United States.

**Views of P. T. Moran.**

P. T. Moran, president of the Chamber of Commerce, who himself has been a wholesale dealer in flour here for more than twenty years, gave his opinion today as follows:

"If we continue selling wheat out of the country the price of wheat and flour must advance. We should keep what we have at home and keep our mills going. Let the wheat in free, but have no embargo on the milled flour. It is not greed or an inclination to deprive other people that prompts this view. It is only meeting abnormal conditions to care for our own needs. In several months flour may go to $14 or $15 a barrel. The growers would not suffer through keeping the wheat at home, for so long as the mills are grinding the wheat they will get splendid prices. The bakers of the United States at a recent convention advocated an embargo on wheat and other important trade organizations are supporting that view. The Washington Chamber of Commerce stands ready to do all it can in a movement for the protection of the consumer."

Flour today is selling for the highest price since he has been in business, Mr. Moran says. Special brands in twenty-five-barrel lots are being sold for $9.25 net. The average price on winter wheat patent flour, according to Mr. Moran, is $8.25, and the spring wheat mixed brings about $9.50. Some special brands carry a premium of 60 or 75 cents over that.

At the office of W. M. Galt & Co., 1st street and Indiana avenue northwest, it was stated that the price of flour today is the highest in the memory of the firm. The jobbing price was given at $9.75 on a popular brand. It was explained that the market price of flour is based on the cost of wheat; that no trust can control prices of whea tand flour since they are regulated by the price in the markets of the world, and hence reach a world standard.

**Cost Affected by Package.**

S. H. Rogers of Wilkins, Rogers Milling Company, 3261 K street northwest, said that the prices on flour are the highest he can remember and he has been in the business more than twenty years. Before giving the price on flour, he explained that the kind of package makes a difference of about 40 cents in cost. The carload price of flour in bulk today, he said, to bakers, for a good spring wheat patent would be $8.25 in sacks; to dealers on winter wheat, $8, and on spring wheat $9, and that the dealer should be allowed $1 profit for maintaining his stock and cartage. He explained that a large percentage of wheat this year is not fit to mill and that efforts are being made to get some better wheat to blend with this. He predicted that the presenut supply is almost certain to run short before the next-year crop comes in. As a result of this he said he supposed the bakers will feel forced to cut down on the size of a loaf of bread and that in Washington they probably will put out an 8 to 10 ounce loaf.

Dispatches printed yesterday that a shipment of 4,000 bushels of wheat from Argentina has been made to the United States does not give local dealers much encouragement. They say this would only be a "drop in the bucket," that it is more than likely the cargo is intended for immediate transhipment abroad, and that it has not even been established what the quality of this wheat is. It probably will be blended with United States wheat, they say.

The average yearly crop of Argentina is about 200,000,000 bushels. This is scarcely one-third of the crop of the United States. Europe always has been a buyer of wheat in that country, and will doubtless continue to buy there. The distance vessels must travel is considerably greater than from this country, and this adds to the cost of the freight. Europe has preferred to get its grain supply from the United States, all other things being equal.

### Committee to Investigate Cause of Increase in Flour and Other Foodstuffs Here

A committee to investigate the causes of the increase in the cost of flour and other foodstuffs and to take steps to prevent a further increase was appointed at the meeting of the executive committee of the Washington Chamber of Commerce today.

P. T. Moran, president of the Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the executive committee, declared that wheat and flour are advancing at an alarming rate and that within six months it is impossible to say what figures may be reached. Mr. Moran declared that neither the farmers nor the bulk of the people of this country are benefiting from the raise in the price, which is occasioned largely by the exportation of wheat and flour to Europe.

"A group of about twenty-five men who really do not need the money are the ones who are profiting by this rise in price," he declared. "I am not an alarmist, nor am I one who 'flies off the handle' at the first suggestion, but I want to tell you that the situation is one of extreme gravity.

"At present milling companies will not take orders for two months in advance. Yesterday a steamer landed in this country with wheat from Argentina. This is the first shipload of wheat which has ever been imported into this country.

Albert Schulteis urged that all foodstuffs be included in the investigation which was to be made, as, he claimed, the bakers always are the ones questioned if the price of bread advances.

"This is not intended to strike at the bakers, but to help protect them," said A. Leftwich Sinclair, who introduced the resolutions calling for the investigation. "All persons can realize that if the cost of wheat goes up flour and bread also must rise in price."

John G. Capers spoke of the higher cost of shoes and leather as well as foodstuffs.

The resolutions presented by Mr. Sinclair, after saying "There has been a steady and alarming increase in the price of wheat and flour in this country," direct that, "in the interest and for the benefit and protection of the public, a committee of five members be appointed to determine the cause of the increase in the price of wheat and flour in the United States, and to consider and report upon ways and means of preventing further increase in the price of wheat and flour."

President Moran appointed the following committee: John G. Capers, president; Albert Schulteis, Theodore Michael, Howard Wilkins and W. S. Hoge. The committee is to report at the board of directors' meeting in October.

"The Triflers"

A new love serial by **Frederick Orin Bartlett,** who wrote "The Wall Street Girl," is a wholesome story of a lovable woman and two high-minded men. Read the opening chapters in the next Sunday Magazine of The Sunday Star.

## PRESIDENT PLANS TO ANSWER G. O. P.

### Will Assail Stand Taken by Republicans on Prominent Issues.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., September 28.—Arrangements for President Wilson to assail the republican stand on the prominent issues of the campaign were made at a conference here today between the President, Vance C. McCormick, chairman of the democratic national committee, and Secretary Tumulty. Using his speech of acceptance as a foundation, the President is preparing to build up the democratic case in a series of addresses on political subjects.

Mr. Wilson, it was decided definitely today, will make at least two speeches in New York state, one in New York city and the other in Buffalo. They will not be made until the middle or latter part of October and will be arranged to back up the active campaign to be made by Samuel Seabury, democratic candidate for governor, and William F. McCombs, candidate for senator.

**Speech Each Saturday.**

A decision was also reached for the President to make at least one speech here every Saturday between now and election. He has already agreed to address a Pennsylvania delegation October 14, and today arrangements were made for him to speak to a delegation of farmers and a delegation from St. Louis later in October. Farmers from New Jersey and neighboring states will be invited for "farmers' day." Mr. McCormick said he expected "Pennsylvania day" to be a great success.

"Mr. Hughes is slipping, and from now on Mr. Wilson's stock will rise," said Mr. McCormick, who was plainly pleased by his conference with the President. "There is to be no lagging in the democratic campaign, and every point made by the republicans will be more than answered."

Mr. McCormick, who came here last night, conferred with the President for more than five hours and went over with him the details of the campaign plans. He left this morning for New York, but will return for another conference Monday before the President leaves for Omaha, where he speaks Thursday night.

**Decorates Boy Scout.**

Mr. Wilson had his picture taken today pinning a medal on Scout MacMorris at Hazelton, Pa., a winner of the highest honors conferred by the Boy Scouts of America. He congratulated the boy on his prowess, and spoke of the good work done by the Boy Scouts. Later he saw Miss Ida Tarbell, the magazine writer, who is supporting him in the campaign.

Issues raised by Mr. Hughes will be discussed by President Wilson here Saturday in his first purely political speech since his address accepting the renomination. Administration officials said that when he appears before the members of young men's democratic clubs at Shadow Lawn the President will handle the political situation "without gloves." A delegation of nearly 2,000 young democrats is expected here on special trains Saturday to hear the President's address. The public will be admitted to the grounds.

**Different From Baltimore Address.**

It is understood that the President's speech Saturday will be totally different from his Baltimore address Monday, in which he discussed business problems from a non-political standpoint. He has not fully developed his views on the Adamson law, it was declared, and, in addition, is planning to speak on sectionalism, Mexico and the problems caused by the European war.

The President will push a button October 2, opening an industrial exposition at Zanesville, Ohio, and it has been decided that when he goes to Indianapolis October 12 he will speak in the fair grounds there.

## STRIKE A FAILURE, CLAIM N. Y. POLICE

### Unable to Find Any Evidence of a General Suspension of Labor.

### TRACTION LINE SERVICE STILL ON NORMAL BASIS

**More Unions Voting Today on Strike Question—Printers Forbidden to Go Out.**

NEW YORK, September 28.—Leaders of union labor appeared today to have met with small success in their renewed efforts to bring about their promised general strike to aid the striking traction employes, which was called to begin yesterday. Despite the claim of the leaders that the number who have quit work totals 125,000 and more, police officials said today that if a strike was in progress there was little evidence of it.

"If there is a general labor strike in this city we can't find it," said the secretary of the police commissioner.

Service on the elevated and subway lines continued normal today, except for the withdrawal of a large number of cars, owing to the decreased traffic due to the Jewish holiday, and the general situation seemed to be about the same as it has been for the last week.

**More Unions Voting Today.**

Unions having a total membership of 164,000 are voting on the strike today. One of the most important of these organizations is the New York Building Trades Council. It was announced that 7,000 brewery workers will strike today, but it was stated that these men have a trade agreement which permits them to have a holiday at this season every year.

Members of the United Hebrew Trades, composing one of the largest divisions of trade unionism in the city, are celebrating the Jewish New Year today. Whether they will remain out on strike cannot be determined until next week.

Today is the beginning of the third week of the strike of the street car men. The traction companies assert their service is improving daily. Union leaders, however, see a possibility that the motormen of the subway and elevated lines may join the strike as a result of grievances presented in their behalf by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

**Strike of Printers Vetoed.**

Word has been received from Marsden G. Scott, president of the International Typographical Union, that he has advised the local unions here that the executive committee of that organization will not sanction a strike and that their contracts with employers will be observed to the letter.

One passenger was injured when a 3d avenue elevated train was showered with bricks and bottles today. Other 3d avenue trains were attacked also, but the damage was limited to broken windows. The police arrested four men, two of them striking street railway employes, on the charge of being responsible for the riot that took place last night following the derailment of a 3d avenue surface car at 96th street.

The statement today by Ernest Bohm, state organizer of the American Federation of Labor, was:

"We have 163,000 out at this moment. We will have quite a surprise for you this afternoon. I am not bluffing when I say this."

Reports received at police headquarters today were that 12,000 tunnel workers on new subway construction were preparing to strike.

**Violence Renewed.**

Violence broke out again today when a crowd of strike sympathizers attacked a Grand street cross town car with stones, shattering windows and driving the motorman, conductor and passengers into the street. The stone throwers were dispersed by the police, who made one arrest.

Efforts of the 3rd avenue system to run cars in Westchester county today for the first time since the traction strike began, results in attempts on the part of the strikers or their sympathizers to cripple the lines by cutting feed wires, soaping the rails and pulling trolley poles off the wires.

## COAST FLEETS COMBINE

NEW YORK, September 28.—William M. Barnum, president of the Pacific Coast Company, confirmed here today the announcement made yesterday in Seattle that the boats owned by his company will be operated jointly with the fleet of the Pacific Alaska Navigation Company, under the control of a new company called the Pacific Steamship Company.

"The authorized capital of the new company is $1,000,000," he said. "Half of it has been issued and paid in equal amounts by the Pacific Coast Company and the Pacific Alaska Navigation Company. These two companies charter their respective fleets to the new company for a term of ten years."

The value of the two fleets, he said, aggregated about $7,000,000.

**MOB MURDERS TWO NEGROES.**

**Taken From Jail, Bound to Trees and Riddled With Bullets.**

NASHVILLE, Tenn., September 28.—Two negroes charged with connection with the murder of Bud Burns, at the phosphate mines at Gardonsburg, Saturday night, were taken from the Hohenwald jail at 1 o'clock this morning, carried to a hill on the road to the mines, bound to trees with wire and riddled with bullets.

A mob of seventy-two men partly masked awoke Sheriff O. C. Christian and demanded the prisoners. On his refusal he was seized, threatened with a pistol and carried to the garden, while members of the mob obtained the keys from the sheriff's wife. Some young men followed the mob in an automobile and found the dead bodies of the prisoners.

## BRITISH KEEP UP ADVANCE IN WEST

### Push Ahead Between Martinpuich and Guendecourt and North of Flers.

### GERMANIC ATTACKS AT VERDUN REPULSED

**French Forces Have Thrust Out Forcefully From Rancourt and Bouchavesnes.**

LONDON, September 28.—British troops last night advanced at various points on the Somme front between Martinpuich and Gueudecourt, says the British official statement issued today.

The French have been thrusting out forcefully east from Rancourt into the St. Pierre St. Vaast wood, and at Bouchavesnes to the south they are almost in a direct line north of Peronne, against which the speedy development of their enveloping movement is now to be expected.

Meanwhile activity has been resumed at Verdun, the Germans again attacking east of the Meuse, between Thiaumont and Fleury. The asaults were repulsed by the French, with heavy losses to the crown prince's troops, Paris declares.

**British Take Trenches.**

German trenches on a front of 2,000 yards to the north of Flers and a German redoubt to the northeast of Thiepval were captured by the British during the fighting Wednesday north of the Somme, according to the official communication issued shortly after midnight. Describing this fighting the British official statement says:

"Excellent progress was made today (Wednesday) on the battle front. North of Flers our troops carried further enemy trenches on a front of 2,000 yards and are now level with the east side of Faucourt L'Abbaye.

"There has been fierce fighting northeast of Thiepval, in the course of which our troops stormed and now hold an enemy work known as the Stuff redoubt, on the main ridge 2,000 yards northeast of the village.

**Captures of Material.**

"More than 1,800 rifles, four flammenwerfers and many thousand rounds of artillery ammunition and grenades were taken in Combles, where our allies also made large captures of material.

"The prisoners taken in the last two days' fighting bring the total for the operations of the last fortnight to 10,000.

"Two enemy aeroplanes and two kite balloons were destroyed yesterday. Two of our machines are missing."

"Our new positions gained during the last two days have been secured during the night, and patrols and detachments have been pushed forward at many places into close touch with the enemy."

**Latest British Report.**

The British announcement today says:

"During the night our line was advanced at various points between Martinpuich and Gueudecourt and posts were established west and southwest of Eaucourt L'Abbaye and within 800 yards of that village.

"On the left of our front our position was consolidated on the ridge northeast of Thiepval. A battalion of enemy infantry with transport was caught on the march by our artillery and successfully shelled.

"The fighting in the last few days has been singularly economical. Our losses were small, not only relatively to the importance of our gains, but absolutely. Our total casualties were not more than twice the number of enemy prisoners taken. One division which had a specially difficult task allotted to it took as many prisoners as it suffered casualties."

**Aircraft Bomb Germans.**

A British official communication issued last evening tells of the bombing of German positions by aircraft, as follows:

"Attacks were carried out this morning on enemy airship sheds at Evere, Berchen, St. Agathe and at Etterbeek, near Brussels, by naval aeroplanes. Bombs were observed to straddle the sheds, which apparently were hit.

"The bombs dropped at Evere struck buildings, presumably ammunition stores, in close proximity to the sheds. Heavy explosions were heard and large volumes of smoke were observed. All the machines returned safely."

**Luxemburg Foundries Attacked.**

BERLIN, September 28, via London, 5:15 p.m.—German troops yesterday victoriously repulsed the Anglo-French forces on a greater part of the battle front between the Ancre brook and the River Somme, says the official statement issued today by the German army headquarters staff.

Attacks by entente aircraft upon foundries in Luxemburg are declared by the Luxemburg newspaper Obermosel to be unjustified. Luxemburg, it declares, stands ready to furnish ammunition to any customer. It cites Switzerland and the United States as in a similar position regarding the furnishing of ammunition supplies to belligerents, and are, nevertheless, exempt under international law from attacks upon their munition plants.

**British Munitions Destroyed.**

The story of the destruction by German aviators the night of July 20 of huge British ammunition stores at Audruicq, in northern France, ten miles south of Calais, is now published by the semi-official Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung. According to this newspaper, German aviators kept watch for months as the ammunition storehouses were being built. The plant consisted of dozens of sheds and buildings of all sizes, equipped with vast switching facilities and unloading platforms.

When the aviators had satisfied themselves that the storehouses were filled they undertook the attack in the night, dropping bombs which are said to have caused the explosion of every one of the storehouses and set fire to barracks and other military establishments over a wide area. Photographs taken by the aviators the following day, when contrasted with pictures taken the day before the attack showed only huge craters where the ammunition plant had been, leaving no doubt as to the completeness of the destruction wrought.

**May Have Occurred Some Time Ago.**

The Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeit-