

VERDUN AGAIN IS CENTER OF BATTLE STAGE

Desperate Fighting Follows Inauguration of New French Offensive.

FLEURY IS SCENE OF BITTER STRUGGLE

French Occupy Village After Brilliant Attack, but Germans Regain Position in Southern Section of Town After Desperate Counter Attack—Fighting For Possession of Place Continues—French Score Gains.

Desperate fighting is in progress north of Verdun, where the French three days ago took the offensive and have scored notable gains in the efforts to drive back the Germans who have been hammering at the gates of the fortress for more than five months.

After pushing to the outskirts of the village of Fleury, on Wednesday night, the French brilliantly attacked the place yesterday and carried it by storm. The French crown prince's troops launched a furious counter attack and succeeded in taking the southern section of the village, being, however, unable to wrest the northern portion from General Nivelle's forces. Fleury, however, is not the only point where the French have scored advances. In an attack on a three mile front from east of the river Meuse they pushed north along the river toward Vaucherauville wood, and further east attacked and gained possession of the Thiaumont position. The Thiaumont position was found to be untenable, however, because of the German bombardment and was compelled to withdraw from it.

Meanwhile fighting on the Somme front has dwindled to minor operations. London reports the gain of some ground in operations to the west of Pozières. After having been temporarily held up in the Stokhod region by the persistent Teutonic resistance, the Russians succeeded in effecting a new advance, capturing the village of Rudka-Mirynskaia. This success brings them within nineteen miles of Kovel, the railroad center.

Paris, Aug. 4.—Attacking simultaneously from the northwest and southeast, French troops yesterday stormed the village of Fleury, three miles north of Verdun, and captured several hundred Germans.

In the evening, however, the Germans launched a furious counter attack and after several violent attempts succeeded in getting a footing in the southern part of the village. The French today continue to hold the northern section of the place and heavy fighting is in progress.

French Enter Thiaumont. On the right bank of the river Meuse, north of Verdun, the battle continues along the front of Thiaumont and Fleury, the Germans attacking several times during the night with great fury. It was announced officially this afternoon by the war department. At one period of the fighting the French entered Thiaumont works but withdrew owing to the German bombardment.

Around Fleury, the struggle was equally violent. The statement adds, the Germans attacking the village several times, and succeeding in getting a footing in the south part of the village. The French still hold the northern section and fighting still is going on.

All the attempts made by the Germans to drive the French from the station southeast of Fleury were frustrated.

Verdun Again War Center. Verdun is again in the center of the war stage. The recapture by the French of the village of Fleury, which had been held by the Germans for more than a month has caused great elation in France.

It is the first fruit of the French slow and methodical offensive, begun three days ago, and seems in the opinion of military observers to mark an epoch in the six months' battle for the great fortress on the Meuse.

Claim Recapture of Fleury. Berlin, Aug. 4.—The village of Fleury, north of Verdun, was regained by the Germans this morning, it was officially announced today by the German army headquarters. The situation at Fleury, it adds, now the same as before the French attacked.

Austro-German troops have regained all the territory which they had lost in the region of Rudka-Mirynskaia, to the east of Kovel, according to the German official statement today.

The Teutons also gained ground in the Carpathians in the region of Kopolis.

British Gain Some Ground. London, Aug. 4.—Minor operations last night by the British on the Somme front resulted in the gain for them of some ground west of Pozières, the war office announced today.

Belgians Occupy Kigoma. Havre, Aug. 4.—Further progress for the Belgian forces invading German East Africa is announced in an official statement issued today by the Belgian war office. The text of the statement follows: "The right wing of the Belgian troops pursuing its march southward, has occupied Kigoma, the most impor-

tant German post on Lake Tanganyika. Kigoma is the terminus of the railroad from Dar es Salaam, the capital of the colony, to the lake.

Two British Schooners Sunk. Havre, Aug. 4.—Two British schooners were torpedoed in the English channel Wednesday night. The crews were rescued.

Rudka Captured by Russians. Petersburg, Aug. 4.—Russian troops have captured the village of Rudka-Mirynskaia, on the river Stavokka, a tributary of the Stokhod, it was officially announced today by the Russian war department.

Rudka-Mirynskaia is nineteen miles east of Kovel.

No Trade With Enemies. Rome, via Paris, Aug. 4.—The Italian government, according to the Messagero, is about to issue a decree forbidding all Italians, including those living abroad, from doing business with nationals in alliance with enemies of Italy.

Agreements made in spite of the prohibition, it was said, will be considered void.

"SUB" WARFARE REVIVED. Eleven Ships, Including Seven Neutrals, Destroyed by Germans. London, Aug. 4.—Revival on a large scale of the German submarine warfare on ships of commerce is indicated by the increase in the number of vessels reported sunk in authentic reports made public last night.

Reports by the admiralty, from Lloyd's, and from other sources show that three British, one Italian, three Swedish, one Norwegian, one Danish, and two Finnish vessels have been destroyed. Several travelers' names unknown also have been sunk.

In addition, German warships have seized two Swedish vessels.

Victims of U-Boats. The vessels reported destroyed are: Britannic (British), 3,487 tons. Crew saved.

Margaret Sutton (British), 137 tons. Crew saved.

Helghaughton (British), 2,800 tons. Crew saved.

Letimbro (Italian). Crew saved.

Hudikvall (Swedish), Crew saved.

Bror Oscar (Swedish), 368 tons. Crew's fate unknown.

Vermland (Swedish), 213 tons. Crew's fate unknown.

Katholm (Danish), 1,201 tons. Crew saved.

John Wilson (Norwegian), 797 tons. Crew saved.

The names of the two Finnish vessels have not been reported.

Warships Seize Two Ships. The two Swedish vessels seized by German warships are: Pitea, 444 tons.

Temis, 538 tons.

Both the foregoing vessels were bound for Raumo, Finland, with cargoes of general freight.

The largest victim sent down yesterday was the Britannic of the Cocker Line. Lloyd's announces it was unharmed.

The Swedish steamer Hudikvall was torpedoed by a German submarine last night in the Baltic while on a voyage from Sweden to Finland, according to a Reuter dispatch from Stockholm.

The captain, with twelve men of the crew and five women, took to the boats and reached the Swedish coast. The Hudikvall carried a valuable cargo.

ISLANDS SALE
TREATY SIGNED

Secretary Lansing and Danish Minister Brun Complete Deal For Transfer of Three West Indian Islands to United States—Confirmation Predicted.

Washington, Aug. 4.—Acting Secretary Polk announced today that the treaty by which the United States is to purchase the Danish West Indies from Denmark for \$25,000,000 was signed at New York this morning by Secretary Lansing and Minister Constantine Brun.

The treaty provides for the transfer to the United States of three islands, St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John, which have been the subject of negotiations between the United States and Denmark for many years.

It is understood the administration will ask for ratification by the senate before the end of the present session. While there may be some objection to the price, no serious objection is expected.

MEXICO NAMES PEACE ENVOYS

Carranza Accepts Proposal For Commission to Settle Dispute.

NAMES THREE MEN TO AGREE ON TERMS

Note Delivered at Washington Couched in Most Friendly Terms—Apparently Rejects Proposal to Consider Other Questions Than Military Situation—President Wilson to Pick Representatives of United States.

Washington, Aug. 4.—Eliseo Arredondo, Mexican ambassador designate, delivered a note to the state department today replying to the last American communication to the de facto government and announcing the appointment of three Mexican members of a joint commission to undertake settlement of border differences. The text of the note follows:

"Mr. Secretary: I have the honor to transmit to your excellency the following note which I have just received from my government.

"My secretary: In due reply to the courteous note of the department of state dated July 23, 1916, I have the honor to say to your excellency that the first chief of the constitutionalist army, in charge of the executive power of the Mexican republic, congratulates himself on the laudable efforts of the American government to avert the solution of the existing troubles between the two countries, and considering it of great importance that a prompt decision be reached as to the causes of the differences between the United States and Mexico, referred to in the note of the Mexican government, dated July 4, last, and in the note of the United States, dated July 23, 1916, at the point of a commission of three persons, constituted by Licenciate Luis Cabrera, Engineer Ignacio Bonillas and Engineer Alberto J. Pani, to whom instructions have been given to devote their attention preferably to the resolution of points previously mentioned in this note.

"Eliseo Arredondo has been authorized to treat with the department of state the matters of details relating to the place and date at which the commissioners of the Mexican government should meet the commissioners of the United States in order to commence their labors.

"I reiterate to your excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

"C. Aguilar.

"Secretary of Foreign Relations.

"I avail myself of this note to renew to your excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

"E. Arredondo."

One Proposal Rejected. The de facto government apparently rejects the proposal that the commission consider questions other than the military situation, which this will be satisfactory to the United States government has not been indicated.

If it is accepted the next negotiations will be between Mr. Polk and Mr. Arredondo to fix the time and place for meetings of the commission.

Secretary Wilson has already under consideration a score of names for the American membership.

Commissioners to Depart Soon. Mexico City, Aug. 4.—The departure from Mexico City for the United States of Luis Cabrera, one of the commissioners with Ignacio Bonillas has been selected to reach a settlement with the United States commissioners of the questions at issue between the two countries, will not be long delayed, according to general belief here.

It is possible that the commissioners may travel north on one of the vessels of the Mexican navy, now at Vera Cruz, if it appears that their departure would be delayed by the infrequent sailing of merchant vessels.

TREASURY MEN WARNED.
Must Not Use Political Influence or Solicit Contributions.

Washington, Aug. 4.—Secretary McAdoo issued a warning to the treasury department officials thruout the country against using political activity. His announcement says officials must not use their influence to coerce political action, discriminate between employees or applicants for positions, solicit or receive contributions or hold office in soliciting committees or in conventions.

Secretary McAdoo's circular addressed to all officers in the treasury department holding any presidential appointment gives a list of forbidden activities, and concludes by saying:

"It is not intended that government service shall curtail or interfere with the exercise of a person's civic rights and duties as a citizen."

STRENUOUS DAY FOR HUGHES.
Candidate to Be Kept Busy in Chicago Next Tuesday.

Chicago, Aug. 4.—Definite plans for the reception of Charles E. Hughes, republican nominee for president when he comes to Chicago next Tuesday were made public by republican leaders here today.

According to the program the candidate will have a strenuous day of it from the time he reaches the city at 8 o'clock in the morning until he departs at 10 p. m.

In the evening the nominee will deliver his principal address at the Coliseum. This address, it is said, will be the signal for the opening of the republican campaign in the middle west.

The Hamilton Club will be in charge of the social arrangements. Mr. Hughes will confer with W. R. Wilcox, national committee chairman, and other mem-

bers of the committee, and definite announcement of the western campaign plans are expected to follow.

Hughes Packs His Trunks. Bridgehampton, N. Y., Aug. 4.—Charles E. Hughes spent today packing his trunks for his western trip. One of the three trunks he will take with him will be filled with memoranda letters, documents and other data which will assist in his speech. Accompanied by Mrs. Hughes he will leave here tomorrow for New York.

Organize Women For Hughes. New York, Aug. 4.—Miss Doris Stevens, of the Women's Roosevelt League for Hughes, left today for an extended tour of the suffrage states in the west to organize the women voters in favor of the republican candidate. Miss Stevens will make her headquarters in Colorado Springs and will meet there organizers of congressional union already in the field.

FAIRBANKS TO CAMPAIGN.
Vice Presidential Nominee to Go on Cross-Country Speaking Tour.

New York, Aug. 4.—The republican national campaign committee announced today that C. W. Fairbanks, of Indiana, vice presidential nominee on the republican ticket, will make a campaign tour of the country similar to that to be taken by Mr. Hughes. It was said at the headquarters that Mr. Fairbanks will follow a similar route virtually the same ground later in the campaign.

WILL ADVOCATE
U. S. ARBITRATION
Employees Believed to Be Ready to Reject Mediation—Administration to Do Nothing Until Strike Vote Is Counted and Plans of Brotherhoods Made Known—New York Traction Lines Preparing to Import Strikebreakers.

New York, Aug. 4.—Conferences of the leaders of the four great brotherhoods of railroad employees, representing 400,000 men, the majority of whom are believed to have voted to strike on 225 railroad systems, were held here today. These meetings were to enable the leaders to decide on their course of action if the representatives of the railroads again refuse their demand for an eight hour day and other changes. The railroad leaders declined to discuss the appeal to President Wilson to prevent the threatened national railroad strike. It lies in their power by virtue of the vote now being counted to call a strike if the railroads do not accede to their demands. It is expected the conference committee of the railroad management will again refuse the men's demands at the meeting next Tuesday and that the managers will advocate arbitration; or that the strike be settled under the Newlands act of 1914, by a commission of six men, two to be appointed on either side and two to be neutral. It is not regarded as likely that the railroad leaders will consent to this.

In case of a deadlock the railroad managers look to President Wilson to take a hand in the controversy in calling representatives of both sides to Washington, and notifying them they must compose their differences in some manner in the public interest.

Chairmen of the trainmen's unions in the west and southwest continued to arrive in the city today bringing ballots marked by men on their respective lines. Thus far more than 75 per cent of the 400,000 votes has been counted. Nearly all favor a strike.

AWAITING DEVELOPMENTS.
Wilson and Advisers to Do Nothing Until Vote Is Counted.

Washington, Aug. 4.—Justice W. C. Cramer, commissioner of the United States board of mediation and conciliation, conferred with President Wilson today over the threatened strike of 400,000 railroad employees. They discussed every phase of the situation, but Judge Cramer told the president he believed there was nothing formal that the federal government could do until the railroad managers and representatives of the employees meet again next week, after counting the strike vote has been completed.

Judge Cramer thinks the situation is not hopeless and there is still a chance for the employers and employees to reach an agreement. The board of mediation and conciliation expects to be called in the case if a break appears inevitable.

TO IMPORT STRIKEBREAKERS.
New York Street Railway Lines Not to Yield to Employees' Demands.

New York, Aug. 4.—Whether the 150,000 persons who daily travel on the surface cars in the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx will be inconvenienced by a strike of 5,000 motormen and conductors of the New York Railways company and the New York and Queens County Railroad Company lines will be known this afternoon or tonight. The time limit set by the leaders of the street railway union is 4 o'clock. If the officials of the companies are required to answer to the demands of recognition of the union and increased pay expires this afternoon.

There is no indication of any intention on the part of the companies to grant the union's demands. The officials have declared that they can not do so.

Meetings of the conductors and motormen are called tonight to vote on the question of calling a strike of the lines of these two companies. It is reported 4,000 strikebreakers are ready to hurry to New York from other cities to take the places of the strikers. This plan has been used in the past to defeat transportation strikes.

No demands have as yet been formulated by employees of the elevated or subway lines, but it is reported that they will follow in due course. Labor leaders are said to be organizing the drivers and conductors of the Fifth avenue omnibus line.

Refuses to Burden Commission. The senate commerce committee today voted to table the resolution of Senator Newlands directing the interstate commerce commission to investigate and report to congress on the subject of pay and hours of service of the employees of the railroads of the United States.

The committee took up the resolution on a written request from the chamber of commerce of the United States, which asked for hearings.

"It was determined," said Chairman Newlands, after the committee adjourned, "to have no hearings on the subject, but today the resolution on the table. It was deemed inadvisable to add to the duties of the railroad commission."

Non-Brotherhood Men for Peace. Nashville, Aug. 4.—A movement

RAIL MANAGERS LOOK TO WILSON

Expect President to Halt Strike of 400,000 Em- ployees.

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NEWS OF THE DAY

The Weather. Sun rises Aug. 5 at 5:11, sets at 7:11. Iowa—Thunder showers this afternoon or tonight; cooler tonight in the west and central portions; Saturday generally fair and cooler.

Verdun Again Center of Battle Stage. Carranza Replies to American Note. Appoints Peace Commissioners. Plague Deaths Exceed 1,000. Rail Managers Look to Wilson. PAGES TWO, THREE, FIVE

Iowa News: Flies Less Numerous. Much Evidence Against Wire Tappers. Memorial For Drowned Boys. Iowa Troops Well Fed. Plot Against National Guards. Farm News and Notes. PAGE FOUR

Editorial: Protecting the Public. The Casement Execution. The Biggest Fool in Iowa. Topics of the Times. Iowa Opinion and Notes. PAGE SEVEN

Novellets: When the Mail Came In. Another Rex Beach Story. PAGES SIX, EIGHT AND NINE.

City News: Governor Offers Reward in Murder Case. Posts \$200 For Williams' Conviction. Penner Loses Pitcher' Battle 1 to 0. Odeon Season to Open Aug. 15. Officers Hold Man For Alleged Forgery. General and Brief City News. PAGE TEN

Markets and General: Wheat Goes Still Higher. Corn Hardens in Sympathy. Cattle Trade Strong. Hogs Turn Higher. England Yields Blacklist Point.

looking for an appeal to congress for decisive action to prevent a strike on the railroads of the country has been inaugurated and that the Nashville & Chattanooga railroad, a petitioner of the non-brotherhood men has been signed in the states of Alabama, Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee. It calls upon congress to see that trouble is averted.

Picketing Prevented. Hibbing, Minn., Aug. 4.—Reinforced to 150 deputies, armed with repeating rifles and riot sticks, the guards at the Kittville and Nelson locations successfully prevented any attempts at picketing last night.

Striking miners here today celebrated the opening of a commissary department or "Strikers' Relief Store" under management of I. W. W. leaders.

Garment Workers' Strike Ends. Washington, Aug. 4.—Conciliators of the department of labor engaged in the settlement of the garment workers' strike in New York, announced today that the strike had been called off and 50,000 workers would return to their places Monday.

Philadelphia Car Men May Strike. Philadelphia, Aug. 4.—Labor leaders are canvassing the street railway employees of this city with a view of calling a strike if requests for an increase in the maximum wages of conductors and motormen from 31 cents an hour to 40 cents an hour are not complied with.

WHEAT PRICES GAIN
NEARLY FIVE CENTS

Reports From Canadian Trade Sources That Black Rust Has Extended Over Greater Territory Than at First Believed, Cause Advance to New Season's Record.

Chicago, Aug. 4.—Wheat dealers today gave renewed attention to reports from trade sources in Canada that the rust had extended over a greater territory than had at first been believed. Advances were worse as to the crop in Manitoba. The result was a sharp advance in prices to the highest level yet this season.

Nearly 5 cents a bushel was added to the value of wheat, the September delivery touching 1.34%, as against 1.29% at yesterday's finish. Today's close was strong at nearly the topmost point of the session.

RAIL REVENUES INCREASED.
Net Earnings of Ninety-Three Roads Exceed Those of Year Ago \$190,000,000

Washington, Aug. 4.—Net revenues of ninety-three large railroads of the United States for the year ending with June, showed an increase over the same period in 1915, of almost \$190,000,000. The figures, made public today by the interstate commerce commission, showed operating revenues of 1916 of \$1,855,904,227, an increase of about \$290,000,000 over the previous year. In net revenues the eastern roads showed an increase of about \$117,000,000, southern roads an increase of about \$80,000,000 and western roads about \$40,000,000.

K. O. F. NAME DENVER MAN.
Honor Leads Automatically to Highest Office in Order.

Portland, Ore., Aug. 4.—Charles S. Davis, of Denver, was elected grand master of the Knights of Pythias after the supreme lodge had spent more than three hours in hearing speeches nominating four candidates for the office, which leads automatically to the highest office within the gift of the order.

SHOWERS BREAK DROUTH.
Welcomes Rains in Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota and North Dakota.

La Crosse, Wis., Aug. 4.—Showers over Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota and North Dakota last night and today broke the severe drouth, according to reports to the United States bureau. The showers extended as far south as Keokuk, Iowa, and as far north as the Great Lakes.

Great Britain Denies Story. London, Aug. 4.—The British foreign office today published a denial of the allegation said to have originated in the United States that peptal transmission of money to Ireland from America had been refused on the ground that such letters were detained by the British officials.

The \$140,000,000 we annually spend for charity is sufficient to meet only a three weeks' liquor bill.

PLAGUE VICTIMS EXCEED 1,000

Infantile Paralysis Con- tinues to Gain Headway in New York.

FORTY-FIVE DEAD IN PAST 24 HOURS

More Than 1,000 Fatalities Out of Total of 4,264 Cases Since Outbreak—Eminent Pathologists Visit New York in Hope of Discovering Specific For Disease—One Theory Advanced Is That Germ Is Spread by Flies.

York, Aug. 4.—More than 1,000 are now being killed by the epidemic of infantile paralysis and nearly 5,000 have been stricken by the disease. The health department's daily bulletin shows that the plague still continues to gain headway. During the twenty-four hours ending at 10 a. m. today, forty-five children died and 175 new cases, the second largest number in a single day, were reported. Since June 28 there have been 4,264 cases, 1,025 of which proved fatal.

The group of distinguished pathologists and bacteriologists summoned here from all over the country to investigate the infantile paralysis epidemic, in the hope they may discover a specific for the disease, spent the early part of today in observing the work by the health department in diagnosing the cases and in the methods used in quarantining the homes. The Staten Island civic league has sent to the government, the health commissioner and the governor a letter asserting that it is the opinion of scientists that the germ is carried by flies.

Quarantine Against Children. Harrisburg, Pa., Aug. 4.—State commissioner of Health Dixon today ordered a quarantine against children under 16 entering the state from cities in New York and New Jersey where infantile paralysis is prevalent.

AUTO OWNERS STUNG.
Mails Closed to League in Buffalo Which Promised Cheap Supplies.

Washington, Aug. 4.—Great avoidance from many automobile owners in the United States who admit they were badly stung brought results today when the postoffice department denied the use of the mails to the International Automobile League, Inc., and the International Automobile League Tire company, Buffalo, N. Y., and A. C. Bidwell, president of both concerns.

The action announced by Solicitor General Lamar is the result of complaints made last March by the American Automobile association and the Associated Automobile Manufacturers of the World seeking to abolish fraudulent advertising.

Bidwell was charged with amassing a fortune by employing agents who solicited members for the league by representing that membership obtained the motor driver the best tires, tires and accessories at manufacturers' prices.

Owners of advertised brands denied the existence of contracts which would make this possible, although it appears \$200,000 in stock was sold. Bidwell is under federal indictment for misuse of the mails.

It is charged by the department that alleged "manufacturers' prices" on standard automobile tires and supplies were advertised merely as bait to secure a \$10 annual fee from members to whom the league might sell inferior tires and supplies at a stiff profit.

League members testified that when they endeavored to realize the big savings promised by the prices listed on standard articles, they were informed that the league was "just out" but that an excellent article might be purchased before the league could be supplied in place of the one ordered.