

## ALLIES TAKE COMBLES IN FINAL DRIVE

Strategic Point Held by Germans on Somme Line is Captured.

## ANGLO-FRENCH ARMY ENCIRCLES TOWN

Strongly-Fortified Position Stood in Way of General Advance of Allied Armies—Captured at Heavy Cost to British—Large Part of German Defenders Evacuate Town Before Retreat is Completely Cut Off.

British and French troops today reached the town of Combles on the Somme front, after having virtually pocketed the place in a struggle of many weeks duration and are fighting to gain possession of it. The Combles salient, doggedly maintained by the Germans, has long been a serious menace to the allies, hampering them in their offensive on Bapaume and Peronne. Bombs dropped in last night's air raid on England caused the death of twenty-nine persons. The Germans last night attacked the French line near Verdun, driving on the Thiaumont work and Fleury, east of the Meuse. Paris today announces that the German assaults were repulsed. Berlin today admits an entente advance on the Somme front on the day of Geuedecourt to Bouchavennes, a distance of six and a half miles. This line includes the Combles sector.

On the eastern front, in the Carpathians, Berlin concedes the success of the Rumanians in forcing their way again into the Skrubuk and Vulcan passes.

London, Sept. 26.—The British have entered Combles on the Somme front, the war office announced today after overcoming the resistance of the Germans.

Combles, a town of some 2,000 population before the war, had been rendered of no small strategic importance to the allies by their long continued encircling movement. It has been of notable value to the Germans because as long as they clung to it the Franco-British freedom of action in pushing offensive movements toward Bapaume and Peronne on either side of it was hampered. Turned into a strongly fortified position by the German defensive ingenuity it has persistently held fast like a rock in a turbulent stream that had to be blasted loose before a channel could be opened.

Costly Effort of Allies. This has been accomplished only after a costly effort on the part of the allies. Driving in from the south, the French successively swept beside Hardecourt, Maupres, LeFouret and finally reached Fregicourt, a mile east of Combles. More slowly but none the less surely the British have pushed their advance on the north of the German salient. Their struggles to reach and hold Ginchy and Guillemont were expensive in time and men, but finally the ground north of Combles and some distance to the east was occupied, putting the town in a pocket of which the opening was constantly being narrowed by the drives of the entente armies.

Make Combined Effort. Yesterday came the combined effort of the French and British to close the opening. Attacking from the north General Haig's forces pushed to and occupied Morval, cutting the northerly road running to LeTransloy. Striking from the south, the French pushed their line to Fregicourt, severing communication with Combles over the southerly road—that stretching toward Sully. The gap between Morval and Fregicourt, a mile and a half in width, and reaching back toward Combles, was swept from either direction by the combined fire of the French and British guns.

It is not thought probable that any considerable force of Germans remained in Combles, as yesterday they were reported to be withdrawing guns from it. More than 1,500 prisoners, taken in the fighting of the last twenty-four hours, have already been counted, and a large amount of war material has been captured. "Yesterday's operations were entirely successful," the statement says. "The co-operation between the artillery and infantry was in all respects admirable. More than 1,500 prisoners have passed through the collecting stations and more are arriving. Much material has been captured. "Our troops entered Combles from the west and are overcoming the enemy's resistance. The enemy's losses were very severe."

## Twenty-Nine Killed in Second Zeppelin Raid Over England

London, Sept. 25.—Twenty-nine persons were killed in last night's Zeppelin raid, it was announced officially today. The announcement follows: "Seven airships raided England last night and in the early hours of the morning. The districts attacked were the south coast, the east coast, the northeast coast and the northeast midlands. The principal attacks were aimed against the industrial centers in the last mentioned area.

"Up to the present time no damage to factories has been reported. It is regretted, however, that a number of small houses or cottages were wrecked and twenty-nine deaths have been reported. "No attempt was made to approach London. The raiders were engaged by our anti-aircraft defenses.

One of the Zeppelins participating in the raid took the easterly course and visited the south coast. No damage resulted from its visit as far as reported.

five German aeroplanes were brought down and others were badly damaged.

## SEEK TO STEM TIDE. Germans Fight Desperately to Prevent Capture of Combles.

Paris, Sept. 26.—Fighting continued all night north of the Somme, the Germans making desperate efforts to stem the tide which is engulfing Combles. Early yesterday afternoon the Germans are reported to have begun moving out of Combles a number of guns. This occurred before the British had taken Morval or the bridge of Fregicourt. The village of Fregicourt is on the road from Combles to Sully, the only road which, before yesterday's battle, the Germans could use to evacuate Combles. The road is now swept by fire from French machine guns.

From the south of Morval, held by the British, to the French positions south of Fregicourt, a distance of only about 1,800 yards, the only part of the loop around Combles which remained unoccupied. That is now practically accomplished and the situation of the Germans in Combles is worse than precarious.

## Germans Admit Reverses. Berlin, Sept. 26.—Successes were achieved by the Anglo-French forces on the Somme front, the German official statement today.

The conquest of the villages on the line of Geuedecourt and Bouchavennes, the statement adds, must be recognized. Russian troops yesterday made six successive attacks in strong force against the Austro-German positions near Krasnow, in Galicia, says today's German official statement, but the attacks failed.

Rumanian troops have again occupied the heights on both sides Skrubuk and Vulcan passes in the Transylvania, says the German official statement today. German troops repulsed all the Rumanian attacks, the announcement adds, but were withdrawn, according to army orders.

## Bulgar Attacks Repulsed. Paris, Sept. 26.—On the western end of the Macedonian front, east of Florina, the Bulgarians last night made violent counter attacks. Today's official statement says the assaults were checked by the French. West of Florina the Russians and French made a combined attack on the Bulgarian positions.

Between the Struma and the Vardar there was artillery fighting. No infantry actions developed in the sector held by the Serbs.

## SPANIARDS INCENSED. Government Sends Note to Berlin Protesting Against Torpedoing Ships.

Madrid, Sept. 26.—The Spanish government has sent a note to Berlin protesting energetically against the torpedoing of Spanish steamers by German submarines.

## GRECIAN ARMY CHIEF RESIGNS. Head of Army Believed to Be Friendly to Allies.

London, Sept. 26.—Gen. Constantine Moschopoulos, chief of the staff of the Greek army, has resigned, according to a Reuter's dispatch from Athens. Moschopoulos commanded the Greek forces at Saloniki at the time of the landing of the Anglo-French expeditionary force. He ordered the troops under his command to salute the French and British officers and was reported to be friendly to the allies. In August he was appointed chief of staff and in a statement to the press expressed the hope that he could strengthen the relations between Greece and the entente powers.

## SEEVERS GETS \$18,000 JUDGMENT. Given Heavy Award as Commission For Sale of Coal Lands.

Des Moines, Sept. 26.—Byron D. Seever, of Oskaloosa, acting as broker for the Cleveland Coal Company, today was awarded a verdict of \$18,377 in a suit against the company in a decision handed down by the supreme court. The money awarded represents Seever's commission in the sale of coal lands in the state, valued at a quarter of a million dollars. The finding was conditional, however, the parties in the suit being given the choice of accepting the verdict in the case of taking a new trial.

Report Two Paralysis Cases. Des Moines, Sept. 26.—Two additional cases of infantile paralysis were reported to the state board of health today, bringing the number of cases in the state to 169.

## VILLA NEARING AMERICAN LINE

Bandit Chief and Followers Said to be Moving on Pershing's Force.

## MAY BE COURTING CLASH WITH YANKEES

Crosses Northwestern Railroad at San Andres, Twenty-Five Miles South of Chihuahua City—Advises to State Department Show Rebel Leader Did Not Participate in Hidalgo Day Fighting at Chihuahua.

Field Headquarters, Mexico, via radio to Columbus, N. M., Sept. 26.—Pancheo Villa and his bandit command are moving northward toward the American expeditionary force, according to reliable information received today.

Villa is reported to have crossed the Northwestern railroad at San Andres, twenty-five miles south of Chihuahua City, where a slight skirmish is said to have occurred between Villistas and Carranza troops.

Washington, Sept. 26.—Confidential official advices to the state department show that Villa was not present at the Hidalgo day fighting at Chihuahua City and that there were no desertions from the Carranza garrison.

Secretary Lansing said the dispatches bore out statements of Eliseo Arredondo, Mexican ambassador designate, regarding the affair. The source of the department's information was not disclosed, but Mr. Lansing said he regarded it as authentic.

The report will be sent to the American commissioners at New London for their guidance. While the state department has been advised for several months it has been advised from British sources.

Representations have been made in behalf of Burton Wilson, president of the American Club at Mexico City, who was arrested and threatened with deportation.

Admiral Burrage, commanding the battleship Nebraska, at Vera Cruz, reported all quiet there. Border rumors yesterday said there had been a bandit attack on the city.

## Two Americans Under Arrest. Del Rio, Tex., Sept. 26.—Joseph Wilmet, said to be of the Live Stock National Bank of Chicago, and George Miers, a resident of Del Rio, and owner of a ranch in Mexico forty miles from the border, were arrested on Miers' ranch, last Friday, and now are being held in jail at Sabinas, Mexico, pending payment of a \$10,000 fine, according to word received today.

The information did not state the reason the fine was imposed and gave no details of the arrest of the two Americans.

## Expect Release of Men. Chicago, Sept. 26.—Joseph Wilmet and George Miers, the two Americans held prisoners by Mexicans at Sabinas, Mexico, are expected to be released today, according to officials of the Live Stock National Bank here.

A representative of the Chicago Cattle Loan Company, who was in Mexico to arrange a loan for Miers. Officials of the bank had no information regarding the reason for the fine or whether the \$10,000 fine had been paid.

## Villa to Disclaim Columbus Raid. Columbus, N. M., Sept. 26.—Army intelligence agents are making an investigation of reports that adherents of Villa were held to secure information to prove that Villa was not at Columbus March 3, but that the raid was made by Pablo Lopez, who was executed in Chihuahua City because of his alleged leadership at the Santa Ysabel massacre, when eighteen Americans and other foreigners were murdered. It is said Villa is preparing a manifesto disclaiming responsibility for the Columbus raid.

Held Mexican Army is Capable. New London, Conn., Sept. 26.—The members of the Mexican-American joint commission today began the fourth week of their investigation of border conditions in their effort to bring about an adjustment of the Mexican question.

The Mexicans insisted that their army is capable of maintaining peace in northern Mexico and insisted that conditions would be improved by the withdrawal of the American forces.

## PROMOTION FOR PERSHING. Commander of Mexican Expedition Made Major-General.

Washington, Sept. 26.—Brig. Gen. John J. Pershing, commanding the American expeditionary forces in Mexico, was promoted to major general yesterday. The promotion was caused by the death of Maj. Gen. Albert L. Mills. At the same time the promotion of four colonels to brigadier generals was announced. They are: Col. Eben Swift, cavalry, to fill the vacancy of Pershing's brigadier general, Col. Francis H. French, infantry, to succeed Brig. Gen. Granger Adams, who retires within the next few days; Col. E. St. J. Greble, field artillery, to succeed Brig. Gen. Montgomery Macomb, president of the army war college, who retires next month; Col. Charles G. Treat, field artillery, to succeed Brig. Gen. Frederick W. Sibley, promoted from colonel in recognition of his work in the present Mexican campaign. General Sibley retires next month.

General Pershing, also succeeding to General Mills' rank, does not succeed as chief of the division of militia affairs. He will retain his place as commander of the division in Mexico. The militia vacancy will be filled later.

Thru his promotion General Pershing becomes the second youngest major general in the United States army. Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, former chief of staff and now commanding the department of the east, retains that distinction.

Like General Wood, General Pershing has had the distinction of being jumped over more than 100 other officers in reaching the rank of general officer. He was captain of cavalry in the Philippines when he was promoted over his brother captives, who ranked him, and all the majors, lieutenant colonels, and colonels of the army to brigadier general.

## BATTLE SCENES NEAR COMBLES

Associated Press Correspondent Vividly Describes Allied Advance.

## GREAT DAY FOR ANGLO-FRENCH ARMY

Views Battle From Heights and in Midst of Roaring Cannon—Germans Driven From Last Strongholds in Front of Combles and Compelled to Fight in Open—Remnant of Defenders Facing Extermination or Capture

## BIG CROWDS HEAR HUGHES AT TOLEDO

Republican Nominee Continues Campaign Tour of Ohio—Pouring Rain Ushers in Day at Toledo—Addresses Factory Employers and Public.

Toledo, O., Sept. 26.—Charles W. Hughes reached Toledo in a pouring rain today, held a public reception lasting an hour, made a speech at a large automobile factory in the city, and afterward addressed a large audience in the Valentine Theater, and then left for Cleveland.

The nominee's voice was in better condition than it had been for several days. Mr. Hughes made a rear platform address at Findlay, and also at Bowling Green. At each of these meetings he said only a few words, outlining his stand on the issues of the day.

Governor Willis and Myron T. Herzig, republican nominee for senator, were laid down on the program for addresses at the local theater.

Fairbanks Speaks at Omaha. Omaha, Neb., Sept. 26.—Charles W. Fairbanks, republican vice presidential candidate, arrived here today on his campaign tour. His program for the day included an address to the members of the Omaha Commercial Club at a noon day lunch; a non-partisan speech at the opening of the fall carnival of the Knights of Ak-sar-ben, and an address at the auditorium at 5 o'clock this evening.

Hits Liquor Argument. Raton, N. M., Sept. 26.—The argument that more liquor is sold in dry states than in wet states, frequently advanced by saloon interests, was declared "silly" today by Dr. Ira Lantieri, prohibition candidate for the vice presidency here today.

"Do you think for a minute that if these assertions were true the liquor interests would be fighting prohibition? Wouldn't it be good business for them to make all states dry if their business increased proportionally? They would be contributing to this special train if prohibition were increased their gains."

J. Frank Hanly is suffering from "candidate's voice" and finds difficulty in speaking.

## POLISH RELIEF DELAYED. Replies of Rulers to President's Appeal Not Considered Hopeful.

Washington, Sept. 26.—The reply of Emperor Francis Joseph, of Austria-Hungary, to the identical personal note sent by President Wilson to heads of highest nations appealing for concessions to permit shipment of relief supplies to Poland, was received today at the state department.

All of the rulers addressed have replied except the emperor of Russia. In none of the letters, it is understood, is there any proposal likely to make relief of Poland possible immediately.

## WILSON TO VISIT CHICAGO. President to Deliver Address in Windy City on Oct. 19.

Chicago, Sept. 26.—President Wilson will speak in Chicago on Oct. 19, it was announced at the democratic headquarters today, following receipt from Shadow Lawn, N. J., of a dispatch to Senator Walsh.

Close New London Conference. New London, Conn., Sept. 26.—Members of the Mexican-American joint commission decided today to hold their last session here Thursday, when they will adjourn to resume their conference Monday at Atlantic City.

Co-operation between civil and military authorities for prevention of incidents along the border that cause international difficulties, were considered today by the joint commission. The American commissioners presented a list of border raids resulting in the loss of American life and property on American soil.

A similar list was submitted by the Mexicans. It included instances when Mexican life had been jeopardized and in some instances taken, and "unjustifiable crossing of the border either by soldiers or civilians."

Wilson Goes Home to Vote. Long Branch, N. J., Sept. 26.—President Wilson left here this morning for Princeton, N. J., to vote in the democratic primaries.

The president expects to return this afternoon to keep an engagement with Samuel Seabury, democratic nominee for governor of New York, and Vance C. McCormick, chairman of the democratic national committee.

Saloon Fight Postponed. Chicago, Sept. 26.—A campaign to drive the saloons out of Chicago, which question dry leaders had hoped to place before the voters next spring, has been postponed one year, it was announced today.

## NEWS OF THE DAY T.R. BULLETIN.

The Weather. Sun rises Sept. 27 at 5:53; sets at 5:49. Iowa—Unsettled tonight and Wednesday; probably showers; cooler tonight.

## PAGE ONE. Telegraphic News by Allies.

Combles Taken by Allies. German Strategic Stronghold Falls. Brilliant Battle Described. Zeppelin Air Raid Kills Twenty-Nine.

Quarter Million Vote to Strike. Iowa News. Hundred High Schoolers Suspect. Iowa Circus Loses \$100,000. Harding's Insurance Record. Service on Border to R State Guards.

Iowa Pastor in Import. State Leads in Corn. Farm News and Notes. PAGE FIVE.

Editorial: Harding Now and Then. Take Barndollar Into Camp First. Let Rawson Be Sworn. Two Old Pools. Topics and Iowa Opinion. PAGES SEVEN, EIGHT, NINE, TEN, ELEVEN.

City News: City Tax Levy 116 Mills. Raises Point in Absent Voters' Law. Justice Holds Off Pennant Decision. Local Building Activities. Celebrate Still. PAGE TEN.

Markets and General: Export Call Again Lifts Wheat. Corn Steadied by Wheat Strength. Cattle Weak. Hogs Unchanged to Lower. Mexico Not to Insist on Withdrawal.

is Dead at his home near Exline. He is survived by his widow, 85 years old, and six children.

## BREMEN HELD CAPTIVE? Returning American Says Submarine Was Taken With \$25,000 Cargo.

Philadelphia, Sept. 26.—The Bremen, the second German merchant submarine, frequently reported on its way to this country from Germany, has been captured by the British, and now is held a prisoner in Falmouth harbor, according to Dr. R. Tait McKenzie, physical director of the University of Pennsylvania, who returned to this city yesterday after serving all summer as a major in the medical corps of the British army.

British officials refuse to admit the capture of the Bremen, Mr. McKenzie added, but the general public is convinced of the truth of the reports now current in every part of England.

Dr. McKenzie reached New York yesterday morning. He was aboard the steamship New York and came direct to this city this morning. The English people first learned of the capture of the Bremen, Dr. McKenzie said, by the dispatch to Falmouth of several diamond appraisers, whose mission, it was learned, was to appraise the \$25,000 worth of diamonds which the submarine carried.

The consignment consisted of a great variety of cut and uncut stones, it was reported, destined for several of the large diamond and jewelry firms in this country. Dr. McKenzie did not see the Bremen, he says.

The system of capturing submarines was described by Dr. McKenzie. "Thousands upon thousands of trawlers and other small boats surround the British isles and lay wire nets to trap the submarines. The nets are fitted with an electric bell attachment. When a submarine becomes entangled in a bell ring, an airplane rises and 'spots' the submarine, and within a couple of hours war vessels have made the enemy captive."

## COSSON TO PREPARE CASE. To Represent Attorneys General Association in "Blue Sky Law" Hearing.

Des Moines, Sept. 26.—Attorney General George Cossion announced today he had been asked to prepare the argument to be presented to the supreme court of the United States Oct. 10 at the time of the hearing of the "blue sky law" cases, in which the laws of Michigan, Ohio and South Dakota are attacked.

Mr. Cossion will represent the National Association of Attorneys General. Iowa's blue sky law is only indirectly involved in the hearing.

Iowa Supreme Court. Special to Times-Republican. Des Moines, Sept. 26.—The Iowa supreme court today handed down the following opinions: W. F. Noble vs. W. C. Renner, appellant; Black Hawk county. Affirmed. Wehrman et al., appellants, vs. Moore, et al.; Linn county. Motion denied. Hutchins, appellant, vs. Hanna Mayor; Polk county. Affirmed. Seever vs. Cleveland Coal Company, appellant; Wapello county. Affirmed on condition. Sinton, appellant, vs. Greiner; Clark county. Affirmed. State of Iowa vs. Ledford, appellant; Appanoose county. Reversed. Frahand, appellant vs. Seaman, et al.; Scott county. Affirmed. Newlands vs. Iowa Railway and Light Company, appellants; Dallas county. Affirmed. Russell vs. Diley, et al., appellants; Woodbury county. Affirmed.

Realty Company Incorporates. Des Moines, Sept. 26.—Articles of incorporation today were filed by the Security Realty Company of Cedar Rapids, capitalized for \$200,000. Officers are: C. J. Deacon, president; A. L. Adams, vice-president; W. R. Wisner, secretary.

State Senator Perkins Dying. Manchester, Sept. 26.—Physicians today held out little hope for the recovery of State Senator Eli Perkins, suffering from anæmia at his home in Delhi. Senator Perkins has represented Delaware in the general assembly for four terms.

In the limits of the state of California there are 130 mountain peaks more than 15,000 feet high.

## 260,000 VOTE TO QUIT WORK

Union Laborers of Many Organizations to Strike Wednesday.

## LABOR LEADERS PLAN EXTENSION

Heads of Organizations Meet to Organize and Enlarge Work of Sympathy Walkout—Financial Aid and Demonstrations to Be Undertaken—Disorders Again Break Out as Result of Street Car Strike.

New York, Sept. 26.—Hugh Frayne, an officer of the American Federation of Labor, and one of the directors of the strike movement, claimed today that assurances had been received that 260,000 organized workers will quit work tomorrow morning.

A convention of the officers of the national and international unions having offices here, and representatives of the central labor unions, trade councils and local unions will be held Wednesday morning to organize and extend the work.

Means of supplying financial support to strikers and plans for holding demonstrations will be considered.

Disorders in Car Strips. Disorder again broke out today as a result of the street car strike. Three persons were injured, according to reports to the police, elevated trains were bombarded with sticks and stones from house-tops. The injured were cut by flying glass.

Two arrests were made, one of the men being charged with having a revolver in his possession.

Governor Whitman has promised to meet here this afternoon a committee representing members of the state legislature from Manhattan and the Bronx to hear their request for a special session of the legislature to deal with the strike situation. It was pointed out that the power of the public service commission was inadequate.

Whether the building trades of Greater New York shall join the sympathetic strike will be decided, it was announced today, by a three-fourths vote of the executive council at a meeting Thursday.

The business agents of Manhattan and the Bronx have already voted in favor of the strike.

## SHIPOARD OF BRIDES-TO-BE. Thirty-three Scotch and One Irish Girl Reach America to Wed.

New York, Sept. 26.—Thirty-three Scotch and one Irish girl, making up a contingent of brides-to-be, arrived here yesterday on the Anchor Line steamer California from Glasgow. Several of the prospective husbands were at the pier to greet their fiancées, but some of the young women must go on further west before they see their "intended."

Between the welcomes of the men and the good-byes among the girls, it was a lively scene on the California's pier.

Miss Janet C. Kerr of Alexandria, Scotland, hadn't seen her fiancé for twelve years until the ship got in. He is Andrew Briggs, a real estate broker of this city, and they will be married tomorrow.

Miss Elizabeth Barr, the sole Irish girl of the group, came from Enniskillen. She is soon to be Mrs. Thomas Moore of Newburgh, N. Y. They had not seen each other for three years.

## PANACEA FOR STRIKES. Commissioner Clements Suggests Agreement When Employers Are Hired.

Baltimore, Sept. 26.—What he said to be a feasible and equitable method of preventing strikes on railroads was recommended by Judson C. Clements, of the interstate commerce commission, in an address before the National Grain Dealers' Association here today.

Judge Clements, who said he was speaking for himself, suggested writing into the law legally established obligations and duty upon every employer who seeks and accepts service with the transportation companies not to leave the service or combine with others to do so on account of any controversy arising from change of conditions of service or wages, except on due and suitable notice to be prescribed by statute, for a fair time, pending a fair and impartial agreement.

## ADMITS HE WAS BLACKMAILED. Coffee Company Official Victim of Swindle Gang to Extent of \$15,000.

Chicago, Sept. 26.—Edward R. West, vice president of the C. D. Gregg Tea and Coffee Company, of New York and Chicago, admitted today that he was the "A. R. Wesley" who was trapped in a New York hotel with "Allice Williams" by representatives of the international band of Mann et al. blackmailers now held by federal authorities. After being taken a prisoner to Chicago he was mulcted of \$15,000 on the strength of a fake federal warrant.

RECORD AGED DEEDS. Heirs Gain Title to Property Deeded to John Pittman Years Ago. Centerville, Sept. 26.—Deeds ranging in age from 43 to 38 years old, which never had been recorded, were put on file today adding thousands of dollars to the estate of John Pittman, a farmer near here, who died several weeks ago. When relatives examined the personal property the unrecorded deeds were found, giving the first information that Pittman owned the land.