

DEATH SUMMONS COMES TO FORMER CHAMPION BOB FITZSIMMONS

Former Champion Heavyweight Pugilist of the World Succumbs to Pneumonia.

WAS ILL ONLY ONE WEEK

Fought for Life as He Had Fought for Victory in the Ring.

Chicago, Oct. 22.—Robert Fitzsimmons, former champion heavyweight pugilist of the world, died at a hospital here early today, after an illness of five days of pneumonia.

Funeral services for the dead fighter will be held at the Moody Tabernacle Wednesday. Burial will be at Graceland Cemetery.

The former champion became ill last Tuesday while appearing in a vaudeville theater, and his ailment was at first diagnosed as ptomaine poisoning. Later it was discovered that he was suffering from lobar pneumonia and physicians declared that he could not live. His remarkable vitality sustained him until Saturday, when he lapsed into unconsciousness from which he did not rally except at rare intervals.

Received Many Messages.

During the five days of his illness Fitzsimmons was the recipient of many messages from men whom he had formerly met in the ring, including James J. Corbett, from whom he won the championship, and James J. Jeffries, who took the title from him. Other pugilists and followers of the sport sent telegrams to the fighter and his wife, expressing hope of a speedy recovery.

Fitzsimmons, until he sank into his final stupor, fought for his life as he had fought for victory in the ring. Physicians declared life was prolonged several days by the grim determination of the man.

"Fighting Bob" lived up to his nick-name and ring reputation almost to the end. He refused to admit defeat even after physicians had given up hope. Fitzsimmons always was referred to as an Australian because it was there that he started his ring career, but he was born in Helston, Cornwall, England, June 4, 1862. His parents, however, soon moved to New Zealand.

Fitzsimmons started work in his father's blacksmith shop, and at the age of 18 gained fame for his dexterity in swinging a heavy hammer and fashioning of horseshoes. It was said he could shape two while others made one.

Splendid Athlete.

Naturally athletic, Fitzsimmons engaged in all kinds of sports. Before taking up boxing he was a hammer thrower and long distance runner. His speed and endurance were so marvelous that he was given to hunting kangaroos afoot. The former champion's career began as the winner of lightweight competition promoted by James Mace, of New Zealand, in 1880. He defeated four men, knocking out three of them, and thus became the amateur champion of the country. The next year he defended his honors, defeating five opponents in one night.

Always Ready to Fight.

Fitzsimmons continued at the forge for the next six or seven years, but was always ready to fight. After fighting three battles with Jim Hall, then regarded as the middleweight champion of Australia, Fitzsimmons came to America in 1890. He was one of the lightest men to win the heavyweight championship. He rarely weighed more than 165 pounds when in condition and gave away as much as fifty pounds to some opponents. Fitzsimmons won the world's heavyweight title on March 17, 1897, when he defeated James J. Corbett in the fourteenth round of their memorable battle at Carson City, Nevada. He stopped Corbett with his famous solar plexus punch, of which he was the originator.

For two years Fitzsimmons clung to the honor, losing it to James J. Jeffries when he was knocked out in the eleventh round, June 8, 1899, at Coney Island, New York. In 1902 he met Jeffries again, hoping to regain the crown, but after having the better of the California giant on points, Fitzsimmons went down to defeat in the eighth round.

Old-timers of the ring say the last

HEAVY TOLL TAKEN BY RUSSIANS

Germany Lost Sixteen Warships and One Transport in Riga Bay Battle.

London, Oct. 23.—Despite its overwhelming preponderance in artillery and number of ships, the German fleet that seized control of the Gulf of Riga and its islands, during the last two weeks, suffered a loss eight times as heavy as did the Russians. Altogether sixteen German ships—fifteen of them warships and one a transport—were put out of action. This is the detailed toll:

The German Lost:

Two dreadnoughts.
One cruiser.
Twelve torpedoboats (six definitely known sunk).

One transport.
Numerous mine-sweepers.
The Russians Lose:
One battleship (the Slava, sunk).
One large torpedoboot destroyer, 1,100 tons.

Today's official review given out by the Russian admiralty at Petrograd explains that except for the six torpedoboats, which are definitely known to have been sent to the bottom, the fate of the German vessels put out of action is not known.

There has been a let-up in naval activity in Baltic waters but new encounters are looked for momentarily. Teuton submarines continue to cruise in the approaches of the Gulf of Finland. In the Moon Sound, where for four days, twenty Russian warships were bottled up, the Germans are now removing the obstacles laid by the Russians before leaving.

Another landing on the Estonian mainland was attempted by the Germans yesterday, but failed eight miles north of Werder, Petrograd reports. The transports were driven away by the Russian land defence.

Russians Alert.

On the front, north of Riga the Germans, evidently in a manoeuvre to lull the Russians into security where they are most gravely menaced, abandoned some positions around Hindenberg, on the southern bank of the Aa river and to the eastward therefrom. The Russians followed and occupied the trenches but the Petrograd war office is known to be fully aware of all the possibilities presented by the German control of the Riga Gulf, and to be taking all necessary precautionary measures.

Watch the British.

Fearing that the British fleet may try to spoil their Baltic victory and place the German naval forces "between tow fires," the Germans are keeping a vigilant eye upon the three "gates" from the North Sea to the Baltic, the small and great belts, and the sound. These waters are swarming with German scouting forces while overhead strong squadrons of Zeppelins and seaplanes are ever on the lookout for the slightest sign of a British approach.

Unconfirmed reports have it that British submarines co-operated with the Russian fleet in the Moon Island Sound and surrounding waters during the last two weeks naval activities there.

SOLDIER KILLS HIMSELF

Dillon Man Commits Suicide at Camp Sevier.

Greenville, Oct. 22.—Rufus Kearsey, Company F, 119th infantry, whose home is in Dillon, S. C., committed suicide this morning at Camp Sevier by cutting his throat with a razor. Kearsey appeared at roll call this morning and also at mess, though he stated that he was sick and did not eat anything. He was found about ten minutes after mess in a dying condition. He enlisted in the National Guard July 29, this year, his age at that time being given as twenty-eight. His nearest living relative is his mother, Mrs. Sarah G. Kearsey, whose home is in Dillon. Mental derangement is given as the cause of the act Kearsey having been under observation on this account for some time. His body will be shipped at government expense as soon as his mother is heard from.

knockout at the hands of Jeffries started Fitzsimmons on the down-grade path.

Fitzsimmons made a fortune in the ring, his earnings soon vanishing. He had a varied matrimonial career, having been married four times.

TEN THOUSAND PRISONERS CAPTURED WHEN FRENCH ARMY SMASHES GERMAN LINES ON RIVER AINSE FRONT

With the French Armies in France, Oct. 23.—The French troops this morning fought one of the most cleverly conceived and most valiantly executed actions of the war. More than 10,000 prisoners belonging to the famous Fifth Prussian Guards were taken and the French still continue their victorious progress.

The battle began before dawn along a nine-kilometre front, from the northeast of Laffaux, about the neighborhood of Vauxaillon, to Larovere farm. Amid inky darkness the French troops left their trenches and with a terrific barrage fire from the most powerful concentration of French guns ever gathered on such a front preceding them, they made their way forward to and over the first German positions, sweeping all resistance aside.

Altogether six German infantry divisions were aligned, facing the French attacking forces, but none of them were able to withstand the onslaught, the advance continuing like clockwork. The correspondent observed the battle from a point whence he could see the entire line and was able to watch the precision with which the artillery prepared the German front for the advance of the infantry, and methodical manner of the infantry's progress.

Allied Line Holds.

British Front in France and Belgium, Oct. 23.—The new Allied line established in yesterday's limited astride the Ypres-Staden Railway was intact this morning with the exception of the loss in the southern fringe of Houtholst wood of one fortified farm from which the British were forced to fall back last evening when the Germans delivered a heavy local counter attack.

Yesterday's operations may be recorded as a success, and while only limited objectives were sought their attainment has greatly improved the Allied position.

It was hard fighting at numerous points and the Germans lost heavily, especially in the region of Poelcapelle. Large numbers of enemy dead were reported this morning lying in front of the British advanced posts.

The fighting was especially severe near the point of junction of the British and French forces. The German defenses on the outskirts of the wood were strong and the enemy fell back battling determinedly with machine guns and rifles. At one point north of the Ypres-Staden Railway, at the edge of the wood, the British advanced posts were unable to maintain the most forward positions reached because of the violent artillery fire. The main Allied line, however, was today well north of the strong line of German positions.

More rain fell last night and this morning, doing much to offset the effects of the recent few days of sunshine.

Swift and Dashing Blows.

Paris, Oct. 23.—In one of the swift and most dashing blows of the war the French troops today smashed through the German lines north of the Aisne to a depth of more than two miles at one point, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy and capturing more than 7,500 prisoners and twenty-five heavy guns and field guns. Several important villages fell into the hands of the French, according to the war office announcement tonight.

SOUTH CAROLINA TOBACCO

Bigger Sales and More Money for September.

Columbia, Oct. 23.—The State Department of Agriculture, in a compilation showing the condition of the tobacco market for last month, states that 294,126 more pounds was sold than in September, 1917, and an increase of \$96,083.24 was paid. Only five markets and nine warehouses reported, the other markets and warehouses having completed their sales during the preceding months.

EXPECT PEACE IN MONTH

Washington, Oct. 23.—An Italian workman interned in Germany since the beginning of the war has escaped

according to the war office announcement tonight.

War Reports Summarized.

While the Allied troops were busily engaged in consolidating positions won Monday in Flanders, the French forces of Gen. Petain struck a mighty and unexpected blow against the German line northeast of Soissons Tuesday morning and made some of the most important gains of terrain since they threw back the army of the German Crown Prince, which was besieging Verdun.

The stroke was made over a front of about six miles, from the east of Vauxaillon to Pargony-Fillan. Under rainy and generally unfavorable weather conditions the French pushed forward all along the line aided by daring aviators, who flew over the German positions at an altitude of about 150 feet using their machine guns and penetrated the German lines at one point to a depth of two and a fifth miles.

Many Prisoners.

Numerous important positions fell one by one into the hands of Gen. Petain's men and in addition more than 7,500 Germans, an enormous amount of war material and twenty-five heavy field guns were captured.

The greatest depth of the drive was in the center of the line, where the village of Chavignon was captured, after a violent struggle, which resulted in the enemy fleeing pell-mell. Some of the best troops in the army of the German Crown Prince were engaged in endeavoring to hold back the onslaught, but their efforts were unavailing under the enthusiasm of the French to win positions which would place them more advantageously to press on later toward Laon.

Preparing for Drive.

For about a week the French artillery had been hurling tons of steel into the German line in front of them in preparation for the drive, and when it was started had already had been wrought by the guns. In addition to the prisoners taken by the French, the Germans suffered heavy casualties.

In Flanders both the British and French troops are holding all the gains made in Monday's drive northeast of Ypres, except at one place on the southern fringe of the Houtholst wood, where the Germans in a furious counter-attack forced a slight retirement by the British.

Germans Heaviest Losers.

The latest advices concerning the naval activity in the Gulf of Riga, between the Germans and Russians, show that although the Russians lost the battleship Slava and a large torpedo boat destroyer, the Germans were the heaviest losers. Two of their dreadnoughts, one cruiser, twelve torpedo boats, one transport and numerous mine sweepers were put out of action by the Russian fleet. The Petrograd government announced that at least six of the German destroyers were sunk.

Further German attempts to land forces on the Estonian coast to the northeast of Werder have been repulsed by Russian detachments.

On the other fronts no important engagements are in progress, except in the nature of bombardments. On the Julian Front of the Austro-Italian the artillery activity again has become intense. An Austrian attack with infantry in the Cadore region was repulsed by the Italians with heavy losses.

through the Alps to his country with a report that the German people want peace and expect it to come in November. Official dispatches received here today tell the man's story, according to which the Germans have abandoned hope of victory at arms. Laborers are threatening to leave the factories if the war continues another winter and the civilian population generally is living under terrible conditions. He said 800 soldiers attending a circus at Essen were killed at one time by bombs of Allied aviators.

There will be an oyster supper at the Foreston school house Friday night, October 26, for the benefit of the school building.

38,000,000 UNDER ARMS

Of These 27,500,000 Arrayed Against Central Powers.

Washington, Oct. 22.—At least 38,000,000 men are bearing arms in the war—27,500,000 on the side of the world Allies and 10,600,000 on the side of the Central Powers, according to latest War Department compilations from published reports on various countries. These figures do not include naval personnel strength, which would raise the total several millions.

Against Germany's 7,000,000, Austria's 3,000,000, Turkey's 300,000 and Bulgaria's 300,000, are arrayed the following armed forces: Russia, 9,000,000; France, 6,000,000; Great Britain, 5,000,000; Italy, 3,000,000; Japan, 1,400,000; United States, more than 1,000,000; China, 541,000; Rumania, 320,000; Serbia, 300,000; Belgium, 300,000; Greece, 300,000; Portugal, 200,000; Montenegro, 40,000; Siam, 36,000; Cuba, 11,000, and Liberia, 400. San Marino and Panama also have small forces under arms.

Military experts do not regard these figures as entirely accurate, but believe they represent in round numbers the comparative strengths of the contending armies as published recently. The War Department has many confidential reports on the forces of the Allies, and considerable data concerning enemy armies, but this information is not made public for military reasons.

PAXVILLE NEWS ITEMS.

Privates Hampton McLeod and Waldo Reynolds of Camp Jackson came home on Saturday in response to telegrams conveying the intelligence of serious illness in their families.

Mrs. Adler Bradham of Manning is spending awhile at the home of Mr. R. B. Bradham.

Rev. A. S. Lesley will begin a series of services here on next Wednesday evening, at 7 o'clock. He will only hold services at night, continuing until next Sunday morning, when the meeting will be concluded.

Mr. L. M. Curtis has recently disposed of his stock of general merchandise and has accepted a position as traveling salesman for Armour & Co. He spent the week-end with his folks here.

Mr. G. C. Beatson and family, of Wilson Mills, spent the past week-end at the home of Mr. M. B. Corbett near town.

Mr. Dewey Reynolds, of the Carlisle Fitting School, came last Friday for a short visit to his relatives.

The 1917-1918 session of the Paxville graded school opened Monday morning, the 15th. On account of the repairs being made on the school building, which are not yet complete, the opening exercises were held in the Baptist church, and the Sunday school rooms of same will be used for the daily sessions of the school. The trustees hope to be ready for occupancy by the 1st. They have been greatly inconvenienced on account of not being able to receive the material with which to continue the work.

The indications are that this will be one of the most successful years in the history of the school. In addition to the student body, which was larger than is usually enrolled on the opening day, there were a number of friends and patrons present. The Rev. J. D. Bowen, of the Baptist church opened the meeting with scripture reading and prayer. Short talks were made by Messrs. W. R. Keels, M. B. Corbett, the principal Miss Lenora Edwards, and Rev. Bowen. Mr. T. R. Owens, for the trustees, made a short talk explaining the financial condition of the school. He hopes soon to present to the public an itemized statement of all expenditures of the school up to date.

The teachers are the same this year as last, with the exception of Miss Earle Peritt of the primary department.

The trustees feel fortunate in securing the return of Miss Edwards for their principal for another term. The absence of our Superintendent of Education E. J. Browne was noted and his presence was greatly missed at the opening exercise.

Plans were generally discussed for the community fair to be held on Thanksgiving Day. The date heretofore set was necessary to be changed on account of the condition of the school building.

DISCOVER NEW PLOT TO LAND ARMS IN IRISH TERRITORY

Lloyd George Says Bernstorff Is Aiding in Attempt to Incite Rebellion.

URGES GOVERNMENT ACT

Declares Young Men Are Being Drilled in Preparation for Succession Revolt.

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

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

Firm Action.

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

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

Drilling Soldiers.

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

The third point was that there was a deal of talk in Ireland among the Sinn Feiner leader, which, said the premier, did not mean home rule or self-government, but separation or secession.

There was a demand for sovereign independence for Ireland, declared the premier. "We had better say at once that under no condition will Great Britain permit anything of that kind."

Prisoners Deported.

In the House of Commons today Henry E. Luke, chief secretary for Ireland, said that last February the British Government had deported prisoners from Ireland because Germany was offering a helping hand to the Sinn Feiners.

Mr. Luke declared that the recent troubles in Ireland had arisen because the convention was doing well and the Sinn Fein leaders wish it to fail. He said the government intended to do its utmost to prevent criminal acts with such intention.

CAMP HOSPITAL ON FIRE

Camp Wheeler Calls on Macon for Help.

Macon, Ga., Oct. 23.—The base hospital at Camp Wheeler is on fire. Flames were discovered shortly before 10:30 o'clock. Help was asked from Macon, although the division has its own fire fighting apparatus.

There are 55 buildings in the base hospital system at Camp Wheeler. They are arranged in a row, a considerable distance from the camp proper.

Three hundred patients were in the hospital buildings when the fire broke out. The fire was first discovered in the medical officers' quarters.

Telephone reports to this city seven miles away say that the patients were removed from all danger.

The white teachers have been called to meet in the court house here next Saturday at 11 o'clock. All teachers should attend. They owe it to their profession and the communities they serve to keep fully abreast of the time in keeping in touch with all the educational movements in the county.