

LILLE TO OSTEND THE BATTLE LINE

Third Great Conflict in the West Raging Violently.

ALLIES HOLD THEIR GROUND

British Fleet Taking Active Part in Operations Along the Belgian Coast. Germans Striking Hard at French Line in the Vicinity of La Bassee.

London, Oct. 22.—The third great battle of the war between the Germans and the allies is raging violently on a fifty-mile line from Lille to Ostend and, according to official reports from Paris, the allied forces on the left wing everywhere are holding their ground. The British fleet is taking an active part in operations along the entire contested coast line.

The Germans are fighting under the most disadvantage, especially along the coast, as the British ships which have been assisting the allies' land forces have long range guns, capable of seriously menacing German troops and men in the trenches, as well as the ammunition trains and supply convoys.

The vessels assisting the allies have not been allowed to carry out their operations in peace, for German submarines have followed them down the coast and attacked them while they were shelling German positions. These attacks, however, were made futile by the presence of British destroyers.

The battles on land are being contested with fury and tenacity which would indicate that strategic importance is attached to the positions held by the opposing armies. When a town is reached street fighting generally develops, such as that which took place at Ypres last week. One side gains an advantage only to lose it when the other side brings up reinforcements.

The Paris correspondent of Reuters' Telegram company says the latest information from the front indicates that the French are making marked progress on the right bank of the river Meuse.

The Germans are striking hard at the French line in the vicinity of La Bassee and have made counter attacks against the force which for many days has been endeavoring to relieve Lille.

A Berlin dispatch says: "Severe fighting continues on the Yser canal. The enemy's artillery was supported from the sea southwest of Nieuport. The fighting west of Lille continues. Our troops, taking the offensive, repulsed the enemy at several points."

BUNCHED PARAGRAPHS

Mrs. Mary La Montague, while dependent upon poverty, and Mrs. Mary Warner, both residing at Newark, N. J., committed suicide.

Albert Rawlins, hanged by a bear in Kit Carson's show, exhibiting at Winchester, Ky., was paid \$2000 damages by the management.

Stanley Podelak, his wife and their three-year-old daughter were killed in their home at Trevesky, Pa., by the explosion of a keg of powder.

American Meat Packers' association adopted a resolution calling upon congress either to repeal the tax on oleomargarine or to cut it to the minimum.

Body of a well dressed, unidentified woman, strangled to death by a small limb torn from a nearby bush, was found by three men who were hunting mushrooms near Erie, Pa.

An attempt by Rev. A. Martin, pastor of the First Methodist church, to deliver a dry speech at Hamilton, O., was frustrated by a gang of boys.

Fire which wrecked St. Charles Barromeo's Catholic church, Chicago, was pronounced by the police to have been of incendiary origin.

Superintendent Normand, one of the most powerful battalions ever built by France, was successfully launched at St. Nazaire-Sur-Loire.

Two unidentified negroes were killed near Memphis by a posse in pursuit of Manzy Boyd, a negro who killed Paul K. Harris, manager of a plantation at Crider, Ark.

CONFEREES REACH AN AGREEMENT

War Revenue Measure Finally Whipped Into Shape.

WILL PRODUCE \$90,000,000

Beer Tax Will Remain at \$1.50 a Barrel as Fixed by the House, and Levies on Rectified Spirits and Gasoline Are Knocked Out—Other Features of the Measure That Will Be Made a Law.

Washington, Oct. 22.—An agreement has been reached by house and senate conferees on the war revenue bill. As a result the beer tax will remain at \$1.50 a barrel, as the house fixed it. Instead of \$1.75, the senate figure. The tax of 5 cents a gallon on rectified spirits imposed by the senate also has been knocked out, and there will be no tax on gasoline.

The house conferees thus won as to the beer tax and the proposed tax on rectified spirits. The senate conferees scored as to gasoline. The house had voted to tax gasoline and the senate knocked it out. In nearly every other instance the senate conferees had their way and retained their amendments in the bill.

The proposed wine tax as the senate wrote it, after much delay and conferences between the California wine producers and the Ohio wine growers, whose interests conflicted, remains in the bill.

The tax on bank capital and surplus will be \$1 for each \$1,000 of capital, surplus and undivided profits, instead of \$2, as the house had fixed it. The senate amendment fixing a higher tax on manufacturers of tobacco graduated according to production and increasing as production increased was retained in the bill.

Brokers will have to pay a tax of \$50 annually. The conferees lopped off from \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000 in revenue by eliminating the proposed tax on rectified spirits and the increase which the senate had made in the beer tax.

Chairman Simmons of the senate finance committee estimated that the bill would hardly produce \$90,000,000 in revenue. The senate amendment pertaining to insurance policies was agreed to, exempting life and casualty insurances, but taxing fire and marine policies.

The new Schedule B written into the bill by the senate taxing perfumery and cosmetics, chewing gum and its substitutes and sundries wines, was retained in the bill. It was the subject of a bitter fight.

DEMOCRATIC MEETINGS

The Democratic campaign is now on in earnest in this county and from now until election day Democracy will be preached to the voters in every section of the county by noted speakers of the state who have been assigned by the county committee. The speakers who will tour the county are A. V. Abernathy, Secretary of the State Tax Commission; M. A. Warnes, author of the Warnes Tax Law; Warren J. Duffey, of Toledo; D. B. Sharp, of Columbus; John I. Miller, Commissioner of Public Works; Walter Connor, of the Attorney General's Office; Theodore Tangeman, and N. W. Cunningham, candidate for Congress.

State Auditor Donahay may also be able to get into the county for a speech next week. In the event that he does he will be assigned to Coldwater. The campaign will close with three big rallies on the evening of the 31st—one in this city, one at Coldwater and one at Neptune.

Secretary of State Chas. Graves and D. M. Clendenning are scheduled to speak at the closing meeting in this city. The speech making really began last night with meetings at Findlay, Hamilton and Cranberry Springs. The remainder of the assignments are as follows: October 23—Duffy at St. Anthony and Sharp at Waplelin.

October 24—Sharp and J. D. Johnson at Walsah, and Duffey, H. A. Miller and W. A. Myers at St. Edward. October 26—Abernathy at St. John and Warnes and Connor at Chikassaw. October 27—Abernathy at Cassalia and Warnes and Connor at Mendon.

October 28—Abernathy and Connor at Zeck City and Warnes and Cunningham at Macedonia. October 29—Abernathy at Mercer and Warnes at St. Peter.

October 30—Abernathy at Blackrock Center and Warnes at Hopewell. October 31—Graves and Clendenning at Celina, Abernathy and Tangeman at Coldwater and Warnes and Kramer at Neptune.

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THE WARNES LAW IN ACTION

The tax-payers of Hopewell township will fare better in tax reductions this fall than any other township. The following table shows the valuation for Hopewell township, as assessed for taxation for 1913, and the amount of taxes for that year. The valuation under the new appraisal for 1914 and the amount of taxes that will be paid is also given:

Table with columns for Valuation in 1913, Valuation in 1914, Increase in valuation, and Taxes for 1913 and 1914. Total valuation in 1913: \$2,399,360.00. Total valuation in 1914: \$2,477,220.00.

What the reduction in this year means under the first grand of the Warnes law is shown in a few individual cases in the township given below. You can find your tax account for the year if you will but call on Auditor Steinbruner, District Assessor Morrow or Treasurer Hendricks who will gladly look up your tax account. Don't be backward, these officers are your servants and are not asking your political or religious belief. They are simply transacting business in a business way from the Governor down to the clerks in these offices:

Table for Hopewell Township showing individual tax cases. Emmet Carpenter: Valuation in 1913 \$27,930.00, 1914 \$28,800.00. Savings: \$70.90.

It is the law that Little Willie of the Recovery Tribune, standpat candidate for Representative, would have repealed, setting up the brewer's cry for "home rule." Dr. Wintermute helped Gov. Cox put the progressive laws that are the pride of the State in statutes. See that his re-election is unanimous.

Table for Liberty Township showing individual tax cases. J. B. Laffin: Valuation in 1913 \$21,350.00, 1914 \$22,500.00. Savings: \$132.37.

While in many instances the taxes are higher in Marion township, the cause is due to local affairs. This year there are six new pikes, and most of the old ones to lay on; therefore, in some cases, taxes will be higher, as the pikes are built on river failed.

French war office reported that on Oct. 19 the right wing of the French army made gains in Alsace, capturing fortifications west of Colmer, and that an attempt of the Germans to recapture Than failed. Furious fighting is in progress for the possession of the approaches to Lille, in north France.

In north Belgium the allies are holding back the German advance against French coast cities. Berlin reports that on Oct. 18 the Germans occupied the cities of Bruges and Ostend. Thirty thousand Belgian soldiers and several thousand English troops fled to Holland, where they dispersed. The remainder of the Belgian army, under King Albert, is believed to have effected a junction with the allies, who are blocking a German advance along the French coast.

ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION GIVEN GOVERNOR COX

On His Visit to Mercer County Last Tuesday.

His Heart-to-Heart Talks Warm Up His Admirers and Breaks Down All Opposition.

Traveling through the Democratic Gibraltar of Northwestern Ohio, Governor James M. Cox last Tuesday campaigned Mercer County from the southern to the northern border, going thence into Van Wert County where he made several speeches that night.

Starting about 10 o'clock with a speech to a fair sized crowd of farmers at the depot at Maria Stein, he wended his way north, making six speeches. He was accompanied on the trip by Lieutenant Governor W. A. Greenleaf, Judge Dennis Dwyer, of Dayton; N. W. Cunningham, candidate for Congress in this district; E. M. Clendenning, of Columbus; Representative G. J. C. Wintermute, the Celina land and a large contingent of automobilists from this city, who met the Governor's party at Maria Stein.

The uncertain opposition and policies of Mr. Willis constitute a real menace and danger to the state," declared the Governor in his speeches. Commenting on the situation, he said: "It is a fine time now for the voters of the state of Ohio to stop, look and listen. The uncertain policies and policies of the stand-pat candidate for Governor constitute a real menace and the people ought to study it and be certain of the results. Where is Mr. Willis going to lead the people? He cannot harmonize his utterances and his ideas."

The dissemination of state power for the effective enforcement of laws affecting the moral welfare of the state is a dangerous idea. To send the power to regulate back to the people is to distribute authority, make responsibility uncertain and indefinite and can only result in bringing law enforcement to a standstill. To distribute power is to make the law impotent in many places. To centralize the power and make responsibility definite and certain is to make laws effective.

"Mr. Willis seeks to evade responsibility. I am willing to bear it. He wants nothing but position and power, and his Governor plenty to do. Responsibility attaches to the office of Governor whether he seeks to have it or not and when he says he will not hold it and disavows it, he opens the way for law violators to run riot over the state. I am willing to assume this responsibility. The position of power is on my shoulders when they call upon me to enforce the laws that contemplate the peace, good order and moral welfare of the people. I stand for the peace, good order and moral welfare of the state and for all the people and I am willing to stand by the duties of my office."

Governor Cox paid tribute to Judson Harmon by referring to him as a great Governor who gave the state the one-per-cent law and tried to make the law complete by giving it the operation of the Warnes law.

Later he stated that the party was being worked and roosting about the Statehouse to be against me in this campaign, and I would like to have them all openly against me. It makes a fine situation for comparison. When I get a certificate of election, want it to be clean. I want every man who has been secured by help in the slightest degree from any of these men.

"Mr. Willis permitted the payment of more than half his primary expense during the campaign by an organization directed by one of the principal lobbyists who is in the pay of the Statehouse, from which Judson Harmon kicked him, and from which I gave him the second kick. With the lobbyist was allied the special interests of the state. He can have that help. There are candidates who do not want it."

Every one of the meetings in the county were good ones and were attended by exceptionally good crowds. The last meeting at Rockford was a fitting climax to a hard days work and the Governor showed his appreciation of the big crowd and the attention they were giving his remarks, by telling the Van Wert crowd, when they attempted to shut him off, that if they were in a hurry they could go on back home.

At St. Henry the Governor's party was greeted by the school children and as the Governor stepped to the platform, the youngsters sang, "The New Ohio."

At Coldwater the party was royally entertained at dinner by Mayor Henry Fox and his good wife.

The Governor and his party, who continued on north, were met at Rockford by Congressman Ansbury, Representative Forman, of Van Wert County; Superintendent of Public Works John I. Miller and several other Van Wert County people.

PROMINENT AUGLAIZE COUNTY MAN MISSING

Frank Doyle, prominent Salem township farmer, tax assessor and member of the Auglaize County Fair Board, has been missing from his home since Oct. 1. Doyle had been suffering from stomach trouble since the month of June and on that day drove to this city to procure medicine. His horse was tied on the street and when he failed to remove it after a reasonable length of time officials placed it in one of the breweries. At the doctor's office in the last place he was seen and his whereabouts at this time remains a mystery. The news of his disappearance was kept as quiet as possible in the hopes that he would return, but no word has been received. The family and friends are in a state of keen anxiety regarding his whereabouts. Mr. Doyle was a man of average height, weighed 115 pounds, had dark hair, lightly streaked with gray and wears a mustache. The amount of money carried on his person at the time is unknown.—St. Marys Argus.

LITTLE WILLIE SHOULD WORRY

The cost of appraising the real and personal property in Mercer County in 1910 was \$7,635.75. The cost of appraising both real and personal property in 1914 was \$5,711.80, including the salaries of the District Assessor and his deputies, a difference of \$1,923.95.

By reason of the vast amount of property being assessed in the cities of Ohio this year under the appointed assessors that had never been assessed before made it possible for Governor Cox to have the State rate reduced from .961 to .450 mills. Estimating the tax duplicate of the county at \$42,000,000, the reduction made in the State and county rate will save the tax-payers of Mercer County the sum of \$25,200. You can see this saving alone would pay for the appraising of our property—both real and personal—for the next four years.

These figures have been public property for the last couple of weeks. Have Little Willie, Calamity Jane and Uriah Heap said anything about it in their publications. Not much. It would not serve their purpose a little bit.

Again Governor Cox found by commencing the reappraisal of personal property on February 1 it was working a hardship on the farmer by reason of catching his crops and feed, so he advised the legislature, while in session last winter, to change that clause in the law and start the reappraisal of personal property on April 1.

Have the triplets said anything about this to their readers. No. But they worked overtime to tell how the farmers were being gouged this year by having to return this item. They say nothing of repeal. The small, notwithstanding every farmer will pay less taxes, unless some special improvement in his township or district has been made by himself or his neighbors, for which, if it has increased their taxes, they are entirely responsible, and it is hoped by The Democrat that they are getting their money's worth in return.

Farmers have reason to vote for Gov. Cox and not against him. The Warnes assessor law has brought out hidden wealth in the cities and elsewhere and reduced taxes, as he said it would. It has hurt no man who has been making, like the brewers, the tax dodger and the triplets whom, but let them wail. It becomes them.

And this is the law that Little Willie Irelan of the Ft. Recovery Tribune, Republican candidate for Representative, wants repealed. He is speaking about, like the brewers, the howls for "home rule." He thinks he can get into office on it. He would, if the people were the clumps he takes them to be.

TO GIVE OUT NAMES BEFORE ELECTION

List of Licensed Saloons to Be Published Soon.

Columbus, Oct. 19.—The state liquor licensing board, by order of the governor, sent out notices to local boards in all the 43 wet counties to announce the names of saloonists whose licenses have been renewed, and the recipients of new licenses, within the next eight days, or more than a week before the November election.

Under the license law, the names of licensees need not be announced until Nov. 5, which would be two days after the election. However, the position is taken by the administration that it will no suffer the names of licensees to be withheld until that time for fear that some of the men engaged in the business might feel that their license depended upon their political activity.

FRANK VOGEL DEAD Business Associate of Henry Siegel Passes Away.

New York, Oct. 20.—Frank E. Vogel, business associate of Henry Siegel in the ill-fated Siegel enterprises, and who was supposed to have come to trial on indictments growing out of his business methods, died suddenly at the Hotel Baltimore. His private physician and Coroner Hollenstein said that death was due to heart failure. Mr. Vogel, Mrs. Vogel and their two children arrived at the Baltimore from Briar Cliff manor. The family was to remain at the hotel until after the trial of the husband and father, which was to begin at Geneseo, N. Y., on Nov. 9.

W. S. Younger, former superintendent of the Washington townships schools, now engaged in school work near Springfield, announces he will be a candidate for the appointment to fill the vacancy in the Board of Directors of the Mercer County Agricultural Society.

REVIEW OF THE EUROPEAN CONFLICT

All Belgium is now occupied by the Germans, who will attempt to move against the French coast cities. Berlin reports that on Oct. 18 the Germans occupied the cities of Bruges and Ostend. Thirty thousand Belgian soldiers and several thousand English troops fled to Holland, where they dispersed. The remainder of the Belgian army, under King Albert, is believed to have effected a junction with the allies, who are blocking a German advance along the French coast.

London reports on Oct. 18 that the Germans were repulsed from the Ypres canal to the sea, in an effort to march on Dunkirk and Calais from positions occupied on the Belgian coast, less than seventy miles across the strait to Dover.

Each day brings the fighting nearer home to England, although the allies' left wing in West Flanders and across the French frontier in Picardy, where the heaviest and most important battles are taking place, continue to make progress, according to the French official bulletins.

Germans have not advanced beyond the line running from Ostend to Thourout, Roulers and Menin, declare official reports. The last mentioned place is on the border, just north of Lille, near which success has been gained by British troops in the capture of Fromelles.

Around St. Mihiel, south of Verdun, where the Germans are hanging on to the little strip of the river Meuse which they succeeded in crossing and from which the French have been trying for weeks to drive them, the battle has been almost continuous and the French claim to have gained more ground.

The British admiralty reported the sinking of four German destroyers Oct. 17 off the Dutch coast. Engaged in the fight were the English cruiser Undaunted and four torpedo boat destroyers. Four hundred men were lost.

In the eastern theater of war it is reported that the Russians have checked the German advance on Warsaw. A force of 600,000 Germans is reported entrenched in Poland, twenty-five miles west of Warsaw. An Austrian attempt to cross the San