

BRITISH HOLDING THEIR BIG GAINS ON BELGIAN FRONT

German Counter-Attacks at La Basseville and at Other Points Were "Successfully Repulsed" and Another Counter-Attack Further North Was Crushed

HEAVY RAINSTORM HOLDS UP OPERATIONS

German Semi-Official Report Says That Their First Positions Were Converted into Shell Hole Fields, but That Their Artillery Is Holding Up Well

London, Aug. 1.—German counter-attacks yesterday afternoon and last night against the new British positions at La Basseville and other points in Belgium were successfully repulsed, said the official statement today.

Heavy rain has been falling since early yesterday, this afternoon's statement adds, and the weather conditions unfavorable for operations.

The official statement from British headquarters in France last night reported the capture by the allies of the following villages: La Basseville, Steenstraete, Bixchoote, Veriorenboek, Frenzberg, St Julien, Pilken, Hooge, Westhoek and Hoolebeke and more than 3500 prisoners.

The statement says: "The operations of the allied troops begun this morning in the neighborhood of Ypres, have been continued with success during the day, in spite of unfavorable weather. The enemy's positions have been entered, and our line has been advanced on a front of more than 15 miles, from La Basseville, on the river Lys, to Steenstraete, on the river Yser. Both of these villages are now in the hands of the allies."

GERMAN POSITIONS MERE SHELL HOLES

German Artillery, According to Semi-Official Statement in Berlin Stood to Its Task Well

Copenhagen, Aug. 1.—The German official preliminary report of the British offensive today, stated that the front positions were converted into shell hole fields. The German artillery, despite terrific bombardment by shell of all calibre and the lavish use of gas had not let up and was successful in combatting the British fire, the statement says.

Berlin Lokal Anzeiger's military critic says the offensive was delayed and weakened by the submarine campaign.

Berlin, via London, Aug. 1.—The British attack in Flanders on both sides of Ypres has been repulsed, according to the German official communication issued last night. Only a crater position was taken in the assault, it is asserted.

The text of the communication follows: "The first assault of the English army delivered in Flanders on a 25-kilometer front on both sides of Ypres, has been repulsed."

"After changeable bitter fighting on a large scale, the enemy, who attacked with superior forces many ranks deep, had to content himself with the possession of a crater position in our defensive zone."

"On the Chemin des Dames, Aisne front, an energetic attack put us in possession of important height positions near Cerny and resulted in the capture of more than 1500 French prisoners."

THREE LINES CAPTURED. German Defenses Were Very Strong at Some Points.

British Front in France and Belgium, Aug. 1 (by the Associated Press).—An epoch-making offensive, launched by the British and French against the German lines between the river Lys and Boesinghe at daybreak yesterday, has with few exceptions accomplished all that had been planned for the first day of this battle, which in its early stages gives promise of being the greatest conflict of the war.

Roughly speaking, the British penetrated positions held by Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria, between Boesinghe and Warneton, and at the time of the filing of this despatch were in possession of the first three lines of the German trenches at most points throughout this front.

The German front line trenches, which had been torn to pieces by the preliminary bombardment, offered little resistance, but once the allied forces had penetrated beyond them they met with fierce resistance at many points. Directly east of Zillebeke and again a little to the north, the British were temporarily held up by a heavy machine gun fire, but only temporarily, for the troops charged through the rain of lead and forced the Germans from their positions in hand to hand fighting.

Again at a point which was strongly held in the German line and defended

by concrete fortifications, the British were brought to a stand by machine gun fire. But they charged with bayonets and dislodged the Germans. One of the most striking and spectacular events of the day's fighting occurred at the so-called Menin tunnel, a great underground fortification constructed by the Germans on the Menin road opposite Hooge. The British preliminary bombardment had forced the Germans to hold the trench line thinly here, and the British division which was to attack at dawn lay out all night in shell holes within 25 yards of the German line, waiting for the signal to advance. When the time arrived for the charge, and the British gunners had dropped a protecting barrage on the German front trench ahead of the British troops, it was seen that the Germans had taken to their heels and were fleeing.

The British, seeing their prey escaping, went mad and charged directly through their own barrage, fortunately without heavy casualties. The Menin tunnel, which was expected to be occupied by several hundred Germans, was found to be held by only 41, the rest having retreated.

It was only at the second line that the British met resistance, and here, after sharp hand to hand fighting, they forced the Germans again to withdraw.

No check has yet been made on the number of German prisoners captured, but they are flowing in a steady stream back of the British lines.

Many of those captured at the Menin tunnel and other points are mere boys. The tanks again played a prominent part in the opening of the battle, and reports from all sections of the British front say that their work has been most satisfactory. Large numbers of these monsters were employed, and in many cases pursued their destructive and unchecked way to a distance far within the German lines.

Further information obtained from German prisoners concerning the effect of the British preliminary bombardment indicate that this unparalleled expenditure of ammunition was disastrous to the extreme, both in damage and to the morale of the German troops. Within the past six days six Bavarian divisions were withdrawn from the line and replaced by fresh troops because they were so thoroughly demoralized by the inferno of fire which they had undergone. Photographs taken by aviators back of the German lines show that there was scarcely a square yard of territory along their front which was not devastated by the high explosives. It is small wonder, then, that the Germans were holding their front line thinly and were swept back when finally the time arrived for the allied infantry to do its work.

SMALL FRENCH LOSSES. As Compared with Heavy Casualties of the Enemy.

Paris, Aug. 1.—The French attack yesterday in conjunction with the British, was highly successful, according to the official statement, issued by the war office last night. At small loss the French troops carried important German positions and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. The text of the statement reads: "Having crossed the Yser canal during the night our troops attacked at 4 o'clock this morning in conjunction with the British armies on their right. The formidable artillery preparation had completely levelled the German organization and inflicted heavy losses on the defenders."

"At the end of the morning our troops had carried two enemy positions and in their dash had spontaneously gone beyond the object which had been assigned to them. They advanced on the road between Lizerne and Dixmude and captured the villages of Bixchoote and Kortekern."

"Our losses were exceedingly small. We captured important material and took prisoners not yet counted. The battlefield is covered with German dead, showing the magnitude of the enemy losses."

TO HANDLE VERMONT CROPS. Suggestions to Be Made By Public Safety Committee.

Burlington, Aug. 1.—James Hartness of Springfield, president of the committee on public safety of the state of Vermont, met the sub-committee on conservation and food production at the Hotel Vermont last evening. Those present were ex-Gov. Charles W. Gates of Franklin, W. N. Cady of Middlebury, master of the state garage, Rev. Fraser Metzger of Randolph, Commissioner of Agriculture E. S. Brigham of St. Albans and J. E. Tolstrup, marketing agent, also of St. Albans.

The general discussion of the evening by the gentlemen present was in regard to the handling of the potato crop in this state and other matters pertaining to the marketing phase of food production. As a result of the meeting, it was finally moved and carried that the chairman appoint a committee to draft suggestions to be sent to the public with regard to handling the growing crops, especially in regard to potatoes and beans. Mr. Hartness asked that the committee on production and conservation draw up these suggestions and that they be communicated to the public. Commissioner Brigham will co-operate by furnishing certain information to those who are marketing potatoes.

FRANCE WANTED OLD TERRITORY

And Russia Agreed to Help Her to Get Back Alsace-Lorraine

RIBOT DENIES CONQUEST PLAN

French Premier Accuses the German Chancellor of Lying

Paris, Aug. 1.—Premier Ribot replied in the Chamber yesterday to the declaration of the German chancellor that there was a secret treaty between France and Russia for plans of conquest. The chancellor's version contains inaccuracies and absolute lies, said the premier. He said the emperor promised to support French claims to Alsace Lorraine and to leave France free to seek guarantees against French aggression, not by annexing territories on the left bank of the Rhine but by making an autonomous state of the territories.

Premier Ribot also accused the German chancellor of disregarding the speeches and resolutions in the French Chamber, repudiating any policy of conquest.

ALLIES LINKING UP NEW-WON GROUND

Consolidated Their Positions in a Torrential Rainstorm—Germans Failed in Attack on Verdun Front.

Paris, Aug. 1.—"After the magnificent success of the French and the British in Belgium yesterday," says the official statement, "the entente troops in a torrential rainstorm consolidated the positions which they had captured."

"After several days of artillery preparations the Germans attacked positions on the left bank of the Meuse in the Verdun region which the French had captured from them July 17. The Germans were only able to reach certain advance elements of the French first line."

The French official statement last night was as follows: "On the Aisne front the artillery fighting was particularly violent. Reports up to the present concerning the operation carried out south of La Royere emphasize the splendid attitude of our troops. On the entire front of the attacks the objectives assigned having been exceeded, we have been able to clear out the advance trenches which we found filled with the enemy dead. The number of prisoners taken exceeded up to the present 210. Our losses were slight."

"About 11 o'clock in the morning the enemy made a counter-attack against our trenches west of L'Epine De Chevigny, which was repulsed. "The Germans after an intense bombardment of our lines at Cerny and Hurbelie attacked our positions east of Cerny on a front of about 1,500 meters with three regiments. Our counter-attacks immediately carried out drove them back and permitted us to advance along the whole front."

"Belgium communication: During the course of the night the enemy artillery bombarded our campments with long-range guns and shelled our roads of communication at various points along our lines. Our artillery silenced several German batteries in the region of 'Wommen'."

"Army of the east: July 30: Rifle firing and grenade fighting took place on the right bank of the Vardar in the neighborhood of Barakli and Lunasi. At the Cerna bend Bulgarian patrols, attempting to reach our lines, were repulsed."

AMERICAN STEAMER MOTANO IS SUNK

Twenty-Two Members of the Crew Have Been Landed—Ship Sailed From the United States With 34 Men.

London, Aug. 1.—The American steamship Motano of 2,730 tons gross was sunk by a Teuton submarine on July 31. Twenty-two survivors have been landed.

New York, Aug. 1.—The Motano sailed from New York July 2 for Queenstown, Ireland. The vessel carried a crew of 34, of whom 15 claimed American citizenship when they landed here.

POLIOMYELITIS.

Sudbury Case Was Wrongly Diagnosed as Such.

Rutland, Aug. 1.—There is no infantile paralysis in Rutland county, according to a statement last night by Dr. C. F. Dalton of Burlington, secretary of the state board of health. The two cases in Sudbury reported as polio, have not been diagnosed as that, said Dr. Dalton, although there has been some doubt about them and one has been quarantined as a matter of precaution. But Dr. Edward Taylor of Burlington, recognized as one of the greatest experts in the disease, has given as his opinion that the neither case is infantile paralysis, after a visit to Sudbury last Saturday and subsequent careful consideration. One of the cases reported as polio is that of the seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Williams of Sudbury.

Dr. B. D. Colby, health officer of Sudbury, also denied the existence of the dreaded disease in his village or vicinity, stating that the reports to that effect had been circulated by some person ignorant of the facts.

V. N. G. OFFICERS DINED.

Nearly 50 Were Present at Banquet in Burlington.

Burlington, Aug. 1.—Forty-seven officers of the First Vermont Infantry, National Guard, were guests at the banquet given last evening on the roof garden of the New Sherwood hotel by the new officers of the regiment in honor of the old. The new officers are those who have reached their commissions since the regiment returned from the border, while the old ones are those who served with it while the regiment was basking near the shores of the Rio Grande. The banquet is somewhat of an annual affair, and last night the hosts numbered about 30.

The roster of guests follows: Col. Fred B. Thomas, Lieut.-Col. Bert S. Hyland, Majors John W. Tinker, Jerold M. Ashley and Thomas J. Hagan; First Lieutenants Paul D. Moody, chaplain, Percy P. Hartwell, battalion adjutant, and Charles S. Sumner, battalion adjutant; Captains Harry N. Eastman, Edward F. Smith, Guy G. Cowen, Charles E. Pell, John F. Sullivan, Herbert A. Wilcox, Harold H. Cady, Harold M. Howe, John L. Stanley, Ernest W. Gibson, Maurice J. Henry, Richard T. Corey and William N. Hudson; First Lieutenants Joseph A. Everts, Chester C. Thomas, Chauncey H. Hayden, Curtis L. Malaney, Stewart Cheney, Walter S. Shaw, Eric R. Britain, Henry J. Homeister, Clarence J. LePage, Roy B. Miner, William H. Munsell, Ben V. Borelia and Harold Wakefield; Second Lieutenants Jack B. Wood, Walter M. Tenny, Leon H. Boyd, Alfred H. Catozzi, Earl H. Lang, Thomas J. Brickley, William H. Morrill, Lawrence H. Hanley, Archibald S. MacDonald, Charles A. Pellett, Orson E. Tripp, Karl S. Webster and Erwin H. Newton.

NO PYTHIAN CAMP.

But Grand Lodge Will Be Held at St. Johnsbury.

St. Johnsbury, Aug. 1.—The grand encampment of the Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythians, comes under the ban of the state board of health and the annual session, which was to open in this place Saturday, has been cancelled. This order of the state board of health does not apply to the grand lodge nor the grand temple of Pythian Sisters and programs will be carried out in full. It is expected that some 300 delegates will be in town next week.

The convention opens Tuesday evening with a reception given by Apollo lodge and the Pythian Sisters of this town. The reception will be followed by a dance. The general business session of both bodies will be held Wednesday.

JUMPED FROM BARN.

F. M. Davis Did That When He Saw He Was Going to Fall.

St. Johnsbury, Aug. 1.—F. M. Davis, employed on the new barn being built on the George Cary farm, sustained torn ligaments of both feet yesterday afternoon when unable to regain his balance while climbing on the roof, he jumped from the highest scaffolding onto a pile of lumber, a distance of 25 feet.

Mr. Davis had been doing some work near the top of the barn and gathering up his tools he started for the first staging. He went a little too fast and was unable to stop when the scaffolding was reached. Seeing he was in for a bad fall he jumped, hoping to strike on his feet rather than fall and possibly land on the back of his head. Others working on the barn hurried to his aid, and as he was unable to walk took him by automobile to his home on Hooker hill, where Dr. Burke was called and attended the injuries.

JOY RIDERS FINED.

Took Automobile from a St. Johnsbury Street.

St. Johnsbury, Aug. 1.—Malcolm McNall and Guy Kellogg, who took the automobile owned by Edward Peterson from where it was standing on Main street recently, for joy riding purposes, pleaded guilty in municipal court yesterday and were each fined \$50 and costs of \$10.45. Twenty-five dollars of the fines were suspended and the young men were placed on probation, subject to the further order of the court. The boys, who are each 17 years old, said they took the machine only to take a short ride, as they thought they could run it safely.

George Prue appeared before Judge Frye Monday morning on a charge of intoxication and for ill-treating his horse. He paid a fine of \$29.90. It was the second offense for intoxication within a few weeks.

The case of Joseph Legendre, chauffeur for C. E. Kirke, who was arrested Thursday night on a charge of operating a car while under the influence of liquor, and for running into the Whitney team on the Lyndonville road, will be heard to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. A jury will sit on the case, and it will come before Judge G. C. Frye in the county court room.

RE-OPENS IN MONTPELIER.

Navy Recruiting Station Resumes Its Activities There.

Editor Barre Times, Dear Sir: Just a few lines to let you know that we are returning from here to Montpelier to open our office again. Arrangements have been made with the health officer of the city whereby we can enlist men as usual.

Will you kindly let it be known through the columns of your paper that we are to be back in Montpelier on the first day of August, and that we want as many thorough gas engine men and mechanics for aviation as we can get. Besides the above mentioned men, the lists are still open for apprentice seamen, firemen, landmen for bakers, and men for the hospital corps.

Very respectfully yours, Charles Mitchell, C. M. A. U. S. Navy, in charge of office. St. Johnsbury, July 29.

I. W. W. LEADER HANGED BY MOB

Frank Little Was Taken from Lodging-House at Butte, Mont.

HAD CALLED SOLDIERS UNCLE SAM'S SCABS

Body Was Cut Down by the Chief of Police, Who Identified It

Butte, Mont., Aug. 1.—Frank Little, a member of the executive board of the Industrial Workers of the World and leader in labor troubles in Arizona, was taken from a lodging-house early today by masked men and hanged to a railroad trestle on the outskirts of the city. The body was cut down at 8 o'clock by Chief of Police Murphy, who identified it.

In a recent speech here Little referred to the United States troops as Uncle Sam's scabs in uniform.

BLACKSMITH LACLAIR SUES RAILROAD

Asks \$3,000 Damages Because a Train Plunged Off End of Sidetrack and Knocked His Blacksmith Shop Down About Him.

Peter Leclair, a Barre blacksmith, has brought suit in Washington county court against the Montpelier & Wells River Railroad company for \$15,000. R. A. Hoar is attorney for the plaintiff. Leclair asks damages as the result of an accident which happened in Barre April 28, 1917, when a Barre & Chelsea train ran along a switching track at the terminal of which was located a building used by the plaintiff as a shop. The train demolished the building, according to the suit papers, injuring Leclair and damaging his property. He claims the railroad was negligent in leaving the switch open. This is the second suit entered against the railroad within two weeks, the other being for \$5,000.

HAS RECORD GROWTH.

The Granite Mutual Insurance Co. Added \$1,355,094 More Business.

In closing its books for the fiscal year ending yesterday, July 31, the Granite Mutual Insurance Co. makes a record report as to growth, the report being the eleventh fiscal accounting. During the year, according to a statement issued today by R. G. Robinson, the secretary and treasurer of the company, the volume of new business has been increased by \$1,355,094. It has added to its capital the sum of \$161,469, so that it commences another fiscal year with business aggregating \$8,910,527 on the books and a capital of \$1,065,088.

Under the law mutual insurance companies doing business in Vermont are required to report at this time. Comparison with other mutual companies, according to the secretary, indicates that the Granite Mutual has a record of growth unequalled in the state. The annual meeting of the company will be held Jan. 8, 1918.

SAXTON ROADSTER STOLEN.

Property of C. W. Spencer of Oneonta, N. Y., Taken at Queen City Park.

Burlington, Aug. 1.—A Saxon roadster was stolen Monday night in a mysterious manner from the garage at Queen City park and thus far no trace of the machine can be found. The garage yesterday morning was locked as usual but the machine belonging to C. W. Spencer of Oneonta, N. Y., was missing.

Mr. and Mrs. Spencer arrived at the hotel in the park about 7:30 Monday evening to spend the night and the car was immediately placed in the garage. Several other cars were in there at the time. No suspicion of the machine's being stolen was discovered until yesterday morning when Spencer, who intended to leave on the morning boat, went after his machine and found it gone, together with a part of his and his wife's baggage. One other car in the garage showed signs of having been tampered with, but that was the only sign of a thief in the place, as the garage had to all appearances, not been broken into.

The garage is situated in a lonely place, where a thief might enter unobserved, and it is probable that Spencer's car was in the garage in the evening when the door was left open, so that anyone might enter unobserved and drive off. When time came to lock up, absence of Spencer's car might not be noticed.

Both the sheriff's and the police departments have been notified. Campers in the vicinity of the garage say that about 10 p. m. they saw a roadster such as Spencer's drive up the road and the authorities are tracing down this clue.

HENDERSON GOES TO PARIS.

British Cabinet Minister's Going Causes Sensation.

London, Aug. 1.—The fact that a member of the cabinet, Arthur Henderson, had gone on a mission to Paris with the pacifist, Ramsay MacDonald, and George J. Wardle, chairman of the Labor party in the Commons, seems to threaten trouble in the government. The purpose of the journey is to discuss the proposed conference of Socialists at London. The crux of the matter lies in the fact that Henderson, since he has returned from Petrograd has reversed his position on the question of the British Labor party and Socialists meeting the German representatives at the Stockholm Socialist conference.

GET INJUNCTION ON LOCAL BOARD

Cummings & Lewis to Test Legality of Order Forbidding the Sale of Soft Drinks, Etc., to Be Consumed on the Premises.

Not satisfied with the order issued by the local board of health to prevent the spread of infantile paralysis in Barre, Cummings & Lewis, druggists, through their attorney, John W. Gordon, applied to Judge Stanley C. Wilson in court of chancery at Montpelier yesterday for a restraining order or temporary injunction against the local board of health, forbidding it in any way from interfering with Cummings & Lewis in the sale of soft drinks, ice cream, egg shakes, etc., to customers, to be consumed upon the premises. The court granted a temporary injunction and set Wednesday, Aug. 8, at 1:30 in the afternoon, at Montpelier, as the date for hearing on the same as to why it should not be made permanent. The injunction was served on the local board of health this morning.

In view of the outcome of the temporary injunction secured by the Chautauque societies, who secured a temporary restraining order on the state board of health from stopping them from showing in towns where there were no cases of infantile paralysis, but which the court refused to make permanent, the outcome of this case will be watched with interest.

In the opinion of a good many, the effect of this order of the court is expected to keep Barre under quarantine from one to two weeks longer than would otherwise have been the case.

The order of the court is: State of Vermont, Washington County, ss. To J. W. Stewart, Charles R. Olliver, and Forest R. Chaples, Greeting:

In consideration of the facts set forth in the foregoing complaint and verified by the oath of the plaintiff, W. J. Cummings, you and each of you, your agents, servants and attorneys are strictly forbidden from in any way interfering with or causing to be prosecuted W. J. Cummings and N. E. Lewis in the conduct of their business as druggists so far as the same relates to the sale of soft drinks, ice cream, egg shakes, milk shakes, etc., as set out in the foregoing complaint, to individual customers to be consumed by said customers upon the premises described in said bill of complaint, occupied by the said Cummings & Lewis in the city of Barre, provided said Cummings & Lewis serve such soft drinks, shakes, ice cream, etc., in individual cups or vessels that shall be used by only a single customer and shall thereafter be destroyed, until further order of the court. This injunction shall not be operative until the plaintiffs have filed with the clerk of the court of chancery within and for the county of Washington a bond to indemnify the defendants in the sum of \$500.

You are further notified to appear before me at the Washington county court house at Montpelier in the county of Washington at 1 o'clock and 30 minutes in the afternoon of Wednesday, Aug. 5, 1917, to show cause, if any you have, why this injunction should not continue in force.

To any sheriff or constable in the state and return make according to law. Done at chambers at Montpelier, this 31st day of July, A. D. 1917. Stanley C. Wilson, Chancellor.

MRS. CORA (WOOD) JACKSON

Death Came Last Evening, Two Weeks After She Sustained Fall.

Mrs. Cora Augusta (Wood) Jackson, wife of the late Dr. J. Henry Jackson, passed away at her home, 30 South Main street, Tuesday evening at 6:30 o'clock. The end followed by nearly two weeks a fall which Mrs. Jackson sustained, an accident which caused a thigh fracture and serious bruises. Because of the patient's years, members of the family were naturally apprehensive after the accident, but Mrs. Jackson's remarkable rally gave rise to the hope that she would recover ultimately. Her improvement during the days following her misfortune was gradual but reassuring and the end, due in part to a weak heart, came unexpectedly.

The death of Mrs. Jackson removes a woman of many estimable qualities. Her ancestors were closely linked with the early history of Barre and many years of her own useful life were allied by marriage with a man who had much to do with the development of this city. The deceased was born Cora Augusta Wood in Barre Oct. 30, 1844. Here she attended the common schools and was a student in the old Barre academy. She was the second wife of Dr. Jackson, to whom she was married in Barre Dec. 24, 1869. His death occurred Sept. 13, 1907. Mrs. Jackson was a member of the Congregational church and in that society many of her activities were centered.

The surviving relatives are two sons: Dr. Fred Kinney Jackson of Burlington, professor of physiology in the University of Vermont, and Henry H. Jackson, principal of Spaulding high school. Dr. J. W. Jackson is a son of Dr. J. Henry Jackson by the first marriage.

Because of precautions taken to prevent the spread of poliomyelitis in Barre it has been deemed advisable to have a private funeral. Services will be held at the Jackson home Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. J. W. Barnett, pastor of the Congregational church, will be the officiating clergyman and interment is to be made in the family lot in Elmwood cemetery. Friends are requested not to send flowers.

Milk Prices.

At a meeting of the retail milk dealers, held Saturday night, the following resolution was made and unanimously adopted: Milk to be 10c a quart; cream, 80c; nothing smaller than a 10c jar sold in small quantities. These prices applicable to Barre City and to take effect Aug. 1, 1917.

Charles W. Parsons, Sec. pro tem. Richard L. Lawless, Pres.

CLOSE MARGIN FOR CEMENT

As Permanent Road Material on South Main Street

FINAL DECISION HELD UP, HOWEVER

Proposal to Have Granite Seems to Have Been Supplanted

By the vote of 4 to 3 the city council last night saved from further postponement and possibly from oblivion the permanent street project on South Main street by committing itself to a virtual acceptance of a bid for a cement highway submitted by E. N. Normandeau. Although no final disposition of the bids was made, the sentiment of the council opened the way for the rejection of a bid made by J. C. DeBrune, whose figures were appreciably higher than those of the competing contractor. Either because it questioned the wisdom of cementing when the citizens in city meeting voted for granite paving or because it approved of granite blocks as against cement, the objection opposed contentiously the efforts of the four members who were for making some permanent improvement to the highway. Opposed to the conscientious objectors, Aldermen Healy, Reynolds and Rossi, were Aldermen Milne, Alexander and Loranger, and Mayor Gysson, who interposed his vote to break the tie on two occasions. The session was a prolonged affair and adjournment was not taken until a number of wordy colloquies had ensued between aldermen whose views on the street project are much at variance.

The bids, two in number, were on the alternate specifications, each contractor ignoring the request for estimates on granite paving. Briefly, the tenders were as follows: E. N. Normandeau, excavation, \$1.50 per square yard for the trolley company's section and \$1 for the city's section, concrete, \$4.50 for the city's section and \$4.75 for the traction company's; J. C. DeBrune, \$1.55 for the city's excavation; \$6.25 for the city's concrete and \$7.25 for the traction company's share.

Further analysis of the Normandeau bid, which was the only one under lengthy consideration, indicated that the Barre & Montpelier Traction & Power company's share of the cost would approximate \$6,743, the abutters' \$6,358, and the remaining cost of a job that will entail an expenditure of \$19,400 to be borne by the city. The following table, prepared by City Engineer F. O. Lee, was examined from every angle by the council, the figures being based on Mr. Normandeau's bid:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Items include Excavation, Laying concrete, Cement, Stone, Bitumen, City's share, etc.

Excavation, 700 cubic yards, \$1,050. Laying concrete, 650 cubic yards, 3,085. Cement (estimated) 950 barrels, 1,805. Stone (estimated) 650 cubic yards, 390. Bitumen (estimated) lump, 250. Total, \$6,743.

When the mayor wasn't at the front, Chairman Milne of the street committee led the proponents of paving and as one of his effective arguments he quoted the engineer and the street superintendent as favoring the cement roadway under the circumstances. Alderman Rossi was for carrying out the wishes of the citizens if the work is to be done this year, but favored postponement. Mayor Gysson argued forcibly at times on the premise that material is soaring higher every day and that probably five years will elapse before the work can be done as cheaply as in 1917. Mr. Lee stated that the cement highway would undoubtedly remain serviceable for 10 years at the least, at the end of which time a solid foundation could be resurfaced. Alderman Healy said that granite paving would last 30 years if the life of the cement were to be reckoned at 10 years.

Several times the discussion was brought to a head by a motion, but the main issue was permitted to submerge while the conferees drifted. Once when action seemed far away, the city clerk withdrew for a few moments, only to return with bottles of ginger ale, which had the effect of putting necessary "pep" into the proceedings. Someone around the table whose antecedents probably can be traced to Kentucky produced an opener and once the ginger ale got in its work the councilors began to perk up a bit.

Alderman Rossi moved that the bids be rejected on the ground that the contractors did not comply with the wishes of the council. His motion was seconded by Alderman Healy and Alderman Alexander asked for a rollcall. On the count Aldermen Rossi, Healy and Reynolds supported the motion and were opposed

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