

AUSTRIA SUES FOR PROMPT PEACE. NEW GERMAN RETREAT IS BEGUN

Battered Down by the Attacks of Gen. Debeney's First Army the Germans Are Retreating Between the Oise and the Aisne

LAST WATER BARRIER REMOVED BY FRENCH

Paris, Oct. 28.—Germany's armies have begun a new retreat, this time between the Oise and the Aisne. General Debeney's first army, in the teeth of stubborn resistance and repeated counter-attacks, has succeeded in swinging on its right flank so that it faces east. It has reached Guise and the Guise-Marlex road, driving the enemy before it.

General Debeney now is in position to push rapidly along the upper Oise valley toward Hirson and Vervins, through a level country devoid of streams. The first result of his progress is to force the enemy opposing the tenth and fifth French armies, exhausted by fruitless counter-attacks, to begin a backward movement which is eventually bound to extend to the front before Rethel. This will open to the fourth army a double passage of the Aisne and Ardennes canal.

The importance the enemy attached to stopping this progress up the Oise may be gathered from the fact that the Germans yesterday threw in three fresh divisions which, however, were knocked out.

SIGNAL VICTORY WON BY DEBENEY

Whole German Line Between Chateau Percien and the Argennes Endangered.

With the French Armies in France, Oct. 28.—(Reuters).—General Debeney's army has won a signal victory. The German forces holding the Serre-Oise front are in retreat and the whole German line between Chateau Percien and Argonne is in danger of being turned.

Persistent attacks by Debeney's indefatigable infantry has broken the river line, which is the last water line commanded by the enemy between the present front and the Meuse.

TURKISH LINE CUT BY BRITISH GAIN

Advancing in Mesopotamia, the British Cut Road from Sherghet to Mosul.

London, Oct. 28, 1:15 p. m.—The British advancing in Mesopotamia have cut the road from Sherghet to Mosul, one of the principal Turkish lines of communication. This probably will force the Turks to fall back on Mosul.

BRITISH CAPTURED 5,600 IN ITALY

In Addition They Have Taken 29 Guns, Including Six 9-Inch Howitzers.

London, Oct. 28.—British troops in their offensive on the Austro-Italian front up to last night had captured more than 5,600 prisoners, according to an official statement issued to-day by the war office. The British also captured 29 guns, including six nine-inch howitzers.

RETURNING TO BELGIUM. Members of Belgian Cabinet, Whose Presence Is Necessary.

Paris, Oct. 28.—Members of the Belgian cabinet, whose presence is necessary in the reconquered territory of Belgium, will leave here this week, according to a dispatch to the Petit Journal.

PRESIDENT EXPLAINS FREE TRADE PLANK

In Demanding Removal of Economic Barriers, He Meant to Suggest No Restriction on Internal Economics Policies.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 28.—President Wilson replied to-day to Republican contentions that the third of his 14 peace terms is a free trade plank by explaining that in demanding the removal of economic barriers he meant to suggest no restriction upon internal economic policies, but only that whatever tariff high or low, any nation might deem necessary, it should apply equally to all foreign nations.

The president made the explanation in a letter to Senator Simmons of North Carolina, chairman of the Senate finance committee, who had written him asking for a statement "because certain Republican leaders are attempting to make partisan use" of the paragraph.

"Weapons of economic discipline and punishment," the president wrote, "should be left to the joint action of all nations for the purpose of punishing those who will not submit to a general program of justice and equality."

GERMAN PEOPLE ARE SPOKESMEN

After Getting Actual and Constitutional Power, Says Reply

AWAIT ARMISTICE TERMS OF ALLIES

Unexpected Response Was Received in Washington To-day

Washington, D. C., Oct. 28.—The German government's reply to President Wilson's last note, asserting that the negotiations for peace are being conducted by a people's government with actual and constitutional power and that the terms of the American and allied governments for an armistice are awaited, reached the Swiss legation to-day by cable.

This communication is regarded here merely as an acknowledgement of the president's communication with an indication of the anxious desire of those in power at Berlin to hasten the coming of a definite statement of the terms upon which their enemies will permit hostilities to cease.

The president is expected to make no rejoinder. His personal exchanges with the German authorities, officials said to-day, ended when he transmitted the correspondence to the allies. The next step must be on the part of the co-belligerents, acting in concert.

Announcement from London that Premier Lloyd George and Foreign Secretary Balfour had left for France with naval and military advisers foreshadowed an early meeting of the supreme war council at Versailles. While the military and naval members of the council are drawing up an armistice which will be tantamount to surrender by Germany, the political representatives of the entente powers are expected to discuss the individual peace views of their governments with a view to formulating a complete program to be presented if Germany accepts the terms of the armistice.

DEMOCRATS SPENT \$412,138 ON ELECTION

Republican National Committee Has Not Yet Made Statement of Accounts.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 28.—Campaign expense accounts filed with the House to-day included that of the Democratic national committee, showing receipts of \$412,138 and disbursements of \$395,459. The Republican national committee statement has not been filed.

B. M. Baruch, chairman of the war industries board, with \$25,000, is the largest contributor to the Democratic fund. He with a number of other Democrats, including Vance McCormick and A. Mitchell Palmer, are named as lending \$100,000 to the committee.

Reports also were filed by the senatorial and congressional committees of both parties. The Democratic senatorial committee reported receipts of only \$100, \$50 donations by Senators Pittman of Nevada and Gerry of Rhode Island, of which \$60.16 was spent, while Republican contributions were \$71,800 and expenditures \$56,085.

The Democratic congressional committee reported receipts of \$132,900 and expenditures of \$82,762, while the Republican committee spent \$140,895 out of its receipts of \$159,398. The Democratic report said all about \$7,000 came from the national committee.

BRITISH ARMY DEMOCRATIZED. Men of Birth and Education Likely to Serve in the Ranks.

London, Oct. 28 (correspondence of the Associated Press).—One result of the war has been to democratize the British army, and it is regarded as practically certain that after peace has been declared England will have a large standing army in which a large number of men of birth and education will be serving in the ranks.

Before the South African war, the private was "a man of no social account." He was forbidden entry to what corresponded to the American "orchestra" of a theatre, and was told that his proper place was the gallery.

The real democratization of the army began when Lord Kitchener summoned the whole people of England to service in the king's forces. With the calling of every class, differences of social caste became obliterated.

Officers of the old regime contend that there can be no effective military discipline if officers and men fraternize socially. The other night a general saw one of his officers dining at a famous London restaurant with a private soldier. He took the officer aside and expostulated with him on his infraction of the army code. The officer's answer was: "The soldier is my brother."

England to-day has many of her proudest sons in the ranks, among them the Earl of Crawford, who is serving as the hospital orderly. Some of these again and again have refused commissions.

LIKE FRENCH BREAD. 50 American Soldiers Occasionally Exchange Their White Bread.

With the American forces in France, Oct. 28.—A common sight along the high ways of France when American troops are in camp is to see the Americans trading their white bread supplied by the army for the darker bread baked by the French peasants. The Americans say the white bread is the finest in the world but that they like the French bread for a change.

The French bread is baked in large circular loaves, and at times American soldiers may be seen swinging along the high ways on their way from a village to their camp with the bread hooked on their arms and a little box of French cheese in their hands.

SENT TO PRESIDENT. War Deficiency Bill as Completed by Congress.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 28.—Congress to-day completed the \$6,345,000,000 war deficiency bill and sent it to the president. The Senate accepted without discussion a conference report previously approved by the House.

MINISTERS' PROTEST WAS PRESENTED

Against Re-Opening of Saloons While Churches Were Compelled to Remain Closed in Barre.

A special city council session, called by Mayor Glyson Saturday afternoon at the request of Dr. O. G. Stickney, secretary of the local board of health, developed into a ventilation meeting, with the city fathers for the most part holding their breath while the members of the board of health aired their grievances. Incidental features of the meeting concerned a protest entered by several city clergymen against the re-opening of the soda fountains and saloons. Even after a session of nearly two hours, no action was taken, as it was decided that the city council has no authority to interfere with the work of the board of health.

Both Alderman Alexander and Alderman Milne objected to the action of the board of health in bringing its business before the city council for consideration, and the former, in explaining his stand, reminded the council that its members never had been able to exercise any authority over the board of health and that the same statute which divorced the two bodies on previous occasions should operate in the present instance. To this Dr. Stickney took positive exceptions and suggested that at least a part of the board of health is created by the council. He added that matters in the board of health are rapidly approaching an unpleasant condition and asked that the council take steps to remedy it.

Alderman Alexander asked the secretary how it could be done, and the latter replied that rescinding the order which reopened the saloons and soda fountains would do it.

The protest from the clergy was read by Rev. J. B. Reardon and signed by him, together with the following ministers: Revs. E. Crossland, B. G. Lipsky, B. J. Leigh and F. L. Goodspeed. It cites the fatal results of the recent epidemic, mentions the fact that new cases continue to develop and offers as evidence that the danger is not over the fact that the state board of health has refused to allow schools, churches, clubs, fraternal organizations and places of amusement to re-open. Continuing, it protests against the re-opening of the saloons and soda fountains as a menace to the public health and constituting a discrimination in favor of saloons and soda fountains. In conclusion, the protest says: "If the question of financial loss is urged as an argument in favor of opening the saloons, we would suggest that even greater losses are being incurred by our city by the continued closing of the schools, and by the churches in the interruption of their work."

Dr. Stickney explained that at a meeting of the board of health the question of re-opening saloons and soda fountains came up. He quoted the state board of health at that time as saying that the matter should be left to the local board of health, although in the opinion of the state board to permit them to re-open would be unwise. At this juncture Alderman Alexander again reminded the members of the health board that the council is without authority in the dispute and moved to adjourn.

James Smart, who with Angelo Calderara, both members of the health board, attended the meeting, intimated that Dr. Stickney's alleged prejudice against ardent spirits was responsible for his stand. Mr. Smart declared that he himself had no use for the saloon as an institution, but declared that it is legalized that it pays its license, and that it should be permitted to do business. "Why don't you close the River street resorts and other similar places all over the city?" asked Mr. Smart, who went on to declare illegal resorts had done more business during the epidemic than the saloons ever did.

While the councilors sat by and preserved their silence, the argument waxed warm. Dr. Stickney said that illegal resorts had no place in the discussion, adding that the open saloon is a leading place where the danger of contagion exists. He accused his colleagues on the board of inconsistency in recommending the closing of the saloons early in the epidemic and in re-opening them Saturday while other places were required to remain closed. It came out during the debate that Messrs. Smart and Calderara were instrumental in enforcing the closing order on saloons and soda fountains, and that Dr. Stickney did not know of the course taken by them until after the order had become operative.

It was pointed out in the course of the hearing that the word "public assembly" in the order issued by the state board of health in which the quarantine on churches, schools, etc., was extended to Nov. 3 might apply to saloons and soda fountains. It was construed by Dr. Stickney that the words gave the board of health a good deal of latitude in acting. On the other hand it was stated that soda fountains and pool rooms in Montpelier remained open throughout the epidemic in that city.

Not to any extent did the council participate in the discussion. Alderman Alexander said the health board should close the five-and-ten-cent store if its purpose was to put the lid on every place where people come together. Mayor Glyson and Alderman Healy, as well as Alderman Milne, said that the question of whether the saloon-and-soda-fountain order threatened the public health was the paramount issue for the board of health to decide.

BRITISH KEEP FIRM GRIP ON VALENCIENNES

Counter Attack at Farnars, South of City, Was Repulsed and Many Germans Were Killed.

London, Oct. 28.—British troops Sunday repulsed a determined German effort to drive them from Farnars, south of Valenciennes, Field Marshal Haig reported to-day. Many Germans were killed in street fighting in the village.

On the borders of the Mormal forest, south of Valenciennes, and north of the Raimises forest north of Valenciennes, the British have improved their positions slightly.

The statement reads: "A determined counter attack was made yesterday on Farnars and was repulsed after street fighting in which many of the enemy were killed. 'We have improved our positions slightly on the borders of the Mormal forest and north of the Raimises forest.'"

THREE DEAD IN 'QUAKE. Porto Rico Again Shaken on Thursday Night.

San Juan, Porto Rico, Saturday, Oct. 26.—Three persons are dead and 20 injured as the result of the earthquake Thursday night, according to reports received by Governor Yager to-day. There was heavy property loss at Anasco, Mayaguez and Aguadilla. The Red Cross is building temporary shelters in these towns to care for the homeless.

THREE FATALITIES. Among Marine Corps Officers Announced By Sims.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 28.—Three fatalities among marine corps officers in the aviation service abroad were reported to the navy department to-day by Vice-Admiral Sims. Second Lieutenant Harry C. Norman, Davenport, Ia., and Caleb W. Taylor, Palahatchig, Miss., were killed, when a bombing plane was shot down by the Germans on the Belgian front. Lieutenant Ralph Talbot, South Weymouth, Mass., was killed when his plane fell in the same sector.

BRITISH CASUALTIES LESS. For the Past Week They Numbered 32,449, with 5,743 Dead.

London, Oct. 29.—British casualties reported for the week ending to-day numbered 32,449, compared to 37,150 for the previous week. They are divided as follows: Killed or died of wounds: Officers, 436; men, 5,307.

Wounded or missing: Officers, 1,141; men, 25,365.

Austria Accepts All the Views Expressed by President Wilson in His Note of October 19 and Asks for Immediate Armistice

WITHOUT DELAYING FURTHER FOR GERMANY

Amsterdam, Oct. 28 (by the Associated Press).—Austria, in her reply to President Wilson, accepts all the views expressed by the president in his note of Oct. 19.

Austria says she is willing and ready, without awaiting the result of other negotiations, to negotiate a peace and an immediate armistice on all Austro-Hungarian fronts.

BRITISH MAKING GOOD HEADWAY

Tenth Army on Italian Front Resumed Its Attacks This Morning, London Reports Officially.

London, Oct. 28.—The British tenth army to-day resumed its attack against the Austro-Hungarian positions on the Italian front, the war office announced this afternoon. The attack is proceeding satisfactorily.

AUSTRIANS ABANDON TOWN

On the Serbian Front, According to Their Own Admission.

Vienna, Sunday, Oct. 27 (via London, Oct. 28).—The Austro-Germans have abandoned the town of Kragujevac, 55 miles southeast of Belgrade, to the allied troops during rear guard fighting, according to an official statement from Austro-Hungarian headquarters. In Albania, it is added, there has been nothing of special importance.

DUNCAN—PAIGE.

Montpelier Young Lady Bride of Barre Man To-day.

The marriage of Miss Flora Eleanor Paige, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Paige of Montpelier, and John A. Duncan of Barre took place at St. Augustine's church, Montpelier at 8 o'clock this morning, Rev. F. J. Long officiating. The ceremony was performed in the presence of a large number of the relatives and friends of the contracting parties. The bride was attended by Miss Eleanor K. Paige, her sister, while George Paige, a brother of the bride, was best man.

Mendelssohn's wedding march was played as the bridal party entered the church, and low music was played by Mrs. T. E. Callahan during the service, and Wagner's bridal chorus was played as a retiring march. The ushers were C. H. Lawrence of Montpelier and Howard B. Richardson of Andover, Mass., cousins of the bride. The bride was comely groomed in a velour suit of blue, trimmed with fitch fur and wore a hat of blue georgette. She carried American Beauty roses. The bridesmaid wore a suit of blue velour trimmed with a seal collar and wore a sand-colored hat with blue facings. She carried yellow chrysanthemums.

Following the wedding, the guests went to the home of the bride on Barre street, where a breakfast was served by Mrs. Paige, assisted by Miss Eleanor Doyle, Miss Barbara Grandfield and Mrs. C. H. Lawrence, some 40 enjoying the repast.

An informal reception followed the breakfast, after which Mr. and Mrs. Duncan left for a trip, upon the completion of which they will make their home in Springfield, Mass. They were recipients of many wedding presents, which included silver, money, cut glass, linen, a silver service, grill, electric percolator and other useful articles and tokens.

The bride is a native of Montpelier but is almost as well known in Barre, having been several years cashier of the branch office of the Travelers' Insurance Co. in this city. She attended Mount St. Mary's academy in Burlington and later was graduated from the commercial course in St. Michael's school in Montpelier, after which she became cashier in the above office.

The groom is a Barre boy who is well known among the younger people of the town. A native of California and a son of Mrs. M. T. Clark, now of Barre, he has lived most of his life in this city, where he was employed several years as a draftsman. He is a graduate of Spaulding high school and has been prominent in amateur theatrical entertainments. He is at present an inspector of ammunition in the armory in Springfield, Mass.

Among the out of town guests were Mr. and Mrs. Ira D. Reed, Mr. and Mrs. A. Reed of Cabot, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Donahue and Miss Bridget McAniff of Northfield, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Campbell, Robert Murphy, Alex. Clark and Miss Anna Carroll of Barre, Miss Rena Freeman of Boston, visiting in Barre, Edward Rioux of Springfield, Mass., and Mr. and Mrs. Howard B. Richardson of Andover, Mass.

DEATH OF F. N. WHITCOMB. Well Known Barre Man Died at Essex Junction.

Friend N. Whitcomb, a member of the firm of Whitcomb Bros., which formerly conducted a manufactory on North Main street, near Blackwell street, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Mahlon Coker, in Essex Junction Sunday afternoon. He had been in declining health for some months. The Whitcomb family formerly resided on Beacon street in this city but latterly Mr. and Mrs. Whitcomb had passed a year with another daughter in Greenville, N. C. Besides his wife Mr. Whitcomb leaves two daughters.

The body will be brought to Barre over the Central Vermont railroad Tuesday afternoon at 1:25 o'clock and interment is to be made in the family lot at Elmwood cemetery.

18 NEW SHIPS. Were Added to American Merchant Fleet Last Week.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 28.—Eighteen new ships, of 98,900 total deadweight tons, were added to the American fleet during the week ending Oct. 25. The deliveries announced to-day by the shipping board included the Victorius, an 11,800-ton vessel built at Alameda, Cal., and the Cape May, of 10,100 tons, built at Sparrows Point, Md.

SCORE OF SURVIVORS LANDED. Steamer Sunk off the Atlantic Coast—Cause Not Known.

New York, Oct. 28.—More than a score of survivors from a sunken steamship were landed to-day at Barnegat, N. J. Authorities here were investigating to learn whether the vessel was torpedoed, struck a mine or was in collision with the heavy fog off the Atlantic coast.

U. S. BIG GUNS BEGIN ATTACK

Are Bombarding Longuyon, 23 Miles Northeast of Verdun

ARE ALSO COVERING STRATEGIC RAILWAY

Germans Depend on This Line to Shift Troops from One Front to Another

With the American Forces Northwest of Verdun, Oct. 28.—3 p. m.—(By the Associated Press).—American long-range guns this afternoon began firing on Longuyon.

The town of Longuyon is 23 miles northeast of Verdun. The American long range fire also is being directed against the vital Voie de Rocade on the railway line paralleling the front. The Germans are depending on this road to shift their troops and supplies from one point to another.

NO COAL FAMINE, SAYS GARFIELD

But the Public Must Continue to Cooperate with Fuel Administration in Conservation Measures.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 28.—There will be no coal famine the coming winter nor even an approach to the hardships of last winter, Fuel Administrator Garfield announced to-day, but the public must continue to co-operate with the fuel administration in conservation measures, as far more coal is needed now than in normal times.

Dr. Garfield said the nation's fuel supplies, assembled in preparation for an unusually severe winter, are adequate and well distributed; that coal stocks on hand are greater than ever before and that more domestic coal now is in the hands of consumers and dealers than at the corresponding period in normal years.

LILLE PEOPLE IN NEED. Only Energetic Measures Will Prevent Distress This Winter.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 28.—Food supplies for the civilian population of the Lille region of France, recently evacuated by the Germans, are at an extremely low stage, and only energetic measures by the commission for relief in Belgium will prevent much distress during the coming winter.

Dispatches received to-day at the office of the commission here said the present supply of food in the region cannot possibly last more than two weeks. All communication systems were destroyed by the retreating Germans and motor lorries must be depended upon to bring up the needed supplies. Much sickness also is reported in the Lille region and conditions there were described as even worse than in the adjacent Belgian territory.

KNOX INSISTED ON SENATE ACTION

Protested Against Any Peace Terms Dictated by Wilson Alone—General Peace Debate Forecast.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 28.—A protest against any peace terms dictated by President Wilson alone and not representative of American public opinion through Senate consideration of the peace treaty was made in the Senate to-day by Senator Knox of Pennsylvania, Republican, and former secretary of state, in an address charging the president with political partisanship.

Democratic senators prepared to reply to Senator Knox, forecasting a general discussion of peace and war combined with the partisan political questions.

MAY ESTABLISH JOINT RATES. With Roads Not Under Federal Control, Says New Order.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 28.—Permission to railroads under federal control to establish new joint rates and charges in combination with non-federal controlled roads without application for authority, though of course subject to review, was granted by the interstate commerce commission to-day at the request of the railroad administration. Heretofore it has been necessary to obtain permission in advance for each rate so established.

NEWPORT MAN WOUNDED. L. Bousquet Was with Canadian Forces in France.

Ottawa, Ont., Oct. 28.—The following names of New England men appear in last night's Canadian overseas casualty list: Missing: R. W. Stubblefield, Mokano, Me.

Wounded: L. Bousquet, Newport, Vt.; B. L. Hoben, Arlington, Mass.; J. Hasketh, Beverly, Mass.

CITED A SECOND TIME. Lieut. Henry S. Wise Decorated by the French.

Paris, Sunday, Oct. 27.—Lieutenant Henry S. Wise of Long Branch, N. J., an American Red Cross canteen officer, has been cited a second time by the French war cross. The citation says that during heavy fighting from Oct. 10 to 14 he displayed bravery in supplying hot drinks to Czech-Slovak soldiers.