VENIZELOS SPEAKS OF WAR.

PEOPLE MUST RULE, HE SAYS, IF KING BLENCHES.

Former Premier Intimates He is Ready to Take Charge of New Government if Necessary.

Athens, Sept. 20 (via London, Sept. 21).—Eleutherios Venizelos, the former premier and Cretan statesman, was asked today as to the truth underlying the repeated reports that he is going to Saloniki to put himself at the head of a revolutionary government and in reply he declared to the Associated Press:

"I can not answer now. I must wait a brief time yet and see what the government proposes to do before deciding on the course it will be wisest to adopt in event that Greece does not enter the war.

"As I said on August 27, if the king will not hear the voice of the people, we must ourselves devise what it is best to do. I do not know what that will be, but a long continuation of the present situation would be intolerable. Already we have suffered all the agonies of a disastrous war while remaining neutral.

"We have had ten months of humiliation with all the consequent hardships to the families of the men mobilized, while both Balkan wars only lasted 13 months, with greater funds available for the relief of the families of the soldiers. Our boundaries have been invaded; towns, villages and farms have been destroyed and all the horrors enacted. We have had all the financial burdens of war with the cost of maintaining a useless mobilization. The morale of the army, which three years ago was at the highest pitch, has been destroyed by inaction and now is completely broken. Then we had a victorious, now we have a beaten army.

"We even have more than an entire army corps of Greeks held prisoners of war in a foreign country and finally we have paid the Bulgars an indemnity war indemnity, amounting to military equipment, property destroyed and loot of Greek cities occupied, to more than $40,000,000. Now finally, we are perhaps on the point of making now, at last, that which we have not fought, but have paid for in blood, tears and misery.

"Bulgaria does not enter the war. What the Germano-Bulgars guarantees are worth in their written pledge that they would not occupy Kavala, Drama or Serres.

"If the entente allies are victorious, as I profoundly believe they will be, we risk, first, a separate peace between the allies and the Bulgars, whereby the lattter may be permitted to retain the Grek territory occupied with the consent of Greece.

"Or, in the event of a complete allied conquest of Bulgaria, why should the Serbs, for example, return to us, who have not kept our treaty alliance with them, those parts of Greek Macedonia they and their allies have not taken from us, who gave them up unresisting, but which would then have been reconquered at the point of the bayonet from the Bulgars, to whom we had surrendered them?"

"And Saloniki?" it was suggested.

"Who is to say," replied M. Venizelos, "that the entente allies may not consider the circumstances necessitating the ultimatum of June 21, were not also of a character to nullify the allied powers previously given guarantee of Greek integrity? Who is going to plead Greece's cause in the peace conference if we are not represented therein Who is ever going to think of Greece, save with shame, if we have stood idly by while half the world has battled for civilization?"

GERMANS MOWED DOWN.

Attacks on French Positions Result Only in Great Loss.

Paris, Sept. 22.—Continuing the efforts to check the allies' offensive in the Somme region, the Germans launched several counter attacks against French positions at Priez and Rancourt. All atacks were unsuccessful. The Teutons who were hurled against French positions were mowed down by the French guns.

The Servans are continuing their pursuit of the retreating Bulgarians and have reached the outskirts of Rebani.

Florence Police Seize Cider.

Florence, Sept. 22.—Six thousand gallons of cider valued at $3,000, labeled apple base and wine, was seized today by the Florence police. The wine contains three and three-fourths per cent. alcohol, and the apple base contains a much larger quantity, possibly eight per cent.

The shipment was aid to be consigned to E. M. Mathews company, wholesale drug manufacturers, who have been jobbing cider through the State.

CONFIDENT OF SETTLEMENT.

MEXICAN-AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS APPAR HOPEFUL.

Admit Job is Tough But Believe That in End Success Will Crown Their Great Task.

New London, Conn., Sept. 21.—Confidence in their ability to find a solution of the border and other problems affecting the relations between Mexico and the United States characterized the attitude of the members of the Mexican-American joint commission today notwithstanding the virtual certainty that no definite agreement on any plan will be reached this week.

General conditions in Mexico were discussed again and in a rather general way the subject of withdrawing the American troops was talked over, the Mexicans expressing their opinion that Gen. Carranza's army was capable of coping with the situation in the region now patrolled by Gen. Pershing's forces.

That the renewed activity of Villa in Chihuahua probably would delay an agreement on some plan of border control apparently was taken by the Mexicans as a matter of course. The Mexicans hope to have before the conference tomorrow official reports from their government which will serve as a basis for the argument that the attack on Chihuahua is not a true indication of the government's inability to maintain peace along the frontier. Today the Mexicans presented a brief message from Andrea Garcia, consul at El Paso aserting that "all is tranquil in Chihuahua."

Tomorrow night Luis Cabrera, head of the Mexican commission, excepts to go to New York, causing a postponement of the conferences until Monday.

BANDIT LED ATTACK.

Villa Himself Had Charge of Daring Attack on Carranza Garrison at Chihuahua.

Washington, Sept. 21.—The most detailed account yet received of the fighting at Chihuahua city last Saturday, when Villa celebrated the Mexican Independence day by a successful assault on the Carranza garrison, reached the war department today from Brig. Gen. George Bell, commanding the El Paso military district. It asserts that Villa personally led the attacking forces; that he took possession of the city for several hours; that he was joined by a thousand or more of the Carranza garrison and promised to return soon, and taking with him a large quantity of captured arms, ammunition and artillery.

Gen. Bell's dispatch does not show the source of his information and many officials believe his account of the incident was founded on rumors reaching the border as were various stories which have been transmitted by State department agents. They were inclined to believe here that the full truth of what happened is not yet known.

Reports so far received are similar only in that they show a fight did occur on September 16 and that the Villa followers took the penitentiary and some other buildings. They all conflict as to the part Villa played, not even agreeing that he was present.

GOVERNOR NAMES SPECIAL JUDGES.

Five to Hold Terms in Judge Spain's Place.

Columbia Sept. 22.—Because of the illness of Judge Spain, Gov. Manning has appointed the following special judges:

R. G. Holman of Barnwell, to preside over the regular term of the court of general sessions for Barnwell county, beginning the second Monday in November.

Charles Carroll Simms of Barnwell, to hold the regular term of the court of general sessions for Saluda county, beginning October 2.

W. B. Wilson of Rock Hill, to hold the regular term of the court of general sessions for Edgefield county, beginning October 9.

William P. Greene of Abbeville, to hold the regular term of court of common pleas for Edgefield county, beginning October 16.

Jos. A. McCullough of Greenville to hold the regular term of court of common pleas for Lexington county, beginning November 6.

The appointments by Gov. Manning were made upon the recommendation of the chief justice of the supreme court. All of the special judges have been commissioned by the secretary of State.

CHICAGO BANK FAILS.

Ninth Bank to Blow up in Four Weeks.

Chicago, Sept. 22.—Creditors of the Industrial Savings Bank, a private institution, have filed a petition for a receiver. The labilities are a million dollars with assets of only a half million. This is the ninth bank catastrophe in four weeks.

ROCK HILL MAN ASPHYXIATED

A. L. ALLEN DEAD AND BROTHER, CHARLES ALLEN, IN A CRITICAL CONDITION.

One of Brothers Appears to Have Turned on Gas, Intending to Turn Off Light.

Charleston, Sept. 22.—Two brothers, A. L. Allen and Charles Allen, came to Charleston from Rock Hill on a pleasure trip Wednesday, and yesterday morning the former was found dead in bed from asphyxiation at the rooming house of Mr. C. F. Kienke, Bay and Columbus streets, while Charles Allen was lying on the floor unconscious, and is still in a critical conditon at Roper Hospital.

One of the other of the two brothers accidentally turned on the gas while turning out the elctric light when they retired about 11.30 o'clock Wednesday evening, and the escaping gas filled the room during the morning hours to such an extent as to asphyxiate one brother and almost the other.

"The young men engaged a room with me about 8 o'clock Wednesday evening," said Mr. Kienke to a reporter for The News and Courier, "and I went with them to the room and turned on the electric light myself. The fixture is a combination burner, having an upright gas jet and a dependent electric light. Soon after that the two brothers went out and returned about 11.30 o'clock. They had left the electric light burning and it was burning when they entered the room. It is evident that the last one ready for bed attempted to turn off the electric light, but first turned on the gas screw. Of course, that didn't turn out the light and he must have then tried the screw on the electric light. When he turned that the light went out but he evidently went to bed without turning off the gas which he had innocently turned on."

Continuing the story, Mr. Kienke said, "The first suspicion I had that anything was wrong was this morning about 5.30 when I went upstairs to awaken a man in another room on the same floor. I smelled gas right away and began to look for the room in which the Allen brothers were sleeping. I tried the door, but it was locked, and I ran out and got Policeman Fred Stender. We went back and as we still couldn't get in Mr. Stender suggested that we break in the door, but I ran and got a pass key and inserted it in the lock and, somehow or the other, the key on the inside fell out and I was able to easily unlock the door.

"When we opened the door the rush of gas was so strong it almost overpowered both Mr. Stender and myself, but as we could see the form of one of the men lying on the floor we rushed in and dragged him out. The other brother, A. L. Allen, was dead in bed. I guess that his brother tried to reach the door, but fell on the floor overcome with gas.

"Then we called the ambulance, and that is about all I know of the sad occurrence, which I regret very much."

Soon after found, the body of the dead man was taken to J. Henry Stuhr's Undertaking establishment by the police, where it was prepared for burial, and communication was established with his relatives in Rock Hill, who later advised Mr. Stuhr by wire to ship the body there at once by express.

The body was accordingly shipped to Rock Hill on the 5.15 Southern Railway train yesterday afternoon.

Whether any member of his family will come to Charleston to look after Charles Allen, who is still in the Roper Hospital, is not known. On account of his unconscious condition yesterday he could give no account of the affair.

Coroner Mansfield held an inquest at 8 o'clock last night the verdict being accidental death.

SEEK CHARTER FOR RAILWAY.

Orangeburg-Estill Line is Commissioned.

Columbia, Sept. 23.—The Carolina Southern railway has been commissioned with a capital stock of $30,000 by the secretary of State. The company is given the right to increase the capital to $1,000,000. The company will build a line of standard guage railway from Orangeburg to or near Estill in Hampton county.

Petitioners of the new concern are: J. LeRoy Dukes of Orangeburg, E. N. Mittle of Bowman and W. C. Martin of Branchville. The principal office of the company will be located at Orangeburg.

WAR OFFICE REPORTS SUCCESS

Russians Capture Fortified Position Despite Use of Gas by Germans.

Petrograd, Sept. 23.—The war office has reported the repulse of serious attacks against the Russians' lines southwest of Lake Narotsch, the enemy using gas. The Russians captured a fortified position southwest of Gustin.

WATSON ASKS COOPERATION

TO URGE FORMATION OF LOAN ASSOCIATIONS.

Secretary of Farm Loan Board Suggests Letter to Commissioners of Agriculture.

Columbia, Sept. 25.—E. J. Watson, president of the National Association of Commissioners of Agriculture, will issue a circular today to all commissioners of agriculture in the United States urging them to get in touch with the national farm loan board and endeavor to give them complete and active cooperation in the matter of the formation of farm loan associations. The circular will be issued by Mr. Watson in consequence of a letter he received from W. W. Flannagan, secretary of the farm loan board at Washington.

Mr. Flannagan suggested to Mr. Watson that a circular issued by him and addressed to the commissioners of agriculture throughout the country would doubtless be of considerable value in the promotion of the organization of farm loan associations and would be the means of creating more definite plans of cooperation between the commissioners of agriculture and the board.

"It is my judgment," wrote Mr. Flannagan, "that anything done by the commissioners of agriculture in any of the States will be perfectly satisfactory to this board, especially if it facilitates the organization or promotes the loan associations."

Mr. Watson says that the organization of the loan associations in this State is proceeding rapidly. At the suggestion of the Kershaw loan association arrangements are being made for the associations of the State to correspond with each other with a view of launching a definite movement to secure the location of one of the 12 regional banks at Columbia.

BREAD PRICE PROBE.

FEDERAL AGENTS INVESTIGATING AGREEMENT TO RAISE PRICE OF BREAD.

Government Officials will Make Nation-wide Probe to Ascertain Price of Bread—Demand for Embargo on Wheat and Flour.

Chicago, Sept. 25.—An investigation has been begun into the alleged agreement of the Master Bakers' Association to raise the price of bread from five to six cents. The federal prosecutor is trying to obtain evidence to present to the grand jury.

Washington, Sept. 25.—The federal machinery has been started to deal with the continued increase in the price of bread throughout the country. The federal trade commission and department of justice have begun a country-wide probe to ascertain the cause. The various government departments are swamped with complaints, suggesting an embargo on wheat and flour exports as a remedy. Bakers' organizations have sent petitions declaring that unless an embargo is imposed on raw materials they will be forced to send prices up to ten cents a loaf. The farmers would be the principal losers by an embargo. There is little likelihood of any action affecting the selling price. Federal officials will take summary action under the anti-trust laws if they find combinations are conspiring to increase the price.

MORE TRENCHES TAKEN.

British Report Successful Operatons at Courcelette.

London, Sept. 23.—The British last night captured a strongly fortified system of German trenches at east Courcelette, advancing on a front of a half mile. The Germans strongly counter-attacked west of Mouquet, but the British repulsed them with heavy losses.

GOOD CITIZENS MEETING.

HON. T. G. M'LEOD, J. K. BREEDEN AND R. O. PURDY TO BE SPEAKERS.

Meeting Will be Arranged for by Women, but All of Exercises Will be Given Over to Men—To Be Held in Opera House at 3:30 O'clock, Sunday, October 1st.

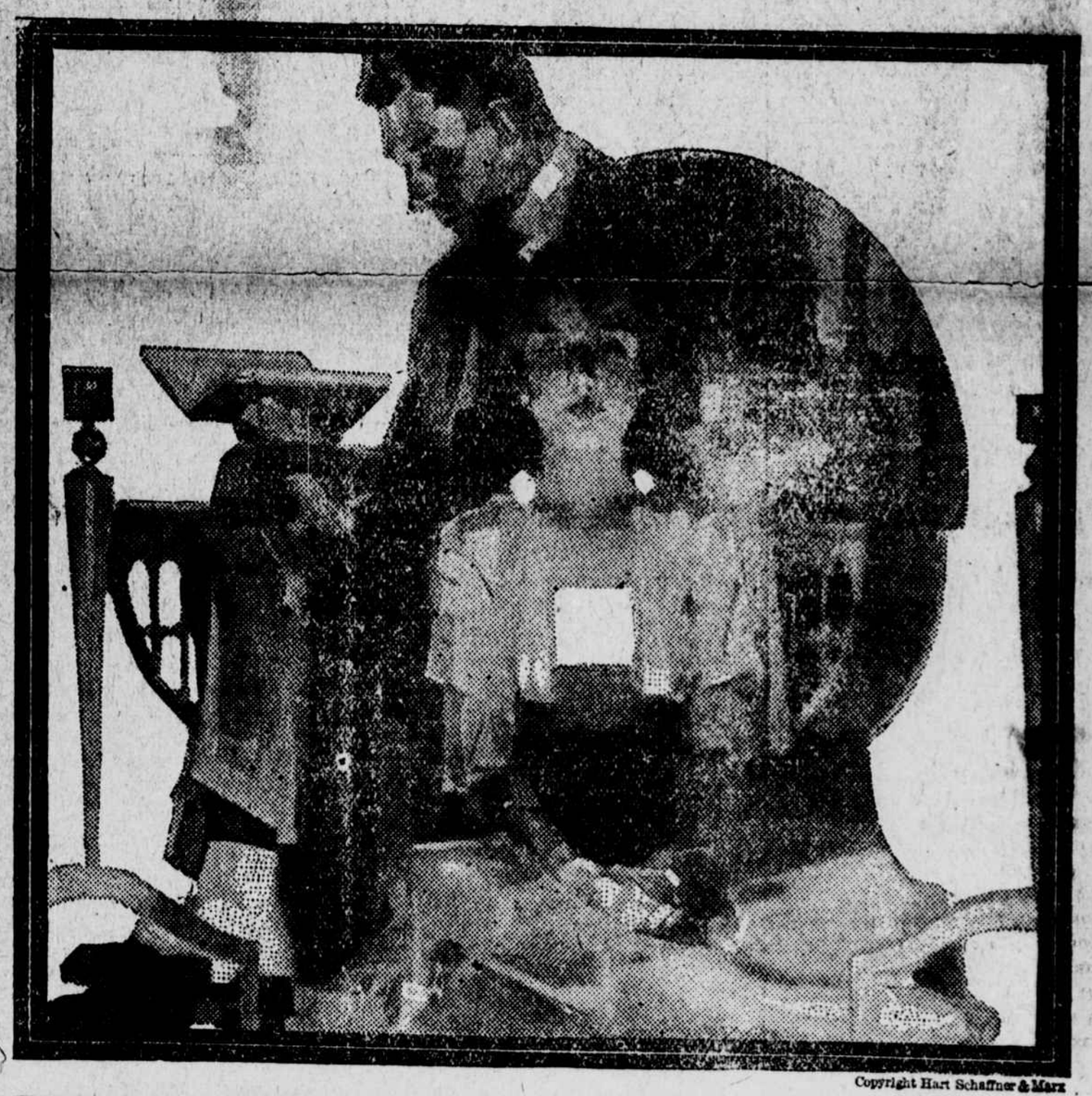
The Woman's Christian Temperance Union all over the world is composed of Christian workers from all of the evangelical denominations. The same is true in South Carolina, and the same is true in Sumter. The Trinity Methodist church has been chosen for the meeting place of the convention, but it is earnestly desired that all of the other Sumter congregations feel that they have a part in the convention and attend the sessions in full force.

One of the most interesting sessions to be held during the convention will be the Good Citizens' meeting. This will be held in the opera house, 3.30 o'clock Sunday afternoon, October 1st. The ladies have planned this meeting, but, for once, will sit quietly and listen to the gentlemen. Mr. H. L. Birchard, secretary of the Y. M. C. A. will preside over the meeting. Dr. W. J. McKay will conduct devotional exercises. Short talks will be given by Judge R. O. Purdy, known all over the State for his prohibition work, and Mr. John K. Breeden, one of South Carolna's leading liquor fighters. Hon. Thomas McLeod of Bishopville will deliver the address.

Mr. McLeod is a live, wide-awake speaker ,one whom everybody enjoys hearing. All of the special music on that afternoon, will be rendered by gentlemen.

The entire meeting will be along the line of law enforcement leading to national prohibition.

It is earnestly hoped that citizens throughout the town and county will attend this uplifting meeting.



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