

VETERANS MEET AT PEACE CROSS ON EVE OF CAMP

First Official Gathering Is at Mount St. Alban Memorial Services.

BISHOP DAVIES PREACHES

Pleads That Nation May Never Seek World Dominion Or Be "Bully."

THOUSANDS LISTEN TO SERMON

Nearly All Churches of Capital Hold Special Rites in Honor of G. A. R.

First Grand Army Review Impeded By Ducks and Figs

Fifty years ago last May 160,000 seasoned veterans of the civil war marched up Pennsylvania avenue, passed in review before the President, and were then mustered out and started on their way to homes scattered throughout every State then in the United States.

By RALPH W. BENTON.

The veterans who fifty years ago risked their lives that the Union might be preserved today will formally commence the celebration of the forty-ninth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic.

With thousands of visitors already in the city, with other thousands pouring into Union Station, with the streets and buildings decked in glad array, and with every detail of preparation arranged for, Washington is ready for the beginning of a week of brilliant festivities, marking the semi-centennial of the ending of the civil war.

The activities were yesterday fittingly ushered in with appropriate patriotic services in churches in all sections of the city and with special memorial exercises before the Peace Cross at Mount St. Alban. These memorial exercises offered the first opportunity for the assembling of the veterans who have gathered here from all parts of the country.

Thousands Attend Services. A congregation of several thousand, composed of aged veterans, members of patriotic organizations, and many others, assembled in the open under the over-arching branches of the shade trees of the Cathedral Close, which stands pleasantly upon an elevation, overlooking the heart of the city.

Four Incendiary Barracks Fires Under Investigation; Detectives Seek Evidence

Army Officials Begin Inquiry Following Fifth Blaze in Five Days—Maj. W. P. Wooten Holds "Firebugs" Responsible—Night Watches May Be Increased.

Army officials yesterday began an investigation into five fires of mysterious origin that have occurred at Washington Barracks within the last five days. At least four of the fires were incendiary. It is asserted. Nearly \$20,000 damage has resulted.

The most destructive fire was that early yesterday, when flames penetrated the left of the main stable at the garrison. Forty-eight horses and mules were saved only by the immediate response of the soldiers to the alarm of fire. The fire was the second of Saturday night.

Belief that three previous fires were incendiary was strengthened during the stable blaze, when a rope was found dangling from a loft window. This led both officers of the garrison and District fire officials to believe the buildings had been set afire.

Maj. W. P. Wooten, in command at the barracks, declared without reservation the fires were started by a "firebug," but would suggest no motive. Maj. Wooten has ordered a vigorous investigation and has asked aid of the District police.

It was believed among soldiers at the garrison that a "bobtail" private might have set the buildings afire, but it was learned later none of the men had been dishonorably discharged within a year. Another theory attributed the fires to dismissed civilian employes, but this was dispelled when the records were consulted.

It is probable the night watches at the garrison will be increased this week. All the fires broke out about midnight and evidently originated from the outside, with the exception of that in the stable.

The fires were in different buildings, the first being discovered in the laundry early in the week. The damage was estimated at \$200. A second fire broke out in the headquarters building, near the entrance. It was extinguished before much damage had been done.

The third fire, doing damage of from \$10,000 to \$14,000, Thursday night destroyed a paint-shop and burned into 50,000 feet of lumber. It was believed the fire was caused by sparks from an open-air hearth, burning near the paint shed.

About midnight Saturday, fire was discovered in the commissary department, but was extinguished before it gained headway. A short time later, the main stable was found burning. A rope was dangling from a loft window at one end of the stable. The other end was guarded by a soldier.

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G. A. R. Activities Today and Tomorrow

TODAY.

- 9 a. m.—Dedication Camp Matthew G. Emery, First and B streets northwest.
1 to 5:30 p. m.—Twelve navy vessels in Georgetown Channel, west of Potomac Park, open to visitors.
10 a. m. and 2 p. m.—National Association of Patriotic Instructors, Church of Our Father, Thirtieth and L streets northwest.
9 a. m.—Reception by National Association of Patriotic Instructors, Hotel Raleigh.

TOMORROW.

- 9 a. m. to 3 p. m.—Veteran Signal Corps Association reunion, Mount Tabor Church, Thirty-fifth street and Wisconsin avenue, Georgetown.
9:30 a. m.—Ex-Prisoners of War, Camp Emery.
10 a. m.—Reunion Sixth Army Corps, Old Fort Stevens.
1:30 p. m.—Army of the Cumberland reunion, Camp Emery.
2 p. m.—Tree planting at Lincoln Memorial, Potomac Park.
2 p. m.—Sixth Army Corps Association visits grave of Gen. H. G. Wright, Arlington Cemetery.
3 p. m.—Signal Corps Veterans visit old forts near Washington in automobiles.
3 p. m.—Drill by Fifth Cavalry, White Lot.
7 p. m.—Exercises at Grant Memorial, Botanical Gardens.
7 p. m.—Welcome signaled from Capitol dome to Camp Emery.
7:30 p. m.—Citizens' reception and semi-official meeting of G. A. R. Camp Emery. President Wilson to speak.
10 to 11:30 a. m. and 1 to 5:30 p. m.—Twelve war vessels in Georgetown Channel, west of Potomac Park, open to visitors.
9 to 9:30 p. m.—Searchlight drill by war vessels.

Girls Toss \$500 Into Sewer When Police Stop Joy Ride

Gay Party of Three Young Washington Women and Escorts Held in Baltimore Following Disappearance of \$1,000 From Widow's Purse.

Following a robbery of \$1,000, of which \$500 was thrown into a sewer, three Washington girls and their escorts are being held in Baltimore, Md., and today will be taken to Marlboro, Md., for trial. The victim, Mrs. C. L. Stewart, was robbed Saturday night while dining with a party in the Ram's Horn Inn, near Mount Rainier.

The prisoners, three girls and three young men, were taken to a Baltimore hotel from the Ram's Horn and arrested at 3 o'clock yesterday morning. The police say two of the girls admitted that they had thrown five \$100 bills down a sewer shortly after the arrest. The other \$500 is believed to have been overlooked when the purse was rifled and thrown aside on the trip to Baltimore. It has not been found.

U. S. Men Kill Forty Haitians

Ten American Soldiers Injured in Battle With Island Rebels.

Cape Haitien, Sept. 26.—Forty Haitian rebels were killed and ten Americans were wounded in another battle today about two miles from here. The American patrol was surprised by a large force of the rebels. A messenger was sent here for reinforcements. When they arrived the rebels were driven off and took refuge in the forts, which were shelled by the American marines and blue-jackets.

Reports received here state that rebels who have refused to disarm are marching on Haut du Gap, in the plains of the northern part of the country. Morency, the rebel chieftain, is said to be inciting his followers to resist the efforts of the American forces to bring about disarmament and submit to the government of President D'Arnaud.

Today's battle with the rebels is the most serious encounter between Americans and rebels since the American forces landed on the island following the assassination of President Guillaume two months ago. Two Americans were killed and snipers within twenty-four hours after the American forces landed, and in an encounter the next day six Haitians were killed.

AMERICANS ON ARMS SHIP

Three Sail for Glasgow—7,000 Tons of Munitions on Tascana. New York, Sept. 26.—The Tascana, loaded with 7,000 tons of war munitions and general merchandise, sailed today for Glasgow. She was delayed twenty hours on her last westward trip, due to stopping in mid-ocean and rescuing passengers from the Greek liner Athina. She had only a small passenger list and carried only three Americans, two in the second and one in the third cabin.

HESPERIAN TORPEDO MEANT FOR CYMRIC

Returning Travelers Tell How Liner Laden With Munitions Escaped German U-Boat.

New York, Sept. 26.—According to the passengers of the White Star liner Cymric, which arrived here today, the torpedo which sent the Hesperian to the bottom was really intended for the Cymric. They asserted that the submarine was lying in wait for the bigger boat with her 17,000 tons of war munitions. She was in the vicinity where the Anchor liner was torpedoed at about the same time. However, she was met by two destroyers and a fast cruiser and escorted to port.

ALLIES OFFER GREECE HELP

Will Start Flank Move if Bulgarians Join Austro-Germans.

BULGARIAN ULTIMATUM ISSUED, IS ROME REPORT

Hindenburg Penetrates Russian Positions On Smorgon-Wischnew Front. Slavs Driven Across Beresina.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, Sept. 26.—England, France and possibly Italy will join with Greece and hurl an army of more than 150,000 in a flank attack on the Bulgarians and Constantinople if Bulgaria joins the Austro-Germans, it is believed here tonight.

Such a proposal has been made to Greece by England and France. It is stated in dispatches from Athens. The dispatch adds that official announcement of the offer will be made there shortly. For such a campaign the allies contemplate using Salonika as a base.

Bulgaria, however, has reiterated her intention of remaining strictly neutral. Following the issuance of an official statement at Sofia to the effect that the Bulgarian mobilization was merely to guard the neutrality and interests of the nation, Premier Radoslawoff handed an official note to entente representatives today enlarging upon, but repeating, the official statement.

Report Ultimatum Sent. In view of the fact, however, that Bulgaria in her declaration omitted to name Serbia as one of the nations against which she had "no hostile intentions," considerable doubt is felt here as to her real motives.

A dispatch from Rome says: "In government circles the impression grows that intervention by the quadruple entente in the Balkans is assured should Bulgaria deliver an ultimatum. A Bucharest report that such an ultimatum already has been made cannot be confirmed at the foreign office."

The Bulgarian minister at Petrograd today held a long conference with Foreign Minister Saronoff. Germany also, while ready to send \$50,000 men through Serbia, is reported to be negotiating with the Nish government to avoid the necessity of further fighting in the Balkans.

Russians Lose Ground. Masked batteries of heavy German guns are keeping up a continuous bombardment along a front of miles on the Drina, where Field Marshal Von Hindenburg is making tremendous efforts to break through.

The most intense fighting on the whole eastern front is proceeding here and the Germans claim further advances in their campaign against Dvinsk and Riga. Further south Prince Leopold's Bavarians are making some progress towards Minsk, but the greater German effort is being centered against the Dvinsk line. In Eastern Galicia and Volhynia the Russians continue to attack and again practically control the triangle of Volhynian fortresses.

The German statement today reports that Von Hindenburg has penetrated the Russian positions on the Smorgon-Wischnew front and that northwest of Scherbenia the Russians have been thrown across the Beresina River.

German aeroplanes are terrorizing Dvinsk daily, large numbers of civilians being reported killed in the raids. The greater part of the population has evacuated the city and the Russians are reported to be removing the last of the supplies.

HER WAR BURDEN HEAVY.

British Woman Leaves Husband, Son and Home Through Conflict. San Bernardino, Cal., Sept. 26.—When the war began in Europe Mrs. Nancy Brooks, 72, lost her husband, an officer in the British army. Zepplin attacks subsequently destroyed her home in England. She then traveled across the sea and a continent to spend her declining years with her son, who was last heard of on a ranch near here.

She found him incurably insane in the Patton State Hospital. The shock of his father's death and the refusal of the recruiting office in Vancouver, B. C., to permit him to join the colors with the Canadian contingent had unbalanced his mind. New-found friends are endeavoring to obtain a home for the stricken widow.

Colombian Theater today, 25 cents to 55 cents. Charles Walker in "On the Dunes." 211 G. st. n.w., exclusive Sept. 26, 1915.

Stark to Visit Mrs. Hyde. Family, Sept. 26.—From intimates of the family it is learned that Mrs. James H. Hyde, the widow of the late Count Constant Biron before she married the American insurance magnate, is expecting an interesting event to occur shortly.

Removal Notice. Office Washington-Sunset Route, Ltd., Southern Railway, from 905 P. st. n.w. to 911 G. st. n.w., effective Sept. 26, 1915.

ALLIES' GREAT DRIVE CUTS GERMAN FRONT; TAKE 20,000 CAPTIVES

From Sea to Verdun Biggest Advance Made Since Battle of Marne—On Offensive All Along Line—Hill 70 Captured.

HUGE LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES

Teuton Salient at Verdun Menaced—Souchez Again in Hands of French—New Advance Started After Unprecedented Bombardment—Germans Counter-Attacking.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, Sept. 26.—The great drive of the allies has already carried them far into the German positions from the sea to Verdun, for a greater gain than they have registered since the battle of the Marne.

In two days the allies have taken more than 20,000 prisoners, more than thirty field guns, an unnumbered amount of machine guns and vast quantities of material. They have pierced the German positions in Champagne on a front of more than fifteen miles to a depth ranging from two-thirds of a mile to two miles and a quarter; have occupied Hill No. 70, only a mile north of Lens, heart of the mining section of Northern France and threaten to outflank the Germans there; have occupied the entire village of Souchez, north of Arras, and have broken the German front on both sides of La Bassée Canal for a width of five miles and a depth of 4,000 yards, capturing the village of Loos.

The German war office admits the loss of Loos and Souchez and the retirement of the Germans for more than a mile over a wide section of the front. The losses on both sides are reported to have been fearful. Every known engine of destruction has been used by the Germans and allies in the terrific conflict, which is still raging furiously with no signs of abatement. Thousands of bodies are lying unburied for more than 100 miles.

The allies are on the offensive everywhere, according to reports from Field Marshal Sir John French, in command of the British, and official communiques of the war office at Paris.

GERMAN VERDUN SALIENT ENDANGERED. On every section of the front they have cut deeply into the German lines, menacing the Teuton positions around Verdun, where the crown prince spent thousands of lives, and before Lens, the great mining city.

In Champagne and to the north of Arras the French have made particularly heavy gains. Every yard taken in the former district adds peril to the dangerous German salient before Verdun, while in the latter sector the allies have already attained greater results than they did in a month of fighting last May.

The terrific drive was launched after an unprecedented bombardment of the entire front, which lasted in some places for more than seventy hours. Co-operating with the land batteries in this tremendous shelling British and French warships off the Belgian coast poured tons of lead and iron into the German defenses, especially around Zebrugges, the naval and submarine base, and at Nieuport.

The most important gains have been made by the French, who, directing their chief attacks against the Germans in Champagne and north of Arras, have swept forward for smashing gains, which utterly disprove the theory that both sides were so "dug in" on the western front that open field operations were impossible.

Between Auberive and Ville Sur Tourbe the entire advanced system of German entrenchments and redoubts was swept away, the French, according to the Paris account, driving the Teutons more than a mile to the rear, where their second line is now being attacked.

GERMANS LAUNCH COUNTER-ATTACKS. The Germans, fighting desperately to regain the offensive, are launching violent counter-attacks.

North of Arras also the French have registered extended gains, which have put them in complete possession of Souchez and the cemetery at that place, from which there was terrific fighting in May, and which have enabled them to clear the German entrenchments east of the fortified maze of ditches and redoubts known as the "labyrinth." In this fighting they took 1,000 prisoners and retained all the ground won, despite heavy counter-attacks. They are pressing forward toward Givency.

The British losses are reported by Berlin to have been particularly heavy in the fighting along La Bassée Canal and in the region of Loos and Hulluch. The Germans admit, however, that their own losses were "necessarily large," and that a large quantity of material was lost when they were forced to evacuate their trenches.

The British attack south of the canal was particularly successful, according to Field Marshal French's reports. It was at this point that the British penetrated the German positions on a front of five miles for a depth of 4,000 yards. The advance gave the British complete possession of the valuable Lens-La Bassée road.

The British also registered considerable gains north of the canal, but were unable to hold the ground and had to fall back to their original positions.

The attack was successful, however, according to Field Marshal French, in that it drew out large bodies of German reserves and left the troops south of the canal comparatively free to organize the captured positions.

A new British attack on Hooge, on each side of the Meuse read, also failed to the extent that the British were forced to withdraw and give up the Belleward farm, which they had captured. South of the road, however, they consolidated a gain of 600 yards of trenches.

TAKOMA MOTORCYCLIST RACING FLIER, HELD

W. Hall Arrested in Laurel—Led Train at Sixty-mile Clip, According to Pursuing Policeman.

Special to The Washington Herald. Laurel, Md., Sept. 26.—W. H. Hall, a motorcycleist of Takoma Park, was arrested today by Motorcycle Officer Wildman. Hall was racing a fast flyer of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad on the stretch at Ammendale, which runs along the Washington Boulevard.

Wildman stated that Hall was making sixty miles an hour and the railroad flyer fifty-five, and Hall was leading when he gave him the signal to stop.

He was brought before Justice Williamson, of Laurel, and put up \$10 for hearing tomorrow.

The license card of the motorcycle bore the name of H. Hall. Hall claims a mistake has been made in issuing the license.

New Yorker Flying for Allies. Paris, Sept. 26.—Charles G. Ballou, of New York, has joined the French flying corps and has left for the front.

AUSTRIA REITERATES U. S. TRADE PROTEST

Answer Made to American Note Refusing to Comply With Demand for Arms Embargo.

Sept. 26.—The Austro-Hungarian government, in reply to the American note of August 12 relative to the manufacture of munitions in the United States, reiterated the position taken in its protest of June 23.

The reply affirms that Austria-Hungary never intended to imply that it expected Washington would forbid American citizens to do a normal traffic in war material with the countries of the dual monarchy, but solemnly protested against the economic life of the United States being made subservient to the production of war material on the great possible scale, whereby the United States became "militarized."

The note proceeds: "According to paragraphs 3 and 3 of the preamble of The Hague convention No. 12 of 1864, and supplemented by the general principles of neutrality, the Austro-Hungarian government considers the concentration of so much American energy on one aim, namely, the delivery of war material, whereby, although not intentional, but in fact, effective support is rendered one of the belligerent parties in a 'hot' war (new departure), which confuses the reference of the United States to supposed precedents."