

FRENCH TAKE ANOTHER TOWN FROM GERMANS

FUEL ADMINISTRATION CHIEFS HERE TO MEET LOCAL OPERATORS

Gathering at the Country Club Today To Be Big Affair.

ON INSPECTION TRIP

Question of Mine Labor is Being Taken Up Systematically.

The Distribution department of the Fuel administration at Washington is in northern West Virginia today. The most prominent heads of the portion of the Fuel administration in which West Virginia is mostly interested are here for the meeting of coal operators to be held at the Country Club at 2 o'clock this afternoon. The party is engaged on an inspection of the Hutchinson power plant of the Consolidated Coal Company when this is written, having arrived at Clarksburg a little late and leaving for the inspection tour on a special car of the Monongahela Traction Company leaving at 10:30.

The party is composed of J. D. A. Morrow, who came into national prominence as secretary of the National Coal Association and is now right hand man to Dr. Garfield; S. L. Yastrow, assistant to Mr. Morrow; S. L. Callaway, director of bituminous distribution and a member of the Central West Virginia Coal Operators' Association through his former activity as head of the Davis Coal & Coke Co.; J. E. Neale, chief of the production department of the Fuel administration, who came to Clarksburg this morning from Washington; T. L. Lewis, formerly president of the United Mine Workers and now secretary of the Split and Gas Coal Association with headquarters at Charleston, who came from that point; C. H. Jenkins, president of the Central West Virginia Coal Operators' association; E. B. Baker, president of the Buckhannon and Boone Valley Coal Operators' association; D. B. Lawson, district superintendent of the Fuel administration at Fairmont; Charles F. Lee, chief inspector for the same; A. Brooks, president of the Fairmont Coal Club; F. R. Lyon and Roger Kissland, of the Consolidation; John G. Brooks, superintendent of the Clarksburg region for the Consolidation; Daniel Howard, J. M. Orr, E. L. Spraker, J. Ray Quinn and Fred Howland, of Clarksburg; H. G. Smith, superintendent of the Harrison Coal Company at Rosemont, and Dorsey Pease, general superintendent of the Carnegie D. Robinson mine.

The meeting at the Country Club, which is certain to be important, promised this morning to be very largely attended.

Coal Notes.

John A. Clark, Jr., came in from the east on the same train with the visitors and is prominent in the inspection department.

Two more coal inspectors begin work next week - June Arnette, of Fairmont, and C. W. Ferguson, of Philippi.

There was a meeting of the operators (Continued on page two.)

Sugar Board Will Keep Prices Down

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, July 12.—Prices of sugar to the consumer will be equalized and the distribution bettered, despite a threatened shortage, Food administration officials predicted today by the operation of the sugar equalization board, created by President Wilson upon recommendation of Administrator Hoover.

The new organization is also expected to facilitate joint dealing with the allies in foreign sugar and aid in the adjustment of differentials in overseas freight rates.

Boys Arrested on Charges of Burglary

Sheriff Glover and Deputy Sheriff Barrett last evening arrested George Leonard at Pruntytown. He with two other boys is charged with breaking into the residence of Charles L. Interfield near the Shaft mine. Officers say the boys stole a gold watch, a razor, two watch chains, three knives and other goods valued in the aggregate to \$40. Leonard had been in the industrial home and had been sent to work near Grafton. After the robbery, it is claimed, he later returned to Pruntytown. Justice Conway will certify the case to the juvenile court.

DAUGHTER BORN.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Edgar J. Grubel of Twelfth street, a daughter which weighed eight and one-half pounds. Mother and child are doing well.

Air Bombing On Nerves Of Rhine Burgers

GENEVA, July 12.—Another campaign has been undertaken along the Rhine in order to prevent allied bombardment of Rhine towns. The Landtag of the Duchy of Baden has been asked to pass a resolution requesting the government of the Grand Duchy to exercise its influence with the imperial authority to come to an arrangement with the belligerents to abandon on both sides the aerial bombardment of towns outside the zone of military operations.

WOMEN SAY PRICE FIXING DOES NOT PROVIDE REMEDY

They are Planning Further Steps Against Old High Cost.

FOOD CHEAPER ELSEWHERE

They Will Likely Investigate the Question of Costs.

Not satisfied with results obtained so far in their efforts to lower the retail price of food stuffs in this city, the Civic department of the Woman's club, together with other local women's organizations, will endeavor to devise some other means whereby the prices which are believed to be exorbitant can be lowered.

A meeting of the Price Fixing committee will be held on Monday afternoon of next week at the offices of C. Walter Corbin, representative of the committee of the wholesale grocers at which time it will be the plan if possible to secure a price list to govern the sale of foodstuffs which will be fair to consumer, dealer and producer.

With prices prevailing on foodstuffs in neighboring states considerably lower than those shown in this city, the women believe there is "a niggle in the wood pile" somewhere, and it will be their endeavor to locate such a fugitive and bring him to justice.

Just where the blame lies it is hard to determine, but women who are leaders in the matter believe by persistent efforts the responsibility will be fixed.

A fact brought to light by women in doing their marketing is that peas and beans, etc., which have been on hand for several days and have become stale bring the same prices as those which are fresh in the market, thus showing that the price of foodstuffs is not lowered as they deteriorate in value.

Retailers contend that their profits do not exceed 20 to 25 per cent, while wholesalers contend for the whole point. Just why foodstuffs should cost local dealers more than they do dealers in adjoining states is hard to understand and just where the trouble starts will be threshed out by the women.

It is claimed also by the women that local producers are overreaching themselves also in price fixing and believe local producers are as much to blame for the high prices prevailing as are those in other states.

The women mean if possible to find out where the trouble exists and to this end will push forward vigorously their project for the lowering of food stuff prices.

Italians in Albania Have Taken Berat

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, July 12.—Occupation of Berat and the capture of quantities of war material and many prisoners by the advancing Italian army in Albania were announced today in an official dispatch from Rome.

The message also told of losses inflicted upon the Austrians in surprise attacks at Colca, Yaghi and in Val D'Assa as the result of enemy attacks on the southern slope of Sossa Rossa.

LEE'S GRANDSON IS A MEDALIST



Lieutenant Robert E. Lee, a grandson of the famous Confederate General, has been cited for bravery and awarded the Croix de Guerre, according to a message received by Mrs. Lee in Chicago. The decoration was a result of a skirmish in which Lieutenant Lee and his company captured a German machine gun.

HEARS FROM WIFE IN FAR OFF HUNGARY

Miner at Baxter Grateful for Service Red Cross Rendered Him.

Andrew Crosby, a Hungarian miner at Baxter, is today loud in his praises of the Red Cross organization as a whole and of the Civilian Relief committee of the local chapter in particular, as through their efforts he has heard from his family located in Hungary, from whom it had been impossible for a long time to secure news.

The Red Cross organization is the only official organization through which information can be obtained from enemy alien countries from relatives and it was most gratifying not only to the Hungarian miner to secure news of loved ones in distant lands, but was also gratifying to the Civilian Relief committee of the Red Cross through its chairman, Mrs. Joseph Rosier, to bring joy to this man's heart and to see the results of his labor in his behalf.

The committee recently sent out some half dozen letters to enemy countries from relatives residing in this country, and this is the first one from a which a response has been received.

The message contained in the communication transmitted from the local committee was brief and stated that the sender was well and wanted to know as to their condition. The message transmitted to the local chapter through the embassy of Sweden at Venice was to the effect that the man's family is well and glad to hear from him, and also contained the news that two relatives of the man were dead since he had heard from them. The communication was made to the man's wife and was sent from this city early in June.

Germany Demands Indemnity From Russ

(By Associated Press.)

PARIS, July 12.—Germany's claim for indemnity from Russia amounts to the round sum of seven million rubles, according to a report printed in the Berlin Vossische Zeitung of the work done by the mixed commission named to take up consideration of claims growing out of the conclusion of the Brest-Litovsk peace.

This commission has concluded its sessions during which the German representatives, says the newspaper, presented claims aggregating the amount named for war damages. Immediate settlement of the claims is asked, it is stated.

Belgium's Royal Pair Take Trip in Air

PARIS, July 12.—(Havas Agency.)—The King and Queen of Belgium who have been visiting England have returned to France by the same means which they used in crossing the channel to England—through the air.

The return passage, newspapers say, lasted 3 minutes. The royal couple said they were delighted with the experiences of the aerial voyage.

LONGPONT ON THE PICARDY FRONT IN FRENCH HANDS

British Successful in Raids in the Somme Region.

BOMB CONSTANTINOPLE

British Army at France Now Consists of Two Million Men.

Austrians in Serbia muling Over Their Food

(By Associated Press.)
CORFU, July 12.—A serious mutiny among the Austrian troops in one of the occupied districts of Serbia is announced by the Serbian press bureau here.

The garrison at Kragujevatz, the former Serbian arsenal, broke into rebellion because of bad food, the statement declares and many of the officers were killed.

The mutiny was suppressed after a veritable battle in which machine guns and artillery were freely used.

(By Associated Press.)
PARIS, July 5.—The village of Longpont, on the Savieres river east of Villers Cottetis, has been captured by the French, says the official statement from the war office today.

The French also continued their progress north of Chavigny farm and east of Faverolles.

Javage farm northeast of Faverolles was also occupied.

In raids north of Montdidier and in Champaignes the French captured 15 prisoners. The official text reads:

"Continuing their progress north of Chavigny farms an detachment of Faverolles last night our troops occupied the village of Longpont and the Javage farm.

"Two raids, one north of Montdidier and the other in Champagne, resulted in the capture of 15 prisoners.

The German artillery was rather active on the left bank of the Meuse (Verdun region).

LONDON, July 12.—Further raiding operations were carried out by British troops last night, notably in the Flanders area near Merris and Meteres, the war office announced today. Prisoners were taken in a patrol encounter in the Kemmel sector on this front.

Another British party raided the German lines near Hamel south of the Somme.

A patrol clash in the neighborhood of Gavrelle northeast of Arras also resulted in the taking of prisoners.

In their operations in the vicinity of Merris the British took 120 prisoners.

PARIS, July 12.—The British fighting forces in France now aggregate two million men, says the Havas correspondent on the British front. This equals the number on the front in 1917.

LONDON, July 12.—Airforce contingents acting with the British navy dropped a half ton of bombs upon the city of Constantinople on July 7, it was announced by the admiralty today.

West Virginia Lad Missing in Action

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, July 12.—The army casualty list today contains 52 names divided as follows: Killed in action, 9; died of wounds, 7; died of disease, 7; died of airplane accidents, 2; died of accidents and other causes, 4; wounded severely, 15; wounded slightly, 1; wounded degree undetermined, 2; missing in action, 5. The list included:

Wounded severely—Private Blair L. Renard, Keowaydin, Pa.
Missing in action—Private Harry Christian, Silbert, W. Va.; Theodore Grimes, Springfield, O.; Charles W. Preston, Wynnewood, Pa.

L'KES MOTOR SERVICE
W. E. Michael, acting county superintendent of schools, today received a letter from Erwin Toothman, formerly of Fairview, who is now at Camp Johnston, Jacksonville, Fla. He is connected with the motor transportation service. According to Toothman's letter he likes the service. He finds it very warm in that section, however.

ALLIED DRIVE NOW IN THE BALKANS



Allied forces in the Balkans, composed of French and Italian units, have started a new offensive against the Austro-Bulgarian forces on the west end of the front in the region of Albania, indicated by the two arrows.

Some Suggestions For Use In Rubber Stamp Propaganda

There continues to be considerable talk about the plan proposed in a letter to The West Virginian to have Fairmont people rubber stamp patriotic sentiments upon all the mail matter they send out but not many have acted upon the request for suggestions of expressions suitable for this purpose. Perhaps most of them are too busy doing war work of other kinds to find time for a little thing like that. However a few suggestions have come in, as follows:

STREET CAR MEN ASK MORE PAY

Matter Has Been Under Discussion For Some Time.

NEW REGISTRANTS WANT TO GO TO WAR

Very Small Percentage Among Them Ask for Deferred Classification.

Street car employees of Fairmont, Clarksburg and Parkersburg have united in asking the Monongahela Valley Traction company for higher wages. A series of conferences between traction officials and committees from the recently organized employees' unions have been held, but as yet the officials and employees have reached no agreement.

The street car men are now getting from thirty-two to thirty-eight cents per hour for a nine hour day, men in the employ ten years or more getting the maximum salary. They asked the company for an increase so that their salaries would range from forty-six to fifty-four cents per hour, the maximum salary to be given after two years of service.

Committees from the labor unions went before the traction officials in this city and presented their contract. The company agreed to a salary of from thirty-five to forty-five cents per hour with the maximum salary at the end of five years of service.

At the last meetings of the labor unions the proposed salaries offered by the company were rejected. For a compromise the employees have offered to accept from forty to fifty cents per hour with a five year maximum, which has been refused by the company. Committees from the unions and traction officials are still in conference in an effort to reach an agreement.

The different locals have their organization as arranged that one local will not sign up without the consent of the other.

Keeping Track of Board Transactions

Liberty Loan bonds should not be offered in exchange for securities or merchandise and J. A. Witter Barnes, chairman of the Marion County Council of Defense, has been notified that it will be the duty of the county defense organization to follow up and report all specific cases. The report of all serious cases will be made to the director of war loan organization, treasury department, Washington, D. C.

In the letter to Chairman Barnes it is carefully pointed out that exchange of securities for Liberty Bonds not only impedes the government's financial program and the mere fact that any security offered in this patriotic way justifies suspicion and an investigation of its character.

CAMPAIGN ON IN ALBANIA MAY BE IMPORTANT

Military Experts Believe It May Be Made a Vital Blow.

IF AIMED AT BULGARIA

Allies Believe to Have a Million Men in Balkans.

WASHINGTON, July 12.—Would a successful military drive through Serbia along the lines of the Albanian and Macedonian fronts deal a paralyzing blow to the Quadruple Alliance, bring Roumania back into the war, open a new road to Russia and further strangle the Austro-Hungarians?

These are questions which have been raised in Washington since the renewal of military operations in Albania and successive retirements of the Austrian forces. And it is quite easy for the "map strategists" some 4,000 miles away from the scene of action to answer them, but the real strategists of this war, the ablest of whom sit every day and every night around the Inter-Allied War Council table, have not undertaken to disclose argument upon any of them.

Even so, the best informed military authorities here agree that the Macedonian front offers the widest opportunities for a decisive victory of all the theatres of the war. And in such a victory there would be all manner of possibilities. To deny this, they add, is to show the profoundest ignorance of the whole war situation.

Should Serbia be re-occupied, as she has twice been since this war started, Austria and Bulgaria would be practically divorced. The only means of communication between them would be through the congested area of Roumania. But should an Allied march to the Danube and break at Roumania's door, it is more than an even chance that the entire, uncontrolled Roumanian people would turn to that army as a deliverer and re-enter the war. This would throw at the whole Black Sea region open again to Allied campaigns.

But the campaign that has now been undertaken is no new idea. It has far more than a year leading strategists and military critics in Europe have urged that just such an offensive be launched. They have known that Bulgaria is sick of the war, that she is in bitter controversy with the key over the Roumanian question. That there is no hope that she will be rewarded even if the Central Powers win the war and that her army has been decimated by wholesale desertions. It has seemed, therefore, that with Greece among the Allies and with her army in the field, it would be a simple thing to lead a blow against the face of Bulgaria.

A marked change has taken place in (Continued on page four.)

NOTICE
Wanted Machinists and Ship Workers to attend a meeting held by Fairmont Lodge No. 1121 at the Moose home on Jefferson Street, Sunday, July 14 at 2 p. m.
H. E. JONES, Secretary.

Wanted
Bright Young Man to Take up Advertising. Must be High School graduate, and come with the expectation of sticking. Apply to Advertising department.
West Virginian Office.

Painters Wanted
Apply OWENS BOTTLE MACHINE CO.

Laborers Wanted
in Shipping Department. Apply, Owens Bottle Machine Company.