

The Watchman and Southerner.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHERNER, Established June, 1890.

Consolidated Aug. 2, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1917.

Vol. XLV. No. 26.

AMERICANS IN FRANCE.

SOLDIERS AND SUPPLIES ARRIVING IN INCREASING NUMBERS, SAYS GEN. PERSHING.

Our Boys Cool Under Fire—Germans Throwing Hundreds of Big Shells at Trenches Held by Americans.

With the American Army in France, Nov. 11.—(By the Associated Press.)—Gen. Pershing said to the correspondents today:

"Troops and supplies are arriving in increasing numbers."

"Thanks to the French, British and American navies," he continued, "the submarine to date has not claimed the life of a single American soldier on the troop ships bound for France." The French officers, he said, were enthusiastic over the character, intelligence and spirit of the young officers arriving in France to continue their instruction and the American army is proud of them, too."

Conditions in the American sector continue to be normal with intermittent artillery firing on both sides. At one place the Germans observed that the grass had been trodden down in the rear and they threw in a hundred shells with no result other than to churn up the mud.

The weather continues to be cold and rainy. The American infantrymen have had two diversions. The first incident occurred near daylight. The enemy, apparently thinking a raid was imminent, opened up with machine guns at the point where the lines are closest. A stream of bullets whistled over the American fire line.

About the same time, French troops on the American flank observed four Germans who were cutting the barbed wire defenses. A French patrol succeeded in heading off the Germans, capturing them.

WET FORCES IN LEAD.

Less Than Two Thousand Votes Separates Prohibition and Anti Advocates in Ohio.

Cincinnati, Nov. 10.—The close of election week for Ohio left the anti-prohibition forces with a lead of 1,816 votes, the tabulation including 77 counties officially reported to the secretary of State, eight county seal official returns and three unofficial, but complete county totals.

WILSON ADDRESSES LABOR.

Great Meeting of Federation of Labor in Buffalo.

Buffalo, Nov. 12.—The coming of President Wilson overshadowed all other proceedings at the opening session of the thirty-eighth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor here. It is already recognized as one of the most important conventions in the labor's history. This feeling was intensified by the announcement that president is coming to "speak to labor and through labor to the American people." A regiment of troops escorted the president to the auditorium where the chief executive is scheduled as the first speaker. Great crowds awaited his address with intense interest.

Samuel Gompers introduced the president as "this man of destiny, who has spoken for freedom and the interpreter of our aims and the spirit of our time, the leader of thought and action among the earth's nations."

President Wilson referred to the present as a time more critical than any the world had yet known. It is important, he said, to remind ourselves as to how the war came about. He said the war was started by Germany. Her authorities deny it, but I am willing to await the verdict of history on the statement I have just made. Germany is determined that the political power of the world shall belong to her, he said. He declared that the war could not be won unless all factions unite. He paid a warm tribute to Samuel Gompers. He virtually asked the federation of labor of the United States for their support. He denounced his pacifist critics.

USING NEUTRAL SHIPS.

Arrangements Made to Put Ships to Work for Allies.

Atlantic Port, Nov. 12.—Indications that a satisfactory arrangement has been concluded whereby more than a hundred neutral ships which have been tied up in United States ports for several months will be available for the allies use was seen today in the announcement of the sailing late last week of the first of these ships for South America.

ON THE ITALIAN FRONT.

IMPETUOUS RUSH OF AUSTRO-GERMANS CHECKED.

Italian Rear Guards Fight With Determined Bravery and Cut Their Way Through Enemy Lines.

Italian Headquarters, Nov. 10 (Saturday, 6 P. M.) (By the Associated Press).—Observers from advanced positions along the front say the Austro-German advance is not showing the impetuous rush of previous days and evidently is slackening as it gets farther from its base with a steadily lengthening line of communication to the rear. The largest guns they have brought into play thus far are of a type about the same as our five inch. The other guns they are using are small field and mountain pieces.

They have been unable to bring forward any of their heavy guns, doubtless because of the bridges and road torn up or destroyed by the Italian as they fell back.

The fighting is taking a wide range from the Trentino eastward to the Tagliamento and then southward to the sea, but these are detached actions while the main forces of both sides are establishing their positions.

Renewal tonight of a heavy downpour of rain will swell the Livenza and other streams, increasing the difficulties of bringing forward heavy artillery.

One detached action between the upper Tagliamento and Lake Garda resulted in the encircling of some Italian troops, but after a desperate effort they cut through. At Lorenzaga, one of the Italian rear guard cut its way through the enemy line and then crossed country held by the enemy back to the Italian main line.

Every day that passes and every mile that is covered the enemy becomes wearier and is faced with greater determination by the Italians. The Austro-Germans continue their plan of advance with their right wing evidently still hoping to envelop the center of the Italian rear guard and eventually cut off the right wing of the retiring main body. Thus far their plan has been frustrated by the indomitable resistance of the Italian troops, who inflicted heavy punishment upon the enemy.

From the hills west of Congellant across the Piave Valley, notwithstanding overwhelming numbers of Austro-Germans, the Italians opened such a terrific fire that they obliged the enemy's heavy columns to withdraw temporarily and await reinforcements of artillery. When the advance was resumed, protected by violent fire from field batteries, the incessant rattle of Italian machine guns inflicted new losses on the foe whose numerical superiority permitted him to continue his progress although slowly.

Meanwhile the Italians made all preparations to retire in good order assisted by their cavalry, which rushed like an avalanche down the slope of the hills, their sabres and lances cutting down the enemy with irresistible force while from a thousand throats rose the wild war cry "Savoia, Savoia!" Their impulse exhausted by the unending ranks of the opposition, the few survivors withdrew, still fighting to rejoin their main body which owed its safety mainly to them, as the delay they had caused in the enemy's advance permitted an un molested crossing the river.

FIRE DESTROYS BARN.

Eight Mules and One Horse Burned Near St. Matthews.

St. Matthews, Nov. 10.—Yesterday morning about 5 o'clock the barn and stables belonging to O. F. Murph and W. W. Murph, located about three miles southwest of St. Matthews, were destroyed by fire. Eight mules and one horse were burned to death. All of the contents of the barn, consisting of corn, fodder, hay and other foodstuffs, were a complete loss. The total loss is about \$3,500, with only partial insurance on the building. Observers who saw the fire noted that it made great headway, the blaze arising so fast as to indicate ignition by oil or other assistance. Every indication points to incendiarism and the evidence is said to be strong against a negro man who is now under arrest.

TEN THOUSAND CAPTURED.

Berlin Announces Victory Over Italians.

Berlin, Nov. 12.—The Austro-German forces in northern Italy have cut off ten thousand retreating Italians in the upper Piave valley, the war office announced. The Italians are said to have surrendered.

HIDDEN FOOD FOUND.

GOVERNMENT AGENTS LOCATE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WORTH IN STORAGE.

It Had Never Been Reported as Required by Law and There is Evidence That It is Owned by Germans.

New York, Nov. 11.—Secret service agents have discovered foodstuffs and other property valued at more than \$75,000,000 stored in warehouses in this city which has never been reported to the government as required under the trading with the enemy act it was learned tonight. This is only a small part of what is expected to be uncovered before the search ends.

Flour, sugar, eggs, butter and canned goods of various kinds are contained in the list of foodstuffs compiled by the secret service men. Large quantities of iron, steel, copper, cotton and chemicals also have been found, a part of which, it was announced, is owned by Germans.

The value of the foodstuffs not reported to the government was placed at \$38,496,742 and the metals, cotton and other materials at \$35,449,028.

It was stated that one consignment of 700 bags of jute is known to have been bought with money deposited here by the Deutches Bank of Berlin the official financial institution of the German government. About three quarters of the commodities is said to be held as collateral for loans made by banks but nothing regarding the nature of the loans could be learned.

The secret service men made a detailed report of the amount of the goods unearthed and the location of the places of storage to Herbert Hoover, federal food administrator.

Finding of property required to be reported to the government under the trading with the enemy law is expected to be announced from many different places in the country as a result of the government activities now in progress. The department of justice through its special agents and the food administration, is cooperating in the movement and Alien Property Custodian Palmer is organizing his office and field personnel with a view to handling these among other matters under the law enacted by the last congress.

A. Bruce Bielaski, chief of the department of justice special agents said tonight that every effort was being made to locate violators of the new law and that his agents are active in various fields. Mr. Bielaski however had no information to make public regarding the New York discovery and it is likely that overnight advices to Washington will reveal more developments. Food Administrator Hoover has been keeping a close touch with the department of justice.

Mr. Palmer recently extended until December 5 the time within which persons or concerns holding or controlling any property for an enemy or ally including subjects, shall report such property to the government.

GERMAN PRESS ON RUSSIAN PEACE.

Papers Reaching Copenhagen do Not Seem Sanguine of Result of Maximalist Coup.

Copenhagen, Nov. 10.—The first German newspapers containing comment on the Russian coup d'etat to arrive here made no attempt to jump at conclusions or to predict speedy peace with Russia. On the other hand the impression prevails widely that the Maximalists may be compelled by the force of circumstances to follow much the same policy as the Kerensky regime as soon as they find a non-annexation peace is not to be attained early by proclaiming their readiness to conclude such a peace.

Several newspapers allude to the fact that the declared policy of the Maximalists is for a general peace not a separate one, and this on the basis of absolutely no annexations.

GREAT FOOD CONFERENCE.

State Agents of Home Demonstration Work Meet in Washington.

Washington, Nov. 12.—Methods for increasing the production and the conservation and utilization of food throughout the South during war time was the chief subject of discussion at the sixth annual conference of State agents supervising home demonstration work in the South which was begun here today under the auspices of the agricultural department.

A DRY NEW YORK.

CAMPAIGN FOR PROHIBITION IN METROPOLIS OF COUNTRY.

Plan is for Women to Sign Petitions Asking for Referendum When They Get Ballot, January 1.

New York, Nov. 9.—A campaign to make New York city dry through women's votes is under way. Opponents of the liquor traffic announced today that at New Year's eve watch services in New York churches, women qualified as voters by the ratification of the amendment in last Tuesday's election will sign petitions calling for a referendum on local option next April.

The law compels a referendum on local option upon petition of 25 per cent of the qualified voters. It was said by those launching the campaign. They contend this does not limit signers of the petitions to registered voters. New York State women will become voters January 1. The signatures of the 25 per cent of the qualified voters required to initiate the local fight can easily be secured, "dry" supporters say.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY.

Charleston Meeting Attended by Two Hundred Delegates—Officers Elected.

Charleston, Nov. 10.—J. T. Fain of Rock Hill was today elected president of the State Christian Endeavor Society, succeeding Bert Corcoran of Charleston, whose army Y. M. C. A. work prevented him from continuing his services as head of this organization. Mr. Corcoran will serve as an officer in charge of war work. Chester was a strong favorite for the next place of meeting. The convention is well attended, it being expected that nearly 200 delegates will have been registered before the close. Tomorrow will see the meeting end, the night session being addressed by Dr. George A. Ward of Lowell, Mass., the first general secretary of the Christian Endeavor movement. Tomorrow morning sunrise prayer services will be held at East Battery, led by Dr. Ward. District conventions will be held in six of the seven districts early next year during the tour of Wyatt Taylor, field secretary. Officers were elected as follows:

President, J. T. Fain of Rock Hill; vice president, E. H. Wilkes of Laurens; secretary, Miss Claudia Frasier of Sumter; treasurer, Mrs. Wyatt A. Taylor of Columbia; corresponding secretary, Miss Iva Robinson of Winnsboro.

Department superintendents: Junior, Miss Ada Saunders of York; intermediate, Miss Hannah Plowden of Kingstree; missions, Miss Marianne Paul of Charleston; efficiency, Miss Clarabell Williams of Chester; quiet hour tenth legion, Miss Sophie Richards of Liberty Hill; press, Miss Sarah Tillinghast of Spartanburg; war work, Bert Corcoran of Charleston.

District presidents will remain the same. Rev. W. W. Miller of Orangeburg succeeds Rev. A. B. Reeves of the pastor's advisory board.

District presidents—Greenville, Albert Y. Drummond of Spartanburg; York, J. T. Fain of Rock Hill; Laurens, Mrs. M. J. McFadden of Clinton; Columbia, G. L. Davis of Columbia; Sumter, Miss Lina Bradley of Bishopville; Florence, Miss Janet Jaeger of Florence; Charleston, G. Glenn McKnight of Charleston.

Denominational trustees—Presbyterian, Rev. J. P. Marion of Sumter; Episcopal, Rev. K. G. Finlay of Columbia; Christian, Rev. W. W. Miller of Orangeburg; Congregational, Rev. G. E. Paddock of Charleston; Allan Nicholson of Union, vice president World's Christian Endeavor Union.

TARRED AND FEATHERED.

Oklahoma Vigilants Banish I. W. W. Agitators.

Tulsa, Okla., Nov. 10.—The whereabouts of seventeen half naked and badly beaten members of the Industrial Workers of the World who were taken from the police, whipped and tarred and feathered last night by a band of sixty "Knights of Liberty" is unknown today. They have been warned never to return to Tulsa. The Police were forced to watch the work of the knights.

NO NEWS FROM ARMY.

Petrograd is Cut off from Army Headquarters.

Petrograd, Nov. 12.—The announcement was made today that no official communication was received from army headquarters today. The last announcement was made Friday.

WILL ASSIST RUSSIA.

AMERICA'S PLANS NOT TO BE CHANGED.

Contracts in Force Here for Vast Quantities of Clothing and Shoes for Civilians.

Washington, Nov. 9.—Russia's latest upheaval will not change the attitude of the American government toward measures under way for the relief of economic conditions in the demoralized country. This statement, applying particularly to contracts with money borrowed from the United States for vast quantities of shoes and clothing for the civilian population, was the only authorized comment at the state department today upon the overthrow of the Kerensky government at Petrograd.

Official advices from the Russian capital still are lacking, no word having been received from Ambassador Francis since Tuesday. Apparently the British and French governments have not heard from their representatives, so it is assumed that the revolutionists in control of the Petrograd telegraphs and cables are holding up all diplomatic dispatches, an action certain to draw strong protest.

The situation was discussed at today's cabinet meeting, but Secretary Lansing was unable to add anything to information appearing in the newspapers. A cable received during the day from Minister Morris at Stockholm, summarizing dispatches printed in the Swedish newspapers similar to those published here, showed that even the Scandinavian countries are getting no news of what is transpiring in Russia except through the controlled agencies at Petrograd.

Until the situation clears the state department and war department will make no announcement as to the probable effect of the change at Petrograd upon the relations of the United States with Russia and the conduct of the war against Germany. It is apparent, however, that there is still a lingering hope in the official mind that the Russian situation may be localized in Petrograd and that Kerensky may escape to rally around him the elements necessary to reestablish his government at Moscow.

Even failing in this, some of the administration officials are confident that before very long out of the present chaos in Russia will emerge a sound and stable government. Secretary Baker voiced this opinion. "I am a great believer," he said, "in the ability of the Russian people to reestablish themselves."

BEARS STORIES OF RIOTING.

Trial at San Antonio to Be Resumed Monday Morning to Receive Further Testimony.

San Antonio, Texas, Nov. 10.—Stories of how negroes of the Twenty-fourth infantry participated in a riot at Houston on August 23, circumstances of their arrest and further identification of prisoners whose capture was made under circumstances that would indicate their participation in the outbreak are expected to occupy the courtmartial of the 63 negro defendants facing charges of mutiny, murder and rioting, when it resumes at Fort Sam Houston Monday morning. No session was held this afternoon.

In addition to identification of several defendants as among those arrested after the riot the courtmartial thus far has netted a coherent story of the riot from its inception to its culmination which was the killing of Captain Mattes of the Second Illinois Artillery. Witnesses have testified of bad feeling between the negroes of the Twenty-fourth infantry and the Houston police, of fears on the part of the negroes the night of the riot that Camp Logan, where they are stationed, would be attacked. Also there has been evidence to show that among some of the negroes at least, there had been forming a scheme for retaliation. Witnesses expected to testify next week will be mostly coast artillerymen and other soldiers who were hurried to Houston after the riot.

THE Y. M. C. A. CAMPAIGN FUND.

Nation Wide Effort to Raise \$35,000,000 in Full Swing.

Atlanta, Nov. 12.—The campaign to raise a million and a-half dollars in the Southeastern district for the Y. M. C. A. war work at home and abroad, is in full motion today. Committees have been appointed in all States and districts to carry on the campaign in a nation-wide effort to raise thirty-five millions for association war work.

ITALIAN STAFF REORGANIZED.

AFTER CONFERENCE OF BRITISH, FRENCH AND ITALIAN REPRESENTATIVES.

Place for Cadorna on New Committee—General Who Has Been in Supreme Command Since Beginning of War Has Been Succeeded by Diaz With Badoglio Second in Command.

Italian Army Headquarters, Thursday, Nov. 8 (By the Associated Press).—The conference of British, French and Italian representatives has resulted in the creation of a permanent interallied military committee. New leadership for the Italian army has been provided.

General Cadorna, who has been in supreme command of the Italian army since the beginning of the war, has been given a place on the new committee. New heads of the Italian army have been named General Diaz has been appointed first in command, with General Badoglio second and General Grandino third.

General Foch, chief of staff of the French war ministry, and General Wilson, sub-chief of the British general staff, will serve on the interallied committee with General Cadorna.

Among the military officers the decision of the allies to create a permanent military committee has caused great satisfaction. It is accepted as evidence that the allies have awakened to the necessity for the closest union of the whole length of the Western front for the political and military conduct of the war.

General Diaz is rated as one of the ablest Italian military leaders. For years he was connected with the general staff. He took part in the Libyan war, serving as a colonel and was wounded so severely that he asked to be wrapped in a flag, feeling that death was at hand. He has rendered distinguished service in the present campaign. He is from southern Italy.

General Badoglio is a northerner. In the war he has been in command of a brigade of Bersaglieri, whose heroic deeds have done much to decrease the gravity of the disaster.

General Grandino was minister of war in the cabinet of Premier Boselli. He was one of the leading generals of the second army.

ITALIANS OUT MANEUVER GERMAN.

Attempt to Surround Italian Army Fails and Danger Almost Past.

Italian Headquarters, Northern Italy, Sunday, Nov. 11.—The enemies operations on the north and east, in an attempt at the encirclement of the Italians have not succeeded. The menace on the Italian left wing is also virtually past.

FIGHTING IN PETROGRAD.

Anarchists Who Seized Power in Russia Can't Hold It.

Petrograd, Sunday, Nov. 11.—Street fighting is proceeding constantly. Junkers who are loyal to the Kerensky government, regained possession of the telephone station this morning. The exact whereabouts of the Kerensky army which is reported to be approaching the city, is unknown at this hour.

TROOP TRAIN WRECKED.

Three Soldiers Killed and Sixteen Injured in Colorado.

Denver, Nov. 12.—Three soldiers were killed and sixteen injured in a troop train wreck near Cotopaxi, Colorado, according to a message received at the Denver & Rio Grande railroad officers here. The troops were said to be traveling east from Utah.

MINOR BATTLE IN FRANCE.

Activity Reported Only on Verdun Front.

Paris, Nov. 12.—On the front between Chaumewood and Bezonvaux, in the Verdun sector, active artillery fighting continued last night. The remainder of the front was calm.

Help is Needed.

(Asheville Times.)

The question of whether or not the British fleet should have helped the Russians is either political, military or naval; it is at least a question which we are not disposed to discuss but the fact remains that Russia needs help now and criticism by one of the allies of another is not calculated to do good.