

Abbeville Press and Banner

Established 1844.

\$1.50 the Year

ABBEVILLE, S. C., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1917.

Single Copies, Five Cents.

76th Year

BIG ARMY MARCHING ON RUSSIAN CAPITAL

Kerensky, at Head of Immense Force, May Regain Power.

FORCES ARE RETREATING TOWARDS THE CAPITAL

Forces Loyal to Ex-Premier Defeat Revolutionists in Moscow and Tsarskoe-Selo—Northern Italian Line Stiffens—Germans Let British Alone.

Apparently the Bolsheviki uprising in Petrograd is nearing its end and Premier Kerensky may soon again be in power.

Late advices from Petrograd are to the effect that the revolutionists have been defeated in Moscow and at Tsarskoe-Selo and from the latter town, which is 15 miles from Petrograd, are retreating a disorderly mob toward the capital.

In Petrograd street fighting has taken place with the Cossacks and other loyalists having the better of the Bolsheviki element, while Kerensky with 200,000 men is on his way from Gatchina to reinforce the loyalists. To stay his progress, however, the rails of the Petrograd-Gatchina Railway have been torn up and large forces of the Bolsheviki are said to have gone out to give battle.

War in Finland.

To add to the troubles of the Kerensky government, a state of war has been proclaimed in Finland and the governor general dismissed, his place having been taken by a sailor. The diet has voted to elect a state directorate which will have supreme power in the province.

On the Italian front the Italian line in the North has stiffened under the reinforcement it has received from the British and French. Even the German official communication does not mention any further retirement by the Italians but on the contrary admits that east of Asiago, where the Austro-Germans made gains last week, the Italians in strong force attacked the invaders and recaptured lost positions. The Italians took about 100 prisoners.

Along the middle and southern reaches of the Piava the Italians are holding their line tenaciously although they have been forced to give up the Vidor bridgehead, north east of Treviso.

British Hold Ground Won.

The Germans Sunday made no attempts to recapture the ground taken from them by the British Saturday in the region of Passchendaele, contenting themselves merely with the bombardment of the newly won line. A heavy rainfall prevented the British from extending their gains.

995 COMMISSIONS GO TO OGLETHORPE STUDENT OFFICERS

School Divided Into Three Classes, 29 Majorships and 71 Captaincies Being Awarded to Class A Men.

Fort Oglethorpe, Nov. 9.—Orders were received Thursday afternoon by Colonel Slocum, commander of the officers' training camp, regarding the forthcoming commissions for the students at the close of the camp, November 23. According to these orders the camp is to be divided into three classes.

In class A there are to be issued 995 commissions effective on December 15. That means that these students will receive commissions at the close of the camp and then will be given furloughs until December 15, when they will be called to active duty.

In class A there are to be issued commissions for twenty-one infantry majors, eight artillery majors,

SHORTAGE OF SHELLS IN ITALIAN ARMYS

Italian Army Expert Analyzes German Advance.

SAYS WHOLE OF ITALY IS HONEYCOMBED WITH SPIES

Declares That Foe Will Be Driven Back From Country, German Account of Prisoners Inaccurate

Washington, Nov. 11.—Germany's offensive against Italy, reduced to military essentials and stripped of its possible political significance, is an attempt to repeat the Dunajec drive of 1915, which blasted Russia out of Galicia and Poland, and the Serbian drive of the same year, which blew open the road to Constantinople.

General Mackensen, the commander who carried out the big smashes of 1915 and who is again heading the Germans, is the "pinch hitter" of the Prussian war machine. The Germans believe the Italians are caught in the same relative positions as the Russians and Serbs in 1915. The Russians had run out of munitions. The Serbs had little artillery. In both campaigns Mackensen literally blasted his way by drum fire.

Italy has plenty of guns, and her munitions and supply departments are alert, but the submarine campaign and ship shortage which have failed to cripple France and Britain, have reduced Italy's munitions supplies far below the danger line. The Italian offensive of the early summer consumed most of her reserve munitions. Italy has neither coal or iron and must get both by sea. For five months the Italian military commission in Washington has been struggling for American wheat, steel and coal.

That the Italian army is hampered by a serious shortage of shells in the face of the big German offensive is freely admitted by Italian officers in the United States. Captain Count Lucerna de Campeggioni, who arrived here only recently, says the whole thing hangs on "Munitions, Munitions, Munitions," paraphrasing Lloyd George's "Ships, Ships, Ships," with real Latin intensity.

The count, attached to the Italian military mission, says there is no reason to mince words about something the Germans knew all about when they decided to launch their attack.

"Then they know about the conditions in the Italian army?" he was asked.

"Certainly, German spies are on every street corner in Italy, or in Europe for that matter. We have done our best to catch them, but where one is caught, others take his place."

The count says the German offensive has been expected for some time—in fact, it has been inevitable ever since the Russian army's disorganization in July.

The first blow was expected on the Bainsizza plateau, where it fell. The next stroke on the upper Isonzo was not so clearly anticipated when the count left Italy, because the complete demoralization of Russia and the safety with which Germany can withdraw troops from the eastern front was not then so apparent.

Asked whether the railroad facilities between France and Italy would allow the transfer of French, British and American troops to stem a German offensive on the Italian front, the count said the railroads were available, but that there was no need of allied infantry.

Italy has plenty of men—also to handle the guns.

The Italian shell shortage made itself felt long before the end of the recent Italian offensive, and the presence of ten British batteries on

UNREPORTED FOOD FOUND IN GOTHAM

Secret Service Agents Discover Immense Stores.

PROPERTY RUNS INTO MILLIONS

Seven Hundred Bags of Jute Belonging to German Government Among Articles Located.

New York, Nov. 11.—Secret service agents have discovered foodstuffs and other property valued at more than \$73,000,000 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 Deutsches Bank of Berlin, the official 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.

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.

WITHDRAW EXEMPTIONS GRANTED TO STRIKERS

Houston, Tex.—Denouncing as "little short of criminal" a wartime strike in any industry needed for the successful prosecution of hostilities and defining the oil industry as "the absolute heart of our navy," Dr. Sidney J. Smith, chairman of the southern district draft board, said he would immediately ask his own board to withdraw exemptions or discharges granted on industrial grounds to all registrants involved in the strike.

plenty of cannon—but not enough shells. The transfer of British and French batteries to the Italian front which has been going on for some time, is due to the lack not of Italian cannon or artillerymen, but of shells.

Britain and France have considerable reserve stocks of shells and their supply is being kept up, but their shells will not fit the Italian cannon. To use the allied shells on the Italian front requires allies cannot fire them and allied artillerymen to handle the guns.

The Italian shell shortage made itself felt along before the end of the lower Isonzo at that time, with a large number of French batteries above Gorizza, was due solely to the necessity of using allied ammunition.

That Italy will stop the German drive, just as she stopped the German "strafe expedition" from the Trentino early last year, is Count Lucerna's confident prediction. He says that the German accounts of prisoners taken are altogether unreliable.

ITALIANS ARE HOLDING BACK THE TEUTONS

SELECTIVE SERVICE BILL

President Will Definitely Fix Place of All Registered Men.

Washington, Nov. 10.—President Wilson formally put the new machinery for the carrying out of the selective service bill into operation tonight with the publication of the foreword he has written to the regulations under which the second call will be made. The regulations themselves and the questionnaires which then 9,000,000 registrants will be required to fill out are being forwarded to local boards, but have not yet been made public.

War department officials estimate that the whole process can be completed within sixty days. This means that no second call will be made upon the national army before the middle of next February, as the period of classification will not begin until December 15.

The president describes the new plan of dividing all registered men not already mobilized into five classes, subject to military service by classes, as being intended to produce "a more perfect organization of our man power."

"The selective principles must be carried to its logical conclusion," the president said, and he added that there must be made a complete inventory of the qualifications of each registrant in order to determine "the place in the military, industrial or agricultural ranks of the nation in which his experience and training can best be made to serve the common good."

The inquiry projected in the questionnaire will go deep into the qualifications of each of nearly 10,000,000 men. The success of the plan and its completion within the estimated time rests absolutely upon the whole-hearted support given by the people, especially by the doctors and lawyers of each community, and the president calls upon them for their unstinted aid.

The president's foreword follows: "The task of selecting and mobilizing the first contingent of the national army is nearing completion. The expedition and accuracy of its accomplishment were a most gratifying demonstration of the efficiency of our democratic institutions. The swiftness with which the machinery for its execution had to be assembled, however, left room for adjustment and improvement. New regulations putting these improvements into effect are, therefore, being published today. There is on change in the essential obligation of men subject to selection. The first draft must stand unaffected by the provisions of the new regulations. Then can be given no retroactive effect.

"The time has come for a more perfect organization of our man power. The selective principle must be carried to its logical conclusion. We must make a complete inventory of the qualifications of all registrants in order to determine, as to each man not already selected for duty with the colors, the place in the military, industrial, or agricultural ranks of the nation in which his experience and training can best be made to serve the common good. This project involves an inquiry by the selection boards into the domestic, industrial and educational qualifications, of nearly ten million men.

"Members of these boards have rendered a conspicuous service. The work was done without regard to personal convenience and under a pressure of improvements."

Invaders Hurlled Back East of Asiago—Battle Imminent

TEUTONS FORCED TO GIVE GROUND AT ASIAGO

Turks Lose in Palestine—British Forces Under Gen. Allenby Continue to Capture Towns, Although Teutons Are Assisting Ottomans.

On the Italian front the Italian line in the north has stiffened under the reinforcements it has received from the British and French. Even the German official communication does not mention any further retirements by Italians, but on the contrary, admits the east of Asiago, where the Austro-Germans made gains last week, the Italians in strong force attacked the invaders and recaptured lost positions. The Italians took about 100 prisoners.

Along the middle and southern reaches of the Piava and Italians are holding their line tenaciously, although they have been forced to give up the Vidor bridge head, northeast of Treviso.

British Unmolested.

The Germans Sunday made no attempts to recapture the ground taken from them by the British in the region of Passchendaele, contenting themselves merely with the bombardment of the newly won line. A heavy rainfall prevented the British from extending their gain. Bombardments and minor attacks have predominated on the remainder of the western front, except near Hartmanns-Weilerkopf in the Vosges mountains, where in a violent battle the French completely repulsed the Germans.

Turks Lose in Palestine.

In Palestine the British forces under Gen. Allenby continue to make progress against the Turks, who are being aided by German and Austrian gunners. During the latter part of last week, several more towns and villages were captured on the 600-square mile battlefield in addition to numerous guns and many prisoners. East of Gaza a large enemy force was defeated after a violent fight and twelve guns, three machine guns and a hundred prisoners were captured.

Revolt Nearing End.

Apparently the Bolsheviki uprising in Petrograd is nearing its end and Premier Kerensky may soon again be in power.

Late advices from Petrograd are to the effect that the revolutionists have been defeated in Moscow and at Tsarskoe-Selo, and from the latter town, which is fifteen miles from Petrograd, are retreating, a disorderly mob, toward the capital.

VON TIRPITZ IN POLITICS CAUSES GERMAN PROTEST

Copenhagen, Nov. 9.—Admiral von Tirpitz, former minister of marine, has been asked by a committee of the Conservative party to stand for election to the reichstag in the vacancy from the district of Bautzen, Kamenz. The Vorwaerts says that the parites of the left will regard such a candidacy as a provocation.

It says they undoubtedly will contest the election if von Tirpitz runs despite the political truce agreed upon at the outset of the war binding the various parties not to oppose a candidate of the party in possession if the seat is vacated by death or otherwise during the war.

COTTON MARKET

Cotton ----- 28 3-8
Seed ----- \$1.08