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TWO GREAT BATTLES ARE NOW IN PROGRESS

One in Northern France and Belgium, the Other in Russian Poland, But the Public is Allowed Only an Occasional Glance of Their Progress Through Official Communications.

French Reports Indicate That Western Battle is Going in Favor of Allies—Germans Have Occupied Bruges and Are Probably Near Ostend. 3,000 Wounded Belgian Soldiers Have Reached England.

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, Oct. 15.—Two great battles, one in northern France and Belgium, the other in Russian Poland, both with a front of three hundred miles, have reached their height, but the public is allowed only an occasional glance of their progress through official communications, which frequently are widely at variance.

From the French report it appears that the western battle is going slowly but surely in favor of the Allies. Under the pressure of the troops of the Allies, the Germans who started to advance on Calais and other French coast ports, have been forced to evacuate the left bank of the Lys river, which is a considerable distance east of the points their advance guards reached last week. Further east in the Lens district and southward between Arras and Albert, where the Germans made their first attempt to work around the Allies' left, the English and French have made "notable progress."

Evidence that the German assaults are being delivered with less force is conveyed in the intimation that between the Somme and the Oise their artillery attacks are not being followed up with infantry charges. It is possible that they have withdrawn some of their troops from this position to strengthen their advance toward the coast, but it is considered this would be risky as it might permit the Allies to break through and interrupt the communications of the armies fighting north of the Aisne.

In the center the Allies also have advanced towards Craonne and several German trenches are reported to have been carried to the northeast of the road from Barry-au-Bac to which is slightly to the southeast of Rheims.

All this shows a determined and partly successful attempt to drive the Germans away from Rheims, which was again under bombardment today. The famous canal again has been made the target of the German artillery, the Germans accusing the French of having used the towers for military purposes. The French advance in this vicinity also indicates an attempt to break through the German front and force a wedge between the German right and left wings.

The French also claim to have made an advance between the Meuse and the Moselle and, after having repulsed the German attacks to have reached south of the road leading from Verdun to Metz. It is probable this fighting which the Germans referred to as having taken place in the region of Metz.

On the French right there has been quiet for some time, the Germans have attempted offensive tactics in the Ban

de Sapt, north of Saint Die, but this movement has been definitely checked.

On the whole the British military critics consider, the communication is "a most cheerful one." They believe the German advance to the French coast has been checked and that the advances reported elsewhere show the Germans have been compelled to weaken their counter and left in order to strengthen their right.

Although the Germans have failed to break the allied line and have themselves been compelled to give ground, they now are in a better position, having a front which stretches from the Swiss frontier to Antwerp and Dutch territory, so that there are no flanks which the Allies can turn.

The Allies can attempt to break the line, however, and this is believed to be what they are trying to do on the Belgian frontier.

Of the fighting in northern Belgium communication simply says that German troops coming from Antwerp are marching toward the west and on the evening of October 14 reaching the Burges-Thielt district. The opposition offered to this advance was not very serious and apparently was intended only to delay it.

The Germans have occupied Burges and probably at present are near Ostend. Their main force is believed, however, to have proceeded southward to assist in the attempt of the Germans to establish themselves on the French coast. With the forces of the Allies occupying Ypres and doubtless other troops between that city and Nieuwpoort, ten miles southwest of Ostend, the Germans probably will be compelled to fight their next serious battle along the roads and railways running eastward from the coast. Again they may join General von Kluck's army which occupies Lille and the country north of that city. Residents of the country affected are rapidly making their way to the coast ports and to England. They bring reports of the prevalence of conditions approaching panic.

Belgians are coming to England in large numbers. About 3,000 wounded Belgian soldiers have reached this country, while England also is getting more refugees from Holland, the towns and cities of which are overcrowded.

Plans are under way for the repatriation of many of those who fled from Belgium on the approach of the Germans. A committee representing the refugees has gone to Antwerp to make arrangements representing the German authorities for their return. The Germans, however, are unable to guarantee the safety of the innocent.

(Continued on Page Four.)

PASSED BILL TO THIRD READING

NOT MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF LAND CULTIVATED SHALL BE IN COTTON

VOTE 79 TO 19

Proposal to Issue Bonds to Buy Cotton Has Eclipsed All Other Measures.

(Special to The Intelligencer.)

COLUMBIA, Oct. 15.—By a vote of 79 to 19 the House passed to third reading at its morning session the cotton acreage reduction bill introduced by the select committee. The bill provides that it shall be unlawful for any person to plant or cultivate in this State in any year a greater number of acres of land in cotton than one-third of the total acreage of land planted and cultivated by such persons in said year; Provided, however, that in no case shall any person plant or cultivate in cotton more than six acres to each regular work animal used in his farming operations in said year. Violators of the provisions of the bill are to forfeit not more than \$100 and not less than \$20 for each acre cultivated in excess of the specified number.

Opposition to the committee bill vanished after a long debate this morning in which the measure was praised for its double check provisions on planting and cultivating cotton contained in the section quoted above. The members of the House were apparently ready to vote on the measure today at 12:30 o'clock, but could not do so under the rule providing that no vote on the bill should be taken before 1 o'clock. Just before this hour an unexpected position developed and speeches were made which delayed the vote on the question of striking out the enactment words until 1:54 o'clock when the House voted five voice overwhelmingly against the motion.

In short order the House killed six amendments offered to the bill. After a roll call on the question of passing the bill to third reading was taken at 2:30 o'clock only 19 members voted against the bill while 79 voted to pass it to third reading unamended.

The proposal to issue bonds with which to buy cotton has eclipsed for the moment other measures advocated in the State Senate for relief of the cotton crisis, in accordance with Senator Alan Johnston's resolution adopted late last night to appoint a special committee of the Senate to frame and bring in a joint resolution for submission to the people of a several million dollar bond issue to buy cotton. Lieutenant Governor Smith this afternoon announced the following as members of the committee.

From the committee on agriculture: Alan Johnston and Lawson; from the committee on finance, Banks and Etuckey; from the committee on Judiciary, Carlisle and Clinton; from the committee on banking and insurance, McCown and Lide. The committee assembled immediately after the adjournment of the Senate this afternoon and got down to work.

The proposition to issue bonds with which the State is to buy the cotton crop originated with Senator Johnston of Newberry, who said it before his colleagues at an executive session held late last night. The newspaper men, of course, excluded from the executive session, but the proposition seems to be something like this.

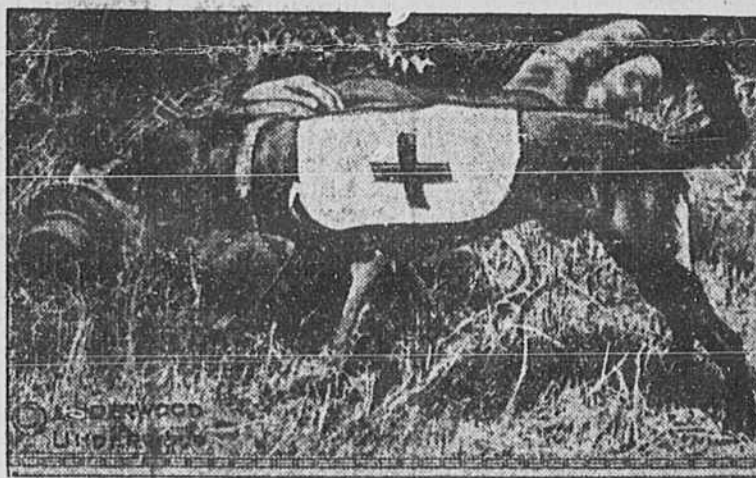
The State to issue \$50,000,000 in bonds for a short term of years, say three or six, in denominations of \$10 an up. The State to buy cotton on a basis of ten cents a pound and give the cotton growers in payment these bonds. The State to warehouse this cotton, properly insured, and with all the safeguards possible and to hold the cotton until the end of the European war.

Complaint Dismissed.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—A complaint by forty flour millers concerning in the valley of Virginia attacking freight rates on flour and other grain products from Virginia to Carolina territory, was dismissed today by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The mills asked removal or reduction of the difference between wheat and flour rates, and prescription of definite car-load and less than car-load rates in lieu of the present quantity rates.

FRENCH RED CROSS DOG IN ACTION



The French Red Cross is accompanied on the field of battle by well-trained dogs, one of which is here seen bringing succor to a wounded soldier who might otherwise be left to die unattended.

Terrific Cyclone Crashes Through Concord, N. C.

(By Associated Press.)

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Oct. 15.—Crashing through the heart of Concord, N. C., a cyclone this afternoon at 3 o'clock left a path a mile long and a hundred and fifty feet wide that looked like the mark of an accurate sledge gun. Over a hundred houses were unroofed and otherwise damaged. 15 of them being total wrecks. Many people were blown down on the streets or struck by flying splinters in their homes, but none were seriously hurt. A mother and her three-day-old infant were blown out on the street from their home, which an instant later collapsed. Rescuers by neighbors from the debris, neither seemed the worse for the mishap. The damage will reach several thousand dollars.

Fifteen Troops Killed In Battle on Mexican Border

(By Associated Press.)

Naco, Ariz., Oct. 15.—Fifteen General Hill's troops defending Naco, Sonora, were killed today by Governor Maytorena's attacking Yqui Indians. Hill also lost a machine gun. Maytorena is reported to have received reinforcements and his adherents said he might make another assault before daybreak tomorrow. The Southern Pacific depot on the Mexican side and a string of freight cars burned today, the result of a well aimed shell from the Maytorena artillerymen.

General Charles W. Harris, adjutant general of the Arizona National Guard, with Captain M. G. Seelye, are here as representatives of Governor Hunt.

General Harris and Captain Seelye came to investigate the feasibility of establishing a neutral zone on the Mexican side of the border. This would prevent the discharge of Mexican bullets into American Naco. United States army officers already have suggested the idea to the war department.

The Arizona state government intends to bring all possible pressure to bear on the Washington government to prevent further fighting which would endanger residents of the American side.

Maytorena's most effective cannon is handled by a German gunner who in the absence of sights from the piece aims through the bore. General Hill's machine guns are operated by American negroes who are said to have deserted from the Ninth and Tenth cavalry on border duty here.

The German gunner for want of shrapnel is using a type of "home-made" contact bombs of an unusually effective sort. One of them today broke in Hill's entrenchments, decapitating a machine gun operator, demolishing his gun and killing two men.

During the fighting the American women here are housed in the village church. Their husbands huddle around a campfire, afraid to stay in their homes in the southern extremity of the town.

Federal Reserve Board Will Supervise the Fund

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—While final decision was not reached by the Federal Reserve Board today on the proposal for a \$150,000,000 loan by bankers to aid cotton producers, enough was accomplished to make it certain the board would assume general supervision of the fund if the plan should be carried out. The matter was discussed by the board today and although it already has

the approval of the board in principle, difficulties as to details of administration of the fund were encountered which delayed final action.

President Wilson and Secretary McAdoo are known to be greatly interested in the success of the plan and it was predicted tonight the board would work out a system of administration for the fund satisfactory to do the government and the participating bankers.

Senate Made Progress On War Revenue Bill

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—Despite efforts of Southern Senators to divert discussion to cotton relief legislation, the Senate made material progress today on the war revenue bill. Many important sections were agreed to after the proposed amendment authorizing a \$250,000,000 bond issue to aid cotton producers had been debated and a vote deferred.

The cotton controversy occupied most of the day. Senators Smith, of Georgia, and Sheppard, of Texas, advocating the proposal. Amendments emphasizing similar relief measures for the copper industry and the cereal farmers of the country were presented by Senators Smoot and McCumber. Senators made every effort to hasten consideration of the bill but plans for an adjournment of Congress by Saturday practically were abandoned.

The House, at the instance of Majority Leader Underwood, agreed that members of that body who could return next week might go home, as the consideration of the war tax bill upon its return from the Senate was the only work unfinished. Mr. Underwood declared this could not be expected before the middle of next week. If the Senate should tack the cotton amendment to the war revenue bill Mr. Underwood will ask the House to

THE GERMANS ARE RAPIDLY BRINGING FORCES TO COAST

ALLIES HAVE THROWN STRONG LINE TO THE SOUTH WITH OBJECT OF SHUTTING OF CALAIS AND OTHER FRENCH PORTS ON ENGLISH CHANNEL

Reinforcements Have Reached Both Germans and Allies and Need Only to Be Placed in Proper Positions for Blow to Be Struck Which May Prove Decisive For One Side or the Other.

(By Associated Press.)

In the northwest of Belgium the Germans rapidly are bringing their forces to the coast. They have occupied Bruges, about fourteen miles east of Ostend and have appeared at Blankenberge, on the North Sea, some twelve miles northeast of Ostend.

In the meantime, however, the allies have thrown a strong line out to the south with the object of shutting off Calais and other French ports on the English Channel. The allies occupy Ypres and their line is believed to extend almost directly northward to Nieuwpoort. This territory within the next few days doubtless will be the scene of heavy fighting if the reported plans of the Germans are carried out.

The latest French official statement announces gains on many points on the front, including the taking of Estaires, an advance of about two kilometers in the center to the north and east of Rheims and a further advance on the heights of the Meuse to the south of St. Mihiel.

Reinforcements have reached both the Germans and the allies on their right and left wings respectively, and these need only be placed in their proper positions on the front for the blow to be struck which may prove to be a decisive stroke for one side or the other.

That Emperor William of Germany is following with sharpest interest the fortunes of his soldiers is indicated by the fact that his headquarters have been moved further into France. The imperial German chancellor, Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, and his suite, have arrived at Brussels.

The Belgian government, before moving to Havre, ordered all males between the ages of 18 and 45 to enter the army within two days on pain of being considered traitors. King Albert remains at the head of his army, a part of which has formed a junction with the allies.

The Canadian troops, who arrived at Plymouth have been ordered landed and already are on their way to Salisbury Plains, where camps have been prepared for them. The first of the Canadians to be brought ashore was a contingent of the famous Strathcona Horse, very similar to the American Fourth Riders.

Petrograd reports no change on the eastern Prussian and central Vistula fronts, but claims a victory for a Russian column over the Austrians south of Przemysl.

Vienna reports that according to an official German communication the Austro-German armies have relieved the fortress of Premysl.

The bombardment of Rheims continues and the Rheims cathedral has been subject to another shelling.

Already the revolting forces in South Africa under Colonel Maritz have been engaged by a column of the Union of South Africa troops, and eighty of the rebels captured. Commandants, burghers and field cornets are flocking to the standard of General Louis Botha, in answer to his appeal for assistance in putting down the rebellion under Maritz.

Princess Mary, daughter of King George and Queen Mary, has started a movement for the soldiers and sailors fighting for this country. She visits each of them to get a Christmas present.

FOREIGN TRADE IS IMPROVING

President Wilson Says Demand For American Goods Abroad Show Increase.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 15.—The foreign trade of United States shows slow but steady improvement, in the opinion of President Wilson, who told callers today he had learned through letters and personal talks that the demand for American goods abroad has shown a marked increase recently. The call for American made cotton fabrics is particularly noticeable in Spain, the Scandinavian countries and in South America, he said. Buying of raw cotton has not been resumed on a large scale, he added, largely because of the difficulty in getting quotations.

The President indicated his belief that the cotton situation soon would be improved.

Landslides Delay Traffic.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Oct. 15.—Following three days and nights of steady rains, a landslide at Ridge Crest, on the Salisbury-Ashville division of the Southern Railway, held up all trains between the points named this afternoon. It is expected that the track will be cleared by noon tomorrow.

SOUTH MUST LOOK TO OWN GOVERNMENTS FOR FINANCIAL AID

Says W. P. G. Harding, Prominent Banker and Member of Reserve Board, in Statement Addressed to People of Alabama.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—The South must look to the resources of its state governments rather than to federal aid for any real relief from the financial stringency that threatens to follow demoralization of the cotton market, in the opinion of W. P. G. Harding, a prominent Alabama banker and member of the Federal Reserve Board. In a statement issued here tonight Mr. Harding urged that immediate relief measures be taken by the several states to tide over a situation he said was now "becoming acute." He made it clear that his suggestions were not in the nature of an official expression, but merely his personal conclusions.

Mr. Harding's statement was addressed particularly to the people of Alabama, in support of the plan recently suggested by Senator Bank-

head for extensive purchase of cotton by the state government, to be paid for by an issue of state bonds. "What is really needed is a market," said Mr. Harding, and as there is no adequate natural market for the time being, the question reverts as to whether an artificial market can be created. Attempts have been made to create such a market through the national government, but it is clearly impossible, both from a legal standpoint and for practical reasons for the government of the United States to aid either as a purchaser of cotton or as a lender upon it as security. Much valuable time has been lost in pursuing this phantom hope and the sooner our people abandon the chase the better. If anything is to be done towards creating an artificial market, such action must be taken by the Southern States for themselves.