

RUSSIAN SOLDIERS ASSUME OFFENSIVE

TROOPS OF NEW RUSSIA LAUNCH ATTACK ON EXTENSIVE SCALE.

STORM GERMAN POSITIONS

Berlin Admits That Attacks Were Powerful Along Whole Eighteen-Mile Front.—British Arc Meeting With Successes in West.

The soldiers of new Russia have assumed the aggressive. For the first time since the revolution last March Russian troops have begun an attack on an extensive scale.

Along a region of eighteen and one-half miles in the region of Brzezany, Galicia, Russian troops have stormed the German positions. Berlin says the Russians suffered heavy losses and were compelled to retire before the German fire. The attack was made between the upper Stripa and the Narayuvka river, a tributary of the Gnila Lipa, in the section southeast of Lemberg, the Gallician capital, where the artillery firing has been heavy recently.

The Russians also made night attacks on both sides of Brzezany and near Zwyzyn, and Berlin reports that assaults between the Zlota Lipa and the Narayuvka have brought on new battles between the opposing forces. The artillery arm of the Russian forces has again been active, and from the Berlin report it is learned that an intensive duel has been in progress in the region of Brzezany to as far northward as the Middle Stokhod in Volhynia, distance of about 175 miles. Berlin declares that the Russian attacks, which it says were powerful, were brought about through the pressure of the leading entente powers, the text of the official statement saying:

"The Russian government having been constrained to yield to the pressure of the leading entente powers, part of the army has been introduced to attack."

The region of the Narayuvka and Upper Stripa rivers has been the scene of much bitter fighting since General Brusiloff ended his victorious campaign last year, and Brzezany is one of the keys of Lemberg.

Field Marshal Haig continues to tighten his grip on Lens. On the north bank of the River Souchez, British troops have captured German positions on a front of about half a mile southwest and west of Lens. The British army during June captured 8,886 German prisoners, including 175 officers and sixty-seven men, including two heavy guns, as well as much other war material.

FOOD NEUTRALS MAY BE SUPPLY GERMANY FOOD.

Which is Replaced With Imports Brought From America.

Washington.—Evidence that Germany is obtaining vast quantities of food from the European neutral countries has been presented to the United States by Great Britain for the American government's guidance in determining an export policy. Much of this, the British statistics purport to show, is replaced by the neutrals with imports from America.

From Scandinavia and Holland, the information sets forth, enough fat is going into Germany to supply 7,700,000 soldiers, virtually the entire army of effectives in the empire. German imports from these countries, it is declared, "reduced to calories will equal the total ration of 2,500,000 troops, the size of the German army in the west."

German purchases of foodstuffs abroad are made through the government department of the interior, which has organized a special division to buy from the neutrals. In the early days of the war, the German government stimulated importation of food by excluding imports from operation of maximum price laws, but this drew such a vigorous protest from German producers the practice was stopped.

AMERICAN HELP IS REALLY VERY GREAT.

Zurich, Switzerland.—Referring to the arrival of American troops on French soil, the military critic of the Frankfurter Zeitung says Germany must not overlook the fact that American help is really very great, though it will come only by degrees. Under these conditions, he says, if France is obliged to restrict her military activities, it will signify no strengthening of the German situation.

MANY ARE KILLED WHEN CAR PLUNGES INTO RIVER.

Niagara Falls, N. Y.—A belt line car on the great Gorge route left the rails, plunged down a twenty-foot embankment and turned over in ton feet of water on the edge of the Whirlpool rapids. Nine persons are known to be dead, two persons known to have been on the car have not been seen since the accident and probably are dead, an indefinite number, estimated at from two to ten, are reported missing.

FRANCIS S. PEABODY



Francis S. Peabody of Chicago, one of the country's leading coal operators, received what he termed a command from Secretary Franklin K. Lane to take charge of the coal situation in America. Consequently Mr. Peabody has moved his family to Washington and turned over his business affairs to others in order to act as chairman of the committee on coal production of the council of national defense.

AMERICAN TROOPS IN FRANCE

ADVANCE GUARDS READY TO TAKE STAND ALONGSIDE ARMIES OF ALLIES.

Thousands of Regulars and Marines Have Crossed the Atlantic and Take Places in Trenches After Short Period of Training.

Washington.—The advance guard of the mighty army the United States is preparing to send against Germany is on French soil.

In defiance of the German submarines, thousands of seasoned regulars, thousands of trained fighting men, with the tan of long service on the Mexican border, or Haiti or Santo Domingo still on their faces, have been hastened over seas to fight beside the French, the British, the Belgian, the Russian, the Portuguese and the Italian troops on the western front. News of the safe arrival of the troops sent a new thrill through Washington. No formal announcement came from the war department. None will come, probably, until Major General Pershing's official report has been received. Then there may be a statement as to the numbers and composition of the advance guard.

Press dispatches from France, presumably sent forward with the approval of General Pershing's staff, show that Major General Sibert, one of the new major generals of the army, has been given command of the first force sent abroad, under General Pershing as commander-in-chief of the expedition.

SENATORS WRITE DRASTIC POWERS INTO FOOD BILL

Washington.—Food control legislation assumed new and more drastic form when the Senate agriculture committee virtually re-drafted many of the principal features of the House measure and reported it with material extensions of government power and a new "bone dry" prohibition provision to stop manufacture of intoxicating beverages during the war. The president would be authorized to permit wine making and to commandeer existing distilled spirits.

The amended bill was presented to the Senate by Senator Chamberlain. He moved to have it substituted for the draft the Senate has been debating and proceed with all expedition toward final action.

The new prohibition plan, all leaders admitted, greatly complicates the situation and precludes enactment of the legislation by July 1.

In extending the scope of the legislation, and the President's powers, the committee adopted amendments which would provide for government control, in addition to food, feeds and fuel, of iron, steel, copper, lead and their products, lumber and timber, petroleum and its products, farm implements and machinery, fertilizers and binding twine materials.

Other important amendments approved would authorize the government to take over and operate factories, packing houses, oil wells and mines, regulating wages of their employees and to commandeer supplies of any and every kind when needed for the army and navy "or any other public use connected with the national defense." Another would empower government to buy and sell, for general civilian purposes, food, feeds and fuel, with limitations upon the general legislation making it apply to agencies and products only in interstate or foreign commerce.

DENY ANY INCREASE IN FREIGHT RATES

APPLICATION OF RAILROADS FOR FREIGHT RATE INCREASE DENIED.

SUSPENDED UNTIL OCT. 28

Order Says No Conditions of Emergency Exist as to Western and Southern Roads to Justify Upward Revision of Rates.

Washington.—The Interstate Commerce Commission suspended until October 28, 1917, the proposed fifteen per cent increase in freight rates.

The commission, in announcing the decision said:

"We are led to the conclusion that no condition of emergency exists as to the western and southern carriers, which would justify permitting a general increase in their rates to become effective.

"In the eastern districts, increased rates have recently been permitted to become effective, generally on bituminous coal, coke and iron ore. We think that similar increases may be permitted in the southern district on coal, coke and iron ore.

"In the southern district, the proposed increased rates on coal are on the basis of fifteen per cent, with a maximum of fifteen cents a ton. These tariffs we shall permit to become effective.

"In the western district, the increases are based upon fifteen per cent with a minimum of fifteen cents per ton. These tariffs will be suspended, but the western carriers may, if they so elect, file new tariffs carrying increases in rates on coal and coke not exceeding in any case fifteen cents per ton.

"All of the tariffs included in this percentage of the western lines will be suspended. All of the tariffs included in this percentage of the southern carriers will be suspended excepting those applying on coal, coke and iron ore."

The commission, in its decision, declared its willingness to meet any situation which may arise in case the fear of the railroads of heavily decreased incomes are realized.

GREECE BREAKS OFF RELATIONS WITH GERMANY.

State of War is Considered to Exist.

Athens.—The Greek government has broken diplomatic relations with Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey.

Though war has not yet been declared, the Greek government considers that a state of war exists since its advent to power. The recall of the Greek diplomatic representatives accredited to the central powers and their allies is imminent.

Greece's new course with regard to the war began to be shaped on June 12 with the abdication of King Constantine and the accession of Alexander, his second son, as king. The abdication was in effect a dethronement of Constantine, whose pro-German attitude had given the entente endless trouble and threatened not only the success of the Saloniki expedition, but its safety through danger of backfire from a hostile Greek military force.

Eliphertios Venizelos, Greece's leading statesman and fast friend of the entente, soon appeared as the man to take the leadership in guiding Greece to her traditional place by the side of England, France and Serbia, the last her close ally whom she had abandoned under Constantine's coercion in Serbia's hour of greatest need.

Summoned back to the premiership by King Alexander, Venizelos quickly formed a cabinet. The reactionary elements have been ousted or quieted, and the re-establishment of Greek constitutional government, virtually abolished by Constantine, began. That the cabinet of May, 1915, which had been dissolved by Constantine, would again be summoned to meet was later indicated, giving a legislative backing to the new executive power.

FOUR BRITISH VESSELS SUNK BY SUBMARINES

Boston.—The torpedoing and sinking of four large British cargo-carrying steamers was announced in advices to insurance offices. The steamers were the Ulfonia, of the Cunard line, 6,593 tons; Haverford, of the American line, 7,493 tons; Buffalo, Wilson liner, 2,583 tons, and the Manistee, another Cunard vessel. No details of the losses were given and no mention was made of the fate of the crews.

MONEY NEEDED FOR EMERGENCY HOSPITALS

Washington.—President Wilson has sent to Congress a recommendation by Secretary Daniels for appropriation of \$2,200,000 for additional emergency hospitals. Temporary hospitals are nearing completion at Portsmouth, N. H.; Philadelphia, Newport, Norfolk, Charleston, S. C., Pensacola and New Orleans, and plans are nearly ready for similar establishments at New York, Annapolis, Jamestown, Quantico, Va., Key West and Great Lakes.

LORD NORTHCLIFFE



Lord Northcliffe, owner of the London Times and Daily Mail and many other publications, is now head of the British war commission in the United States.

RUSSIA WILL STICK TO END

M. BAKHMETIEFF SPECIAL ENVOY GIVES THIS SOLEMN PLEDGE.

Enthusiastic Reception is Given New Democracy's Representative When He Makes His Appearance in Senate Hall.

Washington.—In another stirring address at the capitol, Boris A. Bakmetieff, head of Russia's diplomatic mission, gave a solemn pledge that the Russian people and army, convinced that a separate peace would mean the triumph of German autocracy, are prepared to fight on beside America until the world has been made safe for democracy.

The ambassador spoke before the Senate and was given a reception almost as enthusiastic as that accorded him Saturday in the House. On no previous occasion since the war began has senatorial reserve been cast so completely aside. At the conclusion of the address, a resolution was adopted by unanimous consent expressing the Senate's gratification over the stand of the newest democracy.

"Russia rejects with indignation any idea of a separate peace," said the envoy. "Striving for a lasting peace, based on democratic principles, established by democratic will, the Russian people and army are rallying their forces around the banners of freedom. Russia wants the world to be safe for democracy. To make it safe means to have democracy rule the world."

Many of the rumors of internal dissension in Russia, M. Bakmetieff said, grew out of misunderstanding of the great changes taking place in the whole fabric of the government to transform it to democratic standards. He pleaded for patience and confidence that these changes, although they might take time, would be worked out successfully in the end.

The ambassador and other members of the Russian mission were given a reception by Secretary Lansing, with President Wilson among the guests.

BRITISH TROOPS SLOWLY ENCIRCLING LENS.

Germans Realize Their Tenure is Short Lived.

The slow but sure encirclement of Lens, the important coal center held by the Germans in the department of Pas de Calais, is in process of consummation by the Canadians. Having already during the present week captured important vantage points west and southwest of the town, a fresh smash at the German lines has been rewarded by the occupation of the village of La Coulotte, situated a mile to the south.

Although the British war office, aside from the operations around Lens, reports no activity by Field Marshal Haig's men rising in importance above minor patrol sorties, the Berlin war office asserts that heavy artillery duels are in progress at various points, in which enormous quantities of ammunition are being used. Reading between the lines of the German report, it is apparent that the British are the aggressors and it is possible that General Haig is paving the way for a series of new thrusts against the German lines.

The infantry activity in the region between Soissons and Rheims has given way entirely to artillery duels

CONTRACT AWARDED FOR JAMESTOWN CANTONMENT

Richmond, Va.—John T. Wilson & Co., of this city, were notified by Admiral Harrington, of the navy department, that they had been awarded the contract for the construction of the cantonment on the old Jamestown exposition site. The contract, on a cost plus ten per cent basis, includes the building of bulkheads, wharves and permanent frame barracks, and will, it is estimated, amount to about \$2,000,000.

BIG REDUCTIONS IN COAL PRICES

BITUMINOUS PRODUCT MINED EAST OF MISSISSIPPI EFFECTED BY AGREEMENT.

GOES INTO EFFECT AT ONCE

Decreases Ranging From One to Five Dollars Per Ton to the Public.—Question of Prices on Anthracite Comes Up Later.

Washington.—Sweeping reductions in the price of bituminous coal at all mines east of Mississippi river, ranging from one to five dollars a ton to the public, with an additional cut of fifty cents for the government, were agreed upon at conferences between the operators and government officials. The new prices become effective July 1.

Four hundred operators who gathered here at a call from Secretary Lane, pledged themselves to furnish their product by committees from each field. Earlier in the day, they had agreed to place the price-fixing in the hands of the government, through the defense council's coal production committee, Secretary Lane and Commissioner Fort, of the federal trade commission, thus avoiding the possibility of violating the anti-trust laws.

Director Smith of the geological survey, estimated that the reduced prices would mean that the operators would get \$180,000,000 less annually for their output.

In addition to placing prices upon coal at the mines it was announced that jobbers, brokers, retailers and commission men would be permitted to charge commissions of not more than twenty-five cents a ton and that no more than one commission should be charged. In other words, the consumer will get his coal at the mine plus transportation charges and twenty-five cents per ton.

The agreement does not affect anthracite, and the coal production committee announced that action on that problem had been postponed until after July 1 by agreement with the operators. The anthracite producers have indicated willingness to meet the government in the same spirit manifested by the bituminous men.

CANADIANS CONTINUE DRIVE AGAINST LENS

Brazil is no longer a neutral in the world-war and the German empire has another enemy arrayed against it.

Having previously revoked its policy of aloofness so far as it affected the hostilities between the United States and Germany, Brazil now has come definitely into the open and announced that it can no longer be considered neutral in the war between the entente and Germany.

Although no announcement has been made as to whether the South American republic will actually enter into hostilities by its revocation of neutrality, it definitely aligns itself morally on the side of the United States and the entente.

The Canadians, men from all parts of the dominion, have taken another hack at the German lines protecting Lens, the coal center in the Department of Pas de Calais and have been rewarded with another encroachment upon their objective.

Striking on a two-mile front south of Lens, the Canadians, protected by effective curtain fires, stormed and captured German first line positions beyond Avion and also the village of Leauvette. They defeated in their onslaughts men of the crack Prussian guard and the fifth grenadier guards, whose machine gun and rifle fire and the fact that the attacking force had to cut through wire entanglements could not stay them.

When the battle ended and the Canadians began their work of consolidating newly-won positions their line had been extended to within one mile of the center of Lens, the fall of which under such tenacious assaults as have been made recently seemingly cannot be long delayed.

REGIMENTS WILL BE GIVEN NUMBERS, ONLY.

Washington.—Designation of all army regiments hereafter by number and service branch only, without distinction between units of the regulars, national guard and national army, has been decided on by the war department to simplify official records of the great war forces now being developed. Under the system, the regular regiments will retain their present names from the "first infantry," "first cavalry," etc., upward.

AUTHORIZATION OF MORE BONDS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

Washington.—With revision of the war tax virtually completed and now totalling \$1,449,000,000, against the \$1,800,000,000 levy of increased taxes adopted by the House, the Senate finance committee considered authorization of additional bonds. Senator Stone formally proposed a bond issue of 500,000,000. The committee plans to reach a decision soon, and to fix the rate to be imposed on war excess profits, probably sixteen per cent.

BEAUFORT MEETING DELIGHTS EDITORS

SOUTH CAROLINA PRESS ASSOCIATION HOLDS ANNUAL CONVENTION.

CONSIDER IMPORTANT WORK

Speakers Touch Upon Important Work Facing Newspapers.—Large Attendance.

Beaufort.—Quaint and hospitable Beaufort, the metropolis of the new trucking section unfolded its arms and received wholeheartedly more than 100 members of the South Carolina Press Association. The hospitality began when a committee from the city met the editors at Allendale and provided an excellent and delightful luncheon on the special train. The day for the editors' convention was begun with a business session when many matters were discussed. A patriotic note run through all of the discussions and practically all of the speakers touched on the important work that lies before the editors in connection with the war plans of the nation.

Gov. Manning could not be present but sent an encouraging message in which he thanked the editors for their magnificent support of the civic preparedness campaign, the Liberty bonds sale, the recruiting campaign, and the other efforts of the governor. David R. Coker, chairman of the state defense council, was prevented from attending and set a message in which he heartily thanked the newspapers for their support of the food campaign recently conducted in the state. He pointed out that the real work lies ahead and that the success of many movements will depend on the co-operation of the newspapers of the state.

The association heard an interesting and instructive address on the conservation of man power by Mrs. Annie I. Rembert, field agent for the state board of health. She stressed the necessity for a campaign of education to prevent tuberculosis and thanked the editors for their assistance in securing the establishment of the state tuberculosis sanitarium. The association passed a resolution unanimously pledging support to the work of Mrs. Rembert.

William Banks, of the Columbia Record, president of the association, read his annual report.

The invocation was offered at the opening of the convention by the Rev. W. P. Jacobs of Clinton, the venerable chaplain of the association. The response was by E. L. Watson of the Greenwood Index. S. H. Rogers of Beaufort gave a talk on the newspaper days of old.

The subjects and purposes of the South Carolina Press Association were presented by W. W. Smoak of Walterboro.

The editors were greatly disappointed because Gen. Leonard Wood was prevented from attending the convention. Major C. E. Kilbourne, General Wood's chief of staff, was present and delivered an address. The editors were carried for a long automobile ride through Beaufort's rich trucking district and heard from the truckers the story of great wealth in one year.

The editors visited the naval training station at Port Royal, where 10,000 men are in training for the fighting line of the navy.

Mrs. Walter E. Duncan of Aiken spoke on the illiteracy problem in the state. The editors were entertained in the homes of the Beaufort people and all declare the convention to be one of the most successful ever held.

Chester Gets New Station.

Chester.—The fight made by the Chester Chamber of Commerce for the erection of a modern Seaboard passenger station here was won when the railroad commission decided that an adequate station must be constructed at an early date. It is thought the station will cost approximately \$20,000.

Insurance for Employees.

Fort Mill.—Col. Leroy Springs has insured the lives of all the employees in his two cotton mills here under the group plan offered by some of the great life insurance companies. About four hundred people here are benefited under this provision to the extent of \$200 each, the premiums being paid by the employer. The certificates contain a handsome photograph of Col. Springs and provide for increased benefits from year to year of continuous service until the amount reaches \$500 after six years.

Troops Encamp at Greenville.

Columbia.—The two infantry regiments of the South Carolina national guard will be stationed at the proposed divisional camp at Greenville, S. C., it was announced by Maj. C. E. Kilbourne, chief of staff to Maj. Gen. Wood, commander of the southeastern department of the army. The First regiment now stationed at Columbia will proceed to Greenville as soon as the camp site there is ready, and the Second regiment when it is called into service next month.