

**VICTORY IN BELGIUM.**

**BIG WEDGE THREATENS POSITIONS OF HUNS.**

Submarine Bases in Jeopardy With Ostend Outflanked by Capture of Thourout and Moves Already Reported to Leave Zeebrugge—Success of Italians in Albania.

The entente forces in Belgium and France continue successfully to drive the enemy before them. In Belgian Flanders the advance is somewhat rapid but on all the sectors in France the Germans are fighting with desperation to hold back the foe.

The great wedge that is being driven by the Belgian, British and French troops in Flanders now threatens seriously the tenure by the enemy of many positions in north Belgium from the Lys river to the sea, including his submarine and other bases along the coast, while to the south the Lille salient gradually is being enmeshed and doubtless soon will receive attention from the pincers, which are being oiled for the task of reclaiming this important tract of territory as far as Valenciennes for France.

Meanwhile the French and American forces are struggling valiantly forward in their drive northward from the Champagne region into the country over which the Germans must effect a retirement to their border in event of a final debacle.

As has been the case always since the offensive began, the Germans are vigorously defending their positions, using innumerable machine gun detachments in endeavors to hold their ground. Particularly vicious are the counter thrusts that the Americans are being compelled to sustain east and west of the Meuse, where the entire enemy front is threatened with immediately collapse should General Liggett's men crash through the line for material gains.

Nevertheless both the Americans and the French are demanding that their arms be served, and on various sectors they are meeting with success. In the Romagne sector further gains have been made by the Americans in the face of terrific artillery and machine gun fire and the natural defense and great systems of wire entanglements which had to be negotiated. Bad weather has fallen over the sector and the airmen have been unable to give their usual brilliant assistance to the maneuvers.

To the west the French are slowly closing in upon Rethel on their way to Mezieres, being only two miles distant from the town. West of Grand-Pre they have effected further crossings of the Aisne. About 800 Germans were made prisoners in this fighting.

In Flanders the British have taken the important railway center of Menin. Thourout has fallen and the Thourout-Coutrai Railroad has almost been won. Numerous towns have been recaptured by the allied forces and large numbers of prisoners have been taken. Many guns also have fallen into the hands of the allies. The capture of Thourout completely outflanks the German submarine base at Ostend and brings the allied troops within ten miles of Bruges, whence the railroad line runs northward to Zeebrugge. Germany's other u-boat base on the North Sea.

Reports are to the effect that the Germans are withdrawing what is left of their forces in the north, both naval and military.

In Albania the Italians have occupied the Austrian naval base of Durazzo on the Adriatic, while in Serbia the allied forces are continuing to press the enemy troops north of Nish.

**GURKHAS AND SIKHS.**

**England's Indian Troops.**

With the British Forces in Palestine, Sept. 25 (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—Silent death in the blackness of night, the fate of unnumbered Turkish sentries surprised at their posts by patrols of Indian troops with the British army, has imposed upon the Ottoman soldiers a wholesome respect for these dark-skinned fighters who have replaced many white contingents sent to other fronts.

The cleverness of the Gurkhas at stalking has had a terrifying effect upon the minds of the Turks, who are constantly finding their men dead at advanced stations, with nothing to betray the coming and going of the foe. The result has been a case of "nerves" among the enemy, prompting constant alarm.

Gurkhas and Sikhs, eager for active fighting, are continually suggesting raids and sectional attacks, unconsciously answering the exultant predictions of enemy publicity organs that their substitution for whites would open the way for an early Turkish offensive which would sweep the British forces from the country.

In action the Indian troops are as keen as in anticipation of it. Their approach, even after the warning of a barrage, inevitably is so swift as to take the Turks completely off their guard. Recently in broad daylight Gurkhas reached unobserved a point within close range of the enemy trench. They rushed it and without firing a shot, killed fifteen Turks and brought back as many prisoners. Only one of the attackers was wounded.

A subaltern in charge of a party of the Indians had an extraordinary experience in this raid. He had stuck his bayonet into a Turk, but was unable to disengage it, owing to the narrowness of the trench. Another Turk nearby began jabbing the butt end of a rifle into the officer's ribs. Suddenly the Englishman saw his assailant's head leap from his shoulder a Gurkha having dexterously decapitated him with his kukri, an invaluable weapon in close quarters.

**MONEY MUST COME THIS WEEK**

Liberty Loan Subscriptions to Close on Saturday Night.

Washington, Oct. 17.—There will be no extension of the Liberty Loan subscription period past Saturday night, Secretary McAdoo stated emphatically today.

**FLUE EPIDEMIC SPREADS.**

**DISEASE INCREASING IN VIRULENCE IN SOME SECTIONS.**

Health Officer Urges People Working in Groups to Use Gauze Masks.

Columbia, Oct. 17.—A steadily widening range in rural communities, a marked increase in virulence and a measure of control in cities were the outstanding features of the reports on the influenza situation over the State received yesterday at the office of Dr. J. A. Hayne, secretary of the State board of health.

The disease is spreading without abatement in rural communities and it is estimated that there are about 50,000 cases of influenza in the State. Sixteen physicians are now working as acting assistant surgeons of the United States public health service under the joint direction of the State board of health and the United States public health service. The services being rendered by these physicians are of great value, and they, in common with other physicians, are not sparing themselves in their efforts to check the disease.

Cities are showing themselves able to handle the disease, but the rural communities are suffering severely. The visiting habits of the negro are well known and have served to distribute the disease widely through many sections. White farmers when they hear their neighbors are ill are eager to render assistance and as few precautions are taken as a rule to prevent infection, the germs are distributed and new cases are reported to the health office.

Dr. Hayne said yesterday that he hoped the negro chapters of the Red Cross would organize relief committees for the rural districts. He said it was hoped that some plan would be devised by which bedding, medicines and food could be furnished to families in distress. The need of nurses, not necessarily trained, is being felt in many sections, and a committee of volunteer nurses to take care of the physical needs of those suffering from the disease now has the opportunity to render good service.

Conditions in the rural sections of Richland County are bad according to the State health officer.

Dr. Hayne urges that people working in groups protect themselves from infection as much as possible by wearing gauze masks. The masks are quickly and cheaply made and are effective. A strip of gauze about six inches wide and some ten or twelve inches long can be fastened over the nose and mouth by a string or rubber band around the head, and a person is thus rendered practically safe from the germ. Clerks in stores where customers in all stages of health are constantly coming and going, and employees in public offices can easily take this step to protect themselves.

Blackville yesterday reported a total of 600 cases.

Ellenton reported 73 cases.

Beaufort reported 25 new cases. There are four cases at the industrial school.

Varnville reported 19 new cases. Olar reported seven new cases.

Conway reported 20 new cases. Aiken reported a total of 41 cases.

Cross Hill reported a total of 10 cases. Springfield reported three new cases. Jonesville reported a total of eight cases. Walhalla reported a total of 72 cases.

Enoree reported 118 cases, six cases of pneumonia and three deaths. Hodges has many cases.

Fort Mill reported 500 cases. Hemmingway reported a total of 800 cases. Ninety-Six reported 600 cases in the town and community.

Iva reported 94 cases for Monday and 25 new cases for Tuesday.

Hartsville reported 24 new cases with a total of 125.

Blackville, a new focus of infection reported 600 cases with the disease getting out into the surrounding country.

Greenwood County has about 600 cases.

Winthrop College reported no cases of influenza.

Conditions in Maysville and at Greeleyville are bad.

Dr. Robert J. Speir of Atlanta reported for duty at the State health office yesterday and goes to Lancaster where the epidemic seems about at a standstill. More assistance is needed at Lancaster.

Dr. F. A. Brandt of Missouri has returned from Springfield and reported the disease under control. He goes to Maysville where there are some 800 cases.

Dillon reported that one trained nurse was available for service there and requested that she be allowed to remain.

Conditions in cities over the State show a general improvement with the exception of Charleston. Rural communities are becoming more and more infected and the virulence of the disease is on the increase.

**Hagood News and Views.**

A good resolution just now among the German people could easily become a big revolution.

If this war does not bring us nearer to God it will be a calamity in deed.

The sad news comes to us of the death of Osborn Sanders, mention of whom was made the other day in our columns.

With the announcement of the death of Arthur Thompson of your city comes the news of the serious illness of his father, W. S. Thompson.

Mrs. T. R. Moody is some better.

S. W. Allen is able to be out again. His sister, Miss Emma Allen, living in Columbia, was prostrated by the flu, but last reports were that she is recovering.

Quite a lot of sickness is reported among the colored people.

Mr. W. H. Freeman is up again.

The immense cotton crop is being slowly gathered.

No small grain is planted, nor can be till it rains.

All the gineries are still overcrowded.

"Hagood."

Rembert, Oct. 16.

**BUILDING SHIPS.**

**What is Being Done in Some of the American Ship Yards.**

Orange, Texas, Oct. 16.—Sixteen vessels already have been sent down the ways at Orange, twenty-four others will be ready for launching before Christmas, and contracts have been placed for construction of sixty-one more at the earliest possible date. The tonnage of vessels launched, building and contracted for here totals 317,300.

Before the program is completed here more than half a million acres of yellow pine forest will have been laid bare.

The shipbuilding program brought prosperity to this little town, whose population has nearly doubled since America entered the war. Fifteen months ago the industry was little known or understood here. One or two small yards, located along the banks of the sluggish Sabine River, were devoted to repair work on tugs and small launches.

Then came the call for a "bridge for the Atlantic." Almost over night the river banks sprang into life. The ring of axes reverberated through the forests nearby. The hum of industry banished the festive alligator from his old haunts and the steel-ribbed skeletons of ships began rising almost in the midst of a wilderness.

The shipyards now employ approximately 7,000 men who draw wages totalling \$225,000 weekly. Notwithstanding more than a thousand homes have been built in eleven months, workmen still are forced to live in improvised shanties and tents while housing facilities are being increased with all possible speed.

The National Shipbuilding Company of Texas has launched six ships, has eight on the ways and contracts for eighteen more, all for government use except two of those already launched which went to the British Cunard line. The Southern Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Company has launched one ship, has five on the ways and contracts for five more, all for government account; the International Shipbuilding Company has launched eight, has ten on the ways and contracts for thirty-eight more, all for the Italian government; and Ed. Weaver & Sons has built one and has on the ways.

The National yard is building the new type of vessel of 4,940 tons each. The first two of these ships, which are classed by authorities as among the innovations of the war, are now on their maiden voyages. Approximately 1,500 dead weight tons larger than a Ferris type vessel, the new ship requires nearly 500,000 fewer feet of timber to build and fewer steel bolts. It was designed by A. A. Daugharty, an engineer who at the outbreak of the war was building an oil refinery here. His employers were in need of tankers to transport crude oil from Mexico, and Daugharty designed a tanker 315 feet long, with 48-foot beam and 25 feet depth of hold. His design was radically different from the common type having the boilers and engines in the stern and his propeller drive shaft was only 19 feet, as against a drive shaft of 119 feet in the Ferris-type vessel. A fore peak tank balances the weight. The emergency fleet corporation officials were impressed with the Daugharty idea and awarded the company a contract for twenty-six of the vessels.

Workmen at the National yards claim a world's record of setting up the seventy-nine frames for Daugharty ship No. 242 in thirty hours and thirty-five minutes and have challenged other yards to equal the record. A Pacific coast company held the previous record of forty-four hours for framing a ship.

One of the greatest problems confronting directors of the shipyards here has been protection against German agents. On Independence Day the torch was put to the shipyard of the Orange Maritime Corporation by an enemy agent, resulting in the yard and three large vessels being destroyed. Now armed soldiers patrol every foot of every yard, while agents of the department of justice round up all suspicious characters.

**PRICE OF COTTON SEED.**

**Food Administration Lowers Price One Dollar Ton.**

Columbia, Oct. 17.—In an announcement given out yesterday by the food administration for South Carolina, it was stated that the stabilized price for cotton seed in South Carolina had been reduced \$1 per ton the new price to become effective October 17.

The announcement made by the federal food administration for South Carolina was as follows:

"Effective October 17, the stabilized price for cotton seed in South Carolina has been reduced \$1 per ton by the food administration. The new stabilized price for cotton seed in South Carolina in car lots is \$71 per ton and in wagon lots \$68 per ton."

(Signed) William Elliott, "Food Administrator for South Carolina."

**Soldiers Cleaned House For the French Women.**

Paris, Sept. 28 (Correspondence of the Associated Press)—American soldiers billeted in a French village behind the firing lines recently surprised and won the gratitude of the women of that village by giving it a regular house cleaning last June.

Telling of the incident in a Red Cross hospital, an American soldier said:

"The women and girls were in the fields cultivating. At night they were too tired to do housework, yet the whole village needed it. One day when they were all in the field, our boys turned to and cleaned up the place."

"We washed every window in the place and swept and scrubbed everything that would stand it. When the women came that night they were so pleased they cried. After that they couldn't do enough for us and were proud when we would let them have a shirt to wash."

**LOCAL Y. M. C. A.**

**Letters Relative to the Newly Elected General Secretary.**

The following letters, addressed to Mr. Claude E. Hurst, corresponding secretary of the local Young Men's Christian Association, will be found of general interest in the community:

"Your letter just received, and I am glad to note that you received my telegram. I am looking forward with a great deal of pleasure and interest to my new work here in Sumter. I am sure that I have picked the very best town that could be found, and also the very best people that can be found.

On account of conditions here in camp, due to the spread of this influenza, I am not sure whether I can get there by the 20th or not. I will be there just as soon as possible. It may be the 25th, or in other words, the latter part of the month before I can get there. Kindly hold things together as best you can until I can pull loose from my present place.

With my very best wishes, I remain,

Yours very truly,  
J. Y. Todd.

I have your letter of October 9 and thank you for the same.

I am glad to know that Mr. Todd has accepted your call and believe that you will find him a wide-awake and capable man.

Very sincerely yours,  
H. C. Huntington,  
Inter-State Secretary.

**BEATS FRENCH COOKING.**

**A Man From Georgia is Teaching the French Cooks Some Things.**

With the American Army in France, Sept. 25 (Correspondence of The Associated Press)—French cooks in the employ of the American Red Cross are learning from Thomas Kane, a Georgia culinary artist, how to make American pies, cakes and cookies for the American troops. His skill in the making of pastry has made famous the American cooking wherever he has practiced his art along the network of railways over which the American troops are transported from the seaports to the front. This is a reversal of the idea that the Americans ought to take lessons in cooking from the French.

Pastry of any kind, good or bad, is a luxury in the army; ginger cookies "like mother use to make," apple pies and cakes that "melted in the mouth" are spoken of with reverence among the doughboys. It is Kane's task to teach the French cooks how to supply these luxuries.

To each of the American Red Cross canteens, where the American soldiers resort for food, rest and entertainment, Kane goes for one month to spread gastronomic joy with lavish hand. He does not leave until the French civilian cook employed at the Red Cross has learned the culinary road to the American soldier's heart. Everywhere he goes he leaves a wake of tickled palates.

At one canteen the workers almost wept when his time came to move on to the next. "I don't know what we will do when he leaves," sighed one enthusiastic worker. "He has just spoiled the appetites of our boys and now I am afraid we won't be able to please them with plain ordinary cooking."

Kane was once a chef on a trans-Atlantic steamer. He had settled in Antwerp to live but was driven out by the Germans and came to France and volunteered his services with the Red Cross to "help de wah."

**THE BELGIAN RELIEF.**

**One of the Greatest Needs is Clothing.**

Havre, Oct. 16.—The fifth winter of the war will bring greater demands than ever for civilian relief in Belgium, according to a statement of Lieutenant Colonel Ernest P. Bicknell, American Red Cross Commissioner for Belgium, in which he announced that the commission has supplied more than \$100,000 worth of clothing to Belgian refugees in the last nine months.

"There are more Belgian refugees in France now than at any time during the war," Col. Bicknell said. "Prices are higher, rent is higher, and large numbers of people who, for the first year or two, retained their vigor, are tired, prematurely old, discouraged, sometimes almost helpless."

"There is probably no piece of service that the American Red Cross can render to Belgian people which will help more efficiently than to assist them in properly clothing themselves."

**PERSHING REPORTS GAINS.**

**Hard Fighting on Both Sides of Meuse River.**

Washington, Oct. 16.—Substantial gains on both sides of the Meuse against stubborn resistance by a reinforced enemy is reported today by Gen. Pershing in his communique for Tuesday.

**KAISER ISSUES DECREE.**

**Concerning Administering Martial Law in Germany.**

Amsterdam, Oct. 16.—Emperor William has issued a decree saying that martial law in Germany can only be administered by an agreement between the civil and military authorities, according to reports received here.

**NOTICE!**



Subscriptions to the Red Cross War Fund are now due and payable at the SUMTER TRUST CO. We request all subscribers to make prompt payment. Annual election of officers the Sumter Chapter will be held at the Opera House on the night of Oct. 23.



**PLEASE BE PRESENT**



**Notice, Bond Holders**

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