

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

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

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1866.

Consolidated Aug. 2, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1918.

Vol. XLVII. No. 22.

LOCKED IN BATTLE.

BRITISH AND HUNS ENGAGED IN FIERCEST FIGHTING OF WAR.

Albion Penetrate German Lines in the Valenciennes Region and Press Eastward Slowly But Surely.

With the Allied Armies in France and Belgium, 4:30 A. M., Oct. 25.—Fighting which compares in fierceness to almost any in the war continued throughout the night, north and south of Valenciennes. Belated reports indicate that the British entered German defenses, gaining considerable ground, and are pressing eastward slowly, but surely.

Since Wednesday morning the British Third Army has taken six thousand prisoners, the First and Fourth Armies have each taken twelve hundred, also, more than a hundred guns were captured Wednesday and Thursday.

BRITISH CAPTURE MORE TOWNS.

Successful Operations Reported From Front Below Valenciennes—Counterattack Repulsed.

London, Oct. 25.—The British have captured Maimeg, southwest of Valenciennes valley, it is announced. They also captured Vendegies-Sur-Bellion on the front below Valenciennes. A German counterattack was repulsed early this morning.

SERBIANS WIN VICTORY.

Inflict Staggering Defeat on Enemy, Who Retreat in Disorder.

London, Oct. 25.—The Serbians have defeated the armies of the enemy in the valley of the Great Morava river, the enemy retreating in disorder, says the official Serbian announcement today.

AMERICAN NAVAL GUNNERS HELPING THE FRENCH ON OISE.

Sixteen Inch Naval Guns Used to Destroy German Positions far Back of the Battle Front.

With American Army in France, Thursday, Oct. 24.—American sixteen-inch guns, manned by American Blue Jackets, cooperating with the French began firing on German railroad centers back of the Serre-Oise front Wednesday.

AMERICANS BEATING HUNS.

In Hard and Persistent Fighting Along the Meuse—Pushing Men Have the Better of It.

With American Army, North of Verdun Oct. 25, 1 p. m.—Heavy German counter attacks east of the Meuse were thrown back early today by Americans holding Belle wood and the lines on either side. In the region of Grand Pre west of the Meuse the Americans straightened lines and captured several important ridges. The American lines have extended between Rappes wood and Bantheville Wood.

FIGHTING FOR VICTORY KING ALBERT SAYS.

Loss of Soldiers Can Not, However, Move So Fast as Hearts.

Paris, Wednesday, Oct. 23.—The success achieved by the allies in the recent fighting has been very great and will be pushed home to a complete victory, King Albert of Belgium declared to a correspondent of a Paris newspaper.

"But," he added, "we must not forget that the legs of our soldiers can not move as quickly as our hearts. Certainly never for an hour do I cease to think of the day when I shall be able to enter Brussels and again hold the Belgian flag there. But we are still 40 to 50 miles away from it and there is the Scheldt River to be crossed.

"The victories of our soldiers prove today how right we were not to despair. They are the reward of a faith which never weakened. You have mingled with them and you know they also kept their courage unbroken."

King Albert also spoke of the giant German gun which bombarded Dunkirk from Leugenboom and which was captured intact. The king has in his possession splinters of the last shell fired at Dunkirk.

CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS.

Daylight Saving Law Expires Tonight—Clocks to Be Stopped One Hour at 2 A. M.

Washington, Oct. 26.—At 2 o'clock tomorrow morning the United States will complete its test of "daylight saving." Clocks throughout the country will be stopped one hour. At the same time all trains will stop by order of Director General McAdams and remain motionless for 15 minutes and then proceed on their way.

CONTACT WITH

British in

BIG GENERAL QUILTS.

GERMAN ARMY LOSES AID OF LUDENDORFF.

Resignation of First Quartermaster General Accepted by Emperor—Man Who Originated Hun March Offensive—In Reality Chief of Staff. Often Described as Country's "Military Brain."

Copenhagen, Oct. 27.—General Ludendorff, first quartermaster general of the German army, has resigned, says a telegram from Berlin. In accepting his resignation the emperor has decreed that the lower Rheinish infantry regiment No. 39, of which General Ludendorff long had been commander, shall bear his name.

In the resignation of Gen. Ludendorff, Germany loses what often has been described as her "military brain."

Unknown before the war, Gen. Erich Ludendorff sprang into prominence in the fall of 1914 as chief of staff to Field Marshal von Hindenburg then a general, in the operations against the Russians. When von Hindenburg was given the chief command in August, 1916, Ludendorff was appointed first quartermaster general, but his position in reality has been chief of staff and collaborator with von Hindenburg.

Soon after his appointment as first quartermaster general, Ludendorff began to be looked upon as the real "boss" of Germany and was recognized as the representative of the Pan-Germans at great headquarters. It was Ludendorff who brought about the retirement of Chancellor von Bethmann-Holweg, and he was reputed to have been responsible for the appointment of the chancellorship of Michaelis and Von Hertling, both of whom were described as stop gaps.

General Ludendorff was reported to have been the originator of the plan of the German offensive of 1918. The plan called for offensive operations on the Western front which would split the British and French armies and compel the allies to beg for peace before the strength of the American army could be available to any great extent. It was planned that if the offensive failed, then Germany would resort to a diplomatic campaign in order to obtain peace.

Since the death of the German offensive and the successful offensive of Marshal Foch, reports from Germany have been to the effect that Ludendorff and von Hindenburg were losing their popularity in Germany.

As first quartermaster general, Ludendorff was responsible for the official statements issued from German general headquarters. He is the man who has explained to the German people how the German troops during the last three months have carried out "strategic withdrawals."

TARDIEU RETURNS TO AMERICA.

French High Commissioner Again in Country.

An Atlantic Port, Oct. 27.—Andre Tardieu, French high commissioner to the United States, who was also recently appointed secretary for France and America war affairs by Premier Clemenceau, arrived here on a French line, suffering from a slight attack of influenza. The bureau of French information announced that because of his illness, M. Tardieu would spend a few days here before proceeding to Washington.

M. Tardieu's visit, it was said, officially answered the same purpose as the visit of Col. E. M. House to France, for "just as President Wilson thought necessary under the present circumstances to have Colonel House visit France, so Prime Minister Clemenceau judged that the presence in America of a member of his government could only serve the necessities of the situation."

It was stated that M. Tardieu would remain in the United States only a short time.

Andre Tardieu, French high commissioner to the United States and head of the French department of Franco-American war cooperation, returned to the United States on a French liner today to resume his duties. M. Tardieu has been in France since May last.

Among the arrivals was Henri Rabaud, the French conductor, engaged to replace Dr. Karl Muck, the interned German, as leader of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

PARIS PRESS COMMENTS.

Declares German Army Lacks Means to Continue Fighting.

Paris, Oct. 26.—The fall of Valenciennes is imminent. The news is ready occurred, says the second.

TURKS OFFER SUBMISSION.

PLEA FOR PEACE PRESENTED TO FRENCH AND BRITISH MINISTERS TO SWITZERLAND.

The Peace Terms Asked Virtually Amount to Complete Surrender on The Part of The Turks.

London, Oct. 26.—The Turkish minister to Switzerland has handed to the British and French ministers to that country an offer of peace virtually amounting to surrender, according to a Berne dispatch to The Daily Mail.

TURKS CUT OFF.

GENERAL ALLENBY'S FORCES CAPTURE ALEPPO, IMPORTANT CITY IN SYRIA.

Advance Northward Would Open Road to Send Help to Czechoslovak Forces—Turks in Mesopotamia in Precarious Condition.

London, Oct. 27.—The city of Aleppo was occupied by British cavalry and armored cars Saturday morning, says a British official statement issued today on operations in Syria and Palestine. The statement reads:

"Our advanced cavalry and armored cars occupied Aleppo on the morning of October 26, after overcoming slight opposition."

The fall of Aleppo to the British is the crowning event of the victorious campaign of General Allenby in which he captured Jerusalem and Damascus on his way northward through Palestine and Syria. Aleppo is 185 miles north of Damascus and 70 miles east of the Mediterranean.

At Aleppo the railway line from Constantinople branches, one line going southward to Palestine and the other east and south to Bagdad. With Aleppo in the hands of the British Turkish forces facing the British army in Mesopotamia are in a more or less precarious position. The railroad from Aleppo has been their main source of supply and the cutting of the line at Aleppo renders it useless to the Turks. An advance northward from Aleppo would cut off the Turkish forces in Armenia and northern Mesopotamia and would open a road over which to send help to the Czechoslovak and other anti-Bolshevik forces in Russia.

Aleppo has a population of about 125,000.

VICTORY IN MESOPOTAMIA.

British from Bagdad Driving Forward to Join Forces With Allenby at Aleppo.

London, Oct. 28, 12:15.—The British forces advancing in Mesopotamia have cut the road from Sherghet to Mosul, one of the principal lines of communication of the Turks.

WAITING ALLIES' PLEASURE.

FOREIGN MINISTER, SOLE REP LIES TO WILSON'S LATEST COMMUNICATION.

Answer to President Sets Out Terms Peace Negotiations Are Being Conducted by Constitutional Power Whose Hands Rests Authority Make Deciding Conclusions.

Copenhagen, Oct. 27.—German answer to President Wilson's communication says:

"The German government has taken cognizance of the answer of the president of the United States."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

At the same time the German government has taken cognizance of the answer of the president of the United States."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

IN ABJECT SUBMISSION.

AUSTRIA WILL MAKE PEACE ON WILSON'S TERMS WITHOUT REGARD TO GERMANY.

The Ramshackle Dual Monarchy Which is Falling to Pieces Eager to End War Before There is a Complete Collapse.

Amsterdam, Oct. 28.—Austria in her reply to President Wilson accepts all the views expressed by the president in his note of October 19th. Austria says she is willing and ready, without awaiting the result of other negotiations, to negotiate peace, with an immediate armistice on all Austro-Hungarian fronts.

HARDEST OF FIGHTING.

AMERICANS DRIVING FORWARD AGAINST GERMANS' STRONGEST FORCE.

They Have Concentrated All Their Best Troops in Meuse Region in Effort to Hold Open Lines of Communication With Metz.

With the American Army Northwest of Verdun, Oct. 27 (By the Associated Press).—Natural positions for defense held by the Germans north of the American line are probably as strong as any along the entire battle front from Switzerland to the sea. These positions, which the Americans are now facing, are especially strong owing to the thickly wooded districts and series of hills and ridges. Taking advantage of these natural military positions the Germans have thrown in strong forces of men and brought up immense quantities of artillery of various caliber determined to hold what has been called the eastern pivot of their defense line in France at any cost.

From Grand-Pre pass, where there has been fierce fighting for nearly two weeks the Americans face the Bois de Burgogne and Eoise de Bas, which really are a continuation of the Argonne forest. Back of these great woods is the Forest de Boul, all of which forms a splendid protection for troop concentration and concealing ammunition and heavy artillery. Here the Americans are preparing for the battle of Argonne all over again.

German prisoners report that the Bois de Bourgoigne is literally filled with machine guns, many of them in hills and ridges within the forest and even installed in trees. Further east the Germans have taken advantage of the more wooded tracts of the Bois de Baricourt and the Bois de Tally to the south of which is the Freya Stellung, which has been reached by the Americans west of Ancreville. East of the Meuse the Americans have more wooded districts in view of the observers, the principal one of which is the Forest de Woevre, along the southern edge of which passes the Freya Stellung. To the south of the Freya Stellung are three series of smaller lines directly facing the Americans some of which were penetrated Thursday's fighting.

DIPLOMACY STATUS THE SAME.

GERMAN REPLY WITHOUT EFFORTS REQUIRES NO ANSWER.

An Armistice and Peace Negotiations Are Being Conducted by Constitutional Power Whose Hands Rests Authority Make Deciding Conclusions.

Copenhagen, Oct. 27.—German answer to President Wilson's communication says:

"The German government has taken cognizance of the answer of the president of the United States."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

"The president is aware of the reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the German constitutional structure and that peace negotiations are being conducted by a government, in whose hands the fate of the country is actually and completely resting."

BIG BATTLES PREDICTED

MAJOR OFFENSIVE MAY FOLLOW ITALIAN MOVE.

Although Rome Seems Careful to Refrain From Describing Attack as Drive Such Developments Would Not Prove Surprising.

Washington, Oct. 25.—The sudden flare of activity on the Italian front after months of almost complete quiet, attracted quick attention today among military officials here. It was noted, however, that first official reports from Rome carefully refrained from describing the actions as a drive.

The fact that nearly 3,000 prisoners were taken yesterday shows the surprise nature of the attacks, and it may also indicate waning morale in the Austrian army. Officers here would not be surprised if the Austrian forces, in view of the conditions at home, showed weakness under heavy assault.

The place selected for the attack indicates that the present operations may be preliminary steps to a major offensive. If the high ground between the Brenta and Piave Rivers is carried in sufficient force, observers here believe it might be possible for the Italian army, supported by French and British units and the artillery and possibly by American troops, to reach the valley of the upper Piave and outflank the whole Austrian position on the lower stretches of the river, running from the Montegrappa plateau to the sea. Immediate withdrawal of the Austrian forces in this line would appear to be the certain result of any striking Italian success on the lines now under assault.

The Piave forms a great loop, flowing down toward the plateau from the northwest, then swinging sharply southeast to reach the sea. West of the Montegrappa heights which deflect the river's course, the Brenta flows down from the northwest and bends sharply south about the eastern face of the rugged plateau. It is in the territory between the two rivers that the new attack has been launched.

Aside from its military significance the operation in Italy is being watched closely by officials here as a test of the spirit of the Austrian army. Reports of disorders and disaffection in the dual monarchy have been persistent for months and it is regarded as quite within the range of possibility that the war weariness at home will show itself decisively at the front. In that case the early capitulation of Germany's chief ally might be expected.

On the western front, the situation around Valenciennes seemed to officers here to be approaching a critical stage. The British continued to force their way ahead and the Raimses forest cleared, the Germans to the north partial and Mormal forest on the west it appeared that the line to Mons and Maubeuge and two forests soon would be cleared.

The French, it was noted, were making more rapid clearing the enemy Serre salient. Possibilities of German reserves placed German reserves for have been with British menace.

Viewed from a general perspective appeared possible that these two compelling such enemy reserves along line from the time that the time a new blow would be farther eastward armies have shown

FLOODS IN THE PIEDMONT.

MUCH PROPERTY WRECKED IN GREENVILLE SECTION.

Manufacturing Plants Along Reedy River Also Suffer From Record Twenty-four Hour Rainfall.

Greenville, Oct. 25.—Damage conservatively estimated at upwards of \$100,000 was caused to business and residential property in this city along the valley of the Reedy River this afternoon when the river, swollen to a record breaking volume by unprecedented rains in the upper section of the county, dashed in a mad torrent through the city, sweeping bridges, railroad trestles and other structures before it.

The Piedmont & Northern Railway is perhaps one of the heaviest sufferers. One section of 1,000 feet of roadway was washed down or undermined by the waters, the yard offices just on the edge of the city were washed away, and officials say it will probably be two days before any more trains can be operated. The Greenville & Western Railway, which operated between Greenville and Travelers Rest, was completely put out of commission and the station in this city, which is near the edge of the river, was completely surrounded by water, that two officials who were caught in one of the offices of the second floor had to climb out by means of a ladder on to a box car in the yards. A number of bridges along the course of the river were washed away completely and others were flooded.

Heavy damage was suffered by a number of industrial plants situated on three sides the rivers near Main Street, buildings of the American Machine Manufacturing Company, the Acme Loom, Reed and Harnes Works, Nuckassee Manufacturing Company and others, were flooded and machinery badly damaged. A trestle which was part of the Charleston & Western Piedmont Railway and which crosses the river just under the Main Street crete bridge was entirely destroyed and two box cars, one of them loaded with junk, were turned over in stream and washed down.

Large numbers of small houses in the upper section of the river known as the "Meadow" were by the rising waters. In some cases it became necessary to take out of the houses so fast that they rose. Through of the rain on the Main street bridge hour tonight watching of water. It was reported that the Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.

The Reedy river was in a very serious condition.