

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just 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, 1862.

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BATTLE GOES ON.

GERMANS IN THE FIELD NOT ALLOWED TO REST.

Along Whole Battle Line in France British, French and American Troops Make Further Gains and Reclaim Numerous Towns and Villages.

Deserted by all her former allies; her great military machine in the process of destruction by the onslaughts of the entente allied armies, her dream of world domination rudely dissipated, Germany begs for a cessation of hostilities notwithstanding the hard terms she knows she must pay.

Scarcely had the decision of the supreme war council at Versailles with regard to a cessation of hostilities with Germany been made public than Germany was speeding emissaries to Foch to learn what the commander in chief's terms are to be. These representatives of Germany were reported by unofficial London to have reached the allied line.

Meantime in France and Flanders the enemy forces are being given no rest. Along the whole battle line in France the British, French and American troops have made further material gains and reclaimed numerous towns and villages. Thousands more of Germans have been taken prisoner on all the sectors under attack. Generally the enemy forces are in slow retreat, but nevertheless at some points they are offering sharp resistance, particularly against the Americans in the Meuse River region and the French in the old Argonne sector.

The latest gains of the British on the western side of the battle front have been productive of the capture of several towns of great importance, the gaining of more territory east of the Scheldt Canal where the Canadians are on the attack and in the taking of several railway junctions of high strategic value.

Along the Meuse the Americans continue steadily to push forward and at last accounts were almost at the gates of Sedan, dominating point on the German line of communication to the east. Both east and west of the river the Germans have materially stiffened their resistance against the men from overseas, using large numbers of machine guns and gas in great quantities in an endeavor to impede their progress.

To the west of the American sector the Germans near Rethel are holding a bridgehead to protect their retreating armies east and west. In doing so, however, they are forming a dangerous salient in which capture is likely should the French break through. Numerous additional crossings of the Aisne have been made by the French. Altogether the situation of the German army is a critical one.

COUNT ON POLLOCK.

Believe New Senator From South Carolina and Gay of Louisiana Will Support Suffrage Amendment.

Washington, Nov. 6.—With changes in the senate membership made by yesterday's elections, women suffragists believe there is hope for adoption of the suffrage constitutional amendment, which was defeated by the senate October 1, last, by two votes. Of the new senators taking their seats immediately, two—Gay of Louisiana succeeding Guion and Pollock of South Carolina succeeding Benet, are counted on to support the resolution their predecessors opposed. Possibly after election change of sentiment by other senators also is hoped for by suffrage workers. Those favoring the resolution believe further senate changes in the new congress are certain to develop the requisite two-thirds vote.

DIED FOR THE CAUSE.

Jas. D. Evans, of Bishopville, Killed in Action.

Bishopville, Nov. 5.—County Supervisor C. T. Evans has received the following telegram from Adj. Gen. Harris, of the war department: "Deeply regret to inform you that Private James D. Evans is officially reported as having been killed in action on September 30."

He was in 110th infantry. He was 23 years old and was a son of the late J. D. Evans, of Spring Hill, a grandson of H. H. Evans, Sr., and a nephew of County Supervisor C. T. Evans, of this place. He leaves two brothers, H. H. Evans, Jr., of Spring Hill, and Ramon Evans, who is now in the United States navy, and two sisters, Mrs. Ida May James, of Romlin, and Mrs. Lena Myers, of Hagood.

He was a great favorite of his uncle, Mr. C. T. Evans. Just before he was to depart from Camp Sevier for France he left the camp without a pass and came to see his uncle, saying then, that he would rather be punished than to go to France without telling Mr. Evans good-bye.

HUNS BREAK WITH RUSSIA.

Demand Withdrawal of Russian Diplomats in Germany.

Amsterdam, Nov. 6.—Germany has demanded the withdrawal of all Russian representatives in Germany, a Berlin dispatch today announces. The German representatives in Russia, it is added, have been recalled.

An official report from Berlin says: "The Russian diplomatic representatives will leave Berlin early today by special train for Russia."

The discovery of Russian revolutionary propaganda pamphlets, printed in German, in the baggage of a courier of the Russian embassy at Berlin, is probably the cause of the breaking off of diplomatic relations between Germany and the Russian Soviet government.

THE FIGHTING AMERICANS.

CAPTURE OF DUN ACCOMPLISHED IN BRILLIANT ACTION.

Americans Used Grappling Iron to Scale Bare Walls of Canal and Won a Great Victory.

With the American Forces on the Sedan front, Nov. 6.—4.30 p. m.—(By the Associated Press).—American forces this afternoon were fighting within sight of Sedan, famous for the great battle fought in the Franco-German war in 1870.

From the hills in the region of Chemery and Maisoncelle, where the Americans, according to last accounts, were advancing despite stubborn resistance, the buildings are in plain view, being about six miles away.

The crossing of the river Meuse and the capture of the town of Dun by the Americans, when its full details are known, will rank as one of the most gallant features of the entire operations northwest of Verdun. The troops who accomplished it will be entitled to rank as heroes, for their work in militarily crossing the stream was a strategic move of unusual daring.

The crossing involved the forcing of a way over the 160-foot river, a half-mile-wide stretch of mud and a 60-foot canal in the face of a frightful enemy fire. It also involved swimming by those who knew how and the pulling of others over with ropes. Grappling irons were used to scale the sheer walls of the canal, along which machine gunners had been posted, under the fire of scores of batteries from the hills adjoining.

The order to cross the canal came at mid-afternoon Monday. The troops received their grim instructions under a sun which was shining for the first time in days. The men knew almost as well as their commanders the difficulty of the task and realized how well nigh impossible its accomplishment would be. Yet they never doubted or hesitated.

The orders were to send over one brigade first, and if it failed to send another and others, one after the other, if it became necessary. It was with dash that the Americans tackled the problem. Theoretically they had the choice of crossing anywhere for five miles. Actually they were limited to one point, where two-thirds of a mile of mud lay between the river itself, and the canal that roughly parallels the river.

The Germans were too firmly entrenched at all other points. They had not protected themselves with trenches here only because they never dreamed that the Americans would be so daring as to try to negotiate the passage. This was a short distance north of Briulles.

All the swimmers of the first brigade were first singled out and put in the van. It was intended to attack in this way on the theory that the swimmers were less likely to be hit by the Germans owing to the fact that they would be nearly submerged. On the other hand they could carry with them ropes and other paraphernalia for assisting non-swimmers across.

The building of pontoon bridges was put off until at least some American elements had crossed the river. Notwithstanding some losses and the fact that the swimmers could not defend themselves, many of them reached the east bank of the river with lines which were drawn taut across the stream. Others floated on rafts and collapsible canvas boats. These men had less success than the swimmers, because they were better marks for the enemy's rifles and the boats could easily be sunk by bullets even if their occupants were not hit.

Close to where the swimmers crossed the engineers began to throw over pontoon bridges and a tiny foot bridge. The pontoons were destroyed by the enemy, but the bridge remained intact and added materially to the constantly increasing numbers of men arriving on the west bank of the river. Soon after dark the first bridge was across the first barrier and more men were ready to make the journey.

The second phase of the perilous undertaking then began—the crossing of the kilometre of mud stretching between the river and the canal, which though it was under a tremendous enemy fire, was not held by infantry. The Americans stumbled across the mud through the withering fire. Their feet sank into the mud and soon the pace of the men was slowed down to a laborious walk. Nevertheless they got through, even if the task caused some depletion in their numbers.

The next phase constituted the crossing of the narrower but deeper canal with its sheer sides and with the Germans almost at the very top of the eastern edge. The swimmers again got into action and plunged through notwithstanding the enemy fire and scrambled to the top. Here the men divided their attention in driving off the enemy, and helping non-swimmers across by the same method used at the river. Two bridges finally were laid by the engineers, greatly facilitating crossings. These two bridges withstood attempts of the enemy to destroy them and contributed largely to the speed in getting the American troops over.

When the swimmers reached the edge of the canal they could not land without the aid of grappling hooks, which had to be caught on to the top of the wall edging the canal so that the swimmers could pull themselves up by means of ropes. It would have been a hard enough task for men undisturbed by the enemy's guns, but its accomplishment was almost inconceivably difficult under the violent enemy fire.

In their retreat east of the Meuse the Germans, according to reports reaching American headquarters are destroying property and cutting down

HUNS LOSE GHENT.

SEND WIRELESS MESSAGE TO BELGIAN COMMANDER.

They Will Withdraw From City and Beg That Allies Do Not Fire on Suburbs, Giving Another Evidence of Their Cowardice.

On Battle Front, Belgium, Tuesday Night, Nov. 6.—Wireless dispatches were received this afternoon at the headquarters of General Beaurains from the Germans saying they had decided to abandon Ghent and asking the Belgians not to fire on the suburbs of the town where the white flag had been raised.

American troops from Ohio under Gen. Farnsworth, played a great part in the relief of the city by an attack on Becke Canal, which was taken by storm yesterday.

KEEPING HUNS ON THE RUN.

French Front is a Busy Place Today With Whole Froce Chasing Germans.

Paris, Nov. 7.—Along the entire French front the pursuit of the retreating Germans was taken up again this morning, it was officially announced. The French cavalry has gone into action on the right and is pushing in the direction of the Meuse.

AT BELGIAN BORDER.

British are Pushing Germans Out of France North of Valenciennes.

London, Nov. 7.—The British are continuing their progress along the Franco-Belgian battle line. North-east of Valenciennes they have reached the outskirts of Quevrain Crespin close to the Belgian border, it is officially announced.

AMERICANS TAKE SEDAN.

VITALLY IMPORTANT POSITION ON MEUSE OCCUPIED.

Gen. Pershing's Army Has Cut German Communications Between Metz and Armies in Belgium and Northern France.

With Americans on Sedan Front, Nov. 7, 1.45.—The Americans today entered that part of Sedan that lies on the west bank of the Meuse. The bridge over which the retreating enemy fled has been destroyed and the river valley flooded.

The principal German lateral lines of communication between the fortress of Metz and Northern France and Belgium are now either cut or unavailable for the enemy's use. Since November 1st the American have taken six thousand prisoners and liberated two thousand civilians.

PERSHING REPORTS GAINS.

Important Advances on Both Sides of The Meuse.

Washington, Nov. 7.—Important advances by the American first army yesterday on both sides of the Meuse are reported by Gen. Pershing. West of the river German positions were taken but only after a bitter struggle.

RETREATING ON 75-MILE FRONT.

Allies in Pursuit Cross Franco-Belgian Frontier—Mormal Forest Taken.

London, Nov. 5 (By the Associated Press).—The Germans are retreating on a 75-mile front from the river Scheidt to the river Aisne.

In the face of the German retreat the situation changes so rapidly, hour by hour that it is impossible to give a definite idea of the allied advance. Roughly, the allies have crossed the Franco-Belgian frontier between Valenciennes and Bay, which is eight miles west of the fortress of Mauberge. The allies are within twenty miles of Bay. They have captured the Mormal forest except the eastern edge.

Then the line runs from Mareilles to the western edge of Nouvroun forest, two miles east of Guise, two miles south of Marle and along the Serre front to Clermont river and then in a straight line to Chateau Precien. Owing to the bad weather a allied pursuit has lost touch with the enemy's main body.

French troops have crossed the Ardennes canal on both sides of Lechesne and have advanced for a distance of about a mile.

The Americans have forced the bridge head south of Dun, on the river Meuse, but have not yet occupied Dun.

SEIZE GERMAN NAVY.

Sensational Report of Revolution at Kiel, German Naval Base.

London, Nov. 7.—The entire German navy and a part of Schleswig are in the hands of revolutionists according to reports received at Copenhagen from Kiel and transmitted by the Exchange Telegraph.

trees along the roadways. American aviators reported today that the highway from Stenay northward to Olizy-sur-Chiers is blocked every few yards by trees across the road. The destruction begins just beyond Stenay and extends northeast and north for ten miles. The plight of the retreating Germans on the entire western front is critical.

The Germans it is believed have used all their reserves on the front opposite the Americans, the last enemy division in reserve on this sector having been thrown back in desperate efforts to stem the American advance.

PREMATURE PEACE NEWS.

REPORT CIRCULATED THAT GERMANS HAD SIGNED ARMISTICE.

Officials in Washington Have Received No News That Terms Have Been Presented to German Envoys.

Washington, Nov. 7.—Navy cable censors reported today that an unofficial message had come through from abroad announcing that the Germans had signed the armistice terms delivered by Gen. Foch. No authority is given for the statement. Neither the American government nor any of the allied embassies or war missions had been advised even that Gen. Foch had presented the armistice terms. It was assumed, however, that the German envoys had been conducted through the French lines sometime during the day.

UNDER WHITE FLAG.

German Peace Envoys Will Reach Headquarters Tonight.

By the Associated Press. Paris, Nov. 7, 3.35 P. M.—Four German officers, bearing white flags, it is announced officially, probably will arrive at the headquarters of Marshal Foch Thursday night.

ARMISTICE NOT SIGNED.

Official Statement Authorized by Secretary Lansing.

By the Associated Press. Washington, Nov. 7.—It was officially announced here at 2.15 this afternoon that the Germans had not signed the armistice terms.

Secretary of State Lansing authorized the statement that the German armistice delegation would not be received by Marshall Foch until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

CAN HUNS MAKE STAND?

LINE OF MEUSE SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE.

Believed That Germans Will be Unable to Resist There for Extended Period.

With the French Forces on the Aisne Front, Nov. 6, 2.30 P. M. (By the Associated Press).—The retreat of the Germans on the eastern wing of the French battle front continues all along the line today except at Rethel. There the Germans are holding a bridgehead to protect their retreat towards Mezieres. Developments in the past 48 hours seem to have made it impossible for the Germans to utilize the line of the Meuse, except for temporary resistance here and there to ease their retreat to another position. With the Meuse turned by General Pershing's forces, the only solid line upon which the Germans can fall back is the Rhine.

The resistance of the enemy at Rethel while French troops have formed on a long front from the Ardennes Canal to La Cassine on the east and along the Ecluy-Seraucourt Road to the west has created another pocket which is seriously menaced on both sides.

The French artillery is now able to command the important railroad junction at Amagne-Lucy from where the Mezieres line branches off with the rear guards of the enemy during the night and advance was resumed at dawn all along the line.

A passage of the River Aisne was forced between Attigny and Rethel while further west a foothold was gained on the north bank of the river at Barby.

A French engineering corps working under fire of the enemy artillery is throwing more bridges across the Aisne and the Ardennes Canal.

CONVICTS ON WAR WORK.

West Virginia Has Plan to Utilize Inmates of Prisons.

Charleston, W. Va., Nov. 6.—It is likely that West Virginia will be one of the first States to utilize her idle convicts on essential war labor. Announcement has been made by Chas. M. Browne, labor supervisor for the railroad administration, that many prisoners in Moundsville state penitentiary probably will be put on track and other construction work being done by and for the government, permission to take convicts from their cells for this purpose having been granted by the State board of public works. There has been much agitation favorable to putting convicted prisoners on work which is lagging because of insufficient men to perform it.

FOCH TO RECEIVE DELEGATES.

Notifies German Commander How Delegates Shall Proceed.

London, Nov. 7.—Marshal Foch has notified the German high command that if Germany's armistice delegation wishes to meet him it shall advance to the French lines along the Chimay, Fournies, Lacapelle and Guise roads. From the French outposts the plenipotentiaries will be conducted to the place decided upon for the interview.

RIOTS IN HAMBURG.

Huns Practice Frivolousness Among Themselves.

London, Nov. 7.—The Wolf Bureau of Berlin announces that all work had stopped at Hamburg owing to a strike, and that undisciplined acts and outrages were taking place. Similar occurrences are reported at Luebeck.

GERMANS WOULD PARLEY.

ARMISTICE TERMS SOON IN HANDS OF GERMANS.

Several Days May Elapse Before Decision as to Acceptance or Rejection is Made—Delegates Will Deliver Conditions to General Staff.

Washington, Nov. 6.—Armistice terms prepared for Germany by the supreme war council soon will be in the hands of German emissaries now on their way from Berlin to the western front, but the time that must elapse before there is a decision as to their acceptance or rejection probably will depend largely upon the power with which the German delegation has been clothed.

There is nothing here to indicate just what authority has been conferred upon these representatives of the German government. The official announcement from Berlin via London today said, "A German delegation to conclude an armistice and take up peace negotiations has left for the western front," but the language employed may or may not be significant.

Officials here have assumed that the German representatives after securing the terms from Marshal Foch will transmit them by telegraph or convey them personally to the German high command in the field for it is understood to be the purpose in the present case, as was done with Austria, Bulgaria, Turkey, to deal with the armistice as purely a military issue between the military commands.

Should this procedure be followed, it is regarded here as probable that several days may elapse while the German general staff, now nominally at least, subordinate to the civil government, can consider the conditions laid down and reach a decision. There can be no argument as to the terms, no matter how harsh they may appear to the Germans. The only course left to Germany is to accept or reject them. Meantime Marshal Foch is expected to continue the pressure on the Teutonic armies which now threatens their safety along a 200 mile front.

No announcement has yet been made when the terms of the armistice will be made public. Their publication very probably will be delayed until Germany has reached a decision with regard to their acceptance or rejection.

SMITH LEADS IN NEW YORK.

Democrat Seem to Have Defeated Whitman for Governor of New York.

New York, Nov. 6.—Alfred E. Smith, Democratic candidate for governor, maintained a lead of 12,000 over Governor Whitman, his Republican opponent, in the race for governor, last night with only 51 districts missing out of the total of 7,230 in the State. The districts lacking were in remote rural sections of State and although they are normally Republican, it seemed improbable that they could wipe out Smith's advantage. The vote stood: Smith 987,242; Whitman 974,873.

While Governor Whitman spent the day in conference with Republican leaders, Smith went to Syracuse with several attorneys and advisers to discuss the situation with State Chairman Kellogg. It was evident both party organizations were preparing for emergencies.

It seemed probable tonight that even if Smith maintained his small lead on the face of the unofficial returns the Republicans would not concede the defeat of Governor Whitman until after the ballots had been officially canvassed.

The Democrats in this city professed confidence that their candidate's advantage would not be materially reduced but asserted that even if it was cut to a smaller figure he would have pulled through by the soldier vote.

The Republicans conceded the defeat of Lieut. Gov. Edward Schoenbeck of Syracuse, who sought reelection.

ADMITS AMERICAN SUCCESS.

Berlin Reports Pershing's Men Crossing the Meuse.

Berlin, via London, Nov. 6.—American troops yesterday advanced across the river Meuse south of Dun, under a violent protective fire and penetrated the woods and heights on the east bank of the river between Milly and Vilosnes, the German general staff announced today.

The Germans, the statement added, have been withdrawn from the front between the Scheidt and the Oise, and between the Oise and the Meuse.

The statement adds that between the Scheidt and the Oise the Germans have withdrawn and that Allied troops yesterday in their attacks on that front stormed positions which had been evacuated. The allied line Tuesday evening was west of Barray along the eastern edge of the Mormal forest, east of Landrecies and east of Guise.

SENATE IN DOUBT.

Republicans are Not Yet Sure of Senate Control.

Washington, Nov. 7.—Control of the senate is still in doubt this morning on the face of the returns from three States where the contests continue close. In the house the Republican majority was increased when three seats from South Dakota were conceded to them. Three seats are still in doubt, in South Dakota, New Mexico and Montana. The standing of the house without these three seats is: Republicans 236; Democrats 195. In the senate without the doubtful seats from Michigan, New Mexico and Idaho the standing is: Republicans 47; Democrats, 46.

BRUTALITY IN BELGIUM.

CIVILIAN POPULATION SHELLED WITH GAS.

Heartrending Scenes Have Occurred—People Having No Means of Defense Against Gas.

Washington, Nov. 6.—German forces in their retreat from Belgium are bombarding defenseless towns, using especially gas shells, and devastating the countryside, according to an eye witness account made public today by the Belgian legation.

"The Belgian government has been informed," said the statement, "by a reliable eye witness who follows closely the operations at the Belgian front, that at the very moment that the German government has announced her protest against inhumane acts and while Germany offers to stop aerial bombardments in the interior of the civil population of the occupied territory the Germans have bombarded the villages and towns which they were obliged to abandon during their retreat; they have used especially gas shells for this purpose. "Indescribably heartrending scenes have occurred, the unfortunate population having no gas masks or means of protection against these death spreading fumes."

A Belgian soldier entering Wynghe, his home town, found his wife dying and his little daughter dead, victims of the poison gas, and his home a heap of ruins. The country all around Ghent, the rich and beautiful cultivated fields and pastures, the picturesque villages of Hans Beka Langheim, Nevele, Laethem, Saint Martin and Tronchiennes present a horrible sight of devastation and havoc. Not a church was spared from destruction.

"Amongst the civilian population hiding in the cellars there have been a great many deaths from gas—27 in the village of Hansbeke alone. A portion of the population who had fled from their homes during the fighting and bombardment found on their return mere ruins and debris—trees had been cut down, houses ransacked, furniture smashed to pieces, fields devastated.

"From these facts, one may appreciate how hypocritical are the humanitarian preparations and protestations of the German government."

The legation also made public a captured order of a Bavarian division commander as further evidence that the Germans are robbing and looting Belgium. The order says:

"Regrettable as is the situation of the Belgian populace the question of supplies for our troops, heavily engaged at the front, must remain for us of paramount importance. For this reason the last draft horse, the last vehicle must be requisitioned and used to the greatest advantage. Commanders of the various units and men must take into account that the attitude of the population towards us has been completely modified. Since the situation has been altered one must not expect to find in the Belgians the same docility that has characterized them through the past years of our warfare. They must be considered strictly as the population of an enemy state with which we are at war. Therefore, it is particularly forbidden to assist the civilian population in any way; military interests alone should be considered. The products of the country must be utilized solely in our own interest."

SUBMERGED PONTOON BRIDGES.

Germans Devise New Scheme to Cross Rivers and Escape Capture.

London, Oct. 25 (Correspondence).—In their retreats across the rivers in France, says the Daily Express the Germans saved a number of their men by a new kind of pontoon. This does not rest on the surface of the water but is sufficiently submerged to enable men to walk across without being floated off. This precaution exposes the troops far less to fire effects than if they walked across in full view in the ordinary way.

SPANISH CABINET RESIGNS.

King Alfonso Has Trouble in Keeping Men on the Job.

Madrid, Nov. 7.—After a long session of the chamber today Premier Maura went to King Alfonso to submit the resignation of the entire cabinet.

REVOLT IN HAMBURG.

Bloody Fighting Going on in Streets Today.

Copenhagen, Nov. 6.—A revolt has broken out in Hamburg, and violent fighting is in progress in the streets of the city when the correspondent of the Politiken at Hamburg sent the dispatch.

CURZON GOES TO FRANCE.

Member of British War Council Leaves London on Official Business.

London, Nov. 6.—Earl Curzon, a member of the British war council, has gone to the continent on official business.

NAVY TO BE REPRESENTED.

Lord Weymess Will Take Part in The Armistice Negotiations.

London, Nov. 7.—It is officially announced that Sir Roslyn Weymess, first sea lord of the admiralty will be the British naval representative at the armistice negotiations.

Word From Br'er Williams.

When you think you isat de end o' de road, don't fling ur bekaze you find dar's one mo' river ter cross. Dat's a big compliment from Providence ter de grit an' git dar what's in you.—Atlanta Constitution.