

ALLIES NOW READY TO GRIP COMBLES

Raids Made as Preludes to Advance on This Position in West

ANGLO-FRENCH AIRMEN IN MANY BATTLES

One Drops Bombs Along the Rhine—Entente Makes Offer For Greece's Help in the War—Venizelos Taking a Hand.

Apparently the Franco-British forces on the Somme are preparing to close their grip on Comblès. Last night the French war office reported the capture of a small fortified position and some trench sections close to Comblès and today it announces that French raiders have penetrated to the head of the town. Such raiding operations commonly are only preludes to a more comprehensive and forceful movement. On the French front south of Somme the artillery activity is probably in preparation for an assault.

Airmen on both the French and British sides have been busy. Yesterday, French aviators took part on 56 aerial engagements, in which four German machines were shot down. British naval aeroplanes raided important German aviation stations in Belgium, inflicting notable damage upon the aerodrome at St. Denis Western, according to the British official report.

A French aviator has visited the Rhine region and dropped bombs in Palmar and Mannheim, where Paris reports large damage and several explosions.

The Greek situation continues complicated. Athens reports that definite proposals have been made by the entente, the acceptance of which would insure the entry of Greece into the war. Former Premier Venizelos is quoted as having declared that if government control by the "court party" does not get the nation itself will defend its own interest.

The revolutionary fever is reported as spreading, but the mutiny on one of the Greek ships, the Averoff, is declared to have been quelled.

NO STORM IN SIGHT FOR NEXT WEEK

Washington, Sept. 23.—Generally fair weather and moderate temperatures will prevail in the Southeastern States during the week beginning tomorrow, according to the weather bureau's weekly forecast issued today.

There are no indications of a disturbance in the West Indies.

NO JOINT SESSION OF COMMISSION TODAY

New London, Conn., Sept. 23.—No joint meeting of the Mexican-American commission was held here today. Secretary Lane and Judge Grey, of the American commissioners, had planned a cruise and the other members of the body are in New York and Boston.

MAILED PISTOL SENT BULLET INTO CLERK

Norfolk, Va., Sept. 23.—Falling from a pigeon-hole in a case of unclaimed letters, in the local post office, a loaded pistol, which had been sent through the mail, exploded, and the bullet lodged in the flesh of J. G. Burgess, a postal clerk.

MUTINY ON GREEK SHIP.

London, Sept. 23.—Athens is still hearing rumors that 300 men of the crew of the cruiser, Averoff, have mutined, according to a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company. The report says the remainder of the crew and a detachment of marines were sent away in boats. The other ships of the fleet are said to have quelled the mutiny. The Averoff is an armored cruiser built in March 1910 and carries a crew of 550 men.

TOBACCO MEN ON BOOSTER TRIP

Several Counties Around Durham Will be Thoroughly Canvassed

Durham, Sept. 23.—Many automobiles on which were attached banners telling of what advantage it would be to the farmer to market his tobacco in Durham left town this morning for a full day trip throughout this and the surrounding counties. A stop will be made at every town and village reached and short talks will be made by the members of the party who are traveling. A scout car went out Thursday and mapped out the route that is today being followed by the larger body of cars and the route includes a number of prominent towns in the vicinity that are in the habit of sending only part of their tobacco crop to Durham for market. It is thought that the trip will prove a remarkable success and induce numbers of those who have heretofore been trading elsewhere to come here. The signs that are on the cars are catchily worded and fully explain the advantages that this market offers.

PLANNING FOR CRIPPLER'S HOME

Mrs. Bigelow Stafford, of Hot Springs, Will Donate Site in Western Carolina

Winston-Salem, Sept. 23.—North Carolina may have a modern hospital for crippled children if the Southern Sociological congress now in session here can raise sufficient funds to erect the buildings and get the movement started.

Mrs. Bigelow Stafford, Hot Springs, who is attending the congress has offered a site in Western North Carolina for the home if the Congress will erect the buildings and get the movement on the road to success. Just what action the Congress will take is not yet known.

ANOTHER CHAPTER TO THE TRAGEDY

Mrs. Stephens, Whose Husband Committed Suicide, Died This Morning

(By R. M. Norment.) Lumberton, N. C., Sept. 23.—Mrs. R. M. N. Stephens, who has been in failing health for some time, died here this morning. Mrs. Stephens was before marriage Miss Lina Thompson and at the time of her death was 57 years old. She is survived by one son, Rexford Stephens; a daughter, Mrs. H. M. Hartley, and an adopted daughter, Mrs. Paxton McNeill. The funeral services will be held from the residence Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Mr. Stephens, whose mind became unbalanced through worry over the hopeless condition of his wife, took his own life Wednesday night.

SENSATIONAL SESSION ON STOCK EXCHANGE

New York, Sept. 23.—For a week-end the market today, for its two-hour session, was probably without parallel. Trading in the first hour amounted to more than a half million shares, with no diminution with the approach of the close. There were a number of spectacular features, but all were eclipsed by a further sensational rise in United States Steel, which touched 117 1/2, a new record, shortly after 11 o'clock. Other leaders rose to highest prices in their history, notably the coppers.

THREE MEN INVOLVED IN ALLEGED \$1,000,000 BLACKMAILING PLOT



Left to right: George Irvin, H. C. Woodward and George Bland.

Here are three of the men who, with others, were arrested in Chicago as members of the alleged black-mailing gang, which is believed to have forced a number of wealthy persons from coast to coast to give up more than a million dollars within the last few years. Woodward, the supposed leader of the gang, surrendered to the Federal authorities in Chicago and has been released in \$2,300 bail. Bland, together with Mrs. Edward Donahue and Mrs. Frances Chapman, has been released as a result of Mrs. Regina Kipper's failure to identify them as members of the gang by which she was kidnapped. Irvin is being held for a further hearing.

CONFERENCE OF Y. M. C. A. CLOSES

Approved Plans to Make Big Expenditure Throughout The World

Charlotte, N. C., Sept. 23.—The conference of the employed officers of the Young Men's Christian Association that was in session here Thursday and Friday has come to a close. The meeting endorsed the movement of the general convention that was held in Atlantic City in which an expenditure of \$4,500,000 will be spent on the various Y. M. C. A. works throughout the world. A part of this sum will go toward industrial work in the south and special work will be carried on among the troops on the Mexican border. According to a report read at one of the sessions the association has already founded a number of schools on the border line that are being well attended.

FINE NEW BERN TOBACCO SALES

Craven County Has Highest Market in State—School Helped Flood Sufferers.

New Bern, Sept. 23.—The Sun-Journal this morning turned over to Mr. T. A. Uzzell, who is in charge of the work of soliciting funds here for the flood sufferers in Western North Carolina, \$63.72, this amount having been secured by the paper from the citizens of New Bern and the surrounding section.

The last contribution made to the Sun-Journal came yesterday from the Beech Grove Sunday School. This school sent in \$8.55. Altogether New Bernians contributed more than \$100 for these flood victims.

Sales amounting to 50,000 pounds on the local market and about 25,000 pounds on the market at Vanceboro, were made today, bringing to a close one of the most successful weeks since the opening of the tobacco season in this county.

The prices which have been paid in Craven county this week for tobacco probably exceed any paid in the State. Some of it has sold as high as 75 cents per pound and the average price has been more than 20 cents.

The farmers are well pleased with the treatment they have received in Craven county and will, without doubt, bring the remainder of their weed here.

After an illness extending over a period of several weeks Mrs. Isabelle Barrow, whose home is at No. 23 1/2 Orange street, this city, died at 3 o'clock this morning.

The funeral service will be conducted from the late residence tomorrow morning by Rev. W. A. Cade, pastor of the Riverside Methodist church and the interment will be made in Cedar Grove cemetery.

Mrs. Barrow is survived by one sister, Mrs. Sarah Oxley, of this city, and two daughters.

LIQUOR SPECIAL FROM NORFOLK

Norfolk-Southern Train Said to Have Contained More Booze Than Ever Before

New Bern, Sept. 23.—Jim Smith, a desperate negro, was placed under arrest at Dover yesterday afternoon by Chief of Police Rouse, on a charge of having broken into and robbed the home of another negro in that section. The officer feared that he was going to have trouble with the man and in order to prevent this he secretly tied him up and brought him down to New Bern and placed him in the county jail.

Another man was implicated in the robbery with Smith and the police in this section are now endeavoring to locate him.

The excursion train which the Norfolk Southern Railway Company on Tuesday operated to Norfolk from points along its line made its return trip yesterday, carrying what is said to have been the largest amount of whiskey ever carried out of that city on one train.

A well-known man who is in a position to know of what he is speaking declared that there were between seven and eight thousand quarts of liquor on the train when it left Norfolk and that there were four thousand or more quarts on it when it arrived in this city. He estimates that between twenty-five hundred and two thousand dollars were spent for "liquid refreshments" by the excursionists.

When the train reached New Bern it had about the drunkest bunch of passengers on it that have ever been brought into New Bern and had it not been for the fact that the entire police force was on the scene there would doubtless have been trouble and the officers drew a breath of relief when the train had pulled out from the passenger station bound to Goldsboro.

Fifty years ago yesterday New Bern was almost completely destroyed by fire, two entire blocks being obliterated and a number of other buildings being burned down.

The blaze was believed to have been started by an incendiary and every effort was made to apprehend him, but this was never done.

The damage done by the big fire was estimated at \$250,000 and only \$73,000 insurance was carried.

MORRISON ILL; COULDN'T SPEAK

Onslow Democracy Greatly Disappointed Over Cancellation of Date

(By M. M. Capps.) Jacksonville, N. C., Sept. 23.—Onslow Democracy was disappointed today when Cameron Morrison failed to appear for his speech.

Mr. Morrison notified the local committee this morning that he was taken suddenly ill and could not come. Efforts will be made to have him speak here later.

SOUTHERN ROAD REPAIRING TRACKS

In Many Places Route Has Been Slightly Change Avoid Second Destruction

Charlotte, Sept. 23.—Mr. R. G. Hanson, Jr., industrial and immigration agent for the Southern Railway, is in the city and has stated that the work of replacing the tracks of the railroad that were destroyed in the July floods is moving forward rapidly and that the work will be completed in a few weeks. In some places the route has been changed slightly in order to avoid the danger of the tracks being swept away a second time by the inrush of waters.

Mayor Kilpatrick has appointed Dr. Meyer Hunter and Dr. John Ashe to represent Charlotte at the seventh annual meeting of the American Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality, which will meet in Milwaukee. The meeting is considered a very important one and the major portion of the sessions, it is thought, will be taken up with a discussion of infant mortality and a study of the best ways of prevention.

Many people attended the address that former Governor Robert B. Glenn delivered in the Court House Wednesday night and the court room as well as the lobby was filled to overflowing. The ex-Governor spoke at some length, but at all times kept the interest of his audience and handled the subject of "By Their Fruits Ye Shall Know Them," in a most masterful way.

BASEBALL LEADERS IN MAJOR LEAGUES

Speaker and Chase Continue The Big Batsmen—Cobb Has Two Records

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 23.—Individual records of baseball players in the major league follow:

Leading Batsmen—American, Speaker, of Cleveland, .391; National, Chase, of Cincinnati, .330. Leading Home Run Hitters—American, Baker and Pipp, of New York, tied with 10 each; National, Williams, of Chicago, 12.

Leaders in Total Bases—American, Jackson, of Chicago, 281; National, Wheat, of Brooklyn, 256. Leading Base Stealers—American, Cobb, of Detroit, 60; National, Carey, of Pittsburgh, 52.

Leaders in Runs Scored—American, Cobb, of Detroit, 103; National, Burns, of New York, 92. Leading Pitchers for 24 games are: American, Cullup, of New York, and National, Hughes, of Boston.

INJURED LAD DIED TODAY IN LUMBERTON

Lumberton, N. C., Sept. 23.—Samuel McDonald, aged 17, whose skull was fractured by a falling limb Thursday afternoon, died this morning at a local hospital.

THREE IMPORTANT EVENTS SOON

Will Have Influence on Agriculture in The United States

El Paso, Texas, Sept. 23.—Three important events of an international character that will have a direct and lasting influence on the agriculture of the United States will be held here from October 14 to 19, inclusive. They are: The International Irrigation Congress, the International Farm Congress and the International Soil Products Exposition, which lasts until October 24.

In connection with these meetings there will be the dedication on October 14 by President Wilson of the great Elephant Butte Dam, one of the greatest irrigation structures and projects in the world. Immediately after these ceremonies, which are to take place at the dam, President Wilson comes to El Paso where he probably will speak at the congress that night.

This will be the twenty-third annual meeting of the International Irrigation Congress and it will be the second time that it has met here. The tentative program begins with the dedication of the Elephant Butte Dam. The congress has before it for discussion many important subjects regarding irrigation in both the United States and Mexico. It is probable that one of the meetings will be held across the international border at Juarez, Mexico.

All of the foreign countries have been invited to send delegates, but owing to disturbed conditions in Europe it is not believed likely that many delegates from there will participate. From other countries, especially the Western Hemisphere, usually large delegations take part in the meetings and it is believed that this year's congress will not prove an exception.

In its discussions the congress will give much attention to irrigation districts practices, legislation and engineering. Two of the important questions planned to be discussed are rural credits and markets and marketing. The rural credits discussions are regarded of special importance in view of the recent passage of the Federal Farm Loan Bank Act and the present efforts of the Farm Loan Board in districting the country and establishing the proposed farm loan banks.

"The work of the Irrigation Congress," says Arthur Hooker, secretary, "with respect to colonization and land settlement, irrigation methods and results, and irrigation finances, is to be continued and broadened at the El Paso meetings. The real aim of the congress is well expressed in its motto, 'Make Easy the Path of the Home Builder.'"

Besides President Wilson, many prominent men, leaders in the agricultural and irrigation extension movement, are to take part in the congress. Among them probably will be the following:

Franklin P. Lane, Secretary of the Interior; David F. Houston, Secretary of Agriculture; W. R. Matherwell, Minister of Agriculture of Canada; Geo. P. Hunt, Governor of Arizona; Hiram U. Johnson, Governor of California; Geo. A. Carlson, Governor of Colorado; E. M. Ammons, ex-Governor of Colorado; Moses Alexander, Governor of Idaho; Arthur Capper, Governor of Kansas; S. O. V. Stewart, Governor of Montana; William C. McDonald, Governor of New Mexico; R. S. Williams, Governor of Oklahoma; Frank M. Byrne, Governor of South Dakota; James E. Ferguson, Governor of Utah; J. B. Kendrick, Governor of Wyoming; Ernest Lister, Governor of Washington, and Dr. T. N. Carver, of Harvard University.

The International Farm Congress concerns itself chiefly with dry-farming methods. In connection with the congress and under the management of the officers is to be held the International Soil Products Exposition where are to be agricultural exhibits from the United States Government, many of the individual States and foreign governments. It is understood that even some of the warring nations of Europe will not be unrepresented this year.

STEAMER UP IN NEW ENGLAND AGROUND

Portland, Me., Sept. 23.—The Eastern Steamship Company's steamer, Bay State, bound from Boston to Portland, went ashore on Halycomb Rock, just off the tip of Cape Elizabeth, during the heavy fog today. The 250 passengers were taken off in lifeboats.

The steamer was high and dry in a dangerous position. The sixty members of the crew remain aboard the vessel.

UNIONS VOTING ON VITAL QUESTION OF GIANT STRIKE

Three-Quarters of Million Men Likely to Quit Work Next Wednesday

LEADERS ISSUE CALL TO UNIONS

Incensed Over Action by Mayor Mitchell and Declare New York Dominated by Traction Interests

New York, Sept. 23.—Trade unions in this city and in Westchester county today began voting on the question of ratifying the action of the eighty delegates who yesterday called for a "general suspension of work" next Wednesday morning. The labor heads appealed to all union laborers to stay at home until the traction companies make it possible to ride on street cars without offense to their union allegiance.

It is asserted that no such action heretofore has been taken by trade unions of this country, nor has a strike involving so many trades ever been called. Its maximum effect calls from work 750,000 men and women.

Leaders in the movement refrain from calling it a sympathetic strike. They declare that many unions already have ratified their recommendation and that any union man who does not quit work Wednesday will be denounced as a traitor. To what extent they expect unions to respond to the suspension call they would not disclose.

The call for the walk-out is based on the agreement that men affiliated with unions cannot ride to their employment on cars manned by non-union conductors or motormen and under protection of the police. This statement issued by the leaders indicates they are incensed by Mayor Mitchell's warning that he stood ready to use the military power to suppress violence and that they consider the city to be dominated by the traction interests.

BOSTON AND BROOKLYN LEADING FOR PENNANTS

Chicago, Sept. 23.—Boston maintains its lead of two and one half games over Chicago with Detroit being one half game behind Chicago in the race for the American League honors. All three leaders won their games yesterday and there was no change in the relative standing.

In the National League Brooklyn is entrenched in first place two and one half games in front of Philadelphia and five and one half games ahead of Boston. Brooklyn and Philadelphia each have thirteen games to play and Boston has seventeen.

She Had to Have Her Face Washed

In broad daylight, and in the presence of a great crowd of men and women. A beautiful old face it was, too, that for years has been looked up to by millions of busy people.

They scrubbed and scraped and cleaned for a whole day that good old face of the old Trinity church clock, in the steeple about one hundred feet above the green plot at Wall street and Broadway, New York.

To many of us the well known buildings in New York are like huge clocks.

They keep many people busy to keep their faces clean. Each has on its four sides a four-square dial which must mark the changing seasons, like The Dispatch they tell us of the newest fashions, the right standard of improved retailing in the interest of the buyers as well as the sellers.

Confer.

