

North Carolina and South Carolina: Fair tonight and Sunday; little change in temperature.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 17, 1917

PRICE FIVE CENTS

DEFEATED IN BATTLE, ABANDONED BY MEN, KERENSKY HAS FLED

Russia's Premier Was About to Surrender When He Decided to Flee.

BOLSHEVIKI NOW IN COMPLETE CONTROL

No Sympathy Found for Kerensky—Italians Continue to Hold Teutons in Check—More British Gains.

Defeated in battle by the Bolsheviks and deserted by most of his own officers and men, Premier Kerensky is in flight and his whereabouts are unknown in Petrograd. The Bolsheviks have taken complete control of the city and are in control of the provisional government...

IN SAILOR'S GARB KERENSKY SOUGHT SAFETY IN FLIGHT

He Had Been Abandoned by Most of His Officers and Men.

HAD AGREED TO GO TO PETROGRAD

But When Guard Went for Premier He Was Not to Be Found—Last Interview Reported.

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NO SYMPATHY IS FOUND ANYWHERE FOR THE PREMIER

A Correspondent Tells of Trip from the Caucasus to Petrograd.

MANY SAY KERENSKY DESERVED HIS FATE

Cossacks Declare a Provisional Government and Their Territory Is Properly Safeguarded.

Throughout the 10 Kuban territories order was undisturbed and on arriving at Rostov-on-the-Don on November 9 the correspondent found the garrison and workers in a ferment. They have passed a resolution in favor of the Bolsheviks but in the neighboring town of Novo Tcherkassk, the capital of the Don territory, the Cossacks government under General Kaledines had declared for provisional government...

FIVE CONGRESSMEN HAD A CLOSE CALL ON BATTLE FRONT

Were Caught in a Sudden Burst of German Machine Gun Fire.

LATER A BIG SHELL FELL NEAR THEM

American Statesmen Miraculously Escaped Injury and Possible Death While Visiting Trenches Near Dixmude

(By Associated Press.) British front in Belgium, Friday, November 16.—Five members of the party of American Congressmen and private citizens who spent yesterday and part of today visiting the Belgian war zone had a narrow escape from death or injury this morning when they were caught in a sudden burst of German machine gun fire while inspecting the front line trenches near Dixmude. The Americans in danger were Congressman C. C. Dill, of Spokane, Wash.; Congressman Charles E. Tamm, Berkeley, of Colorado; Congressman J. F. Miller, of Seattle, Wash.; Congressman Albert Johnson, of Washington, and former Representative Scott, of Montana. Nobody was hit but it was one of these peculiar freaks of fortune which soldiers call luck, because the shot came in a shower, so close to them it seems almost certain some one must be wounded although they were exposed only for a brief time. The other seven members of the party were in another section of the trench and were not disturbed by the fire. Later, however, when all the Americans were together, the Germans dropped a big shell some 10 yards away, seriously endangering every one. One member in describing the incident to the correspondent later said he and his companions heard the shell coming. "It sounded like the roar of an airplane," he said. Again fortune favored them and no one was injured. The visitors spent the night near the front and rose early this morning for a trip to the trenches in the vicinity of Dixmude. The Belgian and German lines run within 30 yards of each other at one point and it was there that the five men came into danger. At that distance it is easy to see any one in the opposite trench who raises his head above the top. Only the usual firing was under way when the party reached this place. The Americans were having an excellent view of the lines when several of them got into an exposed position and were seen by the Germans. Suddenly the enemy machine guns nearby began a vicious chatter and bullets came whizzing across the narrow strip of No Man's Land at the rate of several hundred a minute. Before the visitors realized the situation bullets were whining all about them like a storm of hail and dirt was being thrown into their faces as some of the steel pellets struck the top of the trench. They all bent down for cover but all might easily have been caught, since it does not take more than a small fraction of a minute for a machine gun to account for a number of men if the shooting is accurate. The Americans departed this afternoon for England. On arriving at the port whence they sailed, they said their trip to the Belgian front had been most satisfactory. They were especially pleased at the invitation of

GAS PIPE BOMB IN OPERA HOUSE

Mysterious Device Came Near Stamping Chicago Audience Last Night.

(By Associated Press.) Chicago, Nov. 17.—The persons responsible for placing the mysterious gas pipe device resembling a bomb which became ignited and caused a brief panic in the auditorium theatre here last night were being sought today by Federal, State and City authorities. Government officials were working on two theories. One is that the bomb had been planted by some one who sought to blow up the theatre. The other is that the device was not composed of a high explosive and had been placed in the theatre as a protest against expenditure of money for opera. The first warning came when a puff of white smoke oozed up from the middle of main floor of the theatre. Persons nearby rose from their seats but Conductor Campani ordered the orchestra to play the "Star Spangled Banner" and the big audience checked its start for the exits. When Galt Curci, who sang the leading role in the opera stepped to the front of the stage and began to sing the National anthem, the miniature panic was soon allayed.

NAVAL ENGAGEMENT

(By Associated Press.) London, Nov. 17.—British light forces today engaged German light cruisers off Helgoland, the British admiralty announced today. The German warships retreated and the British forces are now chasing them. The announcement follows: "British light forces operating in Helgoland Bight have been engaged with German light forces this morning. The only information we have received thus far, is that our vessels have engaged enemy light cruisers, that the latter have retired at high speed, and that our vessels are in pursuit." King Albert, to take tea with him. The King made them feel very welcome and chatted freely with them for some time. The American minister, Brand Whitlock, also was present at the invitation of the King. Other members of the party who were endangered by the shell fire in addition to the five who were under machine gun fire are Congressman Parker, of New Jersey; Taylor, of Colorado; Goodwin, of Arkansas; Stephens, of Nebraska, and Hicks, of New York, and former Representative Hammond, of Nebraska.

MORE CASUALTIES AMONG AMERICANS ON FRENCH FRONT

ARISTOCRATS ARE FOUND LEADING THE BOLSHEVIKI

Officer by Men Who Had Been at Front Under Old Regime.

THE BATTLE LASTED THROUGH THREE DAYS

Struggle for Possession of Petrograd Began Saturday and Continued Until Monday Night.

(By Associated Press.) Petrograd, Wednesday, Nov. 14.—The battle in which Premier Kerensky was defeated began last Saturday and continued until Monday night, according to the commander-in-chief of the Bolshevik staff. The Premier had 5,000 Cossacks and several hundred military cadets with considerable artillery. The Maximalist force included four guard regiments, several battalions of stevedores and numerous detachments of the Red Guard. Many of the Bolshevik soldiers were wounded and a few were killed. The Cossacks in Kerensky's forces once attempted a charge near Tsarskoe-Selo, but suffered heavy losses after which they retired into the town. The Maximalists now hold Tsarskoe-Selo. The correspondent of the Associated Press visited the scene of the fighting today and was surprised to find aristocratic officers commanding the Bolsheviks. A colonel of one of the famous Petrograd guard regiments is now commander of the Bolshevik staff. Describing the fight, he said: "The battle began Saturday and continued until Monday night. Our forces were under a continuous shell fire and many were wounded. A few were killed. At one time a squadron of Kerensky's Cossacks attempted a charge near Tsarskoe-Selo. A volley caused them heavy losses. This was the last active attempt of the Kerensky forces to attack and afterward they retreated. We now hold Tsarskoe-Selo." One soldier who had been captured by the Cossacks and had escaped to his own lines told the correspondent that Kerensky's Cossacks had determined to fight to the last.

Artillery Fighting in Section Held by Sammies is More Lively. AMERICANS GAVE AS GOOD AS RECEIVED

Germans Believed to Have Suffered Fully as Severely from the Return Fire of American Gunners.

(By Associated Press.) With the American Army in France, Friday, Nov. 16.—The artillery fighting in the sector held by American troops has become even more lively and there have been further casualties, shrapnel wounding some men in the trenches. An enemy shell hit an American gun today and caused casualties. Some of the men wounded in the last two days have died. The American batteries have been firing rapidly in return and it is considered certain that more damage and casualties have been caused in the German lines than the Germans have inflicted on the Americans. Patrolling continued actively last night. American troops witnessed their first aerial encounter today. Three enemy airplanes appeared overhead. Soon all of them except one fled at the approach of five French machines. One of the French out-manoeuvred this German and "got on his tail." The German aviator then bolted. The rattle of machine guns finally died away as the two airplanes disappeared to the west. The French general commanding the sector has mentioned in the dispatches 15 American officers and soldiers, including three who were killed, for excellent military qualities and for bravery displayed in the recent trench raid. A note accompanying the citations says that between 8,000 and 10,000 shells were used in the attack which had been in preparation for three months, down to the finest details. The results obtained by the enemy were very small, he having been unable to penetrate more than the first line trenches because of the resistance of the American soldiers with rifle and pistol fire and hand grenades. The enemy had to content himself, the citation continues, with carrying off a few prisoners. The general in the order mentions the company, commanded by Lieutenant (name deleted by censor), as follows: "On the night of November 2-3 this company which was in the lines for the first time met an extremely violent bombardment, despite which it seized arms and offered such stubborn resistance that the enemy, though numerically superior, was obliged to retire." The general specially cited in the order of the day Corporal James Gresham and Privates Merle D. Hay and Thomas F. Enright, "who died bravely in hand-to-hand fighting with the enemy who had penetrated the first line." The other cited "who showed excellent military qualities" are Second Lieutenants M. C. Laughlin, R. O. Patterson and E. F. Erickson; Sergeant John Arrowood, Corporals David M. Knowles and Homer Gibbons and Privates Charles Massa, William B. Thomas, George Hurd, Boyce Wade, Robert Winkle and John J. Jarvis.

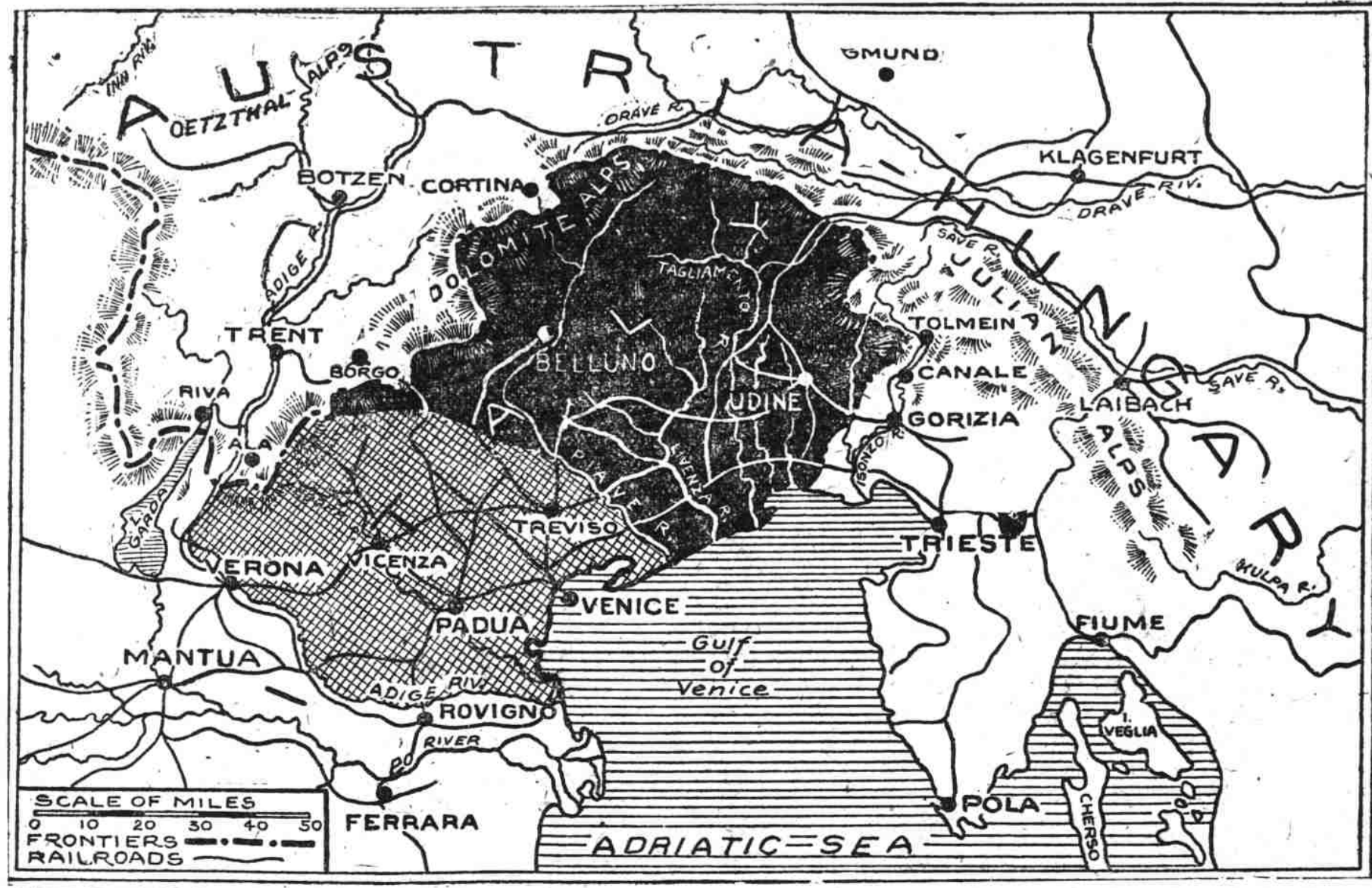
GENERALLY FAIR WEATHER NEXT WEEK

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Nov. 17.—Generally fair weather, although somewhat unsettled Sunday in the East Gulf States, is forecast for the South Atlantic and East Gulf States during the week beginning Sunday. Somewhat higher temperatures are indicated, after Sunday.

Indictments Quashed.

(By Associated Press.) Austin, Texas, Nov. 17.—Indictments in seven cases against former Governor James E. Ferguson, charging misapplication of public funds, were quashed today by District Judge Hamilton. Dismissal was refused in two other cases, charging embezzlement and diversion of a special fund.

ITALY'S NEW LOST PROVINCES.



Solid black shows territory evacuated prior to November 13. Shaded indicated territory that must be surrendered if Italy retreats behind the Adige.

OUR SOLDIERS ASK YOU TO HELP THE ARMY Y. M. C. A.