

WEATHER.
North and South Carolina: Fair tonight and Wednesday.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

HOME EDITION

VOL. XXIV. NO. 153.

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 11, 1918.

TWELVE PAGES

FIVE CENTS

GERMAN GAINS MADE IN CENTER OF LINE AT FRIGHTFUL COST

French Made Their Final Stand Along Aronde River

MERY IS RECAPTURED

Huns Hurlled Back As They Drew Near Banks of the River

BOCHES AT ANTOVAL

Battle in New Area Now in Critical Stage, As in the Somme, Flanders and Aisne Combats

Moving with steadiness, in spite of the frightful losses inflicted upon them, the Germans in their plunge southward on the line from Noyon to Montdidier, continue to gain here and there in the center of the line, where their greatest effort has been exerted and where the French resistance might have been expected to be most stubborn. The enemy's greatest advance is at Vigemont, six miles from the line, as it stood last Saturday.

The French have launched counterattacks on the left of their line, which may be an indication that they have reached the front where they will make their final stand. This line seems to be along the Aronde river, a small stream flowing west and northwest from the Oise and roughly paralleling the line of the advance.

The Germans, according to the official statement issued by the French war office, reached the "vicinity" of this stream. This marked the limit of their advance, however, and the French immediately attacked and drove the enemy back to the line, passing through Belloy, south of St. Maur, south of Marquellise and Vandellier. The village of Mery, west of Belloy, was retaken by the French Monday night.

This part of the battle front, however, apparently is not the most menacing to the French. It is further east that the Germans seem to be making their most telling gains. Here, along the right bank of the Oise, they have reached Antoval, a village which lies on the crest of the hills above the important town of Ribecourt, lying on the west and south of Ribecourt. The French admit that their "line of resistance" has been withdrawn in consequence.

This movement has not resulted as yet, according to reports, in the withdrawal of French lines east of the Oise, from the Quercamp and Carlepont forests, strong positions from which the French defended their positions in the earlier attempts of the Germans to cross the Oise south of Sempligny.

The battle in the new area may now be considered as having definitely entered its critical stage, as in the Somme, Flanders and Aisne combats, the third and fourth days of the offensive were most menacing to the allies. It now seems certain that the present German operations constitute a very serious blow at the allied lines from the Oise to the Marne, as well as threatening the level country behind the present battle lines. Before this can be reached, however, the Germans may encounter even greater resistance than they have overcome since their offensive began.

The only other operation of significance reported was carried out by Australians on the British front at Morlaucourt, east of Amiens. Here the British advanced to a depth of half a mile over a front of a mile and a half. More than 200 prisoners were captured by the British.

Compared with the offensive of May 27 between Rheims and Soissons, the present German effort is making progress more slowly. Apparently the German intention is to drive down the Matz valley toward Estrees St. Denis and then attempt to move westward and eastward and outflank the regions about Clermont and Compeign. However, the allied positions is reported as satisfactory despite the German gains in the center.

Meanwhile, the American marines on the sector northwest of Chateau Thierry, which protects that town and Villers Cotteteris, continue their attacks. Monday the marines advanced into Belleau wood a distance of two-thirds of a mile on a front of 600 yards. The northern edge of the wood is all that now remains to the Germans.

On the British front there have been only raids and normal artillery activity. On the American sector north-west of the artillery fire has increased, but no infantry activity has yet developed.

WANT SOLDIERS TO VISIT CITY

Named to Wait on Colonel Chase

NIX ON CHAUTAUQUA

Rotarians Do Not Believe That Wilmington Wants Return Engagement

LABOR GIVING TROUBLE

Laundry Proprietor Thinks That Too Many Picnics Are Held—Irregular Workers

Naming of a committee to confer with Colonel Chase, commandant at Fort Caswell, in an effort to have the order lifted that forbids week-end visitation of the city by bodies of men from the post and decision to keep hands off as concerns the possible return engagement of the Redpath chautauqua together with a general discussion of labor conditions were the outstanding features of today's noon bi-monthly meeting of the Rotary club, held as usual in the form of a luncheon at the Y. M. C. A., and rather poorly attended, the canvass of the city in an effort to determine the number of vacant rooms to be had, explaining the latter.

The question of interceding with Colonel Chase in behalf of the soldiers who were denied the privilege of visiting the city in detachments some two months ago when Wilmington was told that she was worse off morally than any city in the south located in close proximity to a troop concentration point, was brought up by E. L. White, and he was made chairman of the committee that will wait on the fort commandant, Roger Moore and George H. Huff are the other members of the committee. It was further stated that another committee, possibly from the chamber of commerce, would go to the fort tomorrow with the same object. In addressing the meeting Mr. White stated that he had talked with several non-commissioned officers, who say frankly that if the soldiers are allowed to come to the city that they will answer for their conduct if allowed by the colonel to accompany them with a small patrol guard.

The club does not feel that it can undertake to handle the chautauqua, the various members expressing themselves as opposed to a return engagement on the grounds that the average citizen has something else to think of except chautauqua. Others don't like the proposition because the chautauqua is unwilling to assume any responsibility, insisting that others bear the loss if there is any and yet is willing to take all the profits in event the patronage is good. Because the club is not a lawfully formed body the members would be obliged to shoulder any losses that might be incurred individually, and the members were unwilling to undertake the proposition, particularly since Wilmington had shown conclusively that she does not care for chautauqua—this latter through five years of steady loss in putting it on.

The labor question was discussed at length, J. O. Hinton, proprietor of the city laundry, pointing out the hopelessness of efforts to keep labor, particularly colored women, and others shared his opinion. In stating his case Mr. Hinton stated that often citizens came to his place and asked for such and such a negro woman with the object of hiring her. He bewailed the many picnics the colored people are engaging in on the sound, saying that when white people were inconvenienced on the beach cars because of the overplus of negroes riding the cars to and from the sound and he was inclined to think the proposition a good one for Rotary to take up. In answering him President Williams stated that while Rotary's sympathies were with him and others who were having trouble, he did not think that the club could handle a proposition of this kind but that additional laws were needed.

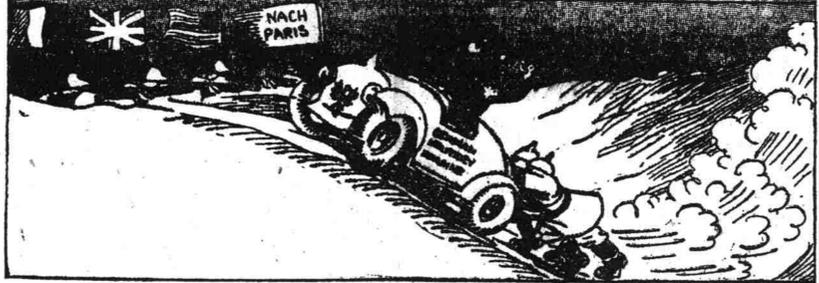
Others said it was impossible to hire labor on the wharf for less than 35 and 40 cents an hour and that the men when paid this price worked slowly and accomplished less than half as much as they did in the old days when labor was to be had for 15 cents.

George Galvin thought that the best way to hire labor was to find the man or woman employed the first time they stayed away from work without an excuse, saying that his was the policy that had been adopted at the shipyards. In other words if one has a job one must work regularly in order to keep it.

CARTOONS OF THE DAY



INFANT WELFARE WEEK.



THE MACHINE HAS LOST ITS MOMENTUM.



THE U. S. DESTROYERS ARE "OVER THE TOP."

FIGHTING IS MARKED BY GREAT SEVERITY

Situation on the Line Between Montdidier and Noyon Satisfactory

With the French Army in France, Monday, June 10.—Undiminished severity marks the fighting between Montdidier and Noyon. The situation tonight is rather satisfactory for the allies, whose obstinate resistance and frequent counter-attacks have caused great consternation to the Germans, enemy losses under the direct fire of the French artillery have been horrible.

Every time the allies counter attack they find the ground covered with German dead. Throughout the day the enemy threw his greatest pressure toward the center of the allied line in an effort to gain as much ground as possible southward in the direction of Compeign. Under the powerful push of the continually reinforced enemy columns the allies were forced to give way a little, but they fought tenaciously for every inch of ground.

An epic struggle occurred in the vicinity of Piemont, where the small garrison of dismounted cavalrymen possibly may still hold out.

French soldiers who managed to get through the German lines late yesterday declared that before they left the Germans had delivered terrific assaults, all of which have been repulsed with heavy losses for the enemy. Several small villages, including Mery, Belloy and St. Masure changed ownership a number of times, but this evening were in German hands. At no moment is it possible to say positively that this or that place is occupied by the enemy or the allies such is the terrific nature of the conflict. Ebbs and flows occur everywhere. On the Belloy plateau fighting went on continuously for several hours, entangling men in single combats.

The artillery is engaged more actively than in any battle in a long while. The Germans have been able to bring forward field guns in considerable number. The French artillery fire is most violent and very destructive, especially when turned against attacking enemy troops.

Two Killed by Bombardment.

Paris, June 11.—The long distance bombardment of Paris was resumed this morning. Two persons were killed and nine were wounded in yesterday's bombardment, according to the Eclair.

Increase Tobacco Rates

Washington, June 11.—Railroads were authorized today by the interstate commerce commission to increase rates on manufactured tobacco from North Carolina to points in the middle west to conform with recent increases in rates from Virginia.

Official Reports

BRITISH

London, June 11.—The British last night carried out an operation in the region east of Amiens by which their line south of Morlaucourt was advanced a half mile on a front of a mile and a half, the war office announced today. Two hundred and thirty-three prisoners were taken.

FRENCH

Paris, June 11.—The German drive between Montdidier and Noyon continued unrelentingly last night, says today's official report. On their left the French offered effective resistance. The French re-captured the village of Mery.

The principal German effort was directed against the center. Attacking with heavy forces, the enemy drove back the French as far as the region of the Aronde river, but by a brilliant counter attack the French hurled back the enemy all along this front and re-established their line south of Belloy at St. Maur, south of Marquellise, and at Van Dollcourt.

On their right the French engaged in violent combats with large forces concentrated by the enemy who was able to gain ground. The French withdrew their line to the west and south of Ribecourt.

The statement follows:

"Late yesterday an din the night the Germans continued to exert pressure in the direction of Estrees-St. Denis and Ribecourt. "On our left our resistance was effective. The Germans were able to capture neither Le Ployron nor Corcelles. The village of Mery was re-captured by the French at 10 o'clock last night.

"The principal efforts of the Germans was exerted along the front of St. Belloy and Marquellise. By a powerful attack delivered with a great number of effectives, the enemy succeeded in driving back the French to the vicinity of the Aronde river, but by a magnificent return offensive French troops hurled back the enemy all along this front, re-establishing their positions on a line south of Belloy at St. Maur, south of Marquellise and at Vandellier."

PORTO RICO-HAWAII TO FURNISH 17,000

Washington, June 11.—Porto Rico and Hawaii were called on by Provost Marshal General Crowder today to furnish 17,000 draft registrants for the national army.

WAR CAN BE LOST IN AMERICA SAYS WILSON

Urges Federation of Labor to Renew Efforts for War Program

Washington, June 11.—President Wilson today telegraphed to the American federation of labor and the American alliance for labor and democracy, in convention at St. Paul, Minn., urging renewed efforts of labor in support of the war program.

"The war can be lost in America as well as on the fields of France and ill-considered or unjustified interruptions of the essential labor of the country may make it impossible to win it," said the president's telegram to Robert Malsell, of the American alliance for labor and democracy.

FOUR NORTH CAROLINA LADS IN CASUALTY LIST

Large Number From the South Are Among the Killed and Wounded

Washington, June 11.—The army casualty list today contained 130 names, divided as follows:

- Killed in action 26
- Died of wounds 3
- Died of accident and other causes 2
- Died of disease 7
- Wounded severely 48
- Wounded, degree undetermined 43

Officers named were:

- Died of disease: Lieut. Edward Hines, Jr., Chicago.
- Wounded severely: Lieuts. Edmund Corby, New York, and James J. Lawrence, Atlanta, Ga.
- Capt. John T. Costello, Birmingham, N. Y., previously reported severely wounded, now reported slightly wounded.

WASTAGE OF HUMAN LIVES NETS GAINS

Huns Move Forward With Aid of Great Number of Tanks

FRENCH HOLD BALANCE

Villages Captured As Advance Pushes Its Way Slowly Toward Paris

PRICE PAID VERY DEAR

The Resistance Being Offered by French Past Few Days Not Surpassed During the Whole War

Paris, June 11.—All the advices from the battlefield show that the enemy is putting forth every possible effort in his design to push toward Paris, throwing division after division into the melting pot. So far as he has succeeded in two days of fighting, in carrying forward his line at the maximum point of advance, at Vignemont, a distance of six miles. In this he has been materially aided by a considerable number of tanks which the French artillery was at first unable to demolish.

The enemy further succeeded in widening the point of his wedge by bringing up two divisions of the guards and two Bavarian divisions borrowed from the army group of Crown Prince Rupprecht. These troops captured the villages of Mery, St. Maur and Belloy, giving him a plateau behind which he can mass troops partly screened from observation by the French.

If the danger to the French is in losing ground that is valuable as room in which to maneuver, the German peril lies in the human wastage that is in progress. The German army, as a whole, has been engaged for the last three months with slight facilities for renewal. The balance seems to be in favor of the French.

The resistance that is being offered by the French forces in this battle has not been surpassed for determination during the whole war. Thus one little group of dismounted cuirassiers at Piemont, where almost surrounded by 14 German attacks, contributed largely to the checking of the German advance.

In a summary of the Paris newspaper comment on the battle the Havas agency refers to the small progress made by the Germans yesterday in comparison with the price they had to pay. The Petit Journal observes that after an extremely costly day for them in the way of casualties, the Germans realized smaller gains than on the previous day.

"The divisions engaged melted away as in a crucible," it says. L'Homme Libre thinks that the results of the second day's fighting seems as favorable as those achieved on the opening day of the attack. If the question be considered from the point that one of the principal allied aims is to destroy the maximum number of the enemy troops engaged, The Echo de Paris says that Generals Foch and Petain know the enemy's limitations—how far he can go and beyond which positions he cannot advance further, while the Matin argues that an offensive conducted at such a price cannot be very long continued.

Premier Clemenceau conferred with several of the generals at the front yesterday and brought back with him, it is declared, very assuring news of the situation. The information which he gathered confirmed the reports of the enormous losses being suffered by the Germans.

CO-OPERATION KEYNOTE OF MANUFACTURERS

Atlantic City, N. J., June 11.—One thousand prominent manufacturers of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Delaware are to meet here tomorrow for a war convention. The chief object of the meeting will be to formulate a program whereby the utmost co-operation will be given to the government in the furnishing of war supplies.

Among the men of prominence scheduled to address the gathering are Gov. Samuel W. McCall, of Massachusetts; Senator Joseph S. Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey; Charles A. Otis, of the war industries board, and Louise Tracy, the English novelist, now a member of the British war mission to the United States.

May Increase Rates.

Washington, June 11.—The Baltimore and Carolina steamship company was given permission today by the interstate commerce commission to make increases ranging from 10 to 25 per cent. in commodity rates on shipments between Baltimore and Charleston and Georgetown, S. C.

Level, Va.; John H. Tritt, Gastonia, N. C.

STILL FRIENDLY TOWARDS MEXICO

Wilson Regrets Attitude of U. S. Is Not Understood

WELCOME TO EDITORS

Policy Based on Principle Internal Affairs None of His Business

CHAMPIONS OF WEAKER

America Will Be Mexico's Big Brother Whether It Wants Us or Not, Wilson Tells Them

Havana, June 11.—President Wilson, in his address to the Mexican newspaper editors in Washington last Friday (10). His address, which is printed in the morning newspapers here today, follows in part:

"I have never received a group of men who were more welcome than you, because it has been one of my distresses during my presidency that the Mexican people did not more thoroughly understand the attitude of the United States toward Mexico. I think I can assure you that that attitude is one of sincere friendship.

"The policy of my administration toward Mexico was in every point based upon the principle that the internal settlement of the affairs of Mexico was none of our business, that we had no right to interfere with, or dictate to Mexico in any particular with regard to her own affairs. When sent troops into Mexico our sincere desire was nothing else than to assist you to get rid of a man who was making the settlement of your affairs for the time being impossible. We had no desire to use our troops for any other purpose and I was in hopes by assisting in that way and thereupon immediately withdrawing I might give substantial truth of assurance that I had given your government through President Carranza.

"At the present time it distresses me to learn that certain influences, which I assume to be German in their origin, are trying to make a wrong impression throughout Mexico as to the purpose of the United States, but to give an absolutely untrue account of things that happened. "We are the champions of those nations which have not had the military standing, who would be unable to compete with the strongest nations in the world and look forward with pride to the time when I hope will come when we can give substantial evidence not only that we do not want anything out of this war but would accept anything out of it; that it is absolutely a case of disinterested action. And if you will watch the attitude of our people you will see that, nothing stirs them so deeply as the assurances that this war, so far as we are concerned, is for idealistic objects."

"Some time ago I proposed a sort of pan-American agreement. I had perceived that one of the difficulties of our past relationships with Latin America was this: The famous Monroe Doctrine was adopted without your consent and without the consent of any of the Central American or South American states. We said: "We are going to be your big brother whether you want us or not."

"We did not ask whether it was agreeable to you that we should be your big brother. We said we were going to be. Now that is all very well as far as protecting you from aggression from the other side of the water was concerned, but there was nothing in it that protected you from aggression from us, and we have repeatedly seen an uneasy feeling on the part of representatives of the states of Central and South America that our self-appointed protection might be for our own benefit and our own interests and not for the interests of our neighbors. So I have said 'Let us have a common guarantee that all of us will sign a declaration of political independence and territorial integrity. Let us agree that if any of us, the United States included, violates the political independence or territorial integrity of any of the others, all the others will jump on her.'"

"Now that is the kind of agreement that will have to be the foundation of the future life of the nations of the world, gentlemen.

"The whole family of nations will have to guarantee to each nation shall violate its political independence or its territorial integrity. That is the basis—the only conceivable basis—for the future peace of the world, and I must admit that I was anxious to have the states or the two countries of America show the way to the rest of the world as to how to be more a basis for peace.

"Peace can only come by trust. If you can once get a situation of trust then you have got a situation of permanent peace. Therefore, every one of us owes it, as a patriotic duty, to his own country, to plant the seeds of trust and of confidence instead of the seeds of suspicion and a variety of interest."

Level, Va.; John H. Tritt, Gastonia, N. C.

Wounded in action (degree undetermined): Privates Jarvis W. Moore, 2488 Roff Home avenue, Macon, Ga.; William C. Pope, Toccoa, Ga.; Melbourne J. Smith, 565 Walnut street, Macon, Ga.