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NO. 1.

RUSSIAN SOLDIERS ASSUME OFFENSIVE

TROOPS OF NEW RUSSIA LAUNCH ATTACK ON EXTENSIVE SCALE.

STORM GERMAN POSITIONS

Berlin Admits That Attacks Were Powerful Along Whole Eighteen-Mile Front.—British Are Meeting With Successes in West.

The soldiers of new Russia have assumed the offensive. For the first time since the revolution last March Russian troops have begun an attack on an extensive scale.

Along a region of eighteen and one-half miles in the region of Brzezany, Galicia, Russian troops have stormed the German positions. Berlin says the Russians suffered heavy losses and were compelled to retire before the German fire. The attack was made between the upper Stripa and the Narayuvka river, a tributary of the Gnila Lipa, in the section southeast of Lemberg, the Gallician capital, where the artillery firing has been heavy recently.

The Russians also made night attacks on both sides of Brzezany and near Zwyzyn, and Berlin reports that assaults between the Zlota Lipa and the Narayuvka have brought on new battles between the opposing forces. The artillery arm of the Russian forces has again been active, and from the Berlin report it is learned that an intensive duel has been in progress in the region of Brzezany to as far northward as the Middle Stokhod in Volhynia, distance of about 175 miles.

Berlin declares that the Russian attacks, which it says were powerful, were brought about through the pressure of the leading entente powers, the text of the official statement saying:

"The Russian government having been constrained to yield to the pressure of the leading entente powers, part of the army has been introduced to attack."

The region of the Narayuvka and Upper Stripa rivers has been the scene of much bitter fighting since General Brussiloff ended his victorious campaign last year, and Brzezany is one of the keys of Lemberg.

Field Marshall Haig continues to tighten his grip on Lens. On the north bank of the River Souchez, British troops have captured German positions on a front of about half a mile southwest and west of Lens. The British army during June captured 8,686 German prisoners, including 175 officers and sixty-seven men, including two heavy guns, as well as much other war material.

FOOD NEUTRALS MAY BE SUPPLY GERMANY FOOD.

Which is Replaced With Imports Brought From America.

Washington.—Evidence that Germany is obtaining vast quantities of food from the European neutral countries has been presented to the United States by Great Britain for the American government's guidance in determining an export policy. Much of this, the British statistics purport to show, is replaced by the neutrals with imports from America.

From Scandinavia and Holland, the information sets forth, enough fat is going into Germany to supply 7,700,000 soldiers, virtually the entire army of effectives in the empire. German imports from these countries, it is declared, "reduced to calories will equal the total ration of 2,500,000 troops, the size of the German army in the west."

German purchases of foodstuffs abroad are made through the government department of the interior, which has organized a special division to buy from the neutrals. In the early days of the war, the German government stimulated importation of food by excluding imports from operation of maximum price laws, but this drew such a vigorous protest from German producers the practice was stopped.

AMERICAN HELP IS REALLY VERY GREAT.

Zurich, Switzerland.—Referring to the arrival of American troops on French soil, the military critic of the Frankfurter Zeitung says Germany must not overlook the fact that American help is really very great, though it will come only by degrees. Under these conditions, he says, if France is obliged to restrict her military activities, it will signify no strengthening of the German situation.

FRANCIS S. PEABODY



Francis S. Peabody of Chicago, one of the country's leading coal operators, received what he termed a command from Secretary Franklin K. Lane to take charge of the coal situation in America. Consequently Mr. Peabody has moved his family to Washington and turned over his business affairs to others in order to act as chairman of the committee on coal production of the council of national defense.

AMERICAN TROOPS IN FRANCE

ADVANCE GUARDS READY TO TAKE STAND ALONGSIDE ARMIES OF ALLIES.

Thousands of Regulars and Marines Have Crossed the Atlantic and Take Places in Trenches After Short Period of Training.

Washington.—The advance guard of the mighty army the United States is preparing to send against Germany is on French soil.

In defiance of the German submarines, thousands of seasoned regulars and marines, trained fighting men, with the tan of long service on the Mexican border, or Haiti or Santo Domingo still on their faces, have been hastened over seas to fight beside the French, the British, the Belgian, the Russian, the Portuguese and the Italian troops on the western front. News of the safe arrival of the troops sent a new thrill through Washington. No formal announcement came from the war department. None will come, probably, until Major General Pershing's official report has been received. Then there may be a statement as to the numbers and composition of the advance guard.

Press dispatches from France, presumably sent forward with the approval of General Pershing's staff, show that Major General Sibert, one of the new major generals of the army, has been given command of the first force sent abroad, under General Pershing as commander-in-chief of the expedition.

SENATORS WRITE DRASTIC POWERS INTO FOOD BILL

Washington.—Food control legislation assumed new and more drastic form when the Senate agriculture committee virtually re-drafted many of the principal features of the House measure and reported it with material extensions of government power and a new "bone dry" prohibition provision to stop manufacture of intoxicating beverages during the war. The president would be authorized to permit wine making and to commandeer existing distilled spirits.

The amended bill was presented to the Senate by Senator Chamberlain. He moved to have it substituted for the draft the Senate has been debating and proceed with all expedition toward final action.

The new prohibition plan, all leaders admitted, greatly complicates the situation and precludes enactment of the legislation by July 1.

In extending the scope of the legislation, and the President's powers, the committee adopted amendments which would provide for government control, in addition to food, feeds and fuel, of iron, steel, copper, lead and their products, lumber and timber, petroleum and its products, farm implements and machinery, fertilizers and binding twine materials.

DENY ANY INCREASE IN FREIGHT RATES

APPLICATION OF RAILROADS FOR FREIGHT RATE INCREASE DENIED.

SUSPENDED UNTIL OCT. 28

Order Says No Conditions of Emergency Exist as to Western and Southern Roads to Justify Upward Revision of Rates.

Washington.—The Interstate Commerce Commission suspended until October 28, 1917, the proposed fifteen per cent increase in freight rates.

The commission, in announcing the decision said: "We are led to the conclusion that no condition of emergency exists as to the western and southern carriers, which would justify permitting a general increase in their rates to become effective."

"In the eastern districts, increased rates have recently been permitted to become effective, generally on bituminous coal, coke and iron ore. We think that similar increases may be permitted in the southern district on coal, coke and iron ore."

"In the southern district, the proposed increased rates on coal are on the basis of fifteen per cent, with a maximum of fifteen cents a ton. These tariffs we shall permit to become effective."

"In the western district, the increases are based upon fifteen per cent with a minimum of fifteen cents per ton. These tariffs will be suspended, but the western carriers may, if they so elect, file new tariffs carrying increases in rates on coal and coke not exceeding in any case fifteen cents per ton."

"All of the tariffs included in this percentage of the western lines will be suspended. All of the tariffs included in this percentage of the southern carriers will be suspended excepting those applying on coal, coke and iron ore."

The commission, in its decision, declared its willingness to meet any situation which may arise in case the fear of the railroads of heavily decreased incomes are realized.

GREECE BREAKS OFF RELATIONS WITH GERMANY.

State of War is Considered to Exist.

Athens.—The Greek government has broken diplomatic relations with Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey.

Though war has not yet been declared, the Greek government considers that a state of war exists since its advent to power. The recall of the Greek diplomatic representatives accredited to the central powers and their allies is imminent.

Greece's new course with regard to the war began to be shaped on June 12 with the abdication of King Constantine and the accession of Alexander, his second son, as king. The abdication was in effect a de-thronement of Constantine, whose pro-German attitude had given the entente endless trouble and threatened not only the success of the Saloniki expedition, but its safety through danger of a backfire from a hostile Greek military force.

Elipherios Venizelos, Greece's leading statesman and fast friend of the entente, soon appeared as the man to take the leadership in guiding Greece to her traditional place by the side of England, France and Serbia, the last her close ally whom she had abandoned under Constantine's coercion in Serbia's hour of greatest need.

Summoned back to the premiership by King Alexander, Venizelos quickly formed a cabinet. The reactionary elements have been ousted or quieted, and the re-establishment of Greek constitutional government, virtually abolished by Constantine, began. That the parliament of May, 1915, which had been dissolved by Constantine, would again be summoned to meet was later indicated, giving a legislative backing to the new executive power.

FOUR BRITISH VESSELS SUNK BY SUBMARINES

Boston.—The torpedoing and sinking of four large British cargo-carrying steamers was announced in advices to insurance offices. The steamers were the *Utonia*, of the Cunard line, 6,593 tons; *Haverford*, of the American line, 7,433 tons; *Buffalo*, Wilson liner, 2,533 tons, and the *Manistee*, another Cunard vessel. No details of the losses were given and no mention was made of the fate of the crews.

LORD NORTHCLIFFE



Lord Northcliffe, owner of the London Times and Daily Mail and many other publications, is now head of the British war commission in the United States.

RUSSIA WILL STICK TO END

M. BAKHMETIEFF SPECIAL ENVOY GIVES THIS SOLEMN PLEDGE.

Enthusiastic Reception is Given New Democracy's Representative When He Makes His Appearance in Senate Hall.

Washington.—In another stirring address at the capitol, Boris A. Bakhmetieff, head of Russia's diplomatic mission, gave a solemn pledge that the Russian people and army, convinced that a separate peace would mean the triumph of German autocracy, are prepared to fight on beside America until the world has been made safe for democracy.

The ambassador spoke before the Senate and was given a reception almost as enthusiastic as that accorded him Saturday in the House. On no previous occasion since the war began has senatorial reserve been cast so completely aside. At the conclusion of the address, a resolution was adopted by unanimous consent expressing the Senate's gratification over the stand of the newest democracy.

"Russia rejects with indignation any idea of a separate peace," said the envoy. "Striving for a lasting peace, based on democratic principles, established by democratic will, the Russian people and army are rallying their forces around the banners of freedom. Russia wants the world to be safe for democracy. To make it safe means to have democracy rule the world."

Many of the rumors of internal dissension in Russia, M. Bakhmetieff said, grew out of misunderstanding of the great changes taking place in the whole fabric of the government to transform it to democratic standards. He pleaded for patience and confidence that these changes, although they might take time, would be worked out successfully in the end.

The ambassador and other members of the Russian mission were given a reception by Secretary Lansing, with President Wilson among the guests.

BRITISH TROOPS SLOWLY ENCIRCLING LENS.

Germans Realize Their Tenure is Short Lived.

The slow but sure encirclement of Lens, the important coal center held by the Germans in the department of Pas de Calais, is in process of consummation by the Canadians. Having already during the present week captured important vantage points west and southwest of the town, a fresh smash at the German lines has been rewarded by the occupation of the village of La Coulotte, situated a mile to the south.

Although the British war office, aside from the operations around Lens, reports no activity by Field Marshal Haig's men rising in importance above minor patrol sorties, the Berlin war office asserts that heavy artillery duels are in progress at various points, in which enormous quantities of ammunition are being used. Reading between the lines of the German report, it is apparent that the British are the aggressors and it is possible that General Haig is paving the way for a series of new thrusts against the German lines.

The infantry activity in the region between Soissons and Rheims has given way entirely to artillery duels

BIG REDUCTIONS IN COAL PRICES

BITUMINOUS PRODUCT MINED EAST OF MISSISSIPPI EFFECTED BY AGREEMENT.

GOES INTO EFFECT AT ONCE

Decreases Ranging From One to Five Dollars Per Ton to the Public.—Question of Prices on Anthracite Comes Up Later.

Washington.—Sweeping reductions in the price of bituminous coal at all mines east of Mississippi river, ranging from one to five dollars a ton to the public, with an additional cut of fifty cents for the government, were agreed upon at conferences between the operators and government officials. The new prices become effective July 1.

Four hundred operators who gathered here at a call from Secretary Lane, pledged themselves to furnish their product by committees from each field. Earlier in the day, they had agreed to place the price-fixing in the hands of the government, through the defense council's coal production committee, Secretary Lane and Commissioner Fort, of the federal trade commission, thus avoiding the possibility of violating the anti-trust laws.

Director Smith of the geological survey, estimated that the reduced prices would mean that the operators would get \$180,000,000 less annually for their output.

In addition to placing prices upon coal at the mines it was announced that jobbers, brokers, retailers and commission men would be permitted to charge commissions of not more than twenty-five cents a ton and that no more than one commission should be charged. In other words, the consumer will get his coal at the mine plus transportation charges and twenty-five cents per ton.

The agreement does not affect anthracite, and the coal production committee announced that action on that problem had been postponed until after July 1 by agreement with the operators. The anthracite producers have indicated willingness to meet the government in the same spirit manifested by the bituminous men.

CANADIANS CONTINUE DRIVE AGAINST LINE AT LENS

Brazil is no longer a neutral in the world-war and the German empire has another enemy arrayed against it.

Having previously revoked its policy of aloofness so far as it affected the hostilities between the United States and Germany, Brazil now has come definitely into the open and announced that it can no longer be considered neutral in the war between the entente and Germany.

Although no announcement has been made as to whether the South American republic will actually enter into hostilities by its revocation of neutrality, it definitely aligns itself morally on the side of the United States and the entente.

The Canadians, men from all parts of the dominion, have taken another back at the German lines protecting Lens, the coal center in the Department of Pas de Calais and have been rewarded with another encroachment upon their objective.

Striking on a two-mile front south of Lens, the Canadians, protected by effective curtain fires, stormed and captured German first line positions before Avion and also the village of Leauvette. They defeated in their slaughters men of the crack Prussian guard and the fifth grenadier guard, whose machine gun and rifle fire was so effective that the attacking force could not stay them.

When the battle ended and the Canadians began their work of clearing newly-won positions they had been extended to within a mile of the center of Lens, the fall under such tenuous assaults has been made recently seemingly to be long delayed.

REGIMENTS WILL BE GIVEN NUMBERS, ONLY

Washington.—Designation of all army regiments hereafter by number and service branch only, without distinction between units of the regulars, national guard and national army, has been decided on by the war department to simplify official records of the great war forces now being developed. Under the system, the regular regiments will retain their present names from the "first infantry," "first cavalry," etc., upward.

EDITORS ENJOY VISIT TO MOREHEAD CITY

DISCUSSION AND CONFERENCES ON IMPORTANT PROBLEMS FEATURE CONVENTION.

EDITORS ARE ALL PATRIOTIC

President Sounds Call of Service to Newspaper Men.—Reviews Activities of Press.

Morehead City.—The sessions of the North Carolina Press Association, in annual convention here, were full of instructive discussions and conferences on important newspaper problems. President Edward E. Britton called the convention to order. R. T. Wade, of the Morehead City Coaster, welcomed the visiting journalists, and Miss Beatrice Cobb, of The Morganton Herald, responded in happy vein.

President Edward E. Britton then delivered his address the keynote of which was service. "This association," said he, "is not seizing upon all the opportunities for service which present themselves to it. We should have a larger membership, and that membership should be extended so as to include not alone editors and publishers of newspapers, but the members of the staffs of newspapers, both on the news and business side of the business should be eligible to membership. More than this. There should be an effort made to have all other newspaper associations in the state, retaining their offices and independent organizations, become departments in the North Carolina Press Association. As parts of this association we should have the Afternoon Press Association, the Western Carolina Weekly Press Association, and any other associations of newspaper men in the state. I direct the attention of the executive committee of this association to this matter, which I regard as of prime importance."

Editor T. W. Chambliss, of The Asheville Times, pointed out "The Duty of the North Carolina Press in the Present Crisis." He discussed the duty of the press to the government and in the instruction of the people concerning government problems and undertakings. The press must now be the medium between the government and the people.

S. L. Meares, of The Bladen Journal, entertained the association with a forceful and witty paper entitled "Some Practical Newspaper Suggestions." These suggestions were valuable to all newspaper men and Mr. Meares' humor and spice added to the paper's charm. In the general discussion which followed W. C. Hammer spoke with emphasis of America's part in the present war and the duties of journalists as individuals.

Miss Beatrice Cobb spoke convincingly of woman's work in the news-field, and declared that the newspaper offered many opportunities for women who were not afraid of work. She emphasized the great opportunity of service such work gives. Woman's place on the newspaper is not confined to fashion and society notes, she said.

M. L. Shipman, Commissioner of Labor and Printing, read one of the best historical papers in years, which was full of interesting comment concerning North Carolina newspaperdom. The annual poem by Dr. William Laurie Hill elicited much applause. It was charged with patriotic fervor.

Editor H. Galt Braxton, of The Kingston Free Press, delivered the annual oration before the convention. He spoke on the "Responsibility of the Press, from its Present Enlarged Aspect." "The press was never confronted with such a task," he declared, "and it is not so big now as it will be tomorrow." Mr. Braxton stated that in last year's meeting the work of the press had taken on a world-wide

"The press is going to meet its obligation and enlarged obligation," he declared. In conclusion, he pointed out some of the problems now confronting the press. He urged newspapermen to establish their business as regards the sustenance of the work. A valuable suggestion was that the press should be elected by acclamation.

E. C. Britton; J. A. Shaver, of the Robesonian, first vice president; Z. W. Whithead, Wilmington Number Journal, second vice president; R. T. Wade, Morehead City Coaster, convention host, third vice president; M. L. Shipman, historian; W. T. Bost, orator, and J. B. Sherrill, Concord Tribune, secretary. Mr. Martin is private secretary to Governor Bickett. Selection of the next meeting place was left to the committee.