

THE DUNN DISPATCH

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CRUCIAL MOMENT OF WAR IS NOW NEAR AT HAND.

Greatest Battle of War of Full Retreat of Germans Expected Within a Week.

Washington, Sept. 11.—Behind the apparent lull in the battle in France, events are swiftly shaping for operations of crucial importance in the opinion of officials here who are keeping in close touch with developments. Those observers believe a week's time will see either the greatest battle of the war in progress along the old Hindenburg line, or the enemy again in full retreat toward the Belgian frontier refusing to meet Foch's forces.

There is evidence that the German high command may plan further extensive withdrawals in order to shorten defensive lines and ease the strain upon German's waning manpower. There is now little doubt that it was lack of fighting effectiveness that forced the enemy to abandon all he had gained in his drive of this year and narrow his front. Unofficial estimates from France say the Germans have left behind them during the withdrawal more than 300,000 wounded or prisoners. This is in addition to the heavy losses in the frontal attacks by which the enemy early in the summer drove his way toward Paris and the channel ports.

With such losses as these draining the ranks and with American troops pouring into France at the rate of 200,000 a month, it would not surprise officers here if the German leaders have been compelled to fix upon a new line of defense which would offer any hope of staying the Allies' onward march.

Preparing to Quit Douai.

Unofficial reports from Dunkirk, where Allied air patrols are based, indicated that the preparations to evacuate Douai, northern cornerstone of the Hindenburg arch in France, are well advanced. The Allied armies also are said to have seen the enemy stragglers and aviation squadrons fifteen miles beyond Douai being hastily evacuated of heavy material. From other sources come reports that the civilian populations of the towns in German hands in this region are being driven out, a step which always precedes a withdrawal by the enemy.

There is little doubt in the minds of officers here that Douai could be held only at great cost if the British are sent forward to take it. Already Sir Douglas Haig's men have a firm hold astride the line between Douai and Cambrai and observers believe it will be little short of a military miracle if the enemy out of the confusion unavoidable in his swift retreat can organize a defense for Douai, Cambrai, St. Quentin, or La Fere which can resist successfully the full weight of the allied armies.

If these towns fall, the Hindenburg line goes with them, probably along its whole length, it is said. Foot by foot the French have forced their way around the northern side of La Fere, while to the south French and American troops have clung to their hold on the heights above Vaux Villian against repeated counterattacks. Another mile of advance here, and just to the south, will put General Mangin's men actually on the northern end of the Chateau des Dames, the bridge that guards Laon from the Franco-American forces along the Aisne.

Call Upon Wounded.

As to the straits in which the German leaders find themselves for men, further information reaches Washington today. Official dispatches from France said orders have been issued by the German command to get wounded men back into the ranks even before complete cures have been effected to employ at once German prisoners released by the Russians even though they had not fully recovered their strength and health, to turn cavalry into infantry to fill gaps in the ranks.

Other orders, the dispatches said, direct that at certain intervals in quiet sectors an Austro-Hungarian division be placed between two German divisions or that Austrian soldiers be distributed in German regiments in a proportion of sixty to a company to make up the full company strength of about 250 men. These orders also state that the reduction of the battalion strength to three companies instead of four, put into effect in at least eight enemy divisions, was largely for the purpose of making good losses in company and non-commissioned officers.

A children's Field Day will be observed in the Erwin Park at Duke Saturday afternoon. All children under fourteen years of age are invited to participate. Several prizes will be given away to the winners in the various contests which will take place.

Miss Westray Battle left Wednesday for Greensboro where she will enter the State Normal College.

MANGIN'S TROOPS PRESS AFTER HUNS.

Now Practically in the Old Trenches of 1917 Between Aisne and Oise.

With the French Army in France, September 8. (By The Associated Press.)—The troops of General Mangin between the Aisne and the Oise rivers now are virtually behind their old wire entanglements in their old trenches of 1917. All along the edge of the forest of Coucy and through the western horn of the St. Gobain forest the Germans are only two hundred yards away and in some places they are in positions in the old Hindenburg line, which are plainly visible from the heights west of Chateau Coucy.

The Oise-Aisne Canal and the river Ailette that runs between the heights and the Chateau and which forms a sort of advanced post of their main line six miles further back at Fresnoes were not abandoned voluntarily, but wrested from the enemy after a struggle of five days, during which five hundred German divisions tried to hold off a single French division.

"The divisions which tried to prevent the crossing of the canal and river," the Associated Press correspondent was informed by a French officer, who has participated in most of the campaigns of the war, "accomplished the greatest concentration of machine gun fire that has been witnessed in this war."

The French troops were obliged to face that line at a range of twenty yards in order to cross the Oise-Aisne canal and the river Ailette. Pioneers throwing bridges across the Canal seventeen yards wide suffered not only from the quick-fiers but were in good range of German grenades. It required two days to advance to the Ailette from the village of Bont-Saint-Mari and four days to gain five hundred yards of ground. The machine guns were massed thickly all along the Canal in front of Coucy and in the woods, thickets and marshes.

The French engineers finally succeeded in bridging the Canal and over the first bridge an enraged sergeant charged the Germans around a machine gun position and single-handed made twelve of them prisoners. Such was the work that went on both along the river and day exhausting German's best divisions.

Twenty-two quick-fiers were found in a small thicket called Eturaisne wood. They were almost as thick in Vache wood and the more extensive timbered land fronting Coucy-le-Chateau and Coucy-la-Ville. Where the French could get at them they charged and killed the German gunners on their pieces but many emplacements were to well hidden or protected for a direct attack and it was necessary to shell them.

During several hours French projectiles sent splinters flying all through the timber and when the infantry charged they had to go on to Coucy-la-Ville and Coucy-la-Ville. Where the French could get at them they charged and killed the German gunners on their pieces but many emplacements were to well hidden or protected for a direct attack and it was necessary to shell them.

SECRETARY BAKER AND PARTY IN FRANCE

Washington, Sept. 9.—Secretary Baker is in France for his second visit to the American army there. John D. Ryan, assistant secretary in charge aircraft; Surgeon General Gorgas and Brig. Gen. Bines, chief of the embarkation service, accompanied him.

Mr. Ryan will devote his attention while abroad to the air service and among other things is expected to inspect factories turning out airplanes for the American expeditionary forces. General Gorgas will visit hospitals and inquire generally into health conditions among the troops, while General Bines will visit the American port of debarkation.

DAVIS WRITES TO HIS REGISTRANTS AUGUST 1917 TROOP SHIP TORPEDOED BUT NO LIVES WERE LOST.

2,500 in Number, Rescued by Accompanying Destroyers.

Washington, Sept. 11. News of the torpedoing of the British liner *Pernic*, with 2,500 American troops on board in the war zone, September 6, was given to the American people today. Through the British admiralty and then later through Navy Department. All the soldiers were rescued by accompanying destroyers, the steamer itself was beached and the enemy submarine is believed to have been accounted for.

Officials here viewed the result of the attack more as an allied success than as a disaster. The fact the steamer was torpedoed when she was endeavoring to overtake the conveyed fleet of transports after overcoasting engine trouble which had forced her to lag, convinced officers that submarine commanders still are fearful of attacking troops ships in convoy. And the immediate and completely successful assistance rendered by the destroyers was taken as an additional evidence that the convoying system now in vogue is practically perfect.

First word of the attack on the *Pernic*, it was learned, officially reached the Navy Department on the night of September 6, in a brief dispatch from Vice-Admiral Sims, although navy officials have emphatically denied, in the interim, that any important news of submarine activities was being withheld. It was understood that the British admiralty expressed the request that they be permitted to announce the news of the attack.

It is believed that a troop ship had been sunk, probably with heavy loss of life, but that the survivors were rescued by the publication of what evidently was an inspired London dispatch stating that allied naval circles had reason to believe that German submarines soon would concentrate their efforts in an attempt to impede the steady flow of American soldiers overseas. No explanation of the purpose of this article, could be obtained however, from navy officials here.

Although a troop ship by submarine attack is expected by officials here, it may be that a new and more effective method of attack is being tried.

The trustees possible protection of torpedoes and this increase as the American naval forces in the war zone are added to by new construction in American yards.

The records achieved by the American and allied navies in the transporting of more than 1,600,000 American soldiers overseas with the loss of only 291 of them, still is considered miraculous. And it is expected by naval officers as testifying to the success of the convoy system.

With love,
JAMES D. DAVIS.
CAMP TO CAMP ROAD IS BEING PLANNED.
Improved Highway from Fayetteville to Raleigh Via Lillington Scheme. (Raleigh News and Observer.)
A camp to camp highway from Fayetteville to Raleigh, Lillington is one of the developments promised as the result of the establishment of the camps at the two cities.
The matter was brought to the attention of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday by interested Fayetteville citizens with the suggestion that the Cumberland county and Harnett authorities would co-operate in the road in first class condition. In fact, there are two roads as it now stands with the way will be a complete road. A committee will be organized to take up the matter to the attention of county commissioners and also to the attention of the State Highway Commission in the hope that federal funds may be secured for the purpose of building the road.

E. C. West was in Raleigh Tuesday on legal business.
J. O. West of the naval reserve corps, who is stationed at Portsmouth Va. was here last week visiting his brother, E. C. West.

TREMENDOUS WAR PROGRAM FOR NORTH CAROLINA FAIRS.

North Carolina Fairs Will Reach a Million Folks.

Raleigh, N. C., Sept. 9.—Arrangements have just been completed for the biggest war-time program for the fairs of North Carolina in the history of the country. Breaking all previous records the country over, September 1st the closing date for applications, found a grand total of 250 fairs registered with the Extension Service. Nothing like this has ever been done in any other state, and the Washington office of the States Relations Service of the Federal Department of Agriculture is calling for a complete and detailed report of the work which will be submitted to other states for similar application.

Included in the list of fairs whose applications have been received are two special fairs, one a livestock show at Clyde and the other a fruit show at Asheville, seven district fairs, forty county fairs, one hundred and seventy-two community fairs, one elevated State fair, eight colored county fairs and twenty community fairs. Fifteen judging contests for young people in livestock have also been arranged, including four contests with beef cattle, two contests with poultry, four contests with dairy cattle, two contests with sheep, two contests with swine, and one butterfat contest.

Judges are now being assigned by the District Agents of the Demonstration Division and the Fair Committee. Last year 297 fairs were recorded, this year's representing a substantial increase in spite of the war. The fairs will be featured by War Savings and Thrift Stamps for premiums, demonstrations, contests, lectures, addresses, etc., all bearing on the war and improved agriculture.

Lists of the fairs and their dates are now being sent by the Chairman of the Fair Committee to a number of prominent organizations that will assist in the promotion of this work by displaying various features. Among some of these organizations are the following: Food Administration, State Board of Health, State Department of Education, State Insurance Department, Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Progressive Farmer, etc.

High School Teachers—Miss Carolyn Parthing, Northside, N. C.; Miss Janie Ipeck, Goldsboro, N. C.; Miss Edith Crouch, Saluda, S. C.; Miss Flora McQueen, Dunn, N. C.

MORE ATTENTION GIVEN TO THE FOOD PRICES.

Food Administration Creates New Division for Assistance to County Committees and for Checking Up Prices.
Raleigh Sept. 10th.—The Food administration is headed toward a more rigid and far-reaching control of retail prices of food commodities according to an announcement made by State Food Administrator Henry A. Page today.

Some time ago the detailed reports required by the Food Administration from jobbers and wholesalers were very largely done away with, and in their stead a system of inspection was inaugurated. At that time the announcement was made that hereafter prices would be checked from the consumer's end, the presumption being that if there was any undue margin at any stage of manufacture or sale it would show in the price to the retailer. The new status and emphasis to the necessity for the price interpreting committees of Fair Price Committees, which the Food Administration has requested every County Food Administrator in the State to appoint.

Further Administrator Page nor Executive Secretary Incan have had time to give to the direction of the new feature of the work in the State that its importance has demanded, and effective this week, a price interpreting division has been created with Miss M. Kmetz Tuttle as chief. Miss Tuttle is a graduate of Trinity College and Columbia University, and is at present a member of the Faculty of the State College for Women at Columbus, Miss., from which she has been granted a leave of absence in order to take up the present work. She is an economist of successful training, and has the initiative and aggressiveness that is requisite to the successful performance of the duties of her new office.

A great deal of cotton is being sold in the Dunn market now. The price today is ranging around 35 cents and it is coming in rapidly. Darning facilities are adequate now, which means that more cotton than usual will be sold here.

Mr. W. D. Holland has received information from Capt. Holland, indicating that he will return home within the next few weeks. Capt. Holland is now in France.

IMPORTANT NOTICE CONCERNING THE NEW SESSION OF DUNN PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Session 1918-1919 of Dunn Public School will begin on Monday, September 16, and parents are earnestly urged to enter their children as early as possible.

The plan of work for the first two days will be as follows:
Monday at 9 a. m. at the school building there will be a meeting of the faculty when the work for the session will be thoroughly planned and discussed.
Monday at 2:30 P. M. all new public above first grade will report to teachers for classification. At same hour all pupils who wish to take any examination for promotion will report to the superintendent.

Tuesday morning the entire school will assemble for regular work. At 9 o'clock there will be the opening exercises, after which a list of the text books will be given the pupils and lessons assigned for the day. Old pupils are requested not to report for work until Tuesday morning; they should come bringing all their text books.

The greatest care has been taken in selecting the faculty for the new session and it is confidently believed a very strong corps of teachers has been chosen. With the hearty cooperation of school authorities, teachers, pupils and parents next session should be made the best in the history of Dunn school.

Given below is the name and address of the teachers:
1st Grade—Miss Ernestine Cherry, Scotland Neck, N. C.
1st Grade—Miss Caro McIntyre, Troy, N. C.
2nd Grade—Miss Noel Fridgen, Elra City, N. C.
2nd Grade—Miss Martha Davis, Bullock, N. C.
3rd Grade—Miss Marie Mosley, Kinston, N. C.

Section 3rd and 4th, Miss Claire Hodges, La Grange, N. C.
4th Grade—Miss Lela Wrotton, Denmark, S. C.
5th Grade—Miss Christine Johnston, Rowland, N. C.
Section 5 and 6th Grades—Miss Ethel Craig, Dallas, N. C.
6th Grade—Miss Bessie Hodges, La Grange, N. C.

High School Teachers—Miss Carolyn Parthing, Northside, N. C.; Miss Janie Ipeck, Goldsboro, N. C.; Miss Edith Crouch, Saluda, S. C.; Miss Flora McQueen, Dunn, N. C.

CHANGE NOTION ABOUT CALOMEL.

New Variety Called Calotabs is Perfectly Safe and Delightful.
With all of the liver cleansing and system purifying qualities of the old style calomel, but robbed of its sickening, griping and dangerous effects, Calotabs is destined to become the most popular of all home remedies, as it has already become the favorite of all physicians.

The new style calomel, called calotabs, is perfectly delightful in effect. One tablet at bedtime, with swallow of water,—that's all. No nausea, no griping. Next morning you awake feeling fine, your liver active, your system purified and with a hearty appetite for breakfast. Eat what you please, there is no restriction of habit or diet.

Genuine Calotabs are never sold in bulk. Ask for the original, sealed package, price thirty-five cents. Your druggist recommends and guarantees Calotabs.—(Adv.)

SPECIAL NOTICE

To the People of Dunn:

We the undersigned Retail Merchants of the Town of Dunn take this method of giving the public notice, that beginning next Monday morning, Sept. 16th, there will be no delivery of any groceries, produce or any food or feed stuff of any kind whatever.

After thoroughly considering the matter we are convinced that taking this step will be beneficial both to our customers and ourselves as we will be enabled to cut down expenses and sell to our customers for less money.

At this time when our country is at war and such a draft is being made on our manpower, we find it impossible to employ help enough to conduct our business as we have heretofore. In doing this we are only co-operating with the Government in winning the war. This rule will be followed for the duration of the war and longer if the same good reasons continue.

Morgan Bros. H. O. Mattox Julius M. Lee C. L. Alphin M. M. Driver H. A. Black E. L. Parker & Sons H. C. McNeill W. P. Surles & Son	A. B. Naylor N. A. Bell Co. Walter Jones M. F. Hodges B. Lewis & Son. Eubanks & Strickland R. W. Pope R. S. Jernigan W. H. Hargrove	L. P. Surles S. G. Marks E. G. Barnes W. J. Jones C. C. Butler J. E. Jordan R. M. Warren M. G. Cook Marvin Wade Co.
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