

VILLA WILL DEFY U. S. TROOPS IN ATTACKING TOWN OF AGUA PRIETA

Says if Necessary Will Fight United States Army on the Border.

FOOD SUPPLIES SCANT

Engagement With the Carranza Forces Was Question of Hours Last Night.

American Troops in Positions Ready for Action.

Douglas, Ariz., Oct. 31.—Villa troops invading Sonora arrived today within striking distance of Agua Prieta, opposite here, and the expected attack against the Carranza garrison apparently is a matter of hours. Advance cavalry of the invaders halted late today, 31-2 miles east of Agua Prieta. General Francisco Villa, who arrived at the international border, several miles further east, a few hours earlier, talked with Americans across the boundary and announced that he intended to attack the Mexican town, regardless of any action United States troops might take. "If necessary, I will fight the United States army assembled along the border," he said.

Carranza Garrison Strengthened. General Villa learned for the first time today that permission had been given by the United States government for Carranza to move troops through American territory to reinforce the Agua Prieta garrison. Four Carranza troops journeying through United States territory arrived tonight bringing the fighting strength of the Carranza garrison to 6,000 men. Villa, according to reliable estimates has 10,000 soldiers.

It was expected here that Villa would open the engagement as quickly as possible because of the condition of his men, thousands of whom were thirty tonight in positions far from water and with scant supplies of food. It is believed Villa contemplates moving his main body into position sometime during the night following one of his favorite plans.

Start on Final Advance. The main body of Villa's army formed a junction with their advance troops at the Gallardo ranch, about 18 miles southeast of Agua Prieta. The attacking army then started forward for the final advance on the Carranza garrison. The Carranza garrison, with 1,500 cavalry, preceded the invaders and halted his forces just beyond range of the guns of General P. Elias Calles, the Carranza commander at Agua Prieta.

Brigadier General Thomas F. Davis, commanding the United States troops entrenched just north of the Mexican line inspected his men and their positions. He also kept a close watch of the Mexican military movements plainly to be seen from the American side. Thousands of spectators witnessed today the first attack incident to the expected attack of the Carranza army, believed to have been a Carranza spy, suddenly broke away from the Villa column and raced for his life from a shower of bullets. Villa soldiers went in pursuit, firing as they rode, but the man reached Agua Prieta, apparently uninjured.

Camp Near Douglas. Three thousand Villa troops, mounted and afoot, and driving pack animals, loaded with machine guns and unmounted cannon, were tonight at a point four miles east of Douglas and about the same distance south of the international boundary. Campfires were visible both from Douglas and from the east trenches of the Calles stronghold which were filled with ribmen, machine gun operators and gunners manning field pieces.

Villa himself was with his cavalry which passed along the border today to take position just out of range of the garrison. It was during this march that he learned that Carranza reinforcements had been transported over American territory.

"Agua Prieta will be mine," he asserted, "Americans or no Americans. Pointing his finger toward the town he added: "I suppose I can do that, too." "When?" he was asked.

"I know," was the reply. "Through United States. Suddenly Villa asked again if it were true that the United States government had permitted General Carranza to transport reinforcements over American territory. He then said: "This is the way the United States repays me for the protection I have given foreigners in Mexico. Hereafter I don't give a damn what happens to foreigners in Mexico or in my territory. I can fight my battles. Let them fight theirs. I can whip Carranza and his entire army but it is asking a great deal to whip the United States also; but I suppose I can do that, too." Villa declined to pose for a photograph. ("No more of my pictures for (Continued on Page Eight.)")

WILL MAKE REPORT ON BRITISH TRADE

Consul Skinner Arrives to Consult With Officials.

BELGIANS IN DISTRESS

Dr. Bainbridge, Who Also Arrived on the Rotterdam, Says Thousands of Refugees Face Winter Without Means of Support.

New York, Oct. 31.—Robert P. Skinner, United States consul general in London, summoned to Washington for consultation on the trade situation between the United States and Great Britain, arrived today on the steamer Rotterdam. Mr. Skinner denied reports that his recall had been occasioned by any dissatisfaction with his duties as consul general and declared that there was no friction between his office and the State Department. He also denied reports published in London papers that he was to be appointed ambassador to Mexico, and said there was no truth in rumors that he was bringing with him documents alleged to have been taken from Franz Rintelen by British authorities when Rintelen and Andrew Meloy were detained at Plymouth while they were en route to Holland.

Dr. William Seaman Bainbridge, of New York, who has been in England, Belgium, France and Poland making a semi-official survey of Red Cross hospital work, was on the Rotterdam. "Despite the magnificent aid that has already been given Belgium," said Dr. Bainbridge, "there are thousands of refugees facing the winter without means of support, and shipments of food and clothing from the United States are necessary to relieve distress and starvation."

At the Rotterdam the Rotterdamers Captain John Leonard and nine members of the crew of the American sailing ship Pass of Balmaha, which left Newport for Archangel in the war, it was reported by the Rotterdamers. The Rotterdamers brought 1,637 passengers and 5,000 bags of mail.

TO RAISE FUNDS TO RELIEVE STARVING JEWS IN RUSSIA. Appeal Made at Meeting Held in London Yesterday.

London, Nov. 1.—At a meeting here yesterday in behalf of the fund for the relief of Jewish victims of the war, it was announced that there were 1,500,000 Jews starving in Russia. Leopold De Rothschild presided and Lord Swinfen, Chief Rabbi of Great Britain, and other prominent Jews were present. Rabbi Hertz described the task of raising the fund as vast and urgent. The response to the appeal for funds for the relief of Jewish victims of the war, it was reported, was not nearly adequate, mainly owing to their ignorance of the real state of affairs. For nearly a year there had been a slight reprieve in the general press, broken only occasionally by a sneer at the Jews by preachers of race hatred and apologists for reaction. The Jews, he added, were face to face with a tragedy unparalleled in the history of Jewish agony.

The Petrograd authorities, Rabbi Hertz concluded, expected a million pounds (\$5,000,000) from the British Jews and only \$1,000,000 had been raised. "The present call was for sacrifices and self-sacrifice."

MANY THEFTS IN JAPAN. Attributed to Chinese Revolutionists and German Spies—Arrests.

Tokyo, Oct. 31.—There have been many arrests recently for thefts of explosives from magazines, the thievery being variously attributed by the press to Chinese revolutionists and German spies. In the general press, received by the household department and members of the cabinet, and menacing posters have appeared in the parks. In view of the coronation season the police are adopting extraordinary protective measures. The police have received a letter signed "socialist party" advising the abandonment of the investigation of the thefts. The Hochi Shimbun asserts that there is a widespread plot by German spies to destroy arsenals and interfere with the supply of munitions to the entente allies.

NO PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. Report That Von Buelow is to Prepare Negotiations is Denied.

Berlin, via wireless to Duckerton, N. J., Oct. 31.—Reports in foreign news that Prince von Buelow has been entrusted with the preparation of peace negotiations are absolutely incorrect," says the Overseas News Agency. "Prince von Buelow, who is now in Switzerland, has in no way taken steps toward the starting of peace negotiations, nor has he been charged with that task."

"As the appointment of a German ambassador, with a special mission to Constantinople, is contemplated, Count Wolff-Metternich, former ambassador to Great Britain, is expected to receive the assignment."

Mobile, Ala., Oct. 31.—Mrs. Theresa McBroome was acquitted today by a jury court, at her second trial for the murder of her husband, Reuben McBroome in December, 1914. The jury was out 24 hours. Mrs. McBroome who is 29 years old pleaded insanity.

MILITIA MAY JOIN CONTINENTAL ARMY

Provision for National Guard in the Army Plans.

DOUBLE APPROPRIATION

Garrison Says Body is Due Full and Proper Recognition in Any Military System or Policy Proposed—Statement.

Washington, Oct. 31.—Practically doubled, Federal appropriations for the state militia and opening of the proposed continental army to any organization or individual of the National Guard desiring to enter and free to do so, are contemplated in the army side of the administration's national defense programme. Details of provisions for the militia were made public in a statement today by Secretary Garrison, commenting upon conferences at the War Department last week by the executive committee of the National Guard Association. Although opposition to the continental army idea was expressed at first by some of the National Guard officers when the conference closed, it was announced that a mutual view point had been reached.

"This body," the National Guard, said Mr. Garrison's statement, "during all the time when there was practically no interest in this country concerning military matters, has been working to do whatever they could do to improve the military situation of this country. They are absolutely entitled, by virtue of this fact, to full and proper recognition in any military system or policy to be proposed by the War Department."

"In my proposition any and every organization of the National Guard is free to do so in so far as its state obligations are concerned, may come over into the national force intact, and be accorded exactly the same position therein that it now holds."

"Any individual who prefers the intensive training and other features of the national force will likewise be admitted thereto, rank for rank and grade for grade. I indicated my entire willingness and desire in all propositions made by me, to so circumstantially the membership of the National Guard in respect to the national force as to give it full recognition."

"With respect to the National Guard in the states, the plan not only contemplates continuing the financial and personal aid on behalf of the national government, but largely increases the same, practically doubling it the next fiscal year."

NO SUCH PERSON IN ARMY. German Military Authorities Investigate Case of Robert Fay.

Berlin, Oct. 31, via London.—A special investigation by the German military authorities concerning Robert Fay, held in New York, charged with conspiracy in connection with an alleged plot to blow up ships carrying supplies for the Entente Allies, and who has declared that he was a lieutenant in the German army, was followed by a statement from the authorities today that there is not now, and there never was an officer called Fay in the German army.

Vancouver, B. C., October 31.—Seven men are believed to have lost last night in the general press, owned by the Vancouver Portland Cement Company, founded in the Gulf of Georgia. The Leona was bound from Howe Sound for Tacoma, with copper ore.

FOSTER AMERICANISM PURPOSE OF SOCIETY

A "Federation for National Unity" is Organized.

Loyalty to the United States is One Purpose of New Body—Prominent Persons Among the List of Directors.

New York, Oct. 31.—Articles of incorporation of the American society, described as a "Federation for National Unity," have been forwarded to the Secretary of State at Albany. Among the directors are Gifford Pinchot, of Milford, Pa.; Jacob M. Dickinson, of Chicago; Job E. Hedges, of New York; Lewis C. Johnson, of St. Louis, and Robert M. Thompson, of Washington, D. C.

The purposes of the society, as set forth in the articles are to foster Americanism; unite men and organizations now working to spread an understanding of American language, laws and institutions; bring about a mutual understanding between aliens and citizens of this country and foster single minded loyalty to the United States. The main office of the society will be in New York. Women will be admitted to membership.

A statement issued by Robert Underwood Johnson, chairman of the organization committee, declared that it had been evident for a long time that vigorous steps should be taken to defend the principles that underlie American unity and foster undivided loyalty to this country. To these ends, it is said, women and men from all parts of the country have joined in the movement to found the society.

\$375,000 IS GIVEN TO FOUR COLLEGES

Announced by Rockefeller General Education Board.

OTHER FUNDS PROVIDED

For Number of Novel Experiments in the Field of Education—Other Undertakings Also Announced by the Board.

New York, Oct. 31.—The General Education Board, one of John D. Rockefeller's philanthropic enterprises, tonight announced gifts totalling \$375,000 to four colleges and provision for funds for a number of novel experiments in the field of education. The latter include a scientific study of the Gary, Ind., scheme of public school education and of the Hampton Institute system, the results of which the board intends to make available for general use throughout the country.

The gifts are: Carlton college, Northfield, Minn., a congregational institution, \$100,000; Hobart College, Geneva, N. Y., Episcopalian, \$50,000; Lafayette college, Easton, Pa., Presbyterian, \$200,000, and Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Mich., Baptist, \$25,000.

Other undertakings announced include the publication of a handbook on university finance which will be prepared by Trevor Arnet, auditor of the University of Chicago, and a study of the training of teachers for rural schools, for which the services of Prof. Lotus H. Coffman, of the University of Minnesota, have been engaged.

TO DEVELOP NEW SYSTEM

For Making Small Number Class Rooms Accommodate Many Divisions.

Gary, Ind., Oct. 31.—The public schools of Gary which are to be the subject of scientific investigation by the Rockefeller general education board have become best known to the public through the system of drawing class programmes to permit the maximum use of school machinery. Under this system a small number of class divisions are made to accommodate many class divisions.

The developer of the system, William Wirt, superintendent of schools, has been engaged by New York city to establish a similar system there.

BRYAN TO GO TO EUROPE

Dispatch Says He Will Arrive in Norway in Mid-November.

Paris, October 31.—The Havas correspondent at Geneva, transmits a dispatch to the Frankfurt Gazette from Christina, Norway, which states that William J. Bryan will arrive in Norway in mid-November.

NUMBER OF TAR HEELS STILL OWE UNGLE SAM

Wants Refund From Americans Stranded in Europe.

Wilmingtonians Among Those Falling to Reimburse Government—Those With the Means Will Be Pressed to Return Loan.

(Special Star Telegram.)

Washington, D. C., Oct. 31.—The Treasury Department today made public the names of nearly two thousand persons stranded in Europe at the outbreak of the war during the summer of 1914 who borrowed money from Uncle Sam to get home and who have failed or refused to repay the loan. According to government officials investigators have reported that every person listed is financially able to return the money advanced to relieve temporary distress and enable the repayment to come back to the United States. Those found unable to repay will not be dunned.

Those possessing sufficient means to reimburse the government for the money loaned them will, however, be pressed to return it. Just how the collections are to be made is not revealed in the statement issued today, but it is intimated that the department is now preparing to file a large number of suits.

"Before court action is resorted to, however, an effort will be made to sue some men into returning the loans to the treasury. It is announced that in addition to the names made public today other lists will be given out from time to time. No announcement will be made until the department is now preparing to file a large number of suits."

The list of North Carolinians given out with the Treasury statement follows: George Alexander, Wilmington, owes \$61.00; Julius Alexander, Charlotte, \$55.25; Sam Hawkins, Wilmington, \$18.50; Jacob Hines, Wilmington, \$73.50; Patrick Houston, Wilmington, \$73.50; James Parker, Sunbury, \$72.50; Thomas C. Ramsey, Wilmington, \$30; Richard Roberson, Raleigh, \$40; James Sharp, Plymouth, \$8.50.

E. R. A.

PRISONER REMOVED FROM JAIL; HANGED

Masked Men Overpower Jail-er at Columbia, Miss.

WORK IS QUIETLY DONE

Jack Hughes, the Lynched Man, Member of Prominent Louisiana Family—Charged With Murdering Young White Man.

Columbia, Miss., Oct. 31.—Jack Hughes, 30 years old, member of a prominent family of Washington Parish, La., was taken from the county jail here early today by a party of masked men and hanged to a tree a short distance outside the city limits. Hughes was under arrest in connection with the death of Larue Holloway, a well known young man of this place, who was shot and killed near here on the night of October 21.

Otto Fortenberry, the jailer, said he was awakened about 1 o'clock this morning by three masked men, who after forcing him to give up the key to Hughes' cell, bound him to his bed. The lynchers worked quietly. Fortenberry said, and after forcing Hughes to put on his clothes, they removed him from the building without awakening more than two of the prisoners in adjoining cells. These were unable to say how many men were in the party.

The jailer, who was released several hours later, reported to the sheriff and posses began a search for the prisoner and his abductors. A short distance outside the city Hughes' body was found swinging from a tree.

According to the authorities, persons who witnessed the killing of Holloway in a lumber camp near here, said that Hughes shot the young man in the back without provocation. Holloway at the time, it was said, was engaged in a fight with another person while Hughes was an on-looker.

A coroner's jury returned a verdict that Hughes had met his death at the hands of a person or persons unknown. For several days after the killing of Holloway the authorities guarded the jail but recently relaxed their vigilance. Hughes last Saturday waived preliminary examination and was remanded to jail to await the action of the grand jury.

HONOR JAPANESE EMPEROR

Brilliant Celebration Ushers in the Coronation Season.

Tokyo, Oct. 31.—A brilliant celebration today of the birthday of the Emperor Yoshihito ushered in the coronation season, the most notable event of the year, which will occur November 10 when the emperor will formally accede to the throne of Nippon. The emperor gave a luncheon to the royal princes and princesses and the imperial corps tonight. This was followed by a dinner given by Baron Kikujiro Ishi I, minister of foreign affairs, his reception being attended by many Americans.

BLANCHE WALSH DIES

Noted Actress Succumbs in Hospital After Two Weeks' Illness.

Cleveland, Ohio, Oct. 31.—Blanche Walsh, actress, died here tonight in a hospital where she was taken two weeks ago for an operation. Miss Walsh's refusal to discontinue an audience caused a relapse. After she kept an engagement at Youngstown, Ohio, where she collapsed and was brought back here. In private life she was Mrs. William H. Travers.

URGES AN INCREASE IN STORES FOR THE NAVY

For Placing Fleets Upon War Basis in a Few Hours.

Paymaster General McGowan Makes Annual Report—Shows Expenditures on Navy From 1794 to 1915 to be \$3,214,329,641.

Washington, October 31.—Increases in the navy's store of supplies to make possible the placing of the fleets upon a war basis at a few hours notice are urged by Rear Admiral Samuel McGowan, paymaster general, in his annual report submitted today to Secretary Daniels. For the last four years the admiral says navy ship tonnage fit for active service has increased 30 per cent while there has been practically no increase in the value of stores on hand.

"As an example of financial economy," adds the report, "this makes an excellent showing, but it is a condition which should not be permitted to longer continue, for it is a matter of history that the issue of every great conflict has in the last analysis depended largely upon the question of supply. There should be no real difference between peace times and war times with respect to ship supply."

Admiral McGowan figures the present property investment of the navy at \$250,820,376, of which \$459,656,551 is represented by ships, \$296,435,104 in stations and equipment, and \$184,298,720 in stores. The total expenditures on the navy from 1794 to 1915, inclusive, is placed at \$3,214,329,641.

SERBIAN FORTRESS OF PIROT FALLS BEFORE FORCES OF BULGARIA

Large Section of Serbia Occupied

Enemy Continues to Invade From All Three Sides.

REVIEW OF WAR NEWS

Bulgarians Reported to Have Recaptured Veles at a Loss of 25,000 Men—Heavy Fighting in Artois and Champagne.

A large section of Serbia is now in the hands of the invaders. The Austrians have penetrated Serbian territory on the Bosnian frontier and an Austrian column has advanced southward from Valjevo to Razana, while German forces, moving from the north and northwest have entered Milanovac. These places lie from 35 to 400 miles south of the Save River, indicating that the Austro-German advance has not been so slow as might be inferred from recent reports.

In southern Serbia, the strong fortress of Pirot, east of Nish and guarding the war capital, has fallen to the Bulgarians. Still further south the Bulgarians are reported to have recaptured Veles, at a cost of 25,000 men. Austrians and Germans are also moving against Kraguevatz in the north, the Serbian munitions stronghold, and according to the Austrian official statement, the height southwest of Laspowa, only a short distance from Kraguevatz, is in German hands.

It is reported from Sofia that the Anglo-French fleet has resumed the bombardment of Bulgaria's Aegean coast. The French and Germans in the Artois and Champagne regions of France are fighting desperately, and both sides claim successes at different points, but each asserts that he has not gained a decisive advantage. The Germans in Champagne attacked over a five mile front but with the exception of reaching the summit of Tahure Hill were repulsed with heavy losses, according to Paris.

The Germans, on their part, announce the capture of a French position extending over 1,200 yards in Artois, and also at north of LeMendil in Champagne, a projecting trench section was lost to overwhelming numbers. On the Russian front the Germans have driven back the Russians from Plakankan on the Misa river south of Riga while farther south in the region of Czartorysk additional positions have been taken from the Russians by General Von Lutgen's forces. Along the Strya river in Galicia the Russians are on the offensive.

The great offensive of the Italians against the Tolmino and Gorizia bridgeheads continues. The semi-official Overseas News Agency of Berlin denies reports that Prince von Buelow has taken steps toward the opening of peace negotiations. It is asserted that he has not been charged with such a task.

CHIEF OF POLICE WALTERS OF RALEIGH DIES SUDDENLY

Was Serving Last Day in Office—C. F. Koonce Succeeds Him

Raleigh, N. C., Oct. 31.—Charles M. Walters, two and a half years chief of police, died today as he was serving his last day as head of the force. His resignation had been deferred his contemplated resignation many times, but two months ago named November 1 as his proposed retirement. He died suddenly today despite his falling condition known to be desperate. He was a graduate of Wake Forest College, prominent in county politics and had been a successful merchant. Charles F. Koonce succeeds him tomorrow. Chief Walters was sixty four years old.

ANDREW BATES, OF ASHEVILLE, STABBED TO DEATH WITH KNIFE

His Father and Another Man are Arrested For the Crime.

Asheville, N. C., Oct. 31.—Stabbed with a knife in the region of his heart at an early hour this morning, George Bates was killed at this city, and municipal detectives soon afterwards arrested the father of the deceased, Andrew Bates, and John Killian. The verdict of the coroner's jury was to the effect that the deceased met death at the hands of one of the men placed under arrest. Bates, according to evidence introduced at the coroner's inquest was stabbed as he and a party of friends were holding a party at the home of Andrew Bates.

SECURES RELEASE OF GOODS

Large Amount German-Made Goods to Be Sent From England.

New York, Oct. 31.—W. W. Brite, who has been in England adjusting differences between the British government and American importers as a result of the order in council, arrived today on the steamer Riga to secure the release of German goods held up the order and has been so successful that more than \$10,000,000 worth of German goods soon will be shipped to this country.

The character of the goods released is general. Among the many consignments is about \$4,000,000 worth of toys for the Christmas trade.

ITALIAN OFFICIAL STATEMENT

Denies Italian Air Craft Bombed the City of Trieste

Rome, via Paris, Oct. 31.—The following official communication was issued today: "The official bulletins of the enemy have affirmed that the throwing of bombs on Venice October 25-26 was accomplished by Austrian aeroplanes as a measure of reprisal because Italian aviators had previously bombed Trieste. This assertion is false in substance and equivocal in form."

"The truth is that on the afternoon of the 20th our hydroaeroplanes bombarded, according to usage of war, establishments at Margit and Pirane, where war material was being prepared, but not the city of Trieste, which is at least four kilometers (about 2 1/2 miles) from the coast."

London, October 31.—General Joffre, the French commander-in-chief, concluded his visit to England and returned to France Saturday night.

Austro-Germans Endeavoring to Surround Kraguevatz, the Serbian Arsenal.

ALLIES GUARD RAILWAY

Occupy Hills Around Strumitza; Bombard Bulgarian Towns on Aegean Sea.

Another Allied offensive in West is Reported.

London, October 31.—The Serbian fortress of Pirot, described as the key to Nish, is in the hands of the Bulgarians, while the Austro-Germans, advancing from the north, are endeavoring to form a ring around Kraguevatz, the Serbian arsenal. Thus, besides endangering both the Serbian war capital and the town where the Serbian munitions are manufactured, the Central Powers, with Bulgaria, are narrowing the gap through which the Serbian army in the northwest must escape.

Austrians Attacking Montenegro. Simultaneously the Austrians are attacking Montenegro, to remove, if possible, the danger of having an enemy army on their flank. Little has been said about the fighting between the Austrians and Montenegrins along the Drina river, but apparently it is of a most sanguinary character, as it took the Austrians with far superior equipment more than a week to force a crossing of the river, at one point alone, that south of Visegrad.

The Anglo-French troops are firmly establishing themselves along the southern end of the Nish railway and, crossing into Bulgaria have occupied the hills surrounding Strumitza, although the capture of that town, which has been reported, is not officially confirmed.

The allied fleets, too, have again bombarded the Bulgarian towns on the Aegean sea. While these efforts take some of the strain off the front in Serbia, there is no reliable information as to the movement of the greater forces which, it is hoped, will save her. Reports continue to circulate, chiefly from German sources, of a Russian army which is to march across Rumania to the rescue. But of the British and French reinforcements no news has been received. It is possible that in addition to direct means whereby the Austro-Germans may be prevented from sending reinforcements to Serbia.

Another Western Offensive. Italy has already undertaken this by a general offensive, and there is talk of another offensive on the western front. The Germans seem to have anticipated this, as on Saturday night they launched a surprise attack in Champagne over a front of about five miles in an effort to recover ground which the French recently took from them. They succeeded in recapturing the Butte de Tahure, but, according to the French account, they were repulsed everywhere else, suffering extremely heavy losses, and to the north of Le Mist they actually lost one of their own trenches.

As usual the attack was preceded by an artillery bombardment and the French report speaks of masses of infantry being driven back. This invasion has been some fighting in Artois.

Russian Front Active. Despite the coming of winter there has been more activity on the Russian front. True, there has been a lull in the fighting in Courland, where the Germans have apparently failed to take Riga or Dyvinsk or to improve to any marked degree their position, but it is believed they are preparing for another drive. It must be made soon, however, as snow is already falling and the movement of heavy artillery is becoming more difficult.

Along the Strya the Germans are engaged in a counter offensive and have recovered some territory which General Ivanoff took from them. Further south, in Galicia, the Russians have returned to the offensive and, according to Vienna, have made unsuccessful attempts to cross the Strya. The Turks report increased activity of the allied artillery and warships in the Dardanelles.

Denies Italian Air Craft Bombed the City of Trieste. Rome, via Paris, Oct. 31.—The following official communication was issued today: "The official bulletins of the enemy have affirmed that the throwing of bombs on Venice October 25-26 was accomplished by Austrian aeroplanes as a measure of reprisal because Italian aviators had previously bombed Trieste. This assertion is false in substance and equivocal in form."

"The truth is that on the afternoon of the 20th our hydroaeroplanes bombarded, according to usage of war, establishments at Margit and Pirane, where war material was being prepared, but not the city of Trieste, which is at least four kilometers (about 2 1/2 miles) from the coast."

London, October 31.—General Joffre, the French commander-in-chief, concluded his visit to England and returned to France Saturday night.