

AUSTRIANS IN THE TYROL REGION ON HEAVY OFFENSIVE

More Italian Advanced Positions Captured Together With Over 6,300 Prisoners.

ZEGNATORIA IS STORMED

Rome Asserts River Attacks Failed—Entente Airmen Busy Over the German Lines.

From the Tonale pass region in western Trentino to Montafone, a short distance from the head of the gulf of Trieste, the Austrians are vigorously on the offensive against the Italians.

In Tyrol, to the south of Trent, heavy infantry attacks to the east of the Adige river have forced the Italians again to abandon some of their advanced positions and resulted in the capture by the Austrians of an aggregate of 141 officers and 6,300 men. In addition 13 guns and 17 machine guns were captured.

Vienna says that south of Rovereto the Austrians stormed Zegnatorita, but Rome asserts that the river attacks launched were put down with heavy casualties the bodies of numerous dead Austrians floating away in the swift current of the Adige river.

Aviators Again Busy.

The repulse of another Austrian attack in the Sugana valley is also reported by Rome. Along the remainder of the front there were heavy artillery bombardments with here and there infantry attacks. Bombing operations by aviators on both sides have taken place against opposing positions.

On the line in France and Belgium the fighting has consisted mainly of artillery duels—most severe in the northwest of Verdun. The Entente Allied airmen have been particularly active against German positions and in the northwest of Verdun. Our own aircraft were brought down by British and French hunters. In one of the latest operations a Zeppelin flying with the French army under the title of the Franco-American flying corps took part in their first foray as an individual unit.

WASHINGTON GETS THE NEXT REUNION

Confederate Veterans Desire to March Down Pennsylvania Avenue Before President.

HARRISON IS COMMANDER

Alabama Veteran Elected Successor to General Young—Other Officers Elected—Memorial Exercises Are Held.

Birmingham, Ala., May 17.—Washington won the honor of entertaining the United Confederate veterans in 1917 by a close vote at the closing business session here tonight. General George P. Harrison, of Alabama, was elected commander-in-chief to succeed General Bennett Young, of Kentucky. The desire of the old Confederate soldiers to parade down Pennsylvania avenue and be reviewed by the President of the United States led them to choose Washington, D. C., for the 1917 reunion city, at the closing business session of their reunion here tonight. Tulsa, Okla., and Memphis, Tenn. received the next highest votes in the order named.

General Harrison Elected.

General George P. Harrison, commander of the Alabama division, of the United Confederate Veterans, was elected commander-in-chief of the veterans, succeeding General Bennett Young, of Louisville, Ky., who refused to permit his name to be presented as a candidate for re-election. Other officers named were:

Commander Department of the Army of Virginia: General John Thompson Brown, Virginia.

Commander Department of the Army of Tennessee: General John P. Hickman, Tennessee.

Commander Trans-Mississippi department, General K. M. VanZant, of Texas, re-elected.

The recommendations of the reunion committee, with the exception of one favoring a reduction in the salary of the adjutant general from \$1,800 to \$1,500 annually, and another favoring the consolidation of the Veterans and Sons of Veterans organizations were referred to the commanding general and the heads of the three departments. They adopted the consolidation resolution, and a committee composed of the general officers and one representative from each division was appointed to co-operate with a similar committee of the Sons, to report at the next reunion.

The effort to reduce the adjutant general's salary failed when it was learned that the constitution leaves that matter in the hands of the executive council and a committee of the Sons.

Annual Memorial Exercises.

All other meetings gave way at noon today for the annual memorial exercises held under the joint auspices of the veterans and the Confederate (Continued on Page Two.)

MAJOR LANGHORNE RESCUES THE TWO MISSING AMERICANS

Jesse Deemer and Negro Cook, Captured in Glenn Springs Raid, Located at El Pino.

BANDITS ELUDE PURSUERS

Early Withdrawal of the Punitive Expedition Under Colonel Sibley is Indicated.

San Antonio, Texas, May 17.—An early withdrawal of the punitive expedition led by Colonel Sibley, south of Boquillas, was indicated at department headquarters today. The rescue of Jesse Deemer, the store-keeper, and Monroe Payne, the negro cook, who were carried across the border by bandits when they raided Glenn Springs and Boquillas 12 days ago, was reported today by Colonel Sibley who received his information from Major George T. Langhorne. Major Langhorne reported that he was endeavoring to overtake the bandits who had eluded him at El Pino from where he found Deemer and Payne.

Officers here regarded it as probable that a successful encounter with the bandits would bring the expedition to an end and not at all improbable that failure to take them also would be followed by a recall. It was explained that the four troops of cavalry and the machine gun company operating under Sibley was inadequate for extended operations.

Deemer and Payne had been left at El Pino by the retreating bandits with instructions to the residents that they be killed if an attempt at rescue was made. The villagers refused to obey instructions, professing their friendliness to the Americans when they entered the town yesterday morning.

Two regiments of Texas militia were assigned to the Brownsville district. They will be the first of the state troops to go to border stations. In this district, it was announced, there will be more than 5,000 men within five days.

Three companies of coast artillery, the 7th, 74th and 145th left here today for the Del Rio district.

MUST PAY TO HEAR PRESIDENT SPEAK

Charlotte Probably First City Ever to Charge Admission on Such an Occasion.

WHITE HOUSE IS AMAZED

Some 3,500 Seats to Be Sold at \$1 to \$2 Per—Had Wilson Known of Plan, He Would Have Balked, It is Said in Washington.

(Special Star Telegram.)

Washington, May 17.—White House officials were amazed when they learned today that only those who would be willing, or rather able, to pay from one to two bucks a throw for seats would be allowed to hear President Wilson's speech at Charlotte Saturday.

The first intimation that such a plan had been agreed upon was brought to Washington today into editorial in one of Charlotte's newspapers which gave a price list. Three thousand five hundred seats, the paper said, would be sold at from \$1 to \$2 per.

That the President will be embarrassed by this procedure is putting the situation mildly. Probably the Queen City will go down in history as the first city ever to invite a president of the United States to one of its celebrations and then charge admission to the public to hear him speak. It is certain that it will be the last time that such a thing is pulled off so far as the present occupant of the White House is concerned. Had it been known that Charlotte proposed to "make capital out of the President's visit, it is certain the Chief Executive would have struck to his first declaration not to visit the State at this time, according to one close to the White House.

Another amusing part of the Charlotte celebration is that those in charge of the arrangements wanted to charge admission to those who come to hear the Marine Band. Secretary of the Navy Daniels, however, put his foot down on this plan so that, thanks to the Secretary, those who haven't two bucks to hear the first Democratic President in nearly a quarter of a century will be able to listen to the music made by the best known band in the world free of cost. P. R. A.

ALABAMA TOWN IS PLACED IN CHARGE OF THE MILITARY

Thousands of Dollars' Worth of Liquor Seized by Deputies Yesterday at Girard.

MAKE A WHOLESALE RAID

One Company of Militia and 105 Special Deputies Were on Patrol Duty Last Night.

Columbus, Ga., May 17.—The military tonight took charge of the situation in Girard, Ala., where special deputies under M. S. Baughan, of Atlanta, special law agent for the attorney general of Alabama, today raided 12 places and confiscated many thousands of dollars worth of liquor held in violation of the Alabama prohibition laws. Capt. Dallas Smith, of Company I, second regiment National Guard, of Alabama, from Opelika, issued an order placing the military in control at 6:30 o'clock tonight.

The Opelika company, numbering 70 men, arrived at Girard late tonight and began patrolling the streets. They were assisted by 105 special deputies from Montgomery, Mobile, Birmingham, Girard and Phenix City, Ala., and Columbus and Atlanta, Ga.

Five freight cars were ordered tonight by Special Agent Baughan to carry 25 tons of liquor to some unnamed destination tomorrow, probably Opelika, Montgomery or Union Springs.

Intent on Moving Liquor.

Word that Governor Henderson, now at Birmingham, had declared that the confiscated liquor could not be removed from the houses in which it was found without a court order, met the response from Baughan that he intended to move the liquor, if necessary, unless prevented by an injunction of a court order.

The raids which began at 8 o'clock this morning after a special train carrying 25 deputies left from Montgomery, will be resumed tomorrow morning and probably will continue for a week, according to Mr. Baughan.

Girard is a town of 5,000 population and when the crowds that filled the streets interfered somewhat with the raiders, the guardsmen were brought in to assist in keeping order and guarding the confiscated liquor. Two other companies at Montgomery, one at Union Springs and another at Troy, also were ordered ready for service, according to Baughan.

Raiders Worked During Day.

Raiders arrived at Girard at 5 o'clock this morning and remained in seclusion until 8 o'clock when they suddenly descended upon suspected places. Other deputies arrived during the day and the Alabama law such raids may be made only between the hours of 8 A. M. and 6 P. M.

Mayor W. E. Morgan, of Girard, this morning appointed a large number of special deputies from the town to protect the property of Girard citizens. Special Agent Baughan instructed his men to arrest any one who interfered with their work.

No liquor was found in any of the places where the special officers dug for stocks today. It is believed, however, that a large quantity has thus been disposed of during the past few days.

Three hundred barrels of whiskey were found and seized in one place in Girard. In a farm house five miles from Girard a stock of liquor estimated by Baughan to be worth \$50,000 was seized. Two men guarding the liquor attempted to draw pistols but were disarmed by the deputies. They were released but later Baughan ordered their arrest. They had not been apprehended tonight.

Today's raiding was carried out systematically according to the deputy. The liquor was found a guard of five men was left to prevent its being carried away. It was said today that the attorney general's men had information which made much of their work comparatively easy.

Girard has been known as a "wide open town, despite Alabama's prohibition laws, which are very stringent. It is said that many thousand of dollars worth of liquor, some placing the amount as high as \$500,000, was carried across the state line when Georgia's prohibition laws became effective May 1.

MILITIA ORDERED OUT AS PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE

Birmingham, Ala., May 17.—Governor Charles Henderson, of Alabama, who is in Birmingham, attending the reunion, declared he had been keeping in closer touch with the situation at Girard.

The Opelika company was not sent to quell reported disturbances," said Governor Henderson, "as I have received news it was simply a precautionary measure."

SENATE APPROVES ARMY BILL REPORT

House Expected to Act Within a Day or Two and Send the Measure to the President.

BILL IS DEBATED ALL DAY

Discussion in Senate Ranged From Criticism of British Execution of Irish to Attacks on Wilson's Mexican Policy.

Washington, May 17.—The Senate, after an all day debate, agreed tonight to the conference report on the army reorganization bill without a roll call. The House is expected to approve the report within a day or two and send the first of the big national defense measures to the President.

The bill provides for a regular army of 211,000 officers and men at peace strength, and approximately 260,000 at war strength, and for a federalized National Guard of 457,000 officers and men at maximum strength.

Discussion of the conference reports embraced a denunciation of Great Britain for execution of the Irish revolutionists, attacks upon the administration's Mexican policy, renewed assaults upon the National Guard as a political force, and vigorous criticism of the provision for a government nitrate manufacturing plant.

Senator Fall asserted that General Pershing with the 14,000 troops at his command, could march on to Mexico City, taking every town with little trouble if he were unhampered by opponents of the Mexican people who would come upon his action. He also declared representatives of General Carranza were negotiating with foreign governments against the United States and that this government would be forced to fight foreign forces on Mexican soil if it did not soon do its full duty to the people of Mexico and the United States.

Senator Borah, renewing his attack on the National Guard, as a political force, declared that it would prove to be more detrimental to the United States than the Home Mission Board.

Senator Lodge criticized the House for not accepting a larger regular army proposed by the Senate.

Chairman Stone, of the Foreign Relations committee, said he was so anxious to see the nitrate provision enacted that he would almost be willing to agree to any size army necessary, but insisted there was no need of an increase in the size of the regular army of 250,000 men at peace strength, declared the English language was inadequate to express his disgust at the conference action and said he hoped "the good Lord who guards the drunkard and the fool will save the nation."

Secretary Baker said tonight that as soon as President Wilson signed the bill he would begin consultations with the general staff to put the measure into effect.

BAPTISTS OF SOUTH MAY ADOPT MODERN BUSINESS METHODS

Constitutional Change Proposed by Texas Man Prompted by Indebtedness of \$250,000.

DR. BURROWS IS RE-ELECTED

O. F. Gregory, of Baltimore, and H. C. Moore, of Raleigh, Elected Secretaries.

(By Rev. T. W. Chambliss.)

Asheville, N. C., May 17.—With the two great boards—Home and Foreign—reporting debt amounting to over \$250,000, a tremendous burden rests upon the Southern Baptist Convention in session here tonight. M. H. Wolf, of Texas, speaking calmly and repeating his words, said that the time had come to adopt modern business methods and thus save in the neighborhood of \$100,000 a year now being wasted because of the antiquated machinery of the convention.

Mr. Wolf proposed a change in the constitution which would turn over all enterprises and work of the convention to one executive board. The resolution went to a committee.

Rev. Lansing Burrows, D. D., Augusta, Ga., was re-elected president. Oliver Fuller Gregory, Baltimore, and Hight C. Moore, Raleigh, were re-elected secretaries; W. B. Harvey, Louisville, was elected auditor, and G. W. Norton, of Louisville, was elected treasurer.

The annual sermon, eloquent and forceful, was delivered by Rev. Charles W. Daniel, of Atlanta. The Foreign Mission Board report shows a debt of \$178,760. The Home Mission Board reports a debt of \$72,000.

An interesting confession of evangelism was held this morning under the direction of Rev. Weston Bruce, D. D., superintendent of the department of evangelism of the Home Mission Board. Addresses were delivered by Rev. W. M. Yines, D. D., of Charlotte, and Rev. E. Burroughs, of Nashville, Tenn.

An interesting session of the Sunday school Field Workers Association followed, with addresses by Rev. W. M. Yines, D. D., and Rev. E. Burroughs, of Nashville, Tenn.

The Southern Press Association held an interesting meeting and discussed the importance of the denominational journal with special reference to the work of the denominational agencies.

IRELAND IS LIKELY TO HAVE NEW GOVERNMENT

Premier Asquith Decides the Old Form Has Had Its Day.

He is Getting Views and Ideas of Those Outside of Official Circles as to What Kind of System Should be Adopted.

GERMAN SURMARINE SUNK BY MINE OFF SWEDEN

Copenhagen, (vi a London), May 18.—A German torpedo boat was sunk by a German mine off Falsterbo, according to the Berlingske Tidnings Malmø correspondent. All but one man of the crew was saved.

DENIES SAYING WILSON DID NOT CONTEMPLATE WAR

Mexico City, May 17.—General Obregon, minister of war, today denied reports in circulation in the United States that he had expressed confidence that President Wilson did not contemplate war with Mexico.

"Please deny the report that I have made a public declaration of confidence that President Wilson does not contemplate war with Mexico," said General Obregon. "I have made no declaration of public or private international relations since leaving El Paso."

TWO BANDITS WOUNDED AND MADE PRISONERS BY AMERICANS

San Antonio, Texas, May 17.—Colonel Sibley, in command of the expedition pursuing the bandits who raided Glenn Springs, reported to General Funston tonight that two Mexicans had been wounded and taken prisoner by Major Langhorne, in command of the advanced forces, in a skirmish a short distance south of El Pino yesterday. None of the Americans was wounded.

AMERICAN LOST WHEN DUTCH STEAMSHIP WAS DESTROYED.

Belief That the Batavier V. Struck a Mine in North Sea.

London, May 17.—The American embassy was informed today that Luigi Martini Mancini, an American citizen, was drowned when the Dutch steamer Batavier V. was blown up in the North Sea. Two other American citizens on board were saved.

The dispatch to Lloyds from Great Yarmouth says that when the Batavier V. 1,500 tons, was blown up, four of the crew were lost, the remainder landed at Great Yarmouth. The Batavier V. was on her way from London to Rotterdam.

Two other American citizens on board, Samuel Howard Comstock, of California, and John Joseph Kaleta, of Brooklyn, were saved.

Comstock has made a report to the American embassy expressing the opinion that the Batavier V. sank as a result of striking a mine. The embassy will forward this report to the State Department at Washington. Through consular officials the embassy is obtaining affidavits from the ship's officers.

SOUTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATS ENDORSE THE ADMINISTRATION

Question of Woman Suffrage Referred to State Legislature.

Columbia, S. C., May 17.—President Wilson and Vice President Marshall were endorsed for a second term, the Democratic administration, state and nation, was commended and the question of woman suffrage was referred to the state legislature for its consideration here tonight. The convention still had not adjourned at midnight and prospects were that it would continue in session most of the night.

Resolutions adopted by the convention especially commended President Wilson's foreign policy; commended moves looking toward preparedness and recommended action by the United States looking to the formation of a world court or arbitration system.

Senator B. E. Tillman was re-elected national committeeman over Lowndes J. Browning.

CORPORAL M'CONNELL IS IN DARING FLIGHT

Carthage, N. C., Man in Expedition Over the German Lines.

FRANCO-AMERICAN FLYING CORPS MAKES FIRST FLIGHT SINCE BEING ORGANIZED AS SEPARATE UNIT IN THE FRENCH ARMY.

Paris, May 17.—Corporal J. M. McConnell, of Carthage, N. C., today took part in the first aerial expedition which the American aviators in the service of the French army have made over the German lines since the Franco-American flying corps was organized as a separate unit. Though Corporal McConnell was flying at a height of 13,000 feet the German shells were bursting all around him, showing that the range of the German anti-aircraft guns has been lengthened.

As the corps recrossed the front they were subjected to a particularly heavy shelling, but all escaped unhurt. The machine piloted by Lieut. William K. Thaw, of Pittsburg, lost part of its tail piece and the propeller was damaged by a shell, but Lieutenant Thaw brought it safely back to camp.

Corporal Victor Chapman's machine was also hit and driven out of its course, returning so late to its base as to cause anxiety regarding Chapman's fate.

The flight started at daybreak and spent nearly two hours reconnoitering under sustained fire, but no enemy was sighted. Sergt. Elliott Cowdin, of Carthage, N. C., was in the machine. (Continued on Page Ten.)

THE DAY IN CONGRESS

SENATE

Met at 11 a. m. Senator Owen's corrupt practices bill was reported favorably from the elections committee by the state Democratic and Harbors Appropriation bill debated.

Adopted without record vote conference report on army reorganization bill.

Adjourned at 5:30 p. m. to noon Thursday.

HOUSE

Met at noon. Sent Rural Credits bill to conference. Passed flood-control bill authorizing five-year improvement programme for Mississippi and Sacramento rivers.

Adjourned at 6:12 p. m. to 11 a. m. Thursday.

HIGH POINT GETS NEXT CONVENTION OF I. O. O. F.

Mr. Richard J. Jones, of Wilmington, Re-Elected Treasurer.

FRANCIS WEAVER, OF ASHEVILLE, GRAND MASTER; CALVIN WOODARD, OF WILSON, DEPUTY; C. P. SMITH, OF GOLDSBORO, GRAND WARDEN.

(Special Star Telegram.)

Wilson, N. C., May 17.—The Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of North Carolina, in annual convention here, today selected High Point as the convention city for next year and elected officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Grand master, Guy Weaver, Asheville; deputy grand master, Calvin Woodard, Wilson; grand warden, C. P. Smith, Goldsboro; grand secretary, B. H. Woodell, Raleigh; assistant grand secretary, John D. Berry, Raleigh; grand treasurer, Richard J. Jones, Wilmington; another representative, Thomas L. Green, Waynesville (for two years).

Grand Treasurer Richard J. Jones, of Wilmington, is 94 years of age and has held the office he now occupies for more than 60 years.

Since the Grand Lodge convened here last night at 8 o'clock, along with the Rebekah State Assembly, the keys of the city of Wilson have been in their possession.

The opening exercises, to the public, were held in the Banner warehouse last evening at 8 o'clock and Mayor E. F. Killebrew, in the name of the city, welcomed the visitors. Col. John F. Bruton, P. G. M., for Enterprise, was the first speaker, and for other organizations, extended the right hand of fellowship.

Responses to these addresses were made by Grand Master Thomas L. Green, of Waynesville, and Miss Jessie Bee Turner, of Grover, president of the Rebekah assembly.

The reception committee of the local lodge was kept busy all day loading homes for the throngs arriving on every incoming train.

SAID HE KILLED JACK ALLEN BECAUSE HE HAD TO DO IT.

W. L. Jones, a Witness, Says McCraw Made This Statement to Him.

Hillsville, Va., May 17.—"I killed Jack Allen and I had to do it. There are three more men if I could kill, I would care if I should die. This statement was made by Will McCraw to W. L. Jones, McCraw's brother-in-law, the morning after the killing of Jasper Allen," according to testimony given today by Jones in the second day's hearing of the trial at which McCraw is charged with murdering Jasper Allen at the home of Mrs. Brodie Martin near the Virginia-North Carolina line, March 18.

ONE CITY MAY ENTERTAIN BOTH CONVENTIONS NEXT YEAR

Asheville, N. C., May 17.—The opening session of the Southern Baptist Convention was taken up with election of officers and presentation of reports of the various boards controlled by the convention, one being the Foreign Mission Board, which recommended in its report that the Southern Baptist convention decline to enter into a union with other denominations in foreign mission work. The convention later will vote on adoption of this report and the others presented.

The possibility that the Southern convention will hold a meeting at the same time and place with the Northern Baptist Convention next year was brought out by efforts of members of the Southern Baptist churches in Kansas City to make that place the next convention city. It was said efforts are being made to get the Northern Baptists now in session at Minneapolis, Minn., to meet next year in the tourist city, New Orleans, Hot Springs and several other Southern cities, also are seeking to entertain the Southern Baptists in 1917.

1,375 Delegates at Opening.

Election of Dr. Burrows as president for his third consecutive term brought out that 1,375 delegates were present at the opening session. Dr. Burrows got 720 votes for president against 655 cast for M. H. Wolfe, of Dallas, Texas, a lay member of the convention.

Vice-presidents elected are: B. C. Henning, of Elizabeth City, N. C.; J. D. Mell, of Athens, Ga.; J. C. Stalcup, of Oklahoma City, Okla.; J. B. Lawrence, of Columbus, Miss. Mr. Henning was the only vice-president re-elected.

Another report presented today was that of the Sunday School Board, which showed total receipts of \$452,729, with a balance on hand of more than \$30,000. It was said a larger balance than usual had been laid aside because of the increased cost of white paper used in printing work done by the board.

The Foreign Mission Board announced completion of the Judson Centennial fund of \$1,250,000 for aiding foreign missions. This fund was virtually completed last year.

Convention Sermon Last Night.

Tonight the session was devoted chiefly to the sermon of the convention, preached by the Rev. Dr. Charles W. Daniel, of Atlanta, who spoke on "Christian Life, as Exemplified by the Life of Paul, the Apostle," and declared that the spiritual side of Christian life is the necessary one, and that rites and ceremonies do not make a Christian.

Turning to the "earthly careers of young men and women," Dr. Daniel asserted that failure to win success in material affairs is due to aimlessness.

(Continued on Page Ten.)