

Occasional thunder showers Tuesday and probably Wednesday.

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MONSTER OFFENSIVES LAUNCHED BY BOTH ITALIANS AND FRENCH WITH NOTABLE ADVANCES MADE

Many Points Scenes of Heavy Battles Wrested From the Germans Near Verdun

ARMY MEN PLAYING BIG PART

Italians Endeavoring to Blast Way Through Austrian Lines Toward City of Triest

12,000 PRISONERS ARE TAKEN

Canadian Forces Gradually Closing in Upon Lens

(Associated Press War Summary.)

With the British troops busily engaged in the successful parrying of German counter thrusts against newly won ground in Flanders, the French and the Italians have started monster offensives—the French against the Germans near Verdun and the Italians against the Austrians from the region of Plava to near the headwaters of the Adriatic Sea.

Decisive Blows Struck.

Sharp, decisive blows have gained for the French positions held by the Germans on a front of more than eleven miles, extending from the Avocourt Wood eastward across the river Meuse and into the Bois de Chaume, while the Italians, after a bombardment of an intensity never before experienced in that theatre, have leveled Austrian defenses, crossed rivers and also the Somo river and are now at deadly grips with the enemy along a front of about 37 miles.

Nearly 12,000 Prisoners.

Nearly 12,000 prisoners already have been counted by the French and Italians, and doubtless this number will be materially augmented when full details of the fighting are at hand. In addition, the Germans and Austrians lost heavily in men killed or wounded and in guns and machine guns captured.

The new territory taken by the French embraces positions that have literally withered in French and German hands in battles that have waged on and on since the German crown prince started his most costly enterprise, the attempt to take Verdun, which resulted in utter failure as a military maneuver and cost the lives of tens of thousands of his men.

Important Points Captured.

Notable among the captured positions are the Avocourt Wood, two summits of Le Mort Homme, the Corbeaux Wood and Champnevillle, all of which were held notwithstanding the furious counter attacks by the Germans which were broken up by the French fire with heavy casualties to the enemy. French airmen materially aided the infantry in the press forward, among forces and emptying their machine guns and dropping bombs and in fights in the air with German protecting machines 11 of which were seen hurling to the ground.

Italian Airmen Active.

Like-wise, the Italian fliers are giving their infantry valuable support, more than 200 of them being engaged in attacking with bombs and machine guns Austrian troops formation behind the lines. At last accounts, the Italian guns were energetically producing the work of destruction of the new positions taken up by the Austrians, endeavoring to set a road through the defenses in order to make the march of the Italian principal army toward Triest, Austria's principal seaport lying at the head of the Adriatic Sea.

Canadians Pushing Forward.

The situation in Flanders and in Northern France is very calm as compared with last week, but both the British and French continue to make advances at various points and to strengthen the positions won in the recent fighting. The Canadians around Lens daily are going further inland, the German line and now have the city in the east. The Canadian guns have the range and are firing almost impossible any of the enemy from or into the town. The Entente allied airmen are carrying out other operations in Belgium many tons of bombs again having been dropped by them.

Rumanians Driven Back.

In Rumania the Austro-Germans have forced back the Rumanians on both sides of the Otus and Trocus rivers, according to the Berlin official communication. In the former theater more than 1,500 Rumanians and their machine guns fell into the hands of the invaders, while in fighting on the Sava river 2,000 additional prisoners were taken.

Daniels Principal Speaker.

Charleston, W. Va., August 20.—Secured an invitation to deliver the principal address at the dedication of the new plant and factory here August 30 in connection with the breaking of ground for the government armor plate plant and factory. Other naval officials have been invited to attend the ceremonies.

WILL CONFER ON POPE'S PROPOSAL

Lord Cecil Announces Conference of Allied Governments Before Reply is Made

U. S. NOT TO PARTICIPATE?

State Department Understands Lord Cecil's Announcement to Mean Merely That Allies Will Exchange Views Informally.

London August 20.—Lord Robert Cecil, minister of blockade and under-secretary for foreign affairs, announced in the house of commons this afternoon that the Entente allied governments would hold a conference before a reply to the Pope's peace proposals would be sent to the Vatican.

STATE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT JOIN IN CONFERENCE

Washington, August 20.—Lord Cecil's statement in the British parliament today that the Entente governments would hold a conference before replying to Pope Benedict's peace proposals is understood at the State Department as meaning that the government will exchange views, not that there is to be a gathering of premiers or foreign ministers for a formal conference.

So far there has been no occasion for the State Department to join any of the several conferences which have been held in the capitals of the Entente nations during the war, though American army and naval officers have taken part in some of the deliberations of the technical staffs. This attitude on the part of the United States government is understood to have been due to no lack of sympathy or determination to co-operate fully, but rather to the conviction that so far these conferences have had to do with strictly European issues.

TWO BURNED TO DEATH WHEN AIRPLANE CATCHES ON FIRE

Buffalo, N. Y., August 20.—Charles A. Wall, Jr., and Richard H. Meade, were burned to death here late today when an airplane in which they were experimenting with smoke bombs caught fire in the air. Both men were dead when the destroyed plane fell to the ground. Wall was a civil engineer in training for aviation service. Meade was aviation instructor who came to Buffalo to receive the training at Mineola, L. I.

Negro Heavyweight Wins.

Rochester, N. Y., August 20.—"Kid" Norfolk, a negro heavyweight of Baltimore, decisively outfought "Gunboat" Smith here tonight in ten rounds. Norfolk carried the battle all the way, seldom giving Smith an opportunity to set himself for a telling punch. Smith claimed to have hurt his right hand in the third round.

British Tanks Again Score Triumph Over the Germans

Creeping Out at Gray Dawn the Monsters Lead the Way While Infantry Follows

3 FAMOUS FARMS OCCUPIED

British Front in France and Belgium, Aug. 20.—(By the Associated Press)—British tanks scored another triumph in the capture of important German positions yesterday morning in the neighborhood of the Ypres-Poelcapelle road, north of St. Julien. It was a tank show almost from start to finish, and the infantry in this case played the part of supernumeraries in support of the leading actors, while large numbers of the enemy troops added a final melodramatic touch by surrendering unconditionally or fleeing in terror as the heavy leviathans lumbered onto the stage and "reached forth their shooting irons."

As recorded in the official communication, the British captured German defenses along a mile front to a depth of 500 yards. Among the strongholds occupied were the famous Triangle, Hiba and Cookcroft farms, the sites of exceedingly strong concrete and steel machine gun redoubts that menaced the infantry advance.

It was dawn when the tanks lined up and waited for the signal to go "over the top." The British artillery observing no less of chivalry to the tanks than to the infantry in the past, poured a preliminary stream of shells into the German lines, then dropped a barrage ahead of the iron monsters, which started forward, looking for all the world like great dragons that had rolled out from one of Hans Anderson's conceptions into the gray morning light, they shrouded this battlefield in the "Cook Pit of Europe."

LOAN IS AVAILABLE HERE FOR MEXICO

Southern Republic Assured by American Government That Money Can be Obtained

WILL TRY FOR \$250,000,000

American Bankers Have Only Been Waiting For State Department's Assurances That Loan Would Be Safeguarded.

Washington, August 20.—After more than two years of pleading for financial assistance the Mexican government has been assured that American money can be obtained. It was learned today that the American government has finally conveyed the intimation to American bankers that its faith in the Carranza government has grown to the extent that it feels justified in extending moral endorsement of a loan.

Officials of the Mexican government have denied that any direct effort has been made to obtain a loan in the United States but American bankers have been approached repeatedly with the suggestion that they finance the new government in that country and a more direct effort was made many months ago in London. The London bankers refused to have anything to do with the project.

The American bankers never were averse to placing money in Mexico if assurance of some sort could be had from the State Department that their investment would be safeguarded. The exact character of the assurance now given them has not been revealed, but it is understood that in the event a Mexican loan is floated in this country, President Carranza will agree to receive advice as to its expenditure and to a degree of supervision.

Mexico will try to obtain at least \$250,000,000. The Mexican congress authorized the floating of a \$150,000,000 loan and in addition to that \$100,000,000 will be asked for the rehabilitation of the railway.

Reports to the State Department both from Ambassador Fletcher and from consuls continued to indicate a steady though slow increase in the strength of the Carranza government.

GEN. MORRISON IS NOW IN COMMAND AT CAMP SEVIER

Greenville, S. C., Aug. 20.—Major General John F. Morrison, accompanied by his aide, Capt. Louis P. Ford, arrived here today from Fort Oglethorpe and assumed command at Camp Sevier. General Morrison was recently appointed commander of the 13th Division, composed of National Guard units of North and South Carolina, Tennessee and the District of Columbia, which will be trained at Camp Sevier.

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PROPOSE TO MAKE DESTROYER FLEET WORLD'S GREATEST

Daniels Confers With Shipbuilders and Engine Makers as to Maximum Output

THE U-BOAT'S ARCH ENEMY

Destroyer Has Been Proven the Most Effective Means of Hunting Submarines

Washington, August 20.—Preliminary steps toward providing the navy with as many additional destroyers as the accomplishment of their purpose, although the big ocean going cruisers are being built as fast as they can, are being taken by Secretary Daniels today at a conference with more than a score of shipbuilders, engine makers and representatives of other industries.

Information was submitted by the builders as to what they could do in the way of expanding their facilities. Navy officials will study the reports and suggest a definite plan for the accomplishment of their purpose, which is to make the United States first in destroyers, the arch enemy of the submarine.

The main difficulty is to find facilities for turning out the engines. Today's conference dealt largely with this aspect. The destroyer has proved itself by experience the most efficient U-boat hunter because of its speed and maneuverability. The U-boats seldom expose themselves within range of a destroyer's guns.

The average underwater speed of submarines is about 10 knots an hour, although the big ocean going cruisers turned out by the Germans have a surface speed of probably 18 knots. Steamers employed as troop ships make not less than 12 knots an hour, so that they need not fear underwater attack from the rear and with destroyer convoys to protect them ahead only chance encounters with submarines which lie directly in their path are to be expected.

It was announced today at the headquarters of Colonel Dentler, at Portland, that fifteen thousand troops were available in the four Northwest states. In addition, the farmers and other agricultural and horticultural interests have perfected organizations for their mutual protection and are prepared to meet any situation.

TO PROTECT AGAINST HIGH INTEREST RATES

House Committee to Discuss the Issuance of Short Term Bonds For Domestic Needs.

Washington August 20.—The advisability of issuing for domestic needs along with long term war bonds, a series of short term bonds, payable in from three to five years, to prevent payment of high interest charges through a cheap money period which experts think may follow the war, will be discussed by the House Ways and Means committee when it meets late this week.

Such a plan is being agitated in England, where interest rates have mounted rapidly and much English data on the subject has been collected here. No enough war bonds for domestic needs have been authorized thus far to give the administration financiers much concern about their duration, but the prospect that the government will be unable to raise money in the market has aroused interest in the short term bonds proposals. The new issue of bonds for allied loans will carry four per cent interest in all probability, and a five per cent rate on bonds if the war continues long is predicted by many.

CHERRY AND BERNFIELD PLEAD GUILTY OF DRAFT CONSPIRACY

Case of Dentist Also Mixed in the Plot to Be Heard Next.

New York August 20.—With two former members of the draft exemption board No. 99 in this city sentenced to two years each in the Federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, a dentist pleaded guilty to charges of conspiracy to obstruct the selective draft law Federal attorneys announced late today that speedy justice would be sought in the case of Louis E. Cherry and Dr. A. S. Bernfield, the former members of the board who pleaded guilty.

GENERAL PETAIN REVIEWS THE AMERICAN EXPEDITION

Expresses Delight at What He Saw—Praising Accompanies Him.

American Training Camp In France, Sunday, August 19.—(By the Associated Press)—General Petain, commander in chief of the French army, paid his first visit today to the American troops in France and expressed himself as delighted with what he saw. "I am exceedingly pleased and gratified with what I have seen during this inspection," he said. "Training has progressed so well that I feel certain the American troops will form an excellent fighting force in a very short time."

The French general was accompanied by Major General John J. Pershing, the American commander.

MOBILIZATION POSTPONED.

Date of Assembling Second and Third Increments Moved Back.

GENERAL STRIKE I. W. W. FAILS TO MATERIALIZE

Arrests of Leaders by Military Authorities Probably Had a Powerful Influence

27 OF THE MEN STILL HELD

15,000 Troops Available in the Four States Threatened.

Farmers Are Organized

San Francisco, August 20.—No evidence of a general strike of construction workers and harvest hands was visible in the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana tonight, and so far as could be ascertained, no attempt was made by any I. W. W. leader to carry out the strike order issued recently by James Rowan, district I. W. W. secretary, at Spokane.

The swift and unexpected action last night of military authorities at Spokane in arresting Rowan and 26 other alleged Industrial Workers of the World is believed to have had a powerful influence in deterring the radical members of the organization from precipitating a strike which, it is admitted, might have had serious results.

The 27 men who were arrested by Major Clement Wilkins, in charge of the National Guardsmen at Spokane, on instructions from state officials, and Colonel Clarence W. Dentler, commander of the United States army in the Northwest, are held as military prisoners. They will be examined in a few days. Some of them, it is said, will be released after the hearings, which will be conducted by Major Wilkins. Their arrest came on the eve of their proposed general strike because state and army officials consider their proposed action would interfere with the prosecution of the war.

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RECOGNIZES 'UNWRITTEN LAW'

Lieutenant Douglas Malcolm Released by English Jury.

London, Aug. 20.—"The unwritten law" was recognized by an English jury today almost for the first time within the recollection of the English public. "Justifiable homicide in self defense," was the verdict rendered by a London coroner's jury in the case of Lieut. Douglas Malcolm who shot and killed a foreigner, Anton Baumberg, styling himself Count De Boroh.

Lieutenant Malcolm, who was a wealthy young merchant before the war, returned on leave from France and found his wife with the so-called count. He attacked the "count" and afterwards challenged him to a duel, but the "count" ignored the challenge. Malcolm visited the "count's" London lodgings and other lodged testified to hearing a struggle followed by a revolver shot. They found the "count" dead.

Wilmington Or Fayetteville May Land Aviation School

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF COAL STEP NEARER

Robert S. Lovett Named Director of Priority Shipments

Coal For the Northwest Has Preference Over All Other Freight—President Expected to Name Coal Administrator.

Washington, August 20.—Government control of the coal industry moved a step nearer today when President Wilson formally named Robert S. Lovett, of the War Industries Board, director of priority of transportation and approved an order issued by Judge Lovett directing that rail and steamship lines give bituminous coal shipments to the Northwest preference over all other freight movements.

Within the next day or so the President is expected to appoint a coal administrator on whom he will confer authority to control coal production and distribution, including price-fixing powers given to the executive in the food control act. At an hour's conference with the Federal Trade Commission he went over details of his plans.

There was no intimation tonight as to whom the President will name. It was said he probably would not select a member of the trade commission. (Continued on Page Three.)

JUDGE SPEER ISSUES DECISION UPHOLDING THE ARMY DRAFT LAW

FAVOR INCREASE IN REVENUE BILL

Sentiment Grows in the Senate to Advance Taxes on War Profits and Incomes

SEVERAL SPEECHES MADE

LaFollette's Address is Scheduled for Today—Finance Committee Disapproves Invoking of Closure Rule.

Washington, Aug. 20.—Widespread sentiment in the Senate in favor of adding to the total of the war tax bill by imposing higher rates on war profits and income taxes received new impetus today with the opening of the third week of debate. Speeches advocating such increases were made by Senators Johnson, of California; Hollis, of New Hampshire, and Jones, of New Mexico. Tomorrow Senator LaFollette is expected to make his address in favor of levying virtually all war taxes upon incomes and war profits. Senator King is preparing a substitute bill providing much higher rates on these sources.

No action was taken by the Senate during the day. After Senator LaFollette's speech, however, it is planned to proceed with actual consideration of the income and war profit sections. Leaders have telegraphed absentees to be present tomorrow.

The Senate Finance committee today disapproved invoking closure, but Senator Simmons plans soon to have a vote fixed by agreement for a final vote. In advocating greater Federal levies on war profits and "millionaires' incomes," Senator Johnson said the American youth had been conscripted and that swollen fortunes "coined from the blood of the nation" also should be drafted. He recommended that the government take 30 per cent of war profits—as great Britain does—and half as "millionaires' incomes."

Senator LaFollette introduced two amendments to the income tax section on behalf of the minority. One proposed increases in surtaxes and incomes between \$5,000 and \$7,500. An alternative amendment would have the principal surtaxes apply to incomes from \$5,000 to \$17,000 with a maximum of 33 per cent on those over the latter figure.

Senator New of Indiana, also introduced an amendment proposing that in the computation of normal profits industries which experienced abnormal depression during 1911, 1912 and 1913, be treated as if they had not.

Hospital Corps Arrives.

Greenville, S. C., August 20.—The hospital corps of the United States regulars from Madison Barracks under command of Sergeant C. A. Parish, with 120 men reported at Camp Sevier this afternoon.

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Denies Habeas Corpus Writs of Two Eligibles Represented by Thomas E. Watson

SOLDIER IS NOT A SLAVE

Asserts the Law in No Way Contravenes the 13th Amendment to Constitution

IS MEASURE OF DEFENSE

To Render Decision on Watson's "Jeffersonian"

Mount Airy, Ga., Aug. 20.—Federal District Judge Speer held the selective draft law constitutional in a decision made public here today. The decision was rendered on applications for writs of habeas corpus for Albert Jones and John Story, held in the Richmond county Ga., jail, charged with violating the law and represented by Thomas E. Watson. Watson contended that the law is in contravention of the involuntary servitude amendment.

To Decide "Jefferson" Case.

Judge Speer left for Fairfield, N. C., where it is expected he will decide whether or not "The Jeffersonian," a magazine published by Watson, shall be allowed in the mails. It has been denied admission by the postmaster at Thomson, Ga., the place of publication, because it contained what had been charged seditious utterances.

Judge Speer in denying the writs, declared that to agree to the contention that the selective draft law contravenes the 13th Amendment would be to conclude that the soldier is a slave.

Abhorrent to Truth.

"Nothing could be more abhorrent to the truth," said Judge Speer, "nothing more degrading to that indispensable and gallant body of citizens trained in arms, to whose manhood, skill and courage, is and must be committed the task of maintaining the very existence of the nation and all that its people hold dear."

Answering the contention of the petitioners that by the common law it was their right to "remain within the realm," and that this right should be held as that there was no military service beyond the borders of the United States, Judge Speer said the common law could not prevail against the explicit provisions of an act of Congress, which was empowered by the constitution to raise and support armies. He declared that this power was not restricted in any manner and that Congress may summon to its army every citizen of the United States.

Necessary for Defense.

Admitting that no express power was given to send armies beyond the sea, he said that there was no express power to enact the criminal laws of the United States, building of the Panama Canal or to purchase Alaska.

"This has all been done," he said, "under the act's power to promote the general welfare, just as the selective army will be created under the law here assailed to provide for the common defense and beyond and above all, is the inherent power of every nation, however organized, to utilize its every man and its energy to defend its liberty."

OFFICIALS THINK QUESTION SETTLED

Washington, August 20.—Judge Speer's decision, in the first case brought to test the selective draft law, was made public tonight by the Department of Justice. Any question as to the act's constitutionality, officials believe, is definitely and completely disposed of by a Supreme Court decision cited by the Georgia judge. It was in the case of the United States versus Tarble and the court said:

"Among the powers assigned to the national government is the power to raise and support armies. Its control over the subject is plenary and exclusive. It can determine without question from any state authority how the army shall be raised, whether by voluntary enlistment or forced draft."

TROLLEY JUMPS TRACK.

Many Injured When Car Crashes Into Telegraph Pole.

Norfolk, Va., August 20.—Twelve passengers were severely injured and a score of others bruised and shaken up this morning when a car on the Atlantic Terminal division of the Virginia Railway & Power Company, hauled from a sharp curve at Debrae Avenue and Twentieth street, and dashed into a telegraph pole. A second wreck occurred at 9:30 o'clock tonight when a car of the same company jumped the track at Church and Twenty-sixth streets, injuring two passengers.

Nominations Confirmed.

Washington, August 20.—Without opposition the Senate today confirmed nominations of former Representative Victor Murdock, of Kansas, to the Federal Trade Commission, and all except two of nearly 200 major generals and brigadier generals recently named by President Wilson.