

ANTWERP MAKING DESPERATE FIGHT

Belgians Heroically Oppose Terrific Assaults of the German Forces.

FALL OF BELGIAN CITY THREATENED

Battle Front in France Moves North --Przemsyl Suffers From Russian Blows.

While fighting has been going on at Antwerp continuously for several days, little was known of it until today.

According to the French statement issued this afternoon there is not much change in the situation in France.

The Russian official report simply announces that operations are satisfactory without giving any details. Rome dispatches, however, state flatly that Russians massed along the banks of the Dunajec threatening Cracow were repulsed and that the attacking column was driven back with heavy losses by the Austrian artillery fire from the opposite bank of the river.

The Russians, too, claim to have defeated an Austrian detachment in the Carpathians north of the river Sanski, taking many prisoners.

London, Oct. 7.—All eyes today are turned to Antwerp whose defense is out of all proportion to the number of Germans attacking.

Germany not only must keep an open door into France but must close the back door to Essen, an important German stronghold, in case the long and hard fight of General von Kluck ends in disaster.

The war has presented no sadder picture than that of the refugees leaving Antwerp.

The only ray of hope from the allies' standpoint is found in the news that the almost exhausted garrisons of Antwerp have been reinforced by more troops and guns.

It is certain that a German siege gun has been brought into play. Guns half the size of the destroyers of Liege and Namur are being used in the work of battering the string of forts that surround Antwerp.

Both sides admit Germany has been able to cross the river Nethe below the fortress and that the garrison there is being bombarded.

In an open field, as the net is drawing tighter about the city and the efforts of its defenders are redoubled, many of their sorties have been marked by sanguinary fighting. According to official information by the German commander, the active bombardment of the city is now under way. This is confirmed by refugees.

Along the greater part of the front, the antagonists seem content to watch each other without attempting any definite movements.

The struggle now known as

the battle of the three rivers, may decide the French campaign.

In the east the Russians are battering away at Przemsyl, which is said to be suffering severely under their artillery fire. All the efforts of the Austrians to relieve this fort has been unsuccessful.

Petrograd declares that the main conflict along the Vistula river has not as yet developed into serious fighting.

Allies Retake Positions.

Paris, Oct. 8.—The following official announcement was made in Paris this afternoon:

"First, on our left wing in the region of the department of the Nord the enemy has made progress at no point. At certain points he moved back, particularly to the north of Arras, where the fighting is developing under conditions favorable for us. The operations of the opposing forces of cavalry are developing at the present time almost as far as the sea coast on the north."

"Between the Somme and the Oise in the vicinity of Roye, the enemy is still in force, but we have retaken the major part of the positions we were obliged to give up."

"To the north of the Aisne, the numerical strength of the German troops seems to have diminished."

"Second, on the center between Rheims and the Meuse, there is nothing to report. On the heights of the Meuse between Verdun and St. Mihiel, the enemy has drawn back to the north of Hattonchatel. He still holds St. Mihiel and some positions to the north of St. Mihiel."

"In the Woivre district the violent attacks delivered by the enemy to the west of Apremont have failed."

"On our right wing between Lorraine and Vosges there has been no change."

"In Russia along the front of east Prussia, the Prussian offensive continues. Very spirited fighting is taking place on the frontier to the west of Suwalki."

German Statement.

London, Oct. 8.—A Berlin dispatch to the Reuter Telegram company contains an official statement given out at general headquarters at Berlin on the evening of October 7. It follows:

"The engagements of the right wing in France have not led to any decision. The attacks of the French in the Artois and from the northeast front of Verdun have been repulsed."

"Off Antwerp the attack has crossed a section of the river Nethe."

"The attacks of the Russians on the government of Suwalki have been repulsed. The Russians losing 2,700 prisoners and nine machine guns."

"In Poland, in minor, successful engagements west of Ivanograd, we captured 4,800 prisoners."

Officers Honored.

Berlin, Oct. 8.—(Via London.)—Major General Augustus Zelman, commander of the second Bavarian field artillery, was killed in action September 26. Two knights of the Order of the Iron Cross have been created. One is Rudolph Ullstein, associate publisher of the Vostische Zeitung, the Morgen Post and other papers who is now serving with the volunteer automobile corps. He is well known in the United States. The other is Dr. Adolph von Flockner, former counselor to the German legation at Washington, who is now at the front.

The military expert of the Local Anzeiger points out that the breach in the outer line of forts about Antwerp will permit of the bombardment of the inner forts which are so close together that they cannot be taken without thorough military preparations.

General von Beseler, who is directing operations at Antwerp, was called from the retirement list of (Continued on Page 9.)

PASQUOTANK CONVICT MUDDLE CLEARED UP

Convicts Testify, Indicating That Much Has Been Made Out of Small Affair.

Special to The Gazette-News.

Elizabeth City, Oct. 8.—The chaingang "muddle" which has existed since the investigation into its management two weeks ago by Judge Frank Carter, was straightened out yesterday afternoon by Judge Turner in recorder court and the convicts will be returned to the camps tomorrow morning and set to work again, after having spent the past two weeks in the county jail.

Judge Turner tried Eugene Scott, county commissioner and supervisor of the chaingang, and Frank Weeks, superintendent of the chaingang, upon the charge of neglect of duty by permitting the guards to beat the convicts unlawfully and William Harris and Cartwright, guards of the convicts upon the charge of beating them unlawfully and also upon the charge of having too much liquor in their possession at one time.

The convicts volunteered to testify against the management of the chaingang and their testimony indicated that much had been made out of little in the reports of inhuman treatment of the convicts by the guards. Prominent citizens of the sections in which the chaingang has been located testified that they had never observed any inhuman treatment nor had they ever heard of any on the part of the guards.

Judge Turner read rules recently adopted by the commissioners governing the chaingang and stated that he would not make any finding as to the indictments until he had watched how the rules were carried out.

WEATHER CONDITIONS SADEN HEARTS OF FANS

Two Days of Cloudy Weather, Is Forecast—Chick Davis in the Hospital.

Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 8.—Weather predictions for the world's series baseball games here tomorrow and Saturday today saddened the hearts of the fans. The best that can be expected for the next two days, according to the forecaster, are low-hanging clouds with occasional light rain. However, if the real conditions are no worse than predictions the games will be played. Conditions were unfavorable today for the final practice of the Philadelphia Athletics and Boston Braves.

Manager Stallings today stated that the refusal of Connie Mack to allow the Braves to use Shibe park for afternoon practice was un sportsmanlike since the Athletics are familiar with the grounds.

Mack, it is understood, gave Boston permission to use the field in the morning because he intended to use it in the afternoon for his own men and also wanted to have it prepared for the big games.

Dick Davies is the latest player to go on the Athletics hospital list. He is a pitcher but Mack is developing him as an outfielder.

CONGRESS WILL NOT LOAN MONEY DIRECT TO COTTON FARMERS

(By Parker R. Anderson.)

Washington, Oct. 8.—President Wilson gave the North Carolina delegation who called upon him to see if he could suggest any way in which to relieve the cotton situation in the south, a sympathetic hearing. The president told the Tar Heels that he was much interested in the plan proposed by Festus J. Wade and other St. Louis financiers to raise a pool of \$150,000,000 for the purpose of loaning it to the cotton people. The president also stated that he did not believe that it would be necessary to enact further legislation in behalf of the cotton crop except to pass the Lever warehouse bill which he believed would work in conjunction with the plan to raise the cotton pool.

It is just as certain as the sun shines that this congress is not going to pass the Henry bill; nor any other measure that would tend to make loans on cotton direct to the farmer or any individual. It is believed by every one that all cotton legislation that is to be passed has already been enacted and no one expects more.

GERMANS BLOWN AWAY IN BLOCKS

Attackers Had Terrible Experience in Effecting Crossing of River Before Antwerp.

GALLANTRY PRAISED BY BELGIAN OFFICERS

Germans Crossed the Nethe on Tuesday—Driven Back Three Times Before Succeeding.

London, Oct. 8.—Telegraphing from Antwerp the Times' correspondent describes some of the fighting in connection with German attempts to cross the Nethe.

"They had, by all accounts," said he, "a dreadful experience last night, that was described to me there today by officers who were eye witnesses."

"The Germans succeeded in getting a pontoon completed and they came down to the river bank in solid masses to cross it. As they came every Belgian gun that could be turned on the spot was concentrated on them and they were blown away, blocks of them at a time and still the masses came on."

"The Belgian officers spoke with enthusiasm of the steadiness and gallantry with which, as each company was swept away, another was put in its place."

"The Germans succeeded in crossing the river Nethe early on Tuesday, according to the Times correspondent in Antwerp. Telegraphing under date of Tuesday night he says:

"At 4 o'clock this morning the Germans succeeded in making good their footing on the north side of the river Nethe. Three during the night small detachments had crossed and were driven back or wiped out."

"Two thousand Germans were on this side of the river, I believe by 6 o'clock this morning and since then they have, by all accounts been coming in numbers."

"Presumably Antwerp will now have to submit to a bombardment or perhaps to a siege."

A Reuter dispatch from Ostend dated yesterday, says "The Belgian troops victoriously repelled the Germans attempting to cross the Scheldt and Schoonarde, near Termonde. The enemy was compelled to retire with considerable losses."

WATERWAY MONEY ALLOTMENT MADE

Mississippi River Gets Most—Cape Fear River Given \$115,000—N. C. Items.

Washington, Oct. 8.—Allotment of 20,000,000 appropriated by congress for river and harbor improvement this year was announced late today by the board of army engineers.

The largest single allotment was \$3,750,000 to the Mississippi river commission. Other allotments include:

- Mataponi and Pamunkey rivers, Virginia, \$4000; Rappahannock river, Virginia, \$5000; Beaufort harbor, North Carolina, \$5000; Beaufort Inlet, North Carolina, \$10,000; Fishing Creek, North Carolina, \$1000; Pamlico and Tar rivers, North Carolina, \$18,000; Bay river, North Carolina, \$1000; Contentenita Creek, North Carolina, \$2000; Neuse river, North Carolina, \$25,000; Swift Creek, North Carolina, \$500; waterway from Pamlico sound to Beaufort Inlet, North Carolina, \$3400; New river, North Carolina, including Inlet waterways between Beaufort harbor and New river and between New river and Swansboro, \$14,000; Northeast, Black and Cape Fear (above Wilmington) rivers, North Carolina, \$15,800; Cape Fear river, above Wilmington, North Carolina, delivered locks and dams, \$75,000; Cape Fear river at and below Wilmington, \$115,000.

NO JURISDICTION IN WIRELESS CENSOR CASE

New York, Oct. 8.—Federal District court today ruled it has no jurisdiction in the suit brought against Secretary Daniels and four wireless censors by the Marconi Wireless company for keeping closed the wireless stations at Hiasconet, Mass., and Scituate, N. J.

The company's application for action was dismissed.

MANY EXPLOITS OF DARING DONE

British Not Alone in Heroism—French Troops Distinguish Themselves Under Terrific Fire.

GERMANS HAVE BECOME FRENZIED, SAYS CRITIC

Forty-One Corps of Germans Fighting in France, Besides Many Divisions, Statement.

London, Oct. 8.—In the battle in the north of France daring exploits without number are recorded. A recent army report tells of the heroic deeds and self sacrifice of the thirty-second regiment which, upon becoming separated from its division during a march of fifteen days under extraordinary conditions across the lines of the enemy, reaching its own division with a few losses only.

In heroism the English are not alone, as the French are also distinguishing themselves frequently under terrific fire.

The battle on the left has become with the Germans a sort of frenzy, declares Lieutenant Colonel Rousset, military critic, which shows to what a point they are pressed to finish it.

With all their efforts, all their means and all their energies concentrated here, he believes it not probable that the Germans will win. To do so they would have to add to their attempt the element of surprise, and this is what they lack, he says.

London, Oct. 8.—The Times' correspondent in Paris, commenting on the battle in the north of France, says:

"After twenty-six days the formidable battle of the Aisne continues without having any definite result. The enemy's front now stretches from the neighborhood of Noyon toward Lassigny, up to the Belgian frontier, formed in part by the river Lys."

"The enemy, feeling menaced by the movement of our armies, has concentrated in Belgium as he did in Champagne, all the forces not in use in the line of battle in guarding the line of communication and against the entrenched camp of Antwerp in order to prevent them from assisting the allies."

"He has made a vigorous effort to break the enveloping movement of the Anglo-French army in the region of Lille and has made the tactical error of attacking violently the French left wing before effecting the capture of Antwerp."

"The possible consequences of this dangerous proceeding is accentuated by the dispatch of the best army corps the enemy had and an attack was again the scene of sanguinary fighting on the enemy's left that will live in history."

On the Battle Front, Oct. 5.—(Via Paris, Oct. 8.—Delayed in Transit.)—The fiercest fighting of the war has proceeded since Monday on the left flank of the allied armies.

The cavalry forces of the German army who have appeared before the allies' lines have used every effort to bring about success. France and England, however, have brought up equally strong forces to restrain them."

The Germans broke through a place, which must remain unnamed, but not in sufficient numbers to cause any damage. The allies was in full accordance and the plans of the German general staff did not succeed. The breach line was at an acute angle and the Germans were placed in a very precarious position from which they were ousted with great loss later in the day. Throughout last night and today the slaughter of the latter proceeded."

An official announcement made known today for the first time the vast numbers of German forces fighting in Belgium and France. They are composed of no fewer than 23 army corps of the active German army, 18 divisions of the landwehr and large detachments of the landsturm. Under normal condition this number of units make a grand total of nearly two million men. From this total, however, losses must be deducted. The number of allies facing the Germans has not been made public."

TWO STEAMERS PRIZES IN HONGKONG HARBOR

London, Oct. 8.—A dispatch from Hongkong to Lloyd's says the German steamer Tannenfels and the American steamer Rio Passig have been brought into that port as prizes.

The German steamer Tannenfels sailed from Singapore August 4 and maritime records show she was subsequently seized in the Sulu Strait.

Available shipping records make no mention of the American steamer Rio Passig. It is probable, however, that her home port is Manila.

ANTWERPIANS PANIC STRICKEN

Attack by Zeppelin Causes the People to Flee—Much Damage to Property—Score of People Killed.

GROWN MEN SAID TO BE WEEPING WITH TERROR

King Albert Remains in City—Opinions Differ as to Whether City Can Hold Out.

Antwerp, Oct. 7.—(Via The Hague and London, Oct. 8.)—The condition of panic among the populace was increased today by the appearance of German aircraft at 11 o'clock this morning and at 3 o'clock this afternoon, which dropped bombs destroying seven houses and killing a score of people.

After the Zeppelin's successful attempt the large avenue leading to the railway station, quickly became black with a struggling mass of people in an effort to leaving the city.

One of the most pitiable sights was the people carrying helplessly maimed or idiotic relatives to the railway station.

The situation quickly changed, but at 2 o'clock grown men were weeping with terror and the women fighting for places at the railway station.

The people remaining in the city are taking to the cellars, fearing the effects of the German shells.

Belgian ministers are trying to reach Ostend by the southern route.

The unexpected fierceness of the German attack on Antwerp, it is said, was being made by an army corps. It is said the Belgians intend to open a second line of defense running from Antwerp to Brussels, Namur and Metz, upon which it would be possible to retreat if fighting became too heavy.

London, Oct. 8.—"A grave view of the situation is taken by the authorities," writes the Antwerp correspondent of the Daily News. "The great guns have told the tale."

"The fighting around Antwerp has been a battle of Krupp's against men. Every day and night the fighting has continued with deadly effect against the forts, while the shrapnel and shell have made many of the trenches untenable."

"As fast as the Belgians were compelled to withdraw from a position, the Germans have moved up and occupied it."

"In their present position the Germans, even with their second largest guns, are able to reach the city."

"The correspondent of the Chronicle at Antwerp, under date of Wednesday, takes contrary view. He says: "There is an air of quiet confidence that the Germans will never capture the city. Numbers of forts are still holding out with staunchness and the threatened bombardment is a desperate maneuver to try and force them to capitulate to save the city."

A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company says King Albert remains in the city during the bombardment.

The military governor has issued a proclamation that the inhabitants make their cellars habitable and take precautions against the outbreak of fire and the falling of shells.

Reuter's Ostend correspondent wires that it is believed in well informed quarters that Antwerp will be able to hold out. Volunteers are enrolling daily, he says.

The Telegraph's correspondent in Belgium, under date of Sunday, says: "The Germans who have been repulsed in every effort to cross the Scheldt are attempting an advance from the southeast."

As this dispatch was sent they were massed in force in front of the circle comprised between the rivers. Occupying this territory they suffered enormous loss. Following the first repulse the enemy brought up troops and repulsed the Belgians occupying the first defense lines. Against this artillery attack the defenders could not stand. The enemy retired in good order with unrepulsed forces."

The Belgians are now holding a front which the enemy so far has been unable to pierce.

The flooding of the surrounding country is the hardest obstacle before the Germans. Some excitement was caused by the news of the German advance.

BULGARIANS THOUGHT TO HAVE ENTERED WAR

London, Oct. 8.—The Times quotes the Vienna Reitschpost as saying heavy fighting has occurred and the Bulgarians have besieged Estop, Servia. If this report is true it would indicate Bulgaria has entered the war on behalf of Austria and Germany. There is no confirmation, however, and it may be that Bulgarian irregulars have attacked the Servians on their own account.

JAMES J. BRITT GIVES ANSWER

Declines to Accept Congressman Gudge's Challenge for a Joint Campaign in the Tenth.

ANSWER IS BASED ON INDIVIDUAL PLATFORM

Does Not Think Joint Discussions Conducive to "Calm and Deliberate" Discussions.

The invitation extended several days ago by Congressman James M. Gudge, Jr., to James J. Britt to meet him in a joint campaign of the Tenth district has been declined by Mr. Britt. The latter gives as his reason for this step that he considers joint campaigns and debates an agency for arousing prejudice and passion, and "are not conducive to calm and deliberate public discussion."

His answer to Congressman Gudge is contained in a letter dated yesterday, October 7, which follows:

"On Sunday last, as I was leaving for Murphy to speak Monday, I received your letter dated at Washington, October 2, requesting arrangement for a joint discussion, and I now have the honor to reply thereto."

"Immediately after my nomination, I issued a brief Declaration of Principles, among which is the following: "I favor making political campaigns an appeal to reason, intelligence and patriotism, and not to hatred, passion and prejudice."

"Joint discussions are not conducive to calm and deliberate public discussion, their chief effect being to arouse prejudice and passion, and I have decided, after due consideration, to follow the precedent of this Congressional district during the last eight years, and that of Governor Craig two years ago, which was editorially approved by the Asheville Citizen, and your invitation to a joint discussion is, therefore, respectfully declined."

The following was the text of the challenge, dated October 2, which Mr. Britt received from Congressman Gudge:

"As now understood, congress will either recess or adjourn within a few days. I write to ascertain if we can have a joint discussion in the district beginning at an early date. If you agree to a joint discussion, Mr. J. Scroop Styles is authorized to represent me in fixing dates and places."

WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS MEETS

Center of Interest in International Conventions of Disciples of Christ.

Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 8.—The meeting of the Christian Woman's Board of Missions occupied the center of interest in today's session here of the international conventions of the disciples of Christ. At the morning meeting the president, Mrs. Anna R. Atwater of Indianapolis, her annual address and the report of the secretary, Mrs. Effie Cunningham, Mrs. J. McDaniel Stears of Indianapolis, and of the treasurer, Miss Mary J. Judeon, were submitted.

A brief address was made by Dr. Robert E. Speer of New York city, member of the foreign board of missions of the northern Presbyterian church.

Denominational affairs were discussed at today's session of the convention of the church and annual committee reports were presented by Dr. Graham Frank, secretary, of Liberty, Mo.

Of the total appropriations, it was suggested that \$125,000 should be given to home missions; \$150,000 to foreign missions and \$110,000 to the woman's board of missions. Among other appropriations recommended were \$75,000 for educational work, \$45,000 for church extension, \$35,000 for ministerial relief and \$10,000 for the Christian union commission.

The commission also recommended that a commission of 12 be appointed by the convention to consider relation to the church, mission, educational and benevolent organizations affiliated and report its findings to the next general convention.

To Discuss Cotton Loan.

Washington, Oct. 8.—The proposed \$150,000,000 cotton loan fund will be discussed here Friday by a committee of the federal reserve board with Festus J. Wade of St. Louis and other bankers who are promoting the plan.