

## ANOTHER BRITISH CRUISER SUNK; WARSHIPS MAY DEFEND OSTEND

### ALLIES ADVANCING ALONG RIGHT WING

**Hammer Crown Prince Until Almost In Sight of The Metz Forts.**

### LONG BATTLE LINE IN EAST THEATER

**Berlin Expects Desperate Fight At Ostend and Thinks British Will Use Dreadnaughts**

The French war office announced this afternoon that the progress of the allies indicated in Thursday's communication had been confirmed. The field of action on the left wing of the allied armies extends from the region of Ypres to the sea.

Berlin was silent but news dispatches reported that the Germans marching on Ostend are within ten miles of their objective having captured Blankenberghe, a town on the Belgian coast connected by rail with Ostend.

The belief grows in London that Ostend will not be occupied by the Germans until they have fought desperately for its possession.

It was reported that British warships will take part in the defense of the town.

The French embassy at Washington has received advices saying that the allies have captured Hannescamp, 10 miles north of Albert. There is no other news regarding the fighting on the northern end of the battle line in France. Both armies, however, are known to be contending for every foot of ground when they come in contact.

The Paris statement says Russian troops have repulsed German attacks on Warsaw and Ivangorod in Russian Poland, and that a battle is being fought south of Przemyśl.

Paris, Oct. 16.—The steady hammering of the allies on the German left wing of the French battle front has brought them almost within cannon range of the forts at Metz. In spite of this menace part of the German crown prince's army hangs on doggedly to the positions it has taken on the Meuse near St. Mihiel. The fighting on this end of the long battle line is said to have been desperate on both sides during the past week, though overshadowed for the time by the operations on the allies' left. More important developments, however, are looked for between the Meuse and the Moselle, while the battle of the four rivers goes on in the west.

In the early days of the war the Germans seemed to have the advantage of the allies in the equipment and handling of machine guns, but in this hilly, wooded country the French have shown that they can also use them with great effect. The Germans rush through the Argonne forest, as well as in the hills of Woëvre, met with a telling fire of gatlings from tree tops, where guns were so cleverly concealed that it was impossible to detect them and everywhere efforts to regain lost ground cost dearly and failed. The French Alpine contingent dis-

tinguished itself in this rough country.

The French are now in possession of the route from Nancy to Metz as far as Dagny on the Lorraine border and menace the route from Verdun to Metz in the neighborhood of Etain, endangering communications of the crown prince's army with the German fortified camp.

Alsace also continues the scene of daily struggles for the possession of point of vantage, the result of which it is difficult to ascertain as fortunes vary so rapidly. Towns are taken and re-taken repeatedly. The heavy fighting in the southern end of the battle line indicates that the Germans have profited by the weakening of the French forces to regain ground they had lost there.

London, Oct. 16.—The occupation of Ostend by a German army is momentarily expected. Being directly across the channel from England almost opposite the mouth of the Thames, Britons take a peculiar interest in the operations around the famous seaside resort aside from the question of whether or not the taking of the city would mean much from a military standpoint.

The latest news available in London says the Germans were within ten miles of the city.

### POWER PLANTS DROWNED OUT

**Avery's Creek Plant of Asheville Power & Light Company Only One Not Disabled by the Rains.**

### FRENCH BROAD RIVER HIGHEST SINCE 1910

**Rainfall Second Heaviest Since Weather Bureau Was Established Here—The Drought Broken.**

Asheville and vicinity, from Tuesday afternoon until last night, experienced the heaviest rainfall for a continuous period since the local weather bureau was established here in 1908, the total rainfall, as given out by the local observer, being 5.11 inches. This is the heaviest rain to occur in a period of twenty-four hours since 1910, when the big flood occurred in this section. Rain began to fall here last Tuesday afternoon and continued until yesterday afternoon about 5 o'clock. The rain was almost incessant and considerable damage was done throughout Asheville and many sections of western North Carolina.

The storm, according to the local weather bureau, started in the Gulf states and then moved north, striking western North Carolina Tuesday, and then moved on north, it now being in the middle western states.

**French Broad Overflows.**  
The French Broad river began to rise yesterday morning, it being reported that it was at 1.07 feet above normal at 8 o'clock yesterday morning and at 8 o'clock this morning it had reached the highest mark since 1910, when it went to 10.6. The reading this morning showed that it was 8.66, although it is believed that around midnight it reached a much higher point than this. About 8 o'clock this morning the river began to fall and at noon today it was again assuming its normal state. It is thought that by night it will again be in the regular banks.

**Power Plants Went Out.**  
The Asheville Power & Light company reported that all of the power plants, those located at Marshall, Ivy, Hominy and the Weaver plant on the French Broad river, went out of business last night at 11 o'clock and the cars of the company and the other power in the city was used from the steam plant on Avery's street. Work on restoring the plants to their normal condition was started early today and it is thought that they will again be ready for running in the early afternoon. High water and driftwood were causes of the plants going out of business.

**Weaver Traffic Delayed.**  
Owing to the Weaver plant being out of business, the cars on the Weaver line were not operated until 10 o'clock today. The first car on the Weaver line was due to arrive here at 6:30 o'clock this morning, but did not arrive until 10 o'clock. Many of the people along the route waiting for the cars did not know of the trouble until the first car arrived to pick them up and were told by the crew on the car.

**Telephone Troubles.**  
The Western Union Telegraph company reports the only damage done to their lines was the washing away of about eight poles between Ridgecrest and Old Fort, although the washing away of these poles did not effect the handling of the regular business of the company.

The Postal Telegraph company reports no damage whatever, other than the small trouble experienced when a heavy rain falls.

The Asheville Telephone company suffered some trouble when the back water in several manholes put the cable connecting the city market and the Asheville Fire department out of business, although quick work on the part of the employees of the company restored the cable to working order by noon. The cable went out of business at 4:30 o'clock this morning. Manager Erskine stated today that the trouble experienced by the company

### LIVES OF OVER 300 MEN LOST

**The Hawke Is Torpedoed in North Sea by a German Submarine and Goes Down at Once.**

### FOURTH CRUISER LOST WITHIN THE MONTH

**Thus Far German Submarines Have Destroyed Six British Cruisers in the North Sea.**

London, Oct. 16.—The British cruiser Hawke has been torpedoed and sunk in the North Sea by a German submarine. Out of a crew of 400 men 50 were saved. The news has been officially confirmed.

The admiralty gave out this announcement:

"His Majesty's ship Theseus, Capt. Hugh Edwards, was attacked by a submarine in the northern waters of the North Sea yesterday afternoon, but was missed. His Majesty's ship Hawke, Capt. H. P. E. T. Williams, was attacked about the same time and was sunk. The following officers, with 49 men of the crew, have been landed at Aberdeen from a trawler: Boatswain Sidney Austin, Gunner James Dennis and Acting Gunner Harry E. Vitt. The remaining officers and men are missing.

"The Hawke was a cruiser built in 1889."

The Hawke is the British cruiser which collided with the White Star Line steamer, Olympic, September 20, 1911, near Osborne bay, on the north side of the Isle of Wight. She received serious damage.

The Hawke was of 7350 tons displacement, 360 feet long, of 60 feet beam and drew 23 feet of water. She was a sister ship of the Edgar, Endymion, Grafton, Theseus and Gibraltar, and was launched in 1891. Her armament consisted of two 9.2-inch guns, ten 6-inch guns, twelve 6-pounders, five 3-pounders, two machine guns and two torpedo tubes. Her regular complement is 544 men.

The Hawke is the fourth British cruiser to be torpedoed and sunk in the North Sea within a month. The Aboukir, Hogue and Cressy which succumbed to the attack of a German submarine some three weeks ago, carrying sixty British officers and 1400 men to their death.

### Six Lost.

While the Hawke was laid down in 1888 she was launched on March 11, 1891.

Among her officers at the time of this disaster were eight naval cadets.

Other British warships lost since the outbreak of hostilities are the cruiser Amphion, sunk in the North sea by a mine August 6 and the cruiser Pathfinder, torpedoed in the North sea, September 10. The

loss of the Hawke makes a total of six British cruisers destroyed by Germany in the North sea since the beginning of the war.

### SENATE TAKES UP COTTON MEASURES

**Considers Amendment Proposing Federal Relief for Southern Planters.**

Washington, Oct. 16.—With practically all other disputed points in the war revenue bill disposed of, the senate today again took up consideration of the amendment proposing relief to cotton growers by a government bond issue.

Southern senators, urging the proposal for passage, presented many petitions asking that some means be provided immediately to relieve the threatening situation in the cotton states. A telegram from Sir Charles Macra, an English cotton manufacturer, suggesting that the United States and Great Britain co-operate to maintain cotton prices, also was read into the record.

Senator Overman called at the White House and in a conference with President Wilson emphasized the determination of southern senators to secure some relief legislation at this session. While the president approves the cotton pool plan inaugurated by Festus J. Wade of St. Louis, he has not favored any of the various legislative proposals. He is anxious for congress to adjourn immediately, and will seek to prevent it being kept in session by amendments to the war tax bill.

Before discussion of the cotton amendment was taken up today the taxes on tobacco, wine, telephone and telegraph messages as framed by the senate finance committee were adopted.

The tobacco section as agreed to levies a graduated tax of from \$3 to \$2.48 on manufacturers of tobacco, cigars and cigarettes.

Manufacturers of all still wines will pay eight cents per gallon on their product and manufacturers of sweet wine would pay 55 cents per gallon on grape brandy or wine spirits used in the fortification of sweet wines.

Senator Pomeroy proposed an amendment which would make permanent the 55 cents a gallon on grape brandy or wine spirits used in the fortification of sweet wines.

### VIOLENT CYCLONE PLAYS HAVOC IN CONCORD, N. C.

**Over 100 Houses Were Unroofed; 15 of Them were Totally Wrecked.**

Charlotte, N. C., Oct. 16.—Crashing through the heart of Concord, N. C., a cyclone yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock left a path a mile long and a hundred and fifty feet wide that looked like the mark of an accurate siege gun. Over a hundred houses were unroofed and otherwise damaged, 15 of them being total wrecks. Many people were blown down on the streets or struck by flying splinters in their homes, but none was seriously hurt. A mother and her three day old infant were blown out from the street from their home, which an instant later collapsed. Rescued by neighbors from the debris, neither seemed the worse for the mishap. The damage will reach several thousand dollars.

**Checks Forest Fires.**  
New Haven, Oct. 16.—Rain today materially checked the many forest fires in Connecticut, some of which had grown to serious proportions, and brought the much needed "damp" to keep the tobacco crop at its best conditions. It broke a drought of about six weeks.

**Long Drought Broken.**  
Philadelphia, Oct. 16.—More than an inch of rain fell in Pennsylvania in the last 24 hours, breaking a drought of forty-five days.

### Bombarded Forts.

Tokio, Oct. 16.—An official announcement says Japanese and British warships bombarded Ito and Bulchuan forts at Tsing Tau, October 14.

### GERMANS TRIED TO AVERT WAR

**Nephew of S. Sternberg Writes Him That Censored Dispatches as to Cause of War Are Untrue.**

### BELGIANS COMMITTED ATROCITIES, HE SAYS

**Decares One of Mr. Sternberg's Schoolmates had Eyes Gouged Out by a Belgian Woman Nurse.**

One of the most interesting of the many letters received in Asheville from the European war zone has just been received by S. Sternberg from one of his nephews in Germany. This letter, which came only a few days ago, is dated August 21 at Aurich, Hannover, and it sets forth some of the reasons, from the writer's standpoint, for the present war. Excerpts from this letter follow:

"Not a soul gave the matter of such an unexpected war, which was forced on us Germans by sheer pressure, even a thought at the time. It becomes more evident day by day that our enemies wanted this war, for the sole reason that the Germany of today has grown too large for them (the enemy) and with the avowed purpose of bringing our country back where she stood prior to 1870, and further to humiliate and belittle us. However, the press of all the countries, comprising our enemies places the blame with us, where as as a matter of fact, we tried our utmost heretofore, as we have up to the last moment, using every precaution to avert this terrible war. We regret exceedingly that owing to the strict censorship maintained we are unable to send press dispatches to the United States and other neutral countries, therefore, unable at this moment to show the American people the exact state of affairs. All press dispatches by our enemies are as a matter of course infamous untruths, as to their version of how this war ensued, and now the German government has published (without exception) all the correspondence, negotiations, etc., that transpired between Russia and ourselves, prior to our mobilizing, which negotiations prove conclusively that Germany did its utmost to avoid this European war. Am mailing you, under separate cover, the German Imperial irons. The which prints these negotiations as they actually transpired between Russia and ourselves, and from which you may draw your own conclusions. These facts cannot be denied by the enemy. Everywhere in Germany patriotism is at fever heat, everyone calls to the colors is itching to go to the front, knowing and believing that we will win out, although how it will end no one really knows. Within the first eight days one million, two hundred thousand volunteers begged for the privilege of enlisting.

"Brother Joseph has done likewise, and I am awaiting my turn to join my regiment. We anticipate, with every hope of ultimate success all coming events.

"A hospital for the wounded soldiers (to accommodate 6,000) is in course of construction here, ready for all emergencies. Within a few days, mother and sister will have plenty of work to do, as they have been accepted by the authorities as Red Cross nurses. They are mighty glad (although an awful task for the uninitiated) to be able to render some assistance. Apropos as to the atrocities with which the enemy's press blames us, there is absolutely no truth to it. We are above such things, but talking about atrocities, your school mate Dorenkat, was one of the many victims of an almost unbelievable fate. The poor fellow shot and severely wounded at the battle of Elze, was carried to a house owned by a Belgian. A Belgian woman, pretending to nurse him, gouged both of Dorenkat's eyes out while he was in this helpless state; further the populace treated our troops with the greatest cordiality, almost as friends, and I turn our troops treated them with every kindness and respect, until at an appointed hour, they shot at our troops from housetops, out of windows, from ambush, poured boiling water on them as they passed under their windows. Cowards of this nature is, of course, sickening and such action would never even suggest itself to a German. Do you wonder why our troops are maddened at such incidents?"

### NOAH IS NOW AT THE HELM

**Assisted by Secretary D. Harris, He Has Put the W. N. C. Fair in Good Condition.**

### THE BIG EXPOSITION IS AS GOOD AS EVER

**The Grounds Are Dry and Exhibits Still Anchored—Big Crowds Expected Today and Tomorrow.**

### Fourth Day's Program.

(Friday—Day of Mirth.)  
9:00 a. m.—Gates open.  
2:00 p. m.—Free acts on the midway.  
7:45 p. m.—Fireworks.  
9:00 p. m.—Masquerade and "tacky" parade on the grounds; four prizes to the winners.  
9:30 p. m.—Free acts on the midway.  
Judging of exhibits; fun on the midway.  
Special music; new and interesting features to entertain.  
Midnight—Gates close for the day.

### Fifth Day's Program.

(Saturday—Special Added Program for Last Day.)  
9:00 a. m.—Gates open.  
3:00 and 8:00 p. m.—Free acts on the midway.  
Special music, parades, free shows, distribution of exhibit samples and other special added attractions.  
11:00 p. m.—Regular fireworks program.  
Midnight—Gates close upon fair.

### Two more days of the big fair.

With old man J. Pluvius that arch enemy for years past of all outdoor fun and frolic, in full command of the field at Riverside park and elsewhere in this section since last Tuesday afternoon, early, thousands of visitors have thus far been prevented from enjoying the big fourth annual exhibition of the Western North Carolina Fair association.

There are two days left, however, and the management of the fair and exhibitors last night expressed the hope that the weather conditions would change in order that on the last two days of the big show those who have not yet visited the grounds, and others who have been down and

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### AGUILAR ABOUT TO ATTACK U. S. FORCE

**His Men Have Machine Gun Trained on Our Troops in Vera Cruz.**

Vera Cruz, Oct. 16.—Evident preparations by a small detachment of men under General Aguilar for an attack last night on the American outposts around Vera Cruz have resulted in the strengthening of the American lines. Some 200 Mexicans are in a position about half a mile from the American outposts and they have two mounted guns trained on the American soldiers. Their warlike activity is attributed in Vera Cruz to over-indulgence in liquor but their boasts that they were about to inaugurate an attack that ultimately would drive the Americans out of this port are taken more or less seriously on account of the persistence of the reports that Aguilar will not be able to restrain himself much longer and that the impatience of his men to see the Vera Cruz rendering his conquest over them doubtful.

Aguilar's forces, it is estimated, between 4,000 and 5,000 men with several pieces of artillery. It is reported in Vera Cruz that Aguilar has made a wager that he will take back in this city next Sunday.