

GREATEST OF ALL STRUGGLES RAGES

Experts Agree Contest For Ports Is Most Critical Of Campaign.

ZEPPELINS MARKED FEATURE IN FIGHT

German Right Heavily Reinforced-- Russians Appear to Have An Upper Hand In East.

London, Oct. 24.—Superlatives have so frequently been used in attempts to describe the engagements of the present war that emphasis of such term as "most desperate," "violent" and "crucial" have been weakened, so today as if by mutual agreement both the German and the British newspapers characterize the conflict along the front from Lille in France to the Belgian seaboard as the greatest struggle of all.

London newspapers were quick to seize the suggestion of a German military expert, cabled here from Berlin, that this is the critical conflict of the whole campaign. Whether this be so or not, it is contended that the outcome is likely to decide the future of German operations in France. Reinforcements of 600,000 men are said to have been rushed to the German right wing, and it seems no exaggeration to say that these operations are the supreme effort of the invaders to break through the allies' line.

Being denied the use of warships, which have been rendering good service for the allies, Germany is said to be throwing her aircraft and particularly Zeppelins, more and more into the fray. News dispatches relate that the operations of Zeppelins have been a marked feature of the fighting to the southwest of Ostend, to which seaport the troops of France, England and Belgium are said to be working their way.

This in brief is a broad view of the situation in France and Belgium, from the English standpoint. Which side had the advantage when dawn broke or which will have it tonight will not be known except to the general staffs of the opposing armies.

In Eastern Theater.
That the Russians, generally speaking, continue to hold the upper hand in the eastern arena of the war is the gist of most of the dispatches reaching London and accepting this as true, England thinks that the putting of Germany on the defensive in this territory will prevent her from transferring any forces to the western arena.

The French forts at Verdun, which have been more or less lost sight of during the days the line of battle has been making its way slowly across northern France and Belgium, came to the fore again today as a result of news from German sources to the effect that the

German forces are drawing closer to these positions and that the French sorties are failing.

London newspapers are treating as significant the withdrawal of German troops from Antwerp and Brussels but these movements would appear to be only part of Germany's plan of reinforcing her fighting line. The dragnet for Germans and Austrians in the British Isles is still spread out but there has been a temporary lull in these efforts due to the lack of adequate detention camps.

London, Oct. 24.—What a German military expert has called a life and death struggle for Germany is still raging along the coast end of the western battle front. Every indication is that the invaders are hurling their full strength against the allies in a determined effort to capture Dunkirk and Calais. Strange reports come from various captured cities in Belgium of the evacuation or the preparation for departure of the German forces holding them. These movements may merely mean that every available man is being thrown forward to the Franco-Belgian frontier and they do not necessarily forecast the abandonment of positions occupied by the Germans. Paris reports that the violent action on the allies' left wing continues, especially around Arras, La Bassée and Armentières, where some of the most desperate fighting of the war has taken place. Here the usual see-saw occurs with neither army gaining any decisive advantage.

A special dispatch states that the allies have advanced further on Ostend, their lines now extending from the coast to a point between Slype and St. Pierre Capelle. Other dispatches declare that the Germans after a success on the Yser, are leaving the coast and working around by Dixmude to Lille, thereby clearing the way to Ostend. Incessant fighting prevails over the West Flanders front from Roulers to Thourout and between Nieuport and Ostend.

Petrograd reports a continuation of the pursuit of the Germans retreating from Warsaw and admits an unexpectedly stubborn resistance to the Russian offensive on the San. The official Vienna report after detailing successes before Przemysl and a dashing movement

COTTON LOAN PLAN BEFORE U. S. BOARD

Scheme Will Have Effect on Adjustment of British-American Finances.

Washington, Oct. 24.—The federal reserve board had before it today for formal consideration the cotton loan fund plan, designed to meet the situation in the south caused by the European war, and government officials were of the opinion that it would be approved. It was pointed out that upon the adoption of the plan largely depended the success of the conferences between board members, Sir George Paish and Basil Blackett, representing the British treasury, and New York bankers, looking to the adjustment of conditions in the foreign exchange market due to the war, and which were continued today. The belief was expressed today that as a result of the conferences the various problems involved would be settled without much difficulty.

May Re-open Exchanges.
New York, Oct. 24.—As a result of the negotiations now in progress at Washington between officials of the United States treasury and representatives of the British finance minister the New York cotton exchange is considering the advisability of communicating with the Liverpool cotton exchange with a view to the reopening of both exchanges early in November. It is understood that a similar communication will be forwarded to the New Orleans cotton exchange.

The conference committee of the New York exchange is formulating a message to the Liverpool exchange outlining the cotton situation as it is seen here. It is believed by many bankers here that if the British bankers agree to accept short term notes or finance bills in payment of a part of this country's obligations to London such action would go far towards restoring normal conditions in the leading cotton markets of the world.

CORRESPONDENT TELLS OF RUSSIANS' SUCCESSES

Says Germans Have Trumpeted Great Victories Where Russians Really Won.

London, Oct. 24.—Describing the recent fighting the Petrograd correspondent of the Post says that the Germans had determined to cross the Vistula in the neighborhood of Ivanorod, where the river is a quarter of a mile wide.

"They pushed near enough to the fortress to bombard it with heavy guns," the correspondent declares, "but they caused almost damage and the bridges were entirely unharmed. Doubtless they may have omitted to destroy the bridges, hoping to utilize them for crossing but this omission greatly facilitated the Russian advance. The garrison of the fortress joined the field army in driving back the German forces at this point."

"Russia has already won three battles, Galicia, Augustovna and Warsaw, each time by an enormous risk consciously taken, and each time the enemy has trumpeted a great victory at the precise point that a risk was taken. The final result opened the eyes of the German strategists to the real nature of the Russian tactics. In Warsaw the battle risk consisted in laying the capital city open to capture and in the battle near Ivanorod the risk was the extreme danger of the Germans getting through the center of the Russian line."

VESSEL WITH WOUNDED SOLDIERS IN TROUBLE

French Ship Marie Henriette, Ashore, Is Sending Out "S. O. S." Signals.

London, Oct. 24.—The French ship Marie Henriette with wounded soldiers on board, is ashore near Cape Barlier, sixteen miles east of Cherbourg, according to a telegram received here from Lloyd signal station at Limes, Isle of Wight. S. O. S. signals from her have been received at the wireless station at Niton, Isle of Wight. A French ship is standing by the Marie Henriette.

BRITT FLAYED BY GOV. CRAIG

Political Record of James J. Britt Attacked by Governor Craig and Congressman Gudger.

COURT HOUSE PACKED AT DEMOCRATIC RALLY

Enthusiastic Crowd Cheered Frequently as Wilson and Craig Administrations Were Reviewed.

That democratic enthusiasm is rapidly reaching the boiling point in Buncombe county over the present campaign was evidenced last night at the county court house here, when a rousing democratic rally was featured with addresses by Governor Locke Craig and Congressman James M. Gudger, Jr., who is seeking re-election in the Tenth district to his national house of representatives on his record in that body and upon the record of the Wilson administration. Despite unfavorable weather conditions, every seat in the court room was filled last night and score stood in the aisles and doorways. The meeting lasted for something over two hours and the speakers were frequently applauded and cheered as references were made to the administrations of Woodrow Wilson and Locke Craig.

Both speakers dwelt at length on the record of the present democratic administration, guided by the master hand of Woodrow Wilson; and both speakers took occasion to attack in the strongest terms the campaign of James J. Britt, the republican progressive congressional candidate, asking for democratic support. Incidents were sighted in Mr. Britt's career to show that he has stood for negro suffrage and has voted for local option, liquor, and against the aged Confederate veterans, rather than cast his lot on the side of or for representation of the opposition party. Yet, it was pointed out, he is asking democrats of the Tenth district to vote for him.

"The record of the republican party in North Carolina," said Governor Craig, "is as black as damnation, and the record of James J. Britt, as a partisan of the republican party, is the same as that of his party. He is a republican by birth and instinct and has stood by republicans in trying to perpetuate negro domination in North Carolina, in plundering the public schools and the school children of the state, in standing solidly against an attempt to return the state to the liquor ranks. I believe he is a conscientious man, but he has sacrificed his principles to stand by his party. He has made his bed. Let him lie in it now and be forgotten."

Chairman J. W. Haynes of the Buncombe county democratic executive committee presided at the meeting and presented the speakers in a few brief words, stating that neither needed any introduction to a Buncombe county assemblage. Congressman Gudger was the first speaker, and Mr. Haynes introduced him as the representative of the Tenth district in the 152nd congress and the man who will be the representative of the district in the 154th.

Mr. Gudger prefaced his speech with brief review of the Wilson administration and the legislation that has been enacted by congress under this administration. He told of the revision of the tariff law whereby the people of the country, has been removed and there now exists a tariff for revenue only, while, under republican administration, there was a tariff to protect the trusts of the country, the combines which were in conspiracy with the republican party, according to Theodore Roosevelt, to rob the people of the country.

Following this, Mr. Gudger spoke of the currency reform that has been accomplished by the present administration, a reform that makes panics like that of 1907 an impossibility, because the source of supply now is the United States treasury, instead of Wall street. The money of the treasury, the speaker pointed out, went to the money trust in New York without interest under a republican administration, but now it is distributed over the country for the purpose of moving it to crops, and at the same time the government has received over two million dollars as interest at two per cent. for the use of this money, the money secured as interest going to the treasury for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the government.

MAN RAN FROM CARMAN'S LAWN

Witness for Woman Charged With Murder Says He Saw Man Run After the Shot Was Fired.

DEFENSE HAS RESTED; COUNSEL SUMMING UP

Expected to Go to Jury Soon and It Is Believed an Early Verdict Will Be Rendered.

Mineola, Oct. 24.—The defense of Mrs. Florence Conklin Carman, on trial charged with the murder of Mrs. Louise Bailey, rested shortly before noon today. Counsel prepared to sum up on indications were that the case would reach the jury late this afternoon.

Mineola, Oct. 24.—Rudolph Loewe, the first witness today in the trial of Mrs. Florence Conklin Carman who is charged with the murder of Mrs. Louise Bailey, testified that he was within fifteen feet of Dr. Carman's office when the shot was fired which killed Mrs. Bailey. Loewe looked up when he heard the report, and according to his testimony, saw a man run across the Carman lawn and leap over the fence.

Indications were the case would go to the jury by sunset. This was the aim of the court and counsel at the opening of court today and to this end witnesses were to be examined. It was expected that Justice Kelly's charge would be brief and the general impression was that the jury would reach an early decision.

Mrs. Carman's face was wreathed in smiles when she entered the courtroom. She bowed to several friends, kissed her daughter, Elizabeth, greeted her husband with a nod and a smile, and taking a seat at the counsel table chatted till the proceedings began.

Rudolph Loewe, first witness called today, testified that he was on his way to Dr. Carman's office and within fifteen feet of the window when the shot which killed Mrs. Bailey was fired. Loewe heard the shot, looked up and saw a man run across the lawn and leap over the fence, he testified.

HOPES FOR SAFETY OF BRITISH SUBMARINE E-3 ARE DISAPPEARING

London, Oct. 24.—The admiralty through the press bureau issued today a list of officers and men of the British submarine E-3, with the statement that it is feared that no hopes for the safety of the submarine can now be obtained.

Berlin official advices, under date of October 20, stated that the British submarine E-3 was sunk on Sunday, October 8 by German warships in the North sea. The destruction of the E-3 is the first loss sustained by the British submarine service in the present war. The boat was comparatively new, having been completed in 1913. She carried a crew of sixteen men.

CONGRESS STILL IS DEADLOCKED

Overnight Efforts to Settle Difficulty in Way of Adjournment Result in No Solution.

ATTEMPTS CONTINUED THROUGH THE DAY

If Leaders Fail to Surmount Difficulty Today They Will Propose Recess Until After Election.

Washington, Oct. 24.—The filibuster which has been holding congress in session collapsed today and leaders of both sides agreed to adjourn at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Washington, Oct. 24.—A concurrent resolution to adjourn congress without date at 4 o'clock next Monday afternoon, October 26, was introduced in the senate today by Senator Kern, the majority leader.

Immediately after introduction of this resolution in the senate both the senate and house took a recess, the house until 2 o'clock this afternoon and the senate until 2:30 o'clock. It is understood conferences will be held at once between members of both houses with a view to an adjournment program.

Washington, Oct. 24.—The deadlock in congress over the time of adjournment continued today with prospects far from bright that it would be broken immediately. Although efforts had been made overnight to settle the difficulty in which congress finds itself over adjournment as a result of the insistence of southern democrats to obtain cotton relief legislation, the situation today apparently was no nearer a solution than before.

Notwithstanding the fact that democratic leaders had been unsuccessful in securing an agreement to adjourn, they continued today their efforts to that end. It was generally believed that the determination of southern members to continue their obstructive tactics until legislation looking to the relief of the cotton growers can be passed would cause adjournment to be postponed indefinitely. In the event that the leaders fail today to bring about adjournment they were to propose a recess until after the elections.

When congress met today the tie-up due to the absence of a quorum in the two houses was more apparent than ever, as many members of both branches of congress had departed from the city.

FIERCE BATTLES AROUND VERDUN

French Succeed in Keeping the Germans Back from Verdun and Toul But Lose Strong Position.

IMPORTANT TO RE-TAKE IT, BUT WILL BE HARD

Correspondent Writes Allies Are Steadily Advancing in North France; Enemy Giving Way.

London, Oct. 24.—The Times today prints a long dispatch in which its correspondent at Nancy, France, under date of October 15 gives a vivid picture of the fighting on the right wing of the French army.

"Though the French official communications continually state that the situation on the right wing is unchanged," he says, "they do not mean that the opposing armies are marking time. The Germans have made fierce efforts to get Verdun. These efforts were as fiercely repelled and the French field army still stands between the army of Metz and the coveted fortresses of Toul and Verdun."

"In the attempt on St. Mihiel the Germans were more successful. Hard fighting will be necessary to eject them, but the German objective—the junction of the army of Metz with the right wing of the crown prince's army of Aronne—has been prevented. The French are praying for a heavy fall of snow which would seriously hamper the enemy's movements of supplies and might even drive them into the open like wolves."

"The guns of Verdun have never yet been in action and there is no prospect of the fall of Verdun unless the French field army allows the Germans to get their big guns within range.

"The whole history of this war, however, goes to prove the utter uselessness of forts under present conditions. The best type of fortification seems to consist of batteries from which the guns can easily be moved to a new point as soon as they are located by the enemy. The day of the fixed fort is gone. After the Germans had entrenched themselves at St. Mihiel their big guns made short work of the French forts at Troyon and Camp des Romains. The guns of the forts had a range of only five miles, against the German sieges' range of seven miles."

"The Germans have placed a battery of Austrian 41 centimeter guns on the site of Camp des Romains which commands St. Mihiel and a large part of the Woerthe. It is most important that the French recapture this position but it will take the most severe kind of fighting to do so."

Another descriptive recital of events in the north of France from an eye-witness attached to the British general headquarters was issued by the official information bureau today. It is dated October 17. It declares that "the fact that we are steadily advancing and that the enemy is giving way before us has proved a most welcome and inspiring change." Continuing the report says:

"As the campaign goes on the tendency of the Germans to rely upon their splendid war material which they have been so amply provided, rather than on the employment of masses of men, has become more marked.

"There are now indications, however, that their supply of material is not inexhaustible."

The narrative then quotes from pamphlets dropped by the German airmen summoning the French to surrender on the ground that they are only pulling chestnuts out of the fire for the English.

PREPARING FOR SIEGE IN SPITE OF ARMISTICE
Mines and Electrically Charged Barbed Wires Placed Before Agua Prieta.

Douglas, Ariz., Oct. 24.—Siege preparations continue at Agua Prieta, Sonora, just across the border, without regard to the truce, declared at Naeco between the garrison and the investing Maytorena forces.

The ground beyond the outer trenches at Agua Prieta has been mined and barbed wire entanglements, carrying a high tension current have been placed about the besieged town. The Maytorena forces under command of Colonel Reyna have retired, but the garrison believes they are preparing to renew attacks.

Reports from Naeco say that General Hill is executing deserters as rapidly as they are turned back to him by the border patrol there.