

The Asheville Gazette News.

WEATHER FORECAST: WARMER WEATHER; FAIR.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 29, 1914.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

LULL IN FLANDERS FIGHT TEMPORARY

Fresh Troops Drawn From Various Points to "Take Ports at All Costs"

TEUTONS FORCED TO RETREAT IN EAST

Right Wing Driven Back By Russian Forces--Reports of Slight Successes By Allied Armies.

London, Oct. 29.—The fourteenth day of the battle of west Flanders, which is being fought over an area hardly greater than a good sized farm in the state of Iowa, found the allies holding the ground to the west of the Yser and the Germans apparently bringing up more reinforcements to repeat their furious attempts to break through and reach the coast of France.

All dispatches seem to agree that there was a temporary lull yesterday in the fighting between Nieuport and Ypres, but the reports are far from unanimous as to whether this was due to an armistice to bury the dead and remove the wounded, which must thickly cover the field, or whether it was caused by the exhaustion of the contending forces or that Germans lack of ammunition.

The London press hazards all three guesses and contends at any rate that the position of the allies is satisfactory. The public is warned, however, that the struggle in this quarter is not yet over, for the Germans, if they find the northern route to Dunkirk and Calais impassable may shift to the south with Boulogne as an objective.

It was at Boulogne that Napoleon waited in vain for his troops to embark for England and the taking of this city by the Germans would stir the German people as nothing else could.

Berlin claims there has been no recent progress in the struggle in Flanders, and, as if explaining this, says sixteen British warships are operating on the coast.

This number never has been confirmed by British sources, but a dispatch from Dover reports that a battleship equipped with twelve inch guns has gone to the assistance of the British monitors which have been shelling the Germans on shore. Other reports speak of heavy firing in the North sea, as if a big naval engagement had taken place, but the admiralty here is silent. Taken as a whole, the English interpretation of the news this morning was cheerful.

From south Africa came a statement that General Botha had inflicted a sharp defeat upon General Beyers, the latest recruit to the revolutionary movement in the union of south Africa.

In the eastern arena of the war in Europe the Russians appear to have driven in the German right wing, as a fortnight ago they shattered the

Paris, Oct. 29.—The pause in the German attacks on the left wing of the allies, where the invaders have fought furiously in their efforts to march on the French ports of Dunkirk and Calais, is considered here to be only momentary.

Reliable reports are to the effect that heavy reinforcements are on their way and that when the German lines are strengthened by these forces, said to aggregate more than 200,000 men, the fighting will go on with renewed fierceness. The reinforcements, it is declared, have been drawn from all the other battle lines, both in the east and west, in pursuance of the order of Emperor William that the French ports must be taken at all costs.

Reports say that the next German onslaught will be undertaken further away from the coast in order to avoid the devastating fire from British and French warships which have thus far taken a prominent part in the battle of Flanders.

While operations in Flanders have been at a standstill, the allies on the center and in the south have, according to official communications, not only resisted the Germans but have made slight gains.

There was a resumption today of interest in the operations in the Woevre, at least in the vicinity of St Mihiel, where the French offensive is said to have met with fresh successes.

Paris, Oct. 29.—The French official announcement given out in Paris this afternoon says that yesterday the French troops made progress at several points on the line, but particularly around Ypres and to the south of Arras. The text follows:

"During the day of yesterday we made progress at several points along the line of battle, but particularly around Ypres and to the south of Arras."

"There is nothing new on the front between Nieuport and Dixmude. Between the Aisne and the Argonne we took possession of some trenches occupied by the enemy and not one of the partial attacks undertaken by the Germans resulted successfully."

"We advanced also in the forest of Apremont."

It is the German official admission that their troops together with the Austrians had retreated in Poland.

Beginning today the British court goes into mourning for three weeks for Prince Maurice of Battenburg, the first member of the royal family to be sacrificed in the war. The prince was a cousin of King George and a son of Prince Henry of Battenburg. He held a commission in the King's Royal Rifle corps, and died of wounds received in battle. Royal condolences already have been sent to his sister, the queen of Spain, who but a few days ago gave birth to a son.

The recurring reports that the Germans are constructing shade in the Belgian coast, bearing Zepplin balloons, a local newspaper is offering a local newspaper is offering (Continued on page 3.)

SCORES WAYS OF STEEL MEN

U. S. Prosecutor Declares Corporation Could Have Crushed Competition But Feared to Do It.

INSTEAD AGREEMENTS AND POOLS WERE MADE

Later, He Declares, the Gary Dinners Were Instituted at Which Understandings Were Reached.

Philadelphia, Oct. 29.—The final day's argument in the greatest corporation case ever considered by any court opened with Jacob M. Dickinson, former secretary of war, and special assistant to the attorney general, continuing his address, urging that the United States Steel corporation should be disintegrated because it is violating the anti-trust laws. Mr. Dickinson's argument was largely a rebuttal of what the six corporation lawyers who preceded him had said in defense of the corporation and its subsidiaries.

Mr. Dickinson said the steel corporation could crush out all competition if it so desired, but it realized that if it pursued such a policy it would be crushed swiftly by the government. It adopted a different scheme, he said. It entered into pools, agreements and combinations with its competitors, he declared, by means of which prices were kept up and larger returns were received on its enormous watered capital. It was, he said, the most astute and most comprehensive policy that ever has characterized any business movement in the history of the world.

After rumors of possible prosecution got abroad, after congressional and government investigations were started, Mr. Dickinson declared, the corporation changed its methods to reach the same ends. It dropped pools and agreements and larger and broader schemes were devised.

These were the famous Gary dinners and meetings which were attended by 90 per cent of the iron and steel manufacturers of the country. At the dinners and meetings E. H. Gary, head of the steel corporation, was always the most active figure, and Mr. Dickinson alleged that understandings were reached, by which prices were kept up. He ridiculed the explanations of the defense that the dinners were held only to discuss business conditions and not to fix prices, divide territory and limit output.

DR. ALEXANDER'S SON IS GIVEN CADETSHIP

Henry M. Alexander Gets Appointment to West Point Through Overman.

Charles H. Martin, private secretary to Senator Overman, stated yesterday that the junior senator had appointed Henry Milford Alexander, son of Dr. H. Q. Alexander, of Matthews, to a cadetship at West Point. The examination will be held some time in January or the first part of February. The alternate has not yet been named, but it is believed that a son of F. M. Williams, of Newton, will be offered the first alternate.

While talking to Senator Simmons yesterday about the cotton situation, Secretary McAdoo reiterated his statement that the cotton situation was improving rapidly and that with the inauguration of the federal reserve banks to be opened November 16, and with the Wade subscription plan, the situation will be greatly relieved.

The conference between Mr. McAdoo, the federal reserve board officials, Festus J. Wade, of St. Louis, and the British representative several days ago has resulted in the only good that has been accomplished for the cotton people. The foreign market is now opening up and with the \$118,000,000 to be raised by the Wade plan and the additional currency which will be made available when the federal reserve banks open, the cotton people will be well taken care of.

Belgian Relief Fund. Washington, Oct. 29.—The Belgian relief fund has reached \$5,000, according to an announcement by the Belgian minister.

PRESBYTERIANS HEAR REPORTS

North Carolina Synod in Annual Session at Hickory Begins Its Routine Work.

EARNEST PRAYERS FOR PEACE ARE OFFERED

Number of Standing Committees Are Named by Moderator—Details of the Various Reports.

Hickory, Oct. 29.—After the Presbyterian synod of North Carolina in annual session here, convened yesterday and was led in devotional exercises by Rev. J. C. Shive, of Wilson. Earnest prayers were offered that God would bring peace to the warring nations of Europe.

Dr. W. J. Martin, chairman of the committee on schools and colleges, presented the committee's report, which was adopted. This report showed total receipts and disbursements of \$724.77, and called on the Presbyterians to appoint permanent committees on this cause and request all the churches to place it on the regular church budget so as to secure efficient patronage for all Presbyterian institutions.

The committee on foreign missions made their report, which was adopted. This report showed a total of 3,517 members added to the church for the year.

The synod then engaged in celebrating the sacrament of the Lord's Supper and held afterward a memorial service for the deceased ministers since the last meeting. Four ministers of the body have passed to the great beyond since the synod met in Greensboro last year, namely: J. E. Summers, H. F. Ellingwood, Carr Moore and J. A. Gilmer.

M. B. Spier of Charlotte, was heard for ten minutes in the interest of the laymen's missionary movement which convenes in Charlotte next February, 16-17-18.

The moderator appointed the following standing committees. Bills and overtures—M. McG. Shields, H. S. Bradshaw, D. Munroe, Dr. J. S. Lafferty, A. F. Patterson, and G. W. Lee.

Judicial—James R. Young, George E. Wilson, J. M. Millard, A. M. McLaughlin, R. C. Anderson and W. T. D. Moss.

Minutes of general assembly—W. S. Wilson, D. H. Ralston, C. P. Coble, G. W. Maslin, G. W. Harper, C. W. Erwin, J. A. Pritchett and S. K. Fountain.

Address to the churches—A. D. McClure, A. A. McGeachy, J. J. Hill, C. H. Wolfe, Dr. J. S. Brown and A. G. McIntosh.

Union Theological seminary—E. R. Leyburn, W. R. Coppedge, W. R. Minter, J. A. Scott, W. B. Gathers, L. L. McGirt, Charles F. Hamilton and A. T. Walker.

Synodical Orphanage—W. E. McIlwain, T. W. Lingle, W. H. Davis, J. L. Beatty, H. F. Morton, A. B. Young, C. F. Alexander, H. L. Cannon and Edgar Tufts.

Systematic Benevolence—J. C. Shive, J. M. Grier, W. P. Chedester, R. A. White, J. R. Baber, J. P. Russell, E. D. Brown, and T. W. Walker.

Statistical reports—E. C. Murray, W. F. Hollingsworth, Robert King, O. L. Clark, J. E. Balfou, E. F. Bradley, C. T. Squires and J. W. Moss.

Auditing committee—T. W. Dixon, J. L. Caldwell, Donald McIver and C. G. Vardell.

CRUISER EMDEN GETS TWO MORE

German Warship Torpedoes and Sinks Russian Cruiser and French Torpedo Boat Destroyer.

TWO OTHER STEAMERS ARE SUNK BY MINES

Vessel Goes Down Off Coast of Ireland and Swedish Steamer Is Lost in the North Sea.

Fleetwood, Eng., Oct. 29.—(Via London.)—Word has been received through a trawler which arrived here Wednesday night that another steamer has been sunk off Malin head, off the north coast of Ireland. There are no details of this new shipping disaster.

Emden Sinks Two. Tokio, Oct. 29.—The British embassy here that the German cruiser Emden, flying the Japanese flag and disguised by the addition of a fourth smokestack, entered Penang, a British possession in the straits settlements, and fired torpedoes which sank the Russian cruiser Jemtschug and a French destroyer.

The Russian cruiser Jemtschug was a boat of about 3,100 tons and was laid down in 1902. Her main battery consisted of six 4.7-inch guns and she had a speed of 24 knots. She carried a crew of 334 men. After the battle of the sea of Japan during the Russo-Japanese war in 1905, the Jemtschug was interned at Manila. The German cruiser Emden, after her exploits in the Indian ocean around India where she sank a score or more of British steamers, has apparently shifted her scene of operations more to the eastward, to the vicinity of the straits settlements. On Tuesday she was reported as having sunk a Japanese passenger steamer bound for Singapore.

London, Oct. 29.—The Times, in an editorial suggesting that the mines off the coast of northern Ireland have been dropped by North sea trawlers flying a neutral flag, says:

"The Germans have so flagrantly violated the precepts of international law that the only safe precaution seems to be to close the North sea to all neutral maritime traffic in order to prevent any further dangerous abuse of neutral flags."

Swedish Steamer. Stockholm, Oct. 29.—(Via London.)—The Swedish steamer Ornen, from Portugal for Gothenburg, Sweden, hit a mine Monday in the North sea and sank off Cuxhaven. Five members of her crew were drowned.

METHODISTS PLANNING BOOSTING CONVENTION

Washington, Oct. 29.—Plans for holding a "boosting" convention in Chicago early in 1915 were made today at the concluding meeting of the conference here inaugurating the campaign to raise \$5,000,000 during 1915 for the support of retired ministers of the Methodist Episcopal church. Representatives from other denominations addressed the conference in explanation of similar movements in their churches.

ORAL ARGUMENTS IN THE R. R. RATES CASE

Washington, Oct. 29.—Oral arguments for and against the application of eastern railroads for a general advance in freight rates began today before the interstate commerce commission. The arguments may be concluded today or tomorrow and the commission is expected to take up the case at the November conference, for an early decision.

PAULDING SETTLES DEEPER IN THE SAND

Norfolk, Oct. 29.—The destroyer Paulding, aground at Lynnhaven inlet, has settled deeper in the sand. The crew is still aboard, but a part will likely soon be transferred to the naval station here. It is thought a private wrecking company will soon be employed to float the Paulding.

DISCLAIM KNOWLEDGE OF COLONY INVASION

Berlin, Oct. 29.—(Via London.)—It was announced officially in Berlin today that nothing was known concerning the report that German troops had entered Angola, the Portuguese colony in west Africa.

TRAVIS DENIES HOLTON CHARGE

Corporation Commissioner Declares Southern Power Co. Had Nothing to Do With Taxation Article.

NO COPY FURNISHED TO POWER COMPANY

Written By Request; Had Been Asked His Reasons for Opposing the Tax Amendment.

Special to The Gazette-News. Greensboro, Oct. 29.—Chairman E. L. Travis, of the corporation commission, has sent to The Daily News the following reply to A. E. Holton's address at Mt. Airy, carried in that paper Tuesday morning:

Raleigh, Oct. 28. "The Greensboro News today quotes Hon. A. E. Holton as having said in a public speech at Mt. Airy that my discussion of the proposed tax amendment that appeared in Sunday's Charlotte Observer was 'put out at the instance of the Southern Power company' and that the document was prepared in the city of Charlotte by agents and attorneys of this and other tax-dodging interests. That statement is an absolute fabrication. No one in Charlotte or elsewhere, had anything to do with the preparation of my article but myself. It was written in answer to requests which came to me by letter from several citizens of the state from the grounds of my opposition to this amendment, and when the Raleigh correspondent of the Charlotte Observer requested that I furnish such a statement for the readers of the Observer some additional words were made to the letter and furnished to this correspondent, who forwarded it to the Observer by last Wednesday night's mail. The Observer editorially acknowledged its receipt in its issue of last Friday with the announcement that it would appear in their Sunday's issue. No copy of this article was furnished to any representative of the Southern Power company with my knowledge, and Mr. Holton's statement that 'he saw this same article in the possession of a representative of the Southern Power company on Saturday' indicates a confidential relationship between Mr. Holton and the Southern Power company rather than between myself and that company."

"The article in question was a plain discussion of the merits of the proposed amendment, without questioning anybody's motives, and I would respectfully suggest that a decent respect for public opinion would require that it be met on that basis. If Mr. Holton cannot answer in other terms than libelous personal abuse he ought to leave the job to some one else. I would have no difficulty in meeting Mr. Holton in a discussion of political motives and records, but the people of the state are interested in the question of whether or not the adoption of the proposed tax amendment is in the public interest and not in cheap republican abuse of me."

"Mr. Holton's reported discussion of the manner of taxing the Western Union Telegraph company, and the Southern Power company is erroneous. He says the Western Union property in Winston is assessed at only \$446, but he failed to explain that this is because of the fact that the property of this company in the state is assessed as a whole and the assessment distributed equally upon every mile of wire in the state, so that special school districts and road districts all through the country get their full share of tax contributions from this class of property."

"The property of the Western Union in this state is assessed at \$845,000 and it pays taxes to the state and to the several counties, cities and special districts on this valuation, and in addition pays a privilege tax of \$2 on every mile of wire, which amounts to \$7,552. Their report shows that their total business in this state for the year 1913 was \$135,875 and their operating expenses were \$419,580, leaving net profit on their investment in this state for the year of \$18,195. This statement of exact facts shows that Mr. Holton either did not know the facts or deliberately misrepresented them. Exactly the same sort of explanation would apply to his criticism of the assessment of the Southern Power company."

"The records of this department do not show any property whatever in Winston-Salem held by the Southern Power company, but the legislature has prescribed the method of taxation of all public service companies that distributes the assessment equally over all their lines for the reason above stated that the rural districts may share in the assessment upon the same basis as the cities. The assessment of the Southern Power company is distributed equally upon every mile of power line which it owns, and the assessment, in addition to the valuation placed on same by local assessment, for the year 1914 was \$2,212 per mile of power line."

"When Mr. Holton starts out at attack characters he ought to get his

facts straight even when attacking a political opponent."

To Meet in West. Chicago, Oct. 29.—The National Collegiate association, it is announced, will meet here December 29. It will be the first time the meeting has been held in the west.

Asheville Is Apparently Not Suffering Any Business Depression, Judging From Various Reports.

TELEGRAPH BUSINESS SHOWS BIG INCREASE

BUSINESS GOOD IN EVERY LINE

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TELEGRAPH BUSINESS SHOWS BIG INCREASE

One of Important Business Barometers of City Indicates Fair Weather for Asheville Business Men.

Indications are more apparent in Asheville every day that business conditions are good and that they are improving daily. Talk from the outside of business depression and lack of confidence in the general situation has apparently had no effect here—unless, perhaps, it has helped the situation. News of one of the biggest realty deals in the city for several months was carried in the columns of The Gazette-News last week, while only a few days ago this paper carried an interview from L. L. Jenkins, one of the city's leading bankers, in which he stated that he considers the business outlook exceedingly bright and that this country will have "an unusual season of prosperity" as soon as the European war comes to a close.

To these and many other evidences of good business conditions and prosperity in the community is added today the testimony of A. K. Akers, manager of the local branch office of the Postal Telegraph Cable company, in which he says that there is every possibility that the business of this office during October will increase 25 per cent over that of last October. This and several other equally interesting statements are made in a letter from Mr. Akers to Secretary N. Tucker of the Asheville board of trade. The letter in full follows:

"The best business barometers in any city are the postoffice and telegraph offices. When times are dull, his telegraph bill is the first place the average business man begins to economize. In the light of this, I should like to submit the fact that this month we have already done more business in the first 24 days of it than we did all of last October and expect the entire month to show an increase of something like 25 per cent over last year. So far as Asheville is concerned this certainly does not look as though business conditions were so very bad. We are carrying the same number of employes as during the heavy summer season, and see no prospect of any reduction."

"For the modest increase of 400 per cent in our business during the past three years, we ascribe no small part of it to the steady growth of the city and the energetic work of the board of trade that has helped us much to bring it about. Please accept my thanks for your personal interest in the growth of this office and the city of Asheville."

WAYNESVILLE PEOPLE HEAR JAMES J. BRITT

Republican-Progressive Candidate Spoke to Good Crowd Last Night.

Special to The Gazette-News.

Waynesville, Oct. 29.—James J. Britt, republican-progressive candidate for congress, addressed an audience of about 300 people here last night. The audience was composed largely of members of the dual party, although several democrats were in attendance.

His speech was along the same line as the others he has made in the last few days and he reviewed at length his opponent's record and his own and gave his version of what the republican and democratic parties stand for.

Republicans and progressives here claim that the large democratic majority of Haywood will be greatly reduced by Mr. Britt and that where the county normally gives a democratic majority of between 500 and 1500 it will this time give only about 500. A great deal of interest in the approaching election is being manifested in Haywood county by both sides and it is believed that the full vote will be cast in this county.

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