

Fair Tonight; Partly Cloudy Tuesday

'Asheville's Livest Newspaper—Today's News Today—Not Tomorrow—Every Day in the Year'

VOL. XXII. NO. 294.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., TUESDAY, AFTERNOON, NOV. 27, 1917

PRICE FIVE CENTS

WEEK JUST CLOSED FAVORABLE ONE TO CAUSE OF ALLIES

Resistance of Italians and Cambrai Offensive Considered One Movement

BAKER ISSUES HIS WEEKLY REVIEW

Increased Artillery in the American Sector—Some Valuable Experience

Washington, Nov. 27.—The week just closed has been one very favorable to the allied arms, says the war department's official communique issued today, reviewing military operations for the week ending Saturday.

The success of the British offensive in the region of the Cambrai and the steady resistance of the Italians in the face of the repeated attacks of the Austro-German forces are two factors which may be considered as correlating elements of one and the same movement.

It is evident that the enemy took the offensive in Italy, hoping thereby to extricate himself from the increasingly difficult position in which his forces find themselves in the west. Though the French and British have both dispatched large detachments to Italy, this has in now way hampered the continuance of their offensive operations.

It is the wastage of the enemy forces, the slow yet relentless sapping of his man-power by continued and sudden offensive thrusts which must eventually result in the softening of his line in the west.

The military situation is dominated by the spectacular success gained by the British forces in their thrusts toward Cambrai. By adopting new tactical methods, by evolving a strategy daringly conceived and brilliantly executed, the British forces have been able to record a decided success, when measured by captured terrain, than any hitherto achieved by either belligerent in the same space of time along the western front.

While seemingly continuing his intense artillery bombardment in Flanders, Field Marshal Haig has been able to mesh successfully his plans for an offensive thrust between the Scarpe river and St. Quentin.

The usual preliminary artillery preparation was dispensed with. The elements of a decided success to victory played a large part in the success gained. The British by a preponderant numerical superiority in men and mobile material, by improving the skillful tactical maneuvering of an unusual number of tanks, and by co-ordinating with precision the deployment of cavalry, made use of these two arms to bear the brunt of the encounter. Infantry then was called upon to hold and consolidate the terrain gained.

Thus the British were able to record a decided success with very great economy of munitions and slight casualties. Three successive German lines of defense on a frontage of six miles astride the Cambrai-Papaume road were captured, and the Scheldt canal in front of Cambrai was crossed.

SELECTING JURY IN MEANS' TRIAL

At Noon Today, Out of First 16 Veniremen Examined, Three Jurors Had Been Accepted—Questions Asked By Counsel for State and Defense Indicate Lines on Which Case Will Be Fought—Not Necessary To Prove Motive, Judge Holds—Select Two Farmers and Weaver

Concord, Nov. 27.—Enough veniremen of the 150 ordered for the trial of Gaston B. Means had been notified before opening of court today for selection of the trial jury to begin. In addition to the special venire 13 men were left from the panel of 36 called with the special venire, making a total of 163 from which to choose the 12 men who will decide whether Means killed Mrs. Maude A. King.

Two Jurymen Chosen. C. F. Culp, a farmer, the second venireman to be examined, and R. B. Buchanan, a weaver of Concord, were chosen today as the first and second of the 12 men who are to be asked to decide whether or not Gaston B. Means shot and killed Mrs. Maude A. King. Buchanan was the fourth venireman called.

Had Formed Opinion. The first prospective juror was J. F. Setzer, a barber of Kannapolis, who was excused because he had formed an opinion that Means was innocent. The third venireman was J. E. Setzer, a barber of Kannapolis, who was excused because he had formed an opinion that Means was guilty.

The state asked the veniremen if they would accept circumstantial evidence, and also if they could give due and proper consideration to the testimony of expert witnesses on an equal basis with other testimony. The veniremen answered whether or not they would be "prejudiced against witnesses who come from another state to testify. All those among the first examined replied that they had no prejudice against outside witnesses and said they would give due weight to circumstantial evidence.

The state will try to prove by means of expert testimony that it would have been physically impossible for Mrs. King to have inflicted in the back of her head the pistol bullet wound that caused her death. The usual legal questions as to kinship and business connections were asked by the state.

Questions by Defense. The defense asked many questions as to opinions formed and as to what the veniremen had discussed the case. Buchanan said he had talked very little about the case except to his wife. He was asked in detail about what he had read, particularly in a Chicago weekly paper.

No Motive Necessary. The defense asked F. H. Linker, a farmer, if he would convict Means if the state was unable to show a motive. The state pointed out that North Carolina law does not require a motive to be shown, and was upheld by the court.

Linker was excused by the defense, it being the first time either side had used a peremptory strike. and the Plave defensive operations have been well conducted, and the enemy has been unable to make any further progress. Strategic reserves, strengthened by allied contingents, have been constituted. The morale of the Italian forces is improving daily and while the situation is not wholly free from critical aspects, the defensive measures appear adequate to meet the situation.

In Palestine the British forces under General Allenby are advancing rapidly on Jerusalem. They have now reached a point on the Ramallah road approximately seven miles west of the city, while another force is bearing down from the north.

Communications to enemy or ally of enemy countries are prohibited except by license of the war trade board.



GASTON B. MEANS

THE STATE'S CONTENTION.

The state will try to prove by means of expert testimony that it would have been physically impossible for Mrs. King to have inflicted in the back of her head the pistol bullet wound that caused her death. The usual legal questions as to kinship and business connections were asked by the state.

QUESTIONS BY DEFENSE.

The defense asked many questions as to opinions formed and as to what the veniremen had discussed the case. Buchanan said he had talked very little about the case except to his wife. He was asked in detail about what he had read, particularly in a Chicago weekly paper.

NO MOTIVE NECESSARY.

The defense asked F. H. Linker, a farmer, if he would convict Means if the state was unable to show a motive. The state pointed out that North Carolina law does not require a motive to be shown, and was upheld by the court.

LINKER WAS EXCUSED BY THE DEFENSE.

Linker was excused by the defense, it being the first time either side had used a peremptory strike. and the Plave defensive operations have been well conducted, and the enemy has been unable to make any further progress. Strategic reserves, strengthened by allied contingents, have been constituted. The morale of the Italian forces is improving daily and while the situation is not wholly free from critical aspects, the defensive measures appear adequate to meet the situation.

IN PALESTINE THE BRITISH FORCES UNDER GENERAL ALLENBY ARE ADVANCING RAPIDLY ON JERUSALEM.

They have now reached a point on the Ramallah road approximately seven miles west of the city, while another force is bearing down from the north.

COMMUNICATIONS TO ENEMY OR ALLY OF ENEMY COUNTRIES ARE PROHIBITED EXCEPT BY LICENSE OF THE WAR TRADE BOARD.

Communications to enemy or ally of enemy countries are prohibited except by license of the war trade board.

MOTHER TO TAKE WITNESS STAND

Mrs. Errazuriz, Mother of Mrs. De Saullles, Expected To Testify at Trial During the Day

Mineola, N. Y., Nov. 27.—Mrs. Blanca Errazuriz, mother of Mrs. Blanca De Saullles, was expected today to take the witness stand to testify in behalf of her daughter, who is on trial here charged with murder of divorced husband, John L. De Saullles.

The character of the testimony which it is expected Mrs. Errazuriz will give has not been outlined. Several other witnesses for the defense are to follow her on the witness stand where upon a volume of expert testimony is to be adduced. Alienists, x-ray specialists and other men prominent in the medical profession are to testify for both sides in connection with Mrs. De Saullles' claim that she was mentally irresponsible when she fired the shots that resulted in the death of her former husband.

There was but a fraction of the crowd which yesterday jammed the corridors outside the court room when the doors to the trial chamber opened today. Nearly all who came to the place gained admission. Contrary to predictions, Mrs. De Saullles was not on the witness stand this morning for cross examination by District Attorney Charles R. Weeks, who is conducting the prosecution.

It was believed that because of the defendant's physical condition a special concession of the court would be sought so as to postpone her cross questioning some days. Mineola, Nov. 27.—Mrs. Blanca De Saullles on trial here for the murder of her husband, John L. De Saullles, yesterday from the witness stand told the story of her life.

It was a story brimming with dramatic interest. Her childhood, spent in Chile, her meeting there with De Saullles, their marriage in Paris, and the return to the United States was the first and happiest part of the tale. Then came the defendant's detailed story of the change in her husband's attitude toward her—the trickery to which she claims he resorted in order to get possession of the \$100,000 which she inherited from her father.

Instances of his alleged infidelity were related by the witness who spoke in a calm, unimpassioned manner, while the throng which filled the court room listened with breathless interest. Letters which Mrs. De Saullles wrote to her husband were introduced by her counsel with the purpose of showing the jury that she was being deceived. The pathos of some of them drew tears from the listeners in the court room.

At the afternoon session Justice Manning ruled that testimony taken in the divorce proceedings instituted by Mrs. De Saullles should be excluded from the record of the trial. In his opening statement of the case last week, Attorney Uterhart indicated the record of these proceedings would be depended upon in large measure to establish De Saullles' alleged mistreatment of his wife and his unfaithfulness to her.

Milwaukee, Nov. 27.—With the arrest of a large number of suspects early today in connection with Saturday night's bomb outrage which resulted in the killing of 10 persons, the police department was hopeful that before many hours they would secure something definite on which to fasten responsibility. There was ground for the belief that the police were hopeful of having the man who made the bomb in custody shortly. The men rounded up are supposed anarchists.

Paris, Nov. 27.—General Bliss and Admiral Benson, each accompanied by two members of his staff, motored to French army headquarters today. They were the guests of General Petain at Luncheon, the French commander-in-chief. Marquis de Chambrun, who was a member of the French mission to the United States went with the party. Col. House and the other members of the American mission to the inter-allied conference planned to spend the day in conferences here.

LITTLE CHANGE IN RUSSIAN MIDDLE

Country on Verge of Civil War—Bolsheviki Trying To Arrange Armistice—Kaledines Master Now

The situation in Russia shows little improvement and the country is described as being on the verge of civil war. Efforts of the Bolshevik government to arrange an armistice continue and Berlin and Petrograd are reported in communication by wireless presumably in connection with the peace offer of the maximalists. The second army on the Russian northern front has removed its officers, agreed to the Bolshevik armistice proposal and pledged its support to the extremists.

The American government has received the armistice note from the Petrograd government and it is under consideration. The ministers of the allied powers in the Russian capital, it is reported officially, will demand their passports if Russia enters into separate peace negotiations. General Kaledines, the Don Cossack leader, a dispatch received in London says, is master of the situation in Russia. He is in control of most of the grain-growing territory in the south and is said to hold the Russian gold reserve, reported removed from Petrograd a year before the war broke out. The Russian soldiers at the front are reported desperate from hunger, due to the exhaustion of food supplies and mutinies are said to have broken out.

London, Nov. 28.—The Russian revolutionists have made a "slightly favorable" of their attempt at administration, according to the Petrograd correspondent of the Morning Post, writing Saturday. He adds: "But behind or beyond all this apparently hopeless chaos the forces which made Russia an empire are not idle and those who know Russian history understand perfectly well how matters will end.

Even as I write the situation is becoming clear. The elections to the constituent assembly will take place but the constituent authority will not meet the success of the Bolshevik movement, whatever the movement may really mean, as it already has damned the constituent assembly. "Meantime I would call attention to the following facts: "The vast gold reserve of the Russian empire which was removed from Petrograd to the Kremlin in 1913, was later carried still further into the interior. It is in safe hands.

General Kaledines, hetman of united Cossackdom, is in secure possession with trustworthy and disciplined troops of all arms, of all those regions of European Russia that produced a harvest this year and is rapidly capturing those remaining territories upon which Russia relies for its daily bread. "A vast union under the name of the Southeast union has been formed. It includes the Don territory, a great part of Little Russia, the lower Volga provinces and Turkestan—the area which feeds all Russia. This union is extending and promises to cover the Siberian corn land.

General Kaledines, holding the gold reserve and the bread supplies, is master of the situation and those he serves will accept dictation neither from Kerensky, Lenin or anybody else, least of all from Germany. "The allies may safely admit a bowing acquaintance with the curious depths by internal disturbances but for intimate friendship and future partnership they must look elsewhere and the meantime they must wait unceremoniously until their old friends reappear above the present turmoil."

London, Nov. 27.—The Russian army on the northern front has had no bread for several days, according to reports received in Petrograd and transmitted by the correspondent of the Daily Express and only two or three days supply of my biscuits is on hand. The army delegates are reported to have recommended the withdrawal of the troops in order to prevent a general flight with its consequent excesses. Instead of 100 cars of food arriving daily at the Dvinsk front, only 20 have been received. Large numbers of troops being moved to different places have been stopped by the removal of sections of railroad track to prevent their reaching Petrograd. They were stopped at towns where food could not be obtained.

BRITISH REPULSE ANOTHER GERMAN COUNTER ATTACK

Germany Fail in Desperate Attempt to Drive General Byng's Men From High Ground Dominating Cambrai Region—Italians Successfully Withstanding Massed Attacks

New German attempts to drive the British from their positions in Bourlon wood and the high ground dominating the Cambrai region have failed. General Byng's men have repulsed another enemy counter attack at the northeast corner of the wood. There was much severe fighting Monday around Moeuvres, west of the Bourlon wood and in the outskirts of Fontaine Notre Dame immediately east of the wood and toward Cambrai.

Active Around Verdun. German artillery has been active in the Ypres and Verdun regions. In Flanders the British positions at Passchendaele, the northern part of the Passchendaele-Gheluvelt ridge are being bombarded heavily by the enemy but Crown Prince Rupprecht, of Bavaria, has not attempted infantry attacks.

On the right bank of the Meuse where the French gained the first and second German defenses on a two mile front Sunday, German efforts to attack have been checked by French artillery while the enemy guns have been bombarding the new French positions. The activity of the big guns also has been violent in Belgium and north of the Chemin-Des-Dames. To Reinforce Italians. French and British soldiers have reached the fighting zone north of the Venetian plains to aid the Italians in their brave defense against the invading Austro-German forces.

Between the Brenta and the Piave the Italians are withstanding successfully massed enemy attacks. The invaders attempted to rush the defending lines on the left, in the center and on the right of the short front between the rivers but were crushed everywhere by the Italians. Near Jerusalem. British cavalry is now three and one half miles west of Jerusalem and is closing in on the Turkish defenses from the southwest. The Turks are offering some resistance and are holding the Jerusalem-Shechem road to the north in strength. North of Jaffa British patrols have been driven back to the southern side of the Nahr-El-Aujel.

Official Announcement. London, Nov. 27.—The announcement follows: "During the night the Germans undertook another counter-attack against our position in the northeast corner of Bourlon wood. The attack was repulsed. "There is nothing of special interest to report on the remainder of the front. The weather is stormy and wet."

Berlin's Statement. Berlin, Nov. 27.—(Via London.)—The situation on the Italian front is unchanged, army headquarters announced. The repulse of a British attack on Bourlonwood and village, in the Cambrai area, is also announced in today's official communication.

Fighting Renewed Between Bourlonwood And Cambrai

British Army Headquarters in France, Nov. 26.—(Delayed.)—(By The Associated Press)—British troops last night continued to bore their way forward through the Hindenburg support line west of Moeuvres. There was vigorous fighting at close quarters in this region and, as a result, the British today were in possession of a further section of support trenches 2,000 yards long running east and west just south of Pronville and Iachy-En-Artois. The British advance in the last few days had made this section virtually untenable and the Germans were forced to withdraw when pressed by a new attack.

Fighting was renewed today between Bourlon wood and Cambrai about Fontaine Notre Dame, where the Germans were still installed and continued to work machine guns from roofs and windows. West of here at Bourlon wood and Bourlon village the situation remained much as it was last night after the Germans had forced the British out of most of the village in a fierce counter attack which involved still more furious hand to hand fighting through the streets. The battle continued here today.

The fight for Bourlon wood and the village will long be remembered as one of the most bitterly contested and sanguinary yet fought along the British front in France. American officers visiting the Cambrai sector have been thrilled at this renewal of old type warfare and with one accord say: "Americans Like It." "That is the kind of fighting American troops would like to be in for you are in the open where you can get at the enemy with cold steel."

The British have clung tenaciously to Bourlonwood and defended partly by tanks which have taken positions at advantageous location from which they can work their guns. Fontaine Notre Dame was being hard pressed by the British at the latest reports. Throughout yesterday this hamlet remained un molested for it in no way hampered the operations about Bourlon wood. In a certain British casualty clearing station on the Cambrai front there has been working for several days a well known New York surgeon who belongs to the American medical corps and volunteered his services for the present battle. Most of his work has been done among the German prisoners who have come to look upon this big, cheerful officer as almost superhuman because of several remarkable operations he has performed.

Some Quick Work. The Germans all swear by the "big American" and treat him with the utmost deference. It fell to the lot of this surgeon to operate upon a German who had left the Russian front only 36 hours before. It took him 24 hours to get into the battle before American and 12 hours later he was a prisoner in a British clearing station.

are in the open where you can get at the enemy with cold steel."

The British have clung tenaciously to Bourlonwood and defended partly by tanks which have taken positions at advantageous location from which they can work their guns. Fontaine Notre Dame was being hard pressed by the British at the latest reports. Throughout yesterday this hamlet remained un molested for it in no way hampered the operations about Bourlon wood. In a certain British casualty clearing station on the Cambrai front there has been working for several days a well known New York surgeon who belongs to the American medical corps and volunteered his services for the present battle. Most of his work has been done among the German prisoners who have come to look upon this big, cheerful officer as almost superhuman because of several remarkable operations he has performed.

Some Quick Work. The Germans all swear by the "big American" and treat him with the utmost deference. It fell to the lot of this surgeon to operate upon a German who had left the Russian front only 36 hours before. It took him 24 hours to get into the battle before American and 12 hours later he was a prisoner in a British clearing station.

(Continued on Page 2)

INCREASES DUTIES ON ALL WINES AND LIQUORS

Mexico City, Nov. 27.—President Carranza has issued a decree increasing the taxes and import duties on all wines and alcoholic liquors, to take effect January 1. All alcoholic liquors produced in Mexico will be subject to a tax of 5 percent and wines produced a tax of 50 percent and all wines will be taxed 25 percent. Wines and alcoholic beverages of foreign make will have to pay a stamp tax of 70 percent above the import duties. Foreign-made beer will be taxed 80 percent above the import duty. The decree provides also for a stamp tax of from five to 20 cents on corked bottles sold over counters.

BREAD CARDS WILL BE ISSUED IN PARIS SOON

Paris, Nov. 27.—Bread cards will be issued shortly. They will be in form of books with detachable coupons, each entitling the holder to purchase a certain amount of bread. The daily allowance has been fixed at 300 grams (about ten ounces) per capita. Men engaged in hard manual labor will have a double allowance. The system will be applied only to towns and cities. Bakers will be permitted hereafter to bake loaves of any shape or size they please, instead of the loaf of standard shape and dimensions now obligatory. It is probable a uniform price of five cents a pound for the whole country will be fixed for bread.

WANTS TO GET IN TOUCH WITH ALLIES

Amsterdam, Nov. 27.—Count Michael Karolyi, the Hungarian opposition leader, has informed the Berne correspondent of the Budapest Az Est that the main object of his visit to Berne was to get information regarding the feeling among the enemies of the central powers. "I openly declare," he said, "that I intend to get into touch with the British and French in order to explain to them that we are neither conquerors nor oppressors."

SUSPECTS ARRESTED FOR MILWAUKEE TRAGEDY

Milwaukee, Nov. 27.—With the arrest of a large number of suspects early today in connection with Saturday night's bomb outrage which resulted in the killing of 10 persons, the police department was hopeful that before many hours they would secure something definite on which to fasten responsibility. There was ground for the belief that the police were hopeful of having the man who made the bomb in custody shortly. The men rounded up are supposed anarchists.

BLISS AND BENSON GUESTS OF PETAIN

Paris, Nov. 27.—General Bliss and Admiral Benson, each accompanied by two members of his staff, motored to French army headquarters today. They were the guests of General Petain at Luncheon, the French commander-in-chief. Marquis de Chambrun, who was a member of the French mission to the United States went with the party. Col. House and the other members of the American mission to the inter-allied conference planned to spend the day in conferences here.

Cold Wave in New York. Watertown, N. Y., Nov. 27.—Northern New York is in the grasp of a severe cold wave, the coldest for November in 16 years. The official temperature here early today was two degrees above zero.



AVOID THE RUSH 25 MORE DAYS

Italians Fighting Against Heavy Odds, Says General

Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, Nov. 26.—(Delayed.)—(By The Associated Press)—During a trip of 100 miles today through the fighting zone in the north the correspondent met the major-general in command of the most exposed front between the Brenta and the Piave rivers, where the losses heaviest, and obtained from him details of the situation. As the general spoke a heavy cannonading resounded through his field headquarters and he looked out upon a great stretch of the Brenta valley where the enemy is concentrating his forces to break through to Bassano and the Venetian plains.

Staff officers and orderlies were arriving with reports from all vital points and hurrying off with orders for the maneuvering of troops. The general paused long enough to give a good general idea of the situation and details of the condition of the troops and the splendid fight they are making against heavy odds. Olds Are Five to One. The general estimated these odds at four or five to one. But his men were fighting with a power of resist-

ance, courage and dash beyond all praise. Attacks were almost continuous at one point or another, but the Italians were always ready to respond and had not only repulsed attacks but driven the enemy back after a series of heroic charges.

The general summed up the physical conditions of his troops as follows: "The men were without any kind of shelter, everything has been swept away in the terrific artillery action and the constant shifting of position. No Shelter or Water. There were no trenches or dugouts which ordinarily give some shelter and there was no water from unfailing sources, such as the soldiers