

GERMANS COULDN'T HOLD BRENTA LINE. RUSSIAN ARMISTICE BOLSHEVIKI LEADERS AND GERMAN OFFICERS HOLDING CONFERENCE

REPUBLICANS ARE DISPLEASED WITH DEMOCRATIC WORK

Strong Resolutions Adopted at the Hickory Meeting Yesterday

TURNED DOWN PURE AND SIMPLE VARIETY

Organization Perfected for Four Congressional Districts—Organize Clubs

Special to THE TIMES: Hickory, N. C., Nov. 28.—Adopting resolutions which may be accepted as the keynote of the next republican national campaign, the Western North Carolina Republican Clubs association adjourned late yesterday.

Two full time organizers will be put into the field at once for the purpose of organizing republican clubs. It was pointed out in the plan that no personal campaigning should be done by the organizers for any individual, nomination of this rule carrying the penalty of discharge from such work by the central committee.

The tenth district will be represented in the association's work by Dan W. Hill of Asheville; K. G. Morris of Hendersonville; L. M. Green of Old Fort; George Sutton of New River; Deaver of Beavert and Representative McCall of Murphy.

The only signs of the old-time fights in the republican meetings were displayed at the caucus Monday night when the question of adopting patriotic resolutions was brought on. Several wanted to adopt patriotic resolutions of the pure and simple style, while others insisted that republicans did not need to offer resolutions at all for the purpose of making the patriotism of the republican party known.

The resolutions are as follows: Resolved, 1: That the United States by the action of the constituted authorities of our government is now at war, and the Western North Carolina Republican Club association favors a most vigorous prosecution of the war to a speedy and successful termination.

Resolved, 2: That if the democratic administration had promptly and firmly maintained and upheld American rights on the high seas, in Mexico, and throughout the world, our flag would have been respected and thereby the country would have escaped the calamity of this war.

Resolved, 3: That we denounce the inevitable loss of American lives and property which confronts us, and we arrange, as responsible citizens, a national policy which has lacked the wisdom of experience and the stability of purpose, and one, which, through spacious promises and profligate phrasemaking, has sought to disarm violence to defend our constitutional

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NO MORE COUPONS.

The coupon that has been appearing in the paper every day "Good for Votes" will be discontinued after the Thursday issue of THE TIMES and all coupons that are out will be good for votes until Monday, December 3.

They will not count if handed in after Monday. The votes will be credited to the contestants in their standings in the Tuesday afternoon paper and that issue will be the last one that the names and standings will appear until after the campaign has closed and the judges have made the final count.

The voting in Tuesday's paper will no doubt indicate the strength in the coupon vote. The vote standing will appear again tomorrow (Friday afternoon) and will appear the last time Tuesday afternoon.

The 12 prize ballot offer and the club vote offer closes Saturday night, December 1. It will pay every contestant to win some of these big vote offers.

GETTING LINE ON MEANS DEFENSE

Counsel May Contend That Mrs. King Was Killed by Discharge of Pistol Accidentally Dropped

Concord, Nov. 28.—Questions asked today in cross-examination of a witness by the defense in the trial of Gaston B. Means, charged with the murder of Mrs. Maude A. King, indicated that Means' counsel might advance the theory that the woman met death by discharge of a pistol accidentally dropped.

The state began the introduction of its witness today, a jury having been completed late yesterday. Dr. P. R. McFadden and James Simpson, an undertaker's assistant, the first witnesses, testified as to the woman's death. Both declared he saw no powder stains around the wound in the back of the head, but admitted under cross-examination that blood around the wound might have prevented their seeing powder stains.

M. F. Richie, a hardware dealer, told of having sold a small automatic pistol and a rifle several days before the tragedy to Gaston Means.

Counsel for the defense, on cross-examination asked Richie, if, in his opinion, an automatic pistol of the pattern which killed Mrs. King might have been discharged by the fall Richie admitted that it might "fall dropped hard enough," but added that he had "never heard of such a thing happening."

The clothing Mrs. King wore the night she met death was demanded of the defense by the state and the former agreed to bring the articles into court.

Through Dr. McFadden the state tried to identify a dress and a pair of slippers as those the woman wore. The physician said he could only testify that the articles were similar to the ones the woman had on that night.

ALIENISTS TO TESTIFY AS TO "HYPOTHYEOSIS" CONDITION OF MRS. DE SAULLES

Mineola, Nov. 28.—Alienists, X-ray specialists and other eminent members of the medical profession who will testify concerning the defense's claim that Mrs. Bianca De Saulles was suffering from a "hypothyrosis" condition of the thyroid gland on the night of August 3, last, when her former husband, John L. De Saulles, was shot to death, will be asked a hypothetical question of 20,000 words in length. The defense continued presenting its case today and it was expected that the best of the expert witnesses would be heard.

Much of the expert testimony will concern the thyroid condition, styled "hypothyrosis," by Mrs. De Saulles' attorneys from which they claim the defendant was suffering at the time of the trouble.

SIX MEMBERS OF CREW DROWNED; NINE RESCUED

Baltimore, Nov. 28.—Six men, all members of the crews of three Dutch steamships lying at this port, were drowned and nine were rescued early today when a launch carrying them to their ships capsized in the harbor. All were Hollanders.

Six of the survivors were taken to a hospital suffering from exposure. Among the dead were D. Wiekjes, chief engineer of the steamer Winterdyk, and C. Rotschard and R. Kaaypede, assistant engineers of the same vessel.

GENERAL REMOVED FOR FAILING TO OBEY ORDERS

Petrograd, Nov. 28.—The removal of General Balueff, commander of the western front, is reported by the revolutionary committee at Minsk. He refused to negotiate an armistice with the Germans and has been replaced by a maximalist.

Announcement is made by the maximalists that they are in control of Tashkent, capital of Russian Turkestan, after four days of fighting.

BRITISH MEETING WITH RESISTANCE

Heavy Fighting in Progress Around Fontaine and Bourlon Village—Byng's Men Making Progress

As the British press toward Cambrai from the west they encounter more stubborn German resistance. Heavy fighting is in progress around Fontaine Notre Dame, less than three miles from Cambrai and near the village of Bourlon about one mile northwest of Fontaine. Both villages were occupied by the British last week only to be lost in the face of strong German counter attacks. General Byng's men, however, are making progress against the strongly reinforced enemy from whom more than 500 men were captured Tuesday.

Desperate Fighting Around Fontaine. British Headquarters in France, Nov. 27.—(Delayed)—(By The Associated Press)—Desperate and sanguinary fighting has been raging in and about Fontaine Notre Dame since dawn today when the British again attacked the strongly-held village. Shortly after 6 o'clock it appeared that the assaulting infantry had stormed its way through the village in the face of tremendous machine gun fire both from the houses of the hamlet and from La Folle wood to the southeast. Five hundred German prisoners were taken in the early hours of the fighting. Late this afternoon the Germans hurried up two new divisions and threw them in for a counter attack along the Fontaine-Bourlonwood line. The fighting was more bitter, if possible, than that which occurred in the first rush through the ruined hamlet. At latest reports superior numbers of enemy infantry had pushed the British back through the village again in the western and northwestern outskirts, but the battle still continued with unabated fury.

In the meantime the British line running around Bourlon wood to the northwest was sustaining a heavy assault. The enemy appeared to be determined to regain this important position if it were humanly possible. The whole front from Fontaine to Bourlon village was the scene of fierce fighting which at many places was at close quarters. The British line about Bourlon wood is still intact.

The attack on Fontaine Notre Dame was begun with the assistance of a heavy barrage of gas, and throughout the morning British gunners maintained an intense fire against the German positions there. The onrushing infantry drove an entering wedge into the northwestern part of the village in the time, but they were held up here by a terrific rifle and machine gun fire to which they were subjected from every point of vantage.

Conditions were favorable to the Germans for they were in the defensive in well-prepared positions which could not be taken by storm. Every machine gun was equivalent to several hundred rifles.

Despite the disadvantages the British continued to onslaught. A glorious exhibition of bulldog courage. They surged on and in less than three hours had pushed the hard-hitting Germans back to the eastern side of the village, leaving a narrow strip of the streets. As the British pushed forward and surrounded the various buildings containing enemy machine gunners many Germans were compelled to surrender or lose their lives. By the time the fighting was over the village was reached 500 captives had been collected and sent back to swell the great total of prisoners taken.

The arrival of a large body of German reinforcements at a different location on the situation. The fresh troops immediately counter attacked and the fighting through the streets on Fontaine took on renewed vigor. The weary British retired somewhat in the evening, but they were selling each foot of ground to the enemy at cruel price. The western outskirts of the village were reached and here, according to latest reports, the battle continued.

Some interesting facts were made known today concerning the famous tunnel trench which the British now hold in its entirety northwest of Bellecourt. Part of this underground fortification was captured in the fighting previous to the Cambrai push but a larger portion was taken last week. The tunnel, which was built by Russian prisoners, was a most amazing piece of work. It was 1.5 miles long and 40 feet deep. Entrances were driven into it every 35 yards, and the Germans lighted the entire place with electricity. The tunnel was mined at intervals through its length, but the British quickly discovered the electric wires leading to the mines and they were rendered useless.

Allied Conference.

Representatives of the allied powers are in Paris for a conference upon which the future course of war activities probably will depend. The French leaders have been joined by the representatives of the United States, Great Britain and Italy. A basis for joint action against the central powers will be determined at the conference. It is indicated that the future policy toward Russia may be decided on.

GERMANS MADE MASSED ATTACKS

Teutons Used Entire Division in Futile Attempt to Break Italian Defenses—Five Attacks Repulsed

Undismayed apparently by the losses sustained in their fruitless efforts of the past two weeks to break the Italian line between the Brenta and the Piave valleys the Austro-Germans continue to hurl fresh troops against the defenders of the passes to the Venetian plains. The latest attempt was against the left wing along the Brenta valley. An entire division was used in an attempt to break the Italian defenses. It attacked five times in massed formation, but was unable to break the defense of the Italians.

Italians Can Hold Line.

Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, Nov. 27.—(Delayed)—(By The Associated Press)—A visit made today to the fighting ground at Monte Tomba, Monte Monfenera and other mountains in the fighting zone in the north, and then to the Piave line where it joins the mountain front, afforded opportunity to see this central point of the present huge struggle and obtain from officers at several divisional and brigade headquarters direct information in regard to the condition of affairs. The tour was made with a staff officer from headquarters and covered about one hundred miles with stops at the main points of fighting.

General Garibaldi, commander of the famous Alpine brigade, declared the fighting had shown that the Italian troops could hold the line beyond any question. Speaking of the spirit of his men, he added:

"If the enemy ever does get past going to superior equipment or superior strength of guns, it will be only over the dead bodies of our troops, for they are determined never to yield."

The roads leading to the battle front showed increasing masses of troops being brought up for concentration on the threatened lines. Much artillery was coming in. The men and horses seemed to be in good condition after the hard drive. Miles of infantry moved forward, the ranks showing fresh and youthful troops. They wore steel helmets and were getting ready to go into action.

Many had little pink boxes in their hands which looked like packages of candy, but when they were opened it was no candy which was seen, but long thin bullets which fit into the Italian rifles. Every cartridge belt was full. Passing headquarters of the Fourth army which holds the vital line between the Brenta and the Piave rivers, a staff officer of General Robilant, commander of this army, summed up the general situation as satisfactory. The reports showing that the enemy was being held.

Commandeered All Tin.

Washington, Nov. 28.—Protests by farmers against government commandeering of tin revealed today that the navy department has commandeered all tin in New York warehouses.

Refused to Be Traitor; Bolsheviki Deposed Him



GENERAL DUKHONIN, recently appointed commander-in-chief of the Russian army by the Bolsheviki government, refused to take its orders and became a traitor by proposing peace to the Germans. Thereupon, he was deposed, and Ensign Krylenko, who knows nothing of the army, was made general in command.

BOLSHEVIKI LEADERS AND GERMAN OFFICERS HOLDING CONFERENCE

Russians Crossed to German Side to Enter Into Negotiations

ANTI-BOLSHEVIKI GAINING STRENGTH

Reported That Coalition Cabinet May Be Formed Kaledines Popular

Although the Bolsheviki apparently have been unable to extend their power over Russia, except in the cities of Petrograd and Moscow they continue their efforts toward an armistice and peace. It was announced officially at the Bolsheviki headquarters in Petrograd that representatives of Ensign Krylenko, the Bolsheviki commander-in-chief, had crossed to the German side and had entered into negotiations with German military authorities.

It is reported that German officers have arrived in Petrograd to aid the maximalist leaders with their advice and counsel. Indications are that the opposition to the Bolsheviki is rapidly gaining strength. A conference of anti-Bolsheviki leaders at Russian army headquarters for the purpose of forming a coalition government is reported. Among the men there are Prof. Hilokoff, leader of the constitutional democratic party and one of the prominent actors in the March revolution; members of the socialist party and prominent military leaders. Meanwhile General Kaledines, hero of the Don Cossacks, who is reported to control the grain producing territory of southeastern Russia, is growing in power. Many army officers opposed to the Bolsheviki regime have joined his forces, including members from the front. Government employees in Petrograd have refused to recognize the Bolsheviki and have been dismissed from office.

ANTI-BOLSHEVIKI TROOPS JOIN GENERAL KALEDINES

London, Nov. 28.—The military commander-in-chief of all the officers of the anti-Bolsheviki troops in the Moscow district, according to the Petrograd correspondent of the Morning Post have gone to join General Kaledines, leader of the Cossacks, who is reported in control of most of southern eastern Russia. Many hundreds of officers from regiments stationed in the rear and numbers from the front and virtually all the officers of the guard regiments, it is added, also have gone over to General Kaledines.

Owing to the general disorganization and interruption of railroad, telegraph and postal service, the correspondent says, it is extremely improbable that the elections to the constituent assembly will be held except in Petrograd and some other places. Interest in the election in the provinces is lukewarm.

NAVAL RESERVE FORCE STRENGTH 49,246 MEN

Washington, Nov. 28.—The strength of the naval reserve force today is 49,246 men, 79 per cent of whom have volunteered for general service, the committee on public information announced today.

Of this number 2,199 are in the fleet naval reserve, those who have received naval training, 8,921 in the naval auxiliary reserve, sea-faring men with experience on merchant ships, 36,891 in the naval coast defense reserve, citizens whose technical and practical knowledge peculiarly fits them for the duty, and 1,244 in the naval reserve flying corps, persons skilled in aircraft.

Great Demonstration.

Amsterdam, Nov. 28.—A great socialist demonstration at Budapest on Sunday in favor of an armistice and peace is reported by The Vossische Zeitung of Berlin. Declarations were made that democracy must employ all means to end the war and that it is impossible to bring peace by force of arms. These statements led to a demonstration against the war and in favor of a general strike.

A resolution, was adopted opposing the aims of the Pan-Germans and annexation of Poland and Livonia by Germany. The meeting voted in favor of holding an international labor conference at Stockholm.

RUSSIANS RECEIVED BY GERMAN GENERAL

Petrograd, Nov. 28.—Representatives sent by Ensign Krylenko, the Bolsheviki commander-in-chief of the Russian armies, have been received in the German lines and informed by the German commander that the Germans have officially consented to immediate negotiations for an armistice on all the fronts of the belligerent countries.

NOT REPRESENTATIVE OF RUSSIA.

Contact has been established between the Bolsheviki leaders in Russia and the German military authorities and negotiations for an armistice are presumably in full swing behind the German lines.

Whether the ultimate result of these negotiations, it seems clear that at present the Russian negotiations are representative of only a fraction of Russia. General Krylenko, nominal commander-in-chief of Bolsheviki decree, whose representatives have crossed to the German side for parley, has been unable to take over the actual command of more than the northern Russian armies. Communications between north and south Russia have been cut off and General Dukhonin, the de facto commander of all but the northern forces whose headquarters are at Mohiler, opposite the Galician front, has refused to treat with the Germans.

MANY SOLDIERS SUPPORT THE LENINE GOVERNMENT

London, Nov. 28.—Little excitement has attended the elections to the constituent assembly now being held in Petrograd, says the Petrograd correspondent of the Daily Mail in a dispatch dated Tuesday. He thinks that less than 5 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, but that perhaps another 10 percent would vote before the polls closed Tuesday afternoon.

News from the army fronts, the correspondent says, is contradictory but apparently the vast mass of soldiers support the Lenine government. Ensign Krylenko, the commissioner for war, has gone to Pskoff where he has dismissed General Tcherentsoff and given his command to a commissioner for the northern front.

LUDENDORFF HAS NOT GONE TO EAST FRONT

Amsterdam, Nov. 28.—An official statement received here from Berlin denies a rumor attributed to London that General von Ludendorff, first quartermaster-general of the German army, had gone to the Russian front with a numerous staff. It says that General von Ludendorff is at the western front.

A London dispatch on November 23 said that according to advices received from Amsterdam, General von Ludendorff had started for the eastern front in connection with the Russian offer of a truce.

Allied Embassies, Including Francis, May Be Withdrawn From Petrograd

BOLSHEVIKI NOT TO GET SUPPLIES

Certain That Radicals Are Anti-War and Pro-German at Heart

Washington, Nov. 28.—The American government and the allies as well will determine whether the Bolsheviki are actually to be classed as enemies and active allies of Germany as soon as official advices can be gathered on the conferences between Bolsheviki leaders and German officers.

Yesterday's news dispatches saying German staff officers actually were in Petrograd actively engaged as advisers to Lenine, followed by today's news cables that Bolsheviki leaders had crossed into the German lines for conferences with the German military authorities considered representative of the German line for the future. The German military authorities expected to officials here, but they shattered the faint hope that the Bolsheviki might in the end after all help carry on the war against Prussian militarism.

The developments more than confirmed the contention of those who have held from the first that the Bolsheviki was fostered by German propaganda seeking to break Russia from her allies. One of the first acts of the allied governments, when they learn officially that the Bolsheviki are actively working with the Germans, undoubtedly will be to withdraw their embassies in Petrograd. This, of course, will include the American Ambassador Francis. Whether the diplomatic corps would go to one of the adjacent neutral countries to await developments, or whether it would move to some other part of Russia, where a new government considered representative of the Russian nation, rather than of an anarchical faction, might be set up, has not yet been determined. That will be decided by the developments in Russia.

Ambassador Francis has a large measure of discretion to act with others of the diplomatic corps in Petrograd, and much of his course will have to be determined without frequent consultation with Washington. Today the state department had no new advices whatever, but was expecting some on which judgments might be formed as to the course the government will pursue. Meanwhile the United States is awaiting the benefit of what information the entire allies are gathering in Russia, and the course of action when finally selected will undoubtedly be in concert and the result of a general agreement.

No official announcement is available at this stage as to whether the United States has stopped the shipment of supplies to Russia until the situation clears, because in the absence of an official established break, the government would not care to confuse an already complex situation further by something which possibly might be a source of diplomatic embarrassment.

But it is perfectly apparent that none of the immense quantity of supplies contracted for, on the way, or actually landed in some parts of Russia will be permitted to fall into the hands of the Bolsheviki if they become the allies of Germany.

Immense quantities of material already piled up at Vladivostok are unavailable to the Russian because of the analysis of the transportation system. Ships on the high seas, bearing cargoes for Russia, can be reached at any time by wireless and cargoes being diverted to some other ally for use if it is desired to do so.

The statement made yesterday to the Russian general staff by Lieutenant-Colonel Judson, head of the American military mission to the effect that the stopping of shipments to Russia will be the logical outcome of the Bolsheviki efforts for an armistice and peace, is regarded by officials here as summing up the situation accurately, and goes as far as it is possible in an official expression at this time.

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