

## ITALIANS REPULSE FURIOUS ATTACKS OF TEUTON ARMIES

Austro-Germans Are Annihilated at One Point and Repulsed at Other.

### SITUATION STILL CONSIDERED GRAVE

Operations in Other Theatres of War on Small Scale.

ITALIAN HEADQUARTERS, Nov. 17.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Austro-Germans today made furious attempts to break the Italian line and crossed the Piave river at two points, but were annihilated at one point and driven back at the other. The Italian lines are holding, but the situation is considered to be grave.

**HEROIC STAND.** Italy's armies are making a heroic and so far successful stand against the Austro-German masses thrown against them in desperate attacks along the line of the Piave river and in the mountainous region from the Piave westward to the edge of the Trentino district. The river line has not been breached at any point, while the thrust of the Austrians southward from the hills in an attempt to drive a wedge through to the plains behind the Piave line is making slow progress.

It is now more than a week since the Italians, retreating from the Tagliamento crossed to the west bank of the Piave and took up their defensive positions behind it. The German command lost no time in attempting to force a passage of the stream and the enemy efforts were pressed on with increasing intensity during the week.

**Growing Stronger.** The Italian resistance, however, seems to be growing stronger rather than otherwise. The latest Austro-German attempts to gain a permanent hold on the westerly side of the Piave were not only brilliantly frustrated, but the enemy columns were badly cut up and nearly 1,000 Teutons were taken prisoner.

These attacks on the river line were delivered just above the Zenson loop where the invaders first effected a crossing and were hemmed in from the start. They are steadily being driven here into an increasingly restricted zone, the Rome war office now announces. Near the Adriatic the water barrier to any Austro-German advance toward Venice, raised by the opening of a state of emergency in the swampy region is being reinforced by the work of the army artillery and the guns of Italian warships on the Adriatic.

The Italian line has yielded slightly in the hills east of the Brenta, where the capture of Monte Prassolan by Austro-Hungarian troops is announced by Berlin. No further advances for the attacking forces in the mountain region northeast of Asiago are claimed.

**Small Operations.** Military operations in the other theatres were on a comparatively small scale. The most important move was made in Flanders by the Belgians, who pushed forward their line on the Coet-spur, northwest of Passchendaele capturing a strongly fortified redoubt known as Vocation farm and so improving their positions in this sector as to make the present line across Passchendaele ridge easier to hold.

In Palestine, the British forces (Continued on Page Eight.)

## NINETEEN MEN LOST WHEN THE AMERICAN STEAMSHIP ROCHESTER WENT DOWN

Latest Reports From Vice-Admiral Sims State that Casualties Will Reach this Number—One Boat With Twelve Aboard Given Up For Lost.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Nineteen men, including six members of the naval armed guard, probably lost their lives when the American steamship Rochester was torpedoed in the war zone November 2.

Early reports to the navy department told only of two members of the crew being killed by the explosion, but today Vice-Admiral Sims cabled that four men died of exposure in an open boat, that another boat with the second officer and eleven other men had been given up as lost and that one member of the crew was drowned.

**Given up for Lost.** Twelve men, including five members of the naval guard, who left in the second officer's boat when the American steamer Rochester was torpedoed in the war zone November 2, have been given up for lost by the navy department.

Vice-Admiral Sims cabled today that no trace of the boat had been found. He also advised the department that Ernest H. Gragg, seaman, and member of the guard and three members of the Rochester's crew died from exposure in another boat.

**One Lost Overboard.** One member of the crew was lost overboard, making the total casualties nineteen, including Second Engineer Sondau and an oiler named Anderson, previously reported killed by the explosion of the torpedo.

Members of the armed guard in the second officer's boat and believed to have been lost were:

- Bernard Joseph Donovan, seaman, (aunt) Katie Lynch, Philipsburg, N. J.
- Marshal Underwood Corn, seaman, (mother) Annie Corn, Lexington, Ky.
- Mearl Ralph Cox, seaman, (father) Abner C. Cox, Kansas City, Mo.
- George Franklin Wheeler, Jr., seaman, (father) George Franklin Wheeler, Waterbury, Conn.
- James Crowley, seaman, (mother) Catherine Crowley, New York.

Gragg's body was landed in Ireland and was buried there. He enlisted at Houston, Texas, February 20, this year, and his mother, Mrs. Cora Gragg, lives at Corpus Christi, Texas.

**Five Picked up.** Five of the naval guard were in a boat picked up by a British patrol and in all seven of the navy men are known to have been saved. They are:

- William Frederick Eishenhardt, seaman, (father) John Edward Eisenhardt, New Orleans, La.
- Thaddeus Hyatt Fellows, seaman, (father) Harry E. Fellows, New York.
- William Foulis, gunner's mate, (mother) Sarah

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO.)

## The Hunting Season Is On



## ACTUAL WORK OF THE WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA M. E. CONFERENCE IS ALMOST COMPLETED AND WILL BE ENDED MONDAY

Reading of Assignments Will Bring to a Close Remarkably Satisfactory Session of the Conference—Six Clerical Delegates to the General Conference Are Named and Conference Endorses Action of Minister in Becoming Officer.

(By Rev. W. A. Newell.)

The actual work of the conference is almost complete. It is probable that the bishop and his cabinet have about finished the assignments for the coming conference year. Of course this is subject to change at any time until the final adjournment. It has been the most harmonious meeting of the conference in a decade. Bishop James Atkins was formerly a member of this conference and came to it from the Holston where parts of the two conferences were merged into this. Not many men of that time remain in active service, so it may be said that Bishop Atkins grew up in this conference. His long service in the chair has given him a wide experience and out of this has grown a beautiful spirit of cooperation and brotherly fellowship with all the men of the conference. He probably knows every man on the floor by his first name and the love of his heart flows out in tender solicitude for them. He knows, too, the women and children in the parsonages who are awaiting the decision of the cabinet and his eyes glow moist as he speaks of these unnamed heroes and heroines of the cross. They too must move when the call comes and they are swallowed up in the necessary changes and swept from their moorings.

**Preacher's Work.** The preacher's work is in the conference and has a character that calls for little pity on his score. He loses his work and would choose no other. But the preacher's wife waits in the parsonage which has become her home and has been beautified by her hands and sanctified by life's joys and sorrows and knows not what shall be. She does not know where she is going but she is on the way. You Methodist women in your comfortable homes surrounded by a circle of friends and friends, give your thoughts to her for a little while today. God help you to be true friends and to widen that circle in which you move for her who has nothing ahead but a long pilgrimage with a lonely grave away from the loved ones of youthful days. And the little children must move along with the family. Did you ever watch the face of a child when the household goods have been loaded on the moving van and the start is made for unfamiliar surroundings? It is one of life's great tragedies. Some-

thing in childhood snaps that day. Get ready for the little fellow who must move and be tender with him in his wayward outlook upon things as they are for his heart is still black yonder.

**Old Place Dear.** And the old boys and girls of the parsonage. Every one of them must leave some one in the old place that is larger than life. How infinitely tender are the loves of our youth. How fragrant their memory through all the days. Come on, my boy! Your lips are blue and your eyes are red and your feet do not falter because of the stone-ribbles on your heel. There is a hurt deeper than all the fathomless lines of knowledge and you shall not come this way again. Tell her good-bye, my boy, for you shall meet her no more until she comes back under the sloping ceiling of her little room there stands an old bureau that belongs to the parsonage. If romance has died in your heart at least have headed in that awful sanctuary of the soul and watch her hands as they lift the sacred treasures, each of which marks an epoch in the dawning of a woman's life. It is the hard part of it for the preacher for his heart is rich in love and he knows the ways of his own household.

**Conference Opens.** The morning session was begun with prayer by Rev. L. Beuge Abernethy. After the reading of the minutes, the result of the second ballot for clerical delegates to the general conference was announced and Dr. C. W. Byrd and Rev. E. N. McClary were declared elected. The report of the joint board of finance was read by Rev. W. O. Goode. In this report the appointment to the superannuates and the widows or orphans of deceased preachers and the report asks for assessment of \$18,000.00 for the care of the superannuates next year. There was a deficit on this assessment last year and the bishop called the attention of the conference to this fact. He declared: "It is a shame for men who are active and efficient to forget their brothers who have found themselves at the end of the journey without means of support. The people of their church have plenty of money and many of them have more than is good for them. If the preacher will present this cause in any

charge the money will be forthcoming. Even a "skinfint" will shell out for this cause."

**Thanks of Conference.** The bishop voted the thanks of the conference to Mr. J. A. Odell, of Greensboro, who is treasurer of the board and has been a member of the board since the organization of the conference and for seven years preceding the organization. He was a member of the same board in the old North Carolina conference. He was a delegate to the general conference of 1890, was elected to the general book committee for twelve years.

J. A. Bell, of Charlotte, read the report of the committee on superannuate endowment fund. The report as adopted provides for the creation of a fund of \$100,000.00, the income of which will be used to supplement superannuate collection of the conference.

Mr. Bell is the moving spirit in the creation of this fund and it is safe to say that the fund will be secured this year and that it will be a joy for prosperous laymen to increase its size as the years go by.

By the way, J. A. Bell would make a great preacher. E. A. Cole said that he had a commission from the Charlotte district conference and that his district had already paid \$400.00 on the expense of this commission.

In speaking of this report the bishop said "some preachers are afraid of the man who has money. He gets confused as to where the power is sometimes the power is in the money and not in the man."

Rev. C. W. Pickens read the report of committee on Washington Representative church. The report provides for an assessment of \$2,000.00 for two years to pay the amount assessed by this conference.

Rev. W. C. Lambeth read the report of the Sunday school board. The board announced that Rev. W. R. Shelton, formerly first secretary of the board, had resigned and is now lieutenant in the United States army. This led the bishop to ask the sentiment of the conference in regard to an appointment for Mr. Shelton. No more spirited debate has been heard on the conference floor. Dr. C. W. Byrd president of the board declared that he is on the waiting list and ready for service at the front.

The patriotism of the body is at (Continued on Page Two.)

## BRITISH LIGHT FORCES ENGAGE GERMAN LIGHT FORCES OFF HELGOLAND

German Cruisers Flee With British Boats in Close Pursuit.

### CANNONADING HEARD.

LONDON, Nov. 17.—British light forces today engaged German light cruisers off Helgoland, the British admiralty announced today. The German warships retired and the British forces are now chasing them. The announcement follows: "British light forces operating in Helgoland Bight have been engaged with German light forces this morning. The only information we have received thus far is that our vessels have engaged enemy light cruisers, that the latter have retired at high speed and that our vessels are in pursuit."

It is not likely that any details of the naval engagement will be received until the British ships return to port as it is not customary for them to send wireless reports of their movements and actions while close to the enemy bases. On the few occasions when British cruisers, which constantly are sweeping the North sea have been able to encounter German war vessels the enemy's tactics have been of the hit and run character. They hurry toward home with the purpose of trying to bring the British into their mine fields, and if possible under fire of the large land guns. The bare facts embodied in this morning's official bulletin from the British admiralty indicate that in this engagement the Germans followed their usual tactics.

**CANNONADING HEARD.** COPENHAGEN, Nov. 17.—Advices from the island of Mano say that a most violent cannonading was heard from the North sea between 8:30 o'clock and 10 o'clock this morning. At intervals during the firing there were great explosions. Several warships were observed on the horizon.

## KERENSKY'S STAFF HAS BEEN ARRESTED REPORTS FROM PETROGRAD STATE

Maximalist Troops Have Occupied Gatchina, Report Declares.

### KERENSKY FLEES.

LONDON, Nov. 17.—A Reuter's Limited dispatch from Petrograd, dated November 16, gives the following details concerning the Russian internal situation: "Maximalist troops have occupied Gatchina, and Premier Kerensky's staff has been arrested. Kerensky fled from arrest, but orders have been issued by wireless for his apprehension. The Maximalist council of commissioners has proclaimed the right of the different peoples of Russia to the self-determination of their form of government separation and the formation of independent states. The Maximalists insist on the inclusion of Nikolai Lenin and Leon Trotzky in any composite socialist government and that their party shall have a majority of the portfolios including the foreign interior and labor ministries."

**REPORTS CONTRADICTORY.** LONDON, Nov. 17.—A dispatch from Petrograd today to Reuter's Limited says: "News from Moscow is so contradictory that it is impossible to say whether the casualties there are hundreds or thousands in number. The Petrograd Maximalists have announced the sending of detachments of sailors, soldiers and the red guard to Moscow to hasten victory for the Moscow proletariat and the garrison." "A lull now is reported in Moscow after fighting that lasted a week and involved most of the city. There was a constant bombardment by cannon and machine guns of the Kremlin and the town hall which are the chief strongholds of the military cadets and other adherents of the provisional government. Many shells burst in private houses and started fires. The latest reports say that three-quarters of Moscow are in the hands of the Maximalists."

## YELLIN CONVICTED OF SENDING FORD LETTER

Fined \$1,000 and Sentenced to Serve Five Years at Leavenworth.

DETROIT, Mich., Nov. 17.—Jacob Yellin, a Detroit youth, was convicted by a federal court jury here today of sending a threatening letter demanding ransom to Edsel Ford, son of the automobile manufacturer. Yellin was sentenced to five years in Leavenworth prison and also was fined \$1,000. The letter which Ford received, demanded \$10,000 as the price for the safety of his baby son, Henry Ford II. The writer specified that the money be sent by mail to the local general store, and that the sender should be ready to accept a call at the window for the package, and he was given a dummy parcel and then was trailed by detectives. The messenger met Yellin several blocks from the postoffice and the latter was arrested as he took the parcel. Yellin asserted his innocence. Testimony was offered at the trial by a typewriter expert to the effect that the ransom note was written on the same typewriter that Yellin had used to write a note to a friend.

**THE WEATHER.** WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Forecast for North Carolina: Fair Sunday and Monday, somewhat cooler Monday in west portion.

## WILD REPORTS ABOUT HOT SPRINGS GERMAN DENIED

Officials Say Prisoners Are Given Only Substantial Food.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Reports that the Germans intend to camp at Hot Springs, N. C., eat five meals a day and enjoy many extravagances of diet, are denounced by the department of labor which has them in charge. Food Administrator Hoover has recommended that the prisoners be put on army or navy rations. The labor department says the prisoners are receiving an ordinary wholesome diet in the interest of showing Germany that her prisoners here are well treated and with the hope of inducing her to treat American captives the same way. A statement issued at the department said: "It should be pointed out in the first place that the aliens detained at this particular station are not prisoners of war. They comprise officers and crews from a number of German vessels that were interned in United States ports and subsequently were taken over by the government upon the declaration of hostilities. The statement that the men interned at Hot Springs eat five meals a day is branded as ridiculous by the officers acquainted with the facts. Three meals of substantial but plain fare prepared by their own cooks is the daily quota of each man."

## DEALERS MUST STOP "COMBINATION SALES"

Leads to Wasteful Buying, Food Administration Officials Declare.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Retail dealers were ordered by the food administration today to stop the widely prevalent practice of making "combination sales" requiring customers to make other purchases in order to obtain a certain commodity. One exception is made—on all sales of sugar the dealer may require the customer to buy twice the weight of corn meal. The practice of "combination sales" the administration holds, is likely to lead to wasteful buying. The exception in regard to corn meal is made as a wheat conservation measure, to encourage greater use of corn products but dealers are not required to make the exception unless they so desire. Its orders to retailers is possessed by the food administration through its licensing of wholesalers.

**PUBLISHER'S DAUGHTER WEDS.** NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—Miss Iphigene Bertha Ochs, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adolph S. Ochs, and Lieutenant Arthur Hays Sulzberger, stationed at Camp Wadsworth, were married this afternoon at the home of the bride's parents in this city. Miss Ochs' father is publisher of The New York Times.

## TWO MORE BODIES TAKEN FROM RUINS OF BURNED SCHOOL

Identification of Dead Brings Death Toll of Fire up to Seven.

### BOY DIED TRYING TO SAVE HIS SISTER

Two Reported Missing Are Found and Injured Will Recover.

Yesterday's more complete reports of the Catholic Hill school disaster moderated slightly the horror of the catastrophe, when statements of the discovery of one of those supposed to have been burned in the conflagration were confirmed, and the exhaustive search of the still smoldering ruins revealed but two little bodies of missing children. The identifications of the dead, together with the names of the two children, who have turned up since the afternoon of the fire, tally exactly with the original list of missing, and clear the slate of any further question. The final record of the fire shows a list of seven children killed and seven injured.

**Others Identified.** At a late hour Friday night only three of the dead had been identified by relatives, the charred bodies of Henry and Elsie Thomson and of Mary Jamison having been recognized by their families. Yesterday the two remaining bodies at the morgue were identified as those of Inez Davis and Hannah Simolton. During the day the searchers among the ruins found two more bodies, which were being identified as those of Daisy Dohms and Hazel Harris, the latter being the little girl who is reported to have run back into the burning building to rescue her new coat from the cloak room. It has been stated also that the little Thompson boy, Henry Thompson, aged ten years, made his escape from the school successfully, and then climbed up the fire escape and entered the doomed building to find his small sister, Elsie, only to perish with her there.

**One Girl Located.** Addie Logan, one of the missing who had been presumed dead, and for whom the searchers had been digging, was discovered late Friday night at the home of friends; while another small boy whose father had mourned him as dead, had not been at the school all day, having gone out with his mother.

There have been no further developments to add to the story of the fire. (Continued on Page Two.)

## GERMANS MAKE SPECIAL EFFORTS AGAINST THE AMERICANS IN TRENCHES

Vindictiveness and Hatred Transferred to American Troops.

### CENTRALIZE FIRE.

LONDON, Nov. 17.—More details of the German special effort to trap American soldiers in the front line trenches on the American front, November 3, on the occasion of the invaders' first raid on the American trenches and which resulted in numerous casualties to the defenders, have been brought to London, by the party of American congressmen, now visiting France and England. Congressman Taylor, of Colorado, said: "Our men were detailed to a position on the front line for observation at 3 o'clock in the morning. There had been a lull during the night, but signs of activity of the enemy during the early hours of the morning had been followed by this stationing of our men in advantageous positions for observation. The German attack followed the enemy's sweeping of the positions usual with illuminating rockets, by means of which it is presumed the Germans located the American force. Their artillery fire appeared to be concentrated on that point, and they accepted their hurriedly conceived object in smashing our little squad of observers who were out there to gain experience."

<b>THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN</b>	
Circulation Yesterday	
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