

## SANGUINARY FIGHTING IS IN PROGRESS ON SEVERAL IMPORTANT BATTLEFRONTS

From Region of Valenciennes to East of LaCateau; North of Laon Between Oise and Serre Rivers, and From Meuse River to Grand Pre, British, French and Americans Are Everywhere Making Good Progress.

## FLOOD CONDITIONS HAVE INTERFERED IN BELGIUM

South of Valenciennes, Which Is Gradually Being Enveloped, British and Americans Continue to Press Onward With Mons and Maubeuge Their Objectives

### IMPORTANT AMERICAN GAINS.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY NORTHWEST OF VERDUN, Oct. 24.—(By the Associated Press).—In a local attack east of the Meuse, the Americans today advanced about one kilometre on a three kilometre front and the Bois Bultruy, the Bois De Houppy and the Bois De Bellu are within the American lines, as also is part of the Bois De Waville and Ployon De Traye.

On several of the most important sectors in France—the region of Valenciennes to the east of LeCateau; north of Laon between the Oise and the Serre rivers, and on the front from the Meuse river to the vicinity of Grand Pre—battles of a sanguinary character are being fought. In these, the British, French and American troops everywhere are making progress against the stubbornly resisting Germans.

In Belgium the allied forces, owing to the rapid retreat of the enemy and the flooded condition of the lowlands, have not yet been able to come into full fighting contact with the Germans, but doubtless a few days more will see them again hard after their quarry and driving him farther toward his own frontier.

South of Valenciennes, the British Third and Fourth armies with which Americans are co-operating have continued successfully to press onward with Mons and Maubeuge their objectives. Valenciennes is gradually being enveloped, and soon is destined to be pinched out of the fighting line by turning movements from the north and south in the manner generally adopted in the present day tactics when it is more desirable to envelop a strong position than to waste life and limb in reaching the objective by a frontal attack.

The Germans in this region continue to use numerous machine guns to retard the advance of Field Marshal Haig's men, and the artillery of both sides is violently active. British aviators are materially aiding the offensive by dropping bombs behind the line or flying low and cutting troop formations to pieces with machine gun fire.

South of the Oise river the French are making sharp thrusts against the enemy with the intention of clearing out the entire triangle between Flavigny and Montcornet and taking all the railroad lines within this region and also blotting out the salient that still exists there. The Germans are strongly counter-attacking on all the fronts of attack, but the French have warded off their efforts to regain lost territory and have gained ground south of Montcornet, one of the principal railway junctions in this region.

North of Grand Pre and north of Verdun, in the sector lying between the Meuse river and north of the Argonne forest, the Americans have cut further and deeply into the enemy's line, despite the continued extremely heavy use of machine guns and artillery by the

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE IS APPROVED BY THE ALLIED PRESS

Comment on Strongest Language Ever Addressed to Nation's Head

PROMISES TO END ALL DISCUSSION

Comment of Allies in Entire Accord With President's Conditions

LONDON, Oct. 24.—The popular comment on the president's note here is that it contains the strongest language ever addressed by the head of one great nation to another in modern times. The note is welcomed, first because it brings matters to a new state; further proceedings, if there are to be further proceedings, will be in the hands of all the governments interested. Hitherto, so far as the public knows, the nations associated with the United States, and which have more at stake perhaps than has the United States, have been onlookers to the correspondence.

May End Discussion. The note is welcomed, secondly, because it promises to bring the session of discussion to an end altogether, one way or the other. No one sees how the German chancellor, Prince Maximilian, can fall either to accept President Wilson's platform or reject it. Acceptance will be taken to mean that the Germans regard their position as hopeless and that disaster is imminent.

Views in Paris. PARIS, Oct. 24.—President Wilson's reply to Germany was published by the newspapers here in English as well as in a French translation at the request of the authorities. LaLiberte says that if Germany gives guarantees as demanded by the president, it will be materially impossible for her to continue the war. "Everything is now in the hands of the military," says The Temps. "The reply has moved the problem from the domain of controversy to the domain of facts. The president attaches such importance to the essential idea that an armistice must make it impossible for Germany to resume the war that he expresses it in terms of a coalition."

Further Subsidence of Influenza Epidemic Is Indicated in Reports

Situation Is Still Serious in Many Localities, Especially in Cities

NO CHANGE IN CAMPS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—Further subsidence of the influenza epidemic over the country was indicated in reports received today by the public health service from forty-four states. The situation still is serious in many localities, however, and more particularly in the larger cities.

There was practically no change today in army camps. 2,772 new cases being reported, a decrease of one from yesterday's total. Pneumonia cases decreased from 742 yesterday to 599 today and deaths were 307 against 327 the day before. The total of influenza cases reported now is 298,275, pneumonia cases 48,328 and deaths 16,174.

Over the south and east generally, improvement is shown, but the disease still is active in most of the large cities, including New York, where 759 deaths were reported today; Boston, Providence, R. I., Philadelphia, Washington, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Indianapolis, Chicago, and Louisville.

## Pleasant Dreams



## GERMANY'S PLEA FOR ARMISTICE IS NOW IN HANDS OF ALLIES WHO WILL DETERMINE ITS FINAL DISPOSITION

While Premiers and Other Leaders of Allies Have, in Various Public Utterances, Declared President Wilson's Views Reflect Their Own, No One Will Undertake to Forecast Final Decision on Germany's Plea.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—Germany's plea for an armistice and peace now is before the allied governments, which are to determine whether they are disposed to accept President Wilson's principles of settlements, to which Germany subscribes, and in accord with the United States ask that their military advisers and those of America to prepare the terms of an armistice which virtually will mean surrender by Germany.

Various public utterances, the premiers and other leaders of the entente powers have repeatedly declared that President Wilson's statements in his address of January 8 and subsequent addresses, reflect their own views. Something more official or binding is required now, although it is regarded here as a foregone conclusion that this approval will be registered and that the offices of the supreme war council will be invoked to prepare the fateful document which will define the conditions under which Germany may secure relief from the incessant hammering of the victorious allied and American armies.

Lumber Production Is Restricted to Essential

War Industries Board Will Take Control of Output of All Mills.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—Production of lumber will be restricted to the filling of essential requirements under regulations issued today by the war industries board. The control of output will be exercised by the board through priority of labor, material and equipment.

Orders Rescinded. LYNCHBURG, Va., Oct. 24.—The city board of health today adopted a resolution rescinding its closing order effective November 1 as regards soda fountains, etc.; November 3 as regards churches and November 4 as regards schools. There have been 246 deaths from influenza and pneumonia since October 2. The number of cases is not officially known.

similar, but there necessarily will be a greater variance in the details, since not only is a greater army and country to be dealt with, but the question of large naval forces as well.

Can Be Assembled. The United States already has capable army and navy officers in Europe ready to deal with the technical questions involved in an armistice and if it should become necessary to consider political issues, President Wilson also will be amply represented by chosen agents. The entente premiers, whose duty it is to deal with these political questions can be speedily assembled at the most convenient entente capital to meet the president's representatives.

Contracts Cancelled for Fifty Wooden Barges

Shipping Board Rules That Wooden Ships May Be Used in Their Place.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—Contracts for fifty wooden barges and fifty composite tugs, designed for use in the New England coal trade, have been cancelled by the shipping board. In making this announcement today Chairman Hurley said it has been found possible to use some of the 3,500-ton wooden ships for his service. The contracts called for an expenditure of \$25,250,000, but work had not been started on any of the vessels.

Epidemic Subsiding. NORFOLK, Va., Oct. 24.—Spanish influenza has claimed a toll of 273 lives in Norfolk since the epidemic began on September 26, according to figures made public today by Dr. Powhatan S. Schenck, director of public welfare. There have been 8,726 cases of influenza, and 1,600 cases of pneumonia reported up to five o'clock this afternoon. The epidemic now rapidly subsiding, only twenty-six cases being reported today.

praised the president's course. Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, the republican leader, who disapproved the note, was ready to speak today and it was said that when the senate reconvenes Monday after a three days' recess there will be a general peace discussion.

Must Arrange Details. Details of the armistice must be worked out by the military governments associated against Germany. They would include conditions under which the German armies would evacuate Belgium and France; occupation of the Rhine; and the evacuation of the Rhine.

Government Workmen Are Being "Bombed"

Hurry-Up Propaganda Being Dropped on Camps by American Airmen.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—As a means of speeding up construction at army camps and elsewhere, the patriotic promotion section of the war department's construction division plans to "bomb" workmen on 398 jobs over the country with patriotic literature. The first "bombing" expedition was carried out today by an army aviator who flew over Camp Meade, Maryland and the second will be tomorrow at Camp Humphreys.

Notice to Subscribers. City subscribers are requested when possible to call at the office or mail a check several days before the expiration of subscription. The Citizen, at present, has not a full force of carrier boys and it is very difficult to call at every home. The co-operation of subscribers in this matter is respectfully requested.

## NEW IMPORTANCE IS ATTACHED TO THE BRITISH DRIVE

Haig Striking Savagely at Hinge of Present German Line

RETIREMENT IS EXPECTED SOON

Each Day Sees Allied Tactical Superiority Increased

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—Successful British operations on the Valenciennes front took on new importance to officers here today in the light of the diplomatic situation. Field Marshal Haig's armies are striking savagely at the hinge of the present German line of resistance and the progress already made is thought by officers here to make it certain that the German retreatment both in Belgium and in France will have to be resumed without delay.

French Continue Pressure. South of the new British wedge, the French are keeping continuous pressure against the enemy along the Oise-Serre front, making it difficult for the German commanders to disengage their forces from this most exposed sector of their lines. Success of the British effort, however, which now seems assured, would compel a precipitate evacuation of the Oise-Serre salient, it is believed, for the communication system of that front would be threatened from the flank and rear.

Reduction of the Oise-Serre salient would mean reticulation of the lines probably as far east as the Argonne, observers believe, and coupled with the Franco-American advance today and on the Meuse, the British advances of today and yesterday possibly foreshadow the retreat of the enemy to the Meuse line. If that retirement is delayed much longer, it was said, there is strong probability that the British, working eastward from Valenciennes, will gather in prisoners, guns and stores in large number later on.

Hungarians Make Demand for Separate Peace and Independence for Slavs

Would Dissolve Alliance With Germany and Proclaim New King

GREAT OPPOSITION

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 24.—Advises received from Budapest say that in the Unterhaus Wednesday, Count Karolyi, in moving a resolution in favor of the independence of Hungary, demanded the resignation of the Kereker cabinet and the formation of a coalition ministry. The resolution also called for the conclusion of a separate peace, dissolution of the alliance with Germany, acknowledgment of the independence of south Slavonians and the proclamation of a Hungarian king to reside in Budapest. Count Karolyi declared if the demands were resisted, he himself would take means to secure their realization.

Amid great excitement, Dr. Wekerle the premier, warmly replied that he would oppose by every means Count Karolyi's threats of a revolution and added that there could be no talk of a separate peace.

Dr. Wekerle asked the house to reject Count Karolyi's resolution on the ground that the government would shortly introduce a bill dealing with the matter. He added that Hungary could not conclude a peace separate from Germany and declared that the Germans were helping on the Hungarian front.

"Where are they fighting?" came cries from all sides of the chamber. "At all points," Dr. Wekerle replied, "wherever they are protecting the integrity of our frontiers. The government is endeavoring to bring home Hungarian regiments and already has taken measures to that end. The government is unable to recognize the belligerency of the Czechoslovaks but regarding a south Slovak state it does not object to a union of Croatia, Bosnia and Dalmatia. These states, however, cannot separate themselves from union with the crown of Saint Stephen."