

FRENCH FORCES RETAIN POSITIONS WON SUNDAY

General Petain's Troops Beat off Attacks of Crown Prince at Aisne Sector. Other Operations.

By the Associated Press. General Petain is holding all his positions in the face of formidable attacks which the crown prince is launching.

The French commander reports the last night of strong assaults on the newly won positions in this sector. He announces also the recapture of 1,100 prisoners in the morning yesterday when the French were carried forward two thirds of a mile on a front of two and one-half miles on the outskirts of Beaumont village.

Possibly as a diversion the Germans have resumed their attacks in the Aisne region, where in July and August they met with repulses in attacks to drive the French from the Chemin-Des-Dames. The repulse of the offensive met with no better success, the breaking up of the crown prince's attacks being announced by the French.

The British are continuing their systematic smashing of aviation and other bases behind the front in Belgium. The dropping of bombs by British airmen on St. Dennis is announced today. In infantry operations the only activity reported is a successful trench raid carried out this morning by the British near Oufflèvre.

Evidently the German advance toward Riga, Russia's big port and naval base on the Baltic, has ceased, for further German or Russian communications mention the operation in this region. To the south, however, the Russian and Russo-Rumanian armies respectively around Vladimir-Volynski and in the Rumanian theatre are keeping up their strong resistance against the Germans.

At Moscow has begun the extraordinary council upon which the fate of Russia as a factor in the war probably depends. M. Kerensky in his opening address gave warning to those who are opposed to the government, declaring that all attempts with armed force against the people's power "will be crushed with blood and iron."

An interesting report of the German chancellor's recent visit to grand headquarters, where he received permission to form a sub-committee of the reichstag main committee to confer with the government on peace and foreign affairs is that the chancellor also was given the power to transform Alsace-Lorraine into an independent federal state.

SOLDIERS AT SEVIER WILL LEAVE TUESDAY

Greenville, S. C., Aug. 26.—Preparations have been made at Camp Sevier for the embarkment of the South Carolina battalion of engineers, 11th division, who will probably leave Tuesday for Minn. and Long Island, where they will undergo a few months training prior to embarkment for France with the first contingent of national guard engineers who were ordered for overseas duty several weeks ago. The battalion is composed of about 125 North Carolinians and 100 Tennesseans, who were last week drafted into the ranks of the various companies stationed at Sevier for the purpose of preparing to war strength and other South Carolina companies.

The battalion is under the command of Maj. J. M. Johnson, who effected the organization in June of this year. It is not known how long the men will remain at Mineola before being sent to France; the minimum stay, it is thought, will be two weeks and the maximum two months.

Mr. J. H. Mitchell of Bennettsville, S. C. is the guest of his brother, Mr. W. L. Mitchell.

NEWSPAPER TAX IS SET FOR TODAY

By the Associated Press. Washington, Aug. 27.—While the Senate began consideration of the war tax bill, the debate on profit dispute tax was set for Wednesday. War tax newspapers and magazines was the principal section set for debate today. Leaders hope to dispose of the tax tomorrow.

The debate on the postage increase Senator Harwick moved to postpone levying a cent increase on newspapers. The proposed increased tax, however, was most unfair and unjust, while the people had to pay the greater part of the burden.

It would accentuate a great wrong, he said, leaving postal rates unfair and throwing the burden on the masses of the people. Not only must the department deal with matters of this kind, but must do justice to the bulk of the people.

He added "that the day is coming when great masses of business people who do not own newspapers and who do own common business enterprises will assert themselves and demand that the government cease passing new papers and periodicals \$10,000,000 every year."

\$5 CERTIFICATES TO MAKE REPLY COMPANY WILL NOT ENTRAIN THIS WEEK TO NOTE TUESDAY

By the Associated Press. Washington, Aug. 27.—Details of the war certificate plan modeled somewhat after the British plan under which certificates of one pound are purchased are before Secretary McAdoo for consideration and probably will be announced shortly.

Pending official announcement, indications are that American certificates will be issued as low as \$5 at postoffices.

Should the British plan be followed payments could be made by purchase of distinctive stamps issued at post-offices and other government agencies. A book would be given each customer and when the book was full it would be redeemed with a war certificate.

Pending legislation provides for issuance of certificates up to \$2,000,000.

By the Associated Press. Washington, Aug. 27.—A reply to Pope Benedict's peace proposal may be made by the government this week. Secretary Lansing said today it would be made soon, but declined to indicate its character or the time of dispatch.

Reports from entente powers indicated that they might be waiting for the United States to make the first reply.

Although what was regarded as definite orders for the movement of Company A to the camp at Greenville, S. C., were received last week, these orders have been revoked by the war department, the cars engaged returned to the Carolina and North-Western for the present, and the local company notified to remain here. It is believed, however, that the company will have on short notice, and orders to entrain may be received any hour.

Relatives of the soldiers came to Hickory today from all parts of the country to say farewell, but the troops will not leave here tomorrow. Many of the men were hoping that a payday would come around before they leave the city. The government would release about \$8,000 in one month to the members of the company, and they would have a good time spending some of it here if it should arrive in time.

NO EXEMPTION FOR FIREMEN-POLICEMEN

By the Associated Press. New York, Aug. 27.—Policemen and firemen eligible for draft will not be excused from military service, says a communication from Provost Marshal General Crowder today.

ALLIES REPULSE GERMANS IN RUMANIA

By the Associated Press. Petrograd, Aug. 27.—(British Admiralty per Wireless Press)—An Austro-German attack on Rumanian positions was repulsed, the war office announces today. North of Souveia the Rumanians recovered a height which had been wrested from them.

GERMAN REPORT

By the Associated Press. Berlin, via London, Aug. 27.—Today's official report from the Russian Galician region north of Jacobstadt on the northeastern sector of the line the Russians yielded some positions to the Germans.

There was no comment on Premier Kerensky's speech before the members of the council yesterday, but it was made clear that the sentiments expressed by the Russian premier were heartily in accord with the sentiment he expressed. His address has aroused a greater confidence in the stability of Russia.

MARKETS

COTTON FUTURES

By the Associated Press. New York, Aug. 27.—A slight rally was followed by weakness in the cotton market today and prices broke into new low ground for the movement. The market opened higher. Increased offerings were encountered, however, and the market soon weakened. Before the end of the first hour October was selling around 21.43 and January 21.54 or about 35 to 40 points net lower.

	Open	Close
October	21.77	22.05
December	21.84	22.06
January	21.86	22.15
March	22.03	22.25
May	22.12	22.40

HICKORY MARKETS

Cotton	22c
Wheat	\$2.00

CHICAGO WHEAT

By the Associated Press. London, Aug. 27.—The wheat pit was deserted today, all trading for future delivery being absent.

WEATHER FORECAST

For North Carolina: Fair and warmer tonight and Tuesday; slight variable winds.

COMPARATIVE WEATHER

Maximum	1917	1916
Minimum	85	89
	89	61

CANADIANS SUFFER LOSSES IN FRANCE

By the Associated Press. Ottawa, Can., Aug. 27.—Results of the fighting on the Canadian front were reflected in the casualty lists for the week end. Five thousand casualties were reported, 19 were killed in action.

BISHOP CONFIRMS CLASS AT CHURCH OF ASCENSION

Right Rev. J. M. Horner, D. D., bishop of Asheville, was present at the Church of the Ascension on Friday last and confirmed four persons, three of whom are officers in the army. This makes twenty persons confirmed here in the last few weeks. This church has what the bishop believes is a record for a church of its size, in the fact that from it have gone thirteen men to "do their bit," ten of whom are officers. To show its interest and pride in these men the church has erected a "roll of honor" in the vestibule, with the names of those who are in service, and they are remembered continually in the prayers of the congregation.

Three beautiful flags, French British and American, have been draped from the Rood Screen, reminding those who worship here to think and pray for the allies. Above them stands the cross, the Universal Flag of all Christian people.

GERMANS ARE FORCED OUT OF BEAUMONT

By the Associated Press. Berlin, via London, Aug. 27.—The Germans were forced out of Beaumont, east of the Meuse, in yesterday's fighting, but subsequently recaptured the village and wooded sector, the German war office announcement says.

Bitter fighting is continuing.

AMERICAN FLIER IS KILLED IN ACCIDENT

By the Associated Press. Washington, Aug. 27.—The first death of an American flyer at the French front was announced by the navy department today. He was Geo. H. Manly of the naval aeronautical corps and was killed by an airplane accident, the nature of which was not described.

WILL TRAIN 5,000 AT FORT OGLETHORPE

By the Associated Press. Chattanooga, Tenn., Aug. 27.—With men from North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia and Florida, the second training camp at Oglethorpe opened today, the thousands of candidates for officers' commissions being enrolled and assigned to companies. It is expected that 5,000 men will be in training.

AUSTRIANS BACK AWAY FROM ITALIANS

By the Associated Press. London, Aug. 27.—It was reported from Austrian headquarters that the Austrian troops who were fighting to the north of Gorizia on the Isonzo front have not retired, says a Central News dispatch from Amsterdam.

HAVE MORE DESTROYERS THAN ANY NAVY IN WORLD

Secretary Daniels Lays Plans Before House—Will Cost \$350,000,000, But Number to be Built Not Made Public—Best U-Boat Fighters In Existence.

COPPER MINERS QUIT WORK IN WEST

By the Associated Press. Butte, Mont., Aug. 27.—Thousands of miners are idle today because of the shut down of all the mines in the copper district because of the closing down of the smelting plant of the Anaconda Copper Company when only a few men of the over 3,000 did report to work. Miners gradually are failing to report to work.

Mrs. T. N. Ivey and daughter, Miss Margaret Ivey of Nashville, Tenn., are guests of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. F. Ivey.

Catawba Soldiers in Wars of Country Recounted by Maj. Graham at Newton

Address of Maj. W. A. Graham before Catawba county veterans at Newton on Thursday, Aug. 6: Confederate veterans of Catawba county, Newton, Aug. 16, 1917. The territory now embraced in Catawba county was included in the bounds of Rowan county until 1777, when the county of Burke was organized. Burke and Caldwell were organized by the first legislature of the state in 1777. These are the first counties in which the church was separated from the state in the organization and a parish was not named as a portion of the county.

We read a great deal about the importance to the world of the action by legislatures of separating the state from the church; but here in your own midst at Rock Springs and Ball's Creek we have locations upon territory freed by the legislature of North Carolina, and it should be as much cherished by our citizens as are other places in home and foreign lands for a similar reason. Catawba county was never a portion of Tryon county, of which most of Lincoln county was formerly a part. Lord Granville's line separated Tryon county from Burke; it ran as the southern boundary of Ireddell county, crossing the river, it was located very near the shop of the late Sydney Forney, and one of the two large holly trees a little distance from his shop and residence was marked as a line tree. Afterwards that part of Burke county north of Lord Granville's line and south of the Catawba river was transferred to Lincoln county. This is a matter concerning which many of our citizens are not aware. The territory embraced in Catawba as was in Lincoln and Gaston in the eastern portion was settled by the English and Scotch Irish, while the central and western portions were almost solidly German, who have been denominated Dutch. These people seem to have been regulators in 1771, and Gov. Tryon reports to the secretary of the colonies that the counties of Tryon, Mecklenburg and a portion of Rowan are mediating hostilities. Therefore after the battle of Alamance he sent an expedition under Gen. Hugh Waddell, assisted by Gen. Griffith Rutherford, who was the brigadier commanding in this county, to these sections, and required the militia to be assembled and made to take the oath of allegiance to King George.

The people of Tryon county were required to assemble at Ramsaur's Mill for this purpose. In the convention which adopted the Declaration of Independence at Charlotte on the 20th of May, 1775, the taking of this oath is referred to in the discussions and the question asked if it was not binding. An oath in those days was held much more sacred than in the present time. The law of the state had as a punishment for perjury tacking a man's ears to the pillars of the whipping post and cutting them off, and the lawyers in examining a jurymen a witness, frequently asked what was the penalty if he swore falsely. The general opinion seems to have been expressed by a negro witness in Orange county who replied, "Yes sir, ears crapped short off and no share in the kingdom." Hence, it is not strange that these people who had been compelled by Waddell and Rutherford to take this oath were slow in violating it at their instigation. If the assembling at Ramsaur's mill had been postponed and these 1,500 men had reinforced Ferguson at King's Mountain, the battle would probably have had a different result.

With the battle of Ramsaur's mill these people seem to have absolved themselves from their allegiance to King George. Although Cornwallis stepped at Ramsaur's mill several days to have the wheat ground for his rations, while Gen. Greene's force was less than twenty miles distant for several days, there seems to have been no one to pass from this section to give him information as to the movement of the Americans. If this had been done he might have attacked them at any time.

Gen. Wm. Washington, with the prisoners that Morgan had captured at Cowpens, was at Maiden when Cornwallis was at Ramsaur's and leaving Maiden they passed through Catawba and Statesville carrying these prisoners to Virginia; and after this we hear very little of disaffection of our German people, who have always constituted such a valuable force in the affairs of our state. Any time from the 24th to the 28th of January, fifteen miles to the left would have placed Cornwallis between Gen. Morgan and the Catawba river. Lincolnton, the capital, was a most progressive town in western North Carolina; first cotton mill south of the Potomac was erected here and much of the machinery made by the Germans. The great "southern mail route" before the days of the railroads when it was carried by horseback and afterwards by the stage coach were through Lincolnton, first to Spartanburg and Charleston, and afterwards via Lincolnton, Morganton and Asheville to Memphis. When the railroads came and Lincolnton was left off of the main route, our people lost the opportunity which commerce gave for material progress.

The people of Catawba were generally in politics Democrats or Unionists, and most of them were for the war; while there was a large conservative element who deprecated it was unnecessary or unadvisable. Cornwallis remained at Ramsaur's mill long enough to have a supply of flour ground for his army. He then moved down the Beattie's Ford road by the Reinhardt furnace and Machpelah church, where he took the left hand by the Paine place to the river to Beattie's Ford. When he reached the river it was too high to ford without damaging his rations, but the troops could have crossed. He therefore fell back to the Forney place, now known as the Hall place, to await the falling of the waters. He was pointed to Gen. Forney's place by a tory of the neighborhood. The British troops of course included themselves to Gen. Forney's property. After they left Gen. Forney, with gun in hand, went on a hunt for Deek, intending to kill him. He came on him asleep in the woods; the tory begged piteously and Gen. Forney spared his life upon condition that he would leave the country, as he did. The general impression has been that Cornwallis crossed the Catawba at Sherrill's Ford, and it is so stated by Gov. Graham and Gov. Swain in their articles on the British invasion of the state in 1781. But the publication two years after that of the manuscript of Gen. Jos. Graham, who was an actor on these occasions, shows that he crossed with his main army at Cowan's Ford, and his wagon train crossed at Beattie's Ford. Gen. Washington crossed at Island Ford; Gen. Morgan at Sherrill's Ford.

There was complaint that Lincoln county as thus formed was too large for the convenience of the people, and the question of division began and was continued until it was accomplished. The men from the Burke line at the South Carolina line, each thought that it was too far from the court house and the county muster grounds. (Continued tomorrow)



For North Carolina: Fair and warmer tonight and Tuesday; slight variable winds.

Maximum	1917	1916
Minimum	85	89
	89	61