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## ALLIES CLAIM MORE GAINS; GERMANS SAY DRIVE IS A FAILURE

### Most Desperate Fighting of War Continuing in the Western Theater

### BERLIN IS NOT WORRIED

Reports That French Have Taken 20,000 Prisoners Is Exaggeration, Officials Say—Paris Declares Anglo-French Progress

By William Phillip Simms, (United Press Staff Correspondent)

Paris, Sept. 28.—The greatest battle of the year on the western front is still being waged, with furious attacks. Dispatches describing last night's fighting said the Germans were yielding ground yard by yard, in Champagne. All French gains are being held. The newly-captured positions are being strengthened. The British are reported to be making progress to the north under the greatest difficulty.

### Failure, Says Berlin, of Drive

Berlin, Sept. 28.—The General Anglo-French attack on the western front is already being considered a failure by military critics. It is not believed the Allies can break through the German front. It is declared the French claim that they took 20,000 prisoners is an exaggeration.

### Allies Encounter Strong Resistance.

Paris, Sept. 28.—Despite most obstinate resistance, the French have made further gains in the Champagne region around Arras. It is officially announced. The losses were heavy on both sides.

### Drive Through Serbia to Start Within Fortnight.

London, Sept. 28.—The Exchange Telegraph's Athens correspondent today, wired that he had learned positively at Athens that the Austro-German plan to begin the invasion of Serbia within a fortnight.

### Many Trenches Taken By French.

Paris, Sept. 28.—By a steady onslaught throughout the night the French gained ground east and south of Soches. The French stormed the strongly fortified German second line of trenches at several points in the Champagne region and recaptured nearly all the trenches recently taken by the Germans in the Argonne region.

### Severe Fighting in East.

Petrograd, Sept. 28.—The fighting around Dvinsk and southeast of Riga is becoming more violent.

The Germans have evidently received fresh supplies of ammunition. They are bombarding the Russian positions along the Dvina.

The Russians have captured several thousand prisoners.

## PRESIDENT WENT TO PRINCETON TO VOTE

### Sent Floral Tribute for Victims of the F-4 Buried in Arlington Cemetery Today—Full Military Honors for Submarine's Dead—Executive Will Return to the Capital Tonight

(By the United Press)  
Washington, Sept. 28.—The President left at 8 o'clock this morning for Princeton, N. J., to vote in the New Jersey primaries. He returns tonight.

He sent a floral wreath as a tribute to the fourteen victims of the F-4 disaster, who were buried with military honors in Arlington National Cemetery today.

## HICKORY MAN DIES FROM INJURY HAD IN SMASH-UP

Hickory, Sept. 27.—C. Rome Blanton, who was injured when a motor-cycle on which he and his brother, H. Q. Blanton, were riding, collided with an automobile driven by C. M. McCorkle, on the road between here and Newton, died at the Richard Baker Hospital here without regaining consciousness.

## TAKE HEART, RELIEF HOUR IS NEAR, THE BELGIANS ARE TOLD

### Patriotic Allied Flyer Drops Flags and Proclamations Over Liege Section, Informing the People of Approaching Succor

(By the United Press)

Amsterdam, Sept. 28.—An Allied aviator today flew over Liege, dropping flags and proclamations telling the Belgians to keep up courage, as the hour of deliverance is near. German garrisons in a number of Belgian villages have been ordered to concentrate in Brussels by Saturday, according to the Telegraf. It is said many Germans wounded from the fighting southwest of Lille have arrived at Brussels.

## TICK CATCHES JACKRABBIT IN A TEXAS COUNTY

Fort Worth, Texas, Sept. 28.—Coke county's proud position as the jack-rabbit center of the universe is threatened by the cattle tick. Reports reaching here state that ticks have attacked the rabbits and that the latter are dying in great numbers.

A move will be started in that county, no doubt, for tick eradication. The residents simply can't afford to have the jack rabbit crop decreased. Since there is much complaint from surrounding counties against depredations of jack rabbits on all kinds of crops, it is believed an effort will be made to obtain a supply of Coke county's rabbit ticks for distribution among these less desirable cottontails.

## VICTIM OF NEGRO WITH GUN WAS WHITE CHILD

(By the Eastern Press)

Greenville, Sept. 28.—Jordan Mills, whose two-year-old son had an arm shot off by an unknown negro at Cox's Mills because the little fellow would not go home when ordered by the black to do so, is white, and not colored, as reported here yesterday. The negro's act was brutal in the extreme and absolutely without excuse.

## SERBIAN AMB'SADOR AT SOFIA DEPARTS PRETEXT BAD HE'ALTH

### Bulgarian Consuls in Macedonia Being Called Home, Another Significant Development in Situation in Balkans Today

(By the United Press)

Berlin, Sept. 28.—The Serbian ambassador to Bulgaria is leaving Sofia under pretense of failing health, according to Budapest press dispatches. The Bulgarian consuls in Macedonia are being recalled on the same pretext. The Bulgarian premier Radoslavoff is reported to have informed the Serbian ambassador of his withdrawal of the Bulgarian consuls when the ambassador made his farewell call.

## PRISONERS OF WAR MEET IN CAPITAL

Washington, Sept. 28.—Nearly 5,000 members of the National Association of ex-prisoners of War called by invitation upon President Wilson here today. They were headed by Col. J. D. Walker, adjutant general of the association. The President greeted the veterans cordially, shaking hands and chatting with them about Libby, Andersonville and other notorious prisons of the civil war in which they had been incarcerated.

## RUSSIAN PRINCE IN COMMAND WARSHIPS KILLED IN ACTION

### Wiazmski and Six Others Fell When Shell From the German Works Struck Ship—Squadron Bombed and Silenced Batteries

(By the United Press)

Petrograd, Sept. 28.—Russian warships today bombarded German positions near the Gulf of Riga, silencing batteries, it is officially announced. A shot from a German gun struck a Russian vessel, killing the commander, Prince Wiazmski, Capt. Swinin and five others, and wounding eight sailors.

## MARINES KILLED MORE THAN FIFTY HAITIENS

Washington, Sept. 27.—Details of fighting between natives and American forces near Cape Haitien yesterday in which one marine was killed, a number wounded and more than 50 Haitians were killed reached the Navy Department today in messages from Rear Admiral Caperton. The marine patrols had been sent out to clear the lines of supply from Cape Haitien to the interior.

## VETERAN THROWN FROM BUGGY, FATALITY HURT

Thomasville, Sept. 27.—While returning to his home in the country four miles from Thomasville, Cyrus Hilton, a Confederate veteran, was thrown from his buggy and injured so that he died within an hour.

## NEW BERN MAKING FINAL PREPARATIONS OF FAIR

### Fourth Annual Show Starts Next Tuesday—Reduced Rates On Norfolk Southern and Convenient Shuttle Train Schedule to and From the Grounds

(Special to The Free Press)  
New Bern, Sept. 28.—Everything is now in readiness for the fourth annual Eastern Carolina Fair, which is to be held at New Bern on October 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th, and indications are that it will be the most successful ever held.

For weeks the committees who have had charge of the various departments have been hard at work getting each of these departments ready to be thrown open to the public on Tuesday morning, October 5th, and they have succeeded so well that everyone at all interested in the event feel sure that it will prove to be an occasion long to be remembered.

Preceding the opening a spectacular parade will be held. In this will be automobiles gaily attired, the fire-fighting apparatus of the city, two big brass bands, the entire menagerie to be seen with Johnny J. Jones' Exposition Shows, and hundreds of citizens. After traversing the principal streets of the city, the pageant will move on to the fair grounds, and there the fair will be officially opened.

From early morning until late at night all during the four days that the fair is in progress there will be something doing, something in which the visitors will be interested. There will be horse racing in front of the grandstand each afternoon and some of the fastest horses in the South will be seen in action. In addition to this there will be other free attractions.

Seats in the grandstand this year will cost only fifteen cents, and children under ten years of age will be admitted free of charge. Heretofore the admission to the grandstand has been 25 cents. There will be seats for all, and the price will permit every one to have a seat in the big stand overlooking the track.

Oh Friday the athletic events are to be held, and these are open to every boy and young man in the State, prizes of real value, among them (Continued on Page Three)

## TOTAL NUMBER DEAD FROM EXPLOSION OF GASOLINE CAR IS 40

### Ardmore, Okla., Still Under Martial Law—Ruins Being Searched

### FIVE DIE IN HOSPITAL

### Every Window Pane in the Town Broken—Blow of a Workman's Hammer Caused Spark That Exploded Tank Car and Fired Buildings

(By the United Press)

Ardmore, Okla., Sept. 28.—The death list resulting from the explosion of a carload of gasoline on the Santa Fe Railroad yards late yesterday was raised to 40 when five injured died today in hospitals.

Searchers are still digging in the ruins for six bodies. The known injured number 200.

Every window in the town was smashed. Fragile household goods in many homes were smashed. The estimated loss is half a million dollars. The city is under martial law. Spark From Hammer Caused Explosion.

Ardmore, Okla., Sept. 27.—A spark from a workman's hammer ignited a tank car of gasoline here late today and from the ruins of two city blocks razed by the resulting explosion and the fires which followed, thirty-one bodies had been recovered late tonight. The property loss is estimated at \$500,000.

Fifty persons are believed to have been crushed or burned to death while pinned under the debris of stores, wholesale houses and the Ardmore railroad station. Search among the ruins was proceeding methodically tonight, the workers centering their efforts on the mass of lumber and bricks which had been a department store, and where it was feared the bodies of many girls and women shoppers and employes would be found.

## "WESCO" BRAGGING ON KINSTON'S PAVING JOB

"Wesco," the weekly publication of the West Construction Company, doing the street paving work here, takes all the credit for the new "paving rage" here for the company.

"The good citizens and property-owners of Kinston have gone 'paving mad' since they have seen our good work on their streets, and without a single exception, are in favor of wanting the whole town paved with sheet asphalt. And to that end everyone is circulating a petition for his street to be paved. Petitions for 35 blocks, about 60,000 yards, of sheet asphalt, were presented at last Monday night's Council meeting, and resolutions were passed, asking for bids on this additional work on Monday, October 4. Since then petitions have been signed up for 15 more blocks, and there seems to be no limit to the amount of work they want done."

"Everyone," "without a single exception," etc., is a little exaggerated, but on the whole the story is almost accurate.

"Everyone is very much pleased," says "Wesco," "with the work, and want us to do this additional work, but under the law, they are required to advertise for bids on same. We have given Kinston the best we have, and the writer is very much pleased with the looks and condition of all work we have done there." A compliment is paid Engineer White and his assistants. E. G. Billingsley is the local correspondent of "Wesco," which is issued at Chattanooga.

## FORMER REPUBLICAN OFFICEHOLDER KILLED

Ipswich, Mass., Sept. 27.—Benjamin Stickney Cable, of Washington, Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Labor under President Taft, was crushed to death in a collision between two automobiles on the Newburyport turnpike today.

## KINSTON CHILDREN MUST GO TO SCHOOL DECEMBER TO APRIL

### Board of Trustees Exercising Prerogative Granted By Compulsory Law So Decree—Prosecutions of Parents to Cease for the Present

The law for compulsory attendance in the public schools of North Carolina has a provision giving the local boards discretion in the matter of stipulating which four months of the scholastic year shall be required of the children. In accordance with that provision a member of the Board of Trustees of the Kinston schools authorized The Free Press to say that the Board had determined upon the four months beginning December 1 and ending March 31.

The city school authorities have been enforcing the compulsory law since the outset of the present term and as has been reported in The Free Press repeatedly, a number of parents have been prosecuted in the Recorder's Court for failure to send their children. This decision of the Trustees, therefore, makes void the action that has been taken, and The Free Press is informed that the operation of the law was working nicely. Some members of the Board were interviewed and claimed to know nothing about the action or to endorse it. The Free Press called on Chairman Goodson and was informed that although no formal action had been taken by the full Board, Mr. Cowper had been authorized to look into the situation, and if he found that the enforcement of the law in the four months specified, would comply with the spirit of the law, to give The Free Press a statement that such action would be taken. It was Mr. Goodson's opinion that a majority of the Board would approve the action, and he had not considered it necessary to call a formal meeting for consideration of the matter.

In the statement furnished The Free Press it is set forth that:

In December, January, February and March all children within the law must be in school for the entire period. No detailed reasons are given except that these "are the months the children and parents in the territory embraced by these schools." Judge Wooten of the City Court several days ago expressed himself as in favor of enforcing the law in midwinter instead of now, when, according to him, numerous colored children are in the cotton fields, where their labor is needed, and they are helping their parents raise the money to equip them for school.

## ATTEMPT TO BURN HOME OF DANIELS' ASSISTANT

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Sept. 27.—An attempt to burn the \$30,000 home of Assistant Secretary of the Navy F. D. Roosevelt, near Hyde Park early tonight failed through the prompt discovery of the blaze by a watchman. Handfuls of dry excelsior were found packed beneath the main floor of the building evidently placed there by an incendiary.

## ELEVEN MEN CLOSED IN BY CAVE-IN AT COAL PIT.

Lansford, Pa., Sept. 27.—Eleven men, six Americans and five foreigners, employed in the Foster tunnel of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co., at Coaldale, near here, were entombed shortly before noon today by a sudden rush of coal and water that had broken through the roof from an abandoned working. From reports of company officials, it will be late tomorrow morning before the men can be rescued.

## ARMY NURSES IN REUNION AT WASHINGTON TODAY

Washington, Sept. 28.—The twenty-first annual convention of the National Association of Army Nurses of the Civil War opened here today. The Civil War opened here today. Most of the nurses are more than 70 years old and but a few members were present.

## DR. MOORE'S TALK AT BAPTIST CHURCH WAS MOST PLEASING

### Editor of Biblical Recorder Spoke on "Reading for Efficiency"—Dr. Livingston Johnson to Be Heard Tonight

The masterful address of Dr. R. T. Vann on Sunday night in the religious education conference being conducted at the First Baptist church, was followed by another Monday night by Dr. Hight C. Moore, editor of the Biblical Recorder. The subject of his discourse was "Reading for Efficiency."

Pastor C. W. Blanchard of the First Baptist church, says of the discourse: "There were four points of interest, and profit brought out by the speaker. First, 'How not to read.' We so often get the impression of a true idea by having the negative clearly defined. There were two ways we were cautioned not to read, if out of our reading we had a purpose of real profit. Then, of course, we were told 'How to read' that the greatest help should come from the important exercises. Then we were led to see the true end of it all, 'efficiency!' And finally, the scholarly editor and man of experience gave a most practical suggestion as to 'How to select our reading matter.' The last point was one of great importance along with the others, Dr. Moore is a master of critical analysis."

Tonight the conference will have one of the great religious statesmen of this part of the country for the speaker—Dr. Livingston Johnson, who for 15 years has been a public servant of the people, and always has edified and pleased the thousands of congregations who have heard him. Dr. Johnson will talk as a statesman on the "most important work of the people of our Commonwealth" tonight. Pastor Blanchard says "a capacity house should greet him, as this will be his last official visit to this city."

At the close of Dr. Johnson's address there will be an ordination service of deacons recently elected by the church. This most impressive Biblical service will occupy but little time, but will be intensely interesting and helpful to the congregation. "A great welcome awaits the public at these services," says Rev. Mr. Blanchard.

## BALE OF COTTON ON KINSTON EXCHANGE SELLS FOR 12 CENTS

### Market Was Up Today With Prices From 11-2 to 11-3-4 Cents—Receipts at Kinston 30 Bales—Further Increase Expected

A bale of cotton sold here today for 12 cents. The price was the highest paid on the local exchange in two years. It was said that the price was prompted by the enthusiasm of buyers who overstepped the market for a purely patriotic motive.

However, the market was good and strong, and up from Monday's. The prices, legitimate, ranged from 11-2 to 11-3-4. Receipts were about 30 bales.

Twelve-cent cotton would not surprise responsible local men in close touch with the situation, it was said today. The level may be reached within the next few days. Prices here, it was pointed out, have not been bettered on any of the smaller exchanges in this part of the country. The price reached 11:40 Monday, but was erroneously reported 10.80.

New York futures quotations were:

	Open	Close
October ..	12.10	12.10
December ..	12.49	12.49
January ..	12.70	12.64
March ..	12.95	12.91
May ..	13.05	13.09

## DUMBA TELLS STATE DEPARTMENT OF HIS UNCONDIT'L RECALL

### Asks for Safe Conduct to Leave New York On 5th of October

### SAFE PASSAGE ASSURED

### Embassies of the Allies at Washington to Give Him Letters Guaranteeing He Will Not Be Molested—To Name Successor Soon

(By the United Press)

Washington, Sept. 28.—The unconditional recall of Austrian Ambassador Dumba has been announced at the State Department. The department has received a telegram from Dumba stating that he has been recalled and asking for his safe conduct. He announced that he would leave New York October 5. Acting Secretary of State Polk announced that Ambassador Penfield was officially advised last Saturday by the Austrian foreign minister, Burian, that Austria would unconditionally recall Dumba.

Dumba's safe conduct has been secured from the Allies' embassies here and will be forwarded to him at Lenoix. It is officially stated the Dumba incident is now closed.

Ambassador Penfield notified the department that Austria will announce his successor shortly. "Leave Absence" Opposed.

Washington, Sept. 27.—Dr. Constantine Dumba, Austro-Hungarian Ambassador to the United States, will be formally recalled by his government, according to assurances given American Ambassador Penfield at the Vienna foreign office.

Mr. Penfield had been instructed to make clear informally that "leave of absence" for Dumba would not satisfy the request of the United States.

## BRANCH FELL ON 13-YEAR-OLD, INSTANTLY KILLED.

Littleton, Sept. 27.—A distressing accident occurred near Littleton today when N. J. Harris and his two sons were strolling through the woods near their home, a dead limb from a tree falling upon and instantly killing the younger son, who was about thirteen years of age.

## MRS. LODGE, WIFE OF MASS. SENATOR, DEAD

(By the United Press)

Boston, Sept. 28.—Mrs. Henry Cabot Lodge, wife of the Massachusetts Senator, died of heart disease at 11 o'clock last night.

## RED MEN ATTEND FAIR IN NORTH DAKOTA

Mandan, N. D., Sept. 28.—Through leniency on the part of superintendents of the Sanding Rock Reservation, Indians are permitted to attend and participate in the Missouri Slope State Fair, being held here this week. In recent years, the reservation administration, presumably acting upon a sane general amusement, forbid the Indians attending the fairs. Superintendent Covey, however, indicated that he believed the red man would gain by attending the white man's fair, and he admonished the Sioux, in investigate agricultural exhibits. Twenty five hundred red men are here today, many bringing their squaws and families. A big beef barbecue is planned for tomorrow.

## TRESTLE BURNED

(By the Eastern Press)  
Rocky Mount, Sept. 28.—A trestle was burned on the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad near here yesterday, delaying all traffic for a short time. The origin of the fire is unknown.

## LOOK FOR WHISKY'S OWNER

Rocky Mount, Sept. 28.—The police here are holding 45 pints of whisky, left in a suitcase at the depot. The owner cannot be located.