

SOME ANXIETY FELT IN LONDON BECAUSE ALLIES HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO MAKE ANY SERIOUS IMPRESSION ON GERMAN LINES

BATTLE OF AISNES IS UNPRECEDENTED IN ALL HISTORY—THE GERMANS USE ARTILLERY TO GREAT ADVANTAGE AND FROM LONG RANGE.

VON KLUCK'S FORCES IN DANGER FROM ALLIES' LEFT

Left Wing Is Rushing Forward and Germans Are Sending Reinforcements From Belgium—British and French Troops Show Fine Spirit In Spite of Trying Circumstances and Awful Loss—Forty Battleships Destroyed to Date.

(By the United Press.) London, Sept. 21.—Anxiety is increasing here as the battle in northern France continues without the Allies being able to gain any appreciable advantage. The strength of the German position is now realized, and there is admission that every advantage gained by the British at a terrible cost was unavailing. Without realization that the casualty list of the Allies will be staggering, the war office declares the situation is favorable, though there has been no decisive result.

BATTLE OF AISNE UNPRECEDENTED.

Paris, Sept. 21.—The battle of Aisne is unprecedented in history. At Rheims the Germans continue with heavy guns on the hills, three miles away, to level buildings. It is admitted that the German artillery fire is deadly accurate. Some of the heaviest German guns are shelling the lines of the Allies, seven miles distant. All of the German artillery is handled with remarkable cleverness. It is admitted that one of the heaviest guns doing the most damage cannot be located by the Allies.

VON KLUCK'S FORCES REPORTED TO BE IN CLOSE QUARTERS

London, Sept. 21.—It is reported that on account of the serious position of the German forces under General Von Kluck, a hundred thousand men are being rushed from Belgium to his assistance. The Allies are continuing their effort to outflank Von Kluck's forces.

BRITISH AND FRENCH TROOPS SHOW THE TRUE SPIRIT

London, Sept. 21.—Weather conditions in the fighting zone in the north of France continues to grow worse with the cold winds, rain and hail, but the spirits of the allied fighters are remarkably good. The British on the firing line are fighting to better advantage, and have made several gallant charges against the heaviest entrenchments of the Germans. The whole west wing of the German lines is being swept with rifle fire. The Allies are expending the greatest pressure on both wings of the German lines, which have been gradually thrown back.

AUSTRIANS EVACUATE JAROSLAW AFTER FIRING IT.

Vienna, Sept. 21.—Evacuation of Jaroslaw by the Austrians was accomplished because of their desire to concentrate the forces for the defense of Trzemes, according to the war office. Jaroslaw was fired after the Austrian forces left the city.

FORTY BATTLESHIPS WAR'S TOLL TO DATE.

New York, Sept. 21.—Forty warships have been destroyed since the European war started. These are the known losses: Germany, 22; Britain, 10; Austria; Russia, 2, and Japan, one ship. France alone has suffered no losses of war vessels.

ALLIES' LEFT PUSHING THROUGH GERMAN LINES.

Paris, Sept. 21.—It is officially stated that the French left has rushed forward in an effort to outflank the army of General Von Kluck. The Germans rushed to the center in a desperate effort to pierce the lines of the Allies. The fortifications at Craonne, on the Allies' left center were silenced. As the engagement progressed the Germans fought desperately, making many bayonet charges, but the Allies held their positions at all points.

DESTRUCTION OF RHEIMS CATHEDRAL CAUSES A PROTEST

FRENCH PRESIDENT DIRECTS A FORMAL PROTEST TO THE NEUTRAL POWERS.

CALLED ACT OF VANDALISM

The Famous Old Structure Had Stood for Centuries and Was Cherished by People—Germans Claim Justified—Navy Active.

(By the United Press.) Bordeaux, Sept. 21.—President Poincare has directed a formal protest to the neutral nations against the destruction of the cathedral at Rheims by the German artillery. The protest declares German troops, for their sole pleasure, without the slightest necessity, brought this destruction to Rheims through a systematic bombardment. The French government denounces the action, and says "the revolting act of vandalism" should arouse the indignation of the world. The first news regarding the French naval forces was made public today. French commerce is unrestricted and the French navy is rendering important service in co-operation with the British fleets in the Mediterranean and North Seas. Fleets are blockading the German and Austrian coasts. The government is sure of ultimate success if the war is prolonged.

GERMANS CLAIM BOMBARDMENT OF RHEIMS NECESSARY

Berlin, Sept. 21.—The bombardment of Rheims is declared by the general staff necessary because the heaviest fire from the French came from that direction. The war office announces that Trimont was taken by assault. The Allies holding this position were driven back with heavy losses.

PROMINENT CHARLOTTE PEOPLE KILLED IN AUTOMOBILE SMASH-UP.

Charlotte, Sept. 20.—John M. Craig, a prominent business and society man of this city, and Miss Christine Maxwell, a Charlotte young woman, were instantly killed, and David J. Craig of Statesville, and W. H. McCabe, Jr., of Charlotte, were seriously injured in an automobile accident at Crofts, a small station near Charlotte, about 11 o'clock tonight, the machine crashing into a telephone pole, pinning the occupants under it.

MEXICANS AT FT. WINGATE ORDERED RELEASED.

El Paso, Texas, Sept. 19.—The 4,000 Mexican military prisoners at Fort Wingate, Texas, have been ordered released by the War Department.

ELWOOD COX BELIEVES BETTER TIMES AT HAND.

Raleigh, Sept. 20.—J. Elwood Cox of High Point, here as a member of the North Carolina Federal Bankers' Association executive committee, says that there is steady improvement in the condition of the banks through Western Carolina, and he believes that the same can be said of the banks throughout Eastern Carolina as well. He says that money is much more easy and that business conditions are improving all the time.

NEGRESS SHOTS MAN OVER PINT OF WHISKY.

Winston-Salem, Sept. 20.—After having chased James Jordan, colored, more than 125 yards for having snatched and run with a pint of whiskey, Ollie Bryant, colored, shot him on the back with a pistol, the ball passing through his right lung and coming out through his chest. There is little hope for his recovery.

CHARITY CONGRESS MEETS.

(By the United Press.) Washington, Sept. 21.—Hundreds of delegates arrived here today for the national Roman Catholic "Charity Congress" at the Catholic University. Extensions and management of domestic and foreign Catholic charities was the theme of the congress, attended by prominent laymen and clergy.

BANK OF MERRY OAKS CLOSED BY THE COMMISSION

CASHIER NORRIS ALLEGED TO HAVE PERMITTED LARGE OVERDRAFTS.

EQUAL CAPITAL—SURPLUS

President of Bank Says Failure Due to Local Mismanagement—Defunct Bank Had Assets, \$46,000 and Deposits, \$36,000.

(By the United Press.) Raleigh, Sept. 21.—The State Corporation Commission has closed the Bank of Merry Oaks, Chatham county, on account of Cashier W. L. Norris having permitted overdrafts by C. W. Weir, a lumberman, in amount equal to the capital and a surplus upwards of seven thousand dollars. The deposits were thirty-six thousand dollars, and assets and liabilities each total forty-six thousand. Earl B. Franklin, president, says the failure was due solely to local mismanagement.

MAY ADD WING TO OLD PRINTERS' HOME.

(By the United Press.) Colorado Springs, Colo., Sept. 21.—That the board would decide to spend \$120,000 more for a new wing was the expectation today when the trustees of the Union Printers' Home began their annual meeting here. The board will be asked to decide regarding extensive plans for improvements formulated by John C. Daley, superintendent. The International Typographical Union convention recently voted to increase the per capita tax for the home from 15 to 20 cents a month a member, but this will have to go to a referendum vote. This would add \$12,000 a month to the home's income.

PREPARING FOR MASONS' MEETING AT ASHEVILLE.

Asheville, Sept. 20.—Secretary William F. Randolph is mailing to the candidates and Masons of high degree copies of the program for the annual fall reunion, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, valley of Asheville, Orient of North Carolina, which will be held at this city October 13, 14 and 15. The degrees from the fourth to the thirty-second, inclusive, will be conferred by local Masonic organizations and the reunion will bring many Masons from all parts of North Carolina to this city for the gathering.

GOVERNOR PARDONS CONVICT WHO LOST A LEG.

(By the United Press.) Raleigh, Sept. 21.—Because he lost his leg in an accident while at work in the quarries at Whitney, Governor Craig pardons from the remainder of his seven years' sentence R. J. Lilly, Gates county, for second degree murder. He has served fourteen months. The Governor considers that the loss of his leg is sufficient punishment for the unfortunate prisoner.

TRAFFIC BLOCKED WHEN MAGISTRATE WAS OBSTREPEROUS

W. H. HAM OF FALLING CREEK STOPS TRAVEL WITH HIS BUGGY.

BRANDISHED A BIG KNIFE

Mr. Copeland and Family Threatened on Highway by Man Supposed to Have Been Under the Influence of Liquor.

W. H. Ham, a Falling Creek magistrate, caused a scene on the Central Highway near the city late Sunday, when he is alleged to have driven a horse and buggy across the road and held up three automobiles, alighted and brandished a knife in the face of Mr. A. S. Copeland, a well-known business man, who was driving the foremost car. In the car with Mr. Copeland were Mrs. Copeland and another lady. Ham left his wife and an infant in the buggy. He is believed to have been under the influence of whisky.

Ham approached the Copeland car and flourished the knife in a manner to alarm the occupants, at the same time cursing and abusing the driver. A man in one of the other cars spoke to him civilly, and was threatened with the knife, an ugly looking weapon. There were eleven men in the three automobiles, and these gathered about the obstreperous justice of the peace to compel him to desist from his actions. One of them led Ham's horse to one side of the road, and all three machines were driven past the man, who was left in the road still cursing.

GOVERNMENT OPENS LARGE LAND TRACT.

(By the United Press.) Durango, Colo., Sept. 21.—Two hundred and twenty-five thousand acres of federal land in Colorado were opened for entry today here and at Montrose, Colo., and hundreds of applications under the federal land laws are expected. The Department of the Interior took action on recommendation of the Colorado land bureau board.

LAST DAY OF SUMMER.

(By the United Press.) Washington, Sept. 21.—"Goodbye, Summer," with its delightful minor plaint is "the song for everybody to sing today. This is the finale, the end, the finish, the climax of the good old summer time. That is, its official end, the day before the beginning of the autumnal equinox. But you can be cheerful, for "Indian summer" comes next month.

FARMER HURT IN NIGHT COLLISION WITH AUTO.

Hickory, Sept. 20.—Robert Bowman, a farmer who lives several miles south of Hickory, was considerably bruised and cut about the head and a horse he was driving to a buggy was injured so badly that it had to be killed when an automobile ran into them on the public road to Brookford last night. The buggy was demolished. It is said the automobile, driver unknown, was running without lights.

BRAVES HAVE THREE-GAME LEAD FOR FLAG.

New York, Sept. 20.—Five victories for Boston and five winning games and two defeats for New York tell the story of the past week's struggle between the rivals of the National League pennant. A three-game gap now separates the two clubs, a decided advantage for Boston when only a little more than a fortnight of play remains before the season's close.

THIS COUNTRY WILL ENJOY A PROSPEROUS ERA

FOLLOWING THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

THINKS MR. N. J. ROUSE

An Interesting Interview Furnished The Free Press, He Reviews the Cotton Situation and Urges Gradual Selling of Staple.

Mr. N. J. Rouse, a prominent attorney and citizen of Kinston, and himself holding large farming interests in Lenoir county, furnished the Free Press with a most interesting and comprehensive interview on the outlook for the cotton situation. He points out the comparative prices procurable now and those accepted sixteen years ago, in which it is shown that the planters are refusing now almost twice what they accepted then, and he concludes that this shows the better organization of the farmers for their mutual protection. He urges a gradual marketing of the crop at the prices available, and that the acreage for next year be cut down not by oppressive legislation but by co-operative effort of the farmers for their own welfare. Mr. Rouse's statement in full follows:

"This is the first year in my recollection that September 19th has come with no cotton offering on Queen street. In 1898 cotton sold at as low as 4.85 and people brought it to market. Some years afterwards it sold for around 5 cents, and still came to market. But now, although good cotton would probably bring in excess of 8 cents on the Kinston market, there is none offered for sale. "I interpret this to mean that the producers of cotton realize its value, and that the sentiment has taken hold of the entire cotton-producing community to demand for their cotton something near its value. The difficulty heretofore has been the failure of concerted, well directed and united effort among the cotton farmers to demand for their product its value.

"While the European war has been a great shock to the world, disturbing all lines of business, the intelligent farmer knows that there is no good reason why the price of his cotton should be cut half in two. I believe that the effect of the war, insofar as it relates to the United States and its products, has been greatly exaggerated in the public mind. I believe that this thought is taking hold of the people, and the firm belief of the holders of cotton that good business is only a short distance ahead of us, explains the absence of cotton from Queen street today. I hope to see the bulk of this cotton crop sell for not less than ten cents a pound, and believes that the forces at work throughout the South, in fact, throughout the entire country, including the President of the United States, who has shown his interest by buying a bale, will accomplish this greatly to be desired end.

"I believe that the European war will soon, in some way, be brought to an end. That might not be so if it only concerned the warring powers, but, in fact, it does concern and affect the entire world; and the world-sentiment in favor of peace will, I believe, in some way force the warring powers to compose their differences. However, no one will be rash enough to make a prediction with any certainty. Our views are largely the offspring of the hope that we have.

"If peace shall come soon, then most assuredly the price of cotton and other products would materially advance, but if peace shall be delayed, nevertheless, judgment and prudence on the part of the producers of cotton will maintain a fair price. It would not seem the part of prudence, as I view it, for our farmers to hold all their cotton for a fixed price, and I think that in order to relieve our individual requirements and to prevent the wheels of business from being stopped, that it might be the part of wisdom to, from time to time, make sales of a small percentage of the crop. If the farmers shall gradually sell, as they gin it, a small percentage of what they will raise, the relief will be two-fold: First, to the immediate relief of the seller; secondly, to assist in preventing the business of the community from coming to a standstill. Meanwhile, the policy suggested will carry to market so small a volume of cotton, comparatively speaking, that it will not depress the price, but will tend to stimulate, as I think, the price by enabling the mills of the country, some of which might otherwise close down for lack of supplies, to continue operation.

"I do not want to be understood as advising any particular course, for I confess the extreme difficulty in satisfactorily solving the situation so as to get a clear outlook as to what is to be expected; but the course suggested (Continued on Page Three)