

FIGHTING AT VERDUN BLOODIEST OF THE OFFENSIVE, STATED

Ten Thousand Killed in the Battle That Started On Tuesday Night

MEN USED THEIR KNIVES

Great Gray Tide Rolled Up on French Positions Until Troops Grappled — Both Sides Literally Bathed in Fire—Heroism

(By the United Press)
Paris, May 24.—Following a terrific onslaught, the Germans have penetrated the French front west of the Meuse, the war office today admitted. All other attacks were repulsed.

Paris, May 24.—Ten thousand men have gone down to slaughter in what is rapidly becoming the bloodiest engagement of the three months' battle of Verdun. The Germans last night rolled up 80,000 against the French works on Dead Man Hill, while two brigades time and again rushed the French defending Douaumont. After bathing the French positions from Thiaumont to Douaumont in a steady roll of fire, the grey columns rolled the works in the face of a machine gun spray, coming to close grips. Groups of men struggled so close together that only knives could be used.

WANTS PASTORS' HELP FOR ENFORCING PEACE

Taft Asks Them to Communicate to Churchmen Plan of the League to Enforce Peace, Which Seeks to Establish International Court of Conciliation—No Disarmament Yet

Ex-President William H. Taft, as head of a special committee of the League to Enforce Peace, recently wrote to preachers throughout the country asking them to inform their parishioners on the program of the organization, which is to hold its first annual assemblage Friday and Saturday of this week. Several other prominent members of the League affixed their signatures.

Ministers in Kinston to whom letters were sent are Rev. Willard O. Bodell of the Church of the Eternal Hope, Universalist, and Pastor B. P. Smith of Gordon Street Christian church.

"There is no reasonable ground to hope that the nations of the world will disarm and create an international police. We have not got that far," says the letter. But "it seems practically possible that at the end of this war the nations will be willing to enter a league to enforce the submission of all disputes to an international court or council of conciliation, for a complete examination before war can be declared."

FRANCE WILL SHARE MUNITIONS WITH THE CZAR, SAYS PETROG'D

(By the United Press)
Petrograd, May 24.—The French, with plentiful supplies of munitions, now are undertaking to supply Russia, through Archangel. The Hudson Bay Company is said to have offered all its 180 ships to carry munitions from the United States to Russia without profit.

VICE-PRESIDENT IS GRADUATES' ORATOR

(Special to The Free Press)
Greensboro, May 24.—Vice-President Marshall made his literary address at the commencement exercises of the State Normal and Industrial College here yesterday.

VILLA RECRUITING PARTIES FOLLOW IN WAKE OF AMERICANS

As Forces Withdraw Bandsits Pick Up Peons in the Country Evacuated—Say Chief Is Coming Back to Command Forces

(By the United Press)
Columbus, N. M., May 24.—Villa bandits are recruiting in the wake of the withdrawal of the American forces, according to information from Pershing's front. Remnants of bands that Pershing dispersed are conscripting peons at the pistol point, saying Villa is coming back to lead them and promising them rich loot.

BRIEF NEWS NOTES FROM THE NEIGHBORING TOWNS AND COUNTIES

Mack Blount, colored, supposed to have fallen from a Norfolk Southern freight car, was killed by a train on the Neuse river railroad bridge at New Bern Tuesday. One leg was severed and the body badly cut up.

Commencement exercises of the Greenville schools will start Friday.

Pastor B. P. Smith of Gordon Street Christian church, has been asked by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ to bring to the attention of his congregation "a nation-wide effort for the relief of the sufferers by the war in Europe and Asia." on "Memorial Sunday, May 28, or on as near a Sunday as may be practicable." Probably other local ministers have been similarly appealed to.

The council proposes to acquaint the people with not only the relief plans, but "a movement that shall prepare our Christian churches to play the vital part that belongs to them in the period of reconstruction and reconciliation that must follow the close of the war."

SHRINERS HOLDING SPRING CEREMONIAL AT RALEIGH TODAY

(Special to The Free Press)
Raleigh, May 24.—Nearly 2,000 Shriners are here for the two-day Spring ceremonial. Members of Oasis patrol and friends from all over the State are present. A long parade at 10 this morning was reviewed by the Governor.

John E. Cameron of Kinston, as illustrious Chief Rabban, is one of the big personages of the patrol.

INQUIRY INTO THE SAFETY AMERICANS IN IRELAND LIKELY

Resolution Favorably Reported—Investigation of British Blockade Probable Motive of Another Resolution, Thought

(By the United Press)
Washington, May 24.—An inquiry into the safety of Americans in Ireland was ordered in a resolution favorably reported to the Senate by the Foreign Relations Committee today. The committee also reported resolution asking for the executive department's report to the Senate on what obstacles stand in the way of sending relief to Poland. This is said to be aimed at the British blockade. If so it is deeply significant, as it is the first time the foreign relations committee has permitted Senate discussion of the blockade.

PRINCE VON BUELOW WILL PROBABLY BE AMBASSADOR TO U. S.

Reported He Will Succeed Von Bernstorff at Washington Embassy

ANOTHER SIGN OF PEACE

Say Diplomats — Former Chancellor Active In that Respect—Von Bernstorff Expected to Go to Another Important Post

(By the United Press)
London, May 24.—The Exchange Telegraph stated this afternoon that it had learned on authority that Prince Von Buelow, ex-German chancellor, is slated to become German ambassador to Washington, replacing Von Bernstorff, as part of the rearrangement of the German diplomatic service. The statement is uncorroborated, although it has been frequently reported that Von Bernstorff was slated to be recalled to fill an important post in Europe. Diplomats today said that if the report is true it is another indication that Germany plans to move for an early peace. Von Buelow's name has been frequently connected with peace rumors, especially during his long stay in Switzerland.

SUFFRAGISTS OF THE NATION TO ORGANIZE 'WOMAN'S PARTY' JUNE

(By the United Press)
Chicago, May 24.—All is in readiness for the thousands of women who will attend the Woman's Party convention here, June 5, 6 and 7, in answer to the call of the Congressional Union. Suffragists from all enfranchised States will determine how they can throw their votes in the next election in order to best serve the cause of nation-wide suffrage for women. The last day of this convention will be the first day of the Republican conclave.

COMMENCEMENT OVER AT ELON COLLEGE

(Special to The Free Press)
Elon College, N. C., May 24.—Dr. James I. Vance of Nashville, Tenn., delivered the literary address at the closing exercises of the Elon College commencement here yesterday.

JOHN M'NEIL FOUND GUILTY OF TAKING PART IN REBELLION

Secret Courtmartial for the Irish Professor Who Was President of Sinn Feiners' Organization — Was Once Civil Officer

(By the United Press)
Dublin, May 24.—John McNeil, president of the Sinn Fein rebels, and a professor in an Irish university, was today convicted of participation in the rebellion. McNeil formerly was a civil officer of the Four Courts. He was secretly court-martialed, having been arrested on his return to Dublin. He had left there after clashing with Sinn Feiners over the advisability of starting the rebellion some time before the hostilities broke out. Subscribe to The Free Press.

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE BY VOTE TEN TO EIGHT ON PARTY LINES TODAY RECOMMENDS CONFIRMATION BRANDEIS

(By the United Press)
Washington, May 24.—The Senate Judiciary Committee today recommended confirmation of Louis D. Brandeis as United States Supreme Court justice, by a vote of ten to eight, on strictly party lines. Senator Shields of Tennessee, who arrived in the last minutes, voted with the Democrats, favoring confirmation.

Cummings was not present, but his vote was allowed against confirmation. Members favorable to Brandeis are jubilant. A protracted fight is expected in the Senate, with a filibuster likely, when Brandeis' name is reached within a week or so. A division on party lines there, however, is expected to give the nominee a comfortable margin.

PARTELO WOMAN IS BACK TO FACE THE COURT FOR MURDER

Alleged Slayer of Harry Stein, Said to Have Been Ill in a Norfolk Hospital, Returned Tuesday Night — Cases Today

Several cases were disposed of in Superior Court this morning. None was of especial importance. The court planned to commence the case against David Lawson, colored, 12, charged with killing a younger colored boy, this afternoon. Margaret Partello Back.

Margaret Partello, alleged slayer of Harry Stein, who was not in court when her case was called early in the term, returned Tuesday night from Norfolk, where, her counsel states, she was seriously ill. She is said to have been in a hospital. It is supposed that her case will come before the end of the week. Tuesday's Cases.

Cases disposed of Tuesday were: Charlie Gregory, bigamy, judgment suspended and costs with certain stipulations. Robert Dudley, carrying a concealed weapon, six months. J. E. Gibson, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct, two months, Tobe Williams, assault, \$15 and costs. Walter Mewborn, assault with a deadly weapon, judgment suspended and costs. Adolph Parker, assault with a deadly weapon, not guilty.

HOW RUSSIAN FISHER MAIDS' BRIGADE GOT TO THE FIRING LINE

(By the United Press)
Petrograd, May 24.—The spirit that animates Russian women to fight was shown among the fisher-folk colony at Novgorod recently when Pelegeva Mandrin returned wounded from her regiment after fighting in seven actions. She recruited seventy girl warriors among the fisherfolk and when General Kuropatkin arrived from his estate at Pskoff she fell on her knees before him and implored him to allow the fisher girl's brigade to go to the front. Kuropatkin refused because women are "not allowed" in the Russian army. So they cut off their long hair, dressed as men and scattered themselves among the troops over the thousand-mile front. These fisher-girl warriors rely on the unwritten law of Russian regiments for their protection.

BRYAN MAY RUN FOR PRESIDENT AGAIN— AS PROHIBITIONIST

Chicago, Ill., May 23.—If he will consent to make the race, William J. Bryan may be selected as the candidate of the Prohibition party for President. Recent statements of Mr. Bryan were discussed by Prohibition party leaders here today.

LITTLE BOY DROWNED IN SPRING UP-STATE

Hickory, May 23.—Sam, the three-year-old son of P. A. Miller, a local liveryman, was drowned in a spring near his home in the suburbs of Hickory.

KAISER MAY FORCE ITALY TO DECLARE WAR AGAINST B'RLIN

Expected to Give Personal Affront by Visiting Austrian Forces on Frontier. Demand in Rome for Declaration Now

(By the United Press.)
Rome, May 24.—The demand in some quarters that Italy declare war on Germany follows the announcement that the Kaiser expects to visit the Austro-Italian front, where German troops will aid. A widely circulated report is that the Kaiser hopes to force a war declaration by a personal affront like visiting the Austrian Crown Prince's headquarters.

SAYS TIME SOON SHALL MERGE WITH ETERNITY

Evangelist Bridgers at Queen Street Methodist Church Tells Hearers That Peter Wrote of the "Last Days" in Fourth Chapter—Special Service to Be Held On Thursday Morning

The message of Mr. Luther B. Bridgers last night to his hearers at the Queen Street Methodist revival service was a striking one, and one delivered with much power. He read a part of the fourth chapter of I. Peter and pointed out that Peter was there writing of the "last days." This period, the evangelist declared, we are now going through with, because we are now living in the dispensation of the Holy Ghost, which will comparatively soon be over, when time shall be merged into eternity.

Again Mr. Bridgers appealed to the church to right itself in the presence of God, calling especial attention to the question, "And if the righteous scarcely be saved where shall the ungodly and sinners appear?" The "ungodly," he held to be the unfaithful follower of Christ who thus became a hypocrite, which character always receives the scorn of the world just as, upon it, was heaped the most scathing rebukes of Christ.

It was in this way to church members who might realize a lack of Christian grace in their lives that Mr. Bridgers addressed himself especially. And when the altar call was made a large number thus convicted came forward and solemnly consecrated themselves to the coming of Christ.

Following up his general discussion of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, Mr. Bridgers this morning appealed to a fine audience to realize that all Christians may know an experience of grace much deeper and richer than comes through mere conversion. This deeper experience comes if Christians will pay the price for it by complete self-renunciation and full willingness to assume the Cross of Christ.

Mr. Bridgers called especial attention to the service proposed for Thursday morning. At that time he will discuss "Holiness and Prayer, or 'The Deepest Secret in Prayer.'" Services morning and evening at 10 a. m. and 8 p. m., respectively.

CRAIG AGAIN HEADS SCOTTISH SOCIETY; CANADIAN SPEAKER

(Special to The Free Press)
Red Springs, N. C., May 24.—The Scottish Society of America in annual convention here yesterday re-elected Governor Locke Craig of North Carolina, president of the organization. Dr. James A. MacDonald, editor of the Toronto (Canada) Globe, and Governor Craig were speakers. A committee to continue the canvass for an endowment for Flora MacDonald College here was appointed. (Continued on Page Three)

EPISCOPALIANS TO MEET IN ELIZABETH CITY COMING YEAR

Annual Council of Diocese East Carolina Came to End Tuesday Night

HONORS FOR LOCAL MEN

Rev. J. H. Griffith, Dr. I. M. Hardy and Mr. G. V. Cowper Get Places on Boards of Trustees or Important Committees

The closing session of the annual Council of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina, in session here since Saturday night, was held in St. Mary's church Tuesday night.

Rev. Lester Bradner, Ph. D., of New York, Educational Secretary of the General Board of Religious Education, a profound scholar and a native of New England, made an address principally on the subject of Sunday school organization. Bishop Dasrt Darst delivered his charge to the clergy, commenting on the splendid opportunities offering to advance the church's work in the Diocese. Delegate R. R. Cotten, from St. Paul's parish, Greenville, offered a resolution of thanks to the rector, vestry, congregation and friends of St. Mary's parish for the hospitality with which the Council had been received and entertained. The resolution was adopted by a rising vote. The Gloria in Excelsis was sung, the Bishop pronounced his benediction, and the 33rd Council passed into history.

Local Clergyman Again Editor of Organ.

Tuesday afternoon's session was a full one for the delegates. Many subjects of importance to the church were discussed and much business disposed of. Rev. John H. Griffith, rector of St. Mary's parish, was unanimously re-elected editor-in-chief of the official organ of the diocese, the Mission Herald. He was the editor for the past year. The Council was informed that for the first time the journal is out of debt, for which credit is due Mr. Theodore Patrick, Jr., of Clinton, the enterprising young business manager.

Local Men Trustees of Institutions.

Dr. Ira M. Hardy of St. Mary's was elected a trustee of the Thompson Orphanage at Charlotte, a position of State-wide importance, since the institution is maintained by all three dioceses in North Carolina. Rev. J. H. Griffith was flattered by being named a trustee of St. Mary's College, Raleigh. The conciliar elections occupied a good part of the afternoon.

Bishop's Salary Increased.

The Bishop's salary was increased from \$3,000 to \$3,600. In addition to the salary the Diocesan head is furnished the handsome bishop's house at Wilmington and expenses.

Rev. John H. Griffith was re-elected chairman of the Social Service Commission, and Mr. G. V. Cowper of Kinston was elected to the commission.

The report of Mrs. James G. Staton of Williamston, president of the Woman's Auxiliary and Parochial Society, for the conciliar year, read at a joint meeting of both houses at the afternoon session, showed that more than \$3,000 had been given to various phases of woman's work through the Auxiliary for the cause of missions.

Elizabeth City Next Year.

The 1917 Council will be held in Elizabeth City, beginning on May 15.

The Finish at St. Augustine's.

In St. Augustine's church, colored, South Independence street, where the colored delegates met during the Council, the final service was held Tuesday evening simultaneously with that in St. Mary's. Revs. J. W. Hertridge, J. B. Brown, S. Alonso, Morrison and R. E. Johnson participated. (Continued on Page Three)