



GERMANS GAIN NEW GROUND

A NEW OFFENSIVE ON FRANCO-BELGIAN FRONT STARTED

French Trenches On a Front of Three Miles Near Verdun Are Stormed By Germans—Russian Attacks Repulsed.

(By the Associated Press.) In what appears to have been the most important offensive movement undertaken on the Franco-Belgian front in several months French trenches on a front of approximately a mile in the region of Hill 304, northwest of Verdun, were stormed by the German troops yesterday, the Berlin war office announced today.

A counter attack delivered last night by the French failed to drive out the Germans who took 500 prisoners and 10 machine guns. The Paris account of the offensive reports it was launched on a rather wide front, the attacks being delivered at four points between Avocourt wood, on the extreme left of the French lines about Verdun and Dead Man's hill, a distance of more than three and a half miles. The attacks were repulsed, the French statement says, except that the German advance trenches near Hill 304. The German statement mentions the fighting in other sectors as "enterprises on Dead Man's Hill and northwest of Avocourt wood, which brought the desired results."

Fighting in the Riga region, the northernmost sector of the Russian front, continues to show advances for the Germans, according to Berlin, which reports additional Russian positions gained on both sides of the river As, southwest of Riga, bordering the great Tirul marsh.

The fighting in this region is made possible by the freezing of the swamps. A Russian offensive early in the month was taken to be aimed at Mitau, the German base south of Riga, but it failed. The Germans now apparently have not only regained such ground as they lost, but are striking north toward Riga.

The Russians are offering strong resistance and delivered a counter attack on the east side of the river As. They failed, according to Berlin, which reports the capture of 500 prisoners.

Operations in the other war areas have been of unimportance. Minor attacks by the Russians in western Moldavia have failed, Berlin says, as did a Serbian attack in the Moglenia mountain region on the Macedonian front.

THAW'S MENTAL CONDITION IS DESCRIBED AS "CLOUDY."

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 26.—Physicians who today examined Harry K. Thaw, now in a local hospital suffering from self-inflicted wounds, found his mental condition "still cloudy" and said it would be difficult to predict when the "haze" would clear up. Thaw's condition was held to be a result of the loss of a large amount of blood when he slashed his throat and wrists recently in a West Philadelphia rooming house. Detectives are constantly at Thaw's bedside, armed with a bench warrant for his arrest on charges of kidnaping and assaulting Frederick Gump, a 19 year old youth in a New York hotel.

ELEVEN MEN INDICTED FOR ELECTION FRAUD ARRESTED

Cincinnati, O., Jan. 26.—Eleven men, among them two Republican city councilmen, an assistant clerk of the city council, and a Hamilton county deputy sheriff, named in indictments returned by the federal grand jury yesterday in connection with alleged frauds at the last presidential election, were taken into custody last night. The names at least of two other Cincinnati officials are mentioned in the six sealed indictments against 99 men returned by the grand jury, it became known today. These latter two and others are expected to be brought into court this afternoon.

NEWTON REJECTS PLANS FOR A WOODEN STATION

Newton, Jan. 26.—The mayor, board of aldermen and citizens in a mass meeting last night unanimously rejected the Southern Railway's plan for a wooden depot and demanded a brick depot with shed at landing place. L. F. Long, J. P. Yount and O. M. McCorkle, were appointed a committee to go to Raleigh and press Newton's claims before the transportation commission for a meeting on the site of the same as the proposed wooden building.

George Gets Another

Paris, Jan. 26.—For the third successive day Lieutenant Geo. Guynemer is mentioned in the communique. Today's statement credits him with having brought down another airplane. This brings up to 28 the number destroyed by him.

FIRST REGIMENT TO LEAVE FEB. 1.

San Antonio, Jan. 26.—Dates of departure for organizations in the first group of 25,000 guardsmen ordered home from the border are being fixed as rapidly as possible at General Funston's headquarters here. additional schedules announced today included: First North Carolina infantry, from El Paso, February 1.

Company M, of High Point, is attached to the First regiment, North Carolina infantry, and according to the above schedule, should arrive here about February 8 or 10.

CHICAGO PUBLISHERS DISCUSS PAPER PROBLEM

Want to Find Out Just What Problems the Manufacturers are Facing and How Relief Can Be Secured From the Present High Prices of Newsprint.

(By the Associated Press.) Chicago, Jan. 26.—Paper manufacturers and publishers met today for an informal conference. An invitation to the members of the federal trade commission was extended and it was expected the various problems of the manufacturers and the newspaper publishers over the supply would be discussed.

LaFayette Young, Jr., of the Des Moines Capital, one of the newspaper men, said the publishers desired to give the paper manufacturers an opportunity to explain the reason for the high price. "The manufacturers undoubtedly have their problems to meet and we want to find out in an informal talk just what the conditions are," said Mr. Young. "The commissioners have been invited to join in this discussion."

THOMAS KITE APPOINTED POSTMASTER AT HARTNETT

Washington, Jan. 26.—L. C. Davis is appointed letter carrier at Goldsboro; Thos. L. Kite, appointed postmaster at Hartnett, vice John W. Byrd, resigned; Felix L. Wilcox, appointed postmaster at Stony Creek, vice W. P. Hendrix, resigned. Civil service examinations will be held on February 24 for rural letter carriers at South Mills and Teachey's.

Contrasts Privileges of Clergy.

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 26.—Cardinal Gibbons, speaking at the dual celebration of the tercentenary of the foundation of St. Vincent de Paul of the congregation of the mission, and the centenary of the arrival of the Vincentian fathers in the United States here yesterday, contrasted the privileges of the clergy in this country with those in Europe. In Russia for example, he said, no priest may preach a sermon until it has been sanctioned by government official not connected with the church.

Liquor Manufacture Prohibited.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 26.—By a vote of 70 to 28, the lower branch of the state legislature late today passed a bill prohibiting the sale, manufacture, distribution or advertisement of liquor in the state after January 1, 1918. The bill now goes to the senate. Fifty-two Republicans and 18 Democrats voted for the measure, while 12 Republicans and 16 Democrats opposed it.

C. B. Williams Is Honored.

New Orleans, Jan. 26.—An investigation into the methods used in various parts of the south to control and check the disease of anthrax among livestock was ordered today by the annual convention of the Association of Southern Agricultural workers. C. B. Williams of the North Carolina experiment station was elected chairman of the division of agronomy of the association.

Wheat.

Chicago, Jan. 26.—Announcement of an embargo on east bound shipments over the Pennsylvania west of Pittsburgh, put wheat today on the down grade. Opening prices which ranged from the same as yesterday's finish to 1/4 lower were followed by a setback all around and then a reaction.

Federal Bill Passed.

Washington, Jan. 26.—A bill providing for the appointment of an additional federal district judge for southern West Virginia was passed yesterday by the senate. It is designed to relieve pressure of Judge Benjamin F. Keller and provides that when a vacancy occurs it shall not be filled.

University Laboratory Destroyed.

Charlottesville, Va., Jan. 26.—Fire destroyed the chemical laboratory of the University of Virginia today. Including a valuable collection of chemicals the loss was estimated at \$60,000.

Mr. Hanson in City.

R. J. Hanson, Jr., land and industrial agent of the Southern Railway company, is spending the afternoon in the city in consultation with officials of the industrial department of the Commercial club.

WANTS CONVENTIONS TO BE VOTED 2 YEARS HENCE

Legislature Debated Today on Three Statewide Measures But No Action Was Taken On Them.

(Special Legislative Service.) Raleigh, Jan. 26.—Machinery for a constitutional convention to be voted for two years hence at the regular election was offered in the house today by Stubbs, of Martin.

Representative Stubbs, in the preamble to the bill, declares the state constitutional convention to be "the only sure and besides the speediest and most economical mode of altering or amending the constitution."

He declares that "a great number of discordant and conflicting provisions in the present constitution makes it unsuited to the wants and conditions of our people."

His plan would submit this convention to the 1918 election and 120 delegates will be sent to the convention. "The said convention shall not discuss or adopt any amendment or provision relative to prohibition," he provides.

The house debated three measures of statewide interest but declined to take a vote on any of them. The repeal of the 1915 act imposing a tax of \$25 on all artificially bleached flowers was favorably reported Thursday but an effort to put it a \$20 was made in the house today. The bill was referred again to the agricultural committee after the house refused to take a vote.

Two Superior court judges, Webb and Kerr, were in the house when the act making discretionary the imposition of life sentences upon all convictions of capital offenses when juries recommend mercy. It was postponed after an hour's debate.

The woman suffrage debate was set for February 6.

In the senate, Oates, of Cumberland, presented another education bill which, indicated, according to opponents of it, the defeat of the Turner bill, providing for appointment of a central education commission which in turn would appoint county boards, leaving the county superintendents to be elected by the county board.

Senator Oates would have county boards of education nominated in the Democratic primaries. Jones, of Asheville, asked if the author of the bill contemplated the governor's appointment of such boards. Senator Oates replied negatively. The issues will be threshed out Wednesday.

Senator Gough introduced the state merchant association bill proposing the amendment of the constitution which would repeal the homestead exemption.

LITTLE PROGRESS MADE IN THE TEXAS MURDER CASE

San Angelo, Tex., Jan. 26.—After it had introduced testimony to bear out the story told by Henry J. Spannell yesterday and to show that Lieut. Co. M. C. Butler was known among his soldiers as "bull" Butler, the defense in the case in which Spannell is charged with killing his wife rested today. The state in beginning its rebuttal estimated that it could not conclude until tomorrow.

The first witness for the state on the rebuttal contradicting evidence given by the defense declared that the colonel's reputation regarding his attention to women "was good."

GERARD AGAIN ASKS ABOUT AMERICANS AS PRISONERS.

Berlin, Jan. 26.—Via London, Jan. 27.—James W. Gerard, the American ambassador, today renewed his inquiries at the foreign office regarding the possible presence of Americans among the war prisoners brought to Germany by the captured British steamer Yarrowdale. Mr. Gerard also asked whether there were among the prisoners nationals of countries whose interests the United States is looking after in Germany and their place of confinement in order that arrangements may be made for forwarding food parcels to them from their homes.

RULES COMMITTEE WILL NOT LEARN WHAT PROFITS RESULTED

New Jan. 26.—If any persons profited by the alleged leak on the President's peace note the rules committee will not learn how much but merely which side of the accounts they traded on prior to the publication of the note.

This appeared to be the crux of the changes in the third demand made by the committee upon the stock exchange for data when the new communication was made public today.

Representative Dead.

Washington, Jan. 26.—Private telegrams received today at the house of representatives announced the death of Representative David R. Finley of South Carolina. He was in a hospital at Charlotte, N. C.

NEW BILL WOULD BE NOT DESIGNED TO PREVENT STRIKE

It Would First Necessitate a Conference On the Differences Between the Men and Their Employees.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Jan. 26.—Railway strikes and lockouts are not forbidden by the terms of a bill to supplement the Adamson law which the senate interstate commerce committee virtually had completed today. President Wilson had suggested that provisions be included to prevent strikes or lockouts pending investigation of differences.

The new bill, however, would make it a criminal offense punishable by fine for a railway employee who had quit work to trespass on property with a view to preventing by violence, intimidation or threats the operation of trains.

Another important provision would authorize the President "to take over and operate" such part of a railway or its equipment as is necessary to move troops or munitions in time of war, threatened war or insurrection.

TONNAGE LOST MORE THAN IS BUILT

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Jan. 26.—Loss to the world's shipping in 1916 through war causes exceeded the total tonnage constructed, according to estimates prepared today by the federal bureau of navigation. Vessels sunk were put at 1,149, of 2,082,883 tonnage and those built at 2,506 of 1,899,943 tons.

The figures were gathered from an unofficial source but are declared approximately correct.

Great Britain led in building with 510 vessels of 619,000 tons, the United States was second with 1,213 vessels of 500,000 tons. Ships built by other countries are given as 782 in number, of 720,368 tons.

The entire world merchant marine vessel tonnage at present, according to an estimate by Lloyds, is 48,683,000.

WINSTON-SALEM MOTOR SERVICE INTERRUPTED

Owing to Bad Road Between High Point and Winston-Salem, "Jitney" Service is Temporarily Called Off, But Will Be Resumed at the First Opportunity.

The operators of the motor line between High Point and Winston-Salem yesterday announced that owing to the condition of the highway between the two cities it had been found necessary to abandon the schedule usually observed by the several motor cars and that the service had been discontinued pending the arrival of good weather and improved condition of the roads. The line between High Point and Winston-Salem enjoys very brisk patronage from traveling men especially as it saves the long trip by Greensboro and the operators of the cars are hopeful of being able to resume the service in the very near future. The regular schedule between Greensboro and High Point is being observed.

FIRST INFANTRY ORDERED TO ASHEVILLE FROM BORDER

San Antonio, Tex., Jan. 26.—General Funston last night announced the mustering out station to which the national guardsmen, designated in a recent war department order to be relieved of border duty, will be sent. The list includes: South Carolina—A troop cavalry, a company engineers and field hospital ordered to state mobilization camp Styx, near Columbia, S. C. Tennessee—Ambulance corps No. 1, Memphis; field hospital No. 1, Knoxville.

First North Carolina infantry ordered to Asheville and from there to be distributed as follows: Field and staff headquarters company, supply company and G company to Shelby; machine gun company and D company to Charlotte; sanitary detachment, Rutherfordton; A company, Hickory; B company, Gastonia; C company, Winston-Salem; E company, Statesville; F and K companies Asheville; H company, Waynesville; I company, Mt. Airy; L company, Concord; M company, High Point.

The destination of second Virginia infantry has not been announced.

Villa Invites 'Em Back.

El Paso, Tex., Jan. 26.—Posters were circulated today inviting owners of foreign properties to return to the part of Mexico now held by Villa and offering guarantees to all and protection for their properties. The circular was signed by an American agent of Villa and was headed: "Villa is the strong man of Mexico."

Persistent rumors are that Parra had been captured by Villa forces and were in circulation today.

HIGH POINT HAS A BARGAIN OFFERED

A local business man who is vitally interested in the proposition to locate the Methodist hospital in High Point, today made the following statement in regard to it:

"There is a story of a psychological experiment conducted on one of the most crowded streets of London. A man stood out on the street with a basket heaped up with genuine gold sovereigns, in full view of the passing throng, and offered them to the public for sale at a half-penny each. He stood there from dawn until dusk, and at the end of the day had sold but two sovereigns. One of these was bought by a half-witted fellow and the other by a nursemaid for a plaything with which to amuse the child placed under her care. Probably few of us would have bought the sovereigns, for the bargain did indeed look too good to be true."

"At the present time High Point is offered a remarkable bargain, which however good it may be, is not too good to be true, for it is backed by an organized body of over 100,000 Methodists, the financial ability and standing of which is unquestioned. The purpose of this note is to show what we will get in cold cash if we put in \$40,000 and a site, and succeed in securing the \$150,000 hospital here.

"If anyone of unquestioned financial rating should offer to build a factory here worth \$100,000 for \$40,000 and a site, those interested in the development of the town would expend every effort to get that factory as soon as possible.

"A public general hospital is of as much value to the town as any factor. But, you may say, 'We already have a private hospital here, and we don't need anything more. The private hospital has done, and no right-minded citizen town, and no right-minded citizen wants to deliberately injure it.' This view proceeds from a lack of understanding of the relative functions and responsibilities of a private and a public hospital.

"A private hospital is, or should be, a business enterprise, pure and simple. It is as much the right of the physicians owning a private hospital to exclude other physicians from practicing there, as it is their right to exclude them from practicing in their private offices. A private hospital must have a guarantee that the hospital bills of its patients will be paid, or it will go into bankruptcy. Of course, like every other business the private hospital often fails to collect its charges and often the owners themselves have to pay the hospital bills of their patients in addition to furnishing their services free. It is not only a duty but a pleasure for the right-minded physician to give his services free to the worthy poor, but he should not in addition be compelled to bear the hospital expenses of such patients, and he cannot do it indiscriminately without facing financial ruin. Often the man's employees has to guarantee the hospital bill and this is placing too great a burden on him, in many cases. These problems arise only in those localities where the private hospital is the only kind of a hospital available. Where there is also a

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LOCAL RESIDENT DIED AFTER LONG ILLNESS

Nathaniel Michael, aged 22 Years, Died at the Home of His Parents on English Street Early This Morning—Funeral Services Sunday Afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Nathaniel Michael, the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Michael, of 700 English street, died this morning at 7:10 o'clock, after a lingering illness, death resulting from lung trouble. The deceased was 22 years of age and in addition to the parents, is survived by four brothers and three sisters. He was a member of the Junior order and was very well known and liked by a number of people of the city.

Funeral services over the remains will be conducted Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Mechanicsville church, and following the brief services interment will be made in the burying ground at Mechanicsville.

NATIVE OF RANDOLPH DIED HERE TODAY OF PNEUMONIA

Garvis Crisco, aged 20 years, died this morning at 10:30 o'clock following a brief illness with pneumonia, the disease having been contracted last Saturday. He was originally a native of the Seagrave section of Randolph county, but had worked here considerably as an employe of the Snow Lumber company, having been employed by them the last time for about two months. He was unmarried. The remains will be carried to Seagrave, Randolph county, tomorrow morning, where funeral services will be held and interment made.

THE HISTORIC WESTMINSTER CHURCH REACHES ITS END

Baltimore, Md., Jan. 26.—The historic Westminster Presbyterian church, in the graveyard of which rests the body of Edgar Allan Poe, has apparently reached the end of its days as a self-supporting institution and a meeting of the presbytery of Baltimore has been called to consider it. Its membership and funds have run low, and it is understood that the church will be maintained as a chapel by the uptown congregations.

SEEK COLLECTION OF PAY SLAVES WOULD HAVE RECEIVED

Supreme Court Asked to Decide if Government Shall Pay \$68,000,000 to Former Slaves and Heirs.

Washington, Jan. 26.—The Supreme court has been asked to decide whether the federal government shall pay sixty eight million dollars to former slaves and their heirs for cotton picked in slavery times. Their claims are presented in an appeal by H. N. Johnson of Muskogee, Okla., and other former slaves and their heirs and "all others similarly situated."

The suit is directed against Secretary McAdoo as custodian of the government's funds and recites that the slaves were held in involuntary servitude and forced to gather the state's crops. They received no return for their labor while the government collected the money in taxes on raw cotton. In accounting for the labor and a pro rata distribution of the money among those entitled to pay for the labor are asked.

The District of Columbia court dismissed the suit.

IMPORTANT MEETING OF COMMITTEE

Owing to the absence from the city of A. E. Tate, chairman of the industrial committee of the Commercial club, the meeting of the industrial department, which was called for this evening at 7:30 o'clock, has been postponed until tomorrow, Saturday, evening at the same hour. The meeting will be held in the offices of the industrial department located on the fourth floor of the Bank of Commerce building.

The attendance of all members of the committee is desired at this meeting as matters of more than passing interest are slated to come up. First and foremost the report of the hospital committee is to be received and final decision is to be made as to whether or not the movement is to have the undivided backing of the commercial organization. This matter is of considerable interest as a glance at the columns of this paper for the past few days will show.

In addition to the hospital, there are other matters of interest to the committee that are slated to come up for discussion making it essential that as many of the committee as possible be present.

ROOT SPEECH CAUSES MUCH DISCUSSION

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Jan. 26.—Elihu Root's avowed sympathy with President Wilson's plan to establish world peace and his denunciation of Germany's course expressed in an address before the National Security league congress of constructive patriotism last night was still the subject of discussion today.

Mr. Root's speech drew from Spanwood Menken, chairman of the peace congress, the explanation that the gathering is intended to be neutral "regardless of expressions of individual speakers who are free to say what they please."

Universal training advocated by Mr. Root also was urged by many speakers today although the topics were "Americanization" and "governmental and individual efficiency."

GERMAN VESSELS SHELL THE COAST OF GREAT BRITAIN

(By the Associated Press.)

London, Jan. 26.—An unidentified German vessel shelled the Suffolk coast of England last night. There were no casualties.

The following official announcement was made: "A small unidentified German vessel approached the Suffolk coast last night and fired a number of shells. There were no casualties and little damage."

Cotton.

New York, Jan. 26.—The cotton market was quiet but showed renewed firmness today and after opening steady at an advance of 12 to 16 points sold 14 to 18 points above last night's close. This made new high ground for the movement, May selling at 17.39 or \$4.20 a bale above the low level of last Monday.

Cotton future opened steady. March 17.15; May 17.33; July 17.33; Oct. 16.40; Dec. 16.50.

Weather.

Fair tonight and Saturday; not much change in temperature; moderate west winds.