

DESPERATE COMBAT RAGES ABOUT LENS

Crown Prince Hurls Masses of Men in Furious Effort to Take Lost Position.

HAND-TO-HAND CLASH OF TERRIBLE NATURE

Liquid Fire, Bomb and Bayonet All Add to the Slaughter and Horror—Canadians Drive Germans Back Time and Time Again With Heavy Losses.

(By William Philip Simms, United Press Staff Correspondent.)

With the British armies in the field, Aug. 18.—The Crown Prince has ordered 70,000 men to take the city of Lens.

The result of the order is the mingling of the blood of men from every kingdom of the German empire on the sodden slopes of this mound of death.

The Canadians are beating them back from the gory work today they had never used to see on Hill 70.

Sixteen counter-attacks have been made against the newly won positions of the British since Thursday. The fighting has been hand to hand with bayonets, knives, clubbed rifles and bare fists.

It is the heaviest, continued close quarter fighting of the war. Every succeeding counter-attack by the Germans is like the one preceding it, the pouring of the enemy from their trenches, the formation in fours, the march across the open field with Canadian artillery and machine guns tearing the ranks to pieces at every step.

Still they come on. They push forward over the bodies of victims of previous attacks. They bring man-to-man struggle and the German survivors roll back down the slope.

More than four German divisions have been used up in this fighting. They include the crack Prussian guards (a German division is usually computed at 20,000).

The advance of the guards across the valley and up the slope, in which they were practically wiped out, rivalled the famous charge of the Light Brigade, the immortal six hundred of British history.

Their mission was almost as hopeless. Yet they came four abreast across the valley of death, sweeping forward to destruction in the deadly fire of British guns.

The city, which the British must yet capture from their dominating heights about Lens, is one of concrete. Beneath the city representing the former thriving industrial center of France is another veritable solid rock constructed by the Germans.

Divisions of ingress and egress to the city are seventy feet under ground. The whole region is burrowed like a rabbit warren, and it is such defenses as these that the British must blast away.

Fighting With Liquid Fire.
London, Aug. 18.—With liquid fire, bomb and bayonet and the weight of massed divisions pressing forward in repeated assaults, the Germans continued their efforts today to wrest from the British the conquered positions dominating approaches to the coal city of Lens.

For the third day the staunch Canadians, holding Hill 70 and other positions east and north of the town, successfully resisted every attack.

The Germans were driven back with heavy losses inflicted by British guns, which swept their lines with a deadly fire.

Reporting to the war office to-night, Field Marshal Haig told of these assaults against the British positions. Fighting has died down in Flanders, but the slopes about the outskirts of Lens bid fair to become all but as bloody as the hills of Verdun, as Crown Prince Rupprecht drives his legions on.

In the meantime terrific warfare is being waged in the air. Twelve hostile aeroplanes were reported brought down in Haig's report tonight, while 15 enemy planes were driven to earth beyond control.

Twelve British machines are missing. The operations in the air have been carried on in spite of a gale that has swept the battlefield from the west. Briton aviators, however, have crossed the German lines, bombing and turning their machine guns on German infantry. They have made repeated raids, carried on their observation work and generally played a leading role in the fighting.

"East of Lens an enemy counter-attack was driven back with heavy losses in disorder by our barrage fire and machine guns at short ranges."

Field Marshal Haig's report said tonight: "In the neighborhood of Hugo wood, a counter-attack failed though supported by flammenwerfer (liquid fire)."

"In the region of Ypres artillery is quiet."

"A west wind yesterday told against our machines in aerial operations, but nothing was to be done. The enemy's infantry continued actively. Observations were carried out all day and an unusually large number of photographs were taken. Two of our machines collided."

"While infantry actions on the French front were unabated today there were indications of a renewal of activity. Great shelling was announced from Paris by the war office tonight about Valenciennes, on the Calais-Picardy front, and on both sides of the Meuse."

ADMINISTRATION RUSHING FORWARD WAR PREPARATIONS

President Actively Supervising Some Branches of the Most Important Work

COAL DISTRIBUTION THE FIRST MEASURE

To be Taken Up For Relief of The Public—Assembling Troops For France—Bond Issue Preparations

(By United Press.)
Washington, Aug. 18.—President Wilson today turned his shoulder directly to the government war wheels. War preparation gained momentum and peace talk waned as the President worked. He called at the Hoover commission, the Federal Trade Commission, Department of Justice and the priority board of the National Defense Council.

Immediately afterward it was learned the President early next week will direct priority shipments of coal to suffering districts of the Great Lakes region and will authorize the Federal Trade Commission to direct prices and distribution of coal from all mines to the consumer.

The Justice Department began the preparation of briefs to defend the constitutionality of the draft law. It is planned to move that cases brought against the act be dismissed the first day the Supreme Court works after meeting October 3.

Hoover announced a North American shortage of 400,000,000 bushels of wheat in supplies needed by the Allies this year and urged that one pound per week of some other cereal be substituted for wheat by every person in the United States.

The exports council decided to add cotton to the list of products subject to license before export.

Congress will be asked to direct that all 3 per cent. Liberty bonds be converted into 4 per cent. bonds when the new loan is issued. This is done because the proposed surtax on the new bonds would increase the premium of the old bonds.

Another week of war, featured by the Pope's spectacular bid for peace showed tremendous results. Two divisions of troops are being whipped into shape for immediate service in France. A regiment of marines is to be sent for training in Cuba. Plans have been completed by railroads and the War Department for mobilizing the first 687,000 troops in the national army. Guard forces will be moved South to training camps within the next ten days.

The Senate moved rapidly along in eliminating from discussion features of the \$2,000,000,000 revenue bill to which there is no opposition. The House Ways and Means committee discussed the proposed \$7,538,945,000 bond issue to take up the Liberty issue and float \$4,000,000,000 additional.

AMERICANS AT FRONT SEE REAL WARFARE
(By United Press.)
American Field Headquarters, Aug. 18.—The glare of real war that suddenly broke over a sham battle the American troops were engaged in last night whetted their appetites for action more than ever today.

The Americans were engaged in grenade practice, firing rockets, and generally working out the problems of modern warfare in darkness when the horizon suddenly glared red. Gun flashes could be seen. From the distance could be heard the rumble of artillery. The battle on the line along which the French and Germans have been continuing for 3 years was under way in all of its intensity.

Far away search lights could be seen flashing in the sky, the long fingers of the light probing the darkness. Hundreds of signal rockets and star shells could be seen mounting and bursting in the darkness. The puffy smoke of bursting shrapnel was visible in the glare and over all was the sullen rumble of heavy guns.

When the war practice was finished, the American soldiers flocked to hill tops where they viewed the spectacle to better advantage.

"VIGILANTES" BUSY IN NEW YORK.
(By United Press.)
New York, Aug. 18.—Hot times were in prospect in New York tonight when squads of "vigilantes" organized to demand arrest of street speakers uttering treason, sallied forth to patrol the district where curb orators were talking.

The "Constitutionalists" supporting free speech, had short hand reporters at every meeting, to make records of what transpired and help defend the speakers who might be arrested.

ITALY NOW HEARS MANY DIFFERENT PEACE REPORTS
Divergent Reports Reach Rome as to Germany's Position.

POPE TO PROTEST ABOUT PALESTINE

Pontiff Deplores Crimes Being Committed by The Turks. What Will Germany Do?

(By John H. Hurley, United Press Staff Correspondent.)
Rome, Aug. 18.—Looking toward Germany for first response to the Pope's peace appeal, Italian circles received widely divergent reports today as to action Berlin may take.

A dispatch to the Idea Nazionale declared that Germany intends to proclaim Alsace-Lorraine an autonomous confederacy, as a precaution against possible success of the Pope's initiative. The conditions outlined by the Pontiff which would result in the return of Alsace to France are vigorously opposed.

On the other hand, earlier reports were that Germany had assured the Vatican of her moral support in the peace move and that Austria had offered to open negotiations.

A solemn protest is said to be in course of preparations by the Pope against conditions in Palestine. A semi-official statement declares he has been informed that the inhabitants have been starved and massacred by the Turks. Houses have been pillaged and women and girls carried off to harems in Constantinople.

REFUSAL OFFER

Vigorous Protest to Accepting Pope Benedict's Proposal

RESOLUTION SENT PRESIDENT WILSON

League Declares No Peace Without Abolition of Prussian Military Autocracy—Met in New York.

(By United Press.)
New York, Aug. 18.—Rejection of the Pope's peace proposals and "vigorous prosecution of the war until Prussian militarism is destroyed," was urged tonight by the League to Enforce Peace.

This sentiment was embodied in a resolution telegraphed to President Wilson.

Among those participating in the debate preceding passage of the resolution were President Lowell, of Harvard; Dr. Wm. F. G. Slocum, president emeritus of Colorado College; John H. Fahey, of Boston; Lavern W. Noyes, Chicago and John B. Finley, of Baltimore.

The resolution said the Pope's support of a league of nations to enforce peace was welcome, but adds that such a league can be made effective only by abolition of the "Prussian military autocracy at whatever cost."

AFTER HIS SCALP THINKS SEC. DANIELS
(By United Press.)
Washington, Aug. 18.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels believes the Navy League is out to "get" him.

He intimated this to callers today, following his order proscribing league members from United States naval vessels and stations because of the league's personal attack on him in connection with the Mare Island explosion.

Navy Leaguers say Daniels will have to recall many naval officers, members of the league, from sea duty if his order sticks.

Daniels revised his ban on leaguers' material contributions to enlisted men by saying members may send their gifts through Navy Department channels.

DIED AFTER LONG AND FINE SERVICE
(Special to The Dispatch.)
Raleigh, N. C., Aug. 18.—Miss Jennie Coffin, librarian of the Olivette Raney Library since its organization sixteen years ago, died today, after long illness at her apartment in the library.

Miss Coffin went to the library after a service as professional nurse in St. Mary's school. Since taking the library work she had been in steady service until two months ago. Her death had been expected every day. She was a native of Salisbury and was born 62 years ago. One sister, Mrs. Sallie Coffin Taylor, survives. The funeral takes place Sunday morning from Christ church.

FOR CHEAPER COAL TO THE CONSUMER

President to Take Action This Week Which Will Bring This About.

(By United Press.)
Washington, August 18.—President Wilson next Monday or Tuesday will order government control over coal distribution and coal prices. Lower coal prices to American homes are certain. The revolutionary action by this government will fix coal prices from the mine to the consumer and decide who shall have priority is expected to be taken in the following manner:

Under the Pomerene amendment to the food control law, the President may clothe the Federal Trade Commission with powers "to fix the price of coal and coke, regulate production, sale, shipment, distribution, apportionment or storage thereof among dealers and consumers, domestic or foreign."

Commandeering of their mines faces any coal operators resisting this control.

Or the President, under the law, may "require any or all producers of coal and coke to sell their products only to the United States through an agency he designates, which will regulate the resale, price, production, distribution," etc.

The coal operators failing to adjust the situation voluntarily or to satisfy the growing demand throughout the country for definite action, the President decided to step in. His orders will set at rest all uncertainty over prices, which has caused dealers, factories and public utilities to delay putting in coal reserves.

The law provides that "in fixing maximum prices for producers the commission shall allow the cost of production including the expense of operation, maintenance, depreciation and depletion, and shall add thereto a just and reasonable profit." A similar

WOULD EXEMPT ALL POLICEMEN
(By United Press.)
New York, Aug. 18.—President Wilson is requested to amend the selective service rules, so local boards will be empowered to exempt firemen and policemen, in resolutions passed by the district exemption boards of New York State, it was announced tonight by Charles E. Hughes, chairman of the New York City board. Hughes wrote to Governor Whitman pointing out the necessity of exempting firemen and policemen in big cities.

At the same meeting, the district boards passed a resolution urging the President to detail all medical and dental students and hospital interns, drafted to the national army, to schools where their instruction may be continued, so the army will have a constant supply of competent medical officers. In this connection another letter was sent to Whitman by Hughes, pointing out the necessity for more surgeons in the army and navy.

SPY IS CAUGHT RED HANDED BY GOVT.

Report to German Admiralty Found in His Possession.

NABBED BY SLEUTHS IN PHILADELPHIA

Also Had Drawings and Navy Yard Officials Declare He Admitted Being in Pay of Germany—Notaries to Be Indicted in Philadelphia By Government.

(By United Press.)
Philadelphia, Pa., August 18.—Otto Griener, former German army lieutenant and alleged spy, is in the hands of the Federal authorities here tonight.

When he was arrested a report, which he was preparing for the German admiralty, was found in his possession. Drawings of a submarine and of a submarine net, which is used by the allies, were also seized.

Navy yard officials say that he admitted he was in the pay of the Teutonic government.

Reports submitted by Department of Justice agents today to T. Henry Walcott, Assistant United States District Attorney, may bring government action Monday against notaries public here, who have been active in swearing men to draft exemption claims.

Investigation followed charges that the officials were preying upon illiterate registrants by collecting money upon promise to obtain exemptions.

AGAIN THEY SELECT PRISON TO FINE
(By United Press.)
Washington, Aug. 18.—In prison garb, housed alongside petty criminals, six women's party pickets are in the district workhouse at Occoquan tonight, beginning a 30 day sentence.

The suffragists chose imprisonment, jail fare and unaccustomed labors rather than pay \$10 fine in police court this afternoon, after Judge Fugh told them their White House picketing was for "self-advertising."

Picketing will continue despite the police order to arrest the banner bearers, the women's party headquarters announced tonight.

A move to strengthen the police authority against the militants was made by Senator Myers, of Montana, today, when he introduced a bill prohibiting the carrying of banners reflecting on the President under penalty of one year imprisonment and \$1,000 fine. Myers denounced the suffragists' appeal of "Kaiser" for President Wilson and declared the country is "disgusted with the pickets' actions."

TO REDUCE WEIGHT FOR NAVY ELIGIBLES
(By United Press.)
Washington, Aug. 18.—Further reduction in weight requirements, making more registered men eligible for the new national army, were announced today by the Provost Marshal General's office together with a method of examining mariners on the Great Lakes.

Acceptance was authorized of drafted men 61 or 62 inches high, weighing not less than 110 pounds; 63 inches not less than 112 pounds; and 64 inches and over provided under weight is due to temporary causes.

In case a sailor on the Great Lakes misses a scheduled draft examination by his local board, the new ruling today provides he may be examined by any local board in Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, Erie or any of the principal lake ports.

WANTS WILLARD TO MEET WINNER
(By United Press.)
Cleveland, Ohio, Aug. 18.—Jesse Willard in Detroit tomorrow will receive a big offer for a championship fight with the winner of the Fulton-Morris Labor Day bout at Canton, Ohio.

Matt Minkie, local promoter, left on a boat tonight for Detroit. It was said he would offer Willard \$50,000 for his signature.

Hinkle has announced the Canton fight as an elimination affair to choose an opponent for Willard.

FEARING DRAFT, SHOT WIFE AND HIMSELF
(By United Press.)
Newport, Maine, Aug. 18.—Fearing to be separated from his wife through the draft, Leon Folsom, aged 23, today shot and killed his wife and then shot himself. The wife, who was only 16, was shot in each temple and each breast. Folsom wounded himself in the right temple and is not expected to live.

"BIG INJUN" AGAIN JOINS THE GIANTS
(By United Press.)
New York, Aug. 18.—Jim Thorpe is again a Giant, the famous Indian was resold by Cincinnati today, Manager Mathewson sticking to his agreement to give the local club first chance.

The purchase of Magee from the Braves and the success Magee is making of a come-back are the reasons.

DRAWING COLOR LINE AT CAMP; A STRONG KICK

Governor of South Carolina Protests to the War Department.

SAYS BE DISASTER TO COMMONWEALTH

Don't Want Negroes and Porto Ricans Trained at Camp Jackson, at Columbia.

(By United Press.)
Columbia, S. C., Aug. 18.—Strong protest against training negro and Porto Rican troops at Camp Jackson, near Columbia, was lodged tonight with the Secretary of War by Governor Manning, of South Carolina. The Governor also called upon the South Carolina delegation in Congress to unite with him to "prevent this disaster to this State. The members of Congress were asked, in a telegram, to meet with the Governor in Washington Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock and personally file the protest with the Secretary of War.

"I protest with all my power," said the Governor in a telegram to the Secretary of War, against mobilization of Porto Ricans and negroes of North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida at Camp Jackson, at Columbia. It is essential that negroes and Porto Ricans should not be mobilized at same camp with whites. I wish to protest to you in person Tuesday morning next."

PREPARING TO GET QUICK DECISION
(By United Press.)
Washington, Aug. 18.—The Department of Justice is preparing for a quick clean-up of attacks on the constitutionality of the conscription law.

On the opening day of the Supreme Court's fall session, Oct. 13, the government will probably move to dismiss the cases.

The government's brief is already being drawn, it was learned officially today. The absence of specific authority in the Federal constitution for sending National Guard troops out of the United States is giving the Department's legal sharps the greatest difficulty. This will be met by pleading that the militia lost its identity as such when it was sworn into Federal service.

VERY HEAVY LOSSES BY THE GERMANS

In The Air Fighting on The Flanders Battlefield—Allies Steady Advance.

(By United Press.)
London, Aug. 18.—The renewed battle of Flanders will enter its third day Sunday, with British and French troops still in possession of all positions taken in the first drive, and with the Germans launching vain counter-attacks in efforts to regain them.

The battle which burst forth about Lens with the assault of the Canadians on the approaches to the coal city will enter its fifth day, with the same conditions prevailing.

Lives have been prodigally sacrificed by the Germans in their efforts to regain the lost ground. They admitted today the capture of Langemark by the British, after claiming it had been retaken yesterday. The slopes of hill 70, near Lens, are thick with German dead, but the Canadians are grimly holding on about Lens and the French and British are slowly making further progress in Flanders.

The greatest aerial activity in months has marked the allied offensive. William Philip Simms, United Press staff correspondent with the British armies, today reported a total of 114 German airplanes brought down by the British during the past week. Of this number, 62 were destroyed outright. Nineteen German machines were destroyed in one day, and 20 driven out of control.

Additional raids have been made by British naval planes on military establishments in Belgium, and a squadron of 111 French aeroplanes, dropped more than 14 tons of bombs on various German encampments and towns, including Fribourg and Brissgau, in the Duchy of Baden.

The French report 7 German machines and a balloon brought down and 8 other airplanes damaged.

Forty British and two French machines are missing.

SHOT UP CAR AND MANY WERE WOUNDED

(By United Press.)
Montgomery, Ala., Aug. 18.—Motorcar Roger Hill was shot in the back and probably fatally wounded, and Byrd Boyd, a passenger, was shot through the shoulder and Frank Wotter, another passenger, was shot in the leg, while Jesse Watts, conductor, was beaten up with knuckles tonight. A strike is on and soldiers sympathizing with the strikers are blamed for the trouble, it being asserted that they shot up the car tonight.

GREECE UNDER MARTIAL LAW.
(By United Press.)
Athens, Aug. 18.—All Greece is now under martial law, a decree having been issued extending the military control.

At the time Athens was put under martial law the general assumption was because of movements of allied troops. Whether the extension of the order to include the entire country may mean development of more serious conditions is problematical.

DISTRICT EXEMPTION BOARD MEETS MONDAY.
(Special to The Dispatch.)
Goldsboro, N. C., Aug. 18.—The district exemption board of Eastern North Carolina has been called together for its first session, to be held in this city, opening Monday.

Col. J. D. Langston, of Goldsboro is chairman of the board, and he stated today that the business awaiting them would probably hold the board in session for a month, if not longer.