

# The Polk County News

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## KAISER SEEKS PORTS AND COAST TOWNS

CAPTURE OF BELGIUM'S CHIEF  
SEAPORT OPENS WAY FOR  
NEW CAMPAIGN.

## MOVE CAPITAL TO HAVRE

Belgians Flee From Ostend Before  
Germans Who Are Now Sweeping  
Across Country.

London.—The headquarters of the Belgian government were transferred to Havre. With the exception of King Albert, who remains at the head of the army, and the minister of war, the members of the cabinet with the other government officials and the diplomatic corps left Ostend by steamer for the French port where they will carry on the affairs of state and where hospitality has been offered them by the French government. The American and Spanish ministers, both of whom are still at Brussels, are the only diplomatic representatives accredited to Belgium remaining in that country. This is the third move of the Belgian capital since the Germans silenced the forts of Liege. The government moved from Brussels to Antwerp thence to Ostend and now across the line to Havre.

This final change followed quickly upon the German westward advance, which was begun immediately after the fall of Antwerp. Success in taking the chief port of Belgium opened the way for a new plan of campaign. This embraces the occupation of the whole of Belgium, including the coast towns, and if possible, some of the northern French ports.

In accordance with this plan, the invaders have begun to sweep across northern Belgium. They occupied Ghent without opposition. Now are said to be well advanced toward Bruges, as the Belgian army is being reorganized and has been reinforced. All dispatches from that region are being censored strictly so nothing has been learned of the operations since Ghent fell into the hands of the Germans. The people are fleeing before the invaders and the steamers from Ostend were crowded with refugees.

The Germans are making a simultaneous western advance in Southern Belgium. Across the border in France a whole army corps has occupied Hazebrouck, which is on the railway leading to both Calais and Dunkirk.

French forces have been sent to cut off, if possible, this attempt to reach the coast and, according to a French official communication issued, have taken the offensive.

This movement besides being a menace to the allies' left wing, if successful would arouse great enthusiasm in Germany as an indication that the promised aerial attack against England is about to be carried out. Already bombs have been dropped on Ostend from aeroplanes, which, once Germans reach the coast, will be within easy striking distance of the British coast ports and even London.

This new movement promises to bring the battle of the Aisne, which has been in progress for a month, to a speedy conclusion.

The Germans, although they have brought heavy reinforcements from Germany and now can use at least a part of the troops which participated in the siege of Antwerp, are known to have withdrawn many troops from their front along the Oise to reinforce the right wing, where they have been striking hard, where the left.

These attacks apparently have met with little success for the French claim to have made marked progress between Arras and Albert. At the same time the withdrawal from the center of the German troops engaged has enabled the Allies to make advances in the Berry-au-Bac district, to the northwest of Rheims, and also toward Soissons, west of the Argonne and north of Malancourt, between the Argonne and the Meuse.

Nothing is said in the French official report of the fighting around Apremont and St. Mihiel, which has been very heavy for some time. Here the Germans have been making determined efforts to maintain their positions on the Meuse.

However, all this is now secondary to the battle in the province of Picardy, which forms the department of Somme and part of Oise, Pas de Calais and Aisne.

The Germans are in complete possession of Antwerp, but it is said some of the forts still are holding out against the enemy.

## GERMANS CAPTURE CITY OF ANTWERP

Temporary Capital of Belgium Falls Before Onslaughts of The Germans' Mighty Guns.

## BELGIAN ROYAL FAMILY FLEES

Garrison Defending The Forts Of Antwerp Escapes Before Entry Of The German Invaders

The past week in the European war has been one of very important developments. Antwerp, one of the strongest fortified cities in the world and the temporary capital of the Belgian government, was captured by the German invaders. A great patriotic demonstration has swept Germany over this victory of their armies. On the day following the fall of Antwerp the Germans on the Belgian border fighting the allied armies suffered reverses at several important places and in east Prussia on the same day the Russians captured Lyck, a German city.

It required only eleven days for the giant siege guns of the German invaders to reduce to ruins the strong forts of the Belgian port. The greater part of the garrison of British and Belgian troops who defended the forts of Antwerp escaped from the city before the entry of the Germans. King Albert and the royal family also escaped. The queen and other members of the royal family of Belgium are believed to have fled to England.

With the fall of Antwerp another phase of the war situation in Europe is being placed by military efforts. It is believed that the Kaiser has abandoned his campaign against Paris and will center the energy of his fighting forces in an attack on the British Isles. Using Antwerp as a base of attack it will be possible for airship flights across the English channel to England. Some have ventured the assertion that the Germans will attempt to land forces on British soil for the purpose of invasion.

The fighting between the allied armies and the Germans in the north of France has developed into siege operations. It was hoped for a time that the allies would be able to turn the right wing of the Germans in time for the allies to go to the relief of Antwerp, but Gen. Von Kluck and his sturdy soldiers succeeded in holding the allies in check. Although the casualties have been very heavy on both sides during the fighting the ranks of the allies and Germans were filled with reinforcements as fast as they could be brought up from the rear.

During the past few weeks the allies have succeeded in forcing slowly but surely the Germans back close to the Belgian border. Every inch of ground was desperately contested and a terrible toll in lives was paid for every advantage gained. In their effort to encircle the lines of the Germans the allies stretched their battle line until it extended over a territory of more than a hundred and fifty miles. It has developed into one of the greatest battles in the history of the world.

**German Defeat In Prussia**  
A veil has fallen over the operations of the Germans against the Russians in east Prussia and Russian Poland, while little has been heard from the Russian activities in Galicia, against the Austrians with the exception of a laconic message that the Russians are continuing their attack on the Austrian forts at Przemyśl. The Russians claim a victory over the German armies in the vicinity of Suwalki, and the reports from Petrograd, the Russian capital, say that the city of Lyck in east Prussia has been taken. The German attempts to cross the river Niemen, it is said, has been repulsed.

## Recruiting In England Slow

The conditions in Austria are reported to be growing worse daily. Most of the industries in that country have closed down. The hospitals are filled with the wounded. Conditions in Germany are believed to be better than in any of the other nations at war. Work is plentiful and the prices of food have advanced but little since the war started. England has retained its stolid disposition and the war office is having its difficulties in arousing the young men of the nation to enlist in the British army. France remains confident of ultimate victory.

## Many Insane Belgians

London.—The correspondent of the Central News at Amsterdam, describing the wild flight of the people of Antwerp into Holland, says one of the most distressing features was the large number of insane persons released from the asylum. Many of these are now roaming the country creating fear and exciting disorders. Many Dutch towns are filled with Belgian refugees. Flushing, Breda, Rotterdam, Roosendaal, The Hague, Amsterdam, Terneuzen, Maastricht and Dordrecht are crowded with strangers.



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London.—Germany has imposed a fine of \$100,000,000 on Antwerp as a war indemnity.

London.—Antwerp and the forts surrounding the city are in complete possession of the Germans, but the greater parts of the Belgian army has escaped.

It took the Germans just eleven days to capture the strongest fortress in the world.

The fall of Antwerp is evident that even the most powerful forts are no match for the colossal howitzers which the invaders have successfully employed against every fortified place that stood in their way. These huge open gaps through which the besiegers find an entrance for their field artillery and infantry.

The Germans, after shelling the city itself for many hours, making it untenable, entered the town through the suburb of Berchem, to the east. They had made a breach in the outer line of forts, some of which were destroyed by their big guns and others blown up by the defenders. The Germans followed similar plans in dealing with the inner belts of forts and at the same time threw shells into the city, which set fire to many places.

The inner forts, like those farther out, soon succumbed to the enormous shells, and on Friday morning several of these forts had fallen, opening the way for the Germans into the city. By midday they were in occupation of the town, and at 2:30 p. m. the war banner on the cathedral was replaced by a white flag.

## King And Royal Family Escape

A few forts continued to hold out and it was not until Friday morning that the Germans, according to their own official report, were in complete possession of the city and fortress. When they arrived they found that the Belgian field army and at least part of the garrison had anticipated them, and, like the king and royal family, had escaped.

The death roll, resulting from the attack on and defense of Antwerp, has not been compiled and probably the full details never will be known, but all accounts describe it as being terribly heavy. The Germans, although their big guns cleared a path for them, had to sacrifice many lives in crossing the rivers and canals and in driving out the defenders who held the entrenchments until the last.

The stubbornness of the Belgians and of those who went to their assistance cost them dearly also, so that both sides will have long casualty lists. There is no reliable information as to the loss of life in the city.

## King Of Roumania Is Dead

Amsterdam.—A telegram received here from Vienna says that King Charles of Roumania is dead.

Recent dispatches have described King Charles of Roumania as being seriously ill, but from other quarters his indisposition has been declared to be entirely political. It has been predicted lately that he was preparing to abdicate.

The succession to the throne of Roumania, in the event of the king remaining childless, was settled by the constitution upon his elder brother, Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen. Leopold renounced his rights in favor of his son, Prince Wilhelm, and Prince Wilhelm, in 1888, renounced his rights in his turn in favor of his brother, Prince Ferdinand, who was born in 1865.

## Gen. Von Moltke Not Removed

Rome.—Inquiries made in German military circles with regard to reports that Gen. Von Moltke had been removed as chief of the general staff of the German army, brings forth the statement that the report is incorrect. The report, it is declared, probably was caused by the change of officers made in the German quartermaster general's department, where Gen. Von Voigt-Rhett was appointed to succeed Gen. Von Stein. Gen. Von Moltke retains his post.

## British Airships Raid Germany

London.—The following official statement was issued covering an attack by a British air squadron on a German airship shed at Dusseldorf.

"The secretary of the admiralty announces that Squadron Commander Grey reports that, as authorized, he carried out with Lieut. R. L. G. Marx and Lieut. S. V. Sippe, a successful attack on a Dusseldorf airship shed. Lieutenant Marx's bombs, dropped from a height of 500 feet, hit the shed, went through the roof and destroyed a Zeppelin.

"Flames were observed 500 feet high, the result of the igniting of the gas of an airship.

"All three officers are safe, but their aeroplanes have been lost.

"The feat would appear to be in every respect remarkable, having regard to the distance of over one hundred miles penetrated into country held by the enemy and to the fact that a previous attack had put the enemy on their guard and enabled them to mount anti-aircraft guns.

## May Force Turkey Into War

Washington.—The alternative the Ottoman empire faces as to whether the Dardanelles are to be swung open in answer to the demand of the triple entente or whether the key to the Black sea is to remain in Turkish possession promises to force the porte to join the European struggle, according to opinion expressed in diplomatic circles here. At the Turkish embassy it was admitted that it might prove highly embarrassing to the sultan to be forced to commit himself on such a request. Officials stated that unless no other course was open it was highly unlikely that Turkey would submit to a change in its policy because of outside influence.

## Russians Repulse Germans

Petrograd.—The general staff has given out the following official communication.

"The Russian troops have continued to repulse the enemy from the boundaries of the governments of Suwalki and Lomza. The engagement has been very fierce west of Symno.

"The German troops that were attacking Ossowetz are retreating hastily to the north. Considerable forces of the enemy, of which the bulk arrived from the west, are concentrating in the districts west of the governments of Piotrkow and Kielce.

"The Russian cavalry and vanguard are reconnoitering energetically through all that region, impeding through vigorous attacks the movement of the enemy.

"An attack by the Russian cavalry against the German vanguard in front of Andrew, and marching on Kielce, was crowned with great success. The German infantry was caught unawares and is retreating in disorder, pursued by the Russian cavalry.

## Lyck In Prussia Captured

Petrograd, Russia.—The following communication has been made public by the Russian general staff:

"The combat on the East Prussian frontier continues with the same obstinacy. The German troops are retreating from Lyck and are blowing up the bridges behind them.

"In several passes between Ivanogorod and Sandomir artillery, battles are occurring with the enemy, which is approaching the Vistula."

## Germans Unsuccessful In Africa

Washington.—The British embassy made public this statement cabled to Washington by the colonial office: During September there was considerable activity along Anglo-German boundary of the East African protectorate, due to attempts to raid British territory and cut the Uganda railway. All these attempts have been repulsed and raiding parties defeated in every case except one, where an unimportant frontier station is still held by a small German party.

## BRAVES CAPTURE WORLD'S SERIES

MAKE A NEW WORLD RECORD BY  
WINNING FOUR CONSECUTIVE GAMES.

## FROM BOTTOM TO TOP PLACE

Mackmen Take Defeat in Sportsmanlike Spirit, Offering No Excuses. Outplayed in Every Game.

Boston.—The Boston National League club completed the most sensational record in modern baseball history by defeating the Philadelphia Americans in the fourth and final game of the world's series at Fenway Park 3 to 1.

Beginning with their rush from last place in the senior league in the middle of July, the Braves have broken traditions and records with speed and abandon. They emerged champions of the world leaving a trail of startling surprises and upsets in their wake.

Last and far from the least of their accomplishments was the overthrow in four consecutive games of the world famous baseball machine of Connie Mack, with its hundred thousand dollar infield, home-run heroes and corps of skillfully blended veterans and youthful pitching stars. The new champions gathered under the management of George Stallings and celebrated their ascent to the championship while the wreck of the Athletic baseball juggernaut were on their way home, stunned and stupefied.

Unexpected as was the defeat, the Mackmen took it in sportsmanlike spirit, praising the winners and offering no excuses. In fact, none is available, for the Bostonians outplayed their opponents in every game and department of play. The best that could be said of the Athletics by their warmest admirers was that the team, neither collectively nor as individuals, appeared to play in the manner shown in previous world series.

## WANT CHANGES IN LAW

Bankers at Richmond Are Willing to Aid the New System.

Richmond, Va.—Savings banks and trust companies represented in the American Bankers' Association specifically outlined their attitude toward their entry into the Nation's new currency system when they recommended that the general convention appoint a committee to confer with the Federal Reserve Board over changes in the law that would make membership more attractive. Several speakers at the joint meeting of the two sections urged that state banks be permitted to enter the new system and continue their business along the lines it now is conducted. Others contend that regulations of the reserve board should permit examinations by officials of regional banks who understood local conditions. It also was asserted that unless there were changes in the law state banks entering the system might face a conflict between state and federal examiners.

Officers elected by the various sections were:

Trust company—Ralph W. Cutler, Hartford, Conn., president; John H. Mason, Philadelphia, vice president; Savings banks—W. E. Knox, New York, president; N. F. Hawley, Minneapolis, vice president.

Clearing house—A. Orville Wilson, St. Louis, president; J. D. Ayres, Pittsburg, vice president.

State secretaries—W. W. Bowman, Topeka, president; Haynes McFadden, Atlanta, first vice president; George D. Bartell, Milwaukee, second vice president; George H. Richards, Minneapolis, secretary-treasurer.

## Mexican Convention Harmonious

Washington.—Official reports to the state department reiterated that a spirit of harmony prevailed at the convention at Aguas Calientes, Mexico. Motions by Villa delegates are being seconded by delegates from other divisions, representing Carranza more particularly. Thus far the important problem of the convention—the formation of a provisional government—has not been reached in the discussions. Generals Antonio Villarreal and Eduardo Hay are being mentioned prominently as candidates.

## SHOULD CLAIM LESS

SOUTHERN ASKS CORPORATION COMMISSION TO POSTPONE IMPROVEMENTS.

## CONTINUE DOUBLE-TRACKING

Funds Provided Before Business Depression.—More Than \$4,000,000 Will Be Spent in State.

Raleigh.—L. E. Jeffries, special representative of President Fairfax Harrison in presenting the plea of the Southern Railway to the Corporation Commission that there be a cessation of further demands on the revenue of the Southern for physical and other improvements that can possibly be held up until business depression due to the European war is passed, declared that fortunately funds had been provided prior to the business depression for double-tracking the line from Washington to Atlanta and that within the year 1915 it is expected to expend more than \$4,000,000 in this work. North Carolina to get the largest portion and that ultimately, as fast as the money can be provided, as much as \$25,000,000 will be expended in the South in this double-tracking work.

Treating phases of work from which the Southern ask temporary relief, Mr. Jeffries said that demands made authorized and under construction on the system aggregate \$4,095,196, with \$353,225 being expended in North Carolina, and that in the face of this there are demands pending over the system for new stations, depot facilities, overhead crossings, viaducts and other improvements of this class aggregating \$3,370,940, with \$3,359,013 of such demands pending in North Carolina alone. He assured the commission that if these demands were held up for the present, it was the purpose of the company to as fast as the revenue would permit, meet all just and reasonable demands from the public.

He pointed out that the Southern has in the past three years expended for new stations, viaducts and similar non-revenue producing equipments \$13,283,739, making an enormous drain on the resources on the company. During the next few months the best the company can hope for is that freight revenue from cotton alone will not decrease more than 10 per cent from those of the same period last year which means \$1,200,000 decrease, with large falling off in lumber freights and revenue from other sources diminished.

The Corporation Commission took the plea of Mr. Jeffries under advisement.

## Illinois Farmers Seeking Homes

Wilmington.—A delegation of 13 representative farmers from nine widely separated Congressional Districts of Illinois spent a few days in Columbus County making an investigation of lands and climate with a view of determining the advantages this section has to offer to the farmers of the Northwest. They are guests of a North Carolina company, offered by prominent Chicago business men, who control several thousand acres of land in the vicinity of Boston. Doctor Kilgore, of the North Carolina experimental station, is accompanying the party and pointing out to them some of the advantages of North Carolina, this section in particular, for farming and stock raising. It is understood that the visitors have been most favorably impressed and it is expected that as a result of their visit a large number of farmers of the Northwest will settle in this section.

## Dyestuffs Are Short

Troy.—The Troy Knitting Mill, while not yet ready to start up its new plant, is receiving orders for hosiery, and the management is anxious to get to work as soon as possible to fill the demands. The lack of dyestuffs is a serious handicap.

The new electric plant of the Smitherman Power Company on Little River, eight miles south of town, is about half completed. A large force is kept on the job. The project, it is estimated, will cost about \$50,000 when finished.

## Wilmington Port Receipts Increase

Wilmington.—Col. Walker Taylor, collector of the port of Wilmington, believes that the present much discussed business depression, in so far as it applies to this particular section is largely "psychological" to paraphrase a remark of President Woodrow Wilson. And in support of this belief Colonel Taylor produces figures showing that receipts from merchandise entries at this port for the month of July, August and September, 1914, is approximately 14 per cent over those of last year.