

ALLIES REPORT PROGRESS ALONG BIG BATTLE LINE

German Troops Reach Bruges in the Westward March—Allies Advance Near Arras—Enemy's Trenches Cautred in the Center—Repulse Near Verdun Turned Into Victory.

PARIS, Oct. 15, 2:30 p. m.—The official communication given out by the French war office this afternoon is as follows:

"In Belgium, German troops coming from Antwerp are marching toward the west, and the evening of October 14 they reached the region of Bruges and Thielt (fifteen miles southeast of Bruges).

"First—On our left wing, the enemy has evacuated the left bank of the Lys. Between the Lys and the canal of La Bassée the situation shows no change.

"In the region of Lens and between Arras and Albert, our progress has been marked.

"Between the Somme and the Oise there has been no change. The Germans have cannonaded our line without, however, delivering any infantry attacks.

"Second—On the center between the Oise and the Meuse we have advanced in the direction of Craonne.

"To the northeast of the highway from Berry au Rac to Rheims and to the north of Prunay in the direction of Heine, several German trenches have been taken.

"Between the Meuse and the Moselle, after being repulsed during October 13-14, our troops advanced on the 14th to the south of the highway from Verdun to Metz.

"Third—On our right wing the partial offensive movement undertaken by the Germans in the Ban de Sapt, to the north of Sainte Die, has been definitely checked.

"In Russia the fighting continues along the front, beginning in the vicinity of Warsaw, stretching along the Vistula and the San as far as Przemysl and farther into the southerly direction as far as the Dnieper.

"There has been no change in East Prussia."

BANKERS AGREE UPON CHANGES IN RESERVE STATUTE

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 15.—Election of officers and disposition of the Wexler plan to bring about changes in the federal reserve law today attracted attention of the delegates at the fortieth convention of the American Bankers' association.

Convention leaders agreed that the Wexler plan would be adopted. It would authorize the appointment of a committee by the association to confer with the reserve board over changes that would make membership in the new banking system more attractive to state and savings institutions and trust companies.

The recommendations of the nominating committee for new officers were:

President, William A. Law, Philadelphia; vice-president, James K. Lynch, San Francisco.

The convention will adjourn today. The association adopted a resolution declaring: "A prompt and liberal increase in railroad rates through out the United States is essential in order to enable the railroad to finance their obligations."

CARDEN DENIES WILSON CRITICISM

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—Sir Lionel Carden has repudiated the interview ascribed to him upon his sailing from New York recently, in which he was said to have reflected severely on President Wilson's policy in regard to Mexico.

BATTLE RAGES FOR CONTROL OF NORTH SEA PORT

Occupation of Ostend Expected, Although German Rush Meets Stubborn Resistance—Whereabouts of Antwerp's Defenders a Mystery—No Marked Change in War Zone.

LONDON, Oct. 15, 1:25 p. m.—The "battle of the rivers," the long line of which still stretches across France, stood in the background today in contrast with the comparatively small field of operations in the department of Nord and in West Flanders, where the contending allied and German armies may decide during the next week a phase of the struggle which became acute when the Germans occupied Antwerp and Ghent.

Sweep Into Ostend

It seems plain now that the German plan was to sweep on to Ostend and thence to the French ports in the same impetuous way that characterized the rush toward Paris, but in this, British military experts say, the invaders have been meeting with the most stubborn kind of resistance.

The rigidity of the censorship, however, precludes more than guesses as to which side scored in the fighting which followed the retirement of the Belgians and the advance of the Germans in the vicinity of Ghent. In the rear of that city it is said that the Germans have 100,000 men, and all signs indicate that a violent battle for possession of Ostend and other channel ports is imminent or in actual progress.

What became of the Belgian army, which retreated from Antwerp, is not yet known to the public. Nor is the composition of the allied forces seeking to check the German seaward advance clear.

Discount Occupation

As was the case before the fall of Antwerp, the British press in a measure discounts the German occupation of Ostend, though it was pointed out today that if the allies decide to hold the town of Ypres, which cuts the German line, the continued occupation of Ostend would be difficult.

Germans are reported in Belgium as far northwest as Bruges, which place their cyclists and patrols are said to have entered.

Nothing during the forenoon indicated any marked change in the situation in France or in the eastern arena.

SOON TO NAME SUCCESSOR TO CHIEF CARRANZA

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—Adjournment of Mexican convention at Aguas Calientes last night, without acting on the proposed resignation of General Carranza as first chief, pending the arrival of additional delegates representing Zapata, was announced today in official dispatches to the state department from consular agents Carothers and Kanova. October 20 was tentatively agreed upon as the date for re-convening the convention.

AGUAS CALIENTES, Mexico, Oct. 15.—Unofficial reports of the results of the peace conference here yesterday say that a successor to General Carranza for the presidency of Mexico is to be named soon. These reports, which are brief, don't explain when General Carranza is to resign, or how, but indicate that the conference finished its work successfully last night.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—Colonel Hatfield, at Naco, Arizona, telegraphed Secretary Garrison today that Governor Maytorena had at least 4000 troops attacking the Carranza garrison, that he was looking for 500 men from the Cananea district and that a large force of reinforcements were expected from Nogales. Col. Hatfield said no more United States troops were needed to enforce order at the border town.

SAYS AMERICA UNPREPARED TO RESIST ENEMIES

National Security Commission Proposed by Representative Gardner—United States at Mercy of European Combatants—Is Powerless Against Real Power.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—Inquiry into the preparedness of the United States for war, "offensive or defensive," by a national security commission, was proposed in a joint resolution introduced in the house today by Representative Gardner of Massachusetts, who recently returned from the war zone in Europe.

"I have introduced this resolution to investigate the military status of the United States," said Mr. Gardner in a statement accompanying the resolution, "because I know that a public search will open the eyes of Americans to a situation which is being concealed from them. The United States is totally unprepared for a war, defensive or offensive, against a real power. In my opinion, the effect of the vast sums of money spent by Carnegie in his peace propaganda was to blind Americans to the fact that our national security from a military point of view is undermined.

Truth is Concealed

"Nearly every army and navy officer to whom I have spoken tells me the same story of inadequate security. I have yet to speak to a single member of either the committee on naval affairs or the committee on military affairs of the house of representatives, in whose judgment I have confidence, who does not in private make the same admission. Yet all these gentlemen seem to consider it their duty to refrain from any public statement."

Mr. Gardner, referring to the prosperity of the United States and to the "wonderful South American continent, which we have closed to European colonization by the Monroe doctrine," asserted that he could not understand "how any intelligent student of history can fail to see that we are impotent to defend ourselves and to enforce the Monroe doctrine by moral suasion and financial might alone.

"The time has not yet come," Mr. Gardner asserted, "when the United States can afford to allow the martial spirit of her sons to be destroyed, and all the Carnegie millions in the world will not silence those of us who believe that bullets cannot be stopped with bombast, nor powder vanquished by platitudes."

CONFLICTING TALES OF BATTLE RAGING RUSSIAN POLAND

LONDON, Oct. 15, 6:44 p. m.—A dispatch from Petrograd to the Messagero of Rome, says that the Austro-German army yesterday was completely defeated in the neighborhood of Warsaw, Russian Poland. The Austrians and Germans suffered enormous losses. The Russians are stated to have taken thousands of prisoners.

BERLIN, Oct. 15. (By wireless to Sayville, L. I.)—It was officially announced today that the battle of the east of Wirballen, in Russian Poland, which has been raging since October 4, was favorable to the Germans. Repeated attempts of the Russians to storm the trenches have resulted in heavy losses. The Russian efforts to drive out the Germans by terrific artillery fire daily, so far have failed.

PETROGRAD, Russia, Oct. 15.—The Russian general staff issued the following statement today: "There is no change to report on the East Prussian and central Vistula fronts. "South of Przemysl a Russian column engaged and defeated the Austrians, taken seven officers and 500 soldiers prisoners, and captured many rapid-fire guns."

Governor West



Has Something Worth While to Say to the People of Rogue River Valley. He will speak at:

Central Point, 2 p. m., Friday, Oct. 16
Ashland, 8 p. m., " " "
Eagle Point [opera house], 2 p. m., Saturday, Oct. 17
Medford [Natatorium], 8 p. m. Saturday, Oct. 17

CHAMBERLAIN'S BILL INCREASES WIDOWS' PENSIONS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—Senator George E. Chamberlain has introduced the following bill, increasing widows' pensions from \$12 to \$16 per month, and otherwise benefitting survivors of the civil war:

"Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled, That section one of the act entitled, "An act to increase the pension of widows, minor children, and so forth, of deceased soldiers and sailors of the late civil war, the war with Mexico, the various Indian wars, and so forth, and to grant a pension to certain widows of the deceased soldiers and sailors of the late civil war," approved April 19, 1908, be amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 1. That from and after the passage of this act the rate of pension for widows, minor children under the age of 16 years, and helpless minors as defined by existing laws, now on the roll or hereafter to be placed on the pension roll and entitled to receive a less rate than hereinafter provided, shall be \$16 per month; and nothing herein shall be construed to affect the existing allowance of \$2 per month for each child under the age of 16 years and for each helpless child; and all acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed. Provided, however, that this act shall be not so construed as to reduce any pension under any act, public or private."

DENY CARRANZA RESIGNED IN FAVOR OF A VILLAREAL

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 15.—The Mexican foreign minister, Ysidro Fabella, today denied that General Carranza had resigned the supreme power of the constitutionalists in favor of Antonio Villareal, governor of the state of Nuevo Leon.

The repudiation came to the state department through Ambassador Page in London, who has inquired of the British office as to the authenticity of the interview.

Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign minister, informed Mr. Page that while Sir Lionel had submitted to an interview regarding conditions in Mexico as he left the United States, he had not reflected in any way on the policy of President Wilson.

It was intimated at the state department that this closed the incident. Minister Fabella said that General Carranza considered that the action of the Mexico City convention in rejecting his resignation settled the question, but if the convention at Aguas Calientes voted to reconsider the matter, Carranza, with the same high patriotism and disinterestedness would bow to the will of the majority.

FORMER FRIEND TELLS OF GEORGE'S MURDER THREATS

Blaine John, a Klamath Indian, who described himself as the best friend of Jim George, on trial in the federal court for the murder of Peter Brown, and his wife Kate John, a Plute, gave damaging evidence for the government this morning. They told of threats George made against the life of Brown, on two occasions. Both times Brown was talking to Omia Hubbard, an Indian woman whose charms both Brown and the defendant admired.

Blaine John testified that he heard George threaten the life of Brown, while Omia Hubbard, was staying at the home of Miller George, and the dead man was a guest there also. The witness said George told him in a conversation that he was going to kill Brown. Under cross examination he said he warned Brown, who laughed at the threat. Omia is separated from her husband, and George from his wife.

Kate Johns testified that George told her at the gambling grounds that he was going to kill Brown "some day." At the time Brown was chatting with Omia Hubbard. Later Kate testified George told her not to be afraid because of the threat. The testimony indirectly indicated that there was rivalry between Brown and George for the love of Omia Hubbard, and that Brown being younger, found the most favor.

Theodore Deschner of Portland, for 52 years a repairer of revolvers, gave expert testimony. He testified that the two bullets taken from the murdered man's body were fired from a Smith & Wesson revolver, and that Peter's cartridges were used. This latter testimony he proved by showing that the rifling of a Smith & Wesson bullet whirled to the right, and Peter's bullets to the left. The bullets that killed Brown whirled to the left. The government then proved that a Smith & Wesson gun was found under the pillow of the defendant's bed, and that four days before the crime he had purchased a box of Peter's cartridges.

Buck Ewing of this city, with 20 years experience with guns, corroborated the technical claims in the testimony of Mr. Deschner.

An indictment returned by the federal grand jury at Portland was introduced by the government, showing that George had been indicted for bringing liquor onto the reservation, and that Peter Brown and his brother Harrison, were the two and only witnesses.

INNES AND WIFE ADMITTED TO BAIL

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Oct. 15.—Victor E. Innes and his wife, of Eugene, Oregon, indicted for murder and conspiracy to murder in connection with the disappearance of Mrs. Elsie Nelms Dennis and her sister, Miss Beatrice Nelms, of Atlanta, Ga., last June, were granted bail at a habeas corpus hearing here today. Innes' bail was fixed at \$4000 and his wife's at \$2000.

SLIDE BLOCKS COMMERCE AT PANAMA CANAL

Several Ships Unable to Complete Passage—Earth Movements on Both Sides into Channel From the Slopes at Culebra Cut—Dredging Operations Must Continue.

PANAMA, Oct. 15.—A serious landslide in the Culebra Cut at a late hour last night interrupted completely all traffic through the Panama canal. Several ships in the canal have been unable to complete their passage.

The report indicates that there were earth movements on both sides into the channel from the slopes of Gold and Contractors' Hills, opposite each other.

Colonel Goethals and other officials today were making an examination of the damage.

It is said traffic through the canal probably would be interrupted for some time.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—News of the landslide into Culebra Cut caused no alarm at the isthmian canal commission office. While regretting the temporary closure of the canal the officials say this slide will have its compensations from an engineering point of view because it will hasten the final subsidence of the mobile material in the cut, thereby insuring the permanence of the waterway.

No official report on the slide had reached the commission today. It was recalled, however, that in almost every reference to the Culebra Cut operations Colonel Goethals had pointed out that the earth had not reached a state of equilibrium, and that probably it would be necessary to continue dredging operations there for many months after the waterway was opened.

REGISTRATION OPENED UNTIL SATURDAY EVE ASSERTS CRAWFORD

Attorney General Crawford has extended the registration period for the November election until Saturday evening. The registration books will close at 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon. This step was made in order to give all voters unregistered to date throughout the state a chance to do so. The time of grace will increase the registration heavily. All voters are urged to register at once.

HAMBURG LINER SUNK BY CRUISER

LONDON, Oct. 15, 4:53 p. m.—The admiralty announces that the British cruiser Yarmouth has sunk the German Hamburg-American line steamer Markomannia, in the vicinity of Suatra and has captured and is taking into a harbor the Greek steamer Pontporos.

The Markomannia had a gross tonnage of 4505 and was engaged in the African service.

ALASKA COAL LAND BILL AGREED UPON

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—The Alaska coal land leasing bill, an administration measure designed to open up the coal resources of Alaska under a leasing system, was agreed today by the house. It was in the form of a conference report, already adopted by the senate. It now goes to the president for approval to become law.

GOVERNOR TELLS HOW BOOTH GOT TIMBER TRACTS

West Explains Acquisition of Booth-Kelly Holdings Through Railroad Favoritism, Dummy Locators, Crooked Politicians, Land Lotteries and Loot of State's Birthright.

PORTLAND, Oct. 15.—In reply to a challenge from the Portland Oregonian, Governor Oswald West is telling audiences how R. A. Booth, republican candidate for the United States senate, acquired his vast timber holdings. Governor West was formerly state land agent and familiar with the acquisition of timber lands by great corporations a decade or so ago. Among the means used by the Booth-Kelly Co. the governor gives the following: Connivance with dishonest railroad officials, use of dummy locators, co-operation with a crooked state political machine, robbing of working girls and working men, deception of his relatives, land lotteries, exploitation of worthless land and loot of the state's birthright.

The foundation of the Booth-Kelly fortune, states the governor, lay in the acquisition of 17,000 acres of the Southern Pacific land grant through the connivance of railroad officials who ran a little syndicate on the side in Oregon, while stockholders in the east wondered why there were no dividends. This amount was eventually increased to 70,000 acres. The Booth-Kelly company itself was organized in 1898, with a capital stock of \$50,000. In 1899 it was capitalized at \$1,250,000, and this amount had jumped in 1912 to \$2,500,000.

Railroad Lands Never Paid For—These railroad lands were never paid for, says the governor, until after the timber had been cut. Not a dollar was paid for them, save in interest. A branch road was built to Wendling and the Booth-Kelly mill, this concession was secured through the influence of friendly railroad officials, although all other railroad improvement in this state had been denied for years. Low freight rates were procured by this same influence and the Booth-Kelly people not only got their lands for almost nothing, but were able to get out their timber at a reduced rate. The Wendling branch, together with their mill and timber holdings, enable Booth to control the situation and crowd out the small timber owner.

Line-up of Officials—T. T. Geer was elected governor, John H. Mitchell and C. W. Fulton were in the United States senate, J. N. Williamson in congress andlinger Hermann, commissioner of the general land office, John Hall, United States attorney, Henry Mel drum in the surveyor general's office and Henry Booth in the Roseburg land office. At this time the people had not been brought to the full realization of the value of timber lands. But on the part of those who did see their value a movement was begun to acquire large holdings

(Continued on page 9.)

BELGRADE NOT NOW IN DANGER

NISH, Servia, Oct. 14, via London, Oct. 15, 1:45 p. m.—In an optimistic official communication today the Servian government announces that Belgrade is no longer in danger. The pensions of retired officials, beginning today, October 14, will be paid at the state treasury in Belgrade and no longer at Nish.