

AMERICAN TROOPS AND GUNS ON FIRING LINE; FIRST SHOT FIRED FROM FRENCH WAR FRONT

SAMMEES NOW IN TRENCHES, SERVING ALONGSIDE VETERAN POILUS; ARTILLERY IN ACTION

"Some Battalions" Take Places With Their Allies in First-line Defences of "Quiet Sector"—Supported by Batteries of Artillery

AMERICAN FIELD HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, Oct. 27. American troops are in the front-line trenches and American artillery are behind them. Official announcement of this fact was made in the following statement from headquarters today: "In continuation of their training as a nucleus for the instruction of later contingents, some battalions of our first contingent, in association with veteran French battalions, are in the first-line trenches of a quiet sector of the French front. "They are supported by some batteries of our artillery, in association with veteran French batteries. "The sector remains normal. Our men have adapted themselves to actual trench conditions in a most satisfactory manner."

FIRST AMERICAN SHOT FIRED With American Sammees fighting in the trenches side by side with French poilus, a red-headed artillery captain and his husky gunners will share the fame of firing the first shell sent by an American battery in the fight for democracy. The captain gave the gunner a command, the gunner jerked the lanyard and America's first shot against German autocracy screamed toward a German battery. It was precisely at 6 o'clock. The morning was a misty one. The American infantry restlessly waited during a certain day while the American gunners were at their part of the work. They remained in their billets behind the lines until evening. Then they swung through the rain-swept, muddy street of a tiny village, their shadowy forms disappearing down the road toward the trenches. Some attempted to sing, "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp, the Boys are Marching." It was just starting when others shouted, "Shut up; the Boches will hear you!" Then silence fell—except for the rumbling of the rolling kitchen that kept pace with the soft shuffle of the feet of the marching detachment.

The shrill case of the first shot fired for America in the world's greatest war is enroute to President Wilson today. Major General Sibert ordered that it be preserved for him. Just five civilians—all newspaper correspondents—witnessed the first American troops marching to the trenches. INFANTRYMAN TAKES A LONG SHOT There were various accounts current as to the first infantry fire. One popular story is that a young Sammee of a certain regiment blazed away at the German trenches at daybreak of the first day on the firing line. The distance between the opposing trenches, however, is so great that sniping was impracticable. The final arrangements for the entrance to the trenches were completed ten days before the appearance of the men by American officers. The officers visited the ground and acquainted themselves with the front, the artillery going over the gun sites. Particularly interesting was the men's lack of bravado as they marched to the front and their apparent understanding that they were en route upon a serious mission. There was no time for shouting, but the Missouri mule lived true to form and played his favorite trick in balking and halting a machine gun. The mule was pushed into action and the snaky line resumed its way.

Passing a certain point, the men began to hear the booming guns in the distance as the thunder of the canonade was borne to their ears by the wind. As the men moved forward the rumble of the guns grew louder. The troops made their way past a red-roofed old church, and the sound of firing died away as they reached the village from which the last stage of the journey was made. It was a picturesque and never-to-be-forgotten scene as the Sammees sloshed through the mud, their dark, ponchoed figures disappearing in the gloom. From somewhere a little girl wearing a rubber cape appeared. She marched silently alongside a Sammee column and vanished at the crossroads. At the crossroads there was a sign board which had been spared by the Germans pointing the way to villages that now stand behind the German lines. MARCHING ON SCHEDULE TIME The major commanding one battalion stood at the crossroads, his watch in hand. He looked at the timepiece and remarked: "Another battalion on my right should be leaving the village of —" He looked at his watch again and exclaimed: "The first company of my battalion might have reached the trenches by this time. I'm now listening to see what the Germans do to them." There was no sound but the rattle of the wagons and the steady tramp of the troops. Down over the narrow road the men continued until they got to the communication trenches, other battalions in the meantime leaving nearby villages for the same sector. Reports of the first day in the trenches all agree that the morale of the men is the highest possible despite the miserable weather.

WASHINGTON ATHRILL AT PROOF AMERICA AT LAST IS IN BIG WAR

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—The announcement that American troops were in the trenches today, flashed rapidly over the city and official business ceased for the moment. Official Washington realized for the first time that America is truly in the war. Groups gathered throughout the downtown part of the city and excitedly discussed the news. Here and there some gathered and offered fervent prayers for the safety and victory of the American troops. At the War Department, officers destined to desk jobs were deep in gloom. It meant that America was fighting and they were at home. Officials here are gratified and glad that the presence of the troops in the front-line trenches will give impetus to war work in the United States as nothing else could. When the news was released for publication by the censor it became known that the successful effort had been made in the War Department to suppress it, but when the correspondents carried their dispatches to Secretary of War Baker he beamed with satisfaction as he confirmed the intelligence. He would not comment when asked if the news meant that soon larger numbers of the expeditionary force would be in contact with the Germans, contenting himself with the observation: "That is what they are there for." This was taken to mean that the training of General Pershing's men has progressed more rapidly than had been generally understood and that a good sized force is now ready to go to grips with the Kaiser's legions. Despite the fact that the troops are in a "quiet sector," there was rejoicing on all hands. "It won't be a quiet sector long if our boys are there," one grizzled old war vet said, as he turned back to his desk after he had hurried into a corridor to learn what the excited talking of his comrades meant. American troops are in the trenches to

PHILADELPHIA ON FINAL SPURT IN LOAN DRIVE

Coming Down Homestretch With Head Up and Colors Flying

MAXIMUM GOAL IN SIGHT The Liberty Loan campaign in the Philadelphia district has been a complete success, according to announcement made late today by the executive committee. The total is officially announced as \$361,500,000. Reports from the Scranton district indicated that subscriptions there have reached \$15,000,000. The quota is \$12,000,000.

Philadelphia is making good on the homestretch for the Liberty Loan. Contributions of substantial amounts are coming into the Liberty Loan headquarters at a lively rate and there is every indication that the city of the birth of Liberty will make good for the loan in emphatic fashion.

The official estimate for the Third Federal Reserve District up till now today is more than \$340,000,000, according to the executive committee. By midnight the total must reach \$415,000,000, and those who are in touch with the city's financial pulse declare that it will make the remaining \$75,000,000 with flying colors.

Numerous other corporations and business houses responded in substantial measure, and there is a general feeling of optimism throughout the city for the success of the campaign. Tread & Co. announce subscriptions to date of \$1,685,000 to the second Liberty Loan. Included are subscriptions of \$47,750,000 from the Philadelphia and Reading and subsidiary companies, and a subscription of \$500,000 from the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company. The Philadelphia and Reading and its subsidiaries have also subscribed other amounts in up-State districts.

The Liberty Loan subscriptions in the Pottsville Exceeds Liberty Loan Quota POTTSVILLE, Pa., Oct. 27.—Pottsville subscribed \$187,300 to the second Liberty Loan, which is \$201,000 over her quota of \$1,646,000. Church and school bells are clanging, mill and factory whistles are shrieking at noon, in joyful celebration of the success of the city in raising this sum to prosecute the war for the world's democracy.

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HAIG DRIVES DEEPER INTO ENEMY LINE

British Roll Forward Again in Great Passchendaele Offensive

COUNTER-ATTACKS FAIL

The new British advance in Flanders, begun yesterday, is continuing despite bad weather conditions, Haig today reporting "further progress" west of Passchendaele. In the fighting in that sector the advantage of the ground now rests with the British, who hold the ridge, while the enemy has been driven to the lowlands. The Germans attempted two counter-attacks last night, but these were repused by Canadian troops. The French Front Although the battle on the Aisne front has died away, the Germans are preparing against another smash by the French. Fresh Teuton troops are being rushed to this sector, but because of the drain upon Germany's manpower in consequence of the opening of Von Mackensens offensive on the Isonzo, the German high command is finding difficulty in rallying sufficient re-enforcements to hold their menaced positions. In Mesopotamia On the Mesopotamia the Turks, after advancing down the Tigris, refused to give battle and again retreated. FLANDERS MUD FAILS TO STOP HAIG IN GREAT ADVANCE ON ROULERS LONDON, Oct. 27.—Field Marshal Haig's men hammered their way still farther into the German lines today. "West of Passchendaele we further progressed," the British commander-in-chief reported. "Eighteen machine guns were captured. Canadian troops repused two violent

PITT TALLIES 2 TOUCHDOWNS IN 3RD PERIOD

Forward Pass, McCarter to Carlson, Gives Panthers First Score

SIES KICKED THE GOAL Penn.... 0 0 0 0 Pitt.... 0 0 14 SWARTHMORE... 19 F. & M. 0 CORNELL..... 0 7 BUCKNELL.... 0 7

FRANKLIN FIELD, Oct. 27.—Playing better than at any other time this year, the University of Pennsylvania football team battled Pitt all over the gridiron in the first half this afternoon. Their showing was a distinct surprise to the crowd of 18,000 that occupied the stands. The Red and Blue, save for one lapse early in the first period, when Pitt carried the ball to Penn's 17-yard line only to lose it on downs, outplayed Pitt. The score at the end of the first half was 6-0. However, Pitt came back strong in the third, rushed the ball to Penn's 20-yard line on a series of line plays and finally Carlson took it over on a forward pass. A few minutes later Pitt scored again. McLaren crashing through the line for a touchdown. Sies kicked both goals.

Penn showed a defense which not only smothered end runs and forward passes, but also blocked the strong line plunges for which Pittsburgh is noted. McLaren gained a few times, but only for a short distance. Strauss, for Penn, tore up the opposing line with his dashes through center and off tackle and Howard Berry annexed many yards around end. At the beginning of the second period Rosenau was sent in to replace Bunny Lerch, who had been hurt in the opening quarter. As soon as Rosenau took charge the work of the Penn team improved. Rosenau used rare judgment in the selection of plays, and for a time Pitt was bewildered by the attack. Short forward passes, Edwille's pet play, were worked for good gains and the majority were successful. The game was free from rough playing, only one penalty for holding being inflicted.

Captain Carlson and Captain Miller met in the center of the field and the coin was tossed. Captain Miller guessed right and elected to receive the kick off, defending.

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60,000 ITALIANS CAPTURED; FOE PRESSES DRIVE

Stol Mountain Ridge and Summit of Matajin Taken by Teuton Forces

BOUNDARY LINE CROSSED

BERLIN, Oct. 27.—Sixty thousand Italian prisoners have been captured in the German drive against General Cadorna's army, the War Office announced today. "The Stol mountain ridge and the summit of Mount Matajin were captured Thursday morning," the statement declared. "We are pressing through the spurs of the Julian Alps." In their sweep forward the Teutons have seized 450 guns, the statement declared. Twenty-six airplanes were driven down or destroyed. The attack has shaken the Italian front as far as Vienna. "On the Carso plateau," the statement continued, "the enemy is holding his position." The Italian front operation, prepared under the personal supreme leadership of his Apostolic Majesty, Emperor Karl, is developing. A second Italian army has been formed. This is the first intimation that Emperor Karl of Austria-Hungary, personally supervised the operation of his army, possibly led in the field. The Austrian Emperor was reported on a visit to the front about a month ago, but was generally supposed to have returned to Vienna. ROME, Oct. 27.—German troops have crossed the Austro-Italian boundary line between Mount Cany and the head of the Jure valley, today, the War Office statement announced. The enemy forces are attempting to reach an opening to the Italian plains beyond. On the Carso front the official statement reported an increase in the enemy's offensive strength in the German attempt to break through. One very heavy summit attack was repused.

LONDON, Oct. 27.—Germany, with the help of Austria-Hungary, is today making what may prove to be her supreme and last effort of the whole war. The stupendous operation against Italy is developing into a campaign of the first magnitude, and far-reaching results, even affecting vitally the situation on the western front, are possible. There are indications that the Kaiser is staking all on this blow and that the plans of the German General Staff include a desperate effort to break through the Italian front. General Mackensen has massed 450,000 of his German troops a bare twenty miles from the Italian border.

ROTAN SEEKING CROOKS AMONG MAGISTRATES

Makes Sudden Probe of Minor Judiciary System of City

Sweeping SEARCH FOR FRAUD STARTS Persch Records Which Figured in Fifth Ward Hearing Cause of Inquiry

SOME DEFTY INVESTIGATION

Several "Judges" Refuse to Deliver Books to District Attorney. One Reports Them Stolen

A sweeping investigation of alleged fraud in the magistrical system of Philadelphia was instituted today when District Attorney Rotan summoned nine magistrates to his office and requested all their records and those of the Central Station and Moyamensing Prison. The sudden probe, which caused consternation in many quarters, comes as a result of examination of the records of Magistrate Persch, in the prosecution of the "Bloody Fifth" Ward murder conspiracy charges against Mayor Smith, it was said. Several magistrates did not come to the District Attorney's office. Others defied Mr. Rotan by refusing to bring their records. Coincidentally with the summons two record books—the full bond and return docket—mysteriously disappeared from the office of Magistrate Carl B. Baker, one of those asked to appear. The theft was reported by Constable William Douglas, of his office, who later said that thieves broke in and stole only about \$5 in cash and a few unimportant papers. Magistrate Baker was one of those advised by Mr. Rotan to appear.

RIVER BREEZE WINS FIFTH ROSE TREE RACE

The fifth race at Rose Tree Hunt met was won by Welsh Strawberry's River Breeze, Strawbridge; second, Charles Leedom's Gigan-tois, Wright; third, Lieutenant H. R. Toland's Sam Ball, Cheston. Time, 6:55.

FALL IN ROSE TREE RACE KNOCKS JOCKEY SENSELESS

Jockey H. Williams, riding Wolferton 2d, of the Glen Riddle Farm, was thrown unconscious in the fourth race at the Rose Tree Hunt at Media this afternoon. He was carried to the judges' stand and revived. His horse continued to the finish of the two-mile race.

HELEN CUDAHY, RED CROSS NURSE, DROWNED

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Oct. 27.—Miss Helen Cudahy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Cudahy, was reported drowned, enroute to Europe as a Red Cross nurse, in a cablegram received here today.

SOUTH CAROLINA'S AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER DEAD

COLUMBIA, S. C., Oct. 27.—E. H. Watson, South Carolina commissioner of agriculture, nationally known as an agriculturist, died here this afternoon in his forty-sixth year.

RAILROADS PUT EMBARGO ON EASTERN SHIPMENTS

CHICAGO, Oct. 27.—Embargo notices on eastbound shipments of freight have been issued by the Pennsylvania and Nickel Plate Railroads. Canadian railroads have placed an embargo on all shipments of grain from Fort William and Port Arthur route to the seaboard.

FIVE TONS OF COAL BURNED IN MARBLE YARD

Five tons of coal, anthracite and bituminous, in a pocket in the corner of the marble yard of Ridgeway & Son, Ninth street and Columbia avenue, were burned late last night. The origin is a mystery, as were the other two fires within the last two years at the same place.

WORKMAN KILLED AT BALDWIN'S

The clothing of Harry Brown, a mechanic, caught in a planing machine at the Baldwin Locomotive Works early today and he received injuries which caused his death later at the Hahnemann Hospital. Brown was crushed between the planer and the wall. Workmen stopped the machinery on seeing his plight, but their efforts were too late to save him. He lived at 719 Emily street.

I. C. C. WILL REVIEW SUGAR RATES REPORT

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—Readjustment of commodity rates on sugar from New Orleans and ports on the southeastern coast of the Atlantic was found justified in a tentative examiners' report filed today with the Interstate Commerce Commission. The commission will review the case, which came before it on the complaint of the Atlanta, Macon and New Orleans Chambers of Commerce.

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THE WEATHER

FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity: Unsettled weather and moderate temperatures tonight and Sunday; gentle southerly winds. For eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey: Generally fair tonight and Sunday; not much change in temperature; moderate southerly to west winds.

LENGTH OF DAY

Day ends... 6:28 a.m. Sun sets... 6:05 p.m. DELAWARE RIVER TIDE CHANGES "THIRTY" SERIES

The Continuation of the Story RASPUTIN Devil or Saint? by the Princess Catharine Radziwilska is printed on Page 21