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# The Courier

## A Paper for the Western Home

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# Allies Gain On All Fronts

## SPANISH INFLUENZA RAPIDLY SPREADING

*Civilian Population Now Chief Sufferers from Species of Cold in 43 States.*

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4. — While reports today to the office of the surgeon-general of the army showed decreases in the number of new cases of Spanish influenza at army camps, information coming to the public health service was that the disease was rapidly spreading among the civilian population over the country.

The malady has appeared now in 43 states and the District of Columbia and besides New England, it is epidemic in Tidewater Virginia, South Carolina and other places. It was reported particularly prevalent along the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf coast. Vigorous steps to combat the disease have been taken by the public health service and doctors and nurses have been ordered to several places where the epidemic is most severe. The number of new cases in army camps during the 24 hours ending at noon today was slightly more than 13,000, a decrease of 1,000 from the total reported from the day before. Pneumonia in the camps also showed a decrease, with 876 new cases and 271 deaths.

The total number of influenza cases reported in the camps since the epidemic began, September 13, is 113,737; pneumonia cases total 8,577 and deaths, 2,479.

### Boston's Daily Toll.

BOSTON, Oct. 4. — Boston's daily toll from Spanish influenza and pneumonia, which had been mounting steadily since the epidemic started on September 14, took a sudden drop today. Forty persons died of pneumonia and 135 of influenza, a total of 175 for 24 hours ending at 10 o'clock tonight. This was a decrease of 27 deaths from yesterday's figures.

Hope that the epidemic was being checked elsewhere appeared to be warranted by reports received from other sections of the state. Although 80 cities and towns outside of Boston reported 6,198 new cases and 101 deaths, a slight increase over yesterday, a number of places not included in the previous day's figures were tabulated today.

A new serum, a preventative of influenza, discovered by Dr. O'Leary, bacteriologist at Tuft's college, is expected to prove a big factor in combating the disease in Massachusetts.

### Deaths in Montreal

MONTREAL, Oct. 4. — With a total of 24 deaths from Spanish influenza and 746 cases from St. Johns and Montreal barracks alone it is evident that the epidemic is a reality and that the increase of the epidemic among the military forces and the civilian population, it is necessary to prevent the spread of the disease. Reports received by General Wilson of the spread of the disease among the soldiers of this military district are:

Ten deaths of the soldiers from St. Johns reported today; 23 deaths to date from St. Johns; 596 cases altogether reported from St. Johns; 13 new cases reported from St. Johns today; one death in the Montreal barracks; 150 cases reported from Montreal barracks to-date.

### Increasing in New York

NEW YORK, Oct. 4. — The epidemic of Spanish influenza here continues to spread. For the past 24 hours, 903 new cases were reported to the health department. During the last 24 hours, there were 48 deaths. There were also 48 deaths from pneumonia, part of them due to influenza.

(Continued on page 5.)

## Germans Evacuate Lens and Armentieres, Important Manufacturing Centres in France — Vienna Reports Evacuation of Albania — Turks Loose Damascus

### BRITISH

LONDON, Oct. 7. — "In successful local operations this morning we advanced our line on a front of about four miles north of the Scarpe river, capturing the village of Oppy and more than 100 prisoners and a number of machine guns."

"Patrol fighting took place also northeast of Epinoy and north of Aubencheul-aux-Bois. We progressed in both localities."

### FRENCH

PARIS, Oct. 7. — "We have captured Berry-au-Bac. Northeast of

St. Quentin local operations to improve our positions gave fine results. Seven hundred prisoners were taken in the past twenty-four hours."

### BELGIAN

HAVRE, Oct. 7. — An official statement from Belgian headquarters today says: "There was reciprocal artillery activity along the whole front. Our airmen bombed enemy camps at Westepde and Middlekerke."

### AUSTRIAN

VIENNA, Oct. 7 (via London). — "In Albania there have been fur-

ther rearguard engagements on the Skumbi," says the official communication tonight.

### ITALIAN

ROME, Oct. 7. — "An Italian reconnoitring party crossed the Chiase, penetrated into Daone, damaged the defensive system, drove back a large party and returned safely to our own line."

"In the Brenta valley we repulsed parties approaching our lines at Grottole."

"Our airships have bombed Priolano and Fucine."

(Continued on page 5.)

## ALLIES ADVANCE IN RUSSIA

### Advance 75 Miles in Two Weeks

ARCHANGEL, Oct. 4. — British, French, American and Russian troops today occupied villages on both banks of the Dvina river to a point 125 miles north of Kotlas, in the government of Vologda. They have advanced 75 miles in the past two weeks and they are now about 375 miles northeast of Archangel. The river is blocked further south by Bolshevik mines and barges which have been sunk in the channel.

Up the Vega river, however, progress is unobstructed and allied forces are occupying the important town of Shenkursk. The aurora borealis is already flaming in the northern sky.

In their advance up the Dvina the land forces have met with practically no resistance since Sept. 21, when the Americans were subjected to heavy machine gun fire for five hours at Selsko. Despite losses they held their unsheltered position until the river fleet came to their aid. The Americans tonight captured the town.

LONDON, Oct. 4. — Large captures of enemy troops have been

effected during the pursuit of the retreating Bolsheviks, and the remaining enemy forces are now surrounded, virtually clearing South-east Karelia of enemy troops. The text of the statement reads:

"From further information received of the capture of Ukhtinskaya, reported on Sept. 20, and the subsequent pursuit of the enemy, it appears that this town, which was intended as the base of operations in Karelia, had been fortified under German supervision and that very heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy during the fighting."

"The pursuit of the enemy has been highly successful. One body was rounded up near Kostomujskaya, 40 miles south of Ukhtinskaya, and the remainder of the enemy forces, including 200 reinforcements, is now surrounded near Vokhanavotzkaya, 30 miles southwest of Ukhtinskaya, east of the Finnish frontier."

"The total of the losses in killed in these operations already exceeds 160, and southern Karelia has been cleared of enemy troops except those mentioned above."

## Central Powers Ask for General Armistice

### Prince Maximilian of Baden, the New Imperial Chancellor Submits His Policy in Speech Before the Reichstag—Announces Reforms—Democracy for Germany and Prussia—Three Socialist Leaders Enter Cabinet

Press of Allied Countries demand that German Chancellor's Peace Offer be Rejected—U. S. A. Senate also Strongly Against Acceptance of Armistice—Unconditional Surrender of Germany Only Basis for Peace-Parleys—

LONDON, Oct. 6. — The Central Powers have made proposals to negotiate for peace. Officially no cognizance has yet been taken of the request of Prince Maximilian of Baden, the new German chancellor, just brought in office, or of the Austro-Hungarian government for an armistice on land, on sea, and in the air, and the commencement of peace negotiations, for President Wilson, to whom the dual and highly-similar proposals are addressed, is not yet in receipt of them.

"The immediate suspension of hostilities has been proposed and the entente Allies are to be asked to state their terms."

The text of the note addressed to President Wilson is not known yet. The following is the speech made by the new German Chancellor in the Reichstag:

"In accordance with the imperial decree of Sept. 30, the German empire has undergone a basic alteration of its political leadership. As successor to Count George F. Von Hertling, whose services in behalf of the fatherland deserve the highest acknowledgement, I have been summoned by the emperor to lead the new government."

"In accordance with the governmental method now introduced, I submit to the reichstag, publicly and without delay, the principles upon which I propose to conduct the grave responsibilities of the office."

"These principles were firmly established by the agreement of the federated governments and the leaders of the majority parties in this honorable house before I decided to assume the duties of chancellor."

"They contain, therefore, not only my confession of political faith, but that of an overwhelming portion of the German people's representatives, that is of the German nation which has constituted the reichstag on the basis of a general, equal and secret franchise and according to their will. Only the fact that I know the conviction and will of the majority of the people are back of me has given me the strength to take upon myself the conduct of the empire's affairs in this hard and earnest time in which we are living."

"One man's shoulders will be too weak to carry alone the tremendous responsibility which falls upon the government at present. Only if the people take active part, in the broadest sense of the word, in deciding their destinies, in other words, if responsibility also extends to the majority of their freely elected political leaders, can the leading statesman confidently assume his part of the responsibility in the service of folk and fatherland."

"My resolve to do this has been especially lightened for me by the fact that prominent leaders of the laboring class have found a way in the new government to the highest offices of the empire. I see therein a sure guarantee that the new government will be supported by the firm confidence of the broad masses of the people; without whose true support the whole undertaking would be condemned to failure in advance. Hence, what I say today, I say not only in my own name and those of my official helpers, but in the name of the German people."

"The program of the majority parties upon which I take my stand contains, first, an acceptance of the answer of the former imperial government to Pope Benedict's note of Aug. 1, 1916, and an unconditional acceptance of the reichstag resolution of July 19, the same year. It further declares willingness to join a general league of nations based on the foundation of equal rights for all, both strong and weak."

"It considers the solution of the Belgian question to lie in the complete rehabilitation (Wiederherstellung) of Belgium, particularly of its independence and territorial integrity. An effort shall also be made to reach an understanding on the question of indemnity."

"The program will not permit the peace treaties hitherto concluded to be a hindrance to the conclusion of a general peace."

"Its particular aim is that popular representative bodies shall be formed immediately on a broad basis in the Baltic provinces, in Lithuania and Poland. We will promote the realization of necessary preliminary conditions, therefore without delay by the introduction of civilian rule. All these lands shall regulate their constitutions and their relations with neighboring peoples without external interference."

"In the matter of international policies, I have taken a clear stand through the matter in which the formation of the government was brought about. Upon my motion, leaders of the majority parties were summoned for direct advice. It was my conviction, gentlemen, that the unity of imperial leadership should be assured not only through mere schismatic party allegiance by the different members of the government. I considered almost still more important the unity of ideas. I proceeded from this viewpoint and have, in making my selections, laid greatest weight on the fact that the members of the new imperial government stand on a basis of a just peace, of justice regardless of the war situation, and that they have openly declared this to be their standpoint at the time when we stood at the height of our military successes."

"I am convinced that the manner in which imperial leadership is now constituted with co-operation of the reichstag is not something ephemeral, and that when peace comes a government cannot again be formed which does not find support in the reichstag and does not draw its leaders therefrom."

"The war has conducted us beyond the old multifarious and disorganized party life which made it so

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## PORT OF BEIRUT IN HANDS OF FRENCH

PARIS, Oct. 7. — A French naval division operating off the coast of Syria entered Beirut. The enthusiasm of the town is indescribable.

Beirut, capital of the Vilayet of the same name, is the chief seaport of Syria. It is situated on the Mediterranean fifty-seven miles north-west of Damascus.

Before the war Beirut had a population of more than 150,000,

more than two-thirds being Christians.

The Turks have suffered a serious blow in the loss of Beirut. The occupation of this seaport on the Mediterranean by a French naval division gives the allies a base for the landing of men who can operate in all directions against the Turks over the roads radiating from it.

## Munition Plant Wrecked by Blast

Dead Number 137, Financial Loss About \$25,000,000.

PERTH AMBOY, N.J., Oct. 6. — Many men were killed and scores of others injured in a tremendous explosion early tonight at the plant of the T. A. Gillespie shell loading company of Morgan, near here. This explosion, which shook the countryside for miles around and caused citizens of South Amboy to flee from their homes, was followed by a series of less severe explosions and by a fire, which for hours defied the efforts of fire departments summoned from all nearby cities and towns.

The number of dead and injured cannot be determined until employees of the plant answer a roll call in the morning. Estimates late tonight have placed the number of killed and hurt at from 50 to more than 100.

Eight bodies were placed tonight in the morgue at South Amboy and others were being removed from the plant shortly before midnight. It is believed that several more men were in the building where the original explosion occurred and most of these were blown to atoms.

The plant, which is being operated for the government by the Gillespie company, employs several thousand men and women, working in three shifts, but officials said tonight there were only about 500 men in the plant when the explosion occurred.

## Red Deer Bye-Election

EDMONTON, Oct. 7. — The date of the provincial bye-election in Red Deer has been fixed for October 25. The election is caused by the recent appointment of E. Michener to the senate. J. J. Gault is running as Liberal candidate, and F. W. Galbraith as an Independent.

## News in Brief

— The stupendous total of over \$500,000,000 worth of meat and dairy products has been purchased in Canada by the British authorities in the twelve months just ended. All the commodities bought were produced on Canadian farms and the returns go to the farms.

— Fifty-three men are missing as the result of the sinking of a British torpedo gunboat in a collision with a merchant vessel, Sept. 30, according to an official statement issued by the British admiralty.

The plant, which covers an area of 12 square miles, comprises many small buildings situated along Chesapeake creek. The first explosion occurred in one of these buildings, in which "T.N.T." was being made and the flames, spreading to other structures, caused a series of further blasts.

Latest communications show that about 137 persons have perished and that the financial loss amounts to about \$25,000,000. All towns in New Jersey are in shattered condition.

## Bulgarian Armistice Has Created Grave Situation For Central Powers

BASEL, Oct. 4. — The Bulgarian armistice undoubtedly has created a grave situation for Austria-Hungary, the Austrian premier yesterday told the lower house, but suitable military measures will be taken in accord with Germany.

### Premier Explains

PARIS, Oct. 4. — Premier Malinoff appeared before the Bulgarian parliament on Monday and read the speech from the throne, which was postponed at the first sitting last Friday, according to advice from Sofia by today of Basel.

M. Malinoff, according to German papers, said that the Bulgarian king and government intended only to fulfil their duty toward the fatherland in making an honorable peace that was worthy of the sacrifices which had been made. The reason for this step, M. Malinoff stated, was the general situation which confronted the country.

### Evacuating Serbia

LONDON, Oct. 5. — Serbia is being evacuated by the Bulgarian troops, who are returning to Bulgarian territory, according to the Serbian official statement of Tuesday night.

### Anti-German Riots

PARIS, Oct. 5. — Anti-German and Pacifist riots are in progress throughout Bulgaria, according to a Zurich despatch to the Journal. It is added that rumors are current

of the formation of a national cabinet in Bulgaria under the leadership of Premier Malinoff, and Dr. Ghenadieff, released from prison a few days ago, under a pardon by King Ferdinand.

### Effect on Exchange

GENEVA, Oct. 5. — The news that Bulgaria had signed an armistice with the allies caused a panic on the German stock exchange. Everyone began to sell and there were no buyers. On the other hand, Austro-German exchange rose on the Swiss bourse, as it was considered that peace is nearer.

### It Was Sad News

It is not yet clearly known what effect the news of the actual surrender of Bulgaria had in Germany, but judging the effect of the mere suggestion, it must have been staggering. The papers have been talking "treachery of the sentry at the gate is endangering the whole fortress," but always with the obvious assumption that Bulgaria would not go to extremes. The fact that the German front is likely to crumble, both on the east and the west, for the first time in the war, is expected to increase dismay in Berlin, where a veritable panic exists on the stock exchange when inflated war industry stocks slumped heavily.

(Continued on page 5.)

## King Ferdinand of Bulgaria Abdicates

BASEL, Oct. 8. — King Ferdinand of Bulgaria has abdicated in favor of his eldest son, Prince Boris of Tirnovo. The new King will rule under the name of Boris III. It is stated.