

# WILSON APPEALS TO COUNTRY FOR DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS

## The Weather Report

For Bridgeport and vicinity: Unsettled, probably rain late tonight and on Saturday.

# The Bridgeport Times

and Evening Farmer

## ALMANAC FOR TODAY

Sun rises ..... 7:15 a. m.  
Sun sets ..... 5:59 p. m.  
High water ..... 4:02 a. m.  
Moon rises ..... 11:17 p. m.  
Low water ..... 10:35 a. m.

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PRICE TWO CENTS

# COL. HOUSE WILL ACT FOR PRESIDENT IN WAR COUNCIL

# AMERICANS GAINING WEST OF MEUSE

## WILSON'S ENVOY IS IN FRANCE

Jol. House Goes to Europe As Personal Representative of President.

### TRIP CONNECTED WITH ARMISTICE

Accompanied By Sir William Benson, Chief of Naval Operations.

Washington, Oct. 25.—Col. E. M. House, personal representative of President Wilson and spokesman of the State Department, and Admiral William S. Benson, chief of the naval operations, have arrived in France to represent the United States in the consideration of Germany's plea for an armistice and peace negotiations.

Washington, Oct. 25.—Col. House, President Wilson's confidential adviser, was sent to Europe as the personal representative of the President on an official mission. This announcement was authorized officially, but further information is withheld. It is understood, however, that the visit of Col. House to Europe at this time is connected with Germany's plea for an armistice and peace, which now is before the Allied governments for decision. Colonel House very probably is authorized to represent the President in discussions with the representatives of the allied governments.

The fact that Colonel House left for Europe several days before President Wilson's final reply to Germany was dispatched is further proof that every step of the President's negotiations with Germany has been taken in full accord with the entente governments. It also is taken to indicate that decision to transmit the German plea to the Allies under certain conditions was reached even before the last note from Berlin was received.

Col. House long has been recognized as the logical selection by the President to represent him in such cases as now are to be held. He has made frequent trips to Europe since the war began in 1914, conferring with leaders in the leading belligerent nations and more than a year ago he was charged by the President with gathering data for use at the peace conference. Much of it has been assembled at the headquarters of the American Geographical Society in New York and on his last trip to that city after the first German note was received, President Wilson examined the data in company with Col. House.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* DEMAND FOR COFFINS \*  
\* GREATER THAN SUPPLY \*  
\* So great has been the demand \*  
\* for coffins in Bridgeport since \*  
\* the beginning of the influenza \*  
\* epidemic, that one undertaker \*  
\* this morning was informed that \*  
\* the supply in the warehouses of \*  
\* the manufacturers from whom \*  
\* he purchases his coffins was \*  
\* completely exhausted. If any \*  
\* more deaths occur, it will be \*  
\* necessary to use pine boxes in \*  
\* the place of regular coffins as \*  
\* even the cheapest grade, of \*  
\* which large numbers are usual \*  
\* by on hand, are no longer avail \*  
\* able. \*  
\* The manufacturers are run \*  
\* ning their shops to capacity, \*  
\* with insufficient forces, and are \*  
\* turning out a larger percentage \*  
\* of coffins in proportion than has \*  
\* before been possible. But even \*  
\* in view of the increased produc \*  
\* tion the supply is not large \*  
\* enough, and burial in pine boxes \*  
\* will probably be a usual occur \*  
\* rence, until there is a cessation \*  
\* of death from the prevailing \*  
\* epidemic. \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

RELEASE BELGIAN PRISONERS.  
Washington, Oct. 25.—Release of all Belgian political prisoners held in Belgium or in Germany, except where a military menace would result, has been promised by General von Falkhausen. This became known here today in connection with news that Burgomaster Max of Brussels had been set free.

## Wilson Asks People For Democratic House And Senate Republican Leaders Are Pro-War, But Anti-Administration

Washington, Oct. 25.—President Wilson today issued an appeal to the people to return a Democratic Congress in the November elections if they approve of his course in this critical period.

Return of a Republican majority to either House of the Congress, the President said, "would be certainly interpreted on the other side of the water as repudiation of my leadership."

The President said he would accept the country's verdict without cavil, but that if it was adverse, the power to administer the great trust assigned to him would be seriously impaired.

Following is the President's appeal:—"My fellow countrymen:—The Congressional elections are at hand. They occur in the most critical period our country has ever faced, or is likely to face in our time. If you have approved of my leadership and wish me to continue to be unembarrassed spokesman in affairs at home and abroad, I earnestly beg that you will express yourselves unmistakably to that effect by returning a Democratic majority to both the Senate and House of Representatives."

"I am your servant and will accept your judgment without cavil, but my power to minister the great trust assigned to me by the constitution would be seriously impaired should your judgment be adverse, and I must frankly tell you so because so many criticisms depend upon your acts. Your taste must not in grim times like these be allowed to stand in the way of speaking the plain truth."

"I have no thought of suggesting that any political party is paramount in matters of patriotism? I feel too deeply the sacrifices which have been made in this war by all our citizens irrespective of party affiliations to harbor such an idea. I mean only that the difficulties of our present task are of a sort that makes it imperatively necessary that the nation should give its undivided support to the government under a unified leadership and that a Republican Congress would divide the leadership."

"The leaders of the minority in present Congress have unquestionably been pro-war, but they have been anti-administration. At almost every turn since we entered the war they have sought to seek the choice of policy and the conduct of the war out of my hands and put it under the control of instrumentalities of their own choosing."

"This is no time either for divided council or for divided leadership; unity of command is as necessary now in civil action as it is upon the field of battle. If the control of the House and the Senate should be taken away from the party now in power an opposing majority could assume control of legislation and oblige all action to obstruction."

"The return of a Republican majority to either House of the Congress would, moreover, be interpreted on the other side of the water as a repudiation of my leadership. Spokesmen of the Republican party are urging you to elect a Republican Congress in order to back up and support the President but even if they should do this, they would impose on no one on the other side of the water. It is well understood there, as well as here, that the Republican leaders desire not so much to support the President as to control him."

"I need not tell you my fellow countrymen, that I am asking your support, not for my own sake or for the sake of a political party, but for the sake of the nation itself that its inward unity of purpose may be evident to all the world. In ordinary times I would not feel at liberty to make such an appeal to you. In ordinary times divided counsels can be endured without permanent hurt to the country. But these are not ordinary times."

"If in these critical days it is your wish to sustain me with undivided minds I beg that you will say so in a way which it will not be possible to misunderstand either here at home, or among our associates on the other side of the sea."

"I submit my difficulties and my hopes to you."  
"WOODROW WILSON."

## FOURTH DAY OF CASE DECLINE FOR INFLUENZA

According to Health Officer Dr. Walter E. Brown, the crest of the Spanish influenza epidemic in this city has been reached. One hundred and fifty-two cases were reported for the 24-hour period ending at 9 o'clock this morning, a decrease of 58 cases over the figures of the previous day. It is the fourth successive day that the scourge has been on the decline in Bridgeport, and while Dr. Brown said that there were likely to be spasmodic jumps in the figures at repeated intervals, he was confident that the authorities had the epidemic well in hand. Seventeen additional deaths occurred in the past 24 hours, bringing the total up to 135. At the present time the influenza cases number 4,014.

"The people of Bridgeport must continue to exert the utmost care and precautions at the present time. We have not reached the stage, and will not reach it for a good many weeks, when the people can say the bars are down and throw precaution to the winds. If they do, the epidemic will immediately re-manifest itself. While the deaths of the last 24 hours were rather high, this," said Dr. Brown, "is simply the result of a reactionary period in the course of the epidemic, that is bound to come for some days."

The Health Department announced today that several residents of Bridgeport have volunteered the use

## CROWDS FORM BEFORE REICHSTAG DEMAND WILLIAM'S DOWNFALL

Paris, Oct. 25.—An enormous crowd assembled before the Reichstag building in Berlin yesterday calling for the abdication of Emperor William and the formation of a republic, according to a despatch from Zurich to L'Information, Dr. Karl Liebknecht, the Socialist leader who has just been released from prison, was applauded frantically. He was compelled to enter a carriage filled with flowers from which he made a speech declaring the time of the people had arrived.

Basen, Oct. 25.—Comment on President Wilson's latest note to the Germans is beginning to appear in German papers. The National Zeitung of Berlin says: "President Wilson has answered quickly. Well, if ever Emperor Wil-

## McELANEY DIES, WAS WELL KNOWN NEWSPAPER MAN

Thomas F. McElaney, the well known advertising man passed away at his home, 207 Hawley avenue, this morning after an illness of several weeks duration.

Mr. McElaney was born in Boston and for a number of years was connected with various newspapers in that city, also with Washington and New York papers.

He came to Bridgeport ten years ago to take charge of the advertising department of the Bridgeport Times, which position he held for a number of years. More recently he was employed with the Post and Standard-American, being advertising manager of the last named paper at the time of his death.

Some years ago he married Anna T. Baker, who with three children, Emma, Madeline and John survive him. Mr. McElaney was particularly well known in business circles where his affable disposition and engaging manner immediately made friends of every one with whom he came in contact.

The funeral will be held from his late residence on Saturday afternoon at three o'clock and from St. Patrick's church at three-thirty o'clock.

## SPANISH INFLUENZA Fortify yourself against it by taking

Kerr's FLAX-SEED Emulsion LINONINE

COUNT ANDRASSY REPLACES BURIAN

Basel, Oct. 25.—Emperor Charles, according to a Budapest dispatch has accepted the resignation of Baron Burian, the Austrian-Hungarian foreign minister, and also of the Hungarian cabinet headed by Dr. Wekerle. Count Julius Andrássy, a Hungarian statesman, has been appointed to succeed Baron Burian.

## WAR LABOR BOARD AWARD

Washington, Oct. 25.—An award of the War Labor Board today in the labor controversy at the General Electric Co.'s plant at Lynn, Mass., provides for adoption of the eight-hour day and wages already approved at the Schenectady plant, wage changes to be retroactive to July 17, and orders the reinstatement of 12 employees discharged before a strike at Lynn last summer.

## RECEPTION TO SPELLACY

A reception will be tendered to the Hon. Thomas J. Spellacy, Democratic candidate for governor, Hon. Chas. D. Lockwood, Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor, and the other candidates on the Democratic ticket, by the Woodrow Wilson Club, Sunday evening, Oct. 27th, at 8 o'clock, at Colonial hall, Fairfield avenue. The public is cordially invited. A special invitation is tendered to ladies.

## Allies Successful In Belgium; New Italian Offensive Commences

British Smashing Their Way Eastward in Sector Vital to Security of Valenciennes—French Reported to Have Surrounded La Fere—Americans Make Important Gains at Three Points—Hold Them Against Violent Counter Attacks.

(By The Associated Press)

As the Allied forces in Belgium and France continue successfully to storm the stubbornly defended German lines, Italian troops on the Italian northern front have begun an offensive against the Austrians.

British troops today are smashing their way eastward on the sector between Valenciennes and LeQuesnere, which is vital to the security of Valenciennes. Farther south the French, who gradually have been forcing the enemy from the pocket between the Oise and the Serre, have resumed their pressure and are reported to have entered Villers-le-Sec and surrounded La Fere.

American forces have made further gains east and west of the Meuse despite strong enemy resistance. The Germans on the western end of the line are reported to be preparing to withdraw their positions.

American troops in heavy fighting during last night and early today, made important gains at three points and maintained them against violent German counter efforts. East of the river the Americans made another step toward the important town of Danvillers by penetrating the Boise d'Ormont. On the left and center of the front west of the Meuse the Americans have captured several important ridges near Grand Pre. Between Rappes wood and Bantheville wood they also have extended their line.

General Diaz in his new offensive is reported to have driven the Austrians from important heights north and west of Monte Grappa between the Piave and the Brenta. In the Piave the Italians have captured two islands.

East of Le Cateau the British are before the Mormal forest while south along the Oise and the Serre, the French are pressing hard against the Germans. Since Wednesday morning the British armies advancing from a few miles north of Valenciennes to east of Le Cateau have taken 5,400 prisoners and 160 guns.

Field Marshal Haig, his troops having reached the western edge of the Mormal forest, apparently is striving to outflank that natural barrier on the north by advancing through Lequesnere toward Mons and Maubeuge. The Germans are fighting stiffly to prevent this, resulting in desperate combats in the villages and other strategic points south of Valenciennes. The British, however, are pushing steadily ahead and have taken Maing and Vendegies. Fighting was resumed on this sector Friday morning with the British advancing from the hills east of the Escaut river toward the railroad and high road between Valenciennes and LeQuesnere.

Immediately north of Valenciennes the British have taken many villages and continue to approach the crossing of the Scheldt. This town is six and one-half miles northeast of Valenciennes.

French troops east of Sambre-Oise canal in the region of Longchamps have repulsed two German attempts to drive them back across the canal. Along the Serre and Souche rivers the French yesterday resumed the pressure, after having thrown back enemy efforts south of Montcornet.

In the region east of the Oise the French are reported to have penetrated Villers-le-Sec and surrounded La Fere.

Northeast of Ethen the French have made an important advance on the Ardennes canal, gaining the villages of Ambly and Fleury. At Ambly the French are only three miles south of the railroad junction at Amigne, the gaining of which would compel the Germans to withdraw from Rethel and the line of the Aisne in that region.

With the Allied armies in France and Belgium, Oct. 25, 4:30 a. m.—(By the Associated Press)—Fighting which compares in fierceness to almost any in the war, continued through the night on the field of the great battle north and south of Valenciennes. Related reports indicate that the British have beaten the German defenses, gaining considerable ground and are proceeding eastward.

Since Wednesday morning, the British third army has taken 6,000 prisoners and the first and fourth armies each have taken 1,200, making a total of 7,200. More than 100 cannon were captured on Thursday.

All of the above men who are considered giants in the entertainment world, are now getting their heads together to plan a program which for size, merit and spectacular attainment will have anything hitherto even dreamed of dwarfed by comparison.

To get just an inkling of a few of the things which will be seen by the thousands who will watch the parade, the largest ever planned for any place, there will be nearly one hundred elephants, more than 40 camels, dozens of giraffes and zebras, while the horses will be in such numbers like a brigade of cavalry. Not alone will there be hundreds of animals on foot and in cages, but there will be dozens of bands, military and jazz. There will be clowns, several miles of wagons, Indians, cowboys, Mexicans, Cosacs, beside the naval and military adjuncts which will make the forthcoming spectacle an epoch in the history of the "big tops."

In addition to the few of the many wonders listed above will be some of the world's most beautiful women costumed in every manner.