

THE BRITISH AND FRENCH DRIVE BACK THE GERMAN'S

BRITISH NEARING ST. QUENTIN CITY

Due East of Peronne Army of King George Seize Hill Which Brings Them Within Four Miles of Cambrai-St. Quentin Road.

FURTHER SOUTH ADVANCE REACHED A POINT BARELY FOUR MILES FROM CENTRE OF CITY—HEAVY FIGHTING YESTERDAY WEST OF CITY—BRITISH TAKE SAVY.

London, April 1.—British troops on the Somme front yesterday continued to make progress, notwithstanding stubborn resistance offered by the Germans, telegraphs Reuter's correspondent at the British headquarters in France. Due east of Peronne General Haig's forces have advanced to a point four miles west of the Cambrai-St. Quentin road, and further south they have forced the Germans back to within four miles of the centre of St. Quentin.

The deep says: "Our progress in the past twenty-four hours was continued, with every opposition weaker along the southern part of the front. Every advance on the northern part had to be wrested by hard fighting."

British Near City.
"Due east of Peronne the British seized a hill which brings them within four miles of the Cambrai-St. Quentin road. Further south the advance reached a point barely four miles from the centre of St. Quentin.

"In the triangle of greater resistance, between Croisilles-Vaux-Vraucourt and Queant, two more enemy posts have been captured after fierce fighting. One of these positions was protected by a bombing post in which every man was killed."

Heavy Fighting.
London, April 1.—Heavy fighting took place today west of St. Quentin, resulting in the capture by the British of the village of Savy. Later British troops attacked Savy wood, about a mile from the village, and only three miles from St. Quentin, and occupied the position.

Official report from British headquarters in France which records successes announced also by the British of Vendelles, further north, and Epéhy and south-east of Givinchy (Arras sector). A few more prisoners were taken and many casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

"There was considerable air activity yesterday, with many fights. Two German airplanes were destroyed and three others were driven down. One of our machines is missing."

FRENCH SENATE DENOUNCES THE ACTS OF HUNS

Chamber Passes Resolution Condemning Devastation Brought by Germans in Their Desperate Retreat.

Paris, April 1.—The senate yesterday showed its wrath at the devastation Northern France by voting a resolution denouncing the civilized world the acts of the Germans, and demanding that the authors be punished. The resolution, which was adopted by a vote of 150 to 10, was prepared by Senator Henri Chéron, member of the committee on war damages, which visited the devastated region in the Somme after the recent retreat. His speech on the resolution, as well as one by René Viviani, minister of justice, brought repeated and prolonged applause, and a vote was passed in all public places in France.

Senator Chéron said that Germany, by signing the Hague convention, had given a guarantee against the pillage of person or property. This has been treated as a simple scrap of paper, he said, and it would be necessary to go back ages to find such acts of piracy and devastation as the committee found in Northern France. "Everywhere it is pillage and devastation. In a German village we found a statue of peace. We saw that in the same cemetery a statue of a woman was violated, a coffin opened and the remains of the dead were scattered."

RUSSIANS REPEL THE AUSTRIANS

Strong Attack by Soldiers of Dual Monarchy in South-west Carpathians.

Petrograd, via London, April 1.—After making repeated attacks, Austrian forces yesterday were successful in penetrating the Russian trenches in the region of Kirilbaba, in the southeastern Carpathians, says the Russian official statement issued today, but they were ejected by a Russian counter-attack and the position was restored. Near Odobecht, southern Moldavia, a Teuton airship was destroyed by Russian airplanes and anti-aircraft guns.

Saturday's Statement.
Petrograd, via London, Mar. 31.—An official statement issued today by the Russian war department says: "Western front: Minor German attacks north of Ilnik and in the region of Postavy were repulsed. On the rest of the front there were scouting reconnaissances and rifle firing."

"Roumanian front: There were reconnaissances by scouts and reciprocal firing. Our artillery successfully bombarded German positions which were endeavoring to approach Galatz."

THREE MASTER SUNK BY A HUN RAIDER

Schooner Perce, Owned in Halifax January 28, in South Atlantic—Another Vessel Probably Met Same Fate.

Halifax, April 1.—Another Nova Scotia sailing vessel has fallen victim to the Hun pirates. This time it is the three-masted schooner Perce, owned by Robin, Jones & Whitman of Halifax. The Perce, according to despatches received here from Rio Janeiro, was sunk on January 28, in the south Atlantic by a German commerce raider. She was one of eleven steamers and sailing vessels sunk by this raider whose survivors have been landed at Rio Janeiro by the French bark Camborne.

The Perce sailed from Halifax on January 3 for Santos with a cargo of fish shipped by Robin, Jones & Whitman. She has been long overdue at the Brazilian port and fears for her safety have been entertained for the past fortnight. The schooner was a craft of 265 tons gross, built in Liverpool, N. S., where she was launched on September 29, 1916.

Another Halifax vessel which has been long overdue and which may have met the same fate as the Perce is the tern schooner Bessie A Crooks, now sixty-three days from Pernambuco, Brazil, in ballast for Barbados. The Bessie A Crooks is owned by F. K. Warren.

UNCLE SAM TO DECIDE UPON WAR OR PEACE

Congress Meets Today in Important Session.

WAR REGARDED AS CERTAINTY

Pacifist Groups Not Strong Enough to Defeat the Will of the American Nation.

Washington, April 1.—Congress, called in extraordinary session by President Wilson, will meet tomorrow to determine the most important issue before the legislative representatives of the people of the United States since the Civil war. It is considered a foregone conclusion that it either will declare war against Germany or declare that a state of war exists because of Germany's aggressions on the high seas.

President Wilson has completed the message he will deliver to congress and is ready to address a joint session as soon as he gets word that both houses have been organized and are ready to hear him.

Either before or directly after he addresses congress, the president is expected to confer with leaders of both houses regarding the specific legislation desired by the administration.

The war and navy departments continued today their preliminary preparatory measures, and are ready with recommendations for further strengthening the army and navy to be submitted as soon as congress decides whether the nation is actually to go to war with Germany.

Democratic Control Likely.

Both houses meet at noon tomorrow. The senate, already organized, will be ready to transact business when the gavel falls, but in view of the fact that any war resolution is expected to carry an appropriation it is expected that action will wait on the house. Democratic and Republican members of the house have cleared the way for an immediate effort to organize, and the belief was general tonight that the Democrats would resume control, with Speaker Clark in the chair, within a few hours after the session begins.

War is Certain.

There is little doubt that a war resolution will be passed by large majorities in both houses. There are little groups of pacifists opposed to war, except to resist invasion, who will vote and probably talk against any warlike move. There are other groups who have their own ideas about what the United States should do in the present situation, but none is strong enough to prevent action, or to seriously impede its progress.

In the house there probably will be no persistent action unless it comes from members who favor more far-reaching action than the president recommends. The senate has its new closure rule to limit debate, if a small group there undertakes to delay action.

Universal Training.

Efforts are certain to be made to put through a universal military training bill, even if President Wilson does not endorse it. There will be much opposition to it, particularly if the belief gains currency that such legislation will pave the way for the sending of an expeditionary force to the European battlefields. There has been much talk of a bond issue to provide a loan or credit to France of \$500,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000. Such proposal would receive strong support, but there might be enough opposition to prevent immediate enactment of the necessary legislation.

Organized Peace Propaganda.

Hundreds of telegrams poured into the capital today bearing on the question of war legislation. Many spoke against war, and members in favor of quick, decisive action attributed the flood of messages to an organized anti-war propaganda.

Representative Flood, of Virginia, ranking Democrat of the house foreign affairs committee, has been working for several days on a resolution

FRENCH MAKE THREE IMPORTANT GAINS

In Operating to South of Laon French Troops Capture Several German Trenches and Reach Outskirts of Vauxaillon and Laffaux--French Occupy Further Trench Systems South of Ailette River.

TURKISH ARMY DEFEATED BY THE BRITISH

Efforts by Ottoman Troops to Envelop British Force 35 Miles North of Bagdad Failed

London, April 1.—Efforts made by Turkish troops to envelop a British force near Deltawah, thirty-five miles north of Bagdad, have failed, says an official British statement on military operations in Mesopotamia and the Turks in that region are now in full retreat. The text of the statement follows:

"An attempt by the enemy to make a converging movement from the Shatt-el-Adhaim and Dely Abbas on a detachment near Deltawah has failed. The movement from Dely Abbas was continued, and the hostile troops advancing from that direction are now in full retreat.

"An enemy force advancing from the Shatt-el-Adhaim was attacked by us on Thursday and after some severe fighting we occupied the whole enemy position, from which several counter attacks failed to dislodge us. This enemy force, after leaving 124 mangled and many wounded prisoners in our hands, has again sought refuge on the right bank of the Shatt-el-Adhaim."

SOCIALISTS OF AUSTRIA WANT PEACE

Copenhagen, Mar. 31, via London, April 1.—A Socialist newspaper of Vienna, received here, contains a brief announcement that the leaders of the German Socialist party in Austria have adopted a declaration regarding peace. It is addressed to the Russian proletariat, and will be forwarded through the International Socialist Bureau. The announcement says that the censor prohibits the publication of the text of the declaration.

London, March 31 (3.55 p. m.)—The war office announces that since the advent of the rainy season all extensive operations in East Africa have stopped. Advantage has been taken of this to reconstruct the railways and communications damaged by the retreating Germans. The whole German territory north of the Central Railway has been transferred from a military to a provisional civil administration.

DESPITE UNFAVORABLE WEATHER WHICH PREVAILS ON LE MORT HOMME FRONT ALL ATTEMPTS OF ENEMY TO REPEL THE ARMY OF FRANCE FAIL

Paris, April 1.—In their operations to the southwest of Laon the French troops have made important advances, capturing several German trenches, and have reached the outskirts of Vauxaillon and Laffaux, according to the official communication issued by the war office tonight. The text reads:

"Between the Somme and the Oise intermittent artillery actions occurred, and lively fusillades by the advanced posts. We dispersed enemy patrols and made some prisoners."

Heavy Fighting.
"South of the Ailette river, in the course of a spirited offensive action our troops occupied from the Ailette river as far as the Laon road several trench systems and organized points of support east of Neuville Sur Margival. The enemy who made an energetic defence, was driven back with serious losses as far as the outskirts of Vauxaillon and Laffaux. One hundred and eight prisoners, including two officers and four machine guns remained in our hands."

"In the Champagne both artilleries displayed great activity west of Massigny. Our batteries look under their fire enemy contingents seem to be marching in that region. There was no event of importance on the rest of the front."

"On the entire Belgian front there has been sustained artillery fighting day and night, particularly in the region of Dixmude. Bomb and grenade fighting was resumed in the direction of Steenstraete."

Eastern theatre: The aviation groups have been very active on the eastern front. The enemy bombarded our positions on the Vardar and fired about fifty shells on Monastir. Our heavy artillery vigorously replied against the enemy batteries and caused an explosion in the enemy sector on the Cerna."

Paris, April 1.—French troops last night made further progress along both sides of the Ailette river, it was announced by the war office today. The French also pushed forward in the region north and east of Margival, which is on the southern end of the new battle line in France formed by the German retirement.

The text of the statement follows: "On the Somme and on the Oise artillery duels were violent in the region of Rouppe, and on the front between Essigny and Benay. There

OPERATIONS IN EAST AFRICA ARE HALTED

Rainy Season Stops All Extensive Operations—Whole German Territory North of Central Railway Transferred from Military to Civil Administration.

London, March 31 (3.55 p. m.)—The war office announces that since the advent of the rainy season all extensive operations in East Africa have stopped. Advantage has been taken of this to reconstruct the railways and communications damaged by the retreating Germans. The whole German territory north of the Central Railway has been transferred from a military to a provisional civil administration.

CASUALTY LIST

Ottawa, April 1.—9.30 p. m. list—Infantry.
Killed in action—H. C. Ormiston, Enfield, N. S. W. I. Lealle, River Hebert, N. S. Wounded—Ellis Hooper, Central B. deque, P. E. I. H. G. Drost, Bath, N. S. Acting Corporal E. E. Cross, Round Hill, N. S.

RAIN PREVENTS WAR.

London, April 1.—The war office announces that since the advent of the rainy season all extensive operations in East Africa have stopped. Advantage has been taken of this to reconstruct the lines.

Good Progress.
"North and south of the Ailette river we made considerable progress during the night, especially to the north and east of Margival."

"Attempts made by the enemy on our small posts south and east of Craonne, near Vauquois, and in the region west of Le Mort Homme, completely failed. We made some prisoners."

"The night elsewhere on the front was calm."

"Despite the unfavorable weather, which still prevails on this front, our pilots were engaged in numerous aerial combats in the course of this week, and destroyed several German machines. Lieut. Dorme brought down his eighteenth German airplane and Captain Doumer and Adjutant Casale each forced down his seventh enemy adversary. Captain Matton brought down his fifth German machine."

Saturday's Statement.
Paris, Mar. 31.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads:

"North and south of the Oise there was slight artillery activity. North of Soissons the enemy directed two counter-attacks against the positions which we occupied northeast of Ygny, but both attempts were stopped short by our fire. On the left bank of the Meuse our artillery shelled the German organizations on Hill 304. The day was comparatively calm on the rest of the front."

"German airplanes last evening dropped bombs in the region of Dunkirk. Two civilians were killed and three wounded."

Eastern theatre: The day of Mar. 30 was relatively quiet on the front of the Allied armies in the east."

R. S. Faulkenham, West Dalhousie, N. S.
C. A. Morse, Waterville, N. S.
Dangerously ill—
Ernest Casey, Amherst, N. S.
Presumed to have died—
R. C. Ferguson, Campbellton, N. B.
Artillery.
Wounded—
Bomb. R. F. Beal, Brooklyn Road, N. B.

SNOW STORMS HINDER ITALIANS IN MOUNTAINS

Rome, April 1, via London.—"Snow storms in the mountainous areas have hindered artillery activity," says the official statement issued today by the war office, "but the firing was considerably marked east of Gorizia and on the Carso."

"Minor successful encounters were reported in the vicinity of Tomlie Pass, in the Camonica Valley, and on the northern slopes of Mont Melino (Glandecaria Valley)."

"In the area of Gorizia, on the night of March 30-31, after violent artillery and trench mortar preparation, the enemy launched an attack against our lines north of Caterina, but was immediately driven back. On the same night an attempted raid on our position east of Vertoba was unsuccessful."