

# The Standard

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WEATHER—FAIR

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## TEUTONS RETIRE BEFORE THE BRITISH AND FRENCH

### BRITISH AND FRENCH ARE STILL WINNING

#### Both Armies Gradually Approaching Strongly Fortified Town of St. Quentin, Held by German Army—British Improve Position West of Croisilles and Also Enter Enemy Trenches Northeast of Loos.

#### FRENCH MAKE IMPORTANT ADVANCE AND TAKE POSITION EXTENDING OVER FRONT ABOUT TWO MILES AND A HALF, EMBRACING CASTRES AND ESSIGNY-LE-GRAND — FROM THE SOMME TO THE AISNE FRENCH CONTINUE BIG OFFENSIVE MOVEMENT.

Paris, Mar. 25.—Another important advance has been made by the French in their movement against the strongly defended town of St. Quentin, the war office reporting tonight that the position embracing Castres and Essigny-Le-Grand, extending over a front of about two and a half miles, has been taken.

Heavy fighting has been in progress in various sectors, and the French report large German losses. The text of the official statement reads:

"From the Somme to the Aisne our troops continue their offensive movement. During the course of the day a desperate struggle followed, a strong defense by the enemy, but our soldiers, aroused by the example of the ravages committed by the Germans, everywhere drove back the adversary, who suffered serious losses.

"Active fighting has been in progress in various sectors, and the French report large German losses. The text of the official statement reads:

"Between the Somme and the Oise we drove the enemy out of the important position of Castres Essigny-Le-Grand and Hill 121. A violent German counter-attack between Essigny and Benay, was broken down by our fire.

"South of the Oise our troops penetrated several points in the Basse Forest de Coucy and reached the outskirts of Folembray and Coucy-Le-Chateau. German troops on the march in the direction of Folembray were caught under the fire of our batteries and dispersed with heavy losses.

"North of Soissons we increased our gains and repulsed two counter-attacks directed against the Vregny-Margival front.

"Active artillery fighting on both sides took place in the region of Craonne (northeast of Soissons).

"On the Verdun front our batteries effectively shelled the German organizations of Hill 304 and northwest of Ezovaux.

"Eastern theatre: The day was calm save in the region of Monastir, where the artillery displayed its usual activity. The enemy commences concentrating the engagements of March 20-21 is false. We have maintained all the important positions conquered north of Monastir."

Progress in Night.

Paris, Mar. 25.—Further progress was made last night by the French towards St. Quentin from north of Grand Searaucourt, as well as on the east bank of the Ailette, south of Chauny, and in the region north of Soissons, the war office announced today.

In the Verdun region the French captured parts of German trenches in the Malancourt Wood sector and repulsed a German attack near Apremont.

The text of the statement follows: "During the night we made further progress north of Grand Searaucourt, in the direction of St. Quentin. Between the Somme and the Oise the night was relatively calm. Prisoners taken by us yesterday belong to seven different regiments.

Consolidate Positions.

"On the east bank of the Ailette we advanced noticeably south of Chauny and consolidated our positions, as we did also in the region north of Soissons. West of the Meuse we executed a surprise attack and captured elements of enemy trenches east of the Malancourt Wood. East of the Meuse a German attack upon one of our trenches in the direction of Apremont was repulsed with hand grenades. There is nothing to report from the rest of the front.

"Aviation: During the day of March 24, Adjutant Ortoll brought down his sixth German machine. Another enemy machine was destroyed in an aerial combat in the region of Belfontaine.

"German aviators dropped numerous bombs yesterday on Calais and Dunkirk. In Dunkirk there were neither casualty nor property damage.

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### UNITED STATES PREPARING RAPIDLY FOR HOSTILITIES

#### Navy to be Recruited to Strength of 87,000 Enlisted Men — Two Military Departments for Atlantic Coast Region — Provisions to Suppress Possible Domestic Disorders.

Washington, March 25.—President Wilson took steps today to place the nation on a war footing.

By executive order he directed that the navy be recruited without delay to the full authorized war strength of 87,000 enlisted men. Taken in connection with emergency naval construction already ordered, this means that the president has exercised the full limit of his legal powers as commander-in-chief to prepare the navy for war.

To Protect Industries.

For the army the president directed that two military departments be created in the Atlantic coast region. The order means that the task of organizing whatever army congress may authorize will be divided among six departmental commanders, instead of four, in the interest of speed and efficiency in mobilization.

The third step was to assume, as a national day, the task of protecting American industries from domestic disorders in the event of hostilities. For this purpose eleven full infantry regiments, two separate battalions and one separate company of National Guards were called back into the federal service to act as national police in important districts. Supplementing these troops, a regiment of Pennsylvania guards and two companies of Georgia infantry, en route home from the border for muster out, were ordered retained in the federal service. The president's orders were made known in terse official statements issued by both departments. No explanation accompanied them, except the statement that reorganization of the military departments was effective March 1, was designed to facilitate decentralization of command.

### THE GERMANS ACKNOWLEDGE A REPULSE

#### Berlin War Office Admits Abandonment of Roisel—Engagement Near Vregny.

Berlin, via Bayville, Mar. 25.—On the Russian, Rumanian and Macedonian fronts only artillery and raiding activities were in evidence yesterday, according to today's report on these war areas. The statement reads: "Eastern front: A surprise attack near Samnau, on the Drina, resulted in twenty-one Russians coming into our hands. In several sectors, notably near Smogorz, west of Latal and near Brody and Brzezany, the artillery activity temporarily increased.

"Rumanian front: The situation during the day is unchanged. "Macedonian front: North of Monastir our raiding detachments cleared out a nest of French riflemen which had remained before our positions.

"Western front: During the bright weather there was lively artillery activity on the Flanders and Artois fronts.

"Southeast of Ypres our mine throwers carried out efficient shelling. Reconnoitering troops advancing after this, found the trenches completely destroyed and evacuated by the enemy.

"Near Beaumes and Roisel and east of the Crozat Canal hostile advances encountered our protecting troops which after inflicting damage upon the enemy, gave way, following their orders. In an engagement near Vregny, north of Soissons, French battalions were repulsed with heavy losses.

### PRINCE FRIEDRICK KARL WOUNDED

#### Second Son of Prince Leopold of Prussia Shot Down in Aeroplane by British Artillery Near Peronne.

Madrid, Mar. 25.—King Alfonso received a wireless despatch today to the effect that Prince Friedrich Leopold of Prussia had been informed from France that his second son, Prince Friedrich Karl, had been shot down by British artillery while flying over the British line in the region of Peronne and had been wounded gravely in the stomach. The message said that the Prince would be operated on today.

The German statement of Thursday said Prince Friedrich Karl, a cousin of Emperor William, and an army aviator, had not returned from a raid over the lines between Arras and Peronne.

### FRENCH DRIVE HUNS UNABLE TO STAND THE NIGHT LIST OF KILLED AND WOUNDED

Ottawa, Mar. 25.—9.30 p.m. list: Infantry.

Presumed to have died: A. J. Dickson, New Waterford, N. S. R. W. Farley, Newcastle, N. B.

Wounded: Lance Corporal O. S. Cook, New Glasgow, N. S. P. Thomas, Tracadie, N. B. C. S. Stoddard, Musquodoboit Harbor, N. S. Fred N. Gay, Amherst, N. S. P. A. Arsenault, St. Chrysostom, P. E. I. H. Harris, Halifax, N. S. M. Verk, St. John, N. B. E. L. Quinn, Sonora, Guysboro Co., N. S. A. N. Decoste, Harbor Au Boche, Antigonish Co., N. S. Killed in action: L. R. Potter, Clementsvale, Annapolis, N. S. Acting Corporal J. W. Clark, Campbellton, N. B. W. E. Hayden, Digby, N. S. G. E. McDonald, 279 Maynard street, Halifax, N. S. Seriously ill: C. Morgan, North Sydney, N. S. Artillery.

Wounded: Driver J. H. Martin, Montague, P. E. I. Gunner J. McKenzie, Glace Bay, N. S. Died: Gunner L. Nailon, North Sydney, N. S.

### SAYS ENEMY MENACES THE RUSSIAN CAPITAL

#### Minister of War Guchkoff, in Proclamation to People of Petrograd States that Huns are Concentrating on Northern Front and Tells of German Spy System in City.

Petrograd, March 24, via London.—The following proclamation to the people of Petrograd has been issued by A. J. Guchkoff, minister of war:

The enemy is menacing the capital from two directions. First he is concentrating continually on our northern front great quantities of munitions, supplies and men; second he is concentrating his spies in Petrograd. Steps against the latter are an immediate necessity.

Difficult Task.

It is always a difficult task to unmask these traitors, who hide everywhere, seeking to cover their criminal activities under the cloak of all social conditions, all trades, wearing all uniforms, mixing themselves with the crowd, in which they sow discord and spread distrust among the timid and weak. To the enemy's clandestine spy system we must oppose that of our general staff. Citizens and soldiers

should be watchful and wise for the danger is great.

Advice to Citizens.

Do not confound our anti-spy agents with the secret police of the old regime, which have gone forever, and who are useless to the new regime, which governs in accord with the will of the people. The new regime will not permit any revival of the old dark forces.

Citizens be prudent. Do not reveal secrets of national defence. Be vigilant and attentive. Be on guard.

Will Meet Payments.

London, March 25.—The provisional government of Russia, says the Reuters correspondent at Petrograd has issued a proclamation that it will meet faithfully all the pecuniary engagements of the late government, notably with regard to interests and amortization of state debts, the fulfillment of commercial contracts and the payment of official salaries. Direct customs duties and other taxes will be levied, as in the past, until modified in accordance with the new laws.

### ALLEGED HUN WAR LOAN COMPLETE SUCCESS

#### Probably Subscriptions Will Total \$250,000,000—Issue Was for \$150,000,000.

Berne, via Paris, March 25.—"If peace negotiations were begun today," says the Journal De Geneve, which does not reveal the source of its information, "Germany would offer to restore the territory she occupies in France, except in the mining district of Briey, in exchange for a channel port, Calais or Dunkirk, and an indemnity of 15,000,000,000 francs.

"Germany would also offer to restore the territorial integrity and the sovereignty of Belgium, on condition that Belgium would not be allowed to maintain a national army, and that Germany would be permitted to garrison Namur, Liege and Antwerp perpetually."

It is added by the newspaper that Germany must be given control of the Belgian railroads and ports, and be favorably treated in an economic treaty. This is not the programme of pan-Germans but the actual terms of the German government, says the Journal De Geneve.

### CHINA MAY BREAK WITH AUSTRIA

Peking, Mar. 22.—The Chinese foreign office has directed the Chinese minister at Vienna to ask the Austro-Hungarian government if it approved of the German submarine policy, because of which China has severed diplomatic relations with Germany. Should a satisfactory reply be not forthcoming diplomatic relations with China and Austria-Hungary probably will be severed.

McGraw TO GET \$50,000.

San Antonio, Texas, Mar. 25.—President Hempstead, of the New York Giants, announced here today that Manager John J. McGraw has signed a five year contract calling for a salary of \$50,000 a year. Hempstead said:

"McGraw is said to be the highest priced man in baseball, and he deserves to be. He has been with the Giants since 1902, and we hope to have him in the club as long as he remains in baseball."

Previous to signing the contract McGraw's salary was announced as \$30,000 a year.

### WILLIAM WALKER OF THE G. T. R. SUCCEEDS BOND

Montreal, Mar. 25.—William Walker has been appointed acting divisional engineer of the eastern lines of the Grand Trunk vice Mr. F. L. C. Bond, enlisted for overseas service.