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ACTION GROWS LIVELIER ON WESTERN FRONT

British Continue Raids on Enemy Lines—At One Place Penetrated to Depth of 1,200 Yards—U. S. Troops Repulse Strong German Attack—Active on the Italian Front

London, Feb. 28—(Delayed)—The report from British headquarters in France and Belgium tonight reads:

"Early this morning English troops successfully raided enemy trenches in the neighborhood of Gonnelcu (southwest of Cambrai.) Considerable casualties were inflicted on the garrison, a machine gun blown up and a few prisoners brought back. In the raid last night south of the Houtholst Forest, Dorset, Manchester, Lancashire and Scottish troops penetrated the enemy's lines to a depth of 1,200 yards. In addition to fourteen prisoners captured, a large number of the enemy are believed to have been killed.

"Hostile artillery has shown some activity again today at a number of points along our front, particularly in the neighborhood of St. Quentin, southeast of Armentieres and in the Zonnebeke sector."

London, March 1—"A successful raid in which we captured a few prisoners was carried out by Stafford and Cheshire troops last night north of the Ypres-Staden railway," the war office reports. "There was some artillery activity on both sides during the night in the neighborhood of La Vacquerie and east of Ypres."

Attack Repulsed.

With the American Army in France, Feb. 28—(By the Associated Press)—A strong German attack, following a heavy barrage fire against the American trenches in the Chemin Des Dames sector was repulsed with losses. The well placed American machine guns sent streams of bullets into the advancing enemy and as the German barrage fire lifted the American artillery quickly laid down a curtain of fire, the Germans retiring without a single prisoner. There were no American casualties. Five French soldiers were wounded in the fighting.

The Americans stayed in their dugouts until the proper time, when they jumped to the guns and fought like veterans.

Hun Batteries Wiped Out.

With the American Army in France, Feb. 28—(By the Associated Press)—Swift retribution has fallen upon the German batteries which this week bombarded the American trenches northwest of Toul with gas shells. American heavy artillery concentrated its fire on the German Minenwerfer batteries for half an hour today and obliterated the position. Timbers were thrown high in the air and explosions, probably of enemy ammunition and gas, resulted. The ground about the German batteries was churned upside down and if there were any German soldiers there they certainly suffered death.

Thus far six men have died from the effect of the German gas shells. More than eighty are in hospital suffering from gas poisoning. Most of these cases, however, are slight and only one man is reported to be in a grave condition.

Artillery Lively.

Rome, Feb. 28—The Italian war office communication issued today reads as follows:

"There have been intermittent artillery actions, which became quite lively on both sides of the Brenta and south of Ponte Di Piave. Southeast of the edge of Monte Solarolo enemy patrols were put to flight by our reconnoitering parties. Others were repulsed by rifle fire in Vallarsa and along the old Piave. North of Col Di Rosso one of our strong patrols reached dwellings in Stoccareddo and drove back groups of enemy troops who had hastily arrived. They captured and brought back to our line two 11-inch trench mortars, about twenty rifles and other war materials.

"Day and night there is great aerial activity along the front. Our aviators successfully dropped six tons of bombs on several military places. British airmen brought down two enemy machines. Near Pieve Di Soligo a captive balloon was hit by our artillery fire. During an enemy raid on Wednesday night two of their machines were brought down."

Bombard "Military Works."

Vienna, Feb. 28, via London—The official statement issued at the war office tonight says:

"There has been increased artillery fire in isolated sectors along the Piave.

"In the reprisal for the Italian air raid on the open town of Innsbruck, our flying squadrons on Tuesday bombed railway stations and military works of the naval port of Venice. Many hits resulted in fires."

STRANGE TALES OF NEW YORK FROM BERLIN

City Surrounded by Barbed Wire Fence; Loiterers Immediately Shot; Hoboken Deserted, According to German Newspapers

New York, Mar. 1—German newspapers have informed their readers that New York city for its protection, has girded itself with a barbed wire fence 625 miles in length. The Germans also have been told that fifty thousand soldiers are guarding the port of New York, that rigorous measures have been taken in Chicago and elsewhere, and that Hoboken is deserted. Under the caption "American war fever," the Cologne Gazette on January 16, a copy of which has been received here, publishes the following despatch under an Amstedram date: "It is reported from New York that a barbed wire fence of over 1,000 kilometres has been drawn around the docks and piers of New York. This gigantic fence encircles the whole of New York and also the adjoining cities of Brooklyn, Hoboken and Jersey City. No one is allowed to pass through this fence without permission, especially no enemy alien.

"Fifty thousand soldiers have been detailed to guard the port terminals. Any person found loitering in the vicinity of the barbed wire fence is immediately shot. All Germans who either reside or work within the barbed wire zone must vacate the district immediately.

"In Chicago alone 28,000 Germans have been forced to move out of the harbor district. These rigorous regulations have caused great excitement among the business men of the entire country because they are compelled to do without their German employes if their places of business are near the docks. A delegation of master butchers have vainly pleaded for an alleviation of these regulations.

"The Germans who in Hoboken had built up a colony resembling a little piece of Germany have all been forced to leave, and that port, which already had suffered heavily from the war, is now absolutely deserted."

PLANNED TO DYNAMITE CANADIAN FACTORIES

Detroit, Mich., March 1—Federal authorities late last night took into custody four Germans whom they accuse of conspiring to dynamite Canadian factories. The arrests were made, the authorities said, after they had received affidavits signed by a son and granddaughter of one of those arrested, charging that they had experimented with dynamite bombs, with the intention of destroying property in Canada.

LEFT FOR WINNIPEG.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Steel left yesterday for Winnipeg after spending ten days visiting relatives in this city. Mr. Steel was a member of the staff of the department of militia and defence in Ottawa and is now en route west to report for service to the Bank of Commerce.

A SURPRISE PARTY.

A surprise party was held last evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Brown, 74 Wall street, when a number of friends called and made them the recipients of a handsome tea set. During the evening games and music were enjoyed.

CAPT. ANGLIN RETURNS.

Among the returned officers to arrive in Halifax yesterday from overseas was Captain Gerald Anglin, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Anglin of Lancaster Heights. He is expected in the city on the Halifax train this afternoon.

CUSTOMS RETURNS SMALLER.

Customs returns for the month of February were $186,342.95, as compared with $244,466.39 for the corresponding month last year. This shows a falling off of $58,123.44.

NOT READY TO ACCEPT PEACE AT ANY PRICE

Jassy, Roumania, Tuesday, Feb. 26—An official note announcing that Roumania has decided to enter into peace negotiations with the Central Powers, declares reports that Roumania will accept peace at any price are untrue. The government, it is added, will only enter into negotiations if assured that they will be conducted on a basis acceptable in every respect.

NO CHANGE IN YUKON.

Dawson, Y. T., Mar. 1—Official recount of the Yukon parliamentary vote before Judge MacAulay was completed yesterday and resulted in no change from the result as announced some time ago by the returning officer.

BELGIUM'S REPLY TO OVERTURES BY VON HERTLING

Will Not Discuss Peace Except With Allies

THE KAISER'S MESSAGE

Reichstag Refuses to Prosecute Social Democrat—Belgian Senators Condemned to Death For Espionage—Appeal is Made

Havre, Feb. 28—(By the Associated Press)—Baron De Broqueville, the Belgian foreign minister, gives the Associated Press the following statement concerning the recent speech by Count Von Hertling, the German imperial chancellor:

"The Belgian government's views are known and have not changed. It affirmed them quite recently. In its answer to the Holy See on December 24, the Belgian government said: 'The integrity of the metropolitan and colonial territory; political, economic and military independence without condition or restriction, reparation for damages and guarantees against repetition of aggressions of 1914, are the indispensable conditions for a just peace as far as Belgium is concerned.'

"The Belgian government has already declared and repeated that it will not discuss peace except in consort with the powers who guaranteed its independence and who have fulfilled their obligations toward Belgium."

Peace Idea Uppermost.

Amsterdam, Feb. 28—Emperor William, acknowledging a message of homage from the German agricultural society, telegraphed the following message: "Your loyal greeting has gratified me and again convinced me that I shall not be deceived in my confidence in the efficiency, energy and ready sacrifice of the German agriculturists. The army and navy have achieved tremendous things. The German sword has prepared the way for peace. German industry and perseverance will bring us a blessed future. Look ahead, trust in God. My thanks are accompanying your labors."

Refuse Court Martial.

Amsterdam, Mar. 1—The German Reichstag, the Frankfurter Zeitung says, on Wednesday, without debate refused the request of the Bremen court martial for authority to institute the prosecution of Deputy Alfred Henke, a Social Democrat. He was charged with instigating an offense against the state of siege.

During the labor outbreaks in Germany a month ago martial law was declared in a number of the larger cities, including Bremen. It is probable that the proposed prosecution of Deputy Henke was in connection with the state of martial law in Bremen. Deputy Dittmann was tried and convicted for aiding in the strike troubles in Berlin.

Death Sentences.

Amsterdam, Feb. 28—A German court martial at Antwerp has condemned to death for espionage the Belgian Socialist Senators Colleaux and Legras, according to the Het Volk. Pieter Troelstra, the Dutch Socialist leader, has telegraphed Philipp Scheidemann, the German majority Socialist leader, appealing to him to use his influence to prevent the execution of the sentence.

Geneva, Mar. 1—A cry of alarm has been raised by the Tageblatt, of Gratz, Austria, against the Germanization of the eastern Adriatic, especially Pola and Fiume, which have become bases for German submarines. The principal naval and military appointments are said to be held by German officers and the activities of the submarines extend from Gibraltar to Port Said. Owing to the dangerous passage through the Straits of Gibraltar, the paper says, the submarines are sent in sections by railway to Pola and Trieste from Germany.

WANTS TO RETAIN AFRICAN COLONIES

Secretary for Colonies Denies Militarization Plans But Says Germany Cannot Make Herself Defenceless

Amsterdam, Feb. 28—Dr. W. S. Solf, secretary for the colonies, said that General Smuts had demanded East Africa as a connecting link on the road to Egypt and India and had thus set a sort of Monroe Doctrine for the southern hemisphere with the exclusion of the Germans, just as the French had in West Africa.

Dr. Solf said that Germany desired in the interests of the prestige of the white race to neutralize all her colonies, declaring:—"Our East Africans are holding out, not as General Smuts thinks, because they have been prepared for years for war against Europeans, but because we have succeeded twice in sending them arms and ammunition.

"Germany's programme does not entail militarization in Africa. Nevertheless, Germany cannot make herself defenseless on this account, while others are militarising."

Fulton and Cowler.

St. Louis, Mo., March 1—According to local promoters an eight round boxing exhibition will be staged here March 11 between Fred Fulton, of Rochester, Minn., and Tom Cowler, of New York. Previously it had been reported that Fulton was to meet Bob Devere here on that date but the promoters explained Devere failed to sign an agreement and Cowler was substituted.

SCHOONER CREWS LAND HERE AFTER THRILLING EXPERIENCES

Small Nova Scotian Schooners, Bound For Spain, Foundered in North Atlantic; Curious Co-Incidences Run Through Their Stories

A large ocean liner which arrived in port yesterday had on board, in addition to the regular passenger list, thirteen sailors who were members of the schooners Minnie and Albert A. Young, which foundered at sea. The schooners are registered in Lunenburg, N. S., but sailed from St. Jean's, Newfoundland, with cargoes of dry fish for Coruna, Spain.

The schooner Albert A. Young was a two-master of 100 tons and was in command of Captain Clarence F. Dodman of St. John's, Nfld. She had a crew of five men, consisting of Mate Ronald Moore, Boatswain Patrick Clancy, Joseph Compton, cook; Patrick Ryan and Daniel Keefe, sailors before the mast.

Captain Dodman told the following story about his voyage: "We left St. John's on Jan. 17 for Coruna and from the time we left we encountered heavy weather. Later our ship sprung a leak and began to settle in the water. Stormy weather continued and we were buffeted about in the Atlantic at the mercy of wind and sea. Huge combers swept over our decks, for we were sailing low in the water and our little craft would not rise to meet them, and soon everything movable on the decks was carried overboard. The suspense was terrible as we vainly searched the horizon for a sign of a sail or the smoke of a steamer. For seven long days we flew our distress signal, hoping against hope that help would arrive. At last we were almost in despair as we momentarily expected to feel our staunch craft give one last tremble and plunge beneath the waves. The stormy weather continued. Finally one of the men on the lookout sighted a ship far away on our bow. Apparently they noticed our signal of distress and bore down on us and, realizing our perilous condition, began to make preparations to take us off. At this time we were in the rigging and the seas were so high that it was impossible to launch a boat. The ship carried guns and we later learned that it was a fast British destroyer. The crew came as close as possible and after many attempts finally passed us a life saving apparatus. In so doing one of our crew was struck on the head and he was badly cut. We managed to get him in the apparatus and he was landed safely on the destroyer and then we were taken off, one at a time. This happened about 200 miles south of Ireland. When we got on board the rescue ship the captain and crew did everything in their power to make us comfortable. Our men tried to express their appreciation for they realized that the gallant sailors had risked their lives in order to save us from a watery grave. We were landed in Liverpool and later were given passage for this port. The last we saw of our ship she was about one and a half feet under water."

The crew of the Minnie consisted of Captain Peter Yard, Louis La Port, Patrick Quirk, Patrick Kelly, William Mercer, P. G. Randrop and John Boland. She sailed from St. John's on Jan. 3 for Coruna, Spain, also with a cargo of dry fish, and encountered much the same experience as the Albert A. Young. She foundered on Jan. 24 in the North Atlantic, after the crew had been taken off by a passing steamer and taken to Coruna. Later they were sent to Cardiff, New South Wales, and later to Liverpool, where they sailed for St. John. Both crews left at noon today en route to their homes.

WAR BREAD IS BEING MADE IN CANADA TODAY

Food Board Makes Explanation Regarding New Flour—All Retail Grocers Must Have Licences

Ottawa, Mar. 1—Bakers throughout Canada began upon the new breadmaking regulations today, March 1, the only exception being in the case of the regulations regarding the use of standard flour, the date for which has been postponed until March 15.

An Explanation.

Ottawa, Mar. 1—The following was issued today from the offices of the Canada food board:

Statements have appeared recently in certain newspapers to the effect that the Canada food board, in its regulations standardizing wheat flour, was making it necessary for the bakers to buy an inferior product which was costing them thirty cents a barrel more than the patents which they had been using.

In the past, flour has been divided into a number of grades with prices differing for each grade. The finest flour was sold as the best patent, naturally, at the highest price. The bakers in making their principal kinds of bread used what was known as "second patents" or "strong bakers," employing the finest flour only in the manufacture of their fancy loaves. As a matter of fact, the new standard flour, instead of being inferior, is of a slightly higher quality than the "strong bakers" which has been used generally in break-making establishments for their principal loaves.

Retail Grocers' Licenses.

Ottawa, Mar. 1—An order has been issued by the chairman of the Canada Food Board bringing the retail grocers of the dominion under license. On and after May 1 it will be illegal for any retail grocer to carry on business without a license from the food board. The regulations in regard to this trade are similar to those covering the licensing of other retail dealers, except that the last day for licensing of retail grocers has been fixed at May 1 while the other trades will not be under license until May 15. The regulations contain provisions against speculation, unreasonable increase in price, restriction on supply or attempts to monopolize food products. Destruction of food fit for consumption and waste or failure to prevent waste or deterioration, where such is preventable, are prohibited. Licenses are in uniform with those for other retail dealers in food products, namely: $2 on a turnover of $20,000 or less per annum and an additional $2 for every additional $20,000 or fraction thereof of turnover.

Approximately 22,000 retail grocers will be affected by this licensing arrangement.

RETIRED ON PENSION.

J. J. Irvine has retired from the C. G. R. after forty-five years and five months service, as fireman and engineer. He began on the old European and North American Railway, afterwards the I. C. R., and now the C. G. R. Mr. Irvine is the oldest son of the late Robert Irvine, who was for many years yardmaster at St. John. He was sixty years old on Nov. 5, and is now retired on a pension. He is superintendent of Knox Church Sunday school, a Freemason and Orangeman, and has hosts of friends along the line.

750,000 MORE IS BRITAIN'S LIMIT

Chairman of British Commission in New York Says That is Most That Can be Spared From Industries

New York, Feb. 28—Speaking tonight before the Lotus Club, Sir John Foster Fraser, chairman of the British war lecture commission, said that Great Britain could not put more than another 750,000 men in the field. The assertion that Great Britain could raise additional armies of two million men, the speaker characterized as untrue.

"I know what I am talking about when I tell you that if our necessary industries are to be maintained we cannot raise more than another 750,000 men," said Sir John. "That will bring us to the top point of our man power and we will be reaching it this summer."

The speaker said that while the British were reaching the zenith of strength it was known that the Germans were in greater force than ever, but that there quality had been deteriorated. He said there should be no alarm about the result of the reported coming German offensive on the western front.

"No one can say exactly where the blow will be struck," said Sir John, "but though at terrific sacrifice the enemy may bend our line he will will never break it."

STEAMER SUNK.

New York, Mar. 1—The British merchant steamship Tiberia of 4,880 tons, gross, owned by the Anchor Line, was sunk by a German submarine about Feb. 27, while bound for this port, according to information received in shipping circles today. The crew was rescued.

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meterological service

Synopsis—Pressure is low over the western provinces and over the middle Atlantic coast and high over the southern states. Light snow has fallen in southern Ontario. Elsewhere the weather has been fair and for the most part quite mild.

Lakes and Georgian Bay—Fair and mild today and on Saturday. Ottawa Valley and Upper St. Lawrence—Fair today; Saturday, fair with a higher temperature. Gulf and North Shore—Fair and moderately cold today and on Saturday.

Moderate.

Maritime—Fresh to strong northeast winds with local snowfalls; Saturday, moderate temperature.

Superior—Fair today and on Saturday and becoming milder. Western Provinces—Fair and mild.

New England—Generally fair tonight and Saturday; slightly colder tonight on the mainland; moderate north winds, becoming variable Saturday.

Promise To Defend Petrograd And Withstand Long Siege If People Will Supply Needed Food

Another Proclamation Appeals to Russians for Utmost Resistance to the Germans, But Announcement That United States Consul Has Left the Capital is Taken to Indicate That Situation Has Taken a Turn for the Worse

London, Mar. 1—A Russian wireless message gives the text of another proclamation to all Russians, appealing for the utmost resistance to the Germans and ordering the food producing provinces to immediately send as much food as possible to Petrograd and Moscow. The appeal says: "The capital of the revolution will have to resist a long siege, but it will not capitulate until the last moment. To this end it needs the utmost assistance in regard to food. You must not permit the starvation of revolutionary Petrograd."

London, Mar. 1—The Russian council of peoples' commissaries has decided to return to Petrograd, says an official Russian statement received here today. The removal of elements of the popula tion valueless in the defence of the capital is being continued, however. Gold and other valuables continue to be shipped away from the city, the statement says.

ADVANCE RESUMED.

London, March 1—Despatches received by the Exchange Telegraph Company received in Petrograd at 6 p. m. Thursday indicate that the German advance into Russia has been resumed.

A forward movement by the invaders of some thirty-five miles beyond Polotzia, midway between Dvinsk and Vitebsk, is reported in these advices, the Germans pushing on despite the fact that the railway had been blown up and the stores of provisions in their way destroyed.

German troops are also reported to be moving slowly toward Luga from Pvkov, at which place there are said to have concentrated a division of infantry supported by heavy and light artillery.

The Germans likewise are declared to be moving on Sebezh, eighty miles northeast of Dvinsk.

First Indication.

No previous indication that the peoples' commissioners had left Petrograd has been contained in the Russian advices. These commissioners, who comprise the Russian governing body under the Bolshevik regime, have had their headquarters at the Smolny Institute in Petrograd. Despatches from Petrograd bearing Monday's date reported the removal of the military activities of the government to camp outside Petrograd, but stated that the commissioners themselves were expected to remain at the institute.

Embassies Leave.

London, Feb. 28—The British and French embassies have left Petrograd, according to a telegram from the Russian official news agency in Petrograd and which bears no date.

Stockholm, Feb. 28—(By the Associated Press)—The American consul has left Petrograd, where he remained after the embassy's departure, according to information reaching the American legation here. The consulate has been taken over by the Norwegian consul.

This bare report appears to indicate that the situation in Petrograd has taken an unexpected turn for the worse in view of the fact that the latest previous messages from the Russian capital said that the American consul would remain there after the departure of the ambassador and his staff in order to keep in touch with the American legation here and with the state department.

News agencies, the press and diplomats here are without any but the most meagre despatches from Petrograd in the last twenty-four hours.

PROBATE COURT

In the estate of Jessie May Brown, deceased, letters of administration have been granted to James Brown. William R. Scott is proctor.

In the estate of William Thomas, letters of administration have been granted to Frederick Thomas. Henry F Puddington is proctor.

In the estate of James W. Belyea, fisherman, who died in 1899, letters of administration have been granted to Harry A. Belyea. Dr. J. B. M. Baxter, K. C., is proctor.

In the estate of Annie Gertrude McKean, the will has been proved in common form, and letters testamentary granted to William E. Golding and George R. McKean. Barnhill, Ewing & Sanford are proctors.

Finnish Steamer Sinking.

Stockholm, Feb. 28—It is reported from Alan Island that the Finnish steamer Mariograr, with guards aboard, struck a mine off that coast. Latest information is to the effect that the vessel was in a sinking condition.

JAPAN'S OFFER RECEIVED WITH GREAT INTEREST

Developments Dominate News Columns of London Papers—Proposals Are Generally Welcomed in View of German Menace

London, Mar 1—Japan's proposals with regard to Siberia and their reception in Washington has brought the question of Japan's active participation in military operations to the forefront here, the developments dominating the news columns of the newspapers. A Reuter cablegram quoting the Associated Press despatch from Washington is given great prominence in type and position by the morning newspapers, and is commented on extensively. Some papers display contributed articles setting forth the Jananese view of the situation.

The bulk of the opinion favors Japan's proposed action without qualification, and the plea is made in some quarters that she ought implicitly to be trusted and given a free hand.

Some of the newspapers back up their arguments for Japanese action by emphasizing the danger to British interests in Asia from the threatened Germanization of Russia. The danger, they say, is equal, if not greater than that menacing Japan, and the papers recall the terms of the Anglo-Japanese alliance by which Japan undertakes to safeguard peace and tranquility in the far east.

REORGANIZATION OF THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT

Madrid, Feb. 28—The Marquis De Alhucemas notified the king tonight that he definitely accepted the offer to remain in power. The premier has appointed Count De Garalt, a Catalinist, minister of finance, and Luis Silvala minister of public instruction, in place of Senors Ventosa and Rodes whose resignations brought about the collective withdrawal of the cabinet early today. The other members of the cabinet retain their portfolios.

Use Vacant Lots.

Ottawa, Mar. 1—In view of the urgency of the food situation, the Canada food board makes a public appeal to all owners of vacant lots that they place the same freely at the disposal of local cultivation committees.

German Socialist Leader Takes the Emperor to Task

Amsterdam, Feb. 28—In Tuesday's debate on Chancellor Von Hertling's speech in the German Reichstag Philip Scheidemann took the emperor to task for his reply to the address of the Burgomaster of Hamburg, in which the emperor said: "We desire to live in friendship with neighboring peoples, but victory for the German arms must first be recognized."

"We have heard recently," said Scheidemann, "of the speech in which it was said the world must first recognize us as victorious. In times when there is talk of peace, words from an authoritative source should be very carefully weighed. A great part of the people whom we represent do not share the views uttered in that speech, but on the other hand energetically repudiate them."

Herr Scheidemann declared that attempts to conclude a peace on the west such as that with Russia would prove a trial of strength dangerous for Germany. The world would go to sleep with rifles in hand; Bolshevik dreams would be realized and world revolution arrive. "Our military advance against Russia evoked vexation in Austria-Hungary, the majority of whose people are quite hostile to us."

Herr Scheidemann said: "The imperial chancellor frankly stated yesterday that he accepted President Wilson's four principles. This declaration is all the more important when one considers that President Wilson emphasized that his principles were accepted everywhere except by the German military and annexationist party. Well, this party, fortunately, is in this country no longer of decisive importance."