

THE WEATHER.
Maritime—Fair and cold.

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VERDUN OFFENSIVE HALTED FOR THE PRESENT AT LEAST, THE KAISER HAS RETURNED TO GERMANY

Infantry Attacks Have Ceased but Bombardment by Artillery Keeps Up—French Guns Hammer Enemy Positions in Le Pretre Wood and Lively Artillery Duel Rages in Alsace—Italians Take Austrian Position—Reported Germany has Sent Ultimatum to Portugal.

GERMANS TO MAKE THEIR BIG OFFENSIVE AT SOME POINT OTHER THAN VERDUN?

LONDON TIMES MAN GIVES REASONS FOR SUCH MOVE—BRITISH EXTEND LINE TO REINFORCE ARMY AT VERDUN—20 AIR FIGHTS IN A DAY OVER BRITISH LINE.

London, Mar. 2.—The Times' military correspondent analyzing the situation around Verdun, declares his belief that the long-expected big German offensive has begun, although he doubts whether Verdun is to be the real point of the great attack.

He further declares emphatically that no front is impregnable in the face of a modern artillery attack, but he believes that the Allies' cue is to "keep cool, to be avaricious in depleting the main reserves, and to keep increasing these reserves for action when the Germans have exhausted themselves."

The writer's belief that the Germans are preparing to launch their main attack at some point other than Verdun is supported as follows: "Any great success by the Germans further to the northwest than Champagne may, under the present conditions, bring about an enforced retirement from the Meuse. What the Germans hope for is to attack the bulk of the Allies' reserves east of the Meuse, making an immense clatter there, and the next German blow from the northwest probably awaits the fulfillment of this desire. The French appear to have met the Verdun attack with reserves just sufficient to maintain the conflict. There is no sign that General Joffre has yet drawn upon or even moved his main forces."

The Germans in the battle-scarred region of Verdun continue their bombardment west of the Meuse, in the region between Malancourt and Forges across the river, eastward about Vaux and Dambloup, and against French trenches in the Woivre region, south-east of Verdun.

Their big offensive, however, so far as infantry attacks are concerned, has ceased, at least for the moment. Whether it will begin again, or whether the Germans will rest content with the points of vantage they have gained, is not indicated in the official reports of either Berlin or Paris.

Unofficial advices from Berlin have stated that the German plan of campaign has been primarily based on the bombardment of sectors they desire to attain, and it is possible that they may now be drawing up their big guns to captured positions with the object of shelling positions nearer their objective—Verdun.

To the east of Verdun, around Pont-A-Mousson, the French have bombarded German positions heavily in Le Pretre wood, and near Thicourt. Artillery duels have been in progress in Alsace. There has been no resumption of German attacks against the French in the Champagne region.

British Extend Line.

While nothing of special importance has taken place along the British part of the line, the effect of the German offensive in the Verdun battle is shown in the lengthening of their front in order to release the French for the reinforcement of the army opposing the German advance. Unofficial advices had placed the extreme southern end of the British line in the region of Lens. The latest British official communication reports the British to the north of the Somme, which would show that they have stretched their front between thirty and forty miles down to the region of Amiens.

Little is going on in Russia, except isolated bombardments and infantry attacks and air raids.

On the Italian front the Italians have occupied and consolidated an Austrian position on Mount Marmolada. Elsewhere in this region only artillery bombardments have prevailed.

On the Asian battlefields the Russians continue their pursuit of the Turks in the Caucasus region and in Persia.

Germany, according to a despatch from Madrid, has sent an ultimatum to Portugal, demanding the release within 48 hours of the interned German steamers seized by Portugal.

A German seaplane has dropped bombs on the southeast coast of England. No military damage was done.

Nothing short of a vote by congress on the resolutions warning Americans off armed ships of belligerent nations is accepted to President Wilson. The president has stated unequivocally to the leaders in congress that a compromise proposition such as a vote of con-

N.Y. DEMOCRATS ENDORSE WILSON FOR 2ND TERM

At Harmonious Convention Ratify His Administration and Take Steps to Secure his Re-election.

Syracuse, N. Y., Mar. 1.—In keynote speech and platform, Democrats of the state assembled in formal convention, tonight ratified the administration of President Wilson, and took steps to bring about his re-election. Harmony marked the convention's deliberations, every proposal being adopted unanimously.

The following delegates at large to the national Democratic convention at St. Louis were recommended for the support of the party voters at the spring primaries:

United States Senator Jas. O'Grady, William Church Osborne, chairman of the Democratic State Committee; Geo. J. Meyer of Buffalo, a German-American supporter of the President, and Samuel Untermeyer, a New York attorney.

The delegates to the national convention were unpledged, but were nominated with the understanding that they are to work for a second term for Mr. Wilson.

The keynote speech, delivered by former Governor Martin H. Glynn, as permanent chairman, aroused much enthusiasm. In addition to commending the actions of Mr. Wilson during his occupancy of the national executive chair, he replied directly to the criticisms of the President and his former policy made by former Senator Ethel Hook at the recent Republican state convention in New York.

The platform expressed the faith of New York's Democracy in the President, and urged his re-nomination and re-election. It was adopted enthusiastically amid prolonged cheers. It dealt with national and international issues.

A futile attempt was made by advocates of equal suffrage to insert in the platform a plank pledging the party to the affirmative side of the women suffrage question.

KITCHENER MAKES STRONG APPEAL FOR ECONOMY

London, March 1.—Lord Kitchener speaking today at a meeting in the Guildhall to inaugurate a national savings campaign said:

"We want just as many as we can get as soldiers. We are bound to take all the men that can possibly be spared from industry, agriculture and commerce."

"We cannot produce all our ordinary peace time requirements. Either the population must go short of many things or the army must go short of munitions and other indispensable things."

"Are civilians prepared to let their brothers in the trenches endure hardships while they are not ready to take all sacrifices of harder work, increased effort and increased economy?"

"If we import less for consumption we lessen the difficulties of sea transport."

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PILE OF DEAD LIKE NEW ARMY ADVANCING

French Poured Shells on What Appeared Attacking Force But was Really Regiment Already Annihilated.

New York, March 2.—A special Paris cable to the Tribune says: "A wounded officer recounts how the Germans died by on the battle field so thickly that in the faint light of early morning they seemed a new army advancing to the attack. The officer was in the trenches on Hill 238 before Vacherville."

"Just before daybreak, in a little valley between two hills, the French saw at a distance of about 500 yards a dark line, which slowly took the form of human figures silhouetted against the snow. It was all a confused mass, but there could be no doubt that the Germans were preparing a new assault."

"The artillery was ordered to fire the 75's fired on the German battalions. The soldiers in the trenches could see the wide gaps the shells made in the enemy lines, but still the Germans did not give way."

"Under a hail of shells they stood firm, and neither advanced nor retreated. Only when the full day came did the French see the truth. A dark mass of men they had been firing on was a great pile of bodies. Surprised by the French fire the evening before, when attempting an attack, the German column had been annihilated, and in the little ravine the men were so closely packed together that many bodies had remained upright."

New York, March 2.—A special Paris cable to the Tribune says: "In the attack on Douaumont the fort changed hands four times, until finally the Breton corps was brought into action. They charged with irresistible force through a storm of German shells, routed the famous Brandenburger Corps and drove the Germans back beyond the village of Douaumont, north of the fort."

"Two thousand Brandenburgers remain in the fort, which is now well within the French lines. The French are not wasting their time or their lives in attacking them, but have placed a guard to wait until hunger brings the Germans out to surrender."

Another Baby Slaughtered by Hun Airmen

Killing of Nine Months Old Child and Smashing of Some Windows Result of Aeroplane's Visit to England.

London, March 1 (10 p. m.)—A German seaplane bombed a portion of the southeast of England tonight, according to an official statement. A nine-months old child was killed. There was no military damage.

A correspondent in an unnamed coast town sends the following: "Shortly after six o'clock in the evening a German aeroplane, flying in a westerly direction, passed over the southeast coast. Several bombs were dropped, killing one child and breaking some windows. The houses in this district are very scattered and the damage done was slight."

"It was already dark when the raid arrived, and his previous and subsequent movements are unknown."

NEW WAR TAXES ANNOUNCED BY GERMAN GOV'T

"Moral" Necessity for Tax on War Profits, Govt. Says.

EXPECT TO RAISE 500 MILLION MARKS.

New Taxes for Greater Part Indirect—New Postage Dues and Increase in Tobacco Tax.

Berlin, Mar. 1, via wireless to Sayville.—Today the first official announcement of the government's proposed war tax bills was published. Summarizing the statement, the Overseas News Agency says:

"It is estimated that the new taxes will yield 500,000,000 marks. They will consist of taxes on special war benefits and on receipts. There will be additional postage dues, a tax on waybills and the tax on tobacco will be increased."

"The government, on drafting the new taxes, has given no serious consideration. While there is a moral necessity for a tax on special benefits made during the war, it is necessary, at the same time, not to hinder the formation of new capital, because the enemy is attempting to crush the economic forces of the German nation, and it is even planning to continue this design after the end of the war."

"In order to leave the direct taxes free for federal states and municipalities, the new federal taxes will be mostly indirect. The new taxes will spare smaller incomes, and must not affect new organizations during the war."

"As these taxes are not considered to be of a permanent nature, but simply war taxes, a definite financial arrangement will be necessary at the end of the war."

TWO VETERAN M.P.'S ENTER THE PRIVY COUNCIL

On Advice of Premier David Henderson and Andrew Broder are Decorated with Title of Honorable.

Ottawa, Mar. 1, via leased wire.—Two of the veteran and most respected members of parliament have been decorated with the title of "Honorable" by being sworn in as members of His Majesty's Privy Council. They are David Henderson, M. P. for Halifax and Andrew Broder, M. P. for Dundas. On the advice of the Prime Minister, His Royal Highness has been pleased to call them to the privy council, and they are now receiving the congratulations of their fellow members without distinction of party.

A similar distinction was accorded by the present government to the late Hon. Samuel Barker and the late Hon. George Clare. While the new honor does not give them an increased emolument or the entry into the cabinet council, it gives them precedence at all state functions over their fellow members of parliament, and entitles them to be addressed as "Honorable," and to wear, if they like, a privy councillor's uniform with gold braid and if they wish to be extreme, silk stockings and a cocked hat. Such a spectacle, however, is hardly expected in the case of such democrats as the Hon. David and the Hon. Andy.

AFTER RECRUITING HALF MILLION 62 P.C. OF MEN OF MILITARY AGE WOULD BE LEFT

Ottawa, Mar. 1, via leased wire.—Information as to the number of men of military age in Canada was furnished in the house today to Mr. J. A. Ethier.

Sir George Foster told the Two Mountains member that the census population of the Dominion was 7,206,643; male population 3,821,995; male population from ten to nineteen years inclusive 706,155; male population from twenty to twenty-nine years inclusive 756,349; from thirty to thirty-nine years inclusive 588,214.

According to these statistics, said Sir George sixty-two per cent. of the male population from nineteen to forty years of age would remain in the country after the recruiting of 500,000 men of that category.

WILSON AND CONGRESS TO MEET IN CLEAR CUT ISSUE

No Compromise, Nothing Less than Record Vote on Anti-Administration Resolutions to Warn Americans off Armed Ships Will Satisfy President—Disarming of American Opinion and Not Ships, Germany's Game, London Papers Say.

Washington, Mar. 1.—President Wilson served notice on congress tonight that he will consent to nothing less than a record vote on the anti-administration resolutions to warn Americans off armed ships of European belligerents before he goes on with the German submarine campaign.

No compromise proposition, such as a vote of confidence in the President's foreign policy, will be acceptable. Such an action, it is held, might be construed in Berlin as justifying the opinion that the President lacks the support of congress and his own party of international law, while its only purpose would be to afford members of congress a way to avoid recording their positions before the country on the straight out-and-out question.

President Wilson made his position clear to congressional leaders tonight in unequivocal terms, as the climax to a day of confusion, uncertainty and political maneuvering that marked the opening of his real fight with congress.

As if to emphasize that the President absolutely refuses to continue the negotiations with Germany until the negotiations of congress is settled, it was made known that the United States does not consider the latest assurances from Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, as broad or given. No further step will be taken, however, while the President waits for congress. Meanwhile the pending Lusitania agreement will not be finalized.

The whole situation in congress, confused by the President's call for a vote, was thrown into a smart today, when at an early morning conference the President outlined his position to Chairman Stone and members of the Foreign Affairs Committee. Senate Leader Kern, Speaker Clark, House Leader Kitchin and Acting Chairman Poy, of the House Rules Committee.

No Compromise.

As soon as the delegation returned to the capital with news of what the President had said, it was apparent in some of the leaders who had secretly supported the anti-administration forces, and under administration pressure had pocketed resolutions in committee when there was danger of their being passed, realized that the President and his friends had suddenly gained the whip hand. It was plain that they at once devoted their efforts to attempts to avoid a defeat at the hands of the administration and making the fight turn to a vote on a resolution of confidence for the President, in which they could join without compromising their position without warning Americans to avoid belligerent armed ships.

Practically in control of the machinery of the house, these leaders held the situation in deadlock all day, while they conferred and sought for some proposal which would satisfy the President and still save their positions.

Friends of the President, watching the manoeuvring closely, saw the object, and tonight from the White House came the word that there should be no compromise.

Congress will meet tomorrow facing a clear cut issue with the President.

Friends Disapprove Germany's Claim.

London, Mar. 1.—Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, authorizes the publication of the following statement: "The assumption apparently made by the German government that all British merchant ships are armed is entirely incorrect. Practically all British merchant ships employed in trade between the United Kingdom and America and the United Kingdom have hitherto been unarmed."

"The claim, therefore, made by the German government to sink all British merchant ships at sight because of their armament is one which cannot possibly be justified. This is clearly proved by the statement issued last night, giving a list of British and neutral unarmed merchant ships which have been torpedoed by German submarines without warning."

LEWIS GIVEN DECISION.

New Orleans, March 1.—Tod Lewis, of England, was awarded a referee's decision over Harry Stone of New York, at the end of their 20-round bout here tonight. By his victory Lewis claimed the welterweight championship of the world.