

CLOUDBURST IN ERIE, PA., DAMAGE ENORMOUS

TWENTY-FIVE LIVES LOST IN PENNSYLVANIA FLOODS

Erie Inundated and Property Loss Estimated at Millions — City in Total Darkness and Water Reaches Second Story of Houses in Some Parts of the Town.

Erie, Pa., Aug. 3.—Twenty-five lives lost, as estimated by the police; millions of dollars in property damage, and the city in total darkness tonight, is the result of a cloudburst shortly after six o'clock tonight that culminated in a flood that inundated a large section of the city.

The heavy precipitation caused dams south of the city to burst, letting out a flood of water that filled the main business streets to a depth of five feet, and in some sections reached to the second story windows of dwellings. Among the first plants to go out of commission was the Erie County Electric Company which supplied the city with light. Then the Erie Dispatch, a morning paper, whose building adjoins the electric light plant, was flooded, and all idea of getting out a morning paper was abandoned until midnight when the staff was moved to the plant of the Erie Times.

In the meantime the first bulletin of the flood was sent to the outside world by the Associated Press operator who waded in water up to his arm pits to the Western Union Telegraph office, a distance of five blocks and there sent out his story of the flood. All telephone wires were put out of commission by the flooding of con-

ducts, and it was several hours before crippled telegraph communication could be partially restored.

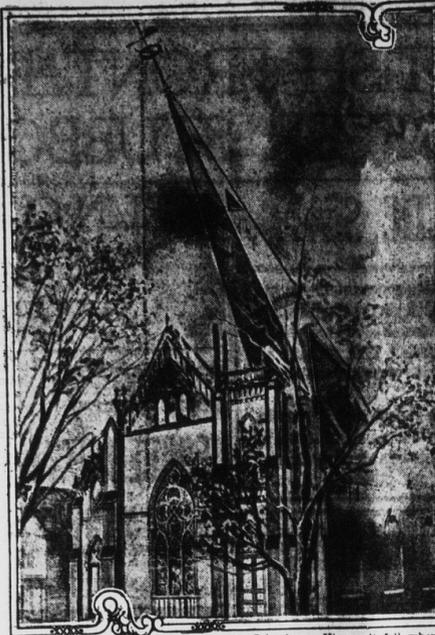
House Floated Down Creek.
At Ninth street, along Mill Creek the flood was at its worst. It is impossible tonight to ascertain how many actually have lost their lives there. Many are still imprisoned in houses and the rescuers, led by Mayor Stern and members of the fire department, have been unable to get them out. The entire eastern section of the city is cut off by the water, and what conditions prevail in the center of this district cannot be conjectured.

Among the missing are Assistant Fire Chief James Buernon and four firemen. Reports were made to the police that a house floated down Mill Creek with four women and three children clinging to it. Buernon and the firemen tried to rescue them, but lost their lives in the attempt. Every store in State street, the main business street of the city is flooded, and at least fifty houses are destroyed.

The Jarecki manufacturing plant has been washed away, and twenty automobiles that were in the garages went with them.

A little girl standing on the banks of the Mill Creek was carried down to her death when the bank caved in.

CAUGHT BY THE CAMERA AS IT FELL



Steeple of Grace Methodist Church, St. Johnsbury, Vt., as it fell when the church was on fire recently is shown in this picture. The photographer waited four hours for the steeple to fall and caught it at just the right time.

FRANCE ENTERS SECOND YEAR OF WAR CONFIDENT

French Military Expert Says Germany Threw 52 Army Corps Into France at Beginning of War—No German Success in West Since Charleroi.

Paris, July 31.—A year of war finds France as fit to continue the struggle to the end and confident of the outcome," says Count Adrien Lannes de Montebello in a review of the first twelve months of hostilities given to The Associated Press. Count de Montebello, a recognized authority on military affairs, was one of the strongest advocates of the three-year military service law, and its co-author with the former premier, Louis Barthou. He was formerly deputy from Rheims and vice-president of the Committee on Military Affairs of the Chamber of Deputies. His grandfather was Marshal Lannes, at whose death on the battlefield of Essling Napoleon is said to have wept.

His review of the war follows: "France was not expecting war, and her preparations therefore were less complete than those of her adversaries who, knowing their intentions, had accumulated an immense supply of fighting material and disposed of their troops in such a manner as to strike the most powerful blow of which they were capable.

under control of a civil government, which restored the school and judicial system of France.

No German Success Since Charleroi.

"From the battle of Charleroi to the end of the first year of the war the Germans achieved no successes on the Western battle front save the slight advance at Sionas during the floods of the Rivier Aisne, the advance at Ypres partially lost afterwards, at the time of the first attack, with the assistance of asphyxiating gas.

"The successes of the Allies since the battle of the Marne are in the capture of Thann, Steinbach, Hartmannsweilerkopf, Metzeral, La Fontanelle, together with considerable territory in the Alsatian Vosges; the capture of an entire German position in the forest of La Pretre, along the wedge the Germans are still holding in the French lines of St. Mihiel; an advance of a mile along a front of ten miles at Beaumont, in the Champagne country; the capture of Neuve Chapelle by the British, the capture of Notre Dame de Lorette, Clancy, and Neuville St. Vaast, and an advance of

two to three miles along a front about seven miles north from Arras by the French, and the clearing of the left bank of the Yser of the enemy by the Belgian army.

"Never since the war began has the French army been so fit to continue it to a triumphant conclusion as today. We have not only carried on the war with success during the year, but we have accumulated immense reserves of every necessity for continuing the war until it has been won. Our reserve troops in depots and under training are relatively greater than those of the Germans. The army is absolutely confident. The people, behind the army to a man, are equally so.

"The French people, through no fault of their own, have suffered and are suffering today, but they are equal to every hardship, every effort necessary to drive the war to a final victorious conclusion."

SUPPLY PASSPORTS TO AMERICAN SAILORS BOUND TO BRITISH PORTS

Washington, Aug. 3.—American sailors bound for British ports will hereafter be supplied with passports to comply with the new features of the British alien restriction law. Alien sailors on American ships will have to get passports from British consuls.

Germany Better Prepared.

"Germany threw against Belgium and France fifty-two army corps, or almost her entire military force as mobilized in August. Under the impact of the German advance the French armies, with their British allies, suffered initial reverses and great losses, especially in the battle of Charleroi. While the French army were in retreat a national military was formed and the civic population of France was organized for war. The French and British armies stood on the line of the Marne from a point near Paris to the Eastern frontier of France. They received the shock of more than 1,200,000 German troops, and defeated them with somewhat inferior forces. The Germans were outed and outfought in a vast general action over a line of more than 120 miles.

"The French troops were too exhausted by their first six months of marching to make their victory decisive. The Germans checked their retreat upon the line of the Aisne and had sufficient time to dig in. The battle of the Aisne developed by the Germans endeavoring to turn our left flank by the German right.

"This contest resulted in a race for the sea in the obstinate two months' battle along the Yser in October and November. The Germans again failed and finally gave up that part of their offensive on account of their terrible losses.

Imperial Today!

SPECIAL NOTICE
At 8 o'clock this evening a patriotic address will be delivered from the stage of our theatre by the Hon. J. D. Hazen, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and at 9 o'clock by His Worship, Mayor Frink. This will be in connection with the observance of the Great War's First Anniversary—a pledge to see it through to the glorious end.

JESSE L. LASKY
Presents
THE MOST HUMAN AND APPEALING OF ALL BROADWAY HITS EVER STAGED

"The Country Boy"

BY EDGAR SELWYN
WITH
MARSHALL NEILAN
And an Exceptional Cast of Artists

This Play ran a Year in New York, Ten Companies Played it on Tour at the Same Time. It Talks With Wonderful Comedy and Pathos the Story of the Country Boy who Loses His Heart in the Big City but Finds His True Love Waiting for Him When He Turns Back Home.

The Oxford Four

That Rousing, Rollicking Quartette of Popular Songsters
Orchestra and Extra Reels

TONIGHT OPERA MATINEE HOUSE TODAY

JERE McLAULIFFE AND HOMAN MUSICAL CO.
"My Uncle from Japan"—"The Firefly"—"Jerry With Some New Parodies—The Board Walk—The Homan Male Quartette
And Other Good Features. The Best Program Yet. Read About It in Another Column.
MATINEE EVERY DAY THIS WEEK
Nights 10, 20, 30c. Matinees 10, 20c. Children 5c.

WHYTE & MACKAY'S

It is essentially the Scotch Whisky for all classes of people.

Its wide sale proves its fine quality.

It's yours at every bar, hotel and club.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

GERMANY

Berlin, Aug. 3.—The German army headquarters staff today gave out the following official statement:

"In the western theatre, the British position near Hooge, which we captured July 30, is, contrary to the report from the British headquarters, still entirely in our hands.

"In the Champagne, after successful mine explosions west of Perthes and west of Savaux, we occupied the borders of the craters.

"In the Argonne, northwest of Four-De-Paris, we captured some hostile trenches, capturing sixty prisoners. In a boy's attack yesterday we captured altogether four officers and 163 men and took two machine guns.

"In East Galicia the situation is unchanged.

"Italian war theatre:

"The coastal district from Kryn to the bridge-head at Gorizia is almost completely quiet. The border plateau of Polozzo has been attacked by strong Italian forces five times. The enemy attacked our infantry who held positions east of the village and at Monte Sebusi. On each occasion, after fighting, the attack was repulsed. The Italians suffered great losses. Reinforcements brought up by the Italians were surprised by our artillery and dispersed.

"While this battle was raging other sections of the plateau were kept under strong fire by the artillery of the enemy."

TURKEY

Constantinople, Aug. 3.—The Turkish war department today gave out the following official statement:

"An attempt made by the enemy to capture our trench near Avi Burnu on July 31 was repulsed with heavy losses.

"In the Caucasus on July 30, our right wing drove the enemy from his fortified and well organized position in the neighborhood of Tatak on the frontier. We made 100 prisoners and took a quantity of rifles and ammunition and equipment."

ITALY

Rome, Aug. 3, via Paris, Aug. 4.—The following official statement, dated Tuesday, says:

"In the Valleys of Cadorna our massed batteries continue the work of demolishing the enemy's defenses.

"In Carnia the enemy on the first tried to take the offensive against the Medatta Peak conquered by us on the 30th, and was repulsed with heavy losses.

"On the 2nd, profiting by the fog, the enemy made a surprise attack on our positions from Scarbitz to Monte Cristallo which was repulsed. We have further details of the success obtained by our troops on the thirtieth at Forcella-Cinaito.

Our adversary left over a hundred bodies on the field, and we picked up two hundred rifles, quantities of ammunition, and twenty prisoners. During the two following days the enemy's artillery, posted in the vicinity of Malborgeth, swept Forcella continuously, occasionally using asphyxiating gases. Our artillery, however, succeeded in silencing it.

"On the Carso Plateau during the night of the 2nd the enemy renewed violent attacks against our right wing in the zone of Monte Sebusi, proceeding them with demonstrations on the opposite wing. All his efforts broke down against the steadfast resistance of our troops.

"During yesterday our offensive continued to make appreciable progress toward the center. On the right wing the struggle to enlarge our hold in the Monte Sebusi zone continued sharp and stubborn. We made 345 prisoners, three of whom were officers."

AUSTRIA

Vienna, via London, Aug. 3.—The following official statement was issued from general headquarters today:

"Between the Vistula and the Bug the fighting, which was continued yesterday with unabated violence, led to new successes. Pressed near Leczna and northwest of Chelm the enemy, whose line was again broken, retreated in the early morning northward from the lines he had occupied yesterday, pursued by our troops, who occupied Leczna.

BRITISH GOVT. SAYS U.S. PROTEST UNSUSTAINABLE

(Continued from page 1)

appropriate method of intercepting the trade of an enemy country, and if the blockade can only be made effective by extending it to enemy commerce passing through neutral ports, such an extension is defensible and in accordance with principles which have met with general acceptance."

The note then refers to the case of the British ship *Springbok*, seized by United States cruisers during the civil war, while bound for the British West Indies, because her cargo, it was charged, was to be transhipped to the Confederate States.

The Supreme Court of the United States sustained the seizure, although the United States and British governments took the broader view, and recognized the development of the older method of blockade. No protest was made by Great Britain.

Britain Strictly Within Law.

"What is really important, in the general interest," says the note, "is that adaptations of the old rules should not be made, unless they are consistent with the general principle upon which an admitted belligerent is based. It is also essential that all unnecessary injury to neutrals should be avoided. With these conditions it may be safely affirmed that the steps we are taking to intercept commerce on their way to and from Germany fully comply. We are interfering with no goods with which we should not be entitled to interfere by blockade. If the geographical position and the conditions of Germany at present pass through her own ports, we are taking the utmost possible care not to interfere with commerce genuinely destined for or proceeding from neutral countries. Furthermore, we have temperate the severity with which our measures might press upon neutrals by not applying the rule which was invariable in the old form of blockade, that ships and goods on their way to or from the blockaded area are liable to condemnation."

The note then reviews at some length the various forms in which blockades have been maintained, to show there has been no uniformity of practice in very essential points, and declares:

"The one principle which is fundamental, and has obtained universal recognition, is that by means of blockade a belligerent is entitled to cut off effective means of the sea-borne commerce of his enemy."

Consequently, Sir Edward argues, it is impossible to maintain that the right of a belligerent to intercept the commerce of his enemy can be limited in the way suggested in the American notes on the subject.

"There are many cases," he says, "in which goods that are of enemy origin, or enemy destination, and it is only in such cases that we are detaching them. Where proof of enemy ownership would afford no evidence of such origin or destination, we are not in practice detaching the goods."

Sir Edward's note closes with the observation that "figures of recent months show that the increased opportunities afforded by the war for American commerce have more than compensated for the loss of the German and Austrian markets. We shall continue to apply these measures with every desire to occasion the least possible amount of inconvenience to persons engaged in legitimate commerce."

Re Prize Courts.

In the supplemental note, which is a reply to the American caveat giving notice that the United States would not recognize the orders-in-council, in lieu of international law, Sir Edward Gray writes he does "not understand to what divergence of views as to the principles of law applicable in cases before the prize court, the government of the United States refer, for I am not aware of any differences existing between the two countries as to the principles of law applicable in cases before such courts."

Sir Edward compares the rules governing British prize courts to the rules applied by American courts, referring especially to the American case of the *Amy Warwick* before the United States Supreme Court where it was held that "prize courts are subject to the instructions of their own Sovereign. In the absence of such instructions their jurisdiction and rules of decision are to be ascertained by reference to the known powers of such tribunals and the principles by which they are to be governed under the public law and the practice of nations. It would appear, therefore, that the principles applied by the prize courts of the two countries are identical."

The supplemental note then proceeds with a long legal argument to demonstrate the practicability of a prize court being governed by international law, and at the same time by municipal law in the form of orders-in-council. It finally comes to the case of the steamer *Zamorra* in the present war, in which the British court declared: "The nations of the world need not be apprehensive that orders-in-council will emanate from the government of this country in such violation of the acknowledged laws of nations that it is conceivable that our prize tribunals, holding the law of nations in reverence, would feel called upon to regard and refuse obedience to the provisions of such orders."

Sir Edward then points out that the legality of the orders-in-council or of the measures taken under them, have not yet been brought to a decision in a prize court, but he reminds the United States that "it is open to any United States citizen, whose claim is before the prize court, to contend that any order-in-council which may affect his claim is inconsistent with the principles of international law, and is therefore not binding upon the court. If the prize court declines to accept his contentions, and if, after such a decision has been upheld on appeal by the judicial committee of His Majesty's Privy Council, the government of the United States consider that there is serious ground for holding that the decision is incorrect and infringe the rights of their citizens, it is open to them to claim that it should be subjected to review by an international tribunal."

Willing to Co-operate.

The celebrated *Matamoros* cases of the Civil War then are cited to show that the Supreme Court of the United States held it had the right to reverse the decisions of prize courts, and that there was no doubt of the jurisdiction of an international tribunal to review the decisions of the prize courts of the

United States, where the parties alleging themselves aggrieved had carried their appeals to the court of last resort.

"If the United States should be dissatisfied with decisions of British prize courts, as sustained by the Privy Council, the British government is prepared to concert with the United States "in order to decide upon the best way of applying the principle to the situation which would then have arisen."

To the American note in the case of the steamer *Neches*, which summarily demanded the expeditious release of the American owned goods detained under the orders-in-council, "the international invalidity of which the government of the United States regards as plainly illustrated by the present instance," Great Britain replied that "while these acts of the German government continue the sinking of ships as well as British merchant ships, irrespective of destination or origin of cargo, and without proper regard for safety of passengers or crews it seems neither reasonable nor just that His Majesty's government should be pressed to abandon the rights claimed in the British note and to allow goods from Germany to pass freely through waters effectively patrolled by British ships of war."

Great Britain offers, however, to make a special examination in the *Neches* case, if hardship had been inflicted.

The British reply, in short, is a declaration to allow free passage to goods originating in Germany or in a territory under German control, the general cargo of the *Neches* originated in Belgium.

ITALY
HUNGARY
PANGLOSS
FROM

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Reaches T
Realize H
Word of H

(Special Staff Cor
"Funny thing about
trenches; they'd soon
from home than a squ
days of starvation."
It was a Canadian se
He had a leg badly cu
cheerful. The British a
lady, sorely wounded be
as a cricket, except
affected. And the wou
is even more amazing
fish.

"At Ypres we lived
for five days, and little
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could take a mouthfu
tuous meal, and wet o
guce once between me
they fed us pretty well
after we were practical
couldn't get the grub
Germans were everyw
pouring shells into
nication trenches as t
flies. Sections coming
plies were unable to
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night, intending to br
nitron and grub; but
never came back.

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dzen of ours would
sharpener
with pieces of stone f
Well, I went out with
to look for food. We
right, and loaded up
blecuit, water and cin
they gave us the mall
bag of letters and a
newspapers. When we
zone we soon dropped
newspapers. At one po
the Germans were flin
every few minutes a
have it we arrived the
time as a German shell
of our bunch.

Appetite For News G
That For
"But we went on and
ed our trench. Some
there were high mad
tongues were swollen a
thirst. But the first thi
ed was the letters. I
over one thousand lett
of them for dead men
gars nearly fought for
of the letters for the d
them eagerly, greedily.
"We told them about
pers we had dropped
row. I thought they'd
"Why, why didn't y
the papers, and never
or cartridges?" I man
and told them just
could find the papers
yards or so if a Jack
come along in the mea
didn't decide to go b
newspapers; they sudd
bered they were very
thirsty, and fell upon
had brought up. But
at all grateful; they k
ing about those abando
"If you've never been
you can't understand
means it's a letter from
a man had a hundred V
them all for a letter fr
generally the people a
their letters by writin
news to tell you, and
thirsty, and fell upon
preface. Lord, if the
know what a letter mea
in the trenches, they'd
telligence and energy in
of a letter; that is if th
fighting for. What kin
we want? First of all
tling in the letter, telli
of the war. Usually w
what is happening on a
yards—a few hundred
rate. Taking the war a
might be going on in
we hear about it fr
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two weeks old. Some
it is almost cut u
graphs—so eager are th
ft. In many cases it is
by and dirty that you
Then you go into bill
round for a newspaper,
find one you read a mon
vertisements and all.

Next to news of the
to know what all the
the boys and girls you
ing. You want to know
ed up with the next co
who has joined up with
left behind you. You
who has got a commiss
has got G. B. for elop
colonel's daughter. You
what-for Colonel Sam
body the last time, an
latest row Com. McL
Potts was raising so
so know what's on the