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U.S. GOVERNMENT SENDS BRITISH AND GERMANS NOTES ABOUT SHIPPING

Note to Great Britain Makes Friendly Observations About Use by British Ships of Neutral Flag

MEAN TROUBLE FOR THE NEUTRALS

Germany is Asked How She Will Ascertain Whether or Not Ships Flying Neutral Flags are Neutral

Washington, Feb. 11.—The Government today sent a note to Great Britain making friendly observations on the use of British ships of neutral flags and at the same time despatched a communication to Germany inquiring what steps would be taken by German naval commanders to verify the identity of ships flying neutral flags in the recently proclaimed zones of war around England and Ireland.

The American Government points out how the frequent and continued use of this stratagem might cast a doubt on the character of vessels really entitled to fly the American flag and produce dangers to which neutral ships ought not to be subjected on the high seas and in unblockaded waters.

In the note to Germany it is understood the United States asked how the German Admiralty proposed to carry out in practice its recent proclamation of war on merchant ships and its warning that, on account of the misuse of neutral flags by belligerent vessels, neutral ships could not always be distinguished when an attack was made.

Both notes are brief and couched in a friendly spirit. Neither makes a protest but each points out how recent developments may seriously embarrass the voyages of neutral ships on the high seas which always have been considered free to them in time of war as well as of peace.

Ridicules Idea Of U.S. Germans Invading Canada

"All Moonshine," Says Ex-President Taft—He Personally, Stands For Neutrality

Toronto, Feb. 10.—Former United States President Taft arrived here today for a stay of two days, during which time he will deliver several addresses.

Taft refused to say anything about the attitude of President Wilson and his Administration, towards certain phases of the present war, but speaking generally he said, "I support the attitude of neutrality."

Taft said "talk about a German invasion of Canada from the United States is all moonshine. I do not think the war feeling will have any effect on politics in the United States."

Russians Make Many Captures In Carpathians

Capture Five Thousand Men and Many Guns—Successes in Central Poland—Gains in E. Prussia

London, Feb. 10.—The French Government reports confused fighting around Bagatelle, in Argonne, with small successes at two other points.

The Russian Government reports fighting in East Prussia. German attacks were repulsed. One battalion was almost exterminated.

20 Men Drowned In B.C. Coal Mine

Employed in one of the Pacific Coast coal mines, at South Wellington, seven miles from Nanaimo, were drowned by a rush of water yesterday.

GERMAN LOSS IN BIG BATTLE WAS 50,000 MEN

London, Feb. 10.—The Russians estimate that the Germans lost 50,000 men in the battle which ended on Sunday, says a despatch, received from the Petrograd correspondent of the London Star.

Allies Gain The Mastery Of The Dunes

Checked German Offensive, Beat Down Their Defensive and Gain Ground

London, Feb. 11.—A correspondent at Boulogne, of the London Telegraph says: From an exceedingly reliable source I am in a position to state the Allies are now absolute masters of the Dunes. Little by little the German offensive movement changed and after a short defensive tetch gave way before the Allied troops.

With regard to the district about Ostend the Germans have become greatly alarmed at their position and large reinforcements are arriving daily at Ostend from Bruges.

HURRICANE DEVASTATES THE SAMOA IS.

Tutulia, Amer'n Samoa-Mauna Is., Feb. 11.—The American Island Samoa has been swept by a hurricane. Not a house is standing.

No deaths are reported, but the population has lost everything. The food situation is serious and help is needed.

CALL OUR BOYS 'SOBER REGIMENT'

Lt.-Quartermaster Frank Summers, writing from Fort George to a friend in the city, says that every member of the T. A. Society with the First Contingent, has kept his pledge.

Over 80 per cent. of the Newfoundlanders have taken Kitchener's pledge and they have been termed "The Sober Regiment."

Got Twisted

An error crept into note yesterday re the Port Saunders. It should read "has been purchased from her present owners, the Reid Newfoundland Co."

S.S. Tabasco left Halifax at 9 last evening for St. John's.

ARMY VOTE IS ADOPTED NO DIVISION

Commons Grant Appropriation to Finance Army of Three Million Men in the Field

DIDN'T SUBMIT ANY DETAILS

Britain Possesses Effective Force of Well-Trained Men Ready to Defend Islands From Invasion

London, Feb. 11.—After two days' debate, during which many matters in connection with the war were discussed, the House of Commons tonight passed without division a vote for 3,000,000 men, exclusive of India, and also by a "token" vote to receive a blank cheque for this purpose.

By this vote the Government will receive blank cheque for this purpose. Replying to points raised by member-General Sir Ian Hamilton was in command of a mobile force which was bers of the House, Harold J. Tennant, parliamentary Under Secretary for war, said in case of a raid on England, ready to go anywhere at any time.

There was considerable discussion as to question of inoculation against disease, replying to which Tennant declared sentiment was in favor of compulsory inoculation, intimating that the Government was considering the adoption of it.

Lord Kitchener, Secretary of War, felt so strongly about the matter, Tennant said, that he was about to issue an order suspending grants of leave to those persons who declined to be inoculated.

Under Secretary Tennant added that the suggestion to the war office should consent to enlistment of "Bantam Battalions" was being considered. In the mining districts, he said, there were many men under regulation height who desire to serve the army, and some of them were already training.

making reconnaissance in an armed motor-car; that at Houthem and Lpnehem, and at Meyesse, the Germans hoisted the Red Cross flag on houses occupied by their troops, and on a porch where they had parked their artillery.

Three soldiers depose that, having been made prisoners along with other men of their company, they were taken on by the Germans with their hands bound behind their backs. At Salve they came in contact with a company of the Belgian 19th of the line. The Germans placed them in front, and at a certain moment ordered them to cry, "Belgians, do not fire—you are shooting at Belgians!" Two of the prisoners fell, shot down by the balls of their comrades.

Prisoners Tortured. A Zeppelin dropped four bombs on the town of Deynze, an open and undefended place. Three of them struck the convent of the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul, which was occupied by sick, orphans, and refugees to the number of about 200. The panic provoked was indescribable.

A private deposed that he was captured by the Germans, and that his captors, to compel him to answer questions, plunged his hands into a saucepan of boiling water.

The regimental surgeon of the corps bears witness that the man's hands showed traces of having been scalded. This soldier states that two others of his comrades were also tortured. One of them, who had offered resistance, was seized and held by the arms and legs while his head was twisted round till death followed. The second had one of his fingers chopped off.

READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

WEATHER REPORT

Toronto (noon)—Moderately west winds, fair today and Friday; not much change in temperature.

Russ. Forces Now Marching Into Hungary

Overcome the Austro-German Resistance and Carry Invasion Westward.

Geneva, Feb. 10.—The Russians are marching into Hungary by the valleys of the Theiss and Ung Rivers, according to advices received here.

Taking the offensive at Koromez, they are said to have inflicted severe losses on the Austrians and advanced five miles in the direction of Borkut. In the Lyutta Valley the Russians progressed southward as far as Turja Remute and Pereseny on the railroad from Turja to Ungvar, capturing two batteries embedded in the Polonharu-nas Mountain.

SAYS GERMANS ARE EVACUATING LODZ, POLAND

Paris, Feb. 11.—The evacuation of Lodz by the Germans has been confirmed according to a Petrograd despatch, which states that the stores and offices of the Commissariat and the transports are being removed hastily to Kalisz.

Allied Aviators Give Turk Forts Bit of Surprise

Mitylene, Feb. 10.—Several English and French airships flew over Turkish Thrace yesterday. According to a despatch from Tenedos, two of the machines went as far as Adrianople, dropping bombs on the forts.

The Turks are said to have been prepared for a bombardment, as they did not expect the Allied aircraft to venture so far inland.

Ship Lost At Sea But Crew All Safe

London, Feb. 10.—The American 4-master schooner Maria O. Teel, which sailed from Philadelphia on Dec. 29th, for Porto Rico, has been lost at sea.

A despatch from Rio Janeiro today said that the British ship Rio Colorado had arrived there, having on board her shipwrecked crew.

BREAD PRICES IN U.S. INCREASE

New York, February 10.—The price of bread increased today from five to six cents, throughout New York City and the vicinity. Rolls also went up from ten to twelve cents per dozen, and pie and cake in proportion.

Rumour has it that a prominent member of the Volunteer Committee has tendered his resignation owing to some friction caused in connection with the appointment of officers for the next contingent.

Gallant Catalina Presents Fifteen More of Her Sons To The Forces of The King

Catalina, Feb. 11.—The recruiting delegation arrived yesterday and a meeting was held in the Parish Hall at night, the building being crowded to the doors and the meeting was a decided success. N. Snelgrove, Esq., J.P., presiding. Rev. Chamberlain, Rev. Bugden, Father Dwyer, Dugald White, Dr. McKay and Magistrate Roper were on the platform.

The speakers, Rev. Dr. Curtis, J. G. Stone and G. Grimes were heard, after which Capt. MacNab called for Volunteers. Fifteen came forward with others to follow. The recruiting time was short,

RUSSIANS VICTORIOUS IN FEROCIOUS FIGHTING IN THE CARPATHIAN MTS.

Bayonet Charges Were of a Ferocity Unprecedented in History Says a Petrograd Report

GERMAN LOSSES WERE ENORMOUS

First German Line Was Almost Totally Annihilated And the Enemy Was Unable to Gain Any Advantage

Petrograd, Feb. 11.—Details of the dramatic and desperately contested fight in the Carpathian Mountains, in which bayonet charges were described as the most ferocious and without precedent in history reached Petrograd today.

According to these reports, repeated attacks on the part of the German troops were finally repulsed by the Russians, and the German dead lay in great numbers in front of the Russian positions. The losses are described as enormous.

Ferocious Fighting.

Unquestionably the fighting was waged with the utmost ferocity by the Germans and the Russians alike. The scene of the fighting was at Ballgrad, which is thirty miles south of Sanok, Galicia. German troops were present in very considerable numbers. Claims which are semi-official by the Russian staff say that the Hungarian forces in the Carpathians were augmented by 300,000 Germans, and that German officers are now definitely directing the Carpathian movement.

The German plan, in so far as it can be observed here now seems to be to abandon gradually their aggressive on the Bzura and in the Vistula regions, to transfer their troops to points where there is greater opportunity of piercing the Russian defensive.

The fighting in the Carpathians would appear to be part of this procedure. Concentrating their forces on the night of Feb. 7th, the Germans, early on the following morning, began what doubtless rapidly developed into one of the fiercest attacks in the history of the Carpathian campaign.

First Line Annihilated.

With their first line almost totally annihilated, the Germans pushed forward their second line, under support of heavy artillery, and were successful in gaining a strategic elevation, but from this position they were almost immediately driven back by a Russian bayonet charge. Attack and counter-attack followed each other in rapid succession.

Towards evening the Germans in great numbers seemed to be in permanent possession of the heights. Then a general counter-attack by the Russians resulted in two hours' hard hand to hand fighting, which left the snow clad hillside strewn with dead.

Finally Driven Off.

After a most stubborn resistance the German regiments finally and definitively were driven out.

A Russian officer claims personally to have counted upwards of 1,000 German dead before the Russian positions on this hill. He described this engagement as typical of battles which are occurring daily in the Carpathians.

REPORT SAYS GERMANS SHOT LT. COL. MARITZ

Pretoria, Feb. 10.—Newspapers of Pretoria have published a report that Lieut.-Col. Maritz, the Boer officer who has been at the head of the rebellious movement in South Africa, has been executed by the Germans for treachery.

Maritz's movement was supported by the Germans of German South West Africa. No official confirmation of the report has been received.

ZEPPELIN LOST WITH ALL CREW

Geneva, Feb. 10.—The entire crew of a Zeppelin, missing four days, were drowned, when the airship fell in the North Sea, off the coast of Denmark, during a storm, it is reported at Frieleerichshafen.

Details of the disaster have not been received.

French Capture Important Hill of Notre Dame de Lorette—Gains By the British

St. Omer, France, Feb. 11.—The capture of the Hill of Notre Dame de Lorette by the French has been announced at headquarters here. The hill which dominates an entire region, has been fiercely disputed for weeks as well as a position captured by the British close to Violaines Station which was one of considerable importance as it overlooked La Bassée.

The Germans made several attempts to recapture it, but the British troops held strongly fortified lines and repulsed these attacks with heavy slaughter.

The British captured, on Sunday night, two trenches near Eastoberg, taking 500 prisoners who belonged apparently to the newest class of German recruits. Nearly all of them were young and wore new uniforms.

British Seize Wilhelmina's Cargo Of Food

Ship Herself Will be Released as Soon as Her Cargo Has Been Landed.

London, Feb. 11.—The British Foreign Office, after an enquiry, has decided that the cargo of the American steamship Wilhelmina, must go thru a Prize Court, though the ship may be part from Falmouth as soon as the cargo is discharged.

It is officially confirmed that the Wilhelmina was neither conveyed nor ordered into Falmouth, but was compelled to make that port because of damage suffered in storms while crossing the Atlantic.

Mr. E. M. LeMessurier of Messrs. A. Goodridge & Sons office, has picked up a fountain pen and is anxious to find the owner.

An enquiry into the drowning of the late Frederick Cook will be held at the Magistrate's office this afternoon.