

DOOM OF DROCOURT-QUEANT LINE NEAR

Italian Offensive Continues to Net Gains For Gen. Cadorna || Fresh Developments Show Russian Ministerial Crisis Still Unsettled || Bullecourt Completely Occupied By British; Fresh Reserves For Foe

Occupation of Bullecourt Foreshadows Foe Retreat

A Path to Future Successes Paved by British Occupation of Bullecourt, Key to the Drocourt-Queant Line; Another Retreat Probably Meditated by Hindenburg

By Courier Leased Wire.

Bullecourt, is at last in British hands and the Drocourt-Queant line appears doomed. The tremendous sacrifices made by the Germans have proved in vain, and the flames of burning towns behind their lines give credit to reports that Field Marshal von Hindenburg is contemplating another strategic retreat.

Bullecourt itself over which such torrents of blood have flown stands on a height overlooking a broad valley which runs directly to Queant. It will presumably take some time for the British to establish their heavy guns on this height, but the fate of Queant seems sealed.

Additional reports from the Italian front emphasize the importance of the victory won by General Cadorna, but also bring word that the Austrians have reacted and apparently the usual period of lull which follows the first successful assault on the Isonzo is operating here. It is improbable any sensational effects are for a repetition of the hammer and anvil in France.

Two weeks, all the news from Russia is of a storm which has convulsed the country. It expresses high hopes that the storm which has convulsed the country will be a storm which has convulsed the country.

Perhaps the most important news from Europe is the announcement that Japan is going to take an active part in the struggle. A Japanese naval force has arrived at Marseilles to join the campaign against German submarines, especially, according to the dispatches, with the purpose of protecting French shipping.

WOUNDED FOR THE FIFTH TIME Driver Fred Norman Kelly Again Injured on the Western Front

OTHER CASUALTIES Brantford and District Suffering From Heavy Fighting

Mrs. Chas. Kelly, 328 Marlborough street, this morning received official notification that her son, Driver Fred Norman Kelly was wounded on May 6th last. Driver Kelly has been at the front for approximately two years now, and his present wound constitutes the fifth injury he has received in that time.

PTE. P. BALFOUR Mrs. P. Balfour, 18 Spring St., yesterday received from Ottawa the sad intelligence that her husband, Pte. Peter Balfour, formerly of the 125th Battalion, had made the supreme sacrifice at the front.

Weather Bulletin Toronto, May 18. Light showers have occurred in eastern Nova Scotia, the southwestern counties of Ontario, the Lake Superior district and in Alberta.

ONE CENT SALE ends tomorrow. Why pay more? COFFEE FOR ONE CENT at Robertsons One Cent Sale.

EVANS LENT BY BRITAIN TO AMERICA Veteran of Scott's Antarctic Expedition is Loaned to the U. S.

HERO OF NAVAL FIGHT Evans Commanded the "Broke" in Battle Off Dover Coast

By Courier Leased Wire. London, May 18.—In the course of an editorial on the Navy league lunch, "The Times" referring to Admiral Sims' co-operation with the British admiralty, says: "In return we are lending them Captain Evans of the destroyer leader 'Broke'."

From the New York Commercial

RUSSIAN SITUATION STILL DUBIOUS: CRISIS MAY NOT YET BE PAST

Premier Prince Lvoff Satisfied With Solution of Problem; Most Serious Crisis in Modern History of Nation Settled, and Coalition Government Will Have the Support of all

By Courier Leased Wire.

Petrograd, May 18.—via London. The formation of a cabinet in which six Socialists are included, has been completed.

Petrograd, Thursday, May 17.—via London, May 18.—12.20 p.m.—It is announced officially that the ministerial crisis has not yet been solved.

London, May 18.—2.40 p.m.—According to an Exchange Telegram despatch from Amsterdam, it is rumored at The Hague that a truce is about to be arranged between Russia and the Central Powers as a result of the political changes at Petrograd.

By Courier Leased Wire. Petrograd, via London, May 18.—After the solution of the governmental crisis by the reception into the cabinet of five Socialist representatives of the Council of Deputies, Premier Prince Lvoff received a representative of the Associated Press and expressed satisfaction over the solution and his confidence in the future.

WASTING AT THE BUNGHOLE. THE NATION'S FOOD WASTED

dom and order. If this solution had proved unworkable we were threatened with general anarchy, followed by a national dissolution with the revolution and a reactionary counter-revolutionary movement as the final stage.

"This normal course of unsuccessful revolutions has, I hope, been avoided as the result of the agreement between the temporary government and the council of deputies. The council has undertaken to support the government against anarchy and disorder, and further to work for the restoring of discipline to the army, naturally on condition, which we granted, that the army will be demoralized."

"My hope is that when the present enemies of national tranquility see that not only the bourgeoisie but also the workmen and the Socialists themselves stand for the restoration of order they will, without compelling us to take action, abandon their present anarchical methods, which, if continued, would result in the ruin of Russia.

"In the future democratic Russia must not only enjoy freedom, but must take on itself the responsibility of defending its freedom. Personally I do not doubt our democracy's fitness for higher governmental work. During the negotiations which led to settlement, the representatives of the Council of Deputies showed that they thoroughly understood the dangers threatening Russia and were determined to do everything possible to save the country from anarchy defeat and dissolution."

From the New York Commercial

RATIONING OF NEUTRAL NATIONS IN EUROPE MOOTED BY ALLIES

British and American Trade Experts Confer at Washington With Diplomats of Both Nations; Necessity of Limiting Exports to Prevent Their Reaching Foe Considered

By Courier Leased Wire.

Washington, May 18.—The rationing of Holland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland and Spain was discussed to-day at a conference at the State department between British foreign secretary Balfour, Secretary of State Lansing, Secretary of Commerce Redfield and British and American trade experts.

The allies in the first two and a half years of the war have built up a most elaborate system to allow of largely supplies imported to countries contiguous to Germany to maintain their normal stocks.

The rationing problem was reported in full to-day by a sub-committee consisting of Lord Justice Percy, Dr. E. E. Pratt, chief of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce, and Wilbur J. Carr, chief of the consular bureau. A report on trading with the enemy was presented by Sir Eric Drummond, Solicitor General H. Woolsey, of the State department, and F. M. Halstead, chief of the customs bureau.

er of embargo and granting the shipping board control over all cargo space.

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Desperate Counter Attacks of Foe Repulsed by Both French and British With Heavy Losses; Story of a Secret Pact Between the Kaiser and Czar

By Courier Leased Wire.

Paris, May 18.—Several attacks were launched by the Germans last night in the vicinity of Craonne. Today's official statement says they were repulsed. French reconnoitering parties penetrated the German lines in Lorraine.

BRITISH OFFICIAL London, May 18.—12.55 p.m.—"Two hostile raiding parties were beaten off with loss last night northwest of Arras," says today's official statement. "There is nothing further of interest."

DEMAND RETURN Paris, May 18.—The Alsace-Lorraine Committee, representing natives of the respective provinces has adopted the following resolution: "In view of diverse opinions recently expressed concerning Alsace Lorraine, this committee renews the declaration that Alsacians and Lorrainians will consider no other solution of the situation than that proclaimed at the beginning of the war by the French Government and recently re-affirmed in the United States by Rene Viviani in his position as vice president of the Council of Ministers, namely the return, pure and simple of Alsace-Lorraine to France."

SECRET PACT? Paris, May 18.—A long account of a secret pact between the Kaiser and Emperor Nicholas and aimed against France is given in the last issue of the Moscow Russkoye Slovo to reach Paris. According to the story the existence of the treaty was discovered by Count Witte in 1905, while the peace negotiations between Russia and Japan were proceeding at Portsmouth. Count Witte, furious at the deception of the Czar, informed the Kaiser that unless the pact was cancelled he would refuse to countersign the treaty of Portsmouth. As German bankers were interested in a loan to Russia this would hit them hard, the story goes, rather than have complications in his economic policy, the Kaiser yielded. Neither Emperor, however, ever forgave Count Witte.

At the beginning of the war Count Witte communicated the facts to B. Glinka, editor of "The Messenger Historique." He bound the editor to keep the information secret until he, Count Witte, was dead and circumstances warranted the revelation of "Nicholas' inconceivable laxity or treason, which ever you like."

CENSURE ON ENEMY WAR LOAN

Socialist Deputy in Reichstag Dissatisfied With Propagation Measure

EXPECTED BLOCKADE By Great Britain and Should Have Been Prepared

By Courier Leased Wire.

Amsterdam, via London, May 18.—in the course of the budget debate in the reichstag on Wednesday, Deputy Vogthern, Socialist, attacked the Government for questionable methods in propagating the war loan. He said that soldiers in the field had been forced to subscribe and that similar pressure had been exerted on co-operative societies.

Herr Vogthern added that the security of the investment and the rate of interest had been rendered doubtful by an article in The Tages Zeitung which said: "Assurances by the Government can only be given in the expectation of a large war indemnity."

The Deputy asked for an assurance that the interest would not be reduced. In reply the finance minister protested against Herr Vogthern's statement and assured him that subscribers would be safeguarded. He expressed his conviction that the subscriptions of the soldiers were voluntary.

Deputy Cohn, Socialist, said that all military writers had counted even before the war, on a starvation campaign by Great Britain and that it was therefore hypocritical to act as if Germany was surprised by these tactics. The President here called Deputy Cohn to order, but the Deputy continued:

"Granted that England did proclaim a war of starvation, right must right. Before the war I never imagined we should be driven to war by Germany's fault."

Amid a violent uproar Deputy Cohn was again called to order. Read Brander's Drug Store Nine Cent Sale ad. on page six.

SGT. JONES

Is the New Gaol Governor; Government Decided on a Returned Soldier

In accordance with an order-in-Council, passed by the Ontario Government some time ago, that returned soldiers should be given the preference for Provincial posts, word has been received from Toronto that Sergt. Charles Jones has been appointed Governor of the Brantford gaol.

He left with the first contingent for the front, and was in the 4th Battalion. After going through the Battle of Langemarck, he was wounded at Festubert, after being in the trenches for eight days. He was struck in the head by shrapnel, and was rendered unconscious. As the outcome he lost the sight of his left eye, and was badly hurt in the left hand receiving his discharge in September, 1915.

Sergt. Jones was also through the South African war, in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, and came through without a scratch.

He was three years a member of the Dufferin Rifles. He has latterly been acting as a shell inspector.

U.S. Red Cross Unit Landed

By Courier Leased Wire. London, May 18.—Sir Alfred Kough, surgeon-general of the British army, announced to-day the first of six fully organized and equipped hospital units which the American Red Cross is sending to France, arrived in England yesterday.

The unit comprised about 300 persons, including 20 army medical officers, 60 nurses, and more than 200 other attaches. This unit will be the first officially sanctioned by the United States Government to carry the American flag to the battlefields of France since the United States entered the war. After a brief stay in England, the unit will be sent to the continent, where it will take charge of a base hospital behind the British front. The hospital will have accommodations for 500 patients and be fully equipped by the British hospital service.

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