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British Capture More German Positions On A Wide Front

Weather Improves and There is Stiff Fighting Along Two Thirds of Line—French Also Forge Ahead

With British armies in France April 13, via London 2 p.m. (From a staff correspondent of the Associated Press—Under improved weather conditions there was stiff fighting along virtually two-thirds of the British front to. In addition to the gain made in a new attack between Hargicourt and Metz-Couture, the British are making progress farther north. Another mile of the Hindenburg line southeast of Arras has been taken, as shown by last night's official communication, giving a total width of three and one-half miles to the turning movement at the top of this famous position. In falling back the Germans are making in the direction of an emergency auxiliary line to the rear of the Hindenburg line, called the Drocourt-Queant line. Work on this position is far from complete and the Germans seem to have had no idea of using it except as a last resort. They are now fighting under orders to delay the British advance at every possible point to permit completion of the work of making the new position defensible. The British captured the town and wood of Gouzeaucourt, Gauche Wood and Sart Farm. London, April 13—German positions on a wide front have been captured by the British after severe fighting. The war office so announces. The front attacked extended from a point north of Hargicourt to the village of Metz-Couture. It is nine miles from Hargicourt to Metz-Couture. This sector is on the new front between Arras and St. Quentin, where the Germans took up positions after their retirement. The announcement follows: "We attacked last night in the region between St. Quentin and Cambrai. After sharp fighting we captured the enemy's position on a wide front from north of Hargicourt to Metz-Couture. "We now hold Sart Farm, Gauche Wood, Gouzeaucourt Village and Gouzeaucourt Wood. "During the night our troops carried out a successful raid southwest of Loos. The enemy's dugouts were bombed and considerable damage was done to his defenses. In the neighborhood of Ploegsteert a hostile raiding party came under our machine gun fire and failed to reach our trenches." On retiring from the Somme last month the Germans apparently expected to hold all the Hindenburg line, running southeast from Arras in front of Cambrai and through St. Quentin and Laon. The important point at the northern end of the line was Vimy Ridge. There is no doubt the Germans never expected to be driven off that ridge by a frontal attack as was done by the Canadians on Monday. Anticipating a northern offensive, however, and the possible outflanking of the Vimy position, the Drocourt-Queant switch running north from the Hindenburg line, was planned. In the meantime the Germans, driven back from their old positions were endeavoring to dig themselves in at various places, especially in front of Monchy Le Preux, in which process they suffered heavy casualties from artillery and machine gun fire. It is rather difficult to explain the exact situation where the attacks centre on arbitrary German field positions rather than on towns or villages. But in modern warfare the taking of a bit of trench or a strong point which is marked only on war maps may be of far greater importance and significance than the capture of a well known city. Toward the southern end of the British line, northwest of St. Quentin, an attack was made today over an extended front and at some places, including Gouzeaucourt, were captured. In the meantime the Canadians farther north fought their way through the wood located on the eastern front of Vimy Ridge. The Canadians, by the way, are loud in their praises of the Scottish troops that fought south of them in taking the ridge. The killed men everywhere kept pace with the troops of the dominion, giving invaluable assistance in winning the great victory. FRENCH ALSO ADVANCE Paris, April 13—(Noon)—The French made an attack this morning on the new front south of St. Quentin. Today's official statement says the Germans resisted desperately but the French captured several lines of trenches, taking prisoners and a considerable number of machine guns. The French also made further gains east of Coucy La Ville, taking prisoners and booty. The statement follows: "Between the Somme and the Oise our troops this morning attacked German positions south of St. Quentin. Notwithstanding desperate resistance by the enemy we carried several lines of trenches between the Somme and the St. Quentin railway. We brought back prisoners and a number of machine guns. "South of the Oise our advanced troops made progress east of Coucy La Ville and took prisoners and material. There was artillery fighting in the region of the Aisne and in Champagne. Near Verdun two surprise attacks were made by the enemy. They were broken up by our fire. The night was calm on the remainder of the front."

ARMY OF 2,000,000 MEN AND BOYS FOR WORK OF CROP RAISING

Other Drastic Steps Being Considered in the United States

Washington, April 13—Proposals for enlistment of a work army of two million men and boys for agricultural service, and other drastic steps to increase food production during the war were given enthusiastic encouragement at the department of commerce today. Secretary Houston ordered wide publicity given to resolutions adopted at a recent St. Louis conference of agriculture experts looking to production of greater crops as an emergency measure. "I recommend \$25,000,000 for use by the secretary of agriculture in such a campaign. FREE 60,000 SCHOOL BOYS FOR WORK ON FARMS. Chicago, April 13—More than 60,000 boys above the age of sixteen, will be released on Monday from the high schools of Chicago, provided they take a pledge to work on farms in Cook County or enter some employment by which the food supply of the nation may be increased. Jacob Lorch, president of the board of education, signed the order releasing the boys from school work and it is to be read today in every high school in the city. Every boy who takes up the

JOINS STAFF AT DISCHARGE DEPOT

Lieutenant E. S. Roxborough of West St. John, a member of the 140th battalion, who was unable to pass the final medical examination prior to going overseas and since then has been medically unfit for service, will in the course of a few days be attached to the staff at the discharge depot, as assistant to Major Smith. Lieutenant Roxborough, while with the battalion, proved his worth as an officer and now that he is able to be about the military officials feel that he is rightly entitled to his position, the duties of which are fairly light.

THE TREVELL NOT SUCK

New York, April 13—Official denial by the Cuban authorities that the British vessel Trevel was sunk off Cienfuegos by a German submarine was called here today to the Republic of Cuba News Bureau. The story of the sinking was given out last night at Key West, Florida, by C. Peterson, who said he was a member of the Trevel's crew.

CONCERNED BY GERMAN GOVERNMENT IN IS MISTAKE

London, April 13—Arthur J. Balfour, British foreign secretary, was to have presided at the Pilgrims' dinner yesterday, but was absent on an important diplomatic matter particularly concerning the United States. There was a profusion of flags and cheering, such as the dignified assemblages in Great Britain rarely indulge in. A reference to Canada and to her representative, Sir Robert L. Borden, provoked a great demonstration. There was also an oration for Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the American committee for relief in Belgium, when Viscount Bryce, referring to him, as "that great American," announced that Mr. Hoover was returning to the United States to assume the position of chairman of the American food board. In his address Viscount Bryce said: "When the United States, quitting the isolation she had cherished since the days of Washington, obeyed the supreme call of duty and set herself by the side of the free nations of the world in order to save the future of humanity, she took a step full of significance for all the eyes to come. The German government, fortunately, is in some things as ignorant as it is malevolent—stirring address by Lord Cecil and the American Ambassador.

W. C. PINNED TO MOTHER'S DRESS

Winnipeg, Man., April 13—At the returned soldiers' convention the Victoria Cross, won in France by Sergt. Frank Hall of a Winnipeg battalion, since killed in action, was pinned to his mother's dress by Sergt. James Smith, D.C.M., of Edmonton. Mrs. Hall told the veterans she had received her son's decoration by registered mail and that it had never been formally presented. She had never worn it until it was pinned in place by Sergt. Smith. Sergt. Hall was the first Winnipeg man to win the Victoria Cross in the present war.

WEATHER REPORT

Phelix and Ferdinand

NOT SO HARD NOW TO PASS

FEAR STRIKE IN WESTERN MINE

Raider And Submarine In Gulf Of Mexico ?

Brazil To Seize German Ships In Her Ports

Rio Janeiro, April 13—The government has decided to seize all German ships in Brazilian harbors. Pro-German Paper Plant Wrecked. Sao Paulo, Brazil, April 13—The office of the Diario Alemão, a pro-German organ, were wrecked last night by a mob of pro-ally sympathizers. The presses were destroyed. Want Argentina In. Buenos Aires, April 13—A despatch from Cordoba reports a great demonstration there in favor of Argentina joining Brazil and against Germany. Enthusiastic crowds applauded orators who demanded that the republic support the allies. The chief of police and other officials took part in the demonstration. The newspapers publish a report that the Argentina transport Pamplona has been sunk by a German submarine. Another report is that the Argentina sailing vessel Oriana has been sunk by a German raider off the coast of Brazil.

BEGIN WORK OF REBUILDING IN THE DEVASTATED CITIES IN NORTHERN PART OF FRANCE

New York, April 13—A contract providing for the re-construction of important buildings in the devastated cities of northern France has been closed between the French government and Kennedy, Mitchell & Company, bankers, of New York and London. Virtually all the material to be used will be purchased in this country. "This contract is for 200,000,000 francs," said Mr. Kennedy. "We have received important plans and specifications of the commission in charge of this work for the French government. The Bank of France is back of this movement for building the new France. "This contract is the first that has been let for the betterment of conditions in devastated Europe. Despite the heavy volume, it is a mere beginning."

GOES BACK TO REGINA, THERE TO RAISE REGIMENT

Major McKeown, one of the company commanders of the 217th Regina Battalion, at present quartered in the city, has received orders to return to Regina, where he has been authorized to raise a militia regiment. Major McKeown has been a member of the Canadian militia for several years and at the time of signing with the overseas forces, he was in command of a militia regiment. During his short stay in the city he has made many friends and although they will regret that he has left the city, yet they will be pleased to learn of his promotion.

CONGRESS TAKES UP THE BILL FOR PROVIDING SEVEN BILLIONS FOR WAR

Washington, April 13—Debate on the seven billion dollar war revenue bill began in the house today with prospects of its passage before tomorrow night. Sixty-four yeas and thirty-four nays were recorded. The bill and only opposition of a perfunctory nature was looked for, as most members of the house are said to favor the measure. No effort had been made to limit debate and discussion was expected to take a wide range, including possibly the question of sending troops abroad, and conscription. So soon as the bill is disposed of by the house, members of the ways and means committee will be devising means for raising a part of the \$7,000,000,000 by taxes. The senate finance committee is expected to approve the bill substantially in the form in which it comes from the house. It is hoped to report the measure to the senate at the first of next week. No strong opposition is looked for there.

GERMANS SINK GREEK WHEAT CARGO THOUGH THEY'D BEEN NOTIFIED

Athens, via London, April 13—The Greek steamer Nestos, with a cargo of wheat for the relief of Greece suffering because of the blockade, had been torpedoed and sunk, thus depriving the Greeks of the scant luxuries promised for the Easter festival. The Germans had been informed of the mission of the ship and the Greek government will formally protest against the sinking. The ship and her cargo were valued at \$5,000,000 francs. The insurance falls on the Greek government.

RETURNS TO STATES FROM GERMANY, IS ARRESTED

New York, April 13—Werner Tismer, described by the authorities as chief aide to Dr. Karl A. Fuehr, head of the German literary propagandists in this country, was arrested by United States secret service men today and interned in Ellis Island. Dr. Fuehr returned to Germany with his family on the Frederick VIII after the severance of diplomatic relations. With Tismer's aid he is said to have established offices for the dissemination of "Teuton propaganda," principally through newspapers, in the principal cities of South and Central America.

GUARD ATTACKED

War incident of Last Night in Portland, Me.

Portland, Maine, April 13—William Hay, a guard at the Grand Trunk Railway bridge, reported to the police today that he had been assaulted and fired on during the night by a man who climbed on the drawbridge from a motor boat. The bullet grazed his arm. Hay's assailant and a companion, who remained in the boat, exchanged shots with the guard before they disappeared in the darkness.

RAIDER AND SUBMARINE IN GULF OF MEXICO ?

Galveston, Tex., April 13—Information that a German commerce raider in the guise of a sailing ship, has entered the Gulf of Mexico was reported today in Galveston. This news was received from an unnamed British steamer in a radio message to a ship anchored here. The vessel is said to be equipped with auxiliary power. It also has been reported that a German submarine is operating in the eastern gulf.

AMERICAN WARSHIPS TO PATROL ATLANTIC COAST

TAKES A SHOT AT VON BERNSTORFF

German Writer Says Embassy at Washington a Failure

BLAMES HYPHENATES

Says Fatherland Deeply Disappointed in Them—Capt. Persius Waras Against Mistake Made About The "Contemptible Little Army"

Amsterdam, via London, April 13—Captain Persius, writing in the Berlin Tageblatt, criticizes those who treat America's entry into the war lightly. "It would be a fatal mistake," he says, "to regard America's economic strength as the only important factor for an enemy. The military strength of the United States is not to be met with a shrug of the shoulders. Otherwise we shall make the same mistake we did about the military strength of Britain."

Otto Hoetsch, a prominent political writer, reviewing the German-American clash in the Kreuz Zeitung, contends that Germany has a perfect right to make her own international law so far as submarines are concerned and also in regard to neutrals, for whose future interests, he says, Germany is fighting. Herr Hoetsch charges that America was never neutral from the beginning of the war, which he says would have been long over if the United States had not abetted the Entente. He continues: "Germany, in always trying to avoid a German-American conflict, played into the hands of her opponents. The German embassy in Washington should be blamed for this. It was the weakest spot in the whole diplomatic service. Apart from its glaring mistakes, the embassy lacked an understanding of American psychology, the best proof of this being the failure of the whole German propaganda. It is to the Kaiser's lasting merit that he made every effort to hold America's friendship. We cannot blame him, because America is not against us but we do blame the German-American diplomats who realize that the fatherland is deeply disappointed in them."

AMERICAN WARSHIPS TO PATROL ATLANTIC COAST

British and French, It Is Said, Will Be Withdrawn

CONFERENCES IN WASHINGTON

High Navy Men of Three Nations Meet—Alic's Naval Bases on Western Side of Ocean Opened to Americas as Well as Ports in Britain and France

Washington, April 12—With High British and French naval officers in conference with American officers, definite steps have been taken toward participation of the American navy in the war against Germany. Patrol of the entire Atlantic seaboard, reaching southward to the Panama Canal zone and possibly northward to include Canada, will be the first duty of American warships. With that goes the necessity of guarding against the probable extension of the German submarine campaign to include approaches to major American ports. British and French ships now on this patrol duty will be withdrawn so soon as the American forces have their lines established. The American squadrons will operate from British and French bases in the South Atlantic where necessary. This was learned today in connection with the announcement that Vice-Admiral M. E. Browning of the British navy and Rear Admiral R. A. Grasset of the French navy are in Washington conferring with Secretary Daniels and other officers of the American navy. It has been expected that Germany would formally announce a submarine blockade of Boston, New York, the mouth of the Delaware, the mouth of the Chesapeake, Charleston and Savannah. These are the arteries through which flows the main traffic of the world and war supplies for Europe. Unless a blockade is declared in line with her previous action, Germany would be under the necessity of giving warning before attacking merchant craft under neutral flags. Many navy officers doubt that any considerable number of German submarines can be spared from the task of blockading the British Isles for work on this side of the Atlantic. Sporadic operations within prescribed areas are looked for, however, and no precaution to guard against them will be overlooked by the navy. Traps and Chasers

AMERICAN TROOPS ON WESTERN FRONT

New York, April 12—A special cable to the Herald from London dated yesterday, says:—"The prospect of the early participation of American troops fighting under the American flag on the western front, has caused tremendous enthusiasm here. "Already the nucleus for a force is being sent from the Prussians in France, it being estimated that 82,000 American citizens are fighting there in the Canadian units. It is surmised here that a request will be made to obtain the release of the 82,000 trained fighters from the Canadian units to enable them to fight hereafter under their own flag. The force could be strengthened by the addition of about 100,000 regulars to be sent from the United States army at once, thus forming a powerful army corps, which in the forthcoming operations would bear a part as glorious as that borne by Field Marshal French's first gallant light expeditionary force. CANADIAN SOLDIER AT WINDSOR IS SHOT Windsor, Ont., April 13—Private Frank Kelly, a member of the 241st Canadian Scottish Borders Battalion, in training in Windsor, was shot and probably fatally wounded Thursday afternoon.

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