

BRITISH RE-GAINING LOST POSITIONS

Enemy Front Line Trenches Taken by French Troops Near Chevreux || The Battle Round Bullecourt and Vicinity is Still Raging || Fresnoy Retaken by Germans From its Canadian Captors

Vast Masses Teuton Troops Assail the Allied Lines

Fighting Upon Drocourt-Queant Line Assuredly the Most Bitter of the War; Massed Reserves of German Army Hurlled Against British In Futile Attempt to Check Advance; Haig's Forces Press Onward and Once More Menace Coal Mines of Lens

By Courier Leased Wire

With massed reserves and every available gun at his command, Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria is striving to halt the ceaseless British assaults on the Drocourt-Queant line, the last bulwark protecting the richest prize of the Germans in northern France—the coal field of Lens.

British Progress Admitted

Curiously enough the same official statement from Berlin, which announces the capture of Fresnoy, indicates that the British are much closer to the southern end of the Drocourt-Queant line than had been claimed by London.

Most Important of the War

Everything indicates that the present struggle on the British front is regarded on both sides as one of the most important actions of the war, but it may be many days before any decision is reached.

Other War News

From two other war theatres news comes that opens up many possibilities. The fighting on the Macedonian front, constantly developing in severity and extent, gives renewed color to the belief that General Sarrail is initiating operations of major importance and possibly a general offensive.

Greek Situation

The developments on this front appear to have given fresh impetus to the revolution movement in Greece, reinforced by the news that Venizelist troops are on the firing line and have been the victors in the first clash with their hereditary foes, the Bulgars.

Mesopotamian Front

Mesopotamia offers the second point of interest with an announcement from Petrograd that Russian troops are again on the move on the Persian border. The unexplained inaction of these forces was believed in some quarters to have been responsible for the sudden halt in the victorious advance of the British army from Bagdad.

INTRIGUE FOR PEACE WITH ITALY

Germany Making Efforts to Conclude a Separate Agreement There

SONINO IS ACCUSED

Italian Foreign Minister Charged With Half Heartedness

TURKEY READY TOO

Would Offer Concessions in Palestine and Straits

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, May 9.—(New York Sun cable)—Germany's intrigues for a separate peace are afoot in Italy as well as in Russia.

In Russia the German Socialistic propaganda has appealed to the revolutionary and extreme Democratic elements in an effort to overthrow Foreign Minister Milukoff, who is the backbone of Russia's devotion to the allies.

Until a few weeks ago Baron Sonnino, the Italian foreign minister, was regarded as above suspicion and it was well nigh a crime to question anything he had done since the war began.

Despite this record the extremist press has launched a great assault against him, alleging that he is too strongly nationalistic, is ultra-conservative and anti-democratic, and is opposed to the great revolutionary plans drawn up for adoption after the war.

From Rome comes a report that Turkey is prepared to offer separate peace, granting concessions in Palestine and the internationalization of the Dardanelles.

Paris, May 9.—Noon.—The French last night captured first line German trenches of a mile northeast of Chevreux, near Craonne, the war office announces.

The French took 160 prisoners. During the night the Germans made repeated counter-attacks in force against the important positions taken from them on the plateau of Chemin-Des-Dames and on the California plateau.

London, May 9.—4.14 p.m.—In moving a vote of credit for £500,000,000 on the House of Commons today, Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, said that the alarming feature of the figures was that they represented a total daily expenditure of £7,450,000.

FRENCH TAKE ENEMY LINES

German First Line Trenches Captured on Front of Nearly a Mile

FOE ATTACKS FAILED

With Heavy Losses to Germans; Prisoners Taken

CHINA WOULD DECLARE WAR

Resolution Calling for Hostilities Against Germany to be Considered

BRITISH REGAIN GROUND

Positions Taken by Enemy Yesterday Are Being Won Back

Bulletin, British Headquarters in France, May 9.—(via London, 2.22 p.m.)—(From a staff correspondent of the Associated Press)—Most of the ground lost by the British in the vicinity of Fresnoy has been regained.

HINDENBURG AND VICTORY

Field Marshal Predicts Triumph For Army of All Highest War Lord

CASUALTIES VERY HEAVY

Several Members of 125th Reported Killed in Action; Others Wounded

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LARGEST VESSELS POSSIBLE

Shipping Experts at Manchester Oppose Construction of Small Ships

DISASTROUS EFFECT Bound to be Exercised on Nation; Large Ships Needed

SUBMARINE MENACE Can be More Competently Coped With in This Way

By Courier Leased Wire.

Manchester, April 28.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—A committee of shipping experts here has adopted a report against the building of small ships in preference to big ones to offset the submarine danger.

The policy of small ship construction, can only have a most disastrous effect on the nation, the main power required by the army and our chances of victory. The Germans claim to be sinking 9,000,000 tons a year and hope to sink still more.

Comparing ships of 3,000 tons and 16,000 tons displacement, carrying 650 and 8,675 of cargo respectively and taking the north Atlantic passage as a basis we should require to build each year 2,460 of the smaller ships, but only 185 of the larger.

The number of men employed in building the ships, including making and handling steel and other materials would be 635,000 for the smaller ships and 285,000 for the larger. The coal consumed would account for 45,000 men for the small ships as against 10,500 for the larger.

London, May 9.—The denial by the German legation at The Hague as reported in a Reuter's despatch that the American Tank Steamer Healdton was sunk by a German submarine concludes with an insinuation that the vessel was in the British prohibited zone where it was lost.

London, May 9.—The Norwegian Steamer Kaparilla, 1,282 tons gross, has been sunk by a German submarine, the Norwegian foreign office announces, says a special news despatch from Christiania today. Two men of the crew were killed.

NORSE SHIP SUNK

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Weather Bulletin Toronto, May 9. The disturbance which was near the south Atlantic coast yesterday is now centred off Nova Scotia, accompanied by a strong wind and rain. The weather continues fair and warm in the western provinces.

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