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FAIR AND COOL

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GERMAN ARMY OBSERVES HOLIDAY; OCEAN DISASTER OFF DELAWARE

BRITISH GAIN MANY MILES AT BAGDAD

Important Expedition Pushing on Towards Mosul, Point in Mesopotamia.

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED PRISONERS TAKEN

At Same Time a British Force Progresses in Palestine Beyond the Jordan.

PALESTINE ARMY NEARING ES SALT

Operation North of Bagdad is for Purpose of Protecting Right Flank.

Special cable to New York Tribune and St. John Standard.

London, May 1.—British troops have pressed on twenty miles further toward Mosul, northward from Bagdad, and increased their prisoners to 1,800, it was officially announced here today. At the same time an expedition is driving beyond the Jordan river, northeast of Jerusalem, and has approached Es Salt, taking 260 prisoners.

The operation north of Bagdad, which details published yesterday showed was a Turkish rout, is intended to protect the right flank of the British forces in Mesopotamia. On April 12 forces driving up the Euphrates, almost due west of Bagdad, reached a point seventy-three miles beyond Anah and about midway between Aleppo and Bagdad, after soundly whipping the Turko-German army opposed to them and pursuing the disorganized remnants for many miles.

Protect Right Flank.

If this Euphrates expedition had been pushed it might have cut through the Mediterranean and got in the rear of the enemy forces in Palestine. But evidently the British command did not dare to go further without protecting its right flank. This flank rested roughly on the Persian border and had been protected earlier by Russians. The downfall of Russia created a new situation and made it necessary to send the present expedition with the object of clearing the Turks out of Mosul and the region north to Lake Van and east to Persia.

Official Statement.

The statement on this operation is issued today read:

"On April 30 our pursuing troops advanced as far as the Taurk river. Twelve more field guns were captured on the 29th and the number of prisoners now amounts to 1,800."

The statement on the Palestine fighting says that hostile forces in the foothills south of Es Salt, which is twelve miles east of Jordan and thirty-five miles northeast of Jerusalem, were attacked on Tuesday. By Tuesday evening British mounted troops were within two miles of Es Salt. Farther west other forces advanced along a line of one mile near Meirah and occupied that place.

A few weeks ago the British sent a light expedition east of the Jordan, which tore up a stretch of the Hedjaz railway and returned to the main lines. Turkish and German writers represented this as a great British defeat. The present easy British advance in the same region is a convincing answer to the enemy claims.

The new ground covered by the British represents an advance of approximately twenty miles, from the point further north mentioned in the official statement of yesterday announcing the beginning of the drive north from Bag-

TWO BRITISH AND A FRENCH NAVAL VESSEL SUNK

London, May 1.—Six officers and thirteen men are missing as the result of two naval disasters reported tonight by the British Admiralty. The sloop Cowslip was torpedoed and sunk April 25 and five officers and one man are missing, and troopship Number ninety foundered, and from her one officer and twelve men are missing.

Paris, May 1.—The French submarine Prairial has been sunk as the result of a collision with a merchant ship, it was announced today. Part of the crew of the submarine was saved. The Prairial was built at Cherbourg ten years ago. She was 167 feet long and displaced 400 tons. Her complement ordinarily was twenty-four men.

UNITED STATES PLANS AN ARMY OF 3,200,000

Secretary of War Baker Will Lay Increased Program Before Congress.

EXISTING FORCE IS 1,600,000 TROOPS

President Wilson Wants Authority to Call Out More Soldiers.

Washington, May 1.—Secretary Baker will carry to Congress tomorrow the army increase programme mapped out by President Wilson and his advisors, and based on the determination to win the war, if it takes the whole man power of the nation to do it.

There are indications that he will ask that all the restrictions on the number of troops raised be removed and the government authorized to mobilize as many men as it can equip, train and send to the battle front in France.

When the war secretary appears before the House military committee with supplemental estimates for the army he is expected to disclose the department has reason to believe it can handle during the present year at least double the existing force under arms of approximately 1,600,000 men. That would mean a total of 3,200,000 soldiers for whom clothing, equipment and transportation are now in sight.

Call More Men.

Should additional facilities become available, however, it is indicated that President Wilson wishes to be able to call out more men without delaying to seek authority.

Under the new classification scheme there are understood to be 1,800,000 men immediately available for active military service in class 1. Probably the total effective in class 1 will prove to be 2,500,000 men when the definite figures are available.

While plans for the future have been shaping up for presentation to Congress, the war department has been pressing vigorously its efforts to expedite the movement to France of men already under arms.

Many Dead.

With the French Army in France, May 1.—(By The Associated Press)—A heavy German attack launched yesterday against the Americans in the vicinity of Villers-Bretonneux was repulsed with heavy losses for the enemy. The German preliminary bombardment lasted two hours and then the infantry rushed forward only to be driven back, leaving large numbers of dead on the ground in front of the American lines. The German bombardment opened at five o'clock in the afternoon and was directed especially toward the Americans, who were supported on the north and south by the French. The fire was intense, and at the end of two hours the German commander sent forward three battalions of infantry. There was hand-to-hand fighting all along the line, as a result of which the enemy was thrust back, his dead and wounded lying on the ground in all directions. Prisoners remained in American hands.

London, May 1.—A new financial group is to be established in Germany by the Hohenlohe family, a Central News despatch from Amsterdam reports. Prince Hohenlohe is said to have severed his connection with the Deutsche Bank.

MANY LOSE LIVES IN A COLLISION

Steamship City of Athens Rammed and Sunk by French Cruiser off Delaware.

SEVENTY-FOUR ARE SENT TO DEATH

Steamer Engaged in Regular Trade Between New York Savannah.

VESSEL SINKS IN JUST 7 MINUTES

French Cruiser Escapes Damage and Lands Sixty-One Survivors.

An Atlantic Port, May 1.—Seventy-four lives were lost when the steamship City of Athens of the Ocean Steamship Company was rammed at 1.30 o'clock this afternoon by a French cruiser off the Delaware coast. The City of Athens carried a crew of 125 men. The vessel sank within seven minutes after the collision. Sixty-one of the crew were brought to this port late today by the French cruiser, which was not seriously damaged.

The City of Athens left her pier at New York at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. She carried a cargo of general merchandise and some passengers. She was in charge of Captain J. Forward, one of the oldest commanders in the service of the Ocean Steamship Company.

The vessel was of 2,500 tons and was engaged in trade between New York and Savannah. The City of Athens is one of the steamers carrying large quantities of Southern cotton to the North for use in New England mills. At this time of year she also carries large quantities of potatoes and onions and other early Southern produce. Her passenger list was seldom large on her trips Southward at this season of the year.

It is presumed that those who lost their lives were members of the crew, a large number of whom were Southern negroes.

DR. WM. P. McNALLY, P. E. I. NATIVE, DEAD

Was Born at Egmont Bay and Leaves Relatives in Summerside.

The death is announced in Bangor of Dr. William P. McNally, a well known physician of that city. Dr. McNally was born at Egmont Bay, P. E. I., the son of the late John McNally. He was educated at St. Dunstan's College and Prince of Wales College, both of Charlottetown, and received his medical training at McGill. His mother, Mrs. John McNally of Summerside, P. E. I., six brothers, including J. J. and Philip B. of Summerside, and two sisters, one Mrs. Lillian Doyle of Summerside, survive. He also leaves a widow and three daughters.

HALIFAX PLASTERERS GET \$5.20 PER DAY

Halifax, May 1.—Under the new building trades wage scales becoming effective here today, the journeymen plasterers receive 55 cents per hour; carpenters 50 cents (9 hour day); plumbers, 60 cents (8 hours); brick layers and masons, 60 cents; granite cutters, 60 cents, and plasterers, 60 cents an hour for six months and 65 cents for the six months following, with an eight hour day.

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GERMAN CROWN PRINCE FIRES ON FRENCH CAPITAL

Geneva, Switzerland, May 1.—The German Crown Prince himself has fired several shots with a gun with which Paris is being bombarded, a Cologne despatch says. He is greatly interested in the working of the guns, according to the despatch and has visited the spot frequently.

Paris, May 1.—General Dubail, the military governor of Paris, visited today the various points in the region of Paris which has been particularly affected by the latest bombardment. The general conversed with the local authorities and asked them to convey his warm congratulations to their subordinates for the calmness they had displayed during the shelling.

GERMANY WILL OFFER PEACE!

Emperor Karl of Austria About to Attempt a Settlement with the Italians.

GERMANY MAY OFFER LORRAINE TO FRANCE

Ludendorff Already Preparing German People for Surrender of Territory.

By Arthur S. Draper. (Special Cable to the New York Tribune and St. John Standard.) London, May 1.—The first hint of the coming peace offensive on the part of the Central Powers comes today from Switzerland where it is reported Emperor Karl is about to make overtures to Italy. It is stated the Austrian king will say he has no desire for conquest, but that unless Italy accepts the terms he intends to offer he will fight for peace.

This move is similar to the one made prior to the opening of the military campaign on March 21, and reported in these despatches. Switzerland is full of German peace propagandists. Everything is being prepared for a gigantic peace drive the moment the military operations slow down in the west as they are expected to do within a few weeks.

Ludendorff Strong Man. Ludendorff, who is now recognized as the greatest of the enemy's military leaders, has become also the greatest of their statesmen, rivaling according to the popular mind, the mighty Bismarck.

Ludendorff is going to conduct the peace drive just as he planned the military campaign and Hertling and Muehlmann must remain in the background. Germany wants peace more than anything else. She wants it because war is rapidly sapping the life-blood of the nation, because economic conditions are always linking around the corner, because her allies can get nothing out of further fighting, because America looms up in the future.

So Germany is going to offer better terms than those hitherto presented. She is going to return Belgium, offer France a part and possibly all of Lorraine, return Serbia, ask to have her colonies restored to her and offer to revise the Brest Litovsk treaty, especially its economic features. She is going to try to make a peace treaty which will save the faces of all the belligerents.

Coming Peace Offer. Ludendorff already has begun to prepare the German people for a peace offer of this kind. Though the allies are, right in the midst of a serious military situation, they must be prepared for the coming drive, because it is just as dangerous as the campaign launched on March 21 and must be calculated to bowl over some of the allies unless they are strongly and promptly reinforced. Having seized strong military positions, Ludendorff, through his civil spokesmen, probably Hertling, will declare Germany wants no annexations and no indemnities. In every allied country there will be large factions which will

SOLDIERS OF AUSTRIA ARE WITH ITALY

Bohemian Troops Revolt and Join King Charles' Enemies Over the Border.

BOHEMIANS WERE LONG DISSATISFIED

City of Prague Recently the Scene of Riotous Demonstrations Against German Nation.

POPE MAY ATTEMPT AGAIN TO END WAR

Benedict Expected to Put Forward Offer to Mediate on Sunday.

London, May 1.—The Daily Mail's correspondent at Italian headquarters says that Bohemian troops are joining the Italian troops against Austria and that the first detachments are already on the Italian fighting line wearing Italian uniforms. This information has passed through the hands of both Italian and British censors and would therefore appear to be authentic. The defection of the Bohemians would in a measure explain the delay in the proposed great offensive, long heralded, of the Austrians against the Italians.

Prague, capital of the Crown land of Bohemia, has recently been the center of riotous demonstrations against Germany and the Germans. The Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, Count Czernin, has been strongly denounced and President Wilson and the Entente Allies have been cheered.

The Czech members of parliament, together with the Slovene and Serbo-Croat delegates, have been leaders in the opposition to German rule. German newspapers have taken another tangent in their talk of peace. The pope is expected to discuss the future of Alsace-Lorraine with Pope Benedict on Whit Sunday, May 19, will put forward concrete offers to mediate between the warring factions. The reported intention of the Pope is said to have had a sympathetic reception in Berlin. There is no confirmation from any source that the Pontiff purposes again to offer his services in the direction of peace.

Alsace-Lorraine.

Amsterdam, May 1.—The significant admission that the Imperial German government had been discussing the future of Alsace-Lorraine was made recently in the second chamber of the Saxon parliament by one of the ministers, says a Dresden despatch to the Rotterdamische Courant. The minister who made the admission was Herr Von Leipzig, in reply to a suggestion by Herr Guenther, a Liberal minister. Guenther urged that Alsace be incorporated with Bavaria and that Lorraine be divided between Prussia and Baden, all contingent upon the assent of the country and parliament.

VATICAN RECOGNIZES THE POLISH NATION

Rome, May 1.—The Vatican intends to recognize the new political formation of Poland under Germany by the sending of Monsignor Ratti there as papal delegate, according to a statement issued at the office of the Papal secretary of state today. The statement adds that the breaking up of Russian authority in Poland has made necessary the sending of Monsignor Ratti to Poland.

feel inclined to accept the enemy offer on the plea that Germany has learned her lesson, that she has learned she cannot make force pay. That is the argument the allies must fight just as desperately as the German hordes sweeping across the plains of Flanders and Picardy.

KEMMEL HILL A DEATH TRAP FOR ENEMY SOLDIERS

British Headquarters in France, May 1.—(By the Associated Press)—Activity on the battle front during the past twenty-four hours has been confined to artillery operations. The Franco-British batteries have been constantly shelling Mont Kemmel. Unless the enemy can push on beyond this isolated stronghold, the tragic lesson of Hill Juba may be repeated and the hill top become practically a death trap. The advantage of Kemmel to the enemy is a tactical one.

Everything favored the Germans on Monday. They had magnificent artillery support, a favoring fog, innumerable machine guns, masses of men and unlimited explosives, yet they failed after experiencing a day of steady slaughter.

THE NETHERLANDS DISTURBED BY HUN ATTITUDE

Negotiations Supposed to be Taking Satisfactory Course However.

GERMANY MAKES FOUR DEMANDS

British Government Has Sent Note to Holland, it is Reported.

Special Cable to N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard. London, May 1.—Although negotiations between Germany and Holland are supposed to be taken a satisfactory course, news received here shows Holland is thoroughly disturbed by the German attitude. Germany has formulated altogether four demands, two of which involve the passage of Dutch territory, while the two others were the passage of military stores and free access of German ships to the Scheeldt.

Negotiations are now centered on the quantity of sand, gravel Germany shall be permitted to transport. An agreement on the other points is not yet arrived at, but it is expected Germany will finally withdraw the last two demands if the first two are settled to her satisfaction. Despite the terror caused in Holland by the idea of a German invasion, she understands it will be her duty to resist if Germany presses the last two demands. It is believed the allies will not scrutinize too closely the terms Holland may be forced to accept. It was reported today that Holland had received from the British government a note concerning the seizure of Dutch ships.

FIELD MARSHAL HAIG COMMENDS HIS MEN

Says Effort Enemy is Making to Break Down Resistance of British Army will Undoubtedly Fail.

London, May 1. (Via Reuter's Ottawa agency)—Field Marshal Haig has telegraphed the commander of the second army, expressing his deep appreciation of the great gallantry displayed by the Ninth Division in the fighting north of the Lys and Wytschaete, which, he says, worthily upholds the traditions of the British army.

General Haig also congratulates the 25th division on its gallant counter-attack of the 26th April; the 31st division for holding up the enemy's advance at a critical stage of the Lys advance; the 49th division for very valuable service since its entry on the battle north of Armentieres; the 21st division for its fighting north of the Lys, and the 19th division south of Arras and south of Ypres.

The commander-in-chief of the British forces adds that the great effort the enemy is making to break down the resistance of the British army will undoubtedly fail if all ranks continue to show the same resolute and determined courage which characterized the action of the 19th division.

NO FURTHER ONSLAUGHTS BY TEUTONS

Germans Around Ypres Take Holiday and Repair their Shattered Ranks.

THEN THEY WILL RENEW ATTACK

British and French Have Materially Bettered Their Positions.

FRESH HUN RESERVES BEING BROUGHT UP

And the Furious Drive by Von Arnim is in Immediate Prospect.

Having been defeated with heavy losses in every phase of the fighting around Ypres, the Germans have attempted no further onslaughts. Inaction prevailed Wednesday before the positions held by the British and French troops, especially those in the hands of the British, which it had been the ambition of the Germans to capture, separate the British and French armies and open the way for a rush to the channel ports.

Since Monday what activity there has been in this region was carried out by the British and French, both of whom have materially bettered their positions—the French near Loire and the British at Meteren. On both sectors ground was captured and prisoners were taken.

Guns Roaring. Apparently in the offensive, however, pause is not to be taken as meaning the end of the German attempts to crack the allied line. All along the front the big guns are roaring and shells of all calibres are ploughing the terrain and the areas far behind them, and fresh German reserves, to take the places of the men killed, wounded or made prisoner, are being hurried to the front.

Indeed, advances from the British front in Flanders are to the effect that another furious drive by Von Arnim is in immediate prospect. Emperor William has been at the front delivering flamboyant speeches to the troops in an endeavor to spur them on to victory.

Rain of Shells.

Meanwhile British and French artillery are sending a veritable rain of shells on Mont Kemmel, the chief point of vantage gained by the Germans in the Ypres sector. Thus far the allied guns have held back all attempts by the enemy to reinforce his men on the hill, and if the good work is kept up the hilltop is likely soon to prove to be a death trap for its captors. Nothing as yet has been vouchsafed regarding the inter-allied war council, which is holding session at Versailles, which are expected to bring forth decisions of great moment. Representatives of all the Allies are in attendance.

Minor Fighting.

Great faith in the ability of General Foch and the allied commanders on the western front again has been expressed by M. Clemenceau, the French premier. Returning from a visit to the front the premier said he considered the line stable and that as a result of the steps taken by the various commanders it was outside the realm of immediate danger.

The fighting on all the other fronts, except in Palestine and Mesopotamia, continues of a minor character. In both the latter theatres, however, the British have returned to the attack and gained important successes over the Turks. Progress has been made north of Bagdad, along the Tigris river and in Palestine several positions have been captured and prisoners taken.