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WEATHER—STORMY

PRICE TWO CENTS

BRITISH AND CANADIANS CONTINUE THEIR TRIUMPHANT DRIVE TO POINT NEAR ARRAS

RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT DECLARES COUNTRY IN DANGER FROM HUNS

Proclamation Issued Pointing to Grave Peril from Drive by Germans.

Necessary to Employ all Efforts to Save Country from Threatened Disaster.

Petrograd, via London, April 10.—The provisional government has issued a lengthy proclamation directing attention to the grave danger of a German effort to deliver a decisive blow at Russia, and the necessity of immediately concentrating all of Russia's forces for the defeat of the enemy.

"The provisional government," says the proclamation, "feels that it has no right to hide the truth. The state is in danger, and it is necessary to employ all our powers to save it. The old regime led Russia in a sadly disorganized condition, especially in the matter of finances, food supply, transportation and munitions."

The proclamation says further:

Wants No Conquest.

"The government deems it to be its right duty to declare now that Russia does not aim at the domination of other nations at depriving them of their national patrimony or at occupying by force foreign territories, but that its object is to establish a durable peace on the rights of nations to decide their own destiny.

The Russian nation does not just after the strengthening of its power abroad at the expense of other nations."

AUSTRIA HANDS PASSPORTS TO U. S. CHARGE

Ambassador Penfield who Left Vienna Last Saturday Has Arrived in Switzerland.

Basel, Switzerland, April 10, via Paris.—The Austro-Hungarian government handed passports to Joseph C. Grew, the charge d'affaires of the American embassy to the dual monarchy, according to a despatch received here today.

Federick C. Penfield, the American ambassador to Austria-Hungary left Vienna last Saturday on his way to Washington, and already has arrived at Zurich, Switzerland.

Austria's Note.

Washington, April 10.—Austria's note to American Charge Grew at Vienna severing diplomatic relations with the United States because of this country's declaration of war with Germany and offering every facility for the return of American officials, was made public at the state department today.

The Note Follows:

"Since the United States of America has declared a state of war exists between it and the Imperial German government, Austria-Hungary, as an ally of the German empire, has decided to break off the diplomatic relations with the United States and the Imperial and royal embassy at Washington has been instructed to inform the department of state to that effect. While regretting under these circumstances to see a termination of the personal relations which he has had the honor to hold with the charge d'affaires of the United States of America the undersigned does not fail to place at the former's disposal here with the passport for the departure from Austria-Hungary of himself and the other members of the embassy.

"At the same time the undersigned avails himself of the opportunity to return to the charge d'affaires the expression of his most perfect consideration."

(Signed) CZERNIN.

Zwiedinek Quits.

Washington, April 10.—Baron Erick Zwiedinek, formerly Austrian charge d'affaires, said good-bye to Secretary of State Lansing today. Arrangements now are under way for the recalled Austrian diplomatic and consular officials.

BRITISH PUSH LINES AS FAR AS MONCHY-LE-PAIX, FIVE MILES EAST OF ARRAS, IN FACE OF BIG STORM

Important Gains on Vimy Ridge, Where Hard Fighting Occurred Again Yesterday.

Up to Last Night Eleven Thousand Prisoners, Including 235 Officers Had Been Captured—French Do Effective Work with Artillery.

London, April 10.—In the face of heavy snowstorms and, in places, strong resistance by the Germans, the British have pushed their lines as far as Monchy-Le-Paix, five miles east of Arras, and made further important gains on Vimy Ridge.

The official statement from British headquarters describing the operations now in progress on the Arras-Lens line reports the capture, up to this evening of 11,000 prisoners, including 235 officers more than 100 guns, including heavy guns up to eight inches, sixty trench mortars, and 163 machine guns. The text reads:

"Our operations have been continued energetically today, in spite of heavy snowstorms and generally unfavorable weather. We have reached the outskirts of Monchy-Le-Paix, five miles east of Arras, and have cleared Farbus and Farbus wood.

HARD FIGHTING.

"Hard fighting took place again this afternoon on the northern end of Vimy Ridge, in which we gained further important positions and took a number of prisoners and machine guns.

"In the direction of Cambrai we advanced our line north of the village of Louverval. Such counter-attacks as the enemy attempted at different points along our front met with no success.

11,000 Prisoners.

"The number of prisoners taken since the opening of our attack yesterday morning now exceeds 11,000 including 235 officers. We also captured over 100 guns, among them a number of heavy guns up to eight inches calibre, sixty trench mortars and 163 machine guns.

"Our airplanes performed valuable work yesterday in co-operation with our infantry, and in a number of cases inflicted casualties with machine gun fire on hostile reinforcements. Bombing expeditions were also carried out, in which a number of hits were obtained upon a large railway station utilized by the enemy.

"As a result of the air fighting three German airplanes were destroyed and four others were fought down. One of our machines is missing."

French Statement.

Paris, April 10.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads:

"North of the Oise the artillery on both sides was active. South of the Oise our batteries destructively shelled German organizations east of Coucy. South of the Ailette river the enemy violently bombarded our positions in the sector of Neuville-Sur-Margival.

On the left bank of the Meuse, in the direction of Bethincourt, we caught under our artillery fire a train, which was completely destroyed.

"In the course of the latest aerial engagements Sub-Lieutenant Regnier brought down his fifth machine and Adjutant Douchy his sixth.

"Belgian communication: The Belgian artillery took to task various German groups which appeared before the Belgian front. The enemy batteries retaliated with quite spirited fire in the course of the afternoon.

"Eastern theatre: Very active artillery fighting took place in the sector of Monastir.

"On the Cerna, after strong artillery preparation with heavy artillery, a German battalion attacked the Russian troops, but was stopped short at the wire entanglements by machine gun fire.

"British aviators bombarded enemy camps at Prastita, in the zone of the Orfano Gulf.

Berlin Statement.

Berlin via London, April 10.—The evening official communication says:

"British attacks delivered after strong artillery fire on the southern bank of the Scarpe failed. On the Aisne front the lively artillery duel continues."

Germany Losing from Seven to Fifteen Each Week — One Week they Lost 23.

New York, April 10.—The New York Times publishes the following: The British have been destroying U-boats at the average rate of one a day since February 1, and latterly at an even higher rate, according to information brought to New York yesterday by persons returning from Europe, who said they had the authority of naval officers and officials high in the admiralty, for the figures.

In the month following the declaration of unrestricted submarine warfare, British ships sank thirty-two submarines. Since then, it is said, the average number destroyed a week has been between seven and fifteen, with the number running as high as twenty-three in the week.

HUN COMMANDER TAKEN.

London, April 11.—Among the incidents reported of the Lens-Arras battle is the capture of the commander of the German 17th Division.

is to join with the party of German officials dismissed from China and who are due at San Francisco the last part of the week. The two parties will meet in New York and go over the route followed by Count Bernstorff, stopping for examination at Halifax and landing in Denmark.

FIRST SHOTS FIRED BY THE U. S.

Ammunition Schooner Bounded for Mexican Port Captured.

TWO TORPEDO BOAT DESTROYERS IN ACTION

Several Thousand Rounds of Ammunition Taken.

Bulletin—San Diego, Calif., April 10.—An ammunition carrying schooner, bound for a Mexican west coast port, was fired upon and captured by two United States torpedo boat destroyers, it was learned tonight from authoritative sources.

Five shots were fired at the vessel when it attempted to escape, and the ship was then beached. Several thousand rounds of rifle and machine gun ammunition were taken aboard the destroyers, and landed at a Pacific coast port.

TURK ARMY PREPARING FOR FIGHT

British Capture Balad Station and Town of Herbe, in Further Advance North of Baghdad.

London, April 10.—The British have made a further advance north of Baghdad, the war office announces. They have captured the Balad station and the town of Herbe.

It also announced that the Turkish forces in Mesopotamia apparently are preparing a converging movement against the British between the Abbein and Diale rivers, while attempting to hold the Russians on the upper reaches of the Diale.

The statement follows: "The Turkish forces which in the communication issued on April 6th were reported retreating in the direction of Kifri are now apparently contemplating a converging movement in conjunction with the Turkish troops on the left bank of the Tigris against our forces in the area between the Abbein and Diale rivers, while containing the Russian detachments on the upper reaches of the latter river. Our troops on April 5 were reported to be in contact with advanced Turkish detachments on the line Garra-Dely Abbas and to be in possession of the left bank of the Abbein.

"On the same day we captured the Balad station on the Bagdad-Samarah railway about fifty miles north northwest of Baghdad, and Herbe, four miles north of Balad, was occupied on the morning of April 9. During the operations on April 9 nine officers and 200 men of other ranks, two machine guns and other material were captured.

Russian Statement.

Petrograd, via London, April 10.—Russian troops of the northern army in Persia are again on the march into Mesopotamia from Baneh, just south of the latitude of Mosul. The Turks have been driven out of the defenses they have been holding there for some time, and the Russian offensive is being continued.

Southwest of Khanikan the southern column of Russians which recently effected a junction with the British from Bagdad, has occupied Kizil Robat, eighty miles northeast of Bagdad. The text of the statement reads:

"Caucasus front: In the direction of Banijar our troops, having dislodged the Turks from their positions in the region of Nirban, 13 miles southwest of Baneh, are continuing their offensive.

"In the direction of Khanikan we

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELVE PERSONS, MOST OF THEM WOMEN AND GIRLS, PERISH IN TERRIFIC EXPLOSIONS

One Hundred and Twenty-One Others Injured, Many Mortally—Death List May Reach 150.

Eddystone Ammunition Corporation's Shrapnel Building Near Chester, Pa., Destroyed, Probably Accidentally—Rumors of Plots.

Chester, Penna., April 10.—One hundred and twelve persons, most of them women and girls, are known to have lost their lives, and 121 were injured by a series of terrific explosions today in the shrapnel building of the Eddystone Ammunition Corporation at Eddystone, one mile from this city. Many of the injured were mortally hurt, and it is feared the final death list will reach 150, while others probably will be named for life.

How many of the 300 or more employees in the building, in which was stored approximately 30,000 shells, escaped is almost beyond conception, as there was scarcely a fragment of the structure left intact. Fire added to the horror, and most of the bodies were so badly charred that identification was impossible.

In the absence of any official statement many theories as to the cause of the disaster, one of the worst ever experienced in this section, were advanced. Rumors of plots and arrests of persons both inside and outside of the plant were numerous, but all lacked confirmation.

TWENTY DETECTIVES OUT.

Twenty Philadelphia detectives were sent to Eddystone soon after the explosion, on a rumor that it was the result of a plot. After spending several hours investigating, they reported that they had learned from officials of the corporation, who had made an investigation, that a quantity of shrapnel had been placed near a radiator and the heat might easily have exploded it. Their opinion is that the explosion was purely accidental, and they accept the suggestion that it was the result of a plot.

A canvass of the police stations in the vicinity and inquiries among officials of the company failed to reveal that any arrests had been made.

FELT FIFTEEN MILES.

The explosion, which was felt in Philadelphia, a distance of fifteen miles, occurred about ten o'clock in what is known as the "10-F" building, a two-story structure, 75 by 300 feet. In this building time fuses were prepared, more than eighty per cent. of the workers being women and girls. Probably fifty men and boys were employed in the building at the time of the blast, and the majority of them escaped.

Great excitement followed the explosion. A heavy pall of smoke darkened the entire town, which has a population of about 5,000. This was soon lightened by the flames from the burning building. Rescue squads composed of other employees at the plant were quickly formed, and a call for assistance was sent to Philadelphia and other nearby points. The entire Chester fire department responded and ambulances from Philadelphia and Chester were soon at the scene.

BRAZIL, GUATEMALA AND PERU WILL PROBABLY JOIN ALLIES

Chile and Mexico will Remain Neutral, as will Also Argentina, Probably—Mexican Government Seizes British Owned Railway.

Washington, April 10.—Much of the uncertainty as to Latin-American attitude in the war between the United States and Germany was cleared away today by definite advices that Chile and Mexico will remain neutral, and increasing indications that Brazil, Guatemala and Peru will join Cuba and Panama on the side of the United States and her allies.

Chile a Surprise.

The decision of Chile, the first of the American republics to announce her neutrality, caused some surprise among officials here. In many quarters it had been expected that she eventually would break with the Berlin government, but would postpone her decision until advised definitely of the course of Argentina and Brazil, the other members of the influential A. B. C. group in South America. There are indications that Argentina

also will take a place among the neutrals.

Mexico's decision, on the other hand, caused no surprise.

A proclamation of Mexican neutrality is expected after the Mexican congress meets April 15.

Official confirmation of Brazil's break with the Berlin government still was lacking tonight at the state department and the Brazilian embassy, but officials believe there is no doubt that the authorities at Rio have definitely decided for war.

Official advices from Guatemala left little doubt that the proclamation of martial law there was a preliminary to a break with Germany.

An incident that has caused curiosity and some anxiety at the state department was the taking over by the Mexican government, two weeks ago, of the British-owned Mexican railway between Vera Cruz and Mexico city.

have occupied Kizil Robat, 26 miles southwest of Khanikan.

"The official statement for the other fronts reads: Western front: There were patrol encounters and reciprocal firing.

"Romanian front: There have been scouting reconnaissances and rifle firing."

MORE PRAISE FOR BOYS FROM CANADA.

London, April 10, (Montreal Gazette Cable).—Anglo-Canadians are rejoicing at the good news of the capture of Vimy Ridge, and Sir Robert Borden has sent a congratulatory message to General Byng, who commands the Canadian forces.

The entire press strings with the exploits of the Canadians as they did at the battle of Ypres, but with more jubilation.

HON. RICHARD OLNEY, ONCE WORLD FAMOUS, IS DEAD AT BOSTON

Wrote Celebrated Venezuela Note to Great Britain Years Ago.

Was Secretary of State and Noted Student of International Affairs.

The death is announced in Boston of Hon. Richard Olney, statesman, formerly secretary of state at Washington, noted student of international affairs, and one of the most eminent men in America. During the administration of President Grover Cleveland Mr. Olney's reputation became world-wide, for it was he that wrote the diplomatic notes to Great Britain concerning the celebrated Venezuela question which almost precipitated war.

Generally Reticent.

It was rarely that Mr. Olney would speak for publication. His most recent expression made only a few days ago was made in reply to the query whether he thought the United States ought to make a big loan to the Allies. Without hesitation he said that he would like to have such a loan made but he doubted the constitutionality of such action by Congress.

Five years ago, when Mr. Olney was rounding his 77th anniversary, he was operated upon for intestinal troubles which had begun to seriously affect the robust health that had been his for more than the usual life-time. Last October there was a recurrence of the trouble that had been temporarily relieved. He did not improve greatly and in January another operation was performed.

News of Death Delayed.

It was typical of Mr. Olney that little or nothing could have been published regarding his illness and the announcement of his passing was delayed for a day. From the time that he entered President Cleveland's cabinet as attorney-general, becoming secretary of state two years later, no man in New England had been sought out more consistently by newspapermen for his opinion on current events and none probably furnished the reporters with less copy. Always friendly in private, he was averse to newspaper notoriety and it was rarely he would permit himself to be quoted in the press.

Suggested for President.

When called to be told that the Democratic convention of 1904 had before it a proposition to nominate him for president the only comment elicited from the man who was being boomed as the one who had "twisted the lion's tail" in Venezuela was that "it was an extraordinarily early hour" at which to disturb a man's slumbers.

ST. JOHN MAN KILLED AT FRONT

Ottawa, April 10.—10.30 p. m. list.

Infantry.

Killed in Action—J. Chisholm, Antigonish, N. S. D. P. Praught, Earncliffe, N. E. I. W. M. Purdy, Bonny River, N. B. Died of Wounds—T. M. Donovan, Halifax, N. S.

Wounded—C. F. Kingston, Weymouth, N. B. E. McLean, Strathadam, N. B. G. H. Ring, Redbank, N. B. J. J. Furlong, Nash's Creek, N. S. J. E. Sterling, Sterling Brook, N. S. A. N. Sawyer, Gold River, N. S. J. J. Hartley, St. John's, Nfld. C. L. Crowell, Lockport, N. S. J. W. Brooks, Avonport, N. S.

Mounted Rifles.

Killed in Action—D. J. Kane, Perkindale, N. B. M. W. Robinson, St. John, N. B. Died of Wounds—R. Lee, Bathurst, N. B. Wounded—F. H. Grandall, Moncton, N. B.

with Kolb on the same charge. It was announced that Schwartz would be tried again. The two men admitted during their trial that they had explosives in their possession. It was alleged by the state that they planned to cause a second explosion on Black Tom.

They claimed that Jean Humbert instigated such a plot, but that they had no intention of carrying it through. Humbert, also a German, was indicted with them, and was granted a separate trial, which has not yet been held.

HUN BOMBER CONVICTED

Jersey City, N. J., April 10.—The jury which tried Fritz Kolb, a German, on the charge of having made bombs in his room in a Hoboken hotel, brought in a verdict of guilty today. Kolb was remanded for sentence.

The jurors reported they were unable to agree in the case of Hans Schwartz, a German, who was tried