

**THE GREAT WAR  
DAY BY DAY.**

(Associated Press Summary.)

**SUNDAY'S WAR SUMMARY.**

The Russian Riga fleet has started northward from Moon Sound possibly with the intention of endeavoring to escape through the tortuous channels and maze of islands lying between them and the Gulf of Finland. Or it is possible the Russian armada, although far inferior in gun power and tonnage, has sallied forth from the sheltering waters where it took refuge last week to give battle to the dreadnought and other craft comprising the German fleet.

The announcement of the sailing of the flotilla is contained in the latest German official communication, which says the Russians left behind the wreck of the battleship Slava, which was sunk in last Wednesday's battle, and four additional vessels that have run aground since the naval activities in the gulf of Riga began. If the Russians are endeavoring to make their escape, instead of offering battle, doubtless their destination is Revel, the Russian fortress situated on the Gulf of Finland, in northern Estonia.

Meanwhile the Germans have captured in its entirety the Island of Dago, lying at the southwestern entrance to the Gulf of Finland, and also the Island of Schildau, situated between Moon Island and the Estonian coast in the Gulf of Finland. Several hundred prisoners were taken on Dago Island, to be added to the large number captured during the past week on Oesel Island.

British naval craft have heavily bombarded the port of Ostend, Belgium, which is being used by the Germans as a submarine base. The Berlin official communication says numerous houses in the town were damaged by the shells from the naval guns.

On the fighting front in Belgium heavy artillery activity on the part of the British and French continues, with the Germans answering repeatedly on various sectors. No infantry actions have taken place, except in the nature of reconnaissances.

In Champagne, near Carnilet, and in the Verdun sector at several points there also have been violent artillery duels. In Champagne the Germans delivered somewhat heavy infantry attacks against the French west of Mont Carnilet but were repulsed.

There has been brisk fighting between the Italians and Austrians in the Trentino region and along the Julian front in the Austro-Italian theatre and between the Entente forces and Teutonic allies in Macedonia. Likewise in East Africa there has been a renewal of intensive fighting between British and German troops, in which the Germans were defeated near Nyangao. Later, however, the Germans returned to the fray and at last accounts a new battle was in progress. Heavy losses had been sustained by both sides when the last reports were sent to London.

The preliminary parliament has opened in Petrograd, Premier Kerensky made the opening speech and was loudly applauded when he announced that while Russia desired peace she never would bow her head to force.

"We must fight only to save the country," the premier added, amid renewed applause, only the Bolshevik faction of extreme radicals withholding a full meed of encouragement.

The German emperor, having concluded his visit to Constantinople, on the return journey to Berlin, where on Monday he will take part in the celebration of the birthday of the empress. The emperor is expected to visit the German naval bases, at some of which disaffection recently has been reported, and also to go to Helgoland. He also is expected to discuss with the leading statesmen the political situation which recently has been acute.

**TUESDAY'S WAR NEWS.**

While the Allied troops were busily engaged in consolidating positions won Monday in Flanders, the French forces of General Petain struck a mighty and unexpected blow against the German line Northeast of Soissons Tuesday morning and made some of the most important gains of terrain since they threw back the army of the German Crown Prince which was besieging Verdun.

The stroke was made over a front of about six miles from the east of Vauxaillon to Pargny-Falain. Under rainy and generally unfavorable weather conditions, the French pushed forward all along the line, aided by audacious aviators who flew over the German positions at an altitude of about 150 feet, using their machine guns, and penetrating the German line at one point to a depth of two and one-fifth miles.

Numbers of important positions fell one by one into the hands of General Petain's men and in addition more than 7,500 Germans, an enormous

amount of war material and 25 heavy and field guns were captured.

The greatest depth of the drive was in the center of the line where the village of Chavignon was captured after a violent struggle which resulted in the enemy fleeing pell-mell. Some of the best troops in the army of the German Crown Prince were engaged in endeavoring to hold back the onslaught but their efforts were unavailable under the enthusiasm of the French to win positions which would place them more advantageously to press later on toward Laon.

For about a week the French artillery had been hurling in front of them in preparation for the drive and when it was started, sad havoc already had been wrought by the guns. In addition to the prisoners taken by the French the Germans also suffered heavy casualties.

In Flanders both the British and French troops are holding all the gains made in Monday's drive northeast of Ypres, except at one place on the southern fringe of the Houtholst forest where the Germans in a furious counter attack forced a slight retirement by the British.

The latest advices concerning the naval activity in the Gulf of Riga between the Germans and the Russians show that although the Russians lost the battleship Slava and a large torpedo-boat destroyer, the Germans were the heaviest losers. Two of their dreadnoughts, one cruiser, twelve torpedo boats, one transport and numerous mine sweepers were put out of action by the Russian fleet. While the exact fate of these vessels has not been ascertained by the Petrograd government it is announced that at least six of the German destroyers were sunk.

Further attempts to land forces on the Esthonian coast to the north of Werder have been repulsed by Russian detachments.—Associated Press Summary.

**TRANSACTIONS IN LEATHER.**

Aggregate of Recent Sales to Great Britain and Russia Totals \$20,000,000.

Following the extensive sales of upper leather and shoes to the British Buying Commission noted last week, these operators have since purchased even larger quantities of sole leather, and the effect of the immense buying has been very beneficial to the entire leather, hide and shoe trade, and has stiffened prices materially from their previous depressed state. According to information available in trade circles, the sales of sole leather were the greatest that have ever been known. It is reported that 900,000 hemlock sole in bends and 50,000 cases of women's cut soles were purchased for Great Britain, and, beside this, 600,000 hemlock sole in sides was taken for Russia, with payment to be made in United States dollars. It is understood that all of this leather is to be furnished by three of the largest sole leather tanning concerns, and, while particulars as to prices, etc., are not given out, it is stated that the rates obtained were very fair, considering the huge quantities involved, especially as the leather taken by the Commission consisted of stock that is not readily marketable in this country.

Different estimates are made as to how much money has been involved by these transactions, but it is reported that the 600,000 sides to Russia amounted to around \$5,000,000, and probably the 900,000 bends and 3,000,000 pairs of cut soles (60 pairs per case) going to England will amount at least \$10,000,000. This, added to the 5,000,000 to \$8,000,000 worth of upper leather and shoes referred to last week as being purchased by the Commission, will bring the aggregate purchases of everything up to at least \$20,000,000, which is by far the greatest deal ever consummated in the history of the leather trade.

All of this sole leather, as was the case in the upper leather purchases, is for civilian purposes, and tends to offset to a great extent the seven and a half months' period during which the British embargo against imports restricted the export trade here in leather and shoes so materially. Although the British Commission held up the news of the partial lifting of the embargo until after their purchases of upper leather were completed, such was not the case in regard to sole leather, and the sales of the latter were effected after the announcement was made that British import permits would be granted to ship leather in store that had been bought and paid for by British concerns.—Dun's Review.

**Red Cross Convention.**

A Red Cross Convention will be held in Raleigh Thursday and Friday, November 1st and 2nd. The 110 Red Cross Chapters and 600 auxiliaries and branches are expected to have representatives present. The convention will be both inspirational and practical. Every community has the right to send from three to five delegates.

**OCTOBER HEALTHFUL MONTH.**

**Climate and Outdoor Life Largely Responsible.**

That October is probably the most healthful month in the year and that every body feels better than usual this month is generally admitted, but few people know why this is true. A recent bulletin from the State Board of Health explain why there is less sickness and better health in October than in any other month in the year.

"Climate, of course, has much to do with it," says the bulletin "as cool weather is more energizing than warm weather, but a more important reason is a person's physical condition at this time. For six months, people have been living in the fresh air. They have kept all their windows open, they have lived more on the porch and some have slept out on the porch, they have ridden and walked more in the open air and altogether they have treated their bodies fair in respect to fresh air and exercise. Consequently, the good health that people enjoy in October and the other fall months is due to proper living habits with reference particularly, to fresh air and out-door life.

"December, January and February can be made almost as healthful as October, if the same living habits are observed. It is a noticeable fact that there are no epidemics of colds, grip and pneumonia until after the windows go down and people shut themselves in doors."

**Ships and the Spring Offensive.**

During March and April, 1918, will come the crisis in the shipping situation. It is now expected that American forces in France will first constitute an important factor in offensive operations on the western front in the spring resumption. That will begin probably in April. Increased tonnage under the shipping board program, representing the first serious effort to counteract losses in tonnage from submarine warfare, will not be ready for the sea before April. Thus the spring offensive will begin at about the same time that the United States begins to increase tonnage for the supply of its forces in France.

The undertaking of such an offensive operation, in which the entente armies must begin the battle from the vantage points now being captured by Gen. Haig and press it without interruption until the German lines are rolled back across Belgium and France, necessitates the accumulation of huge stores of ammunition and supplies in advance. It necessitates also a constant supply of ammunition and stores while the offensive continues. Thus, if its forces are to be prepared for the spring offensive, the United States must transport to France between now and April both men and supplies on a huge scale. And this must be done just at the moment when merchant tonnage will be at the ebb. As the year 1918 progresses, the position of the United States ought steadily to improve. Merchant tonnage for transport use should increase rapidly.

But during the two months or more preceding the spring offensive, the situation unquestionably will be one of extreme difficulty for the United States. At that time the United States will be called upon to perform the hardest part of its task in transmitting its fighting force to France, and it will have less tonnage available for this than at any other period of the war.

Much depends upon giving the spring offensive the utmost power and efficiency at the earliest possible day and upon maintaining the pressure upon the German lines at maximum during the spring months. If Gen. Haig enjoys a few weeks more of good weather to permit the continuance of the sledgehammer blows which he is now delivering, the entente lines in Flanders will be placed in the most advantageous position possible for the beginning of a spring offensive. The Germans will either have to begin the spring campaign at an extreme disadvantage, as to position, or else they will have to execute another "strategic retreat" during the winter and thus voluntarily surrender more of Belgium than they have ever yet given up. In either event the entente armies will begin the spring campaign with an important psychological advantage. They will start the Germans out upon the year of active warfare with defeat and retreat as their first move.

Just how far this advantage can be pushed depends upon the strength the entente armies can assemble and maintain at the outset of the campaign. And this, in large measure, depends upon men and supplies from the United States. It may very probably mean the shortening of the war by a year if the United States can transmit sufficient fighting power to the western front at the outset of the spring offensive. Ability to do this depends upon ships. It is a problem in the transmission of fighting force overseas.—Washington Post.

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