

COUNT CZERNIN HAS RESIGNED

AUSTRIAN PREMIER GIVES UP HIS OFFICE AT REQUEST OF GERMANY.

THOUGHT POSITION BETTER

However, He Had Involved Emperor Charles in Most Unpleasant Position—Czechs in Revolt.

Coincident with the report of the acceptance of the resignation of Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian premier, comes a report of a serious outbreak of the Czechs at Prague, which for many months has been reported to be seething with anti-Germanism. Bohemians, or at least the Czechs minority in that country, object to the creation of a German government there, but the incident may be more significant than has so far appeared. The Slav races of Bohemia have long been standing out against the Germanization of their country and the outbreak at Prague may be only another indication of the deep-seated opposition to the war aspirations of the central powers.

Washington.—News of the resignation of Count Czernin as Austro-Hungarian foreign minister lead to much speculation among officials and diplomats here as to the causes which brought about the rather dramatic exit of the Austrian official at a moment when, through his decided change of attitude toward war issues, involving his complete acceptance of the extreme German views, it had been supposed that he had greatly strengthened his position.

This change was manifested soon after the Brest-Litovsk peace conferences, where Czernin had become convinced that his moderate views regarding the basis of peace were unacceptable to the dominant annexation and forced indemnity party. Therefore officials here are inclined to believe that it was not because the count was obnoxious to Austria's great ally that he was forced out of office, but rather that the explanation was to be found in internal Austro-Hungarian issues.

It is recognized that Czernin involved Emperor Charles in a most unpleasant position by his speech trying to fasten upon France the responsibility for initiating peace proposals last year, thereby enabling the French government to deliver a master stroke in diplomacy by producing the famous letter of Charles to Prince Sixtus. But quite aside from the Sixtus letter, recent events in Austria-Hungary have indicated that Count Czernin's tenure might be short. In the first place there was the frightful suffering of the population and especially in Bohemia, from the state of semi-starvation for which they held the government responsible because it would not make peace at once. Then there was the bitter dissatisfaction of the Poles and Czechs over the relinquishment of the rich country of Cholm to the Ukraine as one of the conditions of the Brest-Litovsk peace. Finally there was the concentrated hatred of the foreign minister by the anti-German elements of the Austrian confederation because of his release into extreme conservatism and his adoption of the pan-German program in its entirety, with all of its reactionary policy.

It is understood that Emperor Charles himself still has liberal leanings and is disposed to moderation so far as war is concerned, it is conceived that he might easily be inclined to rid himself of an official so unpopular with a large part of the Austro-Hungarian population.

It has been known, too, for a long time that the count has been a sick man and that he has often shown signs of distraction and has many times been near the point of absolute physical collapse as the result of his strenuous efforts to maintain control of the widely discordant elements that make up the dual empire.

AUSTRIAN RULER HURRIES DENIAL TO THE KAISER

Basel, Switzerland, April 15.—Emperor Charles of Austria has sent the following telegram to Emperor William of Germany, according to advices from Vienna:

"Clemenceau's accusations against me are so low that I have no intention longer to discuss this affair with France. My cannon in the west is our last reply."

(Signed) "CHARLES."

LADY FURNESS



Lady Furness, one of the noted women of the British peerage, is serving as a nurse in the Red Cross behind the lines in France. Many, like her, have given up personal comforts and the joys of social life, to enlist their efforts in their country's cause. Many are serving in the hospitals close to the firing line in France.

BATTLE ON 30-MILE FRONT

HINDENBURG USING HIS HEAVIEST LEGIONS AND MIGHTIEST GUNS.

Americans Fighting on Toul Sector, But None Reported on the British Front.

Swinging his heaviest legions and mightiest guns far to the north of the Picardy battlefield, Field Marshal von Hindenburg now is driving attack after attack against the British lines between Arras and Ypres. Charging across the level country behind a tempest of high explosive and gas shells, the Germans have succeeded by terrific fighting in penetrating the British defenses at points over a front of nearly 30 miles to a depth of almost six miles just to the south of Ypres.

The loss of Armentieres is admitted by the British, but this was expected from the trend of events in that sector during the last few days. The enemy had driven in on both sides of the town and holding out longer by the British would have imperiled the whole line. So far as known, the withdrawal of the British forces from Armentieres was orderly and was only for the purpose of straightening out the line in the region where the German pressure is the heaviest.

The British have stood firm at vital points along the line. Wyszchaete is still held by Field Marshal Haig's men who also maintain their grip on Mesines ridge, Lestren, Ploegsteert, and Ploegsteert wood and Hollebeke, against which furious assaults have been launched only to break down or be nullified by British counterattacks. A terrific attack made against Hollebeke and Wyszchaete was completely repulsed with great loss to the Germans.

This particular part of the battle line in the west has been the scene of terrible fighting for nearly four years. Armentieres marked the farthest retirement in this region of the French, British and Belgians in August and September, 1914. Just to the north, near Ypres, the Germans on April 3, 1915, first loosed their poisonous gas, and here on December 19, the same year, they drove hard at the thin line of Canadians in a desperate effort to reach Calais. On both occasions the Canadians beat back the enemy and held their lines intact.

UNUSUAL WEATHER FROM HATTERAS TO CAPE COD

Washington.—Southern New England and the middle Atlantic Coast districts are experiencing extraordinary April weather, sleet, snow and driving rain accompanying a high northeast wind blowing along much of the coast from Cape Hatteras to Cape Cod.

Temperatures were from 20 to 30 degrees below the seasonal average, but nowhere had they reached the freezing point, though they were only a few degrees above it.

The cyclonic depression off the Carolina coast, instead of passing to sea as the weather forecaster had predicted, increased in intensity and began moving slowly northeastward. High northeast winds blew over the Virginia and North Carolina coasts and have reached as far as Nantucket where the wind attained a velocity of 42 miles an hour. At Cape Henry the wind blew 52 miles an hour, but moderated in a short while.

AMERICAN TROOPS IN HARD FIGHTING

GERMANS FAIL IN REPEATED EFFORTS TO REACH AMERICAN THIRD LINE.

LOSE HUNDREDS OF MEN

Many Deeds of Individual Bravery and Heroism Have Developed Among the Americans.

Preceded by an intense bombardment of high explosives and poison gas shells picked troops from four German companies hurled themselves against the American positions on the right bank of the Meuse north of St. Mihiel, but were completely repulsed after terrific hand to hand fighting.

The Americans captured some prisoners. The German losses already counted are 34 dead and 10 wounded, who were in the American trenches, and 30 dead in No-Man's Land. Several of the wounded enemy were taken back by their comrades to the German positions.

After another night of terrific artillery fire and a bombardment with gas shells, the Germans continued their efforts to drive through to the third line of the American positions near Apremont forest northwest of Toul. They made two attacks, both of which failed. The enemy's casualties in the four days' fighting are estimated at between 300 and 400. Of this number more than 100 were killed.

Although the enemy wasted fully a half of his specially trained shock troop battalion of 800 men, he was unable to penetrate the American lines, which remained unchanged. Of the 36 prisoners taken by American troops in the fighting northwest of Toul, during which two German attacks in force were repulsed with heavy casualties to the enemy, 12 have since died of their wounds. The American troops also captured two German machine guns besides a quantity of small arms, grenades and other war material.

The prisoners taken belonged to the twenty-fifth and sixty-fifth Landwehr units, the sixteenth pioneers and the Uhlans. The prisoners said they had had no food for two days, as the American artillery had prevented their rations from being brought up to their position. The captive Germans quickly devoured the food given them by our men.

SENATOR WM J. STONE OF MISSOURI PASSES

Was Chairman of Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Washington.—Senator William J. Stone, of Missouri, chairman of the senate foreign relations committee, and for many years prominent among Democratic leaders, died here after a stroke of paralysis.

Senator Stone suffered the stroke while on a street car on his way to the senate office building. A slight cerebral hemorrhage affected his left side, rendering him helpless, but he did not lose consciousness and a few hours later rallied and began to talk about getting up. His family and friends were hopeful until there was a decided turn for the worse.

There was a second cerebral hemorrhage and the senator fell into a state of coma. Death came at 4:30 o'clock but the physician made no announcement until an hour later because twice the patient's pulse had become so weak that the family thought the end had come.

At the bedside were Mrs. Stone and their children, Federal Judge Kimbrough Stone, of Kansas City; Mrs. John W. Parkinson, of St. Joseph, Mo., and Miss Mabel Stone, and niece Miss Margaret Winston, of St. Louis. All the members of the Missouri delegation in congress were at the home during the day and there were scores of callers among officials and members of congress.

YET ANOTHER DRAFT CALL IS ISSUED

Washington.—Another draft call, for 49,843 registrants, has been sent to governors of states by General Crowder. Mobilization of the men is ordered for May 1 and 10, the war department announced.

This call increases to more than 300,000 the number of select men ordered to camp since late in March. This is far in excess of the monthly average that would have been mobilized under the original plan.

MARSHAL VON WOYRSCH



Field Marshal von Weyrsch, who, it is authoritatively stated, will lead the much-advertised spring drive of the Germans on the West front. He commanded the Teutonic armies in the invasion of Poland in 1915.

SENATE PASSES SEDITION BILL

PROVIDES 20 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT AND \$10,000 FINE FOR DISLOYAL UTTERANCES.

Prohibits Language or Acts of Disloyalty; Obstruction of Draft and Liberty Loan.

Washington.—The sedition bill, prohibiting under penalties of 20 years' imprisonment and \$10,000 fine, language or acts of disloyalty or obstruction of the army draft and Liberty loans, was passed today by the senate without a record vote, ending protracted debate. It now goes to conference between the house and senate and final enactment is expected soon.

Though modified to meet the objections of senators who claimed the original draft would curb legitimate freedom of speech, the bill retains the broad inhibition of words or acts which "support or favor the cause of the German empire or its allies—or oppose the cause of the United States." It also would punish willful and "disloyal, profane, scurrilous, contemptuous or abusive" language about the American form of government, "constitution, military or naval forces, flag or uniform," and willful utterances designed to curtail production of essential war materials.

The senate adopted an amendment by Senator Jones, of New Mexico, providing for dismissal of federal executive employees making disloyal statements. This was a substitute for one introduced by Senator Penrose, of Pennsylvania, several days ago after attacks had been made upon George Creel, chairman of the committee on public information, and other officials on account of their writing in the past.

Senator Lodge, after he and other senators had denounced alleged disloyal publications in the German-American press, withdrew his amendment prohibiting German language publications unless paralleled by English translations. Senator Borah, of Idaho, did not press an amendment he had offered to repeal the postmaster general's press censorship authority conferred in the original espionage act.

AMERICAN TROOPS GREETED WITH INTENSE ENTHUSIASM

With the British Army in France.—The first of the American fighting troops have arrived on the British front and have been greeted with intense enthusiasm. The overseas pioneers were a battalion of infantry, which came swinging along the road into a certain sector after an all-night march that began on the anniversary of America's declaration of war. The dusty uniforms and unshaven faces of the Americans showed that they had been long on the road.

GERMAN ALLIANCE QUITS; GIVES RED CROSS MONEY

Philadelphia.—The German-American alliance, which has been the storm center of congressional investigation for some time past, will disband and give the \$30,000 now in the treasury to the Red Cross. This announcement was semi-officially made during a recess following an all-day secret session. It was said the dissolution of the alliance will become effective at once.

ISSUES ORDER TO HOLD THEIR GROUND

FIGHTING WITH BACKS TO WALL HAIG SAYS THERE MUST BE NO FALLING BACK.

READY TO STRICK BACK?

"The Safety of Our Homes and the Freedom of Mankind" Now at Stake Says Field Marshal.

Great Britain's armies stand at bay in France and Flanders. After three weeks of a combat which has eclipsed anything that has raged during the entire four years of warfare, Field Marshal Haig has issued a command to his men to hold their ground at whatever cost, and fight with the knowledge that their blows are struck "for the safety of their homes and the freedom of mankind."

The end of the first phase of this giant struggle now may be considered as passed. "There must be no retirement," is Haig's admonition which adds that the British now are "fighting with their backs to the wall." The withdrawal in Picardy was officially reported to have been a part of the allied strategy, but the period for such tactics seemingly has gone into history.

The order issued by the field marshal contains another sentence which may be pregnant with significance. "The French army is moving rapidly and in great force to our support," he said, and this is the first official intimation that the allies are ready to strike back at the German invaders. This blow may not necessarily fall in Flanders, nor yet in Picardy, but may be aimed at some part of the line where Generalissimo Foch may believe he can cut through the German front and compel the Teutons to relax their pressure against the British.

"EVERY POSITION MUST BE HELD TO THE LAST MAN"

London.—Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a special order of the day addressed to "All ranks of the British army in France and Flanders," says: "Every position must be held to the last man. There must be no retirement. With our backs to the wall and believing in the justice of our cause, each one of us might fight on to the end."

"The safety of our homes and the freedom of mankind depend alike upon the conduct of each one of us at this critical moment."

Field Marshal Haig announced that the French army "is moving rapidly and in great force" to the support of the British.

The special order says: "Three weeks ago today, the enemy began his terrific attacks against us on a 50-mile front. His objects are to separate us from the French, to take the channel ports and to destroy the British army."

"In spite of throwing, already, one hundred and six divisions into the battle and enduring the most reckless sacrifice of human life, he has yet made little progress toward his goals."

"We owe this to the determined fighting and self-sacrifice of our troops. Words fail me to express the admiration which I feel for the splendid resistance offered by all ranks of our army under the most trying circumstances."

"Many amongst us now are tired. To those, I would say that victory will belong to the side which holds out the longest. The French army is moving rapidly and in great force to our support. There is no other course open to us to fight it out."

"Every position must be held to the last man. There must be no retirement. With our backs to the wall and believing in the justice of our cause, each one of us must fight to the end. The safety of our homes and the freedom of mankind depend alike upon the conduct of each one of us at this critical moment."

SOUTHERN YARDS ARE ASKED TO SET THE PACE

Washington.—Southern shipyards were called on to set the pace in building ships in an address made by Chairman Hurley, of the shipping board, before the shipping committee of the Southern Commercial Congress. Mr. Hurley pointed out the south's advantages in coast line and climatic conditions and said there was no reason why it should be second to any other section in producing ocean tonnage.

FIVE THOUSAND MOVE TO CAMP

ORDERS FOR ENTRAINING DURING FIVE-DAY PERIOD BEGINNING APRIL 26.

NUMBER OF WHITES CALLED

Allotments of Each Local Board Has Been Mailed Out to Them—First Two Calls Negroes.

Raleigh.—Local boards throughout the State are being mailed orders from the office of the adjutant general for quotas of men to be entrained during the five day period beginning April 26. North Carolina is called upon to furnish 5,055 men under the three calls from the war department effective on the date mentioned, and the office here has completed the work of apportioning the quotas for each local board.

This total of over five thousand men to be sent to training camps is divided into three calls. The first is for 2,001 colored men, to be sent to Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill., this being the number due from this State under previous calls. The second call is for 1,997 colored men to be sent to Camp Jackson for training, applying on the new call. The third is for 1,057 white men to be sent to Camp Jackson, applying on the new call.

The board are asked to bear in mind previous instructions with regard to deferred, being placed at the end of the quotas wherein is the first class. Those boards which have no men but such as are so engaged have reached the end of their quota and must furnish the number called for, even though that number include those who are actively, completely and assiduously engaged in the cultivation of a crop. The war department has ordered that the exact allotment under each of the calls be furnished.

The call for 1,057 white men to be sent to Camp Jackson is allotted as follows: Alamance 13, Alexander 4, Alleghany 3, Anson 11, Ashe 3, Avery 4, Beaufort 14, Bertie 9, Bladen 8, Brunswick 6, Buncombe No. 1 13, Buncombe No. 2 14, Burke 9, Cabarrus 16, Caldwell 6, Camden 2, Carteret 6, Caswell 6, Catawba 13, Chatham 10, Cherokee 6, Chowan 5, Clay 2, Cleveland 13, Columbus 13, Craven 13, Cumberland 14, Currituck 4, Dare 2, Davidson 14, Davie 5, Duplin 13, Durham 20, Edgecombe 16, Winston-Salem 37, Forsyth 11, Franklin 10, Gaston 20, Gates 4, Graham 2, Granville 10, Greene 7, Guilford No. 1 4, Guilford No. 2 19, Guilford No. 3 9, Hertford 19, Harnett 11, Haywood 11, Henderson 3, Hertford 6, Hoke 5, Hyde 4, Iredell 14, Jackson 6, Johnston No. 1 9, Johnston No. 2 11, Jones 3, Lee 5, Lenoir 13, Lincoln 7, McDowell 7, Macon 5, Madison 9, Martin 8, Charlotte 24, Mecklenburg 11, Mitchell 4, Montgomery 6, Moore 8, Nash 20, Wilmington 14, New Hanover 2, Northampton 19, Onslow 6, Orange 3, Pamlico 5, Pasquotank 2, Pender 5, Perquimans 5, Person 7, Pitt 19, Polk 4, Randolph 11, Richmond 12, Robeson No. 1 11, Robeson No. 2 10, Rockingham 16, Rowan 18, Rutherford 11, Sampson 14, Scotland 8, Stanly 15, Stokes 3, Surry 12, Swain 5, Transylvania 6, Tyrrell 2, Union 14, Vance 9, Wake No. 1 19, Wake No. 2 14, Warren 9, Washington 5, Watauga 5, Wayne 19, Wilkes 12, Wilson 17, Yadkin 5, Yancey 6.

Woodmen Buy Liberty Bonds.

Kinston.—The national camp of the Woodmen of the World invested \$25,000 in Liberty Bonds through Ellis B. Lewis, State manager for the order. The Woodmen are putting \$1,000,000 into the bonds, purchasing at many places in the country. The subscription here was the only one in North Carolina. Kinston's allotment gets the credit. The order holds \$2,000,000 worth of first and second loan bonds.

Medal for All Others.

Special from Washington.—The shipping board is making plans for establishing a shipyard to build concrete ships at Wilmington, N. C., without waiting for congressional action on the appropriation of \$50,000,000, which has been asked for experimental work with the new type of construction.

Five yards are to be established, but the site at Wilmington is the only one definitely selected. The Wilmington yard is to be the largest of the other yards.