

CANADIANS ARE IN ACTION IN WEST

CONSIDERABLE ADVANCE MADE BY THEM ON BRITISH LINES NEAR AMIENS.

AMERICANS UNDER SHELL FIRE

Intimations Come That Heavy Fighting May Be Resumed in France at Any Time.

Australian and Canadian troops are in action on the British lines along the vital sectors of the battlefield in France.

The Australians have struck the Germans near Morlancourt, between the Ancre and Somme rivers, east of Amiens, and have advanced their lines upward of three-quarters of a mile, as a result of two assaults on the Teutonic positions.

The Canadians have appeared in the Arras sector, further south than they have been since the battles in this region began March 21. This part of the line is most important, as it defends Arras to their southwest and includes localities such as Neuville-Vitasse, there have been bitter struggles since the Germans launched their great offensive.

American troops, on the French front not far from Montdidier, have been under a storm of shells for the last couple of days, projectiles containing high explosives being mingled with those charged with poisonous gas fired into the lines held by General Pershing's men.

No Attack Upon Italy.

Along the rest of the front in France there have been no engagements of unusual character, nor has the Italian front been attacked as yet by the Austrians who have assembled there.

The British forces which have been holding the town of Es-Salt, east of the Jordan and northeast of Jericho for about a week have been compelled again to abandon the place before the superior forces of Turkish and German troops. The British, however, are still maintaining their control of the crossing of the Jordan further south.

From the official reports and special dispatches filed by correspondents at the front, there come intimations that heavy fighting may be resumed at any time. The fact that heavy rains are falling may have a great deal to do with the delay in the German drive but the allies hold high ground from which they can observe the German positions, which are generally in the lowlands and have kept up a heavy artillery fire in sectors where the Germans have been assembling or have been at work in bringing up guns for the battle which is virtually certain to come.

METHODISTS WOULD CURTAIL THE BISHOP'S POWER

Atlanta, Ga.—In connection with the demands of the laymen of the church that the power of the college of bishops be curtailed, additional memorials were presented, asking laws providing for the trial of bishops against whom charges have been made and providing that all involved in the appointments of ministers at annual conferences be given full and free consultation.

The presentation of memorials and an outburst of patriotism in connection with the address of Maj. C. W. Gordon, of the Canadian army, better known as "Ralph Connor," the author, featured the conference session. Gordon's declaration that the war would be won when the United States gets 2,000,000 soldiers on the western front brought a demonstration which, it is said, never had been equalled at a Methodist conference.

ACCEPTS GERMAN PEACE RATHER THAN BE CRUSHED

London.—Count Czernin, then Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, paid a secret visit to Jassy in the latter part of February and delivered in person a verbal ultimatum of the most drastic sort from the central powers to King Ferdinand, of Rumania, it became known with the arrival here of the American Red Cross mission to Rumania. Count Czernin's visit was known only in the highest official circles.

CHESTER W. CUTHELL



Chester W. Cuthell, thirty-four years old, general counsel of the Emergency Fleet corporation, is the youngest man to hold a similar position for the government. He succeeded Judge John Barton Payne, who has been made legal adviser to the director general of railroads.

TO PUT IN EVERY RESOURCE

WANTS AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ARMY TO SIZE NECESSARY TO WIN THE WAR.

Germans Must Attack Soon or Acknowledge Defeat in Their Ambitious Attempt.

America is stripping for the decisive battle on the battlefield of Europe. In an executive session of the military committee of the lower house of Congress, Secretary of War Baker, Major General March, chief of staff, and Provost Marshal General Crowder have asked Congress to give the president blanket authority to increase the United States army to whatever size may be necessary to win the war. This country now has nearly 2,000,000 men under arms and the army appropriation bill for this year would provide for an increase of this number to 3,000,000.

While America's plans for throwing her every resource into the battle against Prussianism are maturing, the lull which has brooded over the western battle lines continues. The expected German attacks on the Ypres and Amiens fronts have not been launched. Here and there the opposing artilleries have broken forth into wild bombardments, such as usually are prelude to massed attacks on the allied lines, but they have died out after a few hours. Here and there local operations have been carried out for the purpose of straightening lines and raiding the enemy's position, but they have not developed into anything unusual.

The present phase of the battle is not unlike that before Verdun, two years ago, after the first German rush had been stopped and even attempts to carry local objectives had met with defeat.

Germany has lost heavily, but the emperor still has reserves to throw into the fight. The defeat on the Metzer-Voormezeele line southwest of Ypres has taught the Germans that the allies are prepared to stand their ground, and there seems little inclination at the present moment to renew a conflict which threatens to be disastrous.

The report that Czech soldiers, deserting from the Austrian army, now are fighting with the Italians has been followed by a dispatch saying that Rumanians who had been captured by the Italians have asked permission to fight against the Austrians and that they are now on the firing line.

GOVERNMENT PLACES ORDER FOR 70,000 FREIGHT CARS

Washington.—Orders for 70,000 additional freight cars to supplement the 30,000 contracted for some time ago, were placed by the railroad administration with 15 car building concerns. The aggregate cost is between \$170,000,000 and \$400,000,000 and the average profit to builders is about 5 per cent.

This is the largest single order for freight cars ever let. Together with orders already placed the contracts awarded make up a railroad rolling stock building program which will shortly be under way of \$325,000,000, including \$60,000,000 for 1,025 locomotives ordered a few days ago.

17,000,000 OWNERS OF THE THIRD LOAN

7,000,000 MORE THAN FIRST LOAN AND 12,500,000 MORE THAN SECOND LOAN.

MAY REACH \$4,000,000,000

Most Successful Ever Floated by Any Nation, Is Verdict of Treasury Officials.

Washington.—Analysis of Liberty loan reports showed that probably 17,000,000 persons bought bonds in the campaign which has closed—7,000,000 more than in the second loan and 12,500,000 more than in the first.

Latest tabulations showed \$3,356,628,250 reported subscriptions, but the treasury now believes the actual total, which may run to \$4,000,000,000, will not be definitely known until May 13, four days after individual banks are required to report to federal reserve banks.

"Whatever the money total," said a treasury statement tonight, "the loan just closed probably is the most successful ever floated by any nation. The marvelous distribution of the third Liberty loan indicates that one out of every six persons in the United States may have participated in this loan."

Banks' resources, it was pointed out, have been drawn on comparatively little to make the loan a success, and the prospects for future loans are brighter as a consequence. An added reason for jubilation among treasury officials is the indication that the government bond-buying habit is becoming stronger among people of small means, and that they probably will invest even more heavily in the fourth loan next fall.

Secretary McAdoo, in a statement thanking the nation for its support of the loan, said the widespread distribution of bonds "is particularly gratifying, and added:

"This is the soundest form of national war finance—the distribution of the loan among the people themselves."

He urged subscribers to retain their bonds, unless there is a pressing necessity for selling them, both to help maintain the credit of the government, and as a stimulus to "those economies and savings which release materials and labor necessary to the support, if not the very life, of our army and navy."

BLOW UPON ITALIAN FRONT SEEMS IMMINENT

Over the battle lines along the Piave river and in the mountainous region in northern Italy, where the allied forces have been holding their positions since last November after the great Italian retreat from the Isonzo, there is increased tension and the long threatened blow at this front may be launched by the Teutonic allies within a few days.

For many weeks, the Italian war office has been aware that the Austrians have been assembling the legions withdrawn from the Russian and Rumanian fronts for a drive at the Italian armies, and it is believed that it will not be long before the central powers will make another attempt to reach the plains of Venetia, break through the allies' lines and seek to bring about a decisive combat in that theater of the war.

Emperor Charles of Austria, accompanied by his chief of staff and high German and Austrian army officers, is reported on his way to the Italian front and the great movement of troops in Tyrol and Trentino would seem to indicate that vast bodies of men are being taken from other fronts to be hurled at the Italian positions.

United States Consul Dies.

Washington.—The death of Maddin Summers, United States consul general at Moscow, was announced in a cablegram to the state department. Mr. Summers collapsed under the strain of long months of overwork.

U. S. TROOPS PENETRATE HUN LINES FOR 300 YARDS

With the American Army in France.—One of the American patrols in the Lunville sector entered the hamlet of Anservillers and penetrated the German lines to a distance of 300 yards. On the way back the patrol discovered an enemy observation post in which were a corporal and six men. The Americans promptly attacked, killing three of the enemy, and taking the other four prisoners, one of them in a wounded condition.

GEN. FERDINAND FOCH



Gen. Ferdinand Foch has been put in supreme command of the armies of the allies on the western front. He gained great fame in the battle of the Marne, and is considered France's best strategist. He is chief of the French general staff.

PASSENGERS WERE IN BERTHS

TEN MEN AND TWO WOMEN PASSENGERS BELIEVE TO HAVE GONE DOWN.

Vessel Sank So Quickly That Boats Launched by Warships Were of Little Avail.

An Atlantic Port.—Sixty-six persons lost their lives, when the steamship City of Athens, bound from New York for Savannah, was rammed and sunk by a French cruiser off the Delaware coast. The missing include ten men and two women who were passengers, seven out of 24 United States marines who were on board, 14 out of 20 French sailors and 33 members of the crew.

All the passengers and many of the crew were in their berths when the bow of the warship plunged into the side of the 2,300-ton coastwise vessel. Fire broke out almost immediately afterwards in hold No. 1, but it had no bearing on the fate of the ship, for the flames were quickly quenched by the rush of waters which poured in.

Capt. J. Forward, one of the veteran commanders in the service of the Ocean Steamship company, owners of the vessel, did his best to avert a panic and man the lifeboats. So quickly did the doomed vessel sink, however, that there was no time to get the boats away and many of those who perished were trapped in their berths.

The cruiser launched lifeboats immediately after the crash and turned its searchlights upon the waters in which men and women were struggling for their lives. Sixty-eight persons were picked up and brought back to this port by the warship, which was not seriously damaged.

Those Believed Lost.

The following passengers are believed to have been lost: M. Green, Astoria, N. Y.; James J. Kastl, Morristown, N. J.; Richard Bonzeiner, Mobile, Ala.; Miss E. G. Stiles, New York city; Jean Caddron, New York city; Rev. J. P. Reynolds, New York city; Isaac Dalzell, Paterson, N. J.; Mrs. F. D. Holthan, Hyde Park, Mass.; Edward Clug, Savannah, Ga.; Gaw Donk, Brooklyn, N. Y.; R. A. Young, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The following United States marines were reported drowned: F. R. Dixon, P. Van Hanegeen, S. H. Tynge, H. Rosenfeld, W. J. Mack, S. Ginsberg, H. E. Wetmore.

BOHEMIANS JOIN IN FIGHT AGAINST AUSTRILIANS

The Bohemian troops are joining the Italians against Austria, according to The London Mail's correspondent at Italian headquarters. Ever now some of the Bohemians are on the Italian line, clad in Italian uniforms.

This information has passed thru 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.

A QUARTER MILLION CALLED THIS MONTH

EVERY EXISTING CANTONMENT IN THE COUNTRY IS TO BE GREATLY ENLARGED.

FIFTEEN BILLION FOR ARMY

Over Eight Thousand Men Called From North Carolina Go to Camp Jackson.

Washington.—Simultaneously with the announcement that 232,000 men from 45 states had been called to join the colors in May, Secretary Baker indicated the scope of the government's plans for increasing its fighting strength by stating that Congress had been asked to appropriate approximately \$15,000,000,000 for the army for the next fiscal year. That amount is exclusive of funds provided in the fortifications bill which not only covers coast defenses, but as a rule provides the bulk of heavy field ordnance.

The call for a quarter of a million men during May, goes to all states except California, Oregon and Nevada, which with the District of Columbia already have supplied so large a part of their quota that it was decided not to include them this time. The movement in most states will begin May 25 and will be completed in five days. By this order the war department abandons its plan of assembling men in even monthly increments of approximately 100,000. Under the original program it was intended to call out not to exceed 800,000 men during 1918. The call for 110,000 in April and 233,000 this month will bring out in two months half of the number originally contemplated for the year. Officials made it clear that it is now the purpose to mobilize all the men for whom equipment and training facilities can be provided.

Need All Camps.

In preparation for this tremendous increase in the army, the house military committee was told today that every existing cantonment in the country will be enlarged and every national guard camp utilized to its full capacity. It is regarded as probable that some new cantonments must be built, but in the interests of speed and economy of effort and material, pressure will be placed upon expanding existing facilities. Ground has already been obtained in the vicinity of several cantonments for the expansion and details of the new construction are being worked out by the general staff.

The men called out this month will be mobilized generally at the cantonments to which the men from the same states have previously been sent. In many cases they will find the divisions originally created at those camps gone. Some of the camps will have been converted into replacement divisions, and the new men will be redistributed in accordance with their qualifications.

To Fill Divisions at Home.

It is regarded as likely that the April and May drafts will be used largely to fill up divisions at home while the seasoned personnel from those divisions is sent overseas to fill the gaps. Since the number of divisions on the other side is rapidly and steadily increasing, the flow of replacement troops must increase proportionately.

The apportionment among the states of the men called today include:

- Alabama, 6,820 to Camp Sevier, S. C.
- North Carolina, 8,114 to Camp Jackson, S. C.
- Pennsylvania, 7,700 to Camp Mead, Md., 4,900 Camp Lee, Va.; 3,000 Camp Humphreys, Va.; 2,923 Camp Greenleaf, S. C.
- South Carolina, 1,900 Camp Jackson, S. C.; 258 Camp Wadsworth, S. C.
- Tennessee, 4,130 Camp Pike, Ark.
- Virginia, 6,135 Camp Lee, Va.
- West Virginia, 4,797 Camp Lee, Va.
- New York, 6,800 Camp Dix, N. J.; 6,850 Camp Hancock, Ga.; 7,600 Camp Upton, N. Y.; 9,700 Camp Wadsworth, S. C.; 1,380 Camp Sevier, S. C.

NEW GERMAN PEACE OFFENSIVE IS EXPECTED

London.—In the personal opinion of Lord Robert Cecil, minister of blockade, that failure of Germany's "knock-out offensive" on the western front will result in a big peace offensive, directed mainly against Great Britain and possibly made in an attractive form, but which will not afford any terms the allies can look at. In this opinion made in a statement, Lord Robert expressed the further belief that the new peace offensive would be largely for German consumption.

160 MEN DETAILED TO STATE COLLEGE

A. & E. FOUND MOST SUITABLE BY GOVERNMENT FOR TRAINING IN SPECIAL LINES.

USE OTHER COLLEGES ALSO

Requirements of Army Make it Necessary to Train Thousands of Men for Modern Warfare.

West Raleigh.—Provost Marshal General E. H. Crowder has announced that 160 men will be detailed to the Agricultural and Engineering College of West Raleigh on May 16 for a two months' scientific course for preparation in the pursuits of such trades as automobile mechanics, radio or wireless telegraphers, machinists, electricians and telegraphers. Similar technical schools were provided in various portions of the United States but North Carolina's share of the war trained technical students will study at the Agricultural and Engineering College.

The war department has adopted a policy whereby 60,000 specialists will be trained in technical schools of the United States this summer. The students will not be assigned to any special branch of the army service until they have completed the two months course, at the termination of which time they will be distributed to the various branches of army service.

The requirements of the army for waging modern warfare make it important for the training of thousands of specialists. Other North Carolina educational institutions may later be designated as the training ground for these students, but the ready equipment and facilities at the Agricultural and Engineering College were found superior to other state institutions by the investigation committee of the war department.

Close Raleigh Pool Rooms.

Raleigh.—The pool rooms of Raleigh were ordered closed at midnight on May 31, when the city commissioners unanimously adopted resolutions declining to renew city license and describing pool rooms as harmful and unnecessary institutions, encouraging idleness fostering gambling and tending to increase crime.

The final action on the question of closing the pool rooms was taken after Mr. W. B. Jones, representing the owners of the places, had asked for a further postponement of the vote for another day in order that he could present additional argument for his clients. However, Commissioner Moonenham stated that he saw no reason why the matter should not be decided at once and the vote was taken.

The resolutions adopted were introduced by Mr. Moonenham as a substitute to Mr. Pace's resolutions, offered previously and made the pool room closing a moral instead of a patriotic move as provided in the Pace resolution.

Mr. Pace, explaining why he advocated closing the parlors for patriotic reasons, stated that he did not wish to embarrass officials of the present or any previous administration by making the issue a moral one. "If it is a moral issue today, it was a moral issue a year ago."

Were Penned in Tunnel.

Lincolnton.—While at work in a tunnel at the tin mine near town, Messrs. Jake Johnson and Jake Mosteller had a narrow escape from death when the tunnel, in which they were operating the hydraulic pressure apparatus, caved in and the men were completely buried by dirt.

Men at work at the mine immediately set to work with tools in an effort to rescue the men from their peril, and they succeeded in a short time.

Neither of them was injured seriously. Mr. Johnson suffered a fracture of ribs and was painfully bruised. Mr. Mosteller's shoulder was dislocated, and he was otherwise bruised.

Tought War Near Over.

Charlotte.—A farmer and his son were walking along a highway in the count yeast of Charlotte when an automobile party of Liberty loan solicitors drove up. The old man was asked if he had bought a bond. He looked puzzled and asked them what they meant. They told him it was absolutely necessary that Liberty bonds be sold if the United States is to win the war. The farmer was startled and exclaimed that he had been told the war was nearly over, but a bond.