

A three-month trial for this paper means that some subscribers may not be satisfied and will be discontinued if not renewed within 30 days.

FOUR TORPEDOES FAIL TO SINK BELFAST SHIP

London, June 9.—A Belfast steamer, torpedoed by a German submarine while bound from England, has reached an Irish port, badly damaged. Three of the crew were killed by the explosion of the torpedo. No fewer than four torpedoes were discharged by the submarine. The vessel was maneuvered so adroitly, however, that three of them missed their mark. The attack was at night. At daybreak the vessel was still afloat, but well down by the head. The crew which had abandoned the ship, went back on board although the forward deck was awash, determined to take her to port. The men succeeded in getting the disabled wireless plant into operation again, and flashed an urgent call for assistance. They were powerless, as the ship was unmanageable and would have been easy prey for a submarine if one had been in the vicinity. Two tugs came up and towed the steamship safely to port.

The submarine, which was faster than the steamship, ran ahead of her in the darkness and lay in wait until she came alongside. The explosion of the torpedo, which was fired at close range, tore a great hole in the starboard side. The steamship immediately began to fill. The 57 surviving members of the crew took to the boats. The three men killed were firemen.

TWO U. S. DESTROYERS TOWING "SUBMARINE"

Norfolk, Va., June 9.—Reports that two American destroyers had been seen with an unidentified craft in tow, believed to be a submarine, that aviators patrolling the coast during the past 24 hours, sighted two submarines off the Virginia and Maryland coasts, and farther stories cited as confirming the Saturday report of a brush between destroyers and a U boat off the Virginia capes, were outstanding features of the submarine situation today. Asked for a confirmation of the report that destroyers had a submarine in tow, naval officers declined to talk. The report was brought to the city by officers on merchant craft in Lynn Haven roads and the bay.

Aviators landing on the coast are said to have sighted two U-boats during today, but they immediately submerged on sighting the airships and disappeared. They made no reports of sighting wrecks. That a destroyer Friday off the coast had a brush with a submarine was confirmed by additional reports, but naval officers remained silent. It is understood that the refusal to deny or confirm the reports is due to the fact the officers are uncertain as to whether or not the submarine was hit, and have adopted the rule not to report such incidents unless they have incontrovertible evidence that the enemy was sunk.

New Vice President of Emergency Fleet Body



Howard Crosby of Boston has been appointed vice president of the Emergency Fleet Corporation. He will take over the legal, financial, and other divisions so that Charles Fies, the other vice president, may devote himself entirely to matters pertaining directly to shipbuilding.

FRENCH FINALLY CHECK ADVANCE ON TWO WINGS

Paris, June 9.—In a new thrust, directed at the sector between Mondidier and Noyon, the Germans have succeeded in gaining ground along about 20 mile front to a depth of about two and a half miles at certain points, according to the war office announcement tonight.

The fighting was very heavy and the French offered a powerful resistance to the multiplied efforts of the enemy and finally succeeded in checking the advance, particularly on the two wings.

The text of the statement reads: "A new offensive begun this morning by the German army developed with sustained violence on a front of 35 kilometers (approximately 21.8 miles) between Mondidier and the Oise. The enemy in great force multiplied his efforts to drive through our lines, but our troops everywhere sustained the shock along the entire battle line. Stubborn engagements stopped or seriously retarded the enemy thrust.

To the left the Germans did not succeed in crossing our covering zone and were strongly held by our troops on the line of Rubescourt, LeFretay and Mortemer, which they reached. "On the center the progress of the enemy was more appreciable. After successive attacks, which were murderous for their troops, the Germans succeeded in taking foot in the villages of Reossous-Sar Matz and Mareuil, where our units of the first lines continued to offer defense, foot by foot.

"On the right the enemy met with resistance not less energetic, and notwithstanding his repeated efforts we held him on the front comprising Belerl, Canneancourt and Ville."

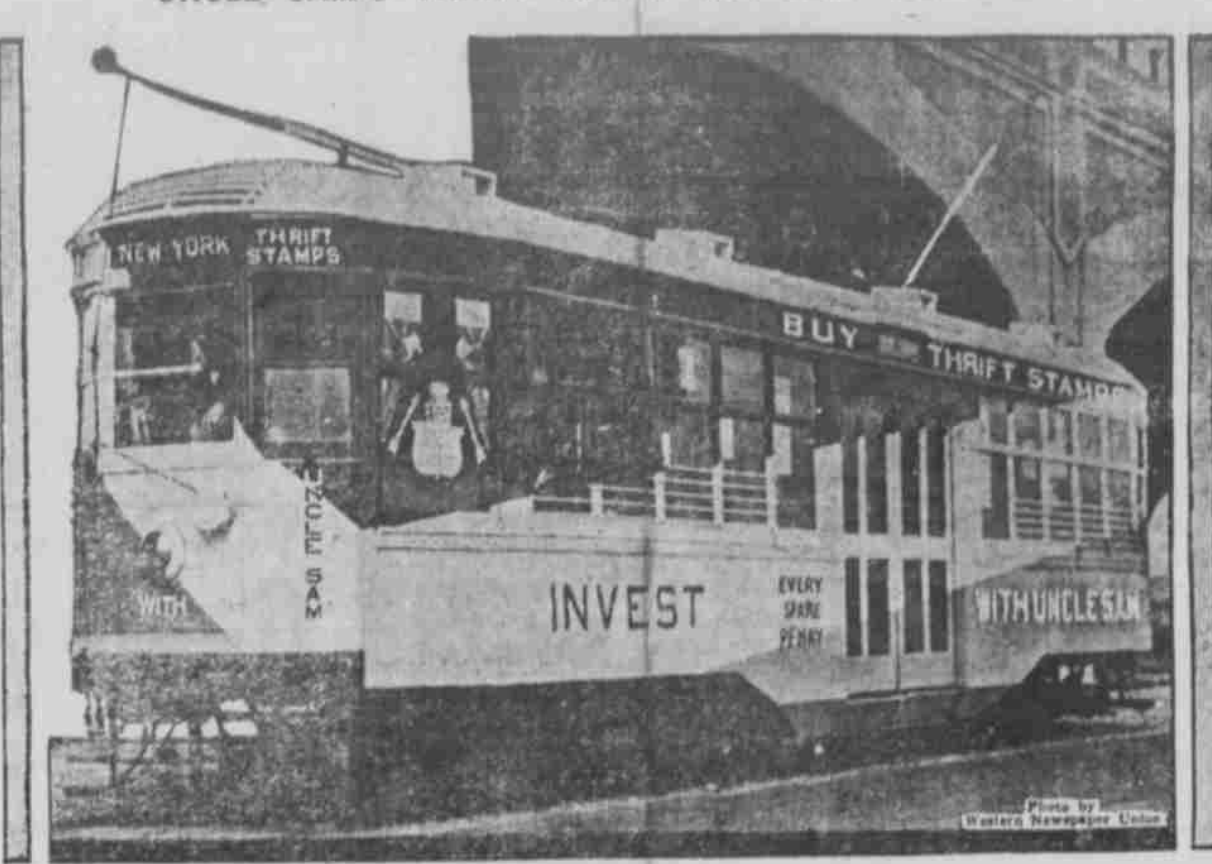
Paris, June 9.—The Germans began an attack in force at 4:30 o'clock this morning to the west of the scene of the recent fighting, in the region between Mondidier and Noyon. The official statement of this afternoon says the French resisted with valor in the covering zone, and that the battle is continuing.

Between the Oise and the Marne and South of the Oureq the French made gains, capturing two woods, driving out Germans who had penetrated their lines and taking two hundred prisoners. A German attack west of Rheims failed.

The announcement follows: "The Germans began at midnight a violent preparatory artillery fire from the region north of Mondidier as far as to the east of the Oise. The French batteries immediately intensified their fire in counter preparation. "At 4:20 the German infantry made an attack on the French positions between Mondidier and Noyon. Our troops are resisting with magnificent valor in the protected zone. The battle is continuing.

"Between the Oise and the Aisne the French this morning carried out a local operation east of Bautebrave and gained ground, taking 60 prisoners. "South of the Oureq the French improved their positions east of Chezy. The Germans, who succeeded at 10 o'clock last night in penetrating the French lines near Vinly, were thrown out completely by a French counter-attack. At the same hour the French captured Eloup wood, and this morning the wood directly south of Buslares. In these operations we took 200 prisoners, including five officers. "West of Rheims after a spirited bombardment, the Germans attacked in the region of Vrigny. They suffered serious losses without obtaining any results. "On the remainder of the front there is nothing to report."

UNCLE SAM'S THRIFT STAMP CAR GETS RESULTS



Here is one of the Thrift Stamp cars, painted red, white and blue, that are being operated on the line between Jamaica, L. I., and New York, and are likely to be introduced in other parts of the country. The conductors are getting good results as agents for the Thrift Stamps.

THREE TOWNS CAPTURED BY AMERICAN AND FRENCH SOLDIERS

By the Associated Press.—There has been no let up in the offensive of the American and French troops against the Germans in the region of Chateau Thierry, where in the past two days severe defeats have been inflicted on the enemy and American marines have won great praise for their valiant fighting.

Battling shoulder to shoulder over a front of six miles from Vinly, which lies just to the northwest of Veully LePoterie, to Boursches, the Americans and French have captured the towns of Veully LePoterie and Boursches and also made progress all along the front. Previously Torcy had fallen into the hands of the Americans.

Nowhere on this battle line have the Germans been able to stay the efforts of the allied troops, although they have fought with great tenacity.

The marines everywhere have declined to take a backward step, going forward against the enemy, even when he had superiority in numbers. Close pressed the marines have given the Germans a taste of cold steel, even in the face of machine gunfire; surrounded they have fought their way through the gray coated lines with their bayonets. From all accounts there has been no part of the game of modern warfare in which the men from overseas have not excelled the enemy.

The losses to the enemy thus far are declared to have been extremely heavy and the terrain they have lost is considered of high strategic value inasmuch as it is on that part of the battle front through which the Germans had hoped to crush their way forward and attain an open road to Paris. The casualties of the enemy were particularly severe during the street fighting in Boursches, where the Americans pushed him back step by step.

The plans of the American command did not include the capture of Torcy, but when the marines reached the objective assigned to them their ardor for battle could not be restrained and they kept on until the village was in their hands. Twenty-five of the marines drove out two hundred Germans from Torcy.

Hard held on the other sectors from Soissons to Chateau Thierry, the Germans after very heavy bombardments, have essayed attacks on the Marne front near Rheims. These attacks were ill-starred and the enemy had to accept defeat. A French attack at Bligny resulted in that village falling into their hands in its entirety.

On the remainder of the battle front there is still slight activity aside from artillery bombardments and patrol encounters.

LETTER FROM FRANCE

The following letter was received by Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Underwood, of Jonesville, from their son, Dett, who is with the American Expeditionary forces in France:

Ordnance Detachment, 28th Inf. France, April 25, 1918.

Dear Mother and All:— I don't know very much to write today, only it is a little cold and unpleasant here now. It snowed about all day on the 19th of this month, and it has been a little chilly ever since. Everything looks very favorable over here now. We boys can't get much news from home over here, and of course that makes it just a little uncomfortable, but nevertheless everybody seems to be happy. All we want is a chance to get some of the Germans.

I will tell you a little of my experience some three or four weeks ago. Just after I was transferred to the Ordnance Department I was up on the lines one day, myself and two more boys in the Ordnance, repairing an artillery gun that had got out of commission and we had been at work on it two days and a half. A little while after dinner a German battery of artillery began to shell one of our batteries, and it happened to be the one we were working on. We heard a shell coming from the enemy's line and the first thing we knew it burst in the gun we had been working on, and tore it to pieces, and never hurt a one of us for we were just in front of it.

I guess you have heard much about the shells being so bad when they burst. Well, they are bad enough, but I have had them to burst within twenty steps of me and they never hurt me one bit. Of course they shock you a little but what of that? You can get a shock from falling down.

The thing I dread most in this war is the gas and machine gun. I read in the paper a while back where the Germans tried a new trick on the Americans by dropping large rubber balls from an airplane and they were filled with gas, but thanks to the good warnings we have received from the allied armies to let all little souvenirs like that alone before we knew what they were.

It is rather sad to see some of the towns and cities where some of the fighting has been done. Once they were pretty little villages, but now they are nothing but a heap of rocks and brick. Mother, America has not suffered very much from this war. Just think of the poor people who once had a happy home, and now they have nothing only what they have on their backs. The world knows how brutal the Germans were at the beginning of the war and have been all the time. They cut off little children's hands and left them to do the best they could. I have seen a number of little children since I came to France with only one hand and the Germans cut the other one off.

I could never believe what the

papers said about all the Germans did through this war until I came to France. Now I don't believe that there is anything too mean for them to do. They have robbed mothers of their babies, and they have ruined their homes. It is enough to make any man that is a man want to take up arms against them for the way they have treated the poor women and children of France and Belgium. And that is not all. They would do the same thing to our own mothers and sisters in America if they could only get there.

I guess that you have read in the papers where the Germans are trying to make a big drive on the Western front. Well, I think they will fail, and if they do we will have peace before long. Things look more prosperous now than they have at any time since I came to France, since they got the Belgium channel blocked, so let us hope they will keep it blocked. Every American and British and French soldier is in the best of spirit and none of them out of heart. They are all waiting for the time to come to make our counter offensive and hope it won't be long before it comes.

Well, mother, I have written about all I know that would be interesting to you, so I will close. Give my love to all the people there, and tell them to keep in good spirit, for we are going to win the war and that before long.

Your loving son,
Dett. Underwood.

NO FUNDS FOR FUNERAL STATE BOARD GETS BODY

Richmond, Va., June 7.—Because members of his family said they had no funds to defray the cost of burial, the body of Harry F. Utley, 23 years old, member of the 17th company, Fifth training battalion, Camp Lee, who committed suicide in a police station here last night by hanging himself, was today turned over to the state anatomical board by order of Coroner Whitfield.

According to his mother, Mrs. Della Cheek Utley, of Petersburg, formerly of Chapel Hill and Charlotte, Utley declared last winter, before being drafted that he would kill himself before he would cross the Atlantic to fight the Germans. He was willing enough to fight them if they came over here but he drew the line at fighting them on European soil.

Utley was arrested for being absent from camp without leave. He tied one end of his leather belt about his neck and fastened the other to a bar in his cell. His father, Jasper Utley, an insurance collector, committed suicide by taking poison eight years ago while living at 800 West First street in Charlotte, ill health being responsible. Utley was a native of Chapel Hill. He enlisted in the navy soon after his father's death, but his mother took him out because he was under age.

LOYAL TELEGRAPHERS DON'T WANT A STRIKE

Washington, June 8.—Several thousand telegraphers employed by the Western Union Telegraph company in Chicago, Seattle and Spokane wired President Wilson today that they would not be parties to any movement looking to a disruption of the country's commercial telegraph service during the war. They deplored agitation looking to a strike of telegraph operators and pledged their loyalty to the government.

S. J. Komenkamp, president of the commercial telegraphers' union announced recently that he would call a strike of members of the union as a result of the refusal of the Western Union company to submit to the jurisdiction of the national war labor board which sought to compose differences between the company and the men growing out of the discharging of the operators for joining the union.

Some 3,000 telegraphers in Chicago told the President they were not represented by any labor leaders who had threatened to call a strike and that they resented the inference that they might be "so base and disloyal", as to support a strike.

GREEKS IN TURKEY ARE IN A TERRIBLE PLIGHT

New York, June 8.—Mohammedan prisoners of war in Saloniki, according to a cable message from Athens to the Greek legation in Washington, made public here today by the American committee for Armenian and Syrian relief, say that "the Greeks in Turkey are undergoing the worst blow since the fall of Constantinople in 1453, A. D."

The message states that the Mohammedan captives say that since the beginning of the war to the end of 1917, more than 200 Greeks between the ages of 15 and 48, have been drafted forcibly into the Turkish army and that thousands of these have died as a result of ill-treatment, hunger and epidemics.

"More than 500,000 Greeks have been deported from Thrace into Asia Minor. One half of the deportees died from torture and illness," says the cable message. "Many were slaughtered and the survivors are in a terrible plight. With the exception of Smyrna, Constantinople and a few other towns all the Greeks in them underwent terrible suffering, exile, torture and starvation.

"Women are sold as slaves, men are forced to become Mohammedans and \$5,000,000,000 worth of property belonging to the Greeks has been confiscated.

"The streets in the larger cities are full of Greek orphans, half naked and begging for bread in spite of the fact that the Turkish authorities have torn them from the bosoms of their parents."

Grand Duke Who May Be King of Finland



Grand Duke Adolf Friedrich of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, who, according to reports from Stockholm, has been selected as king of Finland.

GRIPPING ACCOUNT OF FLIGHT OF NURSES BEFORE HUN INVASION

London, June 8.—A striking instance of what women can endure at the front is the following story in the Times, Saturday:

A little band of British nurses with the French nursing corps has just passed through London on their way home after a narrow escape of falling into German hands. Quietly slipping out before dawn with patients by an outside door of the hospital in one little village between Soissons and Rheims they managed to get away as the enemy was in the very act of entering the hospital grounds. One party describing the escape said:

"We were awakened on the morning of May 27, by terrific cannonading and the whistling of huge shells across the valley in which our hospital was situated. The nurses' staff began sneezing and coughing as though they all had an attack of hay fever and soon we realized the poisonous gases were being given off from the shells thrown by the enemy two miles away. For the next 24 hours we experienced terrible nausea. It never ceased one moment although that day the wounded picked up by the roadside were brought to the hospital for first dressing to be applied. Our orders were to remain at our posts until darkness fell and it was 2 a. m. and brilliant moonlight when we were hurriedly told to be ready. All our patients had been safely removed by this time with the exception of walking cases, we taking these with us. We slipped quietly out the back of the building.

"The Germans were shooting at random with rifles and revolvers and the driver of the car containing all of our worldly goods was killed as he passed out of the gate. A cyclist rushing by saw him with one hand still at the wheel. We began our long march across the country accompanied as we comfortably believed by an escort of our aeroplanes, when suddenly in the bright moonlight we recognized a sinister black cross above our heads. In the clear light we were exposed to full view, our white caps fluttering signals as we walked along the road. Fortunately for us the wall ran the whole length of the village and in single file we passed safely along in the shadow. Hour after hour we marched until we came to a little town where we were welcomed, billeted and fed after a long tramp. We covered 24 miles the first day of the retreat. Some of us slept a little while, though not long for we were still under fire.

"Footsore we made an early start at dawn the next morning. The roads were congested by traffic. Our progress was slow. That night we rested with depot troops en route from the west and slept on straw shales down along with soldiers, peacefully oblivious to mice playing hide and seek in our hair.

"The next morning nurses and patients entrained for Paris. In the two days' retreat we covered 44 miles on foot. Paris was the object of an air raid when they arrived."

AMERICAN MEDICAL STAFF PREPARED FOR EMERGENCY

Paris, May 15.—The entire medical staff of the American Red Cross in France has been mobilized to meet any emergency that may arise in the problem of handling medical service for refugees and others. Hitherto doctors had volunteered for such work. They have now been divided into three classes: those whose work is of such a character that they can be considered immediately available; those working in Paris at such important work that their services should not be called on except in extreme emergency; those at work outside Paris.

The night telephone operators at headquarters in Paris have the telephone numbers of a group of doctors who can be called out at any hour of the day or night.