

IMPORTANT NEWS THE WORLD OVER

IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS OF THIS
AND OTHER NATIONS FOR
SEVEN DAYS GIVEN

THE NEWS OF THE SOUTH

What is Taking Place in The South-
land Will Be Found in
Brief Paragraphs

Domestic.

George LaBlanche, a middleweight boxer, prominent in the days of John L. Sullivan, and demonstrator of the famous "pivot punch," died at Lawrence, Mass. In his prime he only weighed 150 pounds, but defeated the best pugilists of his day. The pivot blow has been barred from pugilistic encounters.

Protests against the recruiting of farm labor from farms and other essential industries in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee by private contractors working for the war department have been made to the department of labor and agriculture and to the shipping board.

It is probable that the entire labor problem will be placed in the hands of the United States employment service.

The claim is made by the president of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers that textile manufacturers face a cotton shortage during the coming year and that the labor situation threatens to be acute.

As many millions of men as may be needed to win the war will be sent to the battle front, Secretary of the Navy Daniels told the Philadelphia chamber of commerce recently.

Secretary Daniels says that if there are not enough 21 and 31 year old men to win the war, men of 40 and 50 will rush to the colors.

The addresses of men wounded or killed in France will be given the public at an early date.

Maj. Oscar A. Brindley and Colonel Damm, two expert aviation men from the McCook federal flying field at Dayton, Ohio, met death at the Moraine City aviation field. The machine dropped four hundred feet in making a turn in the air.

Two soldiers were burned to death and eighteen were burned seriously when a captive observation balloon of the Casquet type exploded at Florence field, the army balloon school at Fort Omaha, near Omaha, Neb.

Carl Rodiger, known also as Karl Schroeder, said to be a lieutenant commander in the German navy, and believed by secret service agents to be the paymaster of German agents in the United States, Central and South America, has been arrested at New York and put in jail. One of his chief purposes in this country is said to have been to induce Irishmen to enlist in the British navy in the hope that these Irishmen would plant bombs on the warships. Rodiger, flatly denies that he is in any way connected with the Germans.

Washington.

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 twenty-four United States marines who were on board, fourteen out of twenty French sailors and thirty-three members of the crew. Both ships were carrying running lights because of the heavy fog which hung over the sea.

Gavrio Prinzip, the assassin of Archduke Francis Ferdinand, heir apparent to the Austro-Hungarian throne, and his wife at Sarajevo, Bosnia, died in a fortress near Prague, of tuberculosis.

British troops in Mesopotamia are carrying on their pursuit of the retreating Turks, and have advanced as far as the Taur river.

Knowing that the Americans are persistent souvenir hunters, the Germans in the Toul sector have been strewing No Man's Land with all sorts of infernal devices. In a number of instances Americans have tripped over infernal machines, but have escaped.

Eighteen thousand soldiers of Roumanian origin who were captured by the Italians while fighting under the Austrian flag have asked permission to go to the front against Austria. It is stated in a dispatch from Paris that the request has been granted.

German field depots are being very heavily drawn upon to replace recent casualties. A company of 250 boys of the 1919-20 class, who had only eight weeks' training, were put in the fighting line recently.

German forces have occupied Sebastopol, the great Russian fortress in the Crimea.

The first step in the organization of the five hundred million dollar government war finance corporation has been taken. The president has nominated four directors, who, with Secretary McAdoo, will conduct the work of raising in financing essential war enterprises.

Rejecting all amendments designed to limit the president's authority, the senate passed the Overman bill with its general grant of power for coordinating and reorganizing government departments and other agencies during the war.

Every ton of steel and pig iron in the country virtually has been commandeered by the government for war purposes, and any surplus remaining after war needs are met will be distributed to non-war industries under strict government supervision.

In a desperate air fight over the American lines in France northwest of Toul, Charles W. Chapman, Jr., of Waterloo, Iowa, and a German pilot with whom he was fighting, plunged to earth inside the German lines, both machines wrapped in flames.

A dispatch from Three Rivers, Quebec, which was half destroyed by fire in 1906, says that a fire which started in the film room of the Victoria theatre, destroyed the building and a number of stores and residences, with a property loss of \$150,000.

Blanket authority for the president to increase the army to whatever size may be necessary to win the war, is proposed to the house military committee by Secretary of War Baker Major General March and Provost Marshal Crowder. An administrative measure amending the selective draft act to provide for this grant of power will be prepared immediately and prompt action on it is asked.

Secretary Baker says it is unwise to set any limit on the number of men who may be called to the colors, and that the president should be granted complete discretionary authority to increase the size of the army as rapidly as transportation and equipment facilities may warrant.

Secretary of War Baker says the army appropriation bill should provide for approximately three million men, but this should not be accepted as any fixed limit to the number of men to be called within the year 1918.

A nation-wide round-up of registrants escaping military service by unfair classification has been ordered by Provost Marshal General Crowder. The number of men who have suddenly become "skilled farmers" and "indispensable government workers" has drawn the searching eye of the war department to the situation.

Senator Hitchcock says the aircraft board has been "playing a gigantic confidence game on the whole country."

The Shah of Persia has applied for \$100,000 worth of Liberty Bonds. The request is in the hands of the state department.

Charges and intimations of irregularities in connection with the aircraft program which have been published and discussed in capitol cloakrooms for some time have been brought to the floor of the senate with demands for a new investigation with a view to criminal prosecution.

There is a Polish army on the French front just as enthusiastic as are any of the allied soldiers, and reports are that they are doing good work.

An English military authority estimates that the number of Germans killed and captured since March 21 is nine hundred thousand.

European.

Germany's barbarous treatment of the inhabitants of occupied territories and constant requisitioning of food are provoking great resentment and causing armed clashes. In a village in the Kiev district the inhabitants resisted and the Germans subdued them with armored cars.

A report has it that in the government of Minsk, Russia, the Germans are seizing able-bodied men and sending them to Germany in locked cars.

The streets in the towns and cities of Russia are armed with patrols of German troops and machine guns everywhere.

Having met with a reverse in their operations on the northern side of the Flanders salient, where the French and British have stood shoulder to shoulder in defense of Ypres and the high ground which forms a bulwark in front of the channel ports, the Germans have, as indicated by the most recent reports, turned to the allied lines in northern France.

A report from Paris says the German artillery is now centering its fire on the line between Givency and the Neippe forest, and it may be that the Teutons will launch an attack against this vital section of the British line.

From articles appearing in German newspapers which have reached neutral countries, it would seem that Germany will make no immediate attempt to take Ypres, as they consider nothing would be gained by capturing a ruined city.

Some military experts in neutral countries opine that the Germans may make an attempt to cut straight through the allied lines in an effort to reach Paris and the channel ports, believing that by so doing they will strike terror to the French heart.

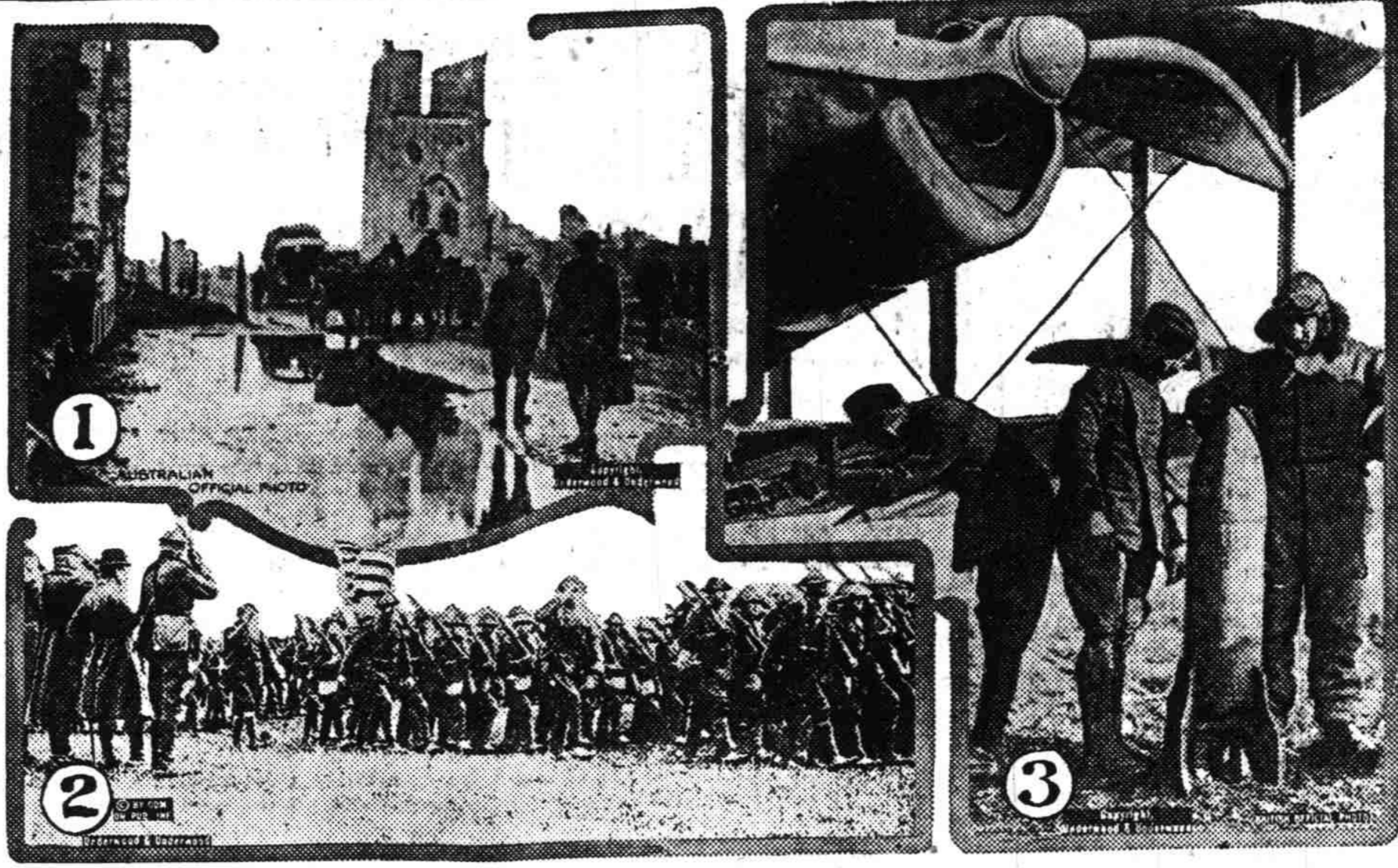
The critics all agree that Germany is still pursuing the same tactics of trying to whip her enemies one at a time.

It is rumored in The Hague that Dr. John Loudon, minister of foreign affairs of Holland, will resign. It is said the rumor is based on the supposition that he could not retain office now that his undertaking respecting the gravel must be revoked.

It has been learned from Serbian sources that unmistakable signs of an approaching revolution in Austria-Hungary are becoming daily more evident. The archbishop of Carniola is at the head of the movement.

British April casualties total 52,475—died of wounds or killed, officers, 1,621; men, 7,723; wounded or missing, officers, 7,447; men, 35,684.

Again there has come a pause in the battle of Flanders, where the ground everywhere is covered with the gray-clad bodies of German dead, and the British and French are holding securely to all their positions.



1—Recent view in ruined Ypres, objective of the Germans in Flanders, reviewing a body of American infantry at the front. 2—General Pershing and his aides. 3—One of the huge bombs used by the British aviators.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Germans Defeated With Awful Slaughter in an Attack on Ypres Salient.

PREPARING FOR NEW SMASH

Americans Gallantly Repulse Hun Assault Near Amiens—Teutonic "Peace Offensive" Developing—Third Liberty Loan Heavily Oversubscribed—Plans to Expand Our Army.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Monday of last week was a bitter day for the Hun—the day of his worst defeat since the great spring drive began. Under orders from General von Arnim to take Scherpenberg, Mont Rouge, Mont Noir and all the high ground back of Kemmel, the Germans hurled themselves time after time against the stone wall of British and French defenders, only to fall back in disorder, leaving thousands of their men dead and wounded on the field. The enemy employed about thirty fresh battalions, in addition to the numerous divisions already in position on that front, and his onslaughts were so frequent as to be almost continuous throughout the day.

When the morning of Tuesday came the great numbers of gray-uniformed dead in front of the defending positions showed the awful price the Hun had paid. Moreover, he had nothing to show for this expenditure of life, for the allied lines were virtually intact at all points, and the British late in the afternoon counter attacked north of Kemmel and regained considerable ground previously lost. Just to the west of this position, about Loere and at the cross roads between Scherpenberg and Mont Rouge, the French met the fiercest assaults of the day. Changing hands several times, Loere was held by the Germans at nightfall, and they had pushed ahead until the situation was most critical for the defenders, but the French came back with such irresistible dash that the advance was stopped, and after dark they pushed the Germans out of Loere and back from the positions they had won between the two hills.

In this, the most pretentious attack on the Ypres salient, the British and French, largely outnumbered, fought with equal gallantry and determination. At the same time the brave Belgians, farther north, repulsed another attack, not yielding a foot of ground. The Kaiser had just visited the German lines and exhorted his troops to push the British back to the channel, "where they belonged," but the stubborn Tommies didn't wish to be pushed, and they were not. The big attack probably had the double purpose of capturing Ypres and diverting large numbers of allied troops from the Amiens salient so the Germans could make another drive there, but neither object was attained. The artillery fire from both sides was continuous and very heavy, and the Germans, despite the excellent work of the airmen, improved their transport and brought up many of their large guns. The British batteries west of Kemmel devoted much of their efforts during the week to deluging the top of that hill with shells, so that the Huns were unable to obtain any benefit from its capture.

The intense activity observed behind the German lines indicated that Von Arnim was preparing to resume the attack on the Ypres salient immediately. Except for Kemmel hill, his troops are occupying lower ground than that held by the allies, and they cannot continue there long under the smothering fire of the British and French artillery. If they cannot gain the line of heights they seem likely must soon retire.

Following their disastrous repulse in Flanders, the enemy made two attacks in the Amiens region. The first was directed especially at the American troops, now revealed as holding positions in the vicinity of Villers-

Bretonneux, east of Amiens. After an intense preliminary bombardment lasting two hours, the Germans advanced, three battalions strong, and hand-to-hand fighting ensued all along the line. The Americans put up a defense that won the warm praise of the French commanders on their flanks, and the Huns, after considerable time, were driven back with heavy loss. The losses of the Americans were said to be rather severe.

The second attack was made Wednesday night in the Thennes sector, southeast of Amiens, and was as complete a failure as the other.

Already, the expected Teutonic "peace offensive" is beginning to develop, as it always does after the Kaiser has won some successes and then has been brought to a halt. Charles of Austria is said to have made peace offers to Italy, the real purpose of which is evidently to create discord in Italy and at the same time to quiet the discord among his own subjects. The pope, it is understood, will put forth peace proposals on Whitsuntide, May 19, making concrete offers of mediation by the holy see. Germany's own offers are expected after another great effort has been made to smash the allied armies in France.

This peace offensive will be no less offensive to the allies than its predecessors. They will not be deceived by offers to restore Belgium and to cede Lorraine. Nothing less than the utter defeat of the central powers will satisfy them, unless there is an unbelievable change in the state of mind of the governments and the peoples. This is no less true in America than in England and France. The American casualty lists, though still comparatively short, are scattering all over the country's map little black dots of mourning, each of which becomes the center of a strengthened determination to see the war through to complete victory.

The Austrian emperor is truly having a hard time keeping his subjects to their allegiance. From Serbian sources comes the news that the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes in the dual monarchy are holding a plebiscite on the plan to join with Serbia and Montenegro in one national independent state, with Peter of Serbia as the king. This movement is led by the prime archbishop of Carniola. Meanwhile the Austro-Hungarian military commanders have been greatly exercised by the fact, just announced, that large numbers of Bohemian troops are joining the Italian army and are now on the Italian front in Italian uniforms. They belong to the Czech-Slovak army which is being formed at many points within Austria-Hungary.

Though they have slowed up a bit in Russia proper, the Germans are going ahead steadily with their penetration of Ukraine, and now have established military rule in Kiev, its capital, on the ground that the government has proved too weak to maintain law and order. A number of the members of the Ukraine government have been arrested. Of course, the prevailing disorder there is mainly due to the presence of the German troops and their oppression of the people, but a little discrepancy like that does not bother the Kaiser. Recently General von Elchhorn, the German commander there, ordered the peasants to return all property and effects taken from the landholders and to begin at once the cultivation of the estates. This order, designed to protect the interests of the landholders, most of whom are Poles and Russians, was vigorously opposed by the rada, which declared it would not permit interference by German or Austro-Hungarian commanders in the internal affairs of the country. The minister of agriculture was instructed to tell the peasants not to obey Von Elchhorn's order.

Berlin announced on Thursday that Sevastopol had been occupied by the German forces.

For a day or two last week the world was startled by a report that there had been a counter-revolution in Russia, and that the former czar's little son had been proclaimed emperor, with his uncle, Grand Duke Michael, as regent. The story came from Scandinavia, and soon was recognized as

German propaganda, though there was doubt as to its motive. It was not confirmed from any Russian source. Possibly the Germans meant to use the alleged revolt as an excuse for seizing Petrograd, a move they already have threatened to make unless the Russians agree to their outrageously unfair plan for the exchange of prisoners. According to this plan, which Russia rejects, all German prisoners in good health are to be returned, the unfit being kept in Russia; and all unfit Russian prisoners will be returned, the fit being retained in Germany.

Another bit of characteristic German insolence cropped up last week, when Berlin formally protested against the action of the allies in giving aid to the Red guard of Finland, because it interfered with the internal life of Finland, though the Germans themselves are helping the White guard of the country with land and sea forces. This combination has now occupied Viborg after severe fighting.

The Russian bolshevik government is really preparing to re-enter the war against the central powers, whose aggressions have become intolerable. The pan-executive council at Moscow has adopted Trotsky's plan for universal military training for all men between the ages of eighteen and forty and the conscription of all workers and peasants. The best military experts have been recalled to the service and the government expects to have a large and effective army within ten months.

War work in America is progressing with unprecedented speed these days. The third Liberty Loan campaign closed on Saturday with the \$3,000,000,000 of bonds heavily oversubscribed. The most satisfactory features of this loan are the large numbers of individual subscribers and the fact that the country districts took a portion of the loan relatively much larger than they did of the previous issues. As the campaign neared its end the enthusiasm became really tremendous. All classes of the population joined in the work of selling the bonds, and most substantial aid was rendered by 50 wounded American soldiers and a group of French "Blue Devils" who came over from France for the purpose.

The war department permitted it to be known that it now plans to have 1,000,000 men in France by July 1, and that considerably more than 500,000 are already there. Secretary Baker says the army will be expanded to 3,000,000 men and then will be made as much larger as is considered necessary. The movement of troops across the Atlantic is so swift that the training camps are being emptied, and therefore the draft registrants are being called in increasing numbers. Secretary Daniels is enthusiastic for an army of unlimited size, and says if there are not enough young men to whip Germany the age limit will be changed and the older ones will go. The brigading of the Americans with the British and French has greatly expedited the placing of the men on the firing line, for now only 30 days of training in France is considered necessary.

The senate grew impatient all of a sudden last Tuesday and three bills were introduced for expanding the army. In the house Chairman Dent of the military affairs committee also introduced such a bill, but he would limit the size of the army to 4,000,000 men. As usual, he is not in accord with the spirit of the nation.

On Thursday Secretary Baker presented the administration's program to the house committee. It includes expenditures on the army aggregating \$13,000,000,000 in the next fiscal year; manufacture of artillery on a stupendous scale; drafting of at least 1,000,000 additional registrants and as many more as can be equipped and transported to France.

The Overman co-ordination bill was passed by the senate Monday by a vote of 63 to 13, and when it gets through the house there will be little in any way connected with the war which the president will not be empowered to do. The measure gives him dictatorial powers to reorganize bureaus and departments of the government and to transfer government functions at will.

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 front along the vital sectors of the battle front 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 the 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.

CIVIL WAR PENSION BILL IS PASSED BY THE HOUSE

Washington.—The Sherwood bill granting a minimum pension of \$25 a month to civil war veterans was passed by the house and now goes to the senate.

The house also passed a bill to restore the pension status of widows of civil war veterans who married after the death of their soldier husbands and who were inadvertently deprived of their pension rights under an act of 1916. It now goes to the senate.