

GERMANS RUSH TROOPS INTO FLANDERS: ALLIES DRIVEN BACK TO CANAL

War's Bloodiest Battle Has Begun, is Consensus of Military Experts

BOTH SIDES ARE READY

Thoroughly Entrenched and Well Supplied With Ammunition, is Report.

German Submarines Busy in the North Sea.

London, April 24.—The Germans are pouring troops into Flanders to press the attack, which at the beginning has forced the Allies back to the Yser canal, north of Ypres. This movement, according to reports reaching Holland, has assumed even greater dimensions than those which preceded the battle that raged for more than two weeks, in the same region last October. On that occasion the operations ended in the discomfiture of the Germans who had declared their intention of pushing their way through to Calais.

It appears that the Germans have a similar aim today and have set out to capture Ypres, described as the key to the French coast ports.

While the attack originally met with considerable success, due, according to Allies' reports, to the use by the Germans of asphyxiating gases, it is already to have been checked. The Canadians, who held the extreme left of the British line and were forced to retire when the remainder of the front was pressed back, made a brilliant counter attack, regaining most, if not all the ground which they had conceded and re-taking four guns which they had left in the hands of the Germans. In the words of Sir John French they saved the situation.

Ground is Recovered.

The British report does not say how much ground they recovered, but the statement in the Berlin official report that the British attack at St. Julien was repulsed shows they are well back in their old positions, for that town, which is on the main road between Ypres and Poel-Capelle is immediately south of Langemarck whence the German attack was launched. The Germans, however, maintain their hold on the Yser canal further north, for they speak of storming Lizerne, which is across the canal between the towns of Steenstraete and Het Sast, which they took in their first rush. The German attack south of Ypres, which was made simultaneously with that to the north, apparently has failed entirely. These attacks are believed to be the beginning of another big battle, which, with both sides strongly entrenched, promises to be one of the bloodiest and most bitter of the war.

Telegrams from Holland tonight tell not only of the movement of the German reinforcements to the front, but of long trains of dead and wounded soldiers to the rear in a condition which also must exist in the Allied army. The outcome of this battle is waited with utmost eagerness.

Fighting Elsewhere.

In the meantime fighting goes on in Champagne and in the Carpathians. Despite torrential rains, the Russians appear to have resumed their attack on the Austro-German positions guarding Uszok Pass. Capture by the Russians of Hill 1,091, it is claimed, has greatly facilitated their operations, reducing in importance Hill 992, which the Austrians still hold. Confirmation of this new Russian offensive is contained in the Austrian official report, which records fighting on Turka road, which traverses Uszok Pass.

There is no official news as yet of operations in the Dardanelles or the North Sea, but in the latter region there is evidence of activity by the Germans who have sunk or captured several neutral vessels. The Danish steamer Nidaros was captured, the Norwegian bark Ostra and Eva and the Swedish steamer Ruth were torpedoed by submarines, the Norwegian steamer Capri was blown up by a mine off the English coast, while the British steamer Frack was torpedoed in the Baltic.

FUNERAL OF MRS. GRADY

Conducted at Burghway by Rev. P. L. Clark and Dr. J. M. Wells. (Special Star Correspondence.) Burghway, N. C., April 25.—The remains of the late Mrs. Margaret A. Grady were brought here on the morning train Friday and taken to the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. F. Johnson, where the funeral services were held on Saturday morning at 11 o'clock by Rev. P. L. Clark, assisted by Dr. J. M. Wells. The interment was made in the family cemetery. There was a large number of relatives and friends of the family at the funeral, and the grave was embellished with flowers. Mrs. Grady was well known here, as she had spent much of her life here visiting her daughters and their many friends, with them in their loss.

GRACE IS READY

Foreign Minister Tells Correspondent That Country Ready to Join Allies. (Special Star Correspondence.) Paris, April 24.—The foreign minister, Georges Clemenceau, is doing his utmost to bring about the Allies' readiness to unite with the British in the Dardanelles operation if invited to do so.

DESPERATE FIGHTS CONTINUE IN WEST

Allies Lose Little Ground in Face of German Attacks.

CANADIANS IN ACTION

Need to Retreat Before Terrific German Assault Canadians Regain Lost Territory in Counter-Attack—Official Reports.

Paris, April 24.—The following official communication was issued by the war office tonight:

"To the north of Ypres the Germans during the night of April 23-24, and during Saturday made strenuous efforts to avail themselves of the surprise they had engineered the day before yesterday with their asphyxiating gases. Their attempts failed.

"On Saturday at daybreak on the left bank of the Yser they had succeeded in carrying the village of Lizerne. The French Zouaves and Belgian Carabiniers, however, through a vigorous attack re-captured the village which we soon left behind us.

"In conjunction with the Belgian army we made perceptible progress on our left. On our right we advanced more slowly.

"During that time the British troops were subjected to a fierce attack. They immediately repelled by a counter attack, the result of which is not yet known.

Mines Are Exploded.

"In Champagne on the Northern salient of the Bousjour blockhouse the Germans exploded five powerful mines near our trenches. Despite the violence of the explosion, our troops outstripping the enemy at once occupied the excavations which were about 75 feet in diameter.

"In the Forest of Apremont and at the Tete De Vache (Cow's head) the enemy shelled our positions violently, but there was no further attack."

ATTACKS BROKEN DOWN

Attempts of Allies to Retake Ground Unsuccessful Says Berlin Report.

Berlin, April 24 (Wireless).—The German official statement today follows: "Attempts made by the enemy to recapture a lost terrain north of Ypres (Belgium) failed entirely. The French and British attacks broke down under the German fire. The number of prisoners, French, English and Belgian, rose to 2,470. The pieces of cannon captured up to the present total 35. In addition a large number of machine guns and rifles and much ammunition, and other war material were taken by the Germans. West of the Ypres canal the German army formed the town of Lizerne."

"In the Champagne region the Germans blasted an enemy trench.

"Between the Meuse and the Moselle, French attacks failed. The enemy who had entered the German trenches were ejected.

"In the Forest of LePretre the Germans made progress.

"In the Vosges there were no war operations on account of the fog and snow.

"In the eastern war arena there is no change in the situation."

CANADIANS DRIVEN BACK

But Regain Territory Lost Through Brilliant Counter-Attack.

London, April 24.—The war office today gave out the following official notice: "The fight for the ground into which the Germans penetrated between Steenstraete and Langemarck still continues. The loss of this part of the line laid bare the left of the Canadian division which was forced to fall back to keep in touch with the right of the neighboring troops.

"In the rear of them had been four Canadian 4.7 inch guns, which thus passed into the hands of the enemy. "But some hours later the Canadians made a most brilliant and successful advance, re-capturing these guns and taking a considerable number of German prisoners, including a colonel.

"The Canadians had many casualties, but their determination undoubtedly saved the situation. Their conduct has been magnificent throughout."

STEAMER STRUCK A MINE

Norwegian Vessel Sent to the Bottom as Result of Explosion.

London, April 24.—The Norwegian steamship Capri which sailed from Baltimore April 6 for Christiania by way of Ardrossan, Scotland, struck a mine at a point 15 miles northeast of Tory Island last night and sank, according to a dispatch received here today by Lloyd's agency from Inishtrahull, Ireland. The crew of the Capri was landed at Inishtrahull today.

CONCLUSIONS OF WALSH ARE WRONG

John D. Rockefeller Issues a Statement in New York

AS TO CORRESPONDENCE

Characterizes Conclusions Reached by Chairman of Federal Commission on Industrial Relations as False—Statement.

New York, April 24.—John D. Rockefeller, Jr., gave out a statement late today in reference to the correspondence between himself and L. M. Bowers, chairman of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, made public yesterday by Franch P. Walsh, chairman of the United States Commission on Industrial Relations.

Mr. Rockefeller characterized as false the conclusions which Mr. Walsh drew from the correspondence. He asserts Mr. Walsh had drawn inferences without ascertaining whether they were correct, a "proceeding which is wholly indefensible."

He said he would be glad to appear to give additional testimony before the commission at any time "for we are desirous that the public shall have all the facts."

The statements follow: "On February 18 soon after the hearings in New York of the United States Commission on Industrial Relations I felt called upon in justice to myself to point out to the public a gross misstatement concerning my evidence which had been given out by Mr. Franch P. Walsh, chairman of the commission."

Unwarranted Inferences.

"Mr. Walsh today makes another statement containing many misrepresentations and unwarranted inferences. The public is entitled to the facts concerning the allegations which Mr. Walsh makes but it is impossible to assemble all the data in time for the Sunday morning papers. I am preparing a statement which will be available for publication on Monday morning.

"In references to Mr. Walsh's announcement of his intention to call my associates and myself to give further information in regard to the Colorado strike, I need hardly say that we shall be glad to appear at any time, for we are desirous that the public shall have all the facts. To that end we have already testified whether our inferences are correct, have waived all our legal rights and have supplied the commission without any subpoena duces tecum all the information which has been asked for, including a mass of private correspondence.

"Mr. Walsh has taken that correspondence, has drawn from it certain inferences and without ascertaining whether his inferences are correct, has made statements and announced conclusions which are false. Such a proceeding, I submit is wholly indefensible on the part of the chairman of a body holding a commission from the government of the United States.

AMMONS KNOWS NOTHING

Denver, Colo., April 24.—Former Governor E. M. Ammons, when shown the correspondence between John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and Ivy L. Lee as made public yesterday by Franch P. Walsh, chairman of the Federal Industrial Relations Commission said: "I never sent out a letter on any strike of the Colorado coal miners' phase that I did not prepare myself. I never heard of Ivy L. Lee until his name was brought out at the Denver investigation of the Industrial Relations Commission and never had any correspondence with him. I furnished copies of all my correspondence to the commission during the Denver hearing.

"The only time I ever met a representative of Mr. Rockefeller was a few days ago when W. L. MacKenzie King discussed with me labor conditions in Colorado.

EMDEN'S CREW STILL ALIVE AND KICKING

Most Dramatic Episode of War Not Yet Concluded.

Escaping When German Cruiser Destroyed, Landing Party on Battleship Commandeered a Schooner—Fighting.

Berlin, via Wireless and London, April 24.—The crews of the German "warship" Aysha, composed of men who escaped when the cruiser Emden was destroyed by an Australian warship in the Indian ocean last November, has escaped again from Allied patrol ships. They arrived at the Arabian harbor of Lidd March 27th. They covered by sea the 300 miles from Hodeida to Lidd.

After reaching the coast the sailors attempted to continue their journey overland but were attacked by Arabs. After three days stubborn fighting the attacks were repulsed and they reached the road to Dodaas where the railway was open. The adventurous Germans suffered heavy losses.

The bold exploits of this remnant of the Emden's crew have constituted one of the most dramatic episodes of the war. The men were members of a landing party which was on Cocos Island.

GENERAL ANGELES AND VILLA BREAK

Latter Blamed Defeat to Cowardice of Ex-Federals.

SAYS CARRANZA REPORT

Brother of General Obregon Arrested and Ordered Shot by Villa—Obregon Says Brother an Old Man and Peaceable.

Washington, April 24.—A serious rupture between General Villa and his chief lieutenant, General Angeles, was reported to the Carranza agency here today in a message from Eagle Pass, Texas. General Angeles, the message added, had ordered his personal followers to Torreón, where he was concentrating garrisons from towns along the border. General Angeles remained at Aguas Calientes, it was said, to meet the advance of General Obregon from Irapuato.

State Department officials said they had no knowledge of a break between Villa and Angeles.

The text of the Eagle Pass message as given out at the Carranza agency tonight is: "The serious breach between Villa and the ex-Federals serving under him, caused by Villa laying all blame for his recent defeats upon the cowardice of the ex-Federals and this charge embracing General Angeles, has caused Villa to order all his followers to concentrate at Torreón without delay. This leaves General Angeles, Raul and Emilio Madero to face the brunt of Obregon's advance toward the North."

OBREGON'S BROTHER SHOT.

Armed Man Arrested and Ordered Executed by Villa, is Report.

New York, April 24.—Francisco E. Elias, Carranza consul here, announced today he had received a telegram from General Obregon, asserting that General Obregon's brother, Francisco, taken prisoner by Villa and sent to Chihuahua, had been shot by Villa's order. General Obregon's telegram said: "Villa, to avenge himself upon me for the defeat which my troops have inflicted upon him, has arrested and executed my brother, Francisco Obregon, a man 70 years of age, a prisoner in Chihuahua. He was living peacefully in Guadalupe and was a non-combatant. His only issue with neither faction. When Villa fled from the city he ordered that he be arrested. This is nothing more than revenge which he is seeking from me for the defeat which he suffered."

Another dispatch from General Obregon, Mr. Elias asserted, said General Obregon had sent a telegram to Villa pointing out that his brother was a feeble old man, a non-combatant and requesting his release. The only reply received to this message, Mr. Elias said the despatch stated, was a message from Villa which read: "Your brother has been shot."

MAJOR HALE IN WASHINGTON

Minister to Costa Rica Confers With State Officials.

Washington, D. C., April 24.—Major E. J. Hale, United States minister to Costa Rica is here conferring with State Department officials. The major says he is taking his annual sixty days vacation which he expects to spend in North Carolina. Major Hale is accompanied by Mrs. Hale, and their niece, Miss Mallette.

OFFICERS ELECTED BY BARACAS-PHILATHEAS

J. Edward Allen and Miss Nina Hodges Head Organizations.

Miss Clara Lathrop, Wilmington, Member of Executive Committee—Yesterday Full of Features in Convention at Raleigh.

(Special Star Telegram.) Raleigh, N. C., April 24.—The contest for the place of meeting for the 1916 Baracas-Philathea State convention tonight was between Goldsboro and Asheville, and Goldsboro won. In the executive committee, the vote was 15 for Goldsboro and 9 for Asheville, the latter having assurance of getting the 1917 convention.

The convention tonight raised \$1,167 in pledges for the work the coming year. The report of Miss Flossie Byrd as secretary showed 145 Baracas and 144 Philathea classes formed the past year; also four county and 11 city unions formed.

Raleigh, N. C., April 24.—The Baracas and Philathea in fifth annual session here elected officers this afternoon. Baracas officers are: President, J. Edward Allen, Henderson; vice presidents, H. A. Bland, Raleigh; R. L. Pope, Thomasville; F. L. Atkinson, Greensboro; secretary-treasurer, C. M. Bagwell, Winston-Salem.

Jurors in the Great Barnes-Roosevelt Suit.



Top Row: F. W. Pierce, carpenter, Republican; Leonard K. Hungerford, painter, Progressive; Franklin L. Rhoades, farmer, Republican. Second Row: Walter J. Zuel, mail manufacturer, Progressive; Irving J. Mills, woodworker, Republican; Henry Hoag, clerk, Republican. Third Row: Peter Benicke, coal dealer, Democrat; Edward Burns, Motorist, Republican; George E. Boscher, manufacturer, Progressive. Bottom Row: John W. Brown, farmer, Republican; Ray Tanner, farmer, Democrat; Warren W. Somers, grocer, Republican. These are the Syracuse men who must say whether or not Theodore Roosevelt libeled William Barnes, Jr., in the statement he made last fall during the campaign for governor in New York State. The former President charged that Charles F. Murphy, the Democratic boss, and Mr. Barnes, the Republican boss, of their respective state machines, worked harmoniously whenever they were in danger.

THOUSANDS OF BALES OF COTTON ARE HELD

Exporters Greatly Concerned Over Allies' Action.

State Department Has Begun Negotiations With British, French and Italian Government to Relieve the Situation.

Washington, April 24.—The fact that American cotton shipments totalling thousands of bales and all destined to neutral ports are held up by the Allies is giving exporters great concern and it was learned tonight that the State Department has been requested to make special efforts in case of five steamers now detained in European ports. Some of these were bound for Sweden and others carried cargoes for Switzerland.

The latter already have been the subject of protest by the Swiss government which sought the good offices of the United States at London and at home to obtain the release the shipments. American ambassadors have been instructed to present the Swiss views.

Senator Smith, of Georgia, who has discussed the matter at the State Department, said tonight that nearly a dozen cotton ships were being held. Troubles with cargoes, Senator Smith said, arose in part from the fact that shippers had failed to provide steamed captains in some instances with certificates signed by English consuls showing that the sales were made before March 1.

TWO STEAMERS RELEASED

British Admiralty Order Two Vessels Loaded With Cotton to Be Freed. London, April 24.—The admiralty today ordered the release of the cotton steamers Veneza and Montenegro detained at Gibraltar.

Both the vessels have on board American cotton consigned to Swiss firms, through Italy. The cargoes have not been certificated, in accordance with the cotton agreement but the admiralty acted on representations that further detention would seriously cripple the Swiss cotton industry.

Negotiations are proceeding for the creation in Switzerland of an organization similar to the Over Seas Trust Company in Holland, through which the Swiss government may receive consignments and guarantee they will not be re-shipped to Germany. Until such an organization is perfected shipments to Switzerland will be subjected to rigorous investigation by French and British officials.

T. R. RESTS AFTER STRENUOUS DAYS

Recuperates From Gruelling Cross-Examination on Stand.

YET MORE QUESTIONS

Attorneys for William Barnes Avail Themselves of Week-End Holiday to Prepare More Questions to Put to Witness.

Syracuse, N. Y., April 24.—Theodore Roosevelt spent today resting from his four strenuous days upon the witness stand and preparing for further examination when the trial of William Barnes' suit against him for alleged libel is resumed on Monday. The colonel conferred with his counsel, then took a long automobile ride into the country.

Despite the fact that Justice Andrews has ruled that the legislative committee report dealing among other things with vice in Albany, was not admissible, several detectives who assisted in an investigation for the committee were in Syracuse tonight with subpoena. It was said a strong effort would be made by the Roosevelt attorneys to get at least a part of their testimony before the jury.

Mr. Barnes is expected to return here tomorrow from Albany.

Prepare More Testimony.

Counsel for William Barnes took advantage of the week-end recess of the Supreme court to compile additional questions to ask the former president when his cross examination is resumed Monday. Many of the questions agreed on concern formations of the Progressive party.

William M. Evans, chief counsel for Barnes, said he expected to finish with Colonel Roosevelt some time Monday, but re-direct examination may keep on the stand until Tuesday.

The Roosevelt attorneys heard today that all members of the legislature who voted against the Hughes primary bill and other means cited by Colonel Roosevelt as instances were machine Democrats and machine Republicans combined to defeat legislation he considered good would be subpoenaed by Barnes to testify in rebuttal.

ROOSEVELT WAS MISTAKEN.

Penrose Declares He Did Not Keep Him From Being Candidate for Chairman.

Philadelphia, April 24.—United States Senator Penrose said today that Colonel Roosevelt was in error yesterday when he declared on the witness stand at Syracuse that he had prevented the selection of Penrose in 1904 as chairman of the Republican National committee.

Senator Penrose said he was not a candidate for National chairman in 1904, was not aware that he had even been suggested for the place, but if that was so the use of his name was without his knowledge or consent.

"I was strongly in favor of the nomination of Mr. Roosevelt in 1904," Senator Penrose said, "notwithstanding the secret efforts put forth by Mr. Hanna and others to defeat him."

BOB FISHER, OF CHICAGO LEADS NATIONAL BATTERS

Snodgrass With Five Leads in Stolen Bases—Fournier Stars.

Chicago, April 24.—Bob Fisher, of Chicago, leads the batters of the National league, with a percentage of 500, according to averages compiled here today. Next in order are: Zimmerman, Brooklyn, 500; Groh, Cincinnati, 450; Cravath, Philadelphia, 429; and Doyle, New York, 407.

Snodgrass, New York, with five, leads in stolen bases.

Another Chicagoan, Jacques Fournier, is setting the pace in the American League. He has been up ten times and made five hits or an average of 500. Next comes Cobb, Detroit, 480; Crawford, Detroit, 467; Teach, Detroit, 464; Strunk, Philadelphia, 423; C. Walker, St. Louis, 391.

Maisei, New York, and John Collins, Chicago, lead the base stealers with five each.

In the Federal League, Cooper, Brooklyn, and Rariden, Newark, are leading with 500 each. Magee and Kauff, Brooklyn, are tied for the stolen base record with seven apiece.

NAVASSA GUANO CO. LOSES

Complaint Filed With I. C. Commission at Washington.

Washington, D. C., April 24.—The Interstate Commerce Commission has dismissed the complaint of the Navassa Guano Company, of Wilmington, against the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad. The complaint alleged that an unreasonable rate was charged on a shipment of flour from Milwaukee to Wilmington.

PASSENGER TRAIN WRECKED

A. C. L. No. 42 Runs Into Open Switch at Tarboro, Several Hurt.

Wilson, N. C., April 24.—Atlantic Coast Line passenger train No. 42 northbound, en route from Rocky Mount to Norfolk, was wrecked this morning near Tarboro. Pullman Conductor Burns was injured and three passengers sustained severe bruises. The passenger train struck an open switch near the cotton mills, west of Tarboro, and ran into a freight train on the siding.

ULTIMATUM SENT CHINA BY THE JAPANESE

Honolulu, April 24.—An ultimatum demanding a satisfactory reply within three days to Japan's demands on China has been sent to Peking by the Japanese, according to dispatches via Hawaii.