

GERMANS RENEW EFFORTS TO BREAK WAY THROUGH ALLIED LINES TO ENGLISH CHANNEL

Berlin Claims That Rushes of German Troops Have Driven Back Allies.

ALLIES DENY REPORT Present Action Thought to be Preliminary to Another Desperate Charge.

More Men and Guns Sent Into the West by Germany.

London, April 25. The German pushes in Flanders and the Weevre—where they claim considerable successes—are believed to be forerunners of another big effort to break through the Allied lines in the West.

For many days Belgium has been sealed from the observation of neutrals, while German reinforcements are being moved to the south to take part in the new offensive, which they hope is to carry them to Calais. The attack in Flanders, originally levelled at the French, has been transferred to the British lines held by the Canadians on the immediate right of the French, and here for two days the men from the Dominion have been engaged in a deadly contest with the Germans. The Germans claim further progress toward Ypres, and that British counter attacks have been repulsed.

French Deny Report The French on the other hand declare the Allies attacks continue with success and that the British hold their positions and repeat the charge that the Germans are using bombs containing asphyxiation gas.

These offensive movements by the Germans have been made possible by the state of the Germans in the East where operations are virtually impossible until floods have subsided. Taking advantage of these conditions the Germans transferred a large number of troops to the West—attempts which met with failure both in August and in September.

Calm on Eastern Front In the meantime the Eastern front is enjoying a period of comparative calm except in the mid-Carpathians, where the Russians continue to attack the Austrians in Czech Pass and to the Eastward where the Austrians and Germans are trying to crush the Russian flank. Both sides report successes.

More Results Obtained Germans Claim to Have Gained More Ground at Ypres Over British. London, April 25 (via Wireless to London).—The headquarters today received the following report: "The situation of war: Results at Ypres are ground captured April 23, 1915. The British held their positions, but the Germans continued our attack and captured a large number of machine guns at St. Julien, as well as the village of the Dardennes and Kerselaere and other places. These engagements are being continued. Several machine guns were captured. A British counter attack against

President Wilson's Private Peace Envoy



Edward Mandell House. This photograph of E. M. House, close friend of President Wilson, said to have been sent privately by him to sound European governments on the question of peace, was taken the other day in London. Mr. House has been chary of photographers in the United States, but he had little hesitation in posing in London.

out positions west of St. Julien was repulsed early today with heavy losses to the enemy. "West of Wiel British attempts to make an attack were quenched at the start by our artillery. "In the Argonne we repulsed an attack by two French battalions north of Four de Paris. "In the Meuse Hills, southwest of Combrès the French suffered a heavy defeat. We began an attack at this point and in the rush broke through many French lines. The French captured territory but again failed with heavy losses. Twenty-four French officers and 1,800 men, with 17 cannon, remained in our hands after these engagements. "Between the Meuse and the Moselle fighting at close quarters occurred front, the fighting at Ailly not having yet come to a conclusion. A French (Continued on Page Eight.)

GERMAN FLEET IS READY FOR BATTLE

Said to be Willing to Meet the British in the North Sea.

ACTION VERY LIKELY Battleships and Drednoughts of Germany Reported Searching the North Sea for the Enemy.

London, April 25.—A Copenhagen dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph says that leading German papers declare the German fleet is willing now to accept battle in the North Sea. The entire fleet, the papers declare, several times has cruised over the North Sea vainly seeking the British fleet. "The Vossische Zeitung says the Norwegian steamer Feodin met the German fleet last Sunday off Helgoland. The German commander told the captain of the Feodin that the German fleet had one desire only—to engage the British fleet, and he hoped the British fleet might be found.

MESSAGE TO ADMIRAL. Emperor William Congratulates Him Upon Anniversary of 50 Years in the Navy. Amsterdam, via London, April 25.— Dispatches from Berlin say that Emperor William yesterday sent the following telegram to Admiral Von Tirpitz, Minister of Marine and Admiral of the Fleet: "On today, the 50th anniversary of your entering the naval service, I express to you my heartiest congratulations, as is my pleasure that, with God's help, it will be granted you to celebrate this day still in active service and full vigor. I readily embrace this (Continued on Page Six.)

GRAPHIC ACCOUNT OF REGENT BATTLE

Capture of Hill No. 60 Told of by "Eye-Witness."

IN DESPERATE FIGHT

Germans Were Surprised at Work and Fled in Their Shirt Sleeves Before on Rushing British—Tons of Ammunition Used

London, April 25.—"Trenches, traps and sand bags disappeared" says the British official "eye witness" describing British mine explosion which preceded the recent attack on the British of Hill No. 60 east of Ypres. "The whole surface of the ground," the narrative continues, "was in the shape of craters. Here it was torn into huge craters; there large mounds of fallen debris were seen. "As the reports of the explosions died away, our men, led by the officers, rushed across the intervening space of some 40 to 60 yards lying between our trenches and the gaping craters before them the front of the attack being only some 250 yards in length. "Where the mines actually had exploded nothing was left of the occupants of the positions and in the neighboring trenches our assaulting infantry witnessed an extraordinary scene. Many German soldiers, possibly stunned by the explosions and subjected to a rain of hand grenades they gave way to panic.

Fled Before British "Cursing and shouting they were falling over one another in their hurry to gain exits leading into the communication trenches. Some of these in the rear were driving their bayonets into the bodies of their comrades in front of them. Of all this, our infantry had only a momentary glimpse before they fell upon the enemy with the bayonet, burst through the maze of trenches, poured into the craters and pressed on down the communication trenches until at last they were stopped by barricades defended by bomb throwers.

Fighting Grew Fierce "Nor was the enemy's infantry idle. Advancing up the communication trenches they threw hand grenades over the barricades and also into the mine craters in the crumbling sides of which our men were trying to obtain a foothold. "Throughout the night the fighting continued, culminating early in the morning of the 18th in two massed attacks by the enemy. These were beaten off. Despite losses which left the hillside covered with dead, the enemy continued his pressure during the whole of Sunday until we gradually were driven from the southern edge of the hill. At 6 P. M. reinforcements reached our front line and swept the Germans from the foothold they had gained. "Prior to this the close proximity of the contending sides had led to slacking in the bombardment but it then broke out afresh and with almost as great intensity as on the preceding evening. Our position, however, was unshaken." "The narrative says the bombardment was maintained Monday, April 26. (Continued on Page Eight.)

PARIS PRESS INTERESTED. French Much Concerned About What Italy Will Do—Predict War. Paris, April 25.—The prospect of Italian intervention is a subject of extreme interest in Paris press. The trend of dispatches from Rome, Italy and otherwise is that Italy is ready for the conflict and has decided on the publication of a letter by Deputy Estrat of Rumania, confirming the treaty of commerce between Italy and Rumania as the basis for a settlement which Rumania will join her as an ally, when Italy gives the word.

THREATEN GENERAL STRIKE. Socialists Make Effort to Call Strike of Italy, Declares for Intervention. Rome, April 25, via Paris.—A faction of the Socialists which opposes Italy's participation in the war, is planning to bring about a general strike of the army is ordered, a general strike. Most of the Socialists, however, are not in sympathy with the plan, and it is believed the effort would fail.

Railroad employees on whom the organizers of the strike movement would rely chiefly, declare they would not strike. "The narrative says the bombardment was maintained Monday, April 26. (Continued on Page Eight.)

WAR NEWS AT A GLANCE

Although spring has failed to bring the long expected "big effort" of the Allies against the German lines in France and Belgium it has furnished three of the most desperate engagements of the war.

The first at Neuse Chapelle where in three days fighting combined losses numbered 30,000 or more with victory resting on the British arms. The second was a desperate struggle for the British captured Hill No. 60. This involved the most furious kind of fighting and after the hill was taken a bombardment by the Germans for several days.

Then bringing up heavy reinforcements the Germans began an attack around Ypres which is described as one of the fiercest of the war. This attack was partly in the nature of a surprise and the Allied lines were pushed back for a considerable distance, estimated in some quarters as several miles. Some of this ground has been regained, and according to Paris the Germans not only have been checked but Belgians, British and French by determined counter attacks, continue to force their diversions still to be employing bombs containing gas-forming chemicals and their use is admitted and justified by the Berlin press, one Berlin newspaper asserting that bombs of a similar nature have been employed by the French and British.

The full force of the German attack is being directed against the British front from several directions and here the Canadian troops, who already had distinguished themselves by counter attacks when the Germans swept the French line back, are bearing the brunt of the nature of a surprise. With 750,000 men on the continent, as announced recently by the British chancellor of the exchequer, reinforcements are being hurried forward to fill the gaps in the British lines.

Syracuse, N. Y., April 25.—Theodore Roosevelt will resume the witness stand here tomorrow for further examination in William Barnes' \$50,000 suit for alleged libel. The cross-examination, attorneys tonight said, was likely to consume the whole of tomorrow's session of court. Barnes arrived here today from Albany, where he went when court was recessed Friday. He took part in a lengthy conference with his attorneys, then announced he would return to Albany tomorrow to be present at the reopening of the State's Constitutional Convention. Attorneys said Barnes probably would take the stand some time next week. Colonel Roosevelt conferred with his counsel, too. This morning he went to church and later motored from the home (Continued on Page Six.)

ITALY IS EXCITED OVER PEACE PLANS

Lengthy and Detailed Story is Given Out at New York.

PLAN NOT APPROVED AS TO WALSH REPORT

Letters Published by Chairman of the Industrial Relations Commission and Conclusions Reached by Him is Subject.

New York, April 25.—John D. Rockefeller, Jr., today gave out a statement in amplification of one he issued yesterday in answer to that by Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the Industrial Relations Commission who made public correspondence between Mr. Rockefeller and L. M. Bowers, chairman of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company. Mr. Rockefeller also reviews at length incidents in connection with the Colorado strike situation.

Mr. Rockefeller characterizes as false the statement of Chairman Walsh that he (Rockefeller) presumed to dictate letters that went out to the President of the United States and the Governors of states over the signatures of the Governor of Colorado. "These facts," Mr. Rockefeller's statement declares, "as follows: "Last May Governor Ammons sent Major E. J. Boughton, attorney general of Colorado to New York. I never met Major Boughton but he told Mr. Lee (J. Lee) Mr. Rockefeller's representative that Governor Ammons had been disturbed over the misunderstanding of the situation. Mr. Lee prevailed in the Eastern States concerning many phases of the Colorado strike. Major Boughton told Mr. Lee if he had in mind any effective way of getting the facts before the President and the Governors, one method would be for the Governor to write a letter to the President of the United States and to his fellow Governors in other states setting forth the situation as Governor Ammons saw it."

Made Draft of Letter. "To get the matter into shape for consideration Major Boughton asked Mr. Lee to make his suggestion concrete by preparing a draft of the kind of letter which he had in mind. As a basis for the preparation of this draft Major Boughton said that Mr. Lee made a memorandum of his own view of the situation. The memorandum written by me and referred to in one of my letters as having sent by me to Mr. Lee was nothing more than a rough draft of a statement concerning the situation which I had drawn up, in answer to a statement which had appeared in the press, but had never used.

"The memorandum says that for this statement reference is made to a report to the commanding general of the Colorado militia under date of May 2, 1914. "The memorandum then declares that there was but one child shot in this engagement and that was by a stray bullet and the two women and 11 children who met the death in a pit underneath the floor of one of the tents, were smothered. "The memorandum refers to an article (Continued on Page Eight.)

GERMANY MAY LIFT THE BAN ON POTASH SALTS

Negotiations With United States Bearing Fruit.

Potash Will Be Shipped to the Department of Agriculture and Distributed Under Supervision of That Department.

Berlin, April 25 (via London).—Negotiations with the United States for the removal of the German prohibition on the exportation of potash salts have reached a stage where a successful solution seems probable. Germany some time ago interrupted potash shipments to the United States until satisfactory guarantees were arranged that they would not be used in the manufacture of ammunition for the Allies.

The German proposal which seems to be capable of acceptance by the United States is that potash exported in exchange for cotton cargoes be consigned to the Department of Agriculture at Washington under a guarantee that it will be used solely for the purpose of fertilizers and that its distribution be supervised by inspectors who would see that none of it fell into the hands of powder manufacturers as it is charged has been the case of rubber imports from Great Britain.

DANIELS DETAILS THE WORK IN THE NAVY DURING LAST TWO YEARS UNDER WILSON

Secretary of the Navy Writes in Reply to Request of President Garfield, of Williams College, for Material to Meet the Statements That the United States is Unprepared for Military Emergencies at This Time.

Washington, April 25.— Secretary Daniels tonight made public a letter he has written to President Garfield, of Williams College, detailing the work in the navy during the last two years. Mr. Daniels wrote in reply to Mr. Garfield's request for material to meet statements that the United States is unprepared for military emergencies.

The letter follows: "My dear President Garfield: "I am in receipt of your recent favor, asking for an authoritative statement, concerning the present status of the navy equipment of the United States, and take pleasure in complying with your request as far as is compatible. "There are now in active service, fully commissioned, 225 vessels of all characters, which is 36 more than were fully commissioned when I became Secretary. There are also 101 vessels of various types, in reserve and ordinary and un-commissioned, capable of rendering service in war. We have under construction and authorized 77 vessels (8 dreadnaughts, 23 destroyers, 38 submarines and 7 auxiliaries) as well as 54 vessels (5 dreadnaughts, 14 destroyers, 23 submarines, 3 gunboats and 9 auxiliaries) which were under construction on March 1, 1913.

"The vessels enumerated, those in active service and those in reserve, are supplied with munitions of war. No navy makes public the quantity of ammunition and torpedoes, mines and other implements of naval warfare which it keeps ready. It may be said, however, that within the last two years the quantity of all has been steadily and greatly increased. For example, we have increased the number of mines, on hand and in process of manufacture, by 24 per cent. With reference to torpedoes, the increase in the last two years has been 90 per cent. By the enlargement of the naval powder factory, we shall soon be able to almost double its former capacity, and like enlargement of the torpedo works and the equipment of a plant to construct mines will further increase, at decreased cost, the quantity of such stock, and the possession of these plants in times of emergency will enable the Department to be in a better state of preparedness as regards the supply of ammunition, than ever before.

"The personnel of the Navy is at present composed of 4,355 line, staff and warrant officers, and 53,171 enlisted men. The increase in the number of officers is dependent almost entirely upon the output of the Naval Academy, admission to which is restricted by statute. The number of enlisted men also is restricted, and the Navy is today rearing to the maximum strength allowed. There are now with the colors 5,824 more men, an increase of 12 per cent, than there were on March 1, 1914.

"My professional training as a journalist has always inclined me to a conviction that any officer, within the prescribed limits recognized in the Navy, should feel free to express his opinion in regard to matters in the service; and there is not an officer who would command a ship today who could not say that his ship, without or within, was not as good as it was two years ago, or that the officers who command it and the crews who man it, are not as thoroughly disciplined, sober, loyal and efficient as they were two years ago, or as they ever had been.

"The Atlantic fleet has just returned from Guantanamo, where it has for many years held its annual maneuvers. This year more battleships and destroyers have participated in the maneuvers, and for a longer period, than ever before.

"Under the direction of Admiral Fletcher, upon plans evolved at the Naval War College and approved by the Department, the fleet has been trained in tactics to try out its efficiency and readiness. All reports tell of the enthusiasm of officers and men in this practice and the splendid record made by the ships. The fleet is now in Tampa Sound and on the Southern Drill Grounds, where it will be busy in target practice until May, when it moves to New York for a week's well-earned leave. There will come the review at New York, followed by maneuvers in Narragansett Bay region, and finally the review in Hampton Roads prior to sailing through the Panama Canal to the Pacific, en route to the Exposition at San Francisco.

"These spring practices followed close upon the heels of valuable maneuvers and tactics in October, November and December last. This was indeed strenuous practice, but it is the way the Navy is kept fit and ready, and the now Admiral in command of the Fleet and the Department planned such extensive evolutions because he was sure that the Navy can be always prepared in practice and practice and then more practice. This simple statement of the operations of the fleet since October is one of the best answers to your question as to the Navy's preparedness. The necessity of keeping ships in Mexico last year denied Admiral Badger the opportunity for as long practice as he had wisely planned, but the steady improvement of the fleet, Vera Cruz demanded and exacted unyielding service to which the fleet responded with an alacrity and readiness which amply justify the faith of the country that there exists today no more efficient institution than the United States Navy. Some critics have said the efficiency of the fleet was reduced by reason of going to Vera Cruz. To our regret, certain maneuvers and target practice were necessarily omitted. The emergency, however, notwithstanding a year of stress and strain was of far greater value in one important respect than the well-planned routine, because it gave a demonstration of the readiness of the Navy in every Department, afloat, ashore and on land, in adjusting itself to entirely new and unexpected situations, as well as its remarkable adaptability in handling every problem presented to it.

"It must be conceded by all that the best school of preparation for war is war itself, and it was almost under this condition that our fleet acted in preceding almost in a day to Mexican waters. The stay at Vera Cruz, however, did not prevent practice, for the ships individually or in divisions, were engaged in a great part of the time held tactical maneuvers, torpedo-practice, practice and sub-caliber drills, in preparation for target practice.

JAPANESE PUBLIC BACKS GOVERNMENT

Widespread Approval of Demands Made Upon China.

IS WORD FROM TOKIO

Motive of Japan is Declared to Be for Permanent Peace in the Orient—Patience Sorely Tried by Action of China.

Tokio, April 25.—The government's firm attitude in pressing its demands on China is meeting with widespread approval in Japan and public opinion is manifesting itself with increasing force in this direction.

Although parliament is not in session many members of the national legislature are lending their support to the government. One hundred members placed themselves on record today as favoring Japan's demands. They laid special emphasis on the demands for railway and mining concessions and provisional supervision over financial, political and military affairs of Eastern Mongolia. "Asserting that Japan is actuated by a desire to bring about permanent peace in the Orient, the legislators urged the government to proceed firmly with its programme. "The press calls on the nation to present a united front and declares that the outcome depends entirely on China. As one newspaper put it "China has tried our patience to the last limit and has employed every device to involve other powers." Baron Kato, the foreign minister today told the parliamentary association that the government will not take such measures as would fully satisfy the nation. (Continued on Page Three.)