

THE WEATHER

Probably light local rains Wednesday; Thursday fair.

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GERMANS DRIVE FORWARD IN FLANDERS

THREE IMPORTANT STRATEGIC TOWNS TAKEN FROM BRITISH FOLLOWING BITTER STRUGGLES

Bailleul, Wulverghem and Wytshate Added to Enemy Captures in Flanders.

MESSINES RIDGE STORMED

British Hold Their Own Until Swamped by Fresh Masses of German Troops.

MERVELLERS STILL HELD

Counter Attacks by Haig's Men "Must" Be Expected.

(Associated Press War Summary.)

Germany's mighty effort on the battlefields of Flanders has won new successes. According to the latest reports, the important strategic towns of Bailleul, Wulverghem and Wytshate are in German hands, and more important still, the Teutons have carried a large part of Messines ridge by storm.

Struggles Most Bitter.

Probably there has been no more bitter struggle during the war than that waged along the battle line through the towns of Bailleul, Neuve Eglise, Wulverghem and Wytshate. Neuve Eglise was taken Monday but Bailleul held out until fresh masses of German troops were hurled into the fray and charged repeatedly on the tired defenders. The same story might be said of Wulverghem and Wytshate, where the Teutons have been frightful in their intentions.

Germans Widening Salient.

The Germans have not attempted to advance their wedge further into the British line for no new attacks on Merrivillers and further west have been reported. They have devoted their sole attention to the work of widening at the salient and striking at Messines, ridge and the railroad running about six miles north of Bailleul. Messines ridge is the key to the Ypres sector and its position will give the Germans a commanding position in starting a new drive.

British in Serious Flight.

The successes of the Germans in the last day have an important bearing on the campaign on the northern battlefront. If they are continued there must be a British retirement from Ypres and possibly for some distance further south while cutting of the railroad passing through Hazebrouck would be still more serious for the British.

Counter-Attacks Probable.

So important are the points won by the Germans that the British must be expected to counter-attack at once in an effort to sweep the invaders back into the lowlands once more. All accounts of the battle along this line speak of the small British forces which succeeded in withstanding the attacks by heavy formations of Teutons which were brought up fresh for the assault.

British Have Higher Ground.

There is higher ground just to the north of Bailleul and Neuve Eglise, from which the British can still conduct a terrific defense. Merrivillers is still standing firm in spite of terrific attacks, while along the southern side of the salient there have been no engagements reported. The same conditions hold true in the sector before Amiens, where there have been only零星 fighting.

Raiding Operations in which both sides have taken the initiative are reported from the French front in the Champagne.

Berlin Claims American Defeat.

In spite of the reports from the American front that German attacks there have been utter failures, a report from Berlin via Amsterdam says that the American positions near St. Mihiel were taken by storm by the Germans, who held them against determined counter-attacks. It is probable that the German report deals with the battle in which the Americans administered a sound beating to special shock troops brought up by the Germans to take the American positions.

The Germans in Finland are advancing east of Helsinki and are encountering little if any resistance.

Ten German Trawlers Sunk.

Ten German trawlers have been sunk in the Kattegat (the narrow strait between Jutland and Norway) by a British fleet. The survivors of the trawlers were rescued.

HAIG ANNOUNCES LOSS OF TWO TOWNS TO THE ENEMY

London, April 16.—Field Marshal Haig in his official report tonight announced the occupation by the Germans of both Wytshate and Spanbroekmolen. The report says: "Severe fighting has been taking place today on the front from Meteren to Wytshate. At dawn the enemy renewed his attacks in strength in the (Continued on Page Two.)"

Chas. M. Schwab Chosen to Put Ship Program Through

German Long-Range Gun Continues to Hurtle into the City of Paris

Paris, April 16.—Thirteen persons were killed and 45 wounded in yesterday's long-range bombardment of Paris.

Paris, April 16.—Shells from the long-range German guns killed one woman and wounded one woman and one man in the Paris district last night, according to an official issued today.

One shell damaged an electricity conduit in a street while another demolished a garbage cart. One of the missiles fell on a wood chopping works, but found no victims.

The house which was struck by a aerial torpedo dropped from a Gotha airplane during a raid on Paris last Friday now has been explored. The body of an elderly widow was found and then portions of the limbs of a man, a woman and a child were discovered in the wreckage. The bombardment of the Paris today.

WOUNDS FAIL TO DETER AMERICANS

Soldiers in Hospital in Good Spirits and Anxious to Get Back at the Boches.

GIVEN BEST POSSIBLE CARE

Wounded Corporal Who Refused Assistance of a Comrade Is Later Found Propped Up In Shell Hole Throwing Grenades.

With the American Army in France, April 16.—(By The Associated Press)—Americans wounded in last week's fighting northwest of Toul have been taken to comfortable quarters in a large evacuation hospital. They are being provided with the best treatment possible and every effort is being made to relieve their pain and provide comfort and recreation for them. All the boys are in good spirits and anxious to get back to the front line to join their comrades.

"We are out of luck for a little while," said a western Massachusetts private today, "but we'll be all right soon and mighty glad to get another crack at the Boche for the injury he done us."

The men are loud in praise of one of their sergeants who held out against a superior force of the enemy, killing four before he himself was shot in the head.

The spirit of comradeship between the soldiers has manifested itself scores of times, many of the boys braving the dangers of shell fire and machine gun bullets in order to assist chums who are unable to help themselves. One corporal, alone in a shell hole, attacked three Germans, killing two and wounded one. He was then hit by a piece of shrapnel in the leg. One of his comrades started to assist him to the rear, but he refused the proffered assistance, saying: "Leave me alone and go back and drive those Germans back to their trenches."

The companion left the corporal but when he returned a few minutes later he found the wounded man propped up in a shell hole and throwing hand grenades into the enemy trenches.

MARYLAND COAL MINERS WILL RETURN TO WORK

Washington, April 16.—Striking coal miners in the Georges Creek and upper Potomac fields of Maryland will return to work tomorrow, William Diamond, president of the Maryland district of the miners union, announced here tonight after a day of conferences with government officials.

The men struck, Mr. Diamond said, in protest against inaccurate scales used by the operators in weighing coal as a basis for paying the miners for their work.

Minister Dies Suddenly.

New York, April 16.—The Rev. Dr. J. W. McGruder, a Methodist minister of Baltimore, died suddenly today while in a telephone booth at the Harvard club. Death was due to heart disease.

Steelmaker and Shipbuilder Named Director General of Fleet Corporation.

MR. PIEZ STEPS ASIDE

Schwab Given Free Hand to Supervise and Direct Work of Turning Out the Ships.

NO FRICTION THIS TIME

Shipping Board Itself Suggested Expert Builder.

Washington, April 16.—The building of the great merchant marine which will transport America's men and resources to the battle front was entrusted today by the shipping board to Charles M. Schwab, steel maker and shipbuilder, who becomes director general of the emergency fleet corporation with unlimited powers to put through the vast building program already underway.

"Mr. Schwab will have complete supervision and direction of the work of superintending and building," said an official announcement from the White House after Mr. Schwab had been there to confer with President Wilson in company with Chairman Hurley of the shipping board; Charles Piez, vice-president and general manager of the fleet corporation, and Bainbridge Colby, a member of the board.

Control of policies, which includes decisions as to the number, size and character of ships to be built with the millions appropriated by congress still will rest with the shipping board. Mr. Piez, at his own suggestion, relinquishes the position of general manager of the fleet corporation, which is abolished, to give Mr. Schwab a free hand. Mr. Hurley remains chairman of the board and president of the fleet corporation in charge of policies; Mr. Piez continues as vice-president of the board, attending to administrative details of construction, including the placing of contracts, and Mr. Schwab will organize and carry forward the work of putting the ships into the water.

Mr. Schwab is the fifth man to be put in charge of the shipping board's building program but his appointment was attended by none of the friction which marked some of the previous changes in management. The suggestion for the appointment of a practical builder of national prominence came this time from the shipping board itself and Mr. Hurley chose Mr. Schwab.

Mr. Schwab was in Washington all last Sunday conferring with Mr. Hurley, Mr. Piez and others. Last night Mr. Hurley was at the White House for more than an hour outlining the steps proposed to President Wilson.

(Continued on Page Two.)

BOLO PASHA, TRAITOR TO FRANCE, IS PUT TO DEATH

Paris, April 17.—Bolo Pasha has been executed at Vincennes.

Paul Bolo, whose career has been closed by the French government, was born in Marseilles.

He was identified in several enterprises which failed and then he drifted to Paris where, in 1894, he was convicted of abuse of confidence and swindling. He later went to Valencia, Spain, where he conducted a cafe which was frequented by the French colony. In 1903 he married a widow who had an annual income of 70,000 francs and at once enlarged his field of activities, becoming an agent for champagne and other wine.

Just before the war broke out in 1914, Bolo entered into a new phase of work which took him to Egypt, where he met Abbas Hilmi, then the khedive, for whom he became a trusted agent in the exploitation of land owned by the khedive and for the protection of the khedive's interest in the Suez canal and in Egypt in the event that England should repudiate Abbas Hilmi. From the khedive, Bolo received the title of Pasha.

After the flight of Abbas Hilmi to Switzerland in 1915, Bolo met him at Zurich in company with the then German foreign minister, Gottlieb Jagow, and an arrangement was made to turn

TOTAL SUBSCRIBED TO LIBERTY LOAN NOW \$829,606,100

To Reach Three Billion in 16 Remaining Days \$120,000,000 a Day Must Be Raised.

NO CHECK IN STAMP SALES

Every County in the States of Oregon and Iowa Has Subscribed Full Quota.

Washington, April 16.—Nine days of Liberty loan campaigning have brought \$829,606,100 subscriptions into the hands of banks and trust companies throughout the country and \$2,170,000,000 remains to be raised in the sixteen remaining working days before May 4 if the three billion dollar minimum is to be reached. This means an average of \$120,000,000 for each day, including Sundays. The rate in the past has been lower, although today's reports covering yesterday's business added \$137,004,300 to the total.

The Liberty loan drive is having no depressing effect on war saving stamp sales and later a stimulation of sales of the smaller securities is looked for. About \$2,000,000 a day is reaching the treasury from sale of savings stamps.

The Richmond district has subscribed \$13,377,750, which is 14 per cent of its quota. The St. Louis Federal Reserve district continues to lead in proportion of total quota subscribed, with 55 per cent, and the New York district holds first place in aggregate of subscriptions with \$25,982,100. The Atlanta district is last on the list, but reports from there indicate that many communities have started campaigns late.

Managers for the St. Louis district attribute success there mainly to the large number of individual subscribers. Oregon and Iowa, which have been contesting for the honor of being the first state to subscribe its full quota, today opened a new phase of rivalry by reporting almost simultaneously that they had reached their goal.

BONDS ABSORBED LARGELY BY PUBLIC; BANK HOLDINGS SMALL

Washington, April 16.—Government bonds of the first and second Liberty loans have been absorbed largely by the public and comparatively few remain in the hands of banks. This was shown today by a report of Comptroller of the Currency Williams that on March 4, the date of the last bank call, national banks held \$433,733,000 of Liberty bonds, or about 7 per cent of the total amount issued up to that time. In addition \$229,684,000 had been loaned on Liberty bonds.

These figures do not take into account the bond holdings of the 2,000 state banks and trust companies. The holdings are believed to be about the same proportionately as those of national banks.

BAKER, BACK AT HIS DESK, IS PREPARED TO EXPEDITE AMERICA'S WAR PROGRAM

Germany Has a New Job in Settling Turko-Bulgarian Disputes Over Boundaries

Washington, April 16.—Spills of war have given rise to serious boundary disputes between Turkey and Bulgaria which Germany is undertaking to smooth away to prevent a rupture between her vassal allies. Her dispatch from Switzerland today says: "Herr Helfferich has returned to Berlin coming from great headquarters where he held a long conference dealt with the differences Hindenburg, Von Ludendorff and the chancellor. It is said the conference dealt with the differences which have arisen between Bulgaria and Turkey on the subject of the boundary of their common frontier.

"The Turks desire compensation for the enlargement which Bulgaria will procure through the Dobruja and they demand that the former restore to them the strip of her territory which she obtained in September, 1915, as the price of her entry into the war. The Bulgarians object.

SENATE DISPOSES OF SABOTAGE BILL

Provides Heavy Penalties For Those Interfering With American War Industry.

30 YEARS; FINE OF \$10,000

Provisions Designed to Punish Strikers on War Contracts Eliminated—Lengthy Debate Centers on This Question.

Washington, April 16.—The sabotage bill, carrying penalties of 30 years imprisonment and fines of \$10,000 for injuring war materials or interfering with war industry, was made ready for the president's signature today when the Senate accepted a conference report eliminating provisions designed to punish strikers on war contracts.

The conference report was adopted after length debate, during which Senator Sherman, of Illinois, and McCumber of North Dakota, asserted that the labor situation is getting beyond the control of labor leaders and that congress should take action.

Senator Hollis of New Hampshire defended the loyalty of labor, declaring strikes in this country today are "inconsiderable" and said the passage of legislation designed to prevent peaceful strikes would not tend to increase labor's efficiency.

"You can't make men work by passing laws," Senator Hollis said. "I concur in the opinion of President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor that if congress passes a law preventing peaceful strikes, that such a law cannot be enforced."

Senator McCumber said that never has there been so many strikes in the history of the country as since the United States entered the war, although during that period labor has been better treated and received higher wages than ever before.

Senator Hardwick of Georgia said Congress ought to prohibit strikes of workers engaged in the manufacture of war necessities and at the same time insure fair treatment for labor.

THREE AVIATORS KILLED

Houston, Tex., April 16.—Three aviators, Lieut. Roland J. Winterton, of South Boston, Mass., Lieut. Leo John Nugent, Washburn, Iowa, and Cadet Forest Dean Jones, Worcester, Mass., were killed and Cadet Maurice Berry, seriously injured in two air accidents at Ellington field (American) here today. A third accident occurred late today but there were no fatalities.

Took Rabbit Census. Barne, April 16.—A census of all the tame rabbits in the German empire was taken by order of the authorities on March 1, owing to the increasing importance of rabbit skins for army requirements.

Returns From Abroad With Personal Knowledge of Conditions at the Front.

VISITED THREE COUNTRIES Secretary Proud of the Achievements of the American and Allied Troops.

IS CONFIDENT OF FUTURE Any Plans of Gen. Foch Will be Told to President Only.

Washington, April 16.—Steeled to the work ahead of him by personal knowledge of conditions at the battlefronts in Europe Secretary Baker returned to his desk at the war department tonight from his trip abroad, prepared to concentrate every energy on expediting the movement of American fighting men to France.

The war secretary, it is understood, is not inclined to underestimate the peril that further German successes in the present terrific onslaughts against the allied line might involve. There is no doubt, however, that he believes adequate measures to checkmate the German effort will come out of the pooling of all allied and American resources under command of Gen. Foch, the impressive French commander-in-chief.

"On his arrival early today at an Atlantic port, Mr. Baker authorized this statement: 'I return with a sense of pride and confidence at the achievements of the United States army and its troops that would justify many trips across the water.'

Whatever direct information the war secretary may have as to the plans of Gen. Foch will be for the ear of President Wilson alone.

There have been many reports that Mr. Baker went to Europe for the purpose of urging unification of all allied war plans and for the purpose of increasing the number of American troops that would justify many trips across the water.

During his trip, Mr. Baker visited England, France and Italy and saw the battle fronts all along the line. He has been in the American front line trenches under fire, once a German shell exploded close to his automobile and on another occasion he stood in the window of a battered building behind the allied lines to watch high power missiles come howling to tear great craters in a field less than a hundred yards away.

When he reached France, the war secretary placed himself in the position of an American soldier. He arrived at the goal of his ambition "over there." He wanted to know exactly what preparations had been made for the care of the men from the front.

Beginning at the debarkation ports, Mr. Baker and his party under the guidance of Gen. Pershing's officers followed the life of an American soldier in a step by step until they arrived in an advanced listening post in front of the American lines.

The whole vast project of American operations was mapped out before the secretary. It represents one of the greatest undertakings any nation has ever engaged in and even to the man under whose hands have passed all the plans for this war, it was of the greatest importance and the thorough, workmanlike way in which Gen. Pershing and his officers are doing their great job.

Mr. Baker returned more than ever confident of the capacity and judgment of General Pershing for the great burden of responsibility he is bearing. The American commander is said to be carrying step fully with what has gone forward in his absence. He is expected, however, to face his problems with a new perspective and officials here anticipate that the result will be shown in the nature of his decisions for a man filled with the spirit of the army in France there is no room for petty obstacles or consideration in the job ahead.

Daniels in Air Flight. Washington, April 16.—Secretary Daniels was a passenger today with Lieutenant Doherty, a naval aviator, in a 20-minute flight over the capital. A service hydro-airplane was used.

WILMINGTON SURE TO GET BIG YARD FOR STEEL SHIPS

Chairman Hurley Deliberating on Contracts That Would Mean Millions to Port.

HIGH AUTHORITY SAYS SO Contractors Involved Have Convicted Government of Their Financial Ability.

By PARKER R. ANDERSON. Washington, April 16.—The Wilmington correspondent of The Star is reliably informed tonight that Wilmington is certain to get another big ship yard. The proposition now being deliberated upon by Edwin N. Hurley, chairman of the shipping board, contemplates the building of a large number of steel ships by private contractors. It is said an official announcement to this effect will be made within the next week.

Wilmington's Fine Chance. It was learned today that Wilmington and Charleston are the only cities now being seriously considered for these ships. It is said that Charleston has fallen down miserably upon all propositions made and that it is as certain as anything can be that the big contract will go to Wilmington.

It will mean that millions of dollars will be spent at the port city and would be a boost for the entire eastern section of the state.

News is Authentic. While your correspondent is not at liberty to disclose the name of the man who vouches for the fact that Wilmington is to have another ship yard, it is a violation of no confidence to say that he is a man high in official ranks in the shipping board and his word is taken as law around these quarters. It is but fair to state, too, that the men who will be given the contracts for these ships have received no political assistance from North Carolina. If they get the contract, it will come to them because they have been able to demonstrate to the shipping board that they have the proper organization and sufficient financial backing.

Wilmington Spirit Pleases. The spirit of co-operation shown by the people of Wilmington to help the government build ships by doing every in their power to make the city attractive, has also gone a long way to make the members of the shipping board look with favor upon North Carolina's coast city as a permanent shipbuilding center.

IRISH HOME RULE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED

Government to Use Every Pressure to Pass It.

Manpower Bill, Which Would Extend Conscriptio to Ireland, Passes the Third Reading in the House of Commons.

London, April 16.—George N. Barnes, labor member of the British war cabinet without portfolio, announced in the house of commons today that the government intended to introduce a home rule bill immediately and would use every pressure to pass it.

Mr. Barnes announced that the Lloyd-George government would resign if the house of lords refused to pass the new home rule bill.

Premier Lloyd-George, said in the house of commons today that it was of the greatest importance at the moment America was rendering the allies great aid on the battle fields that Great Britain should satisfy American opinion. Nothing would tend more to assure the greatest measure of American assistance.

London, April 16.—The third reading of the government's manpower bill was carried tonight by a vote of 301 to 103.

In the report stage of the manpower bill a service hydro-airplane was used.

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