

HARD FIGHTING ON EAST FRONT

Petrograd Claims Success in Offensive Campaign Along Almost Entire Eastern Battle Front.

VIENNA REPORT TELLS OF RUSSIAN REPULSE

Turks Driven Out of Trans-Caucasia—French and German Airmen Active in the West.

London, April 3.—Hard fighting is again going on along the whole eastern front, the Russians pushing the offensive in nearly every district, especially in North Poland and in the Carpathians passes. Judging from Petrograd reports the Russians generally are being successful; but Vienna declares that the Austrians repulsed Russian attacks on the Austrian frontier between the Pruth and the Dniester river, fighting against numerically superior forces. The Vienna dispatch says that in this fighting the enemy everywhere were forced to retreat; and also claims that in Poland and western Galicia a Russian attack miscarried on the lower Nida, under the Austrian artillery fire.

There has been a stubborn battle along the Niemen front and the Russians claim to have pushed the Germans back with heavy losses, approaching the German positions to the east of the Pilwiszki-Suwalki line.

The Petrograd report refers to desperate fighting in the Carpathians, especially in the Uzsok pass vicinity, in which the Russian offensive was pursued with success. It is said that the Russians carried an important range of fortified heights, after a deadly bayonet fight, Petrograd tells of repulsing a number of Austrian counter-attacks in the region west of the railroad to Mezolaboroz, where the Austrians had concentrated. The Turks, Petrograd declares, have been wholly driven from Trans-Caucasia and that Russians now have possession of the Black sea coast as far as Arkhava.

There is little important fighting on the western front German and French aviators are active and the French have brought down three German airmen recently. French aviators dropped 33 bombs on the barracks, aeroplane hangars and railway station at Vignelles in the Woevre district. These aviators had close calls but returned safely to the French lines.

German Statement.

Berlin, April 3, via London, 1:50 p. m.—The war office has made the following announcement:

"Western theater of war: Between the Meuse and the Moselle heavy artillery fighting has taken place. Infantry fighting near and in the forest of Le Preire continued the whole night. West of the forest of Le Preire French infantry attacks broke down under our fire. In our counter attacks we inflicted a heavy loss upon the enemy and drove him back into his old position. The French are now in possession of only two block houses in the forest near our most advanced positions.

"In the eastern theater of war the situation is unchanged."

"HEAP BIG" BALL PLAYERS ARE HERE

Mountaineers Arrived Last Night, Athletics Today—Cleveland Tomorrow.

HARRY HARTSELL WITH THE CLEVELAND CLUB

Snow Interfered Today, But It Is Hoped That Game Can Be Staged Next Monday.

Due to "too much weather," the scheduled game for this afternoon between the Mountaineers and the Philadelphia Athletics was called off and the opening game will occur Monday at Oates park with Athletics will meet the Cleveland American Association team. The snow this morning following that of last night and the chilly state of the atmosphere caused the game to be called off early this morning, after which Manager Corbett led his team to the gymnasium of the Y. M. C. A. for some light practice.

The Mountaineers, 18 strong, arrived here last night from Spartanburg, where they have been for the past 10 days engaging in their spring training. Those in the party arriving last night were Manager Corbett, pitchers Aiken, Carroll, Kelly, Ostermeyer, Ferris and Fortune; infielders Bumb, Howard, Bradshaw, Heck, Jackson and Roth; and outfielders Perritt, Youngderr, Fenton and Wasson.

A good crowd saw the workout at the Y. M. C. A. this morning and seemed pleased with the men selected by Manager Corbett. Practically all that was done this morning was to toss the ball around, all the members of the squad taking part in the practice.

The Philadelphia Athletics are due to arrive here this afternoon coming from Columbia. The party will be quartered at the Swannanoa-Berkeley hotel on Biltmore avenue and will be composed of 18 players. The squad of the Athletics has been equally divided, one part being led by Connie Mack and the other by Captain Harry Davis, the latter team appearing in Asheville. The squad was divided in such a manner that each part would have a number of stars with it, however, the aggregation here seems to include all those of prominence on the club. Those who will be in this city are Captain Davis, players, McConnell, Strunk, Murphy, Davies, Hall, Ohl, Titman, Ebling, Lepp, McAvoy, Pennek, Brewer, Gardner, Hamilton, Sherman and "Nip" LaJole. As will be seen, there is a number of stars of magnitude with the team and all will come in a goodly portion of notes from the fans of the city. It is likely that the visiting team will spend its time in light practice this afternoon and tomorrow will take a full day of rest. Numerous sightseeing parties will likely be arranged by the visitors.

Cleveland Arrives Sunday.

The Cleveland American Association team is scheduled to arrive here tomorrow night at 8:15 o'clock from Macon. They will also put up at the Swannanoa-Berkeley and the party includes Mr. and Mrs. Galer, Manager Knight, Secretary McAllister and players Pesold, Kirke, Osborne, Nixon, Evans, Shestak, Hillyard, Carter, James, Collamore, Bates, Gardner, Mills, Baessler, Dillinger, Hartzell, Southworth and Benton. This is the full squad of the Clevelanders and includes some of the very best of the Association league players. Particular interest is held in the appearance of Harry Hartsell, a local boy, with the visitors, who is trying for a place on the infield works. Practically all of the players on the team have seen service in the major league and the team ranks right along with the big performers.

With the advent of the two clubs, the Athletics and Cleveland, the city will hold more professional ball players than at any other time in its history. With the Mountaineers here, there will be three professional ball clubs here at the same time. This will be the first visit of the Cleveland team to Asheville and assurances have been received from those in authority with the team that all the players are looking forward with eager anticipation to their stay in Asheville.

Definite assurance was received here several days ago from Captain Harry Davis of the Athletics that he would be on hand tonight at the Y. M. C. A. to present the cups to the winners in the basketball leagues and in the Bible class leagues. Plans have been completed for the "open-house" meeting tonight at the Y. M. C. A. and everything is in readiness to give the boys a real treat. The meeting will start at 7:30 o'clock and many items of interest appear on the program of the evening.

STORM INJURES WIRES TRAFFIC

Centering in Eastern Part of State, Storm Does Considerable Damage—Communication Interrupted.

REPORT OF WEATHER MAN DISSATISFYING

Local Office Forecasts Warmer Tomorrow But Weather Official Doubts if Prediction Will Stand.

Raleigh, April 3.—A storm, central in the eastern part of this state, did some damage last night and this morning. Ice, snow, wind and rain was reported from many sections, not only from this, but from adjoining states. As usual the telephone and telegraph companies suffered most, and their patrons have been inconvenienced. Traffic has been delayed on a number of the railroad lines. Remarkably low temperatures have prevailed in some sections for this season. There is, however, a promise of clearing for Easter, and it will no doubt be warmer.

Better Weather Promised?

Those who have planned to parade forth tomorrow in glad Easter attire, may take heart, despite the weather conditions today, for the local United States weather bureau has forecasted that tonight will be cloudy with slightly freezing temperature but tomorrow will be fair and warmer.

The weather man, however, admitted, (confidentially), that he feared the forecast of the local bureau might not hold good for tomorrow, for he believed that the terrific snowstorm, with snow falling this morning in Wilmington, may affect Asheville tomorrow, as it seemed to be moving west. Raleigh has been cut off from this section of the state all the morning, owing to the storm.

The local branch of the Postal Telegraph company stated today that all of their connections in the eastern part of the state have been put out of commission by the storm, although no local trouble has been experienced by the company.

Snow fell in Asheville again this morning, although no records were shattered for the month of April; for on April 20, 1904, three inches of snow fell here. The local weather bureau reported that three-tenths of an inch of snow fell here today, and this was equalled on April 7, 1905, and on the day before that two-tenths of an inch fell. On April 14 and 20 of 1913 traces of snow fell in Asheville, although not enough to say that it snowed during the month.

BUSINESS REVIVING IN SHEET METAL FACTORIES

Pittsburg, Pa., April 3.—Business is reviving in the sheet and tin plate mills throughout the country according to John Williams, president of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, here on a visit to mill towns in the district. He said, however, that very few plants were working on war contracts, the business being mostly for domestic consumers.

Mr. Williams credited the improved condition to a revival which has been coming slowly for months, but more particularly to the acceptance by the workmen of the reduced scale of wages adopted last week.

COMMENCEMENT MARS HILL COLLEGE IN MAY

The commencement exercises of Mars Hill college are announced for May 5, 6, and 7. The commencement address will be delivered by Rev. Dr. Calvin B. Walker, pastor of the First Baptist church of this city. The enrollment at the college this year has been unusually large, totaling 415, and those acquainted with the work say it has been very satisfactory. Madison county is represented at the college by 192 students while 251 come from 51 counties and 23 from other states. Suncombe county sent 47 students to Mars Hill, and Wake came next with 13. The enrollment includes 22 ministerial students.

The Womens' Missionary society of Central Methodist church will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the lecture room of the church. All members are urged to be present and visitors are welcome to all meetings of the society.

W. INDIAN SUGAR WORKERS STRIKE

Between 30,000 and 40,000 Native Workers in Porto Rico Stop Work Demanding Increase of Wages.

LARGE FIELDS OF THE SUGAR CANE BURNED

Open Spirit of Anti-Americanism Prevails on Island According to Reverend Frederick Warden.

New York, April 3.—Between 30,000 and 40,000 native workers in the sugar fields of Porto Rico recently went on strike for a wage increase from fifty to seventy-five cents a day, according to J. C. Bills, chief of the bureau of labor of the Porto Rican government, who arrived here yesterday on the Philadelphia. The demands were in process of adjustment for the most part, and the majority of the strikers were back at work when he left the island.

During the strike, Mr. Bills said, large fields of sugar cane were burned. The strike was general, spreading from one plantation to another. The strike was being settled through the efforts of government officials with the co-operation of the planters. No material decrease in the output was noticed, Mr. Bills said, because due to the strike being a strike in increased production.

An open spirit of anti-Americanism exists throughout Porto Rico, according to the Rev. Frederick A. Warden, for eight years in charge of the Protestant Episcopal church in the municipality of San Juan, who was a passenger on the Philadelphia.

"While there is nothing that would resemble even a spirit of open rebellion against American supervision of Porto Rican affairs, there exists, nevertheless, a feeling of anti-Americanism all over the island," Mr. Warden said. "The native population of Porto Rico is fully one hundred years behind the times. While the better class recognizes the benefits of modern business methods tradition prevails to a remarkable degree."

AMERICAN IS KILLED DURING RIOT IN COLON

Soldier Is Dead and Three Injured as Result of General Fight.

Colon, April 2.—Corporal Langton, of the United States coast artillery, was shot and killed and three other American soldiers were injured, one of them seriously, in a riot here yesterday.

The soldiers were engaged in patrol duty in the tenderloin district. The shooting, which resulted in a general fight, was the outgrowth of an argument between a soldier, who is alleged to have been drinking, and a Panama policeman.

Many shots were fired by the Panama police, the civilians and soldiers all being unarmed. Brigadier General Clarence R. Edwards, commander of the American forces in the canal zone, who is here to meet Major General Leonard Wood, commander of the department of the east, immediately took charge and ordered all soldiers from the streets.

The shooting occurred near the ball grounds where a team representing the Fifth United States Infantry was playing the Cristobal nine. Some 2,000 soldiers of the Fifth, Tenth and Twentieth infantry regiments witnessing the game became greatly excited after the shooting. Some missiles were thrown and several persons were injured. The excitement continued until army officials arrived and ordered the men to take trains for their stations.

FREIGHT DERAILMENT NEAR NEWTON TODAY

A freight derailment at Conover, N. C., near Newton, is causing some delay in traffic on the Salisbury division today. Train No. 15, due here at 10:30 o'clock this morning, is delayed about four hours and is expected to arrive at 3 o'clock this afternoon. Train No. 16, leaving Asheville at 6:30 o'clock has been delayed about two hours.

Two or three box cars are reported to have left the track, but no one is reported injured.

THE LIBRARIANS ELECT OFFICERS

The State Library Association Holds Two Days Session in Raleigh—Miss Palmer Chosen President.

RESTAURANT FIGHT AIRED IN LONG TRIAL

Several Citizens of Raleigh Fortify Themselves Against Operation of State's Anti-Jug Law.

(By W. T. Bost.)

Raleigh, April 3.—The North Carolina Library Association after a session of two days adjourned last evening. This was the ninth session of this body.

The program yesterday began at 9:30 o'clock and went through the entire afternoon. In the nature of things the library association lent large, because the city is rash enough to undertake the maintenance of such an institution is a rare municipality. Colleges swell the members of the state organization, however, and Raleigh furnished a considerable portion of the attendance.

For the coming year Miss Mary B. Palmer of Charlotte is elected president; Miss Nan Strudwick of the University, first vice president; Miss Eva Malone of Trinity College, second vice president; Miss Carrie Droughton of Raleigh, assistant librarian in the state library, secretary, and Mrs. Alfred E. Griggs of Durham, treasurer. Miss Annie Petty of the State Normal library, is retiring president.

Fight Aired.

After two solid days, the longest and hardest small case ever tried in the police court here, the trial of George Cross, Joe Eatman and Ernest Horton on the one side and of George L. H. White and Archie Couble on the other, all charged with assault, was terminated yesterday afternoon.

The city court has never used a stenographer before, but one took all the evidence Thursday and yesterday and a record will be made. The prominence of the men engaged in the fight made it an uncommonly interesting trial and half the big men at the local bar appeared.

The fight occurred two weeks ago in Mr. White's restaurant, and the clerk, young Couble, charged the three men indicted with making an assault upon him. They came back with strong evidence to show that it was only a fight between Couble and Cross in which the men were well-matched, received about the same amount of punishment, threw about the same number of salt cellulars at each other and landed substantially the same number of blows. The three defendants, Horton, Cross and Eatman, said that they had simply gone into the White cafe and that while there were insulted by the proprietor and assaulted by his clerk.

The proprietor and his employee declared that they had come into the fight by reason of the rudeness of their patrons and ordered them out. But as insignificant a thing as it appeared to be Justice W. C. Harris had listened to a day and a half of evidence and a half a day of oratory. Prosecuting Attorney B. F. Dixon, W. L. Watson and J. W. Bailey prosecuted Cross, Horton, and Eatman and W. C. Doucass, Clyde A. Douglass and W. S. Snow defended the three men charged with the disorderly conduct, assault with deadly weapon and minor offenses. The defense also prosecuted White and Couble for assault. It was a midshipman's duel for Bailey and Watson who had to fight both state and defense.

Cotten in Prison.

Though Earl Cotten, the thirty-year man in the state's prison was not brought through Raleigh, the prison officials learn that he has been landed from Kentucky into the prison at the state farm again.

Cotten has escaped three times. He is one of the luckiest of the long sprinters, but the most ill-favored of those who make successful starts. He escaped in the late fall from the prison with four others, two of whom have come back. All were long termers.

Warden Sale II.

Warden Thomas P. Sale of the state's prison, is very ill at his room in the big building and has not left it for two and a half weeks.

As preparation against an early dry spell, the city men of this ward made a record at the express offices Wednesday and will have enough to tide them over the first fifteen days.

Elmo Gill, who is as prominent in police circles as the police justice and the chief, had laid in 191 pints when he was exposed. He has surrendered the house and must face trial. The "run" on the express office was expected as a precedent to the half gallon limit put upon receipts and deliveries by the recent general assembly. It was the biggest crowd that has yet received Southern express handouts.

2 U. S. TUGS AT PIER OF EITEL

JOINT HEALTH BOARD PASSED NEW ORDINANCE

Several Matters Discussed by Board and Aldermen at the Meetings Last Night.

The joint board of health, in regular session last night, passed on second reading and final reading the ordinance regulating families suffering from tuberculosis. Mayor J. E. Rankin was authorized to appoint a committee to investigate charity patients, to see whether or not they are worthy and he appointed Drs. A. W. Calloway, E. B. Glenn, W. L. Dunn and City Health Officer Dr. C. V. Reynolds.

In the discussion brought out regarding the sending of charity patients to the Mission hospital, Dr. Reynolds was instructed to send all worthy charity patients to the hospital, at the city's expense until the new addition to the hospital is completed. Dr. Reynolds stated that during the last three weeks he has been compelled to turn down 15 applications for admission to the charity wards. Drs. Dunn and Reynolds took advantage of the opportunity to state that several unjust criticisms had been made of the hospital and that they thought the public ought to know the facts. It was stated that the \$50,000 subscribed by the citizens for the erection of an addition to the institution was mainly for the purpose of building private wards so that the hospital would have a larger income and therefore be able to receive more charity patients.

Following this meeting the board of aldermen held the regular session, and awarded a contract to the Lynchburg Foundry company for putting down the pipe lines from College street to the Grove Park inn.

The following men were appointed to take the place of the men who have refused to serve as judges and registrars in the primary on April 26: Judges—Sixth precinct, W. G. Fartum; Fourth precinct, Caney N. N. Brown; Second precinct, Luke Dixon; Registrars—Third precinct, C. W. Malone; First precinct, W. M. McDowell.

The following building permits were granted: Lowenberg and Rutenberg, business addition at 45 Patton avenue, \$5,000. A. W. Faulkner, garage at 152 Pearson's drive, \$200. J. G. Colvin, one-room and sleeping porch at 95 Woodfin street, \$200. H. Shaub, store at 51 Central avenue, \$500. John A. Campbell, one-room addition to residence on Cumberland avenue, \$500.

Globe Sample company, new front to business establishment on Biltmore avenue, \$1,000.

SEVEN ARE CONVICTED OF SELLING BAD EGGS

Washington, D. C., April 3.—Seven of the men connected with the Western Egg Yolk company and the Excelsior Baking company, so-called, of New Jersey, who were convicted of conspiracy to violate the food and drugs act in the interstate shipment of rotten eggs, have been sentenced in the federal court at Trenton, New Jersey, to terms in prison ranging from three months to a year and a day. Hyman Lewis, Bernard Edelberg, Samuel Edelberg and Morris Sladkus received the latter sentence, Herman Zwicker and Harry Lewites six months each, and Scher Weissman, who was recommended for mercy, three months.

TROUBLES OF THE DAY IN THE POLICE COURT

The following cases were called in Police court this morning:

Alf Snyder, charged with disorderly conduct, was taxed with the costs of the case.

Mattie Knox, colored, charged with an assault on Beate Williams, was found not guilty.

Two "drunks" were up.

Golf Finals Played.

The finals in the golf tournament were played yesterday at the Country Club, and Mrs. J. A. Bryant won the silver cup. H. B. Agar won also a cup which was very beautiful. This afternoon the handicap sweepstakes will be played, and the third round in the series for the trophy offered by the Southern Women's Golf association.

Tie up on Either Side of German Warship—Mission of Tugs Secret—Cruiser Now Provisioned.

GOVERNMENT OFFICERS CONFER WITH CAPTAIN

British Warships Watching at New York Said to Have Joined Allied Ships off Virginia Capes.

Newport News, April 2.—Two United States tugs, one of the navy and one of the army arrived here yesterday afternoon and moored at the pier of the German cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich. One, the Patuxent moored at the stern of the warship and the other, the army tug Rena, tied up on the opposite side of the pier, shortly before the arrival of Collector of Customs Hamilton with a party of officials who boarded the cruiser, coming directly from Norfolk in a launch.

Efforts to ascertain the mission of the tugs and officials were unavailing as United States artillerymen, presenting bayonets, turned back inquirers 50 yards from the entrance to the pier. Collector Hamilton was said to be having a conference with Commander Thierichsen. At the customs house ignorance was expressed of the mission of the government boats. Lieutenant Commander Svartz, United States navy, was among the government officials reported at the pier, assuming charge of the coaling and furnishing supplies to the German ship.

Close scrutiny is still to be kept on the warship by American military forces and the battleship Alabama is still keeping watch in Hampton Roads.

Reports which were current some time ago that German warships may have escaped from European waters to come to the relief of the cities seem to have no definite basis but they are revived by the report from Madrid that the Hamburg-American steamer Macedonia has evaded British cruisers and is making for South American waters with supplies said to be for interned German warships.

The allied ships reported off the Virginia capes now are the Suffolk, the Berwick and the Corona with a French vessel, name unknown. Marine men say they lay on both sides of the channel about 10 miles off by day and about four by night.

New York, April 2.—The two British cruisers which have been watching the entrance of New York harbor for over a month, steamed south Wednesday night, according to incoming pilots. The pilots thought the warships were going to strengthen the squadron of allied warships lying in wait for the German cruiser off the Virginia capes.

Reports are current in marine circles that some of the fleet of German liners tied up at the Hoboken and Brooklyn docks would soon put to sea. Steam is up in all the vessels as it has been since the beginning of the war. To the necessity of maintaining steam so that the ships could put out from the docks in case of fire was attributed the fact that coal has been delivered in small quantities to some of the German ships. Few had any considerable amount of coal, it is said, but at the Brooklyn docks two German liners—the Pisa and the President Grant—are said to be amply supplied with coal.

FRANK BLAKE DRAWS SENTENCE OF 6 MONTHS

Customs officials have been stationed at all the docks where the German ships are tied up with instructions to report any evidence on the part of the vessels to sail without clearance papers.

No application for clearance papers has been made at the customs house on behalf of German vessels.

Frank Blake and B. H. Carter were arraigned in police court this morning charged with keeping whiskey on hand for sale. Carter was found not guilty and Blake received a sentence of six months on the county roads with appeal bond fixed at \$200.

The two men were arrested recently in connection with a consignment of five cases of whiskey, which is said to have been received by Blake at Crugy station. The whiskey, it was claimed, had originally been purchased by Carter, but was consigned to Blake at Crugy station. At the time the whiskey was seized on Broadway, it was thought that Blake was on his way to deliver the whiskey to Carter who lived on Depot street.