

Fair tonight; colder Wednesday.

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SIXTEEN GERMAN FIGHTING SHIPS LOST LAST WEEK IN ACTIONS WITH RUSSIANS IN RIGA GULF

TWO DREADNOUGHTS PUT OUT OF ACTION, PETROGRAD REPORTS

Russian Admiralty Announces That Germans Lost Two Dreadnoughts, One Cruiser, 12 Torpedo Boats and One Transport—Germans Claimed to Have Taken 20,000 Prisoners and 100 Guns.

Sixteen German fighting ships, including two dreadnoughts, were put out of action by the Russians during the actions last week in and around the islands at the head of the gulf of Riga.

Overwhelming superiority of the German naval forces told, however, and the Russians were forced to retire with their units intact, except for the battleship Slava and a large destroyer.

GERMANS MAKE BIG CLAIMS.

Oesel, Moon and Dago islands are now completely in the possession of the Germans, who claim also the capture of 20,000 prisoners, 100 guns and war material.

An unofficial report from Stockholm says that the Germans have gathered a large number of submarines and destroyers in the waters around eastern Denmark in anticipation of an attempt by the entente to force its way into the Baltic to aid the Russians.

Minor operations undertaken by the French and British yesterday from Poesicapele northward to the Houtholst forest were most successful. Heavy casualties were inflicted on the Germans and Field Marshal Hing reports the capture of 200 prisoners.

East of Poesicapele English troops captured strongly fortified buildings and redoubts on a front of about a mile and a half and southeast of the village other appreciable gains were made. From the Ypres-Staden railway to the Houtholst forest the British and French advanced their lines on a two-mile front beyond the southern boundary of the forest.

Berlin officially says that on the Mein-Ypres road southeast of Ypres strong British attacks broke down completely.

The German Losses. Petrograd, Oct. 22 (delayed).—Two German dreadnoughts, one cruiser, twelve torpedo boats and one transport were put out of action by the Russians in the fighting around the islands in the gulf of Riga last week but their ultimate fate is unknown, says an official statement issued tonight by the Russian admiralty.

Admiralty's Statement. The admiralty staff in its review of the fighting says that the Russian units fought excellently against the superiority of the Germans. The statement reads:

"During October 21 important enemy naval forces, together with transports, were sighted by our outposts in the gulf of Riga. In Moon sound the enemy seems to be clearing the water of obstructions which we laid down. There was no naval action during the day, but enemy submarines were discovered in the gulf of Finland.

"As the naval operations in the Baltic seas have now ended, it is possible to review them. The task of our fleet in this region was, with the organization of Moon sound as a base, to prevent any attempts to seize the gulf of Riga and Moon sound. So long as the German fleet only employed in such an operation elements of minor importance as in 1915, namely, two dreadnoughts, our naval forces could cope with them.

"In 1915, although our position in Moon sound was organized incompletely, we repulsed successfully all attacks, and the enemy during three days' possession of the gulf of Riga suffered losses so grave that he was obliged to depart. A similar attempt in 1916 with unimportant forces failed completely.

"In the recent operations the enemy employed the major part of his fleet and his overwhelming superiority enabled him to carry out debarkation rapidly and successfully. Our fleet only was able to do its best to hinder these efforts and to inflict maximum losses. With this object we delivered a series of attacks, using all the naval resources in our possession.

"As a result of these operations the enemy lost through mines, submarine attacks and artillery fire, two dreadnoughts, one cruiser, twelve torpedo boats, one transport and numerous mine sweepers, all of which were put out of action. Their ultimate fate is unknown. We have established the actual loss of only six enemy torpedo boats, two of which were of the small type and were sunk by gunfire in combats or blown up by mines. The wreck of the torpedo boat T-69 is visible on a sand bank in Kasnar bay. Further, our coast batteries sank four enemy torpedo boats.

"Our losses are the ship of the line, Slava and a large torpedo boat destroyer of the Grom type. The efficiency of our other ships has been maintained completely.

German torpedo boats of the T-65 class were built in 1891, displaced 45 tons and had a complement of 16 men. They had 154 feet in length, displaced 1,114 tons. They had a complement of 13,316 tons. She had a complement of 825 men and was 379 feet in length. The Russian destroyers of the Grom type were built in 1914 and displaced 1,114 tons. They had a complement of 93 men and a length of 321 feet.

Pathfinders Report as to Route for Highway. Birmingham, Ala., Oct. 23.—The official route of the Bankhead highway from Atlanta to Memphis will be through Austell, Ga., and Heflin, Aniston and Talladega, Ala., the more southerly of two proposed routes between Atlanta and Birmingham, according to recommendations of the pathfinding committee, just announced by President Plowman, of the Bankhead Highway association.

On the lap west of Birmingham, the highway will continue through Walker and Marion counties, touching the Fayette county line, in Alabama, and thence through Tupelo, Miss., Glenfield, Holly Springs, Victoria and Capleville into Memphis.

Scandinavian Protest Against U-boat Sinking. London, Oct. 23.—A joint Scandinavian protest, it is expected, will be lodged against the German sinking of the pathfinding committee, just announced by President Plowman, of the Bankhead Highway association.

Trying Draft Resisters. Ardmore, Okla., Oct. 23.—It is expected a jury will be obtained in the federal court today for the 170 alleged draft resisters who were arraigned yesterday and pleaded not guilty. Attorneys estimate the trial will require from three to six weeks.

DR. CONDON BEING TRIED FOR MURDER OF PIPER

Defendant in Court Clad in Uniform of Surgeon of U. S. Army

New Brunswick, N. J., Oct. 23.—Clad in the uniform of surgeon of the United States army reserve corps, Dr. William J. Condon, of New Brunswick, was placed on trial here yesterday charged with murder in connection with the death last February of John V. Piper, a student at Rutgers college. Dr. Condon, who entered court accompanied by his young wife, entered a plea of not guilty, after which a jury was quickly chosen.

The prosecutor, in reviewing the circumstances of Piper's death told how he came here from Vermont to take a post-graduate course at Rutgers and among other things tended burnings including Condon's to support himself and his wife and children.

It would be shown, the prosecutor said, that on the night of February 17, Piper was shot while on his rounds not far from Condon's home, that a gunshot was heard at the Condon place, that the body of Piper was concealed in the Condon cellar and later taken by Dr. Condon in his automobile to the swamp where it was found.

The body was removed, the prosecutor charged, on the day Condon left here to go to a medical training camp at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., where he was arrested later.

OHIO WILL VOTE ON THE SUFFRAGE QUESTION

Columbus, O., Oct. 23.—The people of Ohio will vote on a referendum on the presidential suffrage question at the coming November elections, according to a decision handed down by the state supreme court today.

This decision ends a long standing dispute between the suffragists and anti-suffragists regarding the validity of over 70,000 names on the referendum petition circulated last year, the suffragists claiming thousands of these names were fraudulent and many of them repeated on the petitions in several different counties.

A New Member Joins the Taft Family



One of the happiest days in the life of former President Taft was the day of the wedding of his son to Miss Eleanor Kellogg C. Case of Waterbury, Conn., to Sergeant Major Taft, of the United States army. The new member of the Taft family is shown here with her husband and the former president.

GENERAL PETAIN LAUNCHES ATTACK IN AISNE REGION

French Infantry Dashed Forward Along Front of About Three Miles

DE LA MALMAISON IMMEDIATE OBJECT

Taking of This Fort Would Aid in Attack on Laon

What may prove to be an operation of first rate importance was initiated by General Petain early today in the Aisne region northeast of Soissons.

Along a front of approximately three miles the French infantry dashed forward, attacking the salient in the German line which curves about its southwest bastion, the fortress of Laon. Fort De La Malmaison, the German stronghold, which barred the French in last spring's attack, barring their way to the westerly end of the Chemin-Des-Dames, is apparently one of the immediate objectives of the offensive.

For days past the big French guns have been hammering this front heavily, both the Paris and Berlin reports indicating that some major movement was in preparation.

Good progress was reported early in the day by General Petain, the French forcing their way forward along the whole front of the attack.

The taking of Fort De La Malmaison would materially aid in the pushing of an attack on Laon in an attempt to turn the German line in this direction, although it has been considered probable that the main blow in such an attack would be struck further to the east where the backdoor road to Laon offers superior tactical advantages.

Retain Ground Won. Virtually all the ground gained in yesterday's offensive in Flanders has been retained by the entente forces.

At only one point in the southern part of Flanders had the Germans managed to regain any ground in counter attacks and here it was only a single British post that was pushed back a short distance. The ground won was consolidated along the remainder of the front.

On Eastern Front. On the eastern front the attempted German operations on the Estonian mainland north of the gulf of Riga apparently have not progressed as favorably as the naval prelude and the fighting for possession of the outlying islands.

Petrograd today reports that an effort by the Germans to effect a second landing on the coast about eight miles north of Werder where they first put troops ashore was frustrated by the Russians.

LIBERTY DAY, TOMORROW, PROCLAIMED BOTH STATE AND NATIONAL HOLIDAY

LIBERTY LOAN LAGGING, TODAY'S FIGURES SHOW

Officials Hope That the Three Billion Dollar Minimum Will Be Reached By Tomorrow Night—Avalanche of Subscriptions May Bring Campaign to Successful Close—Workers Making Mighty Effort to Reach the Five Billion Dollar Maximum

Washington, Oct. 23.—The Liberty Loan was still lagging today, on the face of scattering unofficial estimates to the treasury department. Officials were hoping that the \$3,000,000,000 minimum would be reached by tomorrow night when the heavy anticipated volume of Liberty day sales would be in hand.

Officials announced there was little information at hand to lead them to believe that the \$5,000,000,000 maximum would be reached, although they thought the sum might possibly be taken by an eleventh hour avalanche of subscriptions.

Chicago, Oct. 23.—Campaign managers for the second Liberty loan, analyzing reports today from the seventh federal reserve district, declared themselves not pessimistic over the number of sales but expressed some anxiety over final results.

With the finish only five days off reports indicated sales of \$185,302,300 which represents 26.5 per cent of the maximum allotment of \$700,000,000 for the district.

In Cleveland District. Cleveland, Oct. 23.—Subscriptions to the Liberty loan in the fourth Federal reserve district this forenoon amounted to \$181,250,000. The quota is \$300,000,000.

Boy Scouts Working. New York, Oct. 23.—Boy Scouts of America in the first day of their four day campaign on behalf of the second Liberty loan obtained pledges totaling close to \$3,000,000, according to returns received today at the organization's national headquarters here.

Reports today from 58 cities and towns throughout the country showed subscriptions amounting to \$2,980,700.

In New England. Boston, Oct. 23.—The New England subscriptions to the second Liberty loan passed the \$200,000,000 mark today. Overnight reports showing \$19,296,000 subscribed yesterday, brought the grand total to \$205,743,000.

New York Behind. New York, Oct. 23.—With Liberty loan subscriptions in the New York federal reserve district \$472,000,000 behind schedule, federal activities marked the campaign here today to raise the quota of \$1,500,000,000 before the books close on Saturday. To

Indications pointed more and more, officials said, to the conclusion that only a tremendous response by the entire nation, with hundreds of thousands of small subscribers, and many large subscribers participating, could bring the total anywhere near the maximum quota.

Among subscriptions reported today was one of \$10,000 from inmates of the West Virginia state penitentiary. Cash was paid for these bonds. This was the largest subscription reported from any penal institution.

PLANS FOR EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF SUGAR

New York, Oct. 23.—Sugarcane refiners, wholesalers and retailers met at the local offices of the federal food administration today to work out plans for an equitable distribution of the sugar supply in New York city.

The supply has dwindled so rapidly, it is said, that the shortage here will remain acute until February.

Commissioner of Markets Markowitz has fixed 10 and 11 cents a pound as the maximum retail price and has issued a warning that if retailers take advantage of the situation to boost prices they will be cut off from further supply.

OFFICIALS FIND MORE GERMAN PROPAGANDA

Washington, Oct. 23.—Investigation by the department of justice has convinced officials that the campaign of misrepresentation which has been afoot since the beginning of the war, on the ground that the government will seize them, is part of German propaganda.

Not only does the government lack authority to commandeer household canned goods and supplies, but it never has entertained any idea of doing so.

The food administration is doing everything possible to encourage the canning of food on the ground that it would lessen the drain on the commercial supply of foodstuffs.

Practically All Governors Have Responded to Appeal Made by McAdoo

MRS. M'ADOO LIGHTS LIBERTY BON FIRE

North Carolina Contributed Relic That Will Be Used in Fire

Washington, Oct. 23.—Liberty day, tomorrow, will be a state as well as national holiday.

The interest in the day stirred by a telegram sent out by Secretary McAdoo, virtually all governors have proclaimed the day a holiday. Responses of residents of the various states to the proclamations have been quick and generous.

Arrangements have been made to hold meetings in all parts of the country to urge the necessity of buying Liberty loan bonds. Thus far not a single governor has declined to proclaim Liberty day a state holiday in part at least. Some found it inconvenient to make the entire day a holiday, so they made a holiday of the afternoon.

Arizona and Oregon will have only half holidays.

Almost every governor who replied to the secretary's telegram added a few words of encouragement for the loan.

The signal for the lighting of Liberty fires throughout the country will be given tonight when Mrs. W. G. McAdoo, chairman of the woman's Liberty loan committee, lights a bon fire at the Washington monument, using for the purpose a candlebraim which belonged to Napoleon Bonaparte and containing a trench candle made in Quebec.

Faggots to be lighted by Mrs. McAdoo are of wood from historic places in many states.

Among the relics contributed by the different states to the fire here are pieces of wood from the birthplace of President Wilson, Cleveland, Jackson, Johnson and Polk. Illinois contributed a piece of wood from Lincoln's old home and Missouri a piece from Grant's log cabin.

Other contributions are: North Carolina, a piece of wood from North Cape Fear, scene of the first armed resistance of the stamp act in 1765; Arkansas, a piece of the flagpole carried by Colonel Archibald Yell's regiment in the Mexican war; North Dakota, a shingle from General Custer's headquarters at old Fort Lincoln, and Florida a piece of wood from the famous De Sota oak at Tampa.

SECRETARY W. G. M'ADOO SPEAKS IN NASHVILLE

Nashville, Tenn., Oct. 23.—William G. McAdoo, secretary of the treasury, will speak here tonight in the interest of the Liberty bond campaign. Arriving early this afternoon he will hold a conference with men and women of 22 counties who have been active in the work of selling the bonds.

Tonight there will be a torch light parade followed by a pageant and the ceremony of lighting the Liberty fires on Capitol boulevard.

Mr. McAdoo will make an hour's talk and then leave for Atlanta.

INCREASED PRODUCTION OF NEWS PRINT PAPER

Washington, Oct. 23.—Production of American news print paper for the nine months ending September 30, amounted to 950,847 tons, as against \$23,187 tons for the same period last year, the federal trade commission announced today. The figures are based on reports from 36 companies operating more than 56 mills.

Imports, chiefly from Canada, for the first eight months of the present year totalled 258,169 tons, compared with 318,091 for the same period in 1916, while exports this year fell from 23,202 to 42,455 tons.

Favors Government Control. Washington, Oct. 23.—Government control and operation of coal mines was suggested in a telegram from the president of one of the local unions in Illinois having 8,000 members.

Chattanooga Street Car Service Resumed. Chattanooga, Oct. 23.—The street car service with 20 cars in operation on half hour schedules was resumed this morning after one week's idleness. Overnight reports showing \$19,296,000 subscribed yesterday, brought the grand total to \$205,743,000.

No Civil Service Required. Washington, Oct. 23.—An executive order published today exempts civil employees of the training camp activities commission from civil service requirements and directs that those who have heretofore been paid from private funds be paid from government appropriations.