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ARTILLERY VERY ACTIVE, BUT INFANTRY IS QUIET

Germans Continue to Delay Their Attack on Allied Positions in Picardy and Flanders—Italians Repulse Austrians—Other War News Reported Today

By the Associated Press.
Committed as they are to a continuation of heavy fighting on the western front, the Germans apparently are taking their full time before beginning another operation on the line from Soissons north to the Belgian coast.

In two weeks the enemy has made only one determined attack, and this was repulsed by the allied forces southwest of Ypres.

Along the vital sector of the salient driven by the Germans since March 21, the German artillery has been active, although the infantry has remained quiet.

North of Kemmel around Serre on the line between Albert and Arras and on the southern end of the British line across the Somme and on the French sector immediately south of the German big guns are hurling thousands of shells into the allied positions.

Allied airmen are taking advantage of every opportunity to invade enemy territory. Many bombs are being dropped on railway centers and other important military bases.

In aerial fighting the British brought down six more at Zebrugghe and Ostend, army fliers continued the aerial bombardment of Bruay. West of Montdidier in Picardy and northwest of Houl American artillery men are harassing the Germans with heavy fire. Considerable damage is believed to have been caused.

Lively fighting continues in the Mont Carlo region, south of the Asnes, with the Italians throwing back repeated Austrian efforts to regain the summit of the mountain.

BRITISH LOSSES ARE 41,612 FOR WEEK

By the Associated Press.
London, May 14.—The total of British casualties reported in the week ending today is 41,612.

They are divided as follows:
Killed or died of wounds, officers, 501; men, 5,065.

Wounded or missing, officers, 2,123; men, 33,923.

Reports of British casualties usually are not available for some time after the actions in which they are sustained. The large total in the last week evidently represents losses suffered when the fighting in Flanders and Picardy was at its height. Complete records have not been given out, but it is probable that the losses have been the heaviest of any during the war. The total last week was 38,691.

NORTH SCHOOL BUYS MANY WAR STAMPS

The North school went over the top this morning and Young America took advantage of the last War Saving day of the spring to buy \$1,701 in stamps. Of the total, the fifth grade bought \$1,360. The pupils will continue to buy stamps, the sales going to the credit of their mail carriers.

JAMES G. BENNETT IS DEAD IN FRANCE

By the Associated Press.
Beaulieu, France, May 14.—James Gordon Bennett, proprietor of the New York Herald, died at 5:50 o'clock this morning after being unconscious for two days.

Mr. Bennett's last words before lapsing into unconsciousness were in relation to his newspaper interests. Mrs. Bennett was with her husband when he died.

TO HOLD RUMANIA AS ECONOMIC SERF

By the Associated Press.
Amsterdam, May 14.—A Vienna dispatch says that a special economic treaty between Rumania and the central empires provides that Rumania-Hungary her surplus production in 1918 and 1919 of all kinds of grains, oils, fibres, chickens and wool. Rumania also agreed to sell this surplus to the central powers for a period of five years if necessary.

BROOKLYN FLYER REPORTED MISSING

By the Associated Press.
New York, May 14.—While on an air patrol trip above the German lines in France, Lieut. Frank Knapp, an American pilot with the British royal forces, disappeared April 26, and his fate is not known, according to word received today by his parents in Brooklyn.

Two days earlier Lieutenant Knapp was attacked by German airmen. He descended 10,000 feet and escaped without injury after downing one of the machines. Knapp enlisted in Canada last year at the age of 24 years.

HURD IN PRAISE REGISTRANTS TO OF AMERICAN SEA HELP MAY 27

By the Associated Press.
London, May 14.—American naval aid has been one of the greatest help to the British fleet, says Archibald Hurd, the naval expert, writing in the Daily Telegraph on the new situation in the North sea resulting from the Zebrugghe and Ostend raids, the extension of British mine fields and a more aggressive naval policy generally.

"If Admiral Beatty were asked his opinion there is no doubt of what he would say of the value of the aid which the United States has given in this respect," said Mr. Hurd. "The conditions under which the Germans would engage us therefore are less favorable than two years ago."

SOME BIG LOANS AUTHORIZED TODAY

By the Associated Press.
Washington, May 14.—Secretary McAdoo today authorized loans of \$200,000,000 to Great Britain, \$100,000,000 to France and \$100,000,000 to Italy, making the total loans to the allies aggregate \$5,763,850,000.

FRANCE "MUST BE DESTROYED"

Columbia State.
In the series of articles that the former American Ambassador to Germany, David Jayne Hill, begins in the current number of Harper's magazine, under the title "Impressions of the Kaiser," a curious and sinister light is thrown upon policies of state that preceded and led up to the present great war of conquest. These policies are chiefly concerned with the relations that Germany, in view always of her "dreams" and lust for dominion, should cultivate with or assume toward Russia and France.

It seemed to Bismarck that it was necessary for Germany to retain her old friendship with Russia. At the time, both Russia and France had been somewhat isolated by the recently formed Triple Alliance of Germany, Austria and Italy, which embraced the entire body of Central Europe and interposed a barrier to France on the east and to Russia on the west. Which of these two powers could be made to serve best the imperialistic visions of Germany? And which of them should be crushed, or absorbed, or swept out of the path of imperial Prussia?

If France was to be destroyed—as both Bismarck and Kaiser Wilhelm believed and wished—then it was a question as to whether Russia or Austria would be the more serviceable ally. Bismarck preferred always an alliance with Russia to one with Austria, for whom he had a precious little respect. "In point of material force," he once said, "I held a union with Russia to have the advantage." The views of the Iron Chancellor were more fully expressed by his colleague and co-intriguer, Holstein, who said:

"The next war is bound to be for us a question of existence. If we are able to proceed to a general disarmament of Europe, together with a restriction of our own military forces. Therefore, we ought to watch carefully for the moment when this war can be brought about with the minimum risk to ourselves and the maximum to our foes. When we consider this moment to have arrived, we must begin it, whether we like it or not; and what neither we, whether Russia would allow us to seize it, whereas with Austria no such complication with Austria no such complications can be feared.

With Austria beside us—who knows—perhaps one or two Balkan states, we can crush both France and Russia and neutralize England.

But to Wilhelm the great barrier to his ambitions—to set up a vast empire in Asia—was Russia, the Empire of the north, or, to use the words of the great Borg, the irresistible because unresisting and immovable mass, around which or through which he could not pass. Bismarck's views as to the destruction of France and the paralyzing of British power being essential to the German dream of empire, but simplified matters by merely adding to this his own policy of the destruction of Russia.

It is a little curious that Austria, so closely held in view at the first, so soon drops out of consideration as a power to be feared and is henceforth regarded as one merely to be used as an instrument statesmen know aggression. Austrian statesmen know fully as well as the schemers and plotters of Berlin that it is the purpose of Germany to use Austria to the utmost stretch of her power or patience and then to crush and absorb her. The only hope of Austria's preserving a shred of her former domain and independence rests in the victory of the allies, whom she now happens to be fighting at the command and for the benefit of her own most inveterate foe, Prussia.

REPORT ON IS MADE IN CANADA

By the Associated Press.
Ottawa, Ont., May 14.—The statement that it has been decided not to use American forces in France until they had become a complete, powerful successful army was due to an error in compilation according to a statement from the British government and made public as official news.

The statement from the British government given out today states that "owing to the error in compilation it was not made clear that the reference related to the period when America first joined the war and had no relation to present events where-by the American army is brigaded with French and British forces."

MAKE LITHUANIA BEAR GERMAN BURDEN

By the Associated Press.
Amsterdam, May 14.—Emperor William has issued a proclamation concerning Lithuania in which he says it is assumed that Lithuania will assume her full share of the burdens of the war.

SUN IN ECLIPSE ON JUNE EIGHTH

The total eclipse of the sun forecast to occur on June 8 has been postponed for one hour. This is not the result of any error in the calculations of the astronomers nor is it due to an order by modern Joshua that the sun stands still, but is chargeable to the operations of the daylight saving law as a result of which the clocks throughout the United States were set forward an hour on March 31.

In consequence the eclipse will begin in Denver, Col., at 4:12 p. m., will become total at 5:22 p. m., will pass from totality at 5:24 p. m. and will end at 6:27. The same variation in the hours of the eclipse will prevail throughout the length of the fifty-mile belt, extending from the southeastern corner of Washington state to the coast of Florida, in which the total eclipse will be visible.

Points at which the total eclipse will be visible include South bend, Wash.; Chehalis, Wash.; Hood River, Ore.; Baker City, Ore.; Pocatello, Idaho; Green River, Wyo.; Denver, Colo.; Garden City, Kans.; Enid, Okla.; Guthrie, Okla.; McAlester, Okla.; Arkadelphia, Ark.; Yazoo City, Miss.; Jackson, Miss.; Grove Hill, Ala.; Uesburg, Fla.; and Orlando, Fla.

REVIVAL SERVICES AT METHODIST CHURCH

An unusually large congregation was present at the First Methodist church this morning at 8 o'clock to take part in the revival meeting and Rev. R. M. Courtney delivered a powerful sermon. As on the other occasions the singing was good and the interest great. The service last night was not so well attended on account of the rain. Today at 12:15 a service was held at the Hutton and Bourbonnais plant.

"Who is on the Lord's side?" was the subject of the evening service, and the sermon was a call to the congregation of God's greatness; his presence and activity in Hickory; also a call to a definite and whole-hearted stand on the side of God.

"Bringing People to Jesus." One conversion resulted.

A helpful feature of the meeting is the singing led by Mr. Bassett with Mrs. Bassett presiding at the piano.

Services will be held at 8 o'clock each morning and evening.

ELECTING BISHOPS IN ATLANTA TODAY

By the Associated Press.
Atlanta, May 14.—With the election of bishops, the special order of the day, the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, started holding morning and afternoon sessions. A motion to adjourn next Monday afternoon was adopted.

Anticipation of lively scenes connected with the balloting drew large crowds to the galleries of Wesley Memorial church, where the conference is sitting. Bishop Hendix is presiding.

SEVENTY TWO IN CASUALTY LIST

By the Associated Press.
Washington, May 14.—Today's casualty list contains 72 names, divided as follows:
Killed in action, 14; died of wounds, 7; died of disease, 3; wounded slightly, 21.

WEATHER FORECAST

For North Carolina: Fair to-night, cooler in east portion. Wednesday fair and slightly warmer in the interior, moderate north winds becoming variable.

CORRECTION NOW FIRST MILLION TONS OF SHIPPING IS COMPLETED

Total of 159 Vessels Now at Sea in Fight Against Germany—Over Half Built Since January 1 and Number is Increasing Daily—New Ships Launched

WOMEN'S WORK IN SELLING BONDS

By the Associated Press.
Washington, May 14.—The first million tons of ships completed and delivered to the government under government control are on the high seas to fight against Germany.

A total of 159 vessels of 1,107,621 tons was completed up to May 11, according to statistics compiled by experts of the shipping board. Since January 1 more than half of a total tonnage 667,896 has been delivered and the monthly totals have shown a steady increase.

Most of the ships delivered were requisitioned on the ways or in contract form when the United States entered the war. Virtually all are of steel construction. None of the ships of the great wood program has been delivered, although 46 have been launched, due to delay in obtaining steel.

The first completed wood ship built on contract for the government no wis undergoing a trial for speed on the Pacific coast.

NEGRO PREACHER HELD UPON SEDITIOUS CHARGE

Lumberton, May 14.—Rev. John McLaurin, a negro, was bound over to federal court by United States Commissioner E. M. Johnson on the charge of making seditious remarks. He advised his congregation yesterday not to join the Red Cross, it is alleged, telling them that if they did they would be sent to France and killed by the Germans. He was arrested soon after he finished his sermon.

F. J. Stahl, a maker of wire jewelry, was arrested here on the charge of making seditious remarks. He was placed in jail in default of a \$500 bond. He will be tried before United States Commissioner E. M. Johnson Tuesday afternoon.

COTTON CONSUMED FOR APRIL GIVEN

By the Associated Press.
Washington, May 14.—Cotton consumed during April amounted to 544,459 running bales, exclusive of linters and for the nine months ending April 4,944,792 bales, the census bureau announced today.

Cotton spindles active during April numbered 33,746,983 compared with 33,268,615 a year ago.

AIRCRAFT DIRECTOR

By the Associated Press.
Washington, May 14.—Archer A. Ligon of Buffalo, was appointed today director of the division of production of the aircraft board.

STATE OF SIEGE IN BOHEMIA VILLAGE

By the Associated Press.
London, May 14.—A state of siege has been declared at Smichow, a suburb of Prague, Bohemia, and the troops have been sent away an Exchange Telegraph dispatch says:

One hundred and 50 women are said to have been arrested on account of demonstrations. The burgo-master has resigned. The ferment is extending through Bohemia, according to the dispatch.

Artillery is Busy in France

By the Associated Press.
Paris, May 14.—Heavy artillery fighting in the Champagne is reported in today's official communication.

SOME RAIDS

By the Associated Press.
London, May 14.—German artillery fire was active last night in the Somme and Ancre sectors, says the official bulletin from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters today. The statement follows:
We carried out a successful raid last night northeast of Robecq (Flanders) and captured a few prisoners without casualties to ourselves.

A party of the enemy which attacked one of our posts west of Merville was repulsed with loss.

The hostile artillery was active last night in the Somme and Ancre sectors."

GOVERNOR URGES CONFERENCE IDLENESS

By the Associated Press.
Raleigh, May 14.—Governor Bickett today issued a proclamation calling on counties in North Carolina to send representatives to a meeting here Wednesday, May 29, to consider the best methods of enforcing the vagrancy laws.

"Idleness," says the governor, "savours strongly of treason at this time."

The action of the governor results from the request of a local committee who have been conferring with a representative of the federal labor department as to the best means of securing sufficient labor for the industries of North Carolina.

8 Steel Ships Are Finished

By the Associated Press.
Washington, May 14.—Eight steel ships totaling 48,150 tons were completed during the seven days ending May 11. Fourteen vessels were launched with a total tonnage of 57,100, of which seven were steel of a total capacity of 32,100 tons.

The steel deliveries included one refrigerated ship, two tanks and five cargo vessels.

The state of Maine during the week turned out its first wooden ship for the government, the Andrea, a ship of 3,500 tons, being completed.