

GERMANS CONTINUE HEAVILY ATTACKING ALONG WEST FRONT

But So Far No Substantial Success Marks the Crown Prince's Assault.

TRYING TO WARD OFF FRENCH ATTACK

Teutons Adopt New Plan in Order to Forestall Onslaught From the Allies—French Fire Tremendous.

Heavy attacks by the Germans are continuing along the Aisne front, with the fighting at times assuming almost the proportions of a general engagement.

The latest bulletins from the front, indeed, indicate the fighting to be turning even more favorably for the French, whose artillery is proving that it has lost none of its effectiveness in breaking up attacks.

The Crown Prince's primary purpose apparently is to forestall the renewal of the French offensive movement, which was expected in this important sector, southwest and south of the fortress of Laon, the German key position, which would be seriously menaced by any further French advance.

So far as appears, General Potain has lost none of his commanding positions, while the Germans have sacrificed heavily for such small gains as they have been able to effect.

The plan of the Germans seems to be to launch heavy forces on comparatively narrow fronts in the area under attack. They penetrated a salient in the French line yesterday on the Chemin des Dames in the neighborhood of Enne de Chevregay in one attack. Last night they tried to debouch from the ground thus gained, but found all their efforts broken up by the French fire.

Other attacks in the region of Vauxaillon, to the west, and near Chevreux and other points to the east, were likewise futile.

Correspondence Published. Paris, June 22.—Dr. Hoffman, the former Swiss foreign minister, according to the Geneva correspondent of the Petit Parisien, forwarded correspondence between Count von Buelow at Luzern and certain Italian anti-interventionists at Rome to the Swiss diplomatic pouch.

Confirmation Received. Washington, June 23.—Confirmation of the sinking of a German submarine by the navy gun crew of an armed American merchantman, mentioned in yesterday's dispatches, was received today by the Navy Department in a report from Chief Boatswain's Mate O. J. Gullickson, commanding the gunners.

Apparently the submarine was either sunk or badly damaged, his report says, "as nothing further was seen of it."

BOY SCOUTS AT WORK DIGGING POTATOES. Richmond, Va., June 23.—One thousand and Boy Scouts began work today on the Eastern Shore of Virginia digging 4,000,000 bushels of potatoes that probably would have rotted in the ground on account of the fact that 15,000 negroes have migrated to the north. The negroes demanded 25 cents a barrel. The boys are digging them for 15 cents a barrel. The boys are from Washington, Richmond, Petersburg, Norfolk, Baltimore and as far north as Wilmington, Del. They are under the supervision of Scout Executive Charles L. Weaver, of Richmond, and a health officer from the Virginia State Board of Health. The boys range in ages from about 12 to 18 years.

PRESIDENT HAS NOT SETTLED THE TROUBLE. Washington, June 23.—President Wilson today authorized Secretary Tumulty to say that the President has not already settled the difficulties between Chairman Denman, of the Shipping, and General Goethals, of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, over the wooden shipbuilding program. The President, Mr. Tumulty said, was waiting for further information which he expects to obtain in a few days.

WARM WEATHER FOR COMING WEEK. Washington, June 23.—Warm weather with occasional thunder showers was forecast today for the coming week in Tennessee, the South Atlantic and East Gulf States, by the weather bureau.

ANOTHER U-BOAT HIT BY AMERICAN CRACK GUNNERS

Freight Steamer Had Clash With Submarine Out of Genoa.

LAUNCHED TORPEDO WHICH WAS DODGED

Second Encounter in Two Days in Which American Ship Came Out Victorious Over Submersible.

An Atlantic Port, June 23.—A fight between an American freight steamer and a German submarine, which took place June 6, one day out from Genoa, Italy, and resulted in the navy gunners on the American vessel scoring at least one hit, was reported by the captain of the steamer on his arrival here today. The captain said the U-boat suddenly appeared at a distance of about 500 yards and launched a torpedo. Its wake was clearly discernible and it was possible to maneuver the vessel so that it missed the ship by about 20 feet. Fire was immediately opened on the U-boat with a stern gun and 4 shots were discharged in rapid succession as the submarine submerged. The second shot, the captain said, struck the periscope throwing it high into the air, and the last shot fired hit the water on the exact spot where the U-boat disappeared. The American vessel suffered no damage.

This is the second encounter reported within two days in which an American ship successfully defended herself against submarine attack.

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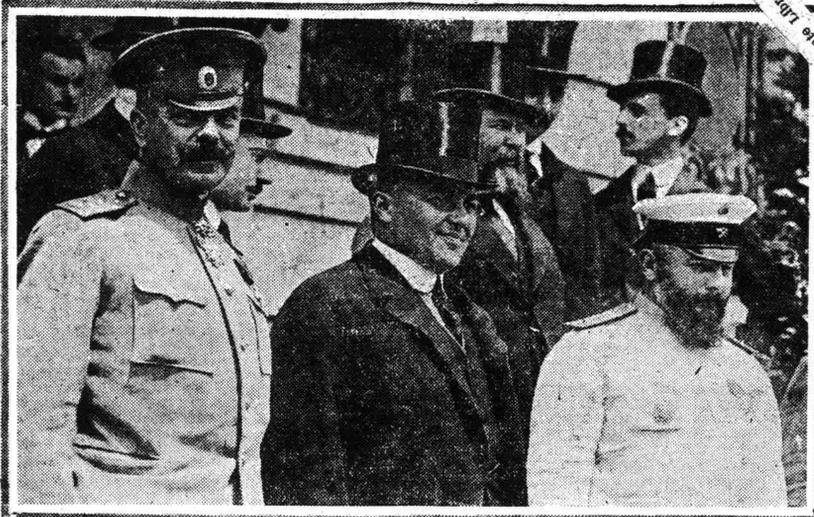
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RUSSIAN, WAR MISSION

The special diplomatic mission from Russia has been received in Washington with every possible effort to reflect America's profound hope and confidence in the newest European democracy. The Mission is headed by Boris A. Bakmetieff, who in paying his respects to President Wilson, is understood to have given Russia's pledge to the continuance of the war. Those shown in the photograph, front rank, are Lieut.-General Roop, Ambassador Bakmetieff and Professor Lomonosoff.

URGENT APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS

To Raise the Regular Army to Standard of Strength—What is Needed.

Washington, June 23.—A nationwide drive of one week to recruit 70,000 men to bring the regular army up to its authorized war strength of 300,000 men began today in accordance with President Wilson's proclamation calling for volunteers.

This is the first step in the war organization of America's army. Next is the task of completing the full strength of the National Guard; then comes the selection of men for the new national army from the millions who registered June 5.

The President calls upon "unmarried men between the ages of 18 and 40 years who have no dependents and who are not engaged in pursuits vitally necessary to the prosecution of the war."

This means that those between the ages of 18 and 31, and 31 and 40, as well as the recent registrants, will be given an opportunity for immediate training and the prospect of early active service.

The urgency of filling the ranks of the regular army is emphasized by army officers, who declare it will be necessary within the next six months to take many of the regulars as instructors for the new selective army. It is planned to incorporate in the new regiments of the regular army, portions of already established and trained units as a framework to assure rapid development.

GOMPERS URGES PASSAGE OF FOOD BILL

Washington, June 23.—In a statement last night again urging the imperative necessity of enacting the administration's food legislation before the next harvest, Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, declared that unless control of necessities was provided, prices would become prohibitive and that it would be unthinkable that the people "rest content under such conditions and work and fight."

LIQUOR CLAUSE IN THE FOOD BILL

To be Hotly Contested Before the Measure Comes to Final Vote.

Washington, June 23.—Prohibition as a war measure loomed up as the big issue in the House today with a sharp fight promised before a final vote on the Food Control bill, which is expected by tonight.

The contest was over the question whether the section of the bill authorizing the President to limit, regulate or reduce the supply of food materials or feeds used in making alcoholic beverages shall be changed. Prohibitionists were determined to secure, if possible, the adoption of a "stronger" "dry" provision.

Most of them favor absolute prohibition of the use of grain for beverage purposes during the war, but are divided over the various pending proposals to accomplish this.

Consideration of the Food bill continued in the Senate yesterday, while the leaders held further informal conferences in an effort to reach an agreement on disputed points in the measure.

REMARKABLE FIND BY BRITISH SAPPERS

They Unearth Skeleton of a Mammoth on the Battle Front in France.

With the British Armies in France, June 23.—Excavating near the battered remnants of the Hindenburg line, British soldiers struck a strange object which proved to be the tooth of a mammoth. The discovery caused great excitement among the troops who flocked to the place regardless of the danger of drawing shell fire from the Germans.

The skeleton of this prehistoric monster now has been definitely located and the gradual exposure of it is proceeding under a scientific dim. It will be a decided novelty in natural history research—this updigging of a mammoth in the very forefront of the world war.

SON OF NOTED FIGHTER WINS NEW LAURELS

Captain Louis Botha, son of the former Boer leader, General Botha, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Order of the British Army. The photograph shows Captain Botha in his regimentals. It was recently taken in South Africa, where he holds an important post. His father, once a leader in the Boer rebellion, has been in supreme command of the British troops that wiped out German power in Africa, and recently attended the Council of Empire in London.



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PRESIDENT'S PLAN FOR SHIP BUILDING

Considered a Victory For Those Advocating Wooden Vessels.

Washington, June 23.—President Wilson's plan to delegate full purchasing power to Major General Goethals, manager of the Shipping Board's emergency fleet corporation, with instructions to build as many wooden ships as possible, was regarded here today as a victory for the board's wooden ship program.

The plan authorizes General Goethals to commandeer ships now building, speed up construction and spend the \$500,000,000 appropriated by Congress for shipbuilding. Chairman Denman, it is believed, will retain powers for operating and chartering ships and, as president of the fleet corporation, will pass finally on construction contracts.

At the request of General Goethals, the steel committee of the Council of National Defense is to conduct an investigation in the price of steel in the hope of shedding some light on production costs. General Goethals' contracts for \$95 a ton have been met by Chairman Denman's refusal to expend more than \$56 a ton.

RAILWAY REVENUES FOR MONTH OF APRIL

Complete figures of railway revenues and expenses for April announced by the Interstate Commerce Commission yesterday show an increase of more than \$500,000 in net earnings for 1917 over 1916, although the Eastern roads failed to reach last April's figures by nearly \$4,000,000. Southern carriers in April, 1916, earned \$14,234,000; in April 1917, \$14,989,000. Western roads showed an increase from \$36,388,000 to \$40,620,000.

A new record for railway operating revenues was set during the first four months of this year, the total being \$120,606,000. For the same period in 1916, the previous banner year in railroad revenues, the figures were \$1,095,916,000. Operating expenses also set new high marks, however, increasing in similar period from \$753,360,000 to \$879,693,000.

NEW REGULATIONS FOR PANAMA CANAL

Governing Number of Warships of Other Nations Allowed There at One Time

Washington, June 23.—To meet war conditions, President Wilson has approved new regulations for the Panama Canal, prescribing the length of more belligerent warships may remain in canal waters and the conditions under which they may coal and provision.

To ensure a free and open waterway on terms of equality to merchant ships and warships, it is ordered that there shall not be, except by special arrangement, at any one time a greater number of war vessels of any one nation, other than the United States, including those of the Allies of such nation, than 3 in either terminal port and its adjacent terminal waters or more than 2 in transit through the canal, nor shall the total number of such vessels at any time exceed 6 in all the territorial waters of the canal zone.

The regulations are in general similar to those governing the Suez canal.

DRAFT METHOD TO BE APPLIED IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

FRENCH LOSSES IN CARGO SHIPS DURING THE WAR

Less Than the Additions Thereto Made During the Same Period.

GERMANY'S LOSS FIFTY PER CENT

Of Her Merchant Marine—Question of Making Additions to France's Under Discussion.

Paris, June 23.—The resolution adopted by the Chamber of Deputies calling for the work of increasing the French merchant marine to be placed under the control of one department was accepted by the government and voted by a show of hands.

Mercantile Marine, said that the French merchant fleet was 2,500,000 tons at the beginning of the war and since then had lost 560,000 tons. During the same period 680,000 tons had been built or bought and another 140,000 was on the stocks so that the fleet was actually greater now than before the war.

Secretary Nail then pointed out that Germany had lost 2,500,000 tons, 50 per cent of its entire fleet, and declared that reports that Germany was building hundreds of ships were mere bluff.

Deputy Bouisson declared that the secretary was too optimistic, that the merchant fleet was in a dangerous situation and that it was due to the government's inertia. He said ships must be built at once or France would not be able to feed herself. The deputy declared that the question took precedence over all others, even that of effectives and that England preferred to lend France ships and build for herself. He concluded by demanding that the government insist upon the allies giving France the help they owe her.

Premier Ribot said he recognized that the situation was not satisfactory, but pointed out the difficulties in buying ships. Commissioner Tardieu had bought some in America and had asked French ship owners to buy others, but the Premier said that he must admit they were slow about it. The question of paying cash was another difficulty, and while it would be better to build, he declared that the nation's activity must be concentrated on the manufacture of munitions. In addition, raw materials were scarce and skilled labor insufficient.

Minister of Subsistence Violette said that as there was no longer a pressing need of ships to import cereals the desire of the Chamber to place the merchant marine under one control could be gratified.

ITALIAN MISSION IN NEW YORK CITY

New York, June 23.—The Italian colony of New York again virtually took charge of the public exercises where the Prince of Udine and his fellow members of the royal Italian War commission appeared. At the college of the City of New York the great stadium was given over almost entirely to Italian residents for a reception rendered the visitors by Italian societies.

After the reception the commissioners were guests of Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, of Columbia University, at a private luncheon.

TAR HEELS APPOINTED IN MEDICAL CORPS

Washington, D. C., June 23.—Seven more North Carolinians have been given commissions in the medical section, Officers Reserve Corps, the War Department announces. Their names and addresses are as follows:

Benjamin A. Thraxton, Greensboro, first lieutenant; Marcus C. Houston, Charlotte, first lieutenant; Charles Z. Candler, Sylva, first lieutenant; Glenn W. Choate, Rockville, first lieutenant; Louis G. Beall, Asheville, first lieutenant; Floyd C. Shugart, Elkin, first lieutenant; and Franklin C. Herndon, Rocky Mount, second lieutenant, veterinary section.

DRAFTING GUARDSMEN FOR SERVICE POSTPONED

Washington, June 23.—Drafting of the National Guard into the Federal armies for war service may be delayed until August 5 because it has been found that under the present plans for drafting the guard in three increments, July 15, July 25 and August 5, the relative rank of its officers would be established on an unfair basis. The National Defense act provides the National Guard officers shall take rank as of the date of draft.

This Will Be Done So As to Eliminate All Chance For Favoritism

NUMBERS WILL BE USED IN DRAWING

Identity of Men Will be Unknown Until They Are Selected—Regulations Ready, and Only Await President's Approval.

Washington, June 23.—Regulations for drafting the new national army, now awaiting President Wilson's approval, contain provision for every step in the great undertaking, except the actual method of the draft itself.

No official announcement has been made, and official confirmation is being withheld, but it has been stated, and generally is accepted here as true, that the Federal government itself will do the drafting, probably in Washington, so there will be no opportunity for local favoritism, political or otherwise.

As the regulations stand now, every registered name bears a number. The numbers will be forwarded to Washington and the drawing will be entirely by number. The identity of the numbered men will be entirely unknown to those in charge of the draft machinery and can be established only by comparing a number with a printed list in the man's home district.

As the numbers are drawn, they will be telegraphed to the home districts, where the registered men will learn if they have been drafted.

Then the question of exemptions will come up, and this will go before the local boards. If a man is exempted, the man bearing the number which was drawn next in order will take his place, and so on.

In this way all those available for service out of the 10,000,000 who registered will be made ready for the country's call, and from them the first increment of 625,000 will be assembled. The others will be called as the need develops. Plenty of time will be given for drafted men to arrange their personal affairs and report to the cantonment camps. It is hoped to have them all in training by September or very soon thereafter.

MARKED IMPROVEMENT IN RUSSIAN AFFAIRS

Petrograd, June 23.—In spite of the disorders of Sebastopol and Anarchist threats here, there are indications of a marked improvement in the situation, with a growing support of the government, and a growing animosity against the forces which make for disintegration in the army.

The resolution passed Thursday by the pan-Russian congress of councils of deputies is regarded as a signal defeat for the extremists and pacifists, the motion supporting the provisional government being passed by a majority of more than 4 to 1. A further significant resolution admits that the transfer of all power to the democracy would weaken the revolution. This is the democracy's own admission that it needs the knowledge and experience of the educated classes.

By declaring for the speedy attainment of "a general peace," and at the same time for an increase in the fighting capacity of the army, the congress tacitly repudiated the program of a separate peace. Equally important was the unanimous vote of the peasants' congress, representing 130,000,000 people, approving the expulsion of the German pacifists' agent, Robert Grimm, and inviting volunteers to enter the army and strengthen it by their example.

Speeches of similar tenor in the Cossack congress were still more emphatic.

ENGINEER CORPS CALLED INTO SERVICE

Washington, June 23.—Yesterday's order calling National Guard engineers into the Federal service applied to engineers troops in the guard establishments of Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Georgia, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Mississippi, Iowa, Kansas, Texas, California and New Jersey. It is expected the troops will be returned to their own National Guard divisions for military training after they have completed their work at the cantonments.

The only National Guard engineers now in the Federal service are two companies from North Carolina and four from Ohio, which were retained when demobilization of the National Guard on its return from border duty was ordered.

EXPLOSION KILLS HUNDREDS

Amsterdam, June 23.—More than 1,000 persons were killed or injured or are missing in consequence of an explosion in munitions factories at Bieleweg, according to an announcement of the lower house of the Austrian parliament by the minister of defense, as forwarded in a dispatch from Vienna.