

GERMAN DRIVE IN ITS THIRD MONTH

Allied Armies Intact With America Rushing Troops

LOSSES CAUSE HALT

Entente Forces Have Been Biting Off Positions Here and There.

LATEST HUN FAILURE

Since March 31 British Aviators Have Accounted For 1,000 German Planes and Dropped Many Bombs

Germany's spring offensive, launched in the hope of forcing the allies to conclude peace, enters upon its third month today. The allied armies are still in tact and awaiting further enemy attacks, while American reinforcements are hurrying to France. Great losses sustained in Picardy and Flanders have forced the Germans to halt and reorganize their shattered divisions.

In the weeks since the repulse of the last strong German attack, that north of Mont Kemmel, the allies have succeeded here and there in biting off important positions. Enemy counter attacks have not been vigorous and all his attempts to regain the lost positions have failed.

The latest German failure was northwest of Merville, the apex of the Lys salient. Attacking new British positions on a front of two-thirds of a mile, the Germans, although in strength, were thrown back. The British line remains unchanged. Smaller army attempts north of Bailleul have been repulsed by the French.

On the sectors southwest of Ypres and west of Amiens the Germans have shown no indications that infantry attacks are about to be renewed. Neither has General Otto von Below's army east of Arras undertaken new operations. However, Berlin cannot delay a renewal of the offensive much longer and that is the time the allies are waiting for as they improve their positions at various points.

British aviators since March 21 have accounted for 1,000 German airplanes and have dropped more than 1,000 tons of bombs on enemy military targets. The aerial campaign against the enemy continues unabated, both British and French bombing squadrons being busy.

In patrol actions in Lorraine, American troops have captured German prisoners. Both the American and German artillery is more active than usual in the Woivre and in Lorraine, but no infantry fighting is reported.

On the front between the Piave and Lake Garda the Italians have been victorious in several strong local engagements with the Austro-Hungarians. On Monte Spioncica, west of the Piave, the Italians wiped out an enemy post and captured 53 prisoners, while their new positions at Capo Sile, on the Piave, have been extended further.

North of Bagdad, in Mesopotamia, the Turkish resistance to the advancing British is weak. Mounted troops have occupied Fatha, north of Tebriz, on the Tigris, the Turks fleeing after slight fighting. In the Kirlik region the Turks have not molested the British in their removal of military stores from that captured town.

DIRECTORS BE NAMED TO HANDLE RAILROADS

Salaries of New Officers Will Range Anywhere From \$5,000 to \$20,000

Washington, May 22.—Regional directors of the railroad administration were instructed today by Director General McAdoo to recommend immediately a federal director for every railroad, to be responsible only to the railroad administration, to replace the presidents as chief operating officers. Pending these appointments the present managing staffs will continue in control.

Regional directors will come to Washington soon to discuss the appointments, which may be delayed in many cases for several months. It is possible that some presidents will resign indefinitely to direct their railroads, although they will be subject to removal at any time.

The first directors may be named this week. Salaries of the new regional officials connected with their railroads will range from \$5,000 to \$20,000. The director general may choose a federal director may vice president now in charge of operations. Assurance was given today by the railroad administration that each railroad's affairs would be disturbed as little as possible and that staffs of executives and employees would be retained. The federal director for each railroad will be a man already connected with the operation of the road.

POTTER KILLED IN THRILLING FIGHT

British Ensign is Attacked by Seven German Airplanes

BATTLE IN NORTH SEA

Six Weeks Ago Shot Down Hun Seaplane in Heligoland Bight.

COMPANION GAVE AID

Last Seen When Machine Dove Toward Water and Burst Into Flames—Wreckage Lost.

Washington, May 22.—News of the death of Ensign Stephen Potter, naval reserves, who was killed while fighting seven enemy single-seated airplanes in the North sea on April 25, was received here today from the London representative of the committee on public information.

Ensign Potter, who was second pilot to a British royal force captain, had six weeks before shot down a German seaplane in Heligoland bight.

The story of Potter's encounter with the enemy says: "Potter left the North sea station in a British seaplane and steered due east until six miles west-southwest of North of Hinder Light. Another plane accompanied Potter and kept position to starboard throughout the action. Two enemy planes were sighted to port, heading towards them, flying low. Both British planes dived about 100 yards apart, closing upon the nearest German.

"Fire opened from both at close range. "Potter's companion had emptied one drum from the forward cockpit when the gun jammed. Two more hostile planes then appeared overhead, attacking vigorously. Both Britons turned to the west, pursuing one of the lower enemy, who was soon lost to view. Three others passed astern, following a sharp angle. Potter was close above his companion and dove to within 100 feet of the water.

"Both machines flattened out and Potter's companion, being faster, throttled down until Potter came abreast. Thus they came together at full speed close together for several minutes followed by continuous volleys from the rear.

"Four more enemy machines now appeared in V formation. Of seven Germans in action four were attacking Potter and the others his companion. Potter fell behind and began to zigzag. He first veered slightly to starboard, then turned to right angle to port.

"Again his companion throttled down to let him catch up and began climbing to reduce headway. Potter dodged again, but was then broadside to all enemy machines and under their fire, only 50 feet from the water. His companion, 250 feet above, saw Potter's machine burst into flames, come down part of the way under control, then crash on the port wing tip.

"Potter was last seen on the surface amid flames, which suddenly turned to a huge cloud of smoke. "Two of the enemy circled over the spot, then joined the other side. When the pall had cleared not even wreckage was visible."

Potter enrolled September 26, last, as a second-class seaman in the flying corps. He was promoted to an ensign November 2, ordered to France, and later sent to England.

Concerning Potter's brave conduct and his eagerness to engage with the enemy, the commanding officer of the British North sea station, wrote: "Potter always displayed the greatest eagerness to fly at all times. On the long reconnaissance in which he shot down the German seaplane he displayed great courage and coolness. He was very popular at this station."

USE GERMAN MONEY TO FINANCE AGITATIONS

U. S. Agents Have Evidence of Conspiracy With Sinn Feiners.

Washington, May 22.—Although it has been revealed that government agents have gathered evidence in the United States of conspiracies between Sinn Fein leaders and German agitators to incite rebellion in Ireland, officials still declined today to indicate whether a state department announcement on the Irish developments might be expected.

For many months, it was disclosed, American agents have been inside the counsels of Irish in this country who have plotted with German agents for armed insurrection against British rule. These disclosures were followed last night by the announcement that agents also have uncovered similar German intrigues with other nationalistic groups in the United States. German money, it was said, has been used to finance agitations among Finns and Lithuanians.

CARTOONS OF THE DAY



PREPARE TO MEET THE DISTINGUISHED FOREIGNER, MONSIEUR THRIFT.

MRS. KNIGHT TELLS OF THE SUDDEN MARRIAGE

She Objected Until Dr. Johnson Was Certain of Call of Army.

Richmond, Va., May 22.—Dr. A. F. Williams, of a hospital in Wilson, N. C., where Dr. Lemuel Johnson was taken after attempting to kill himself in that town following the death of his bride, whom he is charged with murdering, was recalled as a witness when the young dentist's trial was resumed here this morning.

Dr. Williams was asked if Johnson told him why he removed the nameplate from his wife's coffin. The nameplate, a cluster of faded flowers and other articles, were found in Johnson's grip in Wilson. The witness said Dr. Johnson said him it was customary in Richmond to remove the plate and preserve it.

Mrs. George E. Knight mother of the dead girl, was called to the stand next. She was in deep mourning. Her testimony was given in a clear, distinct voice.

Mrs. Knight said she saw Johnson for the first time in January or March, 1917, when her daughter accompanied him to the Knight home. She said the young dentist became a regular visitor at the house and that when he left Richmond for North Carolina after his graduation, he left under the impression "that he had something to ask of me."

In July Johnson came to Richmond to see Mrs. Knight, and asked Mrs. Knight for her daughter's hand in marriage, the witness said. "He told me they ought to be together and wanted to know if I had any objections to making a Ttar Heel out of Alice. I talked the matter over with them, saying I would object if they felt their happiness depended on it."

In August Johnson told her he had been summoned for military duty. Mrs. Knight objected to a marriage until Johnson had learned whether or not he would be compelled to serve in the army.

Mrs. Knight's first knowledge of the marriage was on the evening of September 18, when Alice and Dr. Johnson entered the house together and Johnson exhibited a certificate showing they had been married that day. Johnson got the impression that his bride's parents were treating him coolly and asked his wife to go to a hotel. She demurred, and finally it was arranged for them to remain in the house that night.

"The next morning Alice went to work at the medical college, as usual," said Mrs. Knight. "Dr. Johnson asked me to keep the marriage a secret, but I refused, saying we had no secrets in our home and that I would tell everybody I knew about the marriage and would advise Alice to do the same. Explaining the reason for secrecy, he said his father wanted him to marry an old maid school teacher in North Carolina.

Dr. Johnson said he did not want his father to turn against him until

BREACH WITH WILSON AT LAST DISAPPEARS

Senate Accepts Substitute Leaving War Conduct With Committee

Washington, May 22.—With less than two minutes debate, the threatened breach between President Wilson and the senate disappeared today, when by a viva voce vote an acceptable substitute was adopted in place of the Chamberlain resolution, which the president contended was nothing less than a proposal to constitute the military affairs committee a committee on the conduct of the war.

The compromise, pronounced acceptable to the administration and declared by Senator Chamberlain to be acceptable to him, was reached after prolonged conferences and merely proposed that any expenses incurred by the military committee for investigations previously authorized shall be paid from the contingent fund of the senate. It eliminates entirely the proposed authority for a sub-committee to sit during the recess of congress.

By the adoption of the substitute a vote on the original Chamberlain resolution was avoided entirely. President Wilson plainly told senators he considered such a vote practically a question of a vote of confidence.

The substitute resolution does not prevent an investigation of the aircraft situation, to which the president has stated he has no objection whatever. It meets the president's objection that the original Chamberlain resolution virtually proposed to constitute a committee on the conduct of the war and place with congress the executive duties now lodged with the president and the other executive heads of the government.

Senator Chamberlain announced he hoped soon to announce the personnel of the sub-committee which will conduct the aircraft and quartermaster inquiries.

\$105,000,000 APPROVED FOR NEW BATTERIES

House and approved an appropriation of \$105,000,000 for new batteries for warships, an increase from \$48,309,000 as made by the house. A sum of \$1,000,000 was appropriated for building a mine depot at a site to be selected by President Wilson. A \$9,150,000 appropriation for constructing a nitrate plant at Indian Head was made.

Another appropriation of \$475,000 to buy 4,900 acres at Quantico, Va., for a permanent marine corps post, was approved without objection.

he was established in his profession. Mrs. Knight testified Johnson told her that he had coaxed Alice to marry him and that he would do his best to make her happy. The witness told Johnson's practice of writing to his bride from North Carolina by other than her married name.

SIX DEAD AND SCORES INJURED IN TORNADO

Damage to Property in Iowa Will Total About \$1,000,000

Des Moines, Iowa, May 22.—At least six persons are dead and scores were injured as a result of tornadoes which swept the central portion of the state late yesterday, according to reports received today. Lines of communication in the storm-swept section have not been fully restored, but from reports received it is indicated that the property damage will reach in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000.

Of the reported dead, three were killed at Boone, 40 miles north of here; two at Newton, 35 miles east of this city, and one near Denison. Information received from Boone said the tornado covered the entire country from southwest to northeast, leveling farm buildings and in the city itself wrecking 50 dwellings, and also the shops of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad. Those killed were caught in the wreckage of dwellings.

The two persons killed at Newton were caught in the wreckage of a factory, which also resulted in the injury of half a dozen others. Reports from there added that in the rural districts the damage to crops and livestock was particularly severe.

Railroad officials sent word along the Chicago & Northwestern railroad for doctors and nurses to go to the stricken towns. Between Boone and Marshalltown all lines were down and fear is felt that the havoc of the storm may be greater than is at present indicated.

HELPLESS FOR HOURS OUT IN NORTH SEA.

With the British Army in France, Tuesday, May 21.—To lay helpless on his seaplane in the North sea for seven hours with a broken leg before he was picked up, was the experience of an American aviator attached to the British forces. The aviator, who comes from New York state, was operating a seaplane off the Belgian coast. He was brought down by hostile fire and his machine fell into the sea. After seven hours he was rescued and now is recovering in a hospital.

NINE MINERS FOUND DEAD AFTER FIRE.

Charleston, W. Va., May 22.—Nine miners who were caught behind a wall of fire when the main entry of the Mill Creek Cannel Coal Mining company's mine at Villa, W. Va., burst into flame from some undetermined cause, were found dead in the workings today.

The bodies of four of their companions were recovered yesterday.

THE GRAND LODGE ELECTS OFFICERS

Adopt Resolution Pledging Allegiance to Government

ASHEVILLE WAS CHOSEN

Next Meeting of Grand Lodge to be Held There on Third Tuesday in May

VISIT GRAVES OF DEAD

Members are Spending the Afternoon on the Beach—Will Go to Oakdale Early in the Evening.

OFFICERS ELECTED TODAY.
C. G. Smith, Goldsboro, grand master.
C. O. McMichael, Wentworth, deputy grand master.
D. H. Tillitt, Camden, grand warden.
John D. Berry, Raleigh, grand secretary.
W. L. Smith, Wilmington, grand treasurer.
C. Woodward, Wilson, grand representative for two years to the sovereign grand lodge.
Charles Dewey, Goldsboro, trustee of orphan home, Goldsboro, five years, succeeding himself.

The morning's session of the grand lodge meeting of state Odd Fellowship was featured by the election of officers, selection of next year's meeting place, adoption of resolutions pledging allegiance and support to the president and the flag in the conduct of the war, and adoption of the new North Carolina code of law and forms, prepared by a special committee. The session was well attended and of an unusually interesting nature, adjournment being had shortly after 1 o'clock.

Asheville was selected as the 1918 meeting place, the date being fixed as the third Tuesday in May by the laws. Greetings to the grand lodge from the state assembly of Rebekahs was read and the grand lodge voted to go in a body during the afternoon to visit the graves of Richard J. Jones, grand treasurer of the grand lodge for over 50 years, and Nathaniel Jacob, commonly known as the father of the Goldsboro home, and other members of the order who sleep in Oakdale cemetery. Members of the grand lodge are spending the afternoon at Wrightsville Beach and the memory of the members who lie beneath the grass-covered mounds in beautiful Oakdale will be honored immediately upon the return from the beach.

Another interesting feature of the morning's session was a contribution of \$200 to the Goldsboro home from Oxford Lodge No. 108, reported by R. L. Hamilton. The contribution included \$100 worth of war savings stamps and a check for \$100.

The following resolutions were adopted, a copy of which was telegraphed the president, this morning: "Be it resolved by the grand lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of North Carolina, in meeting assembled, that we heartily and unreservedly pledge our energetic and active support to our government in its vigorous prosecution of the war. That we hereby pledge ourselves and our order, our resources of means and men to help win the war at the earliest possible date."

An additional \$500 was reported at yesterday afternoon's session to be added to the fund which will be used for equipping a brass band at the Goldsboro home. This gives the home \$800, with which to proceed in the equipping of the proposed musical organization.

The grand lodge's session was open to the public and the visitors were cordially welcomed to the city by Mayor P. Q. Moore, Marcus W. Jacobi and others, who gave them to understand that Wilmington felt honored in having the grand lodge meet here. The session was held at the Academy of Music and an interesting concert was given by a class from the Goldsboro home.

URGES ABNEY SHOULD BE DRIVEN FROM CITY

Chief Council of Southern Declined Give "Damn Cent" to Red Cross

Columbia, S. C., May 22.—Benjamin L. Abney, of Columbia, chief council of the Southern Council of the Southern railway, was bitterly denounced by Fitzhugh McMaster, president of the Columbia Red Cross chapter, in a speech at a local theater last night. Mr. McMaster declared that when Red Cross campaigners went to Abney he replied he would give "a damn cent to the Red Cross."

"He ought to be run out of Columbia," said Mr. McMaster. "He ought to be run out of the great Southern railroad which he represents. Columbia is no place for a man who says 'not a damn cent for the Red Cross' when he is asked to give."

\$8,000 ASKED FROM PRESBYTERIANS.

Durant, Ola., May 22.—The Southern Presbyterian general assembly to be asked the churches to give \$8,000 this year for the support of the training school for lay workers at Richmond, Va., and referred the question of its future support to the permanent committee on systematic benevolence to report next year. Miss Katherine Hawes, Richmond, Mrs. H. M. Price, Baltimore, and Mrs. A. W. McAllister, Greensboro, N. C., were placed on the board of directors of the training school.

The report of the theological seminaries committee urged that "in accordance with the recommendation of President Wilson young men in colleges and seminaries complete their courses of study in order to render to the state and church the most efficient service possible."

U-BOAT LEAD BEING RAPIDLY CUT DOWN

America Now Launching More Ships Than are Destroyed

SUB TOLL DECREASES

Fraction Over 9,000 Tons Daily Record During Month of April.

REACH BALANCE AUG. 1.

Must Not Be Forgotten England is Also Speeding Up Construction and Restoration of Her Ships.

BY FRANK P. MORSE
Washington, D. C., May 22.—American shipyards are rapidly cutting down the U-boat lead. The April tonnage toll of the submarine, announced yesterday in an admiralty dispatch from London, shows a decrease of 25 per cent when compared with earlier figures. Even at the rate of output set last week, the United States is now launching more ships each month than the undersea terrors are able to destroy.

According to the British government's report, the total loss of shipping in April due to the U-boat warfare was 305,102 tons. That is a fraction more than 10,000 tons a day. The same month saw the new American merchant marine increased at the rate of a little more than 9,000 tons of shipping daily. Even at the April rate of production the United States very nearly made good the world's ship losses due to submarines.

The April figures, however, were much smaller than the records now being established for May. A little less than 102,000 tons of steel and wood ships were completed and delivered to the emergency fleet corporation last week. This is more than a third of the total U-boat score for April. And this addition of 100,000 tons to the world's shipping was accomplished in one-fourth the time Germany required to destroy 300,000 tons.

These figures are extremely significant in view of the fact that this country is only just at the beginning of quantity ship production. Some of the biggest yards in the country have not yet arrived at the preliminary stage of production. Hog Island, for example, when it reaches its full capacity, is expected to turn out almost as much tonnage each month as the German submarines destroyed in April.

If the U-boat records do not show an increase this month and next over the April figures it is safe to say that the United States, without regard to British or other production, will be able to discount the submarine losses and begin piling up a tonnage total on the right side of the ledger.

The shipping board made the prediction several months ago that a balance between U-boat destruction and American construction of shipping would be reached on August 1, and that thereafter the United States would steadily forge ahead and begin to make good the loss in world shipping due to submarine ravages since the beginning of the war. The drop of 25 per cent in U-boat destruction and the swift increase in the American production rates indicates that the shipping board estimate was entirely too conservative.

It must not be forgotten that Great Britain also is speeding up ship construction and restoration. The Washington government is still awaiting definite figures on the present output of new British ships. In the absence of these records it is interesting to note that the English shipping repair yards are now restoring to service more than 500,000 gross tons a week. A total of 5,307 vessels, representing a gross tonnage of 15,150,000, were repaired and restored to service between August 3, 1917, and April 25, 1918.

In the face of these facts, backed by the positive assertions of the British government that both Ostend and Zebrugga have been bottled up, there is every reason to believe that this country and her allies are now producing ship tonnage at a rate that defies the present destructive powers of the German U-boats.