

News Without Bias Views Without Prejudice

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Haig Hammers Wedge Into German Line

British Have Fought Their Way Into Outskirts of Both Lens and St. Quentin. Encompassed on Three Sides Germans are Making Frantic Efforts to Save Guns and Supplies

Of the day's developments on the Western front William Philip Simms United Press correspondent with the British armies abroad, says: "The British fought their way forward into the outskirts of St. Quentin and Lens today. "North of St. Quentin they took the village of Troisauvages. "Already their forces have encompassed Lens on three sides and are slowly enveloping the city, while the Germans fight desperately to save their supplies. "Early today the Germans launched two desperate and frantic attacks at Monchy-lez-Reims. Both were repulsed. The British artillery doing terrible execution. "A strong German assault gave them a foothold north of Penningue but a British counter swept them out before they could make good their advance."

London, April 16—In the face of the fiercest resistance yet met against the British Drive General Haig's forces battered their way today still further into the enemy's defenses around Lens, and pushed another wedge within half a mile of Cambrai on the St. Quentin line. "We progressed to the northwest of Lens" was General Haig's laconic comment in report of fighting at a point where the British forces had straddled the Hindenburg line. He also announces the capture of capture of Villaret southeast of Hargicourt. The capture of this position widens the wedge driven into the main Hindenburg line communications from St. Quentin to Cambrai to a width of approximately five miles. Dispatches reveal the wild haste of the Germans to withdraw their enormous stores from the doomed cities of Lens and St. Quentin. Paris, April 16—Violent artillery fighting along almost the whole French front with vigorous French offensive raids resulted in the penetrating of the enemy lines at six points on the German lines in Alsace it is officially reported today. The artillery fighting was especially severe from Soissons to Rheims.

Will Use Gas Locomotive

The Foreman-Blades Lumber Company have received a new gas locomotive for use in their logging operations. The locomotive will be used to pull the log cars. It is a four cylinder engine and weighs six tons.

Balfour Arrives In United States

Washington, April 16—British foreign minister Balfour arrived in the United States today. A reception for the allied commissioner has been arranged to be held at the White House Wednesday.

CALLS FOR VOLUNTEERS

Raleigh, April 16—Governor Bickett issued a proclamation today urging the fullest co-operation of North Carolina citizens in rushing the procurement of 400 recruits for the navy from North Carolina by May 20th. He urges that patriotic meetings be held in every community.

A MEMORIAL TO REV. I. N. LOFTIN

HARDLY A DRY EYE IN CONGREGATION AS WITNESS IS BORNE TO PASTOR'S FAITHFUL MINISTRY.

One of the most impressive and remarkable services ever held in this city was that conducted at Blackwell Memorial church Sunday memorializing Rev. I. N. Loftin, pastor of the church, whose death occurred on the preceding Thursday. The auditorium was filled to the overflowing, those present including not only members of the church and of other congregations but people from all over the city and some from the country. A large number bore witness of blessing that had come to them in Mr. Loftin's ministry.

The service was led by M. N. Sawyer, chairman of the board, of deacons who, after calling on the various deacons for an expression, gave every one present who wished to do so opportunity to speak. The number of young people responding to the invitation was notable.

At the service the following resolutions were unanimously adopted by the church:

Inasmuch as God in his infinite wisdom has removed from among us our beloved pastor and co-worker, Rev. I. N. Loftin, and transported his spirit from this earthly temporary dwelling place to his abiding home in heaven;

AND WHEREAS we feel deeply our loss because of his death and wish in a feeble way to express our heartfelt sorrow, love and esteem; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of Blackwell Memorial church in conference assembled;

First:—That although our hearts bleed with grief in the true spirit of a Christian people, we bow in humble submission to God's will the full assurance that our loss is his gain.

Second:—That we mourn with sad and heavy hearts the loss of our most faithful, devoted and loyal pastor who labored earnestly, zealously and unceasingly among us, visiting our sick and afflicted, administering to our spiritual needs, bringing hope and cheer to those in sorrow, and like the Good Shepherd giving his life unselfishly for his sheep in the services of the Master.

Third:—That we cherish the memory of this beautiful Christian life, pure, clean and undefiled as a man, calm, serene, patient, and long-suffering, but firm, brave, emphatic and uncompromising as a citizen; devoutly consecrated, tender and sympathetic, fatherly and masterful as a pastor in the guidance of his people.

Fourth:—That we extend to his bereaved loved ones in their hour of sorrow our deepest and most sympathetic sympathy and send copious prayers to his devoted

TIME NOW TO PLANT GARDENS

AND HERE IS AN EXPERT WITH FREE ADVICE AS TO HOW TO GO ABOUT IT

By CARL VROOMAN (Assistant Secretary of Agriculture)

Washington, April 14—Now is the time to plant, and planting is important, for a plant is like a child—there is much in giving it a good start.

Corn should be sown at the rear of the lot. The distance between the rows can be cut down a great deal if the gardener is careful. Two feet apart will be food enough. Golden bantam corn can be used four inches apart in the row. Sow two rows as soon as danger of frost has passed. Cover two inches deep.

A week later sow two more rows and a week later two more, making six in all. When the plants are five inches high thin to stand one foot apart in the rows. For six rows fifty feet long three pints of seed will be needed. Cultivate constantly, but as the corn grows cultivate only close to the surface. Two rows of corn fifty feet long should produce nine dozen ears.

Smooth peas, which like rich soil, should come next. Sow these as soon as the ground is ready, but the wrinkled ones should be planted two weeks later. The peas should be planted two inches apart in the rows, which should be two feet apart for tall and eighteen inches for dwarf varieties.

Three plantings can be used in a row of beans. Early in the Spring sow one third of the row, first soaking the seed over night. Sow the seeds thin and half an inch deep. The second third can be planted in a week and complete the row a week later. When two inches high thin out to stand four inches apart. Each fifty foot row will take an ounce of seed. Radishes and carrots should be sown together for two reasons. Carrots are delicate and will not push through hard ground. The radishes will take them along. Spinach will serve the same purpose. The carrots should be sown a third of a row at a time, about ten days apart, each time with radishes.

Mr. and Mrs. Barlow Harrell of this city visited relatives in Edenton Sunday.

wife and family, a copy to the Biblical Recorder and a copy to The Advance.

R. L. Kendrick, Geo. W. Brothers, M. N. Sawyer, Geo. J. Spence

FRAME BUILDINGS IN THE FIRE DISTRICTS

Insurance Commissioner James R. Young has issued the following letter to building inspectors, chiefs of fire departments and other local officials throughout the State in regard to frame buildings in fire districts and repairs:

"Gentlemen:—Because of some misunderstanding and confusion in regard to frame buildings in fire districts and repairs thereto, I deem it necessary to call to your attention the following matters:

"1. Under section 2985 the board of aldermen or commissioners of each city and town must establish and define a fire district in their city or town.

"2. Under section 2983, no frame building (including iron-clad buildings) can be erected under any circumstances.

"3. Under section 2983, no frame or wooden building can be altered, repaired, or moved except upon a permit of the building inspector, approved by the Insurance Commissioner. The responsibility of passing upon the application is placed upon the building inspector by the law; but his permit is not valid or effective until approved by the Insurance Commissioner.

"4. In section 2910 we find: 'No building new or hereafter built shall

Missionary Day Next Sunday

Sunday, April 22, will be Missionary Day at Blackwell Memorial Sunday school.

A special program is being prepared in which all of the Sunday school departments will have part. The Primary Department and the Juniors will contribute instructive and interesting features, and the band will render special numbers.

A flag exercise by the young men and women will be one of the most elaborate features.

The special Days recently observed by the Sunday school have been greatly enjoyed and have added impetus to the work undertaken this year in building up a Class A Sunday school. Cradle Roll and Home Department Days were of much interest last fall and this spring. Three Sundays ago the first teachers training class had its graduating exercises, marking an important step in the growth of the school work. There were eight to complete the course. Other classes are to be formed in teacher training work.

It is desired to make Sunday a real Rally Day in the Sunday School—a Spring Opening Day, as one of the leaders expresses it. Sickness and bad weather have kept many away from Sunday school during the winter, and in very hot months there are many who leave the city on vacations. But Spring brings real Sunday School weather and it is hoped that next Sunday will make many who have lagged behind in Sunday school work renew their interest and form again the habit of regular attendance.

New Theatre Opens Tonight

The first opening of the New Theatre hardly attracted as much attention or interest as will probably be shown at the re-opening of this popular playhouse tonight when Kitty Gordon, styled as the British favorite queen of the movie screen, will be seen in "Her Maternal Right," said to be the most fitting role in which this superb player has ever appeared.

The excellence of this picture, together with a desire to see the transformation that has been wrought in the New Theatre since the beginning of repairs there a short time ago, will perhaps draw the largest crowd that has ever attended a performance at the New Theatre.

WEATHER OR NO

Fair Monday night and Tuesday and not much chance in temperature. Gentle variable winds.

Germany Would Revive Peace Talk

Intrigue on Foot to Bring Allies to Ask for Peace Through Pressure of Socialists

Austria Makes Bid For Peace

Amsterdam, April 16—Austria regards a basis of understanding as easily possible with Russia in view of the identity in sentiment of certain statements by the new provisional ministry with those of the Austrian foreign minister, recently expressed. This is the substance of a semi-official statement from Vienna today. It is regarded as the first open bid for separate peace with the Russians.

Bryan Ready To Enter Fight

Washington, April 16—William Jennings Bryan told President Wilson today that he was for any measure that would hasten a speedy ending of the war. He is himself willing to serve anywhere. He urges war-time prohibition.

Death Ends Long Feud

New York, April 16—Death ended the 17-year feud between John D. Rockefeller and his brother Frank today. John will attend the latter's funeral in Cleveland. It is announced.

All Licenses Are Revoked

Washington, April 16—Secretary Daniels has announced the suspension of all shore radio stations license for the period of the war. Anyone operating such station in defiance of the President's order will be regarded as under suspicion of being an enemy.

Bond Issue to Pass Tuesday

Washington, April 16—The senate finance committee reported favorably on the seven billion dollar bond issue bill today. Senator Simmons says that the Senate will pass the bill Tuesday.

Broadway Jones At The Alkrama

Patrons of the Alkrama theatre will be delighted to learn that Geo. M. Cohan, world famed movie actor will appear at this theatre at an early date in Broadway Jones. This picture is now being run at the Granby at Norfolk, and is attracting much favorable comment. Mr. Kramer says that the regular prices only will be charged when this wonderful production is screened at the Alkrama.

Tonight at the Alkrama "The Gates of Eden", a drama of life in a Shaker community written by Rev. William E. Danforth and with Viola Dana as star will be the feature attraction on the program. Also Francis X. Bushman and Beverly Bain will be seen in the "Great Secret."

By ARTHUR MANN (United Press Staff Correspondent)

Copenhagen, April 16—Germany is secretly striving to revive peace talk. She asks peace on her own terms, though these are doubtless subject to considerable amendment. Germany asked for peace in December and was refused. She is now planning to maneuver the allies into asking for it.

Positive confirmation of the official overtures to the United States was obtained today. The hint comes now even more strongly from German official sources that the United States will do well to send Colonel House to the Hague for a conference with German representatives.

The main intrigue whereby Germany hopes to start a movement for her enemies to ask peace is apparently through German socialists. Suddenly socialists in the Teutonic empires are coming into favor. Their leaders are assiduously cultivated by German officials. German censorship has been loosened in a way altogether without precedent in permitting communication between socialists in other countries with those in Germany. Moreover the drastic rules prohibiting the departure of German citizens from their own country have been abrogated to permit Philip Schneiderman and other socialists to hold conferences with socialists of enemy countries.

All peace feelers, however, avoid the mention of any terms.

Genins Looks Like Preacher

(By United Press)

Washington, April 16—The center fire control for dreadnaughts where by main gun batteries are located in a line down the center of the ship, is one of the revolutions of naval construction contributed to the world by American naval genius, Rear Admiral David W. Taylor, recognized as one of the world's leading authorities on naval construction is the man who originated "center fire."

He is now chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair. His job is to draw the intricate detail plans and specifications for the navy's new ships, and after afloat to keep them ship shape. No one branch of the naval establishment is more vital than his; perhaps none so much so.

Admiral Taylor inaugurated his brilliant career with the Navy by graduating with top honors from the Annapolis academy, and then entering the great English naval academy when England was receiving our Midshipmen. Taylor carried off highest honors ever won at that academy. When the British cruiser Hawk rammed the steamship Olympia in the Thames several years ago the British government sent for Admiral Taylor to obtain his expert opinion as to the cause of the collision.

It is chiefly due to his efforts that the present super-dreadnaught can travel faster and with greater displacement on the same amount of coal than the pre-dreadnaught could.

Taylor is one of the meekest men to look at, in the world. He has the face, bearing and general appearance of a country preacher. He thinks so far ahead in warship construction that he's generally about the same distance behind in the matter of prevailing styles for men's clothing.

Mrs. Herbert Thornton of this city left Friday for Norfolk Va.