

News Without  
Bias  
Views Without  
Prejudice

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## Exemption Claims Running Heavy

### Exemption Boards Are Urged to be Doubly Cautious In Re- gard To All Claims.

(By United Press)

Washington, July 31.—Claims of exemption from service in America's National Army are running heavy.

Initial examinations here and at other points show a heavier percentage of claims than had been anticipated. Only 29 out of 929 here failed to claim exemption yesterday.

Another caution has been sent out to Exemption Boards to be doubly cautious in regard to all claims.

Meantime, the great hunt for draft evaders has started. The names of hundreds of youths who thought themselves securely concealed from the War Boards have been forwarded to local authorities by the Department of Justice. Many mothers whose boys have registered informed the department of neighborhood "slackers."

#### SECOND CLASS SOON CALLED

The second class of 755,700 men registered under the draft will be called for examination early in August to replace those exempted of the first class now being examined.

Agricultural workers and munition factory hands will be greatly restricted in their exemption claims. It is intimated that the city "war gardener" will not be exempted. It is stated.

## HEAT WAVE OVER ENTIRE SOUTH

(By United Press)

Richmond, July 31.—Stammering heat and a general inertia have encompassed Richmond. Early morning reports from more than 90 Southern points indicated universal suffering and numerous prostrations.

### SCORES PROSTRATED BY INTENSE HEAT

(By United Press)

New York, July 31.—Scores of people have been prostrated today by the severe heat. Several deaths have occurred.

All over the country from the East to the Rockies the heat wave grows worse.

## NOT OBLIGED TO FOLLOW FRANCE

(By United Press)

Washington, July 31.—The United States is not obliged to follow France in her ambition to regain Alsace-Lorraine, it is officially stated here. Nor is America's relation towards the Allies such that this government must necessarily demand the freedom of certain parts of Austria.

## At The Alkrama

"The Money Mill," featuring Dorothy Kelley is Wednesday's treat for Alkrama patrons. The picture is an exceedingly timely one. In this day and time of the almighty dollar. You will be glad you have seen it, so avail yourself of this opportunity. Remember, there will be no addition in the price of admission.

A Triangle comedy of special note will be screened, "A Male Governess" is the title, and you will enjoy the mix up.

### KAISER AT FRONT

Copenhagen, July 31.—Kaiser Wilhelm was on the Riga front yesterday stimulating his troops to action with speeches of praise, according to dispatches received here.

## URGE MR AYDLETT TO TAKE CHARGE

### BAPTISTS OF NORTH CAROLINA RECOGNIZE IN HIM QUALITIES NECESSARY FOR CONDUCTING BIG EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN

The Baptists of North Carolina have decided to raise one million dollars to endow the denomination's colleges in the state. The Baptist State Convention asked the Board of Education to select the men to take charge of this work and at a recent meeting of the Board their unanimous choice was named.—E. F. Aydlett of Elizabeth City.

This work is one of especial importance and the task of selecting the right man to do it was no light one. A Christian business man was the board's aim, a man who had already proved that he could manage financial affairs successfully and a man who is sincerely interested in the work of his denomination.

Following are a few extracts from letters received by Mr. Aydlett from leaders in the denomination urging him to accept the task for which they have selected him.

"The matter of major importance is the raising of a million dollars for our educational campaign. The Board elected you to conduct this campaign, recognizing your ability and feeling thoroughly willing to leave to you the entire plan.

"You do not need the glory of such a campaign successfully pulled off to make you remembered and loved for many generations but all your brethren thought you were the man to make it go. Your good name as one of our best and most successful business men, they thought, would add greatly in inspiring the brotherhood and sisterhood to take hold and cooperate liberally.

"I sincerely hope that you will accept this great work. You are the one man that can direct it to success, I feel sure."

"Now you are a very busy man, we all know, and you would be sacrificing a great deal in every way to undertake this work, and yet we venture to hope that you will make the sacrifice. You have demonstrated your ability to organize and conduct large enterprises.

"Before selecting any manager, we decided that we must have a business man whose own personal success would at the outset guarantee the wisest and most economical methods and the finest results. The man that we need is so rare that after going over the whole field you are the only man we could think of whose leadership would promise triumphant success."

If Mr. Aydlett accepts the work it will take much of his time, as it will require him to go over the entire State and may require from two to three years to successfully complete the campaign.

The work of Mr. Aydlett in organizing the fields in Chowan Association was recognized by Baptists of the State as work of unusual value in the denomination. A prominent Baptist at that time said, "We need more Baptists like Ed Aydlett,—the sort that puts his business sense into his religion." Indeed, we need a man like him to go all over the State organizing the denomination for more effective work.

And so, remembering this work and other deeds of a like high order, the Baptists have decided that they must have him. It now remains for Mr. Aydlett to say whether or not he will accept the honor and the task for which his fellow churchmen have called him.

African called Delville Wood, was taken literally a foot at a time and he, despite infernal shell-fire. The British would not let go.

In September they got their reward. They had gained to the crest of the deadly ridge and then, with one swoop almost they captured village after village—Guillemont, Ghinchy, Flers, Martinpuich, Courcellette, Guadecourt, Lesbouffs, Morval and Thiepval.

On the 15th of this month the tanks went into action for the first time. On that day the famous official message of an airman read:

"A tank is walking up the High Street of Flers with the British Army cheering behind it.

And it was a fact. A complete sur-

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## ENGLAND AT LAST IS ON WAR BASIS

### PERIODS OF PROCRASTINATION AND PREPARATION HAVE GIVEN PLACE TO PROGRESS AND VICTORY

(By ED. L. KEEN)

(United Press Staff Correspondent.)  
London, July 31.—Britain's part in the past three years of war may be told in three words:

Procrastination; Preparation; Progress.

In the first year, besides doing very many things she should not have done, she left undone most of the things she should have done.

It was not until the second year was well under way that the people of Britain woke up. Having finally sensed that it was a man-sized war, they began to prepare—almost too late, but with a thoroughness that went far to overcome the effects of their former dilatoriness.

With her industries at last organized on a world-war basis, Britain started supplying her troops with proper quantities of the right sort of guns and shells, the lack of which had already caused near-disaster on the Western front. It took her nearly two years to learn that the voluntary system of recruiting was a failure, and then she adopted conscription. With characteristic lack of imagination she took no thought of the economic tomorrow. Unappreciating the possibilities of German rightfulness she failed to conserve and uphold her food and shipping resources—until again it was almost too late.

Most of Britain's sins of omission and commission in this war are traceable to the fact that she first tried to run it with the governmental machinery of peace. The lawyer-politicians composing her cabinet, who for some years had been very successfully conducting a peace-time government proved unequal to the very different task of war. Believing their troubles lay in the party-government system, they next tried the coalition scheme—a hitherogeneous cabinet of twenty-three members, also mostly lawyer-politicians. That was even worse, as was later effectively demonstrated in the revelations of the Dardanelles Commission. Most of the blunders and shortcomings of the coalition cabinet were due to its combersomeness, its inability to reach decisions promptly and execute them without delay, and its consequent failure to take speedy advantage of changing conditions.

Having proven the unadaptability to war of the one-party government and the all-party government, there was only one thing left for Britain to try—the one-man government.

So far it has worked well. Nominally, of course, Britain is still governed by a Ministry, of about the same size as its forerunner, with an Inner Council, or War Cabinet, of five members, on which the Liberal, Conservative, and Labor parties are represented—but Lloyd George is really the government. If Parliament has become a mere debating society, as some of its members grumblingly charge, that is simply because Parliament as a whole, as well as the British people, have confidence in Lloyd George's ability as general war manager of the Empire.

Thus clothed with more authority than even the President of the United States possesses, and with a genius for accomplishing things that was so badly lacking in his predecessor as Prime Minister, Lloyd George has succeeded in getting Britain into the war with the sort of energy and enthusiasm and industry that she should have displayed from the start. Moreover, by reason of his sympathetic understanding and personal magnetism, he has composed in recent months the labor disputes that for a time were a most menacing factor in the conduct of the war. Finally, thru the exercise of plain common-sense which nobody apparently ever thought of applying to the question before, he is solving the Irish situation by the simple expedient of letting the Irishmen settle their own troubles.

Militarily the one outstanding feature of the year 1916-17 is that Britain has gained the initiative. For the first time since the war began Germany is entirely on the defensive. The mere matter of reclaiming some 600 square miles on the Western front doesn't mean much geographi-

## Big Battle Starts On Flanders Front

### Described as the Superlatively Con- centrated Fire Of The Whole War.

(By United Press)

London, July 31.—A big battle has started on the Flanders front.

Field Marshal Haig's reports opened "Fighting has started in Flanders."

For a week there has been artillery bombardment of almost indescribable fury from around Armentieres to the Belgian coast. Despatches from the front described it as the superlatively concentrated fire of the whole war. The detonations of the firing were plainly heard in London.

England and France are signaling the beginning of the fourth year of war with a joint offensive on the two fronts which has swept forward with full success to the first objective.

In Flanders beyond Messines-Wy-bridge the British assisted by the French troops on the left have brought to a climax their vast artillery preparations of the past week by a concerted mass attack.

On Chemin Des Dames Paris reports a sudden offensive in the Chevreny sector which smashed ahead to German positions on the Moreville front.

Exact extent of the British-French offensive in Flanders but its lowermost point is north of the river Lys. Despatches from the front state that fighting is now in progress and that the first men went over the top at 3:50 A. M. today.

Berlin, July 31.—"Artillery fire on the Flanders front has increased to drum fire intensity," is the official statement here. "In the morning strong enemy attacks commenced on a wide front from the Yser to the Lys."

The menace to the Suez Canal and Egypt has been removed, and Allenby's men are now almost at the gates of Jerusalem. With the capture of Baghdad, Gen. Maude has shattered the German dream of a highway from Hamburg to the Persian Gulf. An unusually heavy and prolonged rainy season has hampered operations in East Africa, but only a small portion of Germany's last colony remains in her hands.

However, at no time since the war started have conditions been less propitious for the would-be prophet, than today. The plans of each side to starve the other out seem definitely doomed to failure. Despite the continued tightening of the British blockade, the Central Powers have reached harvest time without collapsing. The U-boat warfare, although serious, has not met the expectations of its instigators. Germany has been very hungry—but she is used to it. England has scarcely begun to fight on her belt. The Rhine is still a long way off. Russia is an uncertain quantity. America is in with both feet, but the full effect of her participation cannot be felt for a year or more.

When Kitchener forested three years of war, he had certain definite facts on which to base the prediction. Better than any man then living he knew the state of Britain's unpreparedness, as well as the extent of Germany's preparedness. He knew, too, Britain's potential strength; therefore he discounted the possibility of Germany's winning the war by a quick, decisive, overwhelming campaign—which was her expectation.

Were Kitchener alive today it is doubtful whether even he would risk his reputation as a seer. The experiences of the past three years have strikingly illustrated the fallibility of human calculations, the limitations of human forethought. Who, for example, would have been so rash as to predict that before Kitchener's three years had expired 14 countries would be fighting Germany and 9 others not on speaking terms with her? Or that the war now would be costing Britain alone forty million dollars a day? Or that the Russian steam roller was to change chauffeurs? Or that "dollar-mad" America would finally have found her soul?

## ALLIES ASCENDANT ON LAND AND SEA

### BRITISH BULLDOG HAS CLOSED IN AND GOT HIS GRIP AND QUESTION OF VICTORY IS ONE OF TIME

(By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS)

With The British Armies in The Field, July 31.—Today Britain is on top. At the close of the third year of the war, the British bulldog is no longer on the bottom. The "contemptible little army," which the Kaiser sneered at in 1914 has taken its medicine and, despite the hammering it has received, now has Crown Prince Rupprecht's men rather more than matched.

The first year of the fight the small new army recruited by Lord Kitchener to take the place of the first Hundred Thousand of the Regular Army, simply caught Haig's "Columbia." But though their heads were bloodied, they held their own. The second year saw more troops, more guns, more ammunition, but even as late as Loos the Prussian was too strong for the new British army, still lacking as it was in all the machinery of war.

But, at the beginning of the third year, England had caught up. For the first time since Armageddon began the British army faced the enemy on fairly equal footing. There were plenty of machinery and with these in hand Sir Douglas Haig, in July 1916, began the battle of the Somme.

For two years the Prussians had been preparing the Somme positions and, at the time Sir Douglas began the great adventure, Field Marshal Hindenburg considered the line impregnable. History had never seen anything approaching it. Behind first line trenches, deep and reinforced with concrete and steel, were reserve lines just as deep and just as strong. Machine guns, in betoned emplacements fairly bristled along the fire-trenches and many more were in hidden further back, while every wood and thicket had been turned into impassable entanglements made of special barbed wire as thick as a child's finger with wicked barbs every inch. Concentrated turrets of armor-plate steel had been sunk in the ground at strategic points leaving only their revolving tops and gun-muzzles above the level of the earth and in between were redoubts and strong points, labyrinth, tunnels, quadrilaterals and every other device running Hindenburg could put into play.

The French and British struck together, the French below the Somme River, the British north of it, towards Bapaume, Combes and Peronne. British artillery for the first time in the war showed superiority over the German and its continuous roll rumbled day and night. Prussian armies tried to give Prussian gunners the range as they had always done in the past, but now British armies swooped down upon them like enraged hawks and drove them down, or back beyond the lines completely dominating the air. German observation balloons were sent blazing to the earth by British planes, out in sufficient number at last. So the enemy's guns were blind.

But the fight was anything but a walk-over for the British and the French. The Germans, accustomed to winning battles with every advantage on their side, could not realize that the tide had turned in this, the third year of the war, and from their miraculously strong and well-chosen positions, fought like tigers.

All through August the British Tommies kept doggedly at the enemy, bombing him, bayoneting him, driving him back inch by inch up the slopes towards Thiepval, from Farm to Pestiers. Devil's Wood, as the S.

## WOMEN SHOT ON UNPROVED CHARGE

(By United Press)

Amsterdam, July 31.—German authorities at Liege shot down a merchant, his wife and two daughters on unproved charges of espionage, according to wireless reports received here. The daughters were compelled to witness the execution of their parents.

## COMPROMISE ON WAGES AND HOURS

(By United Press)

Washington, July 31.—Steps toward the settlement of the differences between 40,000 shop men on 14 southeastern railroads were taken in a conference of representatives of both sides with Secretary of Labor Wilson today.

A compromise was reached in regard to wages and hours, but six other matters remain to be settled.

### TEMPERATURE HIGH IN ALL SECTIONS

(By United Press)

Boston, July 31.—The temperature here today is 93; at Detroit 94; at Pittsburg, 92; at Atlanta 94.

### VON FALKENHAYN ON PALESTINE FRONT

(By United Press)

Amsterdam, July 31.—Germany's new commander on the Palestine front is General Von Falkenhayn, former commander in chief on the eastern front.