

GERMANY RESUMES HER BIG OFFENSIVE

CLAIM CROWN PRINCE'S ARMY HAS CAPTURED CHEMIN DES DAMES RIDGE.

DRIVE FOR CHANEL PORTS

It is Probable That Americans Are Engaged in the Fighting on Both Fronts.

Germany's great offensive on the western front has been resumed. With only brief artillery preparation, two blows have been struck by the Teuton armies, which have been reorganized since disastrous losses were inflicted on them by the French and British during the Picardy and Flanders battles in March and April. One attack was on the line from Voormeylee to Loere, southwest of Ypres; the other on the 35-mile front from Pinon, north of Soissons, to Rheims. This is known as the Alsine sector.

In Flanders the Germans have gained virtually nothing, but farther south the Berlin official statement claims the German crown prince's troops have carried the whole ridge of the Chemin des Dames and now are fighting on the Alsine river.

Recalls Fearful Fighting.

On the Alsine front the present battle recalls the fearful fighting of last summer along the Chemin des Dames, where for weeks the German crown prince hurled his men against the French positions only to see them crushed and beaten. Last year 75 divisions were engaged in the German attacks along this line alone.

The attack here is really in the nature of a line-straightening operation. It is being launched from Laon as a center and is aimed at the elbow in the line formed during the fighting in Picardy in March and April. Here, however, the Germans must face permanent works which have been occupied by the French for long periods and which can be defended quite easily.

Evidence that the allied supreme command was forewarned of the new German attack may be found in the fact that British troops are fighting there. Up to the present, it had been believed that the British forces did not hold positions much south of the Somme, east of Amiens.

PRESIDENT PUTS END TO QUESTION OF ADJOURNMENT

Washington.—President Wilson ended discussion over whether Congress shall stay in Washington this summer to enact new revenue legislation by appearing before the house and senate in joint session and calling upon members to put aside politics and all other considerations to provide money for growing war expenses and to advise the country in advance of the tax burdens it must meet.

Just as the President was leaving the White House for the capitol word came that the German drive against the west front had been renewed. He gave his visit a dramatic touch by announcing this news as he concluded his prepared speech, saying it strengthened the purpose he had tried to express.

The demand that, with the war at its "peak and crisis," Congress do its duty at home as the soldiers are doing their duty in the trenches overseas, brought instant acquiescence. There still was reluctance in some quarters to believe immediate legislation imperative, but plans for mid-summer adjournment were abandoned and both democratic and republican leaders expressed their determination to go at the task of passing a revenue bill with a will.

A suggestion by the President that most of the new taxes probably would fall upon incomes, excess profits and luxuries and that profiteers would be reached in this way was greeted with cheers, and congressional leaders said later the money needed would come from those sources.

RED CROSS MERCY FUND REACHES TOTAL OF \$133,306,630

Washington.—Germany's challenge of frightfulness in France has been answered by the American people with an outpouring of \$133,306,630 for the second war mercy fund of the Red Cross. This was an over-subscription of \$33,306,630, with returns still coming. Greater New York which earlier had reported only \$27,000,000, turned in final subscriptions at midnight of \$33,343,730.

MARK HYMAN



Mark Hyman, who for several years has been special assistant to the attorney general for antitrust investigations, is now assisting Assistant Attorney General Todd in the Hog Island Inquiry.

EVERY MAN TO WORK OR FIGHT

UNLIMITED POWER TO PRESIDENT TO INCREASE ARMY TO SIZE HE SEES FIT.

Drastic Amendment to Selective Service Law Touching Habitual Idlers and Non-Useful Workers.

Washington.—Two important steps were taken toward perfecting the task of putting the nation on a war basis.

Soon after Provost Marshal General Crowder had promulgated a drastic amendment to the selective service regulations requiring every man of draft age to work or fight, Secretary Baker appeared before the house military committee and asked that President Wilson be authorized to call to the colors all men of draft age who can be equipped and trained. The committee promptly and unanimously voted the authority into the army appropriation bill about to be reported to the house.

General Crowder's new regulation is far-reaching in scope and touches not only habitual idlers, but also requires that draft registrants now in occupations held to be non-useful seek new jobs or take their places in the army. Clerks in stores, waiters, bartenders, employes at places of amusement, passenger elevator men and other employes around hotels, clubs and business buildings as well as gamblers, fortune tellers and race track and bucket shop attendants all fall among those classed as non-usefully engaged. Enforcement of the rule is expected to add some men to the army and to do a more important service in improving the labor situation in essential industries.

The house military committee's action after hearing Secretary Baker completed the army bill, with provision for the pay of 3,000,000 men and with ordnance appropriations on the basis of an army of 4,000,000. The measure will be laid before the house carrying a total of \$9,569,129,000 of actual appropriations, and authorization for contracts amounting to \$2,464,416,000 more.

May Mean Five Millions.

Mr. Baker told the committee in executive session the President's reasons for asking that no limit be placed upon the number of draft men to be called. Members said later it was estimated that an army of 5,000,000 could be raised without changing the draft ages.

The new regulation also will affect the following classes:

(a) Persons engaged in the serving of food and drink, or either, in public places including hotels and social clubs.

(b) Passenger elevator operators and attendants, doormen, footmen and other attendants of clubs, hotels, stores, apartment houses, office buildings and bath houses.

(c) Persons, including ushers and other attendants, engaged and occupied in, and in connection with games, sports and amusements, excepting actual performers in legitimate concerts, operas or theatrical performances.

(d) Persons employed in domestic science.

(e) Sales clerks and other clerks employed in stores and other mercantile establishments.

RAILROAD EMPLOYEES GET BIG INCREASE

EFFECTIVE SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST; RETROACTIVE TO LAST JANUARY FIRST, 1918.

ABOUT \$300,000,000 ADDED

All Increases to Be Determined Upon Percentage Basis Upon Pay in December, 1915.

Washington.—General pay increases for nearly two million railroad employes were announced by Director General McAdoo, effective next Saturday and retroactive to last January 1, carrying out substantially recommendations of the railroad wage commission. The aggregate of the increases probably will be more than \$300,000,000 a year, half of which will be distributed within a few weeks as back pay in lump sums ranging from about \$100 to nearly \$200 each.

The director general departed from the wage commissioner's recommendations in the following particulars:

The principle of the basic eight-hour day is recognized, but owing to exigencies of the war situation, hours on employment are not actually reduced and overtime is to be paid pro rata; future adjustments of pay are to be made on the basis of eight hours.

In addition to the ordinary scale of increase, day laborers employed mainly on track work are to get at least 2 1/2 cents an hour more than they received last December 31.

Women are to receive the same pay as men for the same work and negroes are to get the same as white men for similar employment.

To work out a multitude of inequalities and other injustices caused by varying rules of employment and condition of organization, the director general created a new board of railroad wage and working conditions consisting of three railway executives which will conduct extensive investigation and recommend wage and other employment changes.

All increases now ordered will be determined according to a percentage scale based on pay received in December, 1915, and any increases which have been allowed within that time will be deducted. In many cases the raises in pay in the last two and a half years are about equal to the increases now approved and consequently these employes will get little or no more. To correct just such situations when injustices are apparent will be one of the principal duties of the new wage board, whose creation was suggested by the railroad wage commission. In no cases are wages to be reduced.

Men working on the monthly, daily, hourly, piece work and train mile basis will benefit by the new allowances.

RED CROSS GOES BEYOND GOAL BY TWELVE MILLION

Washington.—With the American Red Cross' second \$100,000,000 war mercy fund already over-subscribed by \$12,097,304, officials were setting no limit to the outpouring of dollars on the closing day of the week's drive. That that daily average of something more than \$18,000,000 would be far exceeded they had no doubt.

On the face of returns at headquarters here 11 of the 14 divisions had oversubscribed, with the gulf leading the home divisions in percentage with 210, but the foreign topping them all with 300. The three divisions which had not attained their quotas were expected to go over the top.

The Potomac division shows \$4,200,290 and the southern division \$3,701,100.

Greater New York lacks \$1,399,660 of equaling its quota. Philadelphia, with an allotment of \$4,500,000, has given \$5,500,000, nearly four times its minimum. Pittsburgh has attained only 56 per cent of its \$4,000,000, while Chicago has turned in only 47 per cent of its \$7,000,000. Boston is another of the larger cities behind in the campaign.

PLEA OF COUNT MINOTTO DENIED BY FEDERAL JUDGE

Chicago.—The plea of Count James Minotto for freedom on a writ of habeas corpus from internment on a Presidential warrant was denied by Federal Judge Carpenter. The judge withheld reading of the decision to allow the count to pass a night with his wife, Countess Ida May Swift Minotto, daughter of Louis F. Swift. The count's counsel had admitted the government attorney's disclosure that the count's father was born in Vienna.

JACK MUNROE



Jack Munroe, who gained fame as a prize fighter when he challenged Jeffries for the heavyweight championship of the world, only to be beaten when the bout was staged, is now in the United States helping boost the Liberty loan. He has been fighting over there with the British army and is now a commissioned officer. His right arm was wounded in battle.

AVIATORS ARE VERY ACTIVE

EXPERTS THINK MAYBE GEN. FOCH WILL TAKE OFFENSIVE IF HUN DOES NOT.

Redistribution of German Troops Along Entire Front Is Reported By French Officers.

In the past years of the war a period of extraordinary activity by the aerial squadrons of the contending armies in France has been considered as an indication that events were rapidly shaping themselves for an offensive by one side or the other. At the present moment the most notable feature of the war situation is the remarkable work of airmen in various sectors where a German attack is looked for. This activity has not been restricted to the actual battle area, but far back of each front there have been daring raids. The Rhine cities are being frequently bombed, while Paris has again been in danger of a new German attack from the air.

American aviators have borne a prominent part in this fighting. In the Luneville and Toul sectors they have given a magnificent account of themselves, while further north, and even in the defense of London they have demonstrated their fighting capacity.

The German plans for a resumption of the offensive in France have been seriously hampered by the sudden blows of allies here and there along the front. The Germans have been forced back at numerous points and new lines which may be more easily defended have been established by the allied nations.

The Americans on their own sectors have given the enemy no rest. The artillery has battered the German lines night and day, while the infantrymen have raided German outpost positions and have proved themselves capable of outwitting and outfighting the enemy. General Pershing's men have won several hot fights with the foe and have captured prisoners. A night gas attack was launched on the Germans by the American forces at Toul, three waves of shells reaching a wooded position of the enemy with poisonous fumes.

The French, too, have been at work in various sectors, particularly in the Somme region. They have gained ground here and there at points where positions of tactical value were wrested from the Germans.

VIENNA DECREE PROVIDES FOR DIVISION OF BOHEMIA

Washington.—Division of Bohemia into 12 districts with advantages in the electoral domain given to the German minority in each so as to reduce the Czech representation in parliament is provided in a ministerial decree issued at Vienna.

An official dispatch from France says this effort to dismember and Germanize the Czech state caused the recent serious rioting at Ostrava, Pilsen, Nachod and other places which resulted in the proclaiming of martial law and the imprisonment of 150 persons.

56 U.S. TROOPS LOST WHEN BIG SHIP SINKS

ANOTHER VICTIM OF HUN SUBMARINE—PLYING BETWEEN ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

MEN LOST ALL THEY HAD

Sailors and Soldiers Alike Showed No Panic; Fell Into Line, and Awaited Orders.

The British mercantile cruiser Moldavia, carrying American troops from America to Europe, has been torpedoed, and 56 American soldiers are reported missing. The liner was sunk Thursday morning, according to an official statement by the British admiralty.

The Moldavia is the third transport carrying American troops to be torpedoed by the Germans. Of the vessels carrying Americans, the Antilles was the first to meet with destruction by a U-boat. She was sunk October 17, last, when returning to this country from Europe, and 70 lives were lost. The second was the Tuscania, which was sent to the bottom off the north of Ireland February 5, with a loss of life totalling 101.

The only other serious attack made on American transports occurred last June when vessels carrying some of the first expeditionary units under a convoy commanded by Rear Admiral Gleaves, narrowly escaped disaster in the mid-Atlantic.

David Lloyd George, speaking at Edinburgh, has said that the submarine is still unconquered, but that it is no longer a vital menace to the entente allies. He said that the U-boats are being destroyed faster than they can be built by Germany, while the allies are building ships faster than the submarines are sinking them.

Washington.—Sinking of the British armed merchant cruiser Moldavia, with a probable loss of 56 American soldiers was announced in a cablegram from the British admiralty to the war department. No details were given, but the understanding is that the ship was moving between England and France.

The war department authorized this statement:

"Information has been received from London that the British armed merchant cruiser Moldavia has been sunk and 56 of the American soldiers aboard are missing.

"The announcement was made by the British admiralty."

At a late hour the department had no further information to indicate what American units were on board the vessel. Many men are in training in England and it is possible that the Moldavia was carrying a contingent bound for the front.

THE GOVERNMENT OF COSTA RICA WILL WAR ON GERMANY

San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua.—The government of Costa Rica has declared war on the central powers, according to advices received here.

The declaration of war by Costa Rica on the central powers brings the total number of nations aligned against Germany up to 21. All of the Central American states now have clearly defined their attitude toward the war. Panama, Nicaragua and Guatemala have become belligerents. Honduras has severed diplomatic relations with Germany while San Salvador has remained neutral, explaining that this neutrality is friendly to the United States.

The government of Costa Rica, headed by President Tinoco, has never been recognized by the United States. It came into power after the deposition of President Gonzales, in January, 1917. In an effort to obtain recognition, the Costa Rican government sent an envoy to Washington, last July, but was not received at the state department. Major E. J. Hale of Fayetteville, N. C., is American minister to Costa Rica.

CONTRACTS ARE LET FOR TWO PICRIC ACID PLANTS

Washington.—The war department announced that contracts had been let by the ordnance department for the establishment of two picric acid plants, one to cost \$7,000,000 and be located at Branswick, Ga., and the other to cost \$4,000,000 to be located at Little Rock, Ark. Contracts for the plants have been let. Sites were chosen in the south, the statement says, after careful investigation of housing, labor and transportation.

TAR HEEL SOLDIERS ALLOWED TO VOTE

SECRETARY BAKER WILLING IF PRACTICAL PLAN CAN BE ARRANGED.

WILL BE NO SPECIAL DEPUTIES

The Department of Justice Considers Force of Webb Bill Sufficient to Ferret Out Desertion.

Special from Washington.—Reference between Hon. Thomas D. Schieffelin, chairman of the Democratic executive committee, Secretary of War Daniels, Senator Simmons and Senator O'berman relative to the soldier and sailor vote is seemingly ductive of result. Secretary of War Newton Baker has reopened the question and gives out this interview:

"The question of having the soldiers vote is a difficult one," the secretary said, "but everybody is anxious to have it done if possible. You know, with the soldiers in this country we made a rule that wherever a state had provided the machinery for taking the vote, we would help all we could to facilitate the operation of that machinery. The war department obviously cannot take the responsibility of taking, collecting and returning the votes. If it is possible for us to work out a plan by which we can facilitate the state doing it through their own agencies, of their own creation we would be very happy to do it. It states provide machinery which is practicable and can be worked we will do our utmost to enable them to work it. If some plans are practicable and some impracticable we will not punish those states whose plans are practical because of the impracticability of others.

"If it is possible to work out a plan it will apply to the American expeditionary force."

Webb Force Considered Ample.

The department of justice has abandoned its contemplated plans of signing a special deputy to ferret out evaders of the selective draft law in Mitchell county, North Carolina. The force of United States Marshal Charles Webb of Asheville is considered sufficient to cope with the situation. However, the department has under consideration plans for detaching a special officer to western North Carolina to capture young men in Mitchell county that have fled to mountain haunts in eluding war duty.

The war department recently issued a letter to Senator Lee S. Overman offering these young men an opportunity if they would voluntarily surrender to authorities. A letter from ex-Lieutenant Governor W. C. Newland had placed the blame for their desertion to a more enlightened public that had incited rebellion to the selective draft act. He said they would make the finest type of soldiers when once their duties were clearly explained to them. The war department said the greatest offenders who knowing the right course had preached disloyalty to a less enlightened people.

Wants Many Workers.

Special from Washington.—W. W. Neal, a hosiery manufacturer of Marion, McDowell county, is here seeking government co-operation from the department of labor in supplying a shortage of fifty looper and knitters in his factory. He is manufacturing socks for the army and the labor agencies will likely render him assistance. The traffic conditions are so congested that he is forced to obtain a special permit from the railroad administration before the government orders can be moved. Mr. Neal left Washington for Philadelphia where he will attend a three-day session of the manufacturers of hosiery and underwear of the United States. He will visit Atlantic City and New York while north.

Soldier's Head Crushed.

High Point.—Ernest Marsh, a member of the 113th Field Artillery, stationed at Camp Sevier, was picked up near Jamestown with a crushed skull and brought to the hospital here.

Dealers and Producers in Session.

Charlotte.—Discussion of the government attitude toward the cotton seed industry by George H. Henny, director of the cotton industry of the Federal food administration, was featured a conference of the industry and representatives of the government participating in the conference. The administration of North Carolina is one of the states of the federal government.