

THE ELKIN TRIBUNE

Elkin, N. C., Thursday, March 21, 1918

No. 51

VOL. 6

AMERICAN TANK STEAMER HAS BATTLE WITH U-BOAT.

An Atlantic Port, March 17.—At the end of an hour's battle between a German submarine and an American tank steamer, the Paulsboro, of the Vacuum Oil company, which arrived here today, the U-boat apparently was sunk, according to officers of the American vessel.

One of the crew on the tanker was wounded by a shell fired by the submarine. Two other shots struck the American ship, which was not seriously damaged.

The fight took place in the Bristol channel on February 24. The American vessel was about 24 hours out from a British port when the U-boat was sighted. The tanker tried to escape and was pursued. After the American vessel had been within torpedo range for sometime without any attempt being made to sink her in this way, the U-boat began shelling her.

The tanker halted and gave battle. The officers said the shrapnel shells fired by the American gun crew either fell short or passed over the U-boat for a time, but finally one struck the submarine fairly in the center and she disappeared immediately. The American vessel is of about 4,000 tons gross.

BAKER STOPS FREQUENTLY TO TALK WITH PRIVATES ON TRIP OF INSPECTION

On Board Secretary Baker's Special Train in France, March 14.—(By the Associated Press.)—In his trip of inspection of American military establishments today, Secretary Baker stopped frequently to talk with private soldiers. His impression and that of all the civilian members of the party was that the men are well housed and fed and want to get on with their work. It came from a negro in one of the stevedore regiments serving at an improvised shipyard:

"How do you like the cooking?" the secretary asked.

"Well, I gets only one piece of bread," the man replied.

"Is it good bread?" asked Mr. Baker.

"Oh, it's good, boss, but when I asks for another piece I wants it."

Small gangs of German prisoners were encountered. Usually they saluted. They gazed curiously at the secretary of war and the commander in chief. Near the harbor developments which the secretary inspected is an amazing system of warehouses. When completed there will be rows of one-story warehouses covering about 2,000 acres, and stretching out for three and one-half miles, to a depth of a mile. Construction has begun on a hospital which will have 20,000 beds. It will be the largest in the world. The British have the next largest one, with 10,000 beds.

Keeps Track of 1,500 Navy Pay Officers



"The most valuable woman in the government service" is the way her government pay officer describes this young lady, Mrs. Sue Dorsey, Miss Hirsch, who is the only woman Admiral McGowan ever recommended for a commission, keeps track of 1,200 navy pay officers and makes them up in 100 ships. She knows just how much each pay officer owes his work.

STRONG RAID IS MADE BY ENEMY UPON AMERICANS

With the American Army in France, March 16.—(By the Associated Press.)—After a terrific artillery preparation this morning, large numbers of the enemy crossed No man's Land on the extreme right of the American sector, northwest of Toul. Apparently the purpose of the raid was quickly accomplished and only a comparatively small number entered our lines. Permission has not been given to mention the number of casualties.

This raid, like most of the others carried out all the way from the sea to Switzerland, was designed to gather information by means of taking prisoners.

East of Luneville our patrols have explored part of the German trench which our artillery forced the enemy to abandon. Patrols proceeded laterally until they established contact with the Germans. Our reconnaissance and wire patrols found snipers' posts, listening and nests from which machine guns had been firing on our lines. The artillery attended to all these posts. The German positions have been so uncomfortable at several places that they now are trying to regain a foothold by connection shell holes. Our troops have been subject to an extraordinarily heavy artillery fire for the last 24 hours. More than 240 shells, which make craters 20 feet deep and 30 feet in diameter, fell in one section of the line. In another section batteries have been shelled heavily. More gas shells have fallen in both the Toul and Luneville sectors, but the larger number in the former.

With the American Army in France, March 14.—One of the American patrols last night encountered an enemy patrol in No Man's Land in the Toul sector and opened fire. The Germans fled carrying with them several bodies supposed to be of men killed or wounded. They were so busy getting away that there was only a feeble return to the American fire and none of the American patrol was injured.

Two enemy airplanes flew over the American lines during the night, one dropping flares as signals. The other was overhead at a time when the Germans began a barrage which the Americans' guns countered. It is not improbable the enemy plane was trying to locate the batteries by the flashes of the guns. No infantry activity followed the barrage.

The American artillery continues to do effective work against the enemy lines and silenced a battery which was firing big shells in its direction from a point in the rear of Sonnard wood. Several other places where activity was observed also were shelled.

New German troops have entered the line in front of the Americans. Apparently they have been told they are opposite Americans because many times the new arrivals have been seen observing their opponents curiously through field glasses. This curiosity has proved disastrous to them on more than one occasion for the American snipers are as active as the artillery.

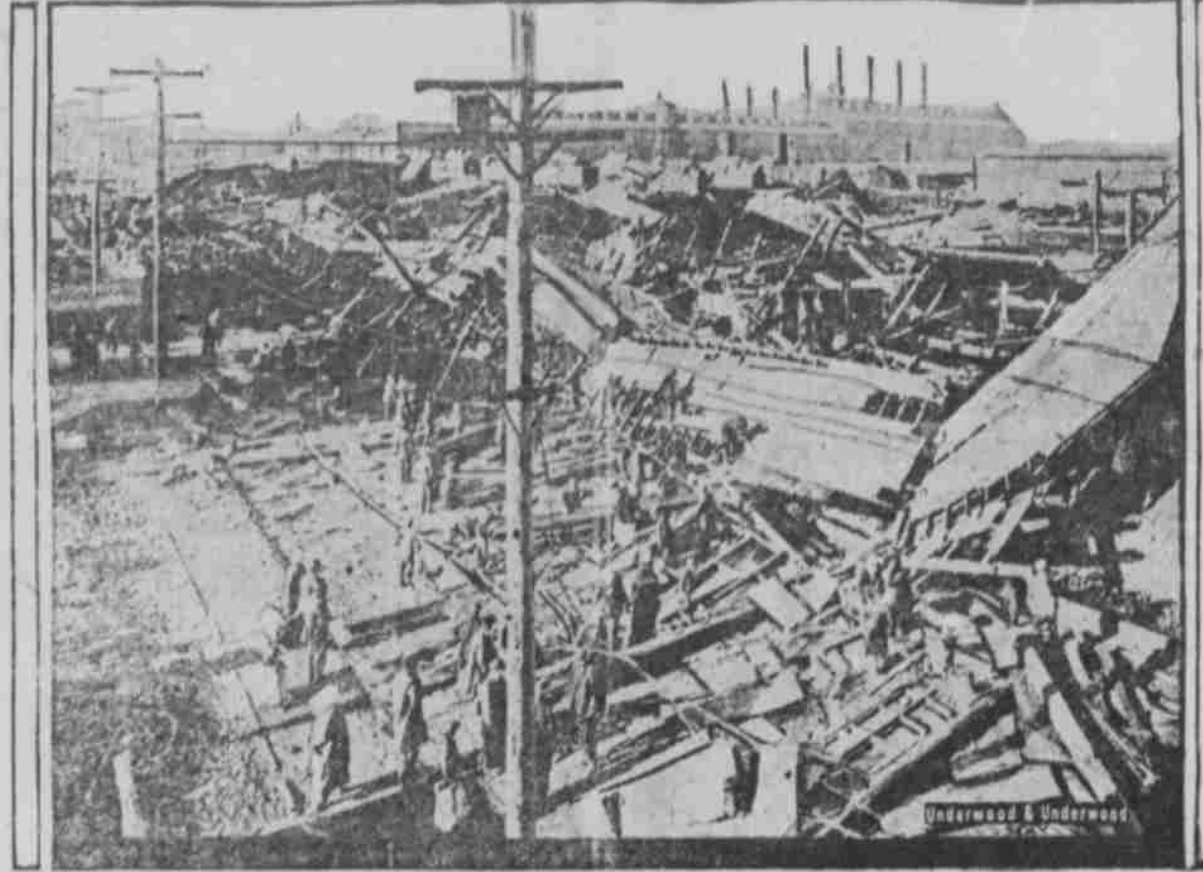
In the intermittent bombardments at various parts of the American sector considerable numbers of mustard, phosgene and chlorine shells were used.

American aerial observers in the rear of the lines have been formed into a squadron under command of a French captain. They were over the lines today but had no encounters with enemy machines.

Charles S. Gordon, of Iowa, the first man wounded in the Luneville sector, has been awarded the cross of war.

The kaiser says: "The Lord pointed out to us the path by which we should go." But it's a safe bet the Lord didn't tell him what awaits them at the end of the path.

MIDVALE STEEL PLANT BADLY DAMAGED BY A CYCLONE



Buildings of the Midvale Steel company at Wilmington were swept bodily from their foundations by a great cyclone and wrecked. This photograph shows the South Wilmington plant of the Midvale Steel company a mass of debris. The cyclone swept over a section of Wilmington and caused great damage in many quarters. The photograph shows graphically the force of the cyclone, for the buildings are literally smashed to bits.

PEACE MOVE BY GERMANY IS RUMORED

Washington, March 16.—Inferences that Germany may have made a new peace offer to the allies, proposing terms at the expense of Russia, coincide with an undercurrent of discussion which has been running in diplomatic circles here for some time but which never has shown any evidence of tangible development.

The statement of Lord Robert Cecil in London yesterday that no such proposals would be considered, coupled with Field Marshal Hindenburg's announcement that the German offensive would go on in view of the entente's unresponsive attitude toward Germany's peace intentions, served to strengthen the views of neutral diplomats who for some time have believed that underground feelers have been going out.

American officials and allied diplomats, while agreeing entirely with Lord Cecil's statement that no such terms can be considered, gives no evidence of how much may be known here of what Hindenburg refers to as Germany's peace intentions.

Some of the neutral diplomats however, have for some time firmly believed that Germany would be willing even to give up Alsace-Lorraine if she were permitted to retain her hold on the Baltic provinces and the mineral belts in the other nearby sections of Russia. The general current of opinion in diplomatic circles for some time has turned toward the possibility of Germany attempting to give way in the west and make up her losses in the east.

The extent to which the question of future supplies of iron ore enter into Germany's peace plans is indicated in latest advice received here, showing discussion of the subject in Germany. These show that Germany knows production of ore within her own borders is limited by experts to fifty years; that Sweden, contemplating an iron industry of her own, will require her own ores and that the supply in Spain upon which Germany also has drawn is approaching exhaustion.

Consequently German officials contend that her supply of ore must logically come from the fields of Longwy and Briey, assuring ore for a century unless it is to come from somewhere else. Inasmuch as the allies are pledged by repeated declaration to the restoration of France, diplomats see in proposed permanent acquisition of mineral belts in the Russian provinces Germany's last hope of remaining a military power.

"Striking a blow for America and liberty" doesn't include striking miners, ship builders and others.

GAS SHELLS HAVE BEEN FALLING AT VARIOUS POINTS

With the American Army in France, March 13.—Active artillery firing continues on the American sectors northwest of Toul and east of Luneville. A considerable number of gas shells have been falling intermittently on the Toul front.

An enemy patrol was discovered this morning in the American wire entanglements northwest of Toul. The Germans were driven off with rifle fire and a number of them were hit. One body was left hanging in the wire.

American snipers have been very busy on both sectors. East of Luneville, six enemy snipers were silenced by the Americans. On the Toul front during last night and this considerable talking and even singing was heard within the enemy lines. Several times the Germans stuck their heads over the parapets to see what the Americans were doing. Each time a bullet from an American rifle went in the direction of the head. After several of their number were hit, the Germans stopped looking.

At one place last night an American sentry saw a figure slinking thru the darkness. The man halted when challenged and was found to be a German prisoner who had escaped and was trying to get back to his own lines. The German was turned over to the French authorities.

The place where the German was captured was not far from where an American one-pounder was busy firing on a large nest of enemy snipers, who had been annoying our lines. After several shots the Germans withdrew.

The American artillery in the Toul sector again battered the German lines and observation posts and caused an explosion, probably of an ammunition dump. Hundreds of big shells were sent into three new German trenches where weapons resembling gas projectors had been erected.

The visibility was poor today but many aeroplanes were up.

It is believed certain that the Germans have permanently abandoned trenches to the northeast of Badonvillers, near Luneville. The enemy is now hurling quantities of large shells, some of twelve inches, at our positions there.

An Associated Press dispatch from the American front on Tuesday reported that General Pershing's men had made their first permanent advance in occupying evacuated trenches northeast of Badonvillers and consolidating them with their own lines. German attempts to eject the Americans were repulsed.

We are perfectly willing that the pig have the privilege of making a hog of himself.

TOM GRADY IS KILLED IN HIGH POINT YARDS

High Point, March 16.—Thomas E. Grady, aged 24 years, switchman employed on the local yards of the Southern, died in the High Point hospital at 10 o'clock this morning as a result of injuries sustained an hour earlier when he slipped and fell under a shifting engine, the crew of which he was a member. The accident occurred near the plant of the Southern Car company, west of the city. Grady had just thrown a switch and was attempting to board the shifter, No. 1076, J. C. Teague, engineer, which was backing into the switch when he missed his footing. His feet were practically crushed off and he sustained internal injuries about the waist. Conductor Plummer was in charge of the crew.

The young man was very popular among a great many people of the city. He had been employed by the railroad company for a great many years, with the exception of the several months during 1916-1917 when he was on the Mexican border with the local military company. He was a sergeant in that organization and because of his superb build, one of the best looking soldiers in the entire outfit. Several years ago he fell under a shifter, but the engine was stopped before his injuries were very serious. The impact that time, however, was sufficient to break the bone in his leg below the knee which caused a slight stiffness. This finally resulted in his discharge from the army just prior to the time the State troops were called to Camp Sevier last summer.

Grady was married during the past December to Miss Verta Sechrest, daughter of A. L. Sechrest, of 306 Liberty street, this city. He had but recently been granted deferred classification in the draft because of his connection with the railroad, according to a statement made today by a friend, who was also the source of information concerning the condition of Mrs. Grady since the accident. The young widow is almost prostrated. The young man was originally from the lower part of Guilford county, it is understood, his father residing east of Greensboro. He has no relatives left here.

STEFFIN, A HUNGARIAN, IS HELD AT WILMINGTON

Wilmington, March 16.—"The Finished Mystery," a Russelized book that was recently placed on sale here, is dangerous propaganda and violates the espionage act, according to a ruling handed down by the department of justice, and a statement forbidding further distribution of the book is issued from the office of United States District Attorney J. O. Carr, with a request that those having copies turn them in to the department of justice office. Advertisements of the book were withdrawn from the local press yesterday and scores of volumes have already been turned over to the district attorney's office. Those who have been assisting in the distribution of the book have shown a willingness to cooperate in its suppression and because of this no action will be taken against anyone unless further violations are reported.

A. J. Steffin, a subject of the Hungarian government, was arrested at the Cushman shipyard, where he was employed as a carpenter, yesterday by Deputy Sheriff J. J. Rackley and Deputy United States Marshal A. L. Kelly, on a presidential warrant and was delivered to the commandant at Fort Caswell in the afternoon. He will be interned in all probability. Steffin, who came to this city last October from Brunswick county, has been under surveillance for several weeks, and it was announced from the office of District Attorney J. O. Carr that he has violated his parole on several occasions by going into the barred zone. He had permission to go to and from the shipyard where he was employed.

Steffin gained some notoriety about eight weeks ago, when a woman came here from Brunswick county, a Miss Lesh, and insisted upon marrying him despite his protests. She did not prefer charges of any kind against him, merely saying that

MRS. HIRSCH RECEIVES A ONE-YEAR SENTENCE

Atlanta, March 16.—Mrs. Margaret A. Hirsch was convicted by a jury in Superior court today of an attempt to extort \$500,000 from Mayor Asa G. Candler by blackmail and was given the maximum sentence in Georgia for a misdemeanor—a year in prison and a fine of \$1,000. J. W. Cook, indicted jointly with her and tried two weeks ago, also received the maximum sentence, but instead of the prison term, he was given a year and a day on the chaingang at hard labor.

When Judge Hill pronounced sentence, Mrs. Hirsch remained seated, but when the judge concluded, she looked up and said: "I haven't a word to say." Her counsel, however, immediately announced that a motion of appeal would be made later, and Judge Hill fixed bond at \$3,000. Mrs. Hirsch was unable to furnish bail and was returned to the cell she has occupied since her indictment a month ago.

The jury received the case late today, after long hours of argument by counsel. It was out just 25 minutes, six minutes longer than was the jury that convicted Cook. While the jury deliberated, Mrs. Hirsch apparently was confident and even when the adverse report was made by the foreman she took the result with greater calm than she had shown at any time during the trial, and in marked contrast to her demeanor when counsel was arguing the case. Then she sat with her head bowed in her arms and wept bitterly when denounced by counsel for the state.

Judge Hill held that Mrs. Hirsch was unfit for labor on the public works of Fulton county and that she should be confined in the woman's department of the state penitentiary at Milledgeville.

The hearing on the motion for a new trial for Cook has been continued until March 23, having been postponed from today because the trial of Mrs. Hirsch was not completed in time to hear arguments on the motion.

Mrs. Hirsch and Cook were indicted last February 14, for attempted blackmail of the mayor after the latter had gone before a special grand jury and related details of what was alleged to have transpired at his private business office Feb. 6, when Mrs. Hirsch called on him and Cook later appeared at the office door. Later, the mayor claimed, the man and woman had undertaken to extort money from him.

he was her affinity—her ideal man—that she had often seen him in her dreams and that she wanted to become his wife. Steffin at that time made affidavit before the clerk of the superior court to the effect that he believed the woman's mind to be unbalanced. Casual examination was made by the clerk of the court and the county physician and she was released, they being satisfied that her mind was rational.

To Represent Labor on Federal Board



Labor has selected Frank P. Walsh of Kansas City, Mo., former chairman of the federal industrial relations commission, as its representative on the new federal board which is framing a national labor policy for the government. William Howard Taft will serve on the board in the interest of the employers.