

FORT DOUAUMONT IS TAKEN BY GERMANS

French Fail in Strong Efforts to Retake Important Verdun Fortification.

Berlin, via London.—Determined attempts made by French troops to recapture from the Germans Fort Douaumont, one of the outlying Verdun fortifications, were repulsed with sanguinary losses, according to the official statement issued by the German headquarters staff. German troops, it was asserted, had stormed the fortified works of Douaumont, as well as the town of Champneville and the Cote de Talou. The number of unwounded Frenchmen taken prisoners, it was added, totaled 15,000.

Fort Douaumont was captured at the point of the bayonet, by the Twenty-fourth Brandenburg regiment. They stormed the fort in spite of a rain of shells from artillery and machine guns.

Fort Douaumont is one of the strongest of the 21 forts defending Verdun. It is made of steel, concrete and stone and its capture opens the way for attacks on Fort Belleville, St. Michel and Souville.

"The armored fortress of Douaumont," says the official statement, "the northeastern pillar of the main line fortifications of Verdun, was stormed by the Twenty-fourth Brandenburg and now is firmly in German hands."

A great celebration in Berlin marked the capture of the fort. As soon as the news was posted thousands of persons jammed the streets waving flags and shouting for the kaiser.

The capture of Fort Douaumont means an additional gain of two miles.

BRITISH LINER MALOJA HITS MINE; 140 DIE

Dover.—The steamship Maloja, a 12,431-ton vessel belonging to the Peninsular & Oriental line, struck a mine and sank within a half hour, two miles from Dover. More than 140 persons were drowned or killed as a result of the accident.

The British tanker Empress of Fort William, going to the rescue, struck another mine and sank nearby. One man of the crew of the Empress of Fort William was drowned.

High seas were running and the captain, realizing that great damage had been done to the after part of his vessel, tried to run her aground, but the engine-room was swamped and the ship became unmanageable.

The plight of the vessel was observed and dozens of craft went at full speed to her rescue. It was one of these, the Empress of Fort William, of 2181 tons, that sank.

The passengers were for the most part British officials in the Indian service, the most prominent being Judge Oldfield, of the Indian High Court.

DOUAUMONT IS DESTROYED

17-inch and 12-inch Shells Demolish Steel Works of French Defense.

London.—The Rotterdam correspondent of the Daily Mail says:

"A German correspondent says that the front of Fort Douaumont was entirely destroyed by the concentrated fire of the 17-inch and 12-inch guns, which blew the steel and concrete cupolas to fragments. One fort nearby was blown up by a high explosive shell which penetrated the magazine.

"Before the attack hundreds of German engineers had been making roads for conveyance of the 17-inch guns. French prisoners, dazed, said, according to the German correspondent, that the terrific fire quickly made Douaumont untenable.

"As the great battle at Verdun reaches its climax, sympathetic activity is spreading over the entire front. Guns in Flanders are heard on the Dutch frontier. The British made local attacks in the region of Armentieres, but the fighting is mainly confined to heavy artillery."

WHEAT DROPS AT CHICAGO

German Drive on Verdun Cuts Price Six Cents.

Chicago.—That traders in the Chicago grain markets believe that the German success in the region of Verdun is likely to have a decisive effect on the war was revealed when a 6-cent drop in price followed in a few minutes the news that one of the outer defenses of the great fortress had been taken.

The theory of the traders seemed to be that the capture of Verdun would mark the beginning of the end of the war, which would bring to an end the demand for wheat from North America by releasing the great Russian surplus and freeing German ships to carry grain from all parts of the world.

VERDUN SLAUGHTER GREAT

Terrible Plight of 30,000 Dying on the French Battle Lines.

Paris.—The Verdun woods may go down in history as the world's bloodiest battlefield.

Trainloads of wounded, shattered men are reaching here, giving evidence of fearful carnage north of Verdun. Other trains are steaming eastward with reinforcements and munitions to fill the gaps made by the German offensive.

"There must be 30,000 wounded men dying in awful agony in the rain and snow, simply because their comrades cannot reach them," said a surgeon. "The percentage of dead will exceed that of the Champagne offensive last September because in this battle there is no lull, and no chance to withdraw the wounded under fire."

Thousands of dead and wounded men lay in the open on the plain north of Pepper Heights, under a hurricane of shells. Other thousands are among the stumps of Caures forest, the wounded in a living death, the dead left to rot, while the killing continues.

German Editors Confer.

Chicago.—Fifty editors and publishers of the leading German newspapers of the United States met behind closed doors here.

The editors decided not to make public the purpose of the meeting nor to divulge the proceedings. In political circles it was reported that the coming presidential campaign was under discussion.

GERMAN CROWN PRINCE



The Kaiser's eldest son, who is in command of the German forces attacking the French fortress of Verdun.

SHORT NEWS NUGGETS

The nomination of Henry P. Fletcher to be ambassador to Mexico, was confirmed by the senate.

A first class battleship, properly armed, could defeat the Pacific fleet, Commander Winslow, of the fleet, told the house naval committee.

Under the terms of the absent voters' law students in the universities and colleges of Iowa may cast their votes by mail at the June primary.

Frank B. Kellogg, St. Paul attorney, has announced his intention of filing for the republican nomination for United States senator from Minnesota.

William F. McCombs, chairman of the democratic national committee, has notified President Wilson that he will not be a candidate for re-election at the convention in St. Louis in June.

Managers of Senator A. B. Cummins, presidential candidate, announce that former Congressman Nate Kendall of Albia, noted for his oratory, has been chosen to place Cummins in nomination at the republican national convention in Chicago in June.

Jess Willard, world's heavy-weight champion, was examined by a physician for the New York State Athletic commission and pronounced in perfect physical condition. Fully dressed he tipped the scales at 272½ pounds. Willard said that his clothes weighed ten pounds.

Turks Routed in Egypt.

London.—A Turkish column was attacked and routed by South African troops at Agagia, Egypt, according to a British official statement issued here, and the statement adds that the fleeing Turks are being pursued.

Trench Engines Ordered.

Philadelphia.—An order for 350 gasoline locomotives to be used in the trenches on the eastern battle front has been placed with the Baldwin Locomotive company by the Russian government.

Persian City Falls.

London.—A Reuter dispatch from Petrograd says that the Russians have taken by storm Kernanshab, the important Persian city, in the neighborhood of which serious fighting has recently taken place.

CONGRESS RESUMES LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Agitation to Warn Americans off Armed Merchantmen is Abandoned.

Washington.—Legislative business was resumed in regular order at the capitol this week after the recent flurry over international affairs that demoralized the work of congress. In both houses administration leaders have held in control the threatened revolt against the president on the armed ship issue, and no further outburst is expected unless there should be a development apparently leading toward war.

Leaders of the agitation for action to warn Americans off belligerent merchantmen carrying arms admit there is no chance to get legislation on the subject. Senator Gore, author of the warning resolution in the senate, has publicly declared that there is no desire to stay the hand of the president in diplomatic negotiations. He also says the real purpose of his resolution already had been accomplished, and this is regarded by administration leaders practically as an abandonment of the effort to force the issue in either house.

Armed Merchantmen as Warships.

Germany has instructed Count von Bernstorff to inform the United States government that the assurances regarding the future continuance of submarine warfare, given in the Lusitania and Arabic cases, still are binding, but that they apply only to merchantmen of a peaceful character.

The German government is understood to contend that armed merchantmen, without regard to the nature of their armament, have shown themselves not to be peaceful and therefore subject to destruction without warning.

The instructions direct the German ambassador particularly to tell Secretary Lansing that British merchantmen armed ostensibly only for defense have not assumed the character of peaceful traders, but on the contrary, they carry guns for the especial purpose of attacking German submarines. To support this contention, the Berlin foreign office has sent the ambassador, for presentation to the state department, a list of at least 20 incidents where it is asserted British merchant ships have attacked submarines.

Water Power Fight Renewed.

Conservation champions in the senate plan to throw their combined strength against the Shields bill to provide for leasing of water power sites on navigable waters to private interests. For two weeks they have been fighting the bill in a more or less haphazard manner, but they propose this week to centralize their efforts in the hope of amending the measure to the satisfaction of the conservation forces. Senator Husting, of Wisconsin, who has had co-operation of other senators, will propose a substitute to the Shields bill, with regulatory features which he declares will safeguard the public interest and prevent monopolization of water power facilities.

Senator Norris, of Nebraska, charged in the senate Saturday that the strongest lobby the capital has seen in many years is here in the interest of the Shields bill and that it is composed of representatives of the water power trust, "which has its headquarters in Wall street."

Aviation Inquiry Pressed.

As soon as an opportunity is offered Senator Robinson, of Arkansas, will make an effort to have passed his resolution providing for an inquiry into the aviation service of the army, against which he has filed serious charges of inefficiency.

Progress is being made on general appropriation bills, but leaders in both houses are complaining again over delay in legislative accomplishments and another speeding-up order has been sent out all along the line. The judiciary sub-committee of the senate hopes to conclude its hearing this week on the fitness of Louis D. Brandeis for the supreme court. Part of the time of the senate, it is expected, will be given to consideration of the treaty providing for the Haitian financial protectorate.

Consideration of the postoffice appropriation bill will be continued in the house and its disposition will see the appropriation bill taken up. The immigration bill debate has been postponed and it may not be reached before next week.

The house military committee voted for a regular standing army of 187,000 men, with a 2 per cent allowance for recruiting, bringing the number up to 140,000, which is slightly more than the war department asked. The republicans and three democrats carried the vote.

Durazzo Abandoned to Austrians.

Rome.—Abandonment of the Albanian city of Durazzo to the Austrians was officially announced here.

Does Your Church, Club or Public Institution Need Money?

BEGINNING MARCH 3 and ENDING MARCH 15

We will give a coupon with every cash purchase at our store. Give the coupons to the treasurer of the Church, Club or Institution you wish to receive the benefit, and we will redeem them from him in cash at rate of 20 per ct of your purchase

Coupons cannot be issued on Phonograph Contract Goods.

Our store is a 100 per ct. quality store. Make your Drug and Sundry purchases from us. You will receive 100c in value for your dollar, and in addition your church or other institution you select will receive 20c in cash.

This is not a contest. Every nominee receives a cash prize.

Remember the date--March 3 to March 15

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The Malheur Home Telephone Co.

The telephone is today the Universal Instrument, while 30 years ago it was considered a luxury.

Every home in Malheur county would be benefitted by the installation of a telephone much more than the small rental cost per month. The housewife could save many trips to the store and the farmer could save work when his time is valuable.

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Every local phone can be connected with the long distance system, which covers the world. Our solicitor would be pleased to talk the matter over with you at any time.

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