

ALLIES PRESSING TO RELIEVE RHIMS

French Official Report Says Fresh Progress Has Been Made in Champagne.

ENEMY'S LOSS IS HEAVY

Two German Regiments Driven From Positions Said by Prisoners to Have Been Cut in Twain. Battle Hand to Hand.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—(Midnight).—News that the allies have made fresh progress in the Champagne district in France is contained in the official report of the French War Office issued in Paris tonight. This is regarded as especially important because if the movement is successful on a scale of any magnitude, it will result in relieving the pressure on Rheims, which has been under bombardment almost incessantly since the beginning of the war. The report said:

"There have been artillery engagements from the Lys to the Aisne, at times rather spirited and all favorable to us."

"In the Champagne region to the north of Meuse we have made fresh progress and repulsed several counter attacks. Our artillery on the heights of the Meuse has silenced several German batteries."

Heavy German Loss Reported.
"Supplementary reports emphasize the importance of the success at Les Eparges and the extent of the enemy's losses. On a small section of a line carried by us we have already found over 600 German killed."

"According to prisoners captured after the action, two regiments driven from their positions by our attack lost more than 2000 men; that is to say, more than half their strength."

"We have made progress in the Bois Brule. In the forest of Apremont, the eastern official report from Paris was one of the briefest of recent days. It said simply:

"With the exception of a few successful actions on the part of our troops near Auberville-sur-Sulpe, nothing of importance has occurred since the giving out of the communication of last night. We have made further progress toward the north of Perthes."

German Report Claims Victories.
The official report from Berlin, however, reports with relation to the fighting in Champagne that the French infantry attacks failed. The text of this report was:

"Near Perthes, in Champagne, French infantry divisions yesterday made an attack on several places. Violent hand-to-hand fighting took place, which everywhere resulted in favor of the Germans. This enemy suffered heavy losses and was driven back to his positions."

"In the Vosges German attacks against Suze and Muehlbach east of Stosswiler, made progress. In the engagements during the last few days we made 500 prisoners. Otherwise nothing important has occurred on the Western front."

QUAKE CRACKS GROUND

ACRE SINKS 60 FEET AND HOME DAMAGED NEAR LASSEN PEAK.

All of Twin Valley, California, is Affected by Severe Tremor and Large Rocks Disappear.

REDDING, Cal., Feb. 24.—News was brought here today of a severe earthquake Sunday night in Twin Valley, 30 miles east of here, and 20 miles north of Lassen Peak. The ground has been cracked in all directions and the home of Iva Sampey has been lifted five feet out of plumb by the sinking of the earth.

Large rocks, entirely disappeared. An acre of ground sank 60 feet. The snapping and roar of the earth's crust has been likened by residents of the district to the roar of a heavy wind.

The tremor lasted two minutes and affected the entire valley. Much damage was done. William Morgan's place, where a month ago there were earth movements following an eruption of Lassen Peak. It is not known here whether the mountain is now in eruption, as the peak is obscured by heavy rain clouds.

36 PLUMBERS CONVICTED

Men Are Accused of Combining to Restrain Independent Trade.

DES MOINES, Feb. 24.—Thirty-six master plumbers, who have been on trial here since February 10 on charges of violating the Sherman anti-trust law, were convicted today by a jury in the Federal District Court.

The men are residents of Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin and Minnesota, and are members and officials of the National Association of Master Plumbers and of the state organizations of that body.

It was charged in the indictments, returned June 8, that the association had been operating in violation of the Sherman law ever since its organization and that it had conspired to interfere with the business of plumbers and plumbing supply houses not members of the association.

FOLDER TELLS OF FAIR

Northern Pacific Heralds Wonders of Northwest to Tourists.

A handsome folder, descriptive of the World's Fair at San Francisco and of the exposition at San Diego, has just been issued by the Northern Pacific Railway in an effort to guide tourists making the California trip through the Northwest.

The advantages of traveling via the Northern Pacific, through Portland and on the new steamers to the World's Fair city are pointed out. Yellowstone Park and some of the other scenic charms of the Northern Pacific route are presented in story and in picture. The pamphlet will be distributed throughout the East.

Heavy German Gun Buries

GENEVA (via Paris), Feb. 24.—One of the largest and newest of the heavy German guns in the bombardment of a position of the allies near Thann, Alsace, exploded today. One officer and five gunners were killed.

NEW BRITISH ARMY LANDS IN FRANCE.



TWO VIEWS OF TOMMIES AT ETAPLES AND MAP SHOWING WHERE CAMP IS LOCATED.

MANY CHURCHES HIT

Undamaged Edifice in Battle Area Almost Unknown.

GRAVEYARDS LAID OPEN

High Steeples Furnish Commanding Observation Points and Sooner or Later Shells Strike Them. Strange Pictures Left.

BERLIN, Feb. 6.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press).—The extent to which village churches have suffered damage is observed by an Associated Press correspondent who recently visited many sections of the war area.

He found many regions where an undamaged building within a 10-mile radius of recent battle lines was a rarity and an undamaged church almost unknown. With their high steeples the churches have furnished most commanding observation points and sooner or later some well-aimed shells have struck them. Strange pictures are occasionally presented by these ruins. At Bonnig, a hamlet perched on the heights northeast of Namur, shells have pierced the walls of the church tower from each side.

Grave Opened by Projectile.
The tower stands on four precarious corner legs of brick and a gaping hole reveals the framework of the chimneys, whose tones are now hushed. The bell tower had a lookout with a field telephone in the tower.

The churchyard tombstones had been upset or marked by flying splinters of shells and one coffin had been hurled by a plunging projectile. A hooded arrangement of iron, faced with glass, containing a wreath of immortelles, had been smashed. "Here repose the little body of our M—," says the inscription of the marble slab. The name, except for the initial letter, has been defaced by a fragment of shell.

The fierceness of the conflict at Bonnig can be judged from the appearance of a field near the church. It contains about an acre of land. A hedge surrounds it. In all this acre there is no spot 10 feet square where a shell has not fallen.

Great Crucifix Alone Escapes.
Evidences of equally tremendous shell fire are seen inside the fortress at Givet. There, in a plot between two of the forts, some 140 by 250 feet, 23 shells had pitted the earth and 16 had struck on the walls surrounding the plot.

Near Tilloy les Mofflaines, west of Arras, a cemetery was throughout a whole day the scene of desperate fighting. After the French had been driven out they made a desperate attempt to dislodge the Germans. There is hardly a grave in the cemetery whose headstone is not broken or defaced, but the most prominent object in the inclosure, a crucifix some 20 feet high, does not bear a single mark.

Haiti to Be Investigated.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—Secretary Bryan announced today a commission, headed by ex-Governor Fort of New Jersey, will sail from New York Saturday for Port au Prince, Haiti, to make a general investigation of conditions in that country, long disturbed by revolutions. It is understood that Haitian leaders will be told nothing but a stable government will receive recognition of the United States.

Colorado Tightens Liquor Law.
DENVER, Feb. 24.—The Colorado House, by a vote of 23 to 6, finally passed today the temperance bill for the enforcement of the statewide prohibition constitutional amendment. The bill differs from the measure passed by the Senate in that it would prohibit the sale of liquor by druggists or by any other agency or individuals. The measure will be sent to conference.

Albuquerque is to be connected with La Grande Quivira ruins by a modern highway 60 miles long.

PASSPORT FRAUD CHARGED

German Naval Reservist Is Imprisoned in New York.

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—Richard Peter Spiegler, a retired German sea captain

and a reservist in the German navy, was arrested here today by agents of the Department of Justice on a charge of fraudulently obtaining an American passport. Vincent Cook, of Hoboken, N. J., also was taken into custody. The Department of Justice agents said they expected to make additional arrests soon.

In the complaint Spiegler is alleged to have obtained a passport under the new regulations adopted by the State Department about January first after the discovery of an alleged conspiracy to furnish German reservists with American passports. Six arrests were made at that time and the defendants are now awaiting trial. Spiegler and Cook were held by a United States commissioner in \$15,000 bail each for a further examination. In default of bail they were sent to the Tombs.

GERMANY WOULD LET WILHELMINA ALONE

Pledge Not to Interfere in Distribution of Cargo Is Conveyed to London.

OWNERS NOT HAMPERED

Free Dealing in Roumania Grains Mentioned as Proof That Government Regulations Do Not Apply to Imports.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—The formal pledge of the German government that it will not assume control of the Wilhelmmina or any other vessel arriving from America reached London today.

The declaration, signed by Gottlieb von Jagow, the German Foreign Minister, was brought here by W. L. Brookings, a member of the firm that owns the cargo of the Wilhelmmina. The case of the cargo of the Wilhelmmina is soon to come before a prize court, and Mr. Brookings' purpose is to make use of the document in presenting the case for the release of the vessel and her cargo as well.

The text of the German declaration follows: By motion of William L. Brookings, manager of the Green Commission Company, of St. Louis, the Imperial Government makes the following declaration:

Immunity Promised Cargo.
The cargo of the steamer Wilhelmmina, as well as the cargoes of vessels arriving in the future from America with food for Germany shall be subject neither to seizure nor to selling right, nor to any other government measure taken in connection with maximum prices according to the measures already issued for homegrown wheat.

The cargo of the Wilhelmmina, as well as all future similar cargoes, shall remain the property of the American owner and it can be sold by him at any place at the price asked.

"Food coming in this manner to Germany shall not be used for either the army or navy or for any other government purposes. The American owners of such cargoes shall be put under no obligation upon buyers of the obligation that this food be not used for the army or the navy or for other government purposes."

Roumania Grains Dealt In.
In support of the contention that the German conservation regulations do not apply to imported grain, Mr. Brookings said today that Roumania grain has been freely dealt in since the beginning of the war and that at all times the prices on them had ranged much higher than maximum prices for homegrown grain.

Mr. Brookings says some anti-American sentiment has been created in Germany over the large exportation of arms and ammunition to Great Britain from America.

"However," Mr. Brookings said, "well informed Germany will realize that they are anxious to see what stand the American Government will take relative to the exportation of foodstuffs to Germany, whether the United States will insist on its legal rights when this favors Germany."

The date for the hearing before a prize court on the Wilhelmmina's cargo has not yet been fixed.

MEAT CARGO IS HELD UP
Norwegian Steamer With American Good Taken to Falmouth.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—The Norwegian steamship Vitilla, 723 tons, from New York, February 13, for Rotterdam, with a cargo of Chicago packing-house products, loaded under the supervision of the British Consul-General at New York, has been detained by the British authorities at Falmouth.

The date for the hearing before a prize court on the Wilhelmmina's cargo has not yet been fixed.

BOOM COSTLY TO NATION
Government Losing \$50,000 Yearly in Mail Service to Idaho Camp.

SPOKANE, Wash., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—The Government has started a mining boom in the Elk City district of Idaho and the flurry is costing it just about \$50,000 a year, according to the stories of mineowners and prospectors from that camp, who are attending the Northwest mining convention.

With the camp 50 miles from the railroad, the low-grade claims lay idle for years, the owners being unable to ship their ore out or to get foodstuffs and supplies to the camp at living prices. The Government is carrying all the traffic now by parcel post and everything from toothpicks to mining drills find a place in the mailbag.

Since the inauguration of the parcel post the greatest activity seen in many years has been started and important announcements are being made by property owners or lessees.

ANTWERP LOWERS PRICES
Eleven Pounds of Flour Is Maximum Purchase Permitted.

BERLIN, Feb. 24.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press).—Dispatches from Antwerp announce that the Burgomasters have lowered the maximum prices for bread and flour, which are now 4.6 cents a pound for wheat bread, 2.5 cents for rye bread.

VIENNA, by wireless to Berlin and London, Feb. 24.—The Government has taken over all stocks of rye, barley, maize and flour products. The distribution of bread will be undertaken in various districts.

BERLIN, via London, Feb. 23.—The first day's trial of bread cards, which every German has been required to have in order to receive his bread supply, caused some misunderstanding and friction, but the system in general worked well. At the restaurants many of the guests forgot to bring their cards and were not allowed bread. The innovation also crippled generally the numerous automatic restaurants.

HARBOR BILL IN DANGER
(Continued from First Page.)

Increased by \$75,000. The Senate committee also inserted a provision authorizing the President to take necessary steps to obtain from the Cuban government reimbursement of \$5,000,000 expended for the army of pacification in 1907-1909.

Nightingale Statue Unveiled.
LONDON, Feb. 24.—A statue of Florence Nightingale was unveiled here today. It is the first instance of a statue of a woman, aside from royalty, has been erected publicly in London. On account of the war there were no ceremonies.

CHAT NO. 14.

Portland people have an especial reason to be proud of "The Warrens of Virginia." A Portland woman is linked closely with the story.

David Belasco consulted many times Judge A. J. Dittenhofer, father of Mrs. Leon Hirsch, of this city, in the filming of the great play. Judge Dittenhofer is the sole surviving member of the State of New York, of the Electoral College which declared Lincoln President.

"Judge Dittenhofer had an influence in bringing about the events in the drama," Mr. Belasco wrote to the Peoples Theater. Mr. Belasco had films made of the Judge, which he sent to Mrs. Hirsch, who has kindly loaned them to the Peoples Theater to use with "The Warrens of Virginia," with a special title, bearing the signature of David Belasco.

"David Harum" will be the special attraction next week at the Peoples.

Don't forget our remarkable blend bill, headed by "The Country Boy," now on at the Star Theater. There are many other features there, including "The Fibber and the Girl," with Mary Pickford.

My next chat will be in Saturday's Oregonian.

Joe S. Cordray

cents a pound for rye bread and 54 cents a pound for wheat flour. No more than 11 pounds of flour may be sold to one person at a time, and dealers charging more than the maximum price render themselves liable to imprisonment up to five years. German papers print this dispatch with comment on the low price of food in Belgium as compared with those prevailing in Germany.

CZAR CHARGES CRUELTY

MUTILATION AND KILLING OF RUSSIAN PRISONERS PUT TO DEATH, CIVIL POPULATION ATTACKED AND DUNDUMS ARE USED, WASHINGTON IS TOLD.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The Russian Ambassador, George Bakmeteff, sent the State Department today a memorandum from his government charging Germany and Austria with violations of the Geneva Red Cross convention and of part of The Hague convention, with mutilation and killing of wounded Russian prisoners, with attacks on the Russian civilian population by German and Austrian armies; attacks against Russian troops by the civil population of German and Austrian territories; the use by Austria of dumdum bullets, and the desecration and pillaging of churches.

The document was presented to the State Department, it said, not as a protest, but as a matter of information. It was announced that similar communications were made to all other neutral countries.

The embassy also sent a copy to the American National Red Cross with a letter of protest from Prince Alexander of Oldenburg, head of the Russian Red Cross.

GERMANS ROUT FASHION

BELEAGUED WOMEN'S MILITARY CAPS ARE CONFISCATED.

Appearance of Soldiers' Headgear on Wives Causes Too Much Patriotism to Suit Authorities.

BERLIN, Feb. 24, via London.—A Tagblatt dispatch from Brussels says: "The latest craze in millinery—Belgian soldiers' caps—attained such great popularity that the German armies have had to confiscate the new style of headgear."

"The soldiers' wives and sweethearts had discarded the flag and the other national color adornments they formerly wore and had taken the hats of cavalrymen and carbiniers, which they tilted at a rakish angle. The fad threatened to create a public nuisance, as the wearing of the caps of the women caused outbreaks of patriotic enthusiasm at every turn."

"The women took the confiscation good-naturedly, the milliners being the only ones to grieve."

WATER BOND SALE O. K.'D

Council Approves Recommendation on \$460,000 Issue.

The City Council yesterday approved a recommendation of City Commissioner Bigelow that an issue of \$460,000 in 25-year 4 per cent water bonds issued to raise money for new water main construction during 1915, be sold to the Harris Trust & Savings Bank, of Chicago.

This concern tendered a bid of \$4.03 for the entire issue on condition that the bonds are acceptable for investment under the savings bank laws of the State of Massachusetts. If they are not acceptable, the company will pay only \$2.03 per cent. The question of the acceptability of the bonds will be determined before the sale is consummated.

Berlin Prepares for New Loan.
BERLIN (via London), Feb. 24.—The imperial government will issue shortly its second \$500,000,000 loan. The question is to consist of \$250,000,000 in treasury notes, maturing at an average of five years. The issue price will be about 98.55.

Mumps Epidemic at Bandon.
MARSHFIELD, Or., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—Dr. H. L. Houston, city health officer of Bandon, is threatening a general quarantine to stamp out mumps, which has invaded the schools and the

THE CHRISTIAN

HALL CAINE'S Great Society Drama Visualized

Wonderful Portrayal of Contest between Good and Evil for the Soul of a Beautiful Girl

Coming—SUNDAY—Coming Solution of

"The Million Dollar Mystery"

The Grand Finale of the Great Mystery Serial Photo-Play

10c ADMISSION 10c

TURKISH TROPHIES

AMERICA'S GREATEST CIGARETTE

Makers of the Hygeia Cigarette and Egyptian Cigarettes in the World

IT'S GREAT FOR BALDY BOWELS AND STOMACHS

We want all people who have chronic stomach trouble or constipation, no matter how long standing, to try one dose of May's Wonderful Remedy—one dose will convince you. This is the medicine so many of our local people have been taking with surprising results. The most thorough system cleanser ever sold. May's Wonderful Remedy is sold by leading druggists everywhere with the positive understanding that your money will be refunded should the question of constipation or ONE bottle fails to give you absolute satisfaction.—Adv.

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