

## BRITISH RE-FORMING LINES IN FLANDERS

Germans Report Capture of Three Villages; London Admits Readjustment.

## FRENCH MAKE SMALL GAIN

Fighting Is Active but Desultory Along Line; Altkirch, in Upper Alsace, Heavily Bombarded by French Artillery.

LONDON, May 4.—Comparison of the British, French and German reports from the western battle line indicate that while no movement of primary importance has been initiated in recent days a good deal of minor fighting has been going on.

The Germans declare that yesterday they made substantial gains in Flanders. This is believed to square with the British account of today in which it is admitted that it has been found necessary to "readjust" the British lines near Ypres. The French report gains at Bagatelle and the wood of La Pretre.

French Progress in Argonne. The French official report issued tonight says:

"We have continued to progress in Belgium in the region of Steenstraete. In Champagne, in the region of Beaumont, the Germans made three successive attacks, but were repulsed with heavy losses.

"In the Argonne we have made progress at Bagatelle. We found on the ground many German dead, left from the fighting of May 1.

"A further attack has enabled us to complete our gains in the wood of La Pretre.

The official report issued from Paris earlier in the day said:

"There was a German attack yesterday evening on the British front north of Ypres. The Germans were driven back by our allies.

"In the Argonne near Bagatelle we delivered an attack which resulted in the gaining of ground."

Germans Capture Three Villages. The text of the report of the German War Office, received today by wireless from Berlin, was:

"In Flanders yesterday we pursued our attacks from the north with great success. This morning we captured Zevecoet, Zonnebeker, Westhoek, the forest of Polygon and Nonneboschen. These positions have been hotly contested for many months past. The retreating enemy was under the fire of our batteries to the northeast of Ypres.

"In the Argonne district an attempt made by French troops north of Four de Paris to recapture the trench which we occupied May 1 resulted in failure.

"Artillery exchanges in the country between the Meuse and the Moselle also were continued yesterday.

British Admit Reforming Lines. The British War Office made public tonight the following official communication:

"The loss of ground which resulted from the unexpected use of asphyxiating gases by the enemy last week necessitated a readjustment of our line in front of Ypres.

"This readjustment, which has been in progress in the last few days was successfully completed last night.

"The new line runs to the west of Zonneboschen.

"During the last 24 hours the situation has been normal along the whole front with the exception of one half-hearted attack by the enemy north-east of Ypres last night. It was beaten off."

A dispatch received from Bern, Switzerland, via Paris, says that the fortifications at Altkirch in Upper Alsace, were heavily bombarded by French artillery last night.

On Sunday the French cannot continue firing in the direction of Germany. The result of this activity has not yet been made known.

## H. F. ALLEN IS ACQUITTED

Boise Jury Finds Brother Had No Part in ex-Treasurer's Theft.

BOISE, Idaho, May 4.—(Special.)—Harry F. Allen, charged with being an accessory in the theft of \$70,354.88 from the vaults of the State Treasury by receiving the stolen money from his brother, O. V. Allen, ex-State Treasurer, now serving an indeterminate sentence in the penitentiary, was acquitted by a jury here tonight.

The defense offered no evidence. The jury was out two hours. O. V. Allen was brought from the penitentiary to testify.

The state alleged Allen obtained state money from the defuncting Treasurer and used it on a seed ranch at Twin Falls.

## FACE IS TORN IN HAT CHASE

Odell Orchardist Hurt Seriously by Wire Clothesline.

HOOD RIVER, Or., May 4.—(Special.)—O. H. Ehrick, an orchardist of the Odell district, is suffering from a badly torn face and bruises, both sustained last night, when he ran into a clothesline while chasing his hat.

A gust of wind lifted Mr. Ehrick's hat and in a burst of speed to catch it before it was taken a great distance he ran into the wire line, seriously injuring him. The recoil of the wire hurled him backward and in the fall he sustained painful bruises.

## AUTO SWASH KILLS FIVE

(Continued From First Page.)

saw the auto approaching and whistled the usual blast, the machine then being far enough away to stop in safety. But, seeing the machine did not slacken its speed, he applied the emergency brakes in his vain effort to prevent the collision.

Coroner Hartwell took charge of the bodies and will hold an inquest tomorrow.

## MR. HICKS WAS PIONEER

Wife, Victim of Accident, Daughter of John D. Atkinson.

OLYMPIA, Wash., May 4.—(Special.)—Gwin Hicks, counted among the prominent pioneers of Washington, was born in Thurston County 58 years ago at Lewis, near Gwynwood, the present Hicks country home. He was a printer and became prominent in Democratic state politics. He was

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POLITICAL EFFECT VALUED

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LONDON, May 4.—Thirty thousand Russian prisoners, 22 cannon and 44 machine guns and other war materials in vast quantities declared impossible of estimation at this time, are asserted in Vienna official communications to have been the fruits of the Austro-German victory in West Galicia.

Berlin dispatches add to the material booty great political effect, which, it is asserted, is big part of the remarkable success that it is declared to have been gained.

The political value of this victory is regarded in Vienna also as quite as great as the military. It comes in the midst of the Austro-Italian negotiations and on the eve of the meeting of the Italian parliament, and it coincides with the announcement of new Austro-Hungarian loans, the success of which would be materially affected by a victory at this time.

Russia Admits Reverse. An official Russian communication admits that the Austro-German forces have crossed to the right bank of the Dniester River in Galicia. It says, however, that desperate fighting continues.

A correspondent of the Neue Freie Presse of Vienna has sent the following dispatch concerning the battle of Sunday in West Galicia:

"The Austro-Hungarian offensive succeeded with surprising rapidity. The Russians occupied naturally strong positions on the Dniester and the Biala, which had been strengthened with every imaginable method of fortification. They themselves absolutely secure. After a searching artillery preparation, exceeding in intensity anything which has occurred since the outbreak of the war, the Austrians and the Hungarians advanced on the southern wing. They stormed at the first attempt the Russian positions along a front of more than 40 kilometers (24 miles), stretching from the Biala River through Gorlice far to the east. There were no serious assaults so fierce that the Russian line broke immediately.

North Wing Victorious, Too. "Many thousands of prisoners were taken, as well as an incalculable quantity of equipment, supplies, cannon and machine guns.

"At the same time, on the northern wing, another successful advance was carried out." The Viennese correspondent continues. "At this point Austrian and Hungarian troops crossed the Dniester in spite of terrific opposition, stormed the Russian positions and took over 1000 prisoners.

Other brilliant successes also are reported from the Carpathians."

Vienna says the strongly fortified front of the Russians between the Vistula and the Carpathians, which occupied, through a carefully planned offensive that was timed to beat the enemy, who himself was preparing to begin a sweeping assault along this line, in connection with the recent move against the Austro-Germans on the Carpathian front, is declared to have been a preliminary to the intended campaign against the Teutonic lines in West Galicia.

German Staff Plans Coup. The Austro-German offensive was mapped out by the German staff, held in Berlin with the German General Staff and Austrian commanders.

General von Mackensen, commanding the Austro-German forces, was to command the forces in the movement, which was carried out under the Austrian Archduke, Commander-in-Chief of the Austro-Hungarian army.

The German war office issued the following report of operations in the Russian Baltic provinces:

"The number of Russians captured during the pursuit of the retreating enemy in the direction of Mitau has been increased to more than 4000. A renewed Russian attack southwest of Kalwary, north of Suwalki in Russian Poland, has been repulsed. We took 170 prisoners. Russian attacks southeast of Augustow resulted in a failure, with heavy losses to the enemy. In addition to four officers killed, the Russians in this engagement lost two machine guns and 420 men were captured by us.

Near Jedwabne, northeast of Lomza, a Russian night attack was repulsed.

"In the southeastern arena of the war—the offensive movement between the wooded slopes of the Carpathians and the Upper Vistula is progressing well. The booty of the first day was 21,500 prisoners, 18 pieces of artillery, 17 machine guns and a quantity of war material of all kinds, the exact amount of which has not yet been ascertained."

BERLIN SCHOOLS CELEBRATE Importance of Victory Emphasized by German Militarists.

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German military critics emphasize the importance of the Austro-German success, particularly its connection with the advance of German forces to the eastward of Memel through the Baltic provinces.

BILLION BALANCE LOOMS (Continued From First Page.)

the substantial stoppage of our exports for a fortnight resulted in an unfavorable balance of \$19,000,000. It is coincident with the absence of an expenditure on the part of American travelers abroad, estimated at not about \$10,000,000 per annum, and also with the absorption by us of large but undetermined amounts of American securities owned abroad, by reason of which the interest on the securities thus purchased is now paid to us instead of to others.

Not only, therefore, is the favorable balance remarkable in itself, but it is not subject to the offsets that have heretofore been usual.

Merchant Marine Needed. "It is of course a pity that we are still paying such high rates for ocean transportation that foreign carriers are thereby prospering at our cost while we remain in the humiliating position

of depending upon foreign navies to protect the movement of our own commerce, which we ought to control, but do not. From the Far East, as well as from the Atlantic, come the cry for shipping, and it is speaking consecutively to say that the business movement which shows such wonderful results would be greatly enlarged if vessels were available under American control to take the traffic whence and whither American commerce desired to have it go."

Mr. Redfield criticizes "some Republican editors" for their criticism of the Administration and enters into a political defense of the Payne-Aldrich tariff. Concluding, however, he returns to the statistical vein.

Tremendous Trade Balance Shown. "May I point out that the conditions this year, during which President Wilson has so ably guided our ship of state amid stormy seas," he says, "are such that it would be sufficient to distinguish the entire interest-bearing debt of the National Government."

"It would several times pay the cost of the Panama Canal, would more than discharge the debts of all our states, or more than pay the entire net debt of the great City of New York, plus that of the City of Philadelphia."

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On the other hand, the Chancellor said, there was an increase in the consumption of spirits as follows: December, 3 per cent; January, 6 per cent; February, 15 per cent, and March, 23 per cent.

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PROFESSORS FACE COURT Students Arrested, Too, but Police Are in on Joke.

GRAND FORKS, N. D., April 25.—Dean George Wells, Professor Loel and other university faculty men faced justice court under charges of promoting prize fighting. It was not until they had valiantly defended themselves, unsuccessfully, and were assessed heavy fines and jail sentences, that they discovered they had been targets of a joke.

Students, stamped a big celebration, had called in the police to aid them. "Arrested," the faculty men and a proper proportion of students, found themselves in the court with "criminal" charges against them.

Several professors are said to have borne their escape from the raided hall.

HOT POKER FREES JAILED Man Burns Way Through Wall and Makes Good His Escape.

CARROLLTON, Ohio, April 25.—James Rose, 22 years old, member of an alleged black hand gang, escaped from the County Jail recently and two of his associates were caught in a similar attempt.

Using a red-hot poker, Rose and his companions, Nicholas Picelli, 22 years old, and William Baller, 22 years old, burned a hole through the ceiling of the jail corridor. Rose climbed through it and escaped, but his companions were caught. Sheriff George Galtman, and a posse of citizens searched the country about Carrollton, but could find no trace of Rose. The three men were charged with attempting to break jail. A "Malvern," Ohio, family, on the threat of destroying their home.

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SEBASTIAN LEADS TICKET Los Angeles Police Chief Wins Position in Mayoralty Primary.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., May 4.—Outstripping all competitors in the early returns, Charles E. Sebastian, Chief of Police, apparently won first place on the Mayoralty ticket in today's municipal primary.

Fifteen complete precincts out of 44 gave him a two to one victory over Frederick J. Whitten, president of the City Council, who will be Sebastian's opponent in the general city election next month.

JITNEY BUSES SUSTAINED Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals Renders Decision.

RICHMOND, Va., April 24.—The Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals has sustained the Richmond Law and Equity Court, which refused injunction forbidding two "jitney bus" companies to operate here without first having procured franchises from the city as common carriers.

The lower court also held that the "jitney" automobile is subject, under present law, to the regulations governing any other automobile.

Sanitizing Gives Skin Comfort. Instant relief and comfort, caused by irritated skin. Cools and soothes. You'll like its clean, healthy odor. 50c. All druggists.

Standard Oil Company (California) Portland

RED CROWN The Quality of Gasoline

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