

FRENCH SAY FOE IS AGAIN MASTERED

Advantage Gained With Asphyxiating Gas Overcome by Constant Pressure.

IMMEDIATE REPLY MADE

Most Difficult Position of All to Gain Is Low Plain in Flanders, Abundantly Fortified With Trenches and Obstacles.

PARIS, May 20.—The operations along the Yser Canal in Belgium, ending in the complete repulse of the enemy on the evening of May 17, are described in a narrative written by an official observer with the French army at the front, given out here today. It is said the Germans, who had incurred momentary success in using asphyxiating gases, were finally and definitely mastered by the continued pressure of our offensives.

Details are given of the fighting since April 23, on which the German army succeeded in forcing back a French territorial division on the right bank of the Yser Canal. At the same time the Germans forced their way across the canal in a narrow strip, and Hot Sas, holding these two localities and organizing further to the west the bridgehead at Lizerne.

German Offensive Checked. "Our reply to the surprise attack," the note continues, "was immediate. After a violent combat, in which two chiefs of battalions were killed, the German offensive was completely checked.

This was not sufficient and we began the tactical diversions on the right bank. Our attack lasted until May 15, first on the two wings—on the right toward Hot Sas, on the left toward Lizerne and Steenstraete. "Lizerne was first conquered. We continued to progress. It remained for us to take from the enemy the quadrilateral which they still held between Steenstraete and Hot Sas.

Position Hard to Gain. "In these actions the enemy were severely tried. They left more than 1000 men on the field and we had already captured many men and much material. The position which we now wanted to gain was particularly difficult one, on a low plain of Flanders.

"There the Germans had succeeded in installing themselves strongly. First, to assure their communications they increased their facilities for crossing the canal and doubled their line of trenches. Finally there was a third line of these defenses along the bank of the canal, abundantly protected by earth sacks and obstacles. Marshes and large holes filled with water added to the difficulties.

The capture of so strong a position required great preparation. On May 4 we tried to rush things but failed. Fog, asphyxiating gas and quick-firers stopped us.

Works Increased Generally. "The Maison du Colleege," so named because a German major had installed there, in the face of a French major, his post of command, is a farm well protected by deep water in the "Maison du Colleege" mowed down our lines and many brave men succumbed. It then became necessary to increase our trenches and our works generally, and also to strengthen our investment, particularly on the two wings. We began sapping and accumulating our artillery. We also received aid from the artillery of the Belgians.

May 15 was selected for the attack on Steenstraete. Our soldiers in a vicious charge captured the second and then the first German line and reached the village. The village was nothing but ruins, but the ruins, as always is the case, were well organized and the contest continued in the streets.

Zouaves and Algerians gained ground rapidly, capturing quick-firers, guns and machine-guns. One battery of the Germans, which offered stiff resistance, was in deep cellars. The fighting was taken into the cellars, but after several hours the souaves could be seen coming up the stairways. They were the masters there.

Frightful Spectacle Seen. "At the end of the day we had gained the canal up to the route from Steenstraete to the Yperlee bridge and to Lizerne. The spectacle in the vicinity of Steenstraete and the village itself was frightful. The Germans left more than 600 dead. Our losses were serious, but less than those of the enemy.

Meanwhile another attack had occurred on the Het Sas Maison du Colleege front, where at nightfall the zouaves were in possession of three lines of the enemy trenches and all the houses of Het Sas on the right bank of the canal.

Our progress continued toward the north along the canal, and we also surrounded the advance works of the Maison du Colleege. In the trenches the number of German bodies found exceeded 700. On the 17th our troops entered the Maison du Colleege and there were no more enemy troops on the right bank of the canal. The counter attacks on the day before were made to cover their retreat.

"During our attack on the Maison du Colleege a heavy explosion occurred and a cloud of yellow smoke mounted skyward. It was evidently asphyxiating gas. Our zouaves were happy, as it was only the Germans who suffered from this effusion of gas."

Fishermen Object to Law. SALEM, Or., May 20.—(Special.)—Secretary of State Olcott has received a letter from a law firm of Myrtle Point, indicating that anglers there are displeased with a law passed at the recent session of the Legislature, which was designed to protect salmon and salmon trout in the lower stretches of the Coquille River. The law prohibits fishing in about 25 miles of the river, when, according to the sportsmen, it was intended only to apply to five miles. Mr. Olcott said that no error had been made in printing the measure.

CENTRAL FIGURES IN ITALIAN-AUSTRIAN CRISIS AND MAP SHOWING FRONTIER.



Above—Salandro, Premier of Italy; Francis Joseph, Emperor of Austria. Below—Map showing, According to Press Rumors and Reports, What Italy Demands as the Price of Her Neutrality and How Much is Offered by Her Former Allies.

OREGON FETE TODAY

Debut in Exposition Social Activities to Be Made.

BIG RECEPTION TO BE HELD

Appearance of Building Is Continually Improved and 15,000 Residents or ex-Residents of State Have Registered.

BY RALPH J. STAHELL. OREGON BUILDING, Panama-Pacific International Exposition, San Francisco, Cal., May 20.—(Special.)—Because of a conflict in dates between the National holiday of Cuba and the proposed date of the big reception in the Oregon building, the latter event has been changed to Friday, May 21.

This marks Oregon's debut in the Exposition social activities, and with generous acceptance from the officers of the Oregon, the guests of honor, and the participation of Oregon's band and orchestra, the event promises to be one of the really well attended numbers of the social calendar.

The Oregon building's inside canopy of green and Autumn tinted leaves is completed and is one of the biggest improvements yet inaugurated for the big structure.

Night Is Equal to Day. The entire building will be kept open Friday night, as the exhibit now looks as well under incandescents as it does in daylight.

The band and orchestra will be stationed at different points, half-hidden in the green shrubbery which has been placed along all the corridors and balconies.

Oregon will be represented by Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Clark; Miss Mabel Withycombe, daughter of the Governor of Oregon; Mrs. Thomas G. Hailey, hostess of the building, and Mrs. C. A. Gray.

Frederick W. Goodrich, organist of St. Mary's Cathedral, of Portland, is meeting with big successes in his recitals at Festival Hall, where he is the alternating attraction with the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

His recital Saturday night was particularly notable and was highly praised. His programme was composed of selections from von Plotow, Wagner and Meyerbeer.

Game Exhibit Surpasses All. The recent completion of the Jackson County game exhibit on the mezzanine floor of the Oregon building gives Oregon the most complete and tastefully arranged exhibit of its game resources to be found on the grounds.

Canada's was the model and was much admired by students of natural history and lovers of out of doors. Oregon's has now become the standard. The school children of San Mateo County recently were brought to the Fair. Instructors preceded them and the Oregon building was made the stopping point for the nature students of the grammar schools. Their teachers held class, using the complete collection of Pacific Coast fauna as the primer.

About 15,000 Oregonians or ex-residents of the state have registered at the Oregon building to date. Edward Boylen of the Oregon Commission was on the Baker-street Municipal Railway, Sunday, when the car

collided with a Geary-street car. Mr. Boylen suffered a broken arm and a wrenched shoulder. In one day the most popular question, "When are the Rosarians coming again?" has been changed to "When does the Portland police band play again?" for the first visit of Portland's bluecoats was decidedly successful. They have places on the official programme of the Panama-Pacific Exposition, and spent today and night answering requests for calls.

The Oregon Commission has invited the band to attend the big reception to the officers of the battleship Oregon in the Oregon building tomorrow night. This function is assuming immense proportions, and about 1000 is the predicted attendance at the state's first social function.

Senator Chamberlain, Mayor Rolph, Norman E. Mack, Senator Phelan, Commander A. Reeves, of the Oregon; R. B. Hale, vice-president of the exposition; H. H. Casteel, of Missouri; H. Numano, formerly Japanese Consul at Portland; Alfred Holman, publisher of the Argonaut; M. F. Foguet, of the New York City building, and George F. Perry, director of exploitation of the Panama-Pacific Exposition, are to be the guests of the Oregon Commission at a luncheon tomorrow night. They will be represented by O. M. Clark, chairman of the Commission, and George M. Hyland, managing secretary.

ROADS WASTE NOTHING

FORMER DAILY LOSSES ARE NOW TURNED INTO SAVINGS.

Shavings, Old Paint Cans, Washers and Other Material, Once Considered Junk, Are Found Useful.

CHICAGO, May 20.—American railroads now are operated with such efficiency and economy that waste even in the smallest detail of equipment is avoided, according to W. F. Jones, general store keeper of the New York Central lines east of Buffalo, who today addressed the convention of the Railway Store Keepers' Association. "Private property owners waste the paint in old paint cans," said Mr. Jones.

The railroads clean out this old paint and use it for rough work, saving thousands of dollars. Shavings formerly burned in great piles are now compressed and used for lighting locomotive fires. Even clogged gas tips are cleaned and used again, while every year tons of iron washers formerly sold as junk are saved for another period of usefulness.

"The roads are now operated with efficiency and economy and instead of wasting huge sums daily, are saving them."

The growth of efficiency and economy, Mr. Jones said, was the result of years of development in which public criticism helped.

ROUMANIA HEAR CLAMOR

(Continued From First Page.) man diplomats, has a well-nigh impossible task here, not having been sent until the situation was practically lost for the Germans.

One can hardly speak of public opinion in Roumania, but such as exists is buoyant. It is unquestionably bitterly anti-Austro-Hungarian, which is being intensified by agitation resulting in the expression of fears that the Government's hands may be forced by riots. The sentiment is strongly pro-Allies, with few unimportant exceptions. The press is wholly against Austria and Germany.

The King, as yet a somewhat unknown factor, has been a model of neutrality and extremely reserved. Even his intimates evidently do not know what he will do when a decision for war is put before him, but he has the influence of King Carol, who, with ex-Minister Carp, walked out of a Crown Council with a threat to abdicate if Roumania went to war with Germany, with whom he had an alliance for 30 years.

In Berlin I heard that Ferdinand had made a similar threat, but it is not credited here and there seems to be little ground to believe that Ferdinand will go to the extremes of his predecessor or the King of Greece.

(Mr. von Wiegand's dispatch, it will be noted, is dated May 7. Since that time the Russians, who had crossed the Carpathians and were marching down toward the plains of Hungary, have met with a reverse and have been forced not only to withdraw from Hungary but to retreat a considerable distance in Galicia. This Austro-German victory may possibly have some influence in Roumania's decision.)

Sanitized Boon to Mothers. Soothers and relievers of chafed, irritated skin of infants. Keeps skin clean and sweet. The best for baby's tender skin. 50c. All druggists.

PATRIOTISM IS AT HIGH PITCH IN ROME

Capital in State of Expectation, With National Heroes' Names on Every Lip.

ALLIES' FLAGS ARE SEEN

Defeating "Vivas" for King, Italy and War Greet Premier's Speech. German, Austrian and Turkish Ambassadors Absent.

ROME, May 20, via Paris, May 21.—This day will be an historic one for the new Italy. The whole capital is in a state of expectation. Only in the period of the wars of independence can a parallel be found. The names of those who contributed to the unification of the country—Victor Emmanuel II, Cavour, Garibaldi, Mazzini and a hundred other patriots—have been on the lips of the people and the wish has been expressed by all to emulate them.

Although all Rome appeared in accord, the authorities placed guards around the Piazza di Monte Citorio, in which stands the Parliament building, and threw a cordon of troops around the Austrian embassy, in order to prevent any untoward incident.

Flags were flying everywhere, including the British, French and Russian, Serbian and Montenegrin, which frequently were cheered by the crowds.

Deputies in Uniform Applauded. When the sitting of the Chamber of Deputies began there were present 482 deputies out of 500, the absentees being ill. The deputies especially applauded were those who had served in uniform and who had asked permission for leave to attend to their military duties.

A few minutes before the session began the poet, Gabriele d'Annunzio, one of the strongest advocates of war, appeared in the rear of the crowded public tribune. The people lifted him shoulder high and passed him over their heads to the first row.

The entire chamber and the tribunes arose and applauded for five minutes. No representatives of Germany, Austria or Turkey were to be seen in the diplomatic tribune.

For the members of the Cabinet there was an ovation with cries for Salandro and Sonnino.

"Vivas" Shouted for War. Premier Salandro's address was interrupted, time and time again, by applause from all sides, and the climax was reached when he spoke of the army and the navy. Those on the floor of the House and in the galleries turned to the military tribune, from which the army and navy officers waved their hands and handkerchiefs. At the end of the premier's speech there were deafening "vivas" for the King, Italy and war.

Only 34 intransigent Socialists refused to join in the cheers, even in the cry, "viva Italy," and they were hooped and hissed.

In the Senate, where Premier Salandro repeated his statement, his words aroused the same enthusiasm as in the Chamber. While it was known that a considerable number of senators were on the side of neutrality, all enthusiastically stood by the government.

SHACKS BEING TORN DOWN

The old shacks that have covered the quarter block at the northeast corner of Grand avenue and East Alder street, owned by the Citizens Bank, are being removed. These structures have stood about 30 years. Either a two or four-story modern fire-proof structure is to be built on this corner. If the Hassalo Lodge of Oddfellows decide to take the two upper stories a four-story building will be built, but otherwise the original plan to put up two stories will be followed. The shacks are being removed now to make room for a grandstand for the Rose Festival.

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