

TEST HAND SEEN IN COUP IN RUSSIA

Washington Inclined to Credit Report That Alexis Is on Slav Throne.

GERMAN PURPOSES CLEAR

Huns Want Government in Empire Strong Enough to Organize Industry and Weak Enough to Be Amenable to Kaiser.

BY CHARLES MICHELSON.
WASHINGTON, April 28.—(Special.)—The Russian revolution is without official aid of the counter-revolution that aims to put the little Grand Duke Alexis on the throne, officials generally are inclined to believe it.

At least they say that if this movement is not under way, it is only a question of time when such an attempt will be made and they credit Germany with being behind it.

Germany has no further use for a Bolshevik administration of Russian affairs. She needs a government in Russia strong enough to organize industry, so that she can get the supplies the Russian government cannot produce, and which she needs, without having to occupy the country and keep an army there that she needs on the western front. Moreover, socialism and domination by the masses is too contagious a disease for her to be comfortable with an epidemic raging next door. As a method of putting Russia out of the war, Bolshevism was to be encouraged, but having served its purpose, the Kaiser, as defender of the divine right of kings, will naturally see to it that the anarchy of the East does not develop into a republic.

Regent Easy to Handle.

The mention of the Grand Duke Michael as regent jibes with this theory, for a regent is easier to handle than a sure-enough Emperor, and if he proves difficult, it is a simple thing to get rid of him. The son of Nicholas is only 13 years old. The years that must intervene before he is old enough to govern would afford Germany time to shape her policy according to the changes those years would bring. If before Alexis attains his majority Germany is in a position to take over more Russian territory or changes her mind about the particular form of Russian government that would be most useful to her, he may be set aside, for Germany will not fail to surround him with men who will report to Berlin.

As to the Russian people, the only ones that enter into Germany's calculations are the nobles and middle classes. The peasants will be taken into the army or kept tilling the fields as circumstances dictate. The propertyed Russians will support any ruler who gives promise to a settled state. They have been harassed, plundered and murdered by thousands. A counter-revolution would have a unanimous support if behind it there was force enough to protect them from the sort of thing they have been going through since the revolution was set down and the Soviet groups have been putting their idea of liberty and equality into effect. This is not because they are pro-German, but because they are pro-anything that will take them out of purgatory.

Sickly Boy Suits Germans.

The one-time Czar Nicholas would not do because he made war on Germany, but his son is free from this taint, and, moreover, being a sickly, feeble boy, could be guided to whatever form Germany desired and at the same time the sacredness of royalty would be maintained.

Grand Duke Michael, the strongest of the Romanoffs, was the Czar's nominee for the job. But the revolutionaries, abetted by the British, have been the open season for Czarism and abdicated himself next day. Since then he has been reported as walking and smiling in the presence of the revolution, when he was not under detention. He cannot be very fond of his present situation and is not expected to make any protest against Germany's settling his destiny.

The only thing that will interfere with the counter-revolution, whether it is here now or comes later, is a smashing allied victory on the west front. Let the Russians see that Germany is beaten and they will be on her back in no time. They have not much national feeling, and they have made an awful mess of their fighting, but they do not love Germany for having blighted their revolution and, given the chance, they will get even.

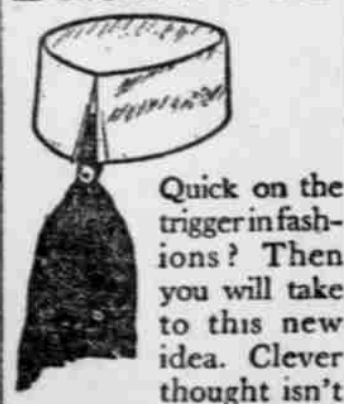
This is not the way the diplomats express themselves in state papers, but it is the way they talk among themselves.

Unless Germany is halted soon the re-establishment of government of the Czar—for a time at least—is regarded as most probable.

As to our attitude and that of our allies, we recognize nothing that Germany forces on Russia. We have never given official countenance to the Trotsky regime. Officially the only Russian government we know anything about is the Kerensky government, and we do not even know where Kerensky is; neither does the Russian legation here, for that matter.

If Alexis is made Czar, only the central powers and perhaps some of the neutrals will recognize that government. Unless a regime appears that will re-assume Russian obligations as one of the allies in the war against Germany it will have to wait for the war's end before the nations will accept it, trade with it, or receive its ambassadors.

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OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS

British.
LONDON, April 28.—The Germans attacked the town of Voormezele, two miles south of Ypres yesterday, and captured it, but were driven out last night by a counter attack, the War Office announced. Late at night the enemy delivered another attack.

The statement follows:
"Yesterday afternoon a hostile attack developed in the neighborhood of Voormezele. The enemy succeeded in capturing the village, but was driven out early in the night by our counter attack. At a late hour the enemy again attacked in this locality. There was local fighting throughout the night on both sides of the Ypres-Comines Canal. Successful raids, in which we captured more than 50 prisoners and four machine guns, and trench mortars, were carried out last night south of Gavrelle and in the Lens and Hill 70 sectors. A raid attempted by the enemy north of Bailleul was repulsed.

"The artillery activity continued on both sides of the battle front. A supplementary statement says: 'A hostile attack in the neighborhood of Loos was reported to be developing this afternoon. Otherwise the infantry action today has been confined to local engagements on different parts of the battle front.'

"South of the Somme a number of prisoners have been brought in by our patrols in the neighborhood of Villers-Bretonneux. Artillery activity continued on both sides.

"This afternoon the hostile artillery heavily bombarded our positions in the Ypres sector."

French.

PARIS, April 28.—The official statement of the French War Office today follows:

"There were violent bombardments from Villers-Bretonneux to the Luce River and in the region west of Noyon. In the course of the night there was violent artillery fighting north of the Avre and in the region between Lassigny and Noyon. North of the Chemin des Dames we made two successful raids on the German lines and brought back 25 prisoners.

"The French repulsed German attacks made after spirited bombardments northwest of Rheims and in the sectors of St. Mihiel, Luneville and Le Preire wood. Prisoners remained in our hands.

"Elsewhere on the front the night was calm.

"Eastern theater, April 27.—The artillery activity was weak along the whole front save in the region of Monastir and on the Cerne, where our heavy artillery carried out fires of destruction. In the region of Vetrovnik a Serbian assault section annihilated a Bulgarian section.

"Numerous aerial bombardments were carried out by allied aviators. Two enemy machines were forced to make a landing."

German.

BERLIN, April 27, via London, April 28.—The British have retired on the Flanders front before Ypres, according

HUNS NEARER YPRES

British Forced to Retire on Part of Flanders Front.

BITTER STRUGGLE OCCURS

Boches Take Voormezele, but Are Ejected Later—Fierce Battle for Possession of Loos Rages, but French Beat Off All Assaults.

(Continued From First Page.)

mark, four and a half miles north-east of Ypres, to Verlorenhoek, two miles to the northeast of the city; Hooge, two miles to the east, and Zillbeke, two miles to the southeast. It is also stated that the British withdrew over the Steenbach, east of Ypres, into positions occupied by them in the autumn of 1914. Near Zillbeke the British line is still farther behind the 1914 positions.

The advances of the Germans in the last few days on the northern side of the salient, created by their drive in Flanders, and particularly the capture of Kemmel hill, have rendered it more difficult for the British to maintain their positions on the front before Ypres, as high ground to the south, as well as to the northeast, now is in possession of the Germans.

Ypres May Be Evacuated.

It has been expected that if the allies did not recapture Kemmel hill they would evacuate Ypres.

LONDON, April 28.—The Canadians have carried out three successful raids opposite Lens, taking 60 prisoners and four machine guns and killing many Germans, says a dispatch from Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters in France.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, Saturday, April 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—The stern opposition encountered by the Germans in their attacks in the region of the Somme and in Flanders, near Kemmel hill, has prevented them thus far from developing their renewed offensive on the great scale which they undoubtedly intended.

Each of their attacks may be regarded as an effort to prepare the way for a more extended action in the event of an important initial success at either point, but the resistance offered at both places apparently discouraged the German commanders from launching more serious attempts to break through.

Hun Efforts Frustrated.

In Picardy, where the Germans attempted to divide the French from the British around Villers-Bretonneux and Hangard, the line remained today much the same as it was before the attack was begun, three days ago.

The only result of the German onslaught, in which they utilized eight divisions, is the loss of a large number of men without any advance and cer-

tainly without obtaining a jumping-off place for the real attack they had planned to make if successful.

The allied commander-in-chief decided, when the Germans occupied Villers-Bretonneux and Hangard, that their continued possession by the enemy would endanger the security of the line in front of Arras, and immediately sent forces with orders to recapture them. The attacks at these points were executed with the greatest courage and success.

Allied Reserves Intact.

Further north, where the Germans gained Kemmel hill by the employment of nine divisions, the allied commander-in-chief regarded it as unnecessary to make the sacrifice which would have been entailed in regaining the lost territory, since it is not essential to maintenance of the allied positions. In this way the allied reserves are kept intact for future use. There is confidence among the allies in the ability to hold the Germans wherever they choose to make a stand.

Enemy Strength Also Taxed.

"It is a simple problem of staying power. The enemy is taxing the British strength as heavily as he can, but in so doing he is taxing his own strength even more heavily. He is fighting for positions which will give him greater advantage in the use of his numerical superiority than the positions he eventually gained these positions, he would have any numerical superiority left. We now are fighting a war of exhaustion, in which the first principle is to wear the enemy down by the thousands of enemy casualties paid for it.

"The General (Foch) is dealing with the situation with a realistic energy, although as to what counter moves he may contemplate there is no knowledge. The retaking of Loos by the French troops was a very serious exploit. It had to be done. The enemy three heavy attacks to force his way into the little village which stands in the fork of the Bailleul and Neuve Eglise roads, and as a successful heavy attack implies in losses is known. Situated between Mont Kemmel and Mont Rouge the place is an essential point to any further advance of the allied system. For this reason, doubtless, it was determined not to let the Germans keep it, notwithstanding the satisfactory casualties he had paid for it.

"So last night the allied troops in blue, who are the quickest troops in attack ever seen, leveled their bayonets and followed the lift of the barrage. Only a few of them came back. These were escorting prisoners, what remained of the German garrison, who had been rolled back toward Dranouter."

BOND SLACKERS ARE HELD

Twenty-Five Austrians Turned Over to Federal Officers.

LEADVILLE, Colo., April 28.—Austrian miners working at the Ibox and Garbutt mines, to the number of 25, were arrested yesterday by a force of deputy sheriffs and home guards after liberty bond workers who had been soliciting subscriptions at the Ibox settlement told Sheriff Schraeder that a number of men had not only refused to buy bonds, but had said they owed nothing to the Government. In one instance a liberty bond worker was driven out of the house.

The men were taken to jail and the case has been reported to United States District Attorney Tedlow. Some of the men since their arrest have expressed a willingness to buy bonds.

Portugal Elects Paes President.

LISBON, April 28.—Dr. Sidonio Pais, Premier and Foreign Minister, was today elected president of the republic by direct universal suffrage.

AMERICANS STUDY BATTLES CLOSELY

When Telephone Rings Men Await Signal to "Come On" and Enter Fray.

BOCHE SENT TO SHAMBLES

Colonel May, at French Front for Observation, Had Luck of Seeing First Three Days of New German Drive and Slaughter.

(Continued From First Page.)
writing and the top of page 4 are gone (the censor's ruthless work.)

Colonel May (7) Returns.

Colonel May has returned from school. He was assigned to the French front for observation and he had the luck of seeing the first three days of the new German drive. Like other officers who have been to the front and have seen the war as it is waged by Mr. Boche, all that he would say of his experiences was to make the oft repeated declaration that the Germans would never be able to break through. He has been quick to discover the difference in the French poilu back of the line enjoying his "permission" and the poilu fighting the Square Heads. As a fighter, the French soldier, he says, is hard to beat, and in the Colonel's talk to the soldiers of his command after his return, he recited, as he termed it, "on little incident" of how the men in the trenches are fed.

Simple Poilu Brave and Loyal.

The food of the fighters is sent to the front once a day. It is piping hot and carried up in containers strapped to the back much after the fashion of the kit and trench tools of the American soldier. It so happened the Germans decided to send over a lot of hate just about feeding time. Just as the poilu started with his soup the caboches laid down a "rain" (barrage).

Loyal to the French army and to his comrades this poilu, without waiting for the barrage to lift, managed somehow to get through it. Arriving at his post the food was taken from his back and then the poilu sank to the ground unconscious. On investigation it was found he had been wounded seven times. When he regained consciousness his commander asked him why he had not waited until the barrage had lifted. He said: "But my Captain, the men would be hungry."

Fighting Trenches Different.

The Colonel did not mince matters when he told the soldiers of the many, many things which would confront them when they got to the front. He spoiled their picture, and by the same token shattered all the pictures of what the fighting trench is like. The pretty and straight line of the correctly engineer-laid-out trench the troops got their training in at home, does not exist upon the actual fighting front. They may have been there at one stage of the fighting, but now shell holes with long sloping sides, make better shelter than the narrow trench which would lead them to their laid out by engineers. In the first place the shell hole trench is not so apt, when a caboches shell bursts near them, as the trench which is built up by the hand of the soldier. The Colonel described the various implements of death each section of the regiment would be expected to handle. He told of the security felt when advancing under the protection of a barrage, but also of the absolute obedience to discipline the soldier must give at all times. He said that from the moment the soldier enters the trench, or for that matter, from the moment a soldier puts on a uniform, he must always obey, but in the trenches his very life depends upon his quick obedience to orders.

Gas Mask Use Important.

The Colonel also laid great stress upon the use of the gas mask. Once ordered to put on the mask, the soldier must never remove it until ordered to do so by an officer or the N. C. O. (non-commissioned officer), who is the gas expert on duty.

He related a story illustrating the carelessness regarding the use of the gas mask, told by one of the French soldiers. It was about a soldier who had two batteries being put out of commission right when a battle was raging the hardest, just because the men in the batteries had grown careless. The Hun dropped gas shells where the batteries were stationed and all of the men had to be hurried to the rear.

The Supply Company has adopted a French orphan. Now the fad has become popular. "Everybody's doing it." In spite of the general discouragement of the train in France, that is, in the place where they call first-class cars with a narrow passage way running lengthwise on the side of the cars, as they do in the United States, the center, and their almost hermetically sealed compartments, there is a certain delight in one's travels about. While it is next to impossible to get a sleeper, and often anything to eat, one meets, so it seems, almost every one they knew over home. They are not in the fighting army. They are working "hard labor" doing Y. M. C. A. or Red Cross work.

Y. M. C. A. Men Hard at Work.

Here at this base is hard, good-natured Fred Lockley, of Portland, working harder than he has in his life as a newspaper man, changing American money into French and acting general all-round nurse girl to sailors and soldiers. Then there is Allen, the well-known and hard-working Y. M. C. A. man from Seattle. In fact, it was fortunate enough to get a group picture of Red Triangle workers at the Pacific Northwest. Night and day these men, like all of the Y. M. C. A. workers in France, are keeping open house who needs, but always looking out for the comfort of Uncle Sam's fighting man.

If it isn't a Red Triangle worker whom one knows back home, it is a member of the Red Cross one meets. In a city near an American hospital, where only the other day over 100 of the American wounded were brought in, the Red Cross has a canteen. There in charge one will find men from Washington, Seattle, Spokane and Portland. They are not only the American soldiers, to the poilu and the British soldier, but their agents seek out the sick and needy French. Daily these men and women are bringing cheer and comfort to the sick and needy.

Some News Unwelcome.

There is here in France among the American soldier a kind of word that neither the Y. M. C. A. nor the Red Cross can cure. Time is the only bird that can cure this kind of a word.

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The Flavor Lasts!



Time and another girl. At the base camp, where— are stationed, I heard the tales of the kind of wounds that injuries, but does not kill. To be around a barracks or billet at mail delivery time is funny to the observer, even if it means heartache to Mr. Private.

Here's the picture: Mr. Private, with the "love light" in his eyes, does the double as he answers his name when the mail clerks call it out. Ah, one can tell he has recognized the writing. "It's from her!" Business of eager fingers tearing open the envelope. Then the pained expression, and with almost tears in his eyes (he has perhaps been corresponding with at least four different girls) he looks over to his pal and says: "Ain't it hell! Pal, she's gone married that dirty slacker that she's been tellin' me 'bout. Women is hell, ain't they?"

Then, ten chances to one, he will grab his stub pencil and write a "poem" and invariably it will start with: "The wound you gave me is worse than any enemy can give." And usually the last line has him dead on the battlefield and her name was the "Last word that passed my lips."

Detachment Rejoins Regiment.

There reported yesterday a part of the detachment of the Supply Company left behind to bring over the horses and mules. They were glad to be again with the regiment, and although dead tired with having been on the boat all night, they were delighted that they were so lucky as to rejoin their

command. It being Saturday when they arrived, and as Saturday afternoon is a sort of half holiday, the new comers had a reception and the entire day was spent in spinning yarns about what took place on the horse transport, and the various thrills they passed through on the high seas. There were no U-boat trills, and what thrills they did experience were furnished by a big storm.

One private tells with glee how he put it over the ship baker. Getting up one morning early, he dressed as one of the kitchen police. Thus rigged out, he made a hurry call on the ship's baker and gave him the rush act for 20 leaves of bread. Taking as many as he could carry at one time, he joined his companions, distributed the bread round, and then divested himself of the camouflage of the kitchen police.

Wonder if the people at home have heard the new Army name for the Army chaplain? He is now known as the fire escape.

GERMAN COUP IS FAILURE

French Freighter Built Within 7 Miles of Fighting Zone.

PARIS, April 28.—The largest freighter in the French mercantile service was launched at Dunkirk Friday and now is safe in a French port, remote from

the fighting zone. It is 450 feet long and is of 15,000 tons displacement. The Germans, aware of the location of the shipyard, tried in every way to interfere with the work and destroy the ship and shipyard.

On the night preceding the launching the Germans tried to bombard the shipyard with gas but were beaten off. The enemy then sowed mine fields along the coast which they knew the freighter would travel, but the mines were picked up the next day. The Ministry of Marine considers it a great feat to build and launch a great ship within seven miles of the actual fighting front.

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