

GOOD FRIDAY TO BE OBSERVED IN MANY CHURCHES

Anniversary of Crucifixion Will Be Occasion for Special Services in Majority of Churches.

CHRISTIAN SPIRIT MANIFEST

Observance of Day in This Country No Longer Confined to Episcopalians and Catholics.

Good Friday, the anniversary of the crucifixion, will be observed with special religious services by a majority of the Christian churches. Programs have been arranged calculated to make the day one of deep religious significance, in fact all of the Holy week observances have been attended by a solemnity reflecting the mental state of a nation in its deepest sorrow. The observance of Good Friday is no longer confined to the Catholic and Episcopal churches, but in many other Christian churches a simple service is held.

The services at St. David's for Good Friday will be as follows:

9:30 a. m.—Morning prayer and Pro-Anaphora.

12:30 p. m.—The three hours' passion service. Those who cannot come for the whole time may enter and leave at any time during the singing. The offering at this service will be for church and relief work in the Holy Land. At 7:45 the full choir under the direction of Tom G. Taylor will render Maunders' "Olivet to Calvary."

At the Westminster Presbyterian church at 7:45 a program of passion music will be given, as follows:

Cello, prelude in E flat minor (Bach); soprano recitation and aria, "A Saviour Mine Eyes" (Bach); quartet, "O Saviour of the World" (Palestrina); contralto, "Come to Me, O All Ye Weary" (Schubert); aria for bass, "God, My Father" (Dubois); address by the Rev. Edward H. Pence, D. D.; soprano aria, "I Mourn as a Dove" (Benedict); tenor and bass duet, "Come Unto Him" (Faure); quartet, "By Thy Glorious Death and Passion" (Dvorak); soprano, Jane Burns Albert; contralto, Lulu Dahl Miller; tenor, Joseph Mulder; baritone, Dom Zan; cello, Jack Fraser.

J. Hutchinson, director and organist.

Friday evening the Sunday school of Hope Presbyterian church will give an Easter cantata, entitled "The Lighted Cross." Medaimes Jewell, Brownhill and Keyser have charge of the program. Mrs. Wilson will give a number of the readings. No admission fee will be charged, but a silver offering will be taken, the proceeds to go into a fund for the purchase of song books for the Sunday schools.

At the First Free Methodist church, Evangelist A. L. Whitcomb will preach at 7:30 on "Batan's Chief Weapon." At 2:30 he will conduct a Bible study class on "Consecration."

AMERICANS MAY TAKE PART SOON IN BATTLE

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thing would be able to spare so large a number.

It is assumed here that this was the American contribution to the reserve army created by the supreme war council at Versailles. This army, officers said today, has not yet been in action. It has been held until the Germans had exhausted their offensive. The very fact that the officers here now say that it is going into action is of the very greatest importance. It means

they make it plain, that the German grand offensive has definitely failed of its object and has been checked.

Now the allies are ready to assume the offensive, but whether they will try to regain any great part of the ceded territory is a subject that officials will not discuss. There is little of a strategic advantage to be gained by such a move. But it is expected that the flanking operations will be pressed to the utmost in order that the German morale may be crushed as much as possible and as many prisoners as possible taken.

It is assumed here that General Pershing will be in personal command of the American forces who are to participate in the counter offensive. General Bliss, as our representative at Versailles, also is very likely to be "rather close to the front" as the fighting develops. This, however, is a subject about which speculation only is possible at present.

More Open Fighting Expected

The Germans, as a result of terrible losses which they sustained, were compelled to throw their reserves into the fight much faster than they had planned. The result is that today practically their entire forces available for action in the north have been engaged and are disorganized because of their heavy losses.

Outstanding today, officials say, is the fact that trench warfare has been definitely passed. All along the lines in the north there will be increased open fighting, it is believed here. In this the Germans will have little advantage, despite the fact that they have trained their men along that line. The British armies in France have been trained in trench warfare and trench defense, but those who were held in England and are now replacing the tired veterans all along the front lines have been given thorough instruction in open fighting. And the French and American troops also have been educated in this way. As a matter of fact, General Pershing is one of the strongest advocates of open fighting that there is in the United States army, and he is an expert in every phase of that work.

GERMANS MORE ACTIVE ALONG AMERICAN LINE

By Henry G. Wales

With the American Army in France, March 27, 6 p. m.—(L. N. S.)—Observers on the American front north of Toul have noted an increase in the activity in the German infantry during the past 24 hours.

Numerous parties of the enemy were seen passing and repassing certain points, entering or leaving dugouts and trenches, and were seen entering or leaving battery positions or passing through villages.

American gunners shelled all points where enemy troop movements were reported, sending gas shells, shrapnel and high explosives.

Further back American sharpshooters were busy sniping the Germans with 37-millimeter guns, observers reporting many direct hits on dugout entrances. The continued harassing fire drew an outburst from German guns when 200 high explosive shells were suddenly thrown against a certain American position.

The flashes of the German guns could be seen from an American captive balloon which was on night observation duty.

There has been little aerial activity, as the Germans have evidently sent most of their machines to the scene of the offensive.

A certain number of American officers who are attached to British regiments to learn the latest methods of trench warfare are in the Albert district. It is indicated by postcards received from them by their friends on the Toul front.

Many American officers are included among those attached to the British for active training.

The German advance over the Somme battlefield recalls July, 1916, when the foreign legion stormed Belay-En-Santerre, several American volunteers being killed at that time and others wounded. The English Blackwatch regiment, with many Americans, took a prominent part in the fighting, and are

W. S. S. !!

Report has been made to W. S. S. headquarters and to the police station by H. L. Hammond, 945 Belmont street, that two girls, one about 10 years old and the other one about 12, visited the Hammond home Tuesday, ostensibly to sell Thrift Stamps and War Savings Stamps.

The grown folks being in another part of the house, the two Hammond children, a boy 8 years old and a girl 6, received the visitors, and, after listening to their message about the War Stamps, the two Hammond children emptied the contents of their savings bank, amounting to \$2.05 in small change, and gave it to the two young canvassers to pay for stamps. The two girls, however, disappeared quickly and left no stamps nor explanation, and they have not been located since.

An inspector of police detailed to the case decided it was a case for the juvenile court, and the court, according to Mr. Hammond, reporting itself handicapped by shortage of workers, had made no progress in the case.

Anyone else knowing of such operations is urged to report the circumstances to the police quickly; that such practices may be stopped.

Polk county's record in the War Savings Stamp campaign to date has been very satisfactory, largely through the efforts of Dr. A. B. Starbuck, county chairman. Polk county's per capita sales are now \$2.65, which puts it well up on the list, and the county has 11 per cent of its school children enrolled in The Oregon Junior Rainbow regiment, another good showing. Polk is now the sixth county in the state in percentage of total War Savings Stamp sales.

—WSS—

again officially appearing in the communiqué.

The United States is taking its part in meeting the shock of Hindenburg's offensive on the Bapaume-Noyon front. Besides various American officers, all branches of the service and railway engineers are there.

It is reported that American aviators, including those who volunteered for service in the Lafayette escadrille of the French army, and American ambulance and motor lorry drivers, are in the battle zone.

American field service sections, which were organized by A. Platt Andrews and taken over by the United States army and American Red Cross units which were organized by Richard Norton and Frederick Harjes, are said to be on the ground helping to carry French and British wounded to the field hospitals, just as they did at Verdun and Chemin des Dames.

—WSS—

AMERICAN IN SUIT OF GRASS HEARS HUN TALK

By Henry G. Wales

With the American Army in France, March 27, 6 p. m. (Delayed).—An American officer who had "camouflaged" himself and had carried supplies of water and provisions remained hidden in the long grass at the foot of the German barbed wire entanglements for 24 hours, securing valuable information, it was learned today.

Understanding the German language, the American had a good opportunity to hear and observe what was going on.

The officer took up his secret position on Tuesday morning. He painted his face green and brown and wore a suit constructed of straw, grass and canvas. He carried an automatic pistol and binoculars.

The intrepid American was accompanied to his position by a patrol that evidently excited the suspicions of the Germans, as snipers fired frequently in the direction of his lair before daybreak.

During the morning enemy patrols searched for him. Later the observer heard working parties, trench patrols, sentries and reliefs conversing in their lines, only a few yards away.

Early this morning an American patrol went out and brought the officer into his own lines.

PREMIER APPEALS TO U. S. FOR MEN

Lloyd George Urges That Reinforcements Be Rushed to the Western Front.

New York, March 28.—(U. P.)—"It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of getting American reinforcements across the Atlantic in the shortest possible space of time," was the appeal from Premier Lloyd George to the United States.

The message was delivered by Lord Reading, British high commissioner, at a dinner of the Lotus club. It was in the form of a cablegram from the premier and said:

"We are at the crisis of the war, attacked by an immense superiority of German troops. Our army has been forced to retire. The retirement has been carried out methodically before the pressure of a steady succession of fresh German reserves, which are suffering enormous losses.

"The situation is being faced with splendid courage and resolution. The dogged pluck of our troops has for the moment checked the ceaseless onrush of the enemy, and the French have now joined in the struggle. But this battle, the greatest and most momentous in the history of the world, is only just beginning. Throughout it the French and British are buoyed with the knowledge that the great republic of the West will neglect no effort which can hasten its troops and its ships to Europe.

"In war, time is vital. It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of getting American reinforcements across the Atlantic in the shortest possible space of time."

Lord Reading showed great emotion as he read the premier's message, then followed it with his own promise that every British soldier would die rather than let the enemy pass through. The diners stood up and cheered while Charles E. Hughes, Governor Whitman and others crowded about to grip Lord Reading's hand.

GERMANS START HEAVY ATTACK ON NORTH LINE

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mans apparently threw all their available forces into the fighting and "exerted great pressure," Field Marshal Haig said.

The fighting continued after darkness fell, when the British launched a series of strong counter-attacks. At one point, where there had been a slight British retirement, all the lost ground was recaptured and the Germans were thrown back upon positions they had held 12 hours earlier.

Progress Slow, Admits Berlin

Fighting which Field Marshal Haig described as "fierce" took place between the Ancre and the Somme river and south of Albert.

All efforts of the Germans to extend their lines west of Albert in the direction of Amiens, collapsed. The Germans employed heavy attacks but in spite of their determined efforts they were rolled back every time they tried to advance.

The Germans hope for "a break through" and are dying hard. The Berlin war office in its report on Wednesday night said:

"On both banks of the Somme our armies are engaged in a slowly progressing attack."

This was admission that the force of the drive has about been spent and that the Germans are meeting with stronger resistance all along the front. It is believed that the allies have begun to realize their fresh reserve troops and that the battle line will soon be swinging eastward.

The weather has been clear, giving opportunity for intense aerial activity. British and French airmen maintain their supremacy of the skies and there has been some sharp fighting high above the contending armies.

The German war office claimed that

Baron von Richthoff, leader of the German aviators, "had won his sixty-third and seventieth air victories."

The German offensive opened one week ago today. A dispatch from Paris quotes Premier Clemenceau's paper, the Freeman, as saying that the battle has now entered its third phase.

The premier continued:

"The German masses, wearied by their efforts and weakened by their appalling losses, must now face a sharp counter-offensive by the French troops."

Farthest Advance Twenty-Six Miles

The Germans failed to claim any capture of prisoners in their official reports on Wednesday, which is still further evidence of the waning strength of their offensive.

British cavalry have been in action, an indication that reserve forces are now on the firing line and that they have succeeded in pressing back the Germans.

The farthest point to which the Germans have advanced is 26 miles from St. Quentin west of where the battle front was a week ago.

The offensive has resulted in the formation of a wedge-shaped salient, offering perfect targets for attack on the flanks. When the allied counter-offensive is fully under way, it is expected that the British will drive against the northern side of the salient and the French against the southern.

Fighting continues with great fierceness along practically the whole front. The change in the line, resulting from the French retirement in the Montdidier section, put the new German line less than 50 miles from Paris. Previously the German line at its nearest approach to Paris was 62 miles from that city.

The German salient that dents the Anglo-French line near the point of their junction increased. The battle line now runs roughly from a point near Ribicourt on the Oise river northward past the heights west of Montdidier, past Chilly, westward of Albert, thence bending toward the northeast to a point on the Scarpe about five miles east of Arras.

FRENCH PUT UP STIFF FIGHT AGAINST GERMANS

By Henry Wood

With the French Armies Between Chauny and Noyon, March 28.—(U. P.)—Commanded by two of the most brilliant French generals, the French are blocking the Germans' progress between Noyon and Nesle, where the enemy is seeking to force his way down the narrow Oise valley and turn the entire French wing.

Other enemy forces to the north are seeking to throw the British back toward the North Sea, aiming thus to crush both allied armies.

Hindenburg's pre-announced aim of capturing Amiens is considered a blind move.

Austrians in Quiet Sectors

The Germans, it appears certain, have arranged to substitute Austrian divisions in the quiet sectors of the French front, hurrying the German divisions thus released into the battle.

Despite the enemy foresight in choosing the full moon for his offensive, during which the allied lines of communication could be more easily bombarded at night, French columns are steadily advancing.

Long columns of artillery are constantly flowing up to the battle front, where they go into action with mechanical certitude, the result of nearly four years of warfare.

After taking over part of the British line, the French are solidly holding the left bank of the Oise, between Tergnier and Noyon, commanding the bridges and fighting with a spirit unequalled since the battle of the Marne.

French Fight to Victory

Nowhere in the entire war have I seen calmer confidence. With the Poilus convinced the Germans are playing their last card, they are performing individual miracles.

A French battery facing Noyon fought three days and three nights without food. After being completely surrounded by Germans the gunners fought their way out, saving their guns and carrying off their dead and wounded.

The captain of a French machine gun company told me he went into

action with 30,000 rounds, which were exhausted against the solid masses of the enemy. He declared he could have easily fired 60,000 rounds.

Meantime, hundreds upon hundreds of mankilling seventy-fives are performing to the utmost the role for which they were purposed, namely, the mowing down of infantry.

Monday's Battle Heavy

The heavy artillery is pounding with deadly relentlessness against the German rear. A battery captain told me his guns had for targets advancing columns, each of which consisted of solid battalions of Bavarians.

Prisoners say half the Germans' strength on the west front was facing the French on Monday.

Refugees who had partially repaired their homes after last year's retreat, are the saddest sight of the German advance. They are re-abandoning everything.

Tergnier is three miles directly west of La Fere. Chauny is three miles southwest of Tergnier. Noyon is nine miles farther west and a bit south. From Noyon the battle front veers sharply northward to Roye, about 11 miles distant.

The French, by their stone-wall defense of the Oise embankment, have thus forced Hindenburg to create a dangerous salient in his line and expose his left flank for a distance of more than 15 miles along the river from the St. Gobain forest to Noyon.

This flank, it would appear, is the most vulnerable point in the German advance. It seems to be a likely spot for their own big strategy, moving toward the direction of St. Quentin.

SOLDIERS BELIEVE THIS BATTLE IS END OF WAR

By William Philip Simms

With the British Armies in France, March 27.—(U. P.)—In spots the battle blaze is burning low.

North of the Somme the British seem to be holding firm. The enemy is making no headway.

Southward, with the fighting heavier, Hindenburg's pawns are putting less ginger into their assaults. Here and there they are driven back.

One cannot call the slackening up a lull—it is only a momentary slowing up while the gigantic adversaries spar for an opening.

Harried Call Sent for Reserves

Obviously the German high command is uneasy. With the British resistance daily strengthening and the Germanic troops growing weaker, Hindenburg apparently is puzzled by the slow progress his overwhelming masses are making.

Meantime he is hastily bringing up fresh troops, guns and ammunition to continue the attack, putting the already battered divisions back of his line, lest the allies' stubborn stand totally halt his last chance for victory.

In the vicinity of Albert, along the blood-soaked valley of the Ancre, and at Bucquoy (five miles west and north of Bapaume) and Hebuterne (six miles north of Albert and 2½ miles south and west of Bucquoy), the British are holding tenaciously.

Decisive Result Expected

Reports from the Franco-British forces to the south indicate a little progress there. There British rushed the enemy infantry at Sailly-le-Sec (seven miles south and west of Albert, on the north bank of the Somme), driving them out in a panic.

In seven days, one unit of 160 "specialists" had 90-odd casualties, yet men begged for the privilege of filling up these vacancies.

Young men, for the love of adventure, made dashes during the night, full into

the enemy columns, fighting their way back.

An officer told me the Germans were using a species of tank to bring up artillery ammunition. This is the only mention of enemy tanks I have heard of.

I do not believe the battle will die out. Every soldier with whom I have talked firmly believes it will go to a finish—a great, decisive engagement, concluding both it and probably the war.

Drive Fails, Says French Premier

Paris, March 28.—(U. P.)—"No matter what convulsions occur in the next two or three days, the German plan has failed," Premier Clemenceau is quoted by l'Esure as having declared in a conversation with some deputies this morning.

"Doubtless the battle still is unfinished, but the Germans will not obtain either the road to the sea or the road to Paris."

Artillery Active in Italy

Vineva, Via London, March 28.—(U. P.)—"Our attack again won ground on the west front," the Austrian war office declared today.

"In Venetia, (on the Italian front) there was lively local artillerying."

Slow Progress Worries Berlin

Amsterdam, March 6.—(U. P.)—Berlin newspapers of Wednesday evening unanimously remark on the increasing difficulty of the German progress on the west front, but say Hindenburg is confident.

Will Call Out Convoys

Amsterdam, March 28.—(U. P.)—

Field Marshal Hindenburg and Chancellor Hertling have decided to call up for military service the German criminals of military age, according to advices received here today.

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