

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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NO. 2



ALLIES FORGE FORWARD ON WEST FRONT

Doubtful if Germans Can Hold New Line—French Bring Guns to Front and Bombard La Fere—Desperate Efforts to Stem Drive—Germans Open Canals—Allies Making Substantial Progress on Center and Extreme Right.

PARIS, March 24.—The French continued to push forward last night in the region south of St. Quentin in which heavy fighting has been in progress for several days. They reached the west bank of the Oise north of La Fere and gained additional ground east of the Ailette river.

The allies continue to forge ahead on the center and extreme right and made substantial progress yesterday in the direction of St. Quentin and La Fere in the teeth of German determined resistance. Notwithstanding efforts of the Germans to destroy roads as they retired the allies have managed to bring up a good force of all but their heaviest artillery and the guns are again busy after a long rest.

Germans Open Canals.
The pressure of the French from St. Quentin to the Aisne is so powerful that it begins to seem doubtful in the opinion of the French military critics, as to whether the Germans will be able to hold on to the so-called Hindenburg line. The invaders have opened the sluices at La Fere, apparently feeling that their chances of holding the town are not good now that the French have got a footing on the high ground in the Jussy region, northeast of Terzier. If General Neville is able to establish himself in this position his guns will command La Fere.

Further south the French are making solid progress against the five-mile salient covering St. Gobian and formed by the lower Coey forest. The columns here are working hand in hand with columns operating northeast of Soissons, in the direction of Laon. The latter made continuous progress today and their advance exposes the left extremity of the German line at St. Gobian to the risk of being outflanked and driven back to Laon. It is evident that the German staff is alive to the growing danger and that they are making desperate efforts to check the French advance.

German Official Report.
BERLIN, March 24.—British and French advancing forces and German rear guards are battling daily on both sides of the rivers Somme and Oise, in northern France, says the official statement issued today. In these engagements the announcement adds, the entente forces have suffered heavy losses. French attacks against the German outposts west of La Fere and along the Ailette lowlands as well as near Neuville and Margival, it is officially announced, were repulsed yesterday.

German forces, under command of Archduke Joseph yesterday stormed the Russian positions on the Rumanian frontier ridge between the Solotar and Czobanos valleys, according to today's official statement and captured 500 Russians.

KAISER DENOUNCED IN THE REICHSTAG
LONDON, March 24.—The German emperor and Chancellor von Hoffweg were denounced in the Reichstag by the socialist deputy, Kunert as the originators of the war, according to a Berlin dispatch to Reuters by way of Amsterdam. The incident occurred Thursday during a debate on the public health commission.

AMERICA GUT OF RELIEF WORK AIDING BELGIUM

Formal Withdrawal of Relief Workers and of American Minister Whitlock as Supervisor Announced—Replaced as Far as Possible by Joint Neutral Commission.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—American relief workers in Belgium and American Minister Brand Whitlock have been formally withdrawn from Belgium. Official announcement to this effect was made at the state department this morning.

The American relief commissioners will be replaced as far as possible by members of a joint neutral commission largely under the supervision of Dutch military officials. Brand Whitlock will go to Havre, France, resuming his duties as minister at the temporary Belgian capital.

Holland Offer Accepted.
Secretary Lansing, at the direction of President Wilson, sent a note to The Netherlands accepting its offer to take over the work of the commission.

The action of the president in ordering the Americans out was based on the belief that nothing was to be gained by keeping Americans longer in territory occupied by German troops in Belgium and northern France. It is desired for humanitarian reasons that the work of the commission be continued and the government of The Netherlands has been asked to communicate with the commission's Rotterdam office to take over the work and determine how many Dutch citizens will be needed for it.

Arrangements for the return to the United States of many Americans are now being made by the state department. Although removed from the active field Americans in Rotterdam headed by Herbert C. Hoover, will continue to direct the work.

Only Financial Aid.
The United States will henceforth be able to continue participation in the work only by financial contributions. Chairman Herbert C. Hoover on leaving New York for Europe recently said that America's work of supplying the means of relief had only just begun.

The withdrawal has been inevitable since the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany. Soon after that the German military authorities ordered all Americans to withdraw, with the exception of Brand Whitlock and three others who were restricted to Brussels. The commission realized immediately that the British would not allow supplies to pass the blockade into Belgium without adequate guarantees and they felt that the Germans were simply making an effort to throw the onus of discontinuing the work upon the British.

CONTRACTS LET FOR TEN DESTROYERS

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Contracts for twenty-four new 35-knot destroyers were awarded today by the navy department. All will be built on the basis of cost plus ten per cent profit. The order was divided as follows:
Union Iron Works, San Francisco, ten; William Cramp and Sons, Philadelphia, six; Fore River Shipbuilding Co., Quincy, Mass., eight.

The department established a precedent by awarding contracts on the same day that bids were opened. The boats will require the complete capacity of the companies to which they were awarded. Every offer to the department was accepted and builders who did not submit figures today have been called upon for estimates as to how many additional destroyers each can take.

REPUBLIC FOR RUSSIA FAVORED BY DEMOCRATS

Constitutional Democratic Party Votes for Republic—Russia to Remain Faithful to Past Alliances—War to Be Vigorously Prosecuted—Friendship of Sweden Is Won.

LONDON, March 24.—The central committee and the parliamentary representatives of the constitutional democratic party at Petrograd voted today in favor of a republican form of government for Russia, according to a Petrograd dispatch. Professor Paul N. Milukoff, the foreign minister in the new government, is leader of this party.

Foreign Minister Milukoff has outlined the attitude of the new Russian government in foreign affairs to a number of Petrograd and Moscow journalists. A Reuter dispatch from Petrograd quotes the foreign minister as saying:
Sweden is Won.
"We shall remain faithful to all past alliances similar to that with our allies, which will be still further strengthened and become still more cordial and sincere. The change in regime will disperse the distrust our allies had a right to feel toward the late government. It is Russia's duty to continue the struggle brilliantly both for her own liberty and that of all Europe.

"By the change in regime we definitely won the sympathy of neutrals, especially Sweden, while Finland, thanks to the restoration of her constitution has become our sincere friend. Our allies came into touch with the new regime without an instant's delay, understanding that the old regime was a serious hindrance to that organization of the Russian people which is necessary for a final triumph.

A Productive Force
"Today Russia is no longer a dead weight in the coalition of allies. She is a productive force. Henceforth all rumors of a separate peace must vanish once for all. It would be anti-national for freed Russia to come to an understanding with reactionary Germany."

Warm appreciation of the cordial feeling shown by the people and government of the United States toward the new regime in Russia was expressed today by Foreign Secretary Milukoff in a statement to the Associated Press.

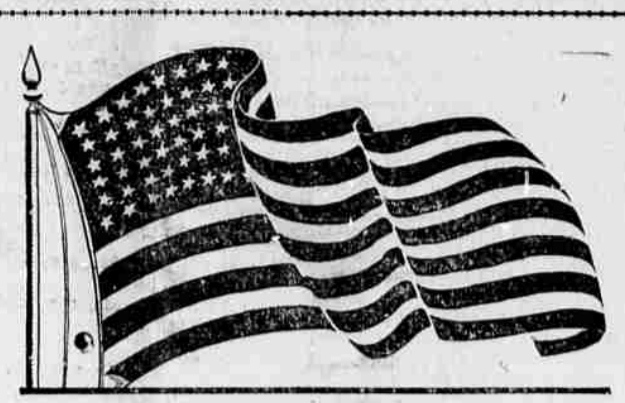
"The old regime was a heavy drag not only on Russia's relations with her allies, but on all foreign relations," he said.
"Thousands of telegrams of congratulations and good wishes are coming from the United States, not to speak of the formal recognition of the provisional government by the Washington government. This has served to show that it is only the old regime which has been standing for a long time in the way of entire solidarity between the United States and Russia."

Pleased by America.
Professor Milukoff emphasized particularly his satisfaction at the

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HOLLAND UNFAIR DECLARES GERMANY

LONDON, March 24.—A Berlin telegram transmitted by Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent, maintains that the Dutch government was guilty of an unneutral act in permitting the armed British steamer Princess Melita to leave Dutch waters after her recent visit. The dispatch declares the steamer ought to have been interned. Referring to the Dutch action the dispatch continues:
"This is the more galling to Germany because about the same time the Dutch gave a narrow interpretation of neutrality in the case of two German submarines. Holland's difficult position is appreciated in Germany and Germany must demand that in a matter so important in naval warfare as the utilization of Dutch waters by warships, we shall not be placed at a disadvantage in a completely unjustifiable way."



YOUR FLAG AND MY FLAG

By WILBUR D. NESBIT.

Your flag and my flag,
And how it flies today
In your land and my land
And half a world away!
Rose-red and blood-red
The stripes forever gleam;
Snow-white and soul-white—
The good forefathers' dream;
Sky-blue and true blue, with stars to gleam aright—
The gloried guidon of the day; a shelter through the night.

Your flag and my flag!
To every star and stripe
The drums beat as hearts beat
And fifers shrilly pipe!
Your flag and my flag—
A blessing in the sky;
Your hope and my hope—
It never hid a lie!
Home land and far land and half the world around,
Old Glory hears our glad salute and ripples to the sound!

Your flag and my flag!
And, oh, how much it holds—
Your land and my land—
Secure within its folds!
Your heart and my heart!
Beat quicker at the sight;
Sun-kissed and wind-tossed—
Red and blue and white.
The one flag—the great flag—the flag for me and you—
Glorified all else beside—the red and white and blue!

31 KILLED BY INDIANA STORM 100 ARE INJURED

Tornado Wrecks 300 Buildings at New Albany and Causes Property Loss of Over a Million Dollars—Many Bodies Supposed to Be in Debris—Troops Patrol Scene.

NEW ALBANY, Ind., March 24.—Revised official lists of the victims of the storm which swept New Albany late yesterday place the number of dead at 31 and the injured at approximately 100. Of the injured ten or more are expected to die, while it is thought that a number of bodies still lie buried under the debris of wrecked buildings.

The search of the devastated sections of the city is going forward under military supervision. Early this morning a cordon of state troops was thrown about the storm swept parts of the city.

300 Buildings Ruined.
Approximately 300 residences, industrial plants and other buildings were badly damaged or destroyed. In some instances houses had been so torn to pieces and the wreckage intermingled with that from other structures that those who had lived in them were unable definitely to locate the sites upon which they had stood.

Houses had been picked up bodily apparently and then thrown to the earth with terrific force, smashing them into kindling wood. Other houses appeared to have been flattened out as if some tremendous weight had been laid upon them. Small outbuildings and sections of roofs were carried for blocks and trees were torn bodily from the earth.

Militia Patrols.
Every precaution has been taken to prevent looting and Mayor Robert W. Morris, in command of state troops from Indianapolis, has ordered that vandals be shot on sight.

The injured soon overflowed the one public hospital in the city and others were taken to the Young Men's Christian association and to private homes. Every available physician in New Albany was called into service together with others from Louisville and Jeffersonville.

No accurate estimate of the property damage in and about the immediate vicinity of New Albany has been possible but it is said the loss will be upward of a million dollars.

DEFENSE COUNCIL CONSIDERS PLANS FOR PREPAREDNESS

WASHINGTON, March 24.—The United States government is preparing measures of far reaching and aggressive character for war with Germany. It will not be satisfied with mere attempts to protect American merchant vessels. Its preparations will be designed to meet any eventuality—a long war, it is necessary.

This program was agreed upon at a long cabinet meeting yesterday and it guided the council of national defense when it met today with its advisory committee.

The program decided upon includes military, naval, industrial and financial measures.

The question of sending an army abroad will be left for future consideration.

ABDICATION OF KAISER LIKELY STATES AUTHOR

Former German Magistrate, Who Wrote Celebrated Book "J'Accuse," in Interview Reviews Troubles of Emperor, Who Feared Enemies at Home, Who Forced His Hand.

PARIS, March 24.—The abdication of the German emperor is forecast by the former German magistrate who wrote the celebrated book "J'Accuse," in an interview published in Oeuvre. He says:

"The kaiser is obsessed by the thought that he is responsible for the war, a thought which poisons his whole existence. He feels that he is menaced by three enemies at home, without counting those abroad. First is the crown prince, the real author of the war; second is the junker pan-Germanist—you cannot imagine the smouldering hatred of the emperor for those whom he believes to be the maniacs who are driving him into an abyss; third are the people, not the socialist party, but the people who are starving and who he feels are growing in number and resent those who do organized war.

Kaiser is Worst.

"The other day at the meeting of the parliamentary presidents and the ministers of the federal sovereigns at which the submarine war was decided upon, the struggle between the kaiser's party and that of Von Tirpitz was most bitter. The majority against the emperor was so great, however, that he was obliged to submit and pretend he was convinced. In particular he was personally opposed to a break with President Wilson, but he was forced to consent. Documents will be published one day which will prove that secretly he did everything not to bring America down upon him and that he considers that the rupture was an irreparable mistake. The failure of the submarine war will soon show that he was right, but it will be too late.

"The people he fears most are the anti-militarists, anti-Prussian, liberal republicans who want the reichstag to be based on universal suffrage. That is why Wilhelm is so anxious to convince the nation that he did not want war. All his protestations are made to appease the liberals and his fanatical and ruined subjects whose murmurings are growing stronger. He wants to continue popular at any price and that is why he spoke the first word of peace. The people were grateful for it, but the submarine war came and spoiled everything.

Opposed U-Boat War.

"It is hard to realize how this emperor who enjoyed a popularity unexampled in our epoch fails in his pride. He is the only one person who knows the whole truth since he has in his possession the elements for forming a judgment on the situation as a whole. How can he resist morally and physically under such a strain? Certainly he hopes sometimes, but less and less, for the success of the unrestricted submarine warfare which he has opposed. He sees the isolation of Germany become more and more complete.

"Once he tried to initiate peace negotiations and failed. To try again would be to admit and proclaim to the whole world, but above all to the German people, which he fears most, Germany's real situation. If the al-

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BULGARS DESERT MONASTIR FRONT

LONDON, March 24.—Semi-official dispatches from Serbian headquarters in the last few days have reported serious trouble among the Bulgarian troops around Monastir. Several regiments are reported to have deserted in a body as the result of friction over supplies and their relations with Teutonic allies. According to these reports it has been necessary to re-arrange several large units of the Bulgarian army, distributing troops of suspected loyalty to places where they could do the least harm.

UNITED STATES REFUSES TO EXTEND PRUSSIAN TREATY

WASHINGTON, March 24.—The United States has formally refused Germany's request to modernize and extend the old Prussian-American treaties of 1799 and 1828. The state department has replied through Dr. Paul Ritter, Swiss minister here in charge of German interests, refusing to accept the protocol sent thru him to this government on February 10.

The reply states that the United States, considering the treaties in force in their original form, is entirely unwilling to accept Germany's interpretation of them as provided in the protocol which expanded the exemption from seizure of "merchants and their effects." In case of war between the two countries into general exemption including enemy ships in port at the outbreak of war, which must either be left free or given safe conduct for their home ports, even thru a hostile blockade.

Moreover all enemy nationals would be free from internment and able to go about their business, without the slightest hindrance, during the whole course of the war and not in the restricted way mentioned in the original treaties.

The question left unanswered by the negotiations is the status of the million and a quarter German citizens in this country.

The government will undoubtedly in case of war cause Germans to register and possibly restrict their travel, without special permit to certain limits. General internment is not being considered as yet.

ASSERTS GERMANS PLANNING ATTACK AGAINST PETROGRAD

PETROGRAD, March 24.—The following proclamation to the people of Petrograd has been issued by A. J. Guehko, minister of war:

"The enemy is menacing the capital from two directions. First, he is concentrating continually on our northern front great quantities of munitions, supplies and men. Second, he is concentrating his spies in Petrograd. Steps against the latter are an immediate necessity.

"It is always a difficult task to unmask these traitors who hide everywhere, seeking to cover their criminal activities under the cloak of all social conditions, all trades, wearing all uniforms, mixing themselves with the crowd in which they sow discord and spread distrust among the timid and weak. To the enemy's spy system we must oppose that of our general staff. Citizens and soldiers should be watchful and wise for the danger is great.

"Do not confound our anti-spy agents with the secret police of the old regime, who have gone forever and are useless to the new regime, which governs in accord with the will of the people. The new regime will not permit any revival of the old dark forces.

"Citizens, be prudent. Do not reveal secrets of national defense. Be vigilant and attentive. Be on guard."

ONE OUT OF THIRTEEN SURVIVES HEALDTON BOAT

LONDON, March 24.—There was only one survivor out of thirteen men in one of the American steamer Healdton's boats which was picked up by the trawler Ocean, according to an Amsterdam dispatch to Reuters from the Handelsblad. The survivor was a Norwegian, who clung to the boat after it had been upset and his comrades drowned.