



# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE



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NO. 36

## BRITISH RENEW OFFENSIVE FROM ARRAS

### ASSAULT ON WIDE FRONT UNDER WAY

Heavy Fight Taking Place All Along Hindenburg Line—Strong Positions Captured and Satisfactory Progress Made—Attack Evidently Major Operation on 18-Mile Front—Usual Preparation of Artillery Precedes Attack Just Before Dawn

LONDON, May 3.—The British forces have taken the village of Fresnoy. Fresnoy was taken by the Canadians. British troops have reached Cherisy, crossed the old Hindenburg line toward Reinecourt, and are reported to have taken Ballecourt.

LONDON, May 3.—The British began another attack this morning and have made progress, the war office announces as follows: "Heavy fighting is taking place all along the front from the Hindenburg line north of the Senzee river to the Achille-Vimy road. Our troops have already captured a number of strong positions."

Progress was made in the direction of Fresnoy and Cherisy and also towards Ballecourt, Reuter's correspondent at the British headquarters reports.

The new British attack includes nearly the entire front on which the battle of Arras was begun on Easter Monday and is evidently a major operation. It is the first giant attack which the British have made along this line. The attacking front is about 18 miles long.

Attacked at Dawn. The British attacked in the darkest hour preceding dawn this morning, striking at the German positions east of Arras. The infantry assault was delayed until half an hour after the half moon had gone down. The night was clear and starlit and the almost ceaseless flashing of guns gave definite shape to the shadowy outlines of the silent points.

The correspondent says the attack was directed to the taking of certain points of considerable importance and to improving the British line. The British desired to gain complete mastery of positions whence their artillery would be able more effectively to devastate the fresh troops which the Germans continue to throw in.

Tornado of Fire. There was the usual preliminary tornado of fire from weapons of all calibers and then the equally familiar creeping barrage, working with absolute punctuality as the order to the men to go forward was snapped forth immediately down miles of trenches. Thousands of croning figures formed into regular waves for the advance.

Then came the inevitable deadly rattle of machine gun and rifle fire and the crashing of bursting bombs as the infantry reached the parapet of the first enemy trench. As to the results obtained, reports (Continued on page six.)

### SEIZED GERMAN SHIPS READY IN FIVE MONTHS

WASHINGTON, May 3.—Seventy-one German and Austrian merchant ships seized by the government will be repaired and ready for commission within five months unless concealed damage is discovered. The federal shipping board estimated today they will add 535,722 tons to America's merchant marine. Many of the smaller ships can be made ready for service in less than four months.

### TRAIN SERVICE CURTAILED TO ASSIST ALLIES

Daniel Willard States Government Plans to Cut Down Passenger Trains and Only Ship Necessary Freight in Order to Supply Cars and Locomotives to Allies.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—Curtailement of passenger train service and shipment of the country's entire output of rolling stock and rails to the allies were forecast today by Daniel Willard in a speech before the national defense conference of governors and representatives of state defense councils. Already, Mr. Willard said, the federal council's general railroad board is working on a plan for readjusting schedules. Other nations at war, he said, have discontinued passenger schedules entirely, but the American government hopes to bring the railroads to their highest point of efficiency by eliminating duplication and reducing the number of passenger trains as far as possible without inconveniencing the public.

To Release 4,000 Engines. Of the 14,000 passenger train locomotives in the United States, the railroad board hopes to release 4,000 for freight trains.

"It is vital that France and Russia have locomotives and cars," said Mr. Willard. "We will have to furnish them. How can we do it? We can do it by getting along with what equipment we have and by putting into force measures of greater railway economy."

"The general railroad board of the defense council, comprised of five railway presidents who are operating the country's lines as one continental system, is working on these measures now. By reducing the time allowed shippers to load and unload cars we will save 245,000 freight cars for one trip a year. Germany has reduced the loading and unloading time limit to six hours. We can reduce our present limit from 48 to 24 hours and although it will mean some inconvenience, it is in the interest of all the people."

Curtailed Shipments. "There will be more war time rail business than the lines can handle. The country's systems are hauling more freight than ever before, but they cannot carry all that is in sight and it will be necessary for the general railroad board to decide what classes of freight shall have preference. Already the board has said coal must go first and we are filling the country's coal yards for next winter. What is the next most important commodity remains to be decided. The agricultural department asks that seeds and agricultural implements be moved and they, too are being given preference."

"I'll give you an instance of what we have accomplished in the economy (Continued on page six.)

### RUNS NATIONS RAILROADS



DANIEL WILLARD, chairman of general railroad board, National Council of Defense.

### U-Boat Menace Causing Starvation in Belgium

#### FOOD SITUATION EXTREMELY GRAVE DECLARES HOOVER

Destruction of Relief Vessels Proving Knockout Blow—Mortality Multiplies Three Fold From Shortage of Food in Belgium and Northern France.

NEW YORK, May 3.—The German U-boat menace has made the food situation in Belgium and northern France one of extreme gravity, the mortality among adults in the industrial districts having multiplied by three during March and April, according to Herbert C. Hoover, who arrived here today from Europe on an American ship. Mr. Hoover said he would go immediately to Washington to take charge of the government's food control program.

"Like every good American, I have come over to do my share," Mr. Hoover said. "My new duty is too big a proposition to discuss at this time."

"The food situation in Belgium and northern France requires every effort we can make," said Mr. Hoover, who does not intend to relinquish his position as head of the Belgian relief commission. "At present it is one of extreme gravity on account of the U-boat menace, which has increased alarmingly during the past eight weeks. Wheat and corn are needed badly and also pork and beef."

"The commission by March 1 had struggled to its feet again after receiving the knockout blow of the submarine decree of February 1. Since March 1 we have lost five loaded boats but in March and April 60,000 tons of food stuffs were landed. But this 60,000 was 220,000 tons less than we actually required. Because of the shortage the mortality in industrial districts multiplied by three. The children, however, did not suffer. They are always looked after first."

"At this time we have only thirty boats. We need seventy."

### PALATIAL TANKER COSTING \$2,500,000 SUNK BY U-BOAT

PHILADELPHIA, May 3.—The British tank steamer British Sun owned by the Sun Oil company of this city and leased to Great Britain, has been submerged and sunk, probably in the Mediterranean, according to a cablegram received today by Howard N. Pew, president of the company. The crew was saved.

The British Sun was built in 1909 and was 8600 tons measurement. She is said to have been one of the finest of her class and was valued at \$2,500,000. Last summer Great Britain took her for war purposes.

Captain Carey, who commanded the ship when it was in the commercial service, is believed by Mr. Pew to have been in command when she was sunk. Many of the crew also remained with the ship.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—In addition to the political and economic commission which President Wilson will send to Russia, a special commission of eminent railroad engineers will be sent immediately to help reconstruct that nation's transportation system. It will be made up of four men including John F. Stevens, one of the principal engineers employed on the Panama canal.



### AMERICAN COUNTED ON TO FEED WORLD IS MAN WHO BOSSED BIGGEST FEEDING JOB THAT HISTORY RECORDS

WASHINGTON, May 3.—The World's Market Man is the title that may be bestowed upon Herbert C. Hoover as a result of plans of the British, French and American governments for the United States to control the food supplies of the allies with America's best man in supreme command.

Hoover already has done the biggest job of feeding people that any man ever did. Unknown outside of his profession of civil engineer when war began, he has sprung to world fame through his wonderful work in feeding the starving of Belgium. Through that work he may rightly be called the World's Greatheart.

Give Americans Aid. Americans stranded in Europe when war broke out remember Hoover as the man who passed out \$50 to \$100 each to stranded persons, millionaires and school teachers alike, counting on human goodness for the return of his money. While others talked Hoover acted. He got the Americans home.

Typically American is Hoover. Well set up, with a jaw that is square with determination, with eyes that have a stern glint in them, but that betray at the same time deep compassion and sympathy, this Wizard of Broad looks the true Dauntless.

Hoover is of a paternal type. All children are his children. The suffering of Belgium compelled him to act because he cannot resist the appeal of suffering. His most striking characteristic is love of children. He has two sons, one six and one eight years of age, one born in China and the other in Russia.

Refused German Offer. A hard task is to get Hoover to talk about himself. American newspapers printed columns and columns about Belgium. About Hoover there was little. Hoover saw to that. The German government was so impressed with the rationing of Belgium it asked Hoover to take entire charge of rationing Austrian and Russian Poland, offering him one million dollars a month and asking

### CONGRESS GIVES FRENCH MISSION HEARTY OVATION

Viviani and Joffre Welcomed by Members of the Lower House—Vice Premier Says France Has Sworn to Fight Until the End for Liberty—Kiss Hard Miss Rankin

WASHINGTON, May 3.—The house today received the French mission with roars of cheers and cries of "Vive La France" from the floor and galleries. Rene Viviani, head of the mission, delivered a stirring speech in French, and Marshal Joffre, in response to a great demonstration, said: "Thank you," and waving his hand above him shouted "Vive L'Amerique." The Frenchmen shook hands with the members and as representative Jeanette Rankin passed down the line, M. Viviani, bending low, kissed her hand. Several little girls, some of them daughters of members, were kissed upon the cheeks by Marshal Joffre.

After being escorted to the chamber members of Marshal Joffre's staff and Marquis de Chambrun, grand grandson of General Lafayette, lined themselves up in front of the rostrum. Applause and cheering lasted more than five minutes. A clerk introduced M. Viviani, who said in part:

Viviani Makes Speech. "Never shall I forget the acclamations of the American people. If I do not thank you adequately it is not because our gratitude is lacking but because the words with which to express it are insufficient. "You, like ourselves, carry the mandate of a free people, to maintain certain ideals, to exchange certain opinions regarding the tremendous problems arising from the war, to the end that our two nations may side by side achieve equality and liberty. Opposed to us is an absolute monarch who seeks to compel others to do his will. When a few days ago the people of this nation heard the call to arms that man who is the central power in central Europe understood the gravity of the new situation which confronted him and then we saw him lean from his throne beckoning to his subjects trying to reassure them with a promise of universal suffrage. It was indeed a bitter jest.

Sworn for Freedom. "We have sworn on the grave of Washington to fight to the end. But not only has it been sworn on the grave of Washington but also on the graves of the uncounted soldiers who have fallen in this war. It has been sworn on the deathbeds of those who have died in the hospitals of Europe and it has been sworn on the cradles of the newly born. It has been sworn by every lover of freedom from the cradle to the tomb."

Nearly all the members had greeted the members of the mission when Representative Mann, with Representative

### SPEAKS TO CONGRESS



RENE VIVIANI, former premier of France, special envoy of France to the United States, is here shown greeting a Washington crowd that cheered him as he started to call on the president.

### LIBERTY LOAN TO BE OFFERED PUBLIC AT PAR

Subscriptions for Two Billion Dollar War Loan to be Received Until June 15 Next—Federal Reserve Banks Designated as Central Agencies—Low Denominations Prevail.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—Subscriptions to the first \$2,000,000,000 offering of bonds to the liberty loan of 1917 poured into the treasury today at a rate of more than a million dollars an hour, while approximately 3000 banks in every section of the country today were taking subscriptions over their counters. There was every indication that the huge issue would be over-subscribed.

Secretary McAdoo today delivered to the Italian ambassador the \$100,000,000 which the government has decided to advance Italy to meet her pressing demands. The \$100,000,000 for France probably will be similarly delivered shortly, bringing the total advanced the allies thus far up to \$400,000,000.

Money Handed Italy. Treasury officials expect to have completed within a few days the extensive program now under consideration for utilizing virtually every available form or agency in placing the big bond issue. Formal authorization to receive subscriptions yet has to go forward to the banks of the country but in the meantime they are receiving applications for subscriptions with the department's approval and encouragement. Postoffices, customs and internal revenue officials also will be authorized to receive applications for subscriptions and newspapers, department stores, express companies, patriotic and civic organizations, Mr. McAdoo has indicated also will receive such authority as soon as the immense amount of detailed work involved can be accomplished.

Called Liberty Loan. WASHINGTON, May 3.—Secretary McAdoo has announced that the first offering of bonds authorized under the war finance law would be a two billion dollar "Liberty loan" issue, open to popular subscription at par, and that subscriptions would be received until June 15, next. The bonds will be ready for delivery on that date.

Although department stores, newspapers, bond houses and many other organizations in addition to banks will be utilized in floating the bonds, the twelve federal reserve banks will be designated as central agencies in their respective districts. Details as to the denominations of the bonds have not yet been prescribed, but the lowest denomination will be so small as to place the bonds within the reach of every investor.

Women Offer Aid. Many offers of assistance in floating the issue have been received from women's organizations and the secretary will organize a woman's committee to assist in obtaining subscriptions and distributing the bonds. A large over-subscription, Mr. McAdoo announced, appears likely. "I have determined to make an initial offering of \$2,000,000,000 of the three and one-half per cent 'Liberty (Continued on Page Six.)

### SHAKESPEARE DAY OBSERVED ABROAD

LONDON, May 3.—Shakespeare day was observed throughout England and France. All the schools in Great Britain have special exercises. The national celebration took place in Kings college, London, in the presence of representatives of the United States, Great Britain and France. Ambassador Page made an address on behalf of the United States.

### GOVERNMENT TO TAKE CONTROL OF COAL INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON, May 3.—Means for transporting American coal to France and thus releasing for other service ships used to carry it from England is one of the most pressing problems laid before American government officials by members of the French and British commissions here. The question has caused the council of national defense to consider establishing more direct government control over the coal industry and the subject is being investigated by F. S. Peabody of Chicago for the council.