



MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE



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BRITISH WIN IN BIG DRIVE ARRAS LINE

Progress Made at St. Quentin and Gains on Arras Front Held—Hold on Fresnoy Maintained—Germans Bitterly Defend Strong Points but Hindenburg Line is Pierced for Long Distances—Counter Attacks Fail—Men Fight Steadily.

LONDON, May 4.—The British last night made progress northwest of St. Quentin and northeast of Hardecourt, capturing Malakoff farm, the war office announces. On the Arras front, the British have maintained their hold on Fresnoy, and all the positions captured in that neighborhood in yesterday's drive. The British were compelled to fall back from the advanced positions captured yesterday in the neighborhood of Chepy and astride the Arras-Cambrai road, the statement adds.

British Push Forward.

LONDON, May 4.—Throughout the night the guns continued to boom without intermission on the Arras battlefield and frequent bursts of machine gun rifle fire told of attacks and counter attacks along various parts of the front of the British offensive. Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters telegraphs this morning that apparently there has been little change since the official communication of last evening was issued. The British made small but important progress at several points.

On the south bank of the Scarpe the British pushed forward, overcoming the resistance of machine gun posts which abound all along this ground. They have established themselves in the sunken road near Pelvies mill, which has a dip of 9 feet and offers possibilities for offense and defense. At Roeux which is directly opposite this new position, the Germans still remain in the fiercely contested chemical works but the British have a series of posts astride the ground east of this place.

Desperate Attacks.

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, May 4.—The Germans made desperate counter attacks throughout the night against the positions won by the British yesterday but everywhere were repulsed.

All through the brilliant moonlight night and again today British soldiers were fighting on a wide front, tenaciously holding the positions won yesterday in the face of headlong counter attacks of their foe. In some places the fighting ebbed and flowed as in the old days in the Somme campaign, when the casualties inflicted on the enemy were regarded as more important than specific gains of ground. The present fighting, however, is more intense.

The latest reports from the battlefield show that the Hindenburg line was pierced both northwest and southeast of Bullecourt for long distances. The Germans bitterly defended these strong points and attempted several times to retake them but once the British were in the deep trenches, they held on.

Fought Without Food.

The men fought that steadily, neither thinking of time nor food. The battlefields were dry and dusty, however, and water bottles had to be replenished time and time again, whenever it was possible to do so.

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CONFEREES WORK UPON ARMY BILL

WASHINGTON, May 4.—Conferees of the house and senate working to reconcile conflicting amendments in the army bill, met late today ready to begin consideration of selective conscription.

The principal difference is the age limit. The senate made it 21 to 27 and the house made it 21 to 19.

NO CENSORSHIP OF NEWSPAPERS SAYS CONGRESS

Sections of Espionage Bill Endorsed by President Defeated in Both Senate and House—Export Embargoes Section Also Strongly Opposed Though Desired by President.

WASHINGTON, May 4.—After eliminating the newspaper censorship section, as approved by the administration, from the espionage bill, the house today by a vote of 195 to 183 inserted a new section, which makes it necessary to show that publication of prohibited information has been of value to the enemy before penalties of the law become effective.

Under the new section very wide discretion to prohibit publication of information would be lodged in the president who would prohibit publication by proclamation. An overwhelming defeat of the section as drawn by the administration forced the acceptance of a more liberal provision.

Beaten in House.

The influence of President Wilson's approval of the newspaper censorship section of the espionage bill failed to save it in the house today and it was stricken from the bill by a vote of 220 to 167.

The vote came after administration leaders had fought hard for the section under a hot fire of attack and Chairman Webb, of the judiciary committee, had told the house he had just heard from President Wilson that the section was necessary to the defense and safety of the country. Postmaster-General Burleson, who often visits the capitol to round up support for administration measures, made a futile attempt to get enough votes for the censorship section.

At the same time the senate was debating the bill President Wilson's approval of the export embargo section was used there.

Senator Overman read a letter from the president dated April 14, endorsing the section.

Embargo Requested.

The letter was read after Senator Reed had challenged a statement by Senator Overman that the president personally endorsed the embargo proposal.

"A few weeks ago," said Senator Overman after reading the letter, "it became known that this country was sending food, clothing and many other things to Germany through some of the neutrals and the president decided to ask legislation to stop it."

Power would have been given the president under the section to suppress by proclamation any news relating to national defense.

In a futile effort to save the section Mr. Webb amended it to only prohibit "publication" and not "communication" of news suppressed by presidential order.

Speaker Clark, Republican Leader Mann and Representative Rankin voted to strike out the section on the resolution of Representative Graham, of Pennsylvania. Democratic Leader Kitchin was a prominent advocate of the section.

Amendments by Representative Kahn to provide for a board of censors and one by Representative McCormick to limit suppression of news to movements of troops and ships and similar information were defeated.

Disposition of the embargo clause of the bill was the subject before the senate. Senator Smith, of Georgia, contended it was likely to check food production. He said there is no danger of a food shortage in America.

NO TROUBLE TO FINANCE THE WAR

NEW YORK, May 4.—There will be no difficulty in financing the government's requirements for the war with Germany and this can be done without disturbing the country's business, in the opinion of William G. McAdoo, secretary of the treasury, expressed here after a conference today with 70 of the leading bankers.

Mr. McAdoo before his departure for Washington expressed gratification at assurances received from the bankers that they would enthusiastically support the government and the Liberty loan of 1917.

LOST LIFE BOAT OF ROCKINGHAM RESCUED AT SEA

Fourteen Men From American Ship Picked Up—Only Two Lost Life—Torpedo Hits Engine While Gunners Seek Submarine, Two of Which Had Been Sighted.

LONDON, May 4.—The admiralty reports that the missing boat from the Rockingham, with all the fourteen men, has been picked up by a British steamer.

LIVERPOOL, May 4.—Captain Edwards of the American steamer Rockingham in an interview with a correspondent of the Associated Press said he had no doubt that the fourteen occupants of the missing Rockingham lifeboat would be safely landed as the weather has been excellent. This boat contained Third Officer McKenny and thirteen American gunners.

Captain Edwards said that the submarine dived almost as soon as they were observed and that the ship was torpedoed a few minutes later while the guns were trained on the spot where the periscopes were expected to reappear.

Only Two Victims.

"The excellent weather conditions make me certain that the missing boat is safe somewhere," said Captain Edwards, who arrived in Liverpool shortly before noon today with 25 men of the crew. "If so the Rockingham victims are only two, namely, Second Engineer Harry Margey and Oiler William Wann, who were both killed in the engine room by the explosion of the torpedo. We were hit at 2 p. m. Tuesday 150 miles from land."

"I was on the bridge at the time," Captain Edwards continued. "Five minutes before the torpedoing I noticed through the haze two specks on the horizon, one on the port bow and the other on the starboard bow. I immediately called them to the attention of the gunners who were at their posts both fore and aft and they immediately trained their guns in the direction indicated. The visibility was so bad it was impossible for any of us to say whether they were submarines or small spots."

Torpedo Hits Engine.

"All eyes were straining through their glasses to penetrate the haze both speck disappeared. Then we knew they were submarines which had been floating along practically unseen. We were already steering a zig-zag course and the gunners were ready at the sight of any target to turn a murderous fire on the enemy. Nobody sighted anything, however, and suddenly there came a terrific explosion, the results of which made it impossible to handle the guns."

"The torpedo had hit us in the engine room on the starboard side of the ship. She sank quickly by the stern, going down in less than twenty minutes. One of our lifeboats was shattered. The other three were launched safely."

"Naturally our great regret that we did not get an opportunity to use the guns. We had a picked gun crew who had proved their marksmanship repeatedly in practice on the way over."

WHEAT SLUMPS ON ALLIED COMBINE

CHICAGO, May 4.—Declines of from 5 1/4 to 2 1/2 in wheat at the opening today was the speculative reply to the Canadian-American agreement to regulate grain prices, as announced late yesterday. Wheat prices yesterday touched new record tops. May this morning dropped 2 1/2 to \$2.59; July 10 1/4 to \$2.15 and September 6 1/4 to \$1.84 on the first few sales. A recovery followed. The volume of trade was restricted. May sold back to \$2.75; July to \$2.21 1/4 and September to \$1.86 1/4.

WINNIPEG, May 4.—The grain market became more settled today than at any time in the last few days, following action by the council of the Winnipeg grain exchange in "withdrawing facilities for trading in May and July wheat."

NEW JOAN OF ARC GETS VISION



France has a new Joan of Arc who, like the famous Maid of Orleans, says she has seen visions and heard voices commanding her to lead the forces of France to victory. She is Mlle. Perchaud and is here accompanied by a nun entering a Paris subway station.

BRITISH MISSION TAKES UP PROBLEMS OF NATION'S DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, May 4.—The British mission today began wider and more public conferences with American officials. Rear Admiral Sir Dudley R. S. De Chair conferred with the house naval committee and Foreign Secretary Balfour conferred with the council of national defense. The conferences were to afford opportunity for questions by the American officials.

Mr. Balfour after a visit to Secretary Lansing went to a joint meeting of British embassy and mission members which took up shipping, food and munitions. Now that the extent and means of American cooperation has been outlined, it is necessary for the various interests within the British mission to agree among themselves as to the proportional share each shall receive.

Invitations from all parts of the country are pouring in upon the mission, but as yet no final plans have been made.

BRITISH LABOR MISSION ARRIVES

NEW YORK, May 4.—British labor leaders appointed by the government as official advisors to labor in the council of the war, arrived in the United States today and will proceed at once to Washington.

The delegation, passengers on a British passenger steamer, were the Right Hon. Charles W. Bowerman, and J. H. Thomas, members of the British parliament, and W. H. Garrod, who represents the labor party in the bureau of munitions. They have come at the invitation of the American Federation of Labor.

The labor representatives said emphasis would be placed on the necessity of avoiding the blunders made by British labor bodies and that it would be pointed out that the questions of hours and wages should be subordinated during the war.

WOULD FORCE VOTE ON HIGHWAY BONDS

SALEM, Ore., May 4.—Attorney General Brown instituted mandamus proceedings in the supreme court here today to compel the officials of Curry county to hold a special highway bond election June 4. The election was called by the Oregon legislature to determine whether the state should bond itself for \$6,000,000 to construct highways. The Curry county officials refused to comply, claiming the county budget made no provision for the election.

SPEEDY ACTION ASKED UPON FOOD CONTROL MEASURE

WASHINGTON, May 4.—Representative Lever today sought assurance of the house leaders that action would be taken next week on his bill authorizing the government to exercise broad powers over food production, distribution and prices during the war. A similar bill was ready for presentation to the senate today, and both are supplementary to measures pending in congress providing for a survey of food conditions and looking to prevention of speculation.

Purposes of the new bill, Representative Lever explained, are "to stimulate production, to reduce waste, to clear the channels of distribution, to prevent hoarding, to assure fair expenditures, to eliminate injurious speculation, to prohibit evil practices on exchanges and to protect the public against extortion."

Administration officials believe the measure would have the effect of preventing the evils it seeks to eliminate without the exercise of the powers authorized.

BRITISH ADVANCE BEATS SCHEDULE

WASHINGTON, May 4.—The British forces on the western front are two weeks ahead of their attacking schedule, according to a cablegram received here today by Secretary Ralston from the foreign office. The advance, it said, has been much faster than expected and the losses small.

The losses were said to be only one-half as large proportionately as those on the Somme offensive last year.

This is attributed by members of the mission to an incomparable artillery preparation and the fact that the men are not allowed to outrun the guns.

RUSSIAN MINISTRY UNITED FOR WAR

PETROGRAD, May 4.—A commission representing the Russian provisional government will leave in the near future for America to confer with American government officials concerning the industrial, economic and financial relations of the two countries. Information to this effect was obtained by the Associated Press from a high official source.

PLAN TO TRAIN 10,000 OFFICERS FOR NEW ARMY

After Three Months Course at Instruction Camps, Officers Will be Chosen on Merit From Among the 40,000 Applicants—Balance Going Into Reserve Corps for Future Call

WASHINGTON, May 4.—A full outline of plans for training the first ten thousand officers for the first 500,000 troops raised by selective conscription was made public today by the war department.

After three months instruction at the training camps the ten thousand officers for sixteen infantry and two cavalry divisions will be selected on merit from the total of forty thousand and assigned to regiments which will be called to the colors a month or two later. The other thirty thousand men who are found qualified will be commenced in the officers reserve corps and called out for duty as needed.

Sites for the mobilization camps have not been announced, but they will be in each case within the limits of the district prescribed for the officers training camps.

Into Infantry Companies.

For the first of their training the officer candidates will be organized into fourteen infantry companies and drilled as such by regular and national guard officers and such of their own number as may be qualified for command. Then they will be organized by individual fitness into nine infantry companies, three batteries of artillery and two troops of cavalry.

Those designated for coast artillery will go either to Fort Monroe, Va., or Fort Winfield Scott, Cal., for two months of special instruction while those for signal corps, aviation or other special services will be assigned to special training units.

The department's statement lays great stress on the fact that mature men, schooled for responsible positions, will be sought particularly in selecting the first ten thousand. In later training camps younger men are expected to predominate.

Second Lieutenants.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 4.—Candidates for commissions in the officers reserve corps between the ages of 21 and 27 may take examinations for rank as provisional second lieutenants in the regular army after the prescribed three months of training. It was announced by the censor of the western department of the army here today on orders from the war department. Such candidates will be exempt from all subjects excepting adaptability and physical fitness, and must be recommended by company commanders of reserve corps training camps with final jurisdiction by the camp commander.

FRENCH MISSION RECEIVE OVATION IN CHICAGO VISIT

CHICAGO, May 4.—Marshal Joffre, former Premier Viviani and the French envoys arrived in Chicago at noon today and were greeted with cheers as they stepped from the train. Major General Barry, commander of the central department and staff and Mayor Thompson welcomed the visitors to the city.

Crowds lined the streets as the procession traversed the downtown district, which was decked with flags of the allies and a roar of cheers greeted the Frenchmen when for the first time Chicago saw the military uniform of France and the figure of her marshal.

The red cap of Marshal Joffre waved in salute to the crowd brought repeated bursts of cheers. The round of entertainment planned for the visitors during their two day stay began with luncheon at the Chicago club.

EL PASO, May 4.—Francisco Villa with his main command is believed by American secret agents to be within fifty miles of the American border southeast of Juarez. Reports received here from the border said a large Villa command had been seen on the Calderon ranch fifty miles southwest of Fabens, Texas.

RUSSIANS ASK RESIGNATION OF PROF. MILUKOFF

Demonstrations by Soldiers and Workmen Against Foreign Minister for Declaration Against Separate Peace Brings Counter Demonstration—Backs Milukoff.

PETROGRAD, May 4.—Demonstrations by soldiers and workmen against Foreign Minister Milukoff occurred yesterday. Detachments of soldiers gathered in front of the headquarters of the provisional government carrying red flags with inscriptions demanding the resignation of the minister, and parades carried similar banners, some of which called for the resignation of the provisional government.

After extended conferences between the executive committee of the workmen and soldier delegates and the council of the provisional government the executive committee decided that no real reason was apparent for demanding the resignation of the government. The soldiers engaged in the demonstration were persuaded by the committee to return to their barracks.

The resignation of Milukoff was demanded by thousands of soldiers and workmen who marched the streets yesterday afternoon and last evening bearing banners inscribed "down with Milukoff."

Down With Milukoff!

Discontent has been smoldering for some time on account of the belief that the minister was not fully in sympathy with the viewpoint of the workmen and soldiers. The present outbreak, which began yesterday was a direct result of the announcement from the foreign office to the allied nations that Russia would not slacken her effort in the common struggle against the central powers and would observe strictly her engagements with her allies. The workmen and soldiers declare that they should have been consulted before this communication was sent.

All yesterday afternoon crowds gathered in groups in the public squares, listening to the exhortations of impromptu orators. Workmen on leaving the factories in the evening paraded the streets carrying red flags. At a meeting of the council of soldiers and workmen's delegates the formation of a coalition cabinet was favored. Later the executive committee of the council attended a meeting of the council of the provisional government.

Pro-Government Demonstration.

There were also demonstrations last evening in favor of the government. M. Rodzianko, president of the duma, exhorted the people to continue the war until the attainment of victory worthy of the Russian people. Some of the banners carried by the paraders were inscribed "down with Guekhoff" (the minister of war), and "down with the provisional government." The executive committee of the workmen's and soldiers' delegates discussed M. Milukoff's note to the allies all of Wednesday night. It adjourned at daybreak yesterday without reaching a decision. Later on the committee sat in special session with the council of the provisional government for a discussion of the government's motives in issuing the note. The executive committee finally de-

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OXMAN TO FACE TRIAL FOR PERJURY

SAN FRANCISCO, May 4.—Refusal of the county grand jury to indict Frank C. Oxman on charge of attempted subornation of perjury will not change Police Judge Matthew Brady's decision to hold Oxman for trial in the superior court on the same charge, he announced today. Judge Brady said that the formal commitment was to be issued by him late today. Oxman, who was a star witness against Thomas J. Mooney in the recent bomb murder trial which resulted in Mooney's conviction and sentence of death May 17, is accused of attempting to induce F. E. Rigall of Grayville, Ill., to give false testimony against Mooney.