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BRITISH IN VICTORIOUS DRIVE AT YPRES

FLANDERS OFFENSIVE RESUMED

British Infantry Goes "Over the Top" on a Wide Front East of Ypres; Penetrating German Positions as Far as Zonnebeke-Gheluvelt Line—Rush Evidently Successful, as Haig Describes Progress Satisfactorily—To Compel Abandonment.

LONDON, Sept. 20.—British troops are reported to have penetrated the German positions in their offensive on the Flanders front as far as the Zonnebeke-Gheluvelt line. Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters telegraphs.

Early this morning the British infantry went "over the top" on a wide front east of Ypres and the Flanders offensive was on again.

The rush evidently was successful at the outset, for the capture of positions of value was reported by Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig during the forenoon and the progress made was described as satisfactory.

The renewal of the offensive came after a long pause in which intensive preparatory work had been carried on unceasingly.

Attack at Dawn.

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN BELGIUM AND FRANCE, Sept. 20.—By the Associated Press.—Field Marshal Haig's offensive, which was begun at dawn this morning on the Belgian battle front, is proceeding with marked success, especially in the crucial sector between the Ypres-Roulers railway and Hollebeke.

The German infantry is making a most determined resistance to retain this vital ground and the Teuton artillery is retreating heavily against the British big guns.

A bitter fight is in progress in the neighborhood of Inverness Copse, Nuns wood and Glencorse wood. If the attackers maintain the positions to which they have advanced in this section, they have accomplished one of the most remarkable and most important achievements in recent months.

Battle of Menin Road.

Today's offensive will be known as the Battle of Menin road. Fair weather had improved the ground, but the mud was deep and the whole territory covered with water-filled shell holes, tangled barbed wire and shattered trees. The German defenses were composed largely of concrete redoubts.

The Germans poured a wicked stream of bullets into the ranks of the advancing troops from concrete redoubts. Every little elevation and all the woods were choked with rapid fire guns.

The British encountered hard fighting in many places, but their magnificent artillery work had done much to make the first stage of their drive easier.

The British barrage swept the country like a broom. The Germans knew the attack was coming, but were unaware of its exact locality.

There was a light rain last night, but the weather cleared this morning and the visibility is improving.

Objective of Drive.

Field Marshal Haig's selection of

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NEW FOOD ECONOMY RULES FOR ENGLAND

LONDON, Sept. 20.—Inauguration of a new food economy campaign in Great Britain was announced today by Baron Rhonda, the food controller. "If voluntary measures fail," he said, "I shall have no compunction in putting the nation on compulsory rations."

SHERMAN LAW DRAWBACK TO WAR'S CONDUCT

Anti-Trust Act Declared to Be Hampering Efforts of Business to Cooperate With Government—Labor and Capital Both Blamed by Wilson for Industrial Unrest in Country.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Sept. 20.—A vigorous denunciation of the operation of the Sherman anti-trust act as hampering the efforts of business men to aid the government in prosecution of the war was made by Alba B. Johnson, president of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, before the war convention here of American business men today.

"If there is any one thing this war has demonstrated," he said, "it is the principle of the Sherman act will not stand the strain of war. The moment the stress of war comes to the nation we see this temple to a false god overturned. The government itself is eliminating competition and has realized that business must be conducted on a basis of reasonable profit. The only way to reach a basis is by conference among producers."

Cause of Labor Unrest.

The bill pending in congress to permit combination in export trade should be passed immediately, Mr. Johnson declared, that American industry may act in concert in furthering the country's foreign commerce.

Unpatriotic business men seeking excessive profits were making for the spirit of unrest among labor by Secretary of Labor Wilson, who spoke before the labor section of the convention.

"Labor has been restless," he said, "because the word has gone forth that iron and steel men are making 200 to 400 percent and that shipping, mining and the other great industries are getting excessive returns. This feeling on the part of labor has been justified. In my investigation of the coal industry in the east it was shown that operators in some instances extorted five and six dollars for coal that cost them one dollar and a half."

Labor Also Blamed.

"I have told labor this is no time to insist on recognition of their unions, nor to force changes in labor standards, but this program endangers the future liberty of the people. I come with the power to tell you American business men it is not time to insist on profiteering, as many have been doing. You should welcome price fixing because it means a logical standard of pay for labor. Let labor and yourselves find a common ground that is acceptable. If not satisfactory, to insure the greatest amount of production at the least cost in cash and labor. There should be no swag to divide between capital and labor."

CRONHOLM DENIES AIDING GERMANS

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 20.—Folke Cronholm, former attaché of the Swedish legation, in a statement to the Associated Press today, denied that German Minister Von Eckhardt offered or promised him a decoration in a German order, or that he received any such decoration. Cronholm also denied that he had "furnished the German minister with information gathered among the enemies of his country in Mexico."

STEEL TRUST ADVANCES WAGES TEN PER CENT

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—The United States Steel corporation today announced a 10 per cent advance in the wage of its workers, to take effect October 1.

WHEN MILITANT MEETS MILITANT—TWO WOMEN FIGHTERS



Kindred spirits touched shoulders as Mrs. Pankhurst, noted British militant suffraget, and Madame Vera Botchkareva, leader of the Russian women's "Battalion of Death," stood side by side in this picture. Mrs. Pankhurst, at the Russian woman leaders' right, looks comparatively harmless in this company.

ARGENTINE SENATE SEVERS RELATIONS WITH GERMANY

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—News that the Argentine senate had voted overwhelmingly to sever diplomatic relations with Germany was received in Washington today with no little surprise.

Officials had recognized that the recent disclosures concerning cablegrams sent to Berlin by the German minister at Buenos Aires through the Swedish foreign office had been the cause of making a grave situation, but it had been assumed that with the German minister handed his passports, no further official action would be taken pending receipt of Berlin's explanation.

Break Is Welcomed

Although it is understood the state department's purpose in making public copies of the cablegrams was only to expose the German government's world-wide system of duplicity and intrigue, it is no secret that Argentina's participation in the war would be welcomed.

Even the breaking off of relations, it is pointed out, would have a powerful effect on public opinion in all South American countries where German influences are known to be strong. That action also probably would result in considerable material benefit to the allies by restricting Argentine grain and meat exports to neutral countries through which they might find their way to Germany. Argentina is now the only great neutral food producing country.

SCOTT TO BE GIVEN A FIELD COMMAND

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—Secretary Baker said today there would soon be an announcement concerning the chief of staff. Major General Scott, chief of staff, reaches the retirement age this month and the understanding is that he is to be retained in active service with a field command. His successor is expected to be Major General Tasker H. Bliss, now assistant to the chief of staff.

MITCHELL WINS G. O. P. NOMINATION

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—Mayor John Purroy Mitchell, fusion candidate, won the republican majority nomination in yesterday's primary by a plurality of approximately 1100 votes over William M. Bennett. With only two districts missing out of 2060, Mayor Mitchell's vote was 36,646 and Bennett's 35,527.

TEUTONS PLOT FOR ANOTHER PEACE EFFORT

Efforts to Create Atmosphere for Peace Maneuver Apparent—London Press Rebukes Pacifists—Germans Consider Belgium Too Valuable to Jeopardize.

LONDON, Sept. 20.—The attempt by the German press and officials to create the atmosphere for another peace maneuver, again is given prominence in the morning papers, which are of the unanimous opinion that there can be no peace until Prussian militarism is crushed. The Daily Mail, under the caption, "The Hun peace plot," declares:

"The true friends of peace are the allied armies of the governments which are striving to remove the cause of all this misery, unrest and bloodshed by destroying Germany's military autocracy."

The Daily Mail rebukes the pacifists, saying:

"President Wilson has shown how these people can be handled. He is the most scrupulous of democrats, but he knows that liberty at such moments as this has the most to fear from its pretended friends. Peace agitation in the United States is no longer tolerated and editors of journals printed in the German language are no longer permitted to cry fretfully for peace with dishonor."

The Times quotes the Atlantic City speech of Secretary Lane, and adds that the war will end as Secretary Lane says, "when Germany knows she must give hostages" for good behavior in the future.

The Express asserts "that the U-bout figures issued last night are the best commentary on Germany's 'desire for peace,' adding 'they are the worst on record—for Germany.'"

STEAMERS CHARTERED BY HILL LINES

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 20.—Two steamships have been chartered by the Great Northern Pacific Steamship company to replace the twin liners Northern Pacific and Great Northern, taken over by the government, on the run between Flavel, Ore., and San Francisco, according to announcement today. These vessels are the P. A. Kilburn and the Breakwater. It is planned to charter a third ship as soon as possible.

ELEVEN BILLION WAR CREDITS BILL PASSES SENATE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—The conference report on the eleven billion war credits bill was adopted today by the senate without a roll call. Approval by the house and final enactment is expected tomorrow.

Records for speed and unanimity were established in the bill's consideration. It passed the house September 9 and the senate September 15, after brief debate, and by unanimous votes. Conferees reached agreement yesterday within a half hour and today's senate discussion occupied but 15 minutes.

The bill authorizes \$4,000,000 of new bonds for allies loans; \$3,528,000,000 for converting bonds previously authorized for that and other purposes, and \$2,000,000,000 each of war savings certificates and certificates are to be at 4 percent and convertible and subject to income surtaxes and war profits excess taxes.

Before the conference report was approved today, Senator Weeks inquired if there be a definite plan for extending loans to the allies. Senator Stone in his reply said no set plan was laid before the committee, but that presumably the credits would not have been approved unless congress was satisfied there is substantial reason for the loans.

"I am disturbed over these appropriations of 21 billion dollars," said Senator Weeks. "It seems that every messenger in Washington is hurrying to the capitol with requests for additional appropriations. I have some curiosity as to what is being done with the money."

GERMAN REPLY TO POPE DELAYED

ROME, Sept. 19.—Cardinal Gasparri, the papal secretary of state, tonight declared to the Associated Press that the reply of the Central powers to Pope Benedict's peace proposals had not yet been received at the vatican.

Cardinal Gasparri believes that the reply of the Central powers was held up when Emperor William went to Riga and it is not likely that it will reach the vatican until next week.

PARIS, Sept. 20.—Three French merchantmen of more than 1500 tons and two vessels of less than that tonnage were sunk by Teuton submarines or mines in the week ending September 9, according to an official statement given out today by the French admiralty. In this period 980 vessels arrived and 894 cleared at French ports. Two French ships were unsuccessfully attacked.

FRANCE REFUSES TO TALK PEACE WITH AUTOCRACY

New Ministry Associates Itself With President Wilson's Refusal to Treat With Enemy So Long as Ruled by Military Caste—Advocates Society of Nations.

PARIS, Sept. 19.—Premier Painleve, replying today in the chamber of deputies to interpellations by Deputy Frederic Brunet, who asked the government to associate itself with President Wilson's refusal to treat with the German people so long as they were submissive to the military caste and advocating an institution or society of nations, said that he had made every effort to preserve collaboration with the socialists.

"I failed, and I regret it," the premier said.

No Change in Policy.

After paying a tribute to Albert Thomas' services, the premier said that the absence of socialist ministers would make no change in his policy. He declared his determination to proceed energetically against all intrigues and certain foreign agents, but added that he did not intend to allow these scandals too much publicity in the press, because they were published abroad and weakened the country's morale. This part of the premier's speech was interrupted, especially by the Left, as were his declarations that the censorship was necessary and ought to be respected. The government, he said, hoped to remain in agreement with the press by appealing to the newspapers to maintain their own discipline.

The chamber applauded the premier's allusions to the society of nations and President Wilson's message as the principle to which France fully adhered, thereby showing her abnegation and moral grandeur.

Unity With Allies.

Alexandre Ribot, minister of foreign affairs, told the chamber that all documents concerning France's agreements with the allies were ready and could be published tomorrow, but that the entente allied nations must be consulted, saying: "The nearer we reach the end of the war, the closer must be our unity with them." M. Ribot added that France could not reply to Pope Benedict's note without an agreement with her allies, "but our war aims are known and we are ready to constitute a society of nations when we have the necessary guarantee."

M. Ribot said that the Petrograd government had asked him to defer the publication of the French-Russian agreement. He said that he considered that he ought to comply, owing to the difficult situation of their great ally.

Pierre Renaudel said that the socialists would await Premier Painleve's acts before voting for him. Confidence was then voted by the chamber 378 to 1. The socialists did not vote.

SEVEN BANDS PLAY FOR CAMP LEWIS

CAMP LEWIS, Tacoma, Wash., Sept. 20.—There will be seven regimental bands organized soon in Camp Lewis, according to present plans. Corporal Leland D. Bullard has been assigned to the 346th artillery and recommended as band leader. Sergeant Julien, a recent arrival from Fort McDowell, Cal., has been assigned to the 367th field artillery and recommended for the same position. He was formerly band leader in the Second California infantry.

Private H. M. Hetzler, in the finance department of the miscellaneous company of the quartermaster corps, and Miss Ruth Thornburg of Santa Barbara, Cal., were married Monday at the home of Rev. W. E. Bates of South Tacoma. The bride is a graduate of the University of California.

IMPROVEMENT ASSESSMENTS ARE VALIDATED

Supreme Court Decision Holds Hanson Plan Illegal Only in Its Compulsory Features, Which Conflict With Bancroft Act—Paving Indebtedness Properly Incurred.

Decision of the supreme court in the case brought by C. D. Colby and Wm. Staley against the City of Medford, in which the validity of public improvement assessments made under the Bancroft act was sustained, and the Hanson plan of refinancing the city declared invalid because "compulsory" instead of "permissive," was written by Justice Harris and concurred in by Justices McBride, Benson and Burnett.

Under the decision, all outstanding assessments and interest charges are validated and collectable, and any plan, like the Hanson or Medynski schemes, which attempt to modify the terms under which the indebtedness was incurred, is void. Had the Hanson plan, however, been optional with each property owner, instead of compulsory, had any person desiring to comply with the original provisions, been offered the opportunity, the plan would have apparently been legalized.

Technicalities Overruled.

All the technical objections raised by the plaintiffs were overruled. The enacting clause was held not to be essential and the property owners protesting the validity of assessments were held to have had their day in court. In its essential features, the opinion, a 48-page document, reads in part as follows:

"The federal constitution prohibits a state from passing any law impairing the obligation of contracts: Art. 1, section 10; and this prohibition applies to cities and towns when they amend their own charters, because they are but agencies of the state exercising legislative power which the state has delegated to them. If the Hanson plan impairs the obligation of any contract created by the Bancroft bonding act then to that extent the Hanson plan is void.

Obligations of Contract.

If the duty to perform is lessened and either party is deprived of the benefit of his contract, the obligation of the contract is impaired. The obligation of a contract is impaired by the repeal of a law which constitutes a contract, or by a statute which alters the terms of the contract by imposing a new condition or which adds new duties. The established rule is that every contract embraces and includes all those laws which exist at the time and place where the contract is executed and where it is to be performed, and affect the validity, construction, discharge and enforcement of the contract.

Under the terms of the charter a property owner is notified that an assessment has been made against his property; and if he does not pay the assessment within ten days from the service of notice, the city can enforce the payment by a sale of the property. The Bancroft bonding act interposes, however, and offers to the property owner the privilege of paying the assessment in installments. The property owner cannot accept this offer unless he agrees to waive all irregularities or defects, jurisdictional or otherwise, in the proceedings relating to the improvement.

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WOMEN REPLACE PULLMAN STRIKERS

OAKLAND, Cal., Sept. 20.—Sixty-eight women were engaged as window washers for the Pullman Car company here today, displacing men who struck yesterday for an increase in pay. The men demanded 25 cents an hour instead of the established rate of 17 to 20 cents an hour.