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MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, MAY 10, 1918

NO. 41

BRITISH BOTTLE UP U-BOATS AT OSTEND

OLD CRUISER 'VINDICTIVE' BLOCK SHIP

British Naval Units Duplicate Recent Daring Raid in Zeebrugge; Depriving for a Time at Least, German U-Boats of Belgian Bases—Concrete Laden Vessel Sunk Between Piers Across Entrance to Ostend—Complete Success, Slight Losses.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS, May 10.—Great Britain's naval triumph of April 23 at Zeebrugge when this important German submarine base on the Belgian coast was apparently blocked by the sinking of concrete-laden ships during a daring raid, has been virtually duplicated at Ostend, another valuable base for the U-boats just to the east. The feat was accomplished by the sinking last night of the old cruiser Vindictive, likewise filled with concrete, at the entrance to Ostend harbor.

Ostend was originally attacked for this purpose at the same time as was Zeebrugge, but the blocking vessels sent in there were turned slightly off their course and the success was not equal to that attained at Zeebrugge. The operations begun with a view to closing these ports, the admiralty announces, have now been successfully completed.

Lose Both Bases. The importance of the blocking operations lies in the fact that if they have been as successful as is believed and the Germans have been deprived of both their Belgian bases, they will now be forced to revert, for some time at least to their own home ports, as starting and returning points for these undersea raiders. These craft would therefore have to traverse far longer, more difficult and more dangerous routes to attain their cruising grounds, with the consequent increase by many times the chances of their being turned back or destroyed.

Vindictive Sunk.

LONDON, May 10.—The German submarine base of Ostend on the Belgian coast has been blocked as a result of a new raid by the British naval forces, the admiralty announces. The obsolete cruiser Vindictive, filled with concrete, has been sunk across the entrance to the harbor.

The British lost one motor boat. Their casualties were light. The announcement follows: "Operations designed to close the ports of Zeebrugge and Ostend were successfully completed last night when the obsolete cruiser Vindictive across the entrance to Zeebrugge harbor.

Since the attack on Zeebrugge April 23, the Vindictive has been filled with concrete for this purpose.

"Our light forces have returned to their base with the loss of one motor launch which had been damaged and was sunk by orders of the vice admiral to prevent it falling into the hands of the enemy.

"Our casualties were light." The Vindictive was built at Chatham in 1897. She displaced 5750 tons and her complement was 450 men.

40 ACRES COTTON FOR RED CROSS

CORPUS CHRISTI, Tex., May 10.—Forty acres of rich cotton land have been placed at the disposal of the American Red Cross at Robstown, near Corpus Christi, by citizens of that community, and the entire acreage is being planted in cotton by volunteers. The land also will be cultivated and the cotton picked by volunteers and the entire gross proceeds will go to the Red Cross. It is expected that \$3000 will be realized from the plan.

FRENCH CAPTURE GRIVENES PARK AT MONTDIDIER

British Retake Section of High Ground Entered By Germans On Ypres Front—French Gain Important Point On Somme Battlefield, Adjoining American Sector.

PARIS, May 10.—French troops yesterday captured Grivenes Park, five miles northwest of Montdidier, the war office announces.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, May 10.—(By the Associated Press.)—The operation by which the British regained in a counter assault the small portion of trench north of Albert which the Germans had captured yesterday while a small one, was important. The positions in question lay on high ground which had been hotly contested ever since the Germans stormed their way into Albert.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS, May 10.—The fighting last night also brought success to both the British and the French. In the case of the former, the action took the form of a British counter attack upon the bit of ground the Germans took yesterday in the Albert sector, northwest of Amiens. Field Marshal Haig's troops gained a complete victory, restoring the position intact and taking some prisoners.

The French success was still more important as it represented a net gain of ground for the allies on the Somme front. In an intensive operation heralded by a brief but heavy bombardment, the French captured Grivenes Park, five miles north of Montdidier and held their own there against counter measures by the Germans, taking 250 prisoners during the fighting.

The Germans held an important section of the park, which adjoins the town of Grivenes on the east and is just to the north of the sector where American troops have been reported fighting in the Pearly battle.

WALL STREET BUSY DEPRECIATING BONDS

NEW YORK, May 10.—The new Liberty bonds, the third issue, bearing 4 1/2 per cent interest and listed for the first time on the stock exchange today, sold almost a point below par at the opening. Within the first 20 minutes of trading two blocks of the bonds, one of \$307,000 par value and the other of \$100,000 were sold at 99.10.

Large offerings of bonds for the third Liberty loan at the end of the first hour sent the selling price down 1.20 points below par. A block of \$100,000 sold at 99 and a few minutes later another of \$670,000 went at 98.80.

FRESH HONORS FOR VON HINDENBURG

AMSTERDAM, May 10.—Emperor William in congratulating Field Marshal Von Hindenburg upon the Rumanian peace treaty, according to Berlin newspapers of Thursday, notified the military leader that the big entrance gate to the old castle of the Knights of the Teutonic Order of Marienburg, Prussia, would have his name and arms inscribed on it. The emperor also expressed the desire to name other parts of the castle after German generals.

SALEM, Ore., May 10.—R. A. Harris, former state printer and present head of the registration department in the office of the secretary of state was notified today that he has been accepted for war service with the Y. M. C. A. in France. He will leave for overseas duty in two weeks.

BORGLUM TRIED TO CAPITALIZE WILSON'S FAVOR

Sculptor Who Accused Aircraft Board Sought Formation of Airship Company in Which He Was to Be Silent Partner Because of Boasted Friendship with President.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—The floodlight of publicity turned today upon the activities of Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor, while he was investigating the aircraft production section as the personal agent of President Wilson.

Letters, telegrams and sworn statements placed in the hands of senators from the official files of the war department show that Borglum's own inventions failed of test and that while acting as the president's agent he carried on negotiations for the formation of an aircraft corporation in which he was to be a silent partner, and which the statements declare, was to have special advantages because of Borglum's association and friendship with the president.

Borglum Implicated.

Negotiations between Borglum, Hugo Gibson, connected with the British war mission in the United States, and Kenyon Mix of the Dodge company, Detroit automobile manufacturers, began last December, the documents show. A statement by Mix, included in the documents, tells how he withdrew after becoming suspicious of Borglum's activities and reported the affair to Howard Coffin, then head of the aircraft production board.

The documents which have been supplied from the official files of the war department and are now in the hands of senators most intimately acquainted with the aircraft investigation, declare that Borglum continued his negotiations after President Wilson had authorized him to make an inquiry into the aircraft situation.

Borglum's Sole Asset.

A summary of the negotiations signed by Henry Harrison Suplee, who participated as a consulting engineer for Mix, declared Borglum was to be represented in the corporation by a Mr. Harris and that Borglum's sole asset in the transaction was to be first, his personal friendship and association with President Wilson, whom he stated he could do anything he wanted with.

"As a further asset," Suplee's statement declares, "Borglum gave everyone concerned in this matter to understand that his position with the aircraft production board and the aerial section of the signal corps, U. S. A., was such that he could obtain for their use plans and technical details which this company could use and thus save considerably, both in time and money, in beginning operations."

This statement, the documents show, was made to Mix after Borglum had shown his presidential authority as investigator and at this point the suspicions of Mix were aroused and he withdrew from the negotiations.

The documents also declared Borglum told Mix that "through his friendship with the White House and acquaintance with Mr. Gibson, the engineer in the employ of the British ministry of munitions, he would have access to the best foreign and American designs and practices."

MICHIGAN SELLING SURPLUS POTATOES

DETROIT, May 10.—In an effort to dispose of Michigan's surplus supply of potatoes before July 1 to prevent their waste the Campus Marinus in the central part of the city tomorrow will be transformed into a marketplace for the disposal of a carload of the vegetables. County food administrators will be in charge of the sale, with prominent citizens acting as salesmen. Mayor Marx is expected to make the first purchase. "Buy a bushel of potatoes" is the slogan Michigan has adopted.



U-BOAT LOSS FALLS OFF HALF OVER YEAR AGO

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Official French statistics on the submarine warfare received here in a dispatch from France today show that the total losses of the allied and neutral ships including accidents at sea were approximately only one half as great during April this year as in April, 1917.

In April last year 634,085 gross tons were lost while this April's figures are 381,631. Submarine attacks now are more easily to the enemy, the dispatch points out, owing to the fact that the attacks are chiefly made with torpedoes instead of gunfire as was the case before merchant ships were adequately and efficiently armed.

Attention also is called to the fact that each time Germans have made an offensive on land they have made a corresponding effort with their submarines. Thus during the second half of March the number and activities of submarines increased. The first half of April marked a very distinct lessening, attributed to the counter efforts of the allies.

ASK HIGHER RATES ON BUTTE MINERALS

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Increases of 50 cents a net ton in rates on ore, concentrates and other mineral products from Butte and Anaconda, Mont., to New York and other eastern points were asked of the interstate commerce commission today by the Oregon Short Line railroad. The Northern Pacific and Great Northern railroads applied for similar rate advances on ores from points in Washington, Idaho and Montana to middle western and gulf territories.

PORT OF BOSTON CLOSED TO SHIPPING

BOSTON, May 10.—The port of Boston was closed to all shipping by the naval authorities on orders from Washington today, but was opened again a few hours later. No explanation was given.

ANOTHER DEAD ONE.

FRENCH AVIATOR BRINGS DOWN SIX HUNS IN ONE DAY

PARIS, May 10.—Six German airplanes were brought down yesterday by sub-Lieutenant Rene Fonck, the war office announces.

The statement follows: "Yesterday Lieutenant Fonck brought down six German biplanes in the course of two patrols. He downed the first two in ten seconds, the third five minutes later and the other three in the course of the second patrol."

Lieutenant Fonck's achievement of yesterday has never been equalled. He is the greatest French air fighter since the death of Captain Guynemer.

POPE URGES SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR PEACE

ROME, Thursday, May 9.—A special prayer during mass on St. Peter's day, June 29, for the cessation of the evils tormenting humanity is urged by Pope Benedict in a special message addressed to the whole world.

"The end of the fourth year approaches since Europe is in conflagration," says the message. "During this time the violence has never diminished, but increased so that we never have had moments of relief from ever-increasing lites and afflictions."

USE OF OIL AS FUEL PROHIBITED IN NORTHWEST

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Mark L. Requa, oil director of the fuel administration is considering an order prohibiting the use of fuel oil in parts of the Pacific northwest, to relieve the fuel oil shortage in California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska will be affected. An embargo would be put on fuel oil shipments to British Columbia.

More than a million and a half barrels of oil per month would be saved and diverted to California if this were done.

Mr. Requa has had the question of issuing the order before him for some time and he announced that he might take action within the next few days. At the fuel administration it was said there is sufficient coal in the Pacific northwest to take care of all fuel requirements of the territory now using oil, including British Columbia.

Pending the passage of the oil leasing bill, Mr. Requa and oil operators from the Pacific coast have been marking time regarding the oil situation in California. The oil men have agreed to accept the bill and Director Requa told them two weeks ago they would have to agree on some plan that would enable the opening up of California lands. Mr. Requa is prepared to commandeer lands unless an agreement is reached.

While inclined to await the passage of the bill, it was indicated today that Mr. Requa is prepared to act within the next two or three days to get this land. In the absence of quick action by congress he will recommend that the president commandeer it.

SOLDIERS KILLED IN TRAIN WRECK

COLUMBIA, S. C., May 10.—Five soldiers were killed, two were so badly injured that they died en route to the base hospital, four were seriously injured and 18 less seriously hurt when a wooden railroad coach loaded with soldiers of the 321st infantry and 317th machine gun company jumped a trestle at Camp Jackson today.

ARMY COMMANDER IN IRELAND LEAVES

LONDON, May 10.—Lieutenant General Sir Bryan Mahon, commander chief of the forces in Ireland, announced publicly last night that he was to leave Ireland. He said he had not known who his successor would be.

CONGRESSMEN BALK AT NEW REVENUE BILL

McAdoo's Plans for Immediate Legislation to Increase War Revenues Meets Forceful Objections—Leaders Want Tax Revision Delayed Until Next Session.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Secretary McAdoo's plans for immediate legislation by congress to increase war revenues, announced last night, met today with immediate and formidable opposition.

After a conference today between Representative Kitchin, majority leader of the house, and chairman of the ways and means committee, with Chairman Simmons and other members of the senate finance committee, it was said that revenue revision before next December is "very doubtful."

Both democrats and republicans, it was said, are prepared to insist upon the administration's original program of deferring tax revision until the December session.

After Profiteers.

Unless Secretary McAdoo in the statement of the country's financial situation he is preparing for submission to the senate and house committee chairmen conclusively demonstrates that immediate action is imperatively necessary, leaders of both branches of congress are prepared to insist upon postponement.

"If there is a bill," Representative Kitchin said, after his conference with senators today, "the fellows who are profiteering right and left on the war will feel it. The taxes on excess profits and incomes will be raised so high that there will be little or no profiteering left in the hands of those who are now getting rich off the war."

Representative Kitchin said until Secretary McAdoo's statement is received he would withhold judgment as to the necessity for immediate legislation.

If Needed, Will Act.

Doubt was expressed by Mr. Kitchin that the huge war appropriations made the basis for Secretary McAdoo's opinion regarding immediate legislation would have any effect on the treasury. He believes that actual drafts under the appropriations could not begin before next January.

Similar views also were expressed by members of the finance committee at today's meeting but sentiment was general that if Secretary McAdoo should submit a fiscal statement making certain that more funds will be needed before congress could enact a bill next winter there will be no disposition to refuse action now.

"If we proceed to pass a bill," Representative Kitchin said, "it will hardly be completed much before the November elections."

COMMERCIAL TYPES OF TRUCK FOR ARMY

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Purchase of commercial types of trucks for army use instead of the development of two smaller types of the "Liberty" trucks has been ordered by the war department. It is understood manufacture of the large three-ton Liberty truck will continue.

FINNS ADVANCE TO CAPTURE PETROGRAD

AMSTERDAM, May 10.—No Germans are participating or will participate in the advance by Finnish troops on Petrograd. According to the Vorwarts this announcement was made before the main committee of the reichstag on Wednesday by General Von Krieger.