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MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, MAY 13, 1918

NO. 43

STALEMATE ON BATTLE FRONT STILL UNBROKEN

Allied Assurance of Ability to Check Germans Grows as Enemy Delays Renewal of Offensive—No Gains Made in Past Fortnight by Huns—Most of Reserves Used Up.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS, May 13.—Assurance in their ability to stem the tide of German force grows among the allied leaders as the enemy delays a renewal of his offensive from day to day.

Germany's military leaders have used up most of their reserves in their attacks since March 2 and the British and French armies, with the reserve French force, are deemed fully able to deal with further enemy onrushes. The allied strategy is aided by the fact that the Germans must attack or admit defeat.

No Gain in Fortnight.

It is now two weeks since the disastrous repulse north of Mont Kemmel and in that time the Germans have gained hardly a foot either in Flanders or Picardy. The French and British, however, have taken some small and locally important positions in limited attacks, the latest advance having been made by the French north of Kemmel village in the capture of Hill 44 and an adjoining farm. It is felt that the Germans cannot delay their attacks in strength much longer and that important sectors southwest of Ypres and between Arras and the Somme will soon respond again to the clash of mighty batties when the allied cannon will hurl thousands of shells in the enemy lines.

On the Italian front the only fighting is become sharper with the Italians on the offensive. After the successful operation on Mont Corno, south of Asiago, the Italians have wiped out an Austrian outpost on the important height of Col Del Orso, between the Brenta and the Piava. Austrian patrol parties were repulsed north of Lake Garda and along the line west of the Brenta.

Austrian Situation.

Announcement that Emperor Charles had gone to the front to witness the start of a new offensive against the Italians, which has not developed, has not improved international conditions in the dual monarchy and the existence of a separate Austrian state is reported to be in danger. Baron Barian and the emperor now have gone to German great headquarters, where, it is said, the foreign minister will discuss plans for the military and commercial alliance of Germany and Austria-Hungary. The serious lack of food which has caused outbreaks in Austria and Bohemia, has spread to Galicia and many are reported to be dying of hunger.

LETTERS SHOW I. W. W. PLANNED TO BLOCK WAR PLANS

CHICAGO, May 13.—Letters seized from the private files of branch offices of the Industrial Workers of the World, containing statements relative to the anti-war campaign, were introduced by the prosecution today at the seditious conspiracy trial of 113 leaders of the organization.

These letters intended to prove government charges that the organization entered a conspiracy, nationwide in scope, to block America's war plans, and told of results being obtained in factories and other industries.

One letter to Albert Prashner, secretary of the coal miners branch at Scranton, Pa., written by an organizer who was trying to bring about strikes in Pennsylvania, said:

"We are making a grand drive on the factories with the leaflet campaign, and if the ammunition holds out, we will be able to give the losses that which the Germans gave the Serbians."

GALLOPS UP STEPS OF CAPITOL TO GIVE NATION CONFIDENCE

WASHINGTON, May 13.—J. C. Gray of Albany, N. Y., came to town today, hired a horse and galloped half way up the steps of the capitol before the police stopped him. Gray explained to his captors that the country needed confidence and horse sense. He had the confidence, Gray explained, and added that the horse had the sense.

The policeman agreed with Gray, but sent him to a detention ward for mental observance.

AMERICANS WIN SNIPERS NEST ON LUNEVILLE FRONT

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, May 13.—(By the Associated Press.)—Three American scouts yesterday afternoon attacked a German strong point in the Luneville sector in which enemy snipers had a nest and had been operating with such success that several Americans had been killed by their bullets.

The scouts found the point held by an officer and 12 men. The party attacked the Germans, killing the officer and four men. The officer's papers, which were captured, included a German code and other documents from which important information was secured. The scouts retired when German reinforcements appeared.

Upon the return of the scouts, 25 Americans crossed to the German positions and resumed the fighting. The report on this encounter has not been received.

AUSTRIA INAUGURATES BREADLESS DAYS

LONDON, May 13.—The Austrian food controller is considering the introduction of one breadless day a week, according to a dispatch from Geneva to the Daily News. Vienna newspapers say the government is forced to take this action owing to the rapid diminution of the flour supply and the small prospects of obtaining more wheat before the next harvest.

SWISS SUFFER FROM POISON GAS VAPORS

GENEVA, May 13.—Swiss troops on the Alsatian frontier have begun to suffer from German poison gas floating back from the western front toward the Rhine, Swiss newspapers say. The civilian population along the Rhine has been warned to provide itself with gas masks. The school children in Mulheim and Freiburg wear the gas masks daily.

ROOMING HOUSE BILL UP TO WILSON

WASHINGTON, May 13.—The conference report on the \$60,000,000 housing bill adopted last week by the house, was approved today by the senate and the bill now goes to the president. It authorizes the president to acquire housing for government war workers, with \$10,000,000 to be spent in the District of Columbia.

CURTAIN WESTERN PASSENGER SERVICE

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Director General McAdoo today ordered curtailment of transcontinental passenger schedules from Chicago west, effective June 2, to save 11,728,000 train miles a year, by eliminating competition and cutting down running schedules.

PATENTEES LOSE \$10,000,000 SUIT FOR ROYALTIES

Federal Court of Appeals Reverses Judgment in Favor of Mineral Separation Company Against Butte and Superior Mines—Proportion of Oil Found Different.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 13.—Decision of the United States district court of Montana which granted the Mineral Separation Limited, owners of a patented process for extracting ore by flotation, approximately \$10,000,000 against the Butte and Superior Mining company for infringement of patent, was reversed here today in an opinion handed down by the United States circuit court of appeals.

The decision held that "inasmuch as the defendant keeps out of the limit made for the plaintiff by the United States supreme court by using more than the critical proportion of oil in the process, they did not use the plaintiff's process."

The decision was concurred in by all three judges in effect, Judge W. W. Morrow dissenting on a point that did not materially affect the decision.

Appeal From Borglum.

The Butte and Superior Mining company's appeal was taken from the decision of Judge G. M. Bourquin, of the federal district court of Montana. Judge Bourquin had upheld the contentions of the minerals separation corporation that their patented process had been infringed and had granted \$10,000,000 royalty damages.

The question of infringement rested upon the proportion of oil used in the flotation process. The limits of the invention were one-half of one per cent of oil, and the decision held that "inasmuch as the Butte and Superior company had never used more than one-half of one per cent of oil, it has not infringed."

Judge Morrow dissented in this point, holding that use of oil exceeding one per cent was an infringement.

HOBSON SPEAKS TO BIG CROWDS

Captain Richmond Pearson Hobson, who addressed a large audience at the Page theater Sunday afternoon, put in a busy day yesterday. He addressed a big meeting in Grants Pass in the morning and immediately after the meeting here departed by auto for Ashland where he addressed another large assemblage last night. He speaks at Roseburg tonight and at Eugene tomorrow night.

Captain Hobson is touring the country under the auspices of the Anti-Saloon League, speaking in advocacy of national prohibition. He is a forceful speaker and made a very impressive talk at the Page, confining his subject to the national prohibition. He has given up his citizenship in Alabama, his native state, and is now a resident of Evanston, Ill. He is giving all his time to Anti-Saloon League work.

GOOD WORK AT TROUT HATCHERIES

State Fish Commissioner I. N. Fleischner and State Game Warden C. D. Shoemaker returned to Portland Sunday after an examination of the Butte creek trout hatchery and new Elk creek hatchery. They are much pleased at the progress made by Fish Culturist J. W. Herrian at Butte Falls where conditions and location are ideal.

One hundred thousand cutthroat fry have been hatched and are in fine condition at the Butte hatchery and 700,000 steel head eggs are being hatched. The grounds have been beautified and new feeding ponds constructed.

At Elk creek, over a million steel head eggs are being hatched. Most of the millions of young salmon have already been liberated. The new building is nearing completion.

CHARGES GRAFT IN AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION



GUSTON BORGUM.

WASHINGTON, May 13.—In an 8-page letter to President Wilson published today, Guston Borglum, the sculptor, reiterated his charges of misconduct in the government aircraft production organization, denied that he had betrayed the president's friendship and demanded an open and full investigation by the senate military committee of the entire aircraft program. His own investigation, he said, had been hindered "by the war department under Secretary Baker."

LOOK TO JAPAN TO CHECK SPEED OF BOLSHEVIKISM

LONDON, May 13.—The interchange of messages between Baron Goto, the new Japanese foreign minister, and the British foreign office, is seen by the Daily Telegraph as a happy omen, emphasizing the value and reality of the Anglo-Japanese alliance.

"It is well," the paper says, "that we should be reminded from time to time of the mutual obligations between London and Tokio, obligations which have been fulfilled punctiliously on both sides and recognized fully by the leading statesmen of both countries as a peculiarly binding force. The time may soon come, perhaps it already has arrived, when Japan may be called upon to play a strong and prominent part in the war. Accordingly she must be assured of our sympathy if she takes whatever she deems to be the proper steps for protecting allied interests in the far east."

"Japan has her own responsibilities in this matter and can hardly see without alarm the spread of Bolshevism to Vladivostok and Manchuria. To give a chance for the restoration of Russia by holding the anarchical factors in check is a clear and statesmanlike policy for the emperors powers who sympathize with Russia. What country obviously is marked out for energetic action in this crusade?"

"That can only be Japan, which by its position on the Pacific and its proximity to Siberia is fitted peculiarly to render efficient and prompt service, even so far as to Irkutsk in the west."

"We do not doubt that Premier Count Terauchi and other statesmen in Tokio recognize what the situation demands and are quite ready to bear their share."

FORMER CZAR REMOVED TO PREVENT PLOTTED ESCAPE

LONDON, The soviet government, according to a Times dispatch from Petrograd dated Friday, confirms the report that Nicholas Romanoff, the former emperor, together with the former empress and one of their daughters, has removed to Ekaterinburg from Tobolsk, as a result of the discovery of a peasant conspiracy to assist in his escape from captivity. Alexis Romanoff, the former heir apparent, remains at Tobolsk owing to ill health.

The former emperor is now confined in a small house with only one or two attendants, and no strangers are allowed to approach him.

SACRELGIOUS BUNK FROM THE KAISER

AMSTERDAM, May 13.—Replying to a message of congratulations from King Ludwig of Bavaria on the conclusion of peace with Rumania, Emperor William has sent the following telegram: "I know I am at one with you in firm confidence that the Almighty will lead our good cause to victory. May God grant that our brave and faithful people will reap the fruits of their present sacrifice in long and happy years of peace."

READING SAYS AMERICAN ARMY IN ACTION NOW

Both British Ambassador and Secretary Baker Deny Report That Pershing's Troops Are Not to Be Fully Utilized on Western Front Until Full Strength Is Reached.

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Lord Reading, the British ambassador, in a statement here today declared that an announcement coming by way of Ottawa that the American army would not be fully utilized on the western front until developed to its full strength, was directly opposite to information he had received from the British war cabinet and that he was in the dark as to its meaning. The ambassador's statement added to the puzzle in which American officers found themselves today on reading the announcement from Ottawa, Confidential information reaching here recently indicated that such a plan as outlined from Ottawa was under discussion.

Secretary Baker added his formal denial to that of Lord Reading. He said the facts were directly opposed to the statements and that American troops were being used actively in battle and "such ways as meet with the approval of Generals Foch and Pershing."

Reading's Statement.

The ambassador authorized the following statement:

"The statement attributed to the British war cabinet to the effect that the allies are so confident that having been given the choice of a small immediate American army for defense or waiting till they are reinforced by a complete, powerful, self-supporting American army, they have chosen the latter, is diametrically opposed to all information received by me from the British war cabinet and to all the requests which I have been asked by them to make to the United States administration.

"I am quite in the dark as to the origin of the statement. At present all I can say is that I am convinced that the document has not been issued with the knowledge of the prime minister or the British war cabinet."

From War Committee.

The reported decision not to use the American army in France until it has been built up to proportions of a complete and mighty force, disclosed in dispatches from Ottawa based on advice from the war committee of the British cabinet.

From the best information that can be gathered here, one school of strategy has contended for using the American forces in the battle line as fast as they arrive and for conducting a continuous counter offensive with the hope of ending the war in 1918.

The other, it is understood, has favored using the American forces very little, holding them back until fully organized with all the necessary complements of heavy artillery, air craft and other equipment and then striking a mighty blow in conjunction with the British and French which would smash the German lines and bring a decision.

PLAN FOR HONOR DECORATIONS

WASHINGTON, May 13.—The war department's plan for awarding honor decorations to soldiers distinguishing themselves in the service was submitted today in the administration bill forwarded by Secretary Baker as a substitute for measures pending congress.

The decorations proposed are a medal of honor, a distinguished service cross and a distinguished service medal. All decorations under the bill could be awarded by an army commander in the field. As no second decorations could be awarded the bill proposes additional bars or other insignia to be worn on the emblem previously won.

A pay increase of \$2 monthly to enlisted men for each decoration and additional bars would be given by the bill.

U-BOAT LOSSES GROWING LESS EVERY MONTH

Effectiveness of German Submarine Campaign Declining — German Statements False—Destruction of U-Boats Now Exceeds Construction — Situation Most Favorable.

PARIS, May 13.—The effectiveness of the German submarine campaign is declining. The German government is aware of this fact, declared Georges Leygues, minister of marine, before the naval committee of the chamber of deputies today, but has made the greatest efforts to conceal it. He said the situation was most favorable and that the sinkings of submarines in the first three months of 1918 through allied measures were greater than the number built by the enemy.

Minister Leygues referred to the statement made in the reichstag on April 17, by Vice Admiral Von Capelle, German minister of marine, in which he said 600,000 tons of allied shipping were sunk monthly. This figure, the minister said, was incorrect.

Diminishes Continuously.

It was reached and passed in April, May and June of 1917. In July it declined and in November it fell below 400,000, and since has diminished continuously. The minister gave out the following comparative table of the tonnage claimed to have been destroyed by Germany and the tonnage actually lost in the past five months:

December, claimed 702,000 tons; actual loss, 386,277 tons; January, claimed 632,000 tons; actual loss 302,459 tons; February, claimed 689,000 tons; actual loss, 332,522 tons; March, claimed 680,000 tons; actual loss, 358,600 tons; April, claimed 600,000 tons; actual loss, 168,704 tons.

M. Leygues said that February, March and April, 3,723 French steamers and 788 French sailing vessels passed through the danger zone where a few months ago losses by torpedoing had been very heavy. Not a single ship was sunk.

U-Boat Losses Increase.

On the other hand, he said, the number of submarines destroyed had increased progressively since January, in such proportion that the effectiveness of the enemy squadrons cannot be maintained at the minimum required by the regulations. The number of enemy U-boats destroyed in January, February and March was far greater in each month than the number constructed in the same month. In February and April the number of submarines destroyed was less than the total destroyed in the previous three months.

The results, the minister declared, were due to the methodical character of the war against submarines; to the close co-ordination of the allied navies; to the intrepidity and spirit animating the officers and crews of naval and aerial squadrons and to the intensification of the use of old methods and the employment of new ones.

Situation Favorable.

"The situation is most favorable," the minister continued, "but it does not authorize the slackening of effort. Rather, it is necessary to redouble it as the enemy has put new submarines into service and is trying a fresh offensive in which he plays his last stroke."

"The sea front has no communique. The country does not know the terrible loss of life when disasters occur. The country knows that mastery of the sea is the certain gauge of victory. It should know also that the mastery belong to the allies, who have won it and who keep it, thanks to the heroism of the sailors who are worthy of their soldier brothers."

PROBE PRICES ASKED FOR FARM IMPLEMENTS

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Investigation by the federal trade commission of the production and supply of agricultural implements, and of the prices farmers are compelled to pay for machinery is authorized in a resolution introduced today by Senator Thompson of Kansas and adopted by the senate.