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POINTS OF STRATEGIC VALUE CAPTURED BY FRENCH ARMY

Allied Troops Have Bettered Their Stands and Taken More Prisoners—Report That Germans Fearing Capture Are Retreating Along the Oise Valley Toward Noyon.

(By the Associated Press)

The strength of the German opposition against the allied troops, from immediately north of the Somme River to the region just below Roye, apparently has checked, for the moment at least, their march eastward in the process of clearing the Amiens-Montdidier sector of the enemy.

It has not, however prevented the French on the extreme southern end of the line from winning additional points of great strategic value in the hill and forest region between the Oise and the Matz, where Lassigny and Noyon are the ultimate objectives and the capture of which not alone would result possibly in the forced evacuation by the Germans of the Noyon, Roye, Chaulnes line, but also would have a marked effect on the battle line running southeastward past Soissons and thence along the Vesle river.

The battle line in the north and on the center remains virtually as it stood Monday although all the allied troops have bettered slightly their stands and taken additional prisoners. The Americans and French at last accounts still were in the environs of Bray, north of the river, while south of the river the Germans continued in possession of Chaulnes and Roye, which seemingly they intend to defend at all hazards. Fresh reinforcements and large numbers of guns have been brought up by the enemy to aid him in his endeavors to hold the line, which is essential to the safety of the German armies now in the pocket described by the Somme on the north and east and the Oise on the south.

The Germans are not merely on the defensive. At salient points here and there they are delivering violent counter-attacks against the allies and are also bombarding fiercely the rear areas.

Notwithstanding the enemy's efforts, however, Chaulnes is receiving a mighty visitation of shells from the allied guns, and Roye has been so encroached upon that it is now under a heavy cross fire from the north and south and seemingly both towns ultimately must be evacuated. An added danger to Roye is the fact that the French in their operations are knocking at the door of Lassigny about seven miles to the south, and also are pressing forward eastward toward Noyon in a wedge-driving manoeuver which not only is outflanking Roye but bring Noyon daily nearer the range of the big guns.

Unofficial reports are to the effect that the Germans, fearing capture in the pocket between Roye and the Oise already are retreating along the Oise valley toward Noyon, and if the statements should prove true it is not unlikely that the entire German battle line to the north will give way in unison and that even there may be a readjustment of the enemy front from Soissons to Rheims.

Far to the north from Ypres to Albert there has been considerable activity on the part of the British and French forces against the Germans. The latest German communication asserts that all the attacks were repulsed.

On the Vesle River the Germans in attacks against Fismette, which is held by the Americans and French, are declared to have driven the allies to the southern bank of the river. A counter-attack, however, resulted in

THREE COMPLETE TRAINS AND WAR MATERIAL TAKEN

London, Aug. 13.—Since the allied offensive began on the Montdidier-Amiens sector August 8, the total captures by the French first army and the British fourth army have aggregated 28,000 men and 600 guns, says Field Marshal Haig's communication from headquarters tonight. The communication adds that Tuesday passed in comparative quiet on the battle front. The communication follows:

"On the battle front, except for somewhat increased hostile artillery activity, the day has passed comfortably quietly. We have captured a few prisoners and different positions.

"The number of prisoners captured by the French first army and the British fourth army since the morning of the eighth instant exceeds 20,000. Among them are 800 officers including eight regimental commanders. In the same period these armies have taken about 600 German guns, including many of guns of heavy calibre and several thousand machines andd also numerous trench mortars which have not yet been counted.

"The material captured includes three complete trains and vast stocks of engineering and other stores."

BERLIN BELITTLES THE ALLIED ARMIES SUCCESS

Berlin, Aug. 13.—The German official reports state: South of Somme the enemy attacked in the afternoon on both sides of the Roman road running from Foucaucourt to Villers-Bretonneux. He was repulsed.

"North of the Aimens, Roye road, we drove back strong enemy attacks in the evening. Between the Avier the Oise there was heavy fighting during the day. Strong forces attacked in the morning south of the Avier and between Tilloty and North of Ellincourt. They collapsed before our line. At isolated points we repulsed them by counter-attacks.

"Between Tilloty and Canny, and west and southwest of Lassigny, the enemy continued his attacks until late in the evening. South of Tilloloy on five occasions weak forces were thrust forward from the region of the Matz. We drove the enemy back and very frequently his attacks were held up by our concentrated artillery fire.

"North and east of Plessnes, a local undertaking was successful. It resulted in prisoners being brought in. "Yesterday twenty-nine enemy airplanes were shot down."

LENINE AND TROTSKY HAVE POWER OF SOVIET REPUBLIC

Amsterdam, Aug. 13.—Because of the counter-revolutionary movement in Russia, the "Soviet Congress" has placed the execution of power in the hands of a triumvirate composed of Premier Nikolai Lenine, Leon Trotzky, Minister of War and M. Zinovieff, an associate of Lenine, according to Moscow advices to the Rheinish Westphalian Zeitung. They have been given unlimited power to take all measures necessary to gain victory in the fight of the Soviet republic against its enemies.

The advices add that the leaders of the Kerensky party, who had been kept under strict Soviet observation, have suddenly disappeared. It is believed in Moscow that they fled abroad.

FROM THEIR 1914 TRENCHES GERMANS FIGHTING HARD

French Headquarters in France, Aug. 13.—(Noon)—(Reuters)—In the French sector the dominant factor is the desperate energy with the enemy is clinging to the northern and southern edges of Thiesscourt and the hills lifting the space between Lassigny and the Oise, which constitute the pillar of general Von Hutier's right wing.

On these edges the French hold Guery, Marcuil, Le Motte and Canny Sur Matz. A short distance north of Canny is the Bois Des Loges. Along this line the enemy has established himself in his 1914 trenches and is fighting his hardest.

Several Were Killed.

Amsterdam, Aug. 13.—A dispatch received here from Frankfort says: Despite the timely alarm given, several persons were killed and material damage was done, especially in the streets of Frankfort during the British air raid of Monday.

GERMANS TRYING HARD TO FIGHT OFF THE AMERICANS

With the American Army on the Vesle front, Aug. 13.—By the Associated Press.—The exchange of high explosives, shrapnel and gas projectiles on the front held by the Americans between Soissons and Rheims is taking place. Another ineffectual stab has been made at Fismette by the Germans; this occurrede last night. Today has been comparatively quiet. The front and back are as of both sides along the Vesle are being reached by shell fire, but there has been no alteration in the line.

The Germans are digging in, but not in such a manner as to indicate an intention permanently to stay where they are. The reports of observers continue to show there is a probability that it is only their intention to fight off the Franco-Americans until they can consolidate more completely their scattered organizations and make a withdrawal over the Aisne in orderly fashion.

London, Aug. 13.—The following official communication dealing with aviation was issued this evening:

"Work in the air was actively carried on in all its branches August 12. "Enemy airplanes were active and there was much air fighting, thirty hostile machines were brought down and seven driven down out of control. One German balloon was shot down in flames.

"Forty-five tons of bombs were dropped by us during the 24 hours, the Boroinne and Cambria stations being heavily assailed.

Twelve of our airplanes are missing.

BRITISH RECOGNIZE THE CZECHO-SLOVAKS ALLIES

London, Aug. 13.—The British government has issued a declaration formally recognizing the Czecho-Slovaks as an allied nation and the three Czecho-Slovak armies as an allied force regularly waging warfare against the Central Powers.

Washington, Aug. 13.—Recognition by Great Britain of the Czecho-Slovaks as an allied nation arrayed against the Central Powers follows similar action by Italy and France.

This question is still under consideration by the American government, but there has been no indication as to what course will be followed. It is recalled, however, that only recently Secretary Lansing in a formal statement expressed the deep sympathy with which this government views the national aspirations of the Czecho-Slovaks and other oppressed peoples of the Austro-Hungarian empire.

The Czecho-Slovaks are regarded as one of the most powerful of the disaffected peoples in Austria-Hungary.

HUN PEACE PROPAGANDA IS EXERTED IN GENEVA.

Geneva, Aug. 13.—Pieter Troelstra, Dutch socialist leader and Germanophile, who came to Switzerland in order to arrange an international pacifist conference, has announced that he is returning home. The British government's refusal to issue a passport to Arthur Henderson, leader of the labor party in the house of commons, appears to be the finishing blow to the enterprise of Troelstra, but the Germans, especially since their recent defeat, continue to exert heavily their peace propaganda in Switzerland. This propaganda chiefly is concentrated at Geneva and the object frankly is to get into touch with the allied representatives.

Seeking Boxed Submarine.

New York, Aug. 13.—Careful search of the banks of the Gowanus Canal in Brooklyn tonight by federal officers and police failed to reveal the presence of a submarine knocked down and boxed, as reported earlier in the day. They did find, however, nearly 500 boxed automobiles and quantities of packed machinery. United States Marshal Lawer, who directed the search, said the material had been consigned to the late imperial government of Russia. The automobiles, he said, would be the subject of further investigation.

Ferdinand in Tears.

Geneva, Aug. 13.—The German newspapers say that King Ferdinand of Bulgaria, who is at Nauheim, frequently is seen in tears and appears greatly depressed. A German mental expert has been sent to Nauheim from Berlin by order of Emperor William.

Cabled Paragraphs

Journalists to Serbia.

London, Aug. 13.—Reuter's agency says it learns from a well informed source that the Austrian government is sending a deputation of selected pro-German Swedish journalists to Serbia in order to attempt to prove to the world that the treatment of the people of Serbia is entirely satisfactory.

Royal Families to Meet.

Amsterdam, Aug. 13. — Emperor Charles of Austria, with Baron Burian, Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, Prince Von Hohenlohe, Austrian ambassador at Berlin, and Count Von Wendel, German ambassador at Vienna, are expected at German main headquarters tomorrow to discuss all pending questions, according to Berlin advices to the Frankfort Zeitung.

AN OCCUPATIONAL TAX TO HELP $8,000,000,000 REVENUE

Washington, Aug. 13.—Proprietors of all businesses and professional men with only a few exceptions will pay an annual federal license of $10 and heads of wholesale concerns doing a yearly business of $200,000 or more will be required to pay an annual fee of $25 according to a schedule inserted today in the draft of the $8,000,000,000 revenue bill by the house ways and means committee. Farmers, mechanics, ministers and teachers will be exempted from the $10 occupational tax, as will concerns doing an annual business of less than $2,000.

Secretary McAdoo will appear before the committee tomorrow in support of the treasury plan for new excess profits and alternative war profits taxes. Members of the committee at the close of today's session said the bill would be ready for presentation to the house when that body reassembled next Monday.

Chairman Kitchin in announcing tonight that the bill would provide means for raising all of the $8,000,000,000 originally alloted to be raised by taxation made the following statement:

"Today we put a ten per cent. tax on all jewelry composed wholly or partly of platinum in addition to the ten per cent. manufacturers' tax on all forms of jewelry as agreed to already by the committee. We require vendors to keep a record so the government may know where all the platinum in the country is located and how much.

"The committee adopted an occupational tax. There is no definite estimate yet as to how much it will raise in revenue. Under the plan adopted, the proprietors of any concern doing business of $2,000 a year or more, will pay $10 annual tax and wholesale concerns doing business of $200,000 or more will have to pay a tax of $25 along similar lines. This does not apply to clerks or employes of concerns, nor to salaried men. Farmers, clergymen, school teachers and mechanics also are exempted.

"The income tax was attended so as to provide for payment in Canada, or in any foreign country, of the taxes on incomes earned in those countries by American citizens or corporations, the tax to be paid as prescribed by the laws of those countries.

"We discussed the question for allowance for depletion of oil wells, but deferred action until tomorrow.

"The committee amended the ten per cent. tax on amounts paid for leased wires and talking circuits, the amendment exempting newspapers, press associations and periodicals, leaving the original provision standing as to everything else, including stock brokerage leased lines and circuits.

"When the committee adjourned there was pending proposals to increase the taxes on larger personal incomes, by graduating the incomes of $70,000 a year or more at still higher rates, and to increase the tax on all estates of $1,000,000 or more."

GERMAN NEWSPAPERS PERTURBED OVER RUSSIA

Amsterdam, Aug. 13—The German newspapers show much perturbation over the situation in Russia as it affects Germany.

"Inexorable fate is driving Germany toward a fresh state of war with Russia unless a remedy shall be found at the last moment," says the Vossiche Zeitung of Berlin.

The newspaper describes the German embassy's flight from Moscow to Pskov as "a retreat from Russia," and continues: "A nation torn asunder by a thousand conflicts and weakened by revolution and civil war has yet found the energy and enough unanimity to tear up the Brest-Litovsk peace treaty. This much is clear: the peace made at Brest-Litovsk no longer exists."

SHIPBUILDING SPEED-UP IN THE EASTERN YARDS

Washington, Aug. 13.—With the view of speeding up ship construction in the east, Director General Schwab today issued a call to eastern shipbuilders to meet him in conference at Philadelphia next Tuesday.

Production in the east has lagged behind that on the Pacific coast, and Mr. Schwab proposes to give the eastern builders the benefit of what he learned on his recent trip to the west.

Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Delaware and Rhode Island are expected to be represented at the conference. About one-third of the ways in many of the eastern yards are not yet completed, and steps to hasten their construction will be one of the subjects discussed.

KING GEORGE RETURNS FROM THE BATTLE FRONT

London, Aug. 13.—King George returned to England today from a nine days' trip to the British front in France during which time he inspected the various centers of military activity passing at times through places which were under the enemy's fire.

Among the many reviews held by the king was one of some American troops, who heartily cheered the monarch. King George had long talks with Generals Pershing and Bliss and other American officers. He expressed great admiration over the splendid physique of the Americans and their eagerness for the fray and complimented them on their fine work in driving the Germans back from the Marne.

Strike in Montevideo.

Montevideo, Aug. 13.—Strikers estimated to number 15,000 assembled in the plaza Independence late this afternoon and delivered fiery speeches in which the name of the president of the republic was frequently mentioned. Cavalry attempted to disperse the gathering and was fired on by the strikers. The cavalrymen returned the fire. No reports as to the number of injured received.

Pershing to Command American Field Army

Washington, Aug. 13.—Secretary Baker was formally advised today by General Pershing that the First American Field Army had been created, General Pershing retaining command of the army as well as of the entire American expeditionary force for the present. The despatch added nothing to details of the army organization already made known from Paris, however, Mr. Baker said.

The announcement is regarded as having deep significance at the war department, mainly because it places the American army in France on the same footing as the French or British forces there.

Formation of the army is taken here to mean that the Americanization of a definite portion of the front has been completed. Supply lines, railway bases, storage facilities, debarkation ports and the like, created and operated by Americans, stand behind the First Army. The only statement of the location of this American front given is that it is "south of the Marne." Presumably this means a part at least of the long line from St. Mihiel to the Swiss border where American troops have been put in at intervals during the last few months.

The extent of that front has not been disclosed, nor has the definite strength of the army been given. The advices indicate that it comprises, however, five full corps, which means approximately 1,250,000 men.

The effect of the taking over of the line is to make a definite beginning at apportioning the long front. The British hold the left flank, aided by the Belgians, from the sea to the juncture of the British Fourth Army, and the French First army in Picardy, where an offensive is being carried out at present.

In that position the British are not only holding their share of the line, but stand between the enemy and the Channel, which would be his only road to England while the British fleet exists.

The French armies presumably are being concentrated wholly between the Picardy juncture with the British and the American left beyond Verdun. They block the roads to Paris.

To the Americans has fallen the remainder of the front to the Swiss border when the other American armies shall have been formed. The First Army undoubtedly now holds the bulk of that line, with such French help as is necessary. The whole line is probably under General Pershing's command, even the French corps or divisions that are necessary until the arrival of additional American troops. The American commander will hereafter direct all operations on his front. He has as much freedom of action on his lines as has Sir Douglas Haig on the British front or General Petain on the French, for he stands on an equality with them. All three are under Marshal Foch for the major campaigns.

It is expected that General Pershing will soon name his permanent corps commanders, the appointment carrying with it the rank of lieutenant general. General Hunter Liggett's corp probably is regardeed as the mobile reserve of the First Army and as such is being employed on the French front. Should aggressive operations be undertaken on the American front however, this corps probably would be used there, supplemented by French and possibly British mobile reserves sent by General Foch. In that case, while General Foch would map out the objects of the action in a broad way, General Pershing would command the joint forces.

This recalls the fact that the American sector includes what always has been considered the logical road to Berlin for French advances. It was across lines now held by Americans that the French struck in 1914 before the plunge of the German Army through Belgium localized the war in northern France.

While the enemy is still in northern France, it may be that no major attack can be attempted through these gateways. The campaigns in Picardy and at the Marne, however, are aimed at forcing him back, and it is regarded by officers here that it will be over the American lines that the real thrust at Germany will be driven home.

SECRETARY W. D. HAYWOOD CLOSED LONG TESTIMONY

Chicago, Aug. 13.—After four days on the witness stand William D. Haywood, general secretary and treasurer of the Industrial Workers of the World, concluded his testimony today at the trial of 100 officials of the organization charged with conspiracy to interfere with the government in its conduct of the war.

He was followed on the stand by Edward Robbing, recently socialist candidate for mayor of Scranton, Pa., who, told of a speech made in that city by Albert Prashner, a defendant, September 4, 1917, in which he declared that Germany was responsible for starting the war. Prashner described his activities as an organizer for the I. W. W. in the coal mining districts of Pennsylvania.

It is expected the defense will close its case by the end of this week and the case given the jury within ten days.

CREW OF RELIANCE IN TWO U-BOAT ATTACKS

Gloucester, Mass., Aug. 13.—Captain James A. Nickerson and his crew of five men from the fishing schooner Reliance, sunk by a German submarine off Georges Banks on Saturday morning, went through the unusual experience of being submarined twice. They told their story when they arrived home here tonight.

When the Reliance was sent to the bottom they got away in a dory and early in the afternoon were picked up by the fishing schooner Kate Palmer. That evening the submarine sank the Palmer and Captain Nickerson and his crew again took to their dory. They rowed until Monday morning when they were picked up by a third schooner.

Two Boys Drowned.

Holyoke, Mass., Aug. 13.—Two drownings occurred in the Connecticut River here today. Edward Shea, aged 13, sank while swimming and George Litchfield lost his life while crossing the river in a canoe, with a companion. Litchfield and Orville McGuiggan were returning to camp with supplies and were overturned by the wash from a passing motorboat.

Flew From Mineola to Dayton.

Dayton, Ohio, Aug. 13.—Major C. K. Rhinehardt and Captain Fred Harvey, flying from Mineola, N. Y., reached here at 10:20 o'clock tonight, reporting an uneventful trip.

The Man Power Bill Amendment Adopted

Washington, Aug. 13.—With a broad work or fight amendment designed to prevent strikes and a new provision for education at government expense after the war of youths under 21 serving in the military or naval service, the administration man power bill extending draft ages so as to include all men between 18 and 45 years of age, was ordered favorably reported today by the senate military committee.

Chairman Chamberlain plans to report the bill next Thursday and to take up its consideration in the senate next Monday, cutting short the senate vacation recess period by a week.

The bill which was prepared under the direction of Secretary Baker is framed to enable the nation to increase its war programme in accordance with an understanding reached with the allies. About 13,000,000 men would be registered under the new law, and Provost Marshal General Crowder estimates it will make available at once for military service 2,398,000 men between the ages of 18 and 20 and 32 and 45.

Action by the committee followed about a week's consideration. During that time Secretary Baker, General March and General Crowder appear to explain the imperative necessity for extending the draft ages and to urge prompt action.

The work or fight amendment accepted was offered by Senator Reed of Missouri, as a substitute for one presented by Senator Thomas of Colorado. It provides that "when any person shall have been placed in deferred or exempted class," he shall "not be entitled to remain therein unless he shall in good faith continue while physically able to do so to work and follow such occupation." Should he fail to do this he would become subject to immediate draft.'

While the bill was before the committee Senator Kirby of Arkansas attempted to amend it so as to make 21 the minimum age. He failed, but announced he would renew the fight when the bill reached the senate.

LENINE AND TROTZKY HAVE FLED TO KRONSTADT

Washington, Aug. 13. — Reports through Berlin that allied diplomats have demanded an explanation of a threat by Lenine, the Bolsheviki premier, of a declaration of war against the allies, are assumed here to refer to the action of American and allied consuls in calling in a body on August 1 on Tchitcherin, the foreign commissioner at Moscow.

The consuls, after being told by Lenine that a state of war existed between Russia and the allies, demanded an explanation from Tchitcherin. They were told that the statement was not necessarily to be interpreted as a war declaration; that it rather was a declaration of a state of defense; that the situation existing at one time between Russia and Germany.

American Consul Poole informed the state department of the incident in a message dated Aug. 2 and received here six days later. He has not been heard from since.

The next word that was received from Moscow was a press report transmitted to the state department stating that the British and French consular officials had been placed under arrest by the Bolsheviki. The consuls later were reported released.

Since these events transpired Lenine and Trotzky have fled to Kronstadt according to reports from several sources. The state department is awaiting further word from Mr. Poole, with keen interest.

ACCEPTANCE BY GERMANY OF AMERICAN PROPOSAL

Washington, Aug. 13.—Formal acceptance by Germany of the American proposal for a conference on treatment and exchange of prisoners at Berne, Switzerland, "the middle of September" was transmitted to the state department today through the Spanish foreign office. The German government already had accepted the proposal in principle and though no time had been fixed, the United States appointed delegates by Minister Garrett at The Hague to attend the conference. Questions relating to interned civilians also will be discussed.

LEAFLETS DROPPED INTO VIENNA BRING PREMIUM

Washington, Aug. 13.—Neutral press reports that Vienna citizens paid as high as forty crowns for leaflets dropped by Italian aviators in their recent flight over the Austrian capital in giant Caproni planes are causing great satisfaction in Rome. An official despatch today says the cabinet has congratulated the air service on the feat.

The aviators reported that people in the streets of Vienna fought for possession of the leaflets, despite severe penalties against touching enemy propaganda dropped from the air. The despatch disclosed that one of the Italians, Sartoni, upon being forced by motor trouble to land, set fire to his machine before surrendering.

SUSPICION OF SPANISH INFLUENZA IN SHIP CREW.

New York, Aug. 13.—Nine sailors from a Norwegian liner which docked here yesterday were taken today to a hospital where they will be kept under observation to ascertain whether they are suffering from Spanish influenza. Some of the men, it was said at the hospital, were very ill, but the others had passed the crisis and were on the way to recovery. Several days, it was stated, must pass before the physicians will be able to determine the nature of the malady. Four deaths during the voyage were reported.

Have Keys to Plateau.

With the French Army in France, Aug. 13.—(By A. P.).—The French army continued today its vigorous assaults on the Thiescourt plateau and took two more important positions which are keys to the plateau—the Ecuvillon and St. Claude farms. This success makes the defence of the plateau a difficult one for the Germans, who are filling all the numerous ravines and woods with mustard gas and keeping up a heavy machine gun fire in trying to cling to the parts of the heights they still hold.

Torpedoed Off Jersey Coast.

Washington, Aug. 13.—The steamer Henry S. Kellogg has been torpedoed by a German submarine off the New Jersey coast, according to a report received late tonight by the navy department. No details were available, but it was presumed the steamer still was afloat.

Condensed Telegrams

"Home Run" Baker will quit the New York Yankees at the end of the season.

The production of bituminous coal for the week ended Aug 3, was 12,422,000 tons, a decrease.

Secretary Redfield appointed Agatha C Stewart, of Port Richmond, as his private secretary.

One thousand workmen in the Krupp factories at Essen were affected by the Spanish influenza.

Secretary McAdoo announced that details for the next Liberty loan will be issued this week.

More than 1,500 employes of the Magnola Petroleum Co. went on strike at Beaumont, Texas.

Ordnance officers below the rank of colonel will be required to practice with a .45 calibre revolver.

It is reported in Madrid that Spain will need a loan of 1,600,000,000 pesetas beforee the end of 1918.

A commission of military men and journalists left Madrid to visit the American front in France.

The Holland minister of food and fuel announced the prospects for winter supplies are not bright.

Charles Piez has been appointed manager of the Emergency Fleet corporation, the United States Shipping board announced.

Vienna authorities have ordered the public to hand over every piece of propaganda literature dropped by Italian aviators.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the navy, announced in Rome that more American troops will be sent to Italy.

Jeremiah A. O'Leary, who was confined to the Tombs pending his second trial obtained permission to visit his wife who is ill.

The House ways and means committee decided to tax soda fountains ten per cent. for each sale of ten cents or fraction thereof.

Plants turning out 50 per cent. of their work for the government will be allowed to fly a special flag which bears the ordnance department device.

A conference representing all metallic workers interested in relief of the gold stringency will be held in Spokane during the week of September 2 to 7.

J. F. Bresnahan, vice president of the American Chicle company, announced that orders for 36,000,000 sticks of chewing gum had been given by the Red Cross.

Secretary Baker announced to the Senate in response to a resolution that of 16,971 former national guard officers 972 were discharged for various reasons.

The federal trade commission, acting under the direction of the president, was engaged for some time inquiring into the method of financing grain.

The Trenton Chamber of Commerce is interesting itself in a market-hauling plan for the benefit of the farmer. It will save a large quantity of perishable farm products.

The railroad administration has announced that shopmen working in the Pullman company division will receive the same wage advance as the government railroad shopmen.

Thomas F. Smith, democratic representative of the 15th New York district, introduced a bill in the house to enable soldiers and sailors in Europe to vote at the coming election.

Considering that the airplane mail service between New York, Philadelphia and Washington is no longer an experiment the government has taken over control of the routes.

As a result of the work of the department of agriculture the cattle herds in the country have been increased 50 per cent. Many cattle had to be killed because of drought.

These Connecticut women were among the thirty-eight Suffragettes arrested in Washington: Mrs. W. D. Ascough, Miss Edna Purtell Mrs. George L. Koring of Hartford, and Miss Elsie Hill of Newark.

FRENCH STEAMERS SUNK WITH GREA LOSS OF LIVES

Paris, Aug. 13.—Four hundred and forty-two men are missing as a result of the torpedoing of the French steamer Djemnah in the Mediterranean the night of July 14-15, while bound from Bizerta to Alexandria with troops on board, according to an official announcement tonight. Four days later the French steamer Australian was also torpedoed in the Mediterranean. Still another steamer was torpedoed, but remained afloat. The text of the communication follows:

"The steamer Djemnah, belonging to the Messageries Maritimes, proceeding from Bizerta to Alexandria with military passengers, was torpedoed and sunk the night of July 14-15. Four hundred and forty-two men are missing.

"On July 19 in the Mediterranean steamer Australian, belonging to the same company, was torpedoed and sunk. Seventeen sailors were killed. Passengers to the number of 948 were saved. Three are missing.

"In the same convoy another steamer which was torpedoed was kept afloat. Numerous bombs were thrown at the submerged submarine."

AUTOMOBILE DEALERS ARE PROFITEERING

New York, Aug. 13.—Profiteering by retailers by advancing prices to cover government taxes which they do not have to pay was denounced by William H. Edwards, internal revenue collector here. He said today that certain automobile dealers and jewelers had jumped prices to more than cover the three per cent sales taxes they have to pay on the manufacturers' price and then in addition charged the customer with a three per cent sales tax which they fraudulently claimed they also had to pay the government. He cited an instance of the manufacturers' price of an automobile at $2500, on which the retailer paid $75 extra to cover the tax being jumped to $3,000, and the buyer of it charged $90 extra or three per cent, to cover the retailers' charged tax.

Prosecutions may be taken against some concerns, Mr. Edwards said.

Three Aviators Injured.

Washington, Aug. 13.—Three men injured in the seaplane accident yesterday at the naval air station at Pensacola, Fla., in which three others lost their lives were only slightly hurt. Their names were reported to the navy department today as follows: Ensign J. L. Schwab St. Louis; Herbert E. Groh, machinist's mate, Pasadena, Maryland; Frank C. Lynch, electrician, Somerset, Mass.

Rice Riot in Japan.

Tokio, Aug. 13.—The soaring price of rice has caused great distress among the poorer classes throughout Japan. Riots, led by women, occurred in various places. Several persons were wounded during the disorders. At Okayama crowds assaulted the rice brokers, calling them "enemies of the poor."

SUBMARINE RAIDS DISCUSSED BY CABINET

That Torpedo is Controlled by Radio on Submarine is Ridiculed by Naval Experts—It Can be Regulated by Gyroscope Before Discharging—That Depth Bomb Attack.

Washington, Aug. 13.—German submarine raids in American waters were understood to have been discussed today at an unusually prolonged session of the cabinet, but if any new plans for combatting this menace to helpless fishing craft, lightships and other vessels were formulated by President Wilson and his advisers, the fact was not disclosed.

The only report of the activities of the raiders reaching the navy department during the day told of the destruction of the Norwegian steamer Sommerstad yesterday morning, 25 miles southeast of Fire Island, New York. Captain Hansen and his crew of thirty men were landed by a naval patrol boat, which found them at sea in small boats, ten hours after the steamer went down.

Destruction of the Sommerstad by a torpedo, which passed under the ship's bow and later circled and struck the vessel amidship, gave rise to a suggestion that the torpedo was controlled by radio on the submarine, but this was ridiculed by naval experts. They explained that the course of a torpedo is regulated by the gyroscope which can be so set before discharging that the weapon will describe a circle. This has been done time and again during torpedo practice in the American navy so as to return the weapon to the ship discharging it, high officials said and it has not been an uncommon thing for torpedoes fired by German submarines to take similar courses.

No additional reports on the depth bomb attack by an American destroyer on a submarine off the Virginia coast have reached the navy department, but it now seems fairly well established that it occurred Sunday after gas from oil supposed to have been discharged from a submarine overcame six men in the coast guard station and lighthouse on Smith's Island, North Carolina, Saturday evening.

No previous accounts of gas attacks by submarines have been received nor has there been any information coming to the department that the U-boats are equipped for such attacks. Some officials, however, do not regard it as at all improbable that, in carrying out their campaign of "frightfulness," the Germans would make whatever use of gas by submarines that might be found possible.

ENEMY SUBMARINE IS HERE FULLY DESCRIBED

Boston, Aug. 13.—Reports by survivors of fishing vessels sunk off the New England coast by a German submarine state that the enemy craft had not been out as long as some of its officers had endeavored to make it appear. The submarine is painted white. Two of the fishing fleet captains agreed that the hulk had been painted very recently and they said that it did not seem that the U-boat could have been in American waters as far back as May.

The vessel was described as 200 feet in length, with two guns, six-pounders mounted fore and aft. Survivors said there were at least 100 in the crew and that the captain of the prize crew appeared more Spanish than German.

In several cases the commander of the U-boat told American officers whose vessels were sunk that his cruising radius was 17,000 miles. All vessels destroyed were first searched and every gallon of oil that might be of use on the U-boat was taken.

SCHOONER CRUISER CREW ROWED 180 MILES TO SAFETY

Nantucket, Mass., Aug. 13.—The crew of six men of the sword fishing schooner Cruiser who were thought to have lost their lives when their craft was sunk by a German submarine on Georges Bank, Saturday afternoon, were brought in here today. They rowed for 180 miles in their dory before they were rescued by Great Round Shoal lightship, six miles off this island.

Previous reports were to the effect that the Cruiser was sunk by gunfire and that her crew had no time to escape. As a matter of fact, men from the Cruiser said they saw the submarine attacking other fishermen and quickly decided to abandon their vessel. Packing a quantity of provisions in a dory, they put off before the submarine came up.

Rowing away from the scene, the Cruiser's men saw the fishing schooner On Time on her beam ends. The crew of the On Time had taken to a dory before their ship was shelled.

According to the crew of the Cruiser, the schooner Old Time previously reported as sunk while fishing in company with their vessel, was nowhere in their vicinity. They believe that the Old Time was confused with the On Time, which was sunk.

Reliance Crew Saved

Provincetown, Mass., Aug. 13.—The crew of seven men of the schooner Reliance, one of the fleet of fishermen sunk by a German submarine Saturday, was landed here today. The men were picked up by another fishing vessel.

SUB. GETS ONE STEAMER BUT MISSES ANOTHER

New York, Aug. 13.—German submarines took toll of American shipping in waters adjacent to this port again yesterday, when the Norwegian steamship Sommerstad was sunk off Fire Island. The 2875 ton freighter was sent to the bottom not far from the locality where the armored cruiser San Diego was blown up on July 19.

The Sommerstad, whose crew of 31 men brought here today, was under the United States Shipping Board and was on the way from Bergen, Norway, to New York, in ballast.

Capt. Hansen, master of the ship, said she was sunk at 8 o'clock yesterday morning. The crew took to the boats and later was picked up by a pasing vessel.

The Sommerstad was built at Newcastle Eng. in 1906, her owners of record being A. F. Klaveness & Co.

Fruit Steamer Escaped.

An Atlantic Port, Aug. 13.—Running at top speed, an American Fruit steamer outdistanced a German U-boat off Fire Island, yesterday morning and escaped the fate of the Norwegian steamship Sommerstad, which was sunk off that point about four hours later. Officers of the steamer, which reached this port tonight, said that the undersea craft was coming towards them when she was sighted. The steamer's engines were pushed to the limit, they said and after a short while the U-boat gave up the chase.

SECOND SOMME BATTLE IS BEING WON BY ALLIES.

With the British Army in France, Aug. 13, 3.30 p. m. (By The Associated Press).—Ground gained by the allied armies in the second battle of the Somme is being held by them everywhere today, although they have been pausing for more than twenty-four hours. The harassed and disorganized forces of the enemy have launched several counter-attacks, it is true, but none of them have carried the Germans anywhere.

As a matter of fact, the small but nevertheless important local gain made by the allies just north of the Somme river, to say nothing of other successful minor operations for improving positions more than trebly outweigh the extremely slight gains made by the Germans at a heavy cost at two points in the line.

Strong enemy reinforcements are between Roye and Foquecourt, but so far they have done nothing, if really they are there for an offensive purpose. In the northern battle area, especially in the Bray region, new enemy defensive barbed wire has been found while earthworks are being constructed at several places behind the German line. Probably the enemy has removed much of his material and has sent in nearly all the reinforcements he cares to risk at the present time.

Morlancourt is being heavily shelled, while the enemy, with aerial bombs, has apparently attempted to blow up the ammunition dumps he left in his hurry to get away. British and French guns have been busy today pounding German rear areas and the crossings over the Somme.

Enemy shells that are coming in are being fired at an extreme range, probably from well on the other side of the Somme. This is especially true of shells aimed at the districts south of the Amiens-Nesle road.

Between the Ancre and the Somme the operations of the British, which resulted in a small material advance and the capture of enemy positions, provoked only a scattered shelling from field guns.

British airplanes continued to drop tons of shells on the enemy, especially in the region of Peronne. Enemy transports are also suffering from the British bombers, one of whom secured a direct hit on a transport train on the Ham-Nesle road. It is now established that a giant Gotha, with five engines, which was brought down a few nights ago near Talmas, carried a crew of nine, all of whom were killed.

Labor Dispute Refereed.

Washington, Aug. 13.—Referees to settle a dispute between cloak, suit, skirt and dress manufacturers of Cleveland and their employes were appointed today by Secretary Baker at the request of both sides with the understanding that all employes now on strike will return to work at once and be accepted without prejudice. The referees are E. M. Hopkins, chairman; Major Samuel J. Rosensohn and John R. McLean.

COLLAPSE OF HUN PLAN TO WEDGE ALLIED ARMIES.

With the French Army in France, Aug. 13 (By The Associated Press).—After the battle of the Avre the situation of the belligerents presents a change which for rapidity and extent has rarely been approached in military history. Marshal Foch's strategy and the masterly tactics of the generals commanding the armies and groups of armies under him have in three weeks wrested from the Germans what required four months for them to obtain at a cost variously estimated at from 700,000 to 1,000,000 men.

The immediate results of the counter-offensives which will have the greatest bearing on subsequent operations are the clearing of the Chateau Thierry pocket, ending the ménace to Epernay and Paris; the liberation of Montdidier, ending the menace to Amiens; the freeing of the important eastern railroad lines from Paris to Chalons, and the equally important northern line from Paris to Amiens, restoring to the allies means of communication which give them enormously greater ease in future movements of troops.

The most disastrous consequence to the Germans, aside from the heavy losses they sustained in men and material, is the collapse of their plan to drive wedges into the allied lines and the subsequent widening and joining which would have threatened general dislocation.

TALKER FOR PEACE NOW IS DANGEROUS ENEMY

Boston, Aug. 13.—A warning to the people of this state to beware of the efforts of German sympathizers who are taking advantage of American victories to start a new peace propaganda was issued tonight by Henry B. Endicott executive manager of the Massachusetts committee of public safety.

"Coming at this time," he said, "this peace drive is a dangerous seed to plant and should be crushed in its infancy. I am sure I state the feelings of a majority when I say that they realize that to talk peace now and stop the war would leave the world in worse condition by far than it was before the war started, and all the sacrifice that has been made would be in vain.

"A man or woman who talks peace at this time, in my opinion, is a dangerous enemy and should be treated as such."

Willis For Governor.

Columbus, O., Aug. 13.—Complete unofficial returns from 402 precincts in twelve scattered counties of the state tonight indicated that former Governor Frank B. Willis, received the republican nomination for governor at today's state primary election, providing the present ratio is maintained by later and more complete returns.

Governor Cox and the remainder of the democratic state ticket had no opposition.