

# ALLIES CLAIM MORE PROGRESS

## GERMAN LINE IS WAVERING AT A NUMBER OF POINTS

Offensive in Western Theatre of War has Passed Into the Hands of the Allies Who are Retaking Lost Territory.

## FIGHTING WITH GAS WAS A FAILURE

Belgians Feigned Stupefaction Until Enemy Drew Near and Then Cut Them to Pieces With Machine Guns.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LONDON, April 28.—The offensive in France and Belgium has passed into the hands of the allies. Advices from half a dozen points today indicate that despite the strength of the German line it is wavering under repeated assaults at certain points. The weight of the Belgian-French-British combined forces in northern France is being thrown against the elbow in the German new line around St. Julian which it is believed Sir John French has determined must be recaptured. The Germans have not been able to do more than dig themselves into their new positions, their sappers having been unable to construct permanent entanglements and military experts at the war office declare that it will be possible to retake all of the lost territory without too enormous a loss of life.

The fighting along the northern line continued last night, according to the reports received here. It is essential for the morale of the fresh troops engaged that the German rush be discounted and fresh troops have been thrown into the line while the initial assaults are being held in reserve.

Advices from the Belgian headquarters today say that last night the Germans distributed a great quantity of their asphyxiating gas along the line held by the Belgians and attempted an advance. The Belgians lay close to the ground, each man with his nostrils stuffed with cotton with which all troops on the front line now have been supplied and waited. When the Germans, believing the enemy unconscious, charged in massed formation, their lines were literally cut to pieces by machine gun fire and finally broke and fell back in utmost disorder. The German losses were enormous. It is stated that at certain points the dead lay piled on each other like freshly cut firewood.

Although the northern end of the French battle line attracts most attention because of the spectacular nature of the fighting, officials are watching closely the territory between the Meuse and the Moselle and in upper Alsace where serious fighting is known again to be in progress. General Joffre has let it be known that he hoped to have his real offensive well under way by May 1. This date is only three days off and officials expect soon to get word of a

new battle on a titanic scale. Advices from the Gallipoli peninsula, where the allied troops under General Sir Ian Hamilton are slowly pushing their way along both sides of the Dardanelles to co-operate with the fleet in the attempt on Constantinople say that the fighting continues. The territory over which the troops are moving is of the most difficult character, comprising hills and valleys within which are scores of masked defenses so thoroughly concealed that the airman cannot pick them up and the first knowledge that they exist comes when the troops are fired on. The task here will be a sharp one, but the war office and admiralty agree that it is being well carried out.

**The German Death Gas.**  
[By Wm. G. Shepherd, United Press Staff Correspondent.]  
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**FIELD HEADQUARTERS BRITISH ARMY, NORTHERN FRANCE, April 27.** (Via London April 28.)—The Germans are now employing a new method of hurling their poisonous gas. It is by means of shells from their seven-inch guns, one of which fell just outside of Poperinghe tonight. As details of the action of the gas utilized by the Germans in their attacks are received, high officials unite in characterizing the use of vapor as complete violation of all rules of civilized warfare. Some victims taken to hospitals have died after thirty or forty hours of quick pneumonia. All of the victims suffer greatly from pain in their throats and their lungs, and respiration some times runs as hic' as fifty a minute in the vain gasping for breath.

Doctors in attendance on the sufferers declare that the Germans might as well utilize bombs filled with diphtheric, enteric or cholera germs. Only those who were strong enough physically to struggle out of the gasous zone reached the hospitals. Many were left in the trenches and are undoubtedly dead. The early reports that the gas only stupefied and did not kill, are now declared to have been too optimistic. The gas seems either to kill swiftly for those overcome and unable to leave the zone, or horribly for those who struggle away only to be taken to hospitals with what seems like pneumonia.

**Bones in the Ashes.**  
[United Press Leased Wire Service.] DECATUR, Ill., April 28.—The mystery of the disappearance of C. S. Guild, a Lockport, N. Y., traveling salesman for the Jamestown Woolen mills, who had not reported to his firm since the Decatur hotel fire here a week ago, was believed cleared today when bones thought to be of his body, were found in the ruins of the burned hotel in a spot in a hallway thirty feet from his room. He had occupied a room on the second floor near that of the one other victim of the fire. Guild was seventy years of age, and it is believed that partly due to his age, he was unable to reach the fire escape.

**Dull Times Ahead.**  
Council Bluffs Nonpareil: Paragraph writing is going to be just a little bit dull in Iowa with the legislature dissolved and the summer sun growing a little warmer each day.

## The War in Mexico

Latest Developments Among Our Revolutionary Neighbors of the South.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LAREDO, Texas, April 28.—Twenty-five thousand dollars is today the price on the head of former President Huerta of Mexico. Carranzista authorities at Nuevo Laredo told the local district attorney they would pay that amount for the old dictator.

at Vera Cruz. Philip E. McCleary, American newspaper man, reported imprisoned and sentenced by Carranza to be shot, arrived here today on the steamer City of Tampico from Vera Cruz. He is enroute to Chicago in the interests of the Carranzista press bureau.

**Quiet at Tampico.**  
GALVESTON, Texas, April 28.—Declaring he had been in no trouble

## FRANCE

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PARIS, April 28.—The big French armored cruiser Leon Gambetta, of 12,352 tons displacement, has been torpedoed and sunk, presumably by an Austrian submarine, in the Adriatic off Otranto. It is not known as yet how many of the crew were drowned but the minister of marine believes some were saved. The report of the sinking of the cruiser was contained in an official communique made public by the minister of marine. It stated that the warship was torpedoed on Monday night and that details were lacking. The Gambetta was built at Brest in 1901; was 476 feet long; had a draught of 25.9 feet and a displacement of 12,352 tons. She carried a crew of 725 men and had a speed of 23 knots. Her armament consisted of four 7.6 inch; sixteen 4.5 guns; twenty-four three-pounders and two submerged torpedo tubes.

**VICTORY ANNOUNCED.**  
PARIS, April 28.—The war office announced semi-officially today that in yesterday's operations in the north inside of the Belgian frontier, where the Belgians and French are co-operating, several lines of the German trenches were captured. The German loss was 600 dead and 200 men and six rapid fire captured.

**CONTINUE TO ADVANCE.**  
PARIS, April 28.—Today's official reports from the front declare that the French and British continue to make progress against the Germans north of Ypres. The Germans, it is stated, are losing severely in both men and materials.

**TORPEDOED BY SUBMARINE.**  
ROME, April 28.—The French armored cruiser Leon Gambetta was torpedoed and sunk at midnight Monday night in the Adriatic, twenty miles from the Italian coast at a point off Otranto. The cruiser fell victim to an Austrian submarine, assisted by a torpedo boat, presumably from the naval base at Pola. A majority of the members of the crew were saved, being landed on the rocks near Santa Maria Leucata lights.

**Gains of Feet and Yards.**  
[By William Philip Strms, United Press Staff Correspondent.]  
WITH THE FRENCH ARMY AT THE FRONT, April 13. (By mail to New York, April 28.)—One of the things that has caused amusement where it was not understood, has been the pleasure expressed in the official communique over gains of territory numbered in yards and feet. You smile when you read. In this, the greatest of all wars where the Belgians hold twenty-five miles of trenches; the British thirty-two; the French 54, not to mention the Servians 1,125 miles and the Serbians 250, they speak of winning a few yards as though it was a football game. Yet it takes only a visit to the actual scene to understand and appreciate just what a few yards mean.

Imagine yourself in Arras, the beautiful city in French Flanders, north-east of Amiens whose fourteenth century city hall, one of the most wonderful examples of Flemish renaissance in the world, is now a mass of ruins. You make your way to the railway station, a pile of debris, then swing to the left and continue a mile and a half. Here is your objective.

## RUSSIA

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PETROGRAD, April 28.—That the Austro-German forces have again been defeated with a loss of 8,000 in killed and wounded and several prisoners in the territory between Stry and Mar-mora (in the Galician-Bukovina region) is asserted at the war office. Severe fighting has been in progress at a number of points on the Carpathian front since Monday night when the Austrians tried a surprise attack against a position held by two Russian regiments. The attack was successful and the regiments lost before reinforcements arrived and a counter attack was begun. This was in the vicinity of Uszok pass and the Russians later pushed their entire front forward, a matter of some three kilometers.

## WOMEN'S PEACE CONGRESS BEGINS

Delegates Resent Declaration That They Are Meant to Bring Peace to the World.  
FEW ENGLISH REPRESENTED.  
All German Delegates Are There, But Italians Do Not Attend and Russia is Not Represented.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] THE HAGUE, April 28.—With most of the German women delegates in their seats, the government having lifted the ban originally placed on them, the women's congress got down to business today. All of the delegates resented the declaration that it was a "peace congress." In reality, they said, what was hoped was to find a way to solidify the women of the world so as to make future wars impossible.

It was agreed that in the welcoming speeches last night, in which America, England, Germany, Holland, the Scandinavian Federation, Austria and Hungary were represented, the keynote of the meetings was sounded. There was a disposition not to agree with the impassioned plea of Rosa Genoli, the Italian leader, that the present war can be ended if the women will only demand that the nations get together. It was pointed out that most of the Italian delegates were absent; that they believe war with Austria cannot be averted.

**TURKIS REPULSE ALLIES.**  
BERLIN, April 28. (Via wireless through Sayville, L. I.)—Turkish regulars have repulsed four attempts on the part of the allies to land forces on the Gallipoli peninsula. It is confirmed from Constantinople that the French Mohammedan troops are deserting to the Turks.

**AUSTRIA**  
[United Press Leased Wire Service.] VIENNA, April 28. (Via Berlin and wireless through Sayville, L. I.)—Russian claims of success in their attacks on Uszok Pass and the Austrian positions to the eastward are emphatically denied by the general staff. The Austrian official report issued today covering events up to last night, says: "On the whole front no important developments have taken place. In some sections there have been heavy artillery exchanges but no troop movements. In the Carpathians, the Russians have made no attacks against the Austro-Hungarian positions on Uszok pass and eastward."

**SANK FRENCH CRUISER.**  
BERLIN, April 28. (Via wireless through Sayville, L. I.)—An Austrian submarine torpedoed and sunk the French armored cruiser Leon Gambetta. Part of the crew only have been saved.

## GERMANY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] BERLIN, (via wireless through Sayville, L. I.), April 28.—Beyond a sweeping statement that the British attempts to retake the lost territory in Flanders have failed, the official war office statement today gives no details of the fighting from the North sea to Ypres. The Germans continue to deny French claims of retaking of Hartmannswellerkopf. Today's official report further said: "In the Champagne north of Mesnil, the Germans have stormed an extended French entrenchment. The French attacks against the forest of Pretre have all been repulsed. "In the eastern theatre, northeast of Suwalki, the Germans have taken Russian positions along a front of 20 kilometers."

## ENGLAND

At Neuve Chapelle. [By William G. Shepherd, United Press Staff Correspondent.] [Copyrighted, 1915, by the United Press.] [Copyrighted in Great Britain.] WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN NORTHERN FRANCE, April 16. (By mail to New York.)—The road to Neuve Chapelle, England's newest possession, is sunken; it's the road of the trenches. As soon as you enter the trench of the British army before Neuve Chapelle, you don't leave the shelter of the trenches until you're in the town. And when you're in the town you don't leave it, either. Neuve Chapelle is blown to pieces. Its earth and streets, even its grave yard, has been churned by shells. From a zig-zag trench you get your first view of it; it is desolation itself. The mystery is that men will fight for such a place, but the battle of Neuve Chapelle is already finding its place in history as a tremendous achievement.

## TURKEY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] BERLIN, April 28. (Via wireless.)—Advices from Constantinople declared that the attempt of the Anglo-French troops to advance against the Turkish positions on the peninsula of Gallipoli has failed. The enemy has been compelled to retire to the protection of the great fleet of warships cruising in the gulf of Saros. In the fighting up to the present time, the Turkish war office says the advantage has entirely been with the Turkish forces and a number of prisoners have been taken. The allied fleet has failed in its attempt to bombard the Turkish fortifications at short range and returned after one of their warships had been severely damaged by the fire of the land forts. Additional Turkish troops are being sent to the front to aid in repulsing any attack by the enemy on the land forts.

**BRUTAL MURDER ON THE STREETS**  
Man's Head Beaten With Baseball Bat and Then Nearly Severed With Razor.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] CHICAGO, April 28.—Three men today attacked Joseph DeFrancisco, who the latter was escorting his wife, a nurse, to a patient, beat DeFrancisco's head to a veritable pulp with a baseball bat, and then all but severed the head from the body with a razor. The woman, motionless with horror, was unable to scream until the three murderers dropped the bat and the razor to the ground and fled.

**What the War Moves Mean**  
By J. W. T. Mason, Former European Manager of the United Press.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] NEW YORK, April 28.—(11 a. m.)—The allied army which has landed on the Gallipoli peninsula to play a part in the new Constantinople campaign, is facing the most strongly protected area of the earth's surface. The long narrow neck of land between the Aegean and the Dardanelles, offers little room for maneuvers by an attacking force, in constant danger of being forced to retreat toward the bordering waters. Forts, batteries and trenches cover a large part of the peninsula while fortunately situated hills add to the strength of the defense. If the Anglo-French army were to subdue Gallipoli, the feat would go down in history as one of the greatest military accomplishments of all time. It is impossible in fact that this is the primary object of Sir Ian Hamilton's command. Rather the allies strategy probably has as its objective the separation of Turkish armies protecting Constantinople, and the Gallipoli operations are being directed primarily for this purpose.

The Moslems have two centers of defense in European Turkey—Adrianople and Constantinople. If the allies were to land troops along one part only of the Turkish coast, both the Constantinople and the Adrianople forces could be consolidated and the Turks would know exactly where to find the strength of their foe. But the allies have not done this. Beside

## BAD BLAZE AT ST. PAUL WIPES OUT FULL BLOCK

Fire Which Started in Library Building From Crossed Wires, Reduced Twelve Business Firms to a Mass of Ashes.

## IN THE VERY HEART OF THE BIG CITY

Seven Firemen Injured, One of Whom May Die During Assault on the Conflagration Which Was An All Night Job.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] ST. PAUL, Minn., April 28.—One business block bounded by Seventh, Washab, Eighth and St. Peter streets, is in ruins, seven firemen are wounded and of them, one may die, and damage estimated at \$400,000 early today was done by a fire that is still burning. The scene of the fire is the most prominent business district of St. Paul. Fire started at nine o'clock last night in the St. Paul library building which is in the block mentioned. It spread rapidly. Within half an hour every fire department in St. Paul and Minneapolis, that could be spared without endangering the remainder of the city, was on the job. Thousands of persons congregated. Attempts early today to blame the fire on spontaneous combustion from rubbish left in the basement of the library building failed. It was stated that crossed wires were most liable to be the cause. Firemen established a fire zone that extended for three blocks on either side of the burning block. Stocks of goods on Seventh street from St. Peter to Minnesota street, and on Washab street from Eighth to Fifth street are believed to have been

injured by smoke from the fire and from fire engines. A crowd in the Galey theatre left orderly during the last show. The fire early today was said to be under control, but it is still burning. Other than smoke damage, it is thought that the loss will be confined to one business block.

Capt. Enoch Melander of engine company No. 9, was hit and probably fatally injured when an automobile carrying additional firemen, crashed into a corps of firemen while working. Six other firemen were overcome or slightly injured by nozzles or minor accidents. None but Melander are seriously hurt.

Twelve business firms were in ruins as the result of the fire. Later estimates placed the fire loss at \$428,500. The total of firemen injured has been brought up to sixteen.

**A Series of Fires.**  
ST. PAUL, Minn., April 28.—Seven firemen were injured and property damage estimated at \$435,700 was done in a series of fires that swept St. Paul during the night and today. The biggest fire originated in the St. Paul public library. It raged all night, destroying a business block in the heart of the business district.

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The murder occurred in Chicago's Little Italy. An hour after the crime, Policemen Butler and Schinagle arrested two men not far from the scene of the murder. The police say the men, who gave their names as Samuel Carvalho and Frank Ingallinero, had blood stains on their hands and clothes. Both protested ignorance of the murder or the victim.

Mrs. DeFrancisco said she or her husband never had received black hand letters.

**Six Weeks to Harvest.**  
KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 28.—Six weeks more and harvest will be on here, farmers say. The ground is moist enough to carry the wheat to maturity and cutting will begin early.