

ALLIES MAKE BIGGEST GAINS IN 8 MONTHS

Advance Most Notable on Either Side Since Marne Battle.

LINE IS BROKEN ON 2-MILE FRONT

Four Counter Attacks by Germans at Steenstraete Checked.

London, May 16.—Continued success is reported from the line north of Arras to Ypres. The British have become the aggressors in the north of La Bassée and the French and Belgian troops have renewed their attempt to throw the Germans back from the West bank.

These attacks, according to the French official account, which, however, does not agree with that from Berlin, were successful, and again compelled the Germans to counter-attack. The most costly of all operations in this war. Fighting at both points is still in progress to-day and various gains both forward and lateral are reported. The gains consolidated by the Allies during the last three days constitute the biggest forward movement of either army in the West since the battle of the Marne, early in September, eight months ago. The German line has been broken over the greater part of a two-mile front.

Fighting also is in progress in the West, particularly to the west of the Forest of Le Prieux, which the French have also won during the last week.

The following official statement was issued by the British War office to-day:

The First Army has made a successful attack between Richebourg-Avoué and Pottunghem, breaking the enemy's line over the greater part of a two-mile front.

The attack commenced at midnight in the south of Richebourg-Avoué, where we carried two successive lines of German breastworks on a front of 500 yards. A mile further to the south another attack at dawn carried 1,200 yards of German front line trenches, and was pushed rapidly on, extending to a second line of German trenches, and bombing along the German trenches. Here we crossed the Festubert-Quinque road and advanced nearly a mile into the German lines.

The fighting still continues in our favor, and throughout the day our brave troops have fought splendidly.

At Ypres all has been quiet for the last forty-eight hours.

French Repulse Four Counter Attacks

Paris, May 16.—The following official announcements were made to-day:

In Belgium the enemy last night delivered three counter attacks against Steenstraete and its environs. The third, which took place at daylight, was particularly violent. The attacking units were repulsed and suffered great losses.

We repulsed this afternoon with complete success a fourth German counter attack at Steenstraete. We have consolidated all the positions won yesterday and consolidated our gain, the importance of which is emphasized by the violent effort of the enemy. We took yesterday six rapid fire guns and a heavy mortar.

To the north of La Bassée, between Richebourg-Avoué and Quinque road, British troops inflicted on the Germans a serious check, and carried to the southwest of Richebourg-Avoué a kilometer (two-thirds of a mile) of trenches. At the same time, to the southwest of Festubert, they took possession of 500 metres of trenches.

This second attack was later repulsed in the direction of Quinque road, and on a front of 600 metres resulted in a gain of 1,500 metres (about a mile), in which the German losses were very heavy. The advance of the British troops continues.

In the sector to the north of Arras we have carried out divers actions with a view to consolidating our new front. The fighting was particularly violent during the night. Upon the slopes east and south of Lorette a hard battle with hand grenades was in progress.

In driving out the enemy from several points where they were still holding on our troops gave proof in the struggle, foot by foot, of great tenacity.

We gained 200 metres on the slope which descends from the plateau of Lorette, near the sugar refinery of Sauter. We have carried some additional houses in the northern part of Neuville, exploded a captive German battery to the east of Vimy, and our aviators have bombed the station of Somain.

In Champagne, to the northwest of Villers-Tourbe, an action of a purely local nature has given to us a very brilliant success.

Last night the enemy exploded a mine behind our first line. Eight German companies immediately precipitated themselves on our positions and they carried a foothold in one salient. We immediately delivered a counter attack and retook part of the lost ground, taking seventy-seven prisoners, of whom twenty were officers.

During the course of the day we delivered a second counter attack, which was carried out with much spirit with the bayonet and hand grenades, and resulted in our recapture of all of the positions.

The enemy has suffered enormous losses, a fact which has been established by us with certainty in the trenches and on the parapets. We have, in fact, found more than 1,000 German dead, and we have in addition captured 300 men, including nine officers, and taken six machine guns. Thus almost all of the attacking force remained either in our hands or on the ground.

Berlin (via London), May 16.—The following was given out to-day by the War Office:

Strong enemy troops since yesterday afternoon have been attacking the camp at Steenstraete and Het Sas, without regard for their own losses.

Hundred Balaclavas Hid in War's Routine Heroism

Deeds That Would Win Laurels in Ordinary Fight Pass Unnoticed—Fear Long Peace Had Softened Men Proves Wholly Groundless.

By WILL IRWIN.

Northern France, May 15.—One of the mangled inhabitants of this City of the Wounded was talking yesterday of old adventures in the trenches, and especially of German hand grenades.

"One kind is like a lance," he said. "It has an explosive head on a shaft. The soldier casts it, spear-fashion. The fuse is set for about six seconds, and the knuck of the thing consists in casting it so that it bursts just when it lands. Otherwise, one can get out of the way. One day a German grenade landed just where we were grouped. A big sergeant jumped on it and threw it back. It exploded just beyond our trenches. That," he added, "would have won the Victoria Cross in any other war!"

"It would have won the Victoria Cross in any other war." That has become almost a stock phrase. No war in history was ever so severe as this. What we call civilization has produced most powerful and subtle devices for taking life. Conversely, no other war has brought forth such remarkable, such exceptional human courage.

Those who advocate war for war's sake are illogical and wrongheaded in nothing so much as in their illusion that men "grow soft" in peace, that without war the "manly qualities die out," as here I propose to show. If the reader dislikes editorial comment on the news, let him read no further.

Speaking relatively, France has known no war for a generation. There has been, it is true, a little skirmishing in North Africa, comparable to skirmishes in the American Spanish War. Not one Frenchman in a thousand ever even approached battle in these little wars. Otherwise, France has been peaceful and committed to the cult of peace. Her prejudiced enemy to the North, who caricatures the French soldier with lace edgings on his uniform, has made this a count in his indictment of "degeneracy"—the French have grown "degenerate through peace." The war broke, and the French, in fighting quality, have proved about as degenerate as Bombardeur Wells or Jess Willard.

Americans, Irishmen and students of military affairs remember with a thrill the charge of Meagher's Irish Brigade at the foot of Mayre's Heights in the Battle of Fredericksburg. They were annihilated; nearly every man of them was dead or wounded when the guns stopped, but not

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BOMB DESTROYS AUTO EXCHANGE; FIFTY INJURED

Upper West Side Rocked for Blocks by Explosion—Theaters in Panic.

With a noise that could be heard for a mile, what Deputy Chief "Smoky Joe" Martin declared was a bomb exploded last night in the Mutual Automobile Exchange, 317 and 319 West Fifty-ninth Street, scattering glass from all the windows in the block to the pavement, throwing the patrons of two theatres and many dwellings into a panic and injuring about fifty persons. This was followed by a fire which burned brilliantly for twenty minutes and attracted crowds from Broadway.

Acting Chief Martin set 100 firemen to digging in the ruins for the bodies of two men believed to have been in the garage when the explosion took place. It was found that neither had returned to his home after the fire. Detectives learned that the proprietor of the garage had had a dispute recently with a farm car gang leader. Inspector Dwyer is convinced that a bomb caused the explosion.

Louis Howard, eighteen years old, the one occupant of the garage found after the explosion, was blown clear across Fifty-ninth Street, which was injured internally. His home is at 241 West Fifty-third Street.

In the rooms of the automobile exchange were about fifty machines, most of them expensive makes. These were totally destroyed. The total loss is about \$50,000.

The noise resembled that of a shell and the windows of Fifty-ninth Street and of the Sixtieth Street apartment houses were blown to the street. Next door to the Mutual company is the Fifty-ninth Street Theatre, which was closed to the street by the explosion.

Several persons were trampled. New and heavy artillery has been brought up, all from Germany. Germans are still leaving Italy and arriving in great numbers here in Switzerland.

Detectives were working on the theory this morning that members of the Paul Kelly gang might know something about the explosion. It is being hoped that they had friction with members of that gang. Inspector Dwyer, however, said that no complaints had been made by the experts of the Fifty-ninth Street street-closure line as far as Broadway and they switched to the northbound tracks for the benefit of those going east. Those wishing to get to the other side of the island had to get there by way of Sixty-first Street or Fifty-eighth Street, as well as Fifty-ninth being closed to traffic.

In the apartment houses the lights went out and the elevators stopped running. The tenants scrambled down to the street, eager to learn what had caused the accident.

Foundations of all five and six story buildings on Fifty-ninth Street were cracked, and only the front wall, a mere shell, of the building where the explosion took place remained standing.

The building, which is owned by the Livingston estate, was completely wrecked. The front wall with Street 30 badly that the experts of the Department said it would have to come down. The rear wall was blown out, while the roof was thrown on top of the theatre next door. Inside floors were torn upward and automobiles were crushed with wreckage. In the block piled up by Fifty-ninth and Sixtieth streets, Columbus Circle and Ninth Avenue hardly a pane of glass remained unbroken.

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FRONTIER CLASH IN NORTH ITALY POINTS TO WAR

Marching Gear Supplied to Whole Army—Nation in Ferment.

London, May 17.—King Victor Emmanuel's refusal to accept the resignation of Premier Salandra and his Cabinet, and the reputed denunciation of the Triple Alliance on May 4, it is confidently believed here, foreshadow the almost immediate entrance of Italy into the circle of belligerents on the side of the Allies. Action, however, may be delayed until the meeting of the Chamber of Deputies on Thursday, when the Premier will announce his policy and receive the support of a majority of the deputies.

The trend of events is considered most significant, particularly in view of the fact that frontier clashes between Italian and Austrian troops are reported. The Austrians, according to one report, have attempted to cross the boundary at one point, but were repulsed by the Italians, who took one prisoner.

The Austrian Ambassador, Baron von Macechio, conferred at the Villa Malta with Prince von Buelow, the German Ambassador, for two hours to-day.

(By Cable to the Tribune.)

Berne, May 16.—A message from the Italian frontier says that every Italian soldier has received two blankets and three pairs of nailed boots, stockings and woollen gloves, and that troops of the third category have left Milan for an unknown destination.

Yesterday evacuations began, property owners being obliged to leave their property and take a government receipt for it. By evening the whole district from Lake Garda to and including Trent was evacuated.

New and heavy artillery has been brought up, all from Germany. Germans are still leaving Italy and arriving in great numbers here in Switzerland.

"Abandonment of the submarine operations against merchant vessels would put Germany in a very different light in America, in the light of a nation that had done the right thing and deserved support at America's hands."

"The only support of value would take the form of insistence that England drop her starvation tactics, against which America already has protested. If the present note caused Germany to quit submarine murder, a similar note might have a striking result with regard to England."

Arbitration is, therefore, a programme to which German diplomacy may now turn with some confidence of ultimate advantage.

Secretary Daniels Learning. Army and navy officers here are eagerly watching diplomatic developments.

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Gunwomen In New York

Police Commissioner Woods says there are girls and women competing with the men in this hazardous field of employment. Worked by the cadets, they earn their price whether in prison or out, according to the Commissioner.

Miss Rose Young and Mrs. Inez Milholland Boissevain deny strongly the existence of gunwomen. "But even if there are, is it any worse than—"

You had better read the clever story on the Woman's Page to-day.

GERMANY MAY TRY TO DRIVE FOOD BARGAIN

Washington Looks for Plea for Arbitration in Reply.

BERLIN EAGER FOR SUPPLIES

Kaiser May Seek Indirectly Modification of British Embargo.

By W. L. McPHERSON.

Washington, May 16. With no hint yet from Berlin of the character of Germany's response to President Wilson's note, opinion here is inclining a little more to the belief that some form of arbitration will be suggested. An offer to arbitrate would serve Germany's purposes by delaying a rupture of diplomatic relations. It is felt here that it might also enable Germany to accomplish by indirection something which she failed to accomplish a couple of months ago by direct diplomatic overtures. The intimation comes from those in touch with the German Embassy that submarine raids would cease during the negotiations.

Germany has always been anxious to drive a bargain, with the help of the United States, by which she would agree to abandon her unauthorized submarine campaign in return for such a modification of the British Orders in Council as would permit the importation into Germany of food supplies exclusively for the use of the civilian population. The stoppage of such imports under the British embargo regulations has been construed by the United States as an infringement of neutral rights, though such an infringement is comparable in character to the barbarous destruction of neutral lives and property through submarine warfare. The British Orders in Council stretched international law; the German Admiralty proclamation tore up the international code by the roots.

Nevertheless, Germany has hoped to play off her major encroachment on neutral rights against Great Britain's minor encroachment. Her offer to enter into a compromise with Great Britain for the relief of neutral trade was presented through this government and was unconditionally rejected in London. But if arbitration can be used to bring this compromise before a neutral tribunal the German government will naturally feel that it has won at least a partial diplomatic victory.

American Consent Doubtful. It is very doubtful whether the United States will consent to enlarge the scope of any arbitration which may be undertaken with Germany so as to include issues which affect other outside powers. But if the question can be raised and discussed in the preliminary negotiations Germany will have gained something. President Wilson said in his note of Thursday last:

"American citizens act within their indisputable rights in taking their ships and in travelling wherever their legitimate business calls them upon the high seas, and exercising those rights in the confidence that their own government will sustain them in the exercise of their rights."

If Germany accepts that principle, either before or after arbitration, she will have a moral right to ask the United States to apply it also to the minor interference with neutral rights which has been going on in pursuance of the British Orders in Council.

To Swing American Sentiment. In this afternoon's edition of "The Washington Times" an unnamed Latin diplomat is thus quoted:

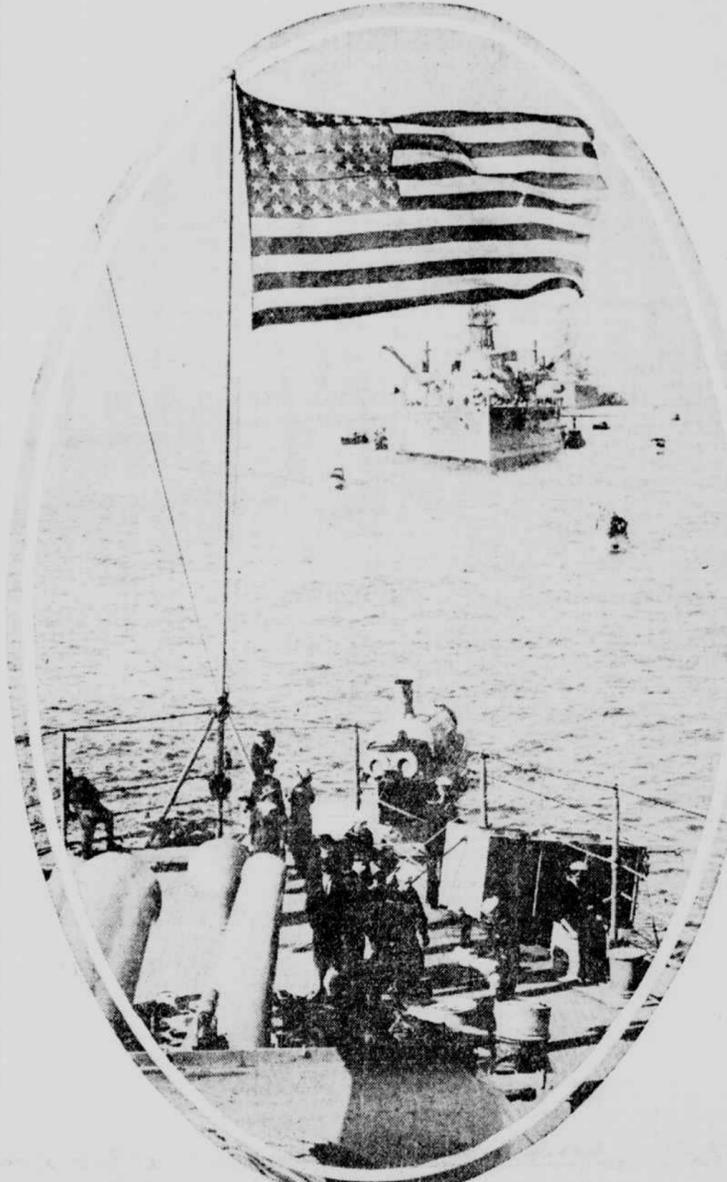
"Germany can well afford to concede she is in the wrong. The result would be to swing American sentiment here, to line America up behind the next step, the enforcement of the United States' demands on Great Britain regarding the 'paper blockade,' against which America already has protested. If the present note caused Germany to quit submarine murder, a similar note might have a striking result with regard to England."

Arbitration is, therefore, a programme to which German diplomacy may now turn with some confidence of ultimate advantage.

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UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES.



Photograph shows after deck of the flagship Wyoming, looking up the Hudson.

PROGRAMME ON FLEET AND ASHORE FOR REVIEW BY PRESIDENT TO-DAY

9 a. m.—Mayflower, with the President on board, will arrive at her anchorage in the Hudson. Brigade commander directs landing of Naval Brigade at West Twenty-third Street. Parade starts at such time as to allow head of column to pass reviewing stand at Public Library at 10:30 a. m.

9:30 a. m.—President leaves Mayflower to go on shore for review of land parade. Commander in chief and fifty officers invited to Mayor's luncheon at the foot of West Seventy-ninth Street and Broadway.

10 a. m.—President arrives at reviewing stand, where he holds reception for officers of the fleet, after which he will review the parade. Procession follows Twenty-fifth Street to Fifth Avenue, Fifth Avenue to Fifty-seventh Street, Fifty-seventh Street to Broadway, Broadway to Seventy-ninth Street, Seventy-ninth Street to Hudson River and disband.

11:30-11:45 a. m.—President and officers leave stand for Mayor's luncheon at Biltmore.

12:30 p. m.—Mayor's luncheon.

3 p. m.—The President's flag hoisted on board Mayflower.

3:30 p. m.—Mayflower, Dolphin, Isis and escorting ships under way at Forty-first Street. President reviews fleet at anchor, passing, with accompanying vessels, to westward of line of anchored battleships, around the Louisiana and down river between battleships and New York City shore, anchoring 1,000 yards south of Wyoming.

Each ship fires twenty-one gun salute, first shot as Mayflower's bow passes abreast of ship's stern. All ships at full dress as Wyoming fires first gun.

Sundown—Ships drop full dress.

7:30 p. m.—The President dines with Admiral Fletcher on board Wyoming.

8:30 p. m.—Twelve-oared cutter race, seventeen crews, rowing from 103d Street to Eighty-second, lighted by searchlights, viewed by the President from Wyoming. Naval carnival follows race, steam launches from ships passing Wyoming decorated to represent historic or humorous scenes or events.

10 p. m.—President returns to the Mayflower.

WILSON GUARDED AS LINCOLN IN '61

First President Since Civil War to Visit City During Crisis.

President Wilson will be guarded with the utmost vigilance during his visit to this city. Elaborate details for shielding him have been worked out by Police Commissioner Arthur Woods and Chief Flynn of the Secret Service.

Not since Abraham Lincoln stopped off in New York in 1861, on the way to his inauguration, has a President visited Manhattan when the nation was facing a crisis.

Five hundred detectives will be scattered through the crowd in the neighborhood of the reviewing stand. They will report at Headquarters at 4 o'clock this morning and go at once to their posts. Inspector Faurot and acting Captain Funston will have the safety of President Wilson in their hands so this morning, but returned to sea far as New York City is concerned. Inspector Gray will have immediate charge of the five hundred detectives. Acting Captain Cooper will have a

TRANSYLVANIA SAFE AT GREENOCK

Cunarder Passed Along North Coast of Ireland Without Attack.

The Anchor line steamer Transylvania passed safely through the war zone about the British Isles and arrived at Greenock, Scotland, at 3 a. m. to-day, London time, it was announced by officials of the Cunard line, to which the Transylvania was under charter.

Fears had been felt for the safety of the Transylvania, as she had a large cargo of contraband of war on board and her usual course to Liverpool, for which port she cleared, would take her near the point at which the Lusitania was struck and sunk by a German torpedo on May 6.

It was assumed in many quarters, however, that because of the danger of submarine attack the Transylvania would change her course and proceed over a more northerly route, probably to a Scotch port. This surmise proved correct, as this morning's advices of her safe arrival at Greenock, Scotland, showed.

The Transylvania carried nearly 1,000 passengers, of whom 28, according to the passenger lists, were American citizens.

Cruiser Guards President. When the Mayflower passed Quarantine it became known that she had been conveyed from Hampton Roads by a cruiser, the Baltimore. Secretary Daniels announced in Washington last week that the Mayflower would not have a convoy to New York, but it was understood last night that he had changed his mind in order to be sure of the safety of the President and his party.

After seeing the Mayflower safely into the harbor last night, the Baltimore anchored off Tompkinsville. Plans had been made to have the President receive the ship's officers at 3 o'clock this afternoon on the Mayflower, but Secretary Daniels announced last night that this part of the programme had been abandoned. Instead, the President will go from the hotel to the Mayflower, which will then steam around the fleet.

Secretary Daniels, Secretary Lane, Secretary Rodden and Secretary Wilson will accompany the President. The Dolphin, carrying wives of officers of the fleet, will follow the Mayflower.

If the weather continues bad, the President may return to Washington by air, instead of going back on the Mayflower.

Many Pray for Sunshine. If the Mayor's civilian organization to entertain the North Atlantic fleet had a sub-committee on sunshine every detail to-day would have been arranged to make a brilliant climate for New York's annual spring of hospitality.

May President Wilson bring fair weather with him! This is the wish sighed in chorus by officers and men on the battleships and by 6,000,000 people who expect to witness some part of to-day's continuous naval programme.

Providing the weather god smiles, Fifth Avenue will wrinkle and flap with red, white and blue streamers as 5,000 sailors march by the President. Admiral Frank F. Fletcher and other noted officials on the reviewing stand in front of the New York Public Library. And in the afternoon seventy-

WILSON MAKES PORT; MIGHTY FLEET ARRAYED

Gale Tosses President, Who Arrives Ahead of Schedule.

CRUISER GUARDS THE MAYFLOWER

Brilliant Programme on Ships and Ashore Will Be Unfolded To-day.

PRESIDENT TO REVIEW

Showers May Mar Glory, but Cannot Dampen Ardor of City's Thousands or Navy Men.

The admiral in chief of America's mighty war fleet, anchored in the Hudson, came silently and in the darkness to New York Harbor late last night. No thunder of guns welcomed him. No one had dreamed that the President would arrive ten hours ahead of time. Only the wireless station at Sandy Hook received the message which announced that the Mayflower, followed by a single cruiser, was slipping through the blackness into the bay.

At 11:15 she passed Quarantine. The wireless aerials caught the announcement that the President was passing the forts, and that was all.

The call was relayed to the men-of-war in the river. They were taken completely by surprise. On the Dolphin, where Secretary Daniels spent the night, it was said that the Presidential party had not been expected to arrive until early in the morning. It had been understood earlier in the day that the Mayflower was proceeding slowly up the coast and would make the entrance to the harbor some time toward daybreak and lie in Gravesend Bay until it became time to steam up the river and review the fleet.

Shortly after midnight the Mayflower dropped anchor in the North River at a point opposite Forty-first Street. Wireless messages were flashed to the warships anchored further up the river announcing that the President had arrived, and wireless messages of greeting were flashed back from the fleet.

The President decided to remain aboard the Mayflower for the night. Showers may envelop President Wilson to-day as he reviews his ships and men. This is the Weather Bureau's prediction, but a faint comfort is found in the announcement that clearing and colder weather is on the way.

It will not be until afternoon that the great men-of-war pay their homage to a slim man on a tiny yacht passing between them.

A nation thrilling with suspense which awaits the click of the cable key, bringing from Berlin a definite answer to a mighty message, may see something more than mere display in the men who line the rail, a black fence of human pickets, in the signal flags which so far spell only peaceful messages whirling from every masthead, in the clap of the one-pouvers beating out the national salute of twenty-one guns.

The great warships are perhaps less of a spectacle to-day and more of terrible fighting machines tugging at their chains, and the light roar of the saluting guns may be regarded by some as a mere foreword to deeper and more terrible noise.

Cruiser Guards President. When the Mayflower passed Quarantine it became known that she had been conveyed from Hampton Roads by a cruiser, the Baltimore. Secretary Daniels announced in Washington last week that the Mayflower would not have a convoy to New York, but it was understood last night that he had changed his mind in order to be sure of the safety of the President and his party.

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