

VOL. III.—NO. 192

## TEUTON HOSTS MOWED DOWN IN VAIN DRIVES

### Anglo-French Hold Lines Before Counter-Offensive

### FRENCH FIRM ON OISE AND AISNE FRONTS

### Hindenburg Seeks to Halt Foes by Reckless Disregard of Men

### DEADLOCK ON THE SCARPE

### British Checked North but Gain South of the River

What appears to be a great counter-offensive has been launched by the Germans on the western front.

In addition to the counter-attacks against the British, the Germans made strong assaults against the French positions.

All of these attacks were repulsed, say the official communiques of the allied war offices today.

Particularly bitter and desperate is the fighting on the Scarpe front. While the Germans have succeeded in checking the British advance north of the river, they have been unable to stem the English south of the stream.

There was terrific fighting all along the French front throughout the night. On the high ground north of the Aisne River, along the Chemin-des-Dames road, the German attacks were particularly severe, but the French lines held.

East of Cerny the Germans attacked with great masses of men, but were unable to capture any ground and lost heavily.

Austro-Hungarian troops have opened a violent bombardment of the Italian positions on the Carso plateau.

No news of the progress of the German squadrons of warships and transports from Kiel and Libau toward Riga, for the purpose of landing troops for a drive on Petrograd, is contained in any of the war dispatches today.

Interesting developments on the Macedonian front, involving possibly the withdrawal of the allied forces from that region and their transfer to the western front, are reported from Paris. The renewal of fighting in Macedonia may be intended as an allied curtain behind which to accomplish the withdrawal.

PARIS, April 26.—Two tremendous German attacks made on a front of more than a mile and half west of Cerny were smashed unavailingly against French lines and repulsed amid heavy losses to the enemy, today's French official statement declared.

Powerful German counter-attacks at two other places on the French front were likewise repulsed.

The War Office statement indicated that all along the French front the Germans were making violent attempts to loosen the grip of French troops on their new positions. Bitter fighting was reported from half a dozen different points. The statement follows:

On the shores of the Oise a German patrol was easily repulsed.

North of the Aisne the German attempts to eject our troops from the Plateau and the Chemin-des-Dames were unsuccessful.

Two powerful attacks on a front of two kilometers west of Cerny were smashed on the French lines, the Germans losing heavily. One other attempt at Hurtelise farm also failed.

In the Champagne, in the region of Pampelle, in front of Navarra and Talure, several German attacks only resulted in our capture of prisoners.

## GERMANS LAUNCH BIG COUNTER-OFFENSIVE

LONDON, April 26.—A fierce counter-offensive has been launched by the Germans all along the Arras battle line, on the Aisne River and in Champagne. Furious thrusts were made against the British and French lines during the night, but at no point were the Teutons able to shatter the Allies' defense.

Severe losses were inflicted upon the German forces. Prisoners taken declared that the flower of the German army is being drained to meet the Anglo-French drive.

Using fresh troops the German high command hurled huge armies against the Allies' positions, returning again and again to the attack when their assaults broke down under the violent fire of the British and French cannon.

Under the counter blows of the Germans the advance of the British and French armies has been temporarily halted, but it is expected to be under way again as soon as the artillery blasts open the way for new infantry attacks.

All accounts dwell upon the heavy losses of the Germans. At some points it was said the corpses were piled so high that living soldiers used them for defense, firing from behind the wall of bodies.

## HIS "BULLSEYE" SANK U-BOAT



Lieutenant Bruce Richardson Ware, Jr., in command of the gun crew aboard the liner Mongolia, which destroyed an attacking submarine in the Atlantic on April 19. This engagement marks the first naval action between the United States and Germany reported since existence of a state of war was declared.

## VOTE ON DRAFT FIXED IN HOUSE FOR TOMORROW

### Senate Will Ballot on Army Selection Bill Saturday

## ASSAULT ON WILSON IS ROUNDLY HISSED

THE House will vote tomorrow on the army selection bill, decision having been reached to close debate tonight.

The Senate decided to ballot on the measure before midnight Saturday.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—The House of Representatives, resuming debate today on the Administration army bill, reached an agreement by unanimous consent to ballot on the measure some time tonight.

The latest figures show 237 members are for draft, 113 against and 80 noncommittal.

Only two of the thirty-five members of the Pennsylvania delegation are favorable to the volunteer system. These are Representatives Thomas S. Butler and Benjamin K. Focht. Indications are that Mr. Butler will join with the thirty-three Pennsylvanians favorable to selected draft upon a vote.

The House is to continue to talk as long as it can stand it today and this evening. The man in the White House, Illinois, demanding that Theodore Roosevelt be permitted to raise an army for immediate service in France, said the President "has not political sagacity" to give his consent to the Colonel's plan.

From floor and galleries instantly came almost deafening hissing, which continued several moments.

"The man in the White House," Mason said, "hasn't the courage or political sagacity to permit Colonel Roosevelt to enlist for fear he will profit politically"—and the hissing started.

Mason bitterly attacked the General Staff's selective draft plan. He said nothing would please the Kaiser more than to see an army of conscripts go to Europe to fight. He added:

"They call it the bill of the general staff. Before they get through they will call it general debility and general red tape. The general staff doesn't want Roosevelt to enlist. He applied at the White House.

The President, I suppose, stamped his signature with red ink and referred it to the Secretary of War. The Secretary referred it to the Assistant Secretary and he referred it to the general staff.

Representative Mason charged that keeping Roosevelt out of the army was part of the plan of opposition to the volunteer system.

"I used to oppose the Colonel, but I supposed

## U-BOAT BLOWN UP BY VOLLEY FROM U. S. GUN

### Captain of Mongolia Declares Submarine Was Exploded

## "TEDDY" DID JOB IN APPROVED STYLE

LONDON, April 26.—The German submarine reported sunk by the American liner Mongolia blew up when she was struck by a shell, according to fresh details received here today from the port at which the steamship has arrived.

Captain Rice, master of the Mongolia, said that there was a terrific explosion immediately after the U-boat was struck, and that a pall of smoke hung over the water.

The submarine was maneuvering for an attack when she was sent down, but so quick and skillful were the United States naval gunners that the Germans did not have an opportunity to fire a shell or torpedo.

The American gunners worked under a handicap, for the weather was thick and hazy when the submarine was sighted, but despite this difficulty they quickly accounted for the hostile submersible. The Americans had given names to the four guns on the Mongolia, and the one from which the lucky shell was fired at the submarine was known as "Teddy Roosevelt."

"For five days and nights," said Captain Rice, "I hadn't had my clothes off. We kept a big force of lookouts on duty all the time. It was 2:20 o'clock in the afternoon when we sighted the submarine. The officer commanding the gunners was with me on the bridge. We had been there most of the time throughout the voyage.

"There was a haze over the sea at the time. We had just taken a sounding, for we were getting near shallow water. We were looking at the lead when the first mate cried, 'There's a submarine off the port bow.'

"The submarine was close to us—too close for her purposes. She was submerging again to maneuver in a better position to attack us."

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## VETERAN HAS MAN NABBED

### Altercation Over Purchase of Flag Ends Before Police Court

An altercation over the purchase of a small American flag today resulted in the arrest of Samuel C. Edwards, forty years old, 138 West Hester street, on the complaint of Michael Schumann, a Spanish War veteran, of Wilmington, Del.

According to Schumann he was purchasing a small flag to wear on the lapel of his coat at a newsstand in Broad Street Station when Edwards commented sarcastically, "Instead of buying flags you had better enlist." Schumann notified a policeman and Edwards was arrested. Edwards was held in \$500 to keep the peace.

Would enforce Building Line Rule. Members of the Philadelphia Board of Trade are back of an ordinance recently framed by Director Datesman, of the Department of Public Works, which has for its object the elimination of sidewalk obstructions and many structures that now project beyond the building line on city streets.

## U. S. MAY NAME FOOD DIKTATOR OF THE WORLD

### Hoover or Secretary Wilson Likely to Assume Post

### AMERICA TO HAVE COMPLETE CHARGE

### War Council Plans Division of Duties Among Allies

### SHIPPING BIG QUESTION

### \$50,000,000 Loan to Italy Contemplated by Financiers of Conference

WASHINGTON, April 26.—That some one American—possibly Herbert Hoover or Secretary of Labor Wilson—within the next few months will become food dictator of the world was indicated by developments at the international war parley of the Allies here today.

More and more the War Council's proceedings are crystallizing into a monumental campaign to feed the Allies. It was taken for granted that it would be the policy of the Allies, for America has made her preliminary contributions to her fighting sister nations in men, money, food, shipping and other things, to trust the United States with absolute control of certain phases of the war.

That food will be one of the problems left entirely in American hands is believed certain. This will mean that one man or small group of men will be named by President Wilson absolutely to dominate the production and distribution of all food in the United States, England, France, Italy, Russia, Cuba and the other Allied countries.

It is deemed probable that this step will involve the formation of an inter-Allied food commission, comprising a director general of food for each nation, with the American dictator as the head of the commission. This is what is officially intimated and the Allies' method of handling all its problems. England dominates war finance.

Other phases which it is desired shall not be discussed, as they are not generally known, are under the respective direction of some one or other of the other Allies. Domination of war dividends other than food may be allotted to the United States, but food will be the most important.

The great eyes of the conference are going on here is the international reorganization of the war much on the same principles that an army of field fighters is organized, one branch handling the commissary department, another mobilization and transportation, another the collection and distribution of munitions, and so on.

Today's program of organizing the three-cornered war parley was simplified by co-operation of the French and British commissioners which have dovetailed in similar conferences frequently in London and Paris.

One result of today's parleys among the financial group of the Allied conference may be an immediate \$50,000,000 loan to Italy.

Plans, also, were perfected for immediate preliminary minor loans like this to any of our allies who need them.

All government departments, meanwhile, Continued on Page Five, Column One

## GERMANS SICKEN OF "KAISERISM"

### Movement Afoot to Oust Hohenzollerns, State Department Hears

### DEMOCRACY THE IDEAL

WASHINGTON, April 26.—What may prove to be momentous moves to sweep aside Hohenzollernism and replace it with a German republic were reported officially to the State Department today from several sources.

According to a message to the Secretary of State from Minister Stovall at Bern, an open movement is on in Switzerland by a committee of Germans to spread the propaganda of republicanism and democracy.

Dr. Reese Meyer, former editor of the Berlin Morgenpost, leads these Switzerland propagandists, who already have established a newspaper, the Freie Zeitung, to further attempts to spread their doctrine of a German republic in the fatherland.

From other sources this Government learns that the Germans, many "are increasingly anxious" for peace.

Such a message was taken by a traveler, arriving in a neutral country from Germany, to State Department officials in the unnamed neutral nation. This Government's officials there so telegraphed the State Department today. It was stated that "the strike of 250,000 laborers in Berlin shows the growth of the desire for peace."

Has reduced the bread rations from 1900 to 1500 grams a week.

## QUICK NEWS

### STEEL MILLS FIX PLAN TO SUPPLY U. S.

NEW YORK, April 26.—Arrangements were completed to supply the Government with its steel needs for war purposes at a meeting of officials and representatives of the various steel manufacturing companies this afternoon. It was agreed that the tonnage should be divided among the manufacturers according to their capacity. The price arrangement of 2.90c a pound for plates and 2.50c a pound for structural shapes and bars was approved.

### RUSSIA WILL FURTHER EXPLAIN HER WAR AIMS

PETROGRAD, April 26.—The new Russian Government is preparing a note to her Allies further explaining her war aims, it was announced today.

### U-BOAT SINKS AMERICAN SCHOONER; CREW SAVED

WASHINGTON, April 26.—The American schooner Percy Birdsall has been sunk by submarine gunfire, according to a State Department announcement today. The crew was rescued by a patrol soon after the attack. (The Percy Birdsall was a wooden four-masted schooner of 1125 tons, registered at Perth Amboy, N. J. She was owned by J. Holmes and was built in 1899.)

### CITY RAPIDLY FILLING QUOTA OF 500 EXTRA COPS

Director Wilson, of the Department of Public Safety, is fast filling up his quota of 500 extra policemen, who will be used in guarding the city's water works and industrial plants. He today appointed forty-seven subpatrolmen to fill places vacated by men who were advanced to the regular force and sent to the Civil Service Commission a requisition for fifty more names of men eligible for places in the service. Officials of the Bureau of Fire have also been busy selecting appointees to fill vacancies on the regular fire-fighting force of the city.

### CITY TREASURY HAS BALANCE LEFT OF \$18,002,455

City Treasurer McCouch issued his weekly statement today. The receipts for the week were \$962,259.25 and the payments totaled \$728,950.81, leaving a balance on hand in the City Treasury of \$18,002,455.49, not including the sinking fund account.

### MAY WHEAT REACHES \$2.60 IN WILD MARKET

CHICAGO, April 26.—May wheat soared again today in one of the wildest markets ever seen here, reaching \$2.60 per bushel, against \$2.51 at the end yesterday. July advanced to \$2.24 1/2 and September to \$1.96 1/2.

### BERLIN OFFERS TO DISCUSS U-BOAT ISSUE WITH SPAIN

THE HAGUE, April 26.—The German Government has offered to enter into negotiations with Spain on the submarine situation, according to a dispatch from Berlin today.

### BRITAIN DECLARES FOR FREEDOM OF POLAND

LONDON, April 26.—Great Britain today came out in favor of autonomy for Poland. Chancellor A. Bonar Law announced in Parliament that this country would use every endeavor to see that Poland realize her national aims.

### FOOD RIOTING NOW DISTURBS SWEDEN

THE HAGUE, April 26.—Anti-Government demonstrations in Sweden are increasing. It is stated in dispatches arriving here today. Disorder was reported in a number of towns. Soldiers have disobeyed the orders of the War Secretary by attending Socialist gatherings, where urgent demands were made for more food.

### JAPAN URGED TO INSIST ON RETAINING KIAO-CHAO

TOKYO, April 26.—In a recent interview Ki Inukai, leader of the powerful Kokumintō political party, declared that Japan must insist on retention of all the territory captured by Japan in the war. This, said Mr. Inukai, must be the demand of the Japanese delegates when the peace conference opens after the end of the war.

### WOMEN'S JOURNALS TO HELP CONSERVE FOOD SUPPLY

WASHINGTON, April 26.—Editors of women's publications everywhere in the United States will confer with Secretary of Agriculture Houston to aid in conserving the nation's food supply.

### WHOLE-WHEAT FLOUR ONLY TO BE MILLED

WASHINGTON, April 26.—The big milling interests of the country have agreed to aid in saving foodstuffs by milling only whole-wheat flour.

### JAPAN ABOUT TO FLOAT NEW LOAN FOR RUSSIA

NEW YORK, April 26.—According to the Japanese Minister of Finance Katsuda, Japan is about to float a third Russian loan, to amount to about \$50,000,000. Russia now owes Japan about \$25,000,000 for munitions, etc., so most of the proceeds of the loan will go to pay outstanding bills. Mr. Katsuda also states that at a conference of the Four Nations syndicate, held in London, it was decided to advance China the loan desired, which may amount to \$50,000,000. The amount of American participation in this loan has not been decided.

### U. S. TO RUSH WORK ON 38 NEW SUBMARINES

WASHINGTON, April 26.—Thirty-eight additional 800-ton submarines are to be rushed to completion for the United States. Contracts will be awarded within the next few days.

### GOVERNMENT TO ASK CONTROL OF U. S. SHIPPING

WASHINGTON, April 26.—Congress will be asked to give the Government control of American shipping through the Council of National Defense, the Federal Shipping Board and its advisory committee.

### ROOT AGREES TO HEAD MISSION TO RUSSIA

WASHINGTON, April 26.—Following an hour's conference between President Wilson and Elihu Root at the White House today it was admitted in official circles that the former Secretary of State has accepted the chairmanship of the mission that will shortly go to Russia. Mr. Root would not discuss the matter in any way, saying any announcement must come from the President, but in other quarters it was learned that an official statement would probably be made later in the day. It was stated that other members of the commission that will advise the new Russian Government on the work of rehabilitating the country will be Edward N. Hurley, former head of the Federal Trade Commission; Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; and Oscar S. Straus, of New York.

### POSTAL BANKS TO AID FARMERS IN FOOD CRISIS

WASHINGTON, April 26.—A part of the \$125,500,000 deposited in the Postal Savings Bank of the United States has been made available to help the farmers meet the war food crisis. The trustees of the Postal Savings Bank system have adopted a resolution making farm loan bonds, issued under the Federal farm loan act, acceptable at par to secure postal bonds, savings deposits. United States Government, Philippine Islands, Porto Rico and District of Columbia bonds are the only other bonds which enjoy this privilege.

## CORONER TOLD OF MANY PLOTS AT EDDYSTON

### Capt. Wilhelm Insists Conspiracy Wrecked Plants

### OTHER WITNESSES SUPPORT TESTIMONY

### Assert Disaster Began in Pellet Room, Adjacent to Combustibles

### ONE OFFICIAL WARNED Told to Keep Away From Funeral of Victims

CHESTER, Pa., April 26.—The discovery of steel filings in shells, matchheads mixed with powder and shrapnel and warnings of an impending disaster, together with startling evidence pointing to previous plots to destroy the Eddystone Ammunition Corporation plants, were brought to light today when Captain Wilhelm M. Wilhelm, vice president and general manager of the company, appeared as a witness at the coroner's inquest held in Elder Hall, Chester.

From witnesses produced by the company it was plainly indicated that they felt sure that the catastrophe on Tuesday, April 10, when more than 135 persons lost their lives and several hundred others were injured, resulted from a deliberate plot.

Captain Wilhelm and other officials of the company pointed out that they were almost sure that the trouble began in the room where the pellet sticks were stored. This room is separated from the shaking room, where the exposed powder and shells are handled.

On the other hand, the pellet room was separated from the shaking room, and the coroner and his witnesses are equally sure that the explosion was premeditated and originated in the shaking room. To substantiate this theory several important witnesses were produced by the coroner.

The members of the jury have been taken to the scene of the explosion and supplied with blueprints of the building that was destroyed. The coroner of the jury include J. Lord Rigby, a real estate broker of Media; John P. Crozer, a wealthy manufacturer, who resides at Upland; Brigadier General William G. Fries, Jr., of Chester; Dr. C. A. Ernst, a noted chemist of Litwood; George T. Wada, a retired farmer of Darby; and Albert R. Grainger, a manufacturer living at Upland.

### OFFICIALS WARNED

Through the channels of a private detective agency, employed by the company, it is asserted that warnings were received of contemplated plots and that on the day of the funeral of the unidentified dead in the Chester Rural Cemetery, a plot was formed to injure one of the big officials of the company, and, although the name was not revealed by the testimony, it was generally understood that Samuel Vaclavin, of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, was the man at whom the proposed plot was aimed. He did not attend the funeral.

Eyewitnesses of the explosion were brought from their cots in the hospital to the inquest and were allowed to testify. The general run of testimony brought out from the employees of the plant indicate that the origin of the explosion lay in close to the second shaking room where...

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## BLACKLIST ON U. S. FIRMS WITHDRAWN BY BRITISH

### Removal Eliminates Real Issue Between the Two Countries

LONDON, April 26.—The Foreign Office announced this afternoon that the "blacklist" against American firms had been withdrawn.

Raising of the blacklist will remove the only real issue that ever threatened to bring about a rupture between England and the United States. The original blacklist covered 115 business firms. Several have since been added.

Great Britain announced her blacklist in July, 1916. It was a formal blacklist of certain firms all over the world with whom British citizens were forbidden to trade. Nearly a hundred American firms were included in this proscribed catalogue.

On July 25 Acting Secretary of State Paoli registered an emphatic protest of this discrimination in a note addressed to Sir Edward Grey. The blacklist, this note said, "had been received with most painful surprise by the United States, and the Government was constrained to regard it as inconsistent with that true justice, sincere amity and impartial fairness which should characterize the dealings of friendly Governments with one another."

In the diplomatic interchange which followed England refused to relax the blacklist on the American firms mentioned, and the matter remained still an issue.

In raising the embargo today England thus given fresh proof of complete sympathy with her new ally, leaving it to the United States Government to make certain that the firm do not trade.

## THE WEATHER

FORECAST  
For Philadelphia and vicinity—Cloudy and unsettled tonight, probably rain; Friday fair, with a change in temperature; fresh winds, becoming westerly.

LENGTH OF DAY  
Sun rises, 6:07 a.m.; Moon rises, 8:50 a.m.; Sun sets, 7:52 p.m.; Moon sets, 11:45 p.m.; Daylight, 13 hours, 45 minutes; Twilight, 1 hour, 15 minutes.