

ALL SECTORS ACTIVE

London, April 23. Determined fighting has broken out on all sectors of the Balkan front, it was officially announced in Paris, with British, French, Serbian and Italian troops pressing an offensive against the enemy. The advantage has rested with the Allies.

The forces of many races facing the Germans, Austrians, Turks and Bulgarians, in a great semicircle sweeping from the Adriatic to the Aegean, have begun a general attack with the apparent object of forcing the enemy to maintain his forces at full strength and to prevent withdrawal to re-inforce the Teuton armies in Picardy and Flanders.

Intimations that Bulgarian troops would reach the western theatre of war in large numbers recently were followed by German official announcement, that some already are there, constituting with the Austro-Hungarians a reserve army.

The Kaiser not long ago went to Bucharest with various German dignitaries, ostensibly to settle Balkan questions, but really, it was reported from Switzerland, to demand greater aid in the west from Bulgaria.

The present Allied demonstration on the Balkan front is probably a kind of holding action to prevent the Bulgarians from giving promised assistance to the Kaiser. An indication that it was coming was recently disclosed in a heavy rain which a number of Bulgarian villages were occupied.

The Paris communication says that Serbians near Votrenik captured an important strategic point and held against violent enemy counter-attacks. The British brought back prisoners south of Doiran.

The enemy abandoned Italian advanced posts in the Italian sector, but without success, according to the French statement. A communication issued in Rome said that the Italian army on the day inflicted severe losses on German advanced posts, wiping out one of them.

British "Bottle Up" Foe's Submarines. Continued from Page One. New York, where he came under the approving observation of Admiral Sampson. Cervera had crawled into Santiago harbor, where the Americans felt him, but a "barbed hurricane" was directed at him when it came to anchor. Blackbirds were flying about the ship and Cervera might escape to prevent enemy action by the Germans.

Lieutenant Hobson went to Admiral Sampson with a plan to sink a collier in the harbor channel at its narrowest point, where it was about 100 feet wide. If this could be done a problem would be solved. Admiral Sampson gave his approval, and the Merrimack, carrying 200 tons of coal, was prepared for the sacrifice. She was stripped of everything that could be taken off. Anchors were hoisted at bow and stern, that they could be released without loss of time. Arrangements were made to hoist the water valves could be thrown open and torpedoes were being along the ship's side so that they could be exploded by an electric current.

Lieutenant Hobson received the Merrimack's crew of sixty men with six of the harbor channel. The work was done against orders. The names of these men were Daniel Montague, George Charlotte, J. C. Murphy, Oscar DeFries, John P. Phillips, John Kelly and H. Clausen. All volunteered for the daring exploit. The Merrimack was a swain on the New York. He stowed himself away on the Merrimack, taking this means as the only one that would give him opportunity to participate in the desperate venture.

Because the channel was completely swept by hostile batteries, the dash of the Merrimack was timed for the earliest dawn. She was taken into a harbor and at the right point the bow anchor was dropped. Under her own momentum the ship swung on the cable and turned across the channel. Unfortunately, the tide operated enough to drive her slightly out of position, and all that had been hoped for was not accomplished. The stern anchor fell and the water valves were opened. Then the eight torpedoes took to a raft that had been prepared in advance and pushed off. When they had gone a safe distance the torpedoes exploded and the Merrimack sank.

All of this was done under the concentrated fire of several batteries. The Merrimack's crew, however, were unharmed. They finally were rescued, and the next day Admiral Cervera, filled with admiration for their heroism, sent an officer with a flag of truce to Admiral Sampson, with word that the Americans were all well and would receive kind treatment.

Two-Shift Plan to Start May 1. Continued from Page One. The hours of continuous duty have been started, only to be abandoned at the behest of political or other influences. Two years ago the firemen of Philadelphia, emboldened by the experience of similar campaigns in other cities, instituted a general movement for a wage increase and a better working schedule. Petitions were circulated in the neighborhood of fire stations, a committee was named to conduct a campaign to bring the subject before Councils and the municipal administration, but cohesive efforts were lacking and the movement languished through lack of popular support.

Through the support of the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER the falling hopes of the firemen were revived, and the object of their efforts was accomplished, after Councils twice had endeavored to "sidetrack" the enactment of measures in fulfillment of the popular sentiment aroused by the publicity given to the firemen's cause.

Failed to Give Justice. The State Legislature finally passed the Stern bill, which made the two-plate system mandatory. Efforts on the part of the Mayor and Director Wilson to delay its installation were met with mandamus proceedings, until the opponents of the law were forced to yield to the justice of the firemen's demands. Through frequent civil service examinations additional hose and ladder men have been obtained, the number being only about fifty less than the 350 estimated as the full quota needed. It is hoped that one more examination will wipe out this deficiency. Members of the bureau give credit for the salary increase and two-plate installation to the support of the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER.



BOOSTS LIBERTY LOAN. Joseph Petti, 1720 South Twenty-first street, although only twenty-two months old, is a most ardent Liberty Loan "booster."

ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS TUMBLE GERMANY'S FAMOUS AVIATOR

Baron von Richthofen Killed by British as He Battles in Air—Body Recovered Under Heavy Fire

With the British Armies in France, April 23. Baron von Richthofen, peer of All Teuton armies, with eight victories to his credit, was shot down by anti-aircraft guns as he soared over the British lines in a spectacular battle with an English flyer. A leaden pellet shot from the earth pierced his heart and his plane plunged downward between the lines.

A British lieutenant crawled through the barrage the Germans purposely laid down around their fallen champion and brought back the body of Von Richthofen. The famous aviator was buried last evening with full honors.

HAIG BETTERS POSITIONS ON TWO BATTLEFRONTS

Continued from Page One. been laid at many points with great intensity, there have been several sharp local engagements both north and south of the Somme. Field Marshal Haig, in his report of last evening, states that he has repulsed hostile raids in the neighborhood of Hamel, just before the Somme, and at other points in the same district. Also he beat down a raid in force north of the river at Mesnil, just above Albert.

The French also have repulsed "fishy" operations on the Somme and the Aisne. Just south of the Somme, directly before Amiens, Marshal Haig has bettered his positions with an attack at Villers-Bretonneux.

TEUTON SUBMARINES BLOCK NEUTRAL GOODS

Fear Prevents European Nations From Sending Vessels for Supplies

HOLLAND NEEDS GRAIN. With Germany Threatening to Sink Neutral Ships America Seeks to Keep Agreements

Washington, April 23. German submarines now are starting neutral Holland, Switzerland, Spain and Sweden. Fruit and agricultural supplies promised these nations by the United States are not going forward because German threats have frightened shippers from sending bottoms for the supplies. The supplies were promised under various agreements this country made with the nations named in return for the use of ships. Holland is badly in need of grain. Two Dutch ships loaded with grain are in Atlantic ports waiting to sail. They cannot sail until two other Dutch ships leave Dutch ports for this side. A third Dutch ship is held in an Argentine port with grain, waiting similar release.

AMERICANS REPULSE GERMAN TROOPS IN BATTLE NEAR ST. MICHAEL

Continued from Page One. was on. We hustled out and found thick fog. The barrage curtain was coming established their line on the hills supporting both Seicheprey and Renieres wood.

Thrilling Barrage. Although the Germans in the battle of Seicheprey, southwest of Toul, on Saturday used every diabolical device known to Teutonic war genius, the Americans stood up like seasoned veterans and gave them no ground. One of the weapons employed by the Germans was an automatic pistol that can fire twenty-eight shots without re-feeding.

Stories of individual bravery are still being told. That of infantry Corporal George Houlison, of Ware, Mass., indicates what our men passed through in defense of American traditions and the democracy of the world. "I was in the hospital, suffering from two shrapnel wounds (neither serious), said: "Our skipper (the captain) told us to support a machine-gun company, as he expected trouble.

Shells Hit Like Snakes. The skipper came from Connecticut, and a gamer man you never saw. He fought alongside of his men, throwing grenades. "When the thing began I was in a dugout with Sergeant Mlansho. I heard the reports and knew that the barrage



JOSEPH BRENNAN. Who will play the "Star Spangled Banner" on the cornet at the play, "My Dark Rouleau," to be given tonight in aid of the Church of the Most Precious Blood, Twenty-eighth and Diamond streets, in Moose Auditorium, Broad and Thompson streets.

wood is full of bushes. I could see them coming from every direction through the fog and amid the trees.

Full Regiment in Attack. "The Germans tumbled in on us. The other company killed five in quick succession with his pistol. I never saw such shooting and I thought I was pretty far at it. He has no trimmed. It thrilled me to see how cool he was. He told me to forget my wound and fired until the pistol clips gave out and then borrowed one from a wounded comrade. After using all of those he took up a rifle and began firing soon we began to feel weak from loss of blood and a curdled

told us we had better report to the dressing station. An entire German regiment, with storm troops added, made the attack. An extremely heavy hostile bombardment with poison-gas shells opened in the course of the night and lasted until 5 o'clock in the morning. At that hour preceded by storm troops, which had been brought to the scene especially for the attack after preliminary training on ground around the sector held by the American troops.

The assault was over by a line 2000 yards in length, and at several places the enemy succeeded in entering the American lines. They even entered and occupied Seicheprey, where the American shock troops, which were the most stubborn defense. Without a minute's delay after their retirement at Seicheprey the Americans organized, with the French, a counter-attack, which was carried out brilliantly driving the Germans out of the village and taking a number of prisoners.

Americans Aided by French. The fighting did not cease until late in the afternoon. The severest encounters occurred in Henneswood, where the Germans had taken a firm hold at only one point, standing the vigorous defense by small bodies of Americans stationed there. The French and American troops joined in the counter-attack on this sector of the line, eventually succeeding in ousting the enemy.

The amalgamated troops worked in closest co-operation, and by the end of the day were able to score a complete victory and restore their lines as they were before the engagement.

In this vicinity many prisoners fell into the hands of the Allies, while the barbed wire and shell-littered ground was covered with German dead.

Tell them back home that we are just beginning," said an American lad, who was in the thick of the fight and severely wounded with shrapnel. It was fine to see our men go at the Hun. All of us, who thought baseball was the great American game, have clung to it. I forget my wound and fired until the pistol clips gave out and then borrowed one from a wounded comrade. After using all of those he took up a rifle and began firing soon we began to feel weak from loss of blood and a curdled

German Captive Sulkily. The other men in the hospital were of the same spirit while in a nearby ward was a wounded German prisoner, who, being bound on his hands, at the same time carrying concealed bombs. This fellow sneeringly and in sulkily manner waved off the American guard with one hand. A nurse said he had given more trouble than all the Americans combined.

There appears little doubt that the Germans thought they would go through the American line as they once boasted they would go through "Great Britain's contemptible little army."

That the enemy's losses were so severe he changed his mind and was cured of his belief it was going to be a walkover, was indicated by his feeble artillery fire afterward. Notwithstanding the driving rain, however, the American artillery continued active. The officers and men were in the spirit, even the wounded laughing and joking.

FULL REPORT AWAITED BEFORE GIVING DETAILS OF SEICHEPREY VICTORY

Washington, April 23. The American soldiers in the battle of Seicheprey covered themselves with glory. This is officially announced by General Pershing in his preliminary report, now at the War Department. But details of the report still are withheld by Secretary of War Baker. He is very much exercised over the fact that various conflicting figures on losses have been published and today ordered an investigation to determine who was responsible for announcing that General Pershing had made any report to the department. The Secretary's position is that details of any engagement should come direct from General Pershing's headquarters in France, as he alone can judge what can and what cannot be published.

However, it is known that in his report, General Pershing placed the losses of the Americans engaged at "less than 200," while the losses of the German shock troops who attacked were more than 300. How many of the American casualties are covered in the "missing" list is not yet known. General Pershing, it is understood has promised a more complete report which will cover this point later on.

It is understood here that the units engaged were regulars. They were supported by National Guard organizations and were engaged in the fighting in reported to have outflanked and outlasted the German shock troops, picked men selected from months of special training for raid work.

The complete lack of official information regarding the battle, it was stated today, has had an unwarranted depressing effect on the country. General Pershing's claim of an "overwhelming victory" and its losses, contradicting the official statement that 143 prisoners were taken, have not been received by the public. The country, it is believed, is being kept in the dark. Army officers, who should know all that happens privately and that which will have the additional cause to be proud of the war, are being kept in the dark. Army officers, who should know all that happens privately and that which will have the additional cause to be proud of the war, are being kept in the dark. Army officers, who should know all that happens privately and that which will have the additional cause to be proud of the war, are being kept in the dark.

Advertisement for Dalsimer shoes, 1204 Market St. A growing yet ever select coterie of women find they are best enabled to observe the niceties of good bootery by wearing La France Shoes. And best of all, they find the good taste that prompts their choice is encouraged by the advice of their pocketbooks.

Liberty Loan Mass Meetings. HON. WILLIAM H. TAFT will speak on Thursday, April 25th at the Academy of Music 8.15 P. M. Tickets may be secured from The Liberty Loan Headquarters, or any bank, trust company, library, school, Y. M. C. A. and clubs. Music by Sousa's Great Lakes Band. MR. TAFT will also address a Mass Meeting to be held for the INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF KENSINGTON STETSON'S AUDITORIUM, 4th and Montgomery Avenue Thursday, April 25th, 7.15 P. M. Tickets for this meeting may be had at any industrial establishment in Kensington on Wednesday.

SAWTAY KITCHEN MOVIES. A "One-Dish" Meal. For an ideal whole meal dish, rich in food value and economical in price, serve baked rice and cheese. To obtain butter richness and flavor, use the best of the vegetable fats. SAWTAY 100% PURE BUTTER OF MILK. Better than Cheap Butter. Cheaper than Butter. For BAKING—SHORTENING—FRYING. Sawtay Baked Rice and Cheese. To 2 cups of boiled rice add 3 tablespoons melted Sawtay, 1 teaspoon salt, paprika to taste. Grease a baking dish with Sawtay. Arrange alternate layers of rice and grated cheese, using 1/2 cup grated cheese. Add enough milk to moisten. Cover with bread crumbs, dot with Sawtay. Bake in moderate oven until brown. NOTE: To insure best results, Sawtay should be kept at normal pantry temperature.

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