

## LINES ARE DRAWN FOR BITTER FIGHT ON NEW ARMY PLAN

### Antidraft Advocates Hold Upper Hand in House Committee.

### ADOPTS AMENDMENTS TO ADMINISTRATION BILL

### Alterations Resented by President, to Whom Substitute Is Wholly Unacceptable.

### TO CARRY APPEAL TO COUNTRY

### Senate Committee, by 10-to-7 Vote, Accepts Selective Conscription Proposal.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, April 18.—The lines were drawn to-day for a great fight between the administration and the opponents in the House over the plan to raise the war army by selective draft.

While President Wilson was at the Capitol telling Senators and Representatives that no compromise between the volunteer and draft systems could be accepted with safety to the nation, the House Military Committee, by a vote of 12 to 8, adopted amendments to the administration bill authorizing call for volunteers in increments of 500,000, and providing that the draft shall be applied only in the event the President decides that the force needed cannot be raised under the volunteer plan.

Chairman Bent headed the antidraft forces, and will introduce the amended bill in the House to-morrow with a view to pressing it for passage on Monday. Representative Kahn, of California, ranking Republican member of the committee, is preparing a report to be signed by the minority, and will join in leading the fight on the floor for the administration.

The Senate committee formally voted 16 to 7 to-day to report virtually without change the bill as originally drawn by the general staff and approved by the President, and will present it to-morrow. The measure may be passed by the Senate without waiting for action in the House.

### PRESIDENT DETERMINED TO HAVE BILL ENACTED

The President made very plain to those with whom he talked his determination to have the staff bill enacted. There seems no doubt that he will appeal directly to the country, if necessary, and tell the people that, in the opinion of the military advisers of the government, as well as administrative officials, national safety demands that the war be provided under the plans prepared by the army experts after long study and consideration of lessons learned from the war in Europe.

### CHIEF AMENDMENTS BY HOUSE COMMITTEE

The chief amendments of the House committee follow: "That the President be and he is hereby authorized to call for 500,000 volunteers under and in accordance with the act of Congress approved April 25, 1914 (the army reorganization act). "That in the event it becomes necessary to raise an additional force of 500,000 men . . . the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to call such additional force by volunteers in the same manner. Such volunteers army shall be apportioned among the various States and territories and the District of Columbia, according to population, raised in regimental units or garrisons thereof. . . . "Provided that such volunteer forces shall be recruited in local units as far as practicable and company officers may be appointed from such units upon passing such reasonable and practicable examinations as to fitness as the President may direct. "And provided further that upon completion of the enrollment as provided in this act and in the event the President decides that such additional force or forces cannot be effectually raised and maintained under the call for volunteers as herein provided, the President be, and he is hereby authorized, to raise and organize the same by the selective draft, as herein provided."

### McKELLAR LATER HEARS OF WILSON'S DETERMINATION

In the Senate committee, appeal to insert authority for the President to call 500,000 volunteers under existing law was defeated. It was offered by Senator McKellar, who was among those who conferred later with President Wilson and heard the fixed resolve of the chief executive to accept no compromise on the army plan he has proposed.

While Congress is struggling with the framing of the law, the War Department is going steadily ahead with its plans to carry out the program mapped out in the administration bill. Every step that can be taken in the absence of the authority conferred by Congress will be carried out.

## No Truth in Report of Firing Off Coast

### Positive Statement Made That There Had Been No Naval Engagement.

(By Associated Press.) BOSTON, April 18.—It was officially announced at the navy-yard late to-day that no engagement was placed in reports from three Coast Guard stations on Cape Cod that heavy gunfire had been heard off the coast. The positive statement was made that there had been no naval engagements, and that warships had not exchanged salutes with foreign vessels.

The previous announcement that heavy gunfire had been heard during the morning was also issued officially at the navy-yard. It was based on reports from Cape Cod, received by Lieutenant E. T. Blaklee, in charge of the naval radio district. Newspaper correspondents at points on the cape reported that they had not heard any gunfire, and that they knew nothing of it, except from the bulletins issued by the naval authorities.

The statement discrediting the first official announcement was issued after the navy-yard radio station had been in communication with the patrol fleet off the coast. No information of any firing was obtained from ships at sea, the authorities said, adding that Coast Guard stations had sent in no additional reports. Naval officers who were asked to explain the probable origin of the morning reports, which, according to the official announcement, came independently from three Coast Guard stations, said they were unable to offer any suggestion as to what might have been heard at those stations.

## "NAIL A FLAG TO YOUR PLOW"

### Slogan Adopted by Georgia Farmers in Urging Production of Larger Crops.

(By Associated Press.) OCEILLA, GA., April 18.—"Nail a flag to your plow and work for your country, as you would fight for her," is the slogan adopted by farmers of Ben Hill and Irwin Counties. Preparations are under way by a committee of safety following a mass meeting here last night at which South Georgia farmers were urged to produce larger food crops.

## CREATION OF TRAVELING CORPS OF FARM LABOR

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, April 18.—Creation of a traveling corps of farm labor to work on irrigated lands of the country is the novel proposal of Secretary Lane to further the nation-wide campaign to increase food production during the war.

The plan was outlined to-day in a communication to Chairman Taylor of the House Irrigation Committee in which the secretary urges prompt action on the pending bill designed to stimulate food production on private and public lands within irrigation projects. This legislation, he says, is a necessary prerequisite to his plan.

## TEN INJURED IN STORM

### Number of Buildings Also Wrecked in Snyder, Small Town in Oklahoma.

(By Associated Press.) OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., April 18.—Ten persons are known to have been injured, and a number of buildings were wrecked in a storm which struck Snyder, a small town in southwestern Oklahoma to-night, according to a telephone message received here asking for aid. Several of the injured were reported to be fatally hurt. Relief parties were sent from nearby towns in automobiles, owing to damage to property and telephone communication, only meager reports had been received late to-night.

To-night was the third time in fifteen years that Snyder has been swept by storm. Forty persons were killed in the first storm, and several years ago five persons lost their lives and a number were injured.

## TO LIMIT LEGISLATION

### Efforts Will Be Made to Confine Work of Congress to Emergency War Measures.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, April 18.—Efforts to confine the extraordinary session of Congress to emergency war legislation took form on the Senate side to-day after President Wilson's visit to the Capitol.

Senator Simmons, a member of the Democratic Steering Committee, submitted for Republican consideration a plan to limit legislation behind which the majority is expected to line up, and Senator Gallinger, the Republican leader, promised to sound out sentiment on his side of the chamber. The proposed plan considered would have committee chairman engineer their meetings so that none but emergency legislation would be brought out.

## SPANISH STEAMER SUNK

### Torpedoing of the Tom Without Warning Expected Further to Inflammate Public Feeling.

(By Associated Press.) MADRID, April 18 (via Paris, 1:30 P. M.).—The Spanish steamship Tom has been torpedoed and sunk without warning. Eighteen lives were lost. It is expected that news of this occurrence will further inflame public feeling in Spain.

The Tom, 2,495 tons gross, was owned by Bilbao. Recent news dispatches from Spain said that much excitement was produced by the torpedoing of the Spanish steamer San Fulgencio. The Spanish government sent an emphatic protest to Germany, and is reported to have demanded an indemnity.

## NEW RUSSIA WANTS NO SEPARATE PEACE

### Provisional Government Declares Against Yielding to German and Austrian Overtures.

### SENDS ASSURANCES TO U. S.

### Entente Embassies in Washington Frankly Confess to Great Sense of Relief.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, April 18.—Assurances reached Washington to-day that under no conditions that are now conceivable will the provisional government of Russia yield to the overtures from German and Austrian socialist representatives to negotiate a separate peace. The entente embassies, with this assurance before them, frankly confessed the great sense of relief they felt from the apprehension under which they have labored for the past two weeks that the extreme Socialist elements have so far dominated the provisional government, through soldiers and workingmen's committees, as seriously to jeopardize the integrity of the entente alliance.

## FEARED EFFECTS OF CUNNING APPEALS TO SOCIALISTS

The gathering of Socialists at Stockholm, known to be fomented by Germans and Austrians, was looked upon with dread and suspicion, and it was feared that cunning appeals to the altruistic principles of socialism, the universal brotherhood of workmen, and such considerations might lead the provisional government to consent to a separate peace to terminate the war.

It is now learned from an authoritative source that these apprehensions and misgivings were based upon misunderstanding of the aims of the extreme Socialist element in Russia, and of the real strength of the provisional government. The information received to-day is to the effect that, so far from contemplating any peace on the basis of existing governments, the advanced Russian Socialists want to carry their democratizing ideas by force into the enemy countries, and to appeal to their brother Socialists in Austria and Germany to rise in revolt, overturn the monarchies and establish true Socialist republics in their places.

This movement is reported to be gathering strength rapidly in Russia among the soldiers and workmen. The former are falling into line again to renew the campaign in the east, and the workmen are going back to their shops to turn out shot and shell and powder, on the greatest possible scale. From every quarter comes assurance of support for the provisional government.

## BERNHARDT RESTS QUIETLY

### Physicians Declare Outcome Uncertain, However, Because of Previous Underlying Conditions.

(By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, April 18.—Mrs. Sarah Bernhardt hovered in a critical condition in Mount Sinai Hospital to-day following the operation last night for an infection of the kidneys.

To-night her three physicians issued the following statement: "Mrs. Bernhardt stood the operation well. The outcome is still uncertain, because of previous underlying conditions. The patient rested quietly during the greater part of the day. From time to time, she slept for short periods. Her secretary, Miss Ormsby, expressed the opinion that to-morrow the actress would feel equal to dictating a statement expressive of her deep appreciation of the manifestations of sympathy and affection with which she has been showered during her affliction.

Messages from all over the United States allied with her in the war were received at the hospital during the night and day, while lowers were delivered in an inundation. During the intervals of wakefulness she requested that Miss Ormsby be allowed to read to her certain favorite passages of French poetry, and the doctors consented.

## TO EXTEND WORK OF COUNCIL

### National Defense Body Plans Conferences With Various Representative Citizens.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, April 18.—The SIX Cabinet officers who comprise the Council of National Defense were in session to-day in Secretary Baker's office mapping out plans for the extension of the work of the council to fields of national efforts not now covered. No statement as to the matters under consideration was made public, but it is understood that conferences with various representative citizens are in contemplation to deal with questions not yet taken up in the wide plans of the advisory commission.

To-day's meeting was for the purpose of getting the views of the members of the council as to which of the questions in prospect should be given preference in the organization plans.

## TO USE SEIZED OPIUM

### National Research Council Would Manufacture Valuable Drugs Made Scarce by War.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, April 18.—Large quantities of opium seized by agents of the Treasury Department in enforcing anti-narcotic laws will be used in making valuable hospital drugs which the war has made scarce, according to plans reported to the National Academy of Sciences by the national research council, a body created to study scientific war problems. Members of the council also told of various experiments to improve aeroplanes, detect mines or submarines beneath the water, and protect soldiers against gas attacks. Details were not made public for military reasons.

## BRITAIN WELCOMES AMERICA INTO WAR

### Both Houses of Parliament Adopt Resolutions Expressing Profound Appreciation.

### SITTING WILL BE HISTORICAL

### Former Premier Asquith Refers to It as One of Most Disinterested Acts of History.

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, April 18.—To-day's sitting of the British Parliament will be a historical landmark. Both the legislative houses adopted the House of Commons with one dissenting vote—resolutions expressing the profound appreciation of the British nation for the action of the United States government and people in entering the world war in defense of the high cause of freedom and the rights of humanity. The unusual importance of the occasion was shown in the crowded state of the galleries in the House of Commons. Among those in the galleries were Walter Hines Page, the American ambassador, and many other Americans, as well as the representatives of the entente allied states. An unaccustomed air of enthusiasm was given the occasion.

The resolution in the House of Commons was moved by Andrew Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer. Former Premier Asquith seconded it in an eloquent speech. The resolution in the House of Lords was introduced by Earl Curzon, of Kedleston, Lord President of the Council.

In all the speeches in both houses particular reference was made to America's purely disinterested intervention. "The most disinterested in history," as Mr. Asquith phrased it, "the complete absence of any motive of self-interest, calculation or ambition. Mr. Asquith pointed out that neither the liberty nor independence of the United States was imperiled.

"It was the constraining force of conscience and humanity," he added. "TO AMERICA WILL FALL TASK OF BASING PEACE ON LIBERTY."

John Dillon, one of the Nationalist leaders, in a fervent speech supporting the resolutions, predicted that Irishmen, in proportion to their population, would outnumber all other peoples of the world. "To America," Mr. Dillon said, "will fall the blessed task of basing peace on liberty." George Wardle, Laborite, also spoke in favor of the resolution, on behalf of his party, and thus all parties in the house were represented.

The House of Lords, Earl Curzon said in the war stamped the struggle as a great uprising of the conscience of mankind to put an end to the rule of Satan on earth.

The President's speech to Congress, Earl Curzon added, was a trumpet call, the sound of which would ring through the ages. Viscount Bryce, former ambassador to the United States, alluded to the same lofty idealism, stating both the United States and England, "the two pillars of the world, are engaged in a permanent neutrality and the entrance of the United States into the war, Andrew Bonar Law told the House of Commons, "for the moral justification it gives us for our own action. America, like the British empire, is engaged in the war from no desire, from no fear of her own, but because she can do no other."

Mr. Law expressed his belief that the end of the world war is not far distant.

"Being in," he said, "the United States has already shown that her enemies must beware of her, and despite the fact that the path immediately before us is more difficult than ever before, I venture to express the hope and belief that a change is coming that the long night of sorrow and anguish which has denuded the world, is drawing to a close."

Seconding Bonar Law's resolution, former Premier Asquith said, "It is only right and fitting that this house . . . should at the earliest possible opportunity give definite and emphatic expressions to the feelings which throughout the length and breadth of the empire have grown day by day in volume and fervor since the memorable decision of the President and the Congress of the United States. "I doubt whether even now the world realizes the full significance of the step America has taken. I do not use the language of flattery or exaggeration when I say it is one of the most disinterested acts of history."

## AMERICA ALWAYS CLEAR

OF FOREIGN ENTANGLEMENTS "For more than 100 years it has been the cardinal principle of American policy to keep clear of foreign entanglements. A war such as this and the necessity to dislocate international commerce and finance, but on the balance it was doing little appreciable harm to the material fortunes and prosperity of the American people. "What then has enabled the President—after waiting with the patience which Pitt described as the first virtue of statesmanship—to carry with him a united nation into the hazards and horrors of the greatest war in history? . . . It was the constraining force of conscience and humanity, growing in strength and compulsive authority month by month, with the gradual unfolding of the real character of German aims and methods. It was that force alone which brought home to the great democracy overseas the momentous truth that they were standing at the parting of the ways."

CHARLES A. SCOTT, Public Auditor and Accountant, P. O. Box 267, Richmond, Va.

# FRENCH TAKE NEW VANTAGE POINTS

### British Admiralty Gives American Naval Officer All Submarine Data

### Washington Authorities for their Decision. When President Wilson and the naval board decide on the method of co-operation between the United States and the British fleets, word will be sent to Rear-Admiral Sims here, who in conjunction with the British Admiralty will proceed to put it into effect. Just what form the co-operation between the American and British fleets will take will not, of course, be disclosed, but it can be stated that the Admiralty heads of both governments are perfectly satisfied with the preliminary plans for reducing the effectiveness of the enemy's submarine warfare.

"We don't expect to get all of the submarines," said an Admiralty official, "but just enough to break the back of the submarine campaign. In other words, we hope to defeat the submarines by destroying enough of them to weaken their morale in much the same manner that an army's morale is broken through defeating a portion of it."

REAR-ADMIRAL SIMS'S report makes no recommendations whatever to the American government, but simply outlines the information obtained from the British Admiralty, and places the facts before the American mission in order that they might learn the true status of the submarine warfare.

## SITES FOR 14 CIVILIAN TRAINING CAMPS CHOSEN

### On May 1 Will Be Ready to Receive Reserve Officers and Candidates for Commission.

### EVERY SECTION EMBRACED

### Citizens of Virginia to Train With Those of New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland at Fort Myer—Locations Announced by Department.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, April 18.—The location of fourteen civilian training camps at which America's new gigantic army will be trained was announced late this afternoon by the War Department. They embrace every section of the country. On May 1 they will be ready for the reception of reserve officers and candidates for commissions, and the course of instruction will begin one week later. The camps will be used for training a large part of the prospective army of 500,000 men.

It develops that under the present regulations those in training for commissions will not receive any pay. It was announced to-day that "the citizens selected for admission will receive transportation, subsistence and uniforms at the expense of the United States, although it is believed that most of them will have their own uniforms in advance. Other articles of equipment will be issued at the camp. "The camp for the New England States will be at Fort Ethan Allen, or such other point as may be designated by the commanding general of the Eastern District, says an announcement to-day by the War Department.

"The camps for Congressional Districts Nos. 1 to 25, inclusive, in New York State (which comprises Long Island, New York City and a small piece of territory immediately north of New York City), will be at Plattsburg barracks, New York.

"The camp for the remainder of New York State and the Tenth, Eleventh, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Twenty-first, Twenty-fifth and Twenty-eighth Congressional Districts of Pennsylvania will be at Madison barracks, New York. "The remainder of Pennsylvania (which includes Philadelphia and Pittsburgh), will be at Fort Niagara, New York.

"The camp for New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia will be at Fort Myer, Va., or such other place as may be designated by the commanding general of the Eastern Department.

"The camp for North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee will be at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., a few miles south of Chattanooga, Tenn.

"The camp for Georgia, Florida and Alabama will be at Fort McPherson, near Atlanta, Ga.

"The camp for Ohio will be at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., near Indianapolis.

"The camp for Indiana and Kentucky will also be at Fort Benjamin Harrison.

"The camp for Illinois will be at Fort Sheridan, Ill., near Chicago.

"The camp for Michigan and Wisconsin will also be at Fort Sheridan, Ill.

"The camp for Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana will be at Fort Logan, near Little Rock, Ark.

"The camp for Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska will be at Fort Snelling, Minn., near St. Paul.

"The camp for Missouri, Kansas and Colorado will be at Fort Riley, Kans., near Junction City.

"The camp for Oklahoma and Texas will be at Leon Springs, Tex., near San Antonio.

"The camp for Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Arizona and New Mexico will be at the Presidio, San Francisco, Cal.

## THOSE FOUND SUITABLE TO REPORT EARLY IN MAY

It was announced that those examined for admission to these camps and who are found suitable will be notified, and may report at the camps between May 1 and 8.

The War Department, in anticipation of speedy action by Congress on the

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## GERMAN FIGHTING LINE IS SYSTEM OF SWITCHES

### Much Ground Can Be Yielded, Without Front Technically Being Broken.

### EVERY SECTION EMBRACED

### Each Section of Trench Must Have Several Belts of Barbed Wire, Teutons Employing More Machine Guns Than Ever Before.

### UNTOLD LABOR IS INVOLVED

[From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press.] BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, April 18 (via London).—The flexibility of their trench communications and the effectiveness of their machine guns are the two elements of defense upon which the Germans appear to be placing their greatest reliance in the present fighting. In effect, the various elements of the more important defensive trenches enable the German fighting line to swing upon double hinges, so if pressed too hard, one pivot swings back from the other. In this manner, much ground can be yielded in a series of angular or criss-cross retreats, without the fighting front technically being broken.

These trenches are known as switches, and a great system of them is connected with the Hindenburg or Siegfried position. It was undoubtedly with these strategic switch lines in view that Field Marshal von Hindenburg recently declared that the German lines in the west could not be broken.

The preparation and maintenance of the elaborate system requires an untold amount of labor, for each section of trench must have several belts of wire front. The Germans have become so accustomed to fighting behind barbed wire that they would not think now of doing otherwise, if it can be avoided. Most of the digging appears to have been done by prisoners of war. As the German lines fall back, the diggers also fall back, to construct still more trenches in which the Germans may later find shelter.

## MORE MACHINE GUNS THAN EVER IN USE

Under this plan, of course, it would be possible to drive back the Germans to the Rhine, and they could still say the line was unbroken. In the meantime, the Germans are employing more machine guns than ever before in their attempt to hold up the British infantry advances.

As high as six or eight of these ghastly weapons are now assigned to each company on the front line, and they undoubtedly constitute the German effort to counteract preponderance of allied cannon. The artillery, however, remains the great unanswerable argument.

That machine guns are the real reliance of the Germans is shown by the construction of the famed Hindenburg lines, which are mostly salients, built thus to permit the intensive use of these weapons. Machine guns are being used largely in the defense of Lens.

Although the weather continues atrocious, the aeroplanes daily brave the gales and snow squalls, and carry on the important work of serving as the "eyes" of the army. This work is more important during an advance than at any other time, and without the loyal co-operation of the planes progress would surely be impossible. The airmen reflect the offensive spirit of the entire British fighting force, and carry out their task with daring self-sacrifice, which will ever be one of the brightest chapters in the history of the war.

## TWO ALLIED AVIATORS HAVE NEW EXPERIENCE

Two of them had a new experience yesterday. They were forced to land within the German lines south of Lens, neither the pilot nor the observer being injured. Realizing their position, they salvaged two machine guns from the wrecked plane, and drove off two German patrols which attacked them. They held the Germans until the nightfall, when eventually they returned safely to their own lines.

In addition to its thousands of other duties and activities, the British army is now endeavoring to give the French farmers every possible assistance in getting their crops under way.

# GREAT OFFENSIVE CONTINUES WITH UNABATED VIGOR

### Violent Counterattacks Put Down With Heavy Casualties.

### 17,000 PRISONERS TAKEN IN THREE DAYS' FIGHTING

### Germans, Forced to Retreat in Disorder, Leave Much War Material Behind.

### BRITISH GAIN MORE GROUND

### System of the Enemy Front-Line Trenches in Region of Loos Is Captured.

(By Associated Press.) The great offensive of the French army against the Germans from the Bend in the line in France from Soissons eastward into the Champagne continues unabated. Numerous new points of vantage have been taken, prisoners and guns captured, and violent counterattacks put down with heavy casualties. In three days of fighting, more than 17,000 wounded prisoners have fallen into the hands of the French, together with seventy-five cannon.

In Wednesday's battle in the forest of Ville-au-Bois, an enveloping movement was carried out against the Germans, and 1,300 of them threw down their arms and surrendered. In addition, 180 machine guns were captured there.

Between Soissons and Rheims, the villages of Ostel and Bray-la-Loupe were captured, together with territory about them, the Germans in the latter region retreating in disorder, and losing to one French regiment alone 300 prisoners, belonging to several different regiments. In their flight the Germans left behind much war material. Here the French captured nineteen cannon.

Between Juvincourt and the Aisne, the Germans threw a counterattack against the French line with about 40,000 men, but according to Paris, the artillery of General Nivelle's men repulsed the attack with sanguinary losses.

FRENCH FORCES REGAIN THEIR LOST TRENCHES South of St. Quentin, during Wednesday, the Germans also made an attack against the French east of Gauchy. This attack, which failed, was followed by another in which the Germans penetrated advanced French positions. In a counterattack the French killed or made prisoner a large number of the Germans and regained their lost trenches.

The British War Office reports that the forces of Field Marshal Haig have gained additional ground along the River Scarpe, to the east of Fampoux, and also captured the village of Villers-Galslain, north of St. Quentin. This was followed by another in which the Germans penetrated advanced French positions. In a counterattack the French killed or made prisoner a large number of the Germans and regained their lost trenches.

The towns of Bralla and Fokshani, in Roumania, are reported to have been burned by the Germans. Only minor engagements have taken place in Russia and Galicia.

Berlin reports the capture of the French in Macedonia of a position extending over two-thirds of a mile along the Crvena Stena.

Another Spanish steamer, the Tam, has been sunk without warning by a submarine. Eighteen persons perished in the disaster. The expectation in Madrid is that public opinion against the Teutonic allies will be further inflamed by the torpedoing of this steamer.

Unofficial advices say that Count Tisza, the Hungarian Premier, and two members of the Austrian Cabinet, have resigned. Other reports are to the effect that the resignation of the Greek Cabinet is impending.

## GERMANS BURN TOWNS OF BRALLA AND FOKSHANI

(By Associated Press.) PETROGRAD (via London), April 18.—A report received here from Jassy, the seat of the Roumanian government, says the Germans have burned the towns of Bralla and Fokshani. The dispatch says Roumanian military circles consider that this foreshadows a German retirement.

Bralla and Fokshani are both important railroad towns in Roumania. Bralla lies on the Danube to the south of Galatz, while Fokshani is situated on the railway line about midway between Eukharest and Jassy.

## IMPORTANT PROGRESS EAST OF SOISSONS

(By Associated Press.) PARIS, April 18.—Important progress was made last night by the French in their attack east of Soissons. The War Office announces the capture of Chauvonne and Chivy. The French pushed on north of these points, reaching the vicinity of Bray-la-Loupe.

The Germans made three desperate counterattacks in the Champagne last night. They were checked by the French, who inflicted heavy losses on the attacking troops. Since Monday the French have captured upward of 14,000 un wounded Germans. In the