

The Weather.
Fair and warmer today, Friday fair; slightly colder; moderate to fresh winds. Full report on page 12.

Look for Dwig's cartoons which appear in the daily WASHINGTON HERALD.

FRENCH DRIVE DEEPER WEDGE IN ENEMY LINE

Capture Important Positions South of Strategic St. Gobain Forest.

GERMANS CAPTURE 300

Center of Hindenburg Line Holds Firm—Berlin Claims New Gain.

(By the International News Service.) London, March 28.—The French hit hard today on the left flank of the Hindenburg line and succeeded in considerably deepening their wedge, taking important positions south of the formidable St. Gobain forest, where the Teutons are expected to make their stand.

The Germans, on their part, struck sudden blows in the Champagne which, according to Berlin, were successful. Three hundred French soldiers were taken-prisoners.

Tonight's German war office report records "lively firing activity" in the Champagne and on the west bank of the Meuse (Verdun front). It announces success on the Anglo-German front near Croisilles and northeast of Bapaume, giving no details, however.

The center of the Hindenburg line, fronting St. Quentin, still holds firm.

Berlin asserts that heavy losses were inflicted during the last twenty-four hours both on the British and French, when the British took the battered village of Legnicourt, the British losses, according to the German war office, were particularly heavy.

1,000 British Dead.

The successful manner in which our troops there are accomplishing their task is being down by the German war office by the fact that between Legnicourt and Morchies, about 1,000 British dead were counted.

On the same day, a belated German aeroplane report says, eleven entente soldiers were shot down by the German flyers. Dunkirk was again bombarded from the air, fires being observed by the raiders.

The British "push" registered new progress today.

A storm of wind and rain, thick blankets of fog and swamps of mud that have taken place of highways, have proved futile reinforcements to the Germans. The turning movement of Gen. Nivelle is making steady progress, south of the positions of the Germans north of the Aisne. Now that Couchy forest has fallen into their hands, the French are taking St. Gobain forest. This dense patch of woodland has been strongly fortified by the Teutons. It is one of the most powerful defenses of Loen.

Advancing on Aisne.

South of St. Gobain forest, the French are advancing upon the German stronghold of Aisne, which lies on the Loen-Soissons Railroad. There has been vigorous night fighting and cannonading around Aisne, especially in the section of Margival and Vailly.

The capture of Equancourt, Longavesnes and Lieramont by Gen. Haig's men has greatly strengthened the British front. All had been fortified by the Germans and were strongly defended with machine guns and machine gun platoons, but they fell before the savage assaults of the British.

British and French engineers, following upon the heels of the armies, are working wonders in the construction of new highways, railroads and bridges. Despite the ruthless destruction carried out systematically by the Germans and the bad weather, the Anglo-French pioneers keep up their activities. The work is a steady stream of food, medical supplies, ammunition and guns is ever going forward. German prisoners say that the order for the devastation of the country came from von Hindenburg himself.

SPRING THAW BLOCKS GERMAN DRIVE IN EAST

London, March 28.—"Between the sea and the Carpathians," says today's German war office report, "the spring thaw has begun which makes the more important military activities impossible."

Thus an official damper has been placed on the enthusiastic expectation of a wide section of the German press that has been heralding a drive to Petrograd or Moscow, or both. For the present, at least, no offensive in the East is to be looked for. The earliest date that far-reaching operations can be undertaken is set for the middle of next month and the thaws may not allow them until the beginning of May.

Capture by the Teutons of a strongly entrenched ridge in the Usal Valley, on the Moldavian front, was announced by Berlin today, as were minor raiding enterprises. One hundred prisoners and some booty were netted by the attack. Russian counter thrusts failed.

FRENCH CAPTURE 2,104 PRISONERS AT MONASTIR

Paris, March 28.—The French in the recent successful attacks in the Monastir region, on the Macedonian theater, have taken 2,104 prisoners, including twenty-nine officers, the war office announced today.

This includes the operations up to March 25, when twenty-six prisoners were taken. A Teuton counter-attack was on that day, stifled in the French barrage fire, the report states. Six hundred-thirty and sixteen machine guns were taken from the Germans and Bulgarians.

BERLIN CLAIMS SUCCESS IN RUSSIAN LINE RAID

Berlin (via Sayville wireless), March 28.—During a raid on the northeastern slope of Coman Height, in the wooded Carpathians, a Russian position, blasted several dugouts and returned with prisoners and booty, the German war office announced today.

On the Magyar-Russian attacks failed. South of the Usal Valley a strongly fortified ridge position was captured by the Austro-Germans and held against repeated counter-attacks. The Teutons captured 100 prisoners, some machine guns and mine throwers.

In Macedonia there have been forested engagements and continued cannonading.

Mexico Will Threaten War Against U. S. As Congress Convenes, Reports Declare

Teutons Successful in Stirring Carranza to Promised Action Against America—Reservists Mobilizing for Attack on Border.

(Special to The Washington Herald.) New York, March 28.—Mexico will declare or threaten war upon the United States on April 2, directly after the convening of Congress in Washington, according to reports circulating in this city tonight.

When the Mexican congress meets on the same day a sensational coup will be sprung by the powerful German groups in Mexico, which have at last brought Gen. Carranza under their thumb. Mexican circles here are convinced that the action contemplated by the present regime will be nothing less than a declaration of war against the United States.

Mexico will throw the mask off her present Sphinx-like diplomatic game as soon as the United States declares that a "state of war" exists between it and Germany. Carranza has succumbed entirely to the Kaiser's agents in the capital, and is ready now to do their bidding without question. There is little doubt that authoritative information on this point is in possession of the American government.

Would Keep U. S. Busy.

Germany's plan is to have Mexico either make or threaten war upon the United States with the idea of holding the American regular army establishment "at home" and thwarting any possible plan of sending any contingent overseas to join the French and British forces.

That the German chancellor, Von Bethmann-Hollweg, succeeded in his plot to embroil the United States and Mexico, but failed to implicate Japan, is the belief of Mexicans in New York. Although the Mexican consul in New York, Juan J. Burns, is guarded in his expressions on the subject, it seems evident that he has some information on the subject.

The mere fact that the American government detected and exposed the Hollweg-Eckhardt note, which contained an outline of the entire German plot, did not in the least diminish German activities or propaganda in Mexico. In fact, it rather accelerated them, and it is believed here that Carranza was not in any way deterred from lending an ear to German wiles because the United States had unceremoniously rebuffed German diplomacy which Germany had attempted.

Carranza's Pet Plan

It is now known that Mr. Lansing did not know at that time how close the embargo idea lay to Carranza's heart, and therefore did not treat it with the softness and courtesy that he might otherwise have shown it. The Secretary of State is understood, has since blamed American Ambassador Fletcher for not giving him exact information as to the true situation. At any rate, the note had the unfortunate effect of confirming in Carranza's mind his pro-German prejudices, and of playing right into von Eckhardt's hands, so far as bringing

HOUSE TRUCE OFF RAPS PACIFISTS

Both Sides Ready to Battle for Control.

The probability of a bi-partisan control of the next House of Representatives was virtually extinguished yesterday when it became evident that both Republicans and Democrats were in no mood for a preliminary agreement as to organization of the House and both were clinging to the plea of a traditional political clash.

Neither side is completely confident of success in the partisan enterprise, but just now the Democrats seem to have the greater amount of assurance and are marking the plea of a traditional political clash to swing to their aid enough of the little group of independents to make the election of Champ Clark as Speaker sure, with the chances favoring a complete list of House officials from their party as well.

Representative Mann, of Illinois, the Republican leader, yesterday conferred with Speaker Clark and Democratic Leader Kitchin with a view to devising means for the expeditious consideration of the four big appropriation measures left unpassed, a legacy from the last Congress. They also discussed committee assignments.

Following the conference Representative Mann refused to admit that his plan for a bi-partisan House had collapsed, but he did announce that his name would be presented as the Republican candidate for Speaker. This was accepted as marking the end of the consideration of the project.

ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

Claims are easy to make. Evidence of worth can only rest on accomplishment. Here are the facts about Washington newspapers—

For February, 1917, as compared with the same month last year—

The Herald GAINED.....	44,463	Lines of Paid Advertising.
The Star Lost.....	35,067	Lines of Paid Advertising.
The Post Lost.....	33,709	Lines of Paid Advertising.
The Times Lost.....	34,517	Lines of Paid Advertising.

These figures were compiled by the New York Evening Post's Statistical Bureau. This is simply a verification of The Washington Herald's record for

CONTINUOUS GAINS

For the year 1914 The Herald gained in paid advertising over the preceding year

About a Quarter of a Million Lines

For the year 1915 The Herald gained, on top of this gain,

Over Half a Million Lines

For the year 1916, piling gain on top of gain, The Herald gained

Over a Million Lines

For the first two months of 1917 The Herald gained over 1916,

Over 100,000 Lines

LABOR UNIONS BACK AMERICA IN WAR CRISIS

Gompers and Associates Pledge Support of Organized Workers of U. S.

TO MOBILIZE MAN-POWER

A. F. of L. Chiefs Meet Secretary Wilson to Help with Defense Plans.

The tremendous power of organized labor in the United States was placed solidly back of the government yesterday by the authorized spokesmen of millions of American men and women workers, to aid in the speedy execution of the military and naval program.

Unreserved support of the American Federation of Labor was pledged through its executive heads and far-reaching plans were initiated for the mobilization of labor for the nation's labor needs. Gompers, president of the Federation, and other labor leaders, in conference with department chiefs, laid plans to muster all the additional laboring forces at work in the navy yards, arsenals and other factories of the government as well as in private plants engaged in turning out supplies for the government. Steps were taken to immediately ascertain the nation's labor resources, through the medium of the thousands of local labor unions of the federation.

SUFFRAGE LOSES

Notes for Women Defeated in British Commons.

(By the International News Service.) London, March 28.—Within grasp of triumph, woman suffrage went down to defeat in the House of Commons tonight.

However, a full day's debate on all angles of the question, with Premier Lloyd George, and former Premier Asquith coming out strongly in favor of it, brought equal franchise nearer final victory than it ever has been in England, and nearer than its boldest champions had hoped to bring it at this time.

As a climax of the day's session, the house voted with a majority of 279 in favor of immediate electoral reform as outlined by the speaker of the commons. That program did include woman suffrage.

However, when the question came up of acting on tonight's vote, Chancellor of the Exchequer Bonar Law announced that the government will draft a bill providing for the reforms—except two woman suffrage and proportional representation.

He explained that the government had not entirely made up its mind on these issues, nor has Parliament been given an opportunity to make clear just where it stands on them.

When the bill comes up for reading—some time after Easter—Bonar Law said, it would be easy for the amendments providing for women suffrage and a definite settlement may then be reached.

35 BRITISH VESSELS SUNK IN SINGLE WEEK

London Admits Heavy U-Boat Damage in Weekly Shipping Statement.

(By the International News Service.) London, March 28.—The loss of thirty-five British vessels during the week ending March 25, as a result of unrestricted U-boat warfare, was announced today in the weekly statement on shipping losses. It gave:

Destroyed: Eighteen merchant vessels of more than 1,000 tons, including two during the previous week and the hospital ship Asturias.

Seven merchant ships, under 1,000 tons.

Ten fishing vessels, including nine sailing vessels.

Arrivals at ports of the United Kingdom: 2,814 ships—over 100 tons net.

Departures: 2,435 ships of over 100 tons net, fishing vessels and local shipping not included.

TWO AMERICAN SHIPS REPORTED AS MISSING

Barks Brown Brothers and Manga Reva Said to Be Lost.

(By the International News Service.) London, March 28.—Lloyd's tonight posted as missing the American barks Brown Brothers and Manga Reva and the Scandinavian bark Barden.

Shipping records contain no data concerning the two American barks mentioned in the above despatch. The Norwegian bark Barden is of 151 tons gross, was built in 1914 and hails from Aalesund.

HOSTAGE DIED OF GRIEF

Paris, March 28.—Charles Sebline, senator for the Alsace Department, is reported to have died of grief and privation while being taken to Germany as a hostage.

Senator Sebline, who was 71 years old, remained in his home at Moncourt among his constituents throughout the German occupation. He was forced to accompany the retreating Germans after seeing his house and sugar plant destroyed and his estate ravaged.

10,000 TO PROTEST H. C. L.

Cleveland, March 28.—Ten thousand persons will march in a body to the City Hall to file a protest with Mayor Davis and other city officials today. If plans made at a mass meeting of 1,000 members of the International High Cost of Living Association last night are carried out,

Will You Carry Old Glory In Great Patriotic Rally? Thousands Ready to March

Scores of Organizations Will Parade Up Avenue on Saturday as Fealty Pledge—Citizens' Committee Arranging Features.

Saturday will see the spirit of patriotism flame up in Washington in a remarkable demonstration.

The members of the executive committee in charge of the demonstration met with Chairman William F. Gude at the Chamber of Commerce rooms yesterday and whipped into shape the plans for the big parade along Pennsylvania avenue and the smashing wind-up at the Capitol steps.

An appeal—"Will you carry the Stars and Stripes on Saturday?"—went out from the committee last night to every club, society and organization in Washington.

SIGNED BY LEADING CITIZENS.

It was signed by men who have won places of trust and respect in the hearts of capital residents—William F. Gude, James F. Oyster, Charles J. Bell, Cuno H. Rudolph, John Joy Edson, D. J. Callahan, E. C. Brandenburg, P. T. Moran, Henry B. F. Macfarland, Ross P. Andrews, John Poole, A. Leftwich Sinclair, James S. Easby-Smith, Robert N. Harper, George Y. Worthington, Charles S. Shreve and William T. Gallier.

These men, the members of the executive committee in charge of the celebration, are working with might and main that the demonstration of loyalty here on Saturday will be one that will eclipse all other celebrations through the country on that day and sweep away all whispers of indifferent loyalty in the National Capital.

Marine Band to March.

Here are the preliminary reports: The Marine Band will lead the parade. The Elks' Club of Washington will have most of its 1,000 members and a band in line.

The Kit Carson Post and the Burnside Post of the G. A. R. will head a large body of Grand Army veterans.

The 1,500 High School Cadets will march with their life and drum corps.

The Alexandria High School Cadets will march with their life and drum corps.

The District Bar Association will march with President James S. Easby-Smith at its head.

The District Bankers' Association will march, with President John Poole at its head.

The members of the Chamber of Com-

WINS GIRL BACK

Mother Recovers Daughter Separated for Eight Years.

Those who passed a humble block of houses fronting the southwest railroad tunnel last night heard, above the faint whistling of passing locomotives, a little girl's voice piping joyously.

On the floor in one of the houses, fondling a puppy, sat Dorothy Irene Gray, alongside of her father "daddy," and in a rocking chair, watching them both, was a happy mother, feeling her eyes on her daughter from whom she has been separated for the past eight years.

Had you sat and watched their simple lovefest and heard frequent exclamations from their full hearts you could have gathered essential fragments of the touching little drama which ended yesterday afternoon when Chief Justice Covington, of the District Supreme Court, signed an order of habeas corpus restoring little Dorothy to her mother's custody.

When Dorothy was 1 year old trouble which had been hovering over the home descended upon the little household, spoiling of her ability to provide the necessities of life for her baby girl Mrs. Reid placed Dorothy in the Washington Home for Foundlings.

Federal Reserve Banks Furnish Big Sum to U. S.

The United States government yesterday borrowed \$50,000,000 for ninety days at 2 per cent from the twelve Federal Reserve banks. The ninety-day certificates offered by Secretary McAdoo were all taken up by 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Another \$50,000,000 short-term loan may follow, the Secretary said.

The sum was borrowed, it was stated, in anticipation of the receipt of the corporation and individual income taxes which will begin to come in in large volume about May 15. With the millions from these sources in hand, Secretary McAdoo will either take up the short-term certificates or refund them with long-term bonds.

The need for the issue at this time was brought about primarily by the fact that next Saturday Secretary McAdoo will draw a warrant for \$25,000,000 to pay for the Danish West Indies. This sum will be drawn directly from the Treasury's working balance, bringing it down to about \$30,000,000. The latter sum was not expected to last until the income taxes come in, so the loan was made to tide the Treasury over the interim.

Secretary McAdoo was silent concerning future heavy bond issues for war purposes. It is understood that none will be declared until after July 1.

The \$50,000,000 short-term loan was subscribed by the Federal Reserve banks because they are fiscal agents of the government.

Rome, Ga., Is Chosen As Armor Plant Site

Rome, Ga., March 28.—The government's \$11,000,000 armor plate plant will be located at Rome, according to advices received from Washington today. The dispatch said that an official announcement will be made shortly.

ARMED MERCHANT SHIP SENT DOWN A U-BOAT

Vessel's Bridge Shot Away by Shells from Submarine.

(By the International News Service.) Panama, March 28.—News of the destruction of a German submarine in a battle with an armed merchant ship in the barred zone waters off Cornwall, England, was received here today.

The information came from a steamer which passed through the canal and whose structure was washed and wrecked by shells from the U-boat, brought home to the United States soldiers here a picture of real war. The vessel's bridge had been completely shot away.

The steaming ship was attacked off the Cornish coast but after a battle fought her way to safety. Her name was withheld.

All Societies Invited to March In Patriotic Rally on Saturday

We, the undersigned, request every citizen and organization in the National Capital, willing to carry the Stars and Stripes, to take part in a patriotic demonstration and rally on Saturday afternoon. The parade is to start from the Ellipse at 2 o'clock.

Because of the short space of time, it may not be possible to get in written communication with each organization, and it is urgently requested that every leader of an organized body in the Capital direct a notice to each member of his or her body directing them to assemble at a point designated and march thence to the Ellipse.

Each marcher is requested to carry an American flag and join in the patriotic singing, both on the march and in front of the Capitol steps.

(Signed:)

WILLIAM F. GUDE,
JAMES F. OYSTER,
CHARLES J. BELL,
CUNO H. RUDOLPH,
JOHN JOY EDSON,
D. J. CALLAHAN,
E. C. BRANDENBURG,
P. T. MORAN,
HENRY B. F. MACFARLAND,

ROSS P. ANDREWS,
JOHN POOLE,
A. LEFTWICH SINCLAIR,
JAMES S. EASBY-SMITH,
ROBERT N. HARPER,
GEORGE Y. WORTHINGTON,
CHARLES S. SHREVE,
WILLIAM T. GALLIER.

Members of the Executive Committee.

WILSON DECIDES ON WAR POLICY; COL. HOUSE ADS

President Maps Out Administration Plan, Pending Session's Opening.

JOINT RESOLUTION SEEN

Congress Expected to Set Forth Fact that War with Germany Exists.

With every agency of government rolling restlessly toward complete preparedness for impending war, President Wilson and his advisers last night devoted themselves to the task of fixing the administration policy to be submitted to Congress in extraordinary session next week.

While the White House was shrouded in secrecy, and the President made no announcement, administration officials declare that immediate and decisive action has been decided upon. The sole question now remaining is what form that action shall take, and how it shall be taken. The exact form of the recommendations which the President will make to Congress in his address were considered yesterday as Col. E. M. House, the President's closest adviser, went over the international situation in detail with the Chief Executive.

Last, there was a general feeling in administration circles that the German crisis will be disposed of by a joint resolution of Congress reciting the German violations of American rights, and declaring that these violations have brought about the existence of a state of war between the two nations. Thereafter, the activities of the Congress will be devoted to placing at the President's disposal all of the means and authority necessary to the successful prosecution of hostilities.

Leaders Confer.

Active steps to meet the President's recommendations when they are made were taken by conference of Congressional leaders. Chairman Flood, of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and other Democratic members of the committee made an exhaustive digest of former war declarations and made a tentative resolution declaring the existence of a state of war. The Congressional leaders declared that when the President's views are expounded, action by Congress will be prompt and effective. They took up in conference the problem of furnishing the "sinews of war." The first routine business to be taken up will be the passage of the army appropriation bill, which failed in the closing days of the last session. It would provide \$75,000,000 as framed in the last session, but emergency additions made necessary by the events of the past few weeks and the dire possibilities of the future, will bring the total up to probably double that amount.

The mobilization of the financial resources of the nation to prepare for impending war will be taken up by the House Ways and Means Committee, as soon as the House is organized. President Wilson and his advisers are at work on a financial program which has not been definitely fixed, but which may finally include a tentative extension of credit to the entente allies, while the United States is making ready for actual participation in the war, if it becomes a belligerent. Treasury Department officials and financial experts in Congress declared that the country is financially more prosperous than ever before in its history and that the only problem before the administration is the effective use of the great money resources of the nation.

Attitude Made Clear.

The attitude of the administration toward the present state of affairs between the United States and Germany was made clear at the State Department. Secretary Lansing said that inquiries had been dispatched some time ago to neutral nations with the view, asking what their attitude would be toward American armed merchant ships entering their ports. He explained that this inquiry was not sent to determine what the neutral attitude would be to American armed ships during the present status of armed neutrality. He made the significant statement that the neutrals were asked to declare their attitude toward American armed merchant vessels if the United States should become a belligerent.

In this same connection it was stated that the Congress had been called to Washington, not to express its views on the situation, but to receive the views of the administration and to act upon them. It was made clear that a definite and aggressive program will be laid before the representatives of the people and immediate action will be demanded.

EX-GOVERNOR'S SONS ENLIST.

Spokane, Wash., March 28.—Former Governor M. E. Hay of Washington has three sons who have made application for enlistment in the National Guard. He is addressing a patriotic program here last night.

"The other day I was called to the call of my country," said the former governor.

The Finest Men's Furnishings

Edward E. Higgins

150 Pennsylvania Ave. N. W.

Washington, D. C.