

HUNS RETREAT AS DRIVE WEAKENS; 70,000 WAR WORKERS THREATEN STRIKE

YARD AND AVIATION MECHANICS AT BIG POINT AND BIG BLUFF OUT; NEW YORK MARINE WORKERS NEXT

Marine Affiliation Debates Walk-out Today for Four Hours in Metropolis in Fight for Increased Pay. Not Fighting U. S.

New York, April 1.—Marine workers at the port of New York to the number of about 70,000 will strike tomorrow unless their demands for an increase in pay are granted by their employers, it was decided today at a meeting of the Marine Affiliation. The meeting debated the proposed strike for more than four hours.

REQUISITIONS EQUIPMENT OF DUTCH SHIPS

President Disregards Holland's Protest Against Seizure of Vessels.

U. S. WITHIN RIGHTS Will Allow Return of Boats Sent Here for Food Cargoes.

Undeterred by the sharp tone of the Dutch official statement on the requisitioning of Netherlands ships by the United States, President Wilson yesterday signed an executive order taking over all of the tackle, equipment, coal and stores on board the requisitioned vessels. As in the case of the ships, the order provides that full compensation shall be paid to the Dutch owners of the incidents.

Every Trade in Ship Construction at the Norfolk Yards on Strike—400 Aviation Workers Go Out in Sympathy.

Norfolk, Va., April 1.—Five thousand mechanics went on strike late today at Big Point and Big Bluff. The strikers represent practically every trade employed in shipyard construction work. They demand a wage increase.

Civilian-Military Outbreak

Toronto, April 2 (12 a. m.)—A dispatch from Quebec says a battle has been fought in St. Roche, in the lower part of the town, and that three civilians have been killed. Snipers are said to be firing at the military from windows.

GEN. PERSHING ORGANIZES BIG FIGHTING UNIT

First U. S. Army Corps in France Probably Includes Rainbow Division.

IS RESERVE FORCE

Gen. Pershing has organized the First Army Corps of the Expeditionary Forces, according to advices received by the War Department. The First Corps is now acting in concert with the French against the left flank of the German offensive.

SLAUGHTER OF HUN STILL ON; BAKER HURRYING TO ITALY

U. S. War Secretary Expected Home Shortly to Speed Up Military Activities—All Reports Show Steadily Improving Conditions—To Rush Major Part of National Army to France Before First of August.

President Wilson yesterday tentatively accepted an invitation to make a war speech at Baltimore next Saturday on the occasion of the opening of the Third Liberty Loan drive.

Secretary of War Newton D. Baker will return to Washington from France immediately after making a hurried trip to Italy, to bring first-hand information concerning necessities imperative to the defeat of Germany.

Maj. Gen. Tasker H. Bliss, representative of the United States on the Inter-allied War Council, and Maj. Gen. John J. Pershing, commanding the expeditionary forces, both cabled that the situation on the Western front was steadily improving.

Executive orders were issued which will place in France, or en route by August 1, all troops now in the cantonments of this country. Less than 15 per cent will be retained for training purposes. To facilitate the overseas movement, President Wilson pressed for an immediate statement from the French and British authorities as to what percentage of supplies can be eliminated to make available additional shipping.

ALL REPORTS ENCOURAGING.

This summarizes the war news as centered at the White House yesterday. The spirit with which orders were given and executed indicated steadily increasing encouragement. The calling list was again cut to the lowest possible minimum consistent with the transaction of official business. All important happenings on the battle front get the immediate attention of the President. The plans for greater participation are accelerated by passing through his hands.

Secretary Baker's messages indicated he thought it wise to return at once in order to give the War Department and supply bureaus the benefit of the information he has gathered. The President is understood to have replied with an urgent request that the contemplated trip to Italy be not abandoned.

Italy is regarded by the President as one of the great sufferers of the war. It is said to be his desire that no incident occur which the Italian people could consider a lack of courtesy. From Italy Mr. Baker is expected to go back to Paris for a final conference with Maj. Gen. Bliss and members of the war council.

It is not permissible to give the approximate date the Secretary of War is expected back in Washington.

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"They Cannot Break Through" Is Key-note of Allied Armies—Enemy Continues a "Hacking" Drive, Making Supreme Sacrifices to Gain Amiens. London Hears Rumor of Withdrawal of Allied Forces from Macedonia.

London, April 1.—The end of the day on which Hindenburg had boasted his army would be in Paris sees the great German wedge in Picardy encased on both sides by walls of granite and its spearhead badly battered on one side, while desperately "craning" forward on the other, taking fearful punishment.

The Prussian eagle's wings are as if tied fast, unable even to make the slightest fluttering move. They are in great danger of being momentarily clipped. Meanwhile the "beak" is desperately hacking away towards Amiens. The twelfth day of the battle brought the Germans only significant gains in this "hacking" movement, but netted them a bloody harvest of losses.

With the fatalistic persistency of a losing gambler, Hindenburg is hurling mass after mass in the center on the front between Montdidier and Marcelcave, which has the ominously significant length of some thirteen miles. He pursues, despite the indescribable blood bath in which thousands upon thousands of his best fighting men have been suffocated during the ten days of the win-or-lose tussle, the same aim which he set out but failed to gain on the violent sweep—separation of the French and British armies.

TAKING LAST DESPERATE CHANCE.

Paralyzed on both sides, forced to dig in where he had intended to roll up the allied wings, he still hopes to penetrate further and further in the center, reach Amiens, cut the Paris-Calais railroad and automatically release his flanks from the grip in which they are now held. In the marshy angle between the Avre River and the Luce Brook he is throwing new divisions into combat as a last desperate chance.

All day long the carnage raged on this front, and it continued throughout the night. Despite their small gains made during the last twenty-four hours, the Germans are farther away from Amiens than they were three days ago after the capture of Mezieres, which they have since lost. Their center faces the big strategic railroad in a semicircular shape, the nearest point still being ten miles to the southeast of Amiens. Time, the greatest ally in this critical battle, has enabled the British to take every possible measure of precaution, to regroup their forces and bring up fresh troops and more guns. "They cannot break through" is the keynote of every dispatch from the front.

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CHICAGO DOCTOR HERE FOUND SHOT IN ROOM

J. E. Buckley Believed a Suicide Through Brooding on War.

Brooding over the war is believed by the police to have led to the death of James Edward Buckley, 137 L street northwest, who was found dead in his room yesterday afternoon, from a self-inflicted bullet wound in the temple.

STANDARD OIL GRANTS MEN RAISE OF 10%

New Jersey Corporation Increases Refining Plant Pay Roll.

\$200,000,000 GOAL IN W. S. S. THIS WEEK

Boosters Hope to Reach Total Before Loan Opens.

Irish Conscription, Never, Nationalist Leader Cries

London, April 1.—Speaking at a meeting at East Tyrone on Sunday, Joseph Devlin, Nationalist member of Parliament for the west division of Belfast, declared that as long as its members had breath in their bodies the Irish party would never permit the application of conscription in Ireland.

U-Boats Hold Up Ten Ships.

Madrid, April 1.—Ten large transatlantic steamships are being held up by submarine attacks on account of the submarine menace, having canceled their sailings for America.

Treasury Guard Man Dies.

Hartford, April 1.—Patrick J. Moran, organizer of the treasury guard system at Washington and a veteran of the civil war, is dead here after a long illness.

NEW YORK GAMBLER KILLED BY GUNMEN

Harry Cohen Meets Death for "Squealing" to Authorities.

New York, April 1.—Harry Cohen, alias Harry Coen, alias Harry Katz, alias "Harry the Yot," gambler and pickpocket, burglar, known to the police as one of the cleverest workers in the world, was shot and instantly killed today in a reception room on the ground floor of his apartment house. The murderer of Cohen escaped.

HOOVER WON'T MIX IN BAKERS' STRIKE

Leaves Kansas City Controversy for Labor Department to Settle.

Herbert C. Hoover, the Food Administrator, yesterday refused to interfere with the bakers' strike in Kansas City, Mo., after an appeal had been made to him by bakers on the ground that 500,000 persons faced a bread famine. Representatives were made to him by the National Baking Company, and the bakers were out in sympathy. Mr. Hoover said that he was powerless to interfere and that the Board of Conciliation of the Labor Department was investigating the situation.

\$300,000 DAMAGE BY SEASHORE FIRE

Atlantic City, April 1.—Fire originating in the Oliver E. Gutteridge four-story brick building, in the center of a block bounded by South Carolina avenue and Tennessee avenue, on Atlantic avenue, the resort's main street, early today, swept a half block to Tennessee avenue, destroying eight business buildings and doing \$300,000 damage.

NATION'S EYES ON ELECTION IN WISCONSIN

Both Parties Claim They Will Win Senate Victory Today.

Milwaukee, Wis., April 1.—Representative Lenroot, Republican, and Joseph E. Davies, Democrat, came into the home stretch of the Senatorial race tonight running neck and neck for the seat made vacant by the death of Senator Paul Hustling.

LINER "CELTIC" TORPEDOED; ALL LIVES BELIEVED SAVED

Scant Reports Indicate Big White Star Boat Brought Ashore by Other Vessels in War Zone Close by—Passengers Mainly British—Official Washington Without News.

New York, April 1.—The White Star liner Celtic has been torpedoed, according to a cablegram received late today by officials of the line. The message read: "Celtic torpedoed. Hope to save ship."

DOUBT IF SHIP CARRIED AMERICANS.

No report had been received up to a late hour last night by the War and Navy departments giving details of the torpedoing of the British steamship Celtic.

\$250,000 FUND FOR CAMP GIRL REFORMATION

President Allots Sum for Houses of Correction in States.

President Wilson yesterday appropriated \$250,000 to be used in constructing additional reformatory facilities and houses of detention for delinquent women and girls found near military camps. The amount was appropriated by the President from the \$100,000,000 emergency fund at his disposal, and will be spent in the South under the direction of the War Department Commission on Training Camp Activities.

Under plans announced last night by Raymond H. Fosdick, chairman of the commission, the women will be kept in the reformatories from one to three years, until they are completely rehabilitated. Best of medical care and attention will be afforded the women.

Aviator Killed in Fall.

Wichita, Kans., April 1.—Lieut. Byron Jackson was instantly killed today when the machine in which he was doing a tall spin fell. Another instructor in the rear seat escaped with injuries. Jackson's home was in San Francisco.

Pigeon Racer for War Service.

Yonkers, N. Y., April 1.—Edmund Bennett, an expert in pigeon racing, has been released from draft to the national army and has enlisted in the Signal Corps. He will handle carrier pigeons as dispatch carriers on the French battle front.

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