



GERMANS START NEW DRIVE CLOSER TO PARIS AS FRENCH DRAW STEEL RING AT VERDUN

Aggressive Action on Large Scale Develops in Champagne District Which Is Within a Hundred Miles of Paris; 1,600 Yards of Trenches, 1,000 Prisoners and Many Guns Taken; Extend Lines North of Fortress

French Assert Pouring in of Heavy Reinforcements Has Checked Teuton Advance at Verdun; Launch Fierce Counter Attacks Against Fort Douaumont with Considerable Success; Sallies Are Repulsed With Heavy Loss

The German offensive on the western front is assuming even wider scope and importance. Not only is the impetuous drive on Verdun being pressed vigorously, although with less rapid progress by the Crown Prince's armies, but aggressive action on a large scale has developed in the Champagne district where the Germans, according to Berlin, have stormed and captured nearly a mile of French trenches.

The new movement in the Champagne is on a front much nearer Paris than the scenes of the operations against Verdun, the former front being approximately 100 miles from Paris while the Verdun fighting area is roughly 140 miles distant from the French capital.

North of Verdun the German lines have been extended somewhat to the west, the loop of the Meuse around Champneuville having been cleared of the French, the Berlin statement declares, while there has been a slight advance southward in the neighborhood of Vacherauville and Bras near the river. The French, however, have stopped the German drive in the fort Douaumont sector. Apparently the Germans still hold the fort itself but their furious attacks upon the village of Douaumont nearby were failures, according to the French war office. The German official account of the fighting in this region declares that the French are exhausting themselves in fruitless attacks.

Take Many Prisoners

Apparently there have been German gains of some importance along the eastern line of the Verdun salient leading to St. Mihiel, where the Teutons pushing eastward are hounding the defenses of Manheulles, ten miles southeast of Verdun. They have not been able to advance beyond this point, however, but have reached the point of the French position at Cote Lorraine at several points, Berlin announced.

In their Champagne offensive the Germans announce the taking of the Navarin farm on the Souain-Somme-Py road, and positions on both sides, totaling 1,600 metres. In making this gain they took more than 1,000 prisoners and nine machine guns. The Paris version of this operation records it as a German surprise attack which resulted in the occupation of certain advanced trenches and a supporting trench.

The great battle of Verdun, now entering its second week, is continuing with unabated fury, with the German armies driving hard at the French defenses along a lengthening line which now runs far beyond the salient in which lies the fortress.

Pressure here is particularly menacing to the fortress, as the crushing in of this eastern line of the Verdun salient for any great distance would spell disaster for the stronghold.

Launch Counter-Offensive

The French defensive operations at places are taking on the nature of a counter-offensive, as in the attacks on Fort Douaumont, four miles north-east of Verdun. This development has been forecast in dispatches which told of the expectation in Paris that the French, when they had fallen back to

positions they believed they could hold indefinitely, would drive back over the ground that had been yielded in the face of terrific German artillery and infantry attacks.

Tide of Battle Turns

According to a statement by Aristide Briand, the French premier, this happened after the fourth day of the battle. The French brought up strong reinforcements at an unexpected moment and the infantry, sweeping down upon the Germans, who already were suffering heavily from the effects of the French artillery fire, stopped them short and even drove them back. The premier declares the French have now regained the advantage, the beginning of their counter-attacks marking the turning point of the battle, which is now in its second phase.

German Accounts Differ

The German accounts fail to agree with this French version of the fighting. Berlin having announced further advances for the crown prince's troops, including the taking of Hardaumont east of Fort Douaumont, and the village of Champneuville, on the German

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Ol' Simon Chism of Courthouse Fame Goes to Poorhouse at Last

Obdurate, even defiant for years at all the kindly efforts of county and city officials to procure him a comfortable home at the Dauphin county almshouse, Ol' Simon Chism, the white-head negro with the demeanor of the bearer of the title role in Mrs. Stowe's slave story, yielded Saturday to the persuasive influence of a county poor doctor — and trolleyed and tramped over the hills to the poorhouse.

"Simon," as he was familiarly known to the scores of lawyers, court attaches, heads and clerks of the departments, put in a more or less toiling existence day after day in the courthouse corridors or in the Prothonotary's office. A small pension and change purses of lawyers and department heads and clerks helped Simon keep body and soul together. He often boasted of being an ex-slave.

Minister Killed on Way to Conference When Trolley Strikes His Automobile

Allentown, Pa., Feb. 28.—As the result of a grade crossing accident at Erick Tavern, several miles south of Quakertown at 9:30 this morning, the Rev. W. M. Ettinger, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Quakertown, died in the local hospital at 2 p. m. to-day as the result of a fractured skull.

His companion, Harvey Brunner, a Lansdale businessman, is so severely injured that he too may die. The men were on their way to Bethlehem by automobile to attend a conference of churchmen when their machine was struck and demolished by a Philadelphia limited trolley car.

County Commissioners to Confer on Mothers' Pension Plan Wednesday

Dauphin county's Board of Commissioners and County Solicitor Phil S. Moyer will confer Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock with Miss Helen Glenn, State superintendent of the Mothers' Assistance Fund and the mothers' pension committee of the East End Republican Club. The Commissioners to-day were invited by John Hoppe, chairman of the East End Club committee to meet for the conference. Information on the subject will be available and upon the results of the conference will likely be determined the question of whether the pension plan will be accepted for Dauphin county.

THE GERMAN CROWN PRINCE



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The German Crown Prince, who is in charge of the big drive on Verdun, did so in direct defiance to the wishes of General Von Hindenburg, who did not think the capture of the fortress would be adequate compensation for the consequent loss of life. Had the young and impetuous Prince listened to the counsels of the war-scarred veteran his forces would not to-day be facing defeat.

COURT HEARS OF TAKE FIRST STEP FIRST AND LAST IN CHOOSING NEW CALL TO THIRSTY BISHOP OF H'B'G

Allison Hill's Only Bar Subject of Dauphin License Judge's Inquiry Archbishop Prendergast Preside Over Secret Session at Cathedral

Archbishop Edmond F. Prendergast, of Philadelphia, presided over a council of diocesan consultors and irremovable rectors of the Harrisburg Catholic diocese this afternoon. The meeting was held at 2 o'clock at St. Patrick's Cathedral, State street. It is the first step toward the selection of a successor to the late Bishop John W.

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Motorcyclist's Victim Demands \$5,000 Damages

Suit for \$5,000 against Frank G. Felkenberger, a motorcyclist, was begun this morning by Mrs. Harman and her son Clyde for injuries the latter received Labor Day, 1915, when Felkenberger rode down the youthful Harman.

THAW PENBROOK WATER PIPES FOR HOURS; WEREN'T FROZEN

Some Wise Soul Called Up Water Works and Found the Trouble Was At Hummelstown

Hurry calls were sent to this city by the score for plumbers from Penbrook this morning; dozens of irate householders scouted and snorted as they themselves tried with hot water and torch to thaw out frozen water pipes; householders stood arms akimbo and growled because there was never a bit of water for the Monday morning washing; little Johnnie and Mabel grinned sheepishly but appreciatively as they hustled off to school face unwashed this morning.

CONFERENCE RAPS SUNDAY BUSINESS, SPORTS, PAPERS, AND EXCURSIONS

United Evangelical Preachers Urged to Fight Sabbath Desecration in Report of Special Committee Headed by Lancaster Minister; to Preach Special Sermons

STRICTER OBSERVANCE OF LORD'S DAY PLEA

Trustees of Albright College Named; Session Officers Elected; Expect Appointments For Districts This Evening; Ministers Ordained; Orders Granted

Profaning of the Sabbath by "following the ordinary pursuits of business or labor or by godless and sinful holiday diversions" was condemned in no uncertain language before the East Pennsylvania Conference of the United Evangelical Church this morning in a report of a committee headed by the Rev. J. F. Gross, of Lancaster. The report urges the ministers of the conference to "do all within their power to suppress tendencies which may lead to Sabbath profanation, such as the holding open for business their shops or stores; patronizing of Sunday excursions; countingenance of Sunday newspapers in the homes of our members; the indulgence in or the encouragement of Sunday sports; and all other practices which mar the highest ideal of Sabbath observance."

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HUNDREDS DIE WHEN BIG ALLIED STEAMSHIPS HIT GERMAN MINES

P. and O. Liner Maloja and Rescuing Ship Destroyed Within Sight of Dover; Explosion Rocks City; Freshly Sown Teutonic Mines Cause of Disaster

SCORES OF BODIES ARE WASHED ASHORE

Warmly Clad Baby Found Floating on Its Back in Heavy Sea; Smiles at Rescuers and Seems None the Worse For Immersion; Bingit, Petshenga Sunk

London, Feb. 28.—Two big British and a Russian steamship were sunk yesterday in the Straits of Dover on adjacent waters with the loss of hundreds of lives as the result of striking freshly-sown German mines. Of the total complement of 411 passengers and crew on the Peninsular and Oriental Line steamship Maloja, which struck a mine and sank within half an hour two miles off Dover yesterday, only 260 are known to have been saved. Of the total 119 passengers, 64 names of persons saved have been received at the steamship company's offices. It was stated there that it is hoped that more names of persons saved will still be received.

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SUBMARINE WAR TO BE CONTINUED GERMANY INSISTS IN LATEST REPLY

Count Von Bernstorff in Note to Secretary Lansing Assures United States That His Country Has No Intention of Revoking Pledges in Lusitania Case

WILL NOT CHANGE RECENT INSTRUCTIONS

U-Boat Commanders Ordered to Treat as Warships Enemy Merchantships Armed "Defensively"; Plan Special Precautions Not to Attack Unarmed Vessels

Washington, D. C., Feb. 28.—In a note presented to Secretary Lansing to-day by Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, Germany assures the United States that it has no intention of revoking the pledges given in the Lusitania case. The note says Germany can conceive of no reason for changing or postponing the new instructions to her submarine commanders to treat as warships enemy merchant ships armed "defensively" and that special precautions have been taken to prevent ships that are not armed from being attacked.

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Would Stop Great War by Paying \$1,000 to Deserters; More if They Steal Ships

New York, Feb. 28.—Charles Lomax Delbridge, of St. Louis, who says he is the "author of the Delbridge series of mathematical books and calculators, comprising more than 80 volumes," is publishing a pamphlet containing directions by himself for national defense without the necessity of preparedness in armaments and men. In their places he would have a national fund sufficient for bribing invading soldiers to desert and become peaceable United States citizens.

Council Confers on New Date For Taking Over of "Hardscabble"

At a brief conference this afternoon with City Solicitor D. S. Seitz, the City Commissioners discussed the Gross resolution pertaining to the time fixed for the vacation of "Hardscabble" property owners of the homes preparatory to the razing of these structures by the city.

Fox Goes Before Grand Jury in Brewers' Probe, With Desired Records

Pittsburgh, Pa., Feb. 28.—Hugh F. Fox, of New York, secretary of the United States Brewers' Association, who last week was released from jail on a writ of habeas corpus pending conclusion of the contempt of court proceedings through his failure to testify before the Federal grand jury investigating alleged political activities of brewers, went before the grand jury to-day.

Plan to Have Laborers Appear in Evening Clothes at Their Social Affairs

Wooler, Mass., Feb. 28.—A movement to have union workmen appear at their social affairs in evening clothes has been started by the woolers' organization. In connection with plans for its annual concert, to be held this week, the Union has sent out word that male attendants should wear formal evening clothes.

STRIKING MINERS WILL RESUME WORK

Lykens, Pa., Feb. 28.—Twelve hundred members of the United Mine Workers of America, employed at the Short Mountain Colliery, who have been on strike for some time, held a mass meeting here this morning and decided to return to work. William Stuppy, the leader boss for whom they went on strike, has secured work at another colliery. The question of "surface topping" of cars was postponed for future consideration. The time of resuming work is now up to the colliery officials.

GRANT FINK BREWING LICENSE

Harrisburg.—Without comment the Dauphin county court this afternoon granted the application of the Fink Brewing Company for a license for 1916. The granting of the Fink license is the first action by the court in the license matters.

ATTEMPTED TO STEAL \$1,000,000

New York, Feb. 28.—It became known here to-day that a daring attempt to steal a sum estimated at \$1,000,000, consigned to New York banks, had been made on Saturday morning by burglars who broke into a United States mail van while it was on a ferry in transit from the Jersey Central Railroad.

CAPT. HALBERSTADT CONFERS ON COAL LANDS

Harrisburg.—Captain Bayard Halberstadt, Pottsville, a well-known mining engineer conferred this afternoon with the County Commissioners relative to inspection of the coal lands in the upper end of the county for the board.

STANDARD SHARES TAKE DROP

New York, Feb. 28.—Reports of fresh complications in the international situation and the further success of the Teutonic forces in France caused severe declines in the stock market to-day. Losses in standard shares ranged from 2 to 3 points, war issues lost 4 to 6 and some of the more obscure stocks were lower by 10 to 15 points.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Donato Moffa and Camel Belmont, Steelton. Gajula Berta and Lizale Sabo, Williamstown. George C. Schreffler, Elizabethtown, and Maude I. Brown, Lykens township.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair, continued cold tonight, with lowest temperature about 16 degrees; Tuesday increasing cloudiness and slightly warmer. For Eastern Pennsylvania: Fair tonight, with increasing cloudiness and somewhat warmer; moderate northwest winds becoming variable. River No decided changes will occur in river stages and ice conditions. A stage of about 48 feet is indicated for Harrisburg on Tuesday morning. General Conditions The Atlantic coast storm has continued to move slowly northeastward to the North Atlantic coast. It has caused light snow in the last twenty-four hours from the Great Lakes eastward in the Upper Ohio Valley, with strong northwest winds and gales. The winds are still strong from the northwest in the Atlantic States from North Carolina northward, the highest velocity reported this morning being 48 miles at New York City. Temperature are below normal over the greater part of the country, but have risen somewhat in the Gulf States and a few other localities in the West since last report. Temperature: 8 a. m., 36. Sun: Rises, 6:12 a. m.; sets, 5:56 p. m. Moon: New moon, March 3, 10:58 a. m. River Stage: Five feet above low-water mark. Yesterday's Weather Highest temperature, 37. Lowest temperature, 21. Mean temperature, 24. Normal temperature, 52.