

FIGHTING IS INTENSE IN LAGARINA VALLEY IN ITALY

ADMIRAL PALMER HOLDS 'GRAVE FEARS FOR NAVY

Declares That There Is Urgent Demand for More High Commanding Officers if German Changes Plans of Operation.

(International News Service.)
Washington, June 15.—If Germany changes her plans of naval operations in the United States, a possible defeat, unless the number of high commanding officers in the American navy is immediately increased, Rear Admiral L. C. Palmer, told Secretary of the Navy Daniels in a letter, dated June 7, and made public this afternoon.

"For instance," Palmer continued, "should we be forced to change our present operating plan to meet an enemy attack by sea our cruiser force is not ready to operate as a scout force since the commander of the cruiser force also commands the transport force."

GUNFIRE MARKED WEST OF RHEIMS

And South of Aisne—Artillery Only Active Between Montdidier and Oise.

(Associated Press.)
Paris, June 15.—The artillery on both sides was active last night on the front between Montdidier and the river Oise, the war office announced today.

The gunfire was also rather marked in the region south of the Aisne and west of Rheims in the Champlet-Bligny sector. No infantry actions occurred.

The statement says: "During the night there was great activity between the opposing artillery between Montdidier and the Oise, south of the Aisne and also west of the Rheims in the region of Champlet and Bligny."

"French patrols operating in the Champagne sector captured prisoners. The night was calm on the other portions of the front."

London, June 15.—A successful local operation was carried out last night by British and Scottish battalions north of Bethune. More than 250 prisoners were taken. A few prisoners and three machine guns were captured by us during the night as the result of the successful raid in the Villers-Bretonneux sector.

A raid attempted by the enemy upon one of our posts in Aveluy wood was repulsed. Local fighting took place during the night about certain of our posts east of Nieppe forest.

CHINA TO CLOSE DOORS?

Southern Senators Ask Lansing About Reports.

Washington, June 15.—Investigation by the state department of reports that China is about to close her doors to American tobacco shipments was asked of Secretary Lansing today by southern senators.

American tobacco interests, the senators said, do a \$40,000,000 tobacco business annually with China.

GOV. DORSEY CANDIDATE TO SUCCEED HIMSELF

Atlanta, June 15.—Gov. Hugh M. Dorsey today authorized the statement that he will be a candidate for governor to succeed himself and that his formal announcement will be made public as soon as he has time to prepare it.

WORKMEN FIGHTING AS MUCH AS MEN IN NAVY

(International News Service.)
Schenectady, N. Y., June 15.—"Every day you turn out a better and greater equipment for the fighting men in the navy you are fighting just as much as the men in the trenches and in the naval forces," Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels told 20,000 workmen gathered in the plant of the General Electric company this afternoon.

800,000 TROOPS NOW IN FRANCE

Gen. March, Chief of Staff, Says Only Ships Limit Transportation.

ALLIED LINE IS EXTENDED
And So Increases Importance of Getting Americans Abroad Quickly.

(Associated Press.)
Washington, June 15.—American troops sent to France now number more than 800,000, Gen. March, chief of staff, announced today.

The number of troops now being transported, Gen. March said, is limited only by the capacity of the ships available to carry them. "And we will continue to ship them along this line," he added.

All Branches Included.
The 800,000 figure includes all branches of the service necessary to make up a complete army, both combatant and non-combatant units, Gen. March said.

Palmer said that in the canal zone naval district the commandant of the naval forces afloat has to act as the district commander.

"This point may suddenly become a vital one in the war," he continued, "and yet when it does the district commandant must leave his district to put to sea, to command his forces afloat, merely because we have no rear admirals to command that district."

The increases in personnel to 131,485 Palmer deemed insufficient. "But if it is passed," he said, "it will materially improve a very serious condition on which the nation's success in this war depends."

TO ASK WASHINGTON STATUS INTERNED HUNS

Swiss Legation Deputized to Inquire as to Compulsory Work.

Amsterdam, June 15.—The Swiss legation at Washington has been asked to look into the matter of the compulsory work of German officers interned in the United States, according to an announcement in the reitshatz, says a Wolff bureau dispatch.

CHECK OF HUN DRIVE SURE TO BE MOMENTARY

German Have Doubtful Satisfaction of Gains Which Cost Dearly.

(Associated Press.)
Paris, June 15.—Despite a slight advance the German offensive, commenced June 9, will prove to have been a heavy check to the enemy, says Henry Bidou in the Journal Des De Bats. Continuing, he says: "It is evident that the enemy's objectives were undoubtedly Compiègne and the Villers-Cotterets line in order to reach beyond the forest on the left wing and obtain a base for future operations against Paris. There is no doubt that the battle may be considered one lost by the enemy."

UNITED NAVAL STRATEGY WILL DEFEAT U-BOATS

Navy Department Officials Are Gratified at Appreciative Words British Admiral.

(Associated Press.)
Washington, June 15.—Benefits derived from united naval strategy by the United States and Great Britain were pointed out here today by the navy department officials, who read with interest the views of Vice-Admiral Weymss on the operation of German submarines off the American coast.

SERIOUS CRISIS IMPENDS IN AUSTRIA, REPORTS

(Associated Press.)
London, June 15.—Reports of a serious crisis in Austria are current today. They come from various outside sources, but there is no direct confirmation.

RAIL FROM OGALALLA BUT FATE IS SO UNKIND

Will Eden and Robert Partin, mere youths, hail from Ogallala, Neb., which is a considerable distance from Chattanooga. Yet, after coming all the way from a town that is famed for a famous Indian chief, they met with a cold reception in the Dynamo of Dixie—were actually arrested and subjected to the humiliation of being incarcerated in a prison cell.

There is another chapter to the story, and this accounts for the harsh treatment that the Nebraska youths have received in Chattanooga. They are wanted at Ogallala on charges of larceny and are registered at police headquarters as fugitives. They are alleged to have made away with some sweaters and raincoats.

Detectives Marion Perkins, W. C. Smith, Robert Pence and Joe Paradise were credited with the arrests.

RAISING FIGHTING ARMY EASIER THAN LABOR ARMY

(International News Service.)
Washington, June 15.—"The raising of a fighting army is easy in comparison with the raising of an industrial army," declared President Wilson this afternoon in a brief address to the delegates attending the national war labor conference. He complimented the delegates on the work they had already accomplished and assured them if they ever needed his advice he would be only too glad to give it.

GERMANS GIVEN OWN MEDICINE

Squadron of All Americans Fly Over Lines and Bombard Towns in Rear.

FIRST INDEPENDENT RAID
British Officer Expresses Hope They Will Soon Be Going Over in Great Drove.

With the American Army in France, June 14 (night).—A highly experienced American flyer who formerly was in the French army led the first party of all-Americans who flew over the German lines and bombed towns in the rear. There was a big jollification dinner at the flyers' headquarters tonight over the success of the first real American air raid on German territory and the flyers who took part and all returned safely at dusk were given a great ovation.

A large group of American, French and British officers gathered around day light bombing squadrons, including some daring British flyers who have been raiding Rhine valley towns, saw our first bombing planes get away in the first of the night.

"This is the first," said one of the British officers, "but I hope before long the Americans will be going over in great droves, showing the boche what real bombing is all about."

The huge bombing planes were wheeled out into the sunlight on a grassy plateau. The observers crawled underneath and fastened the bombs on. Then they climbed into their seats and gave their machine guns a final test. Many of these observers had made flights with British and French aviators over the German lines on bombing expeditions.

The pilots took their places, mechanics gave the propellers a whirl and the machines, with the commander of the unit leading, were ready to start. They looked just like so many sprinters toting the mark and waiting for the starter's pistol.

Suddenly a motor farthest over began to sound louder than the rest and soon one cried: "They're off!"

And they were. The first machine, carrying the commander, raced across the turf and tilted its wings upward, and then it climbed into the air and headed for the Hun lines.

The others went at short intervals, keeping the formation that had been decided upon.

It was late in the afternoon when the machines passed over the German lines and they drew only desultory fire from the German anti-aircraft guns. But when they approached the railway junction which was their objective, the German guns began plastering the sky with shrapnel.

Unmindful of the bombardment, our bombers slid down a new hatched road that had started with the commander. In the lead, sighted the railway station first. He fired a pistol as a signal and then the first bomb went from the machine to its destination below.

Others followed in rapid succession and soon the railway junction was shrouded with a smoke screen where the bombs were bursting on their objectives.

The American machines then circled and headed for their own lines. A large bunch of German flyers appeared and several attempts were made to cut off our bombers. The attempts all failed and all returned safely.

FIRST NEW TYPE SCHOONER LAUNCHED AT BILOXI, MISS.

(Associated Press.)
Biloxi, Miss., June 15.—The first of a new type of auxiliary schooner, the Elizabeth Ruth, rated by Lloyd's as 100 A-1 and said to be the only vessel of that classification thus far constructed on the gulf coast, was launched here today at the yards of the Mississippi Shipbuilding corporation.

The schooner is of 1,500 tons dead weight capacity and will be driven by two crude oil motors, for which will be carried 10,000 gallons of fuel. Construction of another vessel of the type will begin immediately.

HUNS TURN GUNS ON COMPIEGNE

Hammer Blows of Enemy Gain Certain Successes South of Montdidier.

SUFFER SEVERE LOSSES
French Front Lines Deluged With Shells—Drum Fire Drenches Rear.

(By Gordon Knox.)
With the French Army, June 14.—(Night).—Compiègne is now being shelled by the Germans.

(Compiègne is the great French base, forty-five miles northeast of Paris, which the Germans set out to capture in their latest dash which began last Sunday morning. It is a town of high strategic importance on the Aisne river, being the juncture of railway lines leading to Paris and also numerous highways.)

The enemy's first blow with a few effective shells, but the main hammer stroke gained a certain success.

(Mr. Knox is referring to the fighting on the front lying from the south of Montdidier to the Oise river, over which the Germans began their latest offensive.)

The losses of the Germans have been appalling. In contrast with the position of the Germans is the excellent high morale of the French soldiers. Each Frenchman is confident that the Germans will not be able to reach his chief local objective—Compiègne.

The German attack in the sector of Carpiquet wood is typical of the intensity of the entire new battle, which raged from Sunday morning until Thursday afternoon.

Starting shortly after 5 o'clock, amidst a hail of gas and smoke shells, the battle continued until 7 in the evening. The French front lines and the roads in the rear were deluged with shells, this being followed by drum fire which drenched the rear.

The Germans threw down a severe barrage fire just before the infantry waves swept forward. The main attack was delivered between Sempiigny and the Oise river.

The Germans concentrated heavy pressure against the right wing of the allied fighting front, and there a furious fight ensued amidst thunder and tumult and smoke of the battle. Reserves were hurried up, however, and the enemy was held.

No better propaganda against Germany is feasible than the situation now existing on the western front. The fact that Americans are everywhere behind the firing line must be an object lesson to the enemy.

The new American army is rapidly coming into the firing line. It is no exaggeration to say that every German put out of action for a fresh American is added.

It is conceivable that Compiègne will suffer like Rheims and other martyred cities, but in spite of this suffering there is a certain satisfaction in knowing that the Germans are face to face with another Verdun.

MEMPHIS SCHOOL MAN TO HEAD TENNESSEE NORMAL

(Special to The News.)
Nashville, June 15.—A. A. Kincannon, superintendent of the city schools of Memphis, was this afternoon elected president of the West Tennessee Normal school at Memphis, to succeed J. B. Bivester. The action was taken by the state board of education in session here.

JAPANESE MARINES LAND AT CHINESE PORTS

(Associated Press.)
Tokio, Wednesday, June 12.—Japanese marines were landed on Sunday at Swatow, a treaty port of China and a center of the sugar industry, 225 miles northeast of Canton. According to an official announcement issued here today, the Japanese marines were sent ashore because of the disturbed conditions at the Chinese port.

SIR JOSEPH WHITE TODD AND WIFE HEED WARNING

(Associated Press.)
An Atlantic Port, June 15.—When the steamship on which they were returning from Cuba put into a Florida port in pursuance of wireless warnings that German submarines were near, Sir Joseph White-Todd, a member of the British food commission, and Lady Todd left the vessel and continued their journey by rail.

FRENCH TROOPS SUCCEED IN LOCAL OPERATION

Improving Line Around Northeastern Corner of Forest of Villers-Cotterets, On Western Side of Marne Salient.

With the French Army in France, June 15 (Noon).—French troops today carried out a successful local operation for the improvement of their line around the northeastern corner of the forest of Villers-Cotterets, on the westerly side of the Marne salient.

Aside from this the infantry on neither side has given much sign of life on any part of the front in the last thirty-six hours.

ARTILLERY ACTIVE IN ITALY.

Rome, June 15.—There is intense artillery fighting from the Lagarina valley to the sea, according to the statement issued by the war office today. The statement reads: "The artillery fire between the Lagarina valley and the sea has grown in intensity. It has been extremely violent east of the Brenta river and in the middle Piave region."

"Our patrols captured 196 prisoners in the Tonale region and took sixteen Austrians captive and war material at Gavazuccherina."

KEEMUN UNDAUNED BY FIGHT WITH U-BOAT

(Associated Press.)
An Atlantic Port, June 15.—The British steamship Keemun, attacked last Thursday night off the Virginia capes by a German submarine, arrived at this port today, apparently undamaged by her encounter with the U-boat.

OVER MILLION MEN IN FRANCE BY JULY 1

Arkansas Urges Development Mississippi as Means of Increasing Food Supply.

(International News Service.)
Washington, June 15.—More than a million American soldiers will be in France by July 1, and every means of transportation of food and supplies must be developed to feed these forces, senators today told members of the Mississippi waterways convention, here to urge a government-owned barge line on the Mississippi.

"I have just come from the war council," said Senator Kirby of Arkansas, "and there will be more than a million men in France by the first of July. I have learned. We have got to feed them."

He then urged the development of transportation on the Mississippi as one means of increasing the food supply for the men in France.

Spartanburg Camp Aliens Take Oath of Allegiance

(Associated Press.)
Spartanburg, S. C., June 15.—Another 1,000 foreign-born soldiers stationed at Camp Wadsworth this morning at 10 o'clock took the oath of allegiance to the United States and became citizens of this country. One thousand took the oath last Saturday, and another 1,000 will be naturalized next Saturday, making a total of 3,000 for Camp Wadsworth. The naturalization proceedings were conducted by agents from the United States bureau of naturalization and officials of the South Carolina circuit court.

SELECTMEN OFF TO CAMP FOR TECHNICAL STUDY

(Associated Press.)
Thirteen Cookeville cadets left the Terminal station at 5:30 a. m. Saturday en route for Cookeville, Tenn., where they will attend a six-week course in mechanical and automobile training at the industrial college at that place.

The boys will go up through Harrison over the Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Pacific and change there for Cookeville. Two of the mechanics, however, preferred to avoid the tedium of the railroad and started out in a motor car. These were William Milton Frost and Robert McCleskey, from county board No. 2.

BANK RESERVE SHOWS INCREASE DURING WEEK

(Associated Press.)
New York, June 15.—The actual condition of clearing houses banks and trust companies for the week shows that they hold \$69,586,530 reserve in excess of legal requirements. This is an increase of \$25,474,320 from last week.

NEW CREDITS EXTENDED TO GREAT BRITAIN AND BELGIUM

(Associated Press.)
Washington, June 15.—The treasury today extended new credits of \$175,000,000 to Great Britain and \$2,000,000 to Belgium. This brought total credit to the allies to \$5,954,500,000, including \$3,170,000,000 to Great Britain and \$121,500,000 to Belgium.

GERMAN LINES ON MARNE ATTACKED

By American Batteries, Which Had Been Under Heavy Enemy Bombardment.

(Associated Press.)
Washington, June 15.—American batteries last night hurled thousands of gas shells into the German lines along the Marne, northwest of Chateau Thierry. The bombardment was in retaliation for a heavy gas attack by the Germans.

There was patrol activity along the American fronts in the Marne region and in Picardy, and some artillery fire occurred in addition to the gas bombardment. There was no infantry action. The situation, however, is tense along the entire line.

Aviators Participating.
Washington, June 15.—In an addition to last night's communique Gen. Pershing officially reported today the downing of two enemy machines yesterday by American aviators. Aside from heavy shelling by both sides northwest of Chateau Thierry the dispatch said there was nothing else to report.

Looting in Progress.
(International News Service.)
Paris, June 15.—Germans are systematically looting the French territory they have occupied north of the Marne river.

Among the German prisoners just captured by Americans were some that were camouflaged with flowers, grass and bushes. Many of them were found to be wearing stolen rings and even brooches.

One German prisoner was only 15 years old, although he was large for his age.

Postcards bearing pictures of Turks on the western front were labeled "brothers in the last push."

Gen. Falkenhayn is said to be urgently demanding the release of all possible German troops from Russia for service on the western front.

SENATE VOTES AGAINST TEACHING OF GERMAN

(International News Service.)
Washington, June 15.—The senate this afternoon voted to prohibit the teaching of German in the public schools of the District of Columbia.

NAVAL MEDICAL DIRECTOR FINED FOR FOOD HOARDING

(Associated Press.)
Washington, June 15.—Dr. Francis H. Nash, medical director in the navy, was fined \$1,000 today in the District of Columbia supreme court, after entering a plea of nolo contendere to a charge of unlawfully hoarding food-stuffs. An identical charge against his wife, Carolina S. Nash, was dismissed.

FAIRFAX HARRISON NAMES MOBILE ROAD PRESIDENT

(Associated Press.)
Mobile, Ala., June 15.—C. R. Hayes, former comptroller of the Mobile & Ohio, was named vice-president of that railroad last night by President Fairfax Harrison, according to news received here. He succeeds R. V. Taylor, who was named a federal manager. W. W. Middleton succeeds Mr. Hayes as comptroller of the Mobile & Ohio.



FAIR, SAYS BILLY 'POSSUM

(By special request.)
Bill went up the hill to take a look at France, but Kaiser Bill went down the hill with bullets in his pants. (To which we modestly subscribe.)
And when we're through the crown prince too may also need repairing, and what we'll do will go right through whatever he is wearing.
The weather? Fair and continued warm tonight and Sunday.