

FIGHT FOR VERDUN STILL RAGES

No Decrease In Desperate Efforts Of Contending Armies Germans Take More Villages And Ten Thousand Prisoners

London, Feb. 26.—The battle for Verdun, which has been uninterrupted since Monday, continues, there being no decrease in the desperate violence of the two armies, in spite of a heavy fall of snow, which hampered movements.

Disregarding the unfavorable weather conditions the Germans continued their attacks, centering their offensive on the ridge of hills to the east of Champ Neuville, but although the assault was unprecedented in violence, no further gain was made.

The German advance won for them, in addition to the villages already announced as taken, Champ Neuville, to the southwest of Samogneux, on the same side of the Meuse, and Beaumont. The latter held out for hours against terrific attacks, but finally was evacuated. This village was the point of the wedge which the French maintained in the new German lines when the Germans forged ahead on both flanks. The result of the taking of Beaumont is to straighten the new battle line.

The capture of Beaumont is announced in both French and German official statements. The German statement also announces the capture of Ornes, and of Champ Neuville, as well as of the farms of Colletelle, Marmont and Chambrettes.

More than 10,000 prisoners have been taken by the Germans in this fighting, the German statement says, and adds that the French loss in dead and wounded is "extraordinarily heavy," while the German losses are "normal."

Paris reports that the German losses during the first four days of the battle around Verdun were 150,000.

French Counter Offensive.

The beginning of a French counter offensive is indicated in the French communiques. The point selected for this counter movement is in the Arzonne forest, to the west of the Verdun front. Here the French launched attacks against the German lines in the Bois de Choppy, east of Vanquers, and at the same time took up an active bombardment of the German positions in the Bers de la Gracelle, north of La Narrasse.

The German line on the Lovement ridge is now only about five and a half miles from the city of Verdun, and is less than two miles from the crest of the forts making up the fortress, Fort de Vacheraville, to the southeast of Douaumont.

Bombardments in many attacks and fights with hand grenades have taken place in Russia and Galicia, but there have been no important changes in positions. The bombardments between

the Austrians and Italians on the Austro-Italian front continue.

The Russians in the Caucasus and in Persia have taken additional towns from the Turks. Pursuit of the Turkish forces driven out of Erzerum continues.

Late reports from the British force surrounded by Turks at Kut-el-Amara say the Turks have ceased their attacks on the besieged position.

Vienna records a further drive of the Italians before the Austro-Hungarians east and southeast of Durazzo, Albania. Eleven Italian officers and more than 700 soldiers have been captured. The Durazzo docks are under the fire of the batteries of the Teutons, which are hampering the embarkation of the Italians and their allies endeavoring to escape.

MISUSE OF MAILS

Charge Against New Yorker Under Arrest in Florida.

Washington, Feb. 26.—The postoffice department received an official report of the apprehension after an exciting chase of Dr. John Grant Lyman, on a charge of using the mails in a scheme to defraud in New York city. The arrest was made at St. Petersburg, Fla. It is charged that Lyman, under the name of John H. Putnam & Company, New York, with branch offices at Hartford, Conn., and Springfield, Mass., represented that he was in partnership with Charles S. Harkness, who he alleged was the son of a Standard Oil magnate. The scheme was to induce the purchase of oil stocks on a partial payment plan. The money, it is alleged, was devoted to Lyman's own use.

TO THE POINT

Escaping fumes from a gas heater in his bedroom at Detroit caused the death of Matthew Griffin, thirty-five, of Covington, Ky.

Mrs. Willie Sayre-Short, former wife of W. A. D. Short and social leader of Lexington, Ky., is dead as the result of the action of a tablet taken for nervousness.

Jesse McCorkle, a negro, was taken from jail at Catterville, Ga., by fifty men and boys, hanged to a tree in front of the city hall and his body riddled with bullets. He was charged with house breaking.

Opposed to Military Training.

Detroit, Mich., Feb. 26.—The department of superintendent of the National Education association, at its closing session here, went on record as opposed to compulsory military training in the public schools.

The educators, however, favored a plan whereby the American youth who wishes to receive military instruction can find special schools available.

PROBING THE DEATH OF A YOUNG WOMAN

Wilmington, O., Feb. 26.—County officials here were amazed to learn that relative of Mary Sholler, seventeen-year-old death mystery victim, had examined her stomach and sent it to Columbus chemists for analysis. Miss Sholler, a daughter of Joe Sholler, a day laborer, died mysteriously Oct. 25, as she was going from the home of her father, Cora Boster, to her own home. Evidence discovered recently tends to show that she was attacked by two men. When the body was found the strong odor of oil of cedar was noticed. The coroner's inquest resulted in a verdict that the girl had died from a dose of cedar oil, but did not determine whether it was a case of murder or suicide.

Matt Wells to Meet Griffin. Columbus, Feb. 26.—Matt Wells, holder of the English lightweight championship title, who is to meet Johnny Griffiths of Akron in a twelve round boxing contest before the Queensbury club of this city Tuesday evening, will arrive in Columbus tomorrow from New York to complete his training on the scene of the bout. Both boys are conceded to be the cleverest boxers in the lightweight division.

WHAT WAR COSTS ALLIES.

England, France and Canada Spend Over \$40,000,000 a Day. Following are some of the facts about war costs revealed at the sessions of the British, French and Canadian parliaments: Daily Expenditures.—Great Britain, \$25,000,000; France, \$15,000,000; Canada, \$682,000. Total Expenditures Since War Began.—France, \$8,882,000,000; Canada, \$468,000,000. Interest on French debt is \$640,000,000.

Woman's World

An American Poetess Talks About Her Special Art.



JOSEPHINE PRESTON PEABODY.

Mrs. Lionel Marks, or Josephine Preston Peabody, to call her by the name which she has made famous, is a poet whose tendency has always been toward democracy. From "The Singing Leaves," her first book of lyrics, to "The Piper," the dramatic poem which received the Stratford on Avon prize in 1910, and "The Wolf of Gubbio," the poetic representation of events in St. Francis' life in her latest published book, she has chosen for her theme not fantastic and rare aspects of nature nor the new answers of her own emotions, but things that are common to all normal mankind, such as love and religion. Also without seeming to preach she is always expressing her love for liberty, equality and fraternity, and although she never dwells upon the overworked term, she is as devoted an adherent of the brotherhood of man as was William Morris.

"Certainly, poetry is steadily growing more democratic," said Mrs. Marks recently. "More people are writing poetry today than fifty years ago, and the appreciation of poetry is more general. Most poets of genuine calling are writing now with the world in mind as an audience, not merely for the entertainment of a little literary cull."

"But I do not think that the vers libre fad has any connection with this tendency or with the development of poetry at all. Indeed, I do not think that the cult is growing. We hear more of it in the United States than we did a year or two ago, but that is chiefly because London and Paris have outworn its novelty, so the vers libres concentrate their energies on Chicago and New York."

"You see," said Mrs. Marks, "the commonest thing there is—I may say the most democratic thing—is the rhythm of the heartbeat. A true poet cannot ignore this. At the greatest times in his life, when he is filled with joy or despair or when he has a sense of portent, man is aware of his heart. He is aware of its recurrent tick-tick. He is aware of the rhythm of life. When we are dying perhaps the only sense that remains with us is the sense of rhythm—the feeling that the grains of sand are running, running, running out."

"The pulse beat is a tremendous thing. It is the basis of all that men have in common. All life is locked up in its regularly recurrent rhythm. And it is that rhythm that appears in our love songs, our war songs, in all the poetry of the human cycle from lullabies to funeral chants. In the great moments of life men feel that they must be sharing, that they must have something in common with other men, and so their emotions crystallize into the ritual of rhythm, which is the most democratic thing that there is."

Blouse Features.

At this time of year there is not so apt to be any radical change in the lines of the new blouses, but many details of trimming and cut make a blouse a delightful as well as a different article of apparel to choose in a shop. There is a dovetail front that is odd, points overlapping on each side of the blouse and buttoning with large pearl buttons. Wide stripes two and three inches wide make another kind of blouse attractive. The cape collar of silk or satin tops blouses of georgette crape. One white blouse has a very realistic strap and buckle arrangement embroidered on the blouse in black silk.

Handkerchiefs Are Gay.

It is a question whether handkerchiefs could be much gayier than they are at present. No color of the spectrum has been neglected. Indeed, one handkerchief combines all the colors of the rainbow in its border and is almost as evanescent as the rainbow itself. Pussy willow taffeta, crepe de chine, chiffon tissues and the standby, linen, are all used for the fashionable handkerchief. There are no lace edgings to speak of, but much hand embroidery, colored bindings and fancy hem-stitchings.

Both Boiling. "If water is stirred with a paddle for five hours it will be boiling." "So would any cook who was asked to do it."—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

PARTISAN LINES DIMMED IN DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESSMEN



While party lines have not been ignored entirely in the differences between President Wilson and members of congress in the matter of warning or not warning Americans to keep off armed merchant vessels, supporters of the president are found among prominent Republicans, and some of the leaders of his own party oppose him. For example, Representative James R. Mann of Illinois, leader of the Republicans in the house, is in

general sympathy with President Wilson's policy of firmness, while Representative D. W. Shackelford of Missouri, Democrat and member of the foreign relations committee, opposes Mr. Wilson's attitude toward Germany. Representative Henry D. Flood of Virginia, chairman of the committee, is a strong upholder of the president's policy.

opposes the president's policy of considering it contrary to American interests to warn Americans against voyaging on merchant ships, armed or unarmed. Senator Thomas Sterling of South Dakota, Republican, believes such warning would be a surrender of American rights. No. 1 in the picture is Mr. Mann; No. 2, Mr. Flood; No. 3, Mr. Cooper; No. 4, Senator Sterling; No. 5, Mr. Shackelford.

HILDEBRANT BACKS DOWN; STATE WILL HAVE TAGS

Columbus, Feb. 26.—Secretary of State Hildebrand and State Auditor Donahay reached an agreement which will enable the state to get the 100,000 additional automobile tags needed. The arrangement is that Donahay pay the bills direct to the New York Metal Ceiling company, to which the Davies Manufacturing company of Akron sublet its contract. The price to be paid is 15 cents per set of tags. The Davies company is to sue for the difference, 4 1/2 cents, if it sees fit to do so. Donahay had refused to pay bills, which thus far aggregate

\$22,000, on contention that the contract had not been let by competitive bidding.

Railroad Men Quit Session. Columbus, Feb. 26.—Thirty railroad men withdrew from the meeting of the Ohio Travel society, of which T. P. Riddle of Lima, former state representative in charge of the Ohio road boys' excursion, is a leading member. The object of the society is to hold excursions to various parts of the country. The railroad men said they were not interested in the project.

JUDGES ON PAY STRIKE

Cleveland, Feb. 26.—Seven of ten municipal court judges here are on a pay strike. They have refused to accept any salary since Jan. 15, because the city council cut their salary after a new state law had increased them. Up to Jan. 1 the judges were paid \$3,000 by the city and \$1,500 by the county.

SUSPECT KILLED

Cincinnati, Feb. 26.—Janson Shackelford, forty-two, said to be the murderer of two aged colored people, who were slain at their home at the edge of Newark a week ago, shot and seriously wounded a policeman and was himself killed in a pistol duel which took place in the streets of this city.

Some Queer Ones

Berlin, Ont., is to have another name if the citizens have their way. Mr. Golden Lule of Washington was arrested in Philadelphia on a charge of deserting his family. "When God gave folks legs he intended them to be used," said Pittsburgh pastor in advocating trousers for women. Because there was an orange instead of a green stripe in shirt clerk showed him Pittsburgh Irishman wrecked haberdashery. "Go, gab, gobble and git" made up the life of Colorado man, he says in divorce suit, as a result of money inherited by wife. Why women hate rats demonstrated in Milwaukee street car when rodent got under woman's skirt and she had partially to disrobe to get rid of it.

AWAITS INFORMATION

President Wilson Defers Formal Action

Has Not Decided Next Step In Negotiations With Berlin.

LULL IN SUBMARINE FLAREUP

Felt That United States Should Examine Text of Alleged British Secret Orders and Determine Attitude of Entente Powers Toward Lansing Proposal Before Taking Definite Action.

Washington, Feb. 26.—President Wilson and Secretary of State Lansing are awaiting information from three different sources before definitely deciding the next step in the negotiations with Germany.

First of all, it is necessary for them to have in hand Germany's reply to the inquiry made through Ambassador Bernstorff as to whether the new German submarine declaration of intent to attack all armed enemy merchantmen is not inconsistent with Germany's past assurances to the United States; secondly, it is regarded as necessary by Mr. Lansing that the United States should have opportunity to examine the text of the alleged "secret orders" of the British admiralty directing all British merchant ships to attack German and Austrian submarines on sight, and, finally, before any final stand is taken with Germany the president and Mr. Lansing will wait the replies of the entente allies to the proposal made to their countries by Secretary Lansing on Jan. 18, proposing a modus vivendi under which all their merchant ships would be disarmed.

To the extent to which each of these missing documents have a bearing on the whole situation the prospect is strong that President Wilson will consent to enter into a discussion of the matter with Germany and will not bring about an abrupt termination of the exchanges. Germany's reply is now believed to be on the way.

Of two things concerning this reply the embassy appears convinced; first, that Germany will propose a discussion of the new issue, calling at the same time for a statement from the United States as to its distinction between offensive and defensive armament in view of the British admiralty's orders; and, secondly, offering to postpone the effective date of the new submarine campaign from March 1 to April 1, or pending the discussion. President Wilson, it is believed, will be willing to tell Germany what the United States holds to be defensive armament on merchantmen as opposed to offensive armament.

ATTACKED BY ARMED MAN

Two Women Engage In Desperate Struggle With an Intruder.

Cleveland, Feb. 26.—Two women, alone in their apartment, struggled desperately against the attacks of a frenzied man, armed with a revolver, while neighbors, fearing the man's weapon, summoned police, but did not interfere. Mrs. Mary Millinger was shot through the hip and her companion, Mrs. Agnes Hobarth, escaped by taking refuge in a closet. When the police arrived they found Michael Barza hiding in another closet. He could not explain why he attacked the women.

JAILED FOR CONTEMPT

Cleveland, Feb. 26.—George Morrison, editor of a weekly newspaper here, was sent to jail for contempt of court by Municipal Judge Samuel Silbert, as a result of an article published by Morrison to which Silbert objected. Morrison was late released, pending consideration by the court of a retraction of the article which Morrison submitted to him, having written it in his cell.

Mercier Leaves Rome. Rome, Feb. 26.—Allied diplomats accredited to the vatican, many priests and students and a large crowd of others assembled at the station to see Cardinal Mercier off. The prelate is returning to Belgium. The crowd cheered the cardinal and shouted, "Long live Belgium."

Durazzo Evacuated. London, Feb. 26.—The Daily Mail prints an unconfirmed rumor that the Italians have evacuated Durazzo.