

March 23
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All Over Tennessee

THE CHATTANOOGA NEWS

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CHATTANOOGA, TENN., TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 19, 1918.

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HOLLAND WOULD ACCEPT DEMAND CONDITIONALLY

Agrees to Anglo-American Proposal as to Dutch Shipping With Certain Proviso.

WHEAT MUST BE OBTAINED

Assent Based on Allies Guaranteeing to Replace Vessels and Restrictions as to Cargo.

Washington, March 19.—Execution of plans to take over Dutch merchant ships in American port today awaited official receipt from London of the Dutch reply to the British-American shipping ultimatum. Yesterday was the last day given the Netherlands government to make answer and allowing for cable delays the United States decided to wait until today before proceeding to requisition the tonnage in accordance with the demand made several days ago.

The Hague, Monday, March 18.—

Holland has accepted, with certain conditions, the Anglo-American demand regarding Dutch shipping. This was announced in the second chamber today by Dr. Loudon, the foreign minister, who added that Holland could not go further and was awaiting the Anglo-American reply to its latest communication.

The minister's declaration, which will be discussed by the chamber Tuesday, said: "The German government having declared its inability to furnish 100,000 tons of wheat in two months, the Dutch government finds itself compelled to accept the demand for sailing Dutch ships through the danger zone, which the American and British governments had attached to the delivery, on April 15, of 100,000 tons of wheat."

Based on Conditions.

Dr. Loudon added, however, that the assent of the Dutch government was based on conditions. Included among these conditions were the claims that the allied governments should guarantee that no troops nor war materials be transported on the ships and that vessels destroyed be replaced by others after the war, on condition that bunker coal, necessary for transporting merchandise to Holland ought to be furnished Dutch ships.

Will Not Meet the Case.

London, March 19.—In official circles here it is said that inasmuch as telegrams from Holland appear to suggest that the Dutch government would be pointed out again that an attempt at this time on the part of Holland to come to an agreement merely on the basis of the modest amount of last week's offer would not meet the case, as the position has changed radically since then.

This evidently refers to the offer made to Holland by the allies before the present action was decided upon, providing for the rationing of the Dutch people in exchange for certain conditions, that when a belligerent's need of tonnage becomes pressing, neutral ships can be forced en bloc to enter its service.

Dr. Loudon explained that the Netherlands had been ready to accept the provisions of the agreement, but it suddenly sprang the demand that the released tonnage should also be used in the danger zone.

Why Deferred Answer.

"It was laid down by the Netherlands government as a basic condition for the arrangement and accepted by the associated governments," continued the foreign minister, "that the Dutch ships be kept out of the danger zone. I will refrain from discussing it, reasons that may have led to the new demand, but its justice the Netherlands government cannot admit. Neither does it admit the assumption prevalent in certain countries, that when a belligerent's need of tonnage becomes pressing, neutral ships can be forced en bloc to enter its service."

No Confirmation.

London, March 19.—No confirmation having been received through either the British minister at The Hague, or the Dutch minister here, of Holland's reported acceptance of the allies' terms respecting the use of Dutch shipping, Great Britain, it is learned, has sent a fresh notification to The Hague. In this it is said that, failing unequivocal acceptance of their terms, the allies in a proceeding immediately to requisition the vessels.

Judge Higgins, of Texas, Dies; Was Shot in Back

Fort Worth, Tex., March 19.—Former District Judge C. C. Higgins, one of the most widely known lawyers in Texas, who was shot through the back Sunday night while seated at a table with members of his family in a hotel dining room at Clearmont, Tex., died at noon today, according to advices received here this afternoon. It is stated that the identity of the person who fired the shot has not been established. Fingers have been ordered to Clearmont to investigate the shooting. Judge Higgins served a notice of a district court in west Texas for eighteen years.

FLYING CORPS CAPTAIN MAY SURVIVE INJURIES

Fort Worth, Tex., March 19.—Capt. L. V. Drake, of the Royal Flying corps, who, with Ellis Watts of Portland, Ore., a cadet, fell several hundred feet in an airplane here late yesterday, probably will recover, it was announced today. Watts was instantly killed and it was at first believed that Capt. Drake was fatally injured. Drake's home is in London.

DELAY SEIZURE OF DUTCH SHIPS

Requisition Postponed Until Word Received From Netherlands Government.

ALL DETAILS ARRANGED

Proclamation of President Is Ready for Issuance.

Officers of Naval Reserve Go Aboard One Vessel—Misunderstanding Blamed.

Washington, March 19.—Requisition of Dutch ships in American waters still awaited word from London at noon today and officials indicated that actual seizure would not take place until the Netherlands government had been heard from.

A reply to the American and British demands was said to have been dispatched through London, but it has not been received here.

All departments of the government which will take part in the seizure were ready to proceed the minute word was received from London, by President Wilson announcing the requisition and the reasons for it was prepared and signed yesterday ready for issuance.

Through Misunderstanding.

New York, March 19.—Apparently through a misunderstanding, one of the Dutch ships in New York harbor, the Samarinda, was boarded by officers of the naval reserve today and her commander notified that they had come to take possession of the ship in the name of the American government.

The commander was told that the American flag would go up at noon and that the officers and crew of the ship would be given until midnight to leave.

The commander of the Samarinda reported the circumstances to the Rotterdam Lloyd, her owners, and said he was preparing to obey when shortly after noon he again reported, saying that the naval officers had left the ship. He said the naval officers had informed him they had been instructed to return to the navy yard and that the contemplated seizure had been postponed.

18 ENEMY PLANES ARE DESTROYED

British Flying Machines Successful in Fierce Aerial Encounters.

London, Monday, March 18.—Eighteen German machines were destroyed, eight were driven down out of control and an observation balloon was destroyed by British aviators in the air fighting Sunday, according to an official statement late tonight dealing with the aerial activity on the western front.

The statement follows: "A good visibility on Sunday enabled our aviators to increase their work in the air. The railway sidings at Somain and hostile rest billets on all parts of the front and three of the enemy's airdromes were heavily bombed, a total of ten and a half tons of bombs being dropped. Over one of the airdromes attacked a fierce encounter took place, the result of which three hostile airplanes were destroyed, our own suffering no losses.

"During today's fighting German machines were downed, eight driven down out of control and an observation balloon destroyed. Four of our machines were damaged.

"Our night flying machines dropped five tons of bombs on two hostile airdromes, one of which was occupied by large bombing machines, and also on a big ammunition dump northeast of St. Quentin and on billets in the neighborhood of Douai and Menin."

Missouri Leads States In Thrift Stamp Sale

Washington, March 19.—Missouri, with a total of \$9,915,850, leads the country in sale of war savings stamps, according to first detailed statement of the campaign issued by the national war savings committee. The statement, made public today, and including sales from the beginning of the drive in December to the end of February, also shows the Missouri river states, Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas, leading in the order named in per capita subscriptions. The total and per capita sales of war savings securities for the states to the end of January, include:

Nebraska	\$5,689,711.02
Missouri	\$9,915,850.00
Texas	\$2,137,375.17
Arkansas	\$1,118,871.29
Virginia	\$1,163,656.42
Florida	\$1,150,919.51
Louisiana	\$920,016.45
Illinois	\$81,246.62
Kentucky	\$38,159.61
North Carolina	\$49,524.91
Mississippi	\$45,439.83
Georgia	\$44,049.95
Alabama	\$42,192.48
South Carolina	\$19,562.20

AGREEMENT WITH U. S. POSSIBLE

President Wilson's Message to Russian People Held Significant by Non-Socialist Press

Moscow, Saturday, March 15.—

(By the Associated Press.)—President Wilson's message to the Russian people is very significant and is a limited recognition of the soviet government, in the opinion of the non-socialist and conservative newspaper Ranneye Outo.

The message shows the determination of the United States not to interfere in Russian internal affairs, adds the newspaper, which continues: "In these grave days there is great moral support in the form of intention of the powerful trans-Atlantic republic to secure for Russia complete sovereignty and independence in her own affairs. The United States, which was declared to be capitalistic by the bolsheviks, proves faithful to the principles proclaimed by her and the sincerity of her position was acknowledged by the bolsheviks in the last night of the soviet congress gave to the president's message."

America Imperialistic.

The Izvestia, the official government organ, characterizes President Wilson's message as a "document of the greatest political importance," and adds: "To understand, consequently, its value is essential to our cause and to the interest of the great Russian revolution." The editorial declares that although the United States is an imperialistic government struggling for the Russian market, it is far less of a menace than Germany or Japan, which are near neighbors and seek to annex Russia, whose policy is control of the politics of Russia, as well as to make a commercial conquest.

Confident of U. S. Aid.

After discussing the possibility of revolutions in Germany and Japan and expressing the opinion that the proletariat of Japan cannot now defeat her annexationist plans, the Izvestia says the United States is vitally interested in keeping Russia strong politically and economically and it declares that as soon as the Americans are convinced of the stability of the soviet government, they will supply Russia with money, arms, locomotives and engineers to do away with economic disintegration and make possible the organization of a strong army.

ACTION EXPECTED IN GUS HUSNOBLE CASE

From Birmingham but Detained at Memphis for Failure to Notify of Removal.

Memphis, March 19.—Action was expected to be taken today or tomorrow in the case of Gus Husnoble, whose home is said to be in Birmingham, Ala. Detained here for alleged failure to notify the government before removing from Birmingham after having registered in that city as an enemy alien, Husnoble was arrested several days ago and ordered held pending an investigation by agents of the department of justice.

BAKER ADDRESSES AMERICAN OFFICERS

Concludes Trip Along American Front—Holds Conference With Gen. Pershing.

Headquarters of the American Expeditionary Force in France, Monday, March 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—Concluding his journey along the American lines of communication, Secretary Baker awoke this morning at Gen. Pershing's headquarters, after his first night's sleep in a house since starting on his trip of inspection.

Soon after breakfast the secretary motored from the chateau to the building occupied by the staff without any escort except for his aide, his entry being devoid of military pomp. After a short conference with Gen. Pershing, Secretary Baker made Gen. Pershing's headquarters a short time in each office, where the officer in charge explained the work of his part of the staff.

The secretary passed rapidly through the work of the staff at the front, as well as in the training areas.

The secretary passed rapidly through the offices after he had concluded then, and entire staff was assembled then, and a brief informal address to the officers as the "nerve center."

Actual Deportation of Spy Suspects Delayed

New York, March 19.—Presidential warrants for the deportation to France of two men and two women arrested by department of justice agents here yesterday and in behalf of Germany arrived today from Washington, but it is expected some time will elapse before the quartette is actually taken from the country.

Three of the suspects—Madame Deshina, Davidovitch, Storch, Madame Elizabeth Kovalich Nix and a man designated as Baron Henri de Beville, an associate of the two women—have been taken to Ellis island and turned over to the immigration authorities. The other member of the alleged spy ring known to the authorities as Count Robert de Clearmont, is under guard in his own apartment, where he has been held for several days.

THIRTY MORE AMERICANS REPORTED IN CASUALTIES

Gen. Pershing Reports Smaller Casualty List. Only Two Named as Killed in Action, Including One Officer, Capt. Phelps Collins. Three Die of Wounds.

Washington, March 19.—

The casualty list issued today by the war department contained only thirty names. Capt. Phelps Collins was included among those killed in action. Lieut. George O. Middle-ditch died of accident.

The casualties were divided as follows: Killed in action, 2; died of accident, 3; died of wounds, 3; died of disease, 12; wounded severely, 2; slightly wounded, 8.

List in Full.

The list follows:
Killed in Action.
Captain—Phelps Collins.
Private—Frank J. Konopke.
Died of Accident.
Lieutenant—Geo. O. Middle-ditch.
Cadet—Edward E. Butler.

AMERICAN ARTILLERY BLOWS UP HUN BATTERY

Mine Throwers Destroyed. Six Thousand Shells Fired From U. S. Troops Sector.

With the American Army in France, March 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—It is now permissible to announce that American artillery in the Lunenburg sector has located and blown up a battery of mine throwers, one of which a few days ago obtained a direct hit on a dugout in which were a number of American soldiers.

The battery has been causing a great deal of trouble for several days and the Americans were determined to put it out of action. It was located after considerable trouble and the artillery concentrated high explosives on it. A patrol of twenty-four men, half American and half French, last night went into the German lines from an isolated portion of the sector. It completed its mission of reconnaissance, bringing back the desired information. The patrol had a short skirmish, but obtained no prisoners.

HEARTS TRANSPLANTED TO FRANCE SAYS BAKER

On Board Secretary Baker's Train in France, Sunday, March 17.—(By the Associated Press.)—"While we are busy at home," said Newton D. Baker, the American secretary of war, in a talk to officers at the American staff school today, "with our preparations and training of troops, our hearts are transplanted to France. My heart has brought me a great uplift in spirit. As a boy takes apart a watch to see how it is made in order to understand the function of its parts, I have been taking this army apart."

RESIGN CADETSHIPS AND RETURN TO UNITS

Twenty-one Men Fail to Receive Commissions at Leon Springs.

(Special to The News.)
Greenview, S. S., March 18.—Twenty-one soldiers of Camp Sevier, who were among the number sent to the officers' training camp, Leon Springs, Camp Sta. Y, Texas, returned here today without receiving commissions. The men named, students having voluntarily submitted their resignations, were relieved from further obligation and at dance at the Leon Springs training camp and proceeded without delay to Camp Sevier, reporting upon arrival to the organization commander for duty. Sergeants W. E. Dickey, Herman F. Owens, Jas. B. Hatch, Homer M. Richards, Marion A. Gordy, Guy E. Tumpkin, Joseph E. Allen, Henry P. Andrews, John M. Bond, Thos. J. Fly, Coleman A. McCraw, Chas. V. Thomas, Rene K. Wilcox, Walter G. Worsham; Corporals Winston F. Manson, Wm. R. Culbertson, Halldorf B. Phillips, and Privates Thos. D. Adcock and Fred B. Oates.

BANDITS BLOW UP BANK IN FLORIDA

One Man Killed and Another Wounded—Robbers Escape Without Taking Booty.

Tampa, Fla., March 19.—The State bank at Zephyrhills, Fla., near here, was dynamited early today. A Mr. Storm, who bore the blame when the alarm was sounded, was killed and another citizen was wounded. A posse is searching for the bandits, who escaped without booty. Telephone wires were cut by the robbers and few details have been received here.

Knoxville to Get Big \$50,000,000 Nitrate Plant

(Special to The News.)
Knoxville, March 19.—One of the government's nitrate plants in the Badische Sodafabrik at Mannheim, Germany, according to a special to the Sentinel from its Washington correspondent. It is understood that the plant will cost about \$50,000,000, and is a part of the system which is now in course of construction at Muscle Shoals.

PRUSSAINS MAKE RAID ON FLANDERS FRONT

Berlin, via London, March 19.—Today's official report from army headquarters reads:

"Western War Theater.—Front of Crown Prince Rupprecht. Storming troops of Prussian Bavarian and Sax divisions made successful reconnaissances in Flanders and thereby captured more than 300 Belgians.

"From the coast to La Panne canal there was an increase in the intensity of the artillery duel during the evening. On the remainder of the front the firing was moderate.

FAIR, SAYS BILLY 'POSSUM

Oh, my, it's simply terrible. The trials that face us now. I've got to pick a spring suit out. I can't wear this again. What if it be green or navy blue or black? If I should make an error, my! Do you suppose they'd take it back? The whole thing is fair and moderately warm tonight and Wednesday.

CORRESPONDENTS INVITED TO "BIG DRIVE"

London, March 19.—The heads of the German army have invited a number of neutral correspondents to be present at the German offensive on the western front, the Exchange Telegraph correspondent at Copenhagen reports. The correspondents, it is stated, will leave for the front on Wednesday.

COBLENZ RAIDED WITH MUCH LOSS

Airmen Who Bombed Rhenish Prussian Town Believed to Have Been Americans.

TWO REVELATIONS MADE

Skepticism as to Americans Coming and Equal Fear of Them Exhibited.

London, March 19.—Fifty persons were killed and great material damage was done by bombs dropped by allied airmen when they raided Coblenz, Germany, on March 12, according to a neutral traveler, who arrived Monday at The Hague, the Times says.

"The people believed the raiders were Americans," the traveler said. "It was in the neighborhood of a big munition works at Muheim (north of Coblenz and also on the Rhine), at ten minutes past noon, when suddenly all the factory whistles started blowing and the sirens were sounded. Many women rushed from the works for the bomb proof shelters, while passing street cars were stopped as the crews bolted into houses. Four or five air planes were visible in the clear sky.

"Americans Are Coming!" "Presently some one exclaimed: 'They are Americans! Another person screamed aloud: 'The Americans are coming!' A Dutchman I knew rushed up to me and said: 'Didn't I tell you the Americans would come sooner or later?'"

"I cannot say whether the machines actually were American, but the striking thing was the evidence that there has been general skepticism whether American airplanes ever would come and equal fear of them when they do."

The neutral traveler added that, although the machines merely passed over Muheim on their way to Coblenz, it was not until 4 o'clock that the "all-clear" signal was sounded.

STRENGTHENING HIS SECOND LINE

With the American Army in France, Monday, March 18.—

(By the Associated Press.)—American artillery on the front today bombarded the enemy within the enemy lines. On several occasions a considerable number of gas shells were used. The gunners also dropped projectiles on German trenches and shells hit in the town of Essey and others in Montsec.

An American patrol between Renneville and Jure wood (between Neichray and Fizey), encountered an enemy patrol early this morning. For an hour and a half the patrol tried to make some of the enemy prisoner, but without result, although a number of fights with pistols and rifles occurred as the Germans retired, jumping from tree to tree. American snipers made a number of lucky shots today and Germans were seen to fall.

The American telephone wires within the American lines were tapped again during the night, not far from where the patrol encounter occurred. The enemy artillery fired a number of gas shells at our lines.

CROSSED TO GERMAN ZONE

The weather last night and today was well suited for aerial work and much was accomplished. American warrent guns drove off at least six enemy airplanes while others crossed the lines at such a height that they were out of range.

Last night airplanes from the rear of the American lines crossed over to the German zone. Soon after many explosions and flashes were heard and seen in the direction of Metz.

American planes discovered during the night that the Germans are strengthening their second line. It is known that the first line in many places virtually has been abandoned. It is believed that the accuracy of an artillery fire has had something to do with this.

CONTESTS EXPECTED OVER WAR FINANCE BILL

Washington, March 19.—House consideration of the war finance corporation bill was speeded up today under agreement to omit general debate at 12:30 p.m.

Representative Kitchin, in charge of the measure, was hopeful of passage tonight, but many members looked for lively contests over various amendments and predicted that a final vote would not be reached before late in the week.

AMERICAN CONSUL AT ODESSA SAFE AT ROSKOFF

Washington, March 19.—The American consul at Odessa escaped before the German occupation of that city and is now safe at Roskoff, according to a dispatch to the state department today from American Consul Summers at Moscow.

FRENCH PATROLS PENETRATE LINE OF ENEMY FORCES

Hostile Activity Increases in Ypres Vicinity—Struggle Severe on Belgian Front.

ENEMY EFFORTS REPULSED

Flame Projectors Used in Penetration at Yser—All Losses Retrieved.

Paris, March 19.—French patrols operating last night in the vicinity of Rheims, penetrated the German line to a distance of more than three-fifths of a mile, according to today's war office announcement. In the same region to the east of Silery, the attempt of a German raiding party was frustrated. There was heavy artillery fire during the night on the right bank of the Meuse in the Verdun region.

London, March 19.—"English troops carried out successful raids last night in the neighborhood of Villers-Guislain, Lavaquiere and Bois Grenier, and captured a number of prisoners," the war office announces. "The enemy's trenches east of Neuve Chapelle were raided by Portuguese troops, who brought back prisoners and two machine guns.

"During the night the enemy attempted three raids in the neighborhood of Fleurbaix and Bois Grenier but was repulsed with loss in each case. Our bombardier squadrons activity in the forward and back areas of the Ypres sector."

Report From Paris.

Paris, Monday, March 18.—Heavy artillery fighting is in progress on the Verdun front, says tonight's official communication. On the Belgian front there were severe struggles with the Germans who were expelled from positions in which they had gained a footing.

The announcement follows: "Two enemy raids, one south of Juyincourt, the other southeast of Corbeux, were repulsed after slight fighting in which the Germans sustained considerable loss. We took prisoners."

"The artillery on both sides was rather active, particularly in the regions of Samogneux and Beaumont (Verdun front), as well as in Lorraine between Hures and Badonviller.

"On Sunday three German airships were destroyed and six others were downed by our pilots. A capture balloon was set on fire by one of our aviators. Furthermore it has been learned that two other German airships were brought down on March 18 and 19. Our bombardier squadrons threw down six thousand kilograms of explosives on Saturday and 4,000 on Sunday on cantonnements, other military establishments and railway stations of the enemy."

Artillery Thrown Back.

"Belgian Front.—At dawn this morning the enemy made a serious attempt to break through the regions of Nieupoort, Dixmude and Mercken. Near Nieupoort the Germans gained a footing in some advanced positions but were partially thrown back. Near Mercken, assisted by a violent bombardment, the enemy penetrated our advanced posts, east of Reigervillet and south of Stuyvekenker, and also, owing to the use of flame projectors, into part of a trench on the west bank of the Yser.

"In counter attacks during the day we regained possession of all these posts and trench elements which had been temporarily lost. A number of prisoners and machine guns were positively identified in the courtyards. All along the front there was active artillery fighting, gas shells being used in many instances.

Explosives Effective.

"Macedonia Front.—Raids were carried out with success in the region of the great lakes of the Struma, where a French detachment surprised an enemy reconnoitering party and took prisoners. There was very great activity on the part of allied airplanes, who threw down more than 1900 kilograms of explosives on enemy establishments in the Struma and Verdun valleys and near Ilesna (west of Montastir), important results were observed."

WITNESS POSITIVE IN IDENTIFYING MURDERERS

Asheville, N. C., March 19.—Samuel Byrd, testifying for the state today in the trial at Morganton of Garfield and Aaron Pitts, charged with the murder of Dr. E. A. Hennessee, surprised the large crowd in the courtroom by positively identifying the Pitts boys as the men who fired the shots at Dr. Hennessee on the night of Jan. 31. The night was dark and foggy, but the witness walked up to the doctor, one on each side, and fired several shots and turned away. Then they came back to where Dr. Hennessee had fallen on his face and fired into the prostrate body. Dr. Hennessee had just left a train at Morganton when the shooting began.

CONFEREES AT WORK ON URGENT DEFICIENCY BILL

Washington, March 19.—Senate and house conferees today began work on the \$1,180,000,000 urgent deficiency appropriation bill, recently amended by the senate, to authorize the sale of all enemy property in this country and purchase by the government of the German warships at Hoboken, N. J.

The house conferees are expected to accept the senate amendments, although they are legislative "relaxers" which have not been considered by the house. The conferees also were considering senate increases in appropriations aggregating \$2,000,000.