

HUNS LAUNCH BIG INFANTRY ATTACK

GREAT ATTACK LAUNCHED IN SECTOR OF CAMBRAI

British Army Headquarters in France Reports Assault Which Bears All Ear-Marks of Beginning of Kaiser Wilhelm's Much-Heralded Offensive.

British Army Headquarters in France, March 21, 1 p.m.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Germans today launched a heavy attack on a wide front in and near the Cambrai sector. This assault bears all the ear-marks of being the beginning of the enemy's grand offensive.

Following a heavy bombardment, the Germans launched an infantry attack on a big scale on the front north of Valenciennes to the east of the front to the south of Valenciennes. The attack was directed against the British front, which was held by the 1st Canadian division and the 2nd and 3rd divisions of the British army. The Germans succeeded in capturing a number of British prisoners and a large amount of material.

SECRET FIGURES AS TO U-BOAT LOSSES PUBLISHED BY EMBASSY

Washington, March 21.—Secret figures of the British admiralty on submarine losses and world ship building were made public here today by the British embassy. They show that from both enemy action and marine risk on Jan. 1, 1918, allied and neutral shipping had lost since the war began 11,827,572 gross tons, while ship yards added of the central powers were turning out 6,606,275 tons. These figures, long withheld, are now made public, an admiralty memorandum says, because today they will stimulate the enemy and because they will impress upon the people the necessity of united action in making good losses by submarines.

In spite of the tremendous total of losses, they do not approach the claims of the Germans, and with 2,589,000 tons of enemy ships added to the output of the war period, the net loss to world shipping exclusive of that of Germany and her allies, is only 2,632,297. The minimum of losses was reached in the second quarter of 1917, after the unrestricted submarine warfare was launched. That quarter 2,236,934 gross tons of ships went down. Since then the total has been reduced until in the fourth quarter of 1917 it was only 1,278,842. In the meantime the shipbuilding output steadily curved upward. In the last quarter of 1917 it was 322,932 tons and at that time the enormously increased facilities of the United States had not begun to get into action. In announcing in the house of commons yesterday that hereafter figures on losses and building would be made public at regular intervals, Sir Eric Geddes, first lord of the admiralty, indicated that it still would be unwise to publish the total for the war. However, these totals now are given to the public, simultaneously in this country and in Great Britain.

Memorandum Follows. Following is the admiralty memorandum: "Memorandum issued by the British admiralty, showing in gross tons the losses to the world shipping by enemy action; the mercantile shipbuilding output and the enemy vessels captured and brought into service. "Hitherto the board of admiralty has been averse to any publication other than that contained in the weekly return of losses, although it has frequently been pressed upon them that the whole tonnage facts should be made public. So long as such publication would encourage the enemy and would stimulate his energies in a dangerous direction, they have not been able to concur in the proposal. "The figures today will not stimulate the enemy, and the admiralty recognizes that the policy of silence necessary as they believe it to have been from a naval point of view, has had this serious defect that it fails sufficiently to impress upon the people of this country the vital necessity of individual and united effort on their part to make good the losses caused by enemy submarines.

Each One Bears Responsibility. "Our partners in the war are making every effort to increase their production, and in the shipbuilding industry time must elapse before the desired output is secured to produce in the United Kingdom 1,800,000 tons in 1918 and to reach an ultimate production at the rate of 3,000,000 per annum as well within the present and prospective capacity of our shipyards and marine engineering shops; but the ranks of the skilled workmen will be enlarged without delay by the introduction of men and women at present unskilled. "The introduction of these newcomers, upgrading, and interchangeability of work are essential and must be increased in this country and in Great Britain.

Admiralty's Tables Follow. Losses by enemy action and marine risk (in gross tons) for the period, the United Kingdom, foreign, and the total for world, shown respectively: 1914: August and September, 214,000; 85,947; 399,947; fourth quarter, 154,728; 126,688; 281,416. 1915: First quarter, 215,905; 104,542; 320,447; second quarter, 223,676; 156,742; 380,418; third quarter, 356,659; 172,322; 528,981; fourth quarter, 307,139; 187,234; 494,373. 1916: First quarter, 325,237; 198,935; 524,172; second quarter, 270,490; 251,599; 522,089; third quarter, 284,358; 307,681; 592,039; fourth quarter, 617,568; 541,780; 1,159,348. 1917: First quarter, 511,840; 207,523; 719,363; second quarter, 1,561,870; 870,943; 2,432,813; third quarter, 953,958; 541,535; 1,495,473; fourth quarter, 782,889; 489,954; 1,272,843. Total, 4,975,492; 4,748,080; 11,827,572. Note: Figures for gross tonnage of world's tonnage for August and September, 1914, includes 182,829 gross tons interned in enemy ports. The mercantile shipbuilding output (in gross tons) for the period, the United Kingdom, foreign, and the total for the world, respectively, is as follows: 1914: To end of the year, 675,610; 227,191; 902,801. 1915: For the United Kingdom—First quarter, 266,267; second quarter, 146,870; third quarter, 145,979; fourth quarter, 92,712; total for the year, 651,928. Total for the world for the whole year, 1,202,000. 1916: For the United Kingdom—First quarter, 93,164; second quarter, 107,492; third quarter, 124,931; fourth quarter, 212,232; total for the whole year, 1,144,448; total for the world for the whole year, 1,448,000. 1917: For the United Kingdom—First quarter, 248,239; second quarter, 282,200; third quarter, 248,239; fourth quarter, 248,239; total for the year, 1,027,000. Total for the world for the whole year, 1,448,000. The third table shows 2,589,000 gross tons of enemy vessels captured and brought into service. Of this total, more than a million tons was taken at the outbreak of war.

TOWN IN UKRAINE TAKEN BY ENEMY

Berlin, March 21.—(Via London.)—Kheron, in the Ukraine, 92 miles northeast of Odessa, near the mouth of the Dniester, has been captured by the Teutonic forces, today's army headquarters report announces.

77 DUTCH SHIPS FLY STARRY FLAG

American Navy is Increased by About 600,000 Tons, Result of Requisition.

ENGLAND ACTS AFTER HEARING FROM U. S.

London, March 21.—The Associated Press learns that the United States, having authorized the requisitioning of Dutch shipping, Great Britain will immediately order similar action in regard to the Dutch vessels in British ports. Notwithstanding the statements which have emanated from Holland, the British government thus far has received no communication from the Netherlands government regarding acceptance or rejection of the allies' note.

Reverses Decision Of Canal Zone Courts

New Orleans, March 21.—After being confined in a Panama jail for several weeks on a charge of contempt of court, J. Budd Smith, board of New Jersey and Panama, representative of the Beneficial Loan society of Newark, N. J., was ordered released in a decision of the United States circuit court of appeals in New Orleans today. The decision reversed the decision of the district court of the canal zone. Smith, while acting for his firm, was charged, on complaint of J. A. Corcoran, with violating the canal zone's injunction against sale of property alleged to have been involved in bankruptcy proceedings.

GEORGIA BANKER MUST FACE ILLINOIS CHARGES

Atlanta, Ga., March 21.—Gov. Dorsey today honored a requisition issued by the governor of Illinois for Lawrence J. Cooper, president of the First National bank of Waycross, Ga., who is wanted in Chicago on a warrant sworn out by Simon Hamburg, of that city, charging Cooper with fraud in connection with a real estate deal. Counsel for Mr. Cooper and Harry A. Herger, assistant state's attorney for Cook county, Ill., signed an agreement with Cooper that he will be served with a warrant in Ware county, will sue out a writ of habeas corpus and give bond of \$10,000.

Overman Bill Placed On Calendar of Senate

Washington, March 21.—The Overman bill, proposing broad powers for the president to coordinate the government agencies in prosecuting the war, was reported in the senate today by Senator Overman, of North Carolina, and placed on the calendar.

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE TO HEAD SANITATION WORK

Washington, March 21.—Gen. Lee Christmas, the noted Central American revolutionist and soldier of fortune, has been engaged by President Estrada Cabrera, of Guatemala, to take charge of the work of sanitation and order. Guatemala City was shaken into ruins a few weeks ago by an earthquake.

Resume of War Events By Associated Press

Seizure of Dutch vessels by the United States and Great Britain and their use for allied purposes reduce materially the net allied loss due to German submarines and mines since the beginning of the war. A British government statement issued at Washington gives the gross loss up to Jan. 1, 1918, as 11,827,572 and the net loss as 2,632,297 tons. The Dutch shipping taken over by the allies aggregates 1,000,000.

To make up the deficiency in world tonnage caused by German ruthlessness on the seas, 6,606,275 tons of new ships were built in allied and neutral countries since the beginning of the war, and 2,589,000 tons of German and Austrian ships were seized by allied countries. The net loss is reduced further by Dutch vessels which generally have been idle in allied ports in fear of German submarines. Losses during the last twelve months have been announced in the British house of commons by Sir Eric Geddes, first lord of the admiralty, as having been 6,000,000 tons.

British losses last week were seventeen vessels, including eleven of 1,600 tons or over, a decrease from the previous week, when eighteen ships were sunk. In the previous week, however, fifteen of the vessels were of more than 1,600 tons. Owners of the seized ships will derive revenue from their use. Holland also will be allowed to obtain foodstuffs from abroad for her population, and her colonial trade will be protected.

There has been no change in the situation on the western front. Small raids have occurred here and there, but the main activity has been confined to artillery bombardments, which are intense on several important sectors. Artillery actions predominate on the Italian front.

Secretary Baker has completed his inspection of the American army zones in France. A brigade of veterans, who went to France with the first division were the first in the trenches and suffered the first casualties in action, was reviewed by the secretary. In his final day with the American army Secretary Baker visited the Verdun front and drove in an automobile for more than 100 miles from Verdun to American general headquarters.

AMERICANS PENETRATE TRENCHES AT LUNEVILLE

Hand-to-Hand Fighting Ensues. Raid Followed Intense Barrage. With the American Army in France, Wednesday, March 20.—(By the Associated Press.)—American troops in the sector east of Luneville participated tonight in a raid on German trenches, penetrating the enemy lines for some distance. Hand-to-hand fighting ensued.

Japanese to Furnish Tonnage to America

London, March 20.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Japanese commission having in hand the question of furnishing tonnage to the United States met on Saturday last. "America's proposed charter rate," the dispatch continues, "being one-half the local rate, it is understood that counter-proposals for a charter rate to include insurance, evincing a spirit of compromise, were drawn up for transmission to America."

Villistas Dynamite Train at Santa Sofia

El Paso, Tex., March 21.—Villa followers under Epifanio Holguin, dynamited and robbed a Mexico North-western mixed passenger and freight train this morning at Santa Sofia, 119 miles southwest of Juarez, killing two passengers and wounding ten, according to messages received here today and confirmed by the Mexican general consulate.

I. W. W. ACTIVITIES AS REASON FOR PASSING BILL

Washington, March 21.—Activities in the west of the Industrial Workers of the World was cited by Chairman Chamberlain of the senate military committee, today, as making necessary passage of the administration bill giving the government authority to commandeer timber and to conduct logging operations. Opening debate on the measure, Senator Chamberlain declared it might become necessary to send soldiers into the spruce districts.

FAIR, SAYS BILLY 'POSSUM

I herewith warn my creditors, in due and legal form, I've planned to wipe the whole state clean by early Easter morn. So meet me at the courthouse, or make it Fountain Square. At half-past twelve on Saturday night, and I'll pay you what is fair. The weather? Fair and moderate temperature tonight and Friday.

ADVANCE A NEW IN PALESTINE

London, March 21.—The British have made another advance in Palestine, capturing three towns, it is announced officially. A counter-attack by the Turks was repulsed.

OFFICER AND 3 MEN KILLED

Result American Destroyer's Collision With British Warship on March 19.

Washington, March 21.—Explosion of a depth charge aboard the American destroyer Manley when the vessel collided with a British warship in European waters, March 19, killed the American commander and three enlisted men and wounded eleven others. Both ships were damaged. In announcing the accident today the navy department gave no further details and withheld the location.

Washington, March 21.—One American officer and three men were killed aboard an American destroyer March 19 when the vessel collided with a British warship, the navy department announced today. A number of American sailors were injured.

The destroyer was the Manley. A depth charge on the Manley exploded when the vessels were damaged. Lieutenant-Commander Richard McCall Elliott, Jr., was killed. His wife lives in New York City.

The enlisted men killed were: Cecil Hall, Charleston, W. Va. Boatwain's Mate Lewis Cohen, New York City. Water Tender Charles Magoni, West Springfield, Mass. The following enlisted men were seriously injured: Electrician Edward C. Landwehr, Elizabeth, N. J. Charles Pierce, engineer, Lake Crystal, Minn.

Fred R. Lawson, engineman, Orange, Mass. Clarence F. Dechens, fireman, Joplin, Mo. Carl C. Russell, seaman, Stockton, Cal.

Richard S. Gailman, seaman, Troy, S. C. Albert W. Cecil, fireman, St. Louis, Mo. The following were slightly injured: Ralph H. Christie, yeoman, Calais, Me. John D. Mercer, fireman, Varnado, La. Edward H. Peters, seaman, New York City. Joseph F. Gumm, fireman, South Minneapolis, Minn.

Seeks Indictment of Milwaukee Mayor

Milwaukee, Wis., March 21.—Wheeler H. Bloodgood, chairman of the Milwaukee county Council of Defense, told newspaper reporters today that he had papers drawn up to seek the indictment of Mayor Daniel Hoan, socialist, just re-nominated. Hoan's re-election as mayor, being practically assured, he, Bloodgood would seek to have Milwaukee placed under military law.

Four Americans Held By Germans in Finland

Washington, March 21.—Detention of four Americans at Hornborg, Finland, was reported to the state department today by Ambassador Francis. The ambassador said he was trying to obtain permission for them to proceed to Sweden.

LOUISIANANS URGE LAWS TO PUNISH PRO-GERMANS

Washington, March 21.—Petitions signed by nearly 75,000 residents of Louisiana, North Dakota and Michigan, and circulated by representatives of the American Defense society, urging enactment of more drastic laws to punish persons or organizations for pro-German activities or disloyal utterances were presented in the senate today. Senator Brandell, of Louisiana, presented one signed by 60,000 residents of his state.

BOMBARDMENT BEGUN BY ENEMY OVER WIDE AREA

Artillery Action on Western Front Heard Distinctly at Dover and Other English Coast Towns—Windows Shaken Continuously. French Positions Attacked.

Berlin, March 21.—The artillery battle began again in full force along broad stretches of the western front this morning, army headquarters announced today.

Berlin (Via London), March 21.—Bavarian troops overran the first enemy line, southwest of Ornes, on the Verdun front, yesterday and advanced as far as the Brule ravine, capturing 240 men, army headquarters announced today.

The statement says: "Front of Grand Duke Albrecht—On the east bank of the Moselle and near Nomeny we carried out successful operations. The destructive fire of the French artillery at Farroy wood continues. "On broad sectors of the western front the artillery battle again broke out this morning in full force."

Austrians Take Part. Vienna, March 21.—(British admiralty per wireless press.)—Austro-Hungarian artillery has taken part in the fight against the English and French on the western front, it is announced in today's war office statement.

London, March 21.—The Germans shortly before dawn this morning began a heavy bombardment over a wide section of the British front, it is announced officially. "A heavy bombardment was opened by the enemy shortly before dawn this morning against our whole front: from the neighborhood of Vendeuil, south of St. Quentin to the River Scarpe."

A successful raid was carried out by us last night in the neighborhood of St. Quentin. Thirteen prisoners and three machine guns were brought back by our troops. Prisoners also were taken by us in patrol encounters southeast of Messines, and in other successful raids carried out by us south of Houtholst forest. "A raid undertaken by the enemy in the neighborhood of Armentieres was repulsed."

Heard at Coast Towns. The artillery action in the western front could be distinctly heard at Dover and other towns on the east coast of England. The doors and windows of the houses at Dover, for instance, were continuously shaken by the enemy's bombardments. The firing, which was the heaviest that has been heard in this district from such a distance, began at 8 o'clock this morning and lasted at brief intervals until 7 a.m.

Bright Flashes Seen. At Ramsgate, besides the sound of cannonading, bright flashes were seen at sea, while the vibration of the explosion shook the windows and dislodged tiles from the roofs. From Vendeuil north to the River Scarpe is a distance of nearly fifty miles, and the beginning by the German artillery of a heavy bombardment along this wide front may mean that preparation for the much-advertised German offensive in the west has begun. The preparatory work was about due to begin today, if the advance announcements were to be taken at their face value, judging from the news of a day or two ago that a party of our correspondents had been invited by the German high command to start for the west front Wednesday "to witness the offensive."

It is, of course, impossible to say whether the present burst of artillery fire on this front means that it is along the line indicated, or somewhere within its limits, that the heavy German blow, if one indeed is coming, is to be struck. There is the consideration that the bombardment in this particular area may be a feint, to cover a stroke in an altogether different sector. The most natural conclusion, however, is that the blow is to be made at some point in the area now under fire. This area embraces most of the territory outside of Flanders, over which the British have been fighting, sometimes alone and sometimes in conjunction with the French, for the last two years. It taken in, for instance, the entire field of the battle of the Somme, fought in the fall of 1916, and a great part of the area evacuated by the Germans the following spring.

Within these limits also is the battlefield of Cambrai, where the British and the Germans successively won victories in last fall's fighting. Virtually all the territory fought over in the great battle of Arras, during the spring of 1917, also lies in the area under bombardment. "French Positions Attacked. Paris, Wednesday, March 20.—A strong attack was made today by the Germans against French positions in the Woëvre. The war office announces that after spirited fighting the enemy was driven back. "The statement follows: "There was intermittent artillery fighting between the Allette and the Aisne and in the Champagne. The artillery struggle proved rather violent on the right bank of the Meuse (Verdun front) and in the forest of Farroy, in the Woëvre. In the region of Brule wood, the Germans today made a strong attack on our positions. After a spirited engagement our troops elected enemy detachments which had succeeded in gaining a footing in some of our advanced positions. Heavy Losses Suffered. "According to fuller information which is now at hand, the attack which the enemy made in the region of Souain early this morning was carried out by two battalions of shock troops, which suffered heavy losses and met with a complete check. "Bad weather yesterday impeded aerial operations. Information now at hand shows that six German airplanes and one captive balloon were reported as having been damaged on the preceding day in reality were destroyed by our pilots. "Germans Driven Back. Between Courrières wood and Beronvans, on the Verdun front, the Germans were driven back in violent hand-to-hand fighting this morning. In Lorrairie the Germans suffered a complete defeat in the region of Nomeny, sustaining heavy losses without attaining any success. Bombardment Sustained. Paris, March 21.—There has been an intense and sustained bombardment of the sectors north and southeast of Rheims as well as on the Champagne front, the war office announced today. At Many Points. British Army Headquarters in France, March 21, 11 a.m.—(By the Associated Press.)—A heavy bombardment by the enemy on the front from a short distance below the Scarpe River to the British right flank—from east of Arras to the region of La Fere—was begun at daylight this morning and was still continuing at the latest report. At the same hour the Germans began a display of artillery activity in the Meuse sector. At 4 o'clock they began a bombardment with gas shells along the Fleurbaix-Armentieres sector. It may be merely coincidence that a German prisoner stated recently that an enemy offensive was to begin March 20 or 21. Numerous other dates also have been given. At any rate, no infantry action had been reported at the time of this dispatch. For several days it has been indicated that the Germans have completed all their plans and are ready to begin operations. If this be within the scope of their program. The sky was overcast this morning. Observation from airplanes was extremely difficult.

Verdict of Not Guilty Rendered for Peterson

Raleigh, N. C., March 21.—A verdict of not guilty was returned today by the jury in the case of Maj. George L. Peterson, on trial here, charged with embezzlement of state funds while he served as paymaster-general of the North Carolina national guard. The jury was out about an hour. Maj. Peterson is now at camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C.

Former Premier to Try Forming Cabinet

Madrid, March 21.—Antonio Maura, former premier and conservative leader, has been instructed by King Alfonso to form a cabinet. The resignation of the cabinet of the Marquis de Albuquerca was presented on March 2, yielding to the king the cabinet agreed to continue in office. A dispatch from Bilbao Tuesday said that the de Albuquerca cabinet again had resigned.

Germany Threatens Heavier Terms of Peace

Washington, March 21.—Germany has threatened to impose still heavier terms of peace upon Rumania unless that country agrees to those proposed. The state department was informed today by a delayed telegram of Ambassador Francis, Field Marshal Mackensen, of the German army, informed the Rumanians of the alternative.