

SHIP AFIRE IN BAY; 15 REPORTED DEAD

"If It Happens In New York
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The

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Three Army Corps Abroad Have 675,000 Men VON HINDENBURG IS REPORTED DEAD

OIL SHIP BLOWS UP IN BAY; 15 MEN REPORTED KILLED AND 18 OTHERS INJURED

Explosion and Fire Aboard the
Cervantes Off 69th Street,
Bay Ridge.

30 MEN ARE RESCUED.

Members of Crew Blown Into
Water Picked Up by
Patrol Boats.

Fifteen members of the crew of the Spanish Line steamer Cervantes are reported to have been burned to death and eighteen others were severely burned shortly after noon today when fire in a deck cargo of oil quickly followed the explosion of the steamer's boilers where she lay at anchor off the foot of 69th Street in the Bay Ridge section of Brooklyn.

All of the injured members of the crew, who were picked up from the water surrounding the blazing ship by motor boats of the Submarine Patrol and private craft, were hurried to St. George's Staten Island, and lodged in the Staten Island Hospital there.

The dead, all of whom were members of the engineer staff and fire-room crew, are reported to have been trapped below by the flames, which quickly spread over the whole ship. Their avenue of escape via the fire-room ladder being cut off, they were burned to death.

At 2 o'clock the Cervantes was reported to be in a sinking condition. The fireboats Zephyr Mills, William J. Gaynor and New Yorker, which arrived on the scene a half hour after the sending in of the alarm from the Bay Ridge Police Station, were unable to draw nearer than a hundred yards from the ship, which was wrapped in an incandescent mantle of flame.

From the rescued members of the crew, few of whom speak English, only fragmentary accounts of the explosion and fire have been gleaned. The Cervantes, from Habana, was anchored on the Brooklyn side of the channel leading to the Narrows, about a half-mile from shore. Steam was up in all the boilers and she was head-on to sea, preparing to make way.

Suddenly came the explosion, which tore away a great hole in the superstructure just back of the bridge amidships and tilted the single funnel out of plumb. Fire seemed to spring up all over the ship almost instantly.

Through the hole made by the explosion great volumes of smoke poured upward. Another column from the forward deck indicated that the deckload of oil and gasoline had caught fire.

Some of the members of the crew amidships were blown over the rails and into the bay by the explosion. Others in the fore'st'le rushed through flames to hurl themselves over side.

Before five minutes had elapsed the big ship was seething from bow to stern and a huge mushroom of dense black smoke had spread high above the Narrows.

From both the Brooklyn and Staten Island shore small craft put out at once to rescue those who were struggling in the water and steam launchers from two men-of-war anchored

MITCHEL MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS TOTAL \$7,527.05

E. H. Outerbridge Leads To-
Day's Contributions With
\$250—Smallest 25 Cents.

E. H. Outerbridge, President of the Chamber of Commerce, to-day sent a check for \$250 to The World for the Memorial Fund to Major John Purroy Mitchel. The same mail bore a letter, in childish writing, inclosing 25 cents. With these two and a score more contributions received by The World up to noon to-day a total of \$7,527.05 has been subscribed. Of this amount \$450.25 was received this morning.

Though the largest contributions were smaller in number to-day, the smaller contributions were more numerous. Many letters were received inclosing \$2, \$1 and 50 cents. The Brooklyn Daily Eagle sent its "\$100 mite." E. Y. Gailaher, Vice President of the Western Union Telegraph Company, sent \$50. And "No Name" gave 25 cents.

The largest contribution to the fund yesterday was \$250 from the Journal of Commerce. Samuel Untermyer contributed \$250.

With the two larger subscriptions this morning, E. H. Outerbridge and The Brooklyn Daily Eagle, came tributes to Major Mitchel and laudatory comments on The World starting a fund to perpetuate his memory. MEMORIAL EXPRESSIVE OF A SENSE OF JUSTICE.

Mr. Outerbridge wrote: "Your starting a fund for a suitable memorial to the late Mayor Mitchel was more than a kindly thought—it was expressive of a sense of justice and affection which you rightly felt the citizens of New York would be eagerly glad, through this means, to express."

"Mr. Mitchel's work in the several public offices he held in this city will, of course, always be his greatest monument in history and in the minds and hearts of his people. He and his work were truly national assets because they accomplished results in uplifting the standard of municipal administration and in manifesting that, in what is perhaps the most difficult city in the world to govern, high principles, humane instincts, unflinching courage and persistent application and energy, made of its government a pattern that all cities of the country may well desire to emulate, and made it most highly respected at home and abroad."

"Coupled with these fine attributes of character was the attractiveness of youth and the personal charm which endeared him in a singular way to those who were brought in intimate relations with him."

"The testimonial in his memory shown by the citizens of New York at his funeral was perhaps a belated expression of the people's feeling, but it was an outpouring and a silent expression which will have a high educational value to all young people who were privileged to see it and

1,100,000 TROOPS ABROAD; N. Y. DIVISIONS FORM PART OF 675,000 IN THREE CORPS

331,000 Americans Actually on
Fighting Line, Gen. March
Announces.

ASSIGNMENT OF UNITS.

90,000 Soldiers Sent Across
Since Last Week and Rate
Keeps Up.

WASHINGTON, July 13.—American troops overseas and on shipboard en route has passed the 1,100,000 mark, Gen. March, Chief of Staff, told Senate Military Committee members to-day at their weekly conference. This represents an increase of more than 90,000 since last week. Of the Americans abroad 331,000 are in the fighting line and the others, Gen. March said, have reached a stage of training which would make them available in an extreme emergency.

More than 250 American airplanes had been shipped to France up to July 5, Gen. March said.

Three army corps of from 325,000 to 350,000 men each have been definitely organized from American divisions in France, Gen. March announced later at the weekly conference with newspaper men.

Major Gen. Hunter Liggett, commanding the 1st (the Sunset) Division, National Guard, has been detailed as temporary commander of the First Army Corps. Commanders for the Second and Third have not yet been designated.

Gen. March had little to say regarding the military situation in France, but stated that the shipment of troops was proceeding without any let up whatever, the same rate being maintained for July as for previous months.

In announcing the organization of the Army Corps, Gen. March showed that five regular, nine National Guard and four National Army Divisions have been used to make up the three corps.

COMPOSITE OF FIRST ARMY CORPS BY DIVISIONS.

The first corps is composed as follows: First division regulars, under Major Gen. Bullard; second division regulars, including Marines, under Major Gen. Bundy; twenty-sixth (New England) division, the first division sent to France, under Major Gen. Edward; forty-second (Maine)

Continued on Fourth Page.

HERTLING DENIES GERMANY INTENDS TO KEEP BELGIUM

Will Restore Country After
Using Her as Pawn,
He Says.

COPENHAGEN, July 13.—Denial that Germany intended to retain Belgium was made by Count von Hertling, the German Imperial Chancellor, in the course of his speech before the Reichstag Main Committee on Thursday.

"The present possession of Belgium only means that we have a pawn for future negotiations," the Chancellor said. "We have no intention to keep Belgium in any form whatever."

"What we precisely want as expressed by us on Feb. 24," the Chancellor continued, "is that after the war, restored Belgium shall as a self-dependent state not be subject to anybody as a vassal and shall live with us in good, friendly relations."

"I have held this point of view from the beginning in regard to Belgium and I still hold it to-day. This side of my policy is fully in conformity with the general lines, the direction of which I yesterday clearly laid before you."

"We are waging the war as a war of defense as we have done from the very beginning and every imperialistic tendency and every tendency to world domination has been remote from our minds."

"What we want," continued the Chancellor, "is the inviolability of our territory, open air for the expansion of our people in the economic domain and, naturally, also security in regard to the future."

"This is completely in conformity with my point of view in regard to Belgium, but how this point of view can be established in detail depends upon future negotiations and, on this point I am unable to give binding declarations."

During his address the Chancellor referred to Russia as follows: "Regarding the east, we stand on the basis of the peace of Brest-Litovsk, and we wish to see this peace carried out in a loyal manner. That is the wish of the German Imperial Administration, and it is supported in this by the chief of the army administration."

Von Payer to Quit if Pan-Germans Dictate Policy.

AMSTERDAM, July 13.—Confirmation was received here to-day that Vice-Chancellor von Payer has filed his resignation, to be effective in the event that Admiral von Hintze, the new Foreign Minister, attempts to follow the war aims and policies of the Pan-Germans.

Impeachment of Former Roumanian Ministers Asked.

BUCHAREST, Roumania, Friday, July 13.—Deputy Stroici to-day introduced a motion in Parliament demanding the impeachment of the members of the former Roumanian Cabinet, headed by J. J. C. Bratiano, for their connection with the entry of Roumania into the war.

FIELD MARSHAL AND KAISER HAD A VIOLENT QUARREL

BALKANS DRIVE SPREADS TO A FRONT OF 200 MILES

Rome Reports That Offensive Begun
in Albania Is Designed to Crush
Bulgaria and Turkey—Then Austria Will Be Attacked.

LONDON, July 13.—The general offensive in the Balkans, intended to smash Bulgaria and Turkey and to lead to the complete military overthrow of Austria-Hungary, is believed to be under way, with Italians, French, British, Serbians, Greeks and Montenegrins in the fighting.

According to the Associated Press correspondent in Rome, despatches there declare the Italian and Allied troops in Albania have succeeded in perfecting a single front, extending 200 miles from the Adriatic Sea to Salonica on the Aegean Sea.

Other messages from Rome quote political and military leaders as saying "Austria is about to crumble."

Unofficial advices place the number of Allied troops in the Balkans at close to a million, including Italians, French, British, Serbians and Greeks.

BERAT HAILS CAPTORS AS LIBERATORS.

ROME, July 13.—"The Albanian advance is continuing rapidly," a semi-official statement declared to-day.

"The enemy is making only sporadic, rear guard resistance. He has abandoned and failed to destroy abundant war material, which has been captured by our forces."

"The population of Berat hailed our troops as liberators."

FRENCH STRIKE AT NEW POINT AND GAIN BELOW MONTDIDIER

Follow Advance in Picardy Yesterday With
Blow Further South and Capture a Farm.
[FRENCH REPORT]

PARIS, July 13.—In an operation carried out last night on a front between Montdidier and the Oise, the French pushed their advanced posts forward a distance of approximately 500 yards in the vicinity of the Porte Farm, the War Office announced to-day.

[The Porte Farm is in the vicinity of Antheuil, northwest of Compiègne. This farm, together with the Loges Farm, together with the Loges Farm, nearby, was captured by the French in a local operation on the evening of July 6.]

[To-day's gains follow those of yesterday in Picardy. Petain's troops advanced on a three-mile front north of Mailly-Ratneval (eight miles northwest of Montdidier and six miles north of Cantigny, which has been taken by the Americans) and broke into the enemy's front for a distance of a mile and a quarter. The village of Castle, on the Aye River; the Ancelin Farm, a mile and a half south of the village, and several other strong positions were stormed, and 500 German prisoners already have been sent to the rear.]

Following is the text of the day's report from the War Office:

"Between Montdidier and the Oise the French in the course of the night advanced their forward posts 500 metres in the region of the Porte Farm."

"Successful raids were carried out by French troops north of the Aye (southeast of Amiens), in the region of the Oise, on the Marne, and in the Champagne, resulting in the taking of prisoners."

OFFICIAL BRITISH REPORT.

LONDON, July 13.—Successful minor enterprises were carried out by the British last night on the Flanders front, near Vieux Berquin and Merris, as a result of which ninety-six prisoners were taken and a few machine guns captured, the War Office announced to-day.

A German raiding party which advanced upon the British lines in Flanders, in the Meterean sector, was repulsed. The German artillery developed activity during the night on the Flanders front and opposite Beaumont-Hamel.

Report From The Hague Says the
Kaiser and Von Hindenburg Had
Serious Differences Over Drive
Toward Paris, and That General
Was Stricken With Apoplexy.

AMSTERDAM, July 13 (By Associated Press).—Field Marshal von Hindenburg is dead, according to the newspaper Les Nouvelles. His death is said to have occurred after a stormy interview with the German Emperor at Great Headquarters. For several days there have been persistent reports that Gen. von Hindenburg was gravely ill at Great Headquarters at the Spa. The Emperor and the Field Marshal are declared to have had serious differences of opinion concerning the German offensive toward Paris. The Field Marshal died from congestion of the brain.

The interview between von Hindenburg and Emperor William occurred on May 16, Les Nouvelles says. It was followed by an apoplectic stroke which ultimately resulted in the Field Marshal's death.

The newspaper says its information was obtained "from good sources in the occupied district of Belgium."

The newspaper Les Nouvelles, which reports the death of the German leader, is a newspaper in the French language published at The Hague. In the last six months there have been several rumors of the death of Field Marshal von Hindenburg and there have been many reports that he has been in poor health. A despatch received in London yesterday from The Hague quoted a Dutch traveller from Germany as declaring that a report that the Field Marshal was ill and unable to participate in the work at army headquarters had spread all over Germany. German newspapers were not permitted to mention the rumor. The traveller added that Gen. Ludendorff, the first Quartermaster General, had taken over the Field Marshal's duties as Chief of the General Staff.

Keeping step with reports of the Field Marshal's health have been despatches from Germany indicating that the Field Marshal and the Emperor had had disagreements concerning the German offensive movement in the west.

Late in May Field Marshal von Hindenburg was reported ill with typhoid fever at Strassburg. The Field Marshal on June 18 was reported by the Tribune of Geneva to be suffering from an acute nervous disease. The newspaper declared it had learned from a reliable source that his capacity was much affected and that he was confined in a private sanatorium. It added that the Field Marshal had taken no responsible part in the offensive on the western front.

At the outbreak of the war Field Marshal von Hindenburg was a General in retirement. He was credited with evolving and carrying out the campaign against the Russians in East Prussia which resulted in the serious Russian defeat at Tannenberg, for which he was promoted to Field Marshal. He continued to command the German forces on the Russian front until Aug. 30, 1916, when he was appointed Chief of the General Staff in succession to Gen. von Falkenhayn. When he became Chief of the General Staff Gen. Ludendorff, who had acted as his Chief of Staff on the Russian front, came with him as his right hand man with the title of Chief Quartermaster General.

Gen. von Hindenburg was born in Posen Oct. 2, 1847, the son of an officer. In 1865 he entered the Third Regiment of the Guards and took part in Prussia's war against Austria. Later he was advanced to the rank of Major, and went to the War Department in 1889 as Chief of Division.

From 1891 until 1896 he was commander of the 91st Infantry, and during the following four years was Chief of Staff of the Eighth Army Corps. In 1900 he was placed in command of the 28th Division and in 1903 of the

NAVAL AVIATOR KILLED
IN FALL OF SEA PLANE

Machine Bearing Ensign Andrews
Crashes to Earth—Ensign Parks
Probably Fatally Hurt.

CHATHAM, Mass., July 13.—Ensign Andrews, a naval aviator, was killed and Ensign Parks probably fatally injured in the fall of a seaplane on the beach here to-day. The machine crashed to earth and instantly caught fire.

The seaplane started out from the aviation camp in a fog and apparently the pilot lost his bearings.

GERMANS KILL FIVE BELGIAN
PEASANTS IN FOOD RIOTS

AMSTERDAM, July 13.—Five Belgian peasants were killed and fifteen were injured by German soldiers during a riot in the city market at Brussels Wednesday, it was learned here to-day. The trouble resulted from German officers requisitioning vegetables.

To Guard Camp From Disease.

WASHINGTON, July 13.—Senior Surgeon C. C. Pierce of the Public Health Service has been appointed an Assistant Surgeon General in charge of a newly created division to combat insidious diseases, particularly in the vicinity of army camps.

(Continued on Second Page.)

WANT TO GAIN WEIGHT?
Foster John's Medicine makes new flesh and
builds stronger strength.—Ad.