

GERMAN SHELLS WRECKING AMIENS

Turning This French City Into Another Rheims.

MEN AND WOMEN KILLED

Public Buildings And The Cathedral Pierced And Damaged—Picardy's Capital Becoming A Heap Of Ruins.

French Front in France.—The German artillery, under orders from the Prussian and Bavarian Crown Prince, is doing its utmost to turn Amiens into another Rheims. Picardy's capital has already suffered terribly from this effort to carry out the German idea of striking terror into the Fatherland's enemies by the destruction of their most loved works of art, and every day adds to its suffering.

The correspondent went all over the abandoned city and observed the effects of the bombardment, which has turned parts of the town into heaps of ruins and killed 52 men civilians, 30 women and five children, besides wounding 62 men, 48 women and 19 children before the population had an opportunity to evacuate the place. Since the Germans have been within cannon shot of Amiens, they have hurled no fewer than 5,800 shells, mostly six-inch and eight-inch, into the city.

Every indication points to a systematic effort to destroy the public buildings, as the Cathedral has been struck by shells, which have pierced the roof and walls, and the object of firing incessantly upon the town cannot be explained, except upon the assumption that it is carried out with the purely barbarous idea of the destruction of the beautiful objects it contains.

This follows from the fact that no troops whatever are in the city and that the railroad passing through it is not in use. The cannonade generally ceases at nightfall, only to be replaced by air raids, which occur almost every night. Aerial torpedoes to the number of 680 have been launched from airplanes upon various parts of the city. As most of the shells and torpedoes are of the incendiary type they have caused enormous damage, so that up to the present 1,200 houses have been destroyed.

When the German, who gallantly stuck to their posts, have attempted to extinguish the flames the German gunners, seeing the glare of the fire they had caused, have continued to throw shells upon the spot, while at night the German airmen have circled high over the blaze and dropped more bombs.

The Cathedral, which possesses the finest Gothic nave in existence, has so far escaped serious damage, but any moment may see irreparable injury done it, as projectiles continue to fall all around it. The task of the authorities in getting the people away when they discovered the intentions of the Germans to destroy the city was a tremendous one, as the refugees from the devastated districts had increased the population to 120,000, all of whom had to be removed from danger within a few days. The arrangements, however, worked perfectly and all the people are now safely housed elsewhere.

All traffic is forbidden to enter the city so that the enemy may not be given ground for declaring the bombardment one of military exigency.

HUNS LOSE 12 PLANES.

British In Big Air Battle With The Enemy.

London.—The official statement on aerial operations says: "Flying again was almost impossible Tuesday after 5 o'clock because of the pouring rain. The weather then cleared suddenly and machines were sent out. Four hundred bombs were dropped on different targets all along the front. Twelve hostile machines were brought down in fighting, eight of which were accounted for in a big encounter in the neighborhood of Douai. A German observation balloon was brought down in flames. None of our machines is missing."

PREDICTS NEED FOR 8,000,000.

Congressman Kahn Sets High Figure For U. S. Army.

Washington.—Speaking in the House, Representative Kahn, of California, ranking Republican on the Military Committee, declared that, in his opinion, Class 1 of the draft would be exhausted within a year and that before the war was over the United States would need 8,000,000 men in Europe.

SPY LANDED ON IRISH COAST.

Man Carried By German Submarine Is Court-Martialed.

London.—A German submarine recently landed a man on the Irish coast where he was arrested by Government officials. James MacPherson, Parliamentary Secretary to the War Office, announced in the House of Commons that this man was in the Tower of London and would be court-martialed.

Every Coat Should Have a Silver Lining



OVER 500,000 NOW IN FRANCE

Secretary Baker Makes First Official Announcement.

WILL SOON BE OVER MILLION

Secretary Baker Is Elated Over What Has Been Accomplished—All Are Fully Equipped For Service.

Washington.—More than half a million American soldiers have been sent to France. Secretary Baker authorized the statement that his forecast to Congress in January that 500,000 troops would be dispatched to France early in the present year now had been surpassed.

Mr. Baker dictated the following statement: "In January I told the Senate committee that there was strong likelihood that early in the present year 500,000 American troops would be dispatched to France. I cannot either now or perhaps later discuss the number of American troops in France; but I am glad to be able to say that the forecast I made has been surpassed."

As a result of a personal investigation of machine-gun production during the past few days the Secretary announced that there is no present shortage of light or heavy types of these weapons either in France or America, and no shortage is in prospect.

Mr. Baker said there had been no question brought up as to the supplies of light type Browning guns, which were coming forward in quantities. He would not say whether shipment of these guns to France had been started. As to the heavy Browning, he said:

"Early manufacturers' estimates as to the production of the heavy type perhaps were more optimistic than was justified. The estimate of the Ordnance Department in January has been met and is being met. Some of these heavy guns have been produced and there is every indication of forthcoming production increasing and in substantial numbers."

The Secretary chose his words about the troops in France with utmost care. He would not amplify the statement in any way and specifically asked that the press refrain from speculation as to what precise figures his guarded remarks covered or as to what possibilities of early further increase in the force on the other side there might be.

There has been repeated official announcements, however, that the government is bending every energy to rushing men across to back up the Allied lines in France and officers directly in charge of the transportation have expressed satisfaction with the progress being made. There is no doubt that the present force of American troops there represents only a small part of the total strength that will be available for employment by General Foch before the summer fighting ends.

There are indications, too, that the War Department has adhered strictly to its policy of equipping fully before his departure every man sent across. That is the first consideration in checking off supplies of clothing and arms. Mr. Baker's recent study of the whole ordnance program was founded on his desire to see just what the situation was in this slowest element of the war preparations.

His conclusions as to machine guns follow on the heels of pessimistic statements by members of Congress in this regard. In the discussion of the production of Browning machine guns contracts for other types, both here and abroad, apparently have been lost sight of. These contracts preceded the placing of orders for the Brownings and that supply was designed to meet the emergency until the new gun was available in quantities.

The present practice of brigading American units with French and British divisions, it is pointed out, makes the artillery question less pressing as an immediate independent supply.

WEEK FOR GIVING TO THE RED CROSS

President Wilson Calls on Nation to Aid.

GREATEST MOTHER ON EARTH

Proclamation Fixes Week of May 20 As Red Cross Week, During Which Efforts Will Be Made To Raise \$100,000,000.

Washington.—President Wilson issued a proclamation designating the week beginning May 20 as "Red Cross Week," and calling upon the American people to contribute generously to the second \$100,000,000 war fund of the American Red Cross for the alleviation of suffering among the American troops in France and their dependents at home and among the fighting forces and civilian populations of the allied countries.

The proclamation follows:

"Inasmuch as the war fund of 1917, so generously contributed by the American people to the American Red Cross for the administration of relief at home and abroad, has been practically exhausted by appropriations for the welfare of the men in our military and naval forces, and for those dependent upon them, and for the yet more urgent necessities of our Allies, military and civilian, who have long borne the brunt of war:

"And, inasmuch as the American Red Cross has been recognized by law and international convention as the public instrumentality for war relief:

"And, inasmuch as the year of our own participation in the war has brought unprecedented demands on the patriotism and liberality of our people and made evident the necessity of concentrating the work of relief in one main organization which can respond effectively and universally to the needs of humanity under stress of war:

"And, inasmuch as the duration of the war and the closer and closer cooperation of the American Red Cross with our own Army and Navy, with the governments of our Allies, and with foreign relief organizations have resulted in the discovery of new opportunities of helpfulness under conditions which translate opportunity into duty:

"And, inasmuch as the American Red Cross War Council and its commissioners in Europe have faithfully and economically administered the people's trust:

"Now, therefore, by virtue of my authority as President of the United States and President of the American Red Cross, I, Woodrow Wilson, do hereby proclaim the week beginning May 20, 1918, as 'Red Cross Week,' during which the people of the United States will be called upon again to give generously to the continuation of the important work of relieving distress, restoring the waste of war, and assisting in maintaining the morale of our own troops and the troops and peoples of our Allies by the manifestation of effort and sacrifice on the part of those, who though not privileged to bear arms, are of one spirit, purpose and determination with our warriors.

"In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done in the District of Columbia this 4th day of May, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the One Hundred and Forty-second.

"By the President:
(Signed)
WOODROW WILSON,
"ROBERT LANSING,
"Secretary of State."

KILLED WHEN PLANE FALLS.

Lieutenant Sherman's Machine Drops 300 Feet.

Lawton, Okla.—Lieut. George Sherman, student officer at Post Field School for Aerial Observers, was killed here when an army airplane in which he was making a flight fell 300 feet. The pilot of the machine was only slightly injured.

WILSON ORDERS AIRCRAFT INQUIRY

Acts to Clear Innocent or Find Guilty.

GRAFT CHARGE TO BE AIRED

President Instructs Department Of Justice To Make Investigation As Result Of Demand By Senate And Mr. Coffin.

Washington.—Talk of graft and mismanagement in the national airplane construction program, heard for months in Senate debate and Capitol lobby gossip, has culminated in a presidential order for an investigation by the Department of Justice. Almost simultaneously it became known that Major General Squier, chief signal officer and until recently in direct charge of army aviation, had demanded a military court of inquiry.

The White House in announcing President Wilson's action made public a telegram received from Howard Coffin, former chairman of the Aircraft Board, urging an official inquiry. "That reputations of innocent men may not be ruined," and a series of letters and telegrams exchanged between the President and Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor to whom is attributed responsibility for statements that corruption in the expenditure of funds and pro-German intrigue had hindered airplane production.

There also was a letter written by the President to Senator Thomas, of Colorado, a member of the Senate Military Committee, assuring him that every instrumentality of the Department of Justice will be used to pursue charges of dishonesty or malversation of any kind if Mr. Borglum's allegations are found worthy of serious consideration. Senator Thomas laid before the President last week assertions made to members of the committee by the sculptor.

The exact status of Mr. Borglum as an investigator, which, until now, has been more or less of a mystery to the public, is cleared up by the correspondence. It develops that after the sculptor had written to Secretary Tumulty last November in regard to alleged defects in the aviation organization and the desirability of having certain experts called in, the President asked him to present his ideas. Later, on January 2, the President wrote a letter to Mr. Borglum asking him to come to Washington and lay the matter before the Secretary of War, and with the aid of a member of the Secretary's personal staff discover the facts by personal investigation.

Borglum did this, and on February 1 the President sent a preliminary report from him to Secretary Baker with this note: "Here is Mr. Borglum's preliminary report. Is there not someone entirely disconnected from aeronautics and from those who are prominent in carrying out the airplane program whom you can ask to go over this thing with an unbiased mind and give us his naive impressions of it? There may be something worthy of our consideration and suggestions worthy to be adopted."

On March 29, after an exchange of telegrams with Borglum, the President wrote that he had placed the material the latter had furnished at the disposal of gentlemen to whom he had committed the task of making a systematic inquiry into the whole aviation situation. These gentlemen were the special committee headed by H. Snowden Marshall, of New York, whose preliminary report preceded the recent reorganization of the Army Aviation Service and the appointment of John D. Ryan as director general.

EIGHTH WOMAN IN CASE.

Says Helmut Schmidt Married And Then Robbed Her.

Detroit, Mich.—The eighth woman to enter the mystery surrounding Helmut Schmidt, self-slayer and alleged bigamist according to local authorities identified him positively as the man to whom she was married and who, four days later, deserted her, taking \$2,000 of her savings. She is Mrs. Helmut Schmidt, of Chicago, to whom a photograph of Schmidt was sent a week ago by the police here.

TROUBLE IN AUSTRIAN FLEET.

Slavs And Latins Create Disturbance.

Washington.—Serious disturbances in the Austrian-Hungarian fleet have caused changes in the high command and a dispatch from Switzerland said. The crews, composed largely of Slavs and men of Italian descent have made a great deal of trouble, and the disturbances were put down with difficulty.

WHOLE FAMILY LOST IN FLOOD.

Man, Wife And Four Children And Another Woman Drown.

Clarksburg, W. Va.—James Carder, his wife, their four children and Mrs. Leroy Enix were drowned in a flood which swept down from the mountains and almost obliterated the little village of Big Isaac, in Doddridge county.

PENNSYLVANIA BRIEFS

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THE MARKETS

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Live Stock

KANSAS CITY.—Hogs—Bulk, \$17.15@17.40; heavy, \$17.15@17.50; packers and butchers, \$17.25@17.55; light, \$17.25@17.50; pigs, \$13.75@17.50.
Cattle—Prime fed steers, \$18.50@17.50; dressed beef steers, \$15.25@16.75; Southern steers, \$10@15.50; cows, \$7.75@14; heifers, \$8.50@14; stockers and feeders, \$8.50@15; bulls, \$8@12.75; calves, \$8@13.