

FRENCH HURL BACK FIERCE ATTACK OF CROWN PRINCE'S ARMY ON ARGONNE FRONT

40,000 Germans Suffer Defeat in Desperate Attempt to Pierce Verdun Lines.

Teutonic Forces Fail to Break Through Left Flank of Enemy Defending Great Fortress and Retreat With Heavy Losses.

Kaiser's Troops Try in Vain to Regain Ground in Alsace—Violent Attacks Repulsed by Joffre's Warriors Operating in Vosges and Along River Fecht.

PARIS, July 1.—The German Crown Prince's army has been beaten and thrown back with severe losses in attacks upon the French positions around Verdun...

Hard fighting is still going on in Alsace. The communiqué states that the Germans renewed their attacks in the region of Metzeral in the Vosges, but were repulsed, suffering heavy losses.

The text of the communiqué follows: "The night was quiet in the north in the region of Arras and as far as Champagne."

The German attack in the Argonne reported yesterday was particularly violent. The forces engaged were estimated at two divisions. That attack was broken up. Two new attacks on our trenches to the east of Benarville were repulsed. Another violent attack made by the enemy in the region of Metzeral was completely checked. The Germans suffered heavy losses.

BOYS WANT "GOOD TIME." THEY STEAL FOR SPENDING MONEY

House of Detention Head Explains Spring "Crime Wave."

At this time of the year a boy's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of vacation, good times and sufficient pocket money.

"Just after schools close the boys start out to have a good time, or to obtain the means to have a good time," said Mr. Richardson.

"For some of the offenders I get position on farms. In other cases I advise the parents to keep a sharper watch on them. Many tales the boys tell me of their desires and ambitions bring up memories of the days when I was a kid. Boys never change; they will get into mischief of some kind in spite of all that their parents do."

EX-TREASURER OF DELAWARE INJURED

LAUREL, Del., July 1.—Charles Hastings, ex-State Treasurer and one of the best known politicians and business men in Delaware, was run over by an automobile driven by Jennings Quillen here this morning and severely injured.

THE WEATHER

Be careful. It is best not to allow a hypothetical blue sky to beguile you into thinking you are going to reach home tonight with a dry skin.

RE VITTORIO VISITA IL FRONTE DI BATTAGLIA

Gli Austriaci Rafforzano le Loro Posizioni—Un Forte Preso con Uno Stratagemma.

Il re e l'on. Salandra hanno appena ieri sera completato un giro di ispezione di tutto il fronte di battaglia e, come dice un telegramma da Roma, sono stati vivamente applauditi.

Il comunicato ufficiale italiano dice che il cattivo tempo che persiste sul fronte dell'Isone ha fatto sospendere quasi le operazioni di guerra, dando anche luogo a un'offensiva di meglio organizzare e rinforzare la loro difesa.

Un dispaccio da Ginevra dice che gli italiani hanno conquistato ieri l'altro un importante forte austriaco a Comi Sagna, a nord-ovest di Ala, quando un capitano italiano con un centinaio di soldati si presentò di sorpresa davanti al forte e fece credere al comandante austriaco che il forte era circondato.

L'occupazione di Scutari di Albania da parte delle truppe montenegrine ha dato luogo a una manifestazione a Roma e si dice che il governo italiano abbia già protestato contro questa occupazione.

HIS OFFICE MADE INTO BOWER



Superintendent of Mails J. J. Morrissey found his desk piled high with remembrances from friends when he took up his new duties today in the Postoffice Building.

CITY SAVES \$500,000 BY MAKING M'NICHOL CUT CONTRACT PRICES

Forced to Bid Low Through Keen Competition, He Takes Work at \$1,000,000 Which Otherwise Would Have Cost \$1,500,000.

Within the last 60 days, Senator McNichol and the companies with which he is affiliated have obtained contracts from the Department of Public Works amounting to \$2,000,000 in round numbers.

In this mad scramble to get the contracts, Senator McNichol has for the first time violated the "gentlemen's agreement" which was supposed to exist between himself and his business associates and the Vares, an agreement that divided the city at Market street.

He not only put in a bid for work south of Market street, but did it at a price that is 64 cents per cubic yard more than he bid for similar work in 1912 and \$1.15 less per square yard than E. H. Vare bid in 1909.

Another big contract went to Senator McNichol's United Paving Company at a price fully 25 per cent less than the company bid for the same work for 1912-13.

Figuring on the basis of the "Contractor-Job" prior to the advent of the Blankenburg administration, these same contracts Senator McNichol has obtained at \$1,000,000 would have cost the city practically half a million dollars more.

Just what has induced Senator McNichol to make these startling reductions in the cost of the contract work is known only to himself and his business associates. But the fact remains that he has procured highway work that will keep him in "harness" for a year to a year and a half.

The contract on which Senator McNichol has made the biggest cut in his own prices is that for the work of grading the Northeast Boulevard or Plaza. The figure on the contract just awarded to him for grading the Plaza is at 23 cents per cubic yard. The difference is 55 cents per cubic yard, or a trifle more than 68 per cent, lower than his bid 23 years ago.

But Senator McNichol did not make this reduction of 55 cents per cubic yard all at once. He came to it gradually.

His standard price in 1902 was 22 cents per cubic yard. When the Blankenburg administration took hold of City Hall he evidently realized that the old figures

Continued on Page Three, Column Three

MAYOR SHOWS SAVING OF \$5,000,000 DESPITE COUNCILS' OPPOSITION

Last Annual Message Allows Facts to Prove Antagonism of Legislators During Four Years of Administration.

A scathing indictment of City Councils was delivered today by Mayor Blankenburg in his fourth and last annual message to that body.

The message was delivered this afternoon. There were no traces of the bitterness and sarcasm that have marked previous messages of the city's executive to Councils. He confined himself to cold, indisputable facts in every argument he put forth.

Detailed reports showed that savings approximating \$5,000,000 were accomplished under his administration, despite tactics which opposed his work.

The message was delivered this afternoon. There were no traces of the bitterness and sarcasm that have marked previous messages of the city's executive to Councils.

The direct savings for four years will amount to much more than \$5,000,000, as is shown in the reports of various departments, while the indirect savings, in improved service, greater efficiency and general results directly traceable to the adoption and pursuing of business methods, amount to a vastly greater sum.

Those years have been marked not only by notable economy in the conduct of the city's business, but also by a degree of efficiency which is recognized by our citizens generally. The city is lighted more cheaply and much better than ever before; pure water supply has contributed to the health of the community; the streets, a few years ago in a most deplorable condition, are well-paved; public buildings, bridges and sewers have been constructed with economy, without taint of graft, and in a manner to bring credit upon Philadelphia; the work of the police and fire bureaus has been reorganized and rendered more effective; the death rate has been reduced, and in a hundred other particulars the city has taken great strides toward a businesslike government.

Our people recognize the beneficial results of a city administration conducted on honest business principles for the benefit not of officeholders, nor of politicians, but of the multitude of men, women and children for whom we in public office administer a sacred trust.

Let us unitedly strive to advance the standards of administration which have been established during these years and make "Our City," of which we are justly proud, a model in all respects for the cities of the United States.

High praise for Director of Public Safety George D. Porter is given by the Mayor.

Continued on Page Four, Column Two

SUNKEN LINER WAS EMPLOYED BY ADMIRALTY

British Government Admits Control of Torpedoed Armenian to Ambassador Page.

Captain Ignored Warning Shots Before Submarine Struck Final Blow, Survivors Declare—German Commander Called Halt in English.

Steam Flooding On as U-38 Pursued Prey, Crowded in Zigzag Course. Stricken Ship Not Unresting Merchantman—Destroyer Biggest and Swiftest Undersea.

WASHINGTON, July 1.—The British Admiralty has informed Ambassador Page, in London, that the steamship Armenian, sunk by a German submarine with the loss of 21 American lives, was engaged in Admiralty business and that she carried no passengers.

This information was cabled by Ambassador Page to the State Department today. The Ambassador suggested that the Americans who were lost with the Armenian appeared, therefore, to have been members of the crew. The effect of this statement, if it be confirmed by later developments, will be to remove the censure of the American Government, which otherwise might be brought against Germany, that American citizens on an unarmed merchantman had perished through the attack of a German submarine on their vessel.

The statement by the British Admiralty to Ambassador Page is in apparent contradiction to the statement issued by the Leyland line officials in New York, to the effect that the Armenian was not under charter to the British Government, but merely was an unarmed merchantman carrying miles to Europe.

The British Government, by its admission that the Armenian was on admiralty business, virtually places the vessel in the legal status of a transport, and the Americans in her crew are placed in the legal status of belligerents.

That Germany will have excellent grounds for maintaining it was justified in sinking the steamship Armenian was the consensus of unofficial opinion here today.

The State Department ordered a full investigation. Ambassador Page, London, was instructed to send a man to the scene of the affair, Ambassador Gerard, Berlin, was directed to get a complete report from the commander of the German submarine which sank the ship. An inquiry was also in progress at Newport News, whence the Armenian sailed with its cargo of miles.

Some international experts were to be answered: Who were the members of the Armenian crew—the British Admiralty or the Leyland line? Who was in charge of the mules—a British officer?

News accounts also agreed that, instead of submitting to a search, the vessel began sending out wireless calls for aid and trying to escape when the German submarine was sighted. Under such circumstances, the best posted authorities agreed that international law justified the Germans in destroying her.

Some international experts were of the opinion that if the Armenian was in the London Admiralty's service America's controversy was with the British Government.

They cited the treaty of Washington, signed between the United States and Great Britain in 1817, as prohibiting warships of either nation, in time of war, from loading war materials at the other nation's ports. Mules, they asserted, were war material.

Officials said it would be time to consider this if the Armenian were proved to be a warship.

ARMENIAN TRIED TO FLEE AFTER WARNING WAS GIVEN

AVONMOUTH, Eng., July 1.—A monster submarine, larger than any ever seen in British waters, torpedoed and sank the Leyland liner Armenian, according to reports received here today.

Continued on Page Two, Column Five

TWO WEEKS' LEASE OF LIFE FOR BECKER

Governor Repeives Him to July 26 to Allow Appeal to U. S. Supreme Court.

ALBANY, N. Y., July 1.—Ex-Police Lieutenant Charles Becker, sentenced to die in the electric chair for the murder of Herman Rosenthal, today was granted a reprieve until the week of July 25. Governor Whitman granted the reprieve to enable the condemned man to make a final appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

The Governor's action probably means that Becker will not die until after the autumn term of the Supreme Court if at all.

QUICK NEWS

SUIT AGAINST SPORTING GOODS COMPANY

Suit by attachment was begun in Common Pleas Court No. 5 today by P. Goldsmith's Sons, a Cincinnati firm, against Chief Bender Sporting Goods Company to recover \$400 alleged to be due for a bill of goods furnished the Bender concern.

THIRTY LIVES LATEST ESTIMATE OF ARMENIAN LOSS

LONDON, July 1.—Admiralty dispatches this afternoon reported 30 lives lost in the sinking of the liner Armenian, 11 of which were Americans. Survivors were landed at Cardiff, Bristol and Liverpool. The American Embassy today arranged to send the American survivors to their homes.

UNITED STATES LOAN SOCIETY SUES FORMER OFFICERS

Proceedings in equity were brought today in Common Pleas Court by the United States Loan Society against 17 former officers and directors, charging negligence and in some instances permitting fraudulent transactions, in an effort to have them held accountable for more than \$300,000 impairment of capital in the last eight years. The bill was filed by John G. Johnson, A. E. Wall and L. S. Oliver. The defendants are G. and L. Mayer, M. F. Clayton, R. C. Lupton, Walker Scott, F. N. Barksdale, E. C. Shapley, J. Bookel, W. Rodenhansen, J. Stewart, Jr., W. J. Haggerty, Fred Schoff, G. Davis, H. N. Bayne, F. Pearson, G. D. Hopkins and the estate of Harry W. Stoll, represented by Samuel M. Clement, Jr., and Herbert J. Horan, Jr., administrators.

CRUISER WASHINGTON REACHES CAPE HAITIEN

WASHINGTON, July 1.—The cruiser Washington arrived at Cape Haitien today, Admiral Caperton, commanding, notified the Navy Department. It was expected he would land marines at once. Caperton asked that the gunboat Eagle, surveying in West Indian waters, be sent to Port au Prince as a further precaution.

GENERAL MILES WOULD NOT KEEP MALCONTENTS IN ARMY

WASHINGTON, July 1.—Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles, retired, formerly chief of staff of the army, told Secretary of the Navy Daniels during a social call today that he considered it unwise for the Government to refuse to accept the resignation of a military officer. He said that his long experience in the army had taught him that a discontented officer was a handicap to the service, quite aside from the fact that his retention would stop the promotion of younger men.

NEW PROBE INTO LUSITANIA SPEED

LONDON, July 1.—Further investigation of the charges that the Lusitania was running at reduced speed when torpedoed was begun here today. Joseph Marichal, a passenger, said the Cunard Company, out of consideration for the reduced speed, cut the second class fare from \$70 to \$50.

"It seems to me it would have been better to lay the pockets of the passengers open to attack instead of their lives," commented Marichal.

U. S. REVENUE HERE INCREASES \$3,444,147.98 IN YEAR

Reports for the fiscal year by the Collector of Internal Revenue show an increase of \$3,444,147.98 over the receipts of last year. The increase is attributed to the income tax payments and the special taxes under the emergency law.

ITALY'S KING AND PREMIER CHEERED AT FRONT

ROME, July 1.—King Victor Emmanuel and Premier Salandra were wildly cheered when they visited General Cadorna's headquarters near the firing line, official dispatches reported today.

The King and Prime Minister toured the entire front, completing their journey last night. They assured the army leaders that civil heads in Rome were giving them the most loyal backing.

FRENCH AND GERMANS EXCHANGE INVALID PRISONERS

BERLIN, July 1.—Arrangements for the exchange on a large scale of invalid French and German war prisoners were completed today. The Germans will arrive at the Swiss frontier on July 11 and be taken to hospitals at Karlsruhe and Mannheim. The French will reach Lyons the same day.

TURKS REPULSED ON BLACK SEA COAST

PETROGRAD, July 1.—The following report on operations in the Caucasus was issued at the War Office today: "A fusillade occurred in the coastal region. Toward Oltu the Turks attempted to intrude on the left bank of the Torun, but were dispersed by our fire. The enemy attacked our positions at Mount Heidig, but were compelled to retreat to their position. The attack was renewed in the evening and again repulsed."

KILLED BY STOLEN JITNEY

Injuries received when he was struck by a stolen auto which had been converted into a jitney resulted in the death of Henry Hoover, 54 years old, at his home, 1224 Jackson street, today. An additional charge of manslaughter was placed against 19-year-old Clarence Reynolds, 2623 South Vista street, the driver of the jitney, who confessed he had stolen the car at Broad and Walnut streets. The accident occurred Tuesday at Broad and Jackson streets. W. H. Ryan, 225 South 50th street, is the owner of the car.

BANKS PAY CITY \$146,948 INTEREST ON DEPOSITS

Interest paid to the City Treasury during the first six months of this year by banks and trust companies holding city deposits aggregated \$146,948.31. Trust companies paid \$73,409.59 of that amount and banks paid \$73,538.72. Of the total interest amount paid by the banks, \$54,990.84 was on the city fund, \$17,341.32 on sinking fund deposits and \$9,606.56 on the fire insurance fund deposits. The total amount on strictly city fund deposits paid by the banks and trust companies was \$73,538.72.

BATTLESHIP KEARSARGE TO HAMPTON ROADS

The battleship Kearsarge left the Philadelphia Navy Yard at 8 o'clock this morning bound for Hampton Roads. There she will take aboard the naval militia of the District of Columbia and North Carolina for their annual practice cruise. Forty officers and 350 men are expected to board the ship. They will be at sea two weeks.

SENATOR VARE TO BUILD BROAD STREET RESIDENCE

Senator Edwin E. Vare will build a handsome home at 2903 and 2911 South Broad street, and work will begin immediately. The Senator bought the ground from David H. Simon, a produce dealer, the negotiations being made today in the office of the latter's brother, Burton C. Simon, a real estate agent of 19th street and Passyunk avenue. The lot for Vare's new home is 40 by 150 feet and is in the 29th Ward.

AUSTRIAN AIR SQUADRON BOMBARDS BELGRADE

VIENNA, July 1.—Austrian aviators bombarded Belgrade on Wednesday, damaging the wharf. It was officially announced today. This is the first activity reported from the southern theatre of war for some time. The statement said: "The wharf at Belgrade was bombarded on Wednesday by an air squadron. The camp at Orasac was bombarded with excellent results."

MONTENEGRINS PUSH OFFENSIVE IN BOSNIA

ROME, July 1.—Montenegrin troops have invaded the Austrian province of Bosnia, occupying the mountain village of Vuchiters. The Montenegrins are continuing their offensive, driving westward through southeastern Bosnia, according to dispatches to the Montenegrin Legation here.

GERMANY PUTS BAN ON COTTON MANUFACTURES

COPENHAGEN, July 1.—Beginning August 1, the manufacture of cotton goods in Germany will be prohibited, according to a decision reached today. The Government is reported to have placed the ban to conserve Germany's supply of cotton for war munition purposes.

FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity—Partly cloudy tonight and Friday; not much change in temperature; moderate west winds.

For details, see page 4.