

## GERMANS GAIN WEST OF MEUSE; YIELD ON EAST

Teutons Capture Trenches  
Along 300 Yards of Bethincourt Line

### INFANTRY FIGHT GROWS

Berlin Report Claims Kaiser's  
Troops Again Hold Caillette Woods

PARIS, April 7.—German troops have made further gains west of the Meuse River, while the French continue to advance east of the river, the French War Office announced today.

In a furious night attack the Teutons penetrated the first line trenches of the French on the Bethincourt front, northwest of Verdun, but they were thrown back except on a front of 300 yards.

The Germans drove violently against the French positions on the Bethincourt-Chattancourt road, following a vigorous bombardment, and succeeded in entering them.

Counter-attacks were immediately launched by the French. At every point except one the Kaiser's men were forced back.

(Bethincourt lies 5½ miles northwest of Verdun, being the apex of the French salient west of the Meuse River.)

The infantry assaults are both preceded and followed by furious artillery duels that rage night and day.

The Germans are making violent efforts to stem the French advance in the Douaumont region, pouring in fresh troops for support, but have been unable to do so.

Infantry fighting is now in progress over the widest front in the Verdun sector since the great battle opened 47 days ago.

The text of the official communiqué follows:

West of the Meuse, in the course of a night attack, delivered with the help of a violent bombardment against our positions between Bethincourt and Hill 265, the Germans penetrated our first line trenches along the Bethincourt-Chattancourt road. Our counter-attack immediately forced them out of the greater part of the position which they had succeeded in occupying.

The enemy at present holds only some advance elements on a front about 300 yards long.

East of the Meuse there was an intermittent bombardment. We have continued to advance in the enemy's communicating trenches southwest of Fort Douaumont.

The Teutons some artillery squalls in the Woëvre region.

The night was quiet on the rest of the front.

Strike Cripples Reading Colliery

POTTSVILLE, Pa., April 7.—The miners who were employed at No. 4 drift at Silver Creek Colliery of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, struck today when the foreman ordered that they load and start the cars as well as drive. The strike has seriously crippled this large operation.

Not Allowed to Work, He Ends Life

CHESTER, Pa., April 7.—Because his father refused to let him go to work at the Remington Arms Company in Eddystone, Robert Freebird, 20 years old, of Folsom, walked into the woods at Morton and shot and killed himself Wednesday night. His body was found last night.

In the Argonne the French exploded a mine north of Four De Paris, which was followed by fighting in which liquid fire was used by the French soldiers.

South of St. Eloi in Flanders, after careful artillery preparation, the Germans delivered attacks which won back for them the mine crater recently captured by the British. It was defended by Canadians. The official statement follows:

In the Argonne the French exploded a mine north of Four De Paris. Later on short combats ensued. The enemy advanced using liquid fire, but was then beaten back.

Several attempts by the enemy against German positions in the forest northeast of Avocourt were unsuccessful.

The French were unable to carry out their attacks against our positions in Caillette Wood, which is now firmly in German hands.

French troops were all ready for an elaborate attack, artillery preparations having been made, but it broke down under the accurate fire of our guns.

### BIG GUN SHELL GORIZIA; FIRING ON ISONZO

Vienna Reports Repulse of Enemy  
Assaults

VIENNA, April 7.—Italian forces are again on the offensive in front of Gorizia.

The Austrian War Office announced today that the city is being shelled, and that the Italian artillery is very active elsewhere on the Isonzo front.

Adelsberg, held by Austrian lines, has been attacked by Italian airmen.

North Tonale mines exploded by the Austrians destroyed Italian trenches.

The following official statement was given out:

Italian artillery is lively on the Isonzo front.

Gorizia is again being shelled by the Italian army guns.

Two Italian aviators dropped bombs on Adelsberg, without success.

Small encounters took place on the Tyrol frontier.

In Rauchholz, north of Monte Cristo, the Italians succeeded in occupying a ridge which the Austrians afterward recaptured. One hundred and two prisoners, among them two officers and two machine guns, were captured by us.

North of the Susana Valley, near St. Oswald, strong Italian forces attacked, but were repulsed with heavy losses.

Italian attacks in the Ledsa sector also failed.

North of Tonale some recently built Italian trenches were destroyed by our mines.

Villa's Brother Free at U. S. Request

HAVANA, April 7.—Hipolito Villa, brother of "Pancho" Villa, who was arrested here several weeks ago at the request of the American Government, was released today at the order of the Secretary of the Interior. Villa was detained in the Havana prison, awaiting extradition to the United States.

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## MAYOR SMITH WILL URGE CITY HOME RULE BEFORE LEGISLATURE

Repeal of Present Charter Will  
Be Sought, Diners at Mu-  
nicipal Research Bureau  
Dinner Are Told

### POINT TO LOAN MUDDE

Home rule for Philadelphia may soon be a reality. The Smith administration is planning to go before the Legislature at the next session and urge "All Philadelphia" legislation to replace the present antiquated charter which the administration regards as unsuited to meet the changing needs of the city.

Joseph P. Gaffney, chairman of Com-  
munity Finance Committee, made both these points clear last night at the dinner of the Bureau of Municipal Research, in the Bellevue-Stratford.

Mr. Gaffney spoke on the financial sit-  
uation of the city and impressed the munici-  
pal experts present with the earnestness of his "home rule" plea when he said that Mayor Smith and other city officials will start actual work on the framing of the new charter when the loan bill is disposed of.

Mayor Smith himself endorsed the plan when he told the diners that he would do everything in his power to aid in the move.

"Philadelphia has been hampered for years by stringent legislation most of which is obsolete," said the Mayor, "and the way should be provided for new, sweeping legislation that will permit the city to seize its opportunity fully."

Mr. Gaffney also told the diners that it was time for the city to "call a spade a spade" and live within its means, and that other sources than real estate should be found to provide the source of additional revenue.

He said he would find new ways of adding to the city's revenues when the loan bill is passed.

George W. Norris, former Director of the Bureau of Municipal Research, called attention to the fact that this city had neglected revenue sources by not taxing cigarettes, bankers and brokers, insurance companies and such.

A crisis in city finances has been created, Mr. Norris declared. The city must increase revenue, or face the humiliation of being unable to meet obligations. The third alternative is the curtailment of all municipal activities, he said.

There can be no doubt that additional revenue is necessary," he said. "How much of this should be obtained by an increase in the tax rate, and how much from other sources, is another question. There are various possible sources of revenue which we have partly or wholly neglected."

For example, figures made up several years ago showed that from amusement licenses we got \$17,625, while St. Louis, with less than half the population, got

**Spring  
Suitings**  
are here  
Samples Gladly Given

**JONES**  
1116 Walnut  
Custom Tailoring Only

Men, here's the largest, hand-  
some collection of all-wool fabrics

for Spring we've shown in all our  
twenty years' experience.

more than twice that amount, and Chicago got \$131,000. From bankers and brokers we got nothing, while Chicago got \$47,000 and New York more than \$25,000. From the sale of cigarettes we got nothing, while Chicago got \$135,000. From the licensing of dogs we got \$12,500, while St. Louis got \$23,000 and Chicago \$121,000. From insurance companies we got nothing, while St. Louis got \$77,000. From manufacturers and merchants we got nothing, while St. Louis got nothing, while St. Louis got \$116,000 and Chicago \$586,000. Carriages for hire used to be charged \$10 a year, but now they have been superseded by taxicabs, upon which no license fee at all is charged."

EL-HENNA position was strongly en-

trenched. Its left flank resting on the Su-  
walch marsh and its right on the river.  
The front trenches are stated to be nine  
feet deep and the whole system extended  
in successive lines for a depth of 2500  
yards.

PETROGRAD, April 7.

Russian troops are now advancing on  
the Turkish Black Sea port of Trebisond  
from both the east and south, according  
to official dispatches received here today.

In an engagement south of Trebisond the  
Turks were driven out of fortified post-

tions, which were occupied by the Slavs.

Two Appointed to City Positions

City Hall appointments today were

John McCabe, 5855 McCallum street,  
smoke inspector, Bureau of Boiler Inspection,  
salary, \$1200 a year, and Ralph M.  
Sperry, of 2610 West Ontario street,  
helper, bacteriological division, Bureau of  
Health, salary, \$600.

## MORE TURK LINES TAKEN BY BRITISH MOVING UPON KUT

Felahie Won, Bringing Re-  
lief Corps 15 Miles From  
Pent-up Forces

### TWO VICTORIES IN A DAY

Bluefields Steamship Company Says  
Court Excluded Strong Evidence

One hundred and four reasons for a new trial were advanced today by counsel for the Bluefields Steamship Company, Ltd., before Judge Thompson, in the United States District Court, where it lost to the United Fruit Company, the com-  
plaint of the company.

At the first trial the Bluefields Com-  
pany spent months and \$16,000 trying to prove that the United Fruit Company should pay \$15,000 damages for violation of the anti-trust law.

There was less argument this morning than heretofore. There were fewer lawyers.

Whereas 14 lawyers were engaged in the first trial, but three presented their case.

Among the reasons given by Thomas F. Galvin, attorney of State, Attorney General Franklin Shunk Brown and counsel for the steamship company, was Judge Thompson's alleged error in excluding correspondence between officers of the steamship company and the "banana trust." These letters tended to show, he declared, that "trust's" determination to stifle competition by any means.

German-American Loses Job

NEW YORK, April 7.—Hermin Winter, German-born boy of prominent German parents, who since July, 1914, has been in the employ of the Cunard Steamship Company here, has been "let out."

The company acted, Mr. Winter said, because of repeated criticism regarding the retention by an English company of a man of German parentage. Winter has been assistant to the general agent of the company.

HARDWOOD FLOORS

**PINKERTON**

In every public building—and  
wherever there is much wear on the  
floor, hardwood offers many advan-

ages.

Men, here's the largest, hand-  
some collection of all-wool fabrics

for Spring we've shown in all our  
twenty years' experience.

They're beautiful!

Over 350 different stylish pat-  
terns, fresh from the looms.

The niftiest, smartest shades of

Gray and Blue

Serge in novel

stripe effects,

and if you want

'em plain, we've

got 'em; dandy

designs in Gray

and Brown

Over-

plaids;

Shep-herd

Plaids;

Homespuns in a

string of colors,

and the always

popular Pencil, Banjo and Mandolin

Stripes.

Both of us are right on the job

all the time.

Place your order now.

Get our skillful know-how tailoring—personal attention from the

time we slip our scissors into the

cloth, already pre-shrunk, until you

slip into the elegantly fashioned

and finished garments, perfectly

moulded to your figure, correct in

style, perfect in detail.

If you must have that suit before

Easter we must have that order

NOW.

We've got just time enough

for careful, unhurried workmanship.

And you take no

chances here.

If after the suit is

finished you are

not satisfied, you

don't have to take

it.

You're to be

the judge.</