# TRUE, SAYS PRESIDENT, OF BERLIN'S WAR PLOT

### **GREAT BAPAUME** BATTLE RAGING

Indications Are Germans Are Evacuating Big Somme Stronghold

Capture Three More Villages and Pound Retreating Teutons

LONDON, March 1. Sharp fighting, signaling the beginning of the final battle for the German stronghold of Bapaume, is now in progress on the western outskirts of the town, from which

the British are only one mile distant. Following capture of the village of Thilloy, only a mile from Bapaume, British troops began pushing forward. They were mmediately engaged by the Germans and fighting was spreading when the last re-

ports were filed. Brief dispatches received here today brought little satisfaction to the London public, eager for news of the fall of Ba-It was impossible to determine whether a grand assault has been begun by the British or whether the blows struck thus far mark only the early stages of the

The brilliant successes obtained by the British yesterday, when the villages of Gommecourt, Thilloy and Puise-au-Mont were captured, were won with but slight losses, it was learned today. Gommecourt, scene of bloody battling at the beginning of the great Somme offensive, passed into British hands without a fight. The Germans retired and British troops entered the village without opposition.

The front on which the British have advanced has now been increased today to approximately thirteen miles. Gomme court is approximately the most northwesterly point of the line, and from there down to a position about midway between Guedecourt and Beaulencourt the new advanced front of the British zigzags in and

Evidence accumulates that the evacuation of Bapaume is under way. Information from the front today said the Ger mans had methodically destroyed all high towers in the city, plainly in order to prevent their utilization by the British as observation posts when Bapaume falls into

#### GERMAN RETREAT LIKE THAT AFTER MARNE

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES AFIELD. March I .- Slowly and steadily the German retirement continues south of Arras. Indi-

The retirement may yet resemble-at least in some respects-that following the battle of the Marne. Then the Germans were beaten, and their armies were retreating after being severely trounced in

are lacking of any recoil movement

Now they apparently aim to forestall an ultimate retreat-after what might prove a very costly defense of the old lines-by taking up new positions previously ar-ranged, like those north of the Alsne, there-

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#### BENNET SAYS DEMOCRATS PLAN EXTRA SESSION

Alleges Members of That Party Have Been Notified to Be on Hand March 6

WASHINGTON, March 1. - Representalive Bennet, of New York, interrupted debate this afternoon to announce to the House that he had been informed that the Democrats were planning for an extra session to be convened next Tuesday. Bennet mid he made the announcement because he thought all members had a right to be informed that an extra session was being

Bennet read what he said was a notifica tion bearing the signature of Representative Bell, Democratic whip, and Representatives Garner and Adair, to all Democratic members-elect of the Sixty-fifth Congress. This announcement declared that an extra session would be called for March 6, and urged all Democratic members to be present at

On account of the tie-up of the House, with 215 Democrats and 215 Republicans, with the balance of power in the hands of five other members, the announcement created intense interest in the House.

#### German Consulate Robbed

EL PASO, March 1.-The German consulate at Juarez was robbed last night and all Government papers belonging to Consul Max Weber were taken, it was and today.

#### THE WEATHER

FORECAST For Philadelphia and vicinity-Cloudy and unsettled tonight, with lowest temperature about thirty degrees; Friday probably fair; gentle scinds, mostly northeast.

## STONE HALTS SENATE ACTION WITH HINT OF ALLIED SCHEME TO FAN AMERICAN WAR SPIRIT

BRITISH WIN 13-MILE LINE Foreign Relations Leader Urges Caution in FIGURES KEPT SECRET Demand for Light on German Effort to Array Mexico and Japan **Against United States** 

#### RESOLUTION CALLS UPON WILSON TO SUBSTANTIATE PLOT CHARGES

WASHINGTON, March 1. SENATOR LODGE'S resolution for full facts of Germany's Mexican-Japanese plot reads:

That the President be requested to inform the Senate whether the note signed Zimmermann, published in the newspapers of the morning of March 1, inviting Mexico to unite with Germany and Japan in war against the United States, is authentic and in the possession of the Government of the United States, and if authentic to send to the Senate, if not incompatible with the public interest. all further information in the possession of the United States relative to the activities of the Imperial German Government in Mexico.

Senator La Follette suggested that the Administration also be asked to how long it had been in possession of the Zimmermann plot letter and this request was added to Lodge's original request.

WASHINGTON, March 1.-Flat denial that his Government participated in any manner in the German plot against the United States was made this afternoon by Mexican Charge Ramon de Negri at the Mexican Embassy.

#### WASHINGTON, March 1.

Secretary Lansing went to the White House late this afternoon with a large number of documents under his arm and immediately went into conference with President Wilson. He would not indicate the nature of the business in hand. Earlier the President had conferred with Secretary of War Baker

Branches of the American Government this afternoon were divided in their attitude toward the exposure of Germany's plot to link Mexico and Japan with her in a war against the United States, in the event the United States would not passively submit to ruthless U-boat warfare. The alignment was thus:

President Wilson himself stood sponsor for the correctness of the exposure.

Senator Stone, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, supposed spokesman of the President, declared he had information that the plot charges were a part of Allied intrigues to fan the war spirit in America.

The Senate debated the Lodge resolution calling upon the President for substantiation of the charges of Berlin

The House cleared decks by special rule and considered the Flood "armed neutrality" bill, patriotic speeches marking the debate.

President Wilson will not accept the Flood bill, which limits his power to deal with the German crisis. Instead, he has demanded passage of the Senate measure, which guarantees blanket authority.

Developments indicate that United States secret service men intercepted a letter from Ambassador Bernstorff to the German Minister at Mexico City in which plans for the coalition against the United States were outlined.

Assurances are given by the Japanese Ambassador that Japan would scorn plotting with Germany. Mexico, Secretary Lansing says, will not be involved.

WASHINGTON, March 1 .- In spite of President Wilson's message, through Senator Swanson, that he stood sponsor for the revelation of Germany's intrigue to enlist Japan and Mexico in war against the United States, the Senate today, after excited debate, referred to the Foreign Affairs Committee a resolution calling upon the President to substantiate the charges and produce documentary proof.

The Senate committee readily agreed to recommend immediate adoption of the Lodge resolution striking out, however, the La Follette amendment, requesting further information as to when the American Government learned of the

Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, presented the report of the committee this afternoon.

Vice President Marshall asked for objection to the Lodge resolution and hearing none declared it adopted. Senator Stone, chairman of the committee, was on his feet instantly protesting.

"The Chair has no right to make such a ruling," he shouted.

At the request of other Senators the Vice President withdrew his ruling and Senator Stone immediately took the floor to press an amendment, which, he said, had been rejected by the committee. He explained that was his reason for asking Senator Hitchcock to report the resolution.

#### STONE SCENTS ALLIED CONSPIRACY

His amendment requests the President "also to inform the Senate as to whether the information in his possession respecting the letter signed Zimmermann originated or was derived from any Government or any official of any Government engaged in the present European war and if so inform the Senate as to the facts relating thereto."

"The morning papers' reports state that the letter signed Zimmermann has been in the President's possession ever since he informed Congress of the

severance of relations with Germany," said Stone.

"In this delicate situation, we must not forget our obligation to guard zealously the diplomatic interests, if there be any, with which the Executive Department is necessarily charged. I do not know that there are any secrets which should be withheld, but out of an abundance of caution it seems to me that it should be unwise to open up any inquiry that would not throw any material light on the question before you."

"Why not just ask the President where he got his information?" suggested Senator Hardwick.

"That would be too broad," answered Senator Stone. "We discussed it in mmittee and it was decided to be not prudent. I would rather not say why but there was clearly a good reason why the Executive Department should not be asked to disclose the source of its information on such a matter."

## MANY SUBMARINES PREY OF BRITISH

Great Number of U-Boats Sunk and Captured by English

Big Array of German Undersea Boats Displayed in Two Harbors

LONDON, Feb. 12 (by mail).-England has sunk and captured a vasily greater number of German submarines since the German submarine war went into effect February 1 than at any time preceding that decree.

It is known that more than one submarine supply station has been discovered and put out of business by British naval vessels.

Evidence is plentiful that the British navy, engaged in the most colossal shark hunt ever known to the high seas, is making a successful hunt of it.

In other words, England is getting the German submarines. She is getting them— and she is "getting" them. That is to say, she is capturing them and she is sinking them.

How she is doing it, where and how many she got thus far the censor does not permit one to tell, but England knows it, and it is safe to believe that Germany is beginning to know it. It in no other way, Germany is learning it through the great number of the undersea crews that fail to

an submarines mastered by the navy may be catalogued as captures and what pro-portion as sinkings cannot be given. The personal disposition of naval officers just now is to sink rather than to capture, but the size of the captive hauls stowed away in one or two British barbors makes it difficult to believe that more than their umber has actually been sent to the bot-

Headed home for a fresh supply of petrol, it is declared, many a German sub-marine has found it impossible to get through the mine fields. Some have been and some have slipped away to

sum and some have slipped away to hide.

At more than one supply station discovered and put out of business by British naval vessels, German submarines have turned up to find all, supplies vanished, sometimes to be captured or sunk themselves by waiting British craft.

For reasons of the Admiralty's own, the facts of British success against the submarines are being kept within the Admiralty. The same course was followed, it will be remembered, in the first days of the first big submarine menace, when, as now, the Admiralty did not allow the details of its success to become known until long afterward, confining such publicity as was permitted to general statements of the character here given.

#### BARBED WIRE DEFENSES

Commandant at Fort du Pont Awaits Their Arrival-Expected Today or Tomorrow

WILMINGTON, Del. March 1.—Colonel Harris, commandant at Fort du Pont and in charge of the defenses of the Delaware, is anxiously awaiting the arrival of more than 200,000 pounds of twelve-inch wire netting which the forces under his command o munition plants and other industries, or

to Philadelphia. The netting is expected to arrive today or tomorrow. It will be unloaded from the cars carrying it and taken into the fort

reservation, where the troops will put it together in huge sections. These sections then will be loaded on tugs, of which there are several at the fort, and taken down the river to the spot where the net will be put in place.

The understanding is that the narrow channel between Reedy Island and the arti-

# SALOONKEEPER MUST

ficial Islands eastward of it has been chosen

Widow, Whose Husband Was Killed After Drinking at Bar, Receives Damage Verdict

The liability of saloonkeepers for furnishing "by gift, sale or otherwise" to any person visibly affected by was fixed by a jury before Judge Staples in Court of Common Pleas No. 2 today when a widow was awarded \$5900 in dam-ages against Cornelius P. Quinn, a saloonat the southeast corner of A street Allegheny avenue. The case estaband Allegheny avenue. The case estab-lished a precedent in Philadelphia Courty The award was made to Mrs. Mary Mc Cusker, 2952 Rosehill street, a widow with five young children. Her husband, Frank A. McCusker, according to the testimony, was a milworker who took part in labor union movements. He died, it was said. drinks in Quinn's saloon.

Congressman John R. K. Scott and William T. O'Connor, who represented the widow's claim, produced evidence to show that McCusker was found intoxicated in the

saloon by his thirteen-year-old daughter sent to look for him, and that he fell in leaving the saloon, striking his head on the pavement. His skull was fractured. Attorney O'Conner, in presenting the case to the jury, contended that the indirect cause of McCusker's fatal injury was the

fact that while in the saloon he was allowed to get an oversupply of liquor and that the saloonkeeper was responsible for civil damages.

More Marines Land in Cub-

MASHINGTON. March 1.—Additional nited States marines have been landed in the several points, it was officially anounced here this afternoon. The manes were from the gunboat Paducab, nich has been off Santiago for some time. Whether the marines landed because of an others or merely to haure continuity or merely to haure continuity of the several part of the several

## QUICK NEWS

#### BASKETBALL SCORES

Frankford High (first half) .... 18 Catholic High ........... 9 Frankford High, 2d (first half). 6 Central High, 2d ...... 9 Abington H., girls (first half) .. 10 Jenkintown High, girls ..... 4

#### ADDITIONAL RACING RESULTS

Third Havana race, 3-year-olds and up, 5 furlongs-Encore, 99, Rowan 7 to 10, 1 to 3, out, won; Babe, 102, J. Ryan, 20 to 1, 6 to 1, 3 to 1, second; Margaret Ellen, 108, Wingfield, 5 to 1, 8 to 5, 4 to 5 third Time, 1.01 2-5.

#### CALIFORNIAN ASKS REPARATION FROM KAISER

NACRAMENTO, Cal., March 1 -Assemblyman Don Williams affered a resolution in the lower House today urging Congress to abtain reparation from Germany for the death of William Eva, a Californian, on the terpedeed liner Laconia.

#### MOTORTRUCK KILLS SCHOOL CHILD

Harris Callam, nine years old, of 29 West Wildey street, was killed by an automobile truck at Front and Allen streets while the child was on his way home from the Immaculate Conception School teday. The driver of the machine, John Dougherty, twenty-five years old, of 251 East Tusculum street, drove the boy to the Stetson Hospital, where he was arrested. He was held without bail by Magintrate Yates to await the action of the Coroner.

#### BARBED WIRE FENCE SURROUNDS ARSENAL SHOPS

ROCK ISLAND, Ill., March 1 .- Work was started today on erec tion of a high heavy-woven wire fence around all the shops of the Rock Island Arsenal here. The fence will be topped with several strands of barbed wire and will be reinforced by a heavy increase in armed guards.

#### MOBILIZATION OF INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES ASKED

WASHINGTON, March 1.—President Wilson's Council for National Defense today requested the Eureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce to proceed at delphia was transformed from a city by once with mobilization of the nation's industrial resources along the lines that, have already been hid down.

#### GREEK SAILORS REFUSE TO GO THROUGH BLOCKADE

Fifteen sailors of the Greek steamship Sallamenia, which is scheduled to sail from this port next Saturday, have said that they will not sail with the vessel because of their fear of submarines. Their captain has refused to pay them off. They will have a hearing under the rulings of the La Follette seamen's law by a United States Commissioner.

#### SUPREME COURT ASKED TO QUASH ROCKEFELLER SUITS

WASHINGTON, March 1.-Briefs for John D. Rockefeller and his son, John D., Jr., named defendants in the Covernment's trust suit against the United States Steel Corporation, were filed in the Supreme Court this afternoon. The brief holds lower courts found the Rockefellers not to have been active in "Steel Trust" affairs, dismissed the complaint so far as it applied to them, and that the Supreme Court should do likewise.

#### FOOD RIOTING RESUMED BY NEW YORK WOMEN

NEW YORK, March 1 .- Serious food rioting broke out in New York today FOR DELAWARE CHANNEL after a full of two days. An angry mob of women stormed a pushcart peddler in Williamsburg and rolled a policeman in a muddy gutter. It became necessary call out additional police to quell the parising. One woman was accepted Prices continued to slide down the scale, and onions were obtainable for \$7.50 a barrel and eggs were down to forty cents a dozen, ten cents cheaper than last week's low price. Live poultry was four cents off. Thirty meetings of protest against prices are scheduled for tonight.

#### PRESIDENT THANKS SUFFRAGISTS FOR PLEDGE OF AID

WASHINGTON, March 1.-President Wilson today expressed his thanks to will stretch across the river to prevent hos-tile submarines from ascending the stream and attacking shipping and doing damage aid the Government in every way possible in case of war in a letter sent to sufthe National American Woman Suffrage Association for its offer whole-heartedly to

#### TOLLS REMOVED ON WILLOW GROVE PLANK ROAD

NORRISTOWN, Pa., March 1. - Montgomery County Commissioners announced that, commencing today, tolls would no longer be taxed on the Germantown and Willow Grove plank road, as they had paid to the company \$27,000 which a jury awarded was due for the filling of the property. These were four gates on the five-mile stretch between Germantown and Willow Grove-at W. W. Harrison's Grey Towers, at Glenside, at Weldon and at Willow Grove.

### SENATE KILLS \$400,000 FOOD PROBE FUND

WASHINGTON, March 1 .- The \$400,000 appropriation passed by the House for a nation-wide food investigation by the Federal Trade Commission today was PAY WOMAN \$5000 | for a nation-wide tood investigation by the Federal Trade Commission today was stricken from the sundry civil bill by the Senate Appropriation Committee on

#### U. S. WAR MOVE SOON, PARIS BELIEVES

PARIS, March 1.-No immediate declaration of war because of the Laconia sinking is expected-by the French press, but it is believed President Wilson will take measures which must soon lead to war.

#### CITY'S PURSE HOLDS \$19,000,000 BALANCE

The weekly statement of City Treasurer William McCoach shows that the receipts amounted to \$669,675.67 and the payments to \$442,233.45, which, with the sum on hand last week, leaves a balance of \$19,481.7 1.33 on deposit. This does not include the sinking fund account.

#### MORE THAN \$15,000,000 INCOME TAX IN THIS DISTRICT

More than \$15,000,000 is expected to be paid for income tax in this district ecording to Ephraim Lederer, Collector of Internal Revenue. Today is the last day for filing the income returns. More than 28,000 individuals and 8000 corporations must be heard from before midnight tonight. The files will be sent to Wash-10. 1916, shortly after being in-friends to have several rounds of ington to be assessed, and bills will be sent out May 1 and must be paid before June 15.

#### NAVAL MILITIA SEEKING RECRUITS

A campaign for young men has been started by the First Battalion of the Naval Militia of Pennsylvania. One evening a week is devoted by the guardsmensailors to learning the rudiments of the naval reserve service. The naval militiamen are paid on a basis of twenty-five per cent of the pay of the men in the

regular service. This is given to members who attend half the weekly drills. MAYOR UNGUARDED FIRST TIME SINCE VICE RAID For the first day since the famous vice raid of last summer Mayor Smith

#### GERMAN PLANE SHELLS NORTHCLIFFE'S HOME TOWN

has been without a bodyguard. Acting Detective George Benz has not been

returned to duty as the Mayor's official bodyguard, and the Mayor today walked

the corridors of City Hall without a shadow.

LONDON, March 1 .- A German air raid was made today on the seaside ort of Broadstairs, on the Kentish coast, the War Office announced this after-One woman was injured by a bomb dropped from a German aeroplant

## **NIGHT AT NOON** BLANKETS CITY WITHDARKNESS

Obscuration of Sunshine Forces Lighting in Central Section

CHICKENS ON ROOSTS OUT IN THE SUBURBS

City Hall Pigeons in Fear at Strange Visitation, Like That of 1915

WEATHER MAN EXPLAINS

#### Scientific Explanation of Darkness at High Noon

A SCIENTIFIC explanation of the midday darkness is as follows: The snow cooled the lower air currents. When these came in con-tact with the upper air strata a thick fog was formed by a process of con-densation. Ordinarily, this would have been dissipated by the wind, but today the wind was not of sufficient strength to push the pall away. The lower cool currents were very thin, causing the point of condensation to be near the ground, adding to the intensity of the dark-

Midday darkness settled over the city to day, bringing night at noon

The phenomenon, which is the second Philadelphia has experienced within two years, came suddenly, blotting out even the sickly gray light of the heavens. A heavy mist, floating less than a thousand feet about the skyscrapers, covered the central section of the city, increasing in density as the weakly puffing wind failed and died Within a few minutes after noon Phila-

day to a city by night. The unscheduled "night" remained until shortly before 2 o'clock this afternoon, when the fog lifted, daylight returned and the

lights were turned off. Lights blossomed out in every building in the central business section. Trolley cars turned on their lights. Headlights glared from automobiles. At a word from Chief McLoughlin, of the Electrical Bureau, the street lamps along Broad. Chestnut and

#### Walnut streets were flashed. HALL A BEACON

City Hall tower, a beacon in the shroudng gloom, gleaming with many brilliant bulbs, turned a pallid green by the fog and intermittent snowfall. Around the caves fluttered a few disconsolate pigeons, like wraiths in the unearthly atmosphere.

The taste of night, which was at its height between noon and 1:30 o'clock this afternoon, affected most of the central business section. While housewives in West Philadelphia, at Eighteenth tnd Diamond streets and more outlying districts knitted at their windows their bushands o

sat in illuminated offices. Wondering queries from hundreds of per sons as what the strange visitation meant

kept the Weather Bureau busy. The scientific explanation given by the Weather Bureau was that the lower air currents, cooled by the snow, formed vapor upon contact with the upper warm air strata. This vapor remained because t two-mile-an-hour wind was not sufficient disperse it more rapidly than it formed.

BLANKET NEAR EARTH The dense clouds-no one knows how thick they were settled down close to the earth, perhaps as low as 500 feet above the ground. They brought darkness more pronounc

than that of June 22, 1915, when a simila "night" visited Philadelphia suddenly. So dark did it become that pedestrians, especially at Broad and Chestnut streets, were confused in attempting to effect crossing of the streets. Chickens ino the suburbs, as usual, went

to roost. The superstitious, connecting the dismal sky with world events, predicted war or worse disaster for the nation.

Altogether, the damp, dark day enable Continued on Page Sixteen, Column The

#### ON IDAHO MARRIAGE BILL Inclusion of Asiatics in Prohibited

TOKIO QUESTIONS U. S.

Matrimonial Classes Prompts Query BOISE, Idaho. Murch L.—The Japanese

Government has made known through its Ambassa for at Washington that it is in-terested in the Atherton anti-Asiatic mar-riage bill pending before the State Senate. In a telegram to the Governor Secretary

Lansing says:

"The Japanese Ambassador informs me that Senator Atherton has proposed an amendment to a pending bill refiting to mixed marriages which will include among prohibited marriages those between whites and Mengolians. I would much appreciate a statement of your opinion as to the likeli-hood of its enactment." Edge Addresses New Yorkers

NEW YORK, March 1.—Govern of New Jersey, and Comptroller Pre spoke at the monthly luncheon at day of the Chamber of Commerce of State of New York Reports ware mitted from the committee on forsign merce and the revenue laws, from he mittee on commercial education and the special committee on national and naval militin.

Whisky Smuggler Dies of W