

GERMAN BLOOD FLOWS IN VAIN ON LENS LINES

HAIK REPULSES FOE; DESPERATE ASSAULTS FAIL

Massed Assaults Fail to Dislodge British From Positions

PRISONERS TAKEN BY ALLIED FORCES

New Plunge on Flanders Front Expected Within Twenty-four Hours

LANGEMARCK IS HELD

LONDON, Aug. 18. For the third day German troops continued throwing masses of men against the newly won British positions near Lens today. All counter-attacks were again completely repulsed after sharp fighting. Field Marshal Haig reported. A few prisoners were taken, the British commander reported. To the northwest of Lens, early this morning, the enemy again counter-attacked our new positions. Haig's statement said. They were completely repulsed after sharp fighting. A few prisoners were taken here and southwest of Ypres. There was considerable artillery firing during the night. The full force of the British and French lines in Flanders may be determined within the next twenty-four hours. Aside from German counter-attacks, which have been repulsed, there has been a lull in fighting on this front. Positions beyond Langemarck have been consolidated by the British, while the French have made good their new ground along the Steenbek. Continuation of the general assault will meet the offensive as an effort second in power only to that of the Somme. England found great satisfaction in the fact that Berlin found it necessary to put out false statements in its official wireless statement yesterday. At the time the Germans were claiming the recapture of Langemarck British staff officers were in the town inspecting the newly won English positions. Berlin also sought to create the belief that the British attack was over a much wider front than was the case. Official denial was made of all statements from Berlin concerning the development in Flanders. The French are keeping step with the British in the Flanders thrust. The French line is beyond Bixchoote, running from the flooded area of Lizerne around the Steenbek to a point about mid-distance between Bixchoote and Langemarck. The battle is playing a more prominent part in the present Flanders battle than in any other engagement in this region for some time, though they have held this section of the Flanders line since it was established. The presence of the French in this region is largely for sentimental and political purposes. Looking to the day when the German line might be broken and pushing back, as the first step toward liberation of Belgium, it is desired that French troops have a part in the operations.

FRENCH WIN POSITION EAST OF STEENBEKE

PARIS, Aug. 18. French troops continued to advance in Flanders today, capturing a strong position

GERMAN SHIPS HIT IN BIG SEA BATTLE

Destroyer and Mine Sweepers Damaged, but Escape From British Scouts

SUBMARINES IN FIGHT

LONDON, Aug. 18. An engagement between British and German scouting ships, in which one German destroyer and several mine sweepers were damaged, was reported by the Admiralty today as taking place in the German bight. The biggest type of British vessels engaged in scout work took part in the fight when they came upon the enemy. The British opened fire on the German destroyer, damaging her, but she escaped, as did the mine sweepers the destroyer was conveying. Several of the latter were damaged. A thick mist aided the German ships in their flight. German submarines were also engaged in the fight, the Admiralty statement said. The fight took place Thursday morning. Details of the engagement the Admiralty stated: "During the scouting operation Thursday morning we were unable to follow the German destroyer and mine sweepers owing to a dense fog. The British destroyers, however, during the engagement submarines attacked our light forces also. After this action we were undamaged."

By Agence Redis. COPENHAGEN, Aug. 18.—German submarines are putting in here today reported by the navy. Eight German trawlers were captured in the Baltic accompanied by a German submarine.

POLITICAL LEADERS, CITIZENS AND BUSINESS MEN UNANIMOUS IN CONDEMNING TRANSIT LEASE

Men in All Walks of Life Aroused by Perusal of Pact

'SELLING BIRTHRIGHT' SAYS W. H. METCALF

Former Director Taylor Declares Measure Imposes 'Outrageous Burdens'

LANE READY TO SELL OUT

Business men in every section of the city today vigorously condemned the Smith-Mitten transit lease that was made public by Mayor Smith at a special session of Councils yesterday. Everywhere throughout the city the terms of the proposed agreement were carefully read by men prominent in all walks of life. They expressed their opinions today, and none was favorable to the agreement. Former Director of City Transit A. Merritt Taylor branded the lease as "outrageous and onerous." He is preparing a criticism of every detail of the measure and will make it public as soon as it is completed, probably next Monday. "We would be selling our birthright for a mess of pottage," was the opinion expressed by W. H. Metcalf, head of the City Business Club. Dr. John D. Boileau, of the Lehigh Avenue Improvement Association, said that a copy of the proposed lease would make Barium & Bailey "envious of certain gentlemen." The creation of the powerful "board of supervising engineers" to control the construction and operation of the high-speed lines, the six-cent fare and the guarantee of a dividend on all P. R. T. watered stock, all came in for severe criticism. WILL STUDY IT CAREFULLY A promise to give careful study to the new lease was made today by E. A. Noppel, president of the United Business Men's Association, and Charles L. Fluck, president of the Northwest Business Men's Association. Both men had been consulted by the Mayor, and had expressed themselves as favoring the lease. Mr. Noppel, however, said today that the new lease presented some features which he could not understand. He said that when he talked with the Mayor he was told that the lease was a "city dividend" to be guaranteed to the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, and that the city's interest and sinking fund charges were made a primary charge against the gross receipts of the company. It was on this basis, Mr. Noppel said, he had given his approval to the lease. "There are now," he said, "many subjects which call for the closest investigation." John N. McGarvey, chairman of the transportation committee of the United Business Men's Association, said today that he intended to study the lease carefully. He was guided by Mr. Taylor's report in any action they might take regarding the lease. If Mr. Taylor's analysis is unfavorable, he said the organization will oppose the lease in Councils and by every means in its power. In reply to Mr. Taylor's statement that the new lease would impose outrageous burdens on the city and car riders, Director Taylor said today: "Let me make this offer plain to the people of the city. If there is anybody who is in doubt about the lease, who cannot understand the wording of certain clauses, understand the wording of certain clauses, who considers certain sections cloudy, who

Continued on Page Four, Column One

Lease "Outrageous, Onerous," Says Taylor

PROOF copy of the Mayor's transit ordinance introduced in Councils this afternoon was handed to me late Thursday. Prior to receiving it, I had no knowledge as to what terms and conditions it contained.

After reading it carefully and thoroughly twice I am forced to warn the people of Philadelphia that the adoption of the Mayor's ordinance would impose unnecessary, onerous and outrageous burdens and conditions upon the city and upon the car riders.

Furthermore, the Mayor's ordinance is designed so as to give the company much more, and the city much less, than the lease which I—acting solely in the interests of the citizens of Philadelphia—worked out with the officials of the P. R. T. Company last November and December, and which I then induced the company to agree to enter into with the city.

The people of Philadelphia are entitled to, and will receive from me, a complete report on and analysis of the Mayor's ordinance, which will completely back up and prove the above assertions.

This analysis will, if possible, be ready for publication in Monday morning's papers.

A. MERRITT TAYLOR.

FOR CUT GAS RATE AS BOON TO POOR

Councilman Urges "Fine-tooth-Comb Finance" in Behalf of Public

SOUND FINANCE NEEDED

If the city's finances were placed on a sound basis it would be possible to give consumers the benefit of the five-cent gas reduction without imposing additional taxation, according to Francis F. Burch, Common Councilman from the Forty-sixth ward. Mr. Burch advocated applying the "financial fine-tooth comb" to City Hall and cleaning out unnecessary officeholders who are holding their jobs through political patronage.

"We need two things," he said. "First, we should have a board of revision of taxes to effect a modern system of assessments which would render justice to small house-owners as well as to a favored few. This, together with a reorganization of the city and county departments, would enable the taxes to be reduced next year rather than increased, as conditions now indicate.

"In the report of the advisory committee appointed by Mayor Binnsburg in 1912 and composed of such men as E. T. Stotenburg, Edward B. West and other financiers, it was suggested that an adequate system of assessment be created. The committee showed that by such system the city would save \$4,000,000, which at that time would have made the tax rate \$1.37. Then the tax rate was \$1.50 and now it is \$1.75. "If this five cents goes into the city treasury it will be equivalent to additional taxation. Thousands of gas users are poor people, and the additional five cents would be a godsend to them, especially during the winter season. That extra five cents would buy one man a pair of coal and many a loaf of bread."

MACKS AGAIN SLUG BALL HARD IN CHICAGO GAME

Both the A's and White Sox Score Easily—Schauer Relieves Lefty Anderson

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL. COMISKEY BALL PARK, Chicago, Aug. 18. Anderson, as a reward of merit for his game showing against the Red Sox, was allowed to debut as a starter this afternoon. His journey was a stony one for three hits and two passes netted the Sox's three in the first inning. John Collins singled to center, McMullin and Eddie Collins were passed and Jackson and Gandall singled, sending in the runs.

The A's opened ferociously, Jamieson slamming a triple to left on Williams' offerings. Williams then uncorked a wild pitch that sent Jamieson over. Bode walked. Bates tried to ribberg. Bode got a pass but was caught stealing. The Athletics went after Williams in the second after two were dead. Schang and Dugan peeled off neat singles. Bacon pinched for Anderson and delivered a safe base. McMullin and Eddie Collins going to second, Felsch and Jackson going to third, Schauer then took up the pitching job.

FIRST INNING Grover lined to Felsch, but a quick throw to the plate kept Jamieson on third. Jamieson scored on a passed ball. Bode walked. Bates tried to ribberg. Bode was out on a steal. Schalk to Ribberg. One run, one hit, no errors. J. Collins singled to center, McMullin walked. E. Collins also walked, filling the bases. Jackson singled to right, scoring J. Collins and McMullin. E. Collins going to second. Felsch fled to Jamieson. Gandall singled to left, scoring Eddie Collins. Jackson going to second. Ribberg forced Gandall, going to Grover. Jackson going to third. Grover scored. Schalk walked and on

POPE ASSURED OF GERMANY'S 'MORAL' ASSENT

Austria Goes Farther, Declaring Readiness to Negotiate

PONTIFF ACTED ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE

Took Step to End War Without Outside Pressure, Rome Tribuna Declares

SUPPORTED BY CATHOLICS

ROME, Aug. 18. Germany has assured Pope Benedict of her moral adhesion to the peace proposals put forward by the Pontiff, according to dispatches published here today.

Austria has gone farther and declared her readiness to initiate negotiations, information from the same source asserts.

The dispatches reporting this support given the Pope's proposals were from Rome and published by the Idea Nazionale. The reports were no more than were expected in Government circles. Having taken the view that the Pontiff's action was inspired by Austria, the general belief has been that the Central Powers would be the first to respond, either officially or unofficially.

The Tribuna asserts today that it is positively informed the Pope acted entirely on his own initiative in proposing peace and outlining the conditions under which he believed it might be established. The proposals were put forward without consultation with any of the belligerents and without any external pressure, the Tribuna asserts.

The Catholic press today came to the defense of the Pope with strong denial that his proposals were in any way inspired by Austria. The Tribune d'Italia declares the conditions are favorable to the Allies, pointing out the references to disarmament and negotiations as to Alsace, Trent and Trieste as distinctly unfavorable to the Central Powers.

It is regarded as certain that as soon as the Pontiff receives replies from the belligerent Governments he will publish another document.

ROME DIPLOMATS HAVE LITTLE HOPE, PARIS HEARS

By Agence Radio. PARIS, Aug. 18. Diplomatic circles in Rome are not hopeful that Pope Benedict's peace endeavor will bear fruit," wired the Rome correspondent of the Echo de Paris today.

It was pointed out that the very moment when the United States is making its greatest efforts the Entente Governments are asked to enter into negotiations favorable to the Central Powers.

The Maitin says that in French eyes any peace suggestion must embody the complete restoration of Alsace-Lorraine.

The Socialist press is bitterly attacking the Papal peace move. La Victoire says that while the Pontiff has no word of protest against the invasion of Belgium, in order to save Austria he throws himself between the combatants with an olive branch in either hand. "The Catholics of France, Belgium, Poland and Armenia turned a despairing ear Romeward anxiously awaiting the word that never came," says Evenement. It adds that the Pope did not see fit to intervene at this juncture with a pall of coal and many a loaf of bread."

AIRPLANES BOMB GERMAN STATIONS

Seven Teuton Machines Shot Down in Raid on Colmar Aviation Base

OTHER POINTS ATTACKED PARIS, Aug. 18. An air raid which 111 airplanes participated, dropping 13,000 kilograms (35,100 pounds) of projectiles on German military establishments, was reported by the War Office today.

Seven German machines and a balloon were shot down and eight other balloons were badly damaged, it was stated. Two French machines failed to return from the raid.

The Colmar aviation ground and aviation camps at Frescati and Haisheim were bombed.

Chamblay station, Freiburg in Breisgau and other points also were attacked. Numerous fires were started and Cortemarck station was seen to be in flames. Nancy was bombed by German aviators, but there were no casualties.

The French aviators went within seven miles of the Rhine on their raid. Freiburg in Breisgau is in the Grand Duchy of Baden, seventy-five miles from Karlsruhe and eleven miles from the Rhine. It has a population of more than 60,000. Colmar and Frescati are in upper Alsace.

ALLIED AVIATORS BOMB KAISER'S HEADQUARTERS

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 18.—Allied aviators recently bombed Kaiser's headquarters

LATEST SPORTS

PHILS TAKE FIVE STRAIGHT FROM PIRATES

PITTSBURGH 100 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0—2 11 0 PHILLIES ... 62 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1—3 12 1 Cooper and Fischer; Alexander and Killefer. Rigler and Brannan.

ATHLETICS ... 1 1 0 0 0 CHICAGO ... 3 0 1 0 0

Anderson and Schang; Williams and Schalk. Moriarty and...

PATMORANS MAKE CLEAN SWEEP OF PIRATES SERIES

Table with 2 columns: PHILLIES and PITTSBURGH. Rows list players and their statistics (runs, hits, errors).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Table with 2 columns: ST. LOUIS and NEW YORK. Rows list teams and statistics (wins, losses, etc.).

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Table with 2 columns: BOSTON and CLEVELAND. Rows list teams and statistics (wins, losses, etc.).

REGIMENT OF MARINES TO GO TO CUBA

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—A single regiment of marines will constitute the "forces" to be sent to Cuba, it was learned this afternoon.

SUFFRAGE PICKETS CHARGE POLICE 'FRAME-UP'

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—The six arrested suffrage pickets speaking in court in their own defense charged that the riotous crowds were "framed up" by the police. Judge Fugh scathingly denounced the pickets, declaring, "Your standing in front of the White House with banners was solely with the idea of advertising yourselves."

RUSSIA WILL BE FAITHFUL TO ALLIES

LONDON, Aug. 18.—Russia is striving for a close union of the Allies, ensuring all people a durable peace, as well as a triumph of justice and liberty. This was the promise given Great Britain by Premier Kerensky, of Russia, today.

ALLEGED SPY TAKEN HERE BY NAVY OFFICIALS

Otto Griener Captured With Papers and Drawings in His Possession

IS CALLED "DANGEROUS"

Arrested as He Is Writing Report for Imperial German Government

Otto Griener, former lieutenant in the German army, who, according to naval officials at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, is a "dangerous alien enemy, employed by the German Government to obtain information concerning the movements of ships and troops," has been arrested and is now confined at the immigration station at Gloucester City, N. J. Griener was arrested last night in a house at 1329 Mifflin street, where he has been living since his arrival in this city a month ago. Taken by surprise, the German was unable to prepare a report which he was preparing for the German Admiralty. This report, together with other material which naval officials assert is of grave importance to the United States, was confiscated.

CALLED DANGEROUS

News concerning the arrest was withheld by the Navy Yard until late this afternoon, and other than admitting that Griener's arrest has ended the operations of a "dangerous man" naval authorities were reticent.

Although refusing to go into details concerning the nature of the papers confiscated they disclosed the following details concerning the alleged spy:

First—That when Griener was discovered in his room in the Mifflin street house he was writing a report to the German Admiralty concerning the movement of ships and troops.

Second—That drawings of a submarine and also a drawing of a steel net, which is being used by the German Government in their effort to bag the German U-boats, were found in a steel trunk.

Third—When arrested Griener admitted that he was in the employ of the German Government and that he had been in this city for a month.

Fourth—That the alleged spy refused to divulge how he had been transmitting American navy secrets to his home Government.

Whether Griener has been able to make his way into the navy yard could not be learned, but navy officials admitted that they were amazed at the bulk of information contained in the report which Griener was writing.

This report, they said, was addressed to a ranking officer in the German high seas fleet.

NET OUT FOR SPIES

The arrest discloses how agents of the Department of Justice and naval officials are checking up on suspicious aliens and how the drag net is being extended to every important navy and army center in the country.

Griener, it appears, came to the city a month ago and engaged a room at the Mifflin street house. He said that he was an inventor and compelled to spend considerable time in his room. The Navy Department learning that he was in the city notified the Department of Justice and special agents were soon on the trail.

For two weeks the have been watching his movements and making daily reports to the commanding officers at the navy yard. Yesterday they learned that he was planning to leave town and early in the evening decided to arrest him.

AMERICAN STEAMSHIP REPORTED IN DISTRESS

Crew Said to Have Taken to Boats and Headed for an Atlantic Port

AN ATLANTIC PORT, Aug. 18.—An American steamship, believed to be the Racine, is in distress six miles off the coast, according to a report to naval authorities here. A thick fog is hanging over the sea and nothing can be seen of the vessel.

WHAT MAY HAPPEN IN BASEBALL TODAY

Table with 2 columns: NATIONAL LEAGUE and AMERICAN LEAGUE. Rows list clubs and statistics (wins, losses, etc.).

THE WEATHER

FORECAST For Philadelphia and vicinity—Fair and continued cool tonight and Sunday; light northwest winds.

Table with 2 columns: LENGTH OF DAY and BUREAU OF WEATHER SERVICE.