RUSSIANS BLOCK TEUTON ADVANCE ON RIGA FRONT

SAMMEES STIR POILUS' ENVY IN **BIG WAR TASKS**

French Instructors Enthuse Over Aptitude of U.S. Soldiers

CLEVER IN EVERY FIELD OF EFFORT

American Learns to "Parlez Vous" From Little Girl on Knee

TROOPERS FRATERNIZE

Headgear and Gas Mask Styles for Uncle Sam's Boys Agreed Upon

By HENRI BAZIN Staff Correspondent of the Evening Ledger in France. AMERICAN FIELD HEADQUARTERS IN

Despite incessant rain during the last our days, entraining goes on. Practice ches are half full of water and the mud upon the roads is inches deep, while the sky is heavy, low and gray. But the arder and enthusiasm of the Sammees unbounded; they work with a vim un-aralleled and are making such progress

as to fairly astonish their French instruc-tors, who are loud in praise of the boys from the United States. Today I witnessed an interesting exam-ple of friendly competition and fraternal ourse between the brown-clad and the Nue. Six men were selected at random, an American lieutenant, a corporal and four loughboys—the old army term given him-self by the regular infantryman. Upon the ch side an equivalent selection was nade. Each man upon the American side hrew six grenades at given objects fifty

Thirty-one of the American-thrown gre ades landed within a radius of fifty con-meters of the objective—and fifty centi-meters is just about eighteen inches. On French side but twenty-seven made the

That totaled thirty-six tries for

CRACK SHOTS

ediately afterward each man valked skly along a straight line of fifty feet. from a repeating rifle. Out of the lean 132, ninety-six struck the dummy st. Out of the French equivalent eighty Among the Sammee bunch were two who had never shot a repeating rifle weeks ago, which, in United States some" and in French-as expresse me by a French officer—"epatant

In a winding village street a Sammee wa sitting upon the steps of a dwelling. He had a red cloth-bound book in his hand and a little blonde French child about tight years of age upon his knee. litle girl's finger was pointing to a page tion and meaning of the words risted upon it. Sammee was making a fave try at pronunciation, and, what is etter still, getting away with it quite to is credit and without too complete assas-

mation of the French language, for I could maily understand him.

Both brown-clad pupil and blonde-headed maker were quite oblivious of my presucce, and as after a moment I walked on ut disturbing the lesson, took with me ression of American "get-there-" that finds the way because the ill is a part of his mental and material

Every camp has a Young Men's Chris an Association tent—a long oblong affair apable of housing from 150 to 200 men. In the one I visited this afternoon there omething that took me back across has water in a twinkling. A phonograp has playing "On the Way to Mandalay. cores of men were writing letters home.

Solvious of the music. Others were playing theckers. Others still were drawing books from the library, the latter being for the present, a couple of enormous pine books. At one end three miniature portable billiard tables were set up and soldiers are also billiard tables were set up and soldiers that the present is playing upon them. Two others taged in playing upon them. Two others -a game relatively rare

ere playing chess—a ga a an American pastime. tent is crowded at all times of recits comforts and little conveniences as a sek to water. The most popular point sout the one I visited was the information au, where the Sammees asked many diverse questions as to the customs of and which they are presently about to or and aid at the possible expense of

bir young lives.

As I stood at the door a Sammee ensed with a poilu, the latter with a few
stilsh words in his vocabulary—words
"yes" and "good" and "beautiful"—
sich he had evidently learned from his
mpanion. He may have had more, for all
those, but whether or not he correct these ow, but whether or not, he spread these about the atmosphere as soon as he fven the inside of the tent the "once And his American companion-in-

and his American
said in reply:

d. oul, sure Mike, this place is all
specified with a broad smile,
for he replied with a broad smile,
tres bien, good, beautifuulle."

tres bien, good, beautifuulle."

we correspondent, with one of his con-was invited by General Sibert to dine General's mess in the village of— night. The General is lodged in a dwelling, and the dining room is large enough to accommodate those comprise the divisional commander's but there is always room for one of guests with a little crowding. somebody said somewhere at some or other in a manner of expression has become semiclassical, despite in-ica, "a most enjoyable time was find

most enjoyable time was had eneral Sibert sat at the head with your corresponders table, with your correspondent upon and the representative of a New haper at his right. The meyel was american and half French—a big of American beef and a French comprising the piece de resistance. The was some of the things that Field has written about as "growness is came," which includes sweet that I had forgotion ever growness. PHILADELPHIA'S FIRST WAR BABY



"Laura Leary," the name bestowed upon her at the Philadelphia Hospital where she is now the pet of nurses and attendants, was taken to that institution Saturday, having been found abandoned on a hillside near Sedgley guardhouse, Fairmount Park, by two women. A note pinned to the infant's dress set forth that the child was born August 5, the mother dying shortly after, and the father, a professional singer, having gone to the war.

KERENSKY AVERS RUSSIA WILL HOLD

Tells Conference at Moscow | Manager, in Making Claim, That Democracy Will Be Maintained at All Costs

RINGING SPEECH CHEERED

PETROGRAD, Aug. 27. The Russian Government has decided to ignore the peace note of Pope Benedict XV. Announcement to this effect was made in the following statement given out by the Official News 'Agency: The provisional government has thoroughly deliberated the question of Pope Benedict's note with regard to peace pourparlers. In view of the fact that no mention is made in the papal note of Russia, the provisional government has unanimously decided to ignore the intervention of the Pope. This decision will e communicated to the Allied Powers."

By WILLIAM G. SHEPHERD MOSCOW, Aug. 27.

Russia will maintain her democracy a all costs. She intends to use the weapons of the old regime against those who would have the old autocracy overthrow the new

Of outstanding significance in the deliberations of the all-Russian conference today was this emphatic declaration by Premier Cerensky. He insisted that the nev was passing through "a period of mortal danger" and warned enemies within that the Government henceforth "would be im-placable" in "crushing with blood and iron

Continued on Page Four, Column Two

\$350,000,000 WANTED FOR DESTROYER FLEET

Huge Appropriation This Week

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27. A new appropriation of at least \$350,000,000 for destroyers will be asked of Congress this week by Secretary of the Navy Daniels.

Daniels.

Supplementary plants in private ship-yards for destroyer manufacture, Daniels yards would be built. He declined to say said, would be sought. He

how may destroyers would be sought. He added that the appropriation might be made more than \$350,000,000. This is the first step toward assembling great numbers of destroyers to beat the U-boat, announced by Secretary Daniels

"Tea" Was Booze, Police Say

recently.

Caught in the act, the police say, of serving liquor to two sailors and a national guardsman, in a Chinese restaurant on Race street near Ninth, Albert Fuller, of Perty-ninth street near Washington avenue, was arrested and will have a hearing today before Magistrate Watson. The interiesm was dispensed in the suise of

MIDVALE BIDS FOR 3500 EXEMPTIONS

Reveals Plan for Building 150 Destroyers

TO MAKE GUNS FOR NAVY

To support his plea for draft exemption for 3500 employes of the Midvale Steel Company, Henry D. Booth, general superiendent, today revealed to Appeal Board No. that Secretary Daniels plans the building of 150 torpedoboat destroyers in addition to those already ordered, and also that a new system had been agreed upon by th various steel concerns to speed up produc-tion. Under the new plan only one char-

acter of work will be performed in each

Mr. Booth insisted that exemption of a of the 3500 men subject to the draft among Midvale's force of 11,000 was absolutely necessary to permit of proper handling emergency work for the Government. In normal times, he admitted, the company could lose a large number of employes with out wrecking its organization because others could soon be trained. Now, he declared, there is no time to train men, even if the labor situation did not make it next to impossible to obtain workers.

CONFERENCE WITH DANIELS The revelation that Secretary Daniel wants 150 more destroyers was made when Mr. Booth told of a conference between the Secretary and the steel interests, held in Washington last Monday. Besides telling of the need for the huge destroyer fleet, Mr. Daniels also appealed to the steel men for great speed in turning out the work. As result the steel men agreed that each plant hould concentrate upon a single kind of work so that the maximum of efficiency might be attained. \tag{ to Midvale under this

Continued on Page Four, Column Six

MAYER AND HORSTMAN IN PITCHERS' BATTLE

Daniels Will Ask Congress for Neither Team Able to Score in Early Part of the Game

ST. LOUIS Long. rf. ff. J. Smith, if. Miller, 2b. Hornsby, ss. Cruise, cf. Paulette 1b. Baird, 3b. Susder, c. Horstmann, p.

PHILLIES BALL PARK, Aug. 27. The St. Louis Cards opened their final eries here this afternoon before a crowd

Erskine Mayer, who received the credit for the first game of the double-header last Saturday over Cincinnati, went to the mound to oppose Horstman, a right-hander. Only one safe hit was made off Mayer in Only one safe hit was made off Mayer in the first two innings, which was a double to right field by Hornsby. He reached third on Paulette's out and was making an at-tempt to steal home as Baird was called out on strikes, which ended the inning. Horntman got away in good style. He gave Bancroft a free ticket in the first

GERMAN BLOWS FAIL TO BREAK **SLAV POSITIONS**

Petrograd Reports Offensive Halted-Allies Smash Ahead on 3 Fronts

CADORNA PRESSES ENEMY

French Hold Gains on East Bank of Meuse-British Strike Above St. Quentin

PETROGRAD, Aug. 27.
The new German offensive on the Riga front has been brought to an end without attaining any important success, according to a statement issued by the Official Gov-ernment Press Rureau. Details of the fighting which followed the opening of the German thrust in the Riga sector about August 15 are given in the report as fol-

"For several days the Riga front has been the scene of activity. In the direction of the Baltic Sea the Russian troops evacu-ated territory, falling back several kil-ometers in the direction of Schlock. The ometers in the direction of Schlock. The Germans, observing the retirement, set out in pursuit in an effort to cut off the roads, but were prevented at every point and were forced back by artitless and were forced back by artillery and machine-gun fire,

"At present the Russians occupy an excellent defensive line.

"On August 19-20, the Germans then attempted an offensive against the Russian outposts in the region close to the coast. Everywhere the German attacks were reulsed by the brilliant fire of the Russian

THREE BIG ALLIED DRIVES SHATTER ENEMY'S LINES

LONDON, Aug. 27. Three great Allied drives assailed Teutonic lines on three fronts. British and French troops resumed the offensive which they started last Monday. Italy continued her herce drive uninterruptedly.

In a week the Italians have tawen approximately ninety square sales of Austrian territory, nearly 35,000 , risoners, a vast store of guns, munitions and supplies and inflicted stupendous casualties on the enemy—estimated in semiofficial Rome advices at 75,000. The fighting today was on the comparatively open Bainsizza plateau. The rugged points of the mountains having been successfully passed. Rome looked for even more rapid progress as the troops pressed on in the direction of Labach.

Suddenly changing his point of from the left bank to the right of the Meuse. General Petain was striking another blow at the German defenses out of Verdun. The initial shock carried the French fighters nearly a mile forward on a two-mile front. On the British front Field Marshal Haig also mixed his blows. He drove successfully against German positions north of St Quentin, in a sector where there has beer little fighting in two months. Powerfully fortified German posts of the "Hindenburg

Continued on Page Four, Column Three

EVERYBODY DENIES WASHINGTON DEAL

Johnson, Griffith, Barrow and Others Say Washington Won't Be Transferred

THEY ALL 'PASS THE BUCK'

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL

The grand old game of 'passing the buck' is having its innings on this hot August aft Basebali magnates, large small, important and not so important, are doing their best to repudiate, deny, contradict, abjure and otherwise disclaim any re-sponsibility for the report that the Wash-ton Club of the American League would be transferred to Baltimore and the majority of the stock would fall into the hands of the former owners of the Baltimore Feds. Right now everything is muddled up and we are beginning to doubt if there is such

a place as Baltimore on the map.

Despite denials by President Ban Johnon and Manager Clark Griffith the Washson and Manager Clark Granth the Washington stockholders this afternoon stuck to their story that the transfer is to be made. It was intimated negotiations are underway, and hinted the various denials were lodged because publication of the plans was thought premature.

The first inkling of what was supposed to have happened trickled over the wires this morning. It was then RUMORED that the Washington Club MAY be transferred to Baltimore in the near future. While this was sinking in, the International News Service sent out a story that the deal had been completed and next year the national capital would be without a big league team. All of this was strange, unusual and startling, but something else was added to make

"Wild Bill" Donovan was canned as man-ager of the Yankees. No one knows who Continued on Page Eleven, Column Four

WHAT MAY HAPPEN IN BASEBALL TODAY



LATEST SPORTS

BASEBALL SCORES

ST. LOUIS 0 0 0 0 1 PHILLIES 0 0 0 0 Herstman and Snyder; Mayer and Killefer. O'Day and Harrison.

ATHLETICS ... ST. LOUIS

NATIONAL LEAGUE

PITTSBURGH 0 0 0 1 NEW YORK 0 0 0 0 Cooper and W. Wagner: Benton and Rariden. CHICAGO 0 0 0 0 0 BROOKLYN 3 0 0 0 4 Douglas and Elliott; Coombs and Miller. CINCINNATI 0 0 BOSTON 0 0 Regan and Wingo; Tyler and Tragresser.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

WASHINGTON 0 3 3 CLEVELAND 1 1 2 Harper and Ainsmith; Klepter and O'Neill.

BOSTON 0 0 0 0 DETROIT 0 0 0 0 Ruth and Thomas; James and Stanage. NEW YORK 0 0 CHICAGO 0 0

Shawkey and Alexander; Cicotte and Schalk.

STRAMSHIPS IN COLLISION IN FOG

SEATTLE. Wash., Aug. 27.-The steamship Jefferson, of the Alaska Steamship Company, and the Canadian Pacific steamship Princess May collided in a dense fog off Cone Island in Swanson Buy today. The Jefferson is being convoyed into Swanson Bay by the Princess May.

ADDITIONAL RACING RESULTS

Third Saratoga Race, two-year-olds, 5 1-2 furlongs-War Cloud. 117. Loftus, 2 to 5, out, won; Top Coat, 113, Keogh, 10 to 1, 2 to 1, 7 to 10, second; Ruth Law, 114, Robinson, 7 to 1, 7 to 5, 2 to 5, thirt. Time. 1.07 1-5.

MAXIMUM PROFITS OF MILLERS AGREED UPON

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 27 .- Maximum profits of millers on the "heat crop of 1917 have been tentatively fixed by agreement with the feed administration at Washington as follows: Flour, twenty-five cents a barrel; mill feed, fifty cents a ton. This developed today in informal diagnation among Minneapolis millers. The maliers' national compatible will present this tentative agreement to the millers generany for formal acceptance. The millers are already under please to abide by it.

NINETEENTH ENGINEERS ARRIVE SAFELY ABROAD

READING, Pa., Aug. 27.—Cablegrams received today by Reading families announce the safe arrival at "Some European Port" of the Nineteenth Railway Engineers, of which eight Reading boys are members. Messages were received by M. M. Lenhart, whose son Paul is enrolled with the company, and by William Sands, from his son Ralph D. Sands.

SECRETARY BAKER WILL NOT REVIEW TROOPS

Secretary of War Baker, who had hoped to accept the invitation of Mayor Smith to review the Philadelphia National Army when they leave on September 5, today decided that he must decline. He will probably send a letter, which will be read to the troops on the "send-off" day.

KAISER SENDS MESSAGE TO REICHSTAG

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 27.-Doctor Michaelis, the German Chancellor, has returned Berlin from Great Headquarters with a confidential message from the Kaiser, to be read to the members of the Reichstag Main Committee at its meeting today, according to a dispatch from Berlin, dated Sunday. The "confidential message" was said to pertain to parliamentary retorms and also to the question of making Alsace Lorraine into an independent Federal State.

MARINE SCHOOL STARTS WORK ON CITY BOAT

The day class of the United States Marine Engineering School of the Federal Shipping Board started its practical work on board the iceboat John Weaver today The Weaver will remain tied up at her berth on the north side of the Vine street pier for the present, until the thirty-five students of the class become efficient in getting up steam and learning the details of the craft. They are under the direction of Clinton E. Shaw, supervisor.

SUPPOSED PHILADELPHIAN DIES IN FRANCE

Among the casualties announced at Ottawa, Canada, was the name of "F. J. Fudge, of Philadelphia." He died from gas poisoning while fighting with the Canadian forces in France.

ry does not contain the na

MASS-MEETING TO RAP TRANSIT LEASE "GRAB"

7000 Navy Yard Men to Protest-Chestnut St. Association Opposes Deal

SIGN CONTRACTS TODAY

Pledge Their Support in the Transit Fight

MORE than 7000 navy yard work-ers pledge their support to A. Merritt Taylor in transit fight.

Move has unqualified approval of Rear Admiral Tappan. Several thousand employes of Frankford arsenal also to flock to the

Taylor standard. Large mass-meeting of protest against the Smith grab lease is being planned. To be held in Academy of Music.

Navy Yard men demand straight five-cent fares and abolishment of the eight-cent exchange ticket.

Oppose the exchange system as "injustice" and "burden." Accuse the Rapid Transit Company of discrimination. Burden totals \$20 a year for each worker, the men say. North Kensington Business Men's Association petition Public Service Commission for universal five-cent fare. Accuse P. R. T. of violating the law.

An emphatic protest against the Smith-Mitten transit grab by Ellwood B. Chapman, president of the Chestnut Street Business Men's Association, announced opposition to the plan of 7000 employes of the Philadelphia Navy Yard who have planned a mass-meeting of protest and the state-ment by Senator McNichol that he would this afternoon sign the contracts for the subway work to be done by the Keystone State Construction Company were three mportant developments in the transit sit-

uation today, day's developments in the transit situation. The protest from the Chestnut Street association was in the form of a letter to Transit Director Twining. Attention was called to the fact that the voters of Philadelphia had ratified the Taylor transit plan. which provided for the abolition of ex-change tickets and the granting of free transfers between the high-speed routes and also between the high-speed system and the surface lines.

the surface lines.

Mr. Twining was als oreminded in Mr.

Mr. Twining was als oreminded in Mr. Chapman's communication that the people had voted approximately \$60,000,000 toward the building of the city's high-speed lines as provided by the Taylor system and that failure to carry out any part of it was a repudiation of the voters' verdict.

It was pointed out that the lease now being considered would give the company a very strong guarantee of a 6 per cent dividend cumulative from the date upon which the contract would become effective, although only 5 per cent of such dividend would be payable in cash until after the would be payable in cash until after the Broad street subway and delivery egun operation.

LETTER OF PROTEST

Mr. Chapman's letter follows: In response to your letter of August 21. I would like to have some further in-formation, for— First. I am still inclined to believe that

the form of lease now being considered would give the P. R. T. Company a very strong guarantee of a 6-per-cent dividend, cumulative from the date upon which the contract would become effective, although only 5 per cent of such 6 per cent cumulative dividend would be payable in cash until after the Broad street subway and delivery loop have begun

We are having this question looked into with very great care, and I hope that you will give it some further conthat you will give it some further consideration, especially with regard to what the "fare requirements" of the contract are, which are referred to in the third paragraph of Article XXIII; and, the fact that, as per Article XXIII; and, the fact that, as per Article XXIII; section 1, the company shall make, in the order named, from the gross revenue of each fiscal year, deductions or payments properly chargeable against the gross revenue of said year.

If such deductions or payments are "properly chargeable against the gross revenue of said year," would not Items 2 and 10 become part of the fare require-

and 10 become part of the fare require-ments of such year?

Furthermore, are not the terms of the forgoing paragraph mandatory?
We are unable to understand how it is possible to evade the payment Item No. 9 out of gross revenue, w it is the interest on city bonds held in the sinking fund. Surely the city can't make default in the payment of the interest on its obligations-even if the same are

held in the sinking fund.

Both the city and the company are committed, apparently, under the terms of the contract to pay Item No. 9-covering this part of the city's interest-out of gross revenue, as provided in Article XXII, Section 2; and no payment could be made on account of Item No. 9 until all cumulative payments due under Itea No. 8, including 6 per cent cumulative dividends on company's \$30,000,000 of

capital stock, have been made in full. capital stock, have been made in full.

Please do not misunderstand our position. We are not opposed to the city's
giving the P. R. T. Company an assured
5 per cent return, as provided in the
Taylor lease, plus one-tenth of the remainder; but we do not wish to run the
risk of giving the P. R. T. Company a 6
per cent cumulative guarantee, instead of a 5 per cent guarantee, especially when the citizens at large have been informed by you that the lease now under con-

Continued on Page Four. Column Four

THE WEATHER

FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity: Fair tanight and probably Tuesday, with steadily rising temperatures; moderate nostly southwest.

For Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey: Fair and somewhat warmer tonight and Tuesday moderate southwest

DELAWARE RIVER TIDE CH

water. 3:42 a.m. | L