

MUD IS THE ALLIES' ENEMY WITHIN THE LINES IN FLANDERS



The forces fighting the Germans in the northern section of the battlefield are confronted by an omnipresent and tireless enemy in the form of the far-famed Flanders mud. The photograph shows the strenuous and heroic work of British soldiers desperately struggling to pull a heavy gun out of the mire. The man in the foreground is up to his knees in the affectionately clung mud.

U.S. ORDERS WAR PRISONERS WORK Will Compel Them to Labor on Roads or Farms CIVILIANS GIVEN CHOICE Will Be Paid Wages if They Will Leave Camps to Help Raise Crops

Washington, April 15.—The German and Austrian prisoners of war held by the War Department at the internment camp at Fort MacPherson, Georgia, are to be compelled to work on the Georgia roads or farms. The civilian prisoners arrested by the department of justice, in charge at Fort Oglethorpe, are to be offered work of the same character and may undertake it or not as they please.

The enemy aliens confined in the civilian camp under the department of labor at Hot Springs, N. C., are to be offered work on the farms, but they will be given the option of working or remaining within their camp and doing the odd jobs incidental to the camp upkeep.

Because of the general criticism directed by the people toward the attitude of the government in permitting the imprisoned Germans and Austrians to remain idle, the War and Labor Departments made an investigation to determine what authority they had under international law to put the prisoners to work.

At the close of the investigation it was decided to apply to the German and Austrian prisoners the same treatment accorded by England and France to the captured Germans and by Germany to the prisoners of the Entente allied nations.

The other nations are compelling the prisoners of war (that is, members of the organized armed forces) to perform daily work, but the civilian prisoners are not actually combatants and are not supposed to do anything more than care for the upkeep of their camps, unless they volunteer for day labor outside.

Prisoners of war at Fort MacPherson are to be paid for the work they perform. This money will be used to pay for their upkeep, and what is left over, estimated to be about twenty-five cents a day, will be used to buy them tobacco, soap and other luxuries.

The men at Fort MacPherson were members of the German naval forces and the Kronprinz Wilhelm and other German ships that put up North and Pacific ports and interned. When the war was declared by the United States they were automatically became prisoners of war.

The prisoners at Fort Oglethorpe are civilian Germans and Austrians who were rounded up by the department of justice and turned over to the War Department.

INSPIRE BUSINESS LETTERS War-the-War Spirit in Mercantile Correspondence

The Department of Commerce has issued a movement intended for the business men of the country to remind them that the everyday business letter is a most effective instrument for creating confidence in the Government's war program and for inspiring others with the determination to see that the war effort is carried through to the end.

The volume of our foreign business mail is very large," he said, "and it reaches firms in all but the remotest corners. For the most part it is read by those who are for us, but you may be sure that it reaches many who doubt us."

Redfield points out the importance of having American business letters written in confidence in every line. American business men make known to the whole world that he is for us, he said, and that he is going to be so. "Regardless of the loss of money, or anything else," he added, "I will not be afraid in expressing his confidence in our Government, even though he may be writing to a concern which is not wholly of our own country."

GLI ITALIANI FUGANO PATTUGLIE NEMICHE

L'Artiglieria Bersaglia le Batterie Teutoniche Presso Asiago ed il Piave

UN COMIZIO A TORINO

Il Capitano La Guardia, del Corpo di Aviazione Americano, Parla al Popolo Torinese

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Roma, 15 aprile. Dalle notizie giunte dalla fronte di battaglia si rileva che l'artiglieria italiana effettua efficaci colpi concentrati contro le batterie avversarie sull'altopiano di Asiago e lungo le posizioni del Piave, riuscendo, in parecchi punti, a ridurre al silenzio i pezzi nemici.

Pattuglie nemiche d'incursione tentano di avanzare lungo la Valle Lagarina, ma il fronte fissa delle mitragliatrici e dei fucili italiani le costringe alla fuga.

Dislocamenti nel settore di Asiago, attacco e respingimento ripetuti e pattuglie nemiche che tentavano di raggiungere le linee italiane.

In tutto il teatro della fronte di battaglia si sono verificate interrottamente azioni d'artiglieria da ambo le parti.

Lungo l'intera fronte di battaglia l'attività dell'artiglieria avversaria fu molto vivace ed insistenti gli aerei nemici concentrazioni di fuoco.

Da parte nostra efficaci concentrazioni furono effettuate contro le batterie nemiche dell'altopiano di Asiago e lungo il Piave.

Pattuglie nemiche furono disperse nella Valle Lagarina dalle mitragliatrici e nel bacino di Asiago furono attaccate e respinte da distaccamenti di truppe dei nostri Alleati.

Il Capitano Fiorenzo H. La Guardia, del Corpo di Aviazione Americano e rappresentante al congresso di un distretto della città di New York di passaggio per Torino, diretto al fronte, ha pronunciato un importante e patriottico discorso in un comizio tenutosi in quella città ed al quale intervennero tutte le associazioni cittadine e rappresentanze di altri del Belgio, Francia ed Inghilterra.

Il discorso del Capitano La Guardia si lesse principalmente su quanto il Presidente Wilson ha detto il giorno 7 aprile in Baltimore, in occasione dell'apertura della campagna per il Terzo Prestito della Libertà negli Stati Uniti, e le sue frequenti allusioni al riguardo causarono profonda impressione.

Il comizio si chiuse con una calda dimostrazione all'indirizzo dell'America. La lettera dell'imperatore Carlo d'Austria al Principe Sisto di Borbone contenente il suggerito di larghi commenti nel campo politico. È stato accertato che l'imperatore Carlo, perseguitato dalle violenze dei nazionalisti di pace con l'Italia, a mezzo dei parenti di sua moglie, che appartengono al Borbone ramo di Parma, i quali vivono nella splendida Villa Plinone vicino Pisa, ora in possesso dell'imperatore d'Austria, ha inviato per parecchi anni.

LEADERS HOPE TO END IRISH DISPUTE SOON

Moderation of Opponents of Draft Due to Crisis in Flanders

WAR JUST, SAYS DILLON

Carson and Other Ulsterites Refrain From Kindling Nationalists' Anger

London, April 15.—Hopes that the Irish troubles will end through a gradual and pacific solution are growing stronger in London. The absence of critical events in France overweighs all other considerations and imposes restraint on even all the fanatics of Ireland and their ardent British supporters.

The restraint has been exhibited in several ways. It former Premier Asquith had translated his judgment against conscription into a motion to reject the government's proposal of the members of the House against it. This would have meant a change of government.

John Dillon and Joseph Devlin, who have been jointly filing John Redmond's shoes as leaders of the Irish party, might have made a much more troublesome fight than they did. If they had felt strongly enough to go to extremes, they might have repeated the old scenes of the Parnell days, when Irish members were dragged out of the House by the police and popular expectation looked forward to such action.

Both of them tempered their fight against conscription with the statement that they believed the cause of Great Britain in the war was a just cause. Sir Edward Carson, the Ulster leader, and his Ulster followers, who generally insist to handle all the anti-military there is latent among the Irish factors when any Irish question is raised, also exhibited restraint by remaining silent instead of denouncing Irishmen who conspire to bring about a change of government.

The Nationalist and Sinn Fein newspapers in Ireland maintain a belligerent tone, but Mr. Asquith once described this as mostly "contingent and rhetorical belligerence." A striking example was recently given by events in County Clare. Lieutenant General Mahon, commander of the British forces in Ireland, proclaimed martial law. There were, as a consequence, rioting and attacks on the police. Small detachments of soldiers took charge of the situation.

The Sinn Fein, of course, are irascible. But they represent one of the property interests of the country. The foregoing are the features of the situation which cause optimism here, on the other side is the opposition of the Catholic clergy to conscription.

The meeting between John Dillon and Joseph Devlin and the Sinn Fein leaders, to come at an early date, may develop into a conciliatory influence, rather than otherwise.

There is but one registration day. There is but one this time. More than 127,000 voters were not registered for the last election. A big registration may change the entire political situation.

Candidates to be voted for will be for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of Internal Affairs, Congressman, twenty-five State Senators and all seats in the House.

There will be no independent ticket. Voters must register as Republicans, Democrats, etc., and take their choice of candidates.

Register Wednesday to Vote This Spring Sign Now!! for a Third U.S. Gov't Liberty Loan Bond With your handy Waterman's Ideal Fountain Pen

BERLIN MAKES DEMAND FOR CZARINA'S SAFETY

Kaiser's Emissary Told Bolsheviks They Must Safeguard Former Empress

Petrograd, April 15.

Petrograd newspapers say one of the first requests put before the Russian delegates at Brest-Litovsk was a demand from Emperor William for the safeguarding of the former Russian Empress Alexandra Alix. The following account of this incident is taken from the Wagon Courier.

At the first meeting, after the representatives of the Bolshevik Government and the delegates of the Russian army had assembled in the large room which had been devoted to the meeting, General von Hoffmann, with his staff, and the two parties bowed to one another and the Russians sat down at the table.

General Hoffmann remained standing and addressed them. "I speak to you," he said in a stern voice, "not as the representative of the German army, but as the representative of the four Cent of Powers. I request you, therefore, to stand while you hear what I have to say."

The members of the Russian delegation looked at one another, there was a little hesitation, and they stood up.

General von Hoffmann continued: "Before proceeding to any negotiations respecting an armistice, I think it necessary to make the following statement: Within the area of Russia, in circumstances threatening her personal safety, a living, a most august relative of my sovereign master, the Emperor William, namely Princess Alix, your Empress Alexandra, with all her family.

"I demand that most decided measures be instantly taken for the safeguarding of her person and for her transfer to Germany under a reliable guard. I request your immediate reply."

The members of the delegation did not know how to reply, and asked that they should be given time for consideration, and for consultation with Petrograd over their direct wire.

Scarcely had an interpreter translated these words than General von Hoffmann said, with a great show of temper, "I demand an instant reply," and struck the table with his fist.

"This demand," he continued, "is in the nature of an ultimatum. In the event of your not accepting it, the negotiations will cease forthwith, and hostilities will at once be recommenced by us."

There followed a momentary pause, as the members of the Russian delegation to do but to give their consent to the demands made.

NIGHT'S BOMBARDMENT FINDS PARIS TRANQUIL

City's Calm Is Undisturbed in Face of Persistent Shelling

Paris, April 15.

Paris was subjected to its first nocturnal bombardment since the long-range shelling began, Saturday evening, the bombardment being resumed late in the night. Sunday's bombardment of the Paris region was opened soon after 11 o'clock in the afternoon.

The beginning of nocturnal bombardment is attributed to the fact that the Germans now know that the French have located exactly the long-range gun, so that there is no longer any necessity of refraining from nighttime firing lest the flare of the explosion should betray the gun's position.

Reports up to Sunday afternoon fail to show any casualties resulting from the first night's bombardment, while the material damage was insignificant. This negative result is likely to prove a further disappointment to the Germans, as revealing that the nocturnal shelling is no improvement from their viewpoint on the day bombardments, which they have tried to time so that the shells would reach the capital at hours when the streets were most crowded.

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To Go to France I am asked to secure 150 men to go to France at once in the service of the Y. M. C. A. with the American or French forces. They must be men of large business experience, capable of filling these positions: (1) As administrative or financial executives in the Paris headquarters; (2) As executives of divisional areas administering from 25 to 300 Y. M. C. A. "huts;" (3) As direct executives of Y. M. C. A. "huts" near the firing line.

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