

GREAT DAMAGE AT ZEEBRUGGE

Big Breach in Important Mole Caused by Explosions

OSTEND PARTLY BLOCKED

British Reconnaissance Shows Large Sunken Object Across Harbor's Mouth

London, April 25.

British airmen, returning from flights to Zebrugge and Ostend, report a clear break of twenty yards in width in the Zebrugge mole at the inner end and that a sunken object blocks the greater part of the channel in the harbor of Ostend, according to an official bulletin issued by the Admiralty.

The exact text in regard to Ostend is: At Ostend a sunken object was seen lying between the pier and blocking the greater part of the fairway.

The Admiralty's report adds that the observation airplanes "dropped numerous bombs on objectives on shore" and a War Office report states specifically that bombs were dropped by airplanes on the docks at Zebrugge, direct hits being obtained.

London Times-Public Ledger Service

Copyright, 1918, by Public Ledger & Newspaper Co. London, April 25.—The experience of those aboard the mid-ocean Vindicator in the raid on Zebrugge were of a character that recalls stories of the night cutting out of gales and fortresses in the past days. The Vindicator is no small target, but men who were on board say she was not amenable to the Zebrugge mole as though going to a pier in her own harbor.

Men speak with admiration of the coolness and pluck of the captain and officers of the Vindicator, who, when the cruiser was under a storm of gunfire from the German defenses, went about giving orders in the calmest possible manner. Time and again the old ship was struck, but its marks were left scattered away and damage done to the upper works, but still the crew stood to it.

For nearly two hours, the story there is stated to have been rattling away, fifty minutes, the Vindicator was alongside Zebrugge mole. Under these conditions, weather proved that she came through at all.

The Vindicator's casualties were rather severe, mainly because of one unfortunate shell from a big German gun which struck the motor, and another which struck a portion of the landing party was on deck.

Large fragments of blown-up masonry added to the casualties resulting from shell splinters.

"Are you sure all the men are aboard?" was the captain's last inquiry before getting away from the mole. It was not until given assurance that everybody who could be expected to return was on board that the order to steam away was given.

A member of a destroyer crew added an interesting fact. His destroyer received signals from the cruiser to show the way out. "As we were rattling away," added the seaman, "the old Vindicator came past us with a rush, sending off flames from the funnels twice as high and giving her best imitation of a battle-cruiser. They must have been smoking her like blazes," was his chatty comment.

Survivors Tell Story Another 120 men of the Zebrugge and Ostend in the landing party, have been brought to Dover. They were enthusiastically cheered by crews of the warships as boats conveyed them ashore. These men stated that they were in the Ostend landing party, and were satisfied they had done a good deal of damage, although their own losses were heavy. They were in the lightest parts.

Although the weather for miles out in the Channel at the time of the action was clear, there was a thick mist and drizzling rain at the time of the landing. This caused uncertainty as to whether what was achieved toward blocking the harbor was thoroughly effective.

In regard to the landing party, the men consider there are disadvantages as well as advantages in these, as volumes of smoke blew away the position of the fleet, although making it almost impossible for German gunners to distinguish individual ships and make targets of them. The firing of the German batteries was exceedingly heavy, the men stated, both at Zebrugge and Ostend. They seemed generally surprised the attacking fleet did not sustain more damage.

They consider the shooting of the German rather wild, as, in spite of all precautions, good targets were at times afforded by several of the ships.

Many were rescued in lifeboats and trousers from engine rooms and stokeholds. They were roughly fitted out with anything which came to hand. They were chafed as crochets and vigorously answered the cheers of the townspeople.

Officers Tell Story The most connected account of the Zebrugge undertaking was given by two surviving officers. "We were on board the Vindicator in accordance with the plan, we approached under cover of our smoke clouds. All vessels, large and small, took part in this ingenious device, the smaller ones setting off as much smoke as their larger counterparts. There was a veritable blanket of smoke stretching from Zebrugge to Ostend, a black impenetrable wall of smoke which completely obscured the Hun for a time, but, when he discovered what we were about, he put up star shells. We had no alternatives save but go ahead. We steamed through the smoke screen and then we caught him. There is no other word for it.

AMERICANS AT VITAL POSITION IN DEFENSE OF MENACED AMIENS

London, April 25.—American soldiers are today taking part in the greatest battle in the world's history. Troops under General Pershing, which were rushed northward when the German grand offensive got under way, are now holding part of the line in Picardy.

The French War Office report indicates that the Americans are on about twelve or thirteen miles of the front at the vital point southeast of Amiens. It is supposed, however, that French troops are mixed in with them.

The movements of the Americans, as well as the other Allied forces on the western battlefield, are being directed by General Foch, of the French army, probably the greatest military strategist in the world.

AMERICANS IN BATTLE TO SAVE AMIENS BASE FROM GERMANS

Continued from Page One

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GREAT GAINS IN FOOD SHIPMENTS TO ALLIES

March Exports of Meat and Dairy Products Rose to \$111,892,226

Washington, April 25. An enormous increase in America's contributions of food to the civilian populations of the Allies is reported for March. Statistics for the month, made public by the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce, showed exports of meat and dairy products amounted to \$111,892,226, as compared with \$72,941,127 in February, representing a gain of 52 per cent.

It was in March that the food administration decided to ask greater sacrifices from the people, at home to relieve distress overseas.

Exports of cotton and mineral oils decreased during the month, probably to permit the greater shipment of food-stuffs. In the nine months ended March 31 a total of 2,744,804 bales of cotton had been sent abroad, compared with 2,672,881 bales in the same period last year.

Shipments of mineral oil in the same periods were 1,884,282,262 gallons and 2,069,880,262 gallons, respectively. In nine months, 48,944,492 pounds of cottonseed oil have been exported, less than one-half of the 102,017,258 pounds exported in the first nine months of the last fiscal year.

Nine months' exports of breadstuffs for the year have been worth \$142,449,385. The value last year was \$284,886,320. Shipments of meat and dairy products in nine months have totaled \$284,380,777, compared with \$274,143,958 last year.

Creation of a board of grain standards is made up of members from each of the grain-growing States in preference to the grain-grading duties now exercised by the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Oscar Tamm, director of the Federal Reserve Bank, has been named as chairman of the board. The board will have the honor of the Federal Reserve Bank, which is the only one of its kind in the world.

URGENT MOBILIZATION OF FLY SWATTERS

State Board of Health Appeals for Action Now to Circumvent Swarms Later On

Harrisburg, April 25.—Dr. B. Franklin Boyer, Acting State Commissioner of Health, has called upon all boards of health to undertake cleaning up work, so there will be a greater absence of breeding grounds for the pestiferous house fly.

Attention is called to the importance of workmen now to head off the house fly. The letter to the boards says that the house fly is a pest which does its part now in the conservation of child life and infant life, much may be done to offset the tremendous loss of man-power of this State as its condition in making the world safe for democracy.

An appeal is made for prompt action and reports on what has been accomplished.

VIOLENTI ATTACCHI AL FRONTE ITALIANO

Le Truppe Italiane ed Inglesi Respingono Ovunque i Teuton

GRAVI PERDITE NEMICHE

Gli Italiani Hanno Catturato Parecchie Mitragliatrici e Fucili nel Settore di Alano

Published and Distributed Under Authority of the Act of October 2, 1917, in the Office of the Postmaster General.

Roma, 25 Aprile. Dalle notizie giunte dalla fronte di battaglia, e da quanto è stato riportato al Ministero della Guerra dal Quartier Generale Italiano, si rileva violenti combattimenti si sono svolti nel bacino di Asiago, ad occidente del fiume Brenta.

Distaccamenti di truppe inglesi, mentre effettuavano delle ricognizioni nel predetto bacino, risolutamente attaccarono una colonna tedesca di carri e mitragliatrici tentavano ostacolarlo. Ne seguì un breve e violento combattimento, durante il quale il nemico subì considerevoli perdite e fu costretto a ritirarsi.

Altre considerevoli perdite furono inflitte al nemico dalle truppe italiane lungo la linea presso Canove, ove i teutonici, nella loro frenetica ritirata, lasciarono in terreno sommerso di morti, in nove mesi hanno totalizzato 238,380,777, comparati con 274,143,958 l'anno scorso.

Un altro tentativo di verifera parte di gruppi nemici che avanzavano verso Alano, fu costretto a ritirarsi in ordine di fronte al micidiale fuoco di fucileria degli italiani.

Un forte reparto di carri e mitragliatrici (ostioni italiane a sud di Stoccarda, nei pressi di Valstagna), fu prontamente afferrato da reparti di truppe italiane fu da questi respinto mediante l'uso di granate a mano.

Durante alcune operazioni effettuate dai reparti italiani d'incursione, nel settore di Asiago, furono catturate parecchie mitragliatrici e un rilevante numero di fucili.

Gli aviatori inglesi furono attivissimi a durante la giornata di ieri l'altro rimpresero ad abbattere quattro aeroplani nemici.

Lungo tutto il rimanente della fronte di battaglia si è verificata una frenetica attività di pattuglie da arabo in parte.

Esso il testo del comunicato ufficiale pubblicato ieri, dal Ministero della Guerra in lingua italiana, dice: Nel bacino di Asiago reparti di truppe inglesi, in ricognizione, hanno attaccato distaccamenti nemici che tentavano di opporsi ad essi.

Immagini alle nostre linee presso Canove il nemico fu forzato a ritirarsi, lasciando un certo numero di morti.

Più tardi gruppi ostioni avanzarono verso Monte Koberlaba, ove furono respinti in disordine dal nostro fuoco di fucileria.

Un altro riparo nemico avanzò verso le nostre linee a sud di Stoccarda, ma fu attaccato e disperso da fuoco delle granate a mano.

Negli altri settori del fronte si verificò attività di pattuglie da ambo le parti.

Le nostre forze catturarono mitragliatrici e fucili nel distretto di Alano. Quattro aeroplani nemici furono abbattuti dagli aviatori inglesi.

Un comunicato pubblicato dal Regio Ministero della Marina si rileva che, durante la settimana terminata col 20 aprile corrente, l'Italia ha perduto, per opera dei sommergibili teutonici, dodici mine, un valore di lire 1,150,000 tonnellate ed uno di minor tonnellaggio.

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Taft Visits City as Loan Booster

Continued from Page One

not already done so, and that those who have subscribed on the partial payment plan will go to their homes Friday afternoon and make their payment which will enable us to report their subscriptions.

Organized Labor Inviting Patriotism of organized labor in the present drive is being demonstrated in an unmistakable manner, according to reports that have reached headquarters. Not only are local unions investing all strongest possible pressure in being brought to bear on individual workmen to induce them to subscribe to the bonds, but the workmen who refuse to buy bonds is regarded as a "slacker" by his fellows and is ostracized. "Buy or go out" is the slogan of the union men in all the big factories along the Delaware river, and a number of instances have been reported where the "bond slacker" where by reason of the fact that the other workmen at the plant will have nothing to do with him.

Bolshevik Gain Support

Bourgeois Opposition to Russian Government is Dying Out

Moscow, April 25.—Opposition to the Bolshevik Government among the bourgeois classes in Russia is gradually dying out. The opposing elements, realizing the futility of their attitude, are giving away in one instance after another.

Some time ago striking Government and bank employes resumed work. Generals and admirals are in the Government service. Many officers are enlisting as instructors in the army.

When you need new shoes, yet don't want to pay more than five dollars, you want the most to be had in shoes for that money. There is a Walk-Over Shoe for five dollars that it will pay you to see.

Walk-Over Shoes have a reputation for exceptional quality, strength, and value. Walk-Over Economy Shoes at five dollars uphold that reputation. These shoes don't make much money for us but they do make many friends and customers.

Walk-Over Shoes are manufactured at Campello, Brockton, Mass., are sold in all the important towns and cities of the world, and the world over bear the same trade-mark.

A complete line of shoes at \$6, \$7, and \$8. Economy lines at \$5. Special lines, \$9 to \$12.

The Walk-Over Shops

1022 Chestnut St. 1228 Market St.



WHEN you need new shoes, yet don't want to pay more than five dollars, you want the most to be had in shoes for that money. There is a Walk-Over Shoe for five dollars that it will pay you to see.



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BONWIT TELLER & CO. The Specially Shop of Originations

CHESTNUT AT 13TH STREET

Will Hold Today (Thursday) Their Sale of Women's Tailleur Suits

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The most fashionable Silhouettes of the season—featuring the most successful types—reproductions of the Paris Couturieres, as well as exclusive Bonwit Teller & Co. Originations

Heretofore Sold at from \$75.00 to \$167.50

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Heretofore NOW Heretofore NOW

Note—While the range of sizes is complete from 34 to 48, we would suggest early shopping as in most cases there are only single sizes of a style

Superb Georgette Crepe \$5 \$8 Blouse at Our Price of 5

Peggy's BLOUSE SHOP 1208 CHESTNUT STREET

AMERICA'S LEADER Beaded Tip SHOE LACES

THEY KNOW THE "TIP THAT CAN'T PULL OFF"

LOOK ON THE WRAPPER FOR "Beaded"

Faultless Bedding

Dougherty's Faultless English Down Furniture

Dougherty's Faultless Bedding

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AMERICANS IN THICK OF BATTLE TEMPEST

Washington, April 25. Fighting Americans are in the storm center south of the Somme.

Engaged with the Allies they are taking a valiant part in the struggle that now rages, according to advice from the front.

There was a slight increase in the rifle and machine-gun fire against the French, especially in the Bois de la Chapelle, but the number of shells falling on the American line is still below normal.

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A German taken prisoner east of the Meuse has died of his wounds.

At this moment the attack seems to have made progress only at Villers-Bretonneux. There it has been checked and the fighting is still going on, but it is understood the British are again forcing the enemy back.

The British were quite prepared for an attack in this region. The German divisions in the line in the Villers-Bretonneux area until April 20 were the Ninth Bavarian Reserve, the Seventy-seventh, which is composed of Westphalians and Rhinelanders, and the Thirteenth Division, from the south. The Fourth Guards, however, were put in for the attack on Villers-Bretonneux itself after having had a fortnight's rest, so they are fairly fresh, although it is the third time they have been in battle since March 21.

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MORE CORN, LESS 'SPUDS' CROP OUTLOOK IN N. J.

Peaches Partly Killed, but Other Fruits Will be Abundant, U. S. Synopsis Indicates

Trenton, N. J., April 25.—While planting by South Jersey farmers is almost completed, less preparation is being made for the potato crop this year than last, according to a synopsis of the weather and crop conditions in the State for the week ending Tuesday, as issued from the Weather Bureau of the United States Department of Agriculture.

It also shows that there will be a bumper crop of the planting of peaches and cherries in heavy bloom in the State, and that the quality of the fruit is expected to be of the highest.

The report continues by saying that in the southwestern part of New Jersey the weather is expected to be of the highest quality.

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FINE SILVER FOX FURS AT ST. LOUIS SALE

Pelts Known as "Jewel" Skins Bring High Prices at St. Louis

St. Louis, Mo., April 25. The selling at the international fur sale at Funst Brothers & Co. was confined to 1200 large and well-matched silver fox skins.

The silver fox is known among fur dealers as one of the "jewel" furs. During the first four months of the season, the desirable pelts brought more than \$175,000.

Silver fox fresh skins have advanced 50 per cent over the prices paid in January. State skins of the same kind have risen 20 per cent. The top price of the day was \$1600 for a matched pair.

The medium grades ranged from \$250 to \$300. Bunches of scraps of silver fox, collected in the skinning brought from \$15 to \$25.

Eight leading Fifth avenue establishments sent buyers here for the sale alone. Paris and London buyers, who did not send representatives, placed bids through brokers in St. Louis. It was said on the exchange all large New York leading dressmakers placed bids. One of the foremost buyers at the sale was Mrs. Perry Sperling, of New York, who is the only woman buyer of raw furs on the exchange. Mrs. Sperling has attended all of the recent Furmen sales. She bought heavily in Trenton's sale of Government seal skins.

Much comment among buyers is given the war trade board's embargo on shipments of fur. The last ruling provided for the sale of furs, but only in quantities not to exceed 1000 skins and 1000 pounds of furs.

Convict Food Profiteer

Near Trenton, Pa., April 25.—The first violator of the food laws in Montgomery County had a hearing before Food Administration Board in Norristown, Pa. Frank Platansky, proprietor of a bakery in Conshohocken, was convicted of selling bread to the prison at a price 100 per cent above the legal price.