



BIG BATTLE RAGES WITH NO DECISION

British Burst Through Oppy Line in Fighting That Is Bloodiest of Present Offensive; Supreme Effort Made by General Haig to Smash Wotan Line Back of the Hindenburg Positions; France's Iron and Coal Fields at Stake

The British have burst through the Oppy line and are fighting the bloodiest and sternest battle of the present offensive in a great effort to smash the famous Wotan line before its organization is completed. The Hindenburg line, outflanked and pierced in several places, has failed to stop the forward surge of the British armies and the Wotan positions are the last great barrier barring the road to Douai, Cambrai and Germany's richest prize in France, the great coal and iron fields north of Lens.

The Wotan line runs from Drocourt to Queant, a stretch of fifteen miles running north and south about five miles west of Douai and Cambrai. Around Queant, the southern extremity of the line, General Haig has formed a great human nipper and is striving with all the power at his command to close the jaws of these nippers. Realizing the menace of the situation, the Germans are fighting with a grim determination which reckons no cost in blood too high if it halts their advancing foe.

Germans Counterattack

Furious attacks are being made by the Germans to stop the progress the British are making in smashing through the Hindenburg line in northern France. General Haig, however, has made good the most telling gains effected in the renewal of the great drive yesterday.

Fresnoy, three miles east of Vimy, and the Malakoff farm north and south of it are firmly held after the repulse of numerous severe counterattacks. A deep salient has been created in the Oppy line here.

British Hold Fast

Near Bullecourt in the Croisilles district southeast of Arras, the sector of the Hindenburg line taken yesterday was also subjected to a heavy counterdrive in this valuable position likewise remains safely in British hands. The Germans in Bullecourt are nearly surrounded and threatened with capture, correspondents report.

Only on one narrow front was the British advance negated. This was in the vicinity of Cherisy and on the Arras Cambrai road just to the north. Here the advanced positions taken were evacuated under the German pressure.

New Successes

Meanwhile activity developed and a new British success was scored in another part of the fighting front. Northwest of St. Quentin a deeper wedge was driven into the German line and the Malakoff farm northeast of Hargicourt was captured.

The German official report admits the loss of Fresnoy and of ground in the vicinity of Eusey, which is British. It claims the capture of more than 1,000 prisoners.

The renewed fury into which the great battle of Arras has flamed has diverted attention from the possible more significant events which are shaping behind the battle front. The German censorship has lifted as far as to allow newspapers and mails from Germany once more to reach the outer world, but there is

little information as yet as to what has transpired within the borders of the German empire during the last week. The German chancellor is once more reported to be about to make a pronouncement on peace before the Reichstag and his hand has apparently been forced by the junkers and alarmed by the apparent dominance of the Socialist party, with its program of peace without annexations or indemnities. Have presented an intimation to the chancellor in the Reichstag demanding that he clarify his position. The junkers are still clamoring for the annexation of Belgium and all reports indicate that the government must very shortly take a definite stand both on the question of war aims and internal reforms.

Germans Make Desperate Efforts to Regain Lines Lost in British Drives

British Headquarters in France, via London, May 4.—The Germans made desperate attempts to regain the entire night against the position won by the British yesterday, but were everywhere repulsed.

All through the brilliant moonlight night and again to-day British soldiers were fighting on a wide front, tenaciously holding the positions won yesterday in the face of the headlong counterattacks of their foe. In some places the fighting ebbed and flowed as in the old days in the Somme campaign, when the casualties inflicted on the enemy were regarded as more important than specific gains of ground. The present fighting, however, is more intense.

The latest reports from the battle front show that the Hindenburg line was pierced both northwest and southeast of Bullecourt for long distances. The Germans bitterly defended these strong points and attempted several times to retake them but once the British were in the deep trenches they held on.

The men fought so steadily that there was neither time for thought of food. The battlefields were dry and dusty, however, and water bottles had to be replenished, time and again, whenever it was possible to do so.

British Compelled to Fall Back From New Positions in Cherisy

London, May 4.—The British last night made progress northwest of St. Quentin and northeast of Hargicourt, capturing Malakoff farm, the war office announces. On the Arras front the British have maintained their hold on Fresnoy and all the positions captured in that neighborhood.

The British were compelled to fall back from the advanced positions captured yesterday in the neighborhood of Cherisy and Astride, the Arras-Chambrai road, the statement adds.

Annexation of Belgium Planned by Reichstag

Amsterdam, May 4, via London.—A Berlin dispatch says that during a discussion of the Belgian question in the Reichstag main committee, the progressive party declared that the annexation of Belgium must be regarded as an accomplished fact and discussion concerning it was undesirable.

A Center speaker said that the leaders of the Flemish people consider it would be dangerous for Belgium to come under the old dynasty. A Conservative deputy considered that the whole question was whether the coast of Flanders was to come under German or English influence.

CONSIDER MEANS OF SOLVING FARM LABOR SHORTAGE

New Agent Is Installed at Bureau of Chamber of Commerce

TO DISTRIBUTE WORKERS Food Gardening in City and Country Will Be Placed on Systematic Basis

H. G. Niesley, who was recently selected by State College to direct the work of the newly organized Dauphin County Farm Bureau, was farm agent, this afternoon at one o'clock in the office of the Chamber of Commerce, at a meeting of the officers and the executive committee of the bureau.

All of the officers and the members of the committee, who are assisting farmers with the exception of Robert McCormick, the treasurer, were present at the meeting. Prof. F. P. Weaver, of the extension bureau of the agricultural department of State College, was also present at the meeting.

Will Distribute Workers

Following the installation of the new farm agent general plans for work were discussed. The most important was that of assisting the farmers in the labor problem, now confronting them. The Chamber of Commerce is now ready to become actively engaged in

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200 Carpenters Out; Men Under Agreement Continue at Their Work

Officials of the Carpenter's Union this morning announced that more than 200 of the men were still out on the strike as their demands for 50 cents per hour and an 8-hour day have not been met by many of the contractors. Men who were under agreement for the contractors who have met the demands of the union are at work.

Mrs. Wilson Presents a Fine Virginia Ham to Joffre For His Wife

Washington, May 4.—Madame Joffre, wife of the marshal of France is going to get a fine big sugar-cured Virginia ham, a gift from Mrs. Woodrow Wilson when the marshal returns to Paris.

During one of the marshal's calls at the White House Mrs. Wilson learned that Madame Joffre was very fond of American ham which is scarce there. Mrs. Wilson sent to Virginia and procured an extraordinarily fine ham and sent it to Marshal Joffre, asking him to take it back to Madame Joffre with her compliments. The ham carefully packed, will go with the marshal's personal effects when he leaves the United States.

Definite Plans Made to Send Hospital Units to the French Front

Washington, May 4.—Definite plans have been completed for sending United States army base hospitals to the fighting front in France. The number of the units, the time of their departure, the means of their transportation and their exact destination cannot for obvious reasons be disclosed.

The sending of the American hospital units is in accord with the plan to increase hospital facilities behind the front.

Turkey Plans to Destroy Its Jewish Population

London, May 4.—According to the Jewish Chronicle, the Turkish government has publicly proclaimed the intention of the authorities mercilessly to destroy the Jewish population, applying the same policy adopted in Armenia. The Chronicle says that many thousands of Jews in Palestine are starving and homeless.

COAL AT \$13.20

New York, May 4.—The lowest bid offered on a city coal contract for the next eleven months is \$13.20 a ton. This is nearly 50 per cent above the price paid by the city for coal last year. The feeling was expressed by city officials that much of the increase in the bids was speculative.

CAPITOL BILL OUT NEXT WEEK

CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES announced that the appropriation bill for Capitol Park extension is out next week. The subcommittee are favorable to allowing as much of the half million asked as possible.

LEADER OF RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT UNDER FIRE



PROF. MILUKOFF & FAMILY.

Professor Milukoff, minister of foreign affairs for the Russian provisional government, has been designated as the strongest figure in the reconstructed empire. He is now under fire of the soldiers and workmen organizations for his statement that Russia will not desert her allies. To-day reports are to the effect that his resignation is demanded because he did not consult labor in formulating this policy.

MAY KILL PLAN TO ALLOW EXPERT NAME ARCHITECT

Five Members of School Board Cast Ballots Against Joint Finding

Dr. C. E. L. Keen, Harry M. Bretz, Harry A. Boyer, William A. Boll and George A. Werner, five members of the City School Board, yesterday afternoon voted against the plan presented at a meeting of the School Board and Citizens' Advisory Committee, to submit the selection of an architect for the high school development program to Professor Warren P. Laird, dean of the School of Architecture of the University of Pennsylvania, an authority in this country on architectural questions.

Social Democrats Hit at Milukoff's Policy

London, May 4.—A Petrograd dispatch says that the Novaya Zhizn, the organ of the Social Democrats and other extreme Left newspapers, severely criticize Foreign Secretary Milukoff's not to the Allies asserting Russia's determination to vigorously push the war against Germany. The note will be discussed this evening at an extraordinary general meeting of the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates.

English Are Two Weeks Ahead in Their Schedule

Washington, May 4.—The British forces on the western front are two weeks ahead of their attacking schedule, according to a cablegram received here to-day by Secretary Balfour from the Foreign Office. The advance, it said, has been much faster than expected and the losses smaller.

The losses were said to be only one-half as large proportionally as those on the Somme offensive last year. This is attributed by members of the mission to an incomparably better artillery preparation and the fact that the men are not allowed to outrun the guns.

Advertise Bids For Ripping River Slope

Commissioner E. Z. Gross of the Park Department, to-day advertised for bids for ripping the river slopes from Calder to Maclay streets. The proposals will be opened May 14 at the Park office.

This important improvement, delayed throughout the entire summer last year, will be started as soon as possible this spring, Commissioner Gross announced.

Vawter Completes His Defense in Murder Trial

Christiansburg, Va., May 4.—The defense in the trial of Professor Charles E. Vawter, charged with murdering Stockton Beth, Jr., rested this morning after presenting two witnesses who testified that they saw Vawter between 9:30 and 10:30 o'clock on the night of the shooting and that he was not drinking.

GOVERNOR HAS THIRTY BILLS

Gov. H. Brown has thirty bills in his hands for action, the largest number at any one time in weeks. Most of them were passed this week by the Legislature. The Governor has vetoed over a score of bills.

FOURTEEN U. S. GUNNERS PICKED UP BY BRITISH

Americans Missing From Torpedoed Rockingham Are Rescued at Sea

London, May 4.—The admiralty reports that the missing boat from the Rockingham, with all the fourteen men, has been picked up by a British steamer. The gun crew on the Rockingham was in charge of Chief Petty Officer Arthur Wood. Captain Charles Edwards, of the American steamer Rockingham, was barefoot when he arrived in Londonderry, Ireland, late Wednesday night and the 32 members of his crew who were with him were scantily clad. They were cared for by the American consul.

Heroism Shown in Rescue of Drowning Soldiers

Paris, May 4.—A Marcellis dispatch to the Matin says the rescue of the torpedoed transport Arcadian showed great heroism and determination in saving the victims of the submarine. Both officers and men leaped overboard and held up drowning soldiers. One patrol saved 236 men in an hour and a half.

Ex-President Taft's Son Is Rejected by U. S. Army

Cincinnati, O., May 4.—Robert A. Taft, a lawyer, son of former President Taft, was rejected by physicians examining applicants for the officers' reserve corps at the General Hospital here yesterday. His eyes were found to be weak.

OFFER U. S. BIG PLANTS

Pittsburgh, May 4.—A. L. Humphrey, president of the Pittsburgh Employers' Association, it was announced yesterday, has offered to the government many manufacturing plants in the Pittsburgh district representing an invested capital of \$500,000,000 and employing 100,000 for war time needs.

PHILADELPHIA OFFICERS HERE

Colonel Hamilton D. Turner and Major Harry A. Hall, of the Second Artillery Regiment of Philadelphia, here yesterday in consultation with Adjutant General Stewart to-day regarding the equipment and recruiting of the command.

SENDS GERMAN DELEGATIONS

Copenhagen, via London, May 4.—The German Socialists have sent an ignominious delegation to the international conference at Stockholm.

IN AGAIN

Davy Lowe has been sent to jail again.

STEELTON PLANS GREAT PATRIOTIC DEMONSTRATION

Steel Mills and Industries to Be Closed; City Invited to Take Part

Steelton is to have the greatest borough-wide demonstration May 19 in its history. Aside from Steelton residents taking part in the demonstration, invitations have been extended to all organizations in this city and to residents of Highspire, Oberlin, Enbata, and all surrounding towns. About 12,000 people from Steelton and nearby hamlets will take part and several thousand are expected from Harrisburg.

Bands Will Play French National Hymn in Honor of Joffre on Visit Here

It was announced at the Chamber of Commerce office this morning that definite information as to the time of arrival and the length of the stay of Marshal Joffre and the French Mission in Harrisburg on Tuesday had not yet been received by the committee yet, but that such information is expected early to-morrow morning.

As soon as the definite time of arrival of Marshal Joffre is learned the committee will make detailed plans for the big reception.

The committee has already planned for plenty of music and the "Savior of France," the Minister of Justice and the other members of the party will be greeted with the martial strains of the "Marseillaise," the French national hymn, as they set foot in Harrisburg. It is the plan of the committee to have the French general and his staff march a short line of march so that every person in the city will be given a chance to see them. Three bands will be secured for the occasion.

300 Labor Unions to Be Represented at Convention Here 3 Days Next Week

More than 300 labor unions will be represented in the convention of the American Federation of Labor to be held here May 8 to 11. Prominent speakers will address the meetings to be held in the board of Trade building including John R. Jackson, J. R. Anderson, of the Association of Labor Legislation and H. M. Brooks, president of the Central Labor Union. The Railroad trainmen will be represented by George B. Rowand and S. R. Turner.

RUSS TO SEND MISSION

Petrograd, May 4.—A commission representing the Russian provincial government will leave in the near future for America, to confer with American government officials, concerning the industrial, economic and financial relations of the two countries. Information to this effect was obtained by the Associated Press from a high official source.

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MARRIAGE LICENSES

George Dewey Johnson and Susie Elizabeth Miller, Mechanicsburg, Daniel Muser Johnson and Ella Niesley Heiney, Elizabethtown, Ralph Fleckinger Manning and Nettie Louise Ballets, Harrisburg.

RUSSIAN MINISTRY ATTACKED FOR ITS STRONG WAR STAND

Resignation of Milukoff, Strong Man of the Revolution and Best Friend of Germany's Enemies, Demanded For His Proclamation Stating That Country Would Continue War Without Slackening Effort; Parade With Red Flags

Disquieting reports come from Russia of the attitude to elements among the soldiers and workmen toward the provisional government. Demonstrations are occurring in the streets of Petrograd against Paul N. Milukoff, the minister of foreign affairs, his resignation being demanded.

Professor Milukoff is considered one of the strongest men in the new Russian regime, a true friend of the entente cause as a whole and thoroughly in favor of an energetic prosecution of the war by Russia. The radical elements opposed to him appear to have been excited to action by the provisional government's communication to the allied nations, made public yesterday which committed the government to continuation of the war without slackening of effort. They declare they should have been consulted in this matter.

Petrograd, May 4.—Some of the banners carried by the paraders were inscribed "Down With Guchkoff" (the minister of war), and "Down With the Provisional Government."

The executive committee of the workmen's and soldiers' delegates discussed M. Milukoff's note to the allies all of Wednesday night. It adjourned at daybreak yesterday without having reached a decision. Later in the day the committee sat in special session with the council of the provisional government of a discussion of the government's motives in issuing the note. The executive committee finally decided that it must take some action regarding the note, but it saw no reason for demanding the resignation of the provisional government. The committee induced the soldiers engaged in demonstrations to return to the barracks.

Petrograd, May 4, via London.—The resignation of Foreign Minister Detachments of soldiers have gathered in front of the palace which is used as the headquarters of the provisional government, carrying red flags with inscriptions demanding

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HOUSE STRIKES OUT CENSORSHIP

Washington, May 4.—The House by a vote of 220 to 167 to-day struck out the censorship section of the espionage bill.

CHICAGO GREET'S FRENCH ENVOYS

Chicago, May 4.—The French envoys arrived here at noon. Marshal Joffre and former Premier Viviani were greeted with cheers.

SENATE COMMITTEE APPROVES INSURANCE

Washington, May 4.—The administration bill for insurance of lives of crews on American merchant ships was reported favorably to-day by the Senate Finance Committee.

DISCUSS SHIPPING PROBLEMS

Washington, May 4.—Important shipping problems were discussed to-day at a meeting of members of the British commission and Secretary Lansing.

CONFER ON ARMY BILL

Washington, May 4.—Conferees of the House and Senate, working to reconcile conflicting amendments in the army bill, met late to-day ready to begin considering of selective conscription. The principal difference is the age limit. The Senate made it 21 to 27 and the House made it 21 to 40.

ATTORNEY GENERAL TO PROSECUTE

Philadelphia, May 4.—Attorney General Brown to-day announced that he will go to Pittsburgh to-night to prosecute every person who had anything to do with alleged fraud in the Pittsburgh Life and Trust Company.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Rain this afternoon; Saturday generally cloudy; continued cool. For Eastern Pennsylvania: Rain to-night; Saturday cloudy; probably rain in north portion; continued cool; below normal east winds, shifting to west, Saturday.

River: A general rain, indicated for the Susquehanna Valley during the next twenty-four to thirty hours, will probably cause a general, though probably not very decided rise in the river and its tributaries. A stage of about 4.4 feet is indicated for Harrisburg Saturday morning.

General Conditions: The center of the Southwest storm has moved from West Texas to East Tennessee during the last twenty-four hours, with an increase in intensity. It has caused rain since last report generally south and east of the Ohio river, except the Florida peninsula, and in the Missouri, Middle and lower Mississippi valleys and the West Gulf States, the heaviest reported occurring in West Tennessee.

Temperatures have fallen 4 to 26 degrees above normal, all the territory between the Rocky Mountains and the Mississippi river, and continues below normal over nearly all the remainder of the country. Frosts occurred this morning in Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan and in the West.

Temperature: 8 a. m., 42 degrees. 11 a. m., 45 a. m., 42 degrees. Noon: Full moon, May 6. River stage: 4.2 feet.

Yesterday's Weather: Highest temperature, 60. Lowest temperature, 42. Mean temperature, 52. Normal temperature, 57.