

SHELL EXPLODES; EIGHT AMERICAN GUNNERS KILLED

Crew Is Wiped Out While at Practice Near Fort Worth

Fort Worth, Tex., May 9.—Eight American gunners were killed and seven injured more or less seriously near Benbrook, a few miles west of Fort Worth, when a three-inch shell exploded at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. One gun crew made up of members of the headquarters company of the One Hundred and Forty-first Infantry was entirely wiped out and a second crew from headquarters company of the One Hundred and Forty-second Infantry suffered heavy casualties.

Six of the men were killed instantly and two died within a short time. The bodies of some of the victims were literally blown to pieces. An attempt on the part of a gunner to force a shell, which apparently did not fit, down a tranch mortar is believed to have been responsible for the accident. Sergeant Norman Bow, a Canadian, who is an assistant instructor, said to-night he saw a soldier attempting to force the shell and that he attempted to warn the gunner. The explosion came too quickly, however. Bow was slightly wounded by a fragment of the shell.

The list of dead follows: First Lieutenant Alan J. McDavid, headquarters company, 142d Infantry, Overton, Tex.

Sergeant Louis A. Halphen, headquarters company, 141st Infantry, Abilene, Tex.

Corporal Wharton Jones, headquarters company, 141st Infantry, San Marcos, Tex.

Corporal William P. Appleg, 141st Infantry, Elmda, Tex.

Private Morgan C. Sanders, headquarters company, 142d Infantry, Abilene, Tex.

Private Euclid Simmons, Company K, 142d Infantry, Henrietta, Tex.

Private John Webber, headquarters company, 141st Infantry, Memphis, Texas.

Private Lucy R. Lansley, headquarters company, 141st Infantry, Waelder, Tex.

The wounded, except Sergeant Norman Bow, of the British army, were all from Texas.

General E. St. John Greble, commanding officer at Camp Bowie, was standing less than ten yards from the scene of the explosion with his two aids, Captain Houghton and Lieutenant Russell. They were uninjured. Lieutenant Colonel Metcalf, division surgeon, and an enlisted man also stood nearby. The enlisted man was instantly killed, but Metcalf was unhurt.

The 141st and 142d Infantry Regiments were at the trench system near Benbrook and their firing practice was being watched from a distance by a large crowd of civilians. New mortars were being used for the first time and the sound of heavy firing at the camp had been plainly heard in Fort Worth since early morning.

The two gun crews, made up of men from the headquarters companies of the two regiments, were operating the new mortars, which were located on a hill overlooking the trench system.

2,500 Miners of Bituminous Coal Have Quit Work; Broad Top Region Idle

Huntingdon, Pa., May 9.—Demanding that the operators continue to pay the rate in force through the past winter, 2,500 bituminous coal miners in the Broad Top region quit work yesterday, tying up practically every mine in the region. The miners, the operators and the Federal fuel administration, it was stated, entered into an agreement December 4 last providing for certain rates of pay which were to be effective until April 1, then be reduced. On April 1 the reduced scale went into effect and the miners accepted one pay according to this scale. The winter rate was \$1.11 per ton while the new rate was \$1.01 with a difference of one cent in broad top pay. The output of the Broad Top region is about 8,500 tons a day.

British U-Boats Hit German War Vessels; Crews Suffered Greatly

Washington, May 9.—More than forty German U-boats have been attacked successfully by British submarines. This was disclosed by an official British statement received here and made public by the committee on public information. Most of the battles narrated were with German destroyers presumably on raiding expeditions. The review also deals with the hazard of operations in the North Sea during the winter months and tells of the hardships and suffering of the crews from extreme cold. Frequently periscopes and wireless sets were covered with ice so that they could not be used.

Raising Draft Age to 40 Discussed as Possibility

Washington, May 9.—Legislation raising the draft age to 40 years was discussed as a possibility within a few months at a meeting yesterday of Provost Marshal-General Crowder and the House Military Committee. Although general public by the committee on public information, members of the committee said afterward the War Department was considering a plan to change the law.

An appropriation of \$15,762,000 was asked by General Crowder for expenses of the draft for the next fiscal year. Registration of men reaching the age of 21 will result in examination, he said, of 500,000 more men than originally provided for. Class 1, the general said, now has a total of about 2,250,000 men, of whom 2,000,000 are effective.

Chairman Dent, of the committee, announced he would ask the House to eliminate from pending draft legislation an amendment giving states credit for volunteers. In a letter to Mr. Dent, President Wilson came out in opposition to the credit plan and asked that the measure be passed as approved by the War Department.

HIGHEST COURT IS TO PASS ON J. V. THOMPSON

Judge Orr Sustains Motion to Quash Indictment by Erie Grand Jury

Pittsburgh, May 9.—Whether J. V. Thompson, former president of the First National Bank of Uniontown, Pa., and millionaire coal operator, will ever be tried on the forty-seven criminal charges contained in two indictments handed down against him in connection with the failure of the bank, one indictment in Pittsburgh and another in Erie, will be decided by the United States Supreme Court.

Thompson's trial in federal court here yesterday suddenly was halted when Judge Charles P. Orr sustained a motion made at the opening of the trial Tuesday by counsel for Thompson to quash the indictment, containing thirty counts, returned by the Federal Grand Jury at Erie.

Special Attorney S. R. Rush, of the United States Attorney General's office, asked that trial on the remaining indictment be continued pending appeal to the Supreme Court, as the Government did not wish to try Thompson on separate charges. The request was granted.

Judge Orr in sustaining the motion to quash the indictment based his action on the ground that the Grand Jury at Erie had acted without the knowledge or approval of the court after a former Grand Jury sitting in Pittsburgh had failed to bring in a true bill on identical charges.

WASHINGTON IS WATCHING CRISIS IN ENGLAND

Storm Weathered by Lloyd George Government Holds Interest of U. S.

Washington, May 9.—Washington is tremendously interested in the British cabinet crisis, since it is generally believed here that a change in government in England that would bring forward the more liberal element which followed Mr. Asquith and the labor element, whose most statesmanlike leader is Arthur Henderson, would be welcome to the American administration.

By this statement is not meant the President is consciously and intentionally influencing British politics. On the contrary, such influence as he exerts there is the influence of his ideas and personality, and there is no denying that the radical elements in all allied countries gathering strength from the chief exponent of the democratic idea among the adversaries of Germany.

The government of Lloyd George has hardly given more than lip service to the more idealistic views of the President. A more liberal government in England would do much to strengthen the political unity which is now so unfortunately lacking among the allies. For these reasons Washington watches the present crisis in London more intently than it ever watched any of the previous storms which the government of Lloyd George has weathered.

A Genuine Crisis. This is a real crisis. The same charge that wrecked the original

Liberal government and subsequently the Asquith coalition government now is made against the Lloyd George government, namely, that it has failed in the efficient prosecution of the war. If General Maurice's charges are proved true, the fall of Lloyd George is inevitable. The charges, indeed, may never have to come to trial, for it appears the Premier will accept the passage of the motion of Mr. Asquith for an inquiry by the House of Commons as a vote of censure and resignation. General Maurice's charges are that the Lloyd George government allowed British man-power to decline and at the same time took over an additional extent of the west front, and then deceived the country about the British cabinet crisis, since it is generally believed here that a change in government in England that would bring forward the more liberal element which followed Mr. Asquith and the labor element, whose most statesmanlike leader is Arthur Henderson, would be welcome to the American administration.

On this question of reduced British man-power, reports have already reached this country. One story, fairly well authenticated, is that Marshal Haig had 200,000 fewer men under his command at the front this year than he had last year. In the face of this he had about forty miles more to defend. The explanation given for this is that both the French and British miscalculated the extent of the political unity in the war this year. Both countries were misled by the optimistic stories put forth in Washington. It is impossible, but American business energy has a big reputation abroad. With the wish to believe that America would save them the most difficult task in believing the impossible.

Lloyd George Relaxed, Charge. Accordingly the energy of the Lloyd George government relaxed, especially in the perplexing matter of man-power, increase of which involved settlement of the difficult labor question and the even more difficult Irish question. In an almost petulant reference to the failure of this country to meet expectations, Lloyd George recently appeared to betray a sense of its consequences. His statement in his recent speech that there was no use of denying that this country's contribution to the war, thus far, was disappointing, has never been explained. It is a singularly frank, even though just, criticism of an ally, which would hardly have been made unless it was impelled by some such situation as that which General Maurice charges in his letter.

In view of the crisis that impends the recent resignations of Northcliffe and of Rothermere, Northcliffe's brother, became understandable. Both men had recently entered the ministry. The support of the press, was about all the strength Lloyd George had, except that reluctance of a democracy to make critical changes, which we express in Lincoln's words about swapping horses crossing a stream.

Northcliffe is a strong "war prosecution" man. If he became aware that Lloyd George had permitted the man-power of England to fall off, no matter what the excuse was, he would naturally withdraw from the government. And under the circumstances he would leave it to some one else to bring out the damaging truth.

I have alluded to the difficulty of replacing Lloyd George that has chiefly kept him in power. Milner-Asquith combination might meet the situation. In Milner there would be assurance of the efficient prosecution of the war, which, in each change of ministry she has demanded, in Asquith there would be assurance of an approach toward sympathy with and understanding of the rising British democracy demands. The Milner-Asquith combination would be a safe bet. Lloyd George has proved equal to many attacks, but this seems to be the most formidable in his history. The forces that elevated him are now arrayed against him.

WINTER WHEAT CROP TO BE ONE OF LARGEST 3

572,539,000 Bushels in Official Forecast of United States; Rye, 82,629,000

Washington, May 9.—Hope for the billion-bushel wheat crop, for which the Government is striving this year, was strengthened by the Department of Agriculture's May crop report forecasting a production of 572,539,000 bushels of winter wheat. The winter wheat crop harvested in 1917 was 418,000,000 bushels. The May forecast this year was for 304,000,000 bushels.

Washington, May 9.—A winter wheat crop of 572,539,000 bushels was forecast to-day by the Department of Agriculture, basing its estimate on conditions existing May 1 and on a canvass of the acreage remaining to be harvested. With continued favorable conditions the crop will be one of the three largest ever grown.

Production of rye, forecast from May 1 conditions will be 82,629,000 bushels, based on a condition of 86.8 per cent of a normal. Production of oats will be 167,550,000 tons, based on a condition of 89.5 per cent of a normal and an expected acreage of 69,831,000 acres, which at 905,000 lbs. is tame and 15,928,000 wild.

Stocks of hay on farms May 1 are estimated at 11,096,000 tons. Average conditions of pastures was 83.1 per cent of a normal, spring wheat was 77.5 per cent, completed and spring planting 60.8 per cent. The area of winter wheat remain-

ing to be harvested on May 1 was 36,392,000 acres, or 13.7 per cent, less than the acreage planted last autumn. The condition of the crop was 86.4 per cent, of normal, indicating an acre yield of approximately 15.7 bushels. Condition and forecast of production of winter wheat by principal states follow: Ohio: Conditions, 83; forecast 33,492,000 bushels. Indiana: 96 and 47,771,000. Illinois: 82 and 44,120,000. Missouri: 95 and 45,963,000. Nebraska: 82 and 47,884,000. Kansas: 84 and 36,104,000. Oklahoma: 78 and 49,321,000.

Fourth Loan Publicity on Heels of the Third. Washington, May 9.—Before work on the Third Liberty Loan is finished the Treasury's loan publicity bureau has started preparations for the fourth loan, which will be held next fall. All artists and designers were asked to-day to submit designs for posters, window cards and buttons by June 1. These are to be donated to the Government. Bond buyers' buttons for the fourth loan will be smaller than those used in the third campaign and will be made of tin, in order to save celluloid for more important war purposes.

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INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT Products That Stand Supreme

Grocery Stores Co-operate With the Government. The war is testing the patriotism of everyone these days, but more especially that of the grocer. It is a hard proposition for him to tell just what is what in the way of selling articles, so many things having embargoes and restricted amounts placed upon them. Notwithstanding these facts the grocer is doing his best to co-operate with the government in conserving the necessities and selling small amounts to all customers so that there will be no hoarding. The general scarcity of food products, together with the delays in shipments, etc., has made many a grocer sit on his hands. A large majority of them are facing these times with the regular amount of American diplomacy, going to it just the same. Williams & Clumbers, 2109 Green street, is helping to conserve food-stuffs and doing all in his power to keep prices within the reach of everyone. He maintains the same good standard of quality as before, the same quick service and the equality of prices. His specialties are staple and fancy groceries of all kinds and fresh and smoked meats. He also handles a full line of cakes and crackers, fruits and vegetables, etc. In looking over the stock of a person one sees that it is among the best in the city and that whatever you may want along these lines can be found at this store.

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This fellow just had a full meal on our groceries and meats and as you see, he has an agreeable smile on his face and he is ready for a day's sports. Good wholesome groceries make life one pleasant romp. When it's quality you want get your provisions at B. B. Drum's. 1803 NORTH SIXTH ST. Both Phones.

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A Standad Business Course Pays Well. Many high grade positions are being filled daily by School of Commerce graduates. A young man from the bookkeeping department left Monday morning to take a position with the Construction Company at Magnolia, Maryland, at a beginning salary of \$130 a month. A young girl from the stenotype department left at the same time for Washington, D. C., to accept a position as teacher of stenotype in the stenotype school which was recently opened there; her beginning salary of \$90 a month will be increased to \$100 at the end of the first month. A letter received recently from a graduate contained the following: "It is now four years since I was associated with your institution and in each year of my business experience I have diligently applied the practical methods taught me while I was a student there. I often succeeded in positions where others had failed; this was due to the thorough training and the ability to index information which was duly impressed on me each day of my school life. "Success in the commercial world cannot be realized without a good solid foundation obtained from a clear understanding of the underlying principles which the world of commerce rotates. By constant association with the products of other institutions, I more fully appreciate each day the practical systematic methods employed by your school. Its highest recommendation consists in the many successful graduates to be found in positions of influence throughout the country. At present I am employed by the Consolidated National Bank of Tucson, Arizona, the largest institution of its kind in the whole state. I am using the stenotype which I learned would be indispensable if accuracy and speed were to be retained. I came to Tucson a perfect stranger and succeeded in securing my present position from among thirty applicants, using only my letters of recommendation from former employers and the School of Commerce. This position pays \$125 per month, with a \$10 raise next month. I cannot show the great appreciation that I feel for this school in a better way than to heartily recommend it to any one whose desire it is to become associated with those methods of training that will make success follow him wherever he goes on the commercial world." March 27 this young lady was appointed chief clerk of local draft board of Tucson, Arizona, at a salary of \$150 a month.

Tokyo Tea Garden Popular With Theatergoing Folks. As the great news is being spread around about the Tokyo Tea Garden, the people are doing their part to get acquainted with this popular cafe. A good many people are of the opinion that they can only get Chinese and Japanese dishes at this restaurant, but that is only an illusion for the finest cooked American dishes in the city are served there to the queen's taste. Such dishes comprised of steaks, fried potatoes of all kinds, salads, sandwiches, oysters and sea foods in season, fruits, etc., can be procured. And what is more tempting, the surroundings are simply delightful. If you have not been there yet you are missing something, for the beautiful decorations of a fruit design with an arbor effect, ferns and cedars, booths and Japanese lights, lend to your appetite. The service is of the best and everything is cooked and served in modern up-to-date contrivances and the latest Japanese ware. There is no reason to doubt the sanitary conditions of this kitchen for the proprietors, Kadia Bros., are very particular in this respect. This cafe caters to the young people and to the theatergoers. Both afternoon teas and after-theater lunches are served. If you are not in the habit of visiting this place, do so on your next opportunity. It is between the Colonial and Victoria theaters in Market street on the second floor. You can't miss it for a large sign tells you exactly where it is.

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Good Stock, Well Kept, Produces Pure Milk. There is a good bit to say in regard to the kind of stock that a dairyman has to the kind of milk he sells to his customers. Take the model dairy farm for instance and you will see usually well contented cows. They are well taken care of and produce regularly and they are sure to produce the best kind of milk. Central Pennsylvania is one of the best dairy centers in the country. The milk produced is the best there is. The people of this city are to be congratulated that they are in a position to get rich milk and cream. Another thing is that the majority of milkmen are conscientious in respect to their dairy rooms. Ryder Bros., of Lemoyne, are one of the model creameries of this section. All the modern appliances for the betterment of the milk is installed in this dairy. Ryder Bros. the proprietors, have a long reputation in the milk and cream business and take extra pains to produce milk and cream under the most sanitary conditions. They maintain a delivery service and deliver milk to this city. They can be reached with the Dial phone.

Spurrier's Restaurant Has Good Reputation. While speaking to a man the other day in regard to restaurants and the food question in general, he said: "Do you know, I think Spurrier's restaurant, in Sixth street, just below Rely, is about the best place in the city. You get good, wholesome food, well cooked and in my estimation the prices are as reasonable as any I have found. Mr. Spurrier gives personal attention to everything and a person is made to feel very much at home while eating there. I often stop in in the evenings on my way home and get a little lunch. And on Sunday, say, they cook the best chicken dinner! All you could get away with and it's only fifty cents. Believe me, that's what I call cheap. Why, my wife couldn't come anywhere near getting up a meal at that price. And I'm not the only one that has that opinion of this restaurant. Ask any of the boys, they'll tell you the same thing."

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