

GERMANS CHECK FRENCH ADVANCE ON METZ
ARMIES IN HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTS IN ALSACE
RUSSIAN VANGUARD ON PRUSSIAN FRONTIER

Kaiser's Forces Claim a Victory and the French Admit Being Driven From Trenches Which They Won the Day Before

JOFFRE'S MEN REPEL COUNTER ATTACKS

Paris.—In the desperate fighting which, with few exceptions, is now confined to the eastern end of the battle line in France and Alsace, each of the opposing armies, according to the official reports, has practically offset the advantage gained by the other.

London.—The battle for the trenches in Flanders and France continued almost without cessation from the sea to the Swiss border, without notable advantage for either side.

East of Verdun the Germans have made two slight advances, in one retaking the trenches around Apremont, near St. Mihiel, which the French captured, and in the other gaining a small portion of trenches in the Forest of Le Preire from the column which is threatening Metz.

According to a long official report of the fighting during the past two months, issued by the French War Office, the history of siege operations has largely favored the Allies, who, while they have gained ground on almost every part of the front, have been forced to give way in only one region, that of Schiesens.

They are being put to a test, however, similar to that which obliged them to retire south of the Alsace, near Soissons, because the Germans, realizing the danger to their communications with Metz as a result of the French advance near Pont-a-Mousson, have sent reinforcements there, and have begun a battle for positions which they lost.

The British were superior in ships engaged, weight of armament and speed, and the flight of the German ships into the mine and submarine-infested field possibly saved them from further losses.

SUBMARINE OPENS WAR ON BRITISH FOOD SUPPLY

Sinking of Merchant Ship Starts Campaign to "Starve" England.

London.—A thrill of excitement passed through London when it was learned that Germany had struck her first blow in what was accepted as the opening of the Kaiser's campaign against the British merchant marine.

Bluecher a Fine Ship. The Bluecher was a cruiser of 15,550 tons displacement, and, although commissioned in 1908, was completely re-fitted last year.

The steamer Durward, a boat of 1,300 tons, was the victim of the opening attack. The Durward was torpedoed by the German submarine U-19.

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London.—The fighting in both arenas of the war, because of the severe weather conditions, consists largely of artillery duels.

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An exception was the region of Point-a-Mousson, where the French assert they made further progress in a foot-to-foot encounter with the Germans.

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This is a point to which military men on both sides attach great importance, and it is predicted in news dispatches that the Germans will start at once a heavy offensive, as they did with much success at Soissons, to put a stop to the French advance toward the roads leading to Metz.

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Trenches in the Argonne were captured by the Germans in bayonet charges, but the French official report says the ground was retaken in hand-to-hand clashes.

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In Poland and Western Galicia the Germans and Austrians continue isolated attacks against the Russian line, which, says the Russian report, have been repulsed with heavy losses to the attacking forces.

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The Russians are advancing slowly through the mountains separating Bukovina and Transylvania.

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PRISONERS TOO FREE. Paris Paper Says German Captives Insulted Shopkeeper.

Paris.—The intrinsigent asserts that the German officers held prisoners are allowed undue freedom and behave with insolence. It adds that the prisoners are permitted to walk freely in the streets and that some officers entered a shop where were sold postcards showing German "atrocities," insulted the proprietor, and demanded the removal of the cards from the window.

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TURKS WORK FOR PEACE. Sultan's Heir Is Said to Be Backing the Movement.

London.—Correspondents at Petrograd, in addition to reiterating reports of the Austro-Hungarian peace movement, send from Odessa the story of a peace propaganda in Constantinople, which is said to have the support of the Sultan's heir, Prince Vassaf.

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NAVAL BATTLE IN NORTH SEA

British Sink One Cruiser and Damage Two Others

RAID ON THE ENGLISH COAST

Big German War Vessels Escape Into Their Own Mine Field, Which British Ships Dare Not Enter.

London.—An attempt by a German cruiser squadron to repeat the attack recently made on Scarborough, the Hartlepool and other British coast towns was frustrated Sunday by the British patrolling squadron, and in a running fight the German armored cruiser Bleucher was sunk and two German battle cruisers were seriously damaged.

The British ships suffered only slight injury. So far as is known only 123 of the Bleucher's crew of 885 were saved.

A battle also occurred between the light cruisers and the destroyers accompanying the big German ships, but the result of this engagement has not yet reached the admiralty.

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St. Louis, Mo.—"One week of the European war did more than 10 years of academic discussion to convince the American people that foreign trade is a vital element in domestic prosperity. No doubt remains that the nation is determined to see its foreign commerce safeguarded and increased.

Washington Asks England to Explain Greenbrier Case. Washington.—Walter Hines Page, the American ambassador to London, has been cabled by the State Department to ask the British government for an explanation of the reported insult to the American flag on the American steamship Greenbrier, the undue detention of the ship and as to all the other charges made by Captain Farley, who with his ship is now at Bremen.

Watchdog of the Allies, Declares Poet, Who Arrives in New York. New York.—Alfred Noyes, English poet and peace advocate, and visiting professor of English at Princeton, reached here aboard the Lusitania.

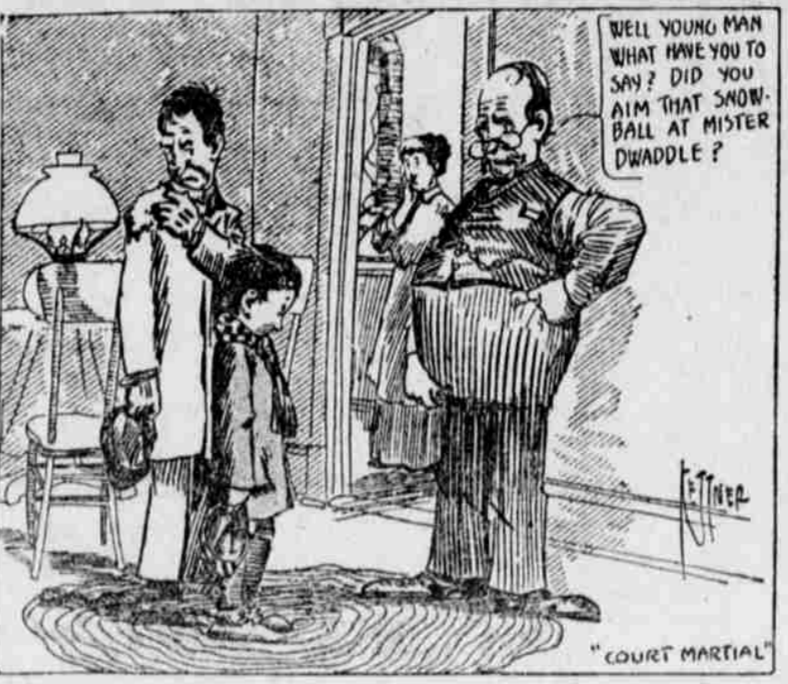
257 OFFICERS IN 13 DAYS. Casualty List Published in England Shows That Loss in Flanders. London.—There has been given in London an officers' casualty list covering the period between December 29 and January 12, which shows that the British army in France in these 13 days lost a total of 257 men.

JAPS MAY KEEP KIAUCHAU. Lease to Germans Takes It Out of China's Realm. New York.—Dr. Toyokichi Ikenaga, former professor of political science at Chicago and Columbia Universities, declared in an address before the Japan Society here that the retention of Kiauchau by Japan would not be a violation of Chinese integrity inasmuch as Kiauchau had been leased to Germany for 99 years and was, therefore, not a part of China.

RUSSIANS BLOWN UP. Railway Station Full of Troops Destroyed By Austrian Shell. Berlin (by wireless to London).—It is officially announced here that the Russian railway station near Chencyny (about 10 miles southwest of Kielec, Southern Poland), which the Austrians destroyed by a single heavy shell, was filled with Russian troops at the time all of whom were killed.

COURTHOUSE DYNAMITED. Building Destroyed On Second Visit Of Vandals. Irvine, Ky.—A charge of dynamite exploded under the Estill County Courthouse here, destroying the structure. The explosion shook the town and broke a number of windows. No body was injured. A previous attempt to destroy the building, a two-story brick one, was made in December 1913, when dynamite was exploded in the corridor, causing slight damage. The authorities have no clue.

WAR SIDELIGHTS



TIME TO EXPAND FOREIGN TRADE

America's Opportunities Discussed at Convention.

EUROPEAN WAR OPENS DOOR

Declares American Products Should Be Exploited To Get Firm Foot-hold in Markets of the World For Future.

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INSULT TO FLAG STARTS INQUIRY

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AMERICAN SHIP NOT A PRIZE

State Department Wants To Know Why It Was Necessary For British To Search Ship Provided With Certificate.

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ARMIES HOLD THEIR POSITIONS

Neither Side Seems Able to Make Important Headway

RUSSIANS ADVANCE IN NORTH

Also Russian Fleet Reported To Be Continuing Their Raids On Turkish Sailing Vessels In Black Sea.

London.—Except in Alsace, where a stubborn battle has been in progress for several days, but which receives only the briefest mention in the official reports, the fighting has been comparatively light on both eastern and western fronts. There have been heavy gun bombardments and a fight for a trench here and there, but no battle such as is considered of a proportion worthy of extended mention in this titanic war.

The siege continues and, according to the opinion of the military experts, it will go on until the ground hardens sufficiently to enable one of the commanders to move a large body of men with a speed that will permit him to surprise his opponent and enable him to find a weak spot in the line.

In the east, along the old front from the lower Vistula to Galicia and in the Carpathians, the two armies remain in about the same positions as they were two months ago, all efforts by the Germans to break down the Russian resistance seemingly have failed, and the Russian attempt to drive the Austro-German forces back to Craew having met a similar fate.

The Russian advance into Transylvania is reported to have been checked by the appearance of a large Austrian force in the mountains, while the snow prevents the Muscovites going any farther through the Carpathians, though they hold all the passes in readiness for the day when the weather will permit a resumption of the forward movement.

No mention has been made during the last few days of the fate of the remnants of the Turkish armies which the Russian reports previously said had been defeated in the Caucasus, but it is believed by military men here that the Russians, having use for their men elsewhere, have decided not to push on to Erzerum.

The Russian fleet, according to reports, still is busy in the Black Sea sinking Turkish sailing ships. This is taken as evidence that the reports that the Turkish cruiser Goeben had been put out of action were not exaggerated.

AT 100,000,000 MARK. The Population of the United States Will Soon Go Beyond It.

Washington, D. C.—At 4 P. M., April 2, the population of the United States will have reached and passed the hundred-million mark, according to C. D. Sloane, geographer of the Census Bureau, who estimates the population at that hour will be 100,000,000.

The disagreement in the estimates arises from the different systems of computation employed by the two statisticians.

In the Census Bureau the direct increase as shown by the difference in population in 1900 and 1910 is taken. By that system the country would contain 100,359,318 persons on July 1, 1915, and more than 108,000,000 on July 1, 1920. The 1900 census showed the population to be 75,954,575, while the 1910 figure was 91,972,266. By the census estimates the population of all United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, would be 110,750,000 July 1, 1915.

Actuary McCoy arrives at his conclusions, upon which Treasury statements of the per capita wealth are based, by including in the calculations what he calls the factor of second differences. His effort is to show the natural increase within the increase as figured by the Census Bureau. By that system he estimates the continental population on January 1 last at 99,875,900; February 1, 100,016,000, and July 1, 100,725,900. On July 1, 1920, Mr. McCoy estimates it will be 109,339,000.

GARY RAIL MILL TO REOPEN. Working Force Of Plan To Be Increased By 1,500 Men.

Gary, Ind.—The Gary rail mill, closed for three months, is to be opened on February 8 and other departments of the Illinois Steel Company's plant will take on more men within a few weeks, according to an announcement made here by the company. The present working force of 3,000 will be increased by 1,500 men.

AGAINST SALE OF ABSINTHE. Favorable Report On Prohibition To French Deputies.

Paris.—The license committee of the Chamber of Deputies has decided to submit a report favoring the prohibition of the sale of absinthe.

TURKISH VESSELS SUNK. Russian Torpedo Boats Raid Shipping In Bay Of Sinop.

Sebastopol, via Petrograd.—A detachment of Russian torpedo boats have entered the Bay of Sinop, a Turkish port on the Black Sea, in Asia Minor, and have sent to the bottom a Turkish steamer and three sailing vessels. The crews of all four ships were saved. The name of the steamer appears to have been the Georges. No date of this engagement is given. The news is trustworthy.

FOUR DEAD, NINE HURT IN BLOWUP

U. S. Cruiser San Diego Was Making Power Trials

LOW WATER WAS THE CAUSE

Vessel Is Flagship Of Pacific Fleet. Accident Occurs During Short Steaming Trial; Wounded Landed At Guaymas.

On Board U. S. S. San Diego, La Paz, Mexico.—Four men were killed and nine seriously injured on board the armored cruiser San Diego when a boiler tube blew out after a steaming trial of four hours had been completed.

Immediately after the accident the cruiser left for Guaymas. The San Diego is the flagship of the Pacific fleet, and is in command of Capt. Ashley H. Robertson.

Washington, D. C.—A brief official report to the Navy Department on the explosion aboard the cruiser San Diego added no details to the news dispatches except to say that some of the nine injured were in a grave condition and others were not so badly hurt. The next of kin of the dead were notified at once by the Department.

Rear Admiral's Report. Rear Admiral Howard's report gave this account of the accident:

"The San Diego completed her four-hour-full-power trials and made 21.45. Just at the completion of the trials a tube in No. 4 boiler ruptured, due to low water. No endurance runs were attempted. A full investigation has been ordered."

U. S. TO HAVE ZEPPELIN. Is To Ask For Bids On Construction and For Aeroplanes.

Washington, D. C.—The Navy Department within several days will advertise for bids for the construction of a Zeppelin model airship and for a number of new type aeroplanes. All the new aircraft, including the Zeppelin, are to be constructed in the United States. The navy has wished for some time to obtain a Zeppelin, but there were no dirigible manufacturers in the United States and no one willing to undertake the experiment of building one. Navy Department officials have finally succeeded in finding several big concerns which have promised to undertake the construction of a Zeppelin type if their bid is successful.

PEACE DAY JULY 4. Women At 'Frisco Exposition Will Proclaim Against War.

San Francisco.—Independence Day will be Peace Day at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. This announcement was made here by Mrs. May Wright Sewell, honorary president of the International Conference of Women, the organization under whose auspices an international peace conference will convene at the exposition grounds for a four-day session. "Make this the last war," is the slogan adopted by Mrs. Sewell's advisory board, and to that end delegates from all parts of the world will assemble July 4.

BRITISH SHIP BLOWN UP. Germans Torpedo Merchantman In North Sea; Crew Escapes.

London.—The British steamer Durward, says a Rotterdam dispatch, has been torpedoed by a German submarine. The crew was saved. The Durward was bound from Leith to Rotterdam and was struck by the torpedo while 22 miles off the Maas Lightship. The crew took to the boats and reached the lightship, from which a Dutch pilot boat conveyed them to Rotterdam.

A Hague dispatch says it is reported there that the Durward had on board 40 tons of provisions belonging to the American Relief Commission when she was sunk.

FLOGGED FARMER TO DEATH. Three Men Sentenced To Penitentiary For Life.

New Albany, Miss.—Pleading guilty to the charge of whipping Jesse Snider, a farmer, to death, Clarence Coley, Lawrence Rakestraw and Dillard Elder were sentenced to life imprisonment in the State penitentiary. No cause for the attack has been revealed. Snider resided near here with his wife and three young children. He was called to his door at midnight, carried to a nearby woods, flogged for an hour and left in a dying condition.

MOTHER OF 13 MURDERED. Killed By Mysterious Shot Fired Through Window Of Home.

Altoona, Kan.—Mrs. A. E. Ryan, wife of a wealthy farmer living three miles southeast of here, was shot and killed in her home. The shot was fired through a window and the officers have no clue. Mrs. Ryan was the mother of 13 children, several of whom were in the house when she was killed.

MAYOR SENT TO PRISON. Executive Of Groveport, O., Pleads Guilty Of Forgery.

Columbus, O.—After he had pleaded guilty to forgery, H. E. Pierrella, mayor of the village of Groveport, a suburb was given an indeterminate sentence in the penitentiary by Judge Rogert in the Criminal Court. Pierrella admitted that he was a defaulter to the concerns with which he was connected and that he forged city vouchers which he hypothecated with a bank at Logan.