



1—Bolshevik troops guarding the state bank in Petrograd after it had been seized by their government. 2—Heavy French guns of a new type mounted on armored cars. 3—The "kindly" way in which the Germans treat the Russian soldiers they capture.

PRESIDENT SEES THE WAR'S END

Urges the Farmer to Make Sacrifices for the Nation.

CULMINATING CRISIS HERE

The President Tells The Farmers The United States Was Forced Into The War To Preserve Its National Life.

Washington.—The result of the European War will be determined during the coming year in the opinion of President Wilson. He made this plain in a letter sent to the Farmers' Conference now in progress at Urbana, Ill., when he told them: "You will realize, as I think statesmen on both sides of the water realize, that the culminating crisis of the struggle has come and that the achievements of the year on one side or the other must determine the issue."

The President had been so deeply interested in the viewpoint of the American farmer on the war that he had planned personally to visit the conference to deliver his message in person. For two days a special train had been held in the local railroad yards to make the trip. At the last moment, however, it was decided that the inclement weather made it unwise for him to attempt the trip, in view of the fact that he was suffering with a severe cold. The letter, in part, was as follows:

President Wilson's Letter.

"I am very sorry, indeed, that I cannot be present in person at the Urbana conference. I should like to enjoy the benefits of the inspiration and exchange of counsel which I know I should obtain, but in the circumstances it has seemed impossible for me to be present, and therefore I can only send you a very earnest message expressing my interest and the thoughts which such a conference must bring prominently into every mind.

"I need not tell you, for I am sure you realize as keenly as I do, that we are as a nation in the presence of a great past, which demands supreme sacrifice and endeavor of every one of us. We can give everything that is needed with the greater willingness, and even satisfaction, because the object of the war in which we are engaged is the greatest that free men have ever undertaken.

"It is to prevent the life of the world from being determined and the fortunes of men everywhere affected by small groups of military masters of the governments they unhappily, for the moment, control. You will not need to be convinced that it was necessary for us, as a free people, to take a part in this war. It had raised its evil hand against us.

"The rulers of Germany had sought to exercise their power in such a way as to shut off our economic life within the Western Hemisphere, while they accomplished purposes which would have permanently impaired and impeded every process of our national life and have put the fortunes of America at the mercy of the imperial Government of Germany.

"This was no threat. It had become a reality. Their hand of violence had been laid upon our own people and our own property in flagrant violation not only of justice, but of the well-recognized and long-standing covenants of international law and treaty. We are fighting, therefore, as truly for the liberty and self-government of the United States as if the war of our own Revolution had to be fought over again, and every man in every business in the United States must know by this time that his whole future fortune lies in the balance.

"Our national life and our whole economic development will pass under the sinister influences of foreign control if we do not win. We must win, therefore, and we shall win. I need not ask you to pledge your lives and fortunes with those of the rest of the nation to the accomplishment of that great end.

"You will realize, as I think statesmen on both sides of the water realize, that the culminating crisis of the struggle has come and that the achievements of this year on the one side or the other must determine the issue. It has turned out that the forces that fight for freedom, the freedom of men all over the world as well as our own, depend upon us in an extraordinary and unexpected degree for sustenance, for the supply of the materials by which men are to live and to fight, and it will be our glory when the war is over that we have supplied those materials and supplied them abundantly, and it will be all the more glory because in supplying them we have made our supreme effort and sacrifice."

WASHINGTON.

Secretary Daniels announced after his appearance before the House Naval Committee that the Navy Department has let a contract to Henry Ford for scores of a new type of anti-submarine craft developed by the Navy.

To the farmers of the United States President Wilson sent a message in which he called attention to the country's need of their assistance.

To determine tea standards for the coming year, Secretary McAdoo appointed a board of seven experts to meet in New York, February 11, and examine samples submitted by importers.

The House Immigration Committee tabled the Rankin bill, to grant to American women married to foreigners the right to retain their citizenship.

The Stamp Collector



SAMMIES DIE IN DESPERATE FIGHT

Two Killed and Four Others Wounded in Raid.

GERMANS ALSO SUFFER LOSS

One Sammy Reports Dropping Two With His Automatic Rifle—Re-cent Casualties Occurred in Same Section.

American Army in France.—American fighting forces suffered more casualties through a German raid. Two American soldiers were killed, four were wounded, one seriously, and one was taken prisoner by the enemy in a sortie against a small American salient.

The Americans battled heroically against superior odds. There was evidence of bloody fighting in the small corner of the line on which the enemy swooped.

A heavy, low-flying mist aided the Germans. Taking advantage of it the enemy suddenly put up an intense barrage fire over a small salient and listening post manned by American fighting men.

The German rain of high explosives destroyed the communication wire by which the listening post and salient might have summoned help. The mist effectively hid rockets which the Americans sent up. The Sammies had to fight without aid of a counter-barrage from their own guns, because of this lack of communication.

That they fought valiantly was amply shown in the blood and disorder in the little notch they held. The Americans didn't have a chance to win against the vastly superior force of German raiders, who swooped down on them and who did not have to penetrate any barrage protecting the salient.

The enemy barrage, it was shown, began very suddenly after a night and dawn of comparative quiet. There had been only the customary desultory reciprocal artillery.

American patrols who had been out on reconnaissance over No Man's Land had all returned with the advent of daylight.

Most of the shells that came in the deluge of boche fire were heavy seven-inch-sevens. They were directed around a little trench salient held by the Americans which sticks out like a peak toward the German lines.

A listening post, forming a further extension of the salient, was included in the enemy zone of fire.

The whole salient was manned by a platoon of American troops—275 men.

How much the Germans suffered in their raid was not known. Following custom, the raiders took away their own dead and wounded. From the condition of the bit of the salient which they entered, however, it is certain there was a fierce struggle.

THE SUBMARINES' TOLL.

Nine British Ships Of Over 1,600 Tons Sent To Bottom.

London.—An increase in British shipping losses is shown in the official summary which reports the destruction of nine vessels of more than 1,600 tons and six of lesser tonnage.

The official statement follows: Arrivals, 2,352; sailings, 2,309. British merchantmen, 1,600 tons or over, sunk by mine or submarine, nine; under 1,600 tons, six; fishing vessels, one.

British merchantmen unsuccessfully attacked, eight.

ACCEPTS WILSON'S STAND.

Buenos Aires Newspaper Approves Letter On American Aims.

Buenos Aires.—"What President Wilson says constitutes the same base as we ourselves had conceived in regard to the action and spirit of the United States," La Nacion, a leading Buenos Aires newspaper, declared discussing President Wilson's letter on America's aims.

GENERAL WOOD IN HOSPITAL.

Wound From Bursting Gun, However, Not Thought Serious.

Paris.—Brief details of the wounding of Maj-Gen. Leonard Wood, of the United States Army, while on a visit to the French front have been received. General Wood was hit by a fragment of a gun which burst while being tested. His injuries, which are confined to the left arm, are not considered serious, but he was brought to a hospital here.

16 TEUTON LINERS LAND U. S. TROOPS

Huge Vaterland, Now Leviathan, Used as Transport.

MEN AND SUPPLIES SAFE

Seized Vessels In U. S. Service Ten Months Earlier Than Expected; German Crews Broke Engines.

A French City.—The pride of Germany's and Austria's great merchant fleets have brought thousands of American troops to Europe to fight the battle of democracy.

Permission was granted for the announcement to Americans that 18 former German and Austrian merchant steamships have arrived in Europe, bringing great numbers of American soldiers, and that their holds carried thousands of tons of supplies.

The 18 included the great liner Leviathan, the biggest ship in the world, formerly the Vaterland, of the Hamburg-American Line.

Others in the fleet of transports were the Covington, Cincinnati, President Lincoln, President Grant, Powhatan, Madawaska, all of which were seized by the United States at the outbreak of the war, and former North German-Lloyd steamships George Washington, Mount Vernon, Agamemnon, Aetolus, Mercury, Pocahontas, Huron, Antigone and America have all arrived. All had uneventful passage.

Everyone of these transports has reached a European port 10 months earlier than their former German crews anticipated when they smashed the machinery aboard each liner.

Announcement may also now be made that the steamships Baron Von Steuben and Baron De Kalb are now actively engaged in service.

A half-million tons of shipping, formerly property of the enemy, is now capable of being utilized by the United States and the Allies.

Washington.—The heart of America was thrilled with the news that the greatest armada in her history—sixteen huge transports—had arrived safely at a French port with thousands of officers, soldiers and supplies.

The great transports left American ports during the last two weeks. The vessels delivered their precious cargo on European soil untouched by spies and unobserved by the watchful eyes on submarines.

Protecting them on their voyage were American men-of-war—fleet ray monsters, who swept through the waves grim warning that their transport charges were to be delivered unharmed.

Aboard the transports were thousands of young men—officers for training, Sammies for service, doctors, nurses and skilled workmen. From all parts of the country they had been secretly assembled at different embarkment points along the seaboard.

After the great vessels poked their noses out of port the curtain of censorship dropped down over their voyage. Whether they all met at sea, forming one great movement, the War Department will not reveal.

The maneuvering of transports which already have landed nearly a half-million of America's fighting forces in France without loss is sufficient unto itself, the Navy believes.

Announcement of the arrival of many transports and thousands of American troops in Europe inaugurates a new policy of co-operation between the censors in this country and abroad.

SELLS FIFTEEN TONS OF SUGAR.

Food Administrator Seizes Hoardings Of East Side Bookseller.

New York.—Fifteen tons of sugar, which Pinus Friedman, an East Side bookseller was accused of hoarding, was sold by the Federal Food Administration to hospitals, charitable institutions and some 500 retail grocers, at 9 cents a pound. Friedman, who is under \$2,500 bail, is alleged to have obtained the sugar from New Orleans.

GOV. EDGE SIGNS DRY BILLS.

Action Puts 3,000 Saloons Out Of Business In New Jersey.

Trenton, N. J.—Governor Edge, in the presence of leaders and members of the legislature, state officers and temperance advocates, signed the Mackay and Wells local option bills. It is estimated that through the local option regulations, which many of the cities and towns of the state will now have, about 3,000 saloons will be put out of business in New Jersey.

UNITED STATES HAS LOST 69 SHIPS

U-Boat Warfare for Year Not So Successful.

SEIZED 107 TEUTON BOATS

Net Gain Of 515,433 Gross Tons For This Country—More Than 300 Lives Sacrificed.

New York.—In the 12 months of unrestricted warfare launched against American and Allied shipping by Germany one year ago Friday, there have been sunk by submarines, mines and raiders 69 American vessels, totaling 171,061 gross tons, according to a careful compilation of records of sinkings which have been made public during the period.

Offsetting this loss of American vessels, most of which were sailing ships, the United States since February 1, 1917, has added to her merchant marine by the seizure of former German and Austrian owned ships a total of 107 vessels, having a gross tonnage of 686,494, leaving on the credit side of the American ledger in the account with the Central Powers a net gain of 515,432 gross tons. The loss of life caused by the sinking of the 69 American ships was more than 300 persons, however.

The percentage of sinkings of American ships compared with the number of vessels which have sailed through the war zone successfully is small. Records of the Department of Commerce show that for the period beginning with February 1, 1917, and ending with December 1, there were cleared from American ports in the foreign trade ships aggregating 17,738,900 net tons, or approximately 24,834,469 gross tons. The number of ships making up the total of tons was not made public by the department.

Further offsetting the loss of tonnage occasioned by the submarine warfare, the United States, through the Shipping Board, requisitioned in American shipyards 426 vessels, totaling more than 2,000,000 gross tons and contracts have been awarded for 884 ships, a large number of which are now under way and are being rushed to completion.

In addition, the Shipping Board, on October 15 last, placed under Government requisition 293 American vessels of over 2,500 tons deadweight capacity, which were already afloat and immediately assigned them to the task of carrying supplies for the Allies and the American forces abroad.

Another difficulty which faced the United States in the task of putting to sea vessels to offset the ravages of the U-boat was the repairing of the "willful damage" done to the former German ships by their officers and crews before the ships were seized. This cost millions of dollars and in many instances called for the highest engineering skill to make and replace parts of foreign-built engines and boilers removed or broken.

Indicating that the task has been attended by success, the statement was made by a prominent official connected with the Shipping Board that every seized vessel was now completely repaired and in service. Many of them have made as many as three and four round trips through the war zone.

Three of the former German vessels have been the objects of successful attacks by the submarines. The Actacon, formerly the Adamsturn, and the Owasco, formerly the Allemannia, were sunk, and the Armenia was hit by a torpedo, but was saved after being beached. Several other former German ships have been attacked, but escaped.

LITTLE HOPE FOR STORES.

Given Small Encouragement After Protest To Garfield.

Washington.—Retail merchants who came here from many cities of the East and Middle West to protest against the government's Monday closing order received little encouragement from Fuel Administrator Garfield.

The Fuel Administrator, it was reiterated, will not modify the order unless he is shown specific cases in which there are excellent reasons for so doing.

TO ENDBLACK RUST DISTRIBUTOR

Appropriation Asked For Eradication Of Barberry Bush.

Washington.—On motion of Representative Young, of North Dakota, the House included in the Agricultural bill an appropriation for eradication of the Barberry bush; said to be the distributor of black rust which in 1915 destroyed 180,000,000 bushels of wheat in the Dakotas and Minnesota. Nation-wide destruction of the Barberry bush will be planned under the appropriation.

World War in Brief

Germans raided the American front line trenches in France, killing two and wounding four.

The strikes in Germany continue to spread. All industries in Hamburg and other leading cities are at a standstill. It is reported that the Socialist party leaders have urged the convening of the Reichstag.

There were nine British ships of more than 1,500 tons and six of lesser tonnage destroyed by U-boats the past week.

British casualties in January totaled 73,107, including 358 officers, and 13,698 men died of wounds or killed. Twenty persons were killed and 50 wounded in an aerial raid on Paris.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Germans Threaten Quick Attack When the Russian Delegates Reject Peace Terms.

DEMAND BALTIC PROVINCES

Proletariat of Austria-Hungary on Eve of a Revolt—Turks Lose Two Big Cruisers—Secretary Baker's Management Hotly Criticized by Senator Chamberlain.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Encouraged by the growing strength of the Fatherland party, the pan-Germans have thrown aside the mask they have worn in their dealings with the Russians and shown their true face. At the last meeting of the delegates at Brest-Litovsk before adjournment to January 29, General Hoffman told the bolsheviks frankly that Germany must have Courland and all the Baltic provinces, and that if Russia did not consent the German armies would move at once and within a week would occupy Riga. When asked about the territory south of Brest-Litovsk, Hoffman replied that Germany would setle that only with the Ukrainians. The request of the Russians for a recess that they might consult on the German terms was prudently granted with the assurance that no further postponements would be allowed.

The Russian delegates thereupon voted unanimously to reject the German terms and departed for Petrograd to submit the question of peace or war to the congress of soldiers' and workmen's delegates, with which the final decision rests.

That the Germans are able to carry out their threats against Russia there can be little doubt. The bolsheviks realize their helplessness and have issued "no all" an official wall telling how they have been deceived and how monstrous are the demands of the Germans. In Petrograd and Moscow the bolsheviks are struggling to maintain their power, putting in jail large numbers of their opponents on charges of plotting a counter-revolution, and taking any other coercive steps that promise to help them. If they can prevent it, they do not intend that their principles of "self-definition" and personal liberty shall apply at home. They promptly dissolved the constituent assembly because they could not control its deliberations.

So long has become the popular outcry against the rule of the bolsheviks and so great the disorder in Russia that German parliamentary leaders are seriously questioning whether it is wise for the central powers to negotiate further with a government that may be swept away any day.

The Ukrainians, according to late dispatches, are proceeding anxiously in their negotiations with Germany and Austria and are about ready to sign a separate peace.

Japan, which holds itself responsible for the preservation of peace in the far East, is ready to take radical steps to put an end to the increasing disorders in Siberia, according to Premier Terauchi who addressed the opening session of the Japanese diet. He reiterated his country's absolute loyalty and fidelity to the allies and its determination not to sheathe the sword until an honorable peace is secured.

In Finland there is growing disorder and the socialist red guards and government militia have fought several considerable battles, notably at Viborg and Davidstad. The red guards are aided by Russian soldiers while the peasants are supporting the government forces.

The Austro-Hungarian government has been treading on thin ice for two weeks. A great peace-demand wave swept over the nation and more than a million workers went on strike, the war industries being absolutely paralyzed.

HAS CONFIDENCE IN AMERICA

Roumanian Statesman Satisfied His Country Will Receive Proper Consideration At Peace Conference.

Take Jonescu, one of the leading statesmen of Roumania and vice president of the council of ministers, whose resignation from the cabinet King Ferdinand recently declined to accept, talked with the Associated Press about what that country would expect as a condition of peace.

lyzed. The government was forced to accept the socialists' demands as to food, communal woman suffrage and nonmilitarism of war industries, and thereupon most of the strikers returned to their work. The trouble was only partly allayed, however, and the radicals made further demands and reiterated their call for a general peace by understanding.

The Austrian masses are determined that at least peace shall be made with Russia, and if this is not done their words and actions betoken a revolution that will remove the dual monarchy from the alliance of the central powers. Germany is awake to the danger of this defection and the militarists there are manifesting great irritation toward Austria because they think Emperor Charles and his government have fostered democratic internationalism.

The troubles of Emperor Charles' realm are aggravated by the attitude of Bohemia. At a great meeting in Prague a resolution was adopted demanding independence for Bohemia, Hungary, also, is doing its bit in the general upheaval, having absolutely refused to give credits to either Austria or Germany. The Roumanian stocks of grain are exhausted and the food situation in Austria is most acute.

The reasonable peace advocates in Germany have not by any means surrendered to the increasingly arrogant pan-Germans, and have been holding meetings in Cologne and elsewhere, and the radical socialists are keeping up the fight with vigor. There is no doubt that the proletariat of both Germany and Austria has been immensely heartened and inspired by the propaganda of the Russian bolsheviks spread by means of the fraternization of soldiers on the east front.

All this sounds good, but it would be foolish to base upon it any strong hopes of an early peace with victory for the allies. The German army probably was never before so strong as now, and if the indications may be trusted, the long expected offensive on the west front may be under way before this review is in the hands of readers. All last week there was intense artillery action in France and Flanders, with numerous "feeling out" raids and much activity by the air forces. Great concentrations of troops at several points continued and it seemed evident the Germans were about ready to strike. French military experts believed the Germans would attack the British lines in Flanders and also the French in the region of Nancy. It was in the latter sector that the raid was made on American troops. Whether Pershing's men still are helping hold the line there has not been revealed.

Having lost to the French some important positions on Monte Tomba, the Teutons in Italy were compelled to evacuate considerable territory west of the Piave river, moving back to Monte Spionocia. They seem to have given up hope of forcing the passage to the plains along the west bank of the Piave and are constructing defenses in the rear.

On the sea the Turks suffered a considerable disaster in the loss of the cruisers Medullu and Sultan Selim, formerly the Breslau and Goeben. These vessels emerged from the Dardanelles to attack certain British monitors, but were seen and at once engaged by British destroyers and driven into mine fields. The Breslau was blown up and sunk and the Goeben, badly damaged, was run aground at Nagurn point, where for several days and nights it was subjected to bombing by British air craft and rendered useless. The British lost two monitors.

The number of British vessels sunk by submarines in the week was given as only six large and two small ships. In its efforts to supply tonnage to meet the submarine depredations, the United States scored a point by getting a large number of vessels from neutral nations, especially Sweden, for use in American coastal traffic. This brought forth a howl of "uneutrality" from Germany, coupled with a threat to sink all such vessels that its submarines could reach.

Belgium made a dignified reply to the pope's peace note, stating that its

terms of peace, so far as they concern Belgium itself, are absolute political and territorial independence, equitable reparation and guarantees for the future.

The British labor party in convention at Nottingham declared its position in the matter of war and peace. A resolution was adopted welcoming and endorsing the statements of Premier Lloyd George and President Wilson and calling on the central powers to formulate their war aims at the earliest possible moment. Speakers gave high praise to Mr. Wilson's statement, and it was made clear that the party would not stand for peace negotiations with Germany while she holds the territories she has seized.

Fuel Administrator Garfield's industrial shut-down was far from being wholly successful in relieving the coal shortage and railway tie-up. For this the plan was not entirely to blame, for heavy snows in the eastern part of the country intervened to prevent the free movement of coal trains. Consequently Mr. McAdoo was constrained to declare an embargo on three of the largest coal-carrying roads of the East, forbidding the transportation of any freight save fuel, munitions and foodstuffs. The situation, especially on the Atlantic seaboard, still is most serious.

Partisan politics reared its ugly head in congress last week and cutored into the discussion of the conduct of the war. So far it has done little harm, and perhaps it cannot be kept down in an election year. Senators Penrose and Stone were the chief offenders, the former attacking the administration and the latter having the effrontery—considering his own record—to assail the patriotism of Colonel Roosevelt.

Interest in the doings of congress centered on the Chamberlain bill for a war cabinet, the introduction of which was perhaps hastened, though not caused, by the investigation of Secretary Baker's department. The president had forcefully, even angrily declared his opposition to the measure and his absolute confidence in Mr. Baker's ability and efficiency, and the defeat of the bill was predicted, although it had the support of many senators of both parties.

Mr. Wilson in a public statement accused Senator Chamberlain of making "an astonishing and absolutely unjustifiable distortion of the truth" in a New York speech, in which the Oregon senator told of the failures of the war department. In replying to this in the senate, Mr. Chamberlain reiterated his charges and undertook to prove them by citations from the investigation by the senate committee.

The senator scored the war department unmercifully, and produced documentary proof that Secretary Baker, when before the senate committee, was ignorant of the actual conditions in the matter of supplies to the army camps. "The president," he said, "did not know the truth, and I did. He must have got his facts from his distinguished secretary of war and he in turn got them from somebody else, and if those who furnished the evidence knew the facts, they lied."

In the course of his speech Mr. Chamberlain read a heartbreaking letter from a father telling of the death of his son in an army camp under most astounding conditions of neglect. Afterward Secretary Baker said of this that it was not a singular case, that there had been several such due to the lack of nurses, and that each one had been rigidly investigated.

The hot discussion over the inefficiency of our war preparations continues unabated and is reaching the stage where it becomes personal and vicious. The thick-and-thin supporters of the administration declare the critics of some of its acts are bordering on treachery because they give comfort to the enemy, while those who criticize assert that only by letting the public know the faults that are being committed can those faults be corrected. Their course, they hold, is dictated by the purest patriotism.

General Tasker H. Bliss, chief of staff, has arrived in Paris to represent the American army in the supreme war council. It is believed he will urge that the allies renew offensive operations on a large scale.

Roumania is one of the elementary conditions of a just and lasting peace. Great Britain, France and Italy are pledged to restore these provinces to Roumania.

"I admire too much, also, the moral greatness of the American soul, not to know that the American people are bound to us by the most sacred ties, and that their high sense of justice and duty will prompt them to raise their powerful voice in behalf of our little kingdom at that conference of nations."