

THE SUBMARINE TOLL REDUCED

Methods of Fighting U-Boat Menace Show Improvement.

U. S. WAR CRAFT EFFECTIVE

Playing No Small Part In Patrol Work—Teuton Predictions Of Having England On Her Knees By June 1 Empty.

London.—The sinking of 18 merchantmen of more than 1,600 tons is reported in the weekly shipping statement.

Nine vessels of less than 1,600 tons and three fishing vessels also were sunk.

The statement is as follows: "For the week ending Sunday, arrivals, all nationalities, 2,664; sailings, 2,759."

"British merchantmen of 1,600 tons or over sunk by mine or submarine, 15; under 1,600 tons, nine.

"British merchantment unsuccessfully attacked, nine.

"British fishing vessels sunk, three." American Units Helped.

This week's figures of vessels sunk by submarines show that the Allied navies are keeping up the good work of the previous fortnight, and the American unit, although still a small one, shares the credit for excellent work.

Not only are the sinkings being kept at a fairly low figure, but the offensive against U-boats also continue to show favorable results. The actual figures in this respect, however, are not known.

The British Admiralty this week wears a pleased smile at the mention of the submarine campaign, for the results of the naval work in the past two weeks are regarded as really indicating an important victory over the Germans. The German naval people throughout the early months of the ruthless U-boat war freely predicted that England would be "on her knees" by June 1, and gloomy pictures were painted of grim famine certain by that date for the people of Great Britain and France.

Methods Constantly Improved. June 1 is almost here, and German victory in the submarine warfare seems as far distant as ever. There has been a constant improvement in the methods of the Allies in opposing and suppressing U-boat activity, and these methods have become more and more successful with longer days and finer weather, and increasing familiarity on the part of the skippers of merchantmen with the methods of naval control.

An Admiralty official said: "The American destroyers are playing no small part in the anti-submarine war, and our officers have expressed the greatest enthusiasm at the spirit, enterprise, acumen and quick-wittedness with which the American unit has taken up its work. It is the old American doctrine of keeping everlastingly at it."

"The Germans, who at first said they would tip us on our tonnage by June 1, have now advanced the date to October, and we are confident that when October comes they will be under the same necessity of advancing the date again."

BAN ON SOCIALIST PEACE.

State Department Refuses Passports For Stockholm Meeting.

Washington.—Emphatic disapproval of the peace propaganda of European Socialists was expressed by the American Government, which denied passports to American delegates to the Stockholm conference and issued a warning that any American taking part in the negotiations would be legally liable to heavy punishment. No formal announcement of purpose was issued, but officials explained that the Government's course would have the two-fold effect of discrediting generally any peace moves by unauthorized persons and of condemning in particular the present Socialist agitation, regarded since its inception as inspired by Germany.

KING GREETES AMERICANS.

First Unit Of Surgeons and Nurses At Palace in London.

London.—King George and Queen Mary, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, and Princess Mary, received and extended a welcome to the surgeons and nurses of America's initial detachment from the army, which shortly will take its place beside the British Allies at the fighting front in France. It was a simple but impressive ceremony, which will stand as a landmark in American history as the first of its kind to take place within the walls of Buckingham Palace.

TO BE PERSHING'S ADJUTANT.

Major Hugh A. Bayne, Of New York, Chosen By War Department.

Washington.—Major Hugh A. Bayne, a prominent New York lawyer, will be adjutant-general with Major-General Pershing's division when it starts for the battle front in France. Major Bayne is a member of the Judge-Advocate's Officers' Reserve Corps.

TO ENLARGE COMMERCE BOARD.

Senate Passes Bill—Like Measure Pending In House.

Washington.—The bill to increase the membership of the Interstate Commerce Commission from seven to nine members and allowing them to divide into sections for expediting business was passed in the Senate with an amendment by Senator Smith, of New York, providing that the whole committee hearing and reporting before the Senate.

AMERICANS HELD AS PRISONERS OF WAR

Notice Served on Germany to Release Them.

ANOTHER TREATY VIOLATED

Relief Workers In Germany Who Remained To Finish Up Their Work Reported Among Those Detained.

Washington.—Americans are being detained as prisoners of war by Germany, in Belgium and in Germany, it was announced by the State Department.

As a result a demand has been made upon Germany for a complete and definite statement of her attitude concerning the departure of American citizens. This demand has been made through the Spanish Ambassador at Berlin, who represents American interests in Germany.

The action of the German government is in complete violation of the Prussian-American treaties of 1799 and 1828, which provide certain rights for nationals of either nation in the other in time of war. One of these rights is permission to depart at will for nine months after the war declaration. The United States has observed its obligations, having acted promptly on all applications of Germans to leave the United States.

Relief Workers Held.

Among the Americans detained are said to be relief workers in Belgium, who stayed behind to gather up the loose ends of the work at the time Broad Whitlock and the majority of the Belgian Relief Commission were withdrawn.

At the outbreak of the war there were some 3,000 Americans in Germany, including several consular officers. These later reached Switzerland with the exception of one, who was ill. About 500 Americans left Germany. Of the remaining 2,500 a number were of German birth, naturalized in the United States. State Department officials expressed the belief that the majority of these hyphenated Americans had probably renewed their German allegiance.

The other bona fide Americans, however, apparently have been unable to leave Germany despite their efforts to do so. It was strongly intimated at the State Department that if Germany does not immediately reverse her position and allow any Americans who wish to depart, immediate reprisals will be adopted by the United States.

Treaties Violated.

The State Department has made no concealment of its belief that Germany has violated the Prussian-American treaties. The first violation of the treaties by Germany was the destruction of the American sailing ship William P. Frye by the commerce raider Prinz Eitel Friedrich, now the United States steamship Von Steuben, in the opinion of State Department authorities.

May Annul Treaties. The probabilities are that early congressional action toward wiping out the treaties will be asked. This will leave the nationals of both countries on an even plane and the United States will be in a position to legislate concerning the treatment of alien enemies, instead of being bound by treaty obligations.

Besides the American civilians who are being detained in Germany, latest reports indicate Germany is holding about 130 other Americans in her prisoners' camps. They are for the most part sailors captured on British or other ships by German raiders or submarines.

BIG FIRE SWEEPS ATLANTA.

Confined To Northeast, Outside Business District Of City.

Atlanta, Ga.—Fire that started in an obscure negro section swept a broad path through the residential section of Atlanta, devastating scores of blocks and destroying many of the city's finest homes and hundreds of negro houses. Before it was checked it had burned halfway through the exclusive Ponce de Leon avenue residence section.

First estimates of the damage placed it at between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000. So far as could be learned, the only life lost was that of a woman, who died from shock. The fire was confined to the northeastern part of the city and the only business houses burned were several warehouses near Decatur and Fort streets, the point of origin.

CHAS. P. TAFT 2D ENLISTS.

Will Train With Nine Other Yale Juniors For Artillery.

New Haven, Conn.—Charles P. Taft 2d, son of former President Taft and a junior in Yale College, was enlisted for the artillery branch of the regular army with nine other undergraduates. All the enlistments were of students who were under age for the reserve officers' training corps of the university, and all had consent of their parents.

HARVARD MAN GETS MENTION.

Carried Wounded From Firing Zone Under Violent Shelling.

Paris.—John Edward Boit, of Harvard, whose residence is at Brookline, Mass., a member of the American Ambulance Field Service, was cited for distinguished services performed in September last. Both carried wounded men from the firing zone under violent shelling.

"CHAIR" TO CHEAT DRAFT.

Condemned Man Only Pennsylvanian Not To Be Enrolled.

Harrisburg, Pa.—There is probably but one man in the entire State of Pennsylvania between 21 and 29 years of age who will not be registered for conscription. He is a condemned man in the penitentiary at Bellefonte, sentenced to be electrocuted on July 9. The governor, in reply to a question, said he could not be registered, but that he wished he could.

THE BRITISH CUT HINDENBURG LINE

German Defenses Wiped Out By Artillery Fire.

GERMANS FIRE FEEBLE

Prisoners Declare They're Sick Of War—Nearly Whole Line From Bullecourt To Arras. Is Taken.

British Headquarters in France.—So completely did the British artillery do its work before the attack between Croisilles and Bullecourt that 2,000 yards of the Hindenburg line are totally missing. This segment of the German defenses was completely wiped out.

Trenches Gone. Airplane photographs taken May 1 show beautifully symmetrical zigzags, but the latest pictures taken contain no trace of the trenches. The support line also was badly "strafed," some 6,000 yards of it now being in British hands, leaving the Germans holding the remaining 2,000 yards. The Hindenburg front line between the south end of the captured trenches and Bullecourt is in dire danger, as it is flanked on both sides by the British.

Germans' Fire Feeble. The engagement was really made up of two attacks—one in the early morning, when 70 prisoners were taken, and the second late in the afternoon—the two netting some 150 prisoners for the day's work in this sector. The German artillery's response was very feeble and the counter-barrage during the attack was particularly weak.

The prisoners taken came mostly from the Forty-ninth Reserve Division, which was recruited in the region of Posen and Breslau. It came to the west front from Roumania in February. Three officers are among the prisoners. The men showed by word and action that they were thoroughly tired of war. They had been in the line 21 days and constantly under the British shellfire. All of them said they had never seen anything like the artillery fire.

Little Left Of Portions. Although they were concrete, all that remains of the captured portions of the Hindenburg line are cement and concrete machine gun emplacements. An underground corridor parallels the support trench 35 feet below the surface.

Several isolated posts are still standing between the scene of the latest smash and the Queant-Drocourt line. These include the villages of Reincoart and Hendecourt and other strong points, in which the Germans are capable of putting up strong resistance.

Gains Consolidated.

London.—The British troops are now holding the entire Hindenburg line from the east of Bullecourt to Arras, with the exception of trench elements on a front of about 2,000 yards west of Bullecourt, according to the official communication. The recent gains northwest of Bullecourt have been consolidated.

TO POOL ALL WAR BUYING.

U. S. and Allies Planning To Avoid Competition.

Washington.—A program under which the American Government virtually would pool its purchasing, for the sake of attaining maximum efficiency with that of all the allies, construct a buying machine into which hundreds of experts in many lines would fit as cog wheels and place one man in charge of the whole gigantic enterprise, is under consideration and fast assuming definite outline. This man would be the world's super-buyer. Into his hands the nations at war with Germany would place approximately \$10,000,000,000 a year, a store of money exceeding the fabled fortunes of the ancient Incas and with no parallel in modern history.

BLIND SOLDIERS MOURN CHOATE.

Hold Memorial Service At Institution Founded Under Him.

Paris.—Soldiers blinded in the war held memorial services for the late Joseph H. Choate, of New York, at the Lighthouse for the Blind which was founded by New York men and women under the leadership of Mr. Choate. A resolution of sympathy was adopted and forwarded to Mrs. Choate.

MARRIAGE BILL CALLED VICIOUS

Governor, With Veto Ax, Goes After Senator Kline for Legal-Moral Travesty

BACK TO 1896 TO VALIDATE

Approval of Bill to Spend \$282,000 on Guard Uniforms, Etc., Timely—Equipment of Men for the Reserve Militia.

Harrisburg.—The Kline Senate bill, validating marriages contracted on or before January 1, 1896, which were before by continuous living together for 21 years, was vetoed by Governor Brumbaugh in a long message, in which he styles it "vicious special legislation, without one redeeming feature."

The Governor says it is not sound in either law or morals, and that it is contrary to justice and social security, as well as unconstitutional. The Governor also vetoed:

The Dawson House bill, providing for the State Highway Department to take over abandoned right of way of railroads and railways. The Governor says the present law is adequate, and the bill would open the way to pay damages to others than railroads.

The Daix Senate bill, providing for uniformity in Courts in issuing writs, which was called "indefinite."

The Kline Senate bill, increasing salaries of special county detectives in Allegheny county, on the ground that it is a matter for the County Commissioners to handle.

The sum of \$282,800 was made available for the purchase of uniforms and other equipment of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, when the Whitaker House bill was approved by the Governor. The bill will provide for the equipment of men to raise guard units to war strength and for reserve militia.

The Governor also approved the Crow Senate bills, reducing the period of which nominating petitions may be filed from 60 to 40 days, and giving 20 days additional to the period for certification of nominations. Senate bills approved included:

Amending laws relative to filing of reports of estates of habitual drunkards.

Prohibiting incorporations of organizations with names which would tend to confuse them with State Boards or Commissions.

Classifying inspectors of the Department of Labor and Industry according to experience and length of service, 25 in Class A to be paid \$2,000; 50 in Class B to be paid \$1,800, and 25 in Class C to be paid \$1,500.

House bills approved were: Providing fees of \$1, and three cents per mile mileage, for persons attending the Coroners' inquests in response to subpoenas.

Providing for payment by State hospitals of traveling expenses of inmates discharged by order of State authorities.

Authorizing Committee on Lunacy of State Board of Charities to transfer inmates of State hospitals.

Making fraudulent conversion of property or its proceeds a misdemeanor.

Suggests Substitutes for Wheat.

State-wide observance of "Farm and Garden Day," was asked by Secretary of Agriculture Charles E. Patton, who says that agriculture must win the war, and that every man, woman and child should help to overcome the threatening food shortage.

Secretary Patton says: "The Pennsylvania wheat crop this year shows every indication of being far below the average. Statistics show that a crop of about 21,500,000 bushels is the prospect. This is over 4,000,000 bushels less than the crop of last year and Pennsylvania's annual consumption of wheat is about 40,000,000 bushels. As prospects in other States are no better, it behooves us, as a duty to our nation, to put forth every effort to raise such other crops as will help to furnish the nourishing elements formerly supplied by wheat."

"Potatoes, beans, corn, peas, tomatoes, turnips and other vegetables, as well as fruits, that can be dried, canned or preserved should receive most attention. Agriculture must win the war, and we can prove by our industry in our gardens this year that a Pennsylvanian never sleeps at his post of duty, whether serving in the trenches or in the furrows."

Army Seeks Big Fair Ground.

The War Department is negotiating with the managers of the Allentown Fair Society for the use of the latter's grounds as a training camp for 10,000 college student recruits and 3,500 members of the ambulance corps.

Because of the fact that the fair has overhead expenses aggregating \$10,000 a year, it has asked rental to that amount for the use of the grounds, but whether the Government will agree to pay that sum is as yet undecided. It may be necessary to abandon the annual fair this year.

House Has 499 Bills.

A total of 499 bills were on the calendar for the House of Representatives when it reconvened this week. It is the largest calendar of the session and 253 of the measures are in general list of appropriation bills for hospitals and other charities which are to be given right of way. They were reported out but because they were not printed could not be considered on the floor.

A detailed effort will be made to speed up all legislation.

PENNSYLVANIA BRIEFS

Before A. L. Sahn was elected Mayor of Carbonale he was a leader in the movement to establish small parks about the city. As Mayor he was even more successful in that direction.

The Senate passed finally the bill providing for a county home in each county except Allegheny and Philadelphia for indigent orphans and for delinquent, incorrigible, indigent, dependent and neglected children under sixteen.

James Collins, 66, for years State Health Officer in Hazle township and former School Director of that district, dropped dead from heart trouble at Hazleton, while repairing the family burial plot in St. Gabriel Cemetery.

Blair County Court excused farmers from jury duty.

Recruitments of units of the National Guard to war strength will be pushed rapidly.

The Cumberland County Defence Committee will form a food exchange to aid farmers in disposing of crops.

The First Methodist Church, Berwick, gave \$2,600, paying off the last cent of indebtedness on an \$85,000 church.

The 7,000 mine stripping men of the Hazleton district have agreed to accept the same wage increase recently granted to other miners.

In addition to the scarcity of railroad cars coal diggers complain that some companies can not supply them with enough smaller cars for getting the loose fuel from the slopes to the breakers.

Western farming methods, including tractor plowing, are proving a success on the 1,200-acre Kolb farm at Gwynedd.

Blood poisoning, which developed from a carbuncle, caused the death of Professor W. H. Patrick, principal of the Patrick Business School, of York, aged 60.

Mifflin Farm Bureau has been granted an appropriation of \$1,000 by the County Commissioners.

Resigning twice because his pay was not raised, Plumbing Inspector L. W. Ray, Altoona, is back, still hopeful of an increase.

Eckley Markle, son of the Hazleton coal operator, has enlisted as sergeant in the United States Army aviation corps at Boston.

High cost of feed and labor have driven the Pleasant Valley Stock Farm, Blair B. Hileman, proprietor, near Altoona, into bankruptcy, with \$67,000 liabilities.

Wayne churches have forwarded to the President a joint resolution urging war prohibition.

St. Mary's Protestant Episcopal Church at Wayne has been presented with a silk American flag by William Verner.

The Mennonite Brethren have closed their conference at Belleville, 50 visiting ministers, including returned missionaries and representatives of all churches east of the Mississippi River having attended.

Jacob A. Kettinger, a commissioner of Lower Merion township, has astounded his customers and acquaintances by changing his Ardmore store from a retail to a co-operative basis.

One thousand acres of land in the vicinity of Pittsburgh, Warren county, have been leased by Warren operators, and a number of wildcat, deep-test wells will be drilled.

Twenty or more High School boys at St. Mary's learned something about forestry by assisting in planting trees on the Silver Creek water shed near Paul street. The St. Mary's Water Company received 5,000 evergreen trees from the State Forestry Department for this purpose.

Pittsburgh's daily payroll has reached \$1,500,000.

Luzerne county's potato crop bids fair to be increased by 100,000 bushels.

An underweight seller near Hazleton was forced to refund \$100 on \$259 for hay.

The use of fireworks in York, as well as the sale of pyrotechnics, is prohibited by an ordinance passed by Council.

The Pennsylvania Railroad has called for volunteers in all its Altoona shops to serve in the first railroad regiment to be sent abroad.

A Coroner's Jury at Shenandoah found that Patrick Donahue was the slayer of Dr. Harry P. Kilty and his patient, Mrs. May Donahue.

Federal Attorney Rogers L. Burnett, of Scranton, has handed a check for \$16,500 to Henry Krentzman, the purchase price of the St. Charles Hotel, Lewistown, where, he assures the public, a Federal Building will be erected.

Forest fires burned off 1000 acres of timber near Altoona.

The Lackawanna Company has notified employees at Scranton that it has raised the salaries of 10,000 clerks.

The Titusville Country Club will rebuild this summer the \$30,000 clubhouse which was destroyed by fire recently.

Principal A. D. Thomas, of the Hazleton High School, besides urging his students to work on farms, has encouraged some of them to help in the mining of coal. Accordingly a number of the students are now wearing mining lamps and are working beside the miners.

Dr. Louis W. Raper, professor of education at State College, has been appointed dean of the University of Porto Rico.

The Third Regiment supply company hiked from Altoona to Huntingdon.

Retired employees of the Pennsylvania Railroad on the Altoona division have been recalled to active service, help is so scarce.

A full war census of miners of the hard coal field was taken unofficially through the medium of the pay windows of the different collieries.

A detail of soldiers on guard at Lewistown hiked into the Narrows and removed two small Austrian flags floating from the top of Huckleberry Peak.

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