

FRENCH LINES AT VERDUN HOLDING

Germans Are Reported Pushing the Attack on Positions South and Southeast of City.

TEUTONS GAIN IN CHAMPAGNE

PARIS, Feb. 28.—So far as the French official report of this afternoon shows, the French lines in the immediate vicinity of Verdun are holding firm.

The German attack is developing along the front east and southeast.

At Fort Douaumont, where the fighting has been heaviest, the situation is unchanged. The fortress itself apparently is still held by the Germans. In the village of Douaumont, a few hundreds yards from the fort, there was a furious struggle last night. The war office announces that German attempts to capture the village resulted in failure.

Southeast of Verdun, over the lines bending south to St. Mihiel, the Germans are pressing the attack. The French statement reports a futile German attack against Manheulles, ten miles southeast of Verdun, which may indicate an advance in that quarter, although the precise location of the front in this sector has not been made known.

Germans Capture Trenches. The text of the communication given out by the French war office reads:

"In Belgium our batteries have bombarded German organizations located opposite Steenstraete.

"In the Champagne in the region of the Navarin farm, north of Eusein, the enemy was successful by a surprise attack in occupying certain trenches of our advance line. They also took a supporting trench.

"In the region north of Verdun the bombardment has continued with intensity, particularly in the central sectors and on our right. There has been no further attack on the Cote du Poivre. "Yesterday evening German forces made several attempts to occupy the village of Douaumont. Their efforts were broken by the resistance of our troops, who withstood the most furious assaults.

"There is no change in the situation at the fort of Douaumont, which still remains closely encircled.

"The fighting is less spirited on the plateau north of the village of Vaux."

Activity Along Woivre. "In the Woivre district the enemy yesterday evening and last night assumed an attitude of greater activity. The railroad station at Elix, captured and recaptured several times by attacks and counter-attacks, now remains in our possession.

"All the attacks against Hill No. 263, southeast of Elix, were futile, failing to dislodge our troops.

"Our artillery is combating with energy the bombardment of the enemy along all this front.

"In the Vosges we have bombarded several German barracks in the region of Ron de Sept."

Germans Report Victories.

BERLIN, Feb. 28.—(By Wireless to Sayville.)—In the Verdun region fresh French reserves were exhausted in fruitless efforts against Fort Douaumont. The Germans advanced their lines further toward Bras and Vacherville and made fresh gains in the Woivre.

It is said that all French troops have been driven from the Meuse peninsula. The capture of Navarin farm in the Champagne was announced by the war office today. French positions on both sides of Navarin farm, over a front of about 1,500 yards, were taken. It is said more than 1,000 men and nine machine guns were captured.

Stage Coach Bandit Fears Prison Life Will Cause Death

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 28.—Edward B. Trafton, convicted stage holdup man, in a letter to his captor, James W. Melrose, special agent of the United States bureau of investigation, tells of illness resulting from his confinement at Leavenworth, Kan., and contains an expression of longing to return to life in the open hills. In his letter made public today Trafton says:

"I have seen more sickness here than in the forty years I rambled through the hills. I am afraid I can't pull through. I miss the clear, cold nights and the freedom of the hills. It's the climate I think. Maybe a change to a 'shed' in the hill-country would take the kinks out of my system and give me a chance to live."

Trafton was recently sentenced by the federal district court at Cheyenne for the stage holdup in Yellowstone National park July 28, 1914.

House Committee Votes to Report Free Sugar Bill

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—A favorable report on the administration's bill to repeal the free sugar clause of the tariff law, which would become operative May 1, was authorized today by unanimous vote of the house ways and means committee. The bill will be brought up Thursday.

The majority report reiterates that the repeal of the clause is necessitated by conditions due to the war and estimates the proposed saving in revenue at \$4,000,000 annually. The republican members, while voting for the repeal, probably will state their views in a minority report.

Duma Approves New Loan for Two Billion Rubles

LONDON, Feb. 28.—The finance committee of the Russian Duma, presided over by Premier Sturmer, has approved the new war loan of 2,000,000,000 rubles, says Reuters Petrograd correspondent. The interest will be 6 1/2 per cent. The loan will run for ten years, with the same privileges as were given in connection with previous issues.

To Cure a Cold in One Day. Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature on each box. (5c.—Advertisement.)

TWO CHILDREN WHO MET VIOLENT DEATHS—

Carmaleta John, burned to death while playing with matches, and Edward Jansen, shot by playmate.



EDWARD JANSEN

AIRSHIPS DESTROY MUNITION PLANTS

Berlin Report Says that Zeppelin Dropped Bombs on Factories at Birmingham and Bradford.

SPINNING MILLS ALSO WRECKED

BERLIN, Feb. 28.—(By Wireless to Sayville.)—On the occasion of the last Zeppelin raid over England two government factories and two ammunition factories at Birmingham and Bradford were destroyed by bombs, the Overseas News agency says.

The news agency statement, which supplements the account given out yesterday of the damage done by the airship attack on England on the night of January 31-February 1, follows:

"At Birmingham two government factories and two ammunition factories were destroyed. One brewery was damaged at Eccles Hill. Near Bradford one ammunition factory and three spinning mills were wrecked. At partitioning our bombs destroyed twenty-two houses.

"On the Humber a battery was silenced, the station and searchlights being destroyed. At Grimby and in the vicinity of Hull considerable damage was done as was also the case at Sheffield. "The cruiser Caroline and the destroyer Eden and Nith were sunk. The Caroline sank in six minutes, thirty-one members of the crew being killed, fifty-eight wounded and forty-seven drowned."

A Berlin dispatch on February 10 said that the three warships mentioned had been sunk during the Zeppelin raid. This was denied by the British government which stated that neither the Caroline nor any other British warship nor any merchant ship was struck by a bomb.

PLEDGES GIVEN IN LUSITANIA CASE GOOD, SAYS KAISER

(Continued from Page One.)

creates the presumption that the vessel is armed for offense. It is stated that a submarine commander cannot be expected to warn an enemy merchantman which has a right to fire on the submarine which warns it, and the German government sets up the contention that equipment and intention to make a warning given by a submarine does not come within the definition of defensive armament.

Quotes United States. Germany contends that a similar viewpoint was taken by the United States and that it secured assurances from the Italian government that its armed merchant ships leaving American ports would not fire on submarines which warned them.

The note then sets forth that the German government did not issue its new instructions to submarine commanders until after it had come into possession of confidential instructions by the British government to the commanders of armed British merchantmen, which the German government says it cannot see how the American government, in consideration of these facts, can regard armed British merchantmen as peaceful trading ships.

Submarines Will Be Careful. The note makes it clear that the Berlin government believes its new instructions to submarine commanders are in accord with the viewpoint expressed by the United States in its memorandum proposing a modus vivendi to the entente allies for the disarmament of merchant ships.

It declares that German submarine commanders have been so instructed that they will not destroy a merchant ship on a question of armament, unless it is known positively that such armament exists.

The declaration that previous pledges will not be revoked also is formally given.

The efforts of the United States to have the belligerents agree to a modus vivendi which would cause all merchant ships to be disarmed, it is declared, are welcomed by Germany.

Then follows a declaration that the German government will no longer allow its submarine to be made the object of attacks in violation of the principles of



CARLELITA JOEN

RUSSIAN AND DUTCH SHIPS ARE SUNK

Vessel Captured from Germans Early in War Sent to Bottom by Teutons.

MAIL SHIP STRIKES A MINE

LONDON, Feb. 28.—The Russian steamship Petshenga has been sunk. Fifteen of those aboard were saved. The Petshenga was formerly the German steamship Erik Larsen, which was captured by the Russians early in the war. It was of 1,647 gross tonnage and was 260 feet long.

The steamship Birgit has been sunk. Seventeen survivors have been landed. The British steamship Sediver, from New York February 11 for Havre, has been abandoned at sea, according to a dispatch to Lloyds from Inishrahull, Ireland. All the members of the crew are reported to have been taken off by another steamer.

The bodies of eight sailors and the captain of the Wilson liner Dido, which was sunk on February 26, were washed ashore today at Donna Hook, Lincolnshire.

Ship Lost Off Flushing. FLUSHING, Holland (Via London, Feb. 28.)—The mail steamer Mecklenburg of the Zealand line ran on a mine while on a voyage from Tilbury to Flushing. The vessel was lost. Officials of the line state that the passengers and crew and the mails were saved.

The passengers, crew and mails of the Mecklenburg were taken off by the Holland-American liner, Westerdijk. The Zealand service has been provisionally suspended.

The Dido, a vessel of 4,000 tons, carried a crew of twenty-nine men. The first reports of its sinking said that the captain and two of the crew had been landed by a Belgian steamer.

There are three small steamers of the name of Birgit, according to shipping records, two Swedish and one Norwegian. The largest of the three is 230 feet long and of 1,111 gross tonnage. The vessel flies the Swedish flag.

The Mecklenburg was 235 tons gross and was built at Glasgow in 1909. The vessel was 30 feet long, forty-two beam and sixteen feet deep.

At no place in the communication is it suggested that American citizens be warned to remain off armed merchant ships and the question of what constitutes defensive armament is not brought up, although it is admitted in various quarters that such a question probably will be raised.

Austria Takes Same View. Baron Zwoldinek, charge of the Austrian embassy, called upon Secretary Lansing after Count von Bernstorff had left and informed him that Germany's views, as set forth in the note from Count von Bernstorff, were identical with those of his own government, and that Austria, in effect, seconded everything contained in the German communication.

Secretary Lansing is understood to have advised neither of the Teutonic diplomats what the views of the United States would be forward the communication. It was understood that the note would be brought to the attention of President Wilson before night, and that nothing definite regarding it would be decided until after it had been submitted to the cabinet meeting.

Families of Russ Jews in America May Join Them

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—The Russian government has granted permission to the wives and daughters of men who came to America before the war to leave Russia and join their relatives in America, says Leon Sanders, president of the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Society of America.

The news came in a message from Isidore Herzfeld, a lawyer, who was sent by the society to give relief to the Jewish war sufferers in Poland and Galicia. The message was forwarded by Ambassador Gerard at Berlin to Secretary of State Lansing in Washington, who transmitted it to Mr. Sanders.

The society has been trying for a long time to obtain this permission. Mr. Sanders said that there were many Russian Jews who came to America before the war and who now have the means to support their families here, but who had been unable to bring them over because heretofore the Russian government would not permit them to leave.

DODGE ESCAPES FROM IOWA PENITENTIARY

BURLINGTON, Ia., Feb. 28.—Smith Dodge of Burlington, serving a thirty years' sentence for murder in the state penitentiary at Fort Madison, escaped last night. Dodge had charge of the wagon gate of the prison and slipped out under cover of a military wagon. He was sent down from Burlington in December, 1913, for stabbing a man in a drunken row. He is regarded as a desperate criminal.

PROVEN SWAMP-ROOT AIDS WEAK KIDNEYS

The symptoms of kidney and bladder troubles are often very distressing and leave the system in a run-down condition. The kidneys seem to suffer most, as almost every victim complains of lame back and urinary troubles which should not be neglected, as these danger signals often lead to dangerous kidney troubles.

Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, which soon heals and strengthens the kidneys, is a splendid kidney, liver and bladder remedy, and being an herbal compound, has a gentle healing effect on the kidneys, which is almost immediately noticed in most cases by those who use it.

A trial will convince anyone who may be in need of it. Better get a bottle from your nearest drug store, and start treatment at once.

However, if you wish first to test this great preparation, send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention The Omaha Daily Bee.

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STRIKERS AT SIOUX CITY REJECT OFFER

Laborers in Packing Houses Decide to Hold Out for Their Original Demands.

WILL TRY TO EXTEND STRIKE

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Feb. 28.—No signs of peace in the packing house strike, involving 2,500 men, were in sight today.

On Saturday it was believed the men would be back at work today, but over Sunday the breach widened, the men turning down the terms of the packers—21 cents an hour for common laborers—and deciding to hold out for 22 1/2 cents an hour for all common laborers, which is 3 1/2 cents above the present scale. A proportionate advance is asked for skilled men.

The strikers declare there will be no settlement unless their demand is met.

It is said by the strikers that they are making efforts to call sympathetic strikes in the packing plants in other western cities.

Knight Explains Plans for Largest Navy in the World

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 28.—The navy general board's conception of the needs of the United States as a naval power were outlined to the house naval committee today by Rear Admiral Austin M. Knight, president of the Navy War college.

In formulating the policy that the navy should equal the strongest fleet by 1925, he said the board had in mind the establishment of two fleets, one in the Pacific powerful enough to overcome any enemy there, and the other in the Atlantic, where it would be exceeded in strength only by the British fleet.

A total force slightly in excess of the strength of the British fleet, he said, would accomplish this purpose and insure the country against ninety-nine out of a hundred possibilities of international complications.

AMUSEMENTS.

Dare She Marry? Would present happiness pay for a life of misery or sudden death? Can sin be hidden from the eyes of man and never come to light? Why did she not think of the evil tongue man whose hate was deadlier than the bite of a snake? We are all human, and prone to err. Don't judge her hastily. First see KITTY GORDON in "As in a Looking Glass" Boyd Theater TODAY, Wednesday and Thursday. Balcony 2c. Lower Floor 10c. Continuous 1 to 11 P. M.

Orpheum. This Week—Matinee and Night Daily. Edith Clifton and Brenda Fowler; Stain's Tan Bark Comedy. EXTRA ATTRACTION. CHERYL VALENTINE and G. O. MOORE. Frank Crumit; Pietro; Orpheum Travel Weekly. Prices: Mat., Gallery 10c; Best Seats 25c. Except Sat. & Sun., a few at 50c. Nights, 10-25-50 & 75c.

Brandeis Tonight and Wednesday Matinee. JOHN DREW. In His Greatest "THE CHIEF" Comedy Success. Nights, 60c to \$2; Matinee, 25c to \$1.50. Thurs., Fri., Sat., Matinee Saturday Mar. 2, 3, 4.

Hyams and McIntyre in MY HOME TOWN GIRL. A comedy with music and song. AND NOTABLE METROPOLITAN CAST. Evngs., 25c to \$2.00; Mat., 25c to \$1.50.

HIPP Today. BLANCHE SWEET in "BLACK LIST"

THOMPSON-BELDEN & CO. The Fashion Center of the Middle West. Established 1886. The Vogue of the Separate Skirt. Attractive, Practical Spring Styles. —The keynote of the styles for spring is a comfortable skirt of generous width fashioned of practical fabrics. —Skirts of wool poplin, checks and gulfine, \$6.50. —Outing Skirts of golfine and jersey, \$6.50 to \$15. Dress Skirts of taffeta, satin and poplin, \$12.50 to \$45. (No charge for alterations.) Spring Suits, Coats, Dresses, Are Ready. The Store for Shirtwaists. The Special Spring Blouses for \$5.00 are unusual values. In Georgette, Crepe de Chine, Linen.

TRUNKS. Fibre Dress Trunks worth \$15.00 now at \$10.00. A few odd Dress Trunks, \$13.50 and \$14.00, now at \$10.00. HARTMANN. Is the Last Word in WARDROBE TRUNKS. The LIFT TOP makes every garment accessible as the first. THE CONVERTIBLE HAT BOX is another feature. Every trunk has RE-INFORCED edges and is fibre covered. Our \$20 and \$25 Hartmann's are beautiful; and we also have higher priced ones. We like small repair jobs. FRELING & STEINLE. "Omaha's Best Baggage Builders" 1803 FARNAM. CLAIM NO. 70. The first claim paid by THE MIDWEST LIFE in 1916 was to Mrs. Tony Chalupnik of Braidwood, Nebraska. Her husband, Joseph F. Chalupnik, held a \$2,000 policy in this company issued to him on the 3d day of September, 1915. He had paid only one premium of \$57.12. His death occurred on the 30th day of January, 1916. Were life insurance not such a common thing these days, and people not so familiar with its benefits, it would seem too good to be true that by the payment of so small an amount a man could leave such a large sum of money to his family. If interested, call or write THE MIDWEST LIFE. N. Z. SNELL, PRESIDENT. A NEBRASKA STOCK COMPANY. SELLING NON-PARTICIPATING LIFE INSURANCE ONLY. FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, LINCOLN. OMAHA AGENCY. CITY NATIONAL BANK BUILDING. GENERAL AGENTS: GEORGE JOCKEY, F. A. FINNEY and H. A. KIRSCHSTEIN.

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HIPP Today. BLANCHE SWEET in "BLACK LIST"

Strand 15th & Douglas. TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY. February 29th, March 1st and 2d. One of The Most Pretentious of Triange Offerings. THE EMINENT AMERICAN ACTOR ORRIN JOHNSON. In a delightful picturization of Alexander Dumas' well known work of fiction, THE THREE MUSKETEERS, under the non-de-plume D'ARTAGNAN. Produced by That Masterhand of Picturedom THOMAS H. INCE. ACTION ARTISTRY. MASSIVE MASTERFUL. SUPERB SATISFYING. ADVENTURE MAGNIFICENT STUPENDOUS. For Laughing Purposes Only—Fido's Fate—Just a Keystone—That's All. Our Pipe Organ is Rapidly Nearing Completion. Watch for Opening Recital.