

# NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD

INTELLIGENCE GATHERED HERE  
COVERS WIDE AREA.

## GREATER OR LESSER IMPORT

Includes What is Going On at Wash-  
ington and in Other Sections  
of the Country.

The commander in chief of the land and sea forces in Holland has provisionally stopped all leaves of absence.

The British-French raid on the U-boat base of Zeebrugge was a complete success. It has been learned from high naval sources at London.

Nebraska's quota for the second national Red Cross drive for war funds, which starts May 20 and ends May 27, is \$1,300,000.

The use of any language other than English for elementary instruction in public or private schools in Connecticut will be barred after July 1.

American aviators in France had downed 339 enemy planes from the time the United States entered the war up to March 8, according to reports from France.

Income and excess profits taxes, due June 15, will produce about \$3,000,000,000, or \$500,000,000 more than had been estimated. Secretary McAdoo has announced.

Analysis of the German long-range gun bombardment of Paris shows that between March 23 and April 23 over 120 persons were killed and more than 230 injured.

Citizens of Ludington, Mich., are circulating a petition as a protest against W. J. Bryan appearing as a speaker at the Epworth Assembly in that city in August.

Following Holland's action to bring into force certain military measures German papers warned the little nation against becoming a second Belgium, "a place from which England may attack Germany."

Word has reached the Navy department that the American steamship Florence H. was blown up in a French port by an internal explosion and that but thirty-four out of the crew of seventy-five were rescued.

Nebraska has bought one-tenth of all the war savings and thrift stamps sold since the campaign opened nearly five months ago, according to a report issued by the national war savings committee at Washington.

The American line steamship St. Paul, famous passenger liner, overturned and sank at her pier at an Atlantic port, while being warped into a pier preparatory to loading for a trip to Europe. The cause of the accident is unknown.

Washington officials are perturbed over the Dutch embargo on exportation from the Dutch East Indies of tin, tin ore, chinchona bark, quinine, quinine salts and kapok, all of which are needed by the United States for war supplies.

The German losses thus far in the war have been 2,000,000 men, according to a statement credited by the Frankfurter Zeitung as having been made by General Schulze before the main commission of the German reichstag.

After one of the bloodiest battles in history Kimmel hill, a height which has been looked upon as the key to the Ypres salient and one of the most important strategic positions of the northern battle front in France, was taken by the Germans Friday after suffering enormous losses.

America naval officers characterize the British-French raids on Zeebrugge and Ostend as the most daring operation attempted by allied sea forces during the war. It is believed that a vigorous naval offensive against the U-boat has begun, which is expected to greatly curtail its frightfulness.

Ram Chandra, Hindu publicist and revolutionist, was shot dead in the United States district court at San Francisco, by a former Hindu employe. His assailant was shot and killed by a federal officer. Both Hindus were defendants in the trial of 52 persons, charged with conspiring to foment revolution against British rule in India.

Sir Eric Geddes, first lord of the British admiralty, declared in the House of Commons that the British-French raid on Germany's U-boat bases at Zeebrugge and Ostend, was most successful. Two blockading ships were sunk at the entrance to the Bruges canal, which was declared to have been effectually blocked and other damage inflicted. One British torpedo boat destroyer and four smaller craft were lost. British casualties were quite heavy.

Champ Clark, speaker of the house of representatives declined to accept the Missouri senatorship to succeed the late Senator William J. Stone.

The British government announced that shipping losses will be made public monthly hereafter instead of each week.

Establishment of a model town for shipworkers near Camden, N. J., has been started by the emergency fleet corporation.

Vice Admiral Schroeder, the commander at Zeebrugge, according to reports will be deprived of his command for being taken by surprise by the British.

Mayor Davis, of Cleveland, and Mayor I. S. Myers, of Akron, Ohio, have issued orders barring aliens from obtaining licenses enabling them to do business in the two cities.

Seven persons were killed and five injured in a wreck on the Burlington near Bayard, Neb., when a fast freight train rammed into a work train during a blinding snow storm.

Indictments were returned at Edwardsville, Ill., against sixteen persons by the grand jury which investigated the lynching on April 5, of Robert Paul Prager at Collinsville.

Mrs. Rose Pastor Stokes, lecturer and wife of the wealthy socialist, J. G. Phelps Stokes of New York, will be tried at Kansas City May 20 on a charge of violating the espionage act.

Sharp curtailment in the pleasure auto production is looked forward to shortly, as the result of a conference between leading auto manufacturers of the country and the war industries board at Washington.

The Great Western Sugar company has subscribed for \$2,000,000 of Liberty bonds, apportioned on a basis of the sugar beet acreage in Colorado, Nebraska, Montana, Wyoming and So. Dakota.

A rush of German women to the New York port enemy alien bureau seeking permission to return to Germany has followed the publication of the regulation requiring enemy alien women to register.

Unless convinced that the brewers who manufacture the beverage are loyal American citizens he will vote to deny licenses to all saloons which sell Milwaukee-made beer. John R. Ransom, police commissioner of Kansas City announced.

Concentration of Mexican troops on the American border opposite the Big Bend district of Texas was held by government officials to be due to the work of German propagandists. Neither state nor war department officials regard the situation as a menace.

The number of American casualties in the German attack of April 20, near Selcheprey was about 35. Since it has been admitted that American losses were 200, these figures support the German claim that 183 were captured.

John M. Birkner, formerly major of the United States army, held by federal authorities on a disloyal charge, was released from the state penitentiary at Santa Fe, N. M., on \$5,000 bail, furnished by friends in Lincoln, Neb.

The total losses of the brigade of marines with the American expeditionary force in France so far reported, is 278, as follows: Killed in action, 22; died from wounds, 10; died from accidents, 2; wounded in action, 244.

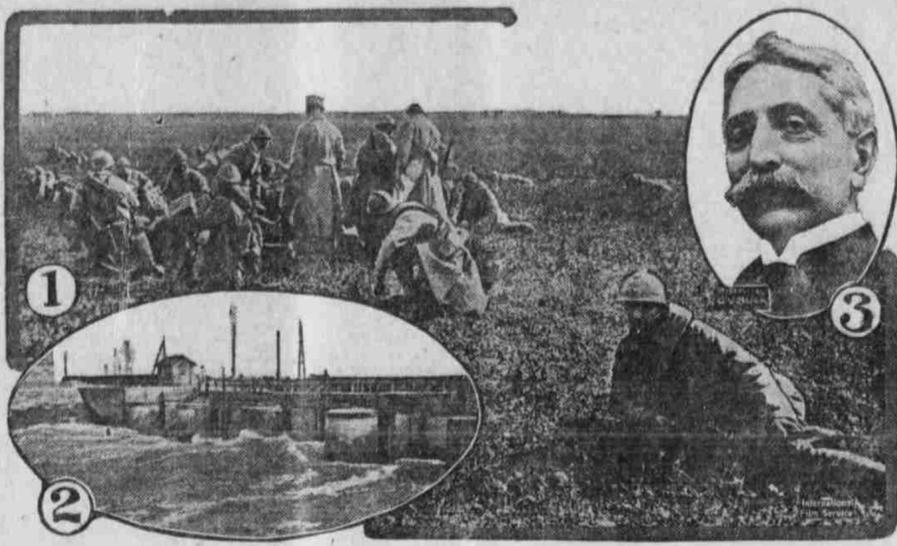
Both houses of congress have adopted the bill for the registration for military service of young men who have reached the age of 21 years since June 5, last. It is estimated that between 500,000 and 700,000 additional men will be available for military service under the law.

Rationing of confectioners and manufacturers using sugar, will follow sugar cards for housewives to provide sugar for the canning season, the food administration announced. The sugar card pledges householders buying sugar on the card to use it only for canning and preserving. Surplus sugar must be saved.

Germany has demanded of Holland the right of transit not only for civilian supplies and of sand and gravel through Holland, but also for war materials, and, according to reports great anxiety prevails throughout the little country. The yielding of Holland would be equivalent to the abandonment of Dutch neutrality and would ultimately result, it is believed, in another enemy for the kaiser.

President Wilson is opposed to the Chamberlain bill, which would try violations of the sedition laws by court-martial, and in a letter to Senator Overman of North Carolina, declared his belief that the measure is unconstitutional.

Food shipments from the United States to the allied countries have been suspended for ten days to move 3,000,000 bushels of grain to the Belgians, who are declared to be in desperate straits.



1—French skirmish party in the open, somewhere in the Meuse sector. 2—The lock gates of the Bruges canal at Zeebrugge which were reported destroyed in the allied naval raid on the German U-boat bases. 3—Stephen Panaretoff, Bulgarian minister to the United States, who many Americans think should be sent home by a declaration of war against his country.

## NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

### Naval Forces of Allies Make Dashing Raid to Bottle Up Hun U-Boat Bases.

### GREAT BATTLE IS RENEWED

#### Germans Take Important Mount Kemmel—Holland Being Pushed to War's Brink—John D. Ryan Made Director of Aircraft Production.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Last week brought forth one of the most spectacular and dashing operations of the war—the raid of British and French naval forces on the German U-boat bases at Zeebrugge and Ostend. Five obsolete cruisers and two old submarines were sacrificed. The former, laden with concrete, were to be sunk in the channel mouths, and the latter full of explosives, were driven against the moles. These vessels, escorted by destroyers and all making a dense smoke screen, approached the Belgian coast in the night but were discovered and deluged with shells from the shore batteries and from German destroyers. The chief fight took place at Zeebrugge. There the cruiser *Vindictive* ran inside the harbor under heavy fire, and landed her crew on the mole after a great gap had been blown in it by a submarine. The men cleared the mole, destroyed all its guns and sank a destroyer and were able to get away again, though their losses were severe. Meanwhile three of the block ships were sunk at the entrance of the canal or in the harbor, and one of the old submarines was believed to have destroyed the lock gates, letting the water run out of the Bruges canal. At Ostend the operation was simpler and at least one of the block ships has been observed from airplanes blocking the greater part of the channel.

At this time it is not known just how successful the operation was in bottling up the U-boat bases, but probably it was no more so than was Hobson's attempt to bottle up the Spanish fleet in Santiago harbor. However, it was a gallant enterprise, fearlessly carried out, and American navy men hope it will be followed up by additional naval exploits.

There was comparative quiet along the battle front in France and Flanders during the first half of the week, and both the allies and the Germans took advantage of the opportunity to strengthen their positions. In the minor operations the former had rather the best of it usually and the Huns were pushed back in various sectors by both the British and the French. Meanwhile the Germans were bringing up their heavier artillery, a difficult thing because of the nature of the terrain and were evidently making preparations for a resumption of the attack.

This came on Wednesday, when, after an intense bombardment, the enemy attacked with very considerable forces the allied positions south of the Somme, and along the Avre, in the regions of Hangard, Hallies and Senecat wood. For the time being these assaults were successfully repulsed except at Hangard, which village again fell into the hands of the Germans. The reports from Paris said that American troops were fighting with the French on this line and that their resistance to the attacks of the Huns was desperate. About eleven miles directly east of Amiens, the German objective in this region, the British withdrew from the village of Villers-Bretonneux, but elsewhere they stood firm.

At the same time the Huns launched attacks against the British in Flanders and there was fierce fighting on the line between Bailleul and Merville and near Bethune.

On Thursday the Germans in great force attacked the positions held by the French on Mount Kemmel, and after a desperate battle the defenders were forced to retire to the north and west. The Huns continued their advance for a mile and a half and also took the town of Dranoutre. Berlin claimed the capture of St. Eloi, only three miles from Ypres, and that city was admittedly in grave danger. The taking of Kemmel mountain permitted the Germans to dominate the railway from Ypres to Calais. On Friday the allies began counter-attacks for the purpose of regaining this height and by Saturday they had made considerable progress.

The terrific slaughter of Germans since their offensive opened, due to their custom of advancing in mass formation across open ground, has been more than they could stand, and Ludendorff has put a stop to that method of attack. The Huns now dash forward in smaller and separate parties and take shelter when the chance offers.

In the assault on Villers-Bretonneux the German tanks made their first appearance, leading the infantry, and a spectacular battle with British tanks ensued. Several of the heavy Hun machines engaged two light British tanks and disabled one of them. A big British tank rolled up to the rescue and after a sharp fight put one of the German monsters out of action and drove the others from the field.

General Doyen's fine brigade of American marines, it appears, has been in the thick of the battle in France and the casualty list sent over proves the "soldiers of the sea" have maintained their best traditions, for the list shows 34 killed, 244 wounded and not one taken prisoner. The heaviest loss sustained by the marines was in the forest of Apremont, in Lorraine, where two hot attacks by the Germans were repulsed by the Americans.

The Americans in the Toul sector have not been seriously attacked since the battle of Selcheprey. Belated details of that conflict tell of the heroic conduct of our boys while they were being driven back from that village and were retaking it and re-establishing the lines. Though their casualties were about 200, General Pershing reported they killed at least 300 Germans. Officers and men alike distinguished themselves by their bravery, individual deeds of heroism in the face of great odds being numerous.

There was great activity among the air fighters on the west front last week, and the outstanding event was the killing of Baron von Richthofen, one of the foremost German aviators and leader of the famous "circus." He was engaged in a fight with two British planes and flew low over the British lines, where a bullet pierced his heart. With characteristic chivalry the English gave him a fine funeral paying tribute to the memory of a gallant and brave foe.

Several American airmen reached the coveted distinction of being numbered among the "aces"—those who have downed at least five enemy flyers. And some of our aviators also met death.

Little news came out of Russia, but it is evident the Germans are still pursuing their plans of annexation. Indeed, the kaiser is being openly urged to assume the kingship of Livonia and Estonia, and it is announced that a valuable part of Poland will be added to Prussia. German forces have reached Simferopol in the Crimea, cutting the railroad connection of the fortress of Sebastopol with the mainland. The governments of the Crimea, Minsk and Homel have asked to be incorporated in the Ukraine. All attempts to open peace negotiations between Ukraine and Russia have failed. In Finland the German forces co-operating with the White guards have made further progress and the Finnish bolshevik government has evacuated Viborg.

There was considerable severe fighting on the Italian front last week, but without definite result, and in Macedonia the allies made considerable advances, capturing several towns.

Poor little Holland seems on the point of being dragged into the great

conflict, despite her earnest efforts to maintain her neutrality. Berlin is reported to have made demands which may well result in adding the Dutch to the list of Germany's active enemies and that probably would mean Holland would become another Belgium, overrun and ravaged, for the allies could not well help her except from the sea. The German demands have to do with the treaty permitting the transportation of sand and gravel through Holland for the repair of Belgian roads. The Netherlands government refuses to permit Germany to take these materials through Dutch territory for military works.

The Guatemalan national assembly has declared that Guatemala occupies the same position toward the European belligerents as does the United States, which in diplomatic circles is considered a declaration of war on Germany and her allies.

The rapidity with which American troops are being sent across the Atlantic is heartening the allies and demonstrating the intention of our government to put in the field the greatest possible force in the shortest possible time. Many of the men are going by way of England, and the fact that they are being transported across the English channel in safety has aroused the Germans to such an extent that their naval authorities have had to apologize for the inaction of their fleet.

It is not permitted to tell how many men the administration proposes to send to France before the end of the year, but it is so great that when Director General Schwab and the shipping board were told by General Goethals the amount of shipping he would require they were staggered. Mr. Schwab, however, believed the estimate could be fulfilled if certain steps could be taken to hasten the deliveries of ships, these steps including the reduction of some of the requirements of the navy so that the steel can be diverted to the uses of the transport fleet.

In Washington it is understood that as rapidly as ships can be provided the soldiers will be sent across, whether they are fully trained or not. It is reported the draft will be accelerated by calling 400,000 men to training next month, a number far in excess of previous estimates.

In line with the present policy of speeding up and making efficient all war preparations is the appointment of John D. Ryan, the copper magnate, as director of aircraft production for the army and the re-organization of the aviation section of the signal corps. General Squier hereafter will devote his attention to the administration of signals, and Brig. Gen. William I. Kenly is made director of a new division of military aeronautics. Howard Coffin retires from chairmanship of the aircraft board but remains a member of the advisory commission of the council of national defense.

The reports on the airplane situation made to the president by the Marshall committee and by assistant secretaries of war were not made public, but it is admitted that they substantiated the report of the senate committee that the program had collapsed.

Both houses of congress have passed the joint resolution to register for military service all males becoming twenty-one years old since June 5, 1917. The lower house adopted an amendment putting the newly registered men at the foot of their respective classes and sustained the military committee in refusing to exempt those who have entered medical or divinity schools since June 5.

The Chamberlain bill to turn seditionists over to military tribunals for trial by court martial met its fate when President Wilson declared his firm opposition to it and other authorities said it was unconstitutional. It was, of course, introduced because of charges that the department of justice has been lax in combating enemy propaganda, but these charges are refuted by the department, which reports it has secured at least 3,900 convictions in the last year, despite the inadequacy of federal laws against sabotage and disloyal utterances. The number of acquittals has been relatively small.

# GERMANY ALARMED

TERRIBLE LOSSES SHATTER THE NERVE OF ENTIRE NATION.

## ARMIES IN WEST DEADLOCKED

Populace Told Allies Much Stronger Than Was Assumed.—Holland Yields to Demands.

London, April 30.—According to a telegram from Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, extraordinary nervousness and depression prevail in Germany owing to the losses in the western offensive. This, the correspondent says, was revealed with remarkable frankness in an article by Captain von Salzman in the *Vossische Zeitung*, in which he endeavors to restore their lost confidence to the Germans by emphasizing the importance of the character of Kimmel hill.

"Captain von Salzman enumerates a few of the series of rumors current in Germany. All these stories are prefaced by the remark in the reichstag, it is said, and go on to say: 'Our losses have been enormous. The offensive in the west has arrived at a deadlock. The enemy is much stronger than the supreme command assumed. We are unable to continue the offensive owing to lack of horses. The region before Ypres is a great lake, and therefore, impassable. The whole country between our Amiens front and Paris is mined and will be blown up.'

"The people, continues Salzman, have begun to lose their nerve. Repeating in the reichstag, the minister of war said something like this: 'It goes without saying that there are big losses in such a struggle. Our losses in one part of the front have been very heavy. Two-thirds of the company leaders in many regiments have fallen.'

"It is said that a certain deputy thereupon told his electors in another German town: 'The minister of war has openly declared our losses to be so heavy that the offensive must be abandoned.'

### Holland Yields to Kaiser.

London, April 30.—Holland has yielded to Germany's demands concerning transport and the supply of sand and gravel, although it is understood that the amount of sand and gravel will be limited instead of unlimited, according to a dispatch from The Hague.

It is added that a general understanding will be required from Germany that the sand and gravel will not be used for military purposes.

Rumors are current in the Dutch capital, the dispatch adds, that Dr. John London, minister of foreign affairs, will resign. These, it is said, are based on the supposition that he could not retain office now that his undertaking respecting the gravel must be revoked. In summarizing the situation, the dispatch continues, it is felt that the crisis with Germany has passed, although the solution is in no wise an ideal one for Holland.

### New Ruse Regime Hostile to Germany.

Stockholm, April 30.—Correspondents of Swedish newspapers in Finland announce that there are rumors in circulation there of important happenings in Russia.

The most definite rumor declares that former Grand Duke Alexis, son of the former emperor, has been declared emperor and the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch as regent and that the new government would refuse to recognize the bolshevik peace treaty with Germany.

### Two-Thirds Million Missing.

Amsterdam, April 30.—Speaking before the main committee of the German reichstag on Friday, according to Vorwarts, General von Risberg stated that on March 31, last, the number of Germans missing had reached a total of 664,104. Of this number, he said, 236,676 were prisoners in France; 119,000 in England, 157,000 in Russia and Rumania and the remainder could be regarded as dead.

### Tornado Kills Two.

Pittsburgh, Kas., April 30.—Two persons are reported killed, several families homeless and several thousand dollars damage done by a tornado that swept across Crawford county, Kansas.

### 30,000 Cars Ordered.

Washington, April 29.—Orders for 30,000 box and coal cars to cost in the aggregate between \$80,000,000 and \$90,000,000 were placed by Director General McAdoo with the American Car and Foundry company.

### Stecher Fails to Throw Lewis.

New York, April 29.—The wrestling match between Ed "Strangler" Lewis and Joe Stecher, held at Madison Square Garden, was declared a draw after two hours.