

1—Recent view in ruined Ypres, objective of the Germans in Flanders, reviewing a body of American infantry at the front. 2—General Pershing and his aides reviewing a body of American infantry at the front. 3—One of the huge bombs used by the British aviators of the bombing squadrons.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Germans Defeated With Awful Slaughter in an Attack on Ypres Salient.

PREPARING FOR NEW SMASH

Americans Gallantly Repulse Hun Assault Near Amiens — Teutonic "Peace Offensive" Developing — Third Liberty Loan Heavily Oversubscribed — Plans to Expand Our Army.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Monday of last week was a bitter day for the Hun—the day of his worst defeat since the great spring drive began. Under orders from General von Arnim to take Scherpenberg, Mont Rouge, Mont Noir and all the high ground back of Kemmel, the Germans hurled themselves time after time against the stone wall of British and French defenders, only to fall back in disorder, leaving thousands of their men dead and wounded on the field. The enemy employed about thirty fresh battalions, in addition to the numerous divisions already in position on that front, and his onslaughts were so frequent as to be almost continuous throughout the day.

When the morning of Tuesday came the great numbers of gray-uniformed dead in front of the defending positions showed the awful price the Hun had paid. Moreover, he had nothing to show for this expenditure of life, for the allied lines were virtually intact at all points, and the British late in the afternoon counter attacked north of Kemmel and regained considerable ground previously lost. Just to the west of this position, about Loere and at the cross roads between Scherpenberg and Mont Rouge, the French met the fiercest assaults of the day. Changing hands several times, Loere was held by the Germans at nightfall, and they had pushed ahead until the situation was most critical for the defenders, but the French came back with such irresistible dash that the advance was stopped, and after dark they pushed the Germans out of Loere and back from the positions they had won between the two hills.

In this, the most pretentious attack on the Ypres salient, the British and French, largely outnumbered, fought with equal gallantry and determination. At the same time the brave Belgians, farther north, repulsed another attack, not yielding a foot of ground. The Kaiser had just visited the German lines and exhorted his troops to push the British back to the channel, "where they belonged," but the stubborn Tommies didn't wish to be pushed, and they were not. The big attack probably had the double purpose of capturing Ypres and diverting large numbers of allied troops from the Amiens salient so the Germans could make another drive there, but neither object was attained. The artillery fire from both sides was continuous and very heavy, and the Germans, despite the excellent work of the airmen, improved their transport and brought up many of their large guns. The British batteries west of Kemmel devoted much of their efforts during the week to deluging the top of that hill with shells, so that the Huns were unable to obtain any benefit from its capture.

The intense activity observed behind the German lines indicated that von Arnim was preparing to resume the attack on the Ypres salient immediately. Except for Kemmel hill, his troops are occupying lower ground than that held by the allies, and they cannot continue there long under the smothering fire of the British and French artillery. If they cannot gain the line of heights they seemingly must soon retire.

Following their disastrous repulse in Flanders, the enemy made two attacks in the Amiens region. The first was directed especially at the American troops, now revealed as holding positions in the vicinity of Villers-

Brettonne, east of Amiens. After an intense preliminary bombardment lasting two hours, the Germans advanced, three battalions strong, and hand-to-hand fighting ensued all along the line. The Americans put up a defense that won the warm praise of the French commanders on their flanks, and the Huns, after considerable time, were driven back with heavy loss. The losses of the Americans were said to be rather severe.

The second attack was made Wednesday night in the Thennes sector, southeast of Amiens, and was as complete a failure as the other.

Already, the expected Teutonic "peace offensive" is beginning to develop, as it always does after the Kaiser has won some successes and then has been brought to a halt. Charles of Austria is said to have made peace offers to Italy, the real purpose of which is evidently to create discord in Italy and at the same time to quiet the discord among his own subjects. The pope, it is understood, will put forth peace proposals on Whitsuntide, May 19, making concrete offers of mediation by the holy see. Germany's own offers are expected after another great effort has been made to smash the allied armies in France.

This peace offensive will be no less offensive to the allies than its predecessors. They will not be deceived by offers to restore Belgium and to cede Lorraine. Nothing less than the utter defeat of the central powers will satisfy them, unless there is an unbelievable change in the state of mind of the governments and the peoples. This is no less true in America than in England and France. The American casualty lists, though still comparatively short, are scattering all over the country's map little black dots of mourning, each of which becomes the center of a strengthened determination to see the war through to complete victory.

The Austrian emperor is truly having a hard time keeping his subjects to their allegiance. From Serbian sources comes the news that the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes in the dual monarchy are holding a plebiscite on the plan to join with Serbia and Montenegro in one national independent state, with Peter of Serbia as the king. This movement is led by the prime minister of Carniola. Meanwhile the Austro-Hungarian military commanders have been greatly exercised by the fact, just announced, that large numbers of Bohemian troops are joining the Italian army and are now on the Italian front in Italian uniforms. They belong to the Czech-Slovak army which is being formed at many points within Austria-Hungary.

Though they have slowed up a bit in Russia proper, the Germans are going ahead steadily with their penetration of Ukraine, and now have established military rule in Kiev, its capital, on the ground that the government has proved too weak to maintain law and order. A number of the members of the Ukrainian government have been arrested. Of course, the prevailing disorder there is mainly due to the presence of the German troops and their oppression of the people, but a little discrepancy like that does not bother the Kaiser. Recently General von Elchhorn, the German commander there, ordered the peasants to return all property and effects taken from the landholders and to begin at once the cultivation of the estates. This order, designed to protect the interests of the landholders, most of whom are Poles and Russians, was vigorously opposed by the rada, which declared it would not permit interference by German or Austro-Hungarian commanders in the internal affairs of the country. The minister of agriculture was instructed to tell the peasants not to obey von Elchhorn's order.

Berlin announced on Thursday that Sevastopol had been occupied by the German forces.

For a day or two last week the world was startled by a report that there had been a counter-revolution in Russia, and that the former czar's little son had been proclaimed emperor, with his uncle, Grand Duke Michael, as regent. The story came from Scandinavia, and soon was recognized as

German propaganda, though there was doubt as to its motive. It was not confirmed from any Russian source. Possibly the Germans meant to use the alleged revolt as an excuse for seizing Petrograd, a move they already have threatened to make unless the Russians agree to their outrageously unfair plan for the exchange of prisoners. According to this plan, which Russia rejects, all German prisoners in good health are to be returned, the unit being kept in Russia; and all unfit Russian prisoners will be returned, the fit being retained in Germany.

Another bit of characteristic German insolence cropped up last week, when Berlin formally protested against the action of the allies in giving aid to the Red guard of Finland, because it interfered with the internal life of Finland, though the Germans themselves are helping the White guard of the country with land and sea forces. This combination has now occupied Viborg after severe fighting.

The Russian bolshevik government is really preparing to re-enter the war against the central powers, whose aggressions have become intolerable. The pan-executive council at Moscow has adopted Trotzky's plan for universal military training for all men between the ages of eighteen and forty and the conscription of all workers and peasants. The best military experts have been recalled to the service and the government expects to have a large and effective army within ten months.

War work in America is progressing with unprecedented speed these days. The third Liberty Loan campaign closed on Saturday with the \$3,000,000,000 of bonds heavily oversubscribed. The most satisfactory features of this loan are the large numbers of individual subscribers and the fact that the country districts took a portion of the loan relatively much larger than they did of the previous issues. As the campaign neared its end the enthusiasm became really tremendous. All classes of the population joined in the work of selling the bonds, and most substantial aid was rendered by 50 wounded American soldiers and a group of French "Blue Devils" who came over from France for the purpose.

The war department permitted it to be known that it now plans to have 1,000,000 men in France by July 1, and that considerably more than 500,000 are already there. Secretary Baker says the army will be expanded to 3,000,000 men and then will be made as much larger as is considered necessary. The movement of troops across the Atlantic is so swift that the training camps are being emptied, and therefore the draft registrants are being called in increasing numbers. Secretary Daniels is enthusiastic for an army of unlimited size, and says if there are not enough young men to whip Germany the age limit will be changed and the older ones will go. The brigading of the Americans with the British and French has greatly expedited the placing of the men on the firing line, for now only 30 days of training in France is considered necessary.

The senate grew impatient all of a sudden last Tuesday and three bills were introduced for expanding the army. In the house Chairman Dent of the military affairs committee also introduced such a bill, but he would limit the size of the army to 4,000,000 men. As usual, he is not in accord with the spirit of the nation.

On Thursday Secretary Baker presented the administration's program to the house committee. It includes expenditures on the army aggregating \$13,000,000,000 in the next fiscal year; manufacture of artillery on a stupendous scale; drafting of at least 1,000,000 additional registrants and as many more as can be equipped and transported to France.

The Overman co-ordination bill was passed by the senate Monday by a vote of 63 to 13, and when it gets through the house there will be little in any way connected with the war which the president will not be empowered to do. The measure gives him dictatorial powers to reorganize bureaus and departments of the government and to transfer government functions at will.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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LESSON FOR MAY 12

JESUS FACES THE CROSS.

LESSON TEXT—Mark 10:32-62.
GOLDEN TEXT—He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross—Philippians 2:8.
DEVOTIONAL READING—Isaiah 42:1-4.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL FOR TEACHERS—Matthew 20:29-28; Luke 22:25-27.
PRIMARY TOPIC—Jesus and the blind beggar.
LESSON MATERIAL—Mark 10:46-62.
PRIMARY AND JUNIOR MEMORY VERSE—He of good cheer, rise. He calleth thee.—Mark 10:49.

JUNIOR AND INTERMEDIATE TOPIC—Jesus teaches how to be great.

I. Jesus Foretells His Passion and Resurrection (vv. 32-34).

This is the third time he makes this prediction. The circumstances are most tragic.

1. Jesus going to Jerusalem (v. 32). He was going with the full consciousness of the awful tragedy of the cross before him—the treachery of Judas, the fiery persecutions of the priests and scribes—the unjust judgment.

2. The disciples following after (v. 32).

They were in dread bewilderment. His utterances and demeanor filled their minds with perplexity, and their hearts with awe. In this state of confusion, Jesus called them to him and patiently instructed them.

3. "What needs should happen unto him" (vv. 33, 34).

(1) "Delivered unto chief priests and scribes."

(2) They shall condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles.

(3) "They shall mock, scourge, spit upon, and kill him."

(4) "The third day he shall rise again."

II. The Ambitious Request of James and John (vv. 35-45).

1. The request (vv. 35-37).

It was for a place of prominence in the kingdom. According to Matthew, their mother was the intercessor. Many mothers have been used by children to carry out that which they were themselves ashamed to do. It is very desirable for mothers to get places for their children near to Jesus, but unfortunately many are seeking the pinnacles of the world and forgetting the nearness to Christ.

2. Jesus' reply (vv. 38-45).

(1) To Peter and John (vv. 38-40). He speaks directly to the men, declaring that they know not what they ask. The Lord many times has to reprove and rebuke us for our blind requests. He showed them that the way to this position of glory was through suffering. The cup which they were to drink was all that was embraced in the agony on the cross. He concedes that the positions which they craved were obtainable, but in a very different way from what they apprehended. The way to places in glory in the Kingdom of Christ is through the path of lowly, self-forgetful service.

(2) To the ten (vv. 41-45).

The ten were displeased with Peter and John, but doubtless they were not free from the same selfish ambitions. Christ showed them that to give is greater than to receive; that to serve is greater than to be served. The standard of his kingdom is to forget self and serve others, even to give one's life. Christ is the supreme example to be imitated by all who would follow him.

III. Jesus Cures Bartimaeus of Blindness (vv. 46-52).

Though the weight of the cross was upon him, he had time for gracious deeds. Blind Bartimaeus receives his sight.

1. Bartimaeus' request (vv. 46, 47).

He cried to Jesus for mercy. The fact that he addressed him as the Son of David, shows that he recognized his Messiahship. Though he was blind, his faith enabled him to take hold of Jesus. As soon as he heard that Jesus was passing by he cried to him for help. Jesus not only can hear our cries, but he can even tell when a soul yearns after him, and will respond to that yearning.

2. Rebuked by the multitude (v. 48).

This rebuke provoked a more earnest cry from Bartimaeus. He believed that Jesus could and would help him, and knew that it was now or never with him. The fact that God has brought salvation within our reach should convince us that it is time for us to cry for help. Therefore, we should not allow the opposition of men to keep us from Christ.

3. The blessing granted (vv. 49-52).

Though Jesus knew his desire, he wished him to definitely commit himself. God is pleased when we come to him with our definite needs.

When his eyes were opened, he saw many interesting things, but the supreme object was Christ, for he followed him. Note experience of Bartimaeus:

(1) A blind beggar (v. 46).

(2) His cry for mercy (v. 47).

(3) Persistence in his cry (v. 48).

(4) Responded to the call of Jesus (vv. 49, 50).

(5) Made specific request (v. 51).

(6) Received his sight immediately (v. 52).

(7) He followed Jesus (v. 52).
How quickly one can pass from mere need to jubilant discipleship.

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The Wrong Angle.

"Ah, Mr. Pester!" began the suave purveyor of ornate literary works. "I am told that you are a very deep reader, which means, of course, that you acquire much priceless wisdom from your perusal of—"

"Eh-yah!" interrupted old Festus Pester. "One of the most valuable truths that I have unearthed in that manner is the admonition, 'Before you fool with a fool be sure you have the fool to fool with.' You should have sized me up differently and flattered me by telling me that it was evident that I could not be flattered. That probably would have fetched me through in good shape for your purpose."—Kansas City Star.

Necessary Expenditure.

"I say, Brown, can't you manage to pay me that ten dollars you owe me? I need the money."

"Awfully sorry, old man, but I can't do it."

"I notice you manage to go to the theater two or three times a week, though."

"That's just it. The thought that I owe you money is worrying me so that I have to do something to help me forget it."

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Edward—Indeed.
Edith—Yes. He has ambition and she has wealth.

Mean Insinuation.

"What taking ways the pretty widow has." "Yes, I heard she was something of a kleptomaniac."

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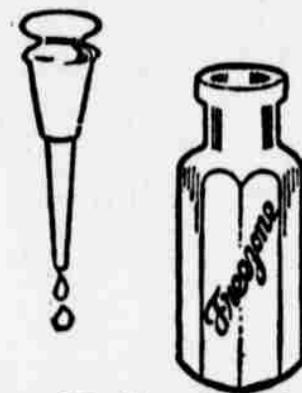
"Many a thorn lies hidden in a bunch of soft words."

Query: Was Pat Arrested?
One night an Irishman was driving home in his donkey cart from a fair. As he had no light on the vehicle, he hastened on in order to avoid an interview with the police. But just as he came to the crossroads he came face to face with one of the R. I. C. "Hello, Pat," he said. "This is a case for the next court day, for as you are aware, there must be a light on traveling asses at this hour of night." "Oh, if that's the way," said Pat, indignantly, "why the devil isn't there a light on yourself?"

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Its Cause.

"You may not believe me, but many's the good story I've told under the old tree out there."

"I do believe you. I noticed when I saw it that the tree was a chestnut."

If a woman can't convince a man without an argument the case is hopeless.

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