

GREAT GERMAN DRIVE FAILS

16,000 PRISONERS AND 200 GUNS MAY BE GERMAN SPOILS

Berlin Official Statement Says Successes of Great Offensive Between Arras and La Fere Extended; Artillery Duel Before Verdun Continues With Terrific Intensity; Other War Theatres Quiet.

(British Admiralty Per Wireless Press.)

London, March 22.—Sixteen thousand prisoners and 200 guns have been captured by the Germans, according to a German official communication received by wireless tonight. The text of the communication follows:

"The successes of yesterday in the fighting between Arras and La Fere were extended in the continuation of our attack. Sixteen thousand prisoners and 200 guns so far have been reported captured. Before Verdun the artillery duel continued. From other theaters of the war there is nothing new to report."

FORTY DIVISIONS INVOLVED.

British Army Headquarters in France, March 22.—The Germans today continued their assault against the positions in the Cambrai sector, notably in the region of Croisilles and Hargicourt.

At least 40 divisions have been identified on the battle front. No such concentration of artillery has been seen since the war began. On the southern battle field a bitter struggle was waged today. The enemy had 1,000 guns in one small sector—one for every 12 yards. Severe fighting was proceeding this morning in St. Ledger, southwest of Croisilles.

The hardest fighting yesterday in the northern battle was between the Canal Du Nord and Croisilles. Doignies was retaken in the evening in a brilliant counter attack. A bright sun at midday today rendered observation possible.

Joe Ihm is Name of Boys' And Girls' War Gardener

The boys' and girls' war gardener is "Joe." His full name is Joe Ihm and he has arrived to help the young folks of Omaha this season with their gardens.

He was sent here by the extension department of the University of Nebraska, will maintain an office at school headquarters on the fifth floor of the city hall, and will work through and with all of the schools of the city.

Joe has been in the service of the horticulture department of the state university. One of the features of his work will be the distribution of 22 practical lessons on gardening to the boys and girls whom he will guide in the "how, when and what" of war gardening. He will help them to conserve their energies, to get the best results from their efforts and to do something worth while in gardening in Omaha this season.

Omaha Boys to Jail.

Norfolk, Neb., March 22.—Special Telegram.—Art. Humphrey and Ralph Spellman, two Omaha boys arrested at the point of a gun by the marshal at Pilger when they were attempting to escape with an automobile stolen from Norfolk, were bound over to the district court in justice court here. Their bonds were fixed at \$1,000 each.

Princess Cinderella Will Be at Brandeis Stores

The little Princess Cinderella will receive all of her small friends at the Brandeis Stores Saturday. It will be children's day in the store and the princess will be seated on her throne in the millinery department from 10 to 12 o'clock in the morning and from 2 to 4 in the afternoon, when she will show all the tiny folk the cunning hats she has made for them.

Niobrara Masons Unfurl Twelve-Star Service Flag

Niobrara, Neb., March 22.—(Special.)—On Tuesday night the Masonic lodge of this place gave a patriotic program and lunch in honor of Masonic brothers in the army and navy. A service flag with 12 stars was unveiled.

Central High School to Honor Memory of Lad Killed in Battle

Russell G. Hughes, first Omaha boy in the American army to die in battle in France, was popular as a student at Central High school. He is described by his former teachers as bright, cheerful and studious.

During his junior year his mother died. This caused a great change in the boy, who soon lost interest in his school work. After dropping out for a while, he returned to school, but never regained his former interest in his work. At the end of the year he left school.

AMERICANS WIPE OUT JOE'S LINES IN RAPID DASH STAGED AT NIGHT

Take German Positions After Artillery Bombardment; Enter Trenches to Find Enemy Fled; Teuton Soldiers Desert to United States Forces; Obtain Valuable Information from Prisoners.

With the American Army in France, Thursday, March 21.—Enemy first and second line positions on a part of the sector east of Luneville have been destroyed by American artillery fire. After the raid into the German lines last night the American gunners shelled the positions heavily all night and this morning.

Today a patrol without assistance from the artillery crossed No Man's land and found that the first and second lines had been wiped out.

NO U. S. CASUALTIES.

The patrol also obtained additional information and returned without casualties, the Germans apparently having decided not to molest them. Artillery firing by both sides on this sector continued all day.

On the sector northwest of Foul a number of Germans deserted last night and surrendered to an American patrol in a certain wood. The Germans approached the Americans shouting "Don't shoot." The prisoners were turned over to the French.

"Fed Up" with War.

Much information of value was obtained from the deserters, who said they were "fed up" with the war and decided they would rather be prisoners.

Included in the information obtained from the men was the statement that during the gas projector

attack against the American lines on February 27 900 projectors were employed. One-half the projectiles fired fell within the German lines and the gas overcame many of the Germans.

The next day, according to the deserters, 11 Germans were killed and 30 wounded while taking out the dead.

American intelligence officers are inclined to doubt the story regarding 900 projectors. American information is that only 75 were used.

New Concrete Trenches.

An American patrol last night entered the enemy first line and remained there six hours, but did not see any of the enemy. It is reported that the Germans recently had constructed trenches that are concrete half way up the side.

Great activity continues behind the enemy lines. Within the last four days a number of rock crushers and concrete mixers have been brought up and there are signs that the Germans intend to construct a number of new pill boxes opposite the American front.

Several trains of material have arrived at towns in the German lines during the last 24 hours.

Today's reports say that three German airplanes flew over various parts of the American front line at daybreak and fired their machine guns on our positions. Their efforts, however, were without result.

GERMAN RAIDER IN PACIFIC PREY OF U. S. CRUISER

Reported to Have Been Outfitted From Mexican Coast; Now Towed to Pacific Port.

A Pacific Port, March 22.—A German raider operating in the Pacific ocean has been captured by a United States cruiser and is now being towed to this port, according to a report received here today.

The raider is said to be a comparatively small vessel, but capable of sinking any merchant ship on the Pacific. It is alleged to have been outfitted from the west coast of Mexico and was manned by an all-German crew.

The manner in which it obtained clearance papers is not yet known to the United States officials, and it is said that already an investigation into this aspect is being conducted by Department of Justice agents.

Germans Start Active Commerce in Seized Towns

Moscow, Tuesday, March 19.—Germans have already established through railway connections between the districts they have occupied and Berlin, and are flooding the occupied towns with German goods, especially clothing and hosiery.

Russians who had managed to leave Kiev, Mohilev, Reval and other occupied cities all tell the same story. At Narva the Germans established clothing, chemical and photographic supply factories.

At Reval they are reopening the woolen mills and forcing the Russians to work.

At Narva the prices of clothing and other manufactured articles dropped 50 per cent after the German occupation.

Russian soldiers are being fed to clean out the railway stations. The general sanitary conditions are being improved everywhere and idlers are being forced to work.

Manufacturers Asked to Shut Down During Parade

The Omaha Manufacturers' association seeks to have all manufacturing plants in Omaha shut down April 6, while the Liberty loan parade commemorating the first anniversary of America's entrance into the world war, is in progress.

A special committee has been appointed to call on every manufacturer in the city to induce him to close if it is at all possible. The committee consists of Howard M. Goulding, W. J. Monaghan, Fred S. Knapp, Ross B. Towl, Arthur Metz, W. H. Clarke, R. L. Wilder, E. W. Cornell, W. M. Devitt, T. B. Tholl, J. M. Harding and W. A. Ellis.

Prisoners Disinterested.

Many prisoners when interviewed by the Associated Press correspondent show little interest in the war, especially the Austrians, who apparently have no desire to return home. Some of them sought medicines from the American Red Cross unit for sick comrades, and did not know that the United States had entered the war.

Big Rise in Land Value.

Beatrice, Neb., March 22.—(Special Telegram.)—H. P. Crocker, today sold his 320-acre farm north of Filley to his son, C. F. Crocker, for \$48,000. The land was purchased 40 years ago for \$7 an acre.

BRITISH REGAIN POSTS LATELY WON BY TEUTONS

Documents Captured Show Germans Have Failed Utterly in Execution of Original Bloody Program; Nineteen Enemy Divisions Are Engaged.

BULLETIN.

British Army Headquarters in France, March 22.—The fighting is still continuing, but the first stage of the offensive has passed. The enemy has failed badly in the execution of his program, as is attested by captured documents showing what he planned to do in the early hours of his offensive.

Vigorous counter-attacks late yesterday restored some of the positions which the British had abandoned temporarily.

NINETEEN ENEMY DIVISIONS ENGAGED.

London, March 22.—Nineteen enemy divisions were identified yesterday's fighting, Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters wires. He adds:

"The whole thing is too big to be able even to sketch or visualize easily. Thus far the enemy has paid a colossal price for such small gains as represent the fruits of his mighty effort."

CLASH ON WIDE FRONT.

The great battle on the western front continued until last night, the war office reports. The British are holding the enemy.

The statement from the War department says:

"Fighting continued until a late hour last night on the whole front between the River Oise and the River Senne. Our troops continue to hold the enemy in the battle positions."

"During the enemy's attacks yesterday his massed infantry offered remarkable targets to our rifles, machine guns and artillery, of which full advantage was taken by our troops. All the reports testify to the excessively heavy losses suffered by the enemy."

HEAVY FIGHTING AHEAD.

"No serious attack has yet developed this morning, but heavy fighting is still to be expected."

"Battle positions" are defenses directly behind the first line trenches. Haig's statement would indicate that the Germans' penetration has been limited.

It is not yet possible to give more than a very general and vague idea of the fighting Thursday on the front between the Oise and the Senne, which continues with swaying fortunes, according to the accounts of correspondents at the British front in the morning papers.

The German attack made on the British front west and southwest of Cambrai evidently aims at recapturing all the Hindenburg line, says a dispatch to the Morning Post from British headquarters in France, which adds:

"The German army attacking south of the Scarpe seems to have delivered its first blow principally in the triangle of the Arras-Cambrai and Bapaume-Cambrai roads, while the German army south of Cambrai is striking against our trench system in the region west of the Scheldt canal."

"No doubt the enemy hopes that the attacking forces of these two armies may succeed in forming a junction and thus cutting off a considerable slice of the British front and taking back all the Hindenburg trenches lost exactly four months ago."

Struggles for villages and ruined farm houses continued throughout Thursday, according to the correspondent of the Daily Mail.

"The enemy bombardment," he says, "began at 5 o'clock in the morning and at 7 o'clock some of the German units left their trenches and attacked the British with heavy and light machine guns. Between 9 and 10 o'clock engagement became general on a front of some 25 miles."

Strike at Three Towns.

"The right of the German attack was aimed at Croisilles, Bullecourt and Lagnicourt and there was hard fighting in a brick field near the first of these villages."

"Along the Bapaume-Cambrai road the enemy also attacked and then toward Gouzeaucourt, while his left wing was pushed in the direct of Ronsoy and Hargicourt."

"The British front in the area of attack forms a rather sharp salient. If the enemy could pinch off this salient and run his line straight in a north-westerly slant instead of having it run as an angle first north and then west, he would be able to hold it with fewer troops."

Would Take Britishers.

"Also, in pinching it off he would hope to surround and capture a good number of British troops. These, it seems plain, are his aims in the first stage of the offensive."

"The enemy is trying to repeat on a larger scale the operation by which he won back some of the ground we gained in the battle of Cambrai. If he pushed in on an angle of our front both from the north and the east, his two bodies of troops did their best to join hands, but could not make it, though they had at first considerable success."

"Much the same design is being followed now. We have good reason to hope that it will be checked as was the previous one."

British Miners Give In.

London, March 22.—It is understood that the Miners' Federation accepted the government's proposal regarding the coming out of military service.

ATTORNEY SUES LAW PARTNER FOR ALLEGED FRAUD

Anson Bigelow Accuses Charles Schrempf of Misappropriation of Funds; Testifies Before Grand Jury.

Anson H. Bigelow, attorney, who has filed suit in district court charging Charles Schrempf, his law partner, with misappropriation of funds belonging to the partnership, appeared before the grand jury for more than an hour Friday morning.

In his suit Bigelow alleges that Schrempf has collected and appropriated for his own use certain sums of money belonging to the firm. These sums, Bigelow says, are greatly in excess of the amount to which he is entitled.

A break in the partnership, the petition says, occurred February 19. On that day Bigelow says he demanded an accounting, but that Schrempf not only has delayed this accounting, but has collected and appropriated further sums. On March 20, he alleges, Schrempf collected \$400 and deposited it to his own account.

Bigelow seeks to have the partnership dissolved and the bank restrained from paying to Schrempf the \$400 in dispute.

Bad Man Called.

David Billings, alleged negro bad man, was another summoned before the grand jury Friday morning.

Billings was arrested following the theft of a diamond pin and watch from C. R. Prawitt, Sanford hotel. Billings was a porter at the Sanford.

Police declare Billings is a "bad man." He carried a revolver when arrested, his defense was that he used the gun for protection from another negro who, he said, was hunting him. The other negro's wife, Billings confessed, was the point of issue between himself and his pursuer.

A short time ago, Billings escaped from police officers by jumping from a fire escape in the Carleton hotel. He also is said to have served three years in the Missouri state penitentiary for a cutting affray at Sedalia.

I. W.'s Hold Bond Selling Drive All Their Own in U. S.

Chicago, March 22.—A bond issue and a campaign for the sale of "general defense stamps" have been started by the Industrial Workers of the World to combat the Liberty loan and War Savings stamps campaign, according to literature seized by Federal officials in recent raids on Industrial Workers of the World headquarters.

Thousands of dollars already have been realized from the sale of the bonds and stamps, according to the literature. The money is to be used in defense of members now in jail, and in the furtherance of sabotage, according to one pamphlet.

Another circular declares that although the work of the Industrial Workers of the World has been greatly handicapped by the activities of government officials, it is now "gradually getting back to normal."

Another document declares that "many money contributions have been received from Canada."

The Industrial Workers of the World bonds are called "freedom certificates."

Large Class of Masons To Be Initiated Next Week

Gothenburg, Neb., March 22.—(Special.)—Between 35 and 40 Masons will be initiated into the Scottish Rite by a team from Hastings here next Wednesday. This is the largest class that has ever been obtained at any town in the state outside of Omaha, Lincoln and Hastings, where the regular reunions have been observed.

The degrees from fourth to 14th will be conferred by the Hastings team. At the conclusion of the 14th degree, a banquet will be served in the dining room of the Presbyterian church.

SIBERIAN ROAD NOT HELD BY FOE, SAYS TROTZKY

Characterizes as Falsehood Rumors That German and Austrian Prisoners Occupy Communications.

(By Associated Press.)

Moscow, March 22.—Rumors that Austrian and German prisoners of war have occupied the trans-Siberian railway are characterized as an absolute falsehood in a dispatch received by Leon Trotzky, the bolshevik foreign minister, in response to inquiries made of the representatives of the bolshevik commissaries at Irkutsk.

Under Mr. Trotzky's instructions, direct telegraphic communication has been established with M. Stremberg, commissioner of military affairs, and M. Jansen, president of the central executive council of the All-Russian soviet, both of whom are at Irkutsk.

Replying to questions concerning reports relative to prisoners, he said: "Rumors about the occupation of Siberian railways by German and Austrian prisoners of war are absolute falsehoods. Prisoners of war, not armed, are grouped all along the Siberian railway line and guarded by American patrols. Who protest against the spreading of deliberately false rumors by foreign representatives, who further complicate the Russian situation."

It is reported from Blagovieshtchensk that during an uprising of the white guards there the members of this force fired upon Chinese in the city and attempted to create dissension between the bolshevik and the Chinese, but fled when the Red Cross entered the city. The Chinese population is friendly to the bolshevik.

Remove From Executive Committees All Soldier Representatives; Would Eliminate Influence.

(By Associated Press.)

Moscow, March 22.—The soviet government is rapidly disarming and disbanding the old army, and eliminating its influence from public affairs.

The Moscow soviet has removed from its executive committee all soldier representatives and similar action is taking place throughout Russia.

The new voluntary army will select representatives in the various soviets. The old soldiers are unwilling at many places to surrender their arms and return to work. At Petrograd three regiments declined to be demobilized. The Petrograd soviet has issued a statement, saying that these regiments were under influences contrary to the revolutionary movement.

All Leave Petrograd.

In explanation of the government's evacuation of Petrograd, the soviet has issued a statement saying the commissioners went to Moscow for the purpose of saving Petrograd from destruction.

All available rolling stock is being used for the evacuation of Petrograd along the Trans-Siberian railroad toward the Ural mountains. The Putiloff munition works, and the Shusselburg Powder factory near Petrograd, employing from 30,000 to 40,000 workmen, are being moved to Omsk and Tobolsk.

The entire western end of the Trans-Siberian railroad is congested with trains of machinery, guns, ammunition and automobiles. All sorts of war material and factory equipment were stacked on flat cars and government employes, factory workers and thousands of German and Austrian prisoners are being sent to Omsk and other Siberian cities for industrial work in re-establishing plants.

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Many prisoners when interviewed by the Associated Press correspondent show little interest in the war, especially the Austrians, who apparently have no desire to return home. Some of them sought medicines from the American Red Cross unit for sick comrades, and did not know that the United States had entered the war.

Vologda, where the American embassy is now located, has suddenly developed from a provincial city with a population of 60,000 to a congested transfer point with a large floating population. Military missions of many nations leaving Roumania and Aukraine have gathered there waiting transportation to Siberia or Kola and Petrograd. Every inch of space inside of cars, on platforms and on the bumpers is occupied by refugees. All the stations are crowded with men, women and children, fighting for space in the cars.

Big Rise in Land Value.

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HOLLAND TALKS BREAK WITH U. S.; TO RECALL ENVOY

Duty of Allies to Maintain International Traffic for Nations That Cannot Exist Without It.

Amsterdam, March 22.—A dispatch from The Hague to the Handelsblad says one of the most prominent members of Parliament intends to ask the government whether it is not time to recall the Dutch minister at Washington and hand passports to the American minister at The Hague.

Commenting upon President Wilson's proclamation regarding Dutch shipping, the Algemeen Handelsblad says it considers that there now develops upon the scene a power, the moral duty of maintaining international traffic for states which cannot exist without it. Continued refusal to permit Holland to obtain grain from Argentina, it says, would be a serious matter for both parties.

The Telegraaf says it is wrong to speak of rejection of the allies ultimatum by Holland. It asserts that the Dutch government acceded to the proposals of the allies as far as was compatible with its position as a non-belligerent and adds:

Maintains Holland's Rights.

"The ultimatum was thus accepted in principle, but in such a form as to maintain Holland's rights as against America's unlimited power. The Dutch government thereby acted in accordance with the principles set forth by President Wilson in considering a future peace based upon right above might."

The Nieuws Van Den Dag says it is a singular fact that both Dutch and the allied governments seem to have little knowledge of the course of events. It adds:

"One would be inclined to ask whether there is someone in between who is holding up reports."

New Commandant at Scott.

Rockford, Ill., March 22.—Appointment of Colonel Frank E. Harris, U. S. A., to be commandant at Fort Winfield Scott, San Francisco, was announced here today. Colonel Harris has been acting adjutant of the Central department.

The Weather

For Nebraska—Fair; warmer. Temperatures at Omaha Yesterday.

Hour	Temp.	Wind	Dir.
6 a. m.	36	5	SE
7 a. m.	36	5	SE
8 a. m.	34	5	SE
9 a. m.	34	5	SE
10 a. m.	34	5	SE
11 a. m.	34	5	SE
12 m.	34	5	SE
1 p. m.	34	5	SE
2 p. m.	34	5	SE
3 p. m.	34	5	SE
4 p. m.	34	5	SE
5 p. m.	34	5	SE
6 p. m.	34	5	SE
7 p. m.	34	5	SE
8 p. m.	34	5	SE
9 p. m.	34	5	SE
10 p. m.	34	5	SE
11 p. m.	34	5	SE
12 m.	34	5	SE

Comparative Local Record.

1918	1917	1916	1915	
Highest yesterday	57	75	47	42
Lowest yesterday	34	26	21	26
Mean temperature	46	50	29	36
Precipitation	.00	.00	.01	.06

Reports from Stations at 7 P. M.

Station and State	Temp.	High.	Low.	Wind	Dir.	Rel. Hum.
Omaha, Neb.	34	54	24	5	SE	90
Davenport, Ia.	40	50	30	5	SE	90
Lincoln, Neb.	36	54	24	5	SE	90
Des Moines, Ia.	30	50	20	5	SE	90
Dodge City, Kan.	44	54	34	5	SE	90
Lawrence, Mo.	36	50	26	5	SE	90
St. Joseph, Mo.	36	50	26	5	SE	90
Omaha, Neb.	34	54	24	5	SE	90
Rapid City, S. Dak.	36	50	26	5	SE	90
Sioux Falls, S. Dak.	36	50	26	5	SE	90
Sioux City, Ia.	36	50	26	5	SE	90
Valentine, Neb.	36	50	26	5	SE	90

L. A. WELSH, Meteorologist.