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GERMAN LINES PUSHED BACK

ITALIAN NAVAL ATTACK AT POLA DARING EXPLOIT

Dash Made Into Harbor in Dark by Lieutenant-Commander Pellegrini and Four Companions, Who Were Drowned or Captured After Torpedoing Battleship and Blowing Up Their Own Craft.

(By Associated Press.)

Italian Naval Headquarters, May 22.—The details of the recent Italian naval exploit at Pola show that it was one of the most audacious feats of the war, worthy to rank with the British raids at Zeebrugge and the Merrimac affair at Santiago.

Plans were long matured by Lieutenant Commander Pellegrini, who adopted unusual means of secrecy to safeguard the project. To divert attention he took service in the trenches on the Piave and when he was ready to start gave out that he was going to visit his friends. He was accompanied by another officer and two sailors.

ARRIVES IN DARK.

The party was escorted by destroyers and arrived at Pola at 2 o'clock in the morning. It was very dark and the moon had been down two hours. A light wind blew off shore, which prevented the sounds of preparation going landward. The entrance to the channel was 400 yards across, with a long neck leading into the great harbor, in which lay Austria's fleet of battleships, cruisers and destroyers encircled by a frowning terrace of land batteries. In the obscurity the guardship at the entrance was dimly visible swung to one side, the guards apparently asleep. There was a complete lack of watchfulness.

Final preparation now was made for a dash in the darkness. Commander Pellegrini and his companions put on rubber suits which could be inflated. The plan was to discharge torpedoes at the big ship, then blow up their own craft, jump overboard and await capture or drowning. All realized that there was practically no chance of returning alive.

Risks Life Coolly.

"Commander Pellegrini was perfectly cool as he bade goodbye, his superior saying, "You are putting your head in the lion's mouth."

Now they encountered three successive lines of defense, first a guardship, then a line of wooden buoys marking a chain of mines and then a heavy steel net strung from bank to bank. How they were able to penetrate these obstructions must remain a mystery, particularly as to the steel net which was apparently an impassable barrier.

The escort waited almost an hour when the silence was suddenly broken by two distinct explosions of torpedoes, followed by the sound of an alarm gun in the inner harbor.

Sends Prearranged Signals.

Soon after, two signals of particolored lights slowly rose from the center of the harbor, showing that Commander Pellegrini had penetrated to the very heart of the fleet and was sending signals from the midst of it.

The first signal meant "Have torpedoed a battleship," and the second said "Don't mind us; we have no chance."

This last signal was the agreed emergency sign which was to be sent up in case there was no opportunity to give help. It is believed that they blew up their craft and took to the water in accordance with the program as an explosive time bomb had been set to go off even if the craft was under water.

Meanwhile, the sky was vivid with searchlights and the land batteries were pouring a terrific fire on the escort. They clung to their work for a time and then left, with 40 searchlights and countless batteries playing upon them.

No Word From Party.

As daylight broke, a fleet of enemy airplanes swooped down, but was beaten off by a smaller fleet of Italian planes, three enemy machines falling into the water during the aerial battle.

No word has since been heard of Commander Pellegrini and his party. Their signal was definite that a ship had been hit and aerial photographs are expected soon to confirm their message. There is every reason to believe that the four men are prisoners. In any event, their associates and the country greet the fearless band as heroes who have reflected lasting glory on the skill and daring of the Italian navy.

Mrs. Edward Cockrell Dies; Funeral Will Be Held Today

Mrs. Edward Cockrell died at her home, 2574 Fort street, Monday afternoon. She is survived by her husband, an infant son, her parents, Judge and Mrs. C. T. Dickinson; a brother Dave of Omaha, and sister, Mrs. S. J. Weekes of O'Neill, Neb.

Funeral services will be held at the Jackson undertaking rooms, at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. Interment will be in Forest Lawn cemetery.

Royal Arcanum to Meet In Atlantic City in 1919

Chicago, May 22.—The supreme council of the Royal Arcanum, which closed its forty-first annual convention here today, will meet next year in Atlantic City. The question of admitting women to social membership goes over until 1919.

Chicago Flier Killed.

London, May 22.—Second Lieutenant H. W. Preston of the British air force, son of Robert K. Preston of Chicago, was instantly killed May 14 while flying in England.

ROYAL WELCOME FOR BELGIANS IN OMAHA TODAY

Veterans From Russian Front First to Be Entertained on South Side, Then Parade in City.

ORDER OF MARCH.

Platoon of police.
The marshal and aides, mounted.
The mayor and city commissioners, in automobiles.
United States troops from Fort Crook.
Creighton cadets.
Executive committees and public affairs committee.
Omaha Chamber of Commerce, in automobiles.
Belgian soldiers.
High school cadets.
All military organizations will be at the Union station not later than 2 p. m.

The 359 persons in the party of Belgian soldiers, who will spend Thursday in Omaha, include 13 women, wives of the officers and men, according to information received by H. H. Baldrige. The total personnel is as follows:

Sixteen commissioned Belgian officers, three women and a boy; 55 noncommissioned Belgian officers and five workers, 255 Belgian privates and five women, four American officers, three English officers, one French officer, one Italian officer, four French privates, one American mess sergeant, two American mess cooks, one United States government representative and two railroad representatives.

Met at South Omaha.

Women from the Alliance Francaise will meet the train on its arrival in South Omaha and will entertain the women of the party while the men go through the stock yards and packing plants.

The stock yards company will provide dinner at noon. "We're going to give every man a slice of beefsteak as big as the map of the United States," says E. Buckingham.

Eighteenth street from Farnam to Dodge street will be reserved for Thursday to accommodate the 125 automobiles in which the visiting Belgian soldiers will be taken on a tour of the city. Sergeant Sigwart requests persons who have loaned their machines to park them in that district before 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon.

Belgian Heroes Come.

The Belgian troops have full military equipment and their own band. Major Leon Osterrieth, chief of Belgian military mission, is in charge of the troops.

Colonel W. C. Short is in charge for the War department, accompanied by Captain E. C. Podevin of the French army, with four Apline Chasseurs, known as the "Blue Devils."

Captain Sir Worth Lethbridge, Bart. represents the British high commission. Lieutenant Garabaldi represents the Italian commission. J. C. Sims represents the committee on public information.

For Those Speaking French.

Sixty French-speaking people of Omaha met last night at the court house to perfect plans for the entertainment of visitors today. Dr. F. J. Despecher presided. All French speaking persons and all of Flemish birth are asked to meet at the court house today at 2 o'clock.

CITY, STATE, COUNTRY LAVISH TO RED CROSS

OMAHA REPORTS $120,000 TOWARD RED CROSS GOAL

Figures Represent City and County Donations, While Nebraska's Subscriptions to Date Total $629,559.

Omaha, Douglas county and the entire state of Nebraska hit the old familiar "stride" Wednesday in the Red Cross war fund drive and sent the contribution enumerator skyward. The "over the top" mark is within easy shooting distance.

"Just two days more of real hard work in Omaha and Douglas county and we'll again smash our record," was Chairman Everett Buckingham's comment Wednesday night. "If the good work keeps up our quota of $200,000 will fade in the distance."

Early Wednesday State Director Frank Judson reported the total cash and pledges collected in 50 counties which reported before noon Wednesday amounted to $629,559,46, putting the state "over the top."

The total cash and pledges for Douglas county Wednesday night was reported as $120,000, with many individuals, firms, societies and organizations yet to be heard from.

Getting Donation.

E. Buckingham picked up the telephone in headquarters Tuesday night and called Walter T. Page, manager of the American Smelting and Refining company.

"Page, how much is the company going to give the Red Cross?" asked Buckingham.

"Well, we'll subscribe $7,500," said Mr. Page.

"Er-er—just a minute," gasped Buckingham, "wait till I get a chair and sit down. Now, say that again."

"You can put us down for $7,500," repeated Page.

And then "Buck," who had been so overcome with astonishment at the

(Continued on Page Two, Column One.)

SENATE PROBE OF AIRCRAFT SCANDAL HALTED BY HUGHES

Washington, May 22.—Attorney General Gregory sent to the senate military committee today a letter from Charles E. Hughes, who at President Wilson's request is directing the Department of Justice's investigation of aircraft production, saying the department's task should proceed unembarrassed by a parallel inquiry.

This development came after the senate had passed a compromise resolution accepted by administration leaders, authorizing war inquiries by military subcommittees. The committee proceeded with the appointment of its aviation subcommittee after reading the Hughes letter.

In view of Mr. Hughes' attitude, senate leaders said it virtually was certain that the aviation subcommittee's activities would be confined wholly to visiting plants and looking over the present situation, and that inquiry into the past would be left entirely to the Department of Justice.

Senator Hitchcock is chairman of the ordnance investigating committee.

LEFHOLZ SHOT AS TRAVELS HIGHWAY NEAR FORT CROOK

H. F. Lefholz, manager of the Jewell Film company, 1304 Farnam street, was probably fatally shot near Avery this morning while on his way to Omaha from Plattsmouth.

Lefolz had been at Plattsmouth, where he had opened a new theater last night.

An unidentified man stepped in te road and leaped on the running board ordering the car to stop. Meeting opposition the highwayman fired, striking Lefholz in the breast, near the heart. He is in the South Side hospital. The desperado escaped.

With Lefholz in the car were two men in his employ, Walter C. Denny and M. G. Rogers.

"Doughboys" in France Cheered By Lengthening of Their Lines

(By Associated Press.)

With the American Army in France, May 22.—Washington's announcement that the combined fronts held by the American expeditionary forces in France cover a greater distance than that held by Belgium and takes third rank has inspired the men in the American army as probably nothing else could.

The announcement was published in newspapers reaching the various zones in which there are Americans, and the result is that every one of the "doughboys" is walking just a little straighter and there is just a little more snap in his salute.

Staff officers and certain other officers have known the fact for some time, but the average American soldier, billeted in some out-of-the-way little French village or living where the shells fly, does not get a chance to know what is going on outside his own little sphere.

In a vague way the men in the line have known that other Americans have been scattered along the battle-front somewhere between Switzerland and the sea. But none even thought the forces of which he was a member were holding a section of the line second only to that held by the French and British.

The announcement was the sole topic of conversation tonight in the dugouts, trenches and billets. The men now are looking forward to the time when there may be an announcement that the Americans are occupying the second place

WILSON ACTS TO SAVE HOSTS FROM HUNGER

Washington, May 22.—President Wilson today approved arrangements which will remove the menace of starvation which the 10,000,000 inhabitants in German-occupied Belgium and France have been facing.

Herbert C. Hoover, as chairman of the commission for relief in Belgium, announced tonight that the president had approved restoring of the fleet of steamers employed by the commission to the original number and placing at the commission's disposal sufficient tonnage for the dispatch of 90,000 tons of foodstuffs in the next 90 days.

"As a result of the diversion of a large part of the shipping employed by the relief commission to other war purposes," said Mr. Hoover, "it had been necessary to reduce the bread ration to six ounces per diem, this being an ounce below the present German ration, with corresponding reductions in other foodstuffs.

"Even with this additional shipping, the Belgian ration must be of the most meager character, but I am confident that actual starvation on a wholesale scale has again been prevented."

WOMAN SLAYER BARES TO JURY HER LIFE STORY

Grace Lusk Says Acquaintance With Dr. Roberts Began at Dinner and Ripened at Church Socials.

(By Associated Press.)

Waukesha, Wis., May 22.—Grace Lusk today took the witness stand in her own defense at her trial for slaying Mrs. Mary Newman Roberts this afternoon and revealed details of her life up until the time she first met Dr. David Roberts early in 1913.

Miss Lusk said that she was born in Stoughton, Wis., in 1875 and after graduating from high school and normal school began teaching in Menominee, Wis., in 1896.

She later attended the University of Chicago and the University of Wiscousin, where she completed a two years' course in one year, obtaining a degree of Bachelor in Philosophy in 1912.

Health Broke Down.

At the end of this period she said her health broke down and in the fall of 1914, her health improving, she was given an appointment as an instructor in the normal training school.

Miss Lusk said that she first met Dr. Roberts at a dinner party late in January or early in February, 1913. Later they met at church entertainments which Dr. Roberts attended with his wife.

The witness described her health during this period as poor, due largely to overwork, and declared that she frequently was unable to attend to her duties because of severe headaches.

Had Good Reputation.

During the early part of the day the defense introduced a score of character witnesses who testified to the high reputation borne by the defendant. Evidence was also introduced to show that her grandmother had been the inmate of an insane asylum at one time.

Miss Lusk was called to the witness stand at 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon, but Judge Martin Lueck immediately ordered an adjournment and she did not begin her story to the jury until 4 o'clock and court adjourned an hour later.

big subscription, got hold of himself and actually asked for more.

Red Cross Workers Carry Coffee Into First Line Trenches

Paris, May 22.—The latest feat of the American Red Cross workers in France is going into the first line trenches, serving coffee and chocolate to the American soldiers about to leave for patrol in No Man's land and greeting the boys on their return with fresh supplies of coffee and chocolate with cigarets and dry socks.

A cold rainy night recently was marked by activity of the Red Cross men. The soldiers had massed at 5:30 and would have had nothing to eat until 6 o'clock the next morning had it not been for the Red Cross workers.

The next day supplies were placed in various dugouts and trenches and the American boys on night patrol in No Man's land will have hot drinks until a canteen is established in the immediate vicinity.

Harry Lauder's Own Story of War Zone Experiences Will Be Found On Page 11.

WAR MERCY FUND OF $100,000,000 HALF SUBSCRIBED

No Division Quota Yet Filled, But Many Cities and Towns Already Have Gone Over Top.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, May 22.—Nearly one half of the American Red Cross second one hundred million war mercy fund had been subscribed on the face of returns received at headquarters here tonight at the end of the third day of the week's campaign. The total subscriptions from the twelve districts was $44,070,555, but it was recognized that these figures were incomplete and did not represent the maximum of subscriptions up to this time.

Although success of the campaign seems assured, workers are not letting up as it is hoped to roll up an oversubscription. Necessity for those chapters, towns and states which have oversubscribed to continue their efforts was emphasized in a statement sent to war fund managers by Henry P. Davison, chairman of the Red Cross war council.

Workers Urged to Continue Efforts.

Mr. Davision called attention to the fact that the arrangements for the campaign were made earlier in the year before the recent German drives in Picardy and Flanders and that changed conditions called for increased Red Cross funds. For that reason he asked all workers not to lessen their efforts to secure subscriptions until the close of the campaign next Monday night.

None of the divisions yet has reached its quota but many cities and towns today joined those that went over the top Monday and Tuesday.

The central division, (Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Nebraska) has subscribed $5,900,000 according to reports to headquarters tonight.

National banks continued today to set aside part of dividend funds for the Red Cross, 122 banks reporting such action by the directors. The total given by 85 of them was $335,670.

One of the interesting features of the campaign were returns from the foreign division of the Red Cross, which indicated the greatest activity among the chapters and branches all over the world.

LOBECK FAILS TO OBTAIN FUND FOR Q. M. WAREHOUSE

Washington, May 22.—Representative Lobeck has been conducting a quiet campaign with the majority members of the military affairs committee of the house to have inserted in the army appropriation bill a paragraph setting apart $250,000 of the approriation for barracks and quarters to be used in construction of a warehouse upon the site of the quartermaster's supply depot in Omaha. Some of Mr. Lobeck's colleagues looked with favor on the project, as Omaha has been designated one of the regional cities for quartermaster supplies but the plan failed, as objections were made against providing for any new projects.

Chairman Dent has assured Mr. Lobeck that if the senate will put the item in the bill when it reaches that body, he will endeavor to hold it in conference, and it now rests with Senator Hitchcock to obtain an appropriation for a new quartermaster's depot in Omaha, as recommended by Colonel T. A. Grant.

ALLIES IMPROVE THEIR POSITIONS BY SUDDEN BLOWS

Opening of New Offensive Presaged by Extraordinary Activity of Aerial Squadrons of Contending Armies in France; American Artillery Batters Enemy's Defenses Day and Night.

(By Associated Press.)

In the past years of the war a period of extraordinary activity of the aerial squadrons of the contending armies in France has been considered an indication that events were rapidly shaping themselves for an offensive by one side or the other. At the present moment the most notable feature of the war situation is the remarkable work of airmen in various sectors where German attack is looked for.

This activity has not been restricted to the actual battle area, but far back of each front there have been daring raids. The Rhine cities have been frequently bombed

U. S. AIRMEN WIN LAURELS.

American aviators have borne a prominent part in this fifighting. In the Luneville and Toul sectors they have given a magnificent account of themselves, while further north, and even in the defense of London, they have demonstrated their fighting capacity.

The German plans for a resumption of the offensive in France have been seriously hampered by the sudden blows of the allies here and there along the front. The Germans have been forced back at numerous points and new lines which may be more easily defended have been established by the allies.

AMERICANS OUTWIT ENEMY.

The Americans on their own sector have given the enemy no rest. The artillery has battered the German lines night and day, while the infantrymen have raided German outpost positions and have proved themselves capable of outwitting and outfighting the enemy. General Pershing's men have won several hot fights with the foe and have captured prisoners. A night gas attack was loosed on the Germans by the Americans near Toul, three waves of shells drenching a wooded position of the enemy with poisonous fumes.

The French, too, have been at work in various sectors, particularly in the Somme region. They have gained ground here and there at points where positions of tactical value were wrested from the Germans.

Further north, the British front has been fairly quiet, with tremendous bursts of artillery fire coming at intervals. The German official statement says that British attacks at various points were repulsed.

Germans Mass Reserves.

Reports from the headquarters of the French army are that there has been a redistribution of German troops along the entire front. A German attack is expected soon, probably in the Somme region near Albert or on the Avre river, where the German cannon have been thundering for several days, but so far the German general staff has not shown its hand.

It is known that there are great masses of troops within striking distance of the front and it is believed that when the enemy is ready to strike there will be only brief artillery fire as a prelude to the actual assault by the infantry. The last report from the French war office mentions heavy artillery fire in the Somme region and at Plemont, near Noyon, where there was terrific fighting early in April.

M'ADOO'S ORDER SPREADS DISMAY IN RAIL CIRCLES

Inquirers Told Managements Will Be Changed But Slightly; Many Presidents to Be Made Directors.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, May 22.—The railroad administration today began looking for the most able operating officer of each of the 200 roads under government control to become federal director of his line and replace the president as chief executive for operations.

A survey of available men for these positions indicated that many presidents would be chosen and consequently their companies would have to elect new presidents.

General dismay among railway officers over Director General McAdoo's newly announced policy was apparent in inquiries reaching railroad administration headquarters concerning the intent of the order. All inquirers were told that the director general is anxious not to disorganize the existing railway managements any more than necessary to insure a higher degree of co-operation between the government management and the individual roads. Practically no officers, executives or employes who contribute to the actual operation of the roads will lose their jobs.

It was intimated that the present salaries of many railroad heads, ranging upward from $50,000 to $100,000, would not be duplicated by the railroad administration. The salaries would be "adequate," it was stated, and would be of varying sizes comparable to each man's ability and duties.

Railway Wage Increase To Be Announced Soon

Washington, May 22.—An announcement of a general wage increase for railway employes, following in a general way the railway wage commissions recommendations but with many modifications, is imminent. It was learned tonight that Director General McAdoo who has been studying the commission's report will be ready to act within a few days.

Representative Scott's Title to Seat Held Valid

Washington, May 22.—A house elections committee today in the contest of T. J. Steele against Representative George C. Scott of the Eleventh Iowa district, reported Scott properly elected.

GERMANIZING PLAN CAUSE OF RIOTS IN CITIES OF BOHEMIA

Washington, May 22.—Division of Bohemia into 12 districts, with advantages in the electoral domain given to the German minority in each so as to reduce Czech representation in parliament, is provided in a ministerial decree issued at Vienna.

An official dispatch today from France says this effort to dismember and Germanize the Czech state caused the recent serious rioting at Ostrau, Pilsen, Nachod and other places which resulted in the proclaiming of martial law and the imprisonment of 150 persons.

By increasing the German representation from Bohemia at the expense of the Czechs, the Austrian government, in the opinion here, hopes to regain at the opening of parliament next June 19, the majority which it lost some months ago through the coalition of all elements in opposition, led by the Czechs. This adhesion of opponents caused Emperor Charles to order parliament dissolved early in the present year.

Capt. Metcalfe of Omaha Guest Of His Brother in Lincoln

Lincoln, May 22.—(Special.)—Captain Buhler Metcalfe of Omaha was visiting his brother, Lee Metcalfe, private secretary to the governor, this morning.

Captain Metcalfe has just returned from a short leave of absence, having been at Fort Sill taking special work in "iiasons." This covers all lines of communication used by the army in the field. He went into the service as captain of a machine gun company, but was transferred to the newer line of service.

ITALY UNIFIED BY TRIALS

Anniversary of Nation's War Entry Observed at Luncheon in London.

ASSERTS LORD ROBERT CECIL

(By Associated Press.)

London, May 22.—The lord mayor of London gave a luncheon at Mansion House today to commemorate the third anniversary of Italy's entry into the war. Among those present were Lord Robert Cecil, minister of blockade; the Italian ambassador, Marquis Imperiali; the French and Japanese ambassadors, the Chinese, Serbian, Brazilian and Belgian ministers, the Russian charge d'affaires and representatives of the American embassy.

In proposing a toast to "Italy, our ally," Lord Robert Cecil expressed Foreign Secretary Balfour's deep regret that he was prevented from being present and said Mr. Balfour had charged to convey in words that could not be exaggerated the warmth of his admiration for Italy and the cordiality of his wishes for its continued prosperity and success.

Italy had had trials as severe as, or more severe than, any of the allies, but it was remembered not so much for its trials as for the glorious way in which it had retrieved them. Italy's resistance on the lines of the Piave would live among the most famous battles in all ages.

Lord Robert believed that the great feat of arms had not only been of great result to the allies, but of enormous value to the Italians themselves. Italy had come out of the trial with greater unity and self-confidence and if possible greater courage than it had before.

Amid great cheering he referred to the recent Italian naval raid on Pola. The men who took part in that raid, he said, took their lives in their hands to strike a blow for their country and for freedom.

What had happened to Russia showed the necessity for deeds, not words. Well meaning persons believed that if only you would use language of a conciliatory kind to the Germans "they would come and feed out of your hand." But Lord Robert believed that there was a profound misapprehension of German psychology and that it had been demonstrated by the Brest-Litovsk treaty, the result of which had been the total enslavement of Russia. As a result of what had occurred the Reichstag peace resolution was never referred to except with contempt. It had become a scrap of paper, as had almost all democratic reform in Prussia