

# Abbeville Press and Banner

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## GERMANS FALL SHORT IN DETERMINED MOVE

### Try to Drive Wedge Through British Line Near Cambrai

#### ONLY LOCAL SUCCESS REWARD FOR EFFORTS

#### Following Heavy Artillery Preparations Huns Send Large Forces of Bavarians Into Action—Byng's Machine Guns Inflict Heavy Casualties.

The Germans following their heavy artillery preparations of recent days have attempted to drive a wedge into the British line west of Cambrai, but although they used numerically superior forces their efforts brought them only a minor gain.

The attack, launched between Bullecourt and Queant, was similar to that adopted by Crown Prince Rupprecht's troops when they pierced Gen. Byng's front southwest of Cambrai nearly two weeks ago and caused a retirement of the British on the salient General Byng previously had driven toward Cambrai. A like purpose doubtless was involved in the latest offensive and for its execution huge waves of Bavarians were thrown upon the sector in an endeavor to overpower the defenders. The British however, held tenaciously to their ground except at one point where the enemy penetrated a front line position. As in their previous attempt to wreck the Cambrai salient, the Germans lost heavily in the enterprise the British mowing them down with machine gun and rifle fire. The spot chosen for the attack was similar, from a strategic standpoint, to that near Gonnelleu where the offensive of a fortnight ago began.

General Allenby, commander of the British forces in Palestine, has entered Jerusalem and taken over control of the Holy City. The populace greeted the British commander cordially. In a proclamation he told the inhabitants that all sacred buildings and holy places would be protected and maintained.

## FALL OF JERUSALEM DUE TO UNCLE SAM

#### Success of British Made Possible by Work of Americans in Furnishing Aid.

London, Dec. 12.—Maj. Gen. F. E. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the British war office, today in a talk with the Associated Press outlined the campaign that resulted in the fall of Jerusalem to General Allenby's forces: "General Allenby entered Jerusalem yesterday," said General Maurice. "The campaign which led to this has been carried out mainly by British territorials, supported by small bodies of Australian and New Zealand mounted men and British yeomanry.

"In the campaign as a whole the greater accomplishment has been not the defeat of the Turks but the conquest of the Sinai desert. The troops who fought at Gaza drank water from Egypt pumped through an American pipe line and were supplied over a broad gauge railroad laid across the 150 miles of the Sinai desert which has defeated almost everybody that tried to conquer Egypt for centuries. Every ounce of material for the pipe line, the railroad and the other work came either from Great Britain or the United States. The fall of Jerusalem was made possible by industry, organization and help of material from the United States.

## A GLANCE OVER THE COUNTRY

### News in a Condensed Form to Be Read By the Busy Reader.

The Food crops with the exception of wheat made record crops.

The future of the Allies is in great danger if the people bring premature peace.

Panama has declared war on Austria. The zone has been cleared of Germans and Austrians in accordance with the President's recent order.

Thirteen of the negroes who were leaders in the riot in Texas have been executed. Forty one others are to spend the rest of their lives in prison.

Former Premier Asquith says that he would go to war again if it were to do over. He doesn't think that the war has been in vain if it ends in peace for all. He thinks very little more will be heard from the enemy on the question of the freedom of the seas.

A new bill is the one introduced by Senator Wadsworth. As the young men reach the draft age they are to register. Those who have become of age since the draft law went into effect are to register at once and the others at intervals of six months.

After Saturday the 15th, no more volunteers will be accepted in the army. For the past several days an unprecedented number have volunteered who were of the draft age. Pennsylvania leading with 848, the total throughout the country being 6,540.

Work to restore Halifax has been systematized. One American was killed in the great calamity. Monday night was the most restful since the disaster and with the sinking of the munition ship Pinton, and the assurance that there were no more explosive laden vessels in the harbor the residents and relief workers slept without any fears of possible danger.

## THE WOMAN'S SERVICE LEAGUE

The Woman's Service League has completed its gift to the Red Cross of 112 Christmas Packets to be sent to our men at home and abroad. Forty of the packets were packed in November to be sent to our men abroad, the remaining 72 were turned over to the local Red Cross December 10th. Each packet contained a pad and package of envelopes, a pencil, chewing gum, chocolate, tobacco and cigarette papers, and a small fruit cake. The packages were tied in a large khaki colored handkerchief and two safety pins held them in place, the packets were then tied with a red ribbon with a Christmas card placed under, the bow with the greetings of the Chapter. The packets were again wrapped in heavy paper and sealed with tiny American flags.

Two packets were given by the school and one by the Children's Society of the A. R. P. church, the rest were given by the Woman's Service League.

Those who met at the home of Mrs. W. A. Harris to pack the boxes were: Mrs. C. D. Brown, Miss Charlotte Brown, Mrs. Goode Thomson, Mrs. A. B. Morse and Mrs. J. A. Hill.

## PRESIDENT HEARS RAILROAD VIEW

### Question of Control Is Thoroughly Canvassed—No Decision

#### RAILROADS ARE NOT SEEKING LOAN

#### Claimed Course President Decides Upon Will Receive the Fullest Co-operation of the Railroads.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The railroad view of the transportation problem and its solution were laid before President Wilson today by the five members of the war board.

At the conclusion of the conference Fairfax Harrison, chairman of the board, announced the whole situation had been canvassed thoroughly, but that no decision had been reached. It was the general opinion that the President would study the subject further.

#### Roads to Cooperate.

Whatever course he decides on will draw the fullest cooperation from the railroads. The railroads, however, the war board made clear, are of the opinion that they themselves can meet the situation if given time. They argued as their first need a centralization of control of government traffic in the hands of a federal traffic manager. Priority orders without number coming from various government departments they said is doing more to slow up freight movement than any other single factor.

#### Not Seeking Loan.

The railroads, it was reiterated, are not seeking a government loan or a repeal of anti-pooling laws.

The President was told of steps already taken by the operating committee of Eastern executives to clear choked terminals. These measures, the war board said, were already showing results, and given time the roads can put traffic on a basis as nearly normal as possible.

Attention was called to the roads' recommendation of a month that the government deny transportation to more than 500 commodities classified as non-essentials.

An order of this character, the President's callers insisted, would have to be issued eventually whoever operates the roads since there is more traffic than can be moved.

## ANCIENT JERUSALEM IN HANDS OF BRITISH

#### Control of Twelve Hundred Years Passes From Moslems—Surrender of City Ends German Dream.

Jerusalem is in the hands of the British after having been for 1,200 years in the control of the Moslems.

The Holy City of the Christian religion capitulated to General Allenby's forces, consisting of British, French and Italian troops, after it had been entirely surrounded and with its fall seemed swept away the dream of the Germans and the Turks of driving southward through Palestine, capturing the Suez Canal and invading Egypt.

Since the recent taking of the town of Jaffa on the Mediterranean and the gradual closing in on Jerusalem by the allied forces the fall of the ancient city daily had been anticipated. It was not the lack of strength that prevented its capture but rather the desire of General Allenby to carry out his plan of enveloping the city and forcing its capitulation, as a frontal attack would have endangered the numerous sacred places inside the city and its environs.

J. A. Nance of Monterey, is clerking in Haddon-Wilson Co's. store. He will be glad to have his friends call of him there.

## ORDNANCE PLANS TOLD TO SENATE

### Crozier Says the Army in France Is Well Supplied

#### NO SHORTAGE OF GUNS WITH MEN OVER SEA

#### Committee Plans to Go Fully Into Questions of Clothing and Ammunition and Predicts a Lengthy Inquiry.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Delays and deficiency in supplying the war army with ordnance were detailed and explained by Major Gen. Crozier, chief of ordnance, to the Senate military committee at the beginning of the general inquiry planned by Congress into conduct of the war.

The initial hearing was public and will be continued tomorrow with Gen. Crozier admitted, but he said there is no shortage on the other side and will be none. It has been possible, said he, to purchase English and French artillery for use in Europe, and he predicted that by next summer the principal shortages for training purposes would be met.

#### Delays Explained

Delays in supplying ordnance, Gen. Crozier explained, have been due to several causes, including time taken for appropriations by Congress and labor difficulties in private plants. He said there is no shortage of skilled munition labor in this country and told of a plan to retain such labor which may be submitted to Congress.

Contracts for ordnance let on the "cost plus a per cent profit plan," the general declared, have been economical for the government.

#### Early Preparation

Although detailed questioning of Gen. Crozier was deferred, several committee members inquired particularly regarding preparation in anticipation of war last spring and appeared dissatisfied with what they learned.

In examination of Gen. Crozier and of other department heads, including Secretary Baker, committee members plan to go fully into the question of clothing and ammunition as well as ordnance supplies and predict a lengthy inquiry.

Investigation of the navy's war preparations is also planned within a few weeks.

#### Mentions Obstacle.

Major Gen. Crozier, chief of ordnance, said an obstacle in the early work, was that the military policy defined in the National Defense Act of 1916 contemplated a force of one million men to be raised in five years.

"It is apparent," he said, "that the original program did not contemplate our participation in the war. We compressed the five-year program into one year when it immediately became apparent that the one million program would not do."

Preparation of estimates and actual appropriation by Congress, the general said, caused further delay.

#### Money Hard to Get.

"We did everything we could," he continued, "to get the manufacturing establishments of the country going on orders in anticipation of appropriations. One obstacle was that many manufacturers did not care to spend money or could not secure loans in advance of actual appropriations. That caused very considerable delay. There also were delays under the abnormal purchasing system necessary, without time for competitive bidding in many cases."

#### Precautionary Steps.

Senator Wadsworth asked if any precautionary steps were taken before the war declaration.

"There was a good deal of thinking and discussion done," said the

## CITIZENS OF AUSTRIA GIVEN MUCH LIBERTY

### HALIFAX COUNTS ITS MANY DEATHS

#### Total Probably Slightly Over One Thousand it is Said.

Halifax, Dec. 12.—The toll of death resulting from the explosion of the munition ship Mont Blanc in Halifax harbor was officially fixed tonight at 1,126 including identified and unidentified bodies and the missing.

The figures which were issued by A. S. Barnelead, chairman of the mortuary committee were:

Identified in various morgues, 476; dead who can be identified from effects, 225; unrecognizable bodies, 125; missing, 400.

With appointment tonight of permanent committees the work of systematizing relief work for the sufferers from the explosion and fire was completed.

While a great crowd of Nova Scotians sang "The Star Spangled Banner" an American flag was hoisted on the flag pole over St. Mary College to mark the transfer of the building to the New England rescue workers who will use it as a hospital.

An inquiry office to which all requests for information about refugees should be addressed has been opened. Absolute accuracy in the replies is guaranteed.

Colonel Low, manager of reconstruction work, announced that a scale of wages has been agreed upon for workers in various trades. The highest will be 50 cents an hour.

## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE.

### Peace, Good Will to Men!

Shall we celebrate Christmas this year? There is but one answer—YES! We must celebrate Christmas and preserve the true Christmas spirit for this, our first year of the war. The Civic Club of Abbeville is planning a great Christmas celebration which shall express to the people of Abbeville the Christmas message.

There will be no gifts, but there will be a big Christmas tree filled with twinkling stars, strings of garlands of evergreens and holly, and there will be Christmas carols by the children around this tree.

Mrs. W. A. Harris is chairman of the Christmas Tree Committee and Mrs. Jas. A. Hill has charge of the musical program.

A full list of committees and the plans will be published later.

## LIGHTING UP THE DARK WAY.

A new arc light has been installed in the lane between the residences of J. A. Hill and G. A. Harrison on Greenville street, and is lighting up what has hitherto been a dark and uncomfortable passage way.

Mrs. N. S. Cason of Bethia, was in the city this week shopping for Christmas.

general. "We prepared for sudden expansion and did all we could."

"Will the American army be able to supply itself with sufficient artillery?" asked Senator Reed.

"The indications are that we will be able, with the assistance of England and France," Gen. Crozier replied. "We are short of artillery for training purposes, but we are not short on the other side, and will not be."

"How long will it take to catch up on this side?" Senator Reed queried.

"We will be fairly well caught up on the most important things by next summer."

### Few Restrictions to Be Imposed on Dual Monarch's Subjects

#### GET MORE PRIVILEGES THAN GIVEN GERMANS

#### Will Be Free to Live and Travel Anywhere Except That They May Not Enter into or Leave United States Without Permission.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Austro-Hungarians in the United States, most of the million or more of whom are laborers and are loyal to the Allied war cause, will suffer few restrictions as a result of war between the lands of their birth and adoption.

In a proclamation declaring a state of war with Austro-Hungary in accordance with the act of Congress, President Wilson specified that unnaturalized Austro-Hungarians, unlike the Germans in this country, should be free to live and travel anywhere, except that they may not enter or leave the United States without permission, and those suspected of enemy activity may be interned. They need not register, are not barred, from the 100-yard zones about piers, docks and warehouses and are not required to leave the District of Columbia.

#### Two-Fold Meaning.

The President's motive in drawing distinctions between Germans and Austrians were described as two-fold. First, it was realized that the sympathy of Hungarians, Rumanians, Poles, Serbians, Czechs, Slovaks and other immigrants generally is not with Austria-Hungary and they have not been guilty of the multi-form campaign of violence practiced under the German war system. Secondly, such a large proportion of laborers are Austrian subjects that it was found practically impossible to administer against them the rigid regulations imposed on the Germans.

#### Too Big a Task.

The Department of Justice even abandoned its former plans to register Austrians with Germans because of the immensity of the task, and the administration's determination to minimize embarrassments to Austrians.

As an indication of the President's difference in feeling toward subjects of the dual monarchy, it was pointed out that nowhere in the proclamation did he use the phrase "alien enemies," as was done in previous proclamations referring to Germans.

#### Regulations Explained.

In explanation of the regulations established by the President, Attorney General Gregory issued this statement:

"The proclamation issued by the President today proclaims a state of war existing between this country and Austria-Hungary, calls upon all citizens to perform their duty warns subjects of enemy to conform to our laws and enjoins upon American citizens the duty of treating subjects of the enemy who remain loyal to the United States with all such friendliness as may be compatible with loyalty and allegiance to the United States.

## MRS. McALILEY GOES TO CHESTER

Mrs. Sam McAliley was taken over to Dr. Pryor's Wednesday evening for an operation for appendicitis. She stood the operation all right and is doing fine.