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SECRETARY BAKER LANDS IN FRANCE

Head of War Department Makes Trip to Europe

LEFT FOR EUROPE ON FEBRUARY 27

Visit for Purpose of Conference With Army Officers and to See Expeditionary Forces.

Paris, March 10.—The American Secretary of War, Newton D. Baker, has arrived at a French port.

Washington, March 10.—Upon hearing of Secretary Baker's safe arrival in France through the Associated Press dispatch from Paris, the War Department tonight announced that the Secretary's visit is purely military and not diplomatic and is for purposes of inspection and personal conferences with military officials. Mr. Baker is accompanied by Major Gen. William M. Black, chief of engineers; Lieut. Col. M. L. Brett and Ralph Hayes, his private secretary.

No official report on the Secretary's arrival had been received. The department issued this statement:

"A cable dispatch from Paris to the Associated Press tonight announces the arrival at a French port of the Secretary of War.

Sailed February 27. "For some time Secretary Baker has desired to visit the headquarters of the American expeditionary forces. He sailed from an American port about February 27.

"Secretary Baker had not determined the length of time he will remain in France, but his stay will be long enough to enable him to make a thorough inspection of the American forces abroad and to hold important conferences with American military officers.

"It is expected that not only will Secretary Baker visit the American headquarters, but his inspection tour will cover construction projects, including docks, railroads and ordnance bases, now under way back of the American lines.

"The Secretary's visit is military and not diplomatic. It is essentially for the purpose of inspection of personal conferences with military officials.

"The Secretary of War is accompanied by Major Gen. William Black, Lieut. Col. M. L. Brett and Ralph Hayes, private secretary to Secretary Baker."

Mr. Baker is the first member of President Wilson's cabinet to go to the battle zone.

The war secretary is in Europe as the President's official representative, and the fact that he is his war secretary and not a diplomatic representative, is regarded as evidence of the determination of the President to press the war aggressively to victory.

DIXIE HIGHWAY MEETING.

At a called meeting of the City Council to consider the Dixie Highway Friday afternoon, Dr. G. A. Leuffer and Mr. J. Allen Smith, Sr., and Mayor Gambrell were appointed delegates to go to the meeting which is to be held in Asheville on Thursday, March 14th.

County Supervisor Stevenson and committee composed of the following: J. L. Perrin, J. S. Moffat, L. Mabry and J. Howard Moore will represent the county at this meeting.

COTTON MARKET

Cotton ----- 38c.
Seed ----- \$1.00

GERMAN IN CLASH WITH DEWEY DEAD

Admiral von Diederichs Passes Away at Baden Baden.

INCIDENT AT MANILA.

American Commander Enforced Rule That Neutral Ships Entering Bay Should Report.

Amsterdam, March 10.—Admiral van Diederichs, commander of a German squadron at Manila during the Spanish-American War and who clashed with Admiral Dewey, the commander of the American squadron in the Philippines, is dead at Baden Baden.

The friction between Admiral Dewey and Admiral von Diederichs arose over the German officer's disinclination to observe the rules of the blockade established by the American commander in Manila Bay. Admiral Dewey insisted that the warships of the neutrals entering the bay should report to the Americans and was upheld in this contention by the British naval commander. The Germans, nevertheless, sought to evade the rule and on several occasions there was friction. In a book published by Admiral Dewey in 1914, he described the final incident at Manila.

Admiral von Diederichs, commenting on Dewey's book, blamed the American admiral for the clash and intimated that it would never have arisen if Dewey had not protested officially about the "trivial incidents." These, he said, included the firing of shots by the Americans in order to stop two German pinnacles.

TAKING A REST.

Miss Guild left Saturday for Charlotte, where she will spend several days with her brother, a young soldier at Camp Greene, after which she will visit friends in Norfolk. Miss Guild is very popular in Abbeville and every one wishes her a pleasant rest and an enjoyable trip.

Toll of Tornado Heavy For Ohio

Five Dead, Others Hurt, Property Loss Great—Wind's Pranks.

Lima, Ohio, March 10.—Five persons are known to be dead, several others are reported killed, scores are injured, scores of homes were completely or partly demolished and hundreds of barns and outbuildings were razed by the tornado which traveled across Northwestern Ohio early last evening. Estimates of property damage range from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000. Miller City, Putnam County, was hard hit. Seven persons, two of whom may die, were injured there. One side of a large Catholic church was blown in.

Throughout the storm districts hundreds of persons received minor injuries caused by flying glass and debris. Twelve persons are reported seriously injured.

FROM CAMP WADSWORTH.

Lieut. Booth and Lieut. Hogland, of Camp Wadsworth, spent Saturday night and Sunday here with Lieut. Albert Morst. They are from New York and Lieut. Booth is an artist of note. They were delighted with our town.

GOING TO NORFOLK.

Mr. T. V. Howie leaves today for Norfolk, where he goes on business connected with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

GERMAN GROWLS FOR SCANDINAVIA

Northern Countries Denounced as Pro-Entente

REASON FOR THE CHANGE

Hun Feels Too Strong to Consider Friendship of Sweden, Denmark and Norway.

London, March 10.—The newest and most novel display of German policy has come in the form of a sudden broadside of denunciation of the Scandinavian countries by German newspapers and publishers like Count Reventlow, of the Tages Zeitung. From the similarity of the articles it is evident that they are directed by one mind, which apparently is the German Government.

The articles accuse the Scandinavian countries substantially of being accomplices of the Entente and warn them that, therefore, they can expect no consideration from Germany. The reason for this policy is plain to diplomats here. Germany's dealings with Finland this far seem to be designed to make of Finland a minor German kingdom, with the Emperor's son, Prince Oscar, on the throne, and to make another Helgoland of the Aland Islands.

This scheme is a direct blow against Sweden, and in a less degree against Denmark and Norway, and is in line with the German Emperor's boast that the Baltic lands have been made permanently German.

The Aland Islands, geographically are as much a part of Sweden as New Foundland is of Canada. Throughout the war Sweden has been troubled by the fear that Russia would take them. Germany now occupies the islands temporarily, the German flag flies over the public buildings, and no one believes it will ever come down except by force. The most practical effect of German control of Finland and the Aland Islands is pointed out by Count Reventlow, who says they will no longer be used as a commercial bridge between Scandinavia and Russia. This is a bar to American as well as to British trade with Russia.

Americans Win In No-Man's Land

Get Best of Patrol Clash Gas Attack North of Tour Fails.

With the American Army in France, March 8.—A small American patrol early this morning met an enemy patrol in No-Man's-Land near Chemin des Dames, and fired on the enemy. A sharp skirmish resulted, the accurate firing of the Americans causing one enemy casualty and undoubtedly three others. The Americans returned to their lines without being scratched.

American snipers have been especially active during the last twenty-four hours, one sharpshooter killing a German who was walking on a parapet, while other sharpshooters were successful in hitting other Germans who showed themselves.

SERVING HER COUNTRY.

Miss Lula Cason, who is well known as a most competent trained nurse, has offered her services to her country and has been assigned to duty at Camp Hancock, in Augusta. When the call comes Miss Cason will go to France.

Miss Cason came to Abbeville last week from Dallas, Texas, and has been visiting among her many relatives here. Abbeville county takes great pride in the fact that she has a nurse at the front and every one wishes Miss Cason well.

SOLDIERS OF ALLIES AWAIT ONSLAUGHT

Paris Is Again Raided By Airmen

FOE ACTIVE OPPOSITE THE AMERICAN FRONT ACCORDING TO DISPATCHES.

London, March 10.—An announcement from the German War Office reaching here today from Berlin says that Paris was bombed last night with satisfactory effect in return for the bombing of the German towns of Trier, Manneheim and Pirmasens.

Paris, March 9.—German airmen bombed Paris last night, it is officially reported today. There were several victims.

German Pressure On West Front Grows.

London, March 9.—German pressure has increased against the Allied lines on the West Flanders front in the last thirty-six hours, according to dispatches from France today.

This pressure has centered along the railway lines running from Ypres to Staden, particularly south of the Houthoulst forest.

Both British and French troops have been operating in that district, the Belgian army holding positions farther north.

Following an all-day bombardment, the Germans attacked the British on a mile front in Belgium, but the attack was repulsed at all except one point, the War Office announced today.

The assault, which was supported by a heavy bombardment, was undertaken in the sectors of Poeldershoek and the Ypres-Menin road. It was carried out with the utmost determination, but everywhere the Germans were beaten back save in the neighborhood of Poeldershoek, where they succeeded in entering an advanced position over a front of about 200 yards.

Later in the night the British delivered a powerful counter attack, driving the Germans from their captured ground.

A German raid in the neighborhood of Neuvechappelle was repulsed. In the same district and near Fleurbaix the British made successful raids.

AMERICANS SWEEP INTO ENEMY LINES.

With the American Army in France, March 11.—U. S. soldiers go into Hun dens, penetrate six hundred yards back of second line. When they arrive they find German trench deserted.

Co-operating with French, Americans make three raids bringing back large quantities of material and valuable papers belonging to Germans the War Office announced today.

SOLDIERS IN TOWN.

On Saturday the 359th, 360th and 361st Aero Squadrons passed thru here from Texas on their way North. There were about 600 men in the number. They stopped here long enough to exercise the men and it was a great treat for our people to see them marching through the streets carrying the flags, cheering and singing. H. M. DeVore was in command. The Woman's Department of the Red Cross was holding an exchange and had a quantity of delightful things to eat. This was given to the soldiers which was greatly appreciated by them.

Americans, British and French Confident of Ability to Stop Huns

AMERICANS STAND TEST ON THE FIRING LINE

Uncle Sam's Troops Have Unflinchingly Met Every Hellish Move of Enemy Warfare.

The continuance of the patrol attacks by the Germans along the western front in France and Belgium indicates that their line having been heavily reinforced, the day is not far distant when the Entente armies and the American forces will be asked to withstand thrusts of a more serious nature.

Gauged by the firmness of the British, French and Americans, in meeting the enemy assaults in the last few weeks, and the feeling of optimism that prevails from headquarters staffs to the men in the trenches a warm reception may be expected by the enemy when he launches his attacks.

In the past fortnight, from Belgium to the Swiss frontier, the Germans have essayed minor attacks, in nearly all of which they have been beaten before they reached the Entente trenches. Where a footing luckily was obtained the German tenure of position generally was short lived, for counter-attacks expelled them.

Americans Stand Test.

Everything in the way of modern warfare—even all the cunning devices of "frightfulness," which the German mind has invented, not omitting liquid fire—has been tried against the Americans, but nowhere has the enemy been able to dent the front held by Gen. Pershing's men. On the contrary, the Americans have answered all the German offensives with a spirit of great bravery, and although they have suffered some casualties, they have made the enemy feel the effects of their guns and rifle fire.

AMENDED ORDINANCE.

It will be of interest to a number of our people to know that at the last regular meeting of the City Council held on Feb. 12th, that the Hog Ordinance was amended. Alderman Syfan moved that the Hog Ordinance be amended as follows: That the distance of a pen from street or residence be 75 feet and that the size of a pen be 400 square feet, and 400 square feet more for each additional hog. This will allow a greater number of people to keep hogs as the first requirements were that the pen should be 150 feet from any street or residence and should be 30 by 40 feet with 600 additional square feet for each additional hog. The pens are to be kept in a sanitary condition.

WESTON RICHEY.

Weston Richey is in jail. He was arrested Friday night charged with hauling goods out of W. D. Barksdale's warehouse. He had sixteen sacks of horse feed, several sacks of cotton seed meal, several sacks of flour, besides 15 sacks of horse feed that he sold to another man. His case was turned over to higher court. No one went on his bond. He has been driving for Mr. Barksdale for a number of years and each time that he got into trouble Mr. Barksdale would go on his bond.

Washington, Mar. 11.—The Comptroller of the Currency today issued a call for condition of all national banks at the close of business March 4th.