

The Watchman and Southerner.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Do all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHERNER, Established June, 1850.

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TWO BIG DRIVES.

HUNS BATTER AT FREEDOM'S RAMPARTS IN FRANCE, ITALY AND FLANDERS.

Long Expected Offensive Against Italy Has Begun and Germans Are on Eve of Drive in France.

Washington, May 4.—Vienna dispatches today indicate that the predicted Teutonic offensive against Italy may be about to begin. Simultaneously there are indications that the Germans are on the eve of a renewal of major attacks on the Franco-Belgian lines. London announces the beginning this morning of an intense bombardment on the Flanders front, south and southwest of Ypres and to the south on the Somme front. Artillery activity continues, but there have been no infantry movements by the Germans.

London, May 4.—An intense bombardment was opened by the Germans early this morning on the Flanders front from Loere to South Ypres. There is great activity also on the sector between the forest of Nieppe and Meteren, the war office announces.

The British slightly improved their position in a minor operation near Hinges, on the easterly side of the Lys salient, while on the northern front the French carried out a local attack in which prisoners were taken in the Loere sector.

ONE BIG GUN DISABLED.

French Artillery Makes Direct Hit and Puts Murder Gun Out of Action.

Paris, May 4.—News has just been received from the front that a French gun made a direct hit on one of the German long range cannon and put it out of action.

DRIVE ON ITALY.

Vienna Reports Heavy Fighting on Whole Italian Front.

Vienna, Friday, May 3.—Heavy fighting along the whole Italian front between the Adriatic and the Giudicaria valley in the north is reported in today's official statement.

TRAINS OF WOUNDED HUNS.

Many Thousand Germans Pass Through Namur.

Amsterdam, May 4.—Two hundred sixty-five trains loaded with wounded Germans returning from the battle fronts in Picardy and Flanders were counted in the day time between April 9 and 12 on the Namur-Liege railway, says Les Neuilles, of Hague.

Fighting on Avre River.

Paris, May 4.—Spirited artillery fighting along the Avre river, southeast of Amiens, is reported in today's official statement.

BERLIN CLAIMS PRISONERS.

Anglo-French Attack in Flanders Repulsed and Three Hundred Prisoners Taken.

Berlin, Sunday May 5.—The repulse of an Anglo-French attack on the Flanders battle front is reported in the official announcements today. More than three hundred prisoners are reported to have been captured. Increased artillery activities south of the Somme are announced in the statement.

LUCK AGAINST GERMANS.

Allies Advance Their Positions on the Northern Front—Many German Prisoners Taken.

With the British Army in France, Sunday, May 5.—Luck seems to be going against the Germans on the crucial northern battle front. Yesterday the allies occupied a large number of important posts at various points along the front 4,000 yards west of Kemmel. The British also made an advance of 5,000 yards northwest of Locon, gaining a number of positions, which have been contested for many days. This morning the Germans tried to regain some of these positions, but were repulsed. The German prisoners taken in these local engagements made a considerable total.

GERMAN ATTACK REPULSED.

Paris, May 6.—After an intense bombardment the Germans last night attempted a local attack near Anchin farm, southeast of Amiens. An official statement says the enemy was repulsed completely.

DRIVE AGAINST ITALY.

AUSTRIANS ASSEMBLE IMMENSE ARMY FROM OTHER FRONTS FOR OFFENSIVE.

Blow Forced by Economic Conditions Throughout Dual Monarchy—Vatican Announces That Pope Will Make no Peace Move Now.

Over the battle lines along the Piave river and in the mountainous region in northern Italy, where the allied forces have been holding their positions since last November, after the great Italian retreat from the Isonzo, there is increased tension and the threatened blow at this front may be launched by the Teutonic allies within a few days. For many weeks the Italian war office has been aware that the Austrians have been assembling the legions withdrawn from the Russian and Roumanian fronts for a drive at the Italian armies and it is believed that it will not be long before the central powers will make another attempt to reach the plains of Venetia, break through the allies' line and seek a decisive combat in that theater.

Emperor Karl of Austria, accompanied by his chief of staff and high German and army officers, is reported on his way to the Italian front and the great movement of troops in Tyrol and Trentino would seem to indicate that vast bodies of men are being taken from other fronts to be hurled at the Italian positions.

The blow, it is generally believed, will fall somewhere in the mountainous section of the front, probably in the Lagarina and Astico valleys. These sectors face the north and, if broken, would permit the foe to penetrate into the lower foothills of the mountains, or even reach the plains. If this should occur the armies along the Piave River would be compelled to fall back, probably as far as the Adige River. This would entail the loss of Venice and a vast expanse of country to the enemy.

The decision to launch an offensive of grand proportions in Italy was doubtless forced by political and economic conditions prevailing in Austria. An offensive campaign that yields of ground might serve to still the elements which are seething throughout the dual empire and would postpone the day of reckoning that seems in store for the rulers of Austria.

German domination of Austria is becoming more complete as time goes on. Tyrol and Bohemia have been annexed, for food administration purposes, to Germany, but this move in the great game of statecraft has served only to deepen the chasm between the racial factions of Austria. Bohemian troops have deserted from the Austrian armies and have joined the Italians, and, if an offensive is not launched, demoralization of the Austrian forces may come sooner than the outside world expects.

In the meantime, the situation on the front in France and Flanders has remained fairly quiet. Nothing approaching a general battle has been reported. The allies are improving their lines and awaiting for the Germans to make the next move.

Pope Benedict has served notice on the world that the vatican will not be a party to any "peace offensive" at the present time. It is believed that Berlin will seek to bring about a "German peace" and if its advances are repulsed, to nerve the German people to a new "bath of blood" by pointing out that the entente allies desire to crush Germany. Pope Benedict has let it be known that he is desirous of taking any step which may tend to shorten the war, but he does not see at the present any reason to believe that an appeal would bring about desired results.

The situation in Ukraine and the ruthless methods being followed by the Germans in completing the subjugation of the people have been reflected in an address by Vice Chancellor von Payer before the main committee of the German reichstag. After detailing the measures adopted for getting supplies of grain from Ukraine and the discontent and unrest among the people there the vice chancellor, in referring to leaders of the Ukrainians, made the significant statement that the Germans "took steps to render them harmless."

MORE AIRCRAFT MONEY.

Congress Asked for a Billion More.

Washington, May 6.—A billion dollars appropriation for aircraft production was asked of congress today by the war department. This would add to six hundred and forty millions already appropriated, expended.

CLOSE AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT

EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA TELLS VON SEYDLER TO SEE THAT IT DOESN'T RESUME ACTIVITIES.

Dual Monarchy in Grip of Hunger—Government Embarrassed by Division.

Amsterdam, May 4.—Emperor Charles of Austria has empowered the Austrian premier to adjourn parliament and forthwith inaugurate measures to render impossible resumption of its activities, a Vienna dispatch says.

A statement published in Vienna indicates that the closure of parliament is due to the seriousness of the food situation. The statement says:

"The government will devote its entire strength to the economic problem and will try to create conditions required to enable the population to hold out."

A Vienna dispatch says that the Austrian premier, Dr. von Seydler, speaking at a conference of party leaders declared that the serious economic and food conditions made it imperative for the recent government to be spared parliamentary criticism. He, therefore, demanded that the present sittings of parliament be postponed, adding that unless the party leaders took this step that the government would prevent the sessions forcibly. (Apparently the conference, the date of which was not given was held by the emperor acted.)

The president of the lower house of parliament said in reply to the premier that the conditions prevailing in the country and the demand from the larger political parties for resumption of the sittings of parliament made a further postponement impossible. The leaders of the German party favored postponement, but Dr. Victor Adler, the socialist leader, and other party representatives including the Polish group, were opposed. Notwithstanding their protests, the postponement was agreed upon. Premier von Seydler admitted the existence of many problems which must receive consideration, especially the agitation for the creation of a southern Slav state.

"If such a state were created," he said, "it could be only under the scepter of his Majesty, as a component part of the monarchy. It could not include those parts of Austrian territory which borders on the Adriatic and are closely connected with districts where the German language is spoken."

Premier von Seydler sounded a warning against inciting nationalities against each other. He then said:

"Our entire military and political situation has reached a climax. The next few months will bring decision. I am firmly convinced the decision on the battle field will be in favor of Austria and her Allies."

"Our economic, especially our food conditions are very serious, but they are not at all desperate. To hold on now to a final, happy decision is the vital question for the State. If therefore is necessary that unhampered by parliamentary confusion the government be left in a position to devote all its strength to these tasks."

The premier then recommended the postponement of parliament.

The Weimer Zeitung publishes the following statement of reasons for the adjournment of parliament.

"We are in the last decisive phase of the war. No enemy any longer threatens in the east, but in firm union with Germany and our other Allies we must force our other opponents also to renounce their hostile intentions. Despite one or two promising tendencies, parliament has been unable to find a stable policy. As things are, the resumption of the sittings of parliament would not facilitate the position, but would only sharpen political antagonism."

"Until the reestablishment of parliament, which will take place at the soonest possible moment, the government will devote its entire strength to the economic problems of the day, especially to the task of arranging for the nation's food supply."

Austria had been deep in difficulties, both political and economic, for more than a year, and it has been an open secret that Emperor Charles was desirous in bringing about peace his efforts in this direction having occasionally aroused criticism in Berlin. In the last few months there have been insistent reports that the food situation in Austria was growing desperate.

BRITISH LOSSES 250,000.

ESTIMATE GIVEN OUT BY THE BRITISH MILITARY MISSION IN WASHINGTON.

Situation Serious if British Have to Bear Brunt of the Next Blow.

Washington, May 4.—British losses in men killed, wounded, captured and missing on the western front since the German offensive began March 21, are estimated by the British military mission here at nearly 250,000.

This estimate would appear to be in remarkable contrast to the enormous German losses in the drive. The German war office, of course, has not disclosed what its losses in the great battle have been, but the estimates of Allied observers have placed them at a staggering figure. From the very nature of the fighting, military experts have pointed out, the losses of the attackers were bound to be heavier than those of the defenders. But in addition to that, the method of German attack, advancing troops in waves faster than machine guns could mow them down, must, military experts say, have entailed enormous losses.

"An inkling of how serious the German losses were came sometime ago when it was reported that the German military chiefs dared not disclose their extent to the German people, and therefore, were sending the wounded to Belgium. Other reports have told of railway gateways being choked with trains of wounded, while the dispatches of correspondents at the front have told how the battle fields were carpeted with grey-clad bodies."

The situation is summed up in this manner:

"The casualties in the British army are emphasized by the German wireless. . . . Although figures from German sources would be undoubtedly much exaggerated, yet it is certain from the severity of the fighting and from the fact that the entire combatant forces of the British army have been almost continuously engaged that the British losses in proportion to reinforcements immediately available must be very heavy. It is probable that one would be approximately accurate in quoting these as close on a quarter of a million."

"Everything points to the German offensive being continued almost immediately and should the brunt of the attack again have to be borne by the British the situation would be undoubtedly serious, unless sufficient troops are available close at hand in reserve to strengthen the line as required. . . . Should the Germans determine again to attack in Flanders it is certain that any advance in the direction of the channel ports will be made at great cost to themselves and over the bodies of the British army."

As examples of what the British have gone through, two divisions which lost a large percentage of their effectives were cited. The Twenty-fifth, a new division, in the fighting put in the fighting between March 22 and March 26 lost 4,000 men, lost 5,000 more. Despite the losses it was brigaded with the French for a counter-attack and still later it beat off four heavy German attacks.

The Twenty First division fought continuously from March 21 to March 28 and lost four thousand infantrymen, of a total strength of 9,000. Later it drove back a German attack in which five German divisions were engaged and increased its losses to 6,000.

"Statistics such as these," it was declared, "bring home to the military mind the terrible ordeal through which the British army is now passing. History coolly reviewing facts will record what is perhaps often now lost sight of in the crowded interests of every day life and obscured by hearsay and extravagant writings. Britain at this very moment is making the supreme sacrifice of endurance for right against might and now strengthened by the shoulder to shoulder with the famous French fighting divisions is prepared to hold the German masses in check until the right moment arrives for the great revenge."

AIRCRAFT GRAFT INVESTIGATION.

Washington, May 6.—A department of justice investigation of the charges of graft in the aircraft production made by Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor, was ordered today by President Wilson. Borglum's charges of pro-German influences will also be investigated.

THE PEOPLE'S LOAN.

OFFICIALS JUBILANT OVER LOAN SUCCESS.

Vast Amount Oversubscribed for Third Liberty Issue Expected to Run Total to Four Billions—Immense Army of Buyers Shown by Reports Reaching Treasury Department.

Washington, May 5.—Analysis of the Liberty loan reports today showed that probably 17,000,000 persons bought bonds in the campaign which closed last night—7,000,000 more than in the second loan and 12,000,000 more than in the first.

Latest tabulations showed \$3,316,628,250 reported subscriptions, but the treasury now believes the actual total, which may run to \$4,000,000,000, will not be definitely known until May 12, four days after individual banks are required to report to federal reserve banks.

"Whatever the money total," said a treasury statement tonight, "the loan just closed probably is the most successful ever floated by any nation."

Bank resources, it was pointed out, have been drawn on comparatively little to make the loan a success and the prospects for future loans are brighter as a consequence. An added reason for jubilation among treasury officials is the indication that the government bond buying habit is becoming stronger among people of small means.

Secretary McAdoo, in a statement thanking the nation for its support of the loan, said the widespread distribution of bonds "is particularly gratifying," and added: "This is the soundest form of national war finance—the distribution of the loan among the people themselves."

"Unless there is a pressing necessity for selling them, he urged subscribers to retain their bonds, both to help maintain the credit of the government and as a stimulant to those economies and savings which release materials and labor necessary to the support, if not to the very life, of our army and navy."

The total of \$3,316,628,250 reported by the treasury tonight included subscriptions tabulated by the Boston and Philadelphia federal reserve district up to 11 o'clock Saturday morning, New York up to 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon and others to 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon. The table of subscribers including fairly accurate returns for the Atlanta, Minneapolis, Cleveland, San Francisco, St. Louis, Chicago and New York districts, and estimates from the Dallas, Kansas City, Richmond, Philadelphia and Boston districts, is as follows:

New York 4,000,000 Chicago 2,498,000 Cleveland 1,561,970 Philadelphia 4,200,000 Boston 1,200,000 San Francisco 1,000,000 Atlanta 1,000,000 Minneapolis 1,000,000 Kansas City 900,000 Richmond 900,000 St. Louis 866,342 Dallas 850,000.

Upon hearing reports on the number of subscribers and the money total of the loan, Secretary McAdoo gave out this statement:

"The people of the United States may well felicitate themselves upon the triumphant success of the third Liberty loan. It is a most heartening manifestation of their patriotism and of their inflexible determination to support our gallant army and navy until a victorious decision for America is achieved."

"I should like to thank the thousands of men and women throughout the country, the Liberty loan committees, bankers and business men, patriotic organizations, press association newspapers and magazines—in fact every class of our citizenship, white and colored alike—for their effective assistance and cooperation in this great victory behind the lines, without which a victory on the front can not be achieved. The enormous number of individual subscribers, indicating a widespread distribution of the loan among the people, is particularly gratifying. This is the soundest form of national war finance—the distribution of the loan among the people themselves."

"I earnestly hope that every one who has bought Liberty bonds will try to keep them for the period of the war at least. The slogan now, should be 'Keep your Liberty bond.' No one does his share fully if he merely buys a bond and then sells it immediately below the market price. Of course, if imperative necessity compels the sale of Liberty bonds no just complaint can be made; if each and every purchaser keeps his Liberty bonds he helps to protect the credit of the government by maintaining the market for the bonds at

SEDITION MEASURE ADOPTED.

OPPONENTS OF BILL IN THE SENATE DEFEATED AFTER PROTRACTED CONTROVERSY.

Approval of Conference Agreement Next Week Will Send Bill to President.

Washington, May 5.—Protracted controversy in the senate over the sedition bill providing severe penalties for disloyal acts and utterances and those interfering with liberty loans and the army draft ended late today in the adoption of the conference report on the measure by a vote of 47 to 27. Approval of the conference agreement by the house next week will send the bill to President Wilson.

Opponents of the measure, who have contended that freedom of speech and the press would be curtailed, lost their fight to strike out a clause giving the Postmaster General authority to withhold mail believed to violate the espionage laws and to restore the France amendment.

The bill was initiated a year ago and provided maximum penalties of twenty years' imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine, or both, for a wide variety of disloyal acts. It amends the espionage act and with the "woman spy" bill recently passed, completes the cycle of legislation urged by the department of justice as necessary to clothe the government with power to deal with sedition and disloyalty and prevent mob violence.

That the legislation is unnecessary, unconstitutional, too drastic and confers too wide discretion upon administrative officials have been the principal arguments of those opposing it.

Men have to go on the stage to get a chance as monologists, but it is different with women.—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

par, which is a very helpful thing in war times.

"Every subscriber who keeps his Liberty bond is rendering a double service to his country during the period of the war. The purchase of a government bond to save the life of the nation and the liberties of the world is not a commercial transaction. The patriotism of the American people is not determined by the rate of interest on a government bond or by its quota valued upon any stock exchange. In lending money to the government the chief consideration should always be a determination to save the life of the nation and the liberties of the world."

A treasury analysis of the loan declared results were particularly remarkable considering that business interests are to be called on to pay billions of dollars in taxes next month. "The results of the third loan," said the statement, "indicates magnificent participation by farmers in the fourth loan if it should come during the harvest season."

One reason why the money total probably did not reach the \$4,616,000,000 of the second loan, the treasury said, is that it was understood in the second campaign that only one-half the oversubscriptions were to be accepted and consequently big interests in many cases turned in double the subscriptions they actually desired.

Partial returns today showed that New York will lead all States in number of individual subscribers with 4,000,000 and the State also leads in actual money totals.

Managers of the campaign in the San Francisco district wired that subscriptions there would exceed \$250,000,000.

In the Cleveland district unofficial figures compiled at 7.30 Saturday night total \$377,338,650.

The St. Louis district reported that all 362 counties in the district exceeded their quotas.

Minneapolis estimated the district would show a 20 per cent. distribution.

From Kansas City came the report that the district showed an official total of subscriptions on Saturday afternoon of \$170,221,250 which amounted to 131 per cent. of the district's quota.

The following table shows a partial list of the cities that have oversubscribed their quotas with their percentage standings including only a portion of Saturday's returns:

Topeka, Kan. 191; Hartford, Conn. 159; Cincinnati, 171; Youngstown, Ohio, 167; St. Louis, Mo., 161; Washington, D. C., 160; Toledo, 157; Dayton, 154; Sioux City, 150; Milwaukee, 150; Detroit, 148; Nashville, 135; Lexington, Ky., 131; Atlanta, 125; Chattanooga, 125.