BRITISH NAVAL RAID ON FOE AERIAL SHEDS

Warships Carry Seaplanes to Bomb Scheswig Holstein Base—Two German Patrol Ships Sunk.

A despatch from London says: Great Britain gave her first effective answer on Saturday morning to German air raids. A squadron of five seaplanes, convoyed by light cruisers and destroyers, crossed the North Sea and went straight to the home of the German planes which have frequently visited the English coast of late. They attacked the German airship sheds in Schleswig, east of the Island of Sylt. They were met, however, by an effective anti-aircraft defence, while their convoys were engaged by German patrol boats. A battle royal, both in the air and sea, outside the harbor of Sylt, ensued. Only two of the British planes returned, the three others, including a battleplane, were brought down, according to the official statements. Stormy weather prevailed, and in the course of an exciting naval engagement, the British destroyer Medusa collided with the destroyer Laverock. The Medusa is believed to have been lost, but her crew are safe. The Germans, on their part, lost two armed trawlers, the Braunschweig and the Otto Rudolph.

During the engagement four German torpedo boats were cut off by a number of British destroyers, but eventually succeeded in making their escape, says a despatch to the Central News from Copenhagen.

DEFENDERS OF VERDUN.

PLOT TO DRIVE U.S. TO INTERVENTION

Pres. Wilson Appeals to Country to Aid in Thwarting This Move.

A despatch from Washington says: President Wilson appealed to the country on Saturday night for aid in thwarting a conspiracy which he declares has been organized to plunge the United States into war with Mexico.

In a formal statement issued at the White House the President charges that a campaign of falsehood is being carried on through the newspapers of the country "for the purpose of bringing about intervention in the interest of certain American owners of Mexican property."

This purpose the President pledges himself to defeat, but he warns the people of the country that if the campaign is permitted to continue "very serious condition may be created, unnecessary bloodshed may result, and the relations between the two republics may be very much embarrassed."

President Wilson expresses the hope that the people of the United States will be on their guard against crediting any story coming from the border, and he entreats the editors of newspapers that they "make it a matter of patriotism and conscience to test the source and authority of every report they receive from that quarter."

6 BURNED TO DEATH IN FIRE AT HALIFAX

Wild Scramble of Sixty Inmates of House as Flames Spread.

A despatch from Halifax, N.S., says: Four Italians and two Russians were burned to death, and an Italian woman and a Russian were badly injured in a fire early Sunday morning that completely destroyed the building on Pleasant Street formerly owned by the Canadian Bioscope Company and for the past year rented by an Armenian, A. Dombalagian, as a boarding house. The place went up like a torch. The cause will probably never be known.

SOME WAR ODDITIES.

Soldier Asks For Increase of Allowance When Triplets Arrive.

London—Private William Tunks, of the Leicestershire Regiment, now in France, has asked for an increased war allowance due to the arrival of triplets in his home.

Folkestone, England — Miss Ruth Roberts, 103 years of age, remembers when her father and three brothers fought at Waterloo. She is one of a family of twenty-two and never has married, smoked, drank or used snuff.

London—Lieut. Edward P. Mulock, who died at Neuve Chapelle, made his will on a sheet of note-book paper, leaving $75,000 to a chorus girl whose weekly earnings totalled $7.50.

BRITISH BLOW IN ENEMY DUGOUTS

Successful Raids Against German Trenches in La Bassee Region.

A despatch from London says: Sir John Haig reports that the British carried out two successful raids against the German trenches about Gommecourt and the Bethune-La Bassee roads. Three dugouts filled with the enemy were bombed and blown in. The Germans sprang a mine to the north of Arras and two mines north-east of Neuve Chapelle, causing slight damage to the British trenches. A grenade attack to the north of Arras was repulsed.

The German forces which gained a foothold on the small hill of Haucourt a little over half a mile south-west of Malancourt, on the west side of the Meuse on Wednesday, have not yet attempted to increase their gains, and the French still hold part of the hill.

There was no infantry action on the Verdun front Wednesday night or Thursday. Wednesday night the Germans decreased the intensity of their bombardment to the west of the river, which had been of especial violence as a support to their infantry attack, but continued without lessening of intensity the bombardment on the eastern bank of the river. In the Woevre the cannonade was intermittent.

On Thursday heavy artillery fire was resumed on the western bank of the Meuse, in the Malancourt region, and on the front between Bethincourt-Le Morte Homme-Cumieres, while to the east of the river and in the Woevre the firing increased in violence.

FARMERS WILL CROP REDUCED ACREAGE

Wages Are High and They Expect Trouble in Securing Help.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: Many of the farmers of Manitoba, who cannot secure sufficient help, have decided to put in a smaller acreage. Wages will be beyond the reach of a large percentage of the farmers. The help to be expected from the soldiers will not be as extensive as anticipated. Quite a number of men have been drifting into the city from woods, camp and other places, but the farmers, not knowing when the seeding will start, have been unwilling to secure these men at once and the result is that they are being snapped up by contractors.

ROUMANIAN GRAIN BOUGHT BY GERMANY.

A despatch from Berlin says It is semi-officially announced that contracts have been executed between the official grain-buying associations of Germany and Austro-Hungary and the Roumanian grain export commission for 100,000 car loads of corn and all the wheat, barley and legumes available for export, estimated at forty thousand carloads. An agreement has also been reached, according to the announcement, whereby Roumania is to receive certain goods from the central powers. An effort will be made to make commerce mutually as nearly normal as possible, it is added.

FRENCH TO USE LIQUID FIRE IN REPRISAL ON GERMANS

Superiority of This Terrible Arm Over the Bayonet Has Been Exemplified at Verdun.

A despatch from Paris says: Liquid fire has been the means by which the Germans gained the portions of trenches mentioned in recent official communications, says the Journal Des Debats, and the Military Committee of the Chamber of Deputies is enquiring into methods for the protection of the French troops against such fire attacks and the use of a similar weapon in reprisal.

"One can easily understand," says the newspaper, "the superiority of this terrible arm over the bayonet. Even though it may expose the man who carries it to the danger of death in case a fragment of shell should strike it, on the other hand, it gives to an attack the power and cruelty to which our communications are bearing witness."

The newspaper adds that France has every means at her disposal for paying the Germans in their own coin and therefore should employ them.

The Leading Markets

Breadstuffs.

Toronto, Mar. 28.—Manitoba wheat, new crop—No. 1 Northern, $1.08¼; No. 2, $1.05¾; No. 3, $1.03¾, in store, Fort William.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 42¼c; No. 3 C.W., 40¼c; extra No. 1 feed, 40¼c; No. 1 feed, 39¼c, in store, Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, 78c.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, 78, on track Toronto.

Canadian corn—Feed, 68 to 70c, on track Toronto.

Ontario oats—No. 3 white, 42 to 43c; commercial, 41 to 42c, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—No. 2 winter, per car lot, $1 to $1.02; No. 1 commercial, 96 to 98c; No. 2 do., 94 to 96c; No. 3 do., 91 to 92c; feed wheat, 85 to 88c, according to freights outside.

Peas—No. 2, $1.50; according to sample, $1 to $1.30, according to freights outside.

Barley—Malting barley, 62 to 64c; feed barley, 59 to 62c, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—68 to 69c, according to freights outside.

Rye—No. 1 commercial, 86 to 87c; rejected, according to sample, 83 to 85c, according to freights outside.

Manitoba flour—First patents, in jute bags, $6.50; second patents, in jute bags, $6; strong bakers', in jute bags, $5.80, Toronto.

Ontario flour—Winter, according to sample, $4.05 to $4.20, on track, Toronto; $4.15 to $4.20, bulk seaboard, prompt shipment.

Millfeed, car lots, delivered Montreal freights—Bran, per ton, $24; shorts, per ton, $26; middlings, per ton, $27; good feed flour, per bag, $1.60 to $1.70.

Country Produce.

Butter—Fresh dairy, 28 to 31c; inferior, 23 to 25c; creamery prints, 34 to 36c; solids, 32 to 34c.

Eggs—New-laid, 28 to 29c; do., in cartons, 30 to 31c.

Honey—In 10 to 60-lb. tins, 13 to 14c. Combs—No. 1, $2.75 to $3; No. 2, $2.25 to $2.40.

Beans—$4.10 to $4.40, the latter for hand-picked.

Poultry—Chickens, 19 to 20c; fowls, 15 to 16c; ducks, 17 to 20c; geese, 18 to 20c; turkeys, 23 to 25c.

Cheese—Large, 19c; twins, 19¼c.

Potatoes—Car lots of Ontarios, $1.65 to $1.70, and New Brunswicks at $1.75 per bag, on track.

Provisions.

Bacon, long clear, 16¼ to 16½c per lb., in case lots. Hams—Medium, 20 to 21c; do., heavy, 15 to 17c; rolls, 17 to 17½c; breakfast bacon, 21 to 24c; backs, plain, 25 to 26c; boneless backs, 28 to 29c.

Lard—Pure lard, tierces, 13¾ to 14c, and pails, 14½c; compound, 12¾ to 13½c.

Montreal Markets.

Montreal, Mar. 28.—Oats—Canadian Western, No. 2, 52 to 52½c; do., No. 3, 50 to 50½c; extra No. 1 feed, 50 to 50½c; No. 2 local white, 48 to 48½c; No. 3 do., 47 to 47½c; No. 4 do., 46 to 46½c. Barley—Manitoba feed, 66 to 67c; malting, 75 to 77c. Flour—Manitoba spring wheat patents, firsts, $6.60; do., seconds, $6.10; strong bakers', $5.90; winter wheat patents, choice, $6.10; straight rollers, $5.50 to $5.60; do., in bags, $2.55 to $2.65. Rolled oats—Barrels, $5.05; bag of 90 lbs., $2.35. Millfeed—Bran, $23 to $24; shorts, $25 to $26; middlings, $27 to $30; mouillie, $30 to $33. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, $20 to $20.50. Cheese—Finest westerns, 18¾ to 19c; do., easterns, 18¼ to 18½c. Butter—Choicest creamery, 33 to 34c; seconds, 30 to 32c. Eggs—Fresh, 28 to 29c. Potatoes—Per bag, car lots, $1.70.

Winnipeg Grain.

Winnipeg, Mar. 28.—Cash wheat:—No. 1 Northern, $1.08; No. 2 Northern, $1.05¼; No. 3 Northern, $1.02¾; No. 4, 99¾c; No. 5, 90½c; No. 6, 82½c; feed, 77½c. Oats—No. 2 C.W., 42c; No. 3 C.W., 40c; extra No. 1 feed, 40c; No. 1 feed, 38½c; No. 2 feed, 38c. Barley—No. 3, 59c; No. 4, 54c; rejected, 51½c; feed, 51½c. Flax—No. 1 N.W.C., $1.94; No. 2 C.W., $1.91.

United States Markets.

Minneapolis, Mar. 28.—Wheat—May, $1.10½; July, $1.10⅝; No. 1 hard, $1.15½; No. 1 Northern, $1.11 to $1.13½. Corn—No. 3 yellow, 75 to 76c. Oats—No. 3 white, 39½ to 40½c. Flour—Ten cents higher; fancy patents, $6.20; first clears, $4.50; other grades unchanged; shipments, 50,103 barrels. Bran—$17.50 to $18.50.

Duluth, Mar. 28.—Wheat—No. 1 hard, $1.12⅞; No. 1 Northern, $1.10⅜ to $1.13⅝; No. 2 Northern, $1.05⅛ to $1.09⅞.

Live Stock Markets.

Toronto, Mar. 28.—Choice heavy steers, $8 to $8.35; butcher steers, choice, $7.75 to $7.90; do., good, $7.30 to $7.50; do., medium, $7 to $7.25; do., common, $6.25 to $6.75; heifers, good to choice, $7.25 to $7.85; do., medium, $6.50 to $6.75; butcher cows, choice, $6.50 to $7; do., good, $5.75 to $6.50; butcher bulls, choice, $6.50 to $7.25; do., good bulls, $5.50 to $6; do., medium, $5 to $5.50; do., rough bologna, $4.40 to $4.50; feeders, 900 to 1,000 lbs., $6.40 to $6.80; do., bulls, $4.50 to $5.50; stockers, 700 to 800 lbs., $6 to $6.50; do., medium, 650 to 750 lbs., $5.75 to $6; do., light, 500 to 650 lbs., $5 to $5.50; canners, $4 to $4.25; cutters, $4.50 to $4.75; milkers, choice, each, $60 to $85; springers, $60 to $85; calves, veal, choice, $11 to $12.50; do., medium, $7 to $8; do., common, $5.50 to $6; lambs, yearlings, $10 to $13.50; culled lambs, $7 to $7.25; spring lambs, each, $7 to $10; ewes, light, $7.50 to $9; sheep, heavy, and bucks, $6.50 to $8; hogs, fed and watered, $10.35; do., f.o.b., $9.90; do., weighed off cars, $10.35.

Montreal, Mar. 28.—Butcher steers, choice, $8 to $8.25; good, $7.50 to $7.75; fairly good, $7 to $7.25; fair, $6.50 to $6.75; medium, $6 to $6.25; butchers' steers, common, $5.50 to $5.75; canners, $4.25 to $5; cows, choice, $6.75 to $7; good, $6.25 to $6.50; medium, $5.75 to $6; common, $5.25 to $5.50; bulls, choice, $7 to $7.25; good, $6.50 to $6.75; medium, $6 to $6.25; milch cows, choice, each, $80 to $85; medium, each, $70 to $75. Hogs, selects, $11 to $11.50; roughs, and mixed, $10.25 to $10.75; common, $10; sows, $7.75 to $8. Sheep, 6 to 8c; lambs, 9 to 12c. Calves, milk-fed, 6 to 9c.

DISABLED SOLDIERS WILL BE TRAINED

A Start Has Already Been Made in Quebec With Toy-Making.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The Military Hospitals Commission announces there are now 1,300 men, inmates and out-patients in the various convalescent homes. Steps are being taken to provide training in these homes, and Mr. T. B. Kidner, the vocational secretary, has just returned from Quebec, where he made arrangements for the installation of an equipment for elementary vocational training in the Savard Parks Convalescent Home. This home is situated in the city of Quebec, where a number of local ladies have taken great interest in toy-making as an occupation for convalescent soldiers. These ladies have procured from the Lord Roberts Memorial Workshops in London a large and valuable collection of models of toys, etc., products of this well-known institution for disabled soldiers and sailors. These models will be placed at the disposal of the men in the home who will reproduce them and it is hoped will also design typical Canadian toys on similar lines. Preparations were also made for the establishment of classes in general subjects in the home. This policy will be followed throughout the Dominion.

TURK POST ON THE TIGRIS CAPTURED

A despatch from London says: "Onr forces on the right bank of the Tigris seized a small Turkish post at Falahiyen by a surprise attack on the night of March 15-16. Our casualties were four. On March 23 Gen. Townshend reported his camp at Kut-el-Amara bombarded by enemy aircraft and guns at intervals on March 21-23. His casualties were slight. The general situation is unchanged.

MAKING GOOD PROGRESS IN THE CAUCASUS

A despatch from Petrograd says: In the region of the Upper Tchoruk River, in the Caucasus region, Russian detachments are making good progress, dislodging the Turks from heights which were defended by several super-imposed lines of trenches. Russian troops also have advanced considerably in the region south-eastward of Bitlis, in the Lake Van region of Asiatic Turkey.

BRITISH PROGRESS CONTINUES IN GERMAN EAST AFRICA

Arusha Has Been Occupied and the Enemy Driven From His Line on the Ruwu River.

A despatch from London says: Telegrams to the War Office from General Smuts, commander of the British forces in German East Africa, indicate that the German forces were disloged from defensive positions on the Lumi River and the Kitovo hills by operations from March 7 to 12. They retreated to positions in the thick forest along the Ruwu River.

On March 19 there was bush fighting in the vicinity of Kahe, the enemy stubbornly resisting. On the 20th a British force occupied Arusha, dislodging the enemy.

At Dussing the enemy attacked during the night, but was driven off with severe losses. In the meantime a strong mounted force traversing the bush country seized the Kahe railway station and many houses. The force then occupied a hill to the south-east of Kahe. This threat against our retreat decided the enemy to hold on throughout March 21 with a view to further retirement under cover of darkness.

Further reinforcements reached him during operations. The British inflicted heavy losses, but the Germans resisted obstinately. At night the entire Ruwu line was evacuated by the enemy, who retired southwards, leaving a four-inch gun belonging to the cruiser Koenigsberg. The operations are continuing.

Earl Kitchener telegraphed congratulations to General Smuts for his brilliant success.

VILLA DEFEATED BY CARRANZA'S MEN

Several Dead and Wounded Bandits Were Left on the Field.

A despatch from El Paso, Texas, says: Villa was attacked and defeated on Thursday night at Santa Gertrudes by Carranza troops, according to a despatch received by General Gavira in Juarez. General Gavira said he had received authentic information that after the skirmish at Santa Clara earlier in the day where Col. Cano's command had defeated Villa, the bandit chieftain was pursued and again attacked late Thursday night at Santa Gertrudes and again was defeated. Villa left several dead and wounded bandits on the field, and Gen. Gavira says one hundred horses were captured from him by the Carranzistas. From Santa Gertrudes Villa fled to El Oso, where he was reported to be reorganizing his forces. Santa Gertrudes is a ranch settlement in the Guerrero district not far from Namiquipa.

LATEST PEACE TERMS CREDITED TO KAISER

A despatch from Paris says: It is reported here that the Berlin banker, Herr von Bleischroeder, has informed German-American bankers that the Kaiser is prepared to discuss peace on the basis of the cession of Alsace-Lorraine to France in exchange for one of her colonies, such as Madagascar; Russia to have Constaninople, with a protectorate over Turkey in exchange for Poland, which Germany and Austria would divide. No war indemnity is mentioned in the alleged proposals.

ITALIAN COMMANDER ARRIVES IN LONDON

Receives Great Reception from Public of British Capital.

A despatch from London says: General Count Cadorna, chief of the Italian general staff, who left Italy to attend the military and political conference of the Entente nations at Paris arrived in London on Wednesday from the French capital. Gen. Cadorna was met at the station by Field Marshal Earl Kitchener, the British War Secretary. An immense throng of people, English and Italian, greeted Gen. Cadorna enthusiastically.

RUSSIA CONSERVING HER MEAT SUPPLIES

A despatch from London says: The Russian Minister of Agriculture will shortly introduce a bill in the Duma prohibiting throughout Russia the killing of live stock on Tuesdays and Thursdays and fixing the number of cattle that may be slaughtered on other days, says a Reuter despatch from Petrograd. The bill will provide for prohibition upon the sale of all kinds of meat in markets, restaurants and hotels on Wednesdays and Fridays and for the closing of butcher shops on those days.

RUSSIAN DRIVE GAINS IN FORCE

Desperate Battle is Raging in the Dvinsk Region—Many Prisoners Taken

A despatch from London says: The Russian offensive in the Dvinsk region is rapidly developing, a desperate battle is raging to the southward of Dvinsk, according to the Perograd official report, while north-west of Lake Vargunek General Kuropakin's forces, after having repulsed several counter-attacks, are advancing. Very violent hand-to-hand fighting took place all of Wednesday night in the region north of the town of Widsy and north-westward of Lake Sekly. Despite the heavy German fire, the Russian troops by a strong forward drive forced all the adversary's lines and barracades in the sector of Olipa and repulsed counter-attacks. Raiding parties which ad passed the Dvina captured an enemy machine gun in the Jacogstadt section.

Although strongly defended and thickly surrounded by wire entaglements, the Germans were dislodged from the woods in the vicinity of Bliznik and Mokritz.

In four days' fighting the Russians took over 1,400 prisoners and captured 18 machine guns, 26 field mortars, 10 trench mortars, two mine-throwers, a howitzer, and carloads of grenades, bombs and shells.

Recapture of the important railway city of Vilna from the Germans is one of the chief objectives of the great drive which has been commenced by the Russians. Vilna lies in the centre of a network of railroads, and its loss would be a serious blow to Field Marshal von Hindenburg.

BIG GERMAN STEAMER DESTROYED BY RUSSIANS

A despatch from London says: The sinking by a Russian warship of the steamship Esperanza off Kali Akra, in the Black Sea, off the Roumanian coast is reported in a Reuter despatch filed at Bucharest on Sunday. The Esperanza, a 7,000-ton vessel flying the German flag is said to have been loaded with foodstuffs for Constantinople. The crew was captured by the Russians. The despatch also reports the sinking of a score of small sailing ships with cargoes of food.

EXPLOSION KILLS 12 IN GERMAN COLLIERY

A despatch from London says: Twenty persons have been killed in an explosion in the Preussen colliery, near Milchowitz, Silesia, says a despatch to the Central News from Amsterdam.

TURCO-BULGARIAN PEACE MISSION REACHES ROME

A Central News Despatch to London from Berne says that two Turkish and two Bulgarian agents have arrived there to start peace negotiations. The Bulgarians requested safe conduct, and will proceed to Rome.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PROHIBITION MEASURE

Bill Effective Without Vote of Electors, But Provision Made for Referendum at End of War.

Main Features of the Bill.

Prohibition will go into effect in September—probably on September 15—by direct legislation.

All licenses, with a few exceptions, will be extended after May 1st until date fixed, upon payment of nominal fee of $5 or $10.

Referendum will be taken after war and a considerable time after return of soldiers.

New Ontario Temperance Act follows Manitoba Act except for incorporation of improvements taken from Ontario License Act.

Wholesale druggists will be licensed to sell in wholesale quantities for scientific and mechanical purposes, upon production of affidavit as to use to which liquor will be devoted.

Retail licenses will be issued permitting sale to individuals upon a doctor's prescription, and to a doctor not more than a pint at a time or a veterinary not more than two gallons at a time.

Ontario License Board will be reconstituted with membership of three, and charged with administration of new laws.

Bill not to interfere with importation of liquors for private use or keeping it in the home.

Heavy fines ranging up to $1,000 and sentences up to eight months are provided for infractions of the law.