GERMAN OFFENSIVE IN FRANCE HALTED PROBABLY FOR 6 WEEKS

Enemy Suffered Enormous Losses—Tanks and Airmen Contributed Greatly to French Success.

Paris, June 16.—Paris breathes easier once more. The city has heard the good tidings that the enemy is being held, that the bars are definitely up on the Noyon-Montdidier front.

This announcement is made with great assurance by the best qualified spokesmen on military matters. Maurice Barres, who gleans information from the best sources, declares concerning the German drive on Paris:

"It is finished. They will recommence it in six weeks, perhaps in two months. Meanwhile they will look elsewhere."

Regarding the latter affirmation there is also a unanimity of opinion. The enemy is out of breath and somewhat weakened by blood-letting. His latest rush was, perhaps, the most furious, but also the briefest, lasting only five days, whereas the average of the previous offensives was double that time. Undoubtedly he gained some ground, but the price he paid is suicidal.

For the allies the only facts mattering are the Germans' double failure to rush Compiegne and to lure the French strategic reserves within reach.

The enormity of the German losses is guaranteed by official documents in the hands of the French command. Of what nature the disclosures are can be inferred from the following:

"A Prussian regiment engaged at Ressons sur-Matz counted in the evening of the fight scarcely 10 men."

The ever-increasing importance of tanks and air squadrons is eloquently demonstrated by the recent combats. Thanks to the tanks, the French were able to drive wedges into their opponent's flanks, obtaining the main gains.

Thanks to the concerted action of the French infantry and the air squadrons, Germany's numerical superiority of bayonets was counterbalanced. A striking example of this occurred on June 2 when a squadron of five-score airplanes, carrying 18,000 bombs, crushed troops passing for a big attack.

A despatch from Paris says: A concentrated fire from the French guns caught powerful German forces attempting a counter-attack between Courcelles and Mery, in the Montdidier sector, and not only drove back the advancing waves, but inflicted very heavy losses, according to the War Office announcement on Thursday night.

During Wednesday night the French in a splendid counter-attack, drove the enemy back to the north bank of the Matz River, farther to the east. The important height of Croix Ricard and the village of Melacoca were also taken by the French.

On the Aisne front the Germans continued their thrust between the river and the important forest position of Villers-Cotterets and gained a little ground, but all their attempts to improve the position have failed. Elsewhere other German attacks have been defeated, the Americans breaking up a particularly violent attempt between Bouresches and Belleau Wood.

The French during the course of the various engagements took many prisoners and consolidated all their gains. A despatch from the front, dealing with the Aisne fighting, says:

"Probably for the purpose of making the Allies move their reserves toward the right flank, the Germans started a big diversion in the vicinity of the Forest of Villers-Cotterets. The enemy progressed slightly, obtaining a foothold in Coeuvres, but this does not improve his position. Five German divisions participated, two of which had just reached the battlefield.

"The attack extended along a front of about four miles, but met such opposition from the French, who fought with stern determination, that the Germans apparently renounced their efforts."

The sole result of the enemy's attack on the Montdidier-Noyon line up to the present is that he has, by the violence of his attacks east of the Oise and the forced retreat of the French from the region west of the stream, blotted out the nasty Noyon salient and brought the battle front more into direct alignment with that beginning at the Aisne. And a terrible price has been paid for this rectification of the line.

Whether the Germans are prepared again to offer huge sacrifices in attempting to bend back the other salient from the Aisne to Villers-Cotterets, and bring the Picardy and Aisne battlefields into a more continuous front, remains to be seen.

There are signs that for the moment the German efforts are waning.

A later despatch says: Only small local actions have occurred along the battle front since Thursday night and it appears scarcely possible that the Germans will recommence serious work for the present on the line of Montdidier-Noyon. Their offensive for the capture of Compiegne, with the eventuality of making further progress toward Paris from the base that they hoped to attain there, may be regarded as having met a bloody check, costing them thousands of men belonging to their best divisions.

There appears no doubt that the Germans desired to mane an imposing advance toward the capital and at the same time inflict losses on the French and the British before the American army was ready to take the field. They assuredly are anxious in regard to the rapidly-growing forces from across the Atlantic Ocean, and are trying their utmost to use up the old armies in front of them before fresh, trans-Atlantic troops arrive in sufficiently strong force to turn the balance. The heroism of the veteran troops who in these last days have inflicted such terrific losses on the flower of the German army, has given the foe a rude shock. The Germans probably will try to break through somewhere else, but the allies, with their armies under the command of Gen. Foch, are confident that they will check the Germans anywhere.

ATTACK U-BOATS 70 TIMES A WEEK

Allies Are Sinking More Submarines Than Germany Can Build.

A despatch from London says:—In an interview with the London correspondent of the Petit Parisien, Sir Eric Geddes, First Lord of the Admiralty, had the following to say with regard to submarines:

"The allied navies continue to sink more German submarines than the enemy can build. It is certainly a fact that since January we have sunk more submarines than they have built. We attack their submarines 70 times a week on the average.

"We base our returns of submarines destroyed only on those we are sure of from having seen wrecks or secured the crews; but most of the other submarines hit are in urgent need of repairs, and it is evident that the results of many of our attacks are unknown. If you have moles in your garden you may put down a thousand traps without catching all of them, and it is the same way with submarines."

ZEEBRUGGE MOLE AGAIN SHELLED

Docks at Bruges and Ostend and Seaplane Sheds Also Attacked.

A despatch from London says: The Admiralty on Friday issued the following official statement on naval aerial operations:

"During the period of June 10-12 the operations of our air forces' contingents have been attended by unfavorable weather. In addition to the usual patrol, bombing operations were were carried out during the day and the night time against Zeebrugge, the Bruges docks, and the Ostend docks. In all, 18 tons of bombs were dropped. Two hits were observed on the Mole, and bursts on the seaplane shed at Zeebrugge and at Bruges. Fires were caused at several places. Hits also were observed at the Brugeoise works and bursts were observed at the Bassin de la Marine and the Gare Maritime, Ostend. Clouds at times prevented observation. One enemy aircraft was destroyed. One of our machines is missing."

INTERVENTION BY THE JAPANESE SEEMS CERTAIN.

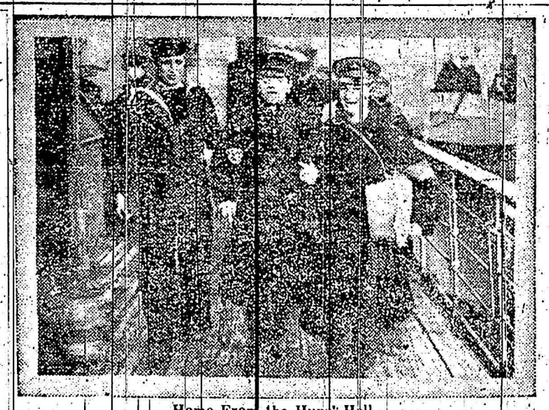
A despatch from Tokio says: The Entente Governments of Europe are bringing increasing influence to bear to induce Japan to intervene in Russia. Among the several officers who have arrived in Tokio to consult with the general staff is Major Pichon, who was head of the French Military Mission to Russia, and whose recall was demanded by the Bolsheviki. Major Pichon is striving for intervention in Siberia as a military necessity with the same energy that he opposed Rumania's entrance into the war as an ill-advised step. Major Pichon formerly was military attache at Bucharest. Apparently Japan is divided on the question of intervention, but the army is undergoing severe training. Regiments frequently are heard tramping through the streets of Tokio at night on their return from long marches and manoeuvres.

PARADE PRISONERS IN RHINE CITIES.

A despatch from Geneva says:—American and British prisoners, together with French colonial troops recently captured by the Germans, are being paraded through the streets of the Rhine towns to impress the population, according to advices from Strassburg received in Basel.

FEWER SUBMARINES IN ENGLISH CHANNEL.

A despatch from Paris says: Enemy submarine operations have lessened greatly in the western and central English channel since the blocksading of Zeebrugge and Ostend. The number of submarines operating have also appreciably diminished owing to the severe losses in recent months.



Home From the Huns' Hell.

A repatriated man, assisted by bluejacket, helps a blinded comrade to a seat on the tender ship.

Markets of the World

Breadstuffs

Toronto, June 18.—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, $2.23½; No. 2 do., $2.20½; No. 3 do., $2.17½; No. 4 wheat, $2.10½; in store Fort William, including 2½c tax.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 85½c; No. 3 C.W., 82½c; extra No. 1 feed, 82½c; No. 1 feed, 79½c, in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, kiln dried, nominal; No. 4 yellow, kiln dried, nominal.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 80 to 81c; No. 3 white, 79 to 80c, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—No. 2 Winter, per car lot, $2.22; basis in store Montreal.

Peas—Nominal.

Barley—Malting, $1.31 to $1.33, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—$1.80, according to freights outside.

Rye—No. 2, $2.00, according to freights outside.

Manitoba flour—War quality, $10.95; new bags, Toronto and Montreal freights, prompt shipment.

Ontario flour—War quality, $10.65, in bags, Toronto and Montreal; prompt shipment.

Millfeed—Car lots—Delivered Montreal freights, bags included: Bran, per ton, $35.00; shorts, per ton, $40.00.

Hay—No. 2, per ton, $15.50 to $16.50; mixed, $11.30 to $14.00, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, per ton, $8.00 to $8.50, track Toronto.

Country Produce—Wholesale

Butter—Creamery, solids, per lb., 41 to 42c; prints, per lb., 41½ to 42½c; dairy, per lb., 35 to 36c.

Eggs—new laids, 34 to 35c.

Poultry—Roosters, 23 to 25c; fowl, 28 to 30c; ducks, 25 to 30c; turkeys, 27 to 30c.

Wholesalers are selling to the retail trade at the following prices:—

Cheese—New, large, 23½ to 24; twins, 23¾ to 24¼c; old, large, 25½ to 26c; twin 26 to 26½c.

Butter—Fresh dairy, choice, 40 to 42c; creamery prints, fresh made, 45 to 47c; solids, 44 to 45c.

Margarine—28 to 33c. lb.

Eggs—New laid, 39 to 40c; new laid in cartons, 43 to 44c.

Dressed poultry—Spring chicken, 65c; roosters, 28c; fowl, 38 to 40c; turkeys, 40 to 45c.

Live poultry—Spring chickens, 55c; roosters, 26c; turkeys, 30c; hens, 33 to 37c.

Beans—Canadian, hand-picked, bushel, $8.75; imp., hand-picked, Burma or Indian, $6.75; Japan, $8.50 to $8.75; Limas, 19 to 20c.

Maple syrup—3½-lb. tins, 10 to a case, $14.50; imperial gallon tins, per tin, $2.25; imperial five-gallon cans, per can, $10.50; 15-gallon kegs, per gal., $2.00; maple sugar, 1-lb. box pure, per lb., 24 to 25c.

Provisions—Wholesale

Smoked meats—Hams, medium 36 to 38c; do., heavy, 30 to 32c; cooked 50 to 51c; rolls, 32 to 33c; breakfast bacon, 41 to 44c; backs, plain, 44 to 46c; clear bellies, 29 to 30c.

Lard—Pure, tierces, 31½ to 32c; tubs, 31¾c; pails, 32 to 32½c; prints, 33 to 33½c. Compound tierces, 26 to 26½c; tubs, 26¼ to 26¾c; pails, 26½ to 27c; prints, 27½ to 28c.

Montreal Markets

Montreal, June 18.—Oats—Canadian Western, No. 2, 95½c; extra No. 1 feed, 94½c. Flour—New standard Spring wheat grade, $10.95 to $11.05. Rolled oats—Bags, 90 lbs. $5.10 to $5.15. Bran, $35.00. Shorts, $40.00. Moullie, $72.00. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, $15.50.

Live Stock Markets

Toronto, June 18.—Extra choice heavy steers, $15.50 to $16.75; choice heavy steers, $14.50 to $14.75; butchers' cattle, choice, $14.50 to $15.00; do., good, $13.75 to $14.00; do., medium, $12.50 to $13.00; do., common, $11.50 to $11.75; butchers' bulls, choice, $12.50 to $13.25; do., good bulls, $11.50 to $11.75; do., medium bulls, $10.75 to $11.00; do., rough bulls, $7.50 to $8.50; butchers' cows, choice, $12.50 to $13.25; do. good, $11.75 to $12.00; do. medium, $10.75 to $11.25; stockers, $9.50 to $11.25; feeders, $11.25 to $12.00; canners and cutters, $6.00 to $7.25; milkers, good to choice, $90.00 to $140.00; do. com. and med., $65.00 to $80.00; springers, $90.00 to $140.00; light ewes, $17.50 to $20.00; yearlings, $19.00 to $20.00; spring lambs, 23c to 25c; hogs, fed and watered, $18.00; do. weighed off cars, $18.25; do. f.o.b., $17.00.

Montreal, June 18.—Choice steers, $13.50 to $13.25; inferior, $10.50; butchers bulls, $12.50 to $12.00; butchers' cows, $13.00 to $7.50; choice calves, $15.50 to $8.50; good, $8.50; sheep, $15.50; spring lambs, 21 to 23 cents per pound on hoof. Select hogs, $19.50 to $19.75.

It is more important this year than ever before that the garden crops be protected from injury by insect pests.

CAPTURED PITS FROM GERMANS

British Attacked on 2-Mile Front and Captured the Butchers of Louvain.

With the British Army in France, June 16.—Further details concerning the British operations in the Hinges sector Friday night are now available. The attack was made along a front of 3,500 yards, just east of Hinges; it had its northern extremity near La Pannerie. The Germans were holding a strong line of shell-crater positions close to the British on the eastern bank of La Bassee Canal.

A limited objective of 500 yards in depth was set for the enterprise. An unusual feature of the attack was that it was conducted entirely in the dark. It began shortly before midnight. There was no moon to guide the assaulting troops, and the success of the entire proceedings depended upon each man keeping his right direction as he pushed forward in the blackness.

Holding their sector for the Germans was the 18th reserve division which was among the first to violate Belgian soil. It was the 18th Division which committed such horrifying deeds in Termonde and Louvain, which brought down upon it the execrations of hundreds of helpless Belgian women. The British captured 200 of them.

3,000,000 U.S. TROOPS BY AUGUST

This Number of Americans Will Be Under Arms — Over 800,000 in France.

Washington, June 16.—Three million Americans will be under arms by August 1, the Senate Military Committee was told yesterday by Provost Marshal Gen. Crowder.

Gen. Crowder said that 1,347,000 men placed in Class No. 1 already have been called to the colors.

He estimated that some 400,000 additional men for the first class will be obtained from the men who registered June 5, and that another 200,000 will be added by the re-classification of men in the re-examination of the questionnaires now being made.

Gen. Crowder also indicated it will be necessary to go into Class No. 2 next year, unless the draft law is amended so as to bring older men within its scope. The ages 18 to 49 have been proposed.

Gen. Peyton C. March, chief of staff, stated in a conference with newspaper men that there are now more than 800,000 American troops in France, including all branches of the service.

SANK A SUBMARINE ON 74th BIRTHDAY.

A despatch from Newcastle-on-Tyne says: The captain of a Tyne steamer recently completed his 74th birthday by fighting and sinking a German submarine.

It was just before dawn when the submarine rose and started firing at the steamer. The skipper manoeuvred and placed his steamer so that he took advantage of the eastern light and brought the enemy astern. After a brisk fight of about five minutes the submarine went down and did not reappear. The skipper got in three direct hits on the U-boat.

MANY LOST VESSELS MAY BE REFLOATED.

A despatch from Washington says Unofficial estimates by naval experts show that in excess of 500,000 tons of shipping sunk by submarines may be refloated, as a result of salvage operations conducted by Great Britain and the other allied Governments. American naval engineers are to be sent to assist in this work, carrying with them a fleet of powerful sea-going tugs, scows and other equipment.

CANADA IS PAYING 34,879 PENSIONS

A despatch from Ottawa says:—The total number of pensions awarded from the beginning of the war up to May 31 was 34,879 and the total number of gratuities was 3,013, according to the figures made public by the Board of Pension Commissioners.

TEUTON DRIVE IN ITALY THUS FAR HELD BY ALLIED TROOPS

Offensive is Launched on 100-Mile Front After a Terrific Bombardment—Enemy Claims 10,000 Prisoners But Their Advance is Insignificant.

London, June 16.—The Italian and allied armies are bravely sustaining the weight of the Austrian forces which are attacking along the front of the Italian theatre from the northwest of the Asiago plateau eastward to the Piave River and thence along that stream to where it joins the headwaters of the Adriatic Sea, a front of nearly 100 miles. Having made extensive preparations for the drive by bringing up strong reinforcements in men and guns, many of them brought from the former battle line in Rumania and Galicia as a result of the debacle in the east, the enemy is using them without stint in order to debouch from the mountain passes and cross the Piave River and gain the Venetian plains.

Everywhere the fighting is of an extremely sanguinary character, especially east of the Asiago plateau, in the Brenta Valley, and on Monte Grappa. In the initial struggle the enemy succeeded in capturing several front-line positions in the mountain region from the British, and also in crossing the Piave. Counter-attacks, however, have restored all the positions in the mountains, including territory to a depth of 1,000 yards along a 2,500-yard front captured from the British. At last accounts the allied troops everywhere were strongly holding the enemy and King Victor Emmanuel's men were gallantly striving to throw back the invaders across the Piave. The Italians have taken more than 3,000 Austrians prisoner, among them 80 officers.

As yet the Vienna War Office has given only brief mention to the battle, saying that the Austrian armies had invaded the Sette Communi plateau, lying at an altitude of 3,500 feet north-west of Asiago, and that up to noon Sunday more than 10,000 Italian, English and French soldiers and a considerable number of guns had been captured.

GUNS ACTIVE ON BRITISH FRONT

German Attack in Hazebrouck Sector Repulsed.

A despatch from British Headquarters in France says: The Germans are apparently much concerned over our progressive successes in the Strazeele sector, and have shelled our front-line positions and places in the Hazebrouck area considerably.

Early Friday morning the enemy launched an infantry attack with the object of restoring the situation. A party of about 100 stosstruppen succeeded in driving out the garrison of a new post, but our vigorous counter-attack regained it and secured about ten prisoners. Our casualties were light.

The French in their attacks of Friday on the enemy positions in Ridgewood took prisoners of one officer and 40 men, but later had to relinquish the captured ground.

The hostile artillery is again most active in the Scarpe Valley, Fampoux being heavily shelled with gas shells and high explosives.

TROOPS IN RUSSIA RUSHED TO FRANCE

Movement of Forces to Occupy Seven Days.

A despatch from London says:—Germany is about to withdraw the bulk of her troops now in Russia for service on the western front, according to a statement from Maxim Gorky's newspaper, the Petrograd Novaia Zhizn, quoted by the Daily News correspondent at Stockholm.

The Novaia Zhizn claims to give the text of a despatch sent by General Falkenhayn, former chief of the German General Staff, which, it says, was intercepted, in which General Falkenhayn declares that the battles on the western front are critical and decisive, but that in order to ensure definite victory and the end of the war the concentration of enormous forces will be necessary.

It is planned to accomplish the movement of the troops in seven days.

WILL NOT CALL 19-YEAR-OLDS BEFORE AUTUMN.

A despatch from Ottawa says Call to the colors of 19-year-old men is delayed. When the proclamation requiring these men to register was published, it was intimated that they would not be required actually to report for duty before July. It is now considered improbable that many, if any, of the men will be summoned before September or October. Up to the present 51,883 men of 19 years of age have registered for military service. Of these it is estimated 75 per cent. would probably rank in medical category A, that is men fit for general service overseas.

RECORD PRODUCTION OF SAWN LUMBER.

A despatch from Ottawa says: A report on the operations of the Canadian Forestry Corps overseas received by the Militia Department states that one company in France has made a record production of sawn lumber. In ten hours' sawing they turned out a total of 156,000 feet, board measure, or 372 tons of one-inch, two-inch and three-inch square-edged butted lumber. Logs sawn numbered 342.

AMERICANS INFLICT HEAVY LOSSES ON ENEMY

A despatch from Washington says:—Complete repulse of enemy attacks north-west of Chateau Thierry with heavy losses for the Germans was reported on Thursday night in Gen. Pershing's communique.

The American lines advanced on Wednesday by taking the last of the German positions in the Belleau Wood.

BRITISH BOMB GERMAN CITIES

Successful Raids Carried Out Against Metz—Sablons Station and Other Points.

A despatch from London says: The official statement on aerial operations issued on Thursday night says:

"Our flying squadrons on the French battle front Wednesday were actively engaged in offensive patrol work, seeking German machines and fighting them wherever found. They destroyed 15 enemy airplanes, some of which went down in flames, others broke in the air. One of our machines on this sector is missing.

"On the British front a good deal of aerial reconnaissance, photography and aerial observation was carried out. We lost two machines and destroyed five German machines. Two other hostile machines were driven down out of control, while a German observation balloon was brought down in flames.

"Twenty-two tons of bombs were dropped by us during the day, the principal targets attacked being the Don junction, railways at Courtrai, Armentieres and Chaulnes, a dump at Bapaume and the Bruges docks. The weather at night was unsuitable for flying.

"On Wednesday two successful raids were carried out by our squadrons against the Metz-Sablons railway station and sidings. Many heavy bombs were dropped. On Thursday one squadron of our airplanes attacked the station at Treves, and dropped a ton of bombs on factories and the station at Dillingen. At the same time factories and the station at Hagen endangen were subjected to an attack. At Dillingen direct hits were observed on two furnaces. Successful long-distance photographic reconnaissances were carried out by other machines.

"In the course of attacks made by the enemy on our bombing machines one hostile airplane was destroyed and two others were driven down. One of our machines is missing."

TO ISSUE WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

Purchasable for Small Coins They Are Redeemed At Profit to Buyers.

A despatch from Ottawa says: War savings stamps will, it is understood, be issued by the Government, although they may not be on sale for some little time. Such stamps are issued in the United States, where they have proved a great success. The stamps are purchasable for small coins and are then stuck in books. They are redeemable eventually at rates which return a profit to the purchaser.

When the stamps are issued Canada will have three methods by which the people can lend their money to the Government. There will be the coming flotation of war bonds in $50 and $100 units, war savings certificates for smaller amounts purchasable at banks and post-offices, and the war stamps.

DEMAND RELEASE OF PRISONERS HELD IN CANADA

London, June 16.—Because the German delegates at the British-German War Prisoners Conference at the Hague are pressing for the return of all prisoners in Canada and Africa as well as those in Great Britain, a hitch has occurred in the negotiations, telegraphs the correspondent at the Dutch capital of the Times. The difficulties of such a course, it is contended by the British delegates, particularly in respect of shipping transport, make it impracticable. The negotiations have now reached a most critical stage.

FROM OLD SCOTLAND

NOTES OF INTEREST FROM HER BANKS AND BRAES.

What is Going On in the Highlands and Lowlands of Auld Scotia.

The Military Medal has been awarded to Sergt.-Farrier John [illegible], R.A.F., Peterculter.

Two Trawent boys have won the Military Medal, namely, Driver [illegible], R.F.A., and Pte. H. K. Davis, R.E.

Lieut. S. T. Thomson, Wallace [illegible], A., who was awarded the Victoria Cross, is a son of John Wallace, [illegible], Thornhill.

The baronetcy of Macdonald, [illegible], become extinct through the death of Sir John Alexander Macdonald, [illegible].

Sergt. H. Patterson, R.S.F., [illegible] of Newmills, has been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

The Distinguished Conduct Medal has been awarded to Pte. W. Watson, R.S.F., of Lesmahagow.

The first Victoria Cross won for Argyllshire was won by Colonel Campbell of Loch[illegible].

Lieut.-General Sir [illegible] Pearson, 7th Baronet of Cowdray, has been awarded the C.B.

The house in Aberdeen occupied by Sir William Arbuthnot, Bart., has been formed into a special hospital.

Sergeant Alexander [illegible], a teacher at West [illegible], has been awarded the Military Medal.

The Military Cross has been awarded to Captain James [illegible], son of Robert [illegible], Glengarnock.

The Distinguished Service Order has been conferred on Captain Sterling Stewart, grandson of Captain [illegible] Stewart, [illegible].

Dr. Francis D. [illegible] has been appointed physician to the Army by Emperor [illegible].

The freedom of the burgh has been given to George in recognition of his services.

Sgt. Alexander Moore, formerly manager of [illegible], Glasgow, has been killed.

The Military Medal has been awarded to Private James [illegible], Edinburgh, a native of [illegible].

ENEMY AVIATORS.

A despatch from [illegible] in France says: The [illegible] has been [illegible] recent days. The [illegible] haps to an [illegible] ment. One [illegible] destroyed three [illegible] within a few hours. [illegible] more German [illegible] shattered territory [illegible] similar period, but [illegible] day time for observation [illegible] photographic [illegible] flights have been [illegible] the German lines.

There is an increase [illegible] German aviators [illegible] hurt along the front.

FINLAND WILL BE INDEPENDENT KINGDOM

A despatch from Helsingfors, Finland, says: The Government [illegible] for the establishment [illegible] of government has [illegible] the Langtag. It provides [illegible] shall be an independent [illegible] a kingship hereditary [illegible]. The king may not [illegible] the ruler of any other [illegible] have an absolute veto [illegible] fecting the constitution [illegible] sea traffic. In other [illegible] may be overruled by a [illegible] jority of the Langtag [illegible] election.

Two Enemy Mines Destroyed Off the New Zealand Coast

A despatch from Wellington, New Zealand, says:—Two [illegible] have been destroyed [illegible] the northern extremity [illegible] land, according to [illegible] made here.

It is most likely the [illegible] floating off the north [illegible] Zealand were laid by a German commerce raider. They probably were sowed by the raider Seeadler, formerly the American ship Pass[illegible] which, after roaming the Pacific coast for seven months, preying on American and allied shipping, was stranded on one of the Society Islands.

BRITAIN PURCHASES AUSTRALIAN WOOL

A despatch from London says: "It is announced that the Imperial Government has purchased the whole of the Australian wool clip for the period of the war and for one year afterward," says a despatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Melbourne. "The first two clips involve the sum of £100,000,000. It is the largest wool transaction in the history of the world and insures the commercial and financial stability of Australia."

Window boxes in hot situations should be watered night and morning and once or twice a week given liquid manure.

GERMAN LOOTING OF BELGIUM TO

OFFICIAL STATEMENT SHOWS ACTION OF ENEMY.

Ministry of Economy Affairs Co-Ordinate Efforts Toward Restoration.

The devastation and looting of Belgium under German occupation, the economic havoc which has been wrought throughout that country, described in detail in a statement issued out at Washington recently by the Commission of the Belgian Relief and officially vouched for by the Belgian Government. The document, prepared upon information furnished by M. P. Poullet, Minister of Economic Affairs of the Belgian Government. The statement contains Belgian official information [illegible].

Every movable thing of value, whether equipment in factories or in the fields, and livestock, has been carried away by the Germans, leaving the country [illegible] cannot be changed only after many years of effort and reconstruction.

"History offers few examples of a country so devastated, so despoiled," quotations from M. Poullet's [illegible] raw materials have been carried [illegible]. The equipment of its factories has been carried into Germany or wantonly destroyed."

Pillage of Forests.

The pillage of the forests has resulted in millions of [illegible] being shipped into Germany, returned later to the Belgian [illegible] western front. It is estimated 400,000 tons of logs are now awaiting shipment for this purpose in Germany.

"All of the trees [illegible] Belgian citizens under German [illegible] poplars and others [illegible] representing a value of several [illegible] francs, are hauled to the canal and carried down the [illegible] ways to Merxem, where [illegible] of logs, boards and [illegible] carried by water again to the [illegible] front," says the statement. [illegible] Ways and means of [illegible] gam to a self-sufficing [illegible] discussed in the memorandum [illegible] Poullet.

"The creation of the Ministry of Economic Affairs is [illegible] says. "It dates from the [illegible] ober, 1917. He was [illegible] duty of co-ordinating [illegible] up to a definite plan [illegible] stage of the war to [illegible] ous impulse. The [illegible] of Economic Affairs [illegible] ential aspects. [illegible] cial, financial and [illegible] ing of the injuries [illegible].

"There is no special [illegible] of the central administration [illegible] pending to each [illegible] an organ charged [illegible] studies and documents [illegible] the very centre of the [illegible] proper function is [illegible] acting link for the [illegible].

Most Pressing Need.

"The most pressing [illegible] of industrial life [illegible] complish the recent [illegible] balling of commerce [illegible] this end the bureau [illegible] close accord with [illegible] the creation of a central [illegible] or the purchase of [illegible] studies and results [illegible] formulate, in co-operation [illegible] comptoir national [illegible] tion of economic a[illegible] in the plans of the [illegible].

"It will act: As in [illegible] chases made for the [illegible] requirements or raw [illegible] force of industry [illegible] or by interested p[illegible] form its operations [illegible] of the State.

"The bureau of [illegible] tion is principally [illegible] mercial restoration [illegible] parallel to the in[illegible] The sympathy which [illegible] throughout the world [illegible] that commercial re[illegible] with most of the countries [illegible] will be possible for Belgium [illegible] assured of complete [illegible] pendence.

Financial Recovery.

"The bureau of finance [illegible] is also all the financial [illegible] which are raised by the [illegible] toration of Belgium, [illegible] ds of repairing the [illegible] advances to those who [illegible] disaster, advance payments [illegible] demnities, new credits [illegible] re-equipment and [illegible] dustry and commerce, [illegible] Belgian exchange, re[illegible] the normal fiduciary [illegible] measures of domestic economy.

"Several proposals of [illegible] have already been made [illegible] ernment concerning credits [illegible] for re-equipment and [illegible] These proposals show the [illegible] which foreign capitalists [illegible] rapid restoration of Belgium.

"The bureau of [illegible] charged to compile statistics [illegible] damage by war suffered by [illegible] try. A bureau of claims [illegible] formed; circulars are to be [illegible] disposal of all the Belgian [illegible] not subject to German rule, [illegible] enable them to make their [illegible] as to the extent of the damage they may have suffered in a [illegible] with all the advantages of [illegible] pervision.