

## BRITISH NAVAL RAID ON FOE AERIAL SHEDS

Warships Carry Seaplanes to Bomb Schleswig 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.

## BRITISH BLOW IN ENEMY DUGOUTS

Successful Raids Against German Trenches in La Bassée 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 Bassée 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 Woëvre 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 Mort Homme-Cumieres, while to the east of the river and in the Woëvre the firing increased in violence.

## 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 Prussen colliery, near Milchowitz, Silesia, says a despatch to the Central News from Amsterdam.

## 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, up-

on 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.



DEFENDERS OF VERDUN.

## 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 dislodged 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.

## 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."

## LATEST PEACE TERMS CREDITED TO KAISER

A despatch from Paris says: It is reported here that the Berlin banker, Herr von Bleischoeder, 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 Constantinople, with a protectorate over Turkey in exchange for Poland, which Germany and Austria would divide. No war indemnity is mentioned in the alleged proposals.

## GATHERING IN THE SERBS.

British Navy Gets German Undersea As Fast as They Are Made.

A despatch from Washington says: One hundred and twenty-seven submarines have been captured by the British navy since the outbreak of the war, according to information from the British Admiralty which has reached the United States coast guard officers.

## 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 barricades in the sector of Olipa and repulsed counter-attacks. Raiding parties which had passed the Dvina captured an enemy machine gun in the Jacogstadt section.

Although strongly defended and thickly surrounded by wire entanglements, 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## PLAN TO MOBILIZE RETIRED FARMERS

A despatch from Brantford says: An organization to enlist retired farmers to assist on farms during the coming Summer will be effected here this week. Brantford has a large population of retired farmers and many of them are still able to work. Those not fit for hard work will, by their practical experience, adequately supervise the Boy Scouts and Students.

## 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.

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