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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1916

ONE CENT PER COPY

German Attacks on Verdun Front Were Repulsed

French Official Statement States That the Enemy Lost Heavily in an Effort to Capture a Redoubt---Austrians Launch Attack on Italian Front.

PARIS, May 13.—Several attacks were made by German troops on the Verdun front last night, in an effort to capture a redoubt at Avocourt. The official statement of today says the Germans were repulsed each time, and that they lost heavily. French troops after severe fighting captured a German fort on the northeast slope of Hill 304. The German trench north of Hill 287 was raided by French forces, who killed or captured the occupants of these positions. East of the Meuse the artillery on both sides was active during the night. Two French aeroplanes dropped eighty more shells on the railway station at Metz on the night of May 16th.

BERLIN, May 18 (by wireless to Sayville)—Settlement of the dispute between Greece and the Entente Allies in regard to the transportation of Serbian troops from Corfu Island to Saloniki front is reported from Athens to have been reached.

American Airmen Take Part in Successful Expedition Over the German Lines

PARIS, May 18.—The American aviators who have been in the service of the French army for the past year, and who were recently brought together to form a flotilla under the name of the Franco-American flying corps, took part in an expedition over the German lines, yesterday for the first time as a separate unit. They sustained particularly heavy shelling as they recrossed the front. The machine piloted by Lieut. William K. Thaw, of Pittsburg, lost part of its tail-piece and the propeller was damaged by a shell, but he brought it safely back to camp.

Corporal Victor Chapman's machine was also hit and driven out of its course, returning so late to its base as to cause anxiety regarding Chapman's fate.

Corporal J. M. McConnell, of North Carolina, was flying at a height of 12,000 feet, but German shells burst all around him, showing that the range of the German anti-aircraft guns has been lengthened. The flotilla started at daybreak and spent nearly two hours reconnoitering under sustained fire, but encountered no German machines and no one was wounded.

Believed That Great Austrian Offensive Against the Italian Front Has Begun

PARIS, May 18.—The attack launched by the Austrians against the Italians in the southern Tyrol and which was gradually extended to the entire Austro-Italian front, is being followed here with close attention. It is generally believed in military circles that the great Austrian offensive, which has been expected for some time past, has at last begun. No importance is attached to the falling back of the Italian advance lines, which is considered an obvious move, as they were not sufficiently strong to resist an attack on a large scale.

Although the Italian central position on the Lavarone plateau is not involved, it is thought probable that the principal effort of the Austrians will be made in that direction. It seems evident that the Austrian generals intend to try and carry out their former plan of smashing a way through to the Vicenza plain. The fact that heavy reinforcements have been moved up under cover of the formidable series of forts stretching from Folgaria and Lavarone, favors the belief that Vicenza is the real objective of the offensive. French military authorities are satisfied that the Austrians are doomed to failure, regardless of what efforts they might make.

A WAR PENSION SCHEME.

LONDON, May 18.—A scheme of war pensions was announced in the House of Commons by William Hayes Fisher, parliamentary under secretary for the Local Government Board. It provides for a grant of \$520 yearly to married and unmarried men called to the colors, where financial hardships result. This is irrespective of the allowances already given soldiers' wives. It was announced that the assistance would be extended to include rents, insurance premiums, taxes, loans and interest instalments.

GERMANY'S FOOD PROBLEM.

LONDON, May 18.—A despatch to the Morning Post from Amsterdam yesterday says: The food question in Germany is at present in such a position that in the opinion of the physicians of Greater Berlin, who recently considered the matter, a regulation of the supply is necessary in the interest of the health of the people. The committee decided to send a petition on the subject to the Imperial Chancellor. A conference was held at the Prussian home office today to devise measures for feeding the population of Berlin.

ASQUITH TO VISIT CORK.

DUBLIN, May 18 (via London).—Premier Asquith left here this morning for Cork, where he will arrive this evening. He is expected to hold several conferences with the Nationalist leaders in south of Ireland, after which he will return to Dublin.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS IN CENTRAL ITALY

Rome, May 18.—The vast region in Central Italy extending from Aquila through the Abruzzi provinces to Perugia, Pesaro, Forli and to Ferrara, on the north, and including the republic of San Marino, has been shaken by an earthquake, the shocks being repeated many times Tuesday night and all day yesterday.

So far as known at present, there were no casualties, but details reaching here are still meagre.

AUSTRIANS ARE ACTIVE.

Berlin, May 18 (via Sayville).—Artillery engagements are in progress all along the Austro-Italian front, on which the Austrians began an offensive movement several days ago. The official Austrian statement of May 17 reports the capture of new positions on the Doberdo plateau.

AUSTRIAN AERIAL ATTACK.

Rome, May 18 (via Paris).—An official despatch from Italian headquarters at Udine reports that Austrian aeroplanes are displaying great activity and have made several attacks on towns in the vicinity of Venice.

It is stated that these attacks have caused insignificant material damage, that no lives have been lost and no military results accomplished.

ROYAL COMMISSION NOW INVESTIGATING THE REBELLION IN IRELAND

Government Had Information to the Effect That Rebels Would Have Help From German Sources---Sir Matthew Nason the Stand.

LONDON, May 18.—From testimony developed today at the hearing opened by the royal commission to inquire into the Irish rebellion, it appeared that the Government had received information of preparations for an uprising, with help from German sources. The testimony was given by Sir Matthew, who resigned as Under Secretary for Ireland after the rebellion broke out. The government had received advices, said Sir Matthew, that an attempt would be made to land arms in Ireland from German submarines; also that rifles had been purchased from Irish soldiers on home leave, while others had been taken into the country in passengers' baggage.

The former under secretary gave this testimony in the course of a long statement outlining the formation of the National Volunteers, of which he declared a small section only had shown themselves disloyal, the leaders of this section having issued a manifesto declaring that Ireland should provide for its own defence, and indicated an intention to establish a free national government of Ireland.

The executive in Ireland being in possession of sufficient evidence of the association of the movement's leaders with a foreign enemy, continued Sir Matthew, had decided upon their arrest, and were discussing the matter on April 24, when the rebellion broke out. He defended the failure of the Government to disarm the volunteers on the ground that such action might have alienated the sympathies of many loyal volunteers, and added: "There are 25,000 Irish Catholics enlisted in the army."

SIR MATTHEW NATHAN CLAIMED ONLY A SMALL PORTION OF NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS DISLOYAL

Sir Matthew's statement outlined the formation of the National Volunteers, which he said were raised as an answer to the organization of the Ulster Volunteers.

He also read a manifesto issued by a majority of the provisional volunteers opposing the active participation of Ireland in the war. Of 180,000 members enrolled previously, Sir Matthew said, not more than 11,000 adhered to the disloyal section. The original provisional organization and the vast bulk of the members declared themselves loyal to John Redmond and the Irish parliamentary party.

The witness also read a manifesto issued by the disloyal section, in which it was said that henceforth Ireland should provide for its own defence by means of a permanent army and a trained force of volunteers. The manifesto also intimated a purpose to resist by force any attempts to compel men of Ireland to join the British army, prior to the establishment of a free national government of Ireland.

SON OF A FORMER FIELD MARSHAL IS UNDER ARREST AS A "DANGEROUS CHARACTER"

LONDON, May 17.—James White, son of the late Field Marshal White, and formerly a captain in the army, was remanded to custody at Aberdare yesterday on the charge of making statements likely to cause dissatisfaction and prejudice in connection with recruiting.

The prosecution describes White as a "dangerous character" and claimed that it was able to prove that he went to Aberdare to induce miners to strike, if John Connolly, the rebel leader, was executed. Documents found in the possession of the prisoner proved, it is charged, that he was consorting with the enemies of Great Britain. White has figured previously in connection with the agitation carried on by Jim Larkin, who organized the street car strike of 1913.

MEMBERS OF BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS SNUB PEMBERTON-BILLING BY QUITTING CHAMBER

LONDON, May 18.—The adjournment of the House of Commons yesterday occurred during a speech by Noel Pemberton-Billing, who was recently elected a member of the House on improved air service. According to one of the leading papers, the adjournment was deliberately engineered as a snub to the young air man, who was formerly connected with the royal air service. The Daily News lobby correspondent, in this connection, says:

"In order to show less than a quorum, some fifty members fled out of the chamber. The members remaining cheered and laughed, while the count was going on, for they had designed the affair as a deliberate snub to Mr. Pemberton-Billing, who is generally regarded as having made himself ridiculous by his failure to substantiate before an inquiry committee his charges against the air service."

UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK CLOSES SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Annual Encoenial Exercises Taking Place this Afternoon---Honorary Degrees of D. Sc. for Wallace Broad and Prof. Raymond---Interesting Program.

Twenty-six degrees were granted this afternoon at the Encoenia of the University of New Brunswick. Two were honorary and the others were in course. The honorary degrees were conferred upon two distinguished graduates of the University, Mr. Wallace Broad, of St. Andrews, and Prof. R. M. Raymond, of Columbia University, New York. Both of these gentlemen received the degree of Doctor of Science. Prof. Raymond was graduated in 1877 and has had a distinguished career. He is now a member of the faculty in the Applied Science department of Columbia University. Dr. Broad was graduated by U. N. B. in the same year, and has attained an eminence in mining and geology that has made him well known in various parts of the world. For some years he was adviser to the late Empress of China in the Chinese Department of Mines, and before that was connected with mining operations in Australia and China. He recently retired from active work as a geologist, and now is located in St. Andrews, where he is editor of the Beacon. Besides being an eminent scientist, Dr. Broad has marked attainments as a literary man and scholar.

Other Degrees.

Other degrees given were one of Master of Arts, thirteen of Bachelor of Arts, three of Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, two of Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, five of Bachelor of Science in Forestry.

Four of those who received the degree of Bachelor of Arts were young ladies.

Four in Khaki.

Four of the young men who were given Bachelors' degrees today were in khaki. They were Messrs. Maimann, Inches, McLean and Trecarten, all of whom are non-commissioned officers in the 58th Howitzer Battery, now in this city.

The musical feature of the Encoenia today was the presence of an orchestra composed of students of the University. The customary ivy-planting by the graduating class took place this morning, Miss Alma K. Gale being the ivy orator.

Yesterday afternoon, Mrs. Jones, wife of the Chancellor, gave her usual tea to the graduating class.

Weather Unfavorable.

The weather this afternoon was most unfavorable, there being a heavy rain, but in spite of that fact the attendance at the encoenial exercises was large. The academic procession was formed in Dr. Cox's classroom at two o'clock and the proceedings in the library began at 2.15.

In the absence of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, His Honor Chief Justice McLeod presided. Members of the Senate and the Associated Alumni and other prominent persons occupied places upon the platform. Chancellor Jones called upon Prof. Uppvall to deliver the Address in Praise of the Founders. This was followed by the conferring of degrees and honor and distinction certificates and the presentation of medals, prizes and scholarships. Then followed the Alumni Oration by Rev. A. W. Meahan, D.D., of St. Andrew's; the Address to the Graduating Class by Rev. Thomas Walker, M.A., M.D., LL.D., of St. John, and the Valedictory by Mr. F. C. Cronkhite. Mr. Adrian B. Gilbert, winner of the Douglas Gold Medal, also read a portion of his English essay.

Presentation of Prizes.

The Douglas Gold Medal was presented by Chief Justice McLeod to Mr. Gilbert. Dr. M. D. Rankin of Woodstock, presented the Brydone-Jack Scholarship and Miss Grace Flemming of St. John, the Alumnae Society's Scholarship. Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor's gold medal for the best athlete was presented by Mrs. Robert Fitz-Randolph to Clarence E. Maimann. Other prizes were presented by prominent graduates who were present.

CLASSIFICATION OF GRADUATING CLASS.

- Degree of M. A.
- Stephen Percy Smith, B. A.
- Degree of M. A., With Honors.
- Murray McC. Baird—Class I, Latin and Greek.
- Dyson W. Wallace—Class I, Latin and Greek.
- Adrian Bradford Gilbert—Class I, Mathematics and Mathematical Physics.
- Fred Clinton Cronkhite—Class I, Philosophy and Economics.
- Alma Kate Gale—Class I, Philosophy and Economics.
- Chas. Patrick Inches—Class I, Philosophy and Economics.
- James Ewart Porter—Class I, Philosophy and Economics.
- James Roach McMonagle—Class I, English and French.
- Degree of B. A.
- First Division—Ethel Anderson, Alice Ethel Thurrott, Charles Leonard Emerson.
- Second Division—Helen Mary St. John Bliss, James Keith Trecarten.
- Degree of B. Sc. in Civil Engineering.
- First Division—John N. Flood, John Patrick Mooney.
- Second Division—Reginald Bradman Turner.
- Degree of B. Sc. in Electrical Engineering.
- First Division—Ian MacDonald MacLean, Joseph Murray Baxter.

(Continued on page 5.)