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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1916

ONE CENT PER COPY

German Attack on Verdun Seems to be Petering Out

Artillery Actions West of the Meuse Last Night Were Less Pronounced---Attack on French Trenches Was Com- pletely Checked---Germans Hinting at Peace.

PARIS, May 10.—Activity on the Verdun front has decreased, according to the statement given out by the War Office this afternoon. Artillery action west of the Meuse was less pronounced and east of the river was only intermittent. An attack on French trenches between the Oise and the Aisne was repulsed. The text of the statement follows:

"Between the Oise and the Aisne a coup-de-main upon one of our trenches southeast of Moutain-Sous-Toutvent was completely checked.

"In the Verdun region the bombardment went of the Meuse noticeably diminished. East of the Meuse and in the Woivre region there was intermittent cannonading. Hand grenade skirmishes were reported during the night in the woods of Avocourt and south of Fort Douaumont.

"In Upper Alsace an enemy reconnoitering party attempted to seize one of our small posts near Hirzbach, south of Altkirch, but was repulsed with losses."

German Government Anxious That Neutrals

Should Start a Peace Movement

LONDON, May 10.—There is no doubt whatever, says the Daily Telegraph, "that during the last few days a definite attempt has been made by the German government to impress neutrals with its strong desire for peace, with a view to inducing them to come forward as mediators and break up the alliance of its enemies by getting one of them to conclude a separate peace. For the present it would not serve any useful purpose to disclose the facts in their entirety, but it can be said that the Kaiser has personally sent a letter to President Wilson in which, appealing to him as the greatest neutral authority, he expatiates on the necessity of urging the entente powers not to prolong indefinitely what seems to him their 'quite useless efforts of revenge.' Moreover, in the capitals of several of the neutral countries, the German representatives have been particularly insistent in their assurances that if given a fair chance Germany would do her best to conciliate her present opponents.

"It is believed in many quarters that so far as Germany is concerned, the Irish troubles were engineered with the idea of bringing home to President Wilson an approximate estimate of the international dangers his own country would incur if it should be called upon to make war upon Germany, with so many millions of Germans and Irishmen living under the Stars and Stripes."

Four Men Were Killed When German

Pirates Torpedoed the S. S. Cymric

BANTRY, Ireland, May 10.—Details of the sinking of the White Star liner Cymric were given today by members of the crew who were landed here. They say that the torpedo which destroyed the ship struck the engine room. The explosion blew all the skylight off and extinguished the lights throughout the vessel. Four men were killed by the explosion, and the chief steward was drowned trying to reach a boat.

One hundred and seven of the crew took to the boats soon after the liner was torpedoed, but returned when it was seen the steamer was in no immediate danger of sinking. They remained on board for two hours, when a sloop which had heard the Cymric's calls for help, 100 miles away, arrived and took them off. The sloop stood by the stricken ship until she sank at 3.30 in the morning.

All the crew were British subjects except one Russian and two Belgians. The officers say that the Cymric was unarmed. There were also six passengers on board, members of the British consular service, all of whom were saved.

NO AMERICANS ON BOARD.

LONDON, May 10.—Wesley Frost, U. S. consul at Queens-town, sent a telegram today from Bantry, Ireland, to the American Embassy here, announcing definitely that there were no Americans on board the Cymric. Mr. Frost said no warning was given but that the wake of a torpedo was seen, and he confirmed previous statements that the vessel was not armed. The weather was rough and the members of the crew were in the boats from 1.30 a. m. until 9 p. m.

GERMAN SHIPS IN NORTH SEA.

NEW YORK, May 10.—A London despatch to a news agency today says: According to a Copenhagen despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company, Norwegian vessels which have arrived at Copenhagen from England report meeting a large German squadron, as well as submarines, in the North Sea. The steamship Zeta was stopped and her papers examined three times.

U. S. FUSE EXPERT ON THE STAND

Ottawa, May 10.—Major Hawkins, fuse expert of the International Arms & Fuse Co., held the stage at the Meredith-Duff enquiry into the Kite charges regarding fuse contracts, this morning. It was the calmest sitting so far. In a quiet, low voice witness explained to the commission all the ways and means of manufacturing fuses.

Although many of those listening to the explanations wore wise looks, most of the evidence was away over their heads as the witness told all about time-rings, gauges, rest tests and numerous other things.

Will Instruct

Blind Soldiers

Philadelphia, May 10.—Miss Esther Cleveland, daughter of the late President, is studying a system of alphabetical instruction at the Pennsylvania Institute for the Instruction of the blind in this city, to prepare herself to teach soldiers who have lost their eyesight in the European war.

She plans to sail for France and work in the American hospital at Neuilly upon the completion of her course.

Miss Cleveland has already qualified as an expert nurse.

Mr. H. V. MacKinnon of St. John, manager of The Standard, is in the city.

OPPOSED TO EXECUTING LEADERS OF THE REBELLION

(Canadian Press.)

London, May 10.—The execution of the leaders of the Sinn Fein revolt continues to exercise gravely the minds of the Nationalists. Arthur Lynch, Nationalist member of parliament for the county of Clare, in a statement today on behalf of his party, says:

"In the best interests of the Allies, and the conduct of the war, Englishmen should put aside every other feeling and recognize the harm already done by shootings after the insurrection has been entirely quelled. Not only should the shootings entirely

cease, but the proclamation of martial law should be immediately revoked and matters allowed to resume a normal condition as soon as possible."

Asked what should be done if a rebel were caught tomorrow who should be found to have been guilty of murder, Col. Lynch replied:

"I would try him for murder in the civil courts."

The executions are now producing a feeling against the government among citizens who were highly indignant at the rebellion and previously had nothing in common with the Sinn Feiners.

Canadian M. P.'s To Visit Front

Ottawa, May 10.—The Canadian branch of the Empire Parliamentary Association has selected its delegation who are to go to Great Britain and the front as guests of the United Kingdom branch. There are to be four Senators and six members in the delegation.

The Senators selected are Hon. Messrs. Landry, Dennis, Ross, of Moosejaw, and Belcourt, and the substitutes Hon. Messrs. Watson, Sproule, Casgrain and Boyer.

The members of parliament chosen are: Sir George Foster, Messrs. Shepherd, of Nanaimo, Knowles of Moosejaw; Nickle, of Kingston; Choboo, of Ottawa, and Armstrong, of Lambton. Their substitutes are Messrs. Rhodes, Lemieux, R. B. Bennett, G. E. McCraney and Dr. Thompson.

A similar delegation is coming from Australia and New Zealand and the party will cross the Atlantic together, probably at the end of June.

Social Workers In Convention

Indianapolis, May 10.—Indianapolis was filled today with social workers from all parts of Canada, the United States and Cuba, who are here for the forty-third annual meeting of the National Conference of Charities and Corrections, which will open with a general session tonight.

Father Francis H. Gavis, of this city, who is president of the conference, will preside. The conference will remain in session a week, and during that time there will be more than fifty meetings.

Mr. M. Rosenthal of Montreal, is a guest at the Barker House.

British Aviator Killed in Action

New York, May 10.—Following five months' imprisonment as a German captive, after he had been brought to earth in an aeroplane duel, Lieut. Herbert Ward, said to be the youngest aviator in the Royal Flying Corps of Britain, escaped from a German prison camp in the Black Forest on May 4, according to a message received by his father, Herbert Ward, the British sculptor, who has been lecturing in this country for the American war relief.

Lieut. Ward was reconnoitering over the German lines near Lille, on Nov. 30th, when he was engaged by a German aeroplane. After he had been wounded and the engine of his plane had been disabled, he attempted to volplane to safety within the lines of the Allies, but mortars and other land guns in the German lines opened fire on his machine and wrecked it in the air. The machine turned over before it struck the ground, burying Ward under the wreckage.

After being shifted from hospital to hospital for two months, he was taken from one prison camp to another. How he escaped his father does not know. The only message received by Mr. Ward here was: "Home from Hun land."

German Casualties Have Been Heavy

London, May 10.—An official British estimate of German casualties in April issued here today, places the total at 91,162. The number of German casualties since the beginning of the war is given as 2,822,979.

TOWNSHEND'S BRAVE MEN HELD OUT AGAINST THE TURKS UNTIL THE LAST

Subsisted For a Fortnight on Four Ounces of Flour Daily and a Ration of Horse Flesh---Turkish General Showed Consideration For Prisoners.

LONDON, May 10.—A despatch from the British "eye witness" with the Mesopotamia forces gives a description of Gen. Townshend's holding out against the Turks at Kut-el-Amara while on the verge of starvation. The men subsisted during the last fortnight on four ounces of flour daily, and a ration of horse flesh. One of General Townshend's last wireless despatches before he capitulated said: "Have destroyed the guns and am destroying the munitions. Officers have gone to Khalil Bey to say that we are ready to surrender. We must have some food and officers have gone to bring some from the Turks."

The last message sent by General Townshend said: "We have hoisted white flag. A Turkish regiment is approaching."

On January 24 the British discovered new stores hidden in the houses, mostly under ground. They were sufficient for nearly three months on a gradually reduced scale.

These were commandeered and paid for. One of the chief difficulties was the fact that the civil population remained in Kut-el-Amara. The few who tried to leave were shot by the Turks, who made it clear that they would execute any persons who tried to escape. Thus the garrison was burdened with six thousand additional mouths to feed.

TURKISH GENERAL EXPRESSED ADMIRATION

FOR THE GALLANTRY OF THE BRITISH FORCE

LONDON, May 10.—According to a despatch from an "eye-witness" with the British army in Mesopotamia, Khalil Pasha, the Turkish General to whom the British forces under General Townshend surrendered at Kut-el-Amara, showed the utmost consideration for his prisoners. Khalil Pasha expressed admiration for the gallant defence of the garrison, and showed anxiety that they should be well fed. He especially desired that every comfort and consideration should be shown to General Townshend, and expressed regret that his own supplies were not more plentiful.

BELGIAN TROOPS ARE MEETING WITH

GREAT SUCCESS IN GERMAN EAST AFRICA

PARIS, May 10.—Belgian forces have penetrated seventy miles into German East Africa, according to an official statement issued today by the Belgian war department at Havre. General Tombeur, in command of the African expedition, reports that a Belgian column which crossed the German frontier near Ruhanga has advanced to the eastern shore of Lake Mohasi, the German forces retreating in the direction of Lake Victoria Nyanza, seventy miles to the east.

The Belgian colonial minister announced last Sunday that Belgian troops had captured German positions south of Kivu Lake, and were advancing south in a direction about 100 miles south of Lake Mohasi. General Tombeur's report indicates the invasion of the German colony is being made by two columns, one operating from the north and another from the west.

BALLOONS REACH GERMAN LINES.

BERLIN, (via London), May 10.—Two of the French balloons which broke from their moorings in the French lines in France on Saturday landed near Hanover. One of the balloons was manned by a crew of three soldiers, apparently officers, who have not yet been captured. The French official report on Saturday said that about twenty captive balloons had broken from their moorings during a squall, and that some of them had been carried over the German lines.

HARVARD MAN DECORATED.

PARIS, May 10.—Elliott Cowdin, of New York city, a graduate of Harvard, has just received the military medal, and has been cited for the second time in army orders for his brilliant aviation exploits as a member of the Franco-American Flying Corps. The citation says of Cowdin, who is now a sergeant: "He engaged voluntarily for the duration of the war, and has shown remarkable bravery, dash and devotion. He defeated an enemy aeroplane in the recent operations and has attacked twelve enemy machines, of which one has been destroyed."

TURKS ANXIOUS FOR PEACE.

LONDON, May 10.—A despatch to the Morning Post from Saloniki says: "Messages from Constantinople state that a Grand Council was held in the Sultan's Palace at Dolma Bagche to consider terms of peace. Preachers in the principal mosques are urging the people to prepare for liberation." A secret committee is forming and grave events are anticipated.