
* Notice to Advertisers. *
* In order to ensure changes *
* being made in advertisements, *
* copy must reach this office not *
* later than 9 a.m. on the day *
* of publication. *

The Daily Mail

* The Weather. *
* Maritime—Strong winds and *
* gales, fair at first, local snow *
* falls by night. *

VOL. XXII., No. 61

FREDERICTON, N. B., FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1916

ONE CENT PER COPY

Situation Around Verdun Is Much More Favorable

Reports of Stubborn Resistance by the French Troops Are Very Encouraging---Heavy Fighting is Renewed East Of the Meuse.

PARIS, March 10.—The situation at Verdun is regarded as much better from the French point of view as a result of yesterday's fighting. The public is greatly cheered by reports of successful resistance on the part of the defenders of the fortress. Notwithstanding an enormous expenditure of ammunition and unstinted sacrifice of life, the Germans have failed to bend, much less break the blue line.

The inference drawn by the general public is that the German wave has advanced as far as is in its power, without further wastage on a large scale, which the German general staff hesitates to make with four army corps already put out of action in the struggle of eighteen days.

Exhausted by three days of violent effort, the assailants called a halt to replenish the depleted ranks of infantry. The French took advantage of the respite to sweep out the Germans still remaining in Corbeaux wood, and in this effort were almost successful.

The renewal of heavy fighting east of the Meuse attended by a series of assaults on Douaumont, has centred interest once more on this portion of the front. A good road runs through the sloping ravine up to the plateau before Douaumont, possession of which would enable the attacking forces to take the defence in the flank.

Massed German infantry, well supported by artillery, struggled hard to win command of the east approach to the famous position, but the French were able to hold off the assailants and at the same time deal with attacks from the village of Douaumont.

In the Woevre the Germans did not attempt any further advance.

Official Report Says There Has Been

No Change in the Situation on the Meuse

The text of the announcement of the French War Office is as follows: "In the Argonne district our artillery has bombarded certain convoys of the enemy moving along the road from Monte Faucon to Avocourt. There has been no change in the situation to the west or to the east of the river Meuse. The night passed without the enemy making any infantry attacks against our positions. The bombardment, however, has continued, both sides taking part along our front. It has been violent on the left and on the right banks of the river Meuse, and intermittent in the Woevre district. In Alsace our batteries have demolished the German trenches at Hill No. 425, which is to the east of Thann. The night passed quietly on the remainder of the front."

"During the day of March 8 French aviators showed themselves particularly active and delivered a number of attacks over the lines of the enemy. At Etrennes fifteen German airmen were forced to flee. Later ten of them were seen to descend vertically in the direction of their own lines.

"In addition to this, two German aviators, one in a Fokker machine, have been overcome in the Champagne district, and three others in the region of Verdun. The machines of these aviators came to the ground inside the German lines."

In attacks on Forges, Regneville and Corbeaux wood the Germans declared they had made prisoners 58 officers and 3,277 men all unwounded. Now the garrisons of Forges and Regneville were in all about 600 men, and that is all the enemy could possibly have captured."

German Report of the Capture of Vaux Is Officially Denied by the French

PARIS, March 10.—An official note has been issued categorically denying the statement in a German official communication of March 9 that "the village and armored fort of Vaux were captured in a glorious night attack by Posen reserve regiments under the leadership of General Von Gurtlesky Cornitz."

These assertions, the note says, are in every way false. The note also denies other statements in recent German statements and says: "At the very hour when the German communication arrived the French staff found that the fort of Vaux had not been attacked and that the soldiers guarding it were calmly at their posts."

"The same German communication asserts further (1) that German troops are engaged in clearing French troops still remaining out of Corbeaux wood; (2) that the Germans stormed the village of Vaux."

"These despatches are both untrue. At present the enemy only occupies the eastern extremity of Corbeaux wood. All German counter-attacks failed to drive us from it. The village of Vaux, attacked during the night by the Germans, was vigorously defended, and remains in our hands. German infantry which succeeded in getting into the village were all driven out at the point of the bayonet. Since the failure of the offensive against Verdun German officials reports are full of falsehoods."

GAULT DIVORCE CASE IN THE SENATE

Ottawa, March 10.—An unusual flutter of excitement and interest was indicated in the precincts of the Senate divorce committee, when the "cause celebre," the Hamilton Gault divorce case, was taken up. An array of counsel was present along with an unusually large attendance of Senators and members whose curiosity and concern in the case and in the parties themselves was not concealed.

Major Hamilton Gault, of Montreal, just back from the front with the Princess Patricia's, the regiment to whose organization he contributed heavily, is asking divorce from his wife, Marguerite Clarie Stephens, daughter of the late Hon. G. W. Stephens, of Montreal. Major Gault appeared today and gave evidence, while Mrs. Gault was also present. The petition alleges conduct by Mrs. Gault sufficient to justify dissolution of the marriage.

The charge is vigorously denied, and as indicated, it will be fought out. The case is likely to occupy the committee's attention at several sittings. The co-respondent alleged in the petition is Bruce Bainsmith, an English officer, and the improper relations are alleged to have taken place last summer at the Bishop Lydeard House, near Launton, England.

Three Children Burned To Death

Andover, N. B., March 10.—In a fire which destroyed Robt. Sprague's home at Red Rapids Bridge yesterday, the three Sprague children, the eldest five years old, were burned to death. The father was working in the woods and the mother had gone into a neighbor's when the fire broke out, so its origin is unknown.

PATROL IS MAINTAINED ON AMERICAN BORDER

Fearful that Villa's Bandits Will Attempt Another Raid—Federal Troops Are on the Alert—The Death List Now Numbers Seventeen.

COLUMBUS, N. M., March 10.—Federal troops in increased number today patrolled the Mexican border near Columbus as a precaution against further invasions of American territory by Francisco Villa's bandit army, which yesterday in a surprise attack upon this town killed seventeen American citizens and soldiers, wounded many, burned buildings and looted houses, before being driven back into Mexico by American troops. More than one hundred of the bandit army were killed and about two hundred wounded in the attack on Columbus.

Villa, at the head of the main body of bandits, was reported officially today 15 miles south of the international line, where he halted after a running fight yesterday with pursuing United States troops. Signal fires seen along the border south of here last night were believed, however, to have been placed by the bandits, and a report that armed raiders were in the vicinity of Hachita, N. M., led the military authorities to rush reinforcements to the border patrol there.

FURTHER RAIDS ARE POSSIBLE.

The possibility of further bandit raids was admitted by army officers, and armed civilians and state militiamen and cowboys are co-operating with the Federal authorities in maintaining a border patrol.

The first reinforcement arrived early today, when the 1st Battalion of the 20th Infantry, 250 men, under Major William R. Sample, arrived from Fort Bliss on a special train. The battalion, after receiving a fresh supply of ammunition, was dispatched by Col. Slocum, commanding the troops here, to Victoria, 32 miles west.

Approximately two hundred Mexicans were in the battle with United States troops here yesterday, in which sixteen civilians and soldiers lost their lives, according to estimates of army officers today.

NAVAL RESERVES CALLED OUT IN PORTUGAL

(Canadian Press)
Lisbon, March 5 (via Paris, March 10, delayed in transmission).—An official decree was placarded tonight summoning all naval reserves to join their ships immediately.

Progress Made In East Africa

London, March 10.—Lieut. General Jan Christian Smuts, commanding the expedition against German East Africa, has reported the occupation of Tave, and also of Salaita, it was officially announced this afternoon.

CHURCHILL'S NEXT MOVE IS AWAITED WITH A GREAT DEAL OF INTEREST

Has Obtained a Few Days Extension of Leave of Absence---Many Non Com- batants Killed by Great Britain's Enemies.

LONDON, March 10.—Col. Winston Churchill, whose return from the front in order to "ginger up" the British Naval Department provided the political sensation of the week, has not yet decided what his next step will be. He has obtained a few days' extension of his leave of absence from the front, and some further move is expected from him before the week ends.

Most of the London morning newspapers make no further comment on his controversy with Mr. Balfour. The Daily Chronicle says briefly: "Col. Churchill's position is very anomalous. Like Hercules 'between Virtue and Vice,' he is still hesitating between the rival aims between arms and politics. He has said either too much or too little. If he now holds his peace he leaves Mr. Balfour triumphant. In justice to Col. Churchill it must be said that he is not troubled by the personal aspect of the question, but that he is genuinely concerned about the British naval building programme. If what he has said leads to the speeding up of construction, he will go back to the trenches with a light heart."

FRENCH STEAMER SUNK.

PARIS, March 10.—A Havas despatch from Havre says: French Line steamship Louisanne sank last night at 11 o'clock. All the crew were saved. No passengers were aboard. It is presumed that the vessel was sunk by the same submarine as has been operating along the coast between Boulogne and Havre, and which torpedoed the Hermatic. This is the first word that has been received here regarding the presence of a hostile craft on that part of the French coast. Available shipping records make no mention of a vessel named the Hermatic.

3,153 NON-COMBATANTS KILLED.

LONDON, March 10.—The number of non-combatants killed by Great Britain's enemies since the beginning of the war aggregates 3,151. Premier Asquith made this reply to a request for information by Major Hunter. Forty-nine men, 39 women and 39 children were killed in the coast bombardments. One hundred and twenty-seven men, 92 women and 57 children were killed in air raids. Approximately 2,750 non-combatants lost their lives on board British merchant and fishing vessels, between August 4, 1914, and March 8, 1916, but the detailed figures are not available.

RIZA AS A NAVAL BASE.

LONDON, March 10.—Russia is making preparation to use the recently captured harbor of Riza as a naval base for the advance on Trebizond, from which it is 35 miles distant, according to Petrograd despatches. Riza is an ideal harbor for the purpose and offers ample shelter and anchorage. In this way the Russians will have the advantage of satisfactory communications by sea, while the Turks are handicapped by incredibly bad land communications. The Russians now enjoy complete mastery in the Black Sea, and are keeping ceaseless watch on the Bosphorus.

AIR RAID ON GERMAN LINES.

Amsterdam, March 10.—Six French aeroplanes raided the railway lines over which the Germans have been transporting military supplies in central Belgium, on last Monday and Tuesday, according to advices to the Telegraaf. They dropped many bombs and caused extensive damage. All returned safely.

TWO BRITISH TORPEDO BOATS HAVE BEEN SUNK BY MINES

LONDON, March 10.—The British torpedo boat destroyer Coquette and Torpedo Boat No. 11 have been sunk by striking mines, it was officially announced this afternoon. The official announcement says the number of casualties in connection with the sinking of the warships was 45. The normal complement of the Coquette was 60 men. Torpedo Boat No. 11 ordinarily carried 35 men. The Coquette was built in 1897. She was 210 feet long and 19½ feet beam. She displaced 355 tons and her armament consisted of one 12-pound gun, five 6-pound guns and two torpedo tubes. Torpedo Boat No. 11 was built in 1906. She was 172 feet long and displaced 253 tons. She was armed with two 3-in. guns and 3 torpedo tubes. A further statement says the casualties were: Coquette, 1 officer and 21 men; Torpedo boat, 3 officers and 20 men.