
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 shifting to west and north-
west, with snow, clearing at
night.

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FREDERICTON, N. B., THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1916

ONE CENT PER COPY

The French Official Report Tells of Sanguinary Fighting

Huns Direct Powerful Attacks at French Positions East of The Meuse---But They Proved Ineffective---The French Line Remains Intact---The Enemy Repulsed.

PARIS, March 9.—The Germans have been repulsed between Douaumont and the village of Vaux, after several heavy attacks accompanied by intense artillery fire and violent infantry assaults, according to the French official statement, which says the attackers were completely defeated after having penetrated the village of Vaux. The official statement follows:

"In the Argonne our artillery has continued its bombardment of the enemy's routes of communication, notably in the eastern Argonne, and in the region of Montfalcon and Nantilliers.

"To the west of the Meuse the enemy has attempted several counter attacks in the course of the night to regain the ground lost by him yesterday. Two abortive attacks were preceded by an intense artillery preparation directed against the village of Bthincourt. The attacks were stopped by our batteries, preventing the enemy debouching from Corbeaux wood. Struggle East of the Meuse is Being

Carried on With Great Bitterness

"The renewed efforts of the enemy have not been able to dislodge us from the large stretch of territory which we have reconquered and consolidated. To the east of the Meuse the struggle is being carried on with great bitterness since yesterday. At the end of the evening, and in the course of the night, in the region between Douaumont and the village of Vaux, the Germans directed several powerful attacks on our positions. In spite of the intensity of the artillery fire and the violence of the infantry assaults, the enemy were unable to make any impression on our line and has been completely repulsed. Some detachments of German infantry which had penetrated the village of Vaux were driven out immediately at the point of the bayonet by a counter attack. In the Woivre there has been an intermittent bombardment on both sides, without any infantry action. In Lorraine a surprise attack to the west of the Le Pretre forest, resulted in the capture by us of 20 prisoners."

Honors of the Day Rested With the

French, But Situation Remains Undecided

PARIS, March 9.—As a result of yesterday's operations, the French line west of the Meuse, in the Verdun battle, now runs from Bethincourt, by Corbeaux wood, and the northern part of Cumieres to the upper end of Cote de L'Oie, and is thus in advance of the first line of resistance constituted by positions running from Mort Homme Hill to the south of Cumieres. The advance is considered of considerable importance in the French position in that section. The faith of the public in the solidity of the line west of the Meuse is regarded as justified by the results of the first day's heroic counter attacks.

The whole front yesterday was copiously shelled by German heavy artillery, but the German infantry attacks on positions at Bethincourt, on the left of the more westerly of the two plateaux, between which the French line runs, were unsuccessful. Wave after wave of densely packed masses pushed forward, but the Frenchmen having emerged from shelter as soon as the preliminary bombardment ceased, directed such an effective fire from carefully placed machine guns, accompanied by fire from rifles and 75 millimetre guns, that, after struggling bodily again and again, the assailants finally gave up and retired.

Encouraged by their success, the Frenchmen went back to the Corbeaux wood, which they had lost the day before. It was considered that the honors of the day rested with the French, but the situation at Verdun is yet undecided.

Report That German Fleet Was Out of

The Kiel Canal Has Some Confirmation

LONDON, March 9.—The morning newspapers publish from their correspondents in Holland such details as are available there regarding the recent activity of the German fleet in the North Sea. According to these accounts, the fleet included about fifty craft of all description, from the most modern Dreadnoughts down to old fashioned torpedo boats. The fleet was escorted by two Zeppelins, which served as scouts to prevent a surprise attack by hostile vessels. One trawler sighted this fleet 165 miles due west of the mouth of the Elbe. Another saw it 35 miles northwest of Yumiden. All the German ships were painted a war grey, and were invisible at short distance. Heavy clouds of smoke frequently hide them completely.

One Dutch trawler is quoted as having made the following report: "During the recent air raid on England a Zeppelin was seen scouting in advance of three cruisers and a fleet of destroyers and submarines, which were believed to have the intention of making a dash for English waters. The Zeppelin, however, made certain discoveries regarding the watchfulness of the British fleet, and the German squadron hastily withdrew."

Portugal and Germany

PARIS, March 9.—A rupture with Germany is regarded by the Portuguese government as inevitable, says a Lisbon correspondent to the Matin. Special protective measures have accordingly been taken along the coast and at the entrance of the Tagus, against submarines. The lighthouses have been ordered to remain dark.

MOORE LIBEL CASE OUT OF COURT

London, March 9.—The libel action of George Gordon Moore, of Detroit, against Hulton & Company, newspaper publishers, came before the Lord Chief Justice today. After the hearing of the plaintiff's case it was announced that the case was withdrawn on terms agreed upon but not mentioned.

The alleged libel complained of was that, taking advantage of Moore's friendship with Viscount French when as General Sir John French, he was in command of the British forces on the continent, Moore was accused of betraying military secrets in the United States, to the detriment of the Allies. Viscount French was in court. The evidence showed that great intimacy existed between the Viscount and Moore and the former had consulted the American on important military problems, solution of which required the resources of science.

Manitoba Grand Jury Has Graft Case Up

Winnipeg, March 9.—The Grand Jury began yesterday afternoon the consideration of the indictment against the ex-cabinet ministers of Manitoba. There are many witnesses to examine.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OPENED THIS AFTERNOON

Brilliant Ceremony Was Witnessed by a Large Number of Spectators—Mr. O. M. Melanson of Westmorland Elected Speaker—Military Turnout One of the Best Ever.

The Fourth Session of the present Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick opened this afternoon with the customary ceremonial, the Lieutenant Governor's salute of thirteen guns being the only portion of the usual proceedings which was absent. The weather conditions were not entirely favorable, but nevertheless the attendance of spectators both within and without the House was large. Admittance to the galleries and floor of the Chamber was by ticket, and the rush of spectators began long before the arrival of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor.

The session being the second to be held during the present war, khaki was the predominating feature. The guard of honor was in service dress, the officers who attended the Lieutenant Governor on the floor of the House were in like dress, and instead of civil police, returned soldiers, the majority of whom had been wounded in France, were on guard at the doors.

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE IN UNIFORM.

Two members of the Legislature were in khaki, Lieut. Col. P. A. Guthrie, M. P. P. of Fredericton, who returned last autumn after being wounded in France, and Capt. L. P. D. Tilley, M. P. P. of St. John, recruiting officer for New Brunswick. A third member of the House who is in service during the present war was not present and will not arrive in Fredericton until Monday next. He is Lieut. Col. F. B. Black, M. P. P. of Sackville, who was in France with the 6th Mounted Rifles.

IMPRESSIVE SCENE IN ASSEMBLY CHAMBER.

The scene within the Assembly Chamber during the opening ceremonies was most impressive. The large attendance of officers of overseas and other units, garbed in khaki, gave an impressive touch to the general appearance of the gathering. The handsome costumes of the ladies who were given seats of honor on the floor of the Chamber relieved the somberness of the scene.

(Continued on page 2.)

Recruiting Back- ward In Quebec

Montreal, March 9.—In a statement given to the press today, Bishop Farding, head of the Anglican church, appeals to the people throughout the province to leave the bilingual question in Ontario in abeyance until after the war. He points out the importance of winning the war above all else, and expresses the view that if Quebec province does its duty in sending recruits, the bilingual question will be fairly dealt with after the war.

Tech backwardness of recruiting in this province has now reached such an acute stage that a conference is being held this afternoon in the Board of Trade building between Sir Sam Hughes and prominent business men of the city to try to devise some method of bringing the eligible of the province to a realization of their duty. Quebec is far behind all other provinces in the proportion of enlistments to population.

NOTED JOURNALIST DIED

SUDDENLY IN ENGLAND

London, March 9.—Fred T. Jane, a widely known naval author and journalist, died suddenly yesterday at Southsea, England. He was 45 years old.

German Prisoners In England

London, March 9.—German naval and military prisoners in the United Kingdom, at present total 13,821, and all of them receive the same pay as British soldiers, according to a statement made in the House of Commons this afternoon by Harold J. Tennant, parliamentary under-secretary for war. Some of them are employed in making mail bags, for which they receive 4d. each. There are 32,181 interned enemy aliens, the under secretary added, some of whom are employed in quarries and others in making mail bags. The government, he said, hopes to start both military and civilian prisoners shortly on the work of clearing forest lands.

Great Fire At Rhemish, Prussia

Amsterdam, March 9 (via London).—A great fire has destroyed warehouses and a large quantity of merchandise at Muenchen-Gladbach, a town in Rhemish Prussia, sixteen miles southwest of Dusseldorf. The damage was extensive, according to German newspapers received here.

MEXICAN BANDITS UNDER VILLA MADE DARING RAID ON COLUMBUS, N. M.

Five Hundred Made Surprise Attack on A New Mexico Town Killing a Number Of Civilians---Also Attacked the Camp of 13th Cavalry.

COLUMBUS, New Mexico, March 9.—Five hundred Villa bandits attacked this point at 4.30 this morning, killed a number of civilians, men and women, and had possession of the town for an hour and a half. Driven off by three troops of the 13th Cavalry, they retreated at six o'clock, leaving part of the town in flames. A large number of Mexicans were killed. Their bodies dotted the streets, where they had been posted picking off Americans as they emerged pell-mell out of burning dwellings and hotels. There appeared to be no wounded. Several guests were burned to death in the Central Hotel, one of the first buildings fired by Villa's men.

THREE MEN SHOT DOWN.

Mexican bandits, standing outside the flaming building, shot down A. L. Ritchie, proprietor of the hotel, and W. R. Walker, a guest, as they attempted a dash from the door. Both were dead when picked up later. C. C. Miller, owner of a drug store, was shot as he tried to enter the door of the Hoover hotel, an adobe structure, whose mud walls protected a score of cowering women and children, who remained in the rooms, while a howling mob of bandits surged through surrounding streets.

They first attacked the camp of the 13th Cavalry, which suffered little, though a number of American soldiers were killed and wounded and a number of cavalry horses ridden off by the Mexicans as they fled back toward Mexico after daylight.

VILLA SPRANG A SURPRISE.

The attack was a complete surprise, Villa deceiving all the authorities by dispatching a telegram to Pachita, N. M., last night saying that he was at the Nogales Ranch, in Chihuahua, near the border, but at least forty-four miles from here.

Col. H. J. Slocum, commanding the 13th Cavalry, has sent out heavy patrols and has two troops of cavalry at Gibson's ranch, fifteen miles west. Carranza customs guards at the border gates, three miles south of Columbus, had dug a few rifle pits for the fifty Carranza soldiers, who fled when Villa appeared in the vicinity several days ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton James, and J. H. Dean, merchant, were later added to the list of Americans killed.

THE NEWS AT WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—First reports of the Mexican raid on Columbus, N. M., were received at the White House while President Wilson was having his first conference with Newton D. Baker, the new Secretary of War. Officials admitted that the raid put a very serious aspect on the Mexican situation. While the policy of the administration, so far, has been to look to the Carranza forces to deal with the bandits, some officials declared today that it was a grave question whether such a raid as that on Columbus was not sufficient evidence of the inability of the Carranza government to deal with the situation to warrant sending American troops over the line.

CLAIMS LOSSES WERE LIGHT.

BERLIN, March 8.—Previous statements that the German losses in the battle of Verdun are relatively light, seem to find corroboration in an official list of the casualties of the 24th Regiment of Brandenburgers, who were in the thick of the fighting and who stormed Fort Douaumont. The total casualties in the list are 202, whereof 50 are dead. Reports circulating in the town of Neurippin, the home garrison of the Regiment, are to the effect that the total losses in the actual storming of the fort were only 18 killed and wounded.

TURKISH OFFICIAL REPORT IS MEAGRE.

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 8 (via London).—The following statement of military operations was issued today by the Turkish War Office. "Situation in all theatres is unchanged."

BERLIN, March 9 (by wireless to Sayville).—The Austrian headquarters staff report of March 8, received here today from Vienna, is as follows: "On the front of Archduke Joseph Ferdinand's army there have been intermittent combats."

Germany Declares War On Portugal

London, March 9.—German residents in Oporto and throughout Portugal have been advised by their consul to proceed to Spain immediately, according to a despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Co. from Lisbon. It is supposed, says the correspondent, that the diplomats will leave this week, as a rupture between Germany and Portugal is considered inevitable.

tugal is considered inevitable.

Berlin, March 9 (by wireless to Sayville).—Germany has declared war on Portugal, according to an announcement by the semi-official overseas agency today.

FRENCH HAVE REPULSED

REPEATED GERMAN ATTACKS

PARIS, March 9 (via London).—On the Verdun sector west of the Meuse the French have repulsed repeated attacks on the village of Bethincourt, according to a semi-official statement made here today.