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ALL THE NEWS FOR ONE CENT

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1916

ONE CENT PER COPY

Heroic Work by Canadians In the Fighting at St. Eloi

Official Communique of the Eye Witness Tells a Thrilling Story---Sixth Canadian Infantry Brigade Relieved the Weary British Troops---Fierce German Attacks Repulsed

OTTAWA, April 15.—Heroic and effective work by the Canadians in resisting the determined attacks by Germans at St. Eloi last week, is detailed at length in the weekly eye-witness communication received this morning at the Military Department. It reads in part as follows:

"Throughout the week of April 4th-11th, vigorous efforts were made by the Germans to recover the ground lost by them at St. Eloi. The struggle for possession of the mine craters marking the original German line, was intense and bitter. The frontage taken by the British from the Germans did not exceed six hundred yards.

"The explosion of the six British mines had not only affected the German front line trench, but had yet further stirred up and churned the heavy soil, still sodden with the winter rains. Trees had been smashed by the hail of shells and uprooted by their explosions.

"All signs of vegetation had disappeared. Of the former landscape there remained nothing but an ugly quagmire. Through this trackless morass of water-filled holes, mud and earth piles, in which at any step a man might sink over his waist, British troops had contrived to dig a narrow and shallow trench to the south of the craters, and Canadian troops had succeeded in lining up the British right with the main line.

Gallant Canadian Troops Fought in Trenches Knee Deep With Water

"On the night of April 2-3 the Sixth Canadian Infantry Brigade relieved the weary British troops in the new line. The honor fell to the 27th, City of Winnipeg, and the 31st Alberta battalions. Taking over a line under such conditions was no light task. Few of the conveniences normal to trench warfare existed. The front trenches were imperfect, the dugouts still in embryo and machine gun emplacements not yet constructed. Communication trenches were practically non-existent and the relief had to be effected by the solitary front line trench from both flanks. Most of the trenches were at least knee deep with water.

"No time was lost by the Canadian troops in endeavoring to improve the situation, but dawn found the position of the men in front still far from satisfactory. In the early morning and again at intervals during the day, the German artillery bombarded our lines. Their fire was both severe and accurate.

Canadian Artillery Kept Up a Heavy Fire And Silenced Each German Bombardment

"Protection and cover were all too scant. The new trench was damaged, particularly that portion of it held by the 27th Battalion and the old British trench to the north of the craters also suffered. Our artillery returned a heavy fire until each bombardment in turn was silenced.

"When darkness fell, large parties were at once set to work to repair the damage and effect improvements. The British dead still lying in the trenches were taken out and our own casualties carried back. Parapets were raised and strengthened and some of the water drained from the trenches, all this work being carried on under fierce but intermittent bursts of fire from the German artillery.

"On the following day German high explosive shells again battered our low parapets. In some places the trench itself was obliterated and the dugouts were wrecked. Once more the chief labor of the night was to repair the havoc of the previous day. On April 5th the bombardment was renewed with increased severity. At dawn and again in the afternoon hundreds of shells were hurled into the narrow area which had been the German salient, rendering all movements there extremely difficult, and demolishing our trenches.

"Our troops suffered many casualties and as companies of our 27th Battalion had held the advanced position for three days and nights under exceptionally trying conditions, it was decided to relieve them. Companies of our 29th Vancouver Battalion were detailed for the purpose. The relief was planned to take place on the morning of April 6th, between the hours of 1 and 3 o'clock.

Companies of 27th Battalion Held an Advanced Position Three Days and Nights

"At two o'clock scouts of the 27th Battalion who had been out in front of the trenches, came in and reported all quiet. At 3 o'clock a terrific bombardment was started by the German artillery, and owing to the blocked and shattered condition of the front line the relief of the 27th Battalion had not been fully completed and a few minutes after the bombardment commenced movement along the trench had become impossible."

The report goes on to describe in detail how when the trenches were almost obliterated under German shell fire, the Germans advanced and captured two craters, but were prevented from taking the Canadian front line trenches by men of the 27th and 29th battalions and a detachment from the 22nd French-Canadian Battalion. Another attack on trenches held by the 31st Battalion was likewise repulsed.

(Continued on page 5.)

INVADING FORCE MUST BE LIMITED

(Canadian Press.)
Mexico City, April 15.—The Mexican government will insist with determination that any armed American force which enters Mexico as a punitive expedition be limited to 1,000 cavalry, according to statements by Juan Nef-tali Amador, Carranza's sub-secretary of foreign relations.

"The sending of heavy artillery and slow marching infantry on a punitive expedition," said Senor Amador, "is illogical. The work of the present so-called punitive expedition is more than this, for they accomplished absolutely nothing.

"The Mexican government has insisted that the limit of the zone extend not further than forty miles, nor should punitive expeditions be allowed in either country for an unlimited time."

STEAMER FROM ST. JOHN SUNK BY A MINE

(Canadian Press.)
London, April 15.—The steamship Shenandoah has been sunk by a mine, a Lloyds report says. The captain and part of the crew have been landed. Two men are missing.

The British ship Shenandoah was of 3,886 gross tons, was built at Glasgow in 1893, and owned by the Furness Withy Co. of West Hartlepool. She sailed from St. John on March 28 for London.

SOME ARTILLERY EXCHANGES IN THE VERDUN DISTRICT

PARIS, April 15.—There was no infantry fighting in the Verdun region last night. French positions between Malancourt wood and Hill 304, west of the Meuse, were subjected to heavy bombardment and there were lively artillery exchanges near the western edge of Corbeaux wood. East of the river an intermittent bombardment was carried on.

These operations are described in the following statement from the War Office this afternoon:

"To the north of Roy a reconnaissance on the part of the enemy, who was endeavoring to occupy our trenches in the region of Parvillers was dispersed by our fire.

"There was no infantry fighting last night anywhere in the Verdun region.

"To the east of the river Meuse there has been a fairly spirited bombardment of our positions between the wood of Malancourt and Hill No. 304. Our batteries evinced great activity along this part of the front, particularly to the west of Corbeaux wood and at various points along the Forges brook.

"To the east of the river Meuse and in the Woivre district there have been intermittent bombardments.

"In the Vosges there have been encounters between patrols.

"A reconnaissance on the part of the enemy was checked by our fire at a point south of St. Marie-aux-Mines."

Tried To Shoot German Socialist

(Canadian Press.)
London, April 15.—An Amsterdam despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Co. says that travellers arriving at The Hague from Berlin report that a woman fired two shots from a revolver at Dr. Karl Liebknecht while the socialist member of the Reichstag was walking in the street. Both shots missed. The assailant, the report continues, was arrested.

Russian General Died In Moscow

London, April 15.—General Plehve, retired, former commander in chief of the Russian northern army, has died at Moscow according to special despatches received here.

THE MARKET.

Eggs dropped to 23 cents a dozen in the market this morning and were fairly plentiful. Potatoes were firm at 33 per barrel. New maple honey sold at 39 cents a bottle. Butter brought 32 cents a pound. Veal was plentiful at 8 and 10 cents. Pork brought 14c. and country hams 17c.

Daylight Saving Adopted By Holland

(Canadian Press.)
The Hague, April 14.—The government announced today that it would shortly introduce a daylight saving bill to provide for setting back clocks one hour during the summer season.

To Stop Export Of Cocoa Beans

The Hague, April 14.—A royal proclamation issued today forbids the exportation of cocoa beans or any products of such.

War Supplies Thrown Overboard

Honolulu, April 15.—War supplies including powder, cartridges and machinery weighing 123 tons, and valued at \$60,000, were thrown overboard from the Japanese steamer Ide Maru, which arrived here April 12 under a jury rudder, it was learned today.

GERMANY HAS ARRANGED TO PURCHASE CEREALS FROM THE ROUMANIANS

Report of New Agreement Has Been Confirmed---Roumania Will Supply The Central Powers With All Their Surplus Produce.

PARIS, April 15.—The statement that the German Government concluded on April 7 a new arrangement with Roumania is confirmed. The details are not fully known, but Jean Herbet states in the Echo de Paris that its chief purpose is to remove two obstacles to the purchase of Roumanian grain by the Central Powers.

The first obstacle lays in the fact that other states were free to exhaust the market. Thus a British group last January bought up 800,000 tons of wheat. The second consisted in the fact that the Roumanian Government might require that exported cereals be paid for in German or Austrian products which the Central Powers might not want to liberate.

It is believed the new accord removes these two obstacles. Roumania promises Germany all the produce she does not herself need, abolishing the exchange system. She also undertakes to permit the transit of traffic to and from Constantinople. The importance of this matter will be seen from the fact that the Roumanian harvest last year amounted to six million tons, which is just the quantity of cereals Germany and Austria together had to import in times of peace.

"An eminent Roumanian personality," interviewed by the Petit Parisien, declares that Roumania remains faithful to her friendship for the Entente and has not changed her political attitude. The agreement with Germany arises from the fact that she must sell her crops and import manufactured goods, the supply of which has been interrupted by the closing of the Dardanelles and the economic tension with Germany.

AUSTRIAN OFFICIAL STATEMENT TELLS OF FIGHTING ON THE RUSSIAN AND ITALIAN FRONTS

BERLIN, April 15 (by wireless to Sayville).—The official Austrian statement of Friday is as follows:

Russian artillery heavily shelled our positions on the lower Stripa, along the Dniester and northeast of Czernowitz. Near the mouth of the lower Stripa and southeast of Bugzas, there were lively engagements for advanced positions, some of which are still in progress. The occupants of one trench which formed a salient were forced back to the main positions. Northeast of Jazlovize the enemy entered an advanced position, but was ejected immediately by a counter attack. One Russian officer, three ensigns and 100 men were captured. An Austro-Hungarian detachment by a surprise attack, occupied an advanced Russian position on the road between Bugzas and Czortkow. On the front held by Archduke Joseph Ferdinand the enemy's artillery was active.

On the Italian front artillery duels continued in so far as the weather permitted. The Austro-Hungarians captured an Italian position at Merziveh and repulsed several counter attacks. The Italians suffered heavy losses.

Our artillery vigorously shelled the Italian positions at Flitsch and Hontebrau. Attempts by Italian troops in the Sugana sector to occupy our positions on the heights on both sides of Vovalcadoro, failed. On the Ponale road our troops evacuated a defensive position south of Sperone and occupied the next position. In the Damello sector Alpini occupied the Dosson-Dignova ridge. An Italian attack against Monte Boerluzzo, to the south of Stilfser, failed.

PIRATES' AIM WAS BAD.

LONDON, April 15.—The steamship on which Baron Chelmsford, the Viceroy and Governor General, was proceeding to India, was unsuccessfully attacked by a submarine which fired a torpedo but missed its aim. Lord Chelmsford was accompanied by his wife and his four daughters, and the steamship had on board an unusual number of women and children.

A despatch dated April 4 said that Baron Chelmsford had arrived at Bombay and had been received by the ruling chiefs and the naval military civil authorities.

VESSELS TORPEDOED.

LONDON, April 15.—The weekly returns of vessels sunk by mines or torpedoes show an increasing number. During the week ended Thursday, according to the well known shipping journal of Fairplay, thirty-three vessels with a gross tonnage of 85,045, were reported sunk by submarines and mines. This is in addition to the 2,201,823 tons of shipping previously reported in that journal as having been sunk.

SET A WORTHY EXAMPLE.

PARIS, April 15.—Sergeant Auguste Bernard, 69 years old, is cited in a regimental order by the colonel commanding the 112th infantry as follows:

"An honored veteran of the war of 1870, he enlisted at the age of 67 for the duration of the present war, and was placed in service. He insisted on going in the first line trenches. By his fine attitude, high spirits and moral bearing Sergeant Bernard merits being selected as an example for all."

Sergeant Bernard received the war cross in the presence of his regiment, his fellow soldiers giving a rousing reception.