

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: Moderate to fresh winds, mostly south and south-west, fair and cool.

VOL. XXIII., No. 72

FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, MONDAY, MARCH 26, 1917

FRENCH TROOPS CONTINUE THEIR BRILLIANT ADVANCE

French Pushing Forward Steadily at St Quentin

Great Battle Raging With Unabated Fury---Honors Thus Far Have Been With the French---Firmly Hold All Ground Taken From the Enemy.

PARIS, March 26.—The battle of St. Quentin continues to rage with unabated fury. The honors of the last twenty-four hours' fighting have been with the French, who are pushing forward steadily, taking all the precautions that the nature of the operations calls for, and in the face of desperate resistance by the German forces.

The advance is necessarily slow, owing to the character of the ground. St. Quentin is protected on the northwest of the Omignon river, which, although only a brook, like most of the Somme tributaries, runs through a broad valley full of swamps and clumps of trees which greatly increase its defensive value. To the west the approaches to the city are over a bare, flat plain devoid of any natural obstacle, and with but few villages. Here the French advance is naturally most rapid, but the plain narrows and ends in a sharp point at St. Quentin. At Savy, the most favorably point, the Germans have built their main defensive line.

Notwithstanding the bad weather and difficult shape of the ground, the French continued last night to advance south of the Oise. The War Office announces that the French patrols reached Folembray, south of the forest of Coucy. The statement follows: "Between the Somme and the Oise the Germans made repeated attacks during the night on the front between Essigny and Bènay. All these attempts were checked by our fire or repulsed by our counter-attacks. Serious losses were inflicted on the enemy and we maintained completely the positions captured yesterday."

President Wilson Has Issued Orders to

Place United States on a War Footing

WASHINGTON, March 26.—Naval recruiting officers all through the country, under orders from President Wilson today redoubled their efforts to bring the navy up to its full authorized strength of 87,000 enlisted men. Meantime, about twelve regiments of National Guards troops in various states were re-assembling to act as national police in important districts. Arrangements also were being made to create on May 1st two new military departments on the Atlantic coast.

All three steps were in accordance with orders issued yesterday by the President to put the nation on a war footing. About 20,000 men will have to be enrolled at once in order to bring the navy up to the required strength. The men will be used to man the reserve ships.

Wilhelmshaven, One of Germany's Chief

Naval Stations, is Closed to the Public

LONDON, March 26.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from Amsterdam says Wilhelmshaven newspapers announce that the harbor of Wilhelmshaven will be closed to the public for the next fortnight, and that a special permit from the Admiralty board will be necessary for admission to the docks. The reason for the order is not given, the correspondent adds. Wilhelmshaven is one of Germany's strongest naval stations. It is situated on Jahde Bay, 33 miles northwest of Bremen.

REVOLT AGAINST BULGARIANS.

LONDON, March 26.—Reuter's Corfu correspondent says the Serbian press bureau has issued a statement to the effect that the inhabitants of Eastern Serbia are revolting against the Bulgarians and are organizing bands which are operating in the mountains and forests. The bureau's statement says the action of the Serbians is due to forced recruiting, wholesale requisitions and inhuman treatment by the Bulgarians.

FIVE GERMAN AIRPLANES SHOT DOWN.

PARIS, March 26.—Five German airplanes were brought down yesterday by our pilots. Two were destroyed by Adjutant Ortol, bringing up to eight the number of enemy machines brought down thus far by this officer. One of our aerial squadrons last night dropped 4,000 kilograms of projectiles on factories at Thionville, and in the basin of Briey.

MARITIME MEN IN CASUALTY LIST

Ottawa, March 26.—Casualties among Maritime men are reported as follows:

Infantry.

Killed in action—D. McDonald, Avon Antigonish Co., N. S.

Died of wounds—H. Morrison, Ellerslie, P. E. I.

Seriously ill—Lieut. Allan Hughes, Digby, N. S.

Previously reported missing, now remaining on duty—J. A. McDougall, Marion Bridge, C. B.; J. A. McIntyre, Glace Bay, N. S.; J. M. McNeil, Iona, N. S.; J. J. Surry, Sydney Mines, N. S.; M. Harris, Gabarous, N. S.; A. J. McDonnell, Inverness, N. S.; J. H. McInnis, New Waterford, N. S.; H. Dickson, Sydney Mines, C. B.

Dangerously ill—A. Johnson, Campbellton, N. B.

Missing, believed killed—A. P. Nicholson, Head of Montague, P. E. I.

Mounted Rifles.

Presumed to have died—L. McLellan, Summerside, P. E. I.; J. Hatheway, Millville, N. B.; J. A. Haworth, St. John.

A Year in the Pen For a German Spy

New York, March 26.—Sentence of a year and a day in the United States penitentiary at Atlanta, and a fine of \$1, was passed in the Federal court here today on George Vuax Bacon, an American newspaper man, who pleaded guilty to going to England as a spy for Germany.

Slightly Improved.

It is reported today from Victoria Public Hospital that the condition of Deputy Sheriff John F. Timmins is slightly improved.

RASPUTIN'S INFLUENCE WITH CZAR EXPLAINED

Russian Paper Says He Made Him Believe That the Health of Heir Apparent was in His Keeping--Poisonous Powders Played an Important Part.

PETROGRAD, March 25, via London, March 26.—The superstitious belief that the health and even the life of Grand Duke Alexis, the young heir apparent, depended on the presence of Gregory Rasputin, the mystic monk—a notion which is generally known to have accounted for Rasputin's tremendous influence over the Imperial family—is explained in the following extraordinary manner by the Russky Slovo.

Poison was Used.

Rasputin, according to this paper, stated in confidence to friends at convivial moments that he was able to fortify this superstition with the help of Madame Virubova, lady-in-waiting to the Empress, and M. Badmaef, court physician, until the Empress was absolutely convinced that the life of her son depended on the monk. Whenever Rasputin was absent for any length of time from the court, Madame Virubova, according to the monk's story, as given by the newspaper, obtained poisonous powders from the physician and contrived to place them in food brought to Prince Alexis.

The result was that during Rasputin's absence the delicate health of the young heir apparent grew steadily worse, until Rasputin was summoned back to the court, when the powders were stopped and Alexis became immediately better.

Prophecy Came True.

Rasputin always announced that forty days after his death Alexis would fall ill. This prophecy came true with startling accuracy, being caused, the newspaper declares, by Madame Virubova administering another powder to the little Grand Duke, in the hope of continuing the tradition of Rasputin's influence over the Imperial family and preparing the way for a successor to him.

PEOPLE IN FRENCH TOWNS JOYOUS OVER RETURN OF LIBERTY

Countless Flags Fluttered in the Sunshine From Ruined Houses---Soldiers Listen to Graphic Stories From the Natives, of German Barbarity.

(Staff Correspondent of Associated Press.)

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, March 25 (via London, March 26).—The shattered French towns evacuated by the Germans celebrated today their first Sunday of liberty in two and a half years. It was a brave showing they made. Countless French flags fluttered in the sunshine from both ruined and half-ruined homes, and the women, old men and children who had passed through such a long ordeal of captivity, strolled through the uptown streets dressed in the best clothes they could muster. The unconquerable French genius for dress revealed itself even in such pathetic bits of finery as the women could find.

Here and there groups of the poilus gathered to listen to the graphic stories of the natives concerning their experiences under German rule. The villagers dwelt particularly on the time of terror which immediately preceded the departure of their enemies.

Many French Peasants Have Returned to Sites of Their Former Homes for Shelter

All civilians were herded in certain buildings from which they heard explosions and saw the fires which testified that their little homes were being destroyed. The towns where the inhabitants of the region were concentrated by the Germans were only half-raised, while the outlying villages were completely burned down. In this way about half of a town was spared to about ten villages completely destroyed.

Despite the devastation and ruin, many French peasants returned today to the sites of their former homes, seeking temporary shelter and bringing bits of furniture with which to begin life anew. They were not downcast, but cheerful and almost gay in the enjoyment of their liberty.

In Roye a triumphal arch was constructed of evergreens and lavishly decorated with tri-colors as a welcome to the home-comers. In the distance could be heard the reverberating reports of the big guns, but the ceaseless booming was ignored by the people in the liberated zone, who seemed to think that the war must be over.

RUSSIAN TROOPS ARE PURSUING THE TURKS

LONDON, March 26.—Russian detachments in Persia, pursuing the Turks, have crossed the border into the Turkish vilayet of Mosul, according to an official announcement as forwarded in a Reuter despatch from Petrograd. The Turkish vilayet of Mosul has an area of about 35,000 square miles and a population estimated at 350,000. It takes in the region north of the vilayet of Bagdad and west of the Persian border, the Bagdad vilayet bounding it in part on the south and the Persian frontier on the east.

ARMED SHIP CROSSED SAFELY.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—The American liner St. Louis the first armed ship to cross the Atlantic, has arrived safely at her destination, Secretary of the Navy Daniels announces.

U. S. PREPARING FOR WAR.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—Twenty additional complete infantry regiments and five additional separate battalions of National Guard troops have been ordered into the Federal service for the protection of property in the event of possibility of disorders. The troops have been called out in eighteen western and middle western states, not included in the list of similar orders made public yesterday.