

Weather Forecast:
Sleet or Rain

The London Advertiser

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SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 5, 1914, FOURTEEN PAGES.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

GERMAN-HUNGARIAN ALLIANCE IN DANGER OF RUPTURE

OFFICERS OF EERY TAKE EVERY GLOOMY

Eyewitness Says Their Views
Have Apparently Changed
Very Considerably.

NOT SHARED BY TROOPS

No Definite Sign of Lack of
Morale Among Our
Enemies.

BRITISH HAVING A REST

Germans Pressing Attack On
Indians, But Very Quiet
Elsewhere.

[Canadian Press.]
London, Dec. 5.—11:45 a.m.—The press bureau today issued a report covering military operations during the three days from November 26 to November 29, inclusive. This report is summarized as follows:

General inactivity is reported along the British front with the Germans pressing the attack in one quarter against the Indian troops, who have been extending their trenches in an endeavor to get in close quarters with the enemy. There has been some shelling of the rear of our front lines south of the Lys, but this form of annoyance diminishes daily along the whole front. Shipping, however, is carried on almost incessantly. There seems to be little doubt that the Germans are employing civilians, either willingly or unwillingly, to dig trenches; some civilians have been seen and shot while engaged in this work.

Germans Admit Failure.

While it is necessary to accept the evidence of all prisoners with caution, there is a change in the views expressed by some officers captured recently, which appears to be genuine. They admit the failure of the German strategy, and profess to take a gloomy view of the future. At the same time, it must be confessed that as yet there is no sign that their view is generally held by the enemy, nor has there been any definite indication of a lack of morale among the German troops. The highways of Northern France are crowded with men responding to the various mobilization orders issued by the French Government. Thousands of such troops were encountered in the course of a short automobile trip. The strange procession included a curious mixture of types. A considerable proportion of these new drafts are composed of middle-aged men of good physique and likely young men from the countryside.

Cannoning Decreased.

The change within the last few days of what may be termed the atmosphere of the battlefield has been marked. The noise of cannonading has now decreased to such an extent that for a time nothing is heard but the infrequent boom of one of the heavy guns of the Allies; the occasional rattle of machine guns, and the occasional burst of snipers on either side. So far as the use of explosives is concerned, the greatest activity is found in local attacks with hand grenades and mortar range howitzers. The enemy has practically ceased his efforts to break through the line by assaults, and he is now devoting his energies to the same type of siege operations which have been familiar to the Allies since the beginning of the war.

Underground Life.

Subterranean life is the general rule in the neighborhood of the firing line. Even those men not actually engaged in fighting live in underground quarters. Some of these quarters, called "funk holes," are quite elaborate and comfortable, and contain many conveniences not found in the trenches on the firing line. They communicate with the firing line by zigzag approach trenches which make egress and ingress possible. Attacks are made on the firing-line trenches by blinded saps, which are constructed by a special earth-borer. When this secret tunnel reaches the enemy's trenches, an assault is delivered amid a shower of hand grenades. The stormers endeavor to blast their way through the opening, and then try to work along the trench. Machine guns are quickly brought up to repel a counter attack.

At Close Range.

Most of the fighting takes place at such close range that the danger to each side cannot be fired at the enemy's infantry without great risk of hitting their own men. Bombs have come to take the place of artillery, and they are being used in enormous quantities. The short-range howitzers are of three types, and those used by the Germans have come to be termed the "Jack Johnson" of close attack. The smaller bombs and grenades thrown by hand, although local in action, are very unpleasant, particularly between the enclosed space of a trench. These grenades are thrown continuously by both sides, and every trench assault is first preceded and then accompanied by showers of the murderous missiles. This kind of fighting is very deadly, and owing to the difficulty of observations, it is at times somewhat blind. This difficulty has in a measure been decreased, however, by the use of the very much like the periscope on a submarine. It permits an observer to look over the top of a parapet without raising his head above the protection of the trench.

CARDINAL IS DEAD

Di Pietro Was Doyen of Sacred College at Rome.

[Canadian Press.]
London, Dec. 5.—The Central News has received a dispatch from its Rome correspondent saying that Cardinal Angelo Di Pietro, doyen of the Sacred College, died this morning.

Cardinal Di Pietro was born May 26, 1828. He was papal nuncio at Madrid in 1857, and he was created and promoted a cardinal priest in 1892.

LEADER REPORTED SUSPENDED



General Rennenkampf, veteran leader of the Siberian Corps, who, it is reported, has been relieved of his command for failure to arrive at a given point on schedule time.

Damage Railway

Carranza Reported To Be Planning To Blow Up Tunnels On
British-Owned Line, Vera Cruz to Capital.

[Canadian Press.]
Washington, Dec. 5.—Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, informed the State Department today of a dispatch from British Charge Hobler, in Mexico City, saying reports were current that General Carranza was planning to destroy the British-owned railway between Vera Cruz and Mexico City, by blowing up certain tunnels.

GUELPH TO GET ONE BATTALION

Col. Hodgins Announces That
Supply Question Is The
Reason.

ISSUES AN EXPLANATION

Says City Officials Have Given
Their Co-Operation
Here.

In explanation of the glory which appeared in last night's Advertiser, to the effect that local officials did not give proper encouragement and support to the militia and its efforts to mobilize two squadrons and two battalions here, Col. W. E. Hodgins, D. O. C. for this division, gave out an interview today, which throws additional light on the situation.

Col. Hodgins told the reporters he knew nothing of the story until he read it, and his first impression was that it did an injustice to some of the local public officials.

City Reaches Capacity.

"I am deeply grateful to London and to London people, and especially to Mayor Graham for what has been done for the soldiers since the war broke out," said Col. Hodgins. "The city officials have been very kind and there isn't anything they wouldn't do to help us. However, London has nearly reached its capacity in quartering soldiers. Just what we will do with reference to the new battalions and two squadrons of cavalry has not been determined, but in all probability one battalion will be mobilized in Guelph. This will not be discrimination against London, as Guelph has placed its winter fair buildings, heated and lighted at our disposal."

Question of Supplies.

"It is not a question of erecting more buildings in this city, but of convenient men to go in training here, and will bring the total up to 2,700 with what we have already. The supplies for these men will be quite a drain on the community, and the accommodations for them will be overtaxed. We hope to provide for them by using the buildings in the fair ground, making such alterations as will keep them tenable for [Continued On Page Three.]

ONLY 17
SHOPPING DAYS
UNTIL
CHRISTMAS!



Read the Ads!

PREMIER PROUD OF CONTINGENT AND EQUIPMENT

Says Arrangements at Val-
cartier Not Excelled in
Whole Empire.

BERNHARDI QUOTATIONS

Sir Robert Has Evidently Been
Reading Up German
Works.

BLOOD AND IRON POLICY

Bismarck Blamed For German
Ideas in Address at
Toronto.

[Canadian Press.]
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