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# THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

Official Organ of The Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland.

Vol. III. No. 53.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 1916.

Price: 1 Cent.

## Huns Make Slight Progress In Their Drive for Verdun

French Official Statement Admits Germans Have Gained a Little in Verdun Region—Germans Capture the Village of Forges, About Nine Miles North West of Verdun—Russians Under Cover of Fleet Make a Landing on Black Sea Coast, Near Turk Seaport of Trebizond—Nothing Doing on Austro-Italian Front—12 Killed, 33 Wounded in Hun Raid on England Sunday Night

LONDON, Mar. 7.—Further advances by the Germans in the Verdun region and in Champagne are told in the latest French official communication which, however, also records successes in repelling the Germans who attempted to debouch further from the captured position and driving the Germans out of a trench that they had taken to hammering with their big guns. German organizations, after having vigorously shelled the region between Bethancourt and the Meuse, made a strong infantry attack and captured the village of Forges, about nine miles north-west of Verdun. Not satisfied with this gain, they several times essayed to debouch from the village Cote de Loe, but French counter-attacks forced them back to the village and held them there.

In Champagne the right and left flanks of the French were attacked by Germans in the region of Mont Tenn and Maisons de Champagne. At the former point the French fire kept the Germans in their trenches, but near Maisons de Champagne they succeeded in occupying a small section of French trenches.

In the Argonne the French blew up near Courtes Chaussees, a German post with a mine, and captured the position of the crater. Near Haute Chavauchee the Germans sprang two mines and later entered the French trenches. Severe counter attack, however, drove them out. The French also occupied the position of the mine craters. Except for infantry attacks at Forges, guns on both sides in the Verdun region are doing all the work. To the south-west of Metz, near Point a Mousson, French artillery heavily damaged the German positions.

The Russians, under cover of fire from their fleet, at last have been able to make a landing on the Black Sea coast, east of Trebizond, and captured the towns of Atin and Mavara, driving off the Turks who opposed them. Two officers and 280 men were made prisoners. Two guns

and a quantity of munitions were captured.

Considerable fighting between Russians and Germans have taken place in the north-west of Russia, the Russian army smashing the German trenches in the Riga sector and dispersing scouting parties in the vicinity of Friedrichstadt.

Owing to heavy rains prevailing, fighting almost has ceased on the Austro-Italian front.

Berlin reports that in the Zeppelin raid on England on Sunday night, a naval depot being bombarded with effect. All the German aircraft returned safely. The British official report says that Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Rutland, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Essex and Kent counties were visited; three men, eight women and five children were killed by bombs dropped and 33 other persons injured.

The House of Representatives at Washington expect to take up on Tuesday the armed ship carrying passengers resolution of Representative McLemore.

## Hun Air Raiders Visit Lincolnshire

LONDON, Mar. 7.—Reports received from Lincolnshire say that two Zeppelins passed over that county, but no bombs were dropped. The engines of both craft were heard plainly, although neither appears to be visible.

The first intimation that a Zeppelin raid was expected came at church time, but only one church discontinued service. A short time afterwards another warning came and all lights were extinguished and traffic stopped.

## ALL OVER WITH TURKS BIG DEVELOPMENTS EXPECTED

WASHINGTON, Mar. 7.—Turkey has about reached the end of her rope and would like to drop out of the war. Definite information of a most trustworthy character, to the effect that the backbone of the Ottoman campaign against the Russians has been broken, has reached Washington, coupled with the assertion that developments of a startling character may be expected soon in the Near Eastern situation.

## HAS BEEN SUNK

LONDON, Mar. 5.—The British liner Masunda has been sunk.

## Is Appointed Successor to Garrison

Newton B. Baker is America's New Secretary of War—Is a Personal Friend of Wilson's and Supports His Policy of Preparedness

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Mar. 7.—Newton B. Baker has been appointed Secretary of War by President Wilson in succession to Lindley M. Garrison. He was Mayor of Cleveland and was long prominent in local state Democratic Councils and has been a personal friend of President Wilson for many years.

Baker is 44 years of age and a lawyer by profession. He is a thorough believer in national preparedness and stood valiantly by the President through all the recent discussion.

## Huns Anxious for Support of Swedes

COPENHAGEN, Mar. 7.—The 'Dagens Nyheter' declares the German Legation at Stockholm, by means of thousands of pamphlets, are endeavoring to convince the masters of Swedish public schools of the justice of the German cause. In an article in the 'Tages Zeitung' Count Von Reventlow attacks Denmark and Norway, accusing them of yielding to Great Britain in the matter of commercial control in such a way as to make them vassal states.

## PREDICTS BATTLE BETWEEN BRITISH, RUSSIAN AND GERMAN FLEETS IS NOT FAR DISTANT

Despatches from Scandinavia have created a state of expectancy in London—Russian Torpedo Boats Reported in the Baltic—German Subs Are Seen off Stockholm—Naval Experts Have Privately Expressed the Opinion That Important Events Are Pending

LONDON, Mar. 7.—Certain somewhat vague but persistent rumours which have been circulated here for several days by word of mouth regarding the North Sea war zone, have created a state of expectancy among Londoners. This has been heightened by despatches received from Scandinavia to-day predicting a battle between British, Russian and German warships as not far distant.

Russian torpedo boats are reported to have been seen near the island of Okselund, in the Baltic Sea. Half a dozen German submarines have been observed off Okselund, in the Baltic, south of Stockholm. The general opinion in Scandinavia is said to be that Great Britain and Russia will intercept the German sailings to Sweden as soon as the ice is melted. The ice is already partly broken up and thus rendered easy for forcing. Naval experts here expressed the opinion privately for several days that the Germans are preparing to venture out and that important events are pending. As to whether British officials believe this, obviously nothing is known.

## IS KILLED WHILE EXPERIMENTING WITH SHELL

PARIS, Mar. 7.—Major Lord Desmond Fitzgerald, of the First Battalion Irish Guards, Duke of Leinster and heir-presumptive to that title, was accidentally killed says a Calais despatch to the 'Matin'. He was experimenting in his tent with a new kind of bomb, when it exploded and a fragment struck him in the head and he died an hour later.

Lord Desmond was wounded in battle at the beginning of the war, and was mentioned in a despatch for distinguished service.

## OFFICIAL

BRITISH  
To Governor, Newfoundland:  
LONDON, Mar. 7.—Around Verdun, and in Woivre, fierce fighting has continued throughout the week. French positions have generally been maintained. The village of Donaumont thrice changed hands and is now held by the enemy, the French occupying the outskirts.

The British have recaptured lost trenches at the Ypres-Comines Canal and have also taken two yards of enemy trenches and about two hundred and fifty prisoners.

Three Zeppelins visited eight Eastern counties last night dropping about forty bombs. Some houses were destroyed or damaged. Twelve persons were killed and thirty-three injured.

In the Caucasus, the Russians have stormed Bitlis.

The minesweeper Primula has been torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean. Only three lives were lost.

BONAR LAW.

LONDON, Mar. 7.—A British official communication issued to-night says: "Last night we sprang a mine northeast of Vermelles. To-day the enemy sprang a mine near Hohenzollern Redoubt, but no attack followed. We suffered no casualties. Artillery on both sides have been active about Albert, Hulluch and Ypres.

## FRENCH

PARIS, Mar. 6.—An official statement given out here to-day says that there were no infantry actions last night north of Verdun, but that violent artillery engagements continue along the left bank of the Meuse and intermittently elsewhere. Quite prevails on the remainder of the front.

## HUNS MAKE FRESH MOVE IN BELGIAN

LONDON, Mar. 6.—An important movement of German troops in Belgium is reported in a despatch from the Hague. It is said that information has been received at the Hague from Maastricht, Holland, at 40,000 German cavalry men of the Land-sturm are on their way to the front near Ypres.

## BRITONS ARE COMING SLOWLY TO REALIZE THEIR COUNTRY'S NEEDS

Walter Hume Long Declared in Speech Before Women's National Land Service Corps That the Government Required Co-operation of all Classes and Approved of Women's Movement—Women, Says Long, Have Proved Themselves Capable

LONDON, March 7.—Britons are coming slowly to a realization of their country's needs, declared Walter Hume Long, President of the Local Government Board, addressing the inauguration of Women's National Land Service Corps, which intends to undertake agricultural work during the absence at the front, or in Government employ, of men of the British Isles.

"Long declared the Government required the co-operation of all classes and heartily approved of the women's movement, which, he said, meant that women would now take even a larger share in the defence of the country. "We want soldiers," said Mr. Long, "but we also want to keep the land cultivated and obtain the maximum output, so that we may assist our overseas trade. In our Imperial position there is a wide field open for women's activities. Women have proved themselves capable of work, which before the war they were thought unfitted to perform and it is the farmers' patriotic duty not to employ a single man who can be spared for more important work."

The Government has announced its

## Huns Leave Dead in Heaps On Ground

Have Failed to Make Any Impression on Douaumont—Now Try and Smash French Left on Vacherauville Wood

PARIS, Mar. 6.—Yesterday was a good day for the French at Verdun, according to information received this morning, and public confidence is greatly strengthened by news of the continued repulses of the German attacks. In military and political circles lively satisfaction is expressed regarding the situation, and opinion now begins to prevail that the great efforts of the Germans will be more easily disposed of than was at first expected. Having failed to make any impression on the Douaumont position and on Vaux, to its right, the German general staff determined to smash the French left on the Vacherauville Wood and Cote du Poivre position. Without regard to cost, the best troops were hurled forward, but with no more success than elsewhere. Pomeranians and what was left of the Brandenburgers, dashed themselves vainly against the French who stood as immovable as a rock wall, as at Vaux. The Germans finally fell back, leaving heaps of dead on the ground. The French infantry, supported by their formidable artillery, which will never henceforth lack ammunition, showed themselves able to resist every onslaught. An idea of the relatively small percentage of French casualties in the Ver from a statement made by a lieutenant who has arrived here wounded. Our losses, he said, are comparatively slight. My regiment, for instance had only 47 killed and 35 wounded. This is small for a unit which has acted as support, and which was engaged in the most violent of the fighting.

## SEES COLLAPSE OR TURKEY

LONDON, Mar. 6.—The Daily Telegraph says: "If the Turks are brought weary of a struggle in which they were butchered to make a Teuton holiday, what attitude are Roumania and Greece likely to assume? If the Germans' great strategic move in the Balkans is threatened with failure, the Entente Allies have every reason to discern the beginning of the end."

The Daily Express says the moral of numerous reports regarding Turkey's plight is that she is yearning to get out of a war into which she was betrayed by bought intrigue and from which she cannot hope to reap the smallest advantage.

## Swiss Frontier Troops to Be Demobilized

PARIS, Mar. 7.—The Fifth Division of the Swiss army on duty along the German frontier, is about to be demobilized, according to a despatch to the Temps from Zurich. This is considered a good sign, says the Temps, presumably giving indications that the Swiss Government no longer are considering a German infringement of its neutrality possible.

intention to employ a corps for the purpose of training women for agricultural purposes.

## Anxiety About Verdun Is Now Replaced By Quiet Confidence

### Big Loss of Life When Stmr. Sunk

Spanish Steamer Sinks After Striking a Rock—445 Souls Are Lost—Was a Large Vessel and Comparatively New Ship

LONDON, Mar. 6.—Lloyd's despatch from Santos says that 388 passengers and 107 members of the crew on the Principe de Asturias are missing. The steamer was wrecked yesterday off Sebastiao Point, on the western extremity of the Island of that name, near the entrance of Santos Bay.

The Principe de Asturias was engaged in the passenger service between Barcelona and Brazil. Last departure on her previous trip eastward. She passed Gibraltar on Feb. 4th on her way from Buenos to Barcelona. She is a large and comparatively new vessel, gross tonnage 5,371, length 460 feet, beam 58 feet, depth 29 feet, built at Port Glasgow in 1914.

SANTOS, Brazil, Mar. 6.—The Spanish steamer Principe de Asturias, sunk by striking a rock, and went to the bottom in five minutes. Eighty-six members of the crew and fifty-seven passengers were brought to Santos by the French steamer Vega. A Spanish steamer is standing by.

RIO JANEIRO, Mar. 7.—It is feared here that 400 lives have been lost by the sinking of the Spanish steamer Principe de Asturias. The steamer remained afloat only a short time after striking a shoal off San Sebastiao, so there was little time for the escape of the passengers and crew in the boats. Steamers have gone out in search of additional survivors. 143 passengers and crew have already landed at Santos.

## 800 AUSTRIANS KILLED OR WOUNDED IN AIR RAID

GENEVA, Mar. 6.—Eight hundred Austrian soldiers in a barracks were killed or wounded in a raid made by the Italian aeroplanes on Feb. 19th, on the city of Laibach, according to information received here to-day.

Two high officers of the staff of Archduke Eugene, commander in chief of the Austrian forces operating against Italy are said to have been killed. One Italian aeroplane was destroyed.

## SEAMEN'S STRIKE AGGRAVATES CONJESTION AT BELFAST

BELFAST, Mar. 7.—The steamship service between this port and Fleetwood and Heysham, in England, were suspended last night owing to a strike by the crews of the steamers for increased wages. The stoppage aggravates the already congested condition of the port of Belfast.

## SEALERS' NOTICE!

S.S. 'Neptune,' AND S.S. 'Sam Blandford,' Will Sail to-morrow WEDNESDAY morning, at 9 A.M., SHARP, from the wharf of JOB BROS. & CO., LTD.



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