

FOE COUNTER ATTACKS FAIL

General Railway Strike is Feared in Great Britain

Explosion in Powder Plant in Quebec; Many Lives Lost

British Repulsed Foe With Heavy Losses Last Night

Enemy Repulsed by British With Heavy Losses

Teuton Attacks Delivered With Violence Against British Last Night; All Beaten off With Heavy Losses to Enemy

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, Aug. 18.—The German troops in Flanders were again completely repulsed by the British after sharp fighting, according to the British official statement issued after this morning. The text of the official statement follows:

"The enemy early today delivered another counter-attack against our recently captured position immediately northwest of Lens. His troops were again completely repulsed after sharp fighting in which we secured a few prisoners. There was considerable hostile artillery during the night in this neighborhood and also northwest of Ypres.

"We carried out last night a successful raid east of Vermelles. The enemy's support line was reached and many casualties were inflicted.

"There was great activity in the air yesterday although a strong west wind made fighting difficult. Our airplanes had greatly the better of the fighting and were able to carry out their task successfully in spite of the determined efforts on the part of the hostile aircraft to interfere with their work. Our activity commenced before dawn and continued uninterruptedly throughout the day. Hostile airdromes were cleared with machine gun-fire from a height of a few score feet. A total of 9 1-2 tons bombs was dropped on the enemy's airdromes, rail way stations and billets.

"Our machines directly assisted our infantry in their attack harassing the German infantry and gunners with machine gun fire. Our artillery fired directly upon concentration of German troops, fifteen hostile machines were brought down, eleven others were driven down out of control. One German observation balloon was also brought down aflame. Eleven of our airplanes are missing."

Canadians in Raid.

London, Aug. 18.—Six Canadians were killed and twenty-three injured in the accidental explosion of a mine during a submarine war at the manoeuvres camp in Hampshire, Thursday, according to "The Daily Mail."

Bombing Raid.

London, Aug. 18.—The Admiralty announces that a hostile destroyer and two mine sweepers were damaged severely by British naval forces on Thursday. The British warships were not damaged.

London, Aug. 18.—The Admiralty announces that another bombing raid was carried out about midnight Thursday by the naval air service on the railway station and junction at Thourout, a town in west Flanders, 11 miles south west of Bruges. Fires were caused and it is thought that an ammunition dump was hit and the railway damaged. Many tons of bombs were dropped on the objectives. All machines returned safely.

Air Raid Alarm.

Paris, Aug. 18.—An air raid alarm was sounded at 3 o'clock this morning, the sky was clear and with a quarter of an hour the hum of despatch airplanes could be heard as they circled over the city. At 4.05 bugles were sounded indicating the danger was over.

The Aftermath.

British Front in France and Belgium, Aug. 18.—(By the Associated Press)—The fighting Thursday at Pozegon was unusually desperate. Wave after wave of the enemy came surging up against the London troops who held on determinedly with rifle and bayonet until two simultaneous counter-attacks from different directions forced them to retreat.

Gradually they withdrew, fighting all the way. Some few of them were surrounded and fought until forced to surrender. One young officer, in command of ten men, found himself encircled by the enemy, and his men being swept by machine gun fire. The last heard of him was contained in a message he signalled back to his division, saying that his men were facing certain death and that he was with them.

Weather Bulletin.

Toronto, Aug. 18.—The shallow depression which was over Quebec and the middle Atlantic states yesterday is now moving into the Maritime provinces where the weather has become showery. Heavy showers have occurred at a few points in Manitoba and Saskatchewan but over the greater part of the western provinces it continues dry and very warm.

Forecasts. Moderate westerly winds, fine and moderately warm. Sunday—Moderate winds, mostly fine and warm, but thundershowers in a few localities.

saw no way but to surrender, and save their lives.

Along most of the French front it was comparatively quiet, although a hard local battle was continuing about a strong German redoubt, known as "Les Lias" which lies about a thousand yards southwest of the St. Jansbeek River. In their advance the French surged forward on either side of this position, making a sort of pocket around it, and it was seen that the small German garrison would be compelled to surrender shortly. The Germans delivered a counter-attack on the French extreme right flank, but this was repulsed by artillery fire.

The contact between the British and French armies was excellent. The prisoners accounted for to date totalled more than 370, and this figure represented considerably more than the entire French casualties along their whole front in their Thursday's offensive. The remarkably small casualties were due to the fine work of the French artillery. Preliminary bombardment of German positions was the most effective and the advance was made under a perfect barrage.

As was the case of the British front, about Langemark, the German barrage was totally inadequate whereon so much depends, work of the French counter-battery fire resulted in silencing a large number of enemy guns, and a result the French have been little troubled by gunfire in carrying out consolidations.

The work of the French engineers in this difficult terrain which as it approaches the river is a veritable morass had been thrust forward swiftly and when it came to bridging the flooded Steenbeek for crossing at dawn Thursday there was not the slightest delay in getting the numerous bridges over.

The French air service played an important part in the advance going ahead along the line and keeping up the contract of the patrols at the heights of two or three hundred metres. The German airmen who ventured into direction of the French were driven back and the air was cleared of enemy machines. In addition to patrol work the French airmen did good execution with machine guns and bombs on enemy redoubts.

Guymer the Hero. British front in France and Belgium, Aug. 18.—(By the Associated Press)—From a section of the French front it is reported that the renowned aviator, Captain George Guymer, brought down two more German machines, making 52 he has accounted for.

Guymer visited headquarters yesterday to receive a decoration from a distinguished Roumanian general. The medal was pinned on the breast of the intrepid aviator beside numerous orders he won, including a decoration from the King of the Belgians the day before.

Guymer undoubtedly was proud of the honor, but he was much disturbed over an article which has appeared in Berlin papers saying he is not really brave, but that he flew at a great height, and that he flew by swooping down on them. The purport of the stories was that Guymer did not play the game fairly. Guymer swore vengeance for this canard and as he walked away after receiving the decoration, with a determined look on his face, the young aviator gave full indication as to what he had planned. It may be added that he appeared to hold the deepest veneration of French soldiers. As he strode out of the headquarters grounds yesterday with his breast blazing in the sun from many medals the soldiers stood at attention all along the way, even those who were inside the offices rising to their feet as a tribute to the hero.

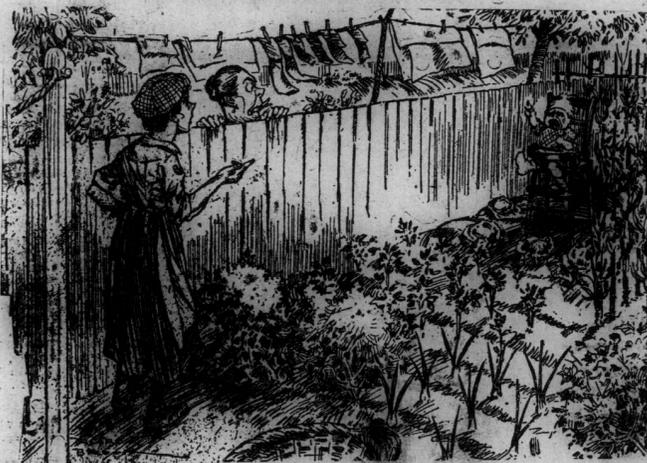
HUN ADMIRAL DEAD.

By Courier Leased Wire. Amsterdam, Aug. 18.—Rear Admiral Rosenzahn, of the German navy, is reported to have died Thursday while visiting in the Trentino. He was the first German governor of Kaio Chau, China.

FINNISH BUDGET.

By Courier Leased Wire. Petrograd, Aug. 18.—Notwithstanding the provisional government's dissolution decree, the budget committee of the Finnish diet renewed its sessions. M. Hallsten, Finnish member, protested on the ground that the meeting was unconstitutional and left the committee room, but Socialists and agrarians continued to sit. Petrograd newspapers declare the provisional government will not shrink from force in order to prevent the diet sitting.

JUVENILE LABOR ON THE LAND.



EXPLOSION IN QUEBEC POWDER PLANT TAKES VERY HEAVY TOLL OF LIVES

Feared Over 250 Were Killed When Great Factory at Rigaud Blew up Early This Morning; Rescuers Hasten to Scene of Appalling Disaster

By Courier Leased Wire.

Montreal, Aug. 18.—The powder plant at Rigaud, Quebec, blew up this morning. It is feared the loss of life will be heavy. The plant belongs to Curtis and Harvey, Ltd. The plant and adjacent grounds cover five miles square. Reports received here soon after the explosion said that the plant was nearly all in flames. Five thousand men and women are employed in the factory.

The explosion blew up the telegraph and telephone systems and rendered it most difficult to get information out of Rigaud.

The C. P. R. Ottawa-Montreal line is close to the plant. Traffic was suspended temporarily this morning on this section.

From points near Rigaud it was learned that three explosions took place. The first at nine o'clock, was heard in Vaudreuil, twenty miles away. It was followed by two others in quick succession.

Trainmen who got away from the scene of the explosion stated that forty houses at Dragon, a little village near the factory, occupied by workmen in the plant were blown down by the force of the explosions.

The whole countryside was covered by a dense copper colored smoke at ten o'clock.

A special train of doctors and nurses left Montreal at ten-thirty for the scene of the explosion.

At the local office of Curtis and Harvey, it was stated that the cause of the explosion, which apparently set fire to a portion of the plant, was not known. It was thought that not more than 300 would be working in the section of the factory affected and that probably many of these would have time to escape. The fire probably, it was believed, spread to other portions of the factory, causing the two other explosions heard. Men and women working in them would have time to get away.

Curtis and Harvey officials were hopeful that the death list would not amount to as many as 250, the estimate given at points near the plant.

Ottawa, August 18.—First reports received here from stations surrounding the scene of the disaster state that in the neighborhood of 250 persons are believed to have been killed.

Passengers on a C. P. R. train who passed near the scene of the disaster placed the number of dead from the first explosion at 20. They said the missing list is big, because everybody in the factory rushed into the open country when the first explosion occurred, and had not returned when their train left for Montreal.

The extent of the explosion may be judged by the fact that two farm houses, over a mile from the plant, were destroyed. At noon the village of Rigaud was blazing and it looked as if it would be totally destroyed.

WIN-THE-WAR.

By Courier Leased Wire. Kerrobert, Sask., Aug. 18.—At a win-the-war meeting last night a resolution was unanimously passed calling upon Liberal and Conservative executive to form a Win-the-War party to support a pro-conscription candidate. Both Liberal and Conservative nominees agree to withdraw in favor of the Win-the-War candidates.

MILITARY CLUB.

By Courier Leased Wire. Paris, Aug. 18.—The presence of so many allied officers in Paris has resulted in the formation of a military club for their use. Baron Henri

de Rothschild has offered his mansion in the Rue Saint Honore, with gardens reaching to the Champs Elyses, as a club house. Marshal Joffre has accepted the honorary presidency.

REFUSES.

By Courier Leased Wire. Paris, Aug. 18.—The newspaper Libre Pole announces that it refuses to increase its price to two cents as provided by a recent ministerial decree. The paper says the order is without legal base and that higher interests command resistance to such intolerable encroachment on the liberty of the press by the state.

RAILWAY STRIKE IN OLD LAND

Engineers and Firemen May Walk Out Unless Demands are Granted

8 HOUR DAY QUESTION

General Strike Appears To Be Impending At Present Time

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, Aug. 18.—There is considerable danger of an immediate strike, involving about half the engineers and firemen employed on British railroads. The main point at issue being the recognition of the principle of an eight-hour day, although the demand does not necessarily include making the principle effective during the war. The men concerned number about 40,000 and belong to the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen. The union is distinct from the much larger one of railway men.

The trouble has been brewing some time. The government recently stated in the House of Commons that the society's claims were inadmissible, but President Stanley, of the Board of Trade held two or three conferences with the leaders in the hope of arranging the dispute though without success. At a meeting of the executive committee of the society, held in London, it was decided to strike because the demands were not granted. Late in the evening, Secretary Bromley submitted to his colleagues further suggestions which were undisclosed. The executive committee despite the decision to strike agreed to submit Mr. Stanley's financial communication to a conference of delegates convened for to-day.

Secretary Bromley says although eight hours is normal and enough for any engineer, they often work 15 hours at a stretch, recognizing the necessity of working somewhat longer at the present time. The men inflexibly insist on the recognition of the principle of the eight-hour day. The newspapers point to the extreme gravity of a strike at the present time, the delay in transportation of wounded as well as reinforcements of men and supplies to ports. J. H. Thomas, M.P., of the National Union, says the union has protested strongly against the society's action, which he regards as a breach of labor truce. It seems, however, that there is some antagonism between the two unions. It is predicted that if the strike develops the government will take very strong measures.

Wardle Appointment.

London, Aug. 18.—The appointment of George J. Wardle, as parliamentary secretary of the Board of Trade, is welcomed by the press opposed to the Stockholm Socialist conference as indicating that he accepts the attitude of the government with regard thereto. His acceptance of the office is regarded as the more significant as he accompanied Arthur Henderson, who recently resigned as member of the War Council, and James Ramsay MacDonald, ex-chairman of the Labor party, on their recent famous visit to Paris, since which time he has not declared his views. The appointment of George H. Roberts, as minister of labor, necessitates his seeking re-election at Norwich. Other appointments do not incur the obligation of reappearing to their constituents.

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