

USE OF POISONOUS GASES CONFESSION OF WEAKNESS

British Eye-witness Reviews Recent Fighting Around Ypres—Large Numbers of Enemy Captured in French Advance Along Yser — Germans Affected by Poisonous Vapors Used Against Allies.

London, May 5, 11 p. m.—The British official "eye-witness" in a long account of the engagement of the last few days in the Ypres region, records that the Germans have continued the use of asphyxiating gases, but with less success than on the first occasion.

Despite the use of gas by the Germans, the narrative says, the French have made continual advances east of the Ypres Canal, south of Pilkete, the result of which was to remove the wedge occupied by the Germans in the French line between the canal and the Ypres-Langemarck road, a gain of over one thousand yards. During this advance, a large number of German prisoners were taken. While the French continued their advance in this section, it is asserted that the Germans attacked the British south of Neuve Chapelle, and at Hill No. 60, in both cases using gases. In the latter attacks, however, owing to a change in the wind, the fumes were blown back toward the Germans, who are believed to have suffered, as no attempt to advance was made by them. Similar tactics are said to have been adopted by the Germans in their attack north of Ypres last Sunday.

"About five o'clock in the evening," the eye-witness says, "a dense cloud of suffocating vapors were launched from their trenches along the whole front held by the French right, and by our left from the Ypres-Langemarck road to a considerable distance east of St. Julien. The fumes did not carry much beyond our front trenches but these were, to a great extent, rendered untenable and a retirement from them was ordered.

"No sooner had this started than the enemy opened a violent bombardment with asphyxiating shells and shrapnel on our trenches and on our infantry, as they were withdrawing. Meanwhile our guns had not been idle. From a distance, perhaps owing to some peculiarity of the light the gas on this occasion looked like a great reddish cloud, and the moment it was seen our batteries poured a concentrated fire on the German trenches.

"Curious situations then arose between us and the enemy, the poison belt the upper part shredding into thin wreaths of vapor as it was shaken by the wind, and the lower and denser part sinking into all inequalities of the ground and rolling slowly down the trenches. Shells would slow it for a moment, but it only settled down again as thickly as before.

"Nevertheless, the German infantry faced it, and they faced a hail of shrapnel as well. In some cases, where the gas had not reached our lines our troops held firm, and shot through the cloud at the advancing Germans. In other cases the men holding the front line managed to move to the flank, where they were less beyond the affected area. Here they waited until the enemy came on, and then bayoneted them, when they reached our trenches.

Charged Through.

Cloud of Vapor and Bayonet the Enemy.

"On the extreme left our supports waited until the wall of vapor reached our trenches when they charged through it and met the advancing Germans with the bayonet as they swarmed over the parapets.

"South of St. Julien the denseness of the vapor compelled us to evacuate some trenches, but reinforcements arrived who charged the enemy before they could establish themselves in positions. In every case the assaults failed completely. Large numbers were mown down by our artillery. Men were seen falling in heaps, and others scattered and running back to their own lines. Many who reached the gas cloud could not make their way through it, and in all probability a great number of the wounded perished from the fumes.

"Farther to the east a similar attack was made about 7 p. m., which seems to have been attended with even less success, and the assaulting infantry was at once beaten back by our artillery fire.

"It was not long before all our trenches were re-occupied, and the whole line re-established in its original position. The attack on the French met with the same result.

"A great deal has been said of the troops on the left, which saved the situation on April 22-23, but the services rendered by the British infantry farther east were no less remarkable. The area to the north and east of Zonnebeke, representing a narrow horn of the salient, formed a kind of bastion. Throughout the fighting this garrison held firm under a raking artillery fire from all sides, and under repeated assaults which were delivered with so much determination that the enemy more than once reached our trenches before they were beaten back.

"Not only was this so, but while our

men in this quarter were engaged in repelling attacks in front, they knew, all the time, that the troops on their left were falling back. The test was as hard as any soldiers can be asked to endure."

"The 'eye-witness' then relates incidents showing the steadiness of the Indian troops, who, he says, 'advanced under a murderous fire, their war cry swelling louder and louder above the noise.'

"Prisoners captured in the recent fighting," the narrative continues, "stated that one German corps lost eighty per cent. of its men in the first week, that the losses from our artillery fire, even during days when no attacks were taken, had been very heavy and that many of their own men had suffered from the effects of the gas."

"It would seem that a large number of infantry who had only received three weeks training were brought up during the battle to replace the casualties."

"The 'eye-witness' then quotes a German brigade order telling the officers to have the field of battle and the ground in the rear patrolled for stragglers. It complains that many of the soldiers accompany to the rear men who are only slightly wounded.

"They do not mean that the Allies have lost the initiative in the western theatre, nor that they are likely to lose it. They do mean, however, and the fact has been repeatedly pointed out that the enemy's defensive is an active one, that his confidence is still unshaken, and that he still is able to strike in some strength where he sees the chance, or where local advantage can be secured.

"The true idea of the meaning of the operations of the Allies can be gained only by bearing in mind that it is their primary object to bring about the exhaustion of the enemy's resources in men.

"The extent of the ground covered by either side, as measured on the map, is usually a minor matter, though a position of certain points or of areas may, for tactical reasons, be of considerable military importance. Progress, therefore, as a rule, may be judged by the drain caused by the enemy's strength and not by the extent of ground won or lost.

"In the form now assumed by this struggle—war of attrition—the Germans are bound ultimately to lose and it is the consciousness of this fact that inspires their present policy. This is to achieve as early as possible some success of sufficient magnitude to influence the neutrals, to discourage the Allies, to make them weary of the struggle, and to induce the belief among people ignorant of war that nothing has been gained by the past efforts of the Allies, because the Germans have not been driven back. It is being undertaken with a political, rather than a strategical object.

"It is, to that extent, from a military standpoint, a sign of weakness. Another sign of weakness is the adoption of illegal method of fighting, such as spreading poisonous gas. It is a confession by the German that it is losing their former great superiority in artillery and air, at any cost, seeking another technical advantage over their enemy, as a substitute.

"Nevertheless, this spirit, this determination on the part of our enemies to stick to nothing must not be underestimated. Though it may not pay the Germans in the long run, it renders it all the more obvious that they are a foe that can be overcome only by the force of overwhelming numbers of men and guns."

"This," says the eye-witness, "would impress some as failure in discipline on the part of German officers, but under the stress of fighting, and in view of the losses and the strain imposed upon the men, this is only to be expected."

"The writer concludes as follows: 'In regard to the recent fighting on our left, it is desirable that the German offensive should be viewed in its true perspective, and that it should neither be belittled or exaggerated. Effected in the first instance by surprise, as a novel form of attack, resulted in a considerable gain of ground for the enemy, as measured by the standard of trench warfare, the greater part of which has so far been maintained by such bodies of fresh troops as were available in the neighborhood of the operations.

"There seems to have been strong local counter-offensive undertaken in reply to the Allied offensive at other points, and made with the same object as previous attacks delivered during the last few months, such, for instance, as those made in February, southeast of Ypres at St. Eloi, on the 14th of March, and at other points on the French front. Between all these earlier efforts and the last there was no difference in kind, the only difference being that on this latest occasion the attempt had been carried out with the aid of poisonous gases.

"There is no reason why we should not expect similar tactics in the future."

RUMOR IS DENIED.

Dublin, Ireland, May 4, 5.15 p. m.—Investigation shows that there is no foundation for the report that the

BATTALION TO MOBILIZE IN SUSSEX AT ONCE

Officers Will Be Under Canvas by Monday— Promotions Among Men of 55th.

Definite orders have come for the 55th Battalion to mobilize in Sussex at once and it is understood that the officers will be under canvas there by Monday night.

Several non-commissioned officers' appointments were ratified yesterday. Color Sergeant Joseph Welsh of C. Co., 71st Regiment, who has been in the Halifax Composite regiment, but now in Frederickton, has been made a color sergeant major. He was born in New York but has become naturalized here.

Corporal Thomas Webster, Milltown, is to be promoted to lance corporal. He is a Frederickton man and while in Halifax had charge of laying military cable at McNab's Island.

Acting Corporal Harry Lynch of Frederickton has been confirmed in that position. Acting Corporal Smith Frost, Milltown, who lived in Marion, Me., before going to Halifax, has been made corporal.

Sergeants John Burroughs, Frederickton, and John Medcalf, Montreal, are confirmed in their rank. The latter is popularly known in military circles as the "war dog," having been cut up by bayonets. He has 13 scars of wounds received from bayonets. He has seen service in India and South Africa.

Lieutenant C. E. Williams, who has held that rank since February 17, 1912, and was attached to H. Company, 67th (Carleton) Regiment, reported for duty with the 55th yesterday and is being used at headquarters.

Quartermaster Sergeant Richardson and a detail from the quarter masters stores will proceed to Sussex in advance of the regiment.

Lieutenant C. S. Major of the 40th Battalion, Halifax, is a brother of R. A. Major of the 55th. He has been selected as one of the force of supernumeraries for overseas duty.

It is understood that one of the senior officers of the 55th Battalion is at present in Sussex superintending arrangements for the accommodation of the battalion.

Several non-commissioned officers of the 55th have volunteered to go with the overseas draft for reinforcements.

THE NEW POST OFFICE READY FOR TRIMMING

Plastering Well Advanced and Roof About Completed.

Good progress is being made with the construction of the new post office building in Prince William street. The stone work is all in place and the work of cleaning down the front of the structure has commenced.

The masons have been for some time at work on the interior and the plastering will be finished within the next few weeks. The roof has been prepared for the gravel and a few days more will see the roof completed.

The steam heating plant has been in operation all winter and all that will be necessary after the floors are in place will be to turn the radiators back in their proper places.

The electric wiring conduits have been placed in position and the floors have been prepared for their wooden covering. The floors are of reinforced concrete with a clinder concrete cushion and above this will be placed the hard wood flooring.

About eighty men are at present engaged in completing the structure and the contractors are rushing their work as far as is expedient.

The local architect in charge of the work is G. Ernest Fairweather who has J. Leonard Heans actively engaged on the structure.

Everything possible is being done to have the post office ready for occupancy as soon as possible.

The scaffolding is being removed from the front of the building and within a week or so citizens will have an opportunity of seeing the structure free from obstruction.

Simon Fein party will nominate Sir Roger Casement for the seat in parliament made vacant by the recent death of Joseph Patrick Nantett, member for the College Green division of Dublin.

GUNS OF ALLIED FLEET INFLECTED ENORMOUS LOSSES ON TURKISH FORCES

Paris, May 5, 12.55 a. m.—News from Mytilene, received by the Havas Agency, by way of Athens, says that Turkish prisoners who have arrived at Tenedos admit that the Turkish arm has suffered enormous losses from the combined fire of the guns of the fleet and the quick-firers of the expeditionary force.

The Allies, according to reliable information, occupied a number of strategic positions on May 4th, and the land forces continue to receive reinforcements daily.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

FRANCE

Paris, May 5.—The following official communication was issued by the French War Office tonight:

"In Belgium the day has been calm. On Tuesday night we captured a German trench and pushed our lines forward between Lizerne and Het Sas, of which we are still masters. The enemy made no counter-attack."

"In Champagne to the west of Perthes, an attempt to attack by the Germans was completely checked and the same thing occurred in the Argonne at Four De Paris."

"Some very spirited actions have taken place between the Meuse and the Moselle. At four o'clock in the morning the enemy strongly bombarded our positions at Les Eparges and the trench of Calonne. About ten o'clock he attacked at the latter point, but his check was complete. Our fire stopped him in front of our first line, which remains intact. The German losses were high and we made some prisoners."

"In the morning, likewise, three regiments advancing together attacked the positions recently captured by us near the Alilly wood, particularly that part to the east of the wood, and the open ground of the ridge, to the southwest. By this attack they succeeded in gaining a foothold in our first line, but a counter-attack enabled us almost immediately to re-occupy half of the ridge. We have maintained ourselves there, and towards the end of the day we delivered a second counter-attack the result of which is not yet known. This was for the purpose of re-taking the rest of the positions which the Germans had penetrated."

"In the Montmarc wood we gained a characteristic success, in carrying two successive lines of German trenches to the east."

RUSSIA

Petrograd, via London, May 5 (11.50 p. m.)—The following official communication was issued by the Russian War Office tonight:

"An enemy cruiser and other small hostile warships were sighted off Libau today."

"In the region of Rossiya, (Kovno Province) we are successfully advancing. On the other fronts, as far as the Upper Vistula, there is no change."

"In Galicia the fighting between the Vistula and the Carpathians is developing with unvarying stubbornness. The Germans have brought up to the fighting line fresh forces of great strength, supported by very numerous artillery. The enemy, followed his old tactics of attacking in massed formation, is suffering enormous losses."

"Some of our units fell back to the second line of fortifications, after desperate fighting. During the night of May 2-3, in the direction of Stry, the enemy re-captured part of the trenches on Mount Makukva. The following night we counter-attacked and dislodged the enemy. We captured here over 1,200 prisoners, including thirty officers."

"In the region of Angoulo, on the Upper Lomnitz, the enemy on May 3rd, assumed the offensive on a somewhat extensive front, but the movement was barren of results."

COLLEGE MEN FOR THE FRONT

The following is a copy of the announcement that is being issued in connection with the organization of the Second University Company which is going to the front shortly as a reinforcement to the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry:

The Canadian Militia Department has authorized the organization of a Second University Company for overseas service, to go as a reinforcement to the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. The company will be commanded by Captain Geo. C. McDonald, of the McGill Contingent, C.O.T.C., with Captain Percival Nelson also of the McGill Contingent, C.O.T.C., as second in command.

Owing to the success which has attended the recruiting for the First University Company which is at present up to full strength, and attached as "D" Company to the 38th Battalion Canadian Expeditionary Force, it was thought advisable to form another company and an application was made to the department for the necessary authority, which has been granted.

Recruiting for the company has already been started and many names have been received.

The company will be composed of graduates or undergraduates of universities or their friends.

Conditions of service and rate of pay will be the same as in the other units of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

The First University Company and the Toronto University and McGill University contingents, C.O.T.C., are going to a training camp at Niagara-on-the-Lake on May 3rd to the 15th, and it is expected that during that period a large number of recruits for the new company will be obtained. Immediately after the camp active recruiting will be commenced at Montreal.

The headquarters of the company will be at 382 Sherbrooke street west, and any enquiries or applications should be addressed there to Lieutenant Geo. S. Currie, recruiting officer. April 28th, 1915.

KING GEORGE'S WISH HIS BIRTHDAY BE QUIETLY OBSERVED

Ottawa, May 5.—His Majesty King George V. does not wish any special notices being taken of his birthday, June 3rd, this year with the exception of the usual flying of flags on public buildings. Militia orders issued to-night contain the following message from Colonial Secretary Harcourt to the Governor-General:

"It is His Majesty's wish that on the occasion of His Majesty's birthday celebrations should be flown, but no dinners, reviews, salutes or other celebrations should take place."

FUNERALS.

J. Roy Campbell, K.C., went to Windsor, N. S., last evening, where at the closing exercises of King's College, he and Hon. J. B. M. Baxter will have conferred upon them the honorary degrees of Doctor of Civil Law.

O. M. Melanson, M.L.A., Deputy Speaker of the Legislature, passed through the city from Fredericton last evening.

George B. Jones, M.L.A., returned to his home in Apsalooki from Fredericton last evening.

L. P. D. Tilley, C. B. Lockhart and Phillip Grannan, M.L.A., returned home from Fredericton yesterday.

W. F. Humphrey and P. G. Mahoney, M.L.A., passed through to Moncton from Fredericton last night.

F. B. Smith returned to the city on the Boston express last night.

AN AMAZING CURE FOR NEURALGIA MAGICAL RELIEF FOR HEADACHE

The Most Effective Remedy Know is "Nerviline"

The reason Nerviline is infallibly a remedy for neuralgia resides in two very remarkable properties Nerviline possesses.

The first is its wonderful power of penetrating deeply into the tissue, which enables it to reach the very source of congestion.

Nerviline possesses another and not less important action—it equalizes the circulation in the painful parts, and thus affords a sure barrier to the est-

BOARD OF TRADE NOTES

A new schedule of rates for Cape Cod Canal has been received by the Board of Trade.

Havana circulars of April 30th, say there are no changes to report in the prices prevailing for fish in drums. Codfish are quoted at \$87.75, haddock \$7, and halibut \$5.25 per 100 pounds.

Another Lot or Trimmed Hats At \$3.00 each

The very newest in
**Flowers,
Daisies,
Wreaths,
Flower Novelties
and Ornaments**
just in from New York.

Marr Millinery Co. Ltd.

A TURKISH REGIMENT IS ANNIHILATED

For codfish in cases the market has continued quiet. Stocks being heavy prices have declined. Norwegian quoted at \$9.50 to \$9.75, and cod from other sources at \$6.25 to \$9. During the week 12,000 boxes of blisters have arrived, and prices have declined to \$1.35 per large box. Heavy arrivals of potatoes have produced a superabundance of supplies; prices have declined to \$2.85 per barrel and \$1.35 per 100 pounds in bags.

London, May 5.—According to the Times' Petrograd correspondent Major E. Rapolo, the Italian military attaché of the Italian embassy has gone to the Russian field headquarters as Italy's official representative.

OPERA HOUSE

TONIGHT FRI.-SAT. Get. Matinee

Entire Change of Program
MACK'S MUSICAL REVUE
Dramatic Geo. Act—Play "THE POLICE INSPECTOR" with a Big Sensational Finish
Don't Miss This

Musical Skit "At the Seaside" Hear "Ship Ahoy" "Everybody Loves a Sailor" and Other Hits—The Best Show Yet

Saturday Night
The Big Country Store
Lots of Fun --- \$25.00 Worth of Groceries Given Away

"THE MASTER'S MODEL"

A Beautiful and Impressive Feature of an Artist. His Inspirations and His Wonderful Achievements

MONDAY
CHAS. CHAPLIN
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MABEL NORMAND
In the 2-Part Comedy
"HIS TRUSTING PLACES"

Timely Keystone Roller of Fun
BEATING HEARTS AND CARPETS

LOTS OF GOOD THINGS

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BARNER & MURRAY
That Tuppety Broadway Pair
in
BRIGHT DANCES and Chatter

FRANK CARMEN
The Hoop Manipulator
and Fancy JUGGLER

LYRIC

"ONLY A TRAMP"
Reliance Nature Play

WINSOME WINNIE
Beauty Comedy

WATCH FOR MONDAY'S VAUDEVILLE ATTRACTION

THE IMPERIAL THEATRE TODAY

In Association with Henry W. Savage and the Famous Players Company

WE OFFER
MR. EDWARD ABELS
IN
"THE MILLION"

A mystery farce in four reels with as many laughs as the title, in which the star impersonates six entirely different characters

A RIPPLING, BUBBLING COMEDY

A RUBE SKETCH
"A Rural Flirtation"
HODGE & LOWELL
Very Funny

NEWS PHOTOS
Universal Weekly
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16 Subjects

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For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought

CASTORIA

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