

Fighting at St. Eloi Between British and Huns
Germany Now Wish to Have Peace Very Soon
British Air Service is in Excellent Condition

GERMANY IS NOW ANXIOUS TO HAVE AN EARLY PEACE

This is the Deduction Drawn From the Speech of the Chancellor in the Reichstag and Other Sources.

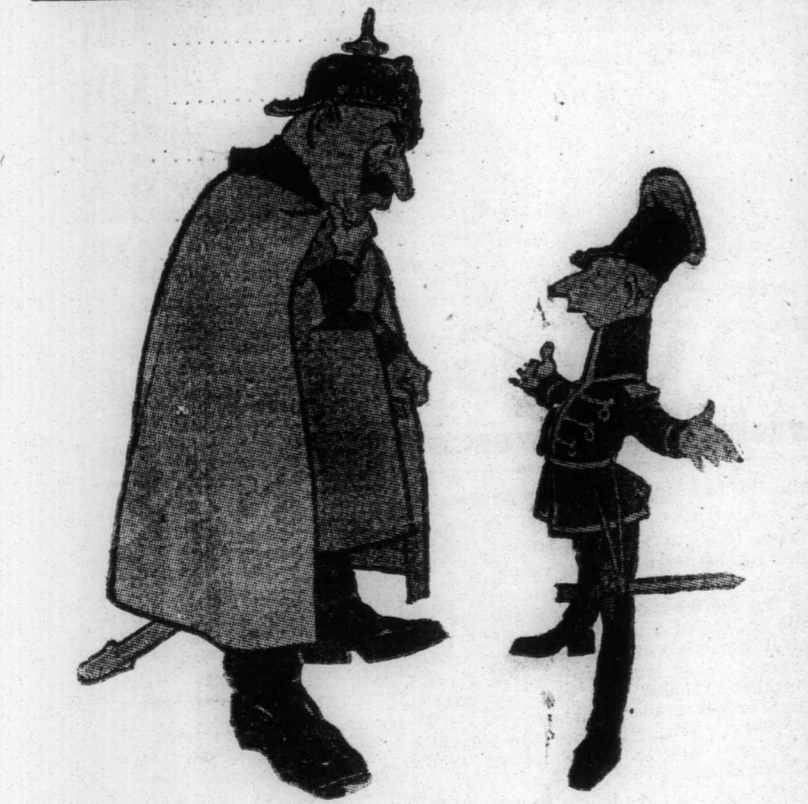
By Special Wire to the Courier. New York, April 7.—The London correspondent of the New York Tribune cables as follows: The speech delivered in the Reichstag Wednesday by Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the imperial chancellor, is considered good evidence that Germany is anxious for an early peace. Following closely Dr. Von Hefferich's admission of the seriousness of Germany's financial situation, the chancellor's statement that "the allies will be to blame if the massacre goes on" is interpreted here as a very strong sign that the German Government is weakening and fears to face the people. With a big allied offensive only a matter of a short time in the future, the German chancellor is evidently preparing the people for big losses, losses which the country is finding it harder and harder to bear. For a long time British statesmen and political observers have been anticipating a speech of this kind, knowing that eventually Germany would charge Great Britain with prolonging the war. "The reference to the blockade as 'inhuman warfare, aiming to reduce us by hunger' is exceedingly satisfactory to those who wish to stop imports into Germany. Instead of lessening this pressure, every effort is being made to tighten it, and in this connection Great Britain is perfectly satisfied to have neutrals compare her war record with Germany's. Though Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg's terms for Belgium are hardly as liberal as those suggested at the German embassy in Washington, they represent a considerable change from the terms enunciated six months ago. One view here is that the chancellor's words forecast a new German offensive, while another is that the country is planning to settle back into a defense. A high British official, whose views carry the greatest weight, commenting on the chancellor's speech to the correspondent last night, said: "If Von Bethmann-Hollweg meant to sound the possibilities of peace, then our answer is 'on what terms will you make peace?' At the present time yours are not exactly encouraging. Doubtless they have been somewhat modified by the Verdun failure, but they are still very far from what we could even consider them."

SOME RATHER FREE ADVICE

German in Reichstag Says U. S. Should Stay Clear of the Struggle.

By Special Wire to the Courier. London, April 7.—Frederich Von Payer of the Progressive Peoples party touched upon German-American relations in an address in the Reichstag yesterday from which Reuters' Amsterdam correspondent quotes as follows: "The political influence of America has risen with the duration of the war. Its growth lays the heaviest responsibility on those European states which caused the war. 'We must have the right to live and to be of some account. We feel ourselves united with America by ties of blood and we hope the American people will give us justice. At the present moment America can, perhaps, render the world the greatest service by keeping out of reach of the flames of war. 'Common dangers and successes bind us to our allies. Co-operation in peace must follow comradeship in war.' Herr Von Payer said the disposal of the submarine matter before the Reichstag was satisfactory to his party. Blizzards in N.Y. Malone, N.Y., April 7.—Northern New York is in the grip of an April blizzard. Five inches of snow fell during the night. It was still snowing to-day, with a strong northwest wind causing drifts. New York State legislative leaders approve the bill appropriating \$300,000 for mobilization of the entire National Guard next summer.

COURIER'S DAILY CARTOON



"What! more men!! But those thousands you had last week—" "ARGONNE, Papa."

AN INCIDENT IN CAREER OF A FAMOUS BRITISH FIGHTER



H.M.S. CANOPUS HAULING OFF H.M.S. ALBION UNDER FIRE

THE CANOPUS, WHICH FIRED THE FIRST SHOT AT THE GERMAN FLEET IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS' ENGAGEMENT AND PLAYED A PROMINENT PART IN OTHER OPERATIONS DURING THE WAR, IS SHOWN HERE ASSISTING THE ALBION, WHICH WENT AGROUND DURING AN ENGAGEMENT WITH THE ENEMY.

CAPT. MATTHEWS WAS SHOT BY A GERMAN SNIPER

A Touching Letter Has Been Received by His Widow. The following touching letter has been received by Mrs. Matthews in connection with the lamentable death of Capt. A. J. Matthews, formerly of Brantford and a lieutenant in the 98th Battalion, who was killed at the front. February 28th, 1916. Dear Mrs. Matthews—It was my sad lot to-day to conduct the funeral service of your dear husband. I feel sure you will want to know the least detail that may bring a crumb of comfort to your sad heart. Captain Matthews was sitting in a dug out with Major Roger having tea when a minor bombardment began. They both went out to see that the men were "standing to." A sniper evidently saw your husband as he momentarily looked over the parapet. He was shot through the head. Mercifully his sufferings were over in a moment or two as the shot was almost immediately fatal. His body was brought to Lochre in Belgium for burial in the church yard. His funeral to-day was with full military honors, with many officers and men present, including two Generals. After the bugle played "The Last Post," and the band of the Battalion which had played the Dead March in tear-dimmed eyes testified to a rare esteem and deep sorrow. We all feel a personal anguish. The loss which we have sustained is nothing compared with yours. Our hearts bleed for you in your sorrow and loneliness. Your husband was of his family and how he loved in his quiet way to tell of the little one he had not yet seen. He was in my billet on the way back from leave about a week ago, and seemed so happy and well. What a comfort and joy for you to have known and loved as good as true a man, and I am sure that your knowledge of his goodness will help you bear your loss believing that he who said: "Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends" will give to him Heaven's Royal Welcome. Believe me, my dear unknown but sorrowing sister. Yours with deepest sympathy, W. Beattie, Major, Second Division P.S.—It was the 26th that Captain Matthews was killed. Simla Sunk. London, April 7.—The British Steamship Simla of 5,884 tons gross, has been sunk. Eleven members of Asiatic crew were drowned. The rest were saved. The Simla was built at Greenock in 1894 and was of 5,884 gross tons with a length of 430 feet and 49 feet beam. The last mention of her in the shipping records is dated November 23, 1915, and it is presumed that she has latterly been employed in the government service. Jacksonville, Fla., zoo now contains 99 specimens of animals and birds.

Germany Again Ready to Explain Sub "Mistake"

By Special Wire to the Courier. Berlin, April 6, via London, April 7.—United States Ambassador Gerard held a conversation yesterday with Dr. Zimmermann, under secretary for foreign affairs, regarding the submarine situation. It is understood that the Foreign Office had no information to convey to the ambassador regarding the Sussex and the other steamships in which the German government has manifested an interest, but that there was an intimation that Germany is undoubtedly ready, as indicated in Dr. Zimmermann's statement of April 3 to meet the United States more than half way if it should develop that the Sussex was torpedoed erroneously. out of a million flights should have been unsuccessful or even disastrous is held to be a small per centage. There was a period during which the Germans, thanks to the Fokker machines, had in certain respects a considerable advantage, but this lead, it is stated, was speedily made up and during last month the British craft in France and Flanders more than held their own. Flying men back from the front on leave are unanimous in their views that the optimistic statements made by Under Secretary Tennant in the Commons are entirely justified.

CANADIAN TROOPS IN ACTION

By Special Wire to the Courier. Berlin, April 7 (by wireless Sayville)—Capture from the British of the mine crater positions, south of St. Eloi near Ypres, was announced to-day by army headquarters. The positions were defended by Canadian troops, according to the statement. The text of the official statement is as follows: "German troops after careful preparations and a tenacious fighting conquered British crater positions south of St. Eloi, defended by Canadian troops."

REVENUE GOOD; OPERATING COST IS KEPT DOWN. Manager Ireland Presents Report for Railway to Date in 1916. A very neat surplus is the result of the first three months' operation of the Municipal Street Railway for the first quarter of 1916. Manager Ireland's letter, accompanying the report, and the report itself, appears below. Brantford, April 6th, 1916. Gentlemen—I beg to submit herewith operating report for the three months ending March 31st, 1916. Revenue has been satisfactory and operating expenses have been lower than ever before in the history of the road. A large decrease in earnings will take place when the two Battalions quartered here are removed, and in addition to this, the earnings are now falling off owing to the public walking more now that finer weather has arrived. However, I am confident that even allowing for these items a sound position can still be maintained. A summarized statement is given below and complete detailed statements are also shown on accompanying sheets. All of which is respectfully submitted. L. G. IRELAND, Manager.

Table with financial data: EARNINGS: Passenger earnings, Freight earnings, Miscellaneous, Less refunds, OPERATING EXPENSES: Maintenance, Power, Operation, Administration and general, FIXED CHARGES: Debenture Interest, Sinking Fund, Leaving a net surplus of \$2,218 72.

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ASQUITH'S RETURN PUT CONSPIRATORS TO UTTER ROUT

Cabal Against Him Fell Flat After His Speech in the Commons. BONAR LAWS' FINE EFFORT Between the Two Crisis Was Met and Government Saved.

By Special Wire to the Courier. London, April 7.—(Cable to The New York Times)—Premier Asquith arrived in London in the early hours of yesterday morning from his trip to France and Italy. Prior to Mr. Asquith's return, doubts and fears were paramount among politicians as to his ability to checkmate the moves which have been made to undermine his leadership. The Westminster Gazette on Wednesday said: "Mr. Asquith will find that in his absence a little group of people who pursue him with unrelenting hostility, have prepared what they imagine to be a fatal trap for him. The married men's agitation is to have its climax in parliament one day next week, when according to their calculation, either Mr. Asquith or Mr. Bonar Law will be driven to resign, and in either case the coalition will be broken up. Mr. Asquith has said he will not carry the military service any beyond single men. Mr. Bonar Law has said he will not remain in the government if the Unionist party votes against him. It only remains, therefore, to obtain a vote of the Unionist party in favor of compulsion for married men to require Mr. Bonar Law to resign or the prime minister to go back on his word, and either course, it is considered, must be fatal to the government. Mr. Asquith appeared in the House yesterday afternoon and received a royal reception. He knocked the bottom out of the conspiracy by declaring that the government was not going to be rushed in a premature decision on the recruiting problem and the position of untested married men. He intimated plainly that he was not going to allow himself to be hustled by either the Glinger groups in the Commons or the Unionist party in the House."

STILL PIN THEIR FAITH IN THE UNDER-SEA CRAFT

Committee of Reichstag Thinks It Effective Weapon Against Britain. By Special Wire to the Courier. Berlin, April 6, via London, April 7.—An official report on the submarine question in the ways and means committee of the Reichstag, published to-day, gives new details regarding the attitude of the committee itself, voiced by the Nationalist, Ernest Bassermann, one of the leaders of the faction, urging an extended use of submarines, who drafted the report. Earlier reports of the committee's deliberations were from government sources, Major Bassermann, in his report, declares that the resolution of the committee intended to express neither confidence nor lack of confidence in the government, nor to criticize the earlier conduct of the submarine campaign, but only to bring out the belief in the Reichstag that the submarine weapon could be used as an effective means of meeting Great Britain's methods and winning a satisfactory peace. Referring to the passage in the resolution regarding "justified interests of neutral states" the report declares: "Even though respect for justified states is a matter of course in German policy, the committee believed it important in view of the agitation among neutrals stirred up by England, to declare expressly that their justified interests will be taken into account, just as naturally as we Germans will know how to refuse to comply with unjustified neutral demands. "In adopting this decision the committee's guiding thought was to give renewed proof at home and abroad that the Reichstag, in this desperate war for German existence regards unity as so important that doubt and further reaching desires must give way before it."

BRITISH AND HUNS IN FIERCE FIGHTING IN REGION OF ST. ELOI

Germans Attempt to Recapture Positions Which They Lost Ten Days Ago—Struggle Still Proceeding.

London, April 7.—The British official statement on the campaign in the western zone, issued last night, reads: "Early this morning, after a very heavy bombardment, the enemy attacked our new trenches at St. Eloi strongly. The fighting proceeded all day, and still continues. At Hooge a small hostile raiding party, which entered our trenches, was promptly ejected, suffering several casualties. The artillery on both sides has been active about Lievin, Lena and south Boesinghe." On Monday, March 27, the British captured a salient at St. Eloi, about five miles southeast of Ypres, with a front of 600 yards, some 200 prisoners being taken. The Germans have since made several attempts to retake the position. It is possible that the Canadians may be in the present engagement. When the positions were captured the men from Canada were immediately next to the attacking English corps and their artillery assisted. The Canadian eye-witness said that the English general thanked the Canadians for the assistance given. It is possible that the Canadians might have been moved to another part of the line since that time.