

ITALY OFFICERS DIED WITH COL. BECHER

RUSSIANS TAKING STAND TEN MILES WEST OF LEMBERG
DOMINION TROOPS USE ENEMY'S ELABORATE TRENCHESITALIAN AIRSHIPS
SUCCESSFUL IN
RAID ON AUSTRIA

Seriously Damage Stations
and Entrenchments on
Isonzo Front.

PROGRESS NEAR PLAVA

Forces Gaining Upper Hand
in Great Struggle Now
Developing.

[Canadian Press.]

Rome, June 18.—Via Paris, June 19.—A combined raid by an Italian naval seaplane and dirigibles upon Austrian positions in the Isonzo front is described in an official statement issued tonight at the war office. Serious damage is said to have been done to railroad stations and to Austrian entrenchments. All the machines returned safely to their bases. The Italians are reported to have gained further successes in the important struggle which is developing around Plava.

The communication follows:
"During the day and night of the 17th the enemy tried by long-range artillery fire and small attacks to reduce some of our most advanced positions in the Tyrol-Trentino region and Cadore. He was repulsed and vigorously shelled by our artillery.

Fortress Silenced.
"In Carnia we continued methodically to demolish the fortress of Malborghetto with our artillery. On the afternoon of the 16th the guns of the fortress tried to reply to our fire, but were reduced to silence.

"Further details continue to come in concerning the action in the environs of Monte Nero mentioned in previous statements. These reports show that our mountain troops performed most praiseworthy exploits. When military reasons no longer prevent a full account being given, the country will learn that not only the mountain troops, but other corps have won on several occasions the right to its fullest gratitude.

Batteries Shelled.
On the Isonzo front the struggle around Plava is assuming larger proportions and the importance of the success we have gained there becomes more and more evident. A naval battery shelled enemy batteries near Duino (on the Gulf of Trieste between Monfalcone and Trieste) with considerable effect.

"On the night of the 17th, while a naval seaplane was engaged in destroying the railroad station at Divaca (junction of the Istrian Railway), our dirigibles made an incursion over the enemy's territory bombarding with great effect, it appears, positions at Monte Santo and entrenchments facing Gradisca. Extensive damage also was done the Ortoledda station on the railroad from Gorizia to Dornberg. All the machines returned unscathed."

GOT MORE THAN OFFERED.
Rome, June 18.—Via Paris, June 19.—The assertion is made by newspapers of Rome that the Italian army now occupies 10,000 square kilometres (or kilometres is about two-thirds of a mile) of "unredeemed" territory or more than twice as much as Austria offered Italy for remaining neutral.

DIGS UP BONES OF
RUDE FOREFATHER
RESTING IN DUMP

Wilbert Watson Uncovers a
Human Skeleton While
Working on Post Holes.

NOT AN INDIAN BRAVE

Skull Shows No Sign of Any
Injury and Will Be
Preserved.

While digging post holes for a new fence at 11 Waverly Place this morning, Wilbert Watson, 549 Wellington street, uncovered a human skeleton two feet from the surface of the ground.

The skeleton was apparently that of an adult man, and according to Mr. Watson, the appearance indicated that it had been there for years.

Frame is intact.

There were no fractures or broken bones to indicate that foul play had been the responsible agent for the strange burial. So far as is known there is no old cemetery in this vicinity, but it is possible that the bones may be the last remains of one of the pioneer residents of this district. The finder was positive that the bones were not those of an Indian.

Retains the Cranium.
The bones were buried again and the hole filled in by Mr. Watson, but he retained the skull.

The spot where the bones were found has been used for years as a dump.

CANADIANS OCCUPY
TRENCHES RECENTLY
TAKEN FROM ENEMY

Are Eight Feet Deep With Brick Floors — Nearly in Spot
Where Sergeant O'Leary Won His V. C. For
Conspicuous Bravery.

[Special Cable to The Advertiser.]
London, June 19.—Lieut. Douglas Hallam, Royal Air Service, belonging to Toronto, is lying in a hospital at Alexandria wounded in the face and arms by shrapnel, and is progressing favorably. He was previously in a hospital with fever after six days and nights of continuous fighting.

News received here today says a great portion of the Canadians are now occupying trenches recently in possession of the Germans. They are eight feet deep, with brick floors, but only about two and a half feet wide.

These trenches bear eloquent testimony to the manner in which the Germans spent their time fortifying themselves during the winter.

Close here is a graveyard, marking the spot where Prussians and Germans had a hand-to-hand fight, fenced off with wire and boards and bearing the inscription: "In memory of those who fell here. It is the duty of those who follow to attend to flowers and weeds." As a result, each regiment has planted a different variety of flowers, which are kept clean and watered each day.

Near here also Sgt. O'Leary, ex-Norfolk Mounted Policeman, won his V. C. So the Canadians just now are on historic ground.

Allies Drop Bombs
on German Sheds

(Canadian Press.)
Amsterdam, via London, June 19.—Allied airmen dropped bombs on the German balloon sheds at Brussels Thursday, causing slight damage according to the Massbode.

BOOTLEGGERS
IS FINED \$300

Albert Morris Sold Whiskey
To the Soldiers in Camp,
Retailing 50-Cent Flasks
For \$1.00—Wife Also Lays
Complaint Against Him.

Caught selling 50-cent flasks of whiskey for \$1 to soldiers at the camp grounds, Albert Morris, of Quebec street, arrested following information laid by License Inspector Galpin, was today given the option by Police Magistrate J. C. Judd of paying a \$300 fine or spending three months in the county jail.

With sentence passed upon him, Morris stood up in the prisoners' dockets and said: "I will write to some of my relatives out west and try and pay that fine inside of two weeks."

Mrs. Mary Morris, wife of the prisoner, who laid a charge of non-support against him, stated that her husband had told her he was going to run a "blind pig" and make a lot of money selling liquor on the camp grounds to the soldiers.

The wife, who is a cripple was awarded \$6 a week for the support of herself and two small children, after she had told how on May 27 her husband had beaten her and thrown her out of the house, to which she did not return.

Six small flasks of whiskey found in the prisoner's possession were exhibited in evidence against the prisoner, who received another lecture from the magistrate for keeping a juvenile from school to aid him in selling goods on the camp grounds.

MOTHER SAYS 'I HAVE
TWO SONS LEFT'

The fortitude under crushing bereavement shown by Mrs. Becher, "Thornwood," has revealed a heroism equal to that of the gallant son, Lieut.-Col. Becher, whose death on the battlefield this week has been felt by Londoners in a very personal way. "I have two sons left. It is fair," she tells friends.

THE WEATHER

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 83; lowest, 47.

The official temperatures for the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 69; lowest, 43.

TOMORROW—FAIR AND COOL.

Toronto, June 19—8 a.m.

Forecast: Fair and cool.

Sunday—Fair and cool.

Stations. High. Low. Weather.

Victoria. 50. 30. Rain.

Calgary. 48. 28. Rain.

Winnipeg. 48. 28. Clear.

Port Arthur. 48. 28. Clear.

Parry Sound. 46. 26. Cloudy.

Toronto. 52. 32. Cloudy.

Ottawa. 52. 32. Cloudy.

Montreal. 52. 32. Cloudy.

Quebec. 52. 32. Cloudy.

Father Point. 52. 32. Clear.

Weather Notes.

The low area which was centred in Iowa yesterday morning has moved northeastward to the Upper Ottawa Valley with increasing energy, and has caused gales, with showers and thunderstorms, on the Great Lakes.

The weather continues cool in the Western Provinces, but there has been no rain since yesterday beyond a shower at Calgary.

CAPT. GORDON OF
STRATFORD KILLED

Popular Officer of 1st Battalion Falls in Action.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
London, June 19.—Capt. Glen N. Stratford, June 19.—Capt. Glen N. Stratford, son of ex-Mayor William Gordon, was killed in action in France on Tuesday, according to official word here today. He is the first Stratford officer to be killed.

For a number of years he was editor and major of the Collegiate Cadets and very popular.

Capt. Gordon was unmarried, and was engaged in the banking business prior to enlisting.

RUSSIANS RETIRE
BEHIND LAKE LINE

Fortifying New Defences Six
Miles Behind This
Position.

CONDITIONS FAVORABLE
German Correspondent Says
Lemberg Railways Are
Aiding the Defenders.

[Canadian Press.]

Petrograd, June 19.—Via London, June 19.—Admission is made in an official statement issued tonight at the war office that the Russians have retired beyond the line of lakes at Grodek, less than 16 miles west of Lemberg, their last line of defence in front of the Galician capital.

The communication follows:
In the region of Muraviovo and Shavli and on the Dubnyan entrenchments on the 17th resulted in no important changes. On the evening of the 17th on the Buzra and Rawka from Kosloff to Wola Sydowicka there were artillery duels.

Using the Gases.
Near Goumline the enemy spread a cloud of asphyxiating gas on a front of six versts (4 versts is about 2 1/2 miles). Conditions for the retirement of the Russians are not unfavorable, and the railroads and highways radiating from Lemberg are of the greatest value to them for defensive purposes.

NEW DEFENCE LINE.
Berlin, June 19.—Via London.—A correspondent in Galicia of the Lokal Anzeiger has sent the following dispatch to his paper:

Aviators report that the Russians are fortifying heavily along a line ten miles to the west of Lemberg. German advance patrols have been hurled back into Austrian territory between the Dniester River and the River Pruth.

The French, according to the latest news, are holding the Germans to the north of Arras. They now occupy positions on three sides of Bouchez, and they soon may make the German positions on this front untenable. In the view of British observers.

Italian Advance Shown.
Italy is attacking the Austrian front, the defenses with energy, but the only evidence of an advance is the report of the shelling of the railroad station at Gorizia, a fact which would indicate that the Italian batteries have been considerably advanced.

Rumors, as plentiful as contradictory, emanate from the Balkans that the entente allies have offered Bulgaria generous territorial terms, which special dispatches from Sofia declare to be absolutely satisfactory. Nevertheless, it is said that no actual alliance yet has been signed, nor will it be until Bulgaria's neighbors make the concessions she has been consistently demanding.

TWO WRITS ISSUED.—W. H. Tanton has filed a writ against Sutherland Cuddy of Parkhill claiming \$353.37 and 5 per cent since January 1, 1914, and \$25 costs for bills of exchange for \$335 drawn up by the plaintiff on the defendant.

Stephen B. Pocock has issued a writ against Hetta E. Allworth, W. B. Wainwright and Fannie Willis of St. Thomas for \$27.42, the amount, he claims, is due him on a promissory note made out by the first-named defendant and endorsed by the other two.

IS ACTING MAYOR.—Owing to the absence of Mayor Stevenson in St. Catharines today Ald. S. R. Manness is acting mayor.

1ST BATT. OFFICERS ARE
NUMBERED AMONG SLAIN

WERE "SUSPENSION"



Advertiser Illustration.
A husband and one-and-a-half dozen eggs. Of these two widely varying articles, Annie Warren, who was sentenced yesterday to three months in jail by Squire Chittick, for keeping a disorderly house, prefers the eggs.

Annie was to have wedded a soldier at 11 o'clock this morning. She did not learn his name. She is in the women's cells at the jail, not bethering about her would-be husband, but deeply concerned about the fate of a dozen and a half fresh eggs she left at her house near the Roman Catholic Cemetery just north of the city, before she was arrested Thursday night.

NOT BOTHERED ABOUT
INTENDED HUSBAND,
BUT WANTS EGGS

In Fact, Annie Warren Didn't Know the
Name of Man She Was
To Wed.

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CASHED CHECK BY
FORGING A NAME

Isaac Groat Must Pay Back \$13 After
Serving Month.

Isaac Groat, who pleaded guilty to a fraud charge before Police Magistrate J. C. Judd today, was sentenced to one month in jail on condition that at the end of his term he would repay the \$13 he secured in his illegal transaction.

Groat filled out a check signing his employer's name, John Coursey, and in getting John A. Brown to cash it. "I used to work for Coursey and sign his name to things for him, so I thought it would be all right to pass a check," was Isaac's excuse.

"I'm letting you off easy," said the magistrate, "on the condition that you make the money good when you come out. But if you don't I'll meet you here again some day and then—"

"No you won't," interrupted Isaac. "I'll pay the money or work it out."

PRIVATE MERCER OF
YORK ST. MISSING

Mother Relieved by Word From
Ottawa, Fearing He Was Dead.

Mrs. Martha Mercer, 10 York street, was notified officially from Ottawa yesterday that her son, Pte. John Carson Mercer, who went to England with the first contingent as a member of the 15th Highlanders, of Montreal, and who afterwards was transferred to the 45th Highlanders, of Toronto, before proceeding to the front, was among the missing between April 24 and April 29.

The war already has taken one of Mrs. Mercer's sons, Robert H., who was killed while assisting in an attempt to get Canadian guns out of a position where they were in danger of being captured by the Germans. He was a married man, and lived at 7 Bathurst street.

The news that John was missing, Mrs. Mercer said today, came rather in the nature of a relief to her. She feels that if he had been killed the authorities would have known before now, and she is hopeful, therefore, that he is alive and a prisoner of war. As she had not heard from him since April 27, she had begun to fear the worst.

Captains Gordon, Fritz Robinson and Helliwell, and Lieutenants James, Young, Brown, Chesham and Jones, All in London Battalion, Died Gallantly With Lieut.-Col. Becher in Festubert Fighting — Many Well Known Here.

KILLED IN ACTION

LONDON.
Lieut.-Col. H. C. Becher, second in command.
WINDSOR.
Capt. Joseph C. Helliwell, STRATFORD.
Capt. Glen L. Gordon.
Lieut. James C. Lawrence Young.
WOODSTOCK.
Lieut. Cecil Arthur James, STRATHROY.
Capt. "Fritz" Robinson.
Lieut. E. Nelson Chesham.
NORWICH.
Lieut. Robert Renwick Brown.

TWO 1ST BATTALION
OFFICERS KILLED

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Ottawa, June 19.—Though the cable stories of the fighting at Festubert, where so many Canadian officers and men lost their lives, are of the most meagre type, yet they are sufficient to indicate that the brunt of the attack was borne by the 1st (Western Ontario) Battalion, the second in command of which, Lieut.-Col. H. C. Becher, of London, was one of the first to fall.

Nine officers of that battalion are now officially reported killed in action. Of these five are those whose next of kin resided in the old country, and as these are always notified several days in advance of the next of kin in Canada, officers here are inclined to believe that the casualty list, when given out for publication, will include the names of many Western Ontario men.

Seriously Hit.
When Lieut.-Col. Becher's death was announced unofficially yesterday, it was intimated that he was one of the few officers of the 1st Battalion whose name had been added to the glorious Roll of Honor. Today, however, the situation has been changed, and it seems as if the 1st Battalion will be one of the heaviest sufferers to date.

With nine of the officers known to have been slain it seems probable that the great majority of those holding commissioned rank in the 1st Battalion are now casualties, and that the entire regiment must have been terribly decimated.

The official list gives the following names of subalterns killed:

Uncle Hears of Death.
The news of Capt. "Fritz" Robinson's death was conveyed to London by a telegram received by Col. Fisher, of the postoffice, an uncle, from the captain's father, who is rector of the Anglican Church at Stratford.

Capt. Robinson and his brother left with the same battalion, but his brother secured a commission in the Duke of Cornwall's Regiment, and is now with that corps in Egypt.

Capt. Helliwell of Windsor was reported this morning unofficially, at "the same time that Capt. George Wilkinson, of the same city, was reported wounded.

Gen. Hughes' Kindness.
The fact that General Hughes has personally wired us that he is endeavoring to have my brother's body brought back gives us some hope that a special case will be made," said Major Becher. "It surprised me greatly when I received this message, for just a short time before I had been in telephone communication with General Hodgins who informed me that it would be impossible for us to have the body of my brother brought back for burial. It looks as if General Hughes will make a special case for us, and we are hoping that such will be possible."

77TH COMMANDER KILLED
WHILE RALLYING HIS MEN

Dispatch Says That He Ignored Order To Retreat and Fell
From Bullet Fired At Close Range By the German
Riflemen.

Cheering on His Men.
Although it has been unofficially reported that Lieut.-Col. H. C. Becher lost his life while rallying his men after they had been practically surrounded by German infantry, the relatives of the late commander of the 7th Regiment know nothing officially of the particulars of his death.

A news item published in a Detroit paper today says that an order to retreat had been given, and that it had been ignored by Lieut.-Col. Becher who fell from a bullet from a short range.

No Further Word.
"We have no particulars yet of my brother's death," declared Major A. V. Becher, medical officer of the 23rd Battalion, when this story was referred to him. "It is course possible that such was the case, and it is likely probable, for it seems as if there were a retreat, but so far we know nothing of the circumstances."

Major Becher received a telegram from Brigadier-General W. E. Hodgins, acting adjutant of the Canadian forces, officially notifying him of his brother's death. No details were contained in this message, however.

Although there has been a set rule that no bodies of fallen Canadians will be brought back for burial in this country, Major Becher and his mother are optimistic that the body of Lieut.-Col. Becher will be brought to London for interment.

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GIVEN ALIMONY

Mrs. Rachael Beattie Succeeds in Suit
Against Husband.
Mrs. Rachael Beattie, of London Township, was awarded alimony in an action at the weekly sittings of the supreme court today by Mr. Justice Lennox, against her husband, Thomas Beattie. A motion was made for interim alimony and disbursements, and an order made against the defendant for the payment to his wife of \$5 weekly, payable monthly in advance, and for \$60 disbursements, to be paid within ten days.

Ed. Meredith, K. C., acted for the plaintiff, and Finley Perrin for the defendant.

500 PUPILS WILL
WRITE FOR ENTRANCE

Largest Class in City's History Gathers
Monday.

The greatest number of pupils on record to write the entrance examinations here will commence on Monday afternoon. Inspector Edwards stated to The Advertiser this afternoon that nearly 500 city pupils will write. The children have all been working the hardest for some weeks, many of them attending extra classes, besides studying in long hours of study. All the candidates will write their papers in their own schools.