

THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

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

Vol. I. No. 277.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1914.

Price:-1 cent.

GERMAN CRUISER SUNK BY MINE

Paris, Dec. 11.—The German cruiser Frederick Karl, is reported sunk in the Baltic by a mine and most of the crew drowned, according to an official statement by the Ministry of Marine.

Russians Report Defeat Of 3 Out of the 5 Columns Operating Against Them

Austro-German Forces Invading Poland Receive a Severe Setback at the Hands of the Czar's Forces and it Looks as if the Whole Invasion Movement Were Checked

OFFENSIVE MOVEMENT OF RUSSIANS ACCOUNTED FOR ONE OF THE COLUMNS

And Resulted in the Capture of Thousands of Prisoners and Many Guns—Military Observers Say That There Must be a General Withdrawal Along German Line

London, Dec. 12.—Of the five Austro-German columns which for some days appeared to be making steady progress in their invasion of Poland, three have suffered checks, according to an official report from Russian headquarters.

GERMAN AUXILIARY CRUISER SUNK

Valparaiso, Dec. 11.—It is reported here that the German auxiliary cruiser, Prinz Eitel Friedrich has been sunk by a Japanese cruiser.

REPULSED 3 GERMAN ATTACKS

Enemy Resumes Offensive in West, but is Checked—Allies Continue to Make Progress

Paris, Dec. 11.—An official report this afternoon says "The enemy yesterday showed a certain activity in the region of Ypres. He directed several attacks against our lines, three of which were completely repulsed.

Bishop Jones Off To Bermuda On Sunday's Train

His Lordship Bishop Jones leaves by to-morrow afternoon's express en route to Bermuda to spend the winter with his people in that part of his diocese.

Germans Forced Their Prisoners To Dig Trenches

Paris, Dec. 10.—The Temps correspondent describes a meeting near Soissons with a French infantry soldier who had just escaped from the Germans.

WHY ITALY REMAINED NEUTRAL

Army and Navy Were Unprepared for Modern Warfare—Now Almost Ready to Lend Allies a Hand

Rome, Dec. 10.—The question that has concerned, even agitated all Europe—why has Italy delayed in following sentimental and practical interests and intervening on the side of Great Britain, France and Russia?

I am able to state on incontrovertible authority that Italy has marked time in a policy of watchful neutrality, solely because her army and her navy were unprepared for the enormous demands that modern warfare makes.

Thus within two weeks from December 2 Italy will be prepared as completely as the experience and foresight of her statesmen and general staff can prepare her to defend national honor and to realize the vision of a greater Italy—an Italy that will possess the Adriatic as an Italian lake.

There is not the shadow of a doubt, and there never has been, where Italy's sympathies and interests incline in the great war.

Italy Poorly Prepared at First. When the war began, and for four months thereafter, Italy was in poor position to match her military and

naval power against the magnificently equipped organizations of Germany and Austria. It was a simple matter for her to withdraw from the Triple Alliance, since Germany and Austria were powerless to force her to join them; but the alternative demanded by the people, a frank alliance with Great Britain, France and Russia, was impossible.

First of all, she lacked modern field guns. It required 1,746 of the new Deport type to supply a mobilized army. The work of procuring these guns was not begun until 1912, and large contracts were placed with the Creusot works in France. The Deport is the invention of Col. Deport, the designer of the French service gun, and has remarkable advantages over the German and Austrian types.

Before the war began some contracts were fulfilled. But when the war started France needed the batteries of Le Creusot and Italy could do not less than privately acquiesce in the taking over of her contracts. Immediately, however, the war department began to rectify this loss. I am not permitted to state how Italy has succeeded in completely arming her twenty-four regiments of artillery with the most up-to-date guns, but it has been done.

At the outbreak of the war boots, uniforms and underwear were lacking. There were not enough such accessories in the Quartermaster's depots to supply more than four army corps at the most. Quietly but energetically Italy has been manufacturing and purchasing from abroad all such articles. Probably 1,500,000 pairs of boots have been obtained from America.

Four months ago there was a shortage of horses, of automobiles and of motor transports. The first business of the War Department was to procure horses and remounts for the twenty regiments of cavalry. That has been done. By the middle of next month, probably 25,000 horses will have been obtained from the United States and South American countries.

More than 20,000 horses were purchased in the district of Viterbo alone. A tremendous sum has been spent on motor transports. Coincidentally, a system has been devised which places all private motor cars at the disposal of the State. In these respects Italy has made up deficiencies and is ready for stern eventualities.

Germans Evacuate Yser Bank

Paris, Dec. 12.—A French official bulletin issued in Paris this afternoon says the enemy has completed the evacuation of the West Bank of the Yser Canal to the Northern House of the Ferryman and we occupy this bank.

Trade Losses To Gt. Britain Through War

London, Dec. 10.—The British board of Trade figures continue to show a natural effect of the war. Imports in November decreased \$62,400,000; exports decreased \$100,770,000.

While the imports of food increased \$25,000,000, there was a decrease of \$32,500,000 in the importation of cotton from America, and a decrease in Egyptian cotton of \$7,000,000. All other raw materials also declined.

The principal shrinkage in exports were \$25,000,000 in cotton and yarns, and \$10,000,000 in coal.

Stephano Arrives. Stephano arrived at Halifax at 7 a.m. She leaves again at midnight for New York. On Wednesday next she leaves New York again.

Prospero left Baie Verte at 7.30 a.m.

Another German Is Interned

London, Dec. 12.—A despatch to The Evening News from Valparaiso says that it is reported that the German cruiser Dresden has taken refuge in an inlet on the coast of Patagonia.

Less Diphtheria

The outbreak of diphtheria at Broad Cove is being stamped out. Only two houses are now quarantined.

Oporto Prices

The Fisheries Department had a cablegram from Oporto to-day that the price of fish was 32 to 34 for large; 26 to 27 for small.

Florizel leaves Halifax at mid-night.

ENTIRE FAILURE OF THE GERMAN PLANS IN POLISH CAMPAIGN.

Paris, Dec. 12.—The Petrograd correspondent of The Matin wires his paper that the German plan in Poland has completely failed.

His despatch says the German plan which consisted of turning the Russian right wing at Lowicz and, at the same time completing a similar manoeuvre on the extreme left on the River Douajec, has completely failed.

The Germans are reduced to making bloody and useless attacks on our front.

The other column which has suffered is that composed of German and Austrian troops which has been trying to outflank the Russian left south of Cracow. In this case it was the Russians who assumed the offensive, and they claim that, after a tenacious resistance, they defeated the German taking several guns and 2,000 prisoners.

Of the German columns operating the relief of Cracow. The German columns which for some days appeared to be making steady progress in their invasion of Poland, three have suffered checks, according to an official report from Russian headquarters.

force but were, according to the Russian account, repulsed with heavy losses to the invaders.

That the Germans laid great store on the success of their attack here is shown by the fact that during two days they faced the Russian trenches seven times and were driven back by effective fire.

The other column which has suffered is that composed of German and Austrian troops which has been trying to outflank the Russian left south of Cracow. In this case it was the Russians who assumed the offensive, and they claim that, after a tenacious resistance, they defeated the German taking several guns and 2,000 prisoners.

Of the German columns operating the relief of Cracow.

The Secret of Italy's Delay Is Now Out

Rome, December 10.—The Italian people now understand why their Government stood to one side and took no part in the war. There is less uproar over the passive attitude. The bustle of preparation let slip the secret. All Italy has been a veritable dynamo of energy, getting ready for what? The future alone will answer. But this much can be said, if blundering diplomacy or deliberate malice stab at Italy's honor or her national aspirations a prepared and powerful nation will be quick to take vengeance.

Two German Submarines Destroyed Making an Attack on Firth of Forth

London, December 12.—A despatch from Edinburgh to The Daily Mail reports that two German submarine attacks were made on the Firth of Forth Wednesday morning but that they were repulsed.

Two of the enemy's submarines, the despatch says, were destroyed. The Admiralty has no confirmation of this reported submarine attack in Scotland.

"Glasgow" Trounces The "Karlsruhe"

London, December 12.—The German cruiser Karlsruhe has been in battle with the British warship Glasgow off the coast of Brazil and has been damaged, but managed to escape says a despatch received here to-day from Rio de Janeiro.

It is stated by the Admiralty that no official report of such a battle has been received, but the news also comes in a message from Buenos Ayres which says that a part of the Karlsruhe's stern was shot away by the Glasgow's six inch guns.

21 Heroes Of British Army Receive The Victoria Cross

For Signal Acts of Valor and Devotion Performed in the Face of the Enemy—Indian Sergeant Also Gets the Coveted Decoration

London, Dec. 12.—The granting of ten Victoria Crosses within the last few weeks brings the total number of those awards during the present war up to twenty-one.

The Victoria Cross is the highest reward given to members of the British Army "for some signal act of valor or devotion performed in the presence of the enemy." The decoration is accompanied by a pension of \$50.00 a year.

Official lists of the surviving holders of the honor at the beginning of the present war contained about one hundred and fifty names.

The first Indian recommended for the Victoria Cross is Havildar (Sergt.) Gunga Singh of the 57th Wildes Rifles. Havildar and fifteen men were attacked in the trenches just before dawn by overwhelming forces.

In the brief hand-to-hand struggle which ensued sixty Germans were

Fire Destroys Kiel Barracks

Copenhagen, Dec. 12.—News has been received here that the great Gottorp Barracks, near Kiel, has been completely destroyed by fire, the origin of which is kept secret.

English Mail

The English mail per S.S. Queen Wilhelmina closes at noon, and the Mongolian's at noon, Tuesday.

Wesley Bible Class

Wesley Bible Class meets every Sunday afternoon at 2.30 p.m. in Wesley Church. Visitors heartily welcomed.

S. S. SERVICES AT COLLEGE HALL

"Patriotism" is the subject chosen for the Anniversary Service of the Cochrane Street Sunday School to be held in the College Hall to-morrow.

The afternoon gathering at 2.45 is to be addressed by the Hon. J. A. Robinson. There will be special singing, recitations and other exercises.

A hearty invitation is extended to all. Order of service provided. Collection for school fund.

Britain's Naval War Lord Thanks Our Japanese Allies

Says it Was the Earnest Cooperation of the Japanese Fleet that Rendered the South Atlantic British Naval Victory Possible

London, Dec. 12.—Replying to his congratulations on the victory of the British squadron over the Germans of the Falkland Island, W. S. Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, to-day cabled the Jap Minister of Marine as follows:

"With the sinking of the Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, Leipzig and Nürnberg, the whole German squadron which had its base at Tsing Tau at the outbreak of the war has been destroyed and the base itself is reduced and captured.

Concludes Operations. "This event marks the conclusion of the active operations in which the Allied fleets have been engaged in the Pacific for four months.

"Though it has fallen to the British fleet in the South Atlantic to strike the final blow, it was largely owing to the powerful and untiring assistance rendered by the Japanese fleet that this result has been achieved.

WEATHER REPORT

Toronto (noon)—Moderate to fresh N.W. to West winds; fair and moderately cold to-day and on Sunday.