

AMERICAN SHIP IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN TORPEDOED

ITALIANS OCCUPY SIXTY-SIX MILES OF AUSTRIAN FRONTIER---ALL STRATEGIC POINTS OCCUPIED

ITALIANS OCCUPY FRONTAGE OF OVER SIXTY MILES LONG

New Line Has as Its Extreme Points Catorello on North and Gulf Triest on South--Intimation Causes Great Enthusiasm.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Rome, May 25, via Paris, May 26. The bulletin issued by the war office today announcing that the Italians had entered upon Austrian territory, caused great enthusiasm. This report showed that the Italians were occupying all the mountains between the Isonzo and Isenzo rivers, and that advancing, they had taken Cormons, which commands the road leading to Gorizia, an important entrance for Austrian frontier stations. Passing from the north to the center of eastern Friuli, the report indicated that the Italians also had occupied the village of Versa, which is near the river of the same name, and on the road to the southern Friuli, Cervignano, another important Austrian frontier station leading to Monfalcone and Trieste had been taken.

The Giornale Italia commenting on the bulletin says: "The Italian advance occupied a front of one hundred kilometers (about 65 1/2 miles) and has as extreme points Catorello on the north, to the Gulf of Triest on the south. The first contingent of the Italians penetrated into Austrian territory distances ranging from two to four miles.

AUSTRIANS RETIRED. Rome, May 26--Offensive operations resulting in the occupation of Austrian territory along the frontier from Lombardy to the Adriatic are claimed in an official statement issued last night by the war office. Italian troops have seized various towns in the Trentino and forced their way through the mountain defiles. On the lower Isonzo, attacks were continued to gain the line of the river. The Austrians are reported to have retired destroying bridges behind them. Italian aviators bombed Monfalcone, near the Gulf of Triest.

Rome, via Paris, May 26.--The Giornale D'Italia today comments on the firm attitude maintained by the Italian people on the occasion of the departure from Rome of the Austrian and German diplomats. The newspaper says this is especially deserving of notice because the people were witness over the bombardment of Ancona and Venice, undefended towns and reports that Italians in Austria had been treated inconsiderately, while attempting to return home.

A later despatch received from Berlin said that the torpedo boat destroyer flying a British flag fired three times upon the castle there, which shell finding its mark.

PEOPLE EXULTANT. Rome, Italy, May 25, via Paris, May 26. From here to Mounting Civitate, the ancient capital of Friuli, and



LIEUT. BREWSTER. Son of Mr. W. S. Brewster, K.C., who has received a commission with the 36th Battalion, shortly to leave for the front under Col. Ashton. He had his military training with Toronto University Corps.

then to Palmanova, Latisana and Ferdonno, the whole of Friuli is exultant in the belief that work has been begun by the Italian army to liberate their eastern brothers. The tri-color has been hoisted everywhere, not only on the municipal buildings and private houses, but on the high pinnacles of the belltowers of the churches. Even the smallest villages celebrated today the initiation by Italy of a war which they hope will restore the country's unity. Along the roads passing through various small villages the people in their celebrations had hung flags from the poplar trees to decorate what they declared was destined to be "the triumphal road to Trieste."

NOVEL SITUATION. Cologne, via London, May 26.--A novel situation has arisen in the relations between Germany and Italy, according to the usually well-informed Berlin correspondent of The Volks Zeitung. Formally no state of war exists between the two countries, the paper says, but Prince Von Buelow is said to have informed the Italian Government before leaving Rome that German troops were so closely intermingled with the Austro-Hungarian forces that Italy, in making war against an Austro-Hungarian army, faced the danger of firing upon German soldiers. The ambassador is re-

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ASQUITH'S COALITION CABINET

Kitchener at the War Office, Balfour at Admiralty

London, May 26.--The new Asquith Administration--(formally announced today and given elsewhere)--discloses some surprises, despite the many forecasts. Chief among these are the retirement of Lord Haldane, the present Lord High Chancellor, the transfer of Mr. Winston Churchill from the Admiralty to the Duchy of Lancaster, the inclusion of Lord Lansdowne without a portfolio, the appointment of Mr. Balfour to the Admiralty in succession to Mr. Churchill, and the transfer of Mr. Lloyd George from the Exchequer to the new office of Minister for Munitions.

Earl Kitchener remains at the war office. Mr. Bonar Law, Lord Lansdowne and Sir Edward Carson join the Government, and Labor is represented by Mr. Arthur Henderson. Mr. Bonar Law, the Unionist leader in the House of Commons, is a Canadian.

KING HONORS HALDANE. The official announcement of the members of the new Cabinet stated that the names had been approved by the King. The following statement was added:

"A place in the Cabinet was offered to Mr. John Redmond, but he did not see his way clear to accept. "The Prime Minister has decided that a new department shall be created, to be called the Ministry for Munitions, and charged with organizing the supply of munitions of war. Mr. Lloyd George has undertaken the formation and temporary direction of this department. During the term of his office as Minister of Munitions he will vacate the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer.

It is understood that Mr. Henderson will assist the government in relation to labor questions specially arising out of the war. "The King has been pleased to confer upon Viscount Haldane the "Cross of the Order of Merit." Viscount Haldane retires from the Cabinet.

Some curiosity is aroused by the practical elimination of Mr. Churchill from executive duties in connection with the war, Lord Fisher apparently, having got his way.

HOW CABINET STANDS. The Cabinet now stands: 13 Liberals, 8 Unionists, 1 Labor and Lord Kitchener. The Postmaster-General is not included in the new cabinet.

In the selection of the new cabinet on a coalition basis some of the former ministers had to be sacrificed. These are: Viscount Haldane, Herbert Samuel, Earl Beauchamp, Charles E. H. Hobhouse (who still retains office), Joseph A. Pease and Lord Emmott.

IMPORTANT GATHERING

By Special Wire to the Courier. London, May 26--12:15 p.m.--An important meeting of Unionist members of both houses of parliament, was held today at the Carlton Club, in connection with the political crisis and the formation of the coalition ministry. The purpose of the meeting was to acquaint the rank and file of the party with the details of the negotiations which resulted in the new cabinet and to invite their support in future action. On the account of the absence of nearly 100 Unionists who are at the front or engaged in other ways in the war, the meeting was not as large as would have been the case ordinarily.

Harry C. Hewson, of Gore Bay, was killed by a train at Locust Hill.

The victim of the Lambton motor accident was identified as William Robinson of Barrie, not "Scotty" Reid, as at first thought.

Mayors and Councilors of many Canadian municipalities gathered in Ottawa to discuss the unemployment problem.

Personnel of New British Coalition Government

- Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury--HERBERT H. ASQUITH. Liberal, unchanged. Minister without portfolio--LORD LANSDOWNE. Unionist, former Leader of the Opposition in the House of Lords, and sometime Governor-General of Canada. Lord High Chancellor--SIR STANLEY O. BUCKMASTER. Liberal, former Solicitor-General and Chief Censor. Lord President of the Council--LORD CREWE. Liberal, former Secretary for India. Lord Privy Seal--LORD CURZON OF KEDLESTON. Unionist, sometime Viceroy of India. Chancellor of the Exchequer--REGINALD MCKENNA. Liberal, former Home Secretary. Home Secretary--SIR JOHN A. SIMON. Liberal, former Attorney-General. Foreign Secretary--SIR EDWARD GREY. Liberal, unchanged. Colonial Secretary--ANDREW BONAR LAW. Unionist, former Leader of the Opposition in House of Commons. Secretary for India--J. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN. Unionist, sometime Chancellor of the Exchequer. Secretary for War--LORD KITCHENER. Non-partisan, unchanged. Minister of Munitions--DAVID LLOYD GEORGE. Liberal, former Chancellor of the Exchequer. First Lord of the Admiralty--ARTHUR J. BALFOUR. Unionist, sometime Prime Minister. President of the Board of Trade--WALTER RUNCIMAN. Liberal, unchanged. President of the Local Government Board--WALTER H. LONG. Unionist, sometime Secretary for Ireland. Chancellor of Duchy of Lancaster--WINSTON SPENCER CHURCHILL. Liberal, former First Lord of the Admiralty. Chief Secretary for Ireland--AUGUSTINE BIRRELL. Liberal, unchanged. Secretary for Scotland--THOMAS MCKINNON WOOD. Liberal, unchanged. President of Board of Agriculture--LORD SELBORNE. Unionist, sometime First Lord of the Admiralty. First Commissioner of Works--LEWIS HARCOURT. President of Board of Education--ARTHUR HENDERSON. Labor, former private member. Attorney-General--SIR EDWARD CARSON. Irish Unionist, sometime Solicitor-General.

GERMANS REPLIED WITH VIOLENT MASSES ATTACKS

French Troops Held Fast and Gained Near Burval and to the North East of Lorette.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Paris, May 26.--The French war office this afternoon gave out a report on the progress of hostilities, reading as follows:

"The checks inflicted upon the enemy yesterday in the region of Angres and at a point to the north of the height of Lorette, determined the formation and temporary direction of an attack of extreme violence. There was furious fighting last evening and during last night. We were successful in retaining all our gains. Our troops gave evidence of magnificent courage and showed splendid tenacity of purpose.

"The Germans in the beginning delivered a counter attack against the works captured by us to the north-west of Angres. Furious attempts to show splendid tenacity of purpose, but our troops were subjected, we retained possession of all our new positions.

Furthermore, at the end of the day, we occupied almost entirely the position near Burval, where we gained a footing in the afternoon. Here we are maintaining ourselves under a violent fire. At the same time we have gained ground on the heights to the north-east of Lorette, and we have captured a trench of the enemy in the environs of Souchez.

Late Wires

IN THE VAN OF BATTLE.

By Special Wire to the Courier. Ottawa, May 26.--"They remain to the forefront of the fight," says Sir John French to-day in a message to the Premier on the gallantry of the Canadian troops, "and I feel assured that their heroism and sacrifices, which are contributing so splendidly to the attainment of our immediate ends, will bind together Canada and the British Empire with those indissoluble bonds which are forged on the field of battle."

Sir Robert Borden cabled in reply:

"We are proud that our Canadian soldiers have proved themselves worthy of the great traditions of the British army, which under your leadership has already achieved such splendid distinction by its valor and heroism during

"An artillery engagement of considerable severity developed yesterday in the region of Soissons; there was another such encounter near Rheims. "From the rest of the front no reports have been received."

"During the day of May 25, our aviators showed great activity along the entire front, and they were successful in several endeavors to bombard the enemy. They threw down in all 203 projectiles. Of these 22 were large bombs of a weight of ten kilos (about 22 pounds each). Fourteen shells, weighing 100 kilos (220 pounds) and 55 weighing 43 kilos (95 pounds) each, together with other missiles were thrown down by our men. The efficacy of this fire was proved at several points, particularly at the German aviation park, located at Hervilly, to the southeast of Roisel, where a hangar and a machine were set on fire; at the German reserve aviation camp at Grand Priel, to the northwest of St. Quentin, where a hangar was shattered and at the St. Quentin railroad station, where the gasoline supply tanks were destroyed.

"During the course of the preceding night four shells were thrown from the air on the railroad station at Douai. The outbreak of a fire in the vicinity of the freight depots was observed."

the present war, in which the greatness and unity of our Empire have been made more manifest than ever before."

FAMOUS CAVALIERS.

Rome, May 25--All the men of the Medici family have volunteered to go to the front. Among them is Luigi Medici, a member of the chamber of deputies. One of the recent well known members of this family was General Giacomo Medici, who was regarded as one of the most brilliant leaders under Garibaldi. He was made a marquis by King Victor Emmanuel because of his splendid defence of Rome in 1848.

Referring to the naval and aerial activities of Austria-Hungary along Italy's Adriatic coast line, immediately following the declaration of war, the Giornale D'Italia has this to say: "The Austrian raid along the Adriatic coast of Italy with attacks upon undefended towns and villages is proof of Italy's need, for the defence of her own shores, to have possession of ports in the Istria Islands and on the Dalmatian coast."

THE GEORGIAN MINSTRELS

There is a real treat for music lovers at Victoria Hall Thursday, May 27th. The Georgian Minstrels will be there.

AMERICAN SHIP NEBRASKAN WAS TORPEDOED TO-DAY

Crew Reported All Safe, But Vessel is Making Water Badly--Foreholds Flooded--Later Wires.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

LONDON, May 26.--The American steamer Nebraskan, Captain Green, from Liverpool May 24 for Delaware breakwater, was torpedoed yesterday by a submarine at a point forty miles west-south-west of Fastnet, off the south coast of Ireland.

The sea was calm at the time. The crew at once took to the boats and stood by the steamer.

It was soon ascertained that the Nebraskan was not seriously damaged. She had been struck forward, and her foreholds were full of water.

The crew returned on board and got the vessel under way. No lives were lost among the crew. The Nebraskan did not carry any passengers.

The foregoing information was received to-day by the British Admiralty in London, and it was at once communicated to the American embassy.

London, May 26.--The American Steamer Nebraskan, from Liverpool, May 24 for Delaware breakwater, is reported to have been torpedoed.

A later report said the Nebraskan was proceeding, and that no lives have been lost. It is evident that she was not seriously damaged.

The American steamer Nebraskan, Captain Green, is owned by the American Hawaiian Steamship Company of New York, and is of 2,824 tons net register. On her last eastward trip, she left New York, May 7 for Liverpool.

FOREHOLDS FLOODED

The members of the crew of the Nebraskan all are on board. The foreholds of the vessel are full of water. The foregoing information was received by the British admiralty and at

GERMANS' GLEEFUL COMMENT

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Rotterdam, May 26--German papers are naturally seizing with avidity upon the ammunition scarcity score of the Northcliffe press, and at a period when from the achievements in the field Germany can create little enthusiasm in the Fatherland, they are more than grateful for the most vehement portions being dished up with great relish, while Count Reventlow finds in them the inspiration for a long article on "British worry."

"They are suffering from ammunition," he gleefully writes, "and there is no confidence anymore in the national military giant, Lord Kitchener. That is especially remarkable, for from him was expected successes fabulous beyond all previous experience; no other man in the world was capable of such an epoch-making success. We shall follow his further career with interest, whether at the war office or not. They might just as well leave him peacefully at the place where he is, for his successors would have difficulty in bettering his endeavors in the ammunition industry."

"That this point is talked of with such vehemence in London, and was, next to the criticism of Churchill, the principal cause of the defeat of the cabinet, shows more than anything else the direction in which the situation is tending. For Germany all these things prove that the unassailability of England is only a legend--one of the many signs which show how right has been our methods of war against England and that the means used will be more effective the longer they are used."

BECKER TO DIE.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Albany, N.Y., May 27.--The court of appeals to-day fixed the week beginning July 12 for the execution of former Police Lieut. Charles Becker, convicted of the murder of Herman Rosenthal.

The Ontario Optometrical Association declared war on vendors of fake spectacles which they claim are flooding the Province.

once communicated to the American embassy.

WASHINGTON AROUSED.

Washington, May 26--Consul General Skinner at London cabled to-day: "The British Admiralty reports the American Steamer Nebraskan torpedoed."

He gave the same location as mentioned in the London despatches and added that he had received no direct report.

Coming close on the Lusitania disaster, the news that another American ship had been endangered aroused more than ordinary attention, but all officials were disposed to hear details before making comment.

UNDER OWN STEAM.

London, May 26--A message to Lloyds from Kinsale Ireland says that the Nebraskan passed that point at 11 o'clock this morning apparently bound for Queenstown.

The Nebraskan was down at the bows. She was proceeding under her own steam and flying the signal "I am now under control."

LIBERALS REGRET CHANGES

Cabinet is Not Hailed With Enthusiasm But Will be Given Fair Play.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, May 26.--As might have been expected the New Cabinet while it meets with no strong disapproval at the hands of the editorial writers in the London morning papers, raises but little enthusiasm in any quarter. The most that is accorded is a disposition to give the new government every opportunity to prove its worth.

More disappointment is noticeable among the Liberal than the Conservative papers, mainly at the shelving of Viscount Haldane, and the appointment of Sir Edward Carson as attorney general.

Some dissatisfaction is also expressed that the new cabinet instead of being smaller, is larger than the old one, and also at the loss of David Lloyd George as Chancellor of the Exchequer. It is understood however, Mr. Lloyd George's appointment as Minister of Munitions is only temporarily and that he will come back to the Chancellorship when the question of Munitions becomes less acute.

Other appointments much criticized include that of Mr. Balfour as First Lord of the Admiralty, the ground being taken that the giving of this portfolio to him deprives the nation of the services of Lord Fisher. The elevation of Sir Stanley O. Buckmaster also is criticized.

PTE. G. M. CUNNINGTON HAS RETURNED FROM ACTIVE SERVICE HERE

Has Taken Part in Three Big Fights, St. Eloi, Ypres and Armentieres--Got His Feet Frozen and Was Invalided Home.

The first Brantford man to return from the firing line was interviewed this morning by a Courier reporter. Pte. G. M. Cunnington was in the fierce engagement at Ypres, where the German trenches were less than 60 yards distant. He has also been at Armentieres and St. Eloi. During the winter months there it was so cold that many of the soldiers got their hands and feet frozen. Such was the case with Cunnington. In spite of his heavy coat, he got his feet frozen, and had to be invalided home.

He left Brantford to join the Queen's Own of Toronto when the war broke out. He left with them and took active part at the front with the British troops. He stated that he had been well fed and taken care of while there when not on duty. These shifts were of four days duration, during which time the lads had in parts to stand in water up to their knees. Pte. Cunnington, during his brief stay there, learned to have a respect for the German snipers. At such short distances as the trenches were near, some of them were good shots. But most of the fighting was done with hand grenades.

The young lad is looking better now that he has returned to his home and friends. He has secured his old position in the Hydro Electric office.

GOODS!

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