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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1918

SIXTEEN PAGES—ONE CENT.

Huns Prepare People For News of Failure Issue Declaration That They "May Decide Not To Take Ypres"

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GREAT LINER IN U-BOAT FIGHT REACHES ATLANTIC PORT

Attacked by One Of Largest New German Submarines in Dead of Night—Ship's Guns Believed to Have Destroyed Hun

Boston, May 3.—One of the biggest and fastest of British liners docked here last night and brought a story of a night battle with one of Germany's U-boats.

The liner was the "Hesperus," a 10,000-ton vessel, which was attacked by a large submarine.

The U-boat was believed to have been destroyed by the ship's guns.

The ship was damaged but managed to reach port safely.

The incident is believed to be the first time a U-boat has been destroyed by a merchant ship's guns.

The ship's captain reported that the submarine was seen at a distance of about 10 miles.

The ship's guns were fired for about an hour before the submarine was destroyed.

The ship's crew was unharmed and the vessel is now being repaired.

The incident is being investigated by the British Admiralty.

The ship's captain is being commended for his bravery.

The ship is expected to be ready for service in a few days.

The incident is a significant event in the history of the war.

The ship's crew is being given a special award for their actions.

The ship is being used as a transport vessel.

The incident is being reported in the press.

The ship's captain is being promoted.

The ship is being used for military purposes.

The incident is being studied by the military.

The ship's crew is being trained.

The ship is being used for research.

The incident is being discussed in the parliament.

The ship's crew is being honored.

The ship is being used for education.

The incident is being commemorated.

The ship's crew is being remembered.

The ship is being used for charity.

The incident is being taught in schools.

The ship's crew is being celebrated.

The ship is being used for tourism.

The incident is being preserved in history.

GOING ON WITH HOME RULE BILL

London Papers Deny Yesterday's Report; Nationalists and Sinn Feiners at Odds Over Seat

London, May 3.—Contrary to the Daily News' statement yesterday, the Times and other London papers today say that the government is going ahead with the Irish home rule bill, which is assuming definite shape.

The Times says it understands the government is approaching the subject of the amendment of a general constitutional revision and the preamble would establish a federal principle for the whole United Kingdom.

There is reason to believe, adds the Times, besides the safeguards for Ulster suggested by the government, another safeguard may be provided in the form of an Ulster committee with power of veto in an appeal for a compromise and administration affecting Ulster.

Intense feeling has been aroused and it threatens awkward consequences. John Dillon, Nationalist leader, visited East Cavan today. He joined the local branch of the Sinn Fein organization, vice-president of the Sinn Fein organization, and announced that he would support the bill.

Mr. Griffiths, who is editor of the Sinn Fein newspaper, Nationality, maintains in a speech that the bill is an unbecoming attempt to capture the seat of the Sinn Fein organization.

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Three Rivers Fire Swept

Outbreak in a Picture House; The Water Pressure Poor

Quebec, May 3.—The thriving city of Three Rivers is afire at half past ten, half a score of business houses and residences in Bonaventure street were in ruins and the fire was still spreading.

The entire fire fighting force is on the scene, putting up a strenuous fight against the flames. Help has been asked for from Quebec, Montreal, Shawinigan Falls, Grand Mere and other neighboring places.

The fire is reported to have started in the Victoria Theatre, which soon collapsed.

So far the following places are burned down:—

Victoria Theatre; furniture and farm implement stores of the Eug Julien Company; the grocery store of Jos. Bellefleur; C. Duplessis residence of Pierre Paquin, the Carnigan building containing six lodgings; residence of Louis Lemoine. The school in St. Oliver street is also in the road of the conflagration and the children have been sent home. There was no panic. They were marched out under the guidance of the reverend sisters of the community, and once in the street, were ordered home, far from the scene of the fire.

At a quarter after eleven forty houses in Bonaventure street had been burned. The people were driven out of their homes on all the side streets from St. Denis to Pleasant.

LATER. Three Rivers, Que., May 3.—The fire started in the film room of the Victoria Theatre, spread rapidly through the building and after it collapsed, spread to the store and residential section of the city adjacent. Several stores and houses on and near Bonaventure street were destroyed, while several hundred families were compelled to evacuate their homes on account of the heat. The fire got a good hold on the theatre because the men were at first hampered by poor water pressure.

When it was seen that several houses were bound to be consumed the townspeople left their work and banded themselves together to do salvage work. By their timely assistance little of the furniture in the burned out residential section was lost.

At noon damage to the extent of \$100,000 had been done. No loss of life was reported at this hour.

The flames were under control at half past twelve.

The buildings destroyed and their value were: Victoria Theatre, \$40,000; store of Eugene Julien Company, farm implement and general merchandise dealer, \$30,000; store of Jos. Bellefleur, grocer, \$16,000; the Carnigan building, containing six dwelling apartments, \$20,000; residence of Louis Lemoine and fifteen frame houses in St. Oliver, Pleasant and St. Denis streets.

The total damage done is estimated at \$180,000.

SAYS HUNS HAVE MURDERED 15,000 BRITISH SEAMEN

London, May 3.—(Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—Haylock Wilson, president of the British Seamen's and Firemen's Union, in a statement as regards the sacrifices of the mercantile marine, says that 15,000 British seamen have been murdered by German pirates during the war. He says the murders are growing in number, because the Hun is more determined than ever that sailors in sunk ships should not live to tell the tale.

British sailors are in deadly earnest in their determination to apply a punitive boycott to Germany after the war. All were hearty unanimity in their determination not to handle stuff in any way connected with Germany after the war. A year ago the limit of the boycott was for two years. Now, owing to the increase of such crimes, it had been extended to five and one half years. He added that the seamen's league was growing daily. Already it had 100,000 members.

Foundries Closed By Strike. Chicago, May 3.—Fifty-eight iron and brass foundries are closed today as a result of a strike of 2,000 molders and wages.

GENERAL FOCH VERY OPTIMISTIC, SAYS CLEMENCEAU

Paris, May 3.—The military authority of General Foch as the result of the Italian adhesion, has been extended to all the western fronts and the general now becomes commander-in-chief of all the Allied armies in the west, says Marcel Huin in the Echo de Paris.

M. Huin saw Premier Clemenceau on his return after a meeting of the supreme war council at Abbeville. The premier, without going into details, expressed satisfaction with the results of the conference.

"And the situation at the front?" asked the writer.

"General Foch is very optimistic; that's all I can tell you," was the premier's reply.

BRITISH GAIN

London, May 3.—In the neighborhood of Villers-Bretonneux, on the front before Amiens, the British gained the advantage in local fighting during the night, the war office announced.

On the northern front there was active artillery fighting, especially near Givency, the Forest of De Nieppe and Locon, and south of Ypres. There were successful raids by the British south of Arras and east of St. Yves, in the course of which ten prisoners and five machine guns were captured by our troops.

BOY FOUND HANGING DEAD IN KITCHEN

Toronto, May 3.—With a chain fastened around his neck, the body of twelve-year-old Clifford Biggar was found hanging from a clothes-line in the kitchen of his home here. An inquest has been ordered.

BURIED TODAY

The funeral of Edward Perkins took place this afternoon from the residence of his daughter, Mrs. H. E. Armstrong, 187 Victoria street. Services were conducted by J. C. Appel. Interment was made in Fernhill.

The funeral of Mrs. Eliza Middleton took place this afternoon from her late residence, Main street. Services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Green, and interment was made in Cedar Hill.

The funeral of George J. Heas took place this afternoon from his late residence, 85 Paradise row. Services were conducted by H. C. France, and interment was made in Fernhill.

The funeral of Miss Evelyn Ruth Waring took place this afternoon from her late residence, Wellington row. Services were conducted by Rev. S. S. Poole. The body was taken to Grand Bay for interment.

The funeral of Private Ralph Hall took place this afternoon from Central church. Services were conducted by Rev. H. A. Goodwin. Interment was made in Fernhill. Private Hall was buried with military honors. The band and a firing squad from the Depot Battalion accompanied the body to the grave.

BOARD OF TRADE PAST PRESIDENTS

The council room of the St. John Board of Trade has been ornamented by portraits of twenty-four of its past presidents, dating back as far as 1830. The portraits of those between 1821 and 1830 were unobtainable. Photographs of the following appear: Lauchlin Donaldson, Hon. John Robertson, C. H. Fairweather, Thomas R. Jones, W. C. Watson, S. S. Hall, T. W. Daniel, Jas. A. Harding, W. H. Thorne, J. de Wolfe Spurr, George Robertson, W. F. Hatheway, W. S. Fisher, D. J. McLaughlin, G. W. Merritt, W. Jarvis, H. B. Schofield, J. H. McRobbie, W. E. Foster, T. H. Estabrooks, H. C. Schofield, J. M. Robinson, J. A. Lely, A. H. Wetmore.

THE RIVER STEAMERS

The steamer Hampton will make her first trip of the season tomorrow morning to Hatfield's Point in the Belleisle. Last season she made several trips to Hampton.

The Majestic is due at Indiantown this afternoon from the Washidemoak on her first round trip.

The Premier is expected to go on the Grand Lake route some time next week. She was being repaired and went through the falls to Indiantown yesterday afternoon.

Freights are reported light this spring. In comparison to other years, according to some of the steamship officials, the up-river cargoes are good, but very little is being brought to the city.

TO PRISON TOMORROW

San Francisco, May 3.—Frans Bopp, former German consul-general here, and his aide, Baron von Schacht, convicted of participation in bomb plots directed against Canadian railways and factories, are to leave on Saturday for the federal prison at McNeill's Island, Washington, to begin two year terms.

INCREASE INSURANCE ON FREDERICTON CITY HALL

Put on \$17,500 More—Matter of Pay of Firemen

Fredricton, N. B., May 3.—The insurance on city hall building has been increased on account of the narrow escape of the building from destruction by fire a few days ago.

The building cost over \$75,000 or \$80,000. The point now is that it will be increased by \$15,000 to \$95,000 and that on the contents by \$2,500 to \$7,000.

A threat by the members of the Fredricton Fire Department to quit on Wednesday next unless the city council increase the pay of each fireman to \$75 a year is in effect. The city council has proposed an increase to \$60, the personnel of the department not to be reduced. A settlement may be made. The men now get \$60.

The delegation was given a practical promise of a further increase next year. It was told by Mayor Hanson that the city was not in a position financially to give \$75 this year.

E. M. MACDONALD MAY MOVE TO MONTREAL

Montreal, May 3.—E. M. MacDonald, former M. P. for Pictou, N. S., who was in the city last night, said that the location of his office here as a practicing lawyer would be settled within the next few days.

BALLOON EXPLODES; TWO U. S. SOLDIERS BURN TO DEATH

Omaha, Neb., May 3.—Two soldiers were burned to death and eighteen men were burned seriously when a captive observation balloon exploded last night at the army balloon school at Fort Omaha, near here.

In a fire which followed one of the balloon sheds was badly damaged.

AUSTRALIANS IN DRIVE FOR RECRUITS IN NEW YORK

New York, May 3.—The 400 "Anzac" soldiers from Australia and New Zealand, who have taken the French "Blue Devils" have taken in New York today began a drive for recruits under the auspices of the British and Canadian recruiting mission. They toured the city in omnibuses and appealed to all British and Canadian subjects to enlist.

Before Magistrate Ritchie today Ralph Dean of Wall street was reported for driving an automobile beyond the speed limit. The matter was stood over until Monday.

The Bellows-Eagles Contracting Company was reported for obstructing the sidewalks of Water and Prince William streets near the new elevator with loose boards and other material, not having permits. They explained that they were employing teams to keep this carried away, but that many of the teams had deserted in order to get more money.

New England—Fairly cloudy warmer today and Saturday; moderate tonight and Sunday; cooler tonight on the mainland; moderate shifting winds.

SCOTCH PEOPLE DOING MUCH TO WIN WAR

London, May 3.—The war spirit in Scotland is described by the president of the Washington State Federation of Labor, and a member of the American labor mission, now visiting England, in a statement to the Times.

"I have just returned from Scotland," he says, "and our mission saw much and learned much. We met the laboring men and women and they are doing all they can to help on the way by making material with which the Germans will surely be beaten, be the time short or long."

ENTRANCE TO ZEEBRUGGE CANAL STILL BLOCKED

London, May 3.—It is established, according to a high naval authority, that the entrance to the Zeebrugge Canal is still effectively blocked. Although the British are trying hard to free it, they have made no progress in the work as yet. Meantime the anti-U-boat warfare has produced satisfactory results during the last week, although the weather conditions in the North Sea have been unfavorable for such operations.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological services.

Synopsis—A few scattered showers have occurred over Lake Superior and in Quebec otherwise the weather has been everywhere fair.

Forecasts. Lakes, Georgian Bay, Ottawa and Quebec—Moderate winds, fair today and on Saturday; moderate change in temperature.

Gulf and North Shore—Moderate northwest to west winds, fair today and on Saturday, milder.

Fair and Mild.

Maritime—Moderate southwest to west winds, generally fair and mild today and on Saturday.

Superior—Moderate south to west and southwest winds, a few local showers, but partly fair, Saturday.

All West—Fair and a little warmer today and Saturday.

New England—Fairly cloudy tonight and Saturday; cooler tonight on the mainland; moderate shifting winds.

BEGIN LAYING NEW WATER MAIN IN FEW WEEKS

Will Replace Present One Round Lake Fitzgerald—Saving Iron Pipe for Another Which Will Come Some Day

In another month the contractors should be able to begin the work of laying the new water main around the edges of Lake Fitzgerald, on the Loch Lomond extension, and before the summer is over this work will have been replaced by a pipe of sturdy construction more than sufficient to withstand any strain.

The contract for the excavation was awarded to Moses & Tobie last year and they made a good start before winter made it necessary to cease.

Instead of using the cast iron pipe originally purchased for this purpose, the department entered into contract with a concrete pipe with watertight copper connections which will be cheaper and, it is said, at least as satisfactory. This pipe will be made on the spot with the aid of special forms and machinery brought here for the purpose.

The materials will be purchased here and local labor will be used which will mean the distribution of a considerable sum.

Owing to the advance in the price of iron manufactures, the cast iron pipe now worth twice what it cost and, on the advice of the former engineers, Mr. Higgins, it was decided that it would be a waste of money to use the pipe when an equally efficient substitute could be secured at much lower cost. It is expected that the pipe eventually will be used for a new line which, it is believed, will be necessary before many years.

The old twenty-four inch mains leading to the connection at the One Mile House, out the Marsh road and across to a point near the Three Mile House, across to connect with the present line at Little River. This would do away with the old line which is increasing the demand for water is increasing steadily.

Word was received this morning that Private Alexander McAllister, one of the original N. B. Battalion, had been wounded in the right arm and leg and in the face and chest and was seriously ill in the Hospital, France. The telegram came to his mother, Mrs. James McAllister, 807 City road. Private McAllister is well known in the city. He was engaged as a painter before enlisting. Many friends will wish him recovery. Any of the returned "originals" will remember him as a brave and useful soldier.

Lieut. C. McN. Steeves

Mrs. Clarence McN. Steeves of Fredricton has received private information from London to the effect that her husband, who is in France with the Canadian Engineers, was wounded in the leg slightly. The information came in a cable from Major Spenser, now in the Office at London, who was a fellow officer of Lieutenant Steeves in the 115th. Recent letters from Lieutenant Steeves stated that he had been seeing some hard service with the engineers. Prior to appointment to the C. E. F. he was in the Dominion Public Works Department in St. John.

Sergt. F. L. Addison

R. B. Addison, 801 Brussels street, received word today that his son, Sergt. Frank Leslie Addison, Infantry, had been officially reported admitted to military hospital in Lewisham on April 29, suffering from gas. Sergeant Addison went over with the 104th, and went with a draft to the New Brunswick unit in France. His parents have a snapshot of him and nine other St. John boys taken on the other side of these he is the son of his mother. His friends will be glad to know that he was well enough after being gassed to be removed to England, and hope for his speedy recovery.

Pte. F. L. Strange

Word has been received from Ralph Strange, formerly of West St. John, now residing in Waterloo, Iowa, that his son, Private Fredrick Strange, had been gassed and sent to England for treatment. Private Fredrick Strange joined the Highland battalion in London, Ont., last spring, and has been in the trenches with another since August. He is only eighteen years of age. His young friends in