THIRD CANADIAN DIVISION GETS BAPTISM OF FIRE

LAST WEEK'S FIGHT BRILLIANT SUCCESS FOR BEATTY AND BAD BLOW TO THE KAISER'S NAVY

(Continued from page 1)

The admiralty tonight issued a statement saying there were the strongest grounds for the belief that the British navy, in the battle with the Germans off Jutland last week, had accounted for a total of eighteen German men-of-war, and that there was nothing to add to or subtract from the original statement of the British losses.

The statement gave the German losses as two battleships, two dreadnought battle cruisers, four light cruisers, nine torpedo boat destroyers and a submarine.

NO CHANGE IN THE BRITISH CASUALTIES.

The pessimism which prevailed as a result of the admiralty's original statement of losses, which is now considered to have been needlessly candid and conservative in under-estimating the extent of the German losses, as compared with those of Great Britain, has been greatly lessened by the latest statement.

A despatch from Copenhagen says rumors are current in Hamburg that two additional German warships than those announced in the German communication—the battleship Westfalen and the battle cruiser Lutzow—were sunk in the battle. A wireless despatch received here Saturday from Berlin said the German admiralty admitted the loss of the Westfalen.

The admiralty statement tonight declares that the German losses in the fight were not only relatively but absolutely greater than those of the British. Maintaining its practise of caution the admiralty still refrains from giving the names of the lost German ships.

The official list of the casualties among officers shows that hardly a single officer of the line escaped from the British cruisers sunk in the battle. An additional casualty list of petty officers shows that 43 of them were saved from the Queen Mary, Invincible, Fortune, Ardent and Shark. None was saved from the Indefatigable, Defence, Black Prince, Tipperary, Turbulent, Nomad or Nestor.

The list gives the names of sixty-five men killed aboard the Warrior, and of 27 men wounded. On other ships engaged in the fight 115 men were killed and 85 wounded.

BERESFORD SAYS ONLY ONE MISTAKE.

Admiral Lord Beresford, in an interview today, while contending strongly for the view that there was no failure in the British strategy, and that Vice-Admiral Beatty won a brilliant success, though it was dearly bought declares that the only mistake made was by the admiralty in allowing the Germans to get first in the field with the news of the battle, or, as he puts it, with "impudent fabrications," otherwise, said Lord Beresford, no fault can be found with the admiralty.

BRITISH LOSSES WERE FOURTEEN SHIPS.

London, June 3.—The latest reports from the British fleet, from neutral vessels which witnessed parts of the great naval battle in the North Sea and from survivors, cause the British public to believe that the engagement was not so near a defeat as first appeared, and in nowise a disaster. The British losses, with all the craft engaged accounted for, were three battle cruisers, three cruisers and eight destroyers. The German losses are believed to have been about the same number of ships, although a much less aggregate of tonnage.

British naval experts maintain that Great Britain continues to hold the supremacy of the sea by a safe margin and that her enormous navy could more afford the losses it suffered than could the Germans. The first reports of the heavy loss of life, unhappily, have not been revised. Great Britain mourns for more than 4,000 of her seamen, while the German loss is variously estimated at between 3,000 and 5,000.

Rear Admiral the Honorable Horace Lambert Hood, second in command to Vice-Admiral Sir David Beatty, Capt. Sowerby, Gay and Prowse were lost, with many others, whose names are not yet known because the government has not so far issued any casualty list.

NO SURRENDERS, EVERY MAN STOOD BY HIS SHIP.

There were no surrenders, and the ships which went down carried with them virtually their whole crews, Only the Warrior, which was towed part way from the scene of battle to a British port, was an exception.

Of some thousand men on the Queen Mary, only a corporal's guard is accounted for. The same is true of the Invincible, while there are no survivors reported from the Indefatigable, the Defence or the Black Prince.

It is impossible to get any coherent story of the great battle, which lasted many hours, with the different units at times fighting scattered engagements. The British and German reports contradict each other flatly on the main facts. The British assert that the German fleet retired when the British battleships appeared, while the German official statement maintains that the German forces were in battle with the entire British fleet.

The British assert that they had only two divisions engaged, and that all the units of these were not able to participate in the fighting, and furthermore that Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, commander of the grand fleet, remained in the area of the battle after the Germans had retreated and swept it thoroughly in search of enemy ships and survivors.

The King's message to Admiral Jellicoe states that the Germans robbed the British of the opportunity of gaining a decisive victory by retiring immediately after the opening of the general engagement.

BEATTY, VETERAN OF MANY A SCRAP, AGAIN IN ACTION

Vice Admiral Beatty, commanding the battle cruiser squadron, presumably on his old flagship the Lion, was again in the thick of the action.

Every arm of the most modern naval warfare was employed—battleships, cruisers, torpedo boats, destroyers, submarines and even Zeppelins. Whether most of the destruction was accomplished by gunfire or torpedoes is not yet known. British officers say that the battle was fought by the methods known and practised by all navies. There were no surprises, and no new devices of weapons or strategy.

How far the Zeppelins contributed to the German successes is a matter of dispute. Only one airship came within sight, according to the British accounts, and she was soon badly damaged and withdrew. But the Germans lay stress on the assistance rendered by their air service, and neutrals report the presence of six Zeppelins in the North Sea. The popular belief among the British public is that scouting Zeppelins kept the German fleet informed by wireless of the approach of their enemy, of his numbers and formation.

The Admiralty has no information concerning a report that the German dreadnought Hindenburg was sunk.

NEITHER THE WARSPITE NOR THE ALCASTER SUNK.

London, June 3, 9.45 p. m.—An official statement, issued tonight, referring to a German wireless message containing the report of the speech of the president of the Reichstag, notes that the loss of the battleship Warspite again is officially affirmed. "This is untrue," the statement declares, "that ship having returned to harbor."

"The loss of the destroyer Alcaster," the statement continues, "also is announced. This is untrue, that vessel also having returned to her base.

"The names of three British destroyers, not hitherto identified, making a total of eight lost, reported in an official statement issued early in the day, are the Nomad, Nestor, and Shark.

"Statements in the same German wireless messages as to three German merchant vessels being torpedoed without warning by a British submarine are without foundation."

ENEMY PROTECTED BY MINE FIELD.

Edinburgh, June 4.—According to information received here the British battle cruiser squadron engaged the whole German fleet, which was further favored by the protection of a mine field and with the advantage of light, as the Germans hugged the Jutland coast closely.

At the critical stage of the fight four British ships of the grand fleet appeared on the horizon, the Valiant, Barham, Malay and Warspite. The battle then assumed a different complexion. The Warspite attacked by five German ships, fought gloriously, sinking, or at least seriously damaging three of her assailants. The Valiant rammed and sank an enemy submarine. Eventually the German ships retreated, to the great disappointment of the men of the British fleet.

New York, June 3.—A news agency despatch from London this afternoon says Rear Admiral Arbuthnot was lost with the Defence (755 men), on which every man went down.

Survivor From German Victim.

London, June 4—Twenty-one members of the crew of the German cruiser Elbing, which was destroyed in the great naval battle, and one British ship's surgeon, who were brought to Ymuiden, aboard the Dutch trawler Bertha, have been liberated, in accordance with the Red Cross convention, because the Bertha, after rescuing the men, did not communicate with the war vessels, according to an official of the Netherlands government, forwarded from the Hague to Reuter's Telegram Company.

The Hague, via London, June 4—The survivors of the German cruiser Elbing left for Germany Saturday evening by permission of the Dutch government. They had been landed at Ymuiden.

Commander Madlund made a brief report to the German minister at The Hague, stating, in effect, that the Elbing was hit only once, and the shot disabled the wireless apparatus. Afterward in the darkness of the night, he reported, the Elbing was disabled by a "collision" whereupon the crew abandoned and blew up the ship. The men then got away in their own boats, with the exception of those who were picked up by a Dutch trawler, which brought them to Ymuiden. Commander Madlund made a longer report to Berlin.

The captain of the trawler said he understood that it was German torpedo boats that rammed the Elbing."

Bottled Up as Tightly as Ever.

London, June 4—The Amsterdam Handelsblad, comparing the British and German official reports of the big sea battle, points out the differences in the statements regarding the losses. The newspaper believes that the Germans apparently were able to take to port some of their badly damaged big vessels, and considers the Germans' enthusiasm over their "naval victory" hardly justified, because, "with the destruction of some of their vessels, England's sea power has not at all been destroyed."

"The German fleet returned to their harbors" adds the paper "and just as before Wednesday Germany remains bottled up in an iron girdle drawn across the sea which cuts her off from overseas countries.' The naval battle off Jutland in view of the gigantic enemy losses is a success for the young German navy, but a success which brings no decision, and does not alter its naval position.

Newspaper Comment.

London, June 4—Public opinion, as reflected in the editorials of the Sunday papers, shows a complete absence of disappointment which arose when the first official account of the naval battle was issued. The later report, showing that the German losses were greater than had been supposed, together with evidence that the Germans avoided a struggle with the British main fleet, created a better feeling throughout the nation.

There still is, however, an undercurrent of dissatisfaction in some quarters with the strategy displayed by the British high command.

The Observer, in an editorial, complains that the traditions of the British navy, from the time of Hawke to Nelson, in winning complete and shattering victories has not been maintained, and that it is undignified for the British nation to haggle as to whether its navy secured, in a great battle, "a fair margin" of the advantage, and suggests that there has been a faulty policy of strategy which calls for an investigation.

The Observer says:

"We have missed a victory, and must seek it again. We dare not palter with our historic position."

The other papers maintain that although Great Britain has done nothing to brag about, there is no occasion for depression.

Captain and Staff of the Queen Mary Lost.

London, June 3 (11.11 p. m.)—The admiralty received a report today to the effect that Captain Prowse, commander of the Queen Mary, and the entire personnel of that battle cruiser were lost.

There probably were between 900 and 950 men on the Queen Mary.

Germany's Version.

Berlin, via London, June 3.—A secondary official statement, issued today by the chief of the admiralty staff, says:

"In order to prevent fabulous reports, it is again stated in the battle off Skagerarak, on May 31, the German high sea forces were in battle with the entire modern English fleet.

"To the already published statements it must be added that according to the official British report the battle cruiser Invincible and the armored cruiser Warrior were also destroyed.

"We were obliged to blow up the small cruiser Elbing, which, on the night of May 31-June 1, owing to a collision with other German war vessels, was heavily damaged and it was impossible to take her to port.

"The crew were rescued by torpedo boats, with the exception of the commander, two other officers and eighteen men, who remained aboard in order to blow up the vessel.

"According to Dutch reports they were later brought to Ymuiden by a trawler."

Saw Hundreds of Dead Bodies.

London, June 3.—The Copenhagen correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company sends word that fishermen who arrived at Esberjerg, Denmark, reported they had seen, outside Blaavandsluk, several hundred bodies of British and German sailors. On the water were large quantities of oil, apparently from submarines.

HOW THE QUEEN MARY WAS SUNK

Explosion of Magazine Caused by Concentrated Fire of Capital Ships—The Frauenlob's Finish.

London, June 4.—The manner in which the big British battle cruiser Queen Mary came to her end is described by an east coast town correspondent of the Weekly Despatch. The ship, according to the correspondent, was sunk by the concentrated gun fire of the German capital ships, causing her magazine to explode with terrific force. The forward part of the ship was blown away almost bodily, and the Queen Mary went down in less than two minutes.

The Frauenlob's Finish.

Hook of Holland, June 3, via London, June 4.—The survivors of the cruiser Frauenlob relate that the German fleet left Wilhelmshaven Wednesday at four o'clock in the morning. The Frauenlob became engaged at seven in the morning, and was in action until 10.30. She resumed fighting at midnight and was torpedoed at one o'clock Thursday morning.

The Dutch tugboat Thames, which had been conveying steamers, including the Duiderdik, of the Holland-American line, discovered at 8 o'clock Thursday morning, in the neighborhood of the Dogger Bank, three rafts with German sailors from the cruiser. The men were in a deplorable condition. Eight others who had taken refuge on the raft had died from cold and exhaustion and slid into the seas. The survivors, with great difficulty, were hoisted aboard the Thames and accompanying vessels, the crews of which had long heard the gunfire of the British fleet pursuing the Germans.

The Frauenlob's men said that their ship had suffered severely in the earlier fighting, during which her decks had been swept by a murderous British fire. The torpedo hit her amidships and exploded in the engine room, lifting the ship high in the water. She sank in several minutes.

Third Baseman Zinn Beck of the Cardinals will be out of the game for a month as the result of the fresh injury to his knee, due to his collision with Buck Herzog in a recent game. It was an injury to the knee that put Buck out of the game a good part of last season. Once a ball player's knee is damaged he might as well quit the game.

BRILLIANT COUNTER ATTACKS OF CANADIANS ROBBED THE ENEMY OF HIS GAINS

London, June 4, 1.10 a. m.—The British official statement, issued at midnight, reads:

"Fighting of a very severe nature continued unceasingly southeast of Ypres between Hooge and the Ypres-Menin railway. Following on their initial advantage obtained yesterday evening in penetrating our forward line in this neighborhood, the Germans pushed their attack during the night, and succeeded in pushing through our defences to a depth of 700 yards in the direction of Zeillbeck.

"The Canadian troops, however, who are holding this sector of the defences, launched counter-attacks at seven o'clock which have succeeded in gradually driving the enemy from much of the ground he had gained. The Canadians behaved with the utmost gallantry, counter-attacking successfully after a heavy and continued bombardment.

"The enemy losses were severe. A large number of German dead were abandoned on the recaptured ground. Generals Mercer and Williams, of the Third Canadian Division, who were inspecting the front trenches yesterday during the bombardment, are missing.

"Opposite the entrant of our line, near Fricourt, north of the River Somme, a small party of a regiment raided the German line last night, bringing back a few prisoners.

This party had a sharp engagement in a German trench and suffered some casualties, but succeeded in bombing several German dugouts.

"Southwest of Angres last night we carried out a successful enterprise Our party entered a German trench disposed of the garrison above ground and bombed five dugouts before retiring without loss.

"Today there has been a good deal of artillery activity about the Loos salient, Yesterday our aeroplanes, favored by fine weather, accomplished much successful work."

Stiffest Fighting Since They Arrived.

British Headquarters in France, Saturday, June 3, via London, June 4.—Around famous Hill 60 and Sanctuary wood, the Canadians have been doing the stiffest fitting of their experience in the course of the last two days' action. They have held the entire front attacked, and unless the fighting spreads, this is entirely their battle.

The German guns had been relatively quiet for some days, when they suddenly opened up the heaviest bombardment any Canadian veteran has known, using all kinds of guns, from heavy howitzers to trench mortars, not only battering the trenches, but covering a wide area of the ground in the rear to prevent the bringing up of supports.

"But it was not this time, as in the earlier battles on the Ypres salient, when the Germans threw three or four to our one," said an officer. "The British guns returned equal volumes on the Germans after they were in our trenches."

Under support of gunfire, the Canadian battalions, which include many Americans, maintaining the tradition of the first contingent last year at St. Julien, immediately turned on the Germans in a series of counter-attacks. They fought through the night and all day Saturday, doggedly bombing their way back to the possession of the position which they had lost.

Paris, June 4.—The official communication, issued by the war office tonight reads:

"In the Argonne an enemy attempt against our small posts at Les Courtes was repulsed.

"On the left bank of the Meuse the artillery became intense during the course of the day in the region of Hill 304. Preparations for an attack, reported in the German trenches, were stopped by our barrier fire.

"On the right bank of the Meuse the enemy continued to bombard our position in the region of Vaux and Damloup, and with particular violence at Fort Vaux.

"A German attack launched at 3 o'clock against the slopes of the Bois Fumin, northwest of the fort, was arrested by our machine gun fire.

"Our heavy artillery greatly damaged three German batteries in the Caurieres wood. We took, under the fire of our guns, and dispersed enemy concentrations in the Caillette wood.

"Today at noon a group of German aeroplanes dropped several bombs on Toul. Six persons were killed and about ten were wounded. The material damage was of slight importance. No military establishment was struck.

"A pursuit squadron from Toul took the air immediately and vigorously pursued the enemy aeroplanes, one of which was brought down in our lines at Sanzey, twelve kilometres north of Toul. Two other enemy aeroplanes, struck by the mitrailleuse fire of our machines, descended abruptly in the German lines."

The Belgian communication:

"Spirited actions by the artillery of both sides occurred is the region of Dixmude. There was the usual bombardment in various points."

CHURCHILL'S OPINION OF THE RESULT

Britain Still Supreme, Margin of Superiority in Nowise Impaired.

NOW KNOW THE REAL STRENGTH OF FOE.

All Classes of Vessels on Both Sides Have Met and No Surprises or Unforseen Features.

London, June 4—Great Britain still holds undisputed supremacy of the seas, in the judgment of Winston Spencer Churchill, recently first lord of the admiralty, who has now resumed his parliamentary service after being with his regiment at the front, and whose opinion on naval matters is still eagerly sought in England. Col. Churchill gave The Associated Press the following statement:

"I have had an opportunity of examining the reports of the admirals and of considering the information in the possession of the admiralty. The following facts seem to me to be established:

"The naval supremacy of the British fleet, in capital ships, depends upon the super-dreadnoughts armed 13.5-inch and 15-inch guns, and these are sufficient by themselves to maintain control of the seas. Of these vital units of the first rank we have only lost one—the Queen Mary. There appears to be no doubt that the Germans have lost at least one comparable ship. If this should be the Lutzow or the Derfflinger, that vessel is a heavier loss to them actually and relatively than the Queen Mary is to us.

"Coming to vessels of the second order, we have lost the Indefatigable and the Invincible. These are of an entirely different class from the super-dreadnoughts and, valuable as they are, do not rank as primary units at the present time.

Margin of Superiority Unimpaired.

A Dreadnought battleship of the Westfalen type would be a loss comparable to either.

"The armored cruisers Black Prince, Defense and Warrior belonged to the third order of ships, of which we possess a very large superiority. The sinking of the two brand new German light cruisers Wiesbaden, and Elbing is, in fact, a more grevious loss to the enemy.

"In all these vessels the most serious feature is the loss of their splendid and irreplaceable crews.

"The destroyer casualties appear to be about equal. On these terms we, being the stronger, are the gainers. Our flotillas have long sought such opportunities.

"Our margin of superiority is in no way impaired. The despatch to troops to the continent should continue with the utmost freedom, the battered condition of the German fleet being an additional security to us.

"The hazy weather, the fall of night and the retreat of the enemy alone frustrated the persevering efforts of our brilliant commanders, Sir John Jellicoe and Sir David Beatty, to force a final decision. Although, it was not possible to compel the German main fleet to accept battle, the conclusions reached are of extreme importance. All classes of vessels on both sides have now met, and we know that there are no surprises or unforeseen features. An accurate measure can be taken of the strength of the enemy, and his definite inferiority is freed from any element of uncertainty.

"I cannot record these facts without expressing my profound sympathy with those who have lost their dearest ones. Many of the most gallant sailors our island has ever nurtured, and some of our most splendid officers, have gone, but they have died as they would have wished to die, in a blue water action, which, as it is studied, will more and more be found to be a definite step towards the attainment of complete victory."

MOUNTED RIFLES WERE IN LAST WEEK'S FIGHTING

Continued from page one.

Maj.-Gen. Mercer Missing.

Major-General Mercer, commander of the third division, who is reported missing, after the determined attack on the Canadian lines at the front, was colonel of the Queens Own Rifles, Toronto, before the outbreak of the war, and had a law business in that city. When war came he was placed in command of the second brigade of the first division which was sent over from Canada. He proved equal to the confidence that was placed in him and distinguished himself in various heavy engagements in which the Canadians took part. When the Canadian forces at the front were increased by the sending over of the third division a few months ago General Mercer was selected to command it.

Last Seen in Thick of Fighting.

On Friday when he was last seen he was sharing with the men the dangers of the front line trenches which he was inspecting. This inspection was all the more necessary because of the very difficult ground for trenching which the Canadians are holding.

General Mercer before the war was recognized as a very capable officer and he took a most active interest in military affairs.

In 1913 he was among the Canadian officers who accompanied General Sir Sam Hughes to Europe to witness military manoeuvres in several countries.

Brig.-Gen. Williams Also Reported Missing.

Brigadier-General Victor Williams, who is also reported missing, was in command of a brigade of the third division. When war broke out he was adjutant-general at headquarters here and was a very popular officer. He saw service in South Africa and afterwards was in command of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, of the permanent force, at Stanley Barracks, Toronto. Some five years ago he was brought to the headquarters staff here. When the first Canadian expeditionary force was assembled at Valcartier General Williams, then Colonel Williams, was made camp commandant. Later he went to England and was engaged in organization work and the training of the Canadian troops in England. When the third division was formed he was made a brigade commander.

Gave Good Account of Themselves.

London, June 4 (Montreal Gazette Cable)—The Ypres salient seems destined to be associated with Canadian feats of arms. The Third Canadian Division has received its first baptism of fire on ground only a few miles south of the spot where the second battle of Ypres was fought. Moreover this division, which contains a higher percentage of Canadian born, has fully sustained the high standard of gallantry which was set by the first division.

Great anxiety prevails here regarding the fate of Generals Mercer and Williams. The latter promised the Gazette correspondent on his visit to the front early in March that the Mounted Rifles would give a good account of themselves when put to the test. The official communique indicates that this promise has been amply fulfilled. A cavalry sergeant, home on leave, declares that General Williams is every inch a soldier, and that he is much loved by his men.

The sector held by the Third Division is a particularly difficult one, lying in a hollow, very much pounded and churned, while from a semi-circular ridge the enemy have heavily bombarded them.

Up to Sunday evening no word has reached General Carson's office regarding the two missing generals, but a reference in the German communique to the capture of an English general, slightly wounded, gives rise to the fear that it is one of the two missing officers.

LAURIER MAKES RECRUITING SPEECH

Montreal, June 4.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier made a strong recruiting speech Saturday night at a patriotic concert held for the benefit of the 178th French Canadian Battalion in the Monument National.

Sir Wilfrid said:

"We have often heard in Montreal this question, 'why should we fight? Why does not England fight? Why does not England do its duty?' The only way to do one's duty is to do it, and such expressions are gratuitous. England is doing its duty, and all its duty, and has done all that can be expected from her." Further, Sir Wilfrid said:

"I say to my compatriots of French-Canadian origin that we cannot remain indifferent. The fight does not concern only Europe, but concerns all the world. It is a war for liberty, and for all that makes for civilization."

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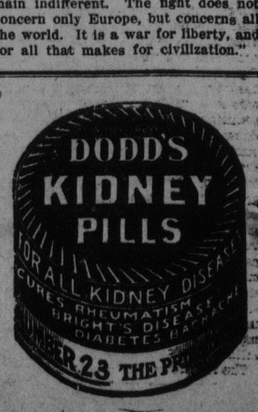
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