

The Evening Times Star

VOL. XIV, No. 301 ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1918 TEN PAGES—ONE CENT

LOSE HEAVILY IN EFFORT TO WIN BACK GROUND FROM BRITISH

Several German Counter Attacks Fail and Haig's Men Continue Closing In On St. Quentin—News From Other Fronts

London, Sept. 25—German troops last night counter-attacked the British lines above Griscourt northwest of St. Quentin where advances have recently been made by Field Marshal Haig's troops. The British commander, in his official report today, announces that these attacks were repulsed. Heavy losses were inflicted on the Germans, who delivered several attacks.

British posts in the region to the east of Arras, near Sauchy-Cauchy, also were attacked and here likewise the enemy was driven off.

The process of closing in on St. Quentin was continued by the British, who made progress in the Griscourt neighborhood, and also in the Selency region, west of St. Quentin.

One thousand prisoners were captured in yesterday's operation, particularly in the St. Quentin region.

FAIL AGAINST FRENCH.
Paris, Sept. 25—German troops last night made an effort to regain some of the valuable ground recently won from them by the French near the western end of the Chemin des Dames. They attacked in the region of the Molsy Farm, in this area, but according to today's war office statement the effort was an entire failure.

In the course of the night the artillery was active in the region of St. Quentin and between the Ailette and the Aisne.

On the Vesle front a lively artillery fire was maintained.

French troops repulsed German raiding parties in the Champagne and in Lorraine and in the latter region carried out an incursion into the German lines.

Tokio, Sept. 25—(By the Associated Press)—Japanese troops took possession of Biagovitschek, the capital of the Amur province, the capture of which was reported several days ago, on September 12, after the Bolshevik elements had left the town. Three Japanese gunboats accompanied the Japanese transports up the river.

Austrian Report.
Vienna, Sept. 24, via London, Sept. 28—Austro-Hungarian general headquarters issued the following statement today on operations on the Italian front.

The plateau between Canove and di Valbella the enemy on Monday succeeded in penetrating to the front line, after intense artillery fire, French and Italian storming detachments penetrated to the rear of the counter-thrust drove them back.

British Raid.
London, Sept. 25—In Flanders last night a successful raid was carried out by the British in the neighborhood of Waterghem. In this and in other prisoners were taken.

American Front.
Sept. 25—(By the Associated Press)—10 a. m.—Airmen of both armies were active early today and increased artillery action was noted along the lines of the old St. Mihiel sector. Bright skies have replaced the clouds and rains of recent days and aerial observers were sent out by both Americans and the German.

In Macedonia.
London, Sept. 25—East of the Vardar river in Macedonia the Germans and Bulgarians are facing back on Velebit, twenty-five miles southeast of Uskub, according to a Serbian official statement.

MATTER OF SCRIPTURE INSTRUCTION AND READING IN SCHOOLS
Fredericton, N. B., Sept. 25—The New Brunswick Baptist Association at this morning's session placed itself on record as being opposed to any change in the public schools of New Brunswick so far as scripture instruction and reading is concerned.

OUR AVIATORS KEEP UP EFFECTIVE WORK
Amsterdam, Sept. 25—Forty-seven air raids were made on German towns during August, according to an official statement issued at Berlin. This statement says that seventy-nine persons were killed and 118 injured.

DUFFERIN IS GUTTED IN THE EARLY MORNING

King Square Hotel Wrecked By Serious Fire

Hundred and Seventy-five People Within Walls At Time And All Got Out Safely—Mr. Bostonwick To Rebuild On Modern Lines

Filled to capacity with patrons, with the apartments of the clerical and managerial staff given over, historic Dufferin Hotel, corner of King Square and Charlotte street, fell a prey to flames early this morning and is now a rubble wrecked. The King Square wing and the rear of the main brick building, especially the upper floors, are partially consumed and what's left is ruined with water and general damage.

There were in the vicinity of 175 people in the building when the fire started, counting kitchen and dining room help, who were assembling for duty. When Chef Sharp discovered the fire in the section in which the kitchen and serving parties are located, the alarm was taken up by one of the parties on the upper floor and in a few seconds most of the large householders awoke and scampering to safety outside.

By this time the smoke had grown dense and stifling and flames shot out of corners here and there and ate their way through the roof of the King Square wing. By the time the fire department responded to Box 78 streams of men and women partially clad were taking refuge in the offices of the Unique Theatre and whatever buildings could be found open.

ARCHBISHOP IRELAND DIED THIS MORNING
St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 25—Archbishop John Ireland of the St. Paul diocese of the Catholic church died at 3:35 o'clock this morning, after a long illness of heart disease, and stomach trouble. He was 75 years old.

APPLICATION FOR HIGHER RATES FOR NATURAL GAS AT MONCTON TAKEN UP
A petition of the Tramways Electricity and Gas Company of Moncton for an increase in natural gas rates was heard by the Public Utilities Commission this morning.

Phenix and Phleasant WEATHER REPORT
Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stuart, director of meteorological service.

HAIG WITHIN MILE OF VITAL DEFENCES OF ST. QUENTIN
New York, Sept. 25—Haig's force now only three-quarters of a mile from the vital defences of Hindenburg line at St. Quentin.

DEMANDS SURRENDER OF FRENCH AND BRITISH OFFICIALS IN MOSCOW.
London, Sept. 25—Some French and British officers have taken refuge in the American consulate at Moscow, which is under the protection of Norway.

THE PEACE CAMPAIGN.
Amsterdam, Sept. 25—Germany maintains her readiness for peace despite repeated rejections of peace offers from the Central Powers, declared Admiral Von Hintze, German foreign secretary, in addressing the Reichstag main committee.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON NEWFOUNDLAND RAILWAY
St. John's, Nfld., Sept. 25—Five passenger cars of the Reid Newfoundland Railway westbound express toppled over near Mount Morish last night. Miss O'Neil of Holywood was killed and twenty-two others slightly injured.

AUDITOR-GENERAL KNEW NOTHING OF THE NOTE

Mr. Loudon Not Taken Into Late Government's Confidence in This phase of Potato Transaction—Bank Manager a Witness

W. A. Loudon, provincial comptroller-general, was the chief witness at the morning session of the inquiry into the potato transactions, which is being conducted by James McQueen, K. C., in the court house.

Special interest attaches to Mr. Loudon's evidence as it showed that the government of that day had gone out of their way to conceal from the auditor-general, as he then was, the nature of the transaction which marked the settlement with A. C. Smith & Co. for the surplus potatoes.

The witness told of the details of the business as they appeared in the provincial records, of the way in which payments were made and of the settlement. B. F. Smith was the only shipper who was given the privilege of drawing on the government when he forwarded his potatoes and when the accounts were closed it was found that he owed the government a substantial sum, not only for shortages but also for interest paid by the government on his drafts.

The manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia at East Florenceville gave evidence that he had been unable to find a letter from J. B. Daggett authorizing the extension of credit to Mr. Smith, but correspondence with the head office showed that such a letter had been received. He had found one letter from Mr. Daggett, in which the latter drew attention to the fact that Mr. Smith had drawn on the government for one carload at a price five cents higher than the contract.

The inquiry continues this afternoon.

PROVINCIAL COMPTROLLER.
Wilson A. Loudon, comptroller-general of the province for the last four months and previously auditor-general for twelve years, was the first witness when the inquiry was resumed this morning.

Mr. Loudon said that he had audited accounts in connection with the potato transactions. The total quantity purchased was 68,608 barrels. Of these 48,881 barrels were bought from B. F. Smith.

The method of payment was as follows: Payments for potatoes were made by invoices were presented to the provincial treasurer. He passed them to the witness to audit; if found correct they would be returned for payment. They had to be properly completed, made in an explanatory manner and have extensions and additional certificates. Some were certified as to exact quantity before payment. B. F. Smith's drafts were paid 60 per cent.

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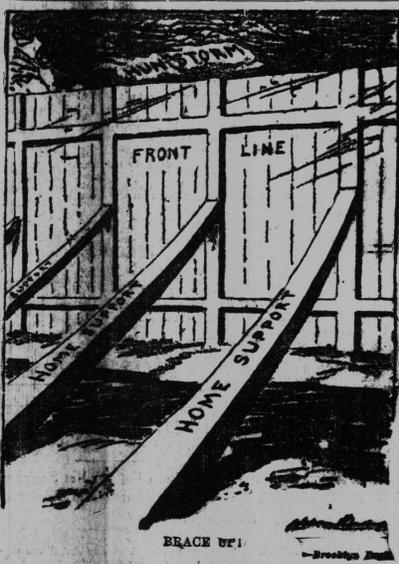
SPANISH INFLUENZA CLAIMS MORE SOLDIERS
Thirty-seven Deaths in Day in New York and Vicinity

New York, Sept. 25—Thirty-seven deaths and more than 200 new cases of Spanish influenza and pneumonia were reported yesterday in this city and nearby camps. All the deaths were those of soldiers and 110 of the new cases developed among military or naval men.

DUTCH TO RESUME TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH ALLIED NATIONS
Amsterdam, Sept. 25—It is semi-officially announced that the Dutch government has decided to resume economic negotiations with the Entente governments.

CONFIRM ADVANCE OF 50 CENTS ON FLOUR
Winnipeg, Sept. 25—The millers' committee representing the millers industry in Canada, at a meeting today confirmed the schedule of prices for this year's flour, advancing the price fifty cents a barrel. The new rates will be as follows:

ROUMANIAN CROWN PRINCE TO 75 DAYS CLOSE CONFINEMENT
Amsterdam, Sept. 25—Crown Prince Charles of Roumania has been punished by his father, as commander-in-chief of the army, with close confinement for seventy-five days for "transgression of military regulations," according to an official telegram from Jassy by way of Berlin.



SCHOONER LAUNCHING OVER THE CREST, SAYS MARSHAL

Generalissimo Gives Newspaper Men Interview

Enemy Shaken up and Down; Must Not Expect to Reach German Territory Immediately—Praise for His Troops

London, Sept. 25—Marshal Foch, commander-in-chief of the Allied armies on the western front, who dislikes interviews, and rarely grants one, received a few newspapermen at his headquarters on Tuesday. Among those received was the correspondent of the Telegraph, who thus records the marshal's brief utterances, made in an explanatory manner with the use of hardly any verbs.

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