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PROBS—FAIR

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FRENCH AIR FIGHTERS DROP BOMBS ON METZ

THOUSAND GERMANS IN TURK FORTS

Forcing of Dardanelles at all Costs is Certain.

Admirals of Allied Fleets Operating in Straits Decide to take Special Precautions Against Loss or Damage.

London, March 27, 2.55 a. m.—“Owing to the damage caused by the shore torpedo tubes in the Dardanelles,” says the Daily Mail’s Athens correspondent, “the allied admirals, in a council of war, have decided to designate certain warships to fire at the forts at long range.”

“Officers of the allied fleet declare to the correspondents that the forcing of the Straits, at all costs, is certain.”

A despatch to the Daily Mail from Dedeagach says there are now 1,000 German gunners in the Dardanelles forts. The correspondent adds that Constantinople was dressed in flags, in celebration of the recent sinking of the three allied battleships, although for a long time many well informed Turks refused to believe the news.

MUSCOVITES CAUSED BUT SMALL LOSS

Russians Were Generous in Memel—Not a Single House Destroyed.

Amsterdam, March 26, via London, March 27, 1.05 a. m.—As a pendant to the German communication concerning the Russians in Memel, East Prussia, the Vorwärts publishes a telegram received from Wilhelm Tuewels, a Socialist at Koenigsberg, who says: “I have just returned from Memel. Not a single house in the town has been destroyed. No fire occurred, but some shops were pillaged.”

PREMIER BORDEN'S MOTHER IS DYING

Sir Robert Leaves Ottawa by Special Train Today to Go to Mother's Bedside.

Ottawa, Mar. 26.—Sir Robert Borden is leaving tomorrow morning by special train for Grand Pré, N. S., to see his aged mother, probably for the last time. She is dying at the Premier's boyhood home, after a long illness.

The Premier is leaving the capital and the many cares of state to a nearer and more heart-compelling call. He has the sympathy of every member in the House, and all party animosities are forgotten.

Berlin, March 26, via London, March 27--2.30 a.m.—The following official communication was issued tonight:

“Several hostile airmen dropped bombs on the southern part of Metz today. They were driven away by our artillery fire. Three soldiers were killed, but no material damage was done.”

WHAT CRITICS THINK OF THE DAY'S DEVELOPMENTS

War Situation Reviewed by London's Military Observers — Italian Situation is Still Undefined — The Turks Discouraged Over Outlook.

London, March 26.—The comparative inactivity along the whole of the western front, such as has not prevailed for weeks, leads to the belief in military quarters in London that both armies are awaiting the turn of events in the Carpathians before attempting to strike a hard blow.

The British are still resting on their victory at Neuve Chapelle, and the Germans, though they are reported to be massing troops for a fresh offensive, have undertaken nothing in the west comparable with their rush of last fall.

Incredulity is expressed by some of the military observers that the fall of Przemyśl will exert an immediate influence on the warfare in the Carpathians, but the optimistic British press, using the meagre despatches relative to a Russian victory in the Uzkok Pass as a basis, says the Austrian right has been turned, and that the evacuation of Czernowitz is imminent.

Germany is declared to be sending vast reinforcements into the Carpathians, and the newspapers deem it not illogical to conclude that this fighting at the gateway to Hungary is having, and will continue to have, a marked influence on the German campaign in the east and in the west.

Rumors of the approaching intervention of Italy, coupled with assertions that Austro-German troops are massing along the Italian frontier, continued to be prominently printed, but foundation in fact for them is hard to find.

The situation in the Dardanelles, so far as is known, remains unchanged. The Admiralty has vouchsafed no confirmation of the report that the super-dreadnought Queen Elizabeth and other ships, among them the battleship Triumph, which recently bombarded Smyrna, have entered the Straits.

Reports from Allied sources are to the effect that German officers are leaving Constantinople, and that the situation in the Ottoman capital is gloomy; but there is nothing official to show that the Turks are discouraged over the outlook.

The editorials in the Dutch newspapers are most positive than usual in their protests against the sinking of the Dutch steamer Medea off Beachy Head by a German submarine. A despatch from The Hague says a cabinet council today considered the question of the damage being done to Dutch shipping, and that there also were other conferences among government officials.

OUTRAGES BY KURDS IN VILLAGES OF PERSIA

Refugees from French and American Missions Hanged in Mission Yards—Appeals Made to Russia.

New York, March 26.—All the men at Gulpachan, a large village near Urumiah, Persia, have been shot by Kurds, the women violated, an American missionary beaten, and sixty-four refugees taken from the French and American missions have been hanged on gibbets erected in the mission yards according to a cablegram received here today by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

The message was signed by Jesse Yonan, E. O. Shoo, Isaac Yohannan and Paul Shirman. The missionary referred to in the despatch as having been beaten is E. T. Allen, who was born in London, Ont., and became a naturalized American. Mr. Allen has been in the service of the board since 1891. He was sent, for the second time, to Persia in 1911. Six thousand dollars for relief at Urumiah was cabled to the United States consul at Tabriz by the Persian War Relief Committee.

VANCOUVERS CHAMPIONS.

Vancouver, B. C., March 26.—Winning the third successive game from the Ottawas, champions of the N. H. A., the Pacific Coast League champions, the Vancouver tonight became world champions in hockey. The final game of the series, 12-3 in favor of the local team, resulted as anticipated. Before it began the Vancouver were

POLLS OPEN UNTIL 8 P. M. IN THE CITIES

Commons Committee on Electoral Laws Recommends Important Change.

Ottawa, March 26.—The Commons committee on the revision of the electoral laws decided today to recommend legislation calling for the keeping of polls in cities open until 8 o'clock on election day, and also requiring employers to give their men an extra hour at noon, so as to enable them to vote.

The question of making provision for the vote of soldiers, while on active service, was discussed again, but no decision was reached by the committee. It is probable, however, that a majority on the committee will recommend that in the draft Bill a clause be inserted to allow of balloting by soldiers under the supervision of their commanding officers. The committee will hold another meeting before finally deciding on its report to parliament.

LACK OF MATERIAL WILL PROLONG WAR, SAYS COMMANDER

London, Mar. 27 (12.35 a.m.)—In a statement to the London Times, replying to a request for an interpretation of the phrase, “a protracted war,” which he used in a recent interview, Field Marshal Sir John French, commander-in-chief of the British forces in the field says:

“The protraction of the war depends entirely upon the supply of men and munitions. Should these be unsatisfactory, the war will be accordingly prolonged. I dwell emphatically on the need for munitions.”

Fears War Will End In Revolutionary Chaos If It Is Unduly Prolonged

London, Mar. 26 (11.55 p.m.)—The Economist, in a leading editorial today, says the recent speech of Sir Edward Grey, British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in which the foreign minister discussed the issue for which the Allies of the Triple Entente are fighting, says:

“As soon as the main issues for which we are fighting can be achieved, it is just as much the duty of our statesmen to make peace as it was, in the view of Sir Edward Grey, to make war at the end of July last. The time may come before long when it will be possible to consult the dictates of humanity, and at the same time secure the objects indicated by Sir Edward Grey. If such an opportunity is lost the war will not go on forever. It will end in revolutionary chaos, beginning, no one can say where, and

HOLLAND WANTS TO KNOW WHY

Berlin Asked to Explain Sinking of a Dutch Steamer.

Ministry Assembles at Hague in Extraordinary Council—Will Make Strong Protest to Germany.

The Hague, via London, March 26, 11.12 p. m.—Members of The Netherlands government are refraining from any comment on the subject of interference with and destruction of Dutch shipping by German submarines beyond saying that requests for explanations have been sent to Germany with a view to an eventual protest after Berlin's reply has been received.

The ministry held an extraordinary council this afternoon, following a conference between the foreign and marine ministers and between the marine minister and the chief of the naval staff. The subjects under discussion were not made public.

The newspapers are taking a serious view of the situation owing, as they put it, to the repeated “unpleasant incidents.”

ITALY NOW RECALLING RESERVISTS

Preparations in Making to Transport 6,000 Time Expired Soldiers from Brazil.

London, March 27, 2.59 a. m.—The Italian Consul says the Times Buenos Aires correspondent, called a meeting of the agents of the Italian steamship lines and warned the agents to be in readiness for the possible transportation of 6,000 Italian reservists.

“It is stated,” the correspondent adds, “that one vessel already has left Buenos Aires for Brazil to embark reservists.”

ending, in no one can say what.”

During the speech referred to Sir Edward Grey said:

“This is the fourth time, within living memory, that Prussia has made war upon Europe, and we are determined it shall be the last.”

After asking “what is the issue for which we are fighting?” Sir Edward said:

“The great issue is this: We wish the nations of Europe to be free to live their independent lives, working out their own form of government, and in their own form of national development, in full liberty whether they be great states or small states. We claim for ourselves, and together with our allies, we will secure the right to live and pursue our national existence, not in the shadow of Prussian supremacy, but in the light of equal liberty.”

THE FIRST OFFICIAL REPORT OF CANADIAN TROOPS IN FLANDERS

Minister of Militia Receives Communication from “Recorder” With the Canadian Expeditionary Force — British Officers Impressed by Fine Appearance of Men.

GENERAL ALDERSON EXPECTS CANADIANS TO USE THEIR HEADS WHEN FIGHTING

Warns Them Against Undue Impeusosity and the Taking of Unnecessary Risks—The Splendid Work of the Patricia Regiment—A German Taunt Which Will be Answered Later.

Ottawa, Mar. 26.—The first account of the official Canadian recorder at the front was transmitted by cable to the Minister of Militia from the Secretary of the War Office tonight. It reads:

IN FLANDERS, MARCH 26

None can examine what, for want of a better name is called, “the front” of this amazing war without realizing the truth of what has been so often said, that it is a war almost without a front. As one approaches from a distance, the actual point of contact between the opposing forces, one is struck ever more and more by the immense numbers which are converging as it seems for some great military purpose but the nearer the front approaches the more completely does all that is spectacular disappear until finally the flower of the youth of Europe disappears and is swallowed by immense but barely visible lines of field fortifications.

CANADIANS HAVE REACHED FRONT

And now the Canadian division has reached the front. The long and tedious winter discomfort of Salisbury Plain, never resented but always disliked, already seems far away. No one in the Canadian division grudges the honor which was paid to Princess Patricia's Light Infantry to carry first the badge of Canada on the battlefields of Flanders. It was freely recognized that this regiment had arrived with greater technical knowledge and had reached a degree of efficiency which the other battalions could hardly equal without longer preparation. The time has not come in which it will be possible to describe the fortunes of the Princess Patricia's, but it can be said that the battalion has proved itself worthy of fighting side by side and on equal terms with the army of veterans and heroes which has held the trenches in the horrible winter of Flanders.

The day for a longer story, for the giving of honor to units by exact identification, often comes in this war very late, for in the face of the superb organization of the German intelligence department it would be mischievous to publish details of units and their doings, as long as the general military formations in which these units play a part remain unchanged.

These notes and those which it is hoped will follow them must always be read in the light of these most necessary restrictions. But it is perhaps possible, while observing every rule which has been laid down for our guidance, to give a general picture of the Canadian division, its surroundings and its doings, which, whether it interests other people or not, will not be read without emotion by those who sent their sons and brothers to the greatest battlefields of history, in support of principles which in their general application are as important to the liberties of Canada as they are to the liberties of Europe.

NOTHING SENSATIONAL HAS HAPPENED.

It is not necessary to describe the journey of the Canadian division to its present position. It is, however worth while recalling the march made by the division past an army corps commander and his staff with whom it was to be closely associated. Those who watched the troops defile in the gray square market place of a typical Flanders town were experienced judges of the physique and quality of soldiers. No one desires in such a connection to use exaggerated language, and it is therefore unnecessary to say more than that the unanimous view of those who watched so intently and so critically was that, judging the men by their physique and their soldierly swing, no more promising troops had come to swell the ranks since the day the expeditionary force landed in France.

As Lord Kitchener has stated, the Canadian troops have now, after gaining some further preliminary experience, taken their turn as a division in the trenches. Nothing sensational has happened to them. It has not, up to the present, been their fortune to be swung forward in a desperate attack or to cling in defensive tenacity to the trenches which the Germans have resolved to master. There have, of course, been casualties. One does not enter or leave trenches without casualties for the sniper never fails to claim his daily toll; but the trench experiences of the Canadians have not up to the present been eventful, as one judges incidents in this war.

HOW THE TRENCH WORK IS DONE.

This period of immunity has been all to the good. Whatever else he is, the Canadian is adaptable and the experience of these weeks have brought him more wisdom than others might have drawn from it. Work in the trenches no longer involves, in respect of duration, the heart-breaking strain which was imposed upon all in the dark and anxious days last autumn, when a thin line of khaki held, often wholly unsupported by reserves, so immense a line against superior forces.

Trench work now, in relation to the period of exposure, is well within the powers of stout and resolute troops. For a certain period relays of the force take their turn in holding their lines. When that period is passed they are relieved by their comrades.

By this time every one is familiar, by description, with the general outline of life in the trenches, and those held by the Canadians naturally do not differ from others, but it is strange to a Canadian, and deeply interesting, to study the tiny town in which the troops in repose are billeted, and on the bustling life of which they have already stamped so much of their own individuality.

Picture to yourself a narrow street, the centre paved, the sides of tenacious mud. Line it on each side with houses, rather squalid, and with a few unimportant stores. Add a chateau, (not a grand one), for

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