

THE WEATHER.
Maritime—Moderate winds, fog
and a little milder.

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VIOLENT COMBATS ON LAND AND IN AIR MARK OPERATIONS ON WESTERN FRONT

WHILE BIG GUNS ROAR INFANTRY ENGAGED IN FIERCE HAND-TO- HAND STRUGGLES WITH EACH SIDE WINNING SLIGHT ADVAN- TAGES ONLY TO LOSE THEM SOON AFTER.

Seventeen Battles in Single Day Above The British Line.

The whole western fighting front is the scene of heavy engagements. At some points the big guns have been roaring incessantly for days; the infantry have been engaged in hand-to-hand struggles; grenade fighting and mining operations have played a prominent part in the battles, while airmen have fought each other above the lines, and have been cannonaded from below by the anti-aircraft guns.

The Germans have captured an additional half mile of French trenches around Tahure, in the Champagne district, and their artillery bombardments in the neighborhood of Massiges and Navarin have been answered in kind by the French.

To the north of Soissons, around Tery and along the River Aisne, the Germans started an infantry attack, but the French put it down with their guns and rifles. To the south of the Somme the Germans endeavored to surround outpost trenches, but defeated under heavy fire of the French.

In Upper Alsace the Germans turned loose their guns on trenches which the French had re-captured from them, but the French, during the night, had evacuated them, and the shelling did other damage than to shatter the placements.

Seventeen Battles in Air.

Seventeen fights in the air is the record of Sunday, reported officially by the British along their lines in Flanders. In addition there has been great activity south of La Bassée Canal, where the Germans exploded seven mines. Heavy bombardments and an infantry attack in that section are also reported, the Germans succeeding in entering a British trench. They were driven out almost immediately.

In Albania, the Arzer river which runs westward across Central Albania and empties into the Bay of Durazzo, has been reached by the Austro-Hungarian vanguards, according to Vienna. The Bulgarians have occupied Elbasan, an important town in Central Albania.

There have been no important events on the eastern front, but the Russians in the Caucasus have occupied one of the Erzerum forts, and have taken large numbers of Turkish prisoners. Seven Turkish batteries on the Trebizond coast of the Black Sea have been silenced by the Russian warships.

King Ferdinand of Bulgaria, Vienna reports, has arrived there to visit Emperor Franz Joseph. This would seem to set at naught recent unofficial reports that Bulgaria had asked the Entente Allies for a separate peace.

Another British cruiser has met disaster. The Arcthusa, noted for her fighting qualities, struck a mine and is believed to have been totally wrecked. Ten men lost their lives.

French Report

Paris, Feb. 14.—Today's official report says: "To the south of the River Somme an attack by our troops, made yesterday against the works held by the Germans south of the River Prias, resulted in our occupying certain sections of trenches. A counter-attack delivered by the enemy was checked by our fire. One German company was surrounded by our troops, and decimated. The captain and seventy survivors surrendered. The total number of prisoners at present in our hands is about 100. Several machine guns were also captured by us. According to the word of prisoners, and judging also from the number of German dead on the field of battle, the losses of the enemy at this point were considerable.

"In the Champagne district, during an attack delivered yesterday by the enemy at a point to the east of the highway between Tahure and Somme-Fr, we were successful in exploding three mines which had been laid previously under advance trenches to which the Germans had penetrated. German efforts to continue on to supporting trenches resulted in complete failure. In spite of the serious losses caused by the explosion of our mines, as well as by our artillery fire, the enemy maintained his positions in these advanced trenches.

"In Upper Alsace yesterday evening there was further action on the part of the enemy infantry at a point to the east of Seppois, which, proceeded

ALL APPEALS MUST BEAR GOV'T RECOGNITION

Public Put on Guard Against Subscribing to Fakirs Using Belgian Fund as Pretext to Raise Money.

London, Feb. 14, 6:54 p. m.—It is officially announced that in order to obtain better co-ordination of appeals in behalf of the Belgians and to prevent waste of public generosity, efforts and the mis-application of funds obtained in response to such appeals, the Belgian and British governments have decided to make arrangements giving official recognition only to appeals approved by the two governments.

Official recognition will be given in the form of a certificate issued by the local government board. This certificate will be issued only after the Belgian government has been consulted. The public therefore are advised not to subscribe to appeals in behalf of the Belgians not bearing the official certificate.

WIFE DESERTER ARRESTED AT HARTLAND

Left Family in Sussex, and Changed Name—Made Himself Conspicuous in All Church Activities.

Hartland, N. B., Feb. 14.—There was a mild sensation here on Saturday afternoon when Officer A. R. Foster, acting for Constable Asbell of Sussex, arrested a man calling himself Little, for wife desertion and adultery. Asbell took him to Sussex by the evening express.

The prisoner had been masquerading here since last summer under the name of Little, boarding in different places with a young woman from Woodstock as man and wife. It developed that his real name was Eggar, and that he had left a wife and child in Sussex in destitute circumstances and it was only recently that his whereabouts became known and Constable Asbell was sent after him. He had been working for Supt. Jackson on the repairs to the bridge and was captured underneath the structure on the ice. What is to become of the so-called wife is not known. Eggar, or Little, posed as a very devout Christian while here and was quite prominent as a leader of prayer meetings in the Reformed Baptist Church.

Lord Shaughnessy, president of the C. P. R., had a short conversation with F. W. Peters, superintendent of the C. P. R. in Vancouver; Sir Frederick Williams Taylor, manager of the Bank of Montreal, and Ald. Les He Boyd, of Montreal, congratulated Mayor McBeth on his election to the chief magistracy of Vancouver.

The demonstration included chats with San Francisco and concluded with "God Save the King," being given by a gramophone at Vancouver while the Bell Telephone Company's guests in the Ritz-Carlton in Montreal, President E. J. Chamberlin, of the Grand Trunk Railway, was one of the invited guests.

ROLL OF HONOR.

+ J. L. King, Saint John.
+ Samuel Brophy, Saint John.
+ L. Good, Saint John.

ANOTHER OF THE ERZERUM FORTS TAKEN BY RUSSIANS

INFANTRY OCCUPY ENEMY POSITION AFTER ARTILLERY HAD CLEARED WAY—ENEMY USES ASPHYXIATING GAS BOMBS BUT FAILS TO CHECK THE RUSSIAN ON- SLAUGHT.

Petrograd, via London, Feb. 14.—The following official communication was issued today:

"On the western (Russian) front the lively reciprocal fire continues. Between Oil and Dalsen Island, our observations show that our fire has been effective. Near Drvinsk the enemy has employed asphyxiating gas bombs.

"Caucasus front: After an explosion, caused the day before by our artillery in one of the Erzerum forts, we captured the fort. Pursuing the Turks our troops again captured numerous prisoners, six guns and a large quantity of munitions."

Loss of French Cruiser Confirmed.

Paris, Feb. 14.—Reports of the loss of the French cruiser Amiral Charner which was reported to have been sunk by a submarine while patrolling the Syrian coast, were confirmed today.

According to information received at the French ministry of marine a raft bearing one live sailor and the bodies of fourteen of his companions has been picked up off the coast of Syria.

An official statement given out by the French ministry of marine yesterday said that no news had been received from the cruiser Amiral Charner since Feb. 8, when, according to a German telegram, a submarine had sunk "a French warship."

Bulgarian King in Vienna.

Amsterdam, via London, Feb. 14.—A despatch received here from Vienna says King Ferdinand of Bulgaria has arrived there. He was received at the station by the Archduke Charles Francis Joseph, heir-apparent to the throne.

GERMAN CONSUL APPEARS IN 'FRISCO COURT

On Charge of Conspiracy Against Canada—Court Awaits Another Indictment Against Him.

San Francisco, Feb. 14.—Franz Dopp, local Consul-General for Germany, appeared in federal district court today to be arraigned on a charge of conspiracy to set on foot a military expedition against Canada, but government officials announced they were awaiting the appearance of another indictment against him, so no action was taken.

Baron E. H. Von Shack, vice-consul general, and Baron George Wilhelm Von Brinken, consular attaché, indicted on a similar charge, also were not arraigned.

MAIL TAKEN OFF DUTCH LINER AT FALMOUTH

Was for South America—Dutch Mail Aboard Holland-American Liner Also Seized.

New York, Feb. 14.—The Holland-America line freighter Zandijk, from Rotterdam, reported on her arrival here today that she had been taken into The Downs by a British patrol boat and that all but two of the 145 bags of Dutch mail which she carried were removed and not returned.

London, Feb. 14.—A Reuter despatch from The Hague says the South American mail on board the Dutch steamer Geirra, which sailed from Amsterdam Feb. 2 for Buenos Aires, has been detained at Falmouth.

SECRETARY OF ITALIAN EMBASSY SUICIDES

London, Feb. 14.—Chevalier Roberto Centaro, first secretary of the Italian embassy at London, and formerly second secretary of the Italian embassy at Washington, was found dead in a west end hotel today. A revolver lay beside the body.

NOTES FOR WOMEN IN SASKATCHEWAN

Regina, Sask., Feb. 14.—Premier Scott told a deputation of women today that the time had arrived for granting the vote to women and the government would introduce the necessary legislation.

OFFER REPLICA OF MACE LOST IN PARLIAMENT FIRE

Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London Make the Offer.

FREE WHEAT SUBJECT OF DEBATE YESTERDAY.

British Government, Since August, Has Been Purchasing Horses Needed for British and Canadian Armies.

Ottawa, Feb. 14, via leased wire.—At the opening of the house Sir Wilfrid Laurier asked whether the government had any information in regard to the Calgary soldiers' riots, but was informed by Sir Robert Borden that no full report had been received, as yet.

Hon. Charles Macell asked whether the government was taking any measures to control enlisted men in districts where liquor was served. He stated he had been informed that some twenty-five soldiers had caused a disturbance in Campbellton, N. B., somewhat similar to that in Calgary.

He was informed by the Prime Minister that he was not aware that the disorders at Calgary had been due to liquor.

Sir Robert Borden then read to the house a cablegram forwarded by Sir George Perley on behalf of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London that they would be honored if allowed to offer an exact replica of the Commons mace in the parliament building fire.

In answer to Hon. George P. Gray, the Prime Minister said that no agreement had yet been reached between the federal government and the Ontario government with regard to the transfer to the province of any federal rights in water powers situated in the Trent Canal, now controlled by the Dominion. Pending the conclusion of some agreement, Sir Robert said that he could not give any details as to what would be done.

Mr. Parlee and Mr. E. M. Macdonald asked for information as to shell contracts in the specific cases of the Inverly Steel and Iron Products Company, and the Nova Scotia Steel Company.

The Prime Minister said that the government had nothing to do with the letting of shell contracts, and that information should be sought direct from the Munitions Board.

Valley Railway.

In reply to Mr. Carvell, the minister of railways said that no new agreement had been entered into with the Province of New Brunswick in regard to a joint arrangement for the operation of the Valley Railway. The arrangement which existed up to the beginning of the present year, where by New Brunswick received forty per cent of the gross earnings, and the Intercolonial sixty per cent, as compensation for operating the road, had been terminated on the ground of "non-completion of the provincial road." Negotiations are still on for a new agreement.

In reply to Mr. Sinclair, Mr. Cochrane said that the government did not intend, during the present year, to begin the construction of the Intercolonial branch line in Guysboro county. The minister also declared that there was no intention of establishing a fund by which old and incapacitated employes of government railways who do not come under the Provident fund, could be provided for.

In reply to Mr. E. D. McKenzie, Mr. Cochrane said that the cables from Magdalen Island and St. Paul's Island would likely be repaired this coming spring. Attempts had been made to repair the cables in December, but gales had prevented going on with the work.

Government Stopped Buying Army Horses in August

According to an answer given by the Prime Minister in the Commons this afternoon to Mr. Hughes, of Ouse, the Canadian government stopped, in August last, buying horses for military purposes. An arrangement was then entered into with the British government whereby the latter bought all the horses necessary both for British and Canadian purposes. Sir Robert said that the French government was also stopped.

(Continued on page 2)

CRUISER ARETHUSA WILL LIKELY BE TOTAL WRECK

Ten Lives Lost When She Hit Mine—Has Had Brief but Exciting Career—Only 24 Hours Out of Builders' Hands When She Took Part in Fight Off Heligoland August, 1914—One of Her Torpedoes Which Sank German Cruiser Bleucher in North Sea Fight a Year Ago.

London, Feb. 14.—The British cruiser Arethusa struck a mine today off the east coast of England, according to a statement issued by the British official press bureau. It is feared, the statement adds, the vessel will be a total wreck.

About ten men were lost in the sinking of the cruiser.

The text of the official statement says:

"His Majesty's ship Arethusa, Commodore Reginald Y. Tyrwhitt, has struck a mine off the east coast. It is feared she will become a total wreck. About ten men were lost."

The Arethusa was a light cruiser, displacing 3,600 tons. She was 410 feet long, 39 feet beam, and had a beam draft of 14 feet. The vessel was built at Chatham in 1913-14.

The cruiser was armed with two 4-inch guns fore and aft and six 4-inch guns on the broadside. She was also equipped with four torpedo tubes. The Arethusa had not been twenty-four hours out of the hands of the builders before she was called upon to take part in one of the most important naval battles in the North Sea since the war began—that of the engagement off Heligoland in August, 1914.

In this battle three German cruisers, the Mainz, the Koln, and the Ardenne, and two German torpedo boat destroyers, were sunk. The Arethusa, which was one of the vessels composing the British fleet, when it went into action, was rather severely handled and after the battle was over had to be taken in tow.

It was a torpedo from the Arethusa which struck the battered German cruiser Bleucher and sent her to the bottom in the great North Sea battle between British and German squadrons on January 24, 1915.

One of the officers, who was in command of the torpedo tubes when they fired the deadly missiles which sank the Bleucher amidships, explained to a party of foreign journalists visiting the fleet last January the workings of the apparatus.

"First we let go that one," he said, "and then this one. It was this one that hit the Bleucher amidships. She was lying off there about 1,500 yards. The things that impressed me after we hit her was the deadly stillness. It was terribly still until the great ship threw up her bow, turned clean over and sank."

Scars of battle were pointed out by the officers all over the Arethusa. A deck galley amidships had been fired by shot away, a molinite shell having exploded in it. This had been rebuilt. The upper works were literally peppered with shrapnel, but the scars had been neatly bandaged with two-inch riveted steel plates so that the Arethusa was again in shape for another fray.

HOW CANADA IS HELPING BEAR WAR BURDEN

Details of War Expenditure for First Eight Months of Struggle Show Total Cost as \$60,- 000,000.

(Canadian Press).

Ottawa, Feb. 14.—Details of Canada's war expenditure for the first eight months of the war, aggregating \$60,000,000, were given to parliament today in a fourth volume of the Auditor-General's report for the last fiscal year. The more interesting items and alleged irregularities have already been made public through the medium of the Special War Purchases Investigating Committee of parliament, and of Sir Charles Davidson, the Auditor-General and the militia department, contained in the present volume, deals for the most part, with the cases which have already been publicly investigated, and throws little new light on what is generally known.

Some of the details of expenditure are of special interest: During the eight months the government spent \$57,174 for special police for the Ottawa government buildings and public buildings generally. The Royal Detective Service, with scores of operatives working for the Militia and Justice Departments, looking after spies and suspicious characters, generally, cost nearly \$28,000. Intendant operations cost nearly a quarter of a million. Special trains for ministers on war service cost over \$10,000. The C. P. R. drew over one million dollars for transporting troops. The Ross Rifle Company got \$933,000 for rifles, etc. up to March 31st last. The total number of new rifles supplied, up to that time, was given as 14,000. The cost of Yanketier Camp, including pay and maintenance of the 35,000 soldiers who were there during September and October, was \$2,179,000.

The Naval Service Expenditures charged up to war account, totalled \$3,096,125, including \$406,000 for the Niobe; 206,000 for the submarine Rainbow; \$1,234,000 for the submarine Haida; and \$477,000 for Royal Canadian naval volunteer reserves, and coast defence on the Atlantic.

The Trade and Commerce Department spent \$3,003,000 for Canada's gift of four to the Motherland.

NEW BRUNSWICK MAN APPOINTED

London, Feb. 15, 2:05 a. m.—It seems that the government has no intention of yielding to the agitation in favor of creating an aviation ministry charged with the defense of the country against air attacks. It is stated that the government, instead, has decided to institute a great air defense department, with headquarters at Whitehall under Field Marshal Viscount French, who will be solely responsible for air defense. It is expected that either Premier Asquith, or A. J. Balfour, first lord of the Admiralty, will explain the proposed plans to parliament today or tomorrow.

Field Marshal French will have command of all the aircraft, artillery and defensive aircraft, except the water-planes, which will continue under Admiralty control, their business being to deal with enemy warships.

Toronto, Feb. 14.—T. B. Kidner, who has been appointed by the Dominion government as vocational secretary to arrange for the training of returned soldiers during convalescence, will start classes first in Toronto shortly. Teaching in English, arithmetic and business college subjects in addition to manual training and agriculture will be given. The classes will be established in each of the convalescent homes in Canada and teachers and material provided.

VISCOUNT FRENCH IN CHARGE OF AIR DEFENCES