

FIERCE FIGHTING AT VERDUN WITH FRENCH THE VICTORS; SUBMARINES ONCE MORE PARALYZE GERMAN BALTIC TRADE

AUSTRIANS ALREADY CHECKED IN OFFENSIVE ALONG ITALIAN COAST

Italians Beginning to Recapture Trenches Lost in First Rush

ARTILLERY DUELS OF GREAT INTENSITY

French Repulse Determined Infantry Attacks at Avocourt and Themselves Capture Trench and Redoubt—French and British Aviators in More Effective Work.

Geneva, May 18, via Paris—Reports from Innsbruck indicate that the heaviest fighting of the war between the Italians and Austrians during this year is in progress in the region of Rovereto and the Sugana Valley, while there is every evidence that the Austrians have begun a general offensive against the Italians from the Alps to the Adriatic. A large number of bodies of Austrian soldiers killed during the fighting are said to be floating down the river Adige.

The Austrians have brought several batteries of their heaviest guns from Germany, and have installed them near Gorizia and Montebelluna, where the staff of Archduke Frederick has advanced. The Austrians are also pushing troops from Innsbruck into the region of Trent.

Swiss troops on the frontier report that the Austrian positions on the Adamello range have recently been greatly strengthened and that the artillery duels are increasing in intensity.

Italians Come Back.

Rome, via London, May 18—The following official communication was issued today: "In the Adamello zone we captured several batteries, his bombardment material which was abandoned by the enemy in the Topete and Fargorizza passes. During the course of Wednesday our troops extended the conquest to the crest north of Fargorizza, as far as the Mattarot zone, at the source of the Sarca river."

In the Ledro Valley, after intense artillery preparations throughout the night of the 16th, the enemy at dawn attacked our positions on the slopes of Monte Pato, but was repulsed with serious losses.

In the Lagarina Valley yesterday the enemy renewed, by means of numerous powerful batteries, his bombardment of our positions on Zegnorato, after which he launched five violent attacks, each time being repulsed with sanguinary losses.

In the zone between the Terragnolo Valley and the Upper Astico the enemy has continued an uninterrupted artillery bombardment of our main positions, and has also made several fierce attacks in the San Felice and Valle, in the Marmolada zone, on the Fodina Pass, on the Upper Astico, and on Upper Corvara.

On the Isoneo front there has been moderate artillery activity. In the Montebelluna sector, by a brilliant counter-attack, our troops recaptured part of the trenches which remained in the enemy's hands after the action of the 18th.

British Lose Mine Crater.

London, May 18—The British official statement on the campaign in France reads: "Yesterday there was again considerable aerial work. Thirteen combats took place. One hostile machine is believed to have been accounted for, as it was last seen descending vertically."

"During the afternoon, after a strong bombardment, the enemy gained a mine crater held by us on the Vimy ridge. Last night a strong hostile patrol, which tried to rush one of our posts near Wiclle, was driven back."

Today, except for artillery activity about Arras and St. Eloi, there was no important incident to report."

Colonial Victory in Egypt.

London, May 18, 8:20 p.m.—The following official communication concerning the operations in Egypt was made public tonight: "The general officer commanding in Egypt reports a successful enterprise against the enemy at Bayou, carried out by a column of Australian and New Zealand mounted troops, May 16. The enemy made no resistance and fled at once, pursued by us. The very great heat and the bad going over the deep sand made it impossible for the pursuit to be carried very far."

"Thirty-six camels, a quantity of British ammunition and one Turkish soldier were captured at Bayou, and the enemy camp there was entirely destroyed."

AMERICA RAISED \$80,000 TO AID IRISH REBELLION



This unique photograph was taken on the roof of "Liberty Hall" in Dublin and shows four members of the Sinn Féin Volunteers in their Irish Republic uniforms. The quartette was detailed to guard the roof against attacks. The photograph was taken by a rebel photographer on the first day of the Irish revolt.

Sir Matthew Nathan Tells Amazing Story of Timidity of British Authorities When Sinn Féiners Were Actually Drilling for Attack on Dublin Castle and Women were Training to Nurse Wounded.

Washington, May 18—President Wilson, acting at the request of Senator O'Gorman, of New York, sent a message tonight through the state department to Ambassador Page, at London, directing him to make every possible effort to secure a delay in the execution of sentence on Jeremiah C. Lynch, of New York, a naturalized American, convicted by court martial of being implicated in the Irish uprising in Dublin.

Information telegraphed here tonight to Senator O'Gorman by friends of Lynch in New York was to the effect that he had been sentenced to death and was to be shot at midnight, New York time. Secretary Lansing, at the direction of the president, at 9 o'clock tonight cabled Ambassador Page to make representations in behalf of Lynch in order to save his life, pending an investigation of the facts in his case by the American government. Cable despatches today had told of Lynch's conviction, but did not give the sentence.

London, May 18—Hearings were opened today by the Royal Commission, which, under the presidency of Baron Hardinge, was appointed to inquire into the Irish rebellion and the conduct and degree of responsibility of the military and executive in Ireland in that connection. The first witness was Sir Matthew Nathan, who resigned as under-secretary for Ireland, after the outbreak of the rebellion.

Sir Matthew read a long statement, in which he outlined the formation of the national volunteers, which he said were raised as answer to the organization of the Ulster volunteers.

He also read a manifesto issued by a majority of the provincial volunteers opposing the active participation of Ireland in the war.

Planning Arrests Before Outbreak.

The executives in Ireland being in possession of sufficient evidence of the association of the movement's leaders, with a foreign enemy, continued, Sir Matthew, had decided upon their arrest, and were discussing the matter on April 24, when the rebellion broke out. He defended the failure of the government to disarm the volunteers, on the ground that such action might have alienated the sympathies of many loyal volunteers, and added:

"There are 25,000 Irish Catholics enlisted in the army."

"Lord Hardinge asked Sir Matthew Nathan why no action had been taken to prevent drilling under arms."

"We deterred practically for political purposes."

"When asked what action had been taken to report this to the then chief secretary for Ireland, Augustine Birrell, Sir Matthew declared the chief secretary was fully aware of it."

"The witness also admitted that he knew women were being trained to look after the wounded men, and that when they were taken to Dublin Castle were being held. These facts, he said, also were known by the chief secretary. He did not think, at the time, of the sham fights, that they might be followed at some subsequent time by a real attack on the castle."

Baron Hardinge said he assumed from the testimony that it had been decided not to interfere unless there should be an actual attack. Sir Matthew replied: "It was thought that forcible interference would certainly lead to bloodshed, and that if affairs were let alone they might blow over without bloodshed."

New York Found Guilty.

London, May 18—Jeremiah C. Lynch, of New York, has been tried and convicted by a court martial in Dublin on a charge of participating in the Irish rebellion. The sentence was to be pronounced today, but no word has been received.

(Continued on page 8.)

BRITISH ROAM BALTIC WITH SUBMARINES

Three German Steamers Down and Ore Trade Paralyzed

NO TIME LOST WITH OPENING OF SPRING

Russians Also Active With Undersea Boats—Definite Now That Eretria Was Sunk by Mine—French Steamer Lost.

London, May 18, 7 p. m.—A large number of British submarines are operating in the eastern and southern portions of the Baltic sea, which is now ice free, says a despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Copenhagen. It was one of these submarines which sank the German steamer *Hera*, the despatch adds.

Last fall British submarines, which made their way into the Baltic through the Skagerack and Cattegat, carried on an energetic campaign against shipping between Scandinavia and German ports through Baltic waters. In special they appear to have worked havoc with the ore trade between Scandinavia and Germany, sinking a number of ore vessels and, according to some reports, virtually paralyzing the traffic for weeks because of the peril to shipping due to the known presence of the hostile submarines.

Special inspection reports from sources to British newspapers in mid-October declared that German commercial traffic had virtually been cleared from the Baltic by the British submarines, one list printed containing the names of twenty German ships sunk during October. German accounts, however, denied that there was any such stoppage of traffic as was claimed in British sources, citing the movement of hundreds of ships from various Baltic ports during the period of submarine operations in these waters. In an effort to prevent the entry of more submarines, Germany, according to reports, laid additional mines to block the narrow entrance to the Baltic and placed obstructions to trap incoming craft.

The coming of winter put an end to the British activity in the Baltic, but no time has been lost in resuming the campaign on the opening of navigation.

Ore Trade Stopped.

Stockholm, May 17 (Wednesday)—The *Hera* was sunk this morning off Landsort in the Baltic. The steamer, which was on a voyage to Olofson, carrying a cargo of 2,000 tons. Her captain was ordered on board the submarine with the ship's owners and made prisoner. (Surprise was given by the crew of the ship. Although the weather was rough all on board were saved.)

The report of the submarine activity has stopped the movement of numerous German vessels with cargoes of iron ore from Olofson and other ports.

The *Hera* was a vessel of a gross tonnage of 4,705. She was owned in Hamburg, was 374 feet long and was built in 1912.

This Says Russians Did It.

Stockholm, May 18, 5:57 p. m.—According to the *Dagens Nyheter*, the German steamer *Hera* was torpedoed by a Russian submarine north-west of Landsort yesterday after having received a warning.

Russians Get Two More.

London, May 18, 6:04 p. m.—The sinking of two German steamships by a submarine believed to be a Russian, is reported in a Reuter despatch from Stockholm. The steamships were the *Kolga*, Hamburg for Stockholm, and the *Blanca*.

The steamships were torpedoed yesterday afternoon off the Swedish island of Landsort, in the Baltic. The *Kolga* was attacked at 5 p. m., being shelled by the submarine for twenty minutes. Two members of the crew were slightly injured. The *Blanca* was then torpedoed and sunk. Thirteen of the crew were picked up by a Swedish steamer. Four others, including the captain and second mate, are missing.

Half an hour later the *Blanca* was shelled and then torpedoed. The attack occurred in the same vicinity as that on the *Kolga*. The captain was taken prisoner. Two members of the crew were injured slightly. They and the other members of the crew were picked up by the vessel which rescued the men from the *Kolga*.

The *Kolga*, 2,086 tons gross and 260 feet long, was built in 1908, and is owned in Lubeck. She was built in 1907 and was 226 feet long.

The *Blanca* was built in Hamburg. Her gross tonnage was 1,064. She was built in 1907 and was 226 feet long.

London, May 18, 4:17 p. m.—Lloyd's announces that the French steamer *Moya* has been sunk. The announcement (Continued on page 8.)

ALLISON, OF STAND, HAS SHORT MEMORY

"I Really Can't Remember," Burden of Refrain When Questions Get the Least Bit Embarrassing

Physician, in Attendance as Sir Sam's "Guide, Philosopher and Friend," Begins His Evidence—Not Clear as to Whether He Asked Yoakum for the First \$25,000—Joined Forces with Two Other Honorary Colonels in Seeking Contracts on Other Side of Atlantic.

Ottawa, May 18—Honorary Colonel J. Wesley Allison, of Morrisburg and New York, mostly New York, he informed Sir William Meredith and Hon. L. P. Duff, attended by a physician who called a halt on his examination at 5:15 this afternoon, and by a lawyer who pleaded that his physical condition would not stand prolonged questioning, is now telling his story to the investigating commission. Allison seemed to get weaker as the time to take the stand approached. He sat in the witness chair holding his head throughout.

I. F. Hellmuth, government counsel, is proceeding slowly and painstakingly with his examination-in-chief. E. F. Johnston, the opposition counsel, and F. B. Carvell, M. P., are industriously taking notes.

Allison's memory suffers many lapses. Moments elapse between many of Mr. Hellmuth's questions and his answers. Confessions that "I really can't remember" are not infrequent. In fact, Allison's recollection has a most aggravating way of playing him false. For instance, he told the commission that at the time that he and Yoakum and their associates were angling for their first contract he was aware that Dr. Harris and his company were their chief competitors—was aware, as Mr. Hellmuth put it, that "you were competing with people of standing with any aggregation you could get together"—and set out, under instructions, to investigate the financial standing of these competitors.

"Who gave you instructions to inquire as to this matter?" asked Mr. Hellmuth.

Like a cloud Allison's allusion suddenly settled upon him. "I really can't remember," he reiterated.

But from these embarrassing clouds he emerged at times, and on occasions has been seen peering at Mr. Hellmuth with curiosity as to what Colonel told him. Allison was instantly alive with keen mental vigor. "That inquiry," said he, "involves matters outside the scope of this commission." A few moments later the government counsel ventured to ask as to his prospective share in certain commissions for a projected rifle deal. Allison came to life again. "I don't propose to give my private business here for all to see," he said.

And once more, when the examiner asked if he had told General Sir Sam Hughes that Yoakum was associated with him in the business of commissioning getting Allison was wide awake. "I don't know just what you mean, what you are driving at," he replied.

Once the matter of commissioning got sarcastic, Allison had blandly assured the counsel that he did not remember whether he had asked the cash payment of \$25,000 from Yoakum for a share in contracts-to-be or whether Yoakum had philanthropically thrust it upon him.

Mr. Hellmuth seemed distinctly cynical about this lapse of memory. "Most of us," he observed, "have come to the conclusion that Mr. Yoakum was not wanting in a certain amount of shrewdness. We would be inclined to think that there was something which caused him to hand over this \$25,000 to get a partnership in your contracts. Don't you think that obvious?"

Allison paused for some moments. "Well, that was part of my business," he finally commented.

Once, Allison almost sternly set the counsel right. Honorary Colonel David Carnegie had come to New York, he related, and telephoned him. "He said general Sir Sam Hughes had asked me to see me," he observed.

"Did he discuss business with you the next morning?" asked Mr. Hellmuth.

Allison looked grieving. "The next morning was Sunday," he said, and Col. Carnegie and I went to church in the morning together. "The commissioners joined in the laughter. "And did business in the afternoon," added the unregenerate Mr. Hellmuth.

General Hughes Well Satisfied.

One loyal man, however, was well satisfied with Allison's evidence. When he stepped from the witness stand at the close General Sir Sam Hughes walked over to him and clasped him heartily on the shoulder. Allison smiled his acknowledgment of this recognition.

To begin with, Allison informed Mr. Hellmuth that he was a farmer, and agent and a broker. "These callings he confessed more or less overlapped."

He was a resident of Morrisburg and New York, though for the past thirty years he had made New York his headquarters. "Doing much farming in New York," inquired Mr. Hellmuth, Allison passed this query by. He had first met General Hughes, he said, years ago in Toronto. He was an acquaintance and a friend, but no business relationships had ever existed or been suggested between them. He had known Yoakum for twenty years, but had no dealings with him prior to the outbreak of war. Lignault reported to General Hughes, returning that he was receiving no remuneration for his services "on nothing General Hughes purchased for Canada." He got commissions, however, on contracts for British and her Allies. Some of his associates also shared, but he never told General Hughes he was getting commissions.

Mr. Carvell has instructed action on the Mail and Empire and News of Toronto; the *Journal*, Ottawa, and possibly others. It is understood that E. F. Johnston, R. C. will represent Mr. Carvell in Toronto.

Mr. Carvell has spent months of his time in investigations without remuneration of any kind except the consciousness of performing a needed public duty. He is rightly concerned with his reputation as a loyal British subject and proposes to amplify vindicate in the courts the patriotism and propriety of his course.

E. B. CARVELL, M. P., IS SUING SEVERAL PAPERS FOR LIBEL

Charge That He Divulged Information of Value to Enemy Sympathizers Must Be Answered in Court.

ST. JOHN STANDARD ONE OF DEFENDANTS

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Ottawa, May 18.—E. B. Carvell, M. P., has given instructions to his solicitors to issue writs for libel against certain of the Canadian press which recently published despatches and articles stating, or insinuating, that in consulting William Travers Jerome, of New York, in connection with his investigation of the fuse contract disclosures he had been guilty of treasonable conduct in communicating Canadian or British munition matters to German sympathizers.

It is understood that Mr. Carvell's action in consulting Mr. Jerome was suggested by unquestioned British authority and that his interviews with that New York counsel all took place in the presence of advisers whose positions are a guarantee of the character of the investigation conducted. Mr. Carvell has received their authority under the circumstances which have arisen through the publication of the despatches to which exception is taken to use their evidence in law.

When seen this evening Mr. Carvell declined to discuss the matter, which, he observed, will be best dealt with in the courts, other than to state that libel actions will be started immediately against a number of newspapers in Canada which have published the alleged libellous article first appearing in the *Ottawa Journal*. From counsel, however, it was learned that when the names of the two other defendants, to whom Mr. Carvell referred in parliament as among those he consulted with Mr. Jerome are made public as well as the names of the prominent Canadians who were also present with him during all his interviews with Mr. Jerome, it is probable that the newspapers concerned will regret having charged Mr. Carvell with acting in a reprehensible way without first investigating and learning the facts of the case.

The newspapers against which Mr. Carvell has instructed action are the *Mail and Empire* and *News of Toronto*; the *Journal*, Halifax; the *Standard*, St. John; the *Journal*, Ottawa, and possibly others. It is understood that E. F. Johnston, R. C. will represent Mr. Carvell in Toronto.

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CANADA'S EXPERTS PASSED OVER BY SHELL COMMITTEE

General Benson and Col. Lafferty Give Evidence at Inquiry

Master-General of Ordnance Noyes Consulted Concerning Prices—Nothing Heard of Proposal to Pay Surplus Profits to Patriotic Fund.

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Ottawa, May 15—Canada's official munitions experts faced about as badly on the shell committee as Canada's manufacturers faced from it. Two of them gave evidence before Sir William Meredith and Hon. Justice Duff today. General Benson, master-general of ordnance who confessed to believing at the time of his appointment that the purpose of the committee was to procure munitions in Canada, stated frankly that he could not remember the question of contracts with the manufacturing members of the committee being discussed at any meeting nor had he any recollection of ever having been consulted on prices at all. Matters, he said, were largely left in the hands of General Bertram and Colonel David Carnegie. Then came Colonel Lafferty, superintendent of the Dominion arsenal, who, before the appearance of the ubiquitous and communicative Carnegie upon the scene, was nominated as technical adviser to the shell committee. Colonel Lafferty swore he was aware that seventy-five per cent. of the Canadian manufacturers were willing to try their hand at making fuses but, after the advent of Carnegie, he was not consulted as to the price of a single article of ammunition or of a component part.

Colonel Lafferty also told F. B. Carvell, M. P., that he had never heard of the proposal which General Bertram outlined in his evidence to turn all surplus profits over to the patriotic fund.

THAT TROUBLE AT PERTH TO BE INVESTIGATED

The military authorities are investigating the raid on Green's Hotel at Perth, mentioned in yesterday's news. The story told by the soldiers is that the hotel proprietor had refused all along to sell them food, cigars or beer, would not allow them to be served with meals in his dining room, or to buy food on the premises. An officer who recently visited Perth confirmed these facts yesterday. The report that any officers encouraged or winked at the raid is denounced in military circles as absurd. The officer in command at Perth, Major Young, is not the man to encourage or to excuse violence by soldiers against civilians.

It was said in Perth yesterday that Green's refusal, ever since the soldiers came to Perth, to sell them food, has made bad blood. There has been no general anti-pro-German tendencies. Citizens D. of Perth say Green was away at the D. of Perth when his wife and children were brought here and while the trouble, were badly frightened.

All sorts of stories are afloat since the trouble, and no doubt the investigation will get to the bottom of the whole matter, including the refusal of the hotel man to sell food to men in khaki.

MAN IN WOMAN'S CLOTHES CROSSES BOUNDARY LINE

Woodstock, N. B., May 15—A foreigner whose actions aroused suspicion was arrested at the boundary line yesterday by Chief Kelly, who was sent for and went over in an automobile. He found the man asleep on the side of the road arrayed in women's clothing. The man was brought here and lodged in jail. Not much could be learned from him except that he was intoxicated and unable to tell where he got the clothes. He claimed to have been working in Houston and that he was a Russian.

After a close examination he was sent back to Houston. The escape caused considerable excitement at the line. It is thought that he got the clothes at some farm house in the vicinity.

The police are on the lookout tonight for a man who is said to have raised a check at Maryville. He was supposed to be heading this way but did not arrive on the Valley train.

In an exciting seven inning game of baseball this evening the town team defeated Company D team by a score of 8 to 4.

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