

The Evening Times Star

VOL. XIII. No. 138

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 1917

TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

American Steamship Torpedoed And Sunk; China Breaks Relations With Germany

Algonquin, Said To Have Been In St. John Service, Sent Down But All On Board Are Saved

London, March 14—American steamship Algonquin has been torpedoed by a German submarine. The crew was saved. The Algonquin was torpedoed without warning, according to a report made by the American consul at Plymouth. The consul states that all on board were saved. The vessel was torpedoed at six o'clock on the morning of March 12. The submarine refused assistance, according to the report of the consul at Plymouth. Twenty-seven men have been landed. New York, March 14—The Algonquin was torpedoed and sunk on March 12, according to a cablegram received here today by the owners. Where the torpedoing took place was not mentioned in the message, which came from Pensance. Officers of the American Star Line said the vessel was worth approximately \$450,000 and that the cargo, consisting mostly of foodstuffs, was worth more than \$1,250,000. There were ten Americans, including the captain on the Algonquin. There are two American steamers Algonquin. The one sunk was recently transferred from British registry. She was a vessel of 1,200 tons gross, 245 feet long and 40 feet of beam. She was formerly a Canadian-owned boat under British registry, the Algonquin was transferred to the American flag in last December when she was purchased by the American Star Line. While under Canadian ownership she was engaged in trade between New York and St. John.

VON BERNSTORFF IN BERLIN; HE LOOKS OLDER

Former Ambassador Shows Effect of Strain - Meets Demberg and Boy-Ed.

Berlin, March 13.—Via London, March 13.—A special train from Copenhagen, carrying Count and Countess Von Bernstorff and the ambassador and consular corps from the United States, arrived in Berlin at 8.30 tonight. Von Bernstorff met representatives of the foreign office and numerous political friends, among them Dr. Bernhard Dernburg and Captain Karl Boy-Ed, former naval attaché in Washington. Count Von Bernstorff refused to make any statement before reporting to Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg and Foreign Secretary Zimmermann. It was generally remarked at the station that the returning ambassador had aged considerably since his last visit here.

MAGAZINES AND PICTURE PAPERS WANTED BY OUR MEN

By Stewart Lyon, Correspondent of Canadian Press, with Canadian armies in France, March 14.—Via London, March 14.—The soldiers of the Canadian corps are greatly desirous of securing at once a quantity of magazines and well illustrated papers for the cantons conducted by them. Boxes of magazines should be addressed to A. B. C. S. Canadian Corps.

GERMANS DEPLORE THE LOSS OF BAGDAD

Re-establishment of British Prestige in East is Sorrowfully Admitted

Amsterdam, March 13.—The Kolnische Volks Zeitung does not hesitate to call the taking of Bagdad by the British a deplorable event. It points out that the surrender of Kut was rightly regarded as a heavy blow to British prestige in the east. The present successful offensive will logically have a contrary effect. Generally the German papers admit the British success and do not endeavor to depreciate its significance. The Frankfurter Zeitung says the British occupation of Bagdad produces in the east a situation which demands the most serious attention, not only by military and political quarters. It admits that if peace negotiations are opened within a time not too remote the British will be in a position to demand the return of the lost provinces to Germany and her allies which falls into possession of the enemy will possess the value of a pledge. The Cologne Gazette begins its article: "English operations in Mesopotamia have been accompanied by great success. The British flag floats over Bagdad. In all the business of the east the news will resound that the English have beaten the warriors of the Persians and captured the city which for long centuries was ruled by a dynasty of the same name as the British. The newspaper observes it is a mistake to underestimate the significance of the success, but contends that it is primarily political and not military. London, March 14.—The evacuation of Bagdad by the Turks is announced by the Constantinople war office indirectly in a statement received today. The announcement says: "After fighting south of Bagdad on March 10, our troops with crew and took up a new position between Bagdad and Samarra." Comment is on the news about seventy-five miles north-west of Bagdad.

CHINESE MAKE THE BREAK; SEIZE GERMAN SHIPS IN SHANGHAI HARBOR

Washington, March 14—China has severed diplomatic relations with Germany, taking possession of all German merchant ships in Shanghai, about six in number, placed their crews on shore under guard and placed armed guards on the vessels. Advice to the navy department today from the senior officer in Chinese waters gave no further details.

GRAND CENTRAL IN TRURO BURNED

Some People in Hotel Have to Jump for Safety and Three Are Badly Injured

Truro, N.S., March 14.—At four o'clock this morning an alarm was rung in for a fire in the Grand Central hotel, probably one of the oldest buildings in Truro. It had been burning for some time when seen and some patrons of the hotel had a narrow escape from suffocation and death. Three were compelled to jump from the upstairs windows, were badly injured and were taken to the hospital in an ambulance. One lost \$200. The building was badly gutted, the upper part practically destroyed. So far as can be learned there was no insurance on the property.

Believe Enemy About Ready To Give Up Both Bapaume And Peronne

Paris, March 14.—Great importance is attached by French military writers to the continued British successes on the Somme. The Matin says that it looks very much as if the Germans do not think they could hold Bapaume and Peronne any longer and are preparing to evacuate the two cities. Reports from aviators show that all along their lines the Germans are blowing up bridges and culverts, burning munitions and provisions while trying to mask the withdrawal of heavy guns by heavy firing with field guns. German staff headquarters on the Somme front is said to have been moved back ten miles. The Matin thinks that the German staff at first planned a strategic retreat in order to delay and upset the British plan of attack but that this scheme was frustrated by the tactics of General Gough. Instead of using cavalry against the retreating foe, General Gough maintained contact by the methodical and destructive use of artillery. The result, according to the Matin, was that the Germans were caught in their own trap and their retreat, which was at first intentional became almost a rout, under the continuous pressure of an adversary superior in material and initiative.

GERMAN WITHDRAWAL ON GREAT SCALE ON THE WEST PREDICTED; VON HINDENBURG IS THERE

London, March 14.—A German withdrawal on a great scale on the western front is foreseen by Major Morant in an article in the Berliner Tageblatt, which is quoted in a Rotterdam despatch to the Daily News. Major Morant recalls Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's strategy against the Russians at Tannenberg, when he caused parts of his army to retire fighting in order to gain ample space for strategic movements. The military critic reminds his readers that Von Hindenburg is now operating in the west and says that by shortening their present front the Germans are giving their enemies "a desert to advance over—a ground as bad as ever fighting ground was."

MEN NEEDED IN NATIONAL SERVICE ON FARMS IN WEST

Ottawa, Ont., Mar. 14.—R. B. Bennett, M. P., director general of national service, has just returned after an extended trip through the prairie provinces. The main purpose of his trip was to complete arrangements for much needed additional farm labor, so that full effect might be given to the "increased production" policy of the government. The man-power inventory recently taken by the national service board also makes it abundantly clear that there is no surplus of agricultural labor available in Canada, with the possible exception of Prince Edward Island. This situation renders it imperative to look elsewhere for additional help in the present emergency. The only available field would appear to be the middle western states.

RUSSIANS DRIVE OFF GERMAN DESTROYERS

Amsterdam, via London, March 14.—A battle between German submarines and Russian destroyers in the Black Sea, is reported in an official statement issued by the Berlin war office. The destroyers were approaching Constanza, a Roumanian port, and were forced to retreat after bombs had been dropped upon them by the seaplanes. One destroyer is said to have been hit twice.

GENERAL SERRAIL IS TO WED NURSE

London, March 14.—The impending marriage of General Serrail, commander of the allied forces in Macedonia, to Mile De Joannis, has been officially announced at Salonki, according to an Albanian despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company. Mile De Joannis is a member of the French military staff with General Serrail's army.

BRITISH NOW HAVE ADVANTAGE OF HIGH GROUND

From a staff correspondent of the Associated Press, British Headquarters in France, March 13.—Via London, March 14.—The ridge overlooking Bapaume from the northwest, which had come to be looked upon by the British as a sort of promised land ever since the battle of the Somme began last July, passed into the hands of General Haig's troops today. The first time since the great struggle on this front opened, the British have the advantage of the highest ground and can now look down upon the famous German stronghold and a wide extent of the country beyond. British officers believe that they are now in a position to had the advantage of the high villages, possession of which has been so bitterly contested. They have been nothing but pulverized ruins, which offered no shelter for the soldiers. Where fires are not burning, the country back of the German lines looks green and wonderfully inviting. Thirty Hours of Bombardment. The German positions on the Loupart line had been completely registered by the British guns on Sunday morning and that afternoon the heavy artillery commenced its work of destruction. Thirty hours of the terrific bombardment was all that the defenders could withstand. One prisoner said that he was the only survivor of a squad of ten who were in a dugout which was blown to bits by a British shell.

Highest satisfaction to the British staff as it was one of the most formidable artillery posts the Germans had established in the western theatre.

The country about Loupart Wood and beyond is in quite good shape. As a matter of fact Grevelles was the first touch of real civilization, the Tommies said, they have had in many months. "Houses With Real Roofs." "Why," said one stalwart Australian today, "do you know there are regular houses in Grevelles with real roofs on them?" What this means to men who have fought so long in the slough of mud of the Somme Valley can be grasped only by those who have lived amid the hideous scenes of destruction. The Germans have always hitherto had the advantage of the high villages, possession of which has been so bitterly contested. They have been nothing but pulverized ruins, which offered no shelter for the soldiers. Where fires are not burning, the country back of the German lines looks green and wonderfully inviting. Thirty Hours of Bombardment. The German positions on the Loupart line had been completely registered by the British guns on Sunday morning and that afternoon the heavy artillery commenced its work of destruction. Thirty hours of the terrific bombardment was all that the defenders could withstand. One prisoner said that he was the only survivor of a squad of ten who were in a dugout which was blown to bits by a British shell.

RIECKER'S DRUG STORE BROKEN INTO AND \$40 STOLEN

Another victim's name has been added to the list of recent robberies. Some time on Monday night the drug store of C. A. Riecker in Charlotte street was broken into and more than \$40 stolen. The thief or thieves broke through a panel in a rear door and removed a heavy bar, after which they made their way through the cellar and up into the store. The combination of the safe had not been set prior to locking the store for the night and the burglars ransacked the contents. In addition to \$40 in silver they stole a small bank containing something more than \$10. Mr. Riecker notified the police, but so far the culprits have not been brought to justice.

NOW SAID MURRAY MAY HOLD ON TILL NEXT WEEK

Fredrickton, March 14.—The provincial government held no meeting this morning, on account of the attorney-general being engaged in court. It is expected that a meeting will be held this afternoon or evening. It is reported today that the government is not likely to resign before next week. A brief survey of the situation indicated that 5,000 men were required in Manitoba, and a similar number in Saskatchewan. The minimum number needed for Alberta was 2,000. An arrangement was completed by Mr. Bennett with the provincial governments of the prairie section whereby from \$100,000 to \$200,000 will be appropriated jointly by the dominion government and the provinces to make a whirlwind campaign for labor in the western provinces. The provinces will send twenty-two men south and the dominion government will send twenty-two men south in conjunction with the regular officers of the immigration branch to bring to the attention of prospective settlers the attractions of the western provinces, with special reference to the present farm labor situation.

PUT UP SHUTTER ON 30,000 BRITISH SALOONS

London, Mar. 14.—Thirty thousand saloons in Great Britain will probably be closed during the next few months, according to the Mail. The measure is proposed as a solution of the difficulty arising from a compulsory restriction of the beer output and the brewers are said to be in practical agreement with the government in regard to the remedy. The closing of the saloons is said to have been suggested by one of the brewers themselves.

INDIA CONSERVING HER MAN POWER

London, March 14.—The Indian government has prohibited all labor emigration from India except to the extent necessary to supply the needs of Ceylon and Malaya states. The order has been issued for the purpose of conserving India's man power for labor in connection with the war.

IMPORTANT STATEMENT BY POPE ON INTERNATIONAL SITUATION EXPECTED

Rome, Mar. 13.—It is still asserted in Vatican circles that the Pope will not include any political passage in the allocution which he will deliver to the congregation on March 22, but it is believed that this is done so as not to order to argue expectations and that the Pontiff is really preparing a new and important statement regarding the international situation. Those who hold this view point to a long conversation which the Pope has had with the two English cardinals, Mgr. Gasquet and Mgr. Bourne, the latter having remained in Rome for about four months despite pressing affairs urging his return to his work at Westminster. The Pope has also conferred with Mgr. Billot, a French cardinal; with Mgr. Fruhwirth, a German cardinal living in Rome, and also Father Dominic Reuter, ex-general of the Capuchin Order, director of the office collecting information about prisoners in all the belligerent countries.

DEAN HOWE OF ANNAPOLIS ROYAL DIED THIS MORNING

Halifax, N.S., March 14.—Rev. Rural Dean Henry Howe, rector of St. Luke's church, Annapolis Royal, died there this morning. He was a son of the late Professor Howe of Kings College, Windsor.

CEDRIC MAKES VOYAGE SAFELY

New York, March 14.—The White Star steamer Cedric arrived here today from Liverpool. Officers of the ship said the voyage was without unusual incident.

CITY PUBLIC WORKS

The old steam engine in the asphalt and repair plant has been removed from its bed to make way for the new engine which arrived in the city this week and which will be installed immediately. Both stone crushers are now ready for use and will be in operation before long. Commissioner Fisher is now awaiting word of the shipment of the asphalt for the street operations. The Imperial Oil Company, Montreal, was notified ten days ago of the acceptance of their tender.

CONDITION OF DUCHESS "INCREASINGLY GRAVE"

London, Mar. 14.—The Duchess of Connaught passed a bad night and the bulletin issued in regard to her condition this morning described it as "increasingly grave."

A CORRECTION

In spite of the precautions taken in such matters by The Times this newspaper was imposed upon yesterday by a contemptible person who falsely represented himself as being a near relative of one of the interested parties and who caused The Times to announce the approaching wedding of Mrs. Edith Gabrielle and John N. Cochran. The story was entirely untrue. The Times learns that the whole story was concocted as a piece of spite in the hope of injuring two persons whose reputations are above reproach. The Times deeply regrets having been made an innocent party to so contemptible a conspiracy. Mrs. Gabrielle has engaged a lawyer who will make a thorough inquiry for the purpose of punishing the guilty person.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service. Synopsis—The depression which was in the southwest states yesterday, now covers the Great Lakes, attended by snow and rain. Elsewhere in Canada the weather is fair. Ottawa Valley—Fresh to strong east to south winds with snow and rain. Thursday fresh to strong northwest winds, clearing and moderately cold. Snow and rain. Maritime—Fresh to strong northeast to east winds, fair; snow and rain on Thursday. New England forecasts—Rain or snow tonight, warmer on mainland; Thursday cloudy, somewhat colder in Connecticut and western Massachusetts. Increasing east to south winds, shifting to west on Thursday.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service. Synopsis—The depression which was in the southwest states yesterday, now covers the Great Lakes, attended by snow and rain. Elsewhere in Canada the weather is fair. Ottawa Valley—Fresh to strong east to south winds with snow and rain. Thursday fresh to strong northwest winds, clearing and moderately cold. Snow and rain. Maritime—Fresh to strong northeast to east winds, fair; snow and rain on Thursday. New England forecasts—Rain or snow tonight, warmer on mainland; Thursday cloudy, somewhat colder in Connecticut and western Massachusetts. Increasing east to south winds, shifting to west on Thursday.

DEAN HOWE OF ANNAPOLIS ROYAL DIED THIS MORNING

Halifax, N.S., March 14.—Rev. Rural Dean Henry Howe, rector of St. Luke's church, Annapolis Royal, died there this morning. He was a son of the late Professor Howe of Kings College, Windsor.

CEDRIC MAKES VOYAGE SAFELY

New York, March 14.—The White Star steamer Cedric arrived here today from Liverpool. Officers of the ship said the voyage was without unusual incident.

GERMANS TRY IN VAIN TO WIN BACK GROUND FROM FRENCH

Paris, March 14.—Two violent counter-attacks were made by the Germans last evening on positions captured by the French in the Champagne on Monday. The official announcement given out here today says the attacks were repulsed and that the Germans lost heavily in grenade fighting around Maisons de Champagne and Hill 185. The French captured new trench elements. South of St. Mihiel the French obtained possession of Roumeville Farm, taking thirty prisoners. They also entered German trenches between the Meuse and Apremont, bringing back a number of prisoners. German surprise attacks near Lasigny and north of Soissons were defeated. Enemy Report. Berlin, March 14.—(Via Sayville)—British troops on the Somme front attacked the German lines yesterday afternoon and at night in the Acre sector. The statement says the attacks were repulsed.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service. Synopsis—The depression which was in the southwest states yesterday, now covers the Great Lakes, attended by snow and rain. Elsewhere in Canada the weather is fair. Ottawa Valley—Fresh to strong east to south winds with snow and rain. Thursday fresh to strong northwest winds, clearing and moderately cold. Snow and rain. Maritime—Fresh to strong northeast to east winds, fair; snow and rain on Thursday. New England forecasts—Rain or snow tonight, warmer on mainland; Thursday cloudy, somewhat colder in Connecticut and western Massachusetts. Increasing east to south winds, shifting to west on Thursday.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service. Synopsis—The depression which was in the southwest states yesterday, now covers the Great Lakes, attended by snow and rain. Elsewhere in Canada the weather is fair. Ottawa Valley—Fresh to strong east to south winds with snow and rain. Thursday fresh to strong northwest winds, clearing and moderately cold. Snow and rain. Maritime—Fresh to strong northeast to east winds, fair; snow and rain on Thursday. New England forecasts—Rain or snow tonight, warmer on mainland; Thursday cloudy, somewhat colder in Connecticut and western Massachusetts. Increasing east to south winds, shifting to west on Thursday.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service. Synopsis—The depression which was in the southwest states yesterday, now covers the Great Lakes, attended by snow and rain. Elsewhere in Canada the weather is fair. Ottawa Valley—Fresh to strong east to south winds with snow and rain. Thursday fresh to strong northwest winds, clearing and moderately cold. Snow and rain. Maritime—Fresh to strong northeast to east winds, fair; snow and rain on Thursday. New England forecasts—Rain or snow tonight, warmer on mainland; Thursday cloudy, somewhat colder in Connecticut and western Massachusetts. Increasing east to south winds, shifting to west on Thursday.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service. Synopsis—The depression which was in the southwest states yesterday, now covers the Great Lakes, attended by snow and rain. Elsewhere in Canada the weather is fair. Ottawa Valley—Fresh to strong east to south winds with snow and rain. Thursday fresh to strong northwest winds, clearing and moderately cold. Snow and rain. Maritime—Fresh to strong northeast to east winds, fair; snow and rain on Thursday. New England forecasts—Rain or snow tonight, warmer on mainland; Thursday cloudy, somewhat colder in Connecticut and western Massachusetts. Increasing east to south winds, shifting to west on Thursday.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service. Synopsis—The depression which was in the southwest states yesterday, now covers the Great Lakes, attended by snow and rain. Elsewhere in Canada the weather is fair. Ottawa Valley—Fresh to strong east to south winds with snow and rain. Thursday fresh to strong northwest winds, clearing and moderately cold. Snow and rain. Maritime—Fresh to strong northeast to east winds, fair; snow and rain on Thursday. New England forecasts—Rain or snow tonight, warmer on mainland; Thursday cloudy, somewhat colder in Connecticut and western Massachusetts. Increasing east to south winds, shifting to west on Thursday.

CANADIANS DRIVE BACK THE RAIDING BAVARIANS

Two Vain Attempts Made to Break Into Line Held by Dominion Lads—News of Air Combats. By Stewart Lyon, correspondent of Canadian Press, with Canadian armies in France, March 14 via London.—In the midst of last night and the early morning the Bavarians opposite the Canadians, who are good fighting men, attempted two raids, but were at once driven off. They carried back their wounded with them but left two dead in the Canadian lines. By them the raiders were recognized as Bavarians. Dull, misty weather with occasional rain, persists on the Canadian front, interrupting even the aeroplane activity which was marked over the week-end. The most notable feature of the operations at present, when the weather permits, is artillery registration—that is, the discovery, by actual practice, of the range at which various trenches, roads, ammunition dumps, observation posts and gun positions of the enemy can be effectively shelled. For this clear weather is essential. Recently there has been a cessation of Canadian trench raids, which were so unworked a feature of this part of the front while the ground was hard. The mud of northern France in the spring has a tenacity that nothing can shake off. There is no mud in the air and the sunshine brings out numerous aeroplanes. Combats are frequent and the British planes give a little and sometimes much more than they get. It is universally testified that the anti-aircraft guns are now far more dangerous than a few months ago. This is the result of a new method of use. Instead of firing directly at a plane, as formerly, the gunners fill the air in front of it with a barrage fire through which the plane must pass to cross the enemy lines and secure all the important positions by which both sides discover the location of new trenches, gun positions and concentrations of troops. I watched the new barrage method in use today. Two of our observation planes had shells burst very close to them but, despite the barrage, both have escaped. Later in the day another was not so fortunate. The heavy guns have been more active recently and the British and Canadians have undoubtedly the best of it.