

FIERCE FIRE ON SUBMARINE BASE

Ineffective Reply of German Gunners to Allies' Warships—Further Details of the Attack by 30 Warships on Belgian Coast

London, Sept. 12.—The recent attack on the Belgian coast was the most important, both as regards the number of warships engaged and the fierceness of the bombardment, since the Germans have been in occupation. The thunder of the Fleet's guns was heard all over Zeeland where the windows of houses at places miles inland rattled. The sound carried distinctly to Flushing, whilst at Cadzand the last village on the Dutch side of the boundary between Holland and Belgium, every flash of the warships' guns could be observed. The German garrison, which for some time has been free from the military attentions of the Allies' warships, and has recently been boasting that no fleet now dare face the music of the big German guns that have been put in position in the dunes, was caught napping. When the squadron began the bombardment there was an early morning mist, and there were only reports of gun-fire and the sound of exploding shells to betray its presence. When the mist cleared away the warships were clearly visible on the horizon. They were in full action, and Zebrugge, the immediate objective of the bombardment, must have suffered enormously. Shortly afterwards the Germans opened a return fire from the coast, many of them hidden among the sand dunes. They were quite unsuccessful, however, for the bombardment continued without interruption. Great clouds of smoke rose into the air, both from Zebrugge itself and from some distance inland immediately behind. After the concentrated bombardment had ceased one ship continued for a long time firing two shells at regular intervals. These, too, burst in the neighbourhood of Zebrugge, and the volumes of smoke that rose indicated that fires had been caused. The German shore gunners made desperate efforts to hit the vessel, but so far from succeeding, their own guns were silenced. Their reply had never been very strong, and it ceased some time before the squadron, having achieved its object, withdrew, apparently undamaged. Observers at Cadzand saw a large number of German marines distributed among the dunes awaiting the possibility of the enemy in this area of the war, of an attempted landing. It was rough on the Zebrugge-Heyst-Knoeke coast line, with the area lying three to four miles inland, that the attack was mainly concentrated. Since the occupation of the Belgian coast as far west as Nieuport last October, the Germans have worked unceasingly on safeguards against attack from the sea, and it is on the district named, more than any other, that their efforts have been engaged. Zebrugge was already an excellent harbour, well adapted to the purposes of defence, and of these advantages the Germans have made every possible use, so that it has been transformed practically into a great Strongly-Armed Naval Base with Heyst and Knoeke as subsidiary points of support, both for offensive and defensive purposes. One of the principal targets for the ships' gunners was the famous Mole, at Zebrugge, which is said to have been greatly damaged. Running out into the sea to a distance of nearly 2,070 yards, this had been given the strength of a fortress wall. At the extreme end were mounted no fewer than eight guns, with muzzles pointing seawards, and many others were in position along the westward-facing curve. Then there are many more batteries north-eastwards, along the coast around the locks of the fishermen's harbour, and the mouths of the Scheldt and Leopold's Canals. These works together comprise a place called Sas van Heyst, and many of the guns here are trained on Zebrugge Harbour, in readiness to resist any attempted landing. The Leopold's and Scheldt Canals are believed to have suffered severely from the warships' guns, and if this is so, a very important result will have been achieved because it will cut off the Zebrugge submarines' supplies, which come through Belgium by way of the canals from Antwerp, which is, in effect, the real base for the undersea craft operating from the Belgian coast. The blockage of the canals also stops internal communication between Bruges and Ostend. The bombardment was particularly directed towards the new German submarine base, which was discovered a very short time ago. It lies in the Zebrugge-Bruges Canal, of a distance of about a mile and a half from the coast, and was established by the enemy in consequence of the continual attacks of the Allies' aviators, having made Zebrugge Harbour too risky a place for mooring submarines. Seeking a safer harbour, for undersea craft, and using Zebrugge as a base, the Germans devised and lately carried to completion a very clever and ingenious scheme. At a point on the canal between Zebrugge and Lissewege they made a high excavation in a bank on the right side of the canal. This was done by hollowing out underneath the canal bank and towpath. The bank here is more than 12 ft. high, so that the result of the labour was a sort of huge dugout. Sufficient excavating was done to allow room in the novel underground harbour for five submarines. These were there when the bombardment took place, and a large number of projectiles from the ships' guns were seen to explode at or near the spot, considerable damage being done. The best way to get along with some people is to get along without them.

AT THE NICKEL

THE NICKEL! Always Good—Recognized the Best.

ARTHUR HUSKINS and DeWITT CAIRNS, THE HARMONY BOYS IN TWO NEW NOVELTY NUMBERS.

The Thanhousser Company Present "THE FINAL JUDGMENT."

Flo Labadie in a great two-act mejo-drama.

"THE DEATH TRAIN"

A thrilling episode of the Hazards of Helen

"A COLORED GIRL'S LOVE"

A dandy Keystone.

"ETHEL'S NEW DRESS"

A comedy-episode with Fay Tincher.

SEND THE CHILDREN TO THE BIG BUMPER MATINEE

SATURDAY—A FEAST OF PICTURES.

FOR A REAL LIVE UP-TO-THE-MINUTE SHOW—THE NICKEL—EVERY TIME.

Russia Has Large Reserves of Fine Fighting Men

Finland Can Supply Half a Million Excellent Troops, While Nomadic Tribes Offer Large Forces of Brave and Skilful Horsemen

London, Sept. 4.—The news that the Tsar has called to the colors young men of 19 years might lead to an erroneous conception in other countries that Russia, writes a Russian correspondent, who bases his figures in official statistics. It might seem, he says, that all the reserves of men from 20 to 43, the age at according to Russian law, one is exempt from further military service, have already been exhausted. It would be so in Germany or France but it is quite different in Russia. The Russian law of compulsory military service, introduced in 1874 and reconstructed in 1912, entirely excludes from compulsion the only son of a family, as well as the father, if he is the only bread-winner. These are called in extreme necessity. Thus, while the young men of nineteen years of age are now in training there are plenty of capable and strong men between twenty and forty who are not yet called. Every one who has been to Russia during the war has noticed how many vigorous porters are on duty at each station. The cafes, restaurants and the like are full of waiters of serviceable age.

Roughly speaking, the population of Russia is about 170,000,000. According to official statistics persons between nineteen and forty amount approximately to twenty per cent. If women and unfit are excluded, there will still be at least 8,000,000 available for military service and quite fit. It may be estimated that at the beginning of the war about 4,000,000 were mobilized. Even on the German estimate of Russian losses, which undoubtedly greatly exaggerated, there are about 2,000,000 in the fighting ranks at the present moment.

The young men of nineteen now called approximately amount to one million, so that if the above estimate is correct there are still three million fighting men available for service. The War Ministry has said in the Duma that the second rank of the Opolchenie will also be immediately called up. This means that persons up to now exempt from service will have to serve.

Great as these reserves are, they by no means represent all the fighting material of which Russia is possessed. There are whole tribes, mostly nomads on the Ural, the borders of the Caspian Sea and in Turkestan, that are exempt from the service. There are many reasons for this, the chief being that military service in Russia is considered the highest honor. Members of this half Asiatic tribe are not given this honor. However, the late General Skobelev, the hero of the Russo-Turkish war, has already suggested that many of these tribes, being born horsemen, could render valuable service, especially on scouting duty.

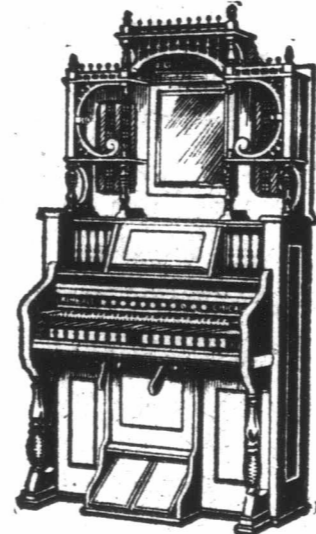
During the present war an experiment has been made by introducing the Turkoman cavalry, and it has proved a splendid success. This drew the attention of the Russian military authorities to another tribe the Kalmuks. It is probable that these also will be called for the defence of the common country, the more so as they are very anxious to take part in the war and lately sent a petition to the Tsar demanding to be enlisted. These Kalmuks begin to ride on horseback when other babies begin to creep. Their chief occupation is hunting, so that they are good shots. It is almost impossible to introduce discipline among them so as to make regular troops. But as irregulars they might excel even the Cossacks. The Cossack, when he does not serve, is an agriculturist. The Kalmuk is a nomad, a hunter, sometimes a

robber and also horse breeder. Russia has at her disposal a valuable asset to the war in the people of the Grand Duchy of Finland. As is known, Finland had her own army up to 1902, when, for political reasons, it was dissolved by order of the Tsar. This army operated alongside of Russia's in 1863 during the insurrection of Poland, and in 1877 during the Russo-Turkish War.

CANADIAN CONCERNS TRADE WITH ENEMY

Ottawa, Sept. 5.—Information has come to the Government that hides from Uruguay are being shipped to United States ports for transshipment to Canada through German firms in Uruguay, which virtually constitutes trading with the enemy. The department, in a statement issued to-day, says it is "very desirable that Canadian firms conducting business transaction in Uruguay should do so through British or neutral firms rather than through the agency of German firms, however much these may be disguised by working through intermediate sources."

"The office of the High Commissioner for Canada in London has also forwarded to the department a letter which was sent to an English firm, and which would appear from its internal evidence to be probably a copy of a circular sent to a number of firms in Canada, offering the services of a Dutch house of forwarding agents for the shipment of Dutch goods to the Dominion to replace goods formerly obtained from enemy countries. The Dutch firm in question, are, however, known to be acting as agents for a number of German traders, and it would appear that they may be endeavoring to export enemy goods to Canada under the guise of Dutch manufactures."



Kimball Organs

Highest Awards in America.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE ON REQUEST

JOIN OUR ORGAN CLUB

Musicians' Supply Dept. ROYAL STORES FURNITURE.

Buy GOODS Manufactured in NEW-FOUNDLAND & keep the Fathers at work

STEBAURMAN'S OINTMENT

I had been suffering from Eczema for four years, I had been to five doctors and they all said they could not do anything for me. I was told about Stebaurman's Ointment and I bought six boxes, and after using some I was cured, and no return of it since. I guarantee anyone using this ointment for eczema will be cured also.

I remain,

Yours truly,

PETER JOY.

204 Pleasant St., St. John's.

Stebaurman's Ointment, 25 cents per box or 5 boxes for \$1.00. Cash must be sent with Order. P.O. Box 651 or 15 Brazil's Square.

ROSSLEY'S EAST END THEATRE.

St. John's Leading Vaudeville, Dramatic and Picture Theatre.

Complete Change of Programme

IAN MacKENZIE,

The Great Scottish Baritone.

RIX GUERIN

Popular Soprano Vocalist.

WM. WALLACE

The Phenomenal Boy Vocalist.

Arrival of New Films Sent Direct From New York by Mr. Rossley.

Beautiful Travelogue—"THE RELICS OF ANCIENT ROME."

Big Comedy Feature—"BILLY'S ALARM CLOCK."

AND OTHER SPLENDID FEATURES.

NOTE.—No Advance in Prices.

5c. CRESCENT Picture Palace 5c.

"THE TRAPPER'S REVENGE"

A Lubin feature in 2 Reels with John Ince and Edgar Jones.

"THE WOES OF A WAITRESS"

A Vitagraph Drama featuring M. Costello and Namoi Childens.

"CHIEFLY CONCERNING MALES"

An instance where the unmailed letters bring about the unexpected and joyous consequences, featuring Bobby Conolley, the clever boy actor.

"IN THE BOARDING HOUSE" and "HIS NIGHT OUT"

Are two laughable comedies.

Harry Collins—Singing Tenor—Singing Classy Songs and Ballads

Good Music & Effects; a well Ventilated & Comfortable Theatre

THE USUAL EXTRA PICTURES AT THE BIG

SATURDAY MATINEE—SEND THE CHILDREN.

COAKER ENGINES

are THE BEST Motor Engines for Fishermen

W. F. Coaker, Esq., M.H.A., President Fishermen's Union Trading Company Limited.

Dear Sir,—

Last Spring I purchased a 6 h.p. COAKER Engine which has given me every satisfaction.

I certainly consider it the best Motor Engine for fishermen to-day on the local market.

With my trap boat I am able to make seven knots an hour. Last Summer I had my trap set four miles away and I made two trips daily with three dories in tow, and never had the slightest mishap.

I would advise any fisherman who requires an Engine that can be operated easily and give good results to buy a 6 h.p. COAKER Engine.

Yours truly,

WALTER HILLIER.

Point-aux-Gaul, Lamaline,

April 1915.

Specially Low Prices in LUBRICATING OILS.

Up to the 15th June, we will deliver "POLARINE" Oil at the following prices:—

5 Gal. Can POLARINE OIL, Imperial Measure, for \$3.60. Original Price, \$4.50.

2-5 Gal. Cans POLARINE OIL, Imperial Measure for \$7.00. Original Price, \$8.80.

This is strictly Non Carbon, Non Freezing Oil and is strongly recommended for Motor Cars and Motor Boat engines.

TESTIMONIALS:

From The Acadia Gas Engine Co., Ltd.

"We consider "Polarine" Oil to be the best and most suitable for our engines and recommend it to our customers.

(Signed) N. Ritcey, "MANAGER."

From Swim Bros.,

Fish Merchants.

We have used all kinds of Cylinder Oil in our Motor Boats and are now using "Polarine" which gives us better satisfaction than any oil we have ever had.

Yours truly, (Sgd.) SWIM BROS.

A. H. Murray

ST. JOHN'S

Advertise in The Mail and Advocate