

THE WEATHER.

Maritime—Moderate to fresh northwesterly winds, fair and comparatively cool.

The St. John Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

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TEN PAGES

MONDAY MORNING, APRIL 3, 1916.

OPERA HOUSE

TONIGHT
Feldman and Christie Musical Co.
'DOOLEY'S WEDDING DAY'

PRICE TWO CENTS

GERMANS CONTINUE OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE FRENCH LINE IN NEIGHBORHOOD OF VERDUN

GERMANS GAIN FOOTING IN CAILLETTE WOOD JUST OUTSIDE FORT DOUAUMONT

Penetrate Wood at Two Points but Driven Out of One Part by Counter-attack.

VAUX EVACUATED BY FRENCH FORCES

Fierce Attacks Fail to Dislodge British from Positions They Recently Won from the Enemy.

The Germans are still carrying on strong offensive operations northeast and north of Verdun. About four and one-half miles northeast of the fort they penetrated the Caillette wood, just outside Fort Douaumont, after a violent bombardment. From part of this wood the French, in an immediate counter attack, drove back the invaders.

Another powerful attack was delivered against that portion of the Avocourt wood held by the French, but here the French barrier fire and machine guns held the Germans without gain.

The French have now entirely evacuated the village of Vaux, and have drawn their lines south of the town, but in its immediate outskirts. Berlin says that northwest of Hancourt, between Malancourt and Le Mort Homme, the Germans have entirely cleared the French from about 1,000 yards of trenches, where they have remained since March 30.

On the other sectors about Verdun there have been only intermittent bombardments; artillery duels have characterized the fighting along the remainder of the front.

Aircraft have been very active around Verdun. The French brought down three German machines, but Berlin asserts that the aerial combats have resulted in their favor. Both sides have been busily engaged in dropping bombs on military establishments at various points.

Activity on Russian Front.

Greater activity than usual has been displayed in the fighting between the Germans and Russians in the region of Baranovich, southwest of Minsk. Elsewhere on the Russian front the situation is unchanged.

Three British and one Norwegian steamers have been sunk by submarines or mines. Two of the British boats, the Achilles and the Ashburton were on their way to London from Australian ports. The British steamer Goldmouth was on a voyage to London from Texas, with oil. The Norwegian boat was the Peter Hemre. She was sunk while at anchor. Of her crew of fifteen only one man escaped.

Four members of the crew of the Achilles are missing, two of the crew of the Goldmouth were wounded when landed, and five members of the crew of the Ashburton were taken to a hospital, suffering from shrapnel wounds.

Scotland and the northern and southeastern counties of England have received visitations from Zeppelin airships, which dropped bombs at various places.

In the air raid on the northeast coast of England Friday and Saturday nights fifty-nine persons were killed and 166 wounded.

Fresh Attacks Yesterday.

Paris, April 2.—The Germans launched heavy attacks again today against the French positions both to the west and east of the Meuse. To the west the attacks were repulsed, but to the east, in the neighborhood of Fort Douaumont, the assaulting forces were able to penetrate the Caillette wood, lying to the south. From the northern part of the wood they were almost immediately ejected by French counter-attacks.

The official statement of these operations issued tonight by the war office reads: 'Between the Somme and the Oise our artillery was particularly active in the region of Parvillers, Fouescault and Lessigny, where German trenches were shattered by our fire.'

West of the Meuse, the Germans launched several powerful attacks on a corner of the Avocourt wood. All

BRITISH WARSHIPS BATTER DOWN FORTS DEFENDING SMYRNA

London, April 3.—Forts St. George and Sanjak, as well as the other coastal defenses of Smyrna, were destroyed Friday in a three hours bombardment by a British warship, says a despatch to the Times from Saloniki. The Turks did not reply to the fire of the warship.

Sanjak is the chief work commanding the entrance to Smyrna harbor. St. George is about three miles to the southeast.

THE 140TH BAND FUND

It is a pity that more of the boys and girls throughout this province who are so fond of music have not the opportunity of hearing a military band. The Standard has already acknowledged one or two contributions from little folk and has pleasure today in acknowledging another towards the fund for the purchase of these instruments. Another three contributions are also acknowledged which brings the fund a little further ahead.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Includes R. G. Rand, River de Chute (8 yrs. old) 1.00, Thos. Nagle, city 15.00, Powers & Brewer, city 20.00, John O'Regan 5.00. Total \$568.17

The assaults were repulsed by our barrier fire and the fire of our machine guns. 'To the east of Meuse the action was very spirited throughout the day in the region of Douaumont and Vaux.

The Germans, after a bombardment of extreme violence with shells of heavy calibre, directed four simultaneous attacks with effectives of more than one division on our positions between Port Douaumont and the village of Vaux. Southeast of Port Douaumont they penetrated Caillette wood, but our counter-attacks, delivered immediately drove them back in the northern part of the wood. South of Vaux our line runs along the immediate outskirts of the village, the last ruined houses of which we have evacuated.

French Blow Up Munitions Depot. 'In the Voerres there has been intermittent artillery activity in the Bois de Petres.

'In the Vosges the fire of our batteries caused the explosion of a munitions depot east of Reich Ackeror, west of Munster.

'Last night a bombarding squadron dropped twenty-eight shells on the railway station at Etain, and the bivouac established in the outskirts of the village of Natillois. The same night three of our aeroplanes dropped twenty-two shells, which caused numerous fires in the villages of Assine and Brisaulles, on the Meuse.

'Today (April 2) our aviators brought down three machines in the Verdun front. The other German aeroplanes were compelled to land precipitately in the same region. Finally a Dorchien was brought down in flames by one of our aeroplanes.'

The Belgian artillery bombarded, during the night, the German positions at Mercken. Today there was a violent artillery action in the sector of Hancappel, and in the direction of Dixmude.'

Two Enemy Airships Brought Down. London, April 2.—The British official communication issued this evening says: 'Last night at St. Etel we captured an officer and four men. The grenade fighting continues.'

'The artillery of both sides has been active about Souchez, Angrea, St. Etel, Loos and Tyres. There has been mining activity by both sides about Hulluch and other redoubts.

'The assault was repulsed by our barrier fire and the fire of our machine guns. 'To the east of Meuse the action was very spirited throughout the day in the region of Douaumont and Vaux.

'Two hostile aeroplanes were driven down behind the German lines. One of our machines which was sent out yesterday is missing.'

KING GEORGE MAKES DONATION OF £100,000 TO THE TREASURY

London, April 2.—King George has placed £100,000 at the disposal of the treasury. A letter accompanying the donation says: 'It is the King's wish that this sum, which is set aside in consequence of the war, should be applied in whatever manner is deemed best in the opinion of His Majesty's government.'

Length of Front Now Held by British Is 130 Kilometres

Paris, April 2.—The British army in France, according to a semi-official communication, has recently extended its front in the region of Arras so as to release French divisions for employment elsewhere. The length of front now defended by the British is 130 kilometres. The communication adds: 'Since March 27 active operations about Verdun have been unchanged in character, inasmuch as the offensive is now being taken on by both sides. The French offensive is being directed against the German salient in the Avocourt wood, and the German offensive is being directed against the French salient at Malancourt.'

'On the Russian front recently the Russians have taken the offensive at the same time in the north between the region of the Lakes and Riga, and in the south along the Dniester river. In the last mentioned district they have taken an important bridgehead at Usteezke, thus menacing the communication of the Austrian army protecting Cernowitz. In the north their action has been directed against the chief line of communications upon which the Germans rely for their coming offensive against Riga and Dvinsk.'

'On the Italian front there have been many lively engagements which are resulting in favor of the Entente Allies.'

Heap of Ruins All Remained of Vaux When Huns Won It

Paris, April 2.—Four fresh brigades participated in the German attack which ended in the occupation of the village of Vaux, to the northeast of Verdun, says an eye-witness of the battle.

The assault began with a night attack, which is becoming more and more preferred by the Germans. All Friday evening the village and its surroundings were copiously shelled.

The attack began from the north at three o'clock in the morning by a brigade debouching from trenches on the hillside east of Port Douaumont, and advancing as far as the railroad line front of the advanced French position, where it was checked by French infantry and sniping fire which was so intense that the assaults were unable to hold their ground. They retired to their trenches much depleted in numbers.

It was a fresh brigade which made the second attack, towards five o'clock in the morning. It came from the east with an abundant supply of powerful grenades that demolished the houses occupied by the defenders of the town. Though partly buried under the ruins the French stuck stubbornly to their posts, which they held only step by step, and inflicted severe losses on the attacking force.

Retired to Prepared Positions. With the houses demolished by grenades and shells there remained no reason for maintaining the position, and the French were ordered to retire on positions prepared further to the west. The detachment still maintained a galling fire as it went back slowly and in good order, a curtain of French shell fire kept the Germans from pursuing.

After this partial success, the Germans tried to profit from their new position to overwhelm the French position around Douaumont. About two o'clock Saturday afternoon they endeavored to advance along a road bordering a ravine and running up toward the hamlet of Caillette, near Port Douaumont.

Again it was a fresh division, the third engaged since the evening before, that attacked the French lines of defence, but this time they were unable to advance at any point. The attacking column was stopped at a point

ZEPPELINS INCLUDE COAST TOWNS OF SCOTLAND IN THEIR LATEST ATTACK

CHEER FOR ENGLAND AS ASQUITH LEAVES ITALIAN CAPITAL

Rome, April 2, via Paris, April 2.—The visit of the British Prime Minister, Herbert H. Asquith, to Rome ended today, and Mr. Asquith left the capital amid the cheers of thousands of people.

Premier Salandra gave a luncheon in his honor, at which many senators and deputies, former cabinet ministers, members of the present cabinet, and other high officials of state were present.

There was an imposing demonstration at the station when Mr. Asquith said farewell, great crowds with flags and bands gathering to give the British premier a rousing send-off. The bands played British and Italian patriotic airs, while the people cheered for England and shouted for the Allies and victory.

OVER 100 ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE PERISHED

When Small Coasting Steamer Hit Sunken Rock.

Tokio, April 2.—The steamer Wakatsuki Maru, bound from Nagasaki for coastal points, has been wrecked on a sunken rock. Eighty-nine of her passengers and sixteen members of the crew are believed to have been drowned. The Wakatsuki Maru was a vessel of 252 tons.

SECOND SON OF BARON SHAUGHNESSY KILLED IN ACTION

Captain Hon. Alfred ('Fred') Shaughnessy of 16th Batt. Fataally Wounded Saturday by Shrapnel Shell.

Montreal, April 2.—Captain the Hon. Alfred Thomas ('Fred') Shaughnessy, of the Sixtieth Battalion, second son of Lord Shaughnessy, president of the C.P.R., was killed in action in France Saturday morning by shrapnel shell. Word to this effect had been received from Lieut. Col. Gascoigne, of the 60th Battalion, who stated that Capt. Shaughnessy had been instantly killed by shrapnel in action.

Lord Shaughnessy is endeavoring to have his son's body brought home. Captain Shaughnessy was born in this city twenty-eight years ago. He was connected with the C.P.R. for some time, but for the past four years had been a member of the brokerage firm of Charles Meredith & Company, Montreal. He left a widow, who is a daughter of Judge Bradford, Nashville, Tenn., and two children.

where it was exposed to a raking shell fire, which decimated it. The survivors gave way to a fourth fresh brigade which charged courageously, but without success. The result of the attack, lasting 12 hours by forty thousand men, was limited to the occupation of the ruins of the village of Vaux.

BERLIN SAYS RUSSIANS LOST 140,000 MEN

In Recent Drive Against Hindenburg's Army — Used Nearly Half Million Men in the Attack.

Berlin, April 1, by wireless to Sayville.—Russian casualties in the recent offensive on the northern part of the line were not less than 140,000 men, the German war office estimated today.

The official statement says: 'From February 25 to March 28, the Russians attacked large sectors of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's front with thirty divisions, or more than 600,000 men, and with such an expenditure of ammunition as until now had been unheard of on the eastern front. Thanks to the bravery and tenacious endurance of the German troops, the Russians have had no success at all.'

'The Russian casualties, according to cautious calculations were not less than 140,000 men.'

The official Austrian statement of today follows: 'Russian front: Near Oitka, Austro-Hungarian detachments captured an advanced position of the enemy, filled the trenches, destroyed the defence works and returned to their main positions.'

'The total casualties reported in the Zeppelin raid on the night of March 31-April 1, now amount to forty-three killed and sixty-six injured. Nearly two hundred explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped.

'A Baptist chapel, three dwelling houses and two cottages were demolished. A town hall, four dwelling houses, thirty-five cottages and a tram car shed were partially wrecked. There was no military damage.

'A number of our aeroplanes went up to attack the raiders, Lieut. Brandon, R. F. C., rising 6,000 feet, saw a Zeppelin about 3,000 feet above him. At 6,000 feet he got over it and attacked, dropping several bombs, three of which he believes took effect.

'Later he got over the airship again, and let off two more bombs over her nose. His own machine was hit many times by machine gun bullets. This may have been the Zeppelin which dropped a machine gun, ammunition, a petrol tank and machinery, or possibly that which came down off the Thames estuary.'

London, April 2.—With the exception of the big raid of January 31, when the casualties aggregated sixty-seven persons killed and 117 injured, the Zeppelin raids of Friday and Saturday night caused greater loss of life than any previous aerial attacks this year.

The total casualties for the two nights, according to an official report, were 59 persons killed and 166 wounded.

As some compensation for this sacrifice of life, the British public finds satisfaction in practical proof afforded of a great improvement in the defensive methods of dealing with aerial incursions. For the first time since the inception of this method of warfare on the British coast not only has one raiding Zeppelin been brought down, and its crew taken prisoner, but the official report recounts an exciting aerial fight between a Zeppelin and a British airman, Lieut. Bradon, who, mounting to a height of 9,000 feet, got over the raider and dropped several bombs on it with effect.

The machine of Lieut. Bradon was hit several times by machine gun bullets from the Zeppelin. It is still unknown whether the Zeppelin in this fight was the L-15, which was brought down off the Thames estuary, or another craft, which is believed to have dropped its machine gun, petrol tank and other parts.

Capt. Bent sent a message by wireless telegraphy from the Chiyu Maru last night, announcing that he was leaving the ship. He said a heavy southeast sea was running, and that his vessel was slipping on the rocks.

Total Casualties in Raids of Past 3 Nights 69 Killed and 166 Wounded.

BRILLIANT FEAT OF BRITISH AVIATOR

Coast of Scotland Visited Last Night by Raiders, Several Bombs Dropped but no Details of Damage Available.

Bulletin—London, April 3, 1.23 a. m.—The coast of Scotland and the northern and southeastern counties of England were attacked by Zeppelins Sunday night, according to an official announcement by the secretary of war. The announcement says: 'A Zeppelin raid took place Sunday night, when the coast of Scotland and the northern and southeastern counties of England were attacked. Bombs were dropped at various places. No details are available.'

Raid Saturday Night. Bulletin—London, April 2.—At least sixteen persons were killed and about one hundred others injured by the explosion of bombs dropped in another raid of Zeppelin dirigible balloons over the northeast coast of England Saturday night.

The official version of the raid says: 'Two airships approached the northeast coast Saturday night. Only one crossed the coast. The other turned back. For the present we know that sixteen persons were killed and about one hundred injured. Eight dwellings were demolished, and a serious fire was caused in a French polishing shop.'

The official press bureau tonight gave out the following statement: 'The total casualties reported in the Zeppelin raid on the night of March 31-April 1, now amount to forty-three killed and sixty-six injured. Nearly two hundred explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped.

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THE CHIYO-MARU RESCUED BY A BRITISH CRUISER

Hong Kong, April 2.—Stranded in a storm of the Lema islands, twenty miles south of Hong Kong, the Japanese steamer Chiyu Maru, whose 229 passengers, mostly Americans, were rescued by a British warship, is now believed to have been abandoned by her crew.

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