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# THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

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## TRAIN MEN SHOOT DOWN AIRSHIPS

### Kitchener Establishes New British Army Department To Teach Marksmanship Against Aeroplanes

### TAUGHT TO HANDLE HIGH-ANGLE GUNS

### Many Considerations to be Taken Into Account When Estimating the Range of Hostile Airships

London, Jan. 25.—Earl Kitchener has established a new department in the British army to teach accurate marksmanship against aeroplanes.

The men of this department are taught to handle the new high-angle guns which have just been put in use for the first time in warfare. Careful training is required, for the most difficult test of marksmanship is against moving aerial targets, especially aeroplanes which can work up to a speed of sixty-five to seventy-five miles an hour.

British infantrymen as well as the artillery are being taught to shoot down the sky foes. They are armed with the Lee-Enfield .303-inch short weapon fires, known as the Mark VII, which has a velocity of 2,440 feet per second. When fired vertically the rifle has a range of 10,000 feet. It takes the bullet 19½ seconds to reach its aerial mark and 31 seconds to drop back to earth.

In firing against an aeroplane the soldier is taught to reckon mentally how far the machine will travel during the time that the bullet leaves his rifle until it reaches the target. The velocity of the wind plays strange pranks in aerial shooting. One British aviator, seeing a small black object suddenly appear before him, put out his hand, thinking it was an insect, but the object turned out to be a German bullet.

The high velocity of the wind had reduced the travelling power of the bullet until it was practically harmless.

## Grey Shows Up The Hypocrisy Of The Germans

Makes Statement in Answer to Published Interview of the German Chancellor, Hollweg.

London, Jan. 27.—Sir Edward Grey authorizes a statement, in reply to an interview obtained with Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, German Imperial Chancellor, by a representative of the Associated Press and published in London and the United States.

The Foreign Secretary lays bare the hypocrisy of Bethmann-Hollweg's attempt to justify the crime against Belgium and shows how Germany rejected the proposals to avert war.

## Spain Favors Allies' Cause

### And Will Actually Assist Them When Opportune Time Comes

New York, Jan. 27.—A cable from Madrid to The Tribune says that Senor Here Caballero, former ambassador of Spain in Paris, declared in an interview to-day that the best interests of Spain required a firm policy of armed neutrality for the present time, but with the intention of joining the Allies at the most convenient moment.

Judging from the present situation, it was, he said, impossible for Germany to win eventually, and that, as Germany will not listen to peace proposals until she is defeated, the only way to end the war in a reasonable time is to support the Allies, and to help them when the moment for decisive action arrives.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

## British Gunners Turn The Tables On The Germans

### Germans Were Placing Big Gun To Silence British Howitzers But It Was Destroyed

St. Omer, Jan. 26.—The heavy artillery of the British has destroyed an enormous gun which the Germans were placing on a hill about a mile behind their first line of trenches, about two miles from Postubert with the object of silencing the English howitzers and bombarding Bethune.

The position of the big gun was marked by a British aviator and the fourth shell from the British guns demolished it.

British gunners directed their fire on a group of German artillery men engaged in placing similar guns a mile further behind, scattering them with a few well-timed shells.

They also smashed three pumps brought up by the Germans to empty out their trenches.

## PRAISES BRITAIN OVERSEA

### British Colonial Secretary Tells of the Glorious Work Done for the Motherland by Her Many Daughter Nations

London, Jan. 27.—An interesting rehearsal of the efforts made by the Overseas Dominions to co-operate with the Mother Country against the enemy, both in Europe and in outlying sections of the Empire, was given by Hon. Lewis Harcourt, Colonial Secretary, at a meeting organized by the Victoria League.

Starting with Canada, Harcourt sketched in detail the contributions of men and war materials as well as the long list of alimentary, monetary and medicine contributions.

Referring to the Canadian troops, the Colonial Secretary said: "It was an open secret that some were already at the front and the rest were straining at the leash to join them."

He ventured the prediction that period of probation would not last much longer.

The part played by Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Newfoundland received equally unstinted praise.

## Dutch Forced Keep All Men With Colours

### Premier of Holland Says That His Country May Have to Use Army At Moment's Notice

The Hague, Jan. 27.—"We must maintain under the colours our entire army, for at any moment incidents are possible which may render it necessary for us to make an appeal to the arms," said P. W. A. Von Der Linden, Premier of the Netherlands, yesterday.

The statement was made in the Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament when the bill for extension of the military service was being discussed.

The Premier added that the Government could not disclose information it possessed concerning the foreign situation because much of it was based on confidential documents.

## Appreciate Gift

President Coaker acknowledges with sincere thanks a gift of a splendid cut of venison sent by friend John Loder, being a portion of a carcass brought down by the rifle of this venerable old planter.

## GERMANS PRODIGAL IN SHELLS

### Ammunition Enough Uselessly Expended on Unoccupied Ground to Put Whole Army Through a Year's Campaign

### BREAK THEMSELVES ON RUSSIAN LINE

### Berlin Celebrates "Victories" in Battles in the East That Were Never Fought—German Attacks Desultory in Nature

Zyradow, Poland, via London, Jan. 27.—There is a spot above the river which must not be indicated too explicitly, but whose name signifies in Russian a place of tombs. It is thus christened by the troops who camp in a great forest which shadows the whole position. It is a point at which the new German plan of thrusting toward the railway, instead of as hitherto toward the road, has produced fighting of more than Homeric quality.

The Russians who never misjudge the value of ground, were established here in well-made trenches, with the shelter of forests at their backs for reserves and support. Upon this iron front the Germans spent themselves in fruitless attacks, incurring crippling losses. It was only after the repeated and disastrous failure of these tactics that they began a different method of approach.

### Waste of Shells.

Here, as everywhere else, they have a large amount of artillery, and under incessant shell-fire they proceed to sap their way toward the Russian trenches. Incidentally, they expended shells enough to last an army through the whole of a war, and where formerly six acres of trees projected from the main forest there are now no trees at all. The parapet of their trench is only 35 paces from the Russian parapet, and the men crouching behind their shelter can hear the voices of their enemies. None dare lift head or hand to even to loop holes on the breastworks, since the worst shot in the world could send bullet after bullet through any loop hole at that distance.

### Established in Dug-Outs.

I rode down through the forest in an effort to reach one of the trenches two nights ago, passing through the pale shine of snow upon the bare fields to sheer darkness. I found the staff established in a spacious dug-out, some four yards, behind the actual first line. There, as always, was a straw padded, candle-lit interior, with an orderly waiting, a telephone to his ear, and all these rough and ready contrivances by which men live who have death for ever at their elbow. Here, too, their faces disguised by weeks of beard and grime with the smirch of war, were burly Russian officers, those adequate and quietly confident men who are the strength and inspiration of the Russian army.

### Lack of System.

I had an illustration of German lack of system in artillery fire while returning on the rear of this position. Their shells sailed up across the woods to the south of the railway, bursting on an empty stretch of fields about a thousand yards away, and turned 700 or 800 acres of virgin snow into an inferno of smoke and hot earth, but no single shell fell nearer than a thousand yards to any living soul.

During the last day or two I have seen a change in the nature of the fighting on this front. The German procedure has no longer its old character of desperate decision, but has become more desultory, and their pressure flickers up and down the line as though in a panic of effort to find some point at which the defence is weak.

### Celebrating Victories.

I learn here from prisoners that the Germans lately have been celebrating victories. Berlin and other cities are

## Bryan's Stand Puts Pro-Germans All 'Out Of Court'

### Demonstrates That Any Charge of Favoritism Against the U.S. is Entirely Untrue

London, Jan. 26.—The Times' editorial on Secretary of State Bryan's reply to Senator Stone regarding the attitude of the American Government on questions raised by the war says: It will be read with satisfaction by all unprejudiced champions of neutral right. Pro-Germans now have their answer and have probably realized their extreme unwisdom in formulating their grievances.

Secretary Bryan has demonstrated beyond controversy that any charge of favoritism toward the Allies is utterly untrue and has swept away once and for all, a whole mass of German and pro-Germ fiction and placed the American people in a position in which we particularly wish them to be—in a position to know and judge the facts for themselves.

## Arrest German Finance Magnate

### Charge of High Treason Against Emperor's Friend Sen. Posschl.

London, Jan. 26.—A correspondent of The Morning Post telegraphs from Stockholm: "A sensation has been caused in commercial circles here by the news that Senator Posschl, head of the great firm of Posschl & Co., has been arrested in Germany on a charge of high treason, being accused of trading with the enemy and is being tried by court martial at Leipzig."

Herr Posschl is one of Germany's richest magnates. He is a personal friend of the Emperor.

## Puts Restrictions On The Weddings Of Volunteers

### Must Have Consent of Commanding Officer and Bride's Permission to Go On Overseas Service.

Toronto, Jan. 26.—All the Methodist ministers in Canada and Newfoundland have been forbidden to marry members of the Canadian contingent until they produce a written consent from the prospective bride, for them to go on active overseas service. They must also produce a written consent from the marriage from their commanding officer.

The order was issued by Rev. S. D. Chown, general superintendent. The order is concluded in terms of advice, but its observance will bring the offending minister under the authorities of the ministerial session in conference.

## CURIOSITY KILLS GERMAN OFFICER

### Capetown, Jan. 27.—Colonel Seydrebek, commanding the German forces in German South-West Africa, has been killed at Windhoek.

He was examining a hand grenade when one of them exploded, causing his death.

## Bunch of Bavarians Reported Captured

London, Jan. 26.—The French Government announces the surprise and capture of a Bavarian detachment in Lorraine. Otherwise nothing special.

In Galicia the Austrians show some activity in Nukia and Eastern Carpathian passes.

—HARCOURT.

As Mrs. C. Ayre's carriage horse was being driven along Water St. at dinner hour, the animal slipped and fell in front of Frew's Store, and broke its leg.

## ALL BRITISH SHIPS SAFE AFTER FIGHT

### Only Casualties of Sunday's Naval Battle Reported are Fourteen Killed and Twenty-nine Injured

### ONE DESTROYER WAS DISABLED

### But Was Towed Safely Into Port—Only Slight Damages to the Battle Cruisers Engaged With the Germans

London, Jan. 26.—The Admiralty announces that all British ships and destroyers engaged in Sunday's action, have returned safely to port.

H.M.S. Lion, which had some of her forward compartments flooded, being hit by a shell below the water line, was taken in tow by H.M.S. Indomitable.

Was Disabled.

The destroyer Meteor also was disabled and taken in tow by the destroyer Liberty.

Both vessels were guarded by strong escorts of destroyers. Repairs can be speedily effected.

The total casualties reported are 1 officer and 26 men wounded. These occurred on the Lion, Tiger and Meteor. It is believed that no other casualties occurred.

### Zeppelin Brought Down

The Naval General Staff at Petrograd have announced that on Monday morning a Zeppelin appeared at Lihau and dropped nine bombs on an undefended part of the town, and after being fired on by the forts, fell into the water. Small craft went out, destroyed the Zeppelin, and took the crew prisoners.

### Casualty List

London, Jan. 26.—Sunday's casualty list is as follows:—Lion, 17 wounded; Tiger, 1 officer and 9 men killed, 3 officers and 8 men wounded; Meteor, 4 men killed and 1 wounded.

As soon as Vice-Admiral Beatty's report is received a full account will be given.

### 50 Survivors Landed.

Edinburgh, Jan. 27.—Fifty German survivors were landed from two British torpedo boat destroyers today at Leith.

A contingent of the Red Cross Corps were at the dock with ambulances to receive twenty-three men who had been wounded in the fight.

One of the wounded Germans had died while on the way to port. Several of the wounded were terribly injured.

### 200 From the Blucher.

London, Jan. 27.—Two hundred additional survivors of the German cruiser Blucher have been landed. They include a few Petty officers.

## NFLD. STUDENTS DO GOOD WORK AT UNIVERSITY

The Montreal Gazette of January 1st publishes the names of successful students handed out by the Faculty of McGill University in Christmas Arts examinations in the second, third and fourth years says The Bay Roberts Guardian.

We note that in three particular subjects in the third and fourth year Arts, Newfoundlanders are leading. In Organic Chemistry W. H. Hatcher is leading. In History of Education, W. P. Wornell, of St. John's is leading, and in Moral Philosophy Geo. L. Mercer is leading in Class I. This speaks very well indeed for our young fellow-townsmen, who was handicapped somewhat through time lost owing to bereavement in his family. We noticed also that R. F. Mercer passed in Moral Philosophy in Class II.

As Mrs. C. Ayre's carriage horse was being driven along Water St. at dinner hour, the animal slipped and fell in front of Frew's Store, and broke its leg.

At 1 p.m. it was carted away to be shot.

## Canada To Get \$100,000,000 Loan In United States

### But it Will be Arranged so as Not to Interfere With Nice Question of Neutrality

London, Jan. 25.—The Morning Post's Washington correspondent states that New York bankers hear that a loan of \$100,000,000 will be made by the United States to Canada.

In defence to President Wilson's wish that United States bankers should not float issues to any European belligerents, the transaction will be so arranged as not to conflict with the President's idea of neutrality, so that really and directly the Canadian Government will be the borrowers.

## GOT CAMINO INTO SAFETY AT HALIFAX

### Belgian Relief Ship, Damaged by Storms in the Atlantic is Towed Into Port by Fleet of Rescue Ships

### SOME OF HER MEN WERE INJURED

### Cargo Will be Transferred to Another Steamer and Taken Across the Atlantic As Quickly As Possible

Halifax, Jan. 26.—Damaged by high seas raging on the North Atlantic for the first ten days, her rudder gone, deck house stove in, and crippled, the Belgian Relief Ship Camino was towed into Halifax harbor at eleven o'clock today.

She was the centre of a procession of ships, the Furness boat Kanawha leading. Just astern was the tug Gladiolus, both with long tow lines attached to the Camino. The tug Togo was made fast to the side. The disabled ship was doing her share towards being towed into port.

The Lady Laurier was a few hundred feet astern, and by a long hawser acted as a rudder. Bringing up the rear was the U. S. revenue cutter An-droscoggin, which brought the sailors who had been injured on Sunday.

The officers and men were glad to get into Halifax safely. Few of them ever had such an experience before. Many thought they would never see land.

Some of the men said they had gone on the trip as a sort of lark, but now they thought California was a good place to stay in.

The cargo will be reshipped on another steamer, and forwarded as soon as possible to Belgium.

## German Aviators Drop Messages On Russ. Lines

### Tell Them God Has Abandoned Their Standard and They Had Better Make Peace

Petrograd, Jan. 25.—German aeroplanes have been dropping leaflets upon the Russian lines, one of which reads as follows:

"Russian soldiers: God has abandoned your standard. The sacrifices you have made are useless. Hundreds of thousands of the best and most valiant of your comrades have fallen on the battlefield and a new enemy, the most powerful and most dangerous of all, has appeared against the Czar. A holy war has been declared against you and your allies and you have lost the game. Four hundred millions of men, followers of the law of Mahomet, located in three quarters of the globe, are united to fight against you.

"Russian soldiers and friends: Demand peace while there is yet time."

## CELEBRATE BIRTHDAY OF KAISER

### Germans Prepare For Some Fool Venture to Celebrate the Ntal Day of Wilhelm, the Natal Day for Wilhelm, Europe

### BRITISH DESTROY BIG GERMAN GUN

### Russians Pushing Their Advance Into East Prussia—Russian Submarine Puts German Cruiser Out of Commission

London, Jan. 27.—The Germans who are reported from Holland to be making preparations for a big military venture to celebrate the Emperor's birthday today, and have made a somewhat more determined effort than usual against the French and British lines in Flanders and in Northern France.

They have delivered an attack on the French to the East of Ypres, and no less than five attacks on the first division of the British force on either side of La Bassee canal.

Falled, Say Allies.

Both British and French officials reports assert that these attacks failed in their object, and that the Germans suffered heavy losses.

The Germans, on the other hand, while admitting their attack on the British on the north side of the canal was unsuccessful, say that on the south side of the waterway their efforts resulted in complete success, and that the British attempts to reconquer these trenches were repulsed with heavy losses.

These attacks were followed by a heavy bombardment by the British artillery of German positions beyond La bassee, in which, according to reports, on Boulogne, one big German gun was completely destroyed while the Germans were prevented from getting the second heavy gun in position. This was on Saturday.

### Hardest Attacks.

On Monday the Germans made their attacks, and some of the hardest fighting of the campaign took place. The hospital at Bethune was shelled by the Germans and the wounded had to be removed to Boulogne.

There also has been heavy fighting east and west of Craonne, in the Ar-gonne and Alsace.

The Russians are making another effort to advance in East Prussia, while in Poland there has been a slackening in fighting on both sides for them oment.

### Russian Manoeuvre.

The Russians appear to be concentrating themselves on their offensive north of the lower Vistula, while Austro-Germans are making preparations to meet the Russian advance through the passes of the Carpathians and southern Bukovina.

Russian submarines have made their appearance in the Western portion of the Baltic Sea and have succeeded in torpedoing the German cruiser Gazelle, which, however, reached port with the assistance of a Swedish steamer.

Their activity has stopped the trade carried on by the German steamers between Germany and Sweden.

## German Cruiser Badly Damaged

### Victim of Russian Submarine Towed Into Port in Sinking Condition

Copenhagen, Jan. 27.—Despatches confirm the reports that the German cruiser Gazelle, torpedoed by a Russian submarine in the Baltic, has been taken to Samsitz in a sinking condition.

Reports also say that fights have occurred between the German fleet and the Russian submarines. They also assert that Germany is showing great naval activity in the Baltic.

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