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WEATHER — MOSTLY FAIR

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THE GENERAL ALLIED OFFENSIVE IS NOW SUCCESSFULLY UNDER WAY IN SALONIKI

SERBIANS CAPTURE FIRST LINE OF BULGARIAN TRENCHES AFTER TWO DAYS' DESPERATE CONFLICT

British and French also Made Advances — Fighting Continuing in Mountainous Country with Advantage Still Running Strongly in Direction of Entente Allies.

Paris, Aug. 21.—A general offensive along the entire Saloniki front was launched on Sunday by the Allies, according to an official statement issued by the French war office. The Serbians have captured the first line of the Bulgarians on the left of the battle front, but have lost the town of Banica, south of Florina.

On the centre and right wing heavy fighting is in progress. The British-French forces have crossed the Struma and are attacking Bulgarian positions northwest of Seres. The text of the statement follows: "On August 20 the Allied forces at Saloniki took the offensive on the entire front. On the right wing the Anglo-French forces have crossed the Struma and are attacking the enemy on the Kavacki-Kalatra-Topalava front (northwest of Seres). They are in contact with a position strongly held by the enemy at Barakli (8 kilometres south-west of Demir-Hissar.)

"In the centre violent artillery actions are taking place on the southern slope of the Belas mountain and on both banks of the Vardar. "In the region extending from Lake Dolran to the Vardar the Allies have consolidated positions they occupied on the preceding day. "On the left wing, in the mountainous region between the Cerna and Moglenica rivers, the Serbians have taken the first line trenches of the Bulgarians on the heights of Kikuruz, and have occupied the forts of Kaimakalar. On the extreme left, after inflicting heavy losses on the Bulgarians debouching from Florina, Banica, they had to abandon this latter place and have established themselves on heights situated to the east. The battle is continuing."

ALLIES GAIN MORE THAN MILE.

New York, August 21.—The Journal today has the following from Saloniki: "The occupation of more than a mile of ground along a front of nearly three miles in the region of Lake Dolran, and the capture of a fortified work at Feracheval, south of Doldzeli, was announced in an official report, issued today by the British Balkan headquarters. The British official report says:

"On the Dolran front during the night we advanced 2,000 yards on a front of 5,000, and occupied these new positions without encountering resistance. Our troops took the work at Feracheval, south of Doldzeli, after serious resistance from the Bulgarians. "On the Struma front the enemy is showing signs of activity in the direction of Demir-Hissar. He is reported to have crossed the frontier at numerous points, and to have penetrated into Greek territory in the neighborhood of Sarichaban, east of Kavala."

ALLIED DRIVE IN SALONIKI MAY BRING ROUMANIA IN LINE

London Again Learns Circumstantial Reports That Bucharest Government is About to Join the Allies.

London, Aug. 21.—The opening of the Allied offensive at Saloniki has been the signal for renewed reports that Rumania is at last about to throw in her lot with the Entente. These reports are more circumstantial than ever before, and the comments of the German press indicate that they are far from being devoid of foundation. One Berlin newspaper goes so far as to declare that Rumania has already joined the Allies, and that plans are being laid for the march of a Russian army through Rumanian territory. Major Morant, the famous German military critic, also believes that Rumania is negotiating with Russia and hints at an ultimatum to Bucharest from Germany and Austria.

The entry of Rumania into the war on the side of the Entente would mean the forging of another link in the chain of foes surrounding the Central Powers. The material aid which Rumania could give would be of a very important character. She has had between 500,000 and 600,000 troops mobilized for nearly a year, and her army is reputed to be one of the best equipped and trained in Europe. Apart from possible Russian reinforcement Rumania would be in a position to deal a powerful blow at Bulgaria from the north, in conjunction with the Allies' drive from the south. It has been generally understood that Rumania has been willing to concede the Province of Bessarabia, the population of which is largely Rumanian, in return for Rumanian co-operation in the war. Bessarabia is 18,000 square miles in extent, and has a population of nearly 2,000,000.

Unofficial reports from Saloniki say that Italian troops have landed there and will join in the general offensive. This news, if correct, means that Italy has finally decided to formally declare war on Germany, as the Germans are admittedly directing the Bulgarian campaign.

HE SELECTED DORCHESTER IN PREFERENCE TO JAIL

James Wilson, Vagrant, will Serve Out, His Suspended Term in Penitentiary — Other Cases Before County Court.

Alexander McDonald, of Roman Valley, Youngsborough county, N. S., accused of adultery with Eva Dosey, appeared before His Honor Judge Armstrong yesterday afternoon and selected to be tried under the Speedy Trials Act. Michael Osgwell also

BRITISH IN AFRICA ARE DOING WELL

Wami River Forced and Germans Are Driven Back.

Our Troops are Now Advancing on Important Towns of Kilossa and Dares-Salaam.

London, August 21.—British forces in German East Africa have forced a passage of the Wami river, and are approaching the important town of Kilossa, according to an official statement issued by the war office this evening. The statement says:

"Lieut-General Smuts reports that the British, advancing from the Nguru mountains, encountered at nightfall on the sixteenth a strong enemy force holding the passages of the Wami river on the road to Nrogoro. Fighting continued till the night of the 17th, when the enemy retreated. "The British occupied the crossings at dawn, and are now constructing bridges. Meantime Lieut-Col. Vandevanter inflicted severe losses on the enemy near Kidate station, on the Central Railway, and is approaching Kilossa. "Further east British columns are moving on Dares-Salaam, supported by naval operations on the coast."

MARITIME MEN IN THE LATEST ROLL OF HONOR

Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Figure in This Casualty List.

Ottawa, Aug. 21.—The eleven p.m. casualty list contains the following names: Infantry. Killed in action: Geo. A. Crossman, South Port, P. E. I. Claude A. Dunning, Granville, P. E. I. Roderick R. J. MacAulay, Bayfield, P. E. I. Died of Wounds. Hugh Livingstone, Black Brook, N. S. Wounded. Alfred V. Dalton, Cedar Lake, N. S. Pioneer George M. Gray, Princess Lodge, N. S. Kenneth Marshall, Sydney, N. S. Mounted Rifles. Wounded: Robert A. Townsend, Lower Barney's River, N. S. Artillery. Wounded: Lieut. Frank H. Tingley, Moncton, N. B.

YOUTHS OF SEVENTEEN CALLED TO HUN COLORS

Paris, Aug. 21.—The intramural significant publishes, under reserve, a dispatch from Lausanne to the effect that Ger-many has ordered all youths of seventeen to report immediately to recruiting bureaux. This class, in normal years, would be called to the colors in 1919.

German Efforts To Break Allied Lines All Failed

British Guns Quickly Stopped Hun Offensive on Somme Front—Still Pouring Shell into Enemy Trenches.

London, Aug. 21, 4.11 p. m.—Strong German detachments drove back British covering patrols northwest of High Wood, on the Somme front, this morning, but were stopped when they came under the fire of the British positions west of the wood, says today's war office statement. Bombing attacks on High Wood were repulsed.

The statement follows: "After a heavy bombardment, three hostile bombing attacks were made this morning on High Wood. All were easily repulsed. "Northwest of High Wood some of our covering patrols withdrew before strong detachments of the enemy, but these detachments were unable to make any progress when they came under fire from our positions west of the wood. "During the night we effectively shelled portions of the enemy's position, whilst the enemy bombarded our trenches in the vicinity of Pozieres and the area northeast of Contalmaison, using gas shells freely.

"Northwest of Hulluch, (north of Arras), and east of Le Plantin, the enemy attempted to raid our trenches. These raids were driven back with loss to the enemy, who only succeeded in reaching our lines at one point from which he was quickly driven out again. "Near Givéchy the enemy exploded a mine near one of our forward saps but caused us no casualties, and we made use of the crater as a defensive post. Further north we liberated gas successfully against the enemy's positions at two places."

ALL ENEMY ATTACKS REPULSED.

London, Aug. 21.—The war office communication issued this evening says: "Near the Mouquet Farm (near Thiepval) the enemy attempted to make an attack on a small scale, which was immediately repulsed. Otherwise there is little to report, except artillery activity by both sides, which at times was very violent. "Our artillery fire was very effective. "Southward of Thiepval the enemy's trenches were severely damaged and a configuration was caused in one of the enemy's batteries which burned furiously for some time. A hostile balloon was forced to descend by our gunfire. "Southward of Loos, as the result of a successful mine, we have much improved our local position. "Our aeroplanes continue to bomb enemy billets with success, in addition to their work with our artillery. Yesterday one of our machines did not return. Today hostile aeroplanes showed a little more enterprise than usual, and some of them ventured over our lines."

Italians Are Holding All Positions Captured

Violent Artillery Duels in Trentino District, but Austrians are Unable to Drive Back Invaders.

Rome, Aug. 21, via London, 4.45 p. m.—The Italians, who have advanced in the region east of Gorizia and on the Carso plateau, are holding fast to the ground won, occupying themselves with consolidating recently captured positions. "Today's war office statement reports no important infantry activity on any portion of the Austrian-Italian front. "Violent artillery duels, however, are in progress, notably in the Trentino, where the Austrian gunners have shown especial activity. The statement follows: "Violent thunderstorms throughout the theatre of operations did not result in the diminution of artillery activity. The enemy's batteries were especially active on the Trentino front and in the upper But Valley. They were answered by ours, which shelled the Drava Valley effectively, interfering with the movement of trains. "Minor enemy attacks are reported in the Astico Valley and in the Piava area. The enemy was repulsed and left about 20 prisoners in our hands. "In the Gorizia area and on the Carso, our troops are consolidating the positions they recently occupied. "Hostile artillery shelled Gorizia and the Isone bridge without causing damage."

NO CHANGE OF IMPORTANCE IN THE WEST FRONT

London, Aug. 21.—On the western front there has been no material change in the situation since the Allies launched their great attack last Friday. German counter-attacks have been made at several points along the British lines but, according to London, without any success. The Germans have also made a powerful effort to recapture Fleury, in the Verdun sector, but Paris reports their complete repulse. The repeated unofficial reports that Portugal was about to take an active share on the European battlefield has been apparently confirmed by an announcement from Paris that a British-French military commission has been sent to Lisbon. News despatches from Portugal have described military pro-

EXPLOSION IN SHELL FACTORY TOOK BIG TOLL

London, August 21.—Serious loss of life is feared as the result of an explosion in a munitions plant in Yorkshire this afternoon, says an official statement issued this evening. No figures on casualties are given. "An explosion took place this afternoon at a munitions factory in Yorkshire," says the statement. "Full details are not yet at hand, but the loss of life appears to be serious. Assistance has been sent from neighboring towns. "A further statement will be issued."

LIQUOR INTERESTS WON SEAT IN "HOLY TORONTO"

FRENCH GUNS STILL ROARING ON THE SOMME

German Works on Both Banks of River Shelled but No Infantry Action During Day.

Paris, August 21.—There has been no infantry fighting on the French sector of the Somme front, according to the official statement, issued by the French war office tonight. On the remainder of the front there was the usual cannonading. The statement says: "On the Somme front our batteries shelled German works north and south of the river. There was no infantry activity in the course of the day. An intermittent cannonade took place on the remainder of the front. "Our aviators had numerous encounters with the enemy. Two enemy aeroplanes were brought down inside his lines, one in the region of Denicourt and the other near Berny."

FAVORITES HAD IT EASY YESTERDAY

"The Talent" Walked Away With Three Out of Four Events on Grand Circuit Programme.

Cleveland, Aug. 21.—Favorites had their own way in three of the four events at the second Grand Circuit race meeting at North Randall which opened today. In only one race, the 2.09 trot, were the talent bumped.

The American Horse Breeders' Futurity, the two-year-old trot, the first futurity raced in the big show this year, attracted much attention, and was easy for Real Lady, the favorite, with Murphy up. Mary Colburn finished second in the two heats. As an added attraction Murphy drove Directum in an exhibition mile and an eighth, lowering the world's pacing mark for that distance from 2.20 to 2.16 1/4. The record, established in 1902, was held by Carl Wilkes.

SAYS MEXICO IS THE FINEST LAND OF ALL

Mrs. David B. Smith, of Mexico City, in St. John Last Evening After Automobile Trip.

Mrs. David B. Smith and daughter, Marion, of Mexico City, who are making a tour of the maritime provinces arrived in the city last night from Nova-Scotia and are at the Royal hotel. It is their intention to spend a few days visiting the beauty spots of New Brunswick. Mrs. Smith first went to Mexico about thirty-five years ago with her husband, who was a railroad contractor and built some of the largest railroads in that country. They had their home in Mexico City and Mrs. Smith said the only reason she left was because of the fact that Americans were ordered out. She thought it the finest country in the world to live in and expects to go back as soon as conditions settle down again. Mrs. Smith was out taking in the band concert last night in the King square and said it reminded her very much of her home where they had similar Piazza, she called them. The difference she noticed was that at her home the young men and women did not walk together, but each sex walked by themselves in opposite directions. Mrs. Smith said she had not seen any place where she would rather live than in Mexico City, and while Diaz was in charge to keep order conditions were ideal there. At the present time she understood that there was very little improvement in the conditions, but she was in hopes that before long peace would come to the country. From what she knew of the country she was inclined to think that if the United States government had recognized Huerta the trouble would have been avoided and Mexico would be peaceable today.

Premier Hearst's Prohibition Policy Defeated His Own Candidate.

TEMPERANCE MEN COULD NOT WIN OUT

Support to Conservative Prohibitionist Was Very Light and "Liberal-Rum Party" Candidate Has Majority of 643.

Toronto, Aug. 21.—In one of the most peculiar, topsy-turvy by-elections which Ontario has experienced, the Liberal candidate—Liberal on his record, and the nominee of a Liberal convention, though not endorsed by the central executive—Mr. H. H. Dewart, K. C., was elected to the legislature tonight as representative of southwest Toronto by a majority of 643 over James Norris, Conservative candidate, the vote for the other candidates being negligible.

There were four candidates in the field. Mr. Dewart, a supporter of the Rowell policies, with the exception of the prohibition plank, on which he reserved the right of individual judgment in case of an "emergency," Mr. James Norris, who frankly expressed himself in favor of a modification of the Ontario Temperance Act passed at the last session of the legislature, but was accepted by Premier-Hearst as a supporter generally of the government policies; Mr. Gordon, Waldron, who came out flatfooted against the prohibition policy of both government and opposition, and had the platform support of Sir Allen Aylsworth, formerly minister of justice in the Laurier cabinet, who, in several speeches, lamented the tying up of the Liberal party in the province to the prohibition policy, and Mr. J. McA. Connor, who ran as a Social Democrat, but was the only candidate who distinctly favored prohibition.

A Grit-Rum Alliance.

Mr. Dewart, the victor, though the nominee of a Liberal convention was practically repudiated by the two Liberal organs, the Star openly advocating the cause of the Social Democrat on the prohibition question, and the Globe remaining neutral, with editorial appeals to the electors of the constituency to exercise their franchise. The Independent-Nickel-Conservative World threw its influence into the camp of Mr. Dewart. The Mail and Empire and the Evening Telegram came out as an eleventh-hour supporter. The influence of the liquor associations was frankly thrown in favor of Mr. Dewart, with the avowed intention of letting Premier-Hearst see "where he got off at."

The vote polled was comparatively light, compared with that in the last general election, when the late Hon. J. J. Foy, attorney-general, rode up a majority of 3,696.

In that election the total vote polled was 6,127, as compared with 5,343 for the by-election today.

The election was practically a fight between Mr. Dewart and Mr. Norris.

Following is the vote for the various candidates: Dewart, 2,705; Norris, 2,062; Connor, 455; Waldron, 131.

This is the first time in twenty-seven years that a Toronto constituency has elected a Liberal to the legislature. In 1889, the late Jos. Tait, Liberal, was elected under the minority representation plan.