

THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Official Organ of The Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland.

Vol. I. No. 273.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1914.

Price:—1 cent.

KING ALBERT MADE KNIGHT OF GARTER

Honors for Belgian King and for General French—Progress Made Between Dixmude and Ypres

(British Official Bulletin). London, Dec. 7.—The King concluded his visit to the Army in the field in France, and returned to London on Saturday evening.

The French Government reports appreciable progress, north of Ypres, and between Dixmude and Ypres; also severe fighting in the Argonne, where trenches have been taken and counter-attacks repulsed.

The Russians report obstinate fighting in the direction of Lovicz and in the region of Lodz, and also on the roads west of Piotrkow.

What Germany Hopes In Time To Accomplish

Downfall and Spoilation of the "Tyrant" England and of Russia, France and Belgium

London, Dec. 6.—The Morning Post says that the famous "Prof." Ernst Haeckel of Jena, the well-known disciple of Darwin, has expressed in an interview the opinion that the following fruits of victory are necessary to insure Germany's future:

- 1—Freedom from the tyranny of England secured by
2—The invasion of the British piratical state by the German army and navy and the occupation of London.
3—The partition of Belgium, the western portion as far as Ostend and Antwerp to become a German federal state; the northern portion to fall to Holland, and the south-eastern portion to be added to Luxembourg, which also should become a German federal state.
4—Germany to obtain the great part of the British Colonies and of the Congo State.
5—France to give up a portion of her north-eastern provinces.
6—Russia is to be reduced to impotency by the re-establishment of the Kingdom of Poland, which should be united with Austria-Hungary.
7—The Baltic Provinces of Russia to be restored to Germany.
8—Finland to become an independent Kingdom and to be united to Sweden.

Allies Ships Again Bombard Belgian Coast

Warships Again Make it Hot For Germans—Enemy's Attacks Are All Repulsed.

London, Dec. 7.—Heavy firing can be heard along the Belgian coast to-day, according to the Reuter despatch from Amsterdam, indicating that the warships of the Allies are again bombarding the German positions.

A correspondent to the Handelsblad says the Germans delivered violent attacks to-day on the trenches recently captured by the Allies, but were repulsed; and adds that the Allies have made marked progress in the neighbourhood of Langemarck, Zonnebeke and Bixchoote.

ITALY SENDS MEN TO LIBYA

Rome, Dec. 7.—Eight battalions of Italian troops have been ordered to Libya to reinforce the troops there, and, according to announcement, to be ready for any emergency.

Out of the \$265,000 loaned to stranded Americans in London at the beginning of the war, all but \$250 has been repaid.

"GREAT GENERAL IMPROVEMENT IN CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE ALLIES FIGHT IN WEST"

Recent Lull in the Fighting Has Given Them an Opportunity to Readjust and Strengthen Their Positions

HAVE HELD FIRMLY AGAINST GREAT ODDS

Lines Now Shortened and Enough Fresh Troops on Ground to Turn Scale Against the German Forces

(British Official Report)

LONDON, Dec. 5.—Col. E. D. Swinton, of the Intelligence Department of the General Staff to the British Expeditionary Force in France and Belgium, in a narrative dated November 26th, gives a general review of the development of the situation of the force for six weeks preceding that date.

There has recently been a lull in the active operations, he says. No progress has been made by either side, and yet there has come about an important modification, comprising a readjustment in the scope of the part played by the British Army as a whole.

He explains the movement from the River Aisne to the Belgian frontier to prolong the left flank of the French army, and says that in attempting this the British force was a very extended section of the front. He points out as did General French, Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces, that the British held only one-twelfth of the line, so that the greater share of the common task of opposing the enemy fell, and still falls, to the French, while the Belgians played an almost vital part.

Germans Strong Force

With the fall of Antwerp the Germans made every effort to push forward a besieging force toward the west, and hastened to bring up a new army corps, which had been hastily raised and trained, their object being to drive the Allies out of Belgium and break through to Dunkirk and Calais. Altogether they had a quarter of a million fresh men.

Eventually the Germans had, north of La Bassée, about fourteen corps and eight cavalry divisions, that is, a force of three-quarters of a million men with which to attempt to drive the Allies into the sea. In addition there was immensely powerful armament and heavy siege artillery, which also had been brought up from around Antwerp.

British Held Ground.

The official eye-witness tells of the blows delivered by the Germans at Nieupoort Dixmude and Ypres, where "at first the Allies were greatly outnumbered."

For a whole month the British army around Ypres succeeded in holding its ground against repeated onslaughts made by vastly superior forces. The winter goes into details of the German attacks, and describes how they were frustrated by the Allies.

The British force, says Col. Swinton, which consisted all along of the same units, had "to withstand an almost continuous bombardment, and to meet one desperate assault after another, each carried out by fresh units from the large numbers which the Germans were devoting to the operation."

Welcome Assistance.

Finally the French came to their assistance, and "never was help more welcome, for by then our small local reserves had again and again been thrown into the fight, and our men were exhausted by the incessant fighting."

The British front now has been considerably shortened, and in addition has been reinforced, while a lull in the activity has enabled them to readjust their forces, strengthen their positions and bring up reserves. There has therefore, "been a great general improvement in the conditions under which we are carrying on the fight."

Of the fighting which preceded this re-organization, the writer says it was due solely to the resource, initiative and endurance of the regimental officers and men, that success has lain with the British. He continues:

U. S. Jackies Musn't Sing 'Tipperary'

Because Their Naval Authorities Decide it Breach of Neutrality to do so.

Newport, Dec. 5.—Taking the ground that it comes within the neutrality order of President Wilson, the marching song "It's a Long Way to Tipperary," sung by the British Army, has been barred from further use at the naval training station here by order of the executive officer, Lieutenant-Commander Frank Taylor Evans.

Singing by the apprentice seamen is always encouraged, and this song with its fine swing struck the fancy of the boys. The station band had also played it.

Last Monday night at the weekly entertainment at the station it was sung by the boys with orchestra accompaniment. On Thanksgiving night during a vaudeville entertainment by professionals "Tipperary" was sung, the sailors joining in the chorus. The executive officer followed.

'World' is Sarcastical.

New York, Dec. 5.—Commenting on the action of Lieut.-Commander Evans, backed up by Joseph Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, in forbidding the singing of "It's a Long Way to Tipperary," in the United States navy, the World says, editorially:

"Secretary Daniels agrees with Lieut.-Commander Evans that it is a violation of neutrality for the men in the navy to sing 'It's a Long Way to Tipperary.' We have never suspected that American neutrality was such a delicate and easily dislocated institution; but we are bound to take the Secretary's word for it, especially when his civilian judgment is sustained by the expert opinion of a Lieut.-Commander.

Must Cut These Out.

"This means, presumably, that the marine band must hereafter cease to give aid and comfort to the German-Austrian-Turkish alliance by playing the Blue Danube waltz. We take it that 'America' will pass into the category of forbidden music also, because its tune is not only the tune of 'God Save the King,' but of 'Heil Dir Im Siegerkrans,' making it a double violation of neutrality.

"We regret also to report that certain goodly, but sadly unneutral church folk, persist in singing a hymn, the music of which is the music of 'Gott Erhalte Franz Den Kaiser,' as well as of 'Deutschland Uber Alles.' This must be stopped, lest it prove a temptation to naval chaplains.

"Dedicated as he is to noble deeds, we are sure that Secretary Daniels will do his full duty in squelching both unneutral and contraband music in the sea service of the United States, nor can we believe that it will prove a difficult task.

"Why should a navy that has Josephus Daniels for a secretary want to sing?"

Wear And Tear Is Too Much For Canadian Boots

"It is Well," says The Times, "the Canadians do Not Have to Wear Them at the Front."

London, Dec. 5.—The mud and slush at Bustard camp, Salisbury Plain, are so bad that the first and second battalions of the first brigade have been compelled to break camp and move their tents to fresh turf.

There is no news yet as to when the men are to move into the huts, although the erection of these is nearly complete affording ample accommodation for twelve battalions.

Referring to the mud, The Times correspondent at Salisbury Plain says that it is very rough on boots, and that "one hears things said about the Canadian contractors who furnished the field force with footwear, and it is well the troops do not have to go to the front in the boots in which they came over."

Sailor Arrested

A deep water sailor who was reported dead last winter was arrested last evening charged with using threatening language towards his wife. He was remanded.

GERMAN FORCES IN THE EAST SNATCH VICTORY FROM DEFEAT

Army That, a Fortnight Ago, Was Surrounded and in Danger of Annihilation, Beats Russians and Occupies the City of Lodz

London, Dec. 7.—After a long battle, which was fought with the greatest stubbornness, the Germans have succeeded in occupying Lodz in Poland, which is an unfortified city. According to Berlin reports, the Russians suffered severe losses and are in retreat.

This success of the Germans, largely because of what preceded it, is considered by military experts as a really remarkable achievement.

Victory From Defeat.

Less than a fortnight ago the army to which this victory has fallen was surrounded by the Russians, and cut its way out only at the last moment, losing a great many men and many guns. Yet it was able within a few days to reorganize and take the offensive and defeat the Russians.

This was made possible by the network of strategic railways on the German side of the frontier, over which reinforcements can be sent to where they are most needed.

The Russians, on the other hand, vigorously attacked both wings, but being unable to send fresh men to stiffen their center and meet the German wedge, were compelled to fall back. There will be undoubtedly much more fighting before the campaign in this district concludes.

Hand to Hand Fight.

Lodz was won only after a hand to hand fight around the suburbs and the city. The whole Russian line from the north to the south is now straightened out, and will contest every foot of ground with the invaders.

In the meantime, taking advantage of the pre-occupation of the Germans in the East, the allied French, Belgian and British forces have begun an offensive movement in the West. They are now virtually in possession of the left bank of the Yser canal.

In Northern France, particularly in the neighborhood of LaBassée, where the Germans hold very strong positions, the Allies are beginning with heavy cannonade to feel their way eastward. The same process is being followed along the whole front.

Beat Germans.

A French official communication speaks of the superiority of our offensive, and the marked advantage of the French artillery over that of the Germans. The advance, slight as it is in the northwest, has ended for the present at least, in the opinion of many, the German menace of the coast ports.

It is thought that so long as the Germans are compelled to keep up the strength of their army in the East, they will be unable to assume the offensive in the West. There is a report, however, that the Germans have kept the pick of their Western army in the Aisne valley, from whence at an opportune moment they can hurl it against the French lines and make another attempt to get through to Paris.

Servian Successes.

King Peter, of Servia, who has been ill for many months, has assumed command of the Servian army, according to a Nish report, and has checked the advance of the Austrians, inflicting heavy losses on them. The Austrian reply to this is that the occupation of Belgrade necessitated the regrouping of their troops.

The political news of to-day was an authoritative announcement from Sofia, that it was not considered possible that anything would intervene to make it necessary for Bulgaria to change her policy of strict neutrality until next spring.

German Losses Enormous.

London, Dec. 7.—A despatch to Reuter's Telegraph Co. from Petrograd, says: "The Bourse Gazette estimates the German losses in the month's operations around Lodz region at 100,000 men, or one-fifth of their strength. "The Germans have renamed Czenstochowe, Kaiserberg."

Mokuweowe, the most spectacular of Hawaiian volcanoes, believed to be extinct, is again in eruption.

FOE MADE AN ATTACK ON RAFTS

German Attempt on Belgian Positions, by Ferrying Across Inundated Country, Was Entirely Unsuccessful

London, Dec. 8.—Telegraphing from Dunkirk, The Chronicle correspondent Monday morning, made another attack on the Belgian lines at Ramsappelle. They came on numerous rafts which were armed with machine guns and towed by three powerful motor boats.

"As soon as the Belgian outposts opened fire, the motor boats flashed blinding searchlights on them and opened a murderous machine gun fire. "The Germans reached the shore and were preparing to land when the Belgians brought up a searchlight, enabling the Belgian and French artillery, stationed some distance in the rear, to shell the rafts accurately. The weight of the Allies' artillery soon began to tell and the Germans were driven back. Several rafts capsized.

"The Belgian troops advanced shoulder deep in the water fighting the panic stricken Germans, many of whom surrendered while the others retired.

Allies Show Superiority In Offensive

Artillery too, do Better Work Than That of the Germans—Nothing New in the East.

Paris, Dec. 7.—French War Office gave out an official communication this afternoon as follows: "In the region of the Yser we continue to attack the few entrenchments still held by the enemy on the left bank of the Canal. In region of Armentieres and of Arras as well as in the Oise territory.

"In the Aisne region and in the Argonne there is nothing to report except to refer in general terms to the superiority of our offensive.

"In Champagne our heavy artillery, on several different occasions, has shown marked superiority over that of the enemy.

"Nothing new on the Eastern front of our line where the positions of preceding days have been maintained.

Austria Ready For Any Attack By Italians

Stations Two Hundred Thousand Troops Along the Austro-Italian Border.

Milan, Dec. 8.—Advices received from the Austrian frontier are that the statement of Premier Salandra in the Italian Parliament on Thursday had an immediate echo in Austrian military circles.

Friday night, the correspondent says, the railway lines poured troops all along the Italian border and also into Pola, the Austrian Arsenal on the Peninsula of Istria.

It is estimated that 200,000 men were stationed along the Italian border and 100,000 at Pola.

Tabasco Arrives

S.S. Tabasco, Capt. Yeomans, arrived at 10.30 a.m. after a passage of 12 days from Liverpool.

She encountered boisterous weather all the way. The Tabasco brought 500 tons cargo, 70 packages mail matter but no passengers.

Portugal Helps Great Britain

Does Her Share of Fighting the Germans in Africa.

Lisbon, Dec. 8.—The Portuguese Government is preparing to send four thousand more troops to Angola, Portuguese West Africa. It appears that Germany has armed great numbers of Portuguese African natives which are commanded by German officers and are provided with artillery.

The prevailing view in Portugal appears to be that the most useful part of Portugal can take in the great war is in the Portuguese African Colonies and in aiding the British to carry war to German colonies which are contiguous to the Portuguese.

The Rockefeller Foundation has hired three more relief ships and will send 25,000,000 pounds of food to the Belgians before January 1.

VOLUNTEER ROLL STILL INCREASING

Forty-three Names Added to List Last Night Making Total Five Hundred and Fifty-seven

1st Week. Monday 132 Tuesday 153 Wednesday 98 Thursday 51 Friday 30

2nd Week. Monday 43 Total 557

Recruiting continued at the C.L.B. Armoury last evening and forty-three young men came forward and signed the roll, bringing the total up to 557.

Of last night's number, ten were from the outposts and 33 from the City. Of the total, more than five hundred are from St. John's.

There is still room for more. At least 700 Volunteers are necessary. Those who enlisted last night are: Charles Andrew Melville, James Hayes, Alfred Stanley Cook, Edward Voisey, John Thomas Sullivan; Michael J. Jackman (Bell Island); Raymond Charles Manning, Michael J. Mackey, John Baird, Walter Oliver; Patrick Richardson, Patrick Sweeney, James Prowse, John Kearney, William Duddy (Bonavista); Alec LeGrow, William Mugford, Arch Gowans, Hugh Bishop, Michael Patrick Murphy;

William Allan Myler, Michael Joseph Evans, Philip Tibbo (Grand Bank); Richard Joseph Roche; Bernard Joseph Kelly, Thomas A. Williams (Bay Bulls), Martin Burke, Patrick J. Bouzan (Little Bay), John Joseph Aspell;

Andrew Coady, Edward Caldwell (Brigus), Herber John Miles (Bonavista), Hubert Dicks, Hector H. A. Ross; John Frampton (Bay Bulls), Joseph Michelin (Hamilton Inlet), Samuel A. Mercer, George Chesley Martin, Eleazer Benson;

George Heath, Buchanan Freebairn (Ferryland), Jeremiah Francis, Harold Johns.

Special Meeting Civic Commission Called For To-night

A special meeting of the Municipal Council takes place this evening, when a system of municipal government for the city as drafted by Chairman Gosling of the Board will come up for discussion.

Mr. Gosling was requested by the Board to formulate some scheme and lay it before a meeting for discussion, which he agreed to do with the understanding that other members would do likewise, and that special meetings be held Tuesday nights to consider each draft.

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WEATHER REPORT Toronto (noon)—Strong winds and gales; N.E. to N.W., today, then local snow falls.