

FIELD MARSHAL LORD ROBERTS DIES IN FRANCE; LULL ALONG THE BATTLELINE IN FLANDERS

WHOLE EMPIRE MOURNS PASSING OF "BOBS", BRITAIN'S GREAT SOLDIER



FIELD MARSHAL, LORD ROBERTS.

Death Came Suddenly in Paris — Contracted Pneumonia and Advanced Age Militated Against Recovery—Died Near Troops He Loved so Well and Almost Within Sound of Guns — Went to France to Greet His Favorite Indian Troops—Tireless Worker with Strict Devotion to Duty to Empire—Welfare of the Soldier His Great Desire—National Hero and Great Fighter—Foresaw Present Crisis.

London, Nov. 15.—Field Marshal Earl Roberts died last night in France from pneumonia. A telegram from Field Marshal Sir John French, commander of the British expeditionary forces on the Continent, apprised Earl Kitchener, Secretary of State for War, of the death of England's great soldier. The telegram read:

"I deeply regret to tell you that Lord Roberts died at eight o'clock this (Saturday) evening."

Field Marshal Roberts, who was Colonel-in-Chief of the Indian troops, had gone to France to give them his greetings. Soon after his arrival he became seriously ill. He suffered from a severe chill on Thursday and pneumonia rapidly developed. His great age, 82 years, militated against his recovery, the crisis in the disease coming quickly.

The death of Field Marshal Earl Roberts, which occurred last evening at the headquarters of the British expeditionary force in France, was extremely sudden. He was in his usual good health when he left England on Wednesday with his daughter, Lady Aileen Roberts, and his son-in-law, Major Lewin. The party had a rough trip crossing the channel, but the aged general felt no ill effects and went through with his programme on the Continent. In fact, he was about to return home when his death occurred.

Passed Away in Midst of His Troops He Loved So Well.

Earl Roberts had motored to the British bases and camps, had reviewed the Indian troops and had conferred with the leading officers. It was not until about dinner time Friday evening that he complained of a slight chill. As he was subject to more or less trifling chest troubles, he followed his usual course and went to bed early. As his temperature increased, medical men were called in and pronounced his condition critical. They relieved the general of what pain he was suffering and he fell asleep. His death occurred during sleep. The passing of the great warrior has created profound grief throughout the

country. At all churches and in the camps where the soldiers are training, touching references were made today to his death, and the "Dead March in Saul" was played. In a telegram to Lady Roberts, Field Marshal Sir John French, in the name of the army serving in France, expressed deep sympathy, saying: "Your grief is shared by us who mourn the loss of a much-loved chief, as he was called. It seems fitter to the ending of the life of a great soldier that he should have passed away in the midst of the troops he loved so well, and within sound of the guns."

Without Rival in Affections of the People
Lord Roberts' devotion to the interests of the army, his hard work in this connection, and his sensitive good health, had been the subject of comment since the beginning of the war. He was the most popular military figure in Great Britain, and a national hero without rival in the affections of the people.

Despite his years, he had never ceased hard work since his nominal retirement, and, as he had often remarked, he lived a rigidly abstemious life, that he might preserve his strength for the service of his country. During the past five or six years, when the German war cloud had been growing, he prosecuted an active campaign to persuade the nation to adopt a compulsory military service. His belief was that Great Britain required the training of the whole male population in arms, rather upon the plan of Switzerland, than the longer terms of conscription enforced in the case of continental military nations.

By speeches in parliament and addresses before meetings throughout the Kingdom, by magazine writings and letters, he preached unceasingly and untiringly the necessity for the nation to have its men trained, in the rudiments at least, of the soldier's work, so that they could be called quickly to arms to defend the country against invasion.

Foresaw Germany's Move

In private conversation he expressed the conviction that Germany was planning to make war on Great Britain when she found an advantageous

moment, and he believed that the supposed menace of civil war in Ireland was a factor in settling alright that present European conflagration.

Lord Roberts commanded none of the arts of the orator and usually read his addresses. His popular nickname "Bobs," implied no lack of personal dignity. Although only five feet three—a shade shorter than Field Marshal French—his figure and bearing were the embodiment of soldierly character.

His home at Ascot was a modest, unpretentious villa. For society, he had neither time nor inclination. But he was the president of the Pilgrims Club, and presided over many of its gatherings.

Field Marshal Roberts worked day and night for the welfare of the soldiers from the outbreak of the war. He took the greatest interest in the Indians and issued an appeal for funds for their wounded and sick. He also made requests for sportsmen to contribute saddles for the army, which brought a ready response. He made other requests for the loan of field glasses to officers during the war. He wrote personal letters of thanks to all contributors.

One of his last speeches was made at a review of a battalion of volunteers when he referred sarcastically to young men who played football and cricket at this crisis.

Their Majesties Shocked at News of His Death.

King George and Queen Mary were greatly shocked by the news that Field Marshal Earl Roberts had succumbed last night to a swift attack of pneumonia while on the front in France, whither he had journeyed to see once more the Indian troops, of whom he was so proud.

Immediately upon receipt of the intelligence, their Majesties sent messages of condolence to Lady Roberts and her two daughters, Lady Aileen Mary and Lady Ada Edwina Stewart.

The question of a public funeral for Britain's great soldier, with services at St. Paul's is under consideration, but it is understood that in deference to the wishes of Lady Roberts, for a private service this will not be pres-

CANADIANS THE ALLIES PREPARE TO BLOCK FURTHER ATTEMPTS TO REACH THE COAST; DIXMUDE DEATH TRAP FOR ENEMY

Words of Praise Received from Veteran on Oct. 24 Will be Cherished by Canadian Troops.

London, Nov. 15.—The Canadian troops count themselves fortunate in having been the last body reviewed by Lord Roberts, whose words of praise and encouragement, given at Salisbury Plain on October 24, will sink deeper now that the veteran has passed away. The fact that the banquet given in honor of the Canadian minister of militia, on the eve of his return to Canada, was the last occasion Lord Roberts made a notable utterance concerning the present crisis, is also of particular interest.

Besides being Honorary Colonel in Chief of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, Lord Roberts was Honorary Colonel of the Queen's Own Rifles of Toronto. In the field, as well as at home, Lord Roberts had the affection of the newspaper men, because of the courteous treatment he always extended. In the Boer war he told the correspondent that he had the utmost confidence in them, and afterwards stated that his faith in the London daily papers had been justified.

Confirming my recent cable that the members of the Canadian contingent were sending letters to newspapers, I learn that First Battalion private, who enlisted in Preston, Ontario, has been placed under arrest for mailing a story to an American newspaper.

Private Harrison of Winona, Ontario, of the First Battalion, was taken to the hospital after he had been injured by a kick from a horse, but he is recovering.

Quite a number of men are under treatment in the hospitals, but most of them are minor cases, resulting from the wet weather. No serious sickness in the camp is the medical report.

NEW BRUNSWICK'S GIFT HAS ARRIVED AT LONDON

Apples and potatoes for relief reach England — Mr. Daggett takes temporary charge of N. B. office in London.

London, Nov. 15. (Gazette Cable)—J. B. Daggett, Secretary of Agriculture for New Brunswick, has arrived in London on board the steamer Selasia, in charge of one hundred thousand barrels and fifty thousand nine-tenths bags of potatoes and three hundred barrels of apples. The potatoes are the contribution of the Province of New Brunswick for relief of the national distress in Great Britain, and the shipment has been turned over to the local government board for distribution, along with other Canadian contributions, for the same purpose. The apples, which are for the wounded, have already been distributed to the hospitals.

The Fredericton branch of the Daughters of the Empire sent parcels of clothing comforts for the Canadian troops, and these Mr. Daggett will take to the camps at Salisbury Plain this week.

Just as Mr. Daggett was sailing from Canada news was received of the death of Mr. Bowdler, London representative of New Brunswick, and he was therefore instructed to take temporary charge of the Strand offices.

ALLIES HOLD STRATEGIC POINTS AROUND DIXMUDE

Strongly Situated on Positions on Canal — Germans Hurl Heavy Masses of Men Against Allies Line in Effort to Find Weak Point, But Forest of Bayonets Presented by British, French and Belgian Forces Frustrate All Attempts.

Paris, Nov. 15.—All the attempts of the Germans to reach Calais have been frustrated by the forest of bayonets situated on the canal, the crossing of which would be of great importance to the Germans.

The most intense interest is concentrated on this portion of the extended battlefield, but other points are also the scene of stiff conflicts, which have resulted in nothing more definite than the capture of a few trenches.

It is officially announced that two German regimental flags, found in trenches formerly occupied by the Germans on the Marne have been handed to Field Marshal Sir John French by General Joffre, as they were discovered opposite to the position then held by the British.

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BERLIN ADMITS RUSSIAN CAPTURE OF THREE TOWNS IN GALICIA

Berlin, Nov. 14 (Wireless to Sayville, N. Y.).—In Galicia, according to official information given out in Berlin today, the Russians continue to advance, and have occupied Tarnow, Jaslo and Krosno.

The Austrian campaign against the Servians is proceeding rapidly, the statement continues. "The Servians are retreating from Koceljeva and Valjevo toward the east, evidently not only to avoid the pursuing western army, but also to avoid being cut off by the northwestern forces which are advancing on Valjevo. The Servian headquarters are reported as having been moved hurriedly from Valjevo to Aladenovatz. The Servian losses are

said to have been heavy. The number of prisoners of war interned in Austria is over 93,000.

"The Ukrainian delegates from a portion of Russian Poland embracing the old Kingdom of Poland who were sent to Sofia, have now left Bulgaria. They are greatly satisfied with the understanding reached with the Bulgarian premier, M. Radoslawoff, and the president of both Chambers of the Bulgarian parliament, providing for the separation of the Ukrainian district from Russia.

"Snow is reported in the Vosges Mountains and in the Black Forest and the Thuringer Forest. In the latter it is twelve inches deep."

Extensive Defence Works Being Erected Along Yser Canal — French Holding Line From Belgian Border South to Oise River—Germans Unable to Get Away from Dixmude Where They Are Suffering Heavy Losses — Prepare Defences in Belgium to Fall Back Upon if Efforts to Get to Coast Fail—Fighting in Caucasus—Bulgaria Gives Quietus to Report of Agreement with Turkey.

London, Nov. 15, 9.45 p. m.—After four weeks of most desperate fighting there is a lull in the battle in Flanders. With this lull, however, has come little relief for the men in the trenches, as the artillery and rifle fire, to which they have been subjected with hardly any intermission, has been replaced by one of those severe storms which so often accompany November in this latitude.

In some parts of England the storm has reached the proportions of a blizzard; on the sea a heavy gale rages, and the battlefields are getting their full share of wind and rain.

For the most part, the opposing armies have been content to shell each other at long range, but the Germans have made several attacks around Ypres, which, according to the French general staff, have been repulsed with heavy losses. Despite these losses, it is not believed that the Germans have any intention of giving up their attempt to reach the French coast, and the Allies are making elaborate preparations to block any further advance in force.

Extensive defence works have been erected along the Yser Canal, and the French armies are holding that line from the Belgian border south to the River Oise and pushing forward approach works which place them in a better position for either defence or offensive.

GERMANS PREPARE TO WINTER IN BELGIUM.

The Germans report that they have taken a few hundred British and French prisoners, but that the unfavorable weather has impeded their progress.

Concerning the fighting around Dixmude, the public must rely on unofficial reports. Here, it is said, the Germans are finding the destroyed village a death trap. They have been unable to debouch from this point in the day time, as all the approaches are commanded by the Allies' guns and night attacks have met with disaster.

The fact is apparent that neither side has been able to make any sensible advance, both being so well entrenched that neither artillery nor infantry can move them.

The Germans are turning Belgium into a fortress, which means that if they do not succeed in advancing, they intend to be prepared for a winter in Belgium. The whole coast from Ostend to the Dutch border has been placed in a state of defence, and civilians are rigorously excluded from that area.

Fighting continues in East Prussia and other regions in the eastern arena between the Russians and the Germans and Austrians, but without any decisive result, according to the Berlin official statement.

A battle of some proportions is going on between the Russians and Turks at Kopruckul, in the Caucasus, the result of which may have a marked effect on the war in that part of the world. Elsewhere in the Near East there has been no engagement of importance.

BULGARIA NOT LINKED UP WITH TURKS.

England, it is announced, has no intention of undertaking any military or war operations in Arabia, except for the protection of Arab interests against Turkish or other aggression, or in support of attempts by the Arabs to free themselves from Turkish rule.

Bulgaria also has set at rest the report that she had an agreement with Turkey, and has issued a statement that no such agreement exists. The Servians and Montenegrins, who started out to invade Bosnia and Herzegovina and were at one time approaching the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo, are now back in their own territory, where, according to their own accounts, they are offering a stubborn resistance to the Austrians. The weather is favorable to them, as snow is falling.

The Scandinavian countries and Holland are much exercised over the sowing of mines where they endanger neutral vessels. That the mines are in great number is shown by the fact that dozens are being driven on the Dutch coast.

GEN. HUGHES REVIEWS TROOPS AT TORONTO.

Toronto, Nov. 15.—General Sam Hughes paid his expected visit of inspection to the Exhibition Camp yesterday. Addressing the men the minister impressed on them the necessity for total abstinence.

NEW HEAD OF TRAVELLERS' ASSOCIATION

Montreal, Nov. 15.—John B. Wright was elected president of the Dominion Commercial Travellers' Association Saturday night, succeeding George A. Mann, and Max Murdock was re-elected treasurer, both by acclamation.