

BRITISH AUXILIARY CRUISER TORPEDOED BY GERMANS—TWO HUNDRED OF HER CREW LOST

MILLION MEN ENGAGED IN GREATEST BATTLE OF WAR

Biggest Pitched Battle of Whole Conflict Going on Along Eastern Front Near Przasnysz—British Attacking Enemy in West to Relieve Strain on Russians in East and Prevent Germans Sending More Men to Eastern Theatre.

London, March 12.—Just as the French attacked the Germans in the western campaign when Field Marshal Von Hindenburg made his big rush from East Prussia last month, so the British army, operating in Flanders, has undertaken the task of relieving the pressure on its Russian ally now that the Russians again are being attacked in North Poland. This is part of the general plan of the Allied generals. When one is attacked the other attacks, so as to compel the Germans and Austrians to keep strong forces at every point, and endeavor to prevent them from sending troops where they could do the most good.

At present the Germans are occupied in an attempt to crush the Russians. For this purpose they are reported to have an army, estimated at nearly a half million men, marching along the roads towards Przasnysz. To prevent this army from being further strengthened the British are thrusting at the German lines north of La Bassée, and besides reporting the capture of the village of Neuve Chapelle, it is asserted that they have advanced beyond that town.

GREATEST BATTLE OF THE WAR.

The battle taking place on the eastern front, experts say, is the biggest pitched battle of the war, no less than a million men being engaged in it. The Germans, in their official report, claim to have made some advance, while Petrograd considers it likely that the Russians will have to fall back beyond Przasnysz, as they did last month, before making their stand. It probably will be days before a definite result is attained in this battle, as with the frozen roads the Russians can push forward reinforcements and choose the battle ground.

Meanwhile another German army has appeared on the Pilica river front south of the Vistula, probably, military observers say, with the idea of inducing Grand Duke Nicholas to withdraw men from the north, where the real blow is being struck.

Further south, along the foothills of the Carpathians, fighting between the Austrians and Russians continues, amid wintery weather conditions. Strangely enough, each side claims that the other is doing the attacking, but it is believed here that, as the Austrians initiated this battle they probably are still the aggressors.

BIDDING FOR ITALY'S NEUTRALITY.

From the other battlefields, including the Dardanelles, no news has been received at a late hour tonight.

Interesting developments are promised in the political field. Prince Von Buelow, the German Ambassador to Italy, according to despatches received from Rome and Berlin, at last has officially raised the question of territorial concessions to Italy as the price of Italy's friendship. Germany, it is declared, is doing the negotiating on behalf of her ally Austria, whose territory is involved.

It is said that Germany is trying to induce Austria to cede to Italy both Trent and Trieste. Baron Von Burian, the Austrian Foreign Minister, according to reports, does not oppose the cession of Trent, but strongly objects to parting with Trieste, while the aged Austrian Emperor refuses to consent to the loss of any part of his dominions.

It is reported that Germany desires to have the matter settled now, in the fear that should the Dardanelles be forced Italy would be more than ever inclined to throw in her lot with the Allies, so as to ensure the safety of her interests in the eastern Mediterranean, depending upon her army to recover her lost provinces nearer home.

German emissaries, according to despatches to the British newspapers, also are busy in Bucharest, and Sofia endeavoring to point out to Roumania and Bulgaria why these countries should remain neutral.

Germans Began New

Attack Near Dixmude.

Amsterdam via London, March 12.—The Handelsblad's St. Louis correspondent says:

"The German offensive assumed a new phase yesterday afternoon south of Dixmude, where a strong attack was opened supported by heavy artillery. The concentration of German troops towards Ypres and La Bassée continues. All the troops in North Flanders have been sent in the direction of Ypres and La Bassée and great troop movements have been taking place by way of Bruges and Courtrai."

Paris, March 12.—The Chamber of

Deputies today passed a bill calling out the 1916 class of recruits. These recruits will not be sent to the front, however, until after the men of the other classes are utilized.

A despatch from Paris, March 5, said the instruction of the class of 1915 recruits had progressed sufficiently for them to go into the active army, and that M. Millerand, Minister of War, had introduced a bill in the chamber which would give him the authorization to send them to the battle line at his discretion. This bill, it was stated, also requested power to call into training the class which was due to join the colors in October, 1914.

Duke of Connaught, who is Grand

Prior of the Order of St. John, attended and congratulated the members on the excellent work accomplished in the various provinces, and on the Canadian Pacific, Grand Trunk, Intercolonial, and Prince Edward Island Railways.

The secretary reported that over 25,000 men and women in Canada had taken advantage of the opportunities offered in the courses in First Aid to the Injured.

Sir Louis Davies, Ottawa, was elected president and Mr. Fred Cook, Oranmore, His Royal Highness the

Cruiser Bayano Sent to Bottom by German Submarine in the North Channel Thursday Morning

Was Doing Patrol Duty—Eight Officers and Eighteen Men of Crew of 216 Rescued—Was Built in 1913—Another British Steamer Sent to the Bottom by Enemy's Submarine.

London, March 13.—The Admiralty announces the loss of the auxiliary cruiser Bayano while the vessel was engaged in patrol duty. In its statement of its disaster the Admiralty says:

"On the 11th of March wreckage of the Bayano and bodies were discovered and circumstances point to her having been sunk by an enemy torpedo. Eight officers and eighteen men were rescued, but it is feared that the remainder of the crew were lost."

"The captain of the Belfast steamer Casleragh reports passing Thursday morning a quantity of wreckage and dead bodies floating in lifeboats. He attempted to search for possible survivors but was prevented by the appearance of an enemy submarine which gave chase for twenty minutes."

"The Bayano was a comparatively new steamer. She was built at Glasgow in 1913, and was owned by Elder and Fyfe before she was taken over by the British government and fitted out as an auxiliary cruiser."

"The Bayano was of 3,500 tons displacement and 416 feet long."

The Belfast correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says the Bayano was torpedoed Thursday morning at 9 o'clock off Cornwall Point, Wigtownshire, Scotland, and that nearly 200 lives were lost, as the cruiser sank almost immediately. The vessel had a crew of about 216 men on board.

Wigtownshire is the southwestern-

most country in Scotland. It lies on the North Channel, which leads into the Irish Sea from the Atlantic.

The eighteen survivors of the Bayano were rescued by the Belfast steamer Balmerino. They were adrift on a raft. Another steamer picked up one of the Bayano's lifeboats, which was adrift, and also two of her rafts. The survivors were landed at Ayr.

The captain of the Balmerino, in an interview with the Daily Telegraph's correspondent at Belfast, said that the collier was on a voyage from Belfast to Ayr when at 5.30 o'clock Thursday morning, four miles from Blackhead, he saw a low lying object in the water.

His first impression was that it was a submarine, but he did not alter his course, until after a closer inspection when a cluster of men were observed making signals with garments attached to an oar.

When the collier got closer the crew of the Balmerino found two rafts and a ship's boat upturned with 26 men on one of them.

British Steamer Sunk.

Galveston, Texas, Mar. 12.—The British steamship Indian City, which sailed from Galveston for Havre Feb. 18, has been sunk, according to a cablegram received here this afternoon by her agents. She carried a cargo of cotton, constituting her first cargo. The cablegram came from Liverpool. No details were given.

Pugsley Has a Hard Job Ahead of Him

To Prove Reckless Charges Concerning Submarine Purchase, in View of Returns Tabled in Commons—Debate on the Budget Continued.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, March 12.—If the Hon. William Pugsley rests his case upon the facts contained in a return laid on the table of the Commons yesterday afternoon, he will have some difficulty in substantiating the charges he made in the earlier part of the session in connection with the purchase of submarines for the Pacific Coast.

The return, brought down by the Minister of Naval Affairs, contains a statement by Sir Richard McBride, in which he shows that the submarines were inspected and approved by officers of the Naval Department. They were proclaimed thoroughly modern and seaworthy, and in view of the fact that German cruisers were in the vicinity of the Pacific Coast the British Columbia Premier deemed their purchase in the national interest.

Sir Richard vigorously denies that there was any commission, and demands an investigation into the whole transaction by a parliamentary commission.

The return sets out that when war

seemed eminent the naval officers at Esquimaux advised the Naval Department that two submarines, constructed for the Chilean government, could be obtained at Seattle. The government cabled the Admiralty for advice. In the meantime events were moving rapidly, and Sir Richard McBride decided there was no time to await the Admiralty's reply, and bought the submarines out of the fund of the British Columbia government.

The following day the Admiralty advised the purchase of the craft if they could be manned by Canadians.

This had already been provided for, and almost immediately war was declared. In making out the order-in-council for the payment of the submarines there was a clerical error of \$100,000. This error is explained in the return, and it undoubtedly formed one of the threads from which Mr. Pugsley wove his charges.

The matter will come up for investigation in the public accounts, and Sir Richard McBride may be called to give evidence.

(Continued on page 5)

AUSTRIA DECIDES TO PAY PRICE ITALY DEMANDS?

London, Mar. 12.—Authorities report reaching The Hague from Berlin seem to indicate that Germany, with a view to securing Italy's neutrality, has induced Austria, despite vigorous opposition by Emperor Francis Joseph, to agree to make territorial concessions to Italy in the event that Germany and Austria are victorious in the war.

It is understood, however, that although Italy has taken this tentative

offer under consideration no definite agreement has yet been reached. Italy's decision is awaited with anxiety in all circles here.

The German Imperial Chancellor, Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, according to Berlin reports, at present is visiting the German general headquarters at Mezières and it is therefore unlikely that he will make a speech before the Reichstag committee.

MR FOWLER GIVEN FINE RECEPTION

Member for Kings-Albert Speaks Before Ottawa Conservative Association—Greeted With Rounds of Applause.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, March 12.—Geo. W. Fowler, M. P. for Kings-Albert, was the chief speaker tonight at a general meeting of the Conservative Association of the city. He was given a splendid welcome, and when he had concluded a brilliant speech the cheers were again and again renewed. Mr. Fowler has a great reputation in Ottawa as an orator.

Hon. W. T. Crothers, the Minister of Labor, who was present, described Mr. Fowler as one of the very best speakers in the Conservative party.

FAILED TO REACH VERDICT IN THAW CASE

Jury Locked Up for Night After Deliberating Four Hours Without Coming to Decision.

Special to The Standard.

New York, Mar. 12.—After having deliberated for more than four hours, the jury in the case of Harry Kendall Thaw and four co-defendants, on trial charged with conspiracy, had failed late tonight to reach a verdict, and at 11.20 o'clock was locked up for the night. In the hope that a verdict ultimately might be found the presiding justice and attorneys for both sides remained in the court building. Thaw, himself, awaited word from the jury room in the Sheriff's office, directly above the court room.

The case went to the jury late this afternoon. In his charge to the jury the presiding justice said that the question of Thaw's sanity should enter into the case only insofar as he might be shown to have a mental capacity to enter into a criminal act, and intended to do so.

THIRD GERMAN SUBMARINE SUNK IN WEEK

New York, Mar. 12.—A News Agency despatch from London today says:

"The sinking of another German submarine was reported to the Admiralty today by the owners of the trawler Alex. Christie. They telegraphed from North Shields that the submarine was founled by the ropes of the trawler in the North Sea and foundered in twenty minutes with all on board."

AN AMERICAN CITIZEN KILLED BY ZAPATA TROOPS

Shot Down in His Home, Over Which Stars and Stripes Was Flying, by Zapata's Men When They Entered Mexico City—United States Demands Punishment of Offenders.

Washington, Mar. 12.—Encouraging advices, telling of the relief of the food famine in Mexico City through the evacuation of the capital by the forces of General Obregon, the Carranza commander, were beclouded today by the news that on the entry of the Zapata troops John B. McManus, an American citizen, was murdered—shot down in his home, the door of which had been sealed with the coat of arms of the United States, and over which flew the Stars and Stripes.

Instant demand was made by the Brazilian minister on behalf of the United States government for the punishment of those guilty of the crime. After a conference between President Wilson and his cabinet, Secretary Bryan telegraphed the Brazilian minister approving of the action he had taken, and adding a demand for reparation to the family of the victim. The minister was instructed to insist

on the early punishment of the offenders, and to impress upon the Post-Commander at Mexico City, the seriousness with which the American government viewed the occurrence. The Brazilian minister reported at length, in several despatches, on the murder. The motive for the crime, he explained, was undoubtedly one of revenge for the killing of two Zapata soldiers by McManus when they attempted to loot his home, just prior to the last Zapatistas withdrawal from Mexico City.

Apprehensive of what might be his fate on the return of the Zapata forces, McManus induced the Brazilian minister to seal his door with the coat of arms of the United States and hoisted an American flag over his home. Apparently, the minister reported, McManus was killed by a simultaneous volley, for the shots were fired at a short distance and his home was filled with bullet holes.

FIND BODY OF SACOBIE IN WATERS OF SWAN CREEK

Wounds on Head of Oromocto Indian Supposed to Have been Murdered—Nash With Whom He Had Row Lodged in Jail at Gagetown.

Special to The Standard.

Gagetown, March 12.—The body of Edward Sacobie, the Oromocto Indian, who was supposed to have met with foul play, was discovered this afternoon in the waters at the mouth of Swan Creek about two miles above Gagetown and within the Sunbury county border.

Fred Nash, another Indian, with whom it was said Jacobie had fought on a warrant on suspicion of causing the death of Jacobie.

Sacobie's body showed wounds about the head, but it could not be determined today whether he had died before or after entering the water. On the account of finding the body in Sunbury the case comes under the jurisdiction of the coroner of that county. It is expected that he will take charge of the case tomorrow and conduct a thorough investigation.

The case has aroused undue interest in this part of the country. It appears that Sacobie on Tuesday night came to the home of Nash and became engaged in a fight with him. The cause of the trouble was supposed to have originated from the trial

elections, recently held. Two witnesses, a negro and a fourteen-year-old boy are said to have witnessed the fight. The boy on Wednesday saw traces of blood on the snow and he reported this to other Indians and the matter was immediately referred to Attorney-General Baxter at Fredericton. He advised that the fullest search be made, and Indians from the reserve began a thorough search which ended this afternoon in the discovery of Sacobie's body in the waters of Swan Creek.

When the bloody trail was first discovered dogs were secured and the trail was traced to the river banks and out onto the ice to a hole. It was then the opinion that Sacobie had become weakened through loss of blood and on the way home had wandered onto the ice and fallen into the hole.

Nash was arrested at his home this afternoon by Sheriff Williams. It is said that he admitted having a fight with Sacobie. He said that Sacobie came to his house and got into an altercation with Nash's wife. Sacobie was put out of the house but Nash did not know where he went.

Trade of Canada A Billion Despite War

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, March 12.—Despite the upheaval in the commercial and financial world brought about by the war, Canada's trade will well exceed the billion mark.

Trade figures for the eleven months of the fiscal year issued by Hon. Dr. Reid, Minister of Customs, last night, show that the total trade volume up to the end of February was \$967,832,242. One of the most significant features of the statement is the enormous

increase in the export of manufacturer's articles. Manufactured exports for the month totalled \$9,982,639 as against \$4,674,709 for the same month last year, while for the eleven months there is an increase of no less than \$69,938,711 in all the other articles of export.

There is a marked decrease shown in the balance of trade against Canada. A year ago the balance of trade against the Dominion was \$166,000,000. For the same period this year it is only \$50,000,000.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASS'N ANNUAL MEETING

Ottawa, March 12.—The annual meeting of the Canadian Branch of St. John Ambulance Association was held here today, and reports of exceptional progress during the year were presented. His Royal Highness the