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FRENCH, OVERCOMING WEATHER AND GERMAN RESISTANCE, HAVE CONTINUED TO PRESS ON

Patrols Reach Folembary and Troops Beat Back Germans Desperatly Trying to Recover Lost Positioms

Paris, March 26 (noon)—Notwithstanding the bad weather and the difficult state of the ground, the French continued last night to advance south of the Oise. The war office announces that French patrols reached Folembray, south of the Forest of Coucy.

The Germans made heavy and useless sacrifices, the statement says, in several attacks yesterday on positions captured by the French between the Somme and the Oise. Wherever they approached a French position they were thrown back by counter-attacks.

The statement follows:—"Between the Somme and the Oise the Germans made repeated attacks during the night on the front between Essigny and Benay. All these attempts were checked by our fire or repulsed by our counter-attacks. Serious losses were inflicted on the enemy. We maintained completely the positions captured yesterday.

"South of the Oise our advance continued notwithstanding the state of the ground and the bad weather. We pushed forward our patrols beyond Folembray, south of the lower forest of Coucy.

"North of Rheims our batteries caused the explosion of a munitions depot of the enemy east of Du Gobadat Farm. Elsewhere the night was calm.

"Five German airplanes were brought down yesterday by our pilots. Two were destroyed by Adjutant Ortoli, bringing up to eight the number of enemy machines brought down thus far by this officer. One of our aerial squadrons last night dropped 1,000 kilograms of projectiles on factories at Thionville and in the basin of the Briey, and also on the railroad stations of Conflans and Montmedy."

BATTLE RAGES; FURY UNABATED.

Paris, March 26—The battle of St. Quentin continues to rage with unabated fury. The honors of the last twenty-four hours of fighting have been with the French, who are pushing forward steadily, taking all the precautions that the nature of the operation calls for and in the face of desperate resistance by the Germans.

The advance is necessarily slow, owing to the character of the ground. St. Quentin is protected on the northwest of the Omignon river which, although only a brook, like most of the Somme tributaries, runs through a broad valley full of swamps and clumps of trees, which greatly increases its defensive value. To the west the approaches to the city are over a bare, flat plain, devoid of any natural obstacle and with but few villages. Here the French advance is naturally most rapid, but the plain narrows and ends in a sharp point at St. Quentin. At Savy, the most favorable point, the Germans have built their main defensive line.

London, March 26—The French have captured the two forts defending La Fere on the west and have made considerable advances in driving the enemy towards St. Quentin. The French now control the western bank of the River Oise for several miles north of the city of La Fere. South and southwest of St. Quentin the French advanced on a front of two and a half miles, taking in the town of Castres, three miles southwest, and Essigny Le Grand, four miles to the south. Gains were also made south of the Oise and north of Soissons.

The British.

The British have occupied the important railway junction of Roisel, seven miles east of Peronne. Farther north the British made progress on a front of a mile and a half southeast of Croisilles. Heavy counter-attacks were launched in the region of Beaumetz-Les-Cambrai and, although the Germans gained a footing in a small section of an advanced position, they were immediately driven out by a counter-attack.

The Germans are fighting for every inch of the plateau that lies between St. Quentin and the Oise but, despite their tenacious resistance, the French are steadily driving them back. They are now firmly established on the eastern bank of the Ailette River in the outskirts of the lower forest of Coucy, one of the three great wooded tracts lying between Laon and the Ailette.

FORMER SCHOOLMATE OF KAISER LEADS IN ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Quincy, Mass., March 26.—Rev. Carl G. Horst, who was a schoolmate of Emperor William of Germany at the academy in Cassel, led members of his congregation at the Wollaston Unitarian church in pledging allegiance to the American flag at services last night.

YEAR IN PRISON AS SPY

New York, March 26.—Sentence of a year and a day in the United States penitentiary at Atlanta and a fine of $1 was passed in the federal court here today on George Vaux Bacon, American newspaper man, who pleaded guilty to going to England as a spy for Germany.

RUSSIANS AND BRITISH LIKELY SOON TO UNITE

Armies Getting Nearer Together in Turkish Campaign

Russian Troops Cross Border Into Turkish Villayet of Mosul, Towards Which British Are Advancing

London, March 26—Russian detachments in Persia, pursuing the Turks, have crossed the border into the Turkish vilayet of Mosul, according to an official announcement as forwarded in a Reuter despatch from Petrograd.

The Turkish vilawet of Mosul has been an area of about 35,000 square miles and a population estimated at 850,000. It takes in the region north of the vilayet of Bagdad, and west of the Persian border, the Bagdad vilayet bounding it in part on the south and the Persian frontier on the east.

To the northwest lie the mountains and the vilayet of Diarbekir.

The British are advancing towards the Mosul district from the south, moving up the Tigris from Bagdad, while Russian forces in two or more columns have been pushing westward from the Kermanshah and Sakkiz districts. A junction between the armies of these two Entente powers has been forecast as a probability and the Russian advance indicated today points to its possible consummation at an early date.

NEW BOND WOVEN BETWEEN QUEEN CITIES OF CANADA

Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Cooper, of 198th Battalion, in Official Letter to Mayor, Expresses Thanks of Officers and Men; Presentation to 165th Battalion

"The kindness of the people of St. John will help to create a kindredship in the years to come between the Queen city of the maritime provinces and the Queen city of Ontario," was one of the phrases used by Lieut. Colonel J. A. Cooper, O. C. of the 198th 'Canadian Buffs' battalion, who has written a letter of appreciation to His Worship Mayor Hales of the manner in which the officers and men of his unit have been treated while in the city of St. John.

Colonel Cooper's letter to the Mayor was as follows:

Dear Mayor Hayes:—

On behalf of the officers and men I desire to convey to you and through you to the citizens of St. John, our sincere and hearty thanks for the many kindnesses extended to us. We have been treated with a hospitality both magnificent and unexpected. You have made us love St. John and its open-hearted citizens, and that love will last and will help to create a kindredship in the years to come, between the Queen city of the maritime provinces and the Queen city of Ontario.

From my heart I thank the magnificent women of St. John and its generous men for their consideration and sympathy. They have made the way easy and the task light."

Lieut. Colonel L. C. D'Aigle, O. C. of the 165th battalion has verbally expressed to Mayor Hayes the deep appreciation of his officers and men of the treatment accorded them by the citizens of St. John. Yesterday the 165th Battalion received a large purse of gold, representing contributions by about twenty prominent business houses in the city.

(Continued on page 2, sixth column)

JOYFUL SUNDAY FOR THE PEOPLE FREED FROM HUNS

First Taste Of Liberty In Two And Half Years

SCENES IN THE VILLAGES

French Flags on Battered Buildings; Women Put on Bits of Finery That They Find—Booming of Guns Ignored by People, in Feeling That War, for Them, is Over

British Headquarters in France, March 25, via London, March 26—From a staff correspondent of the Associated Press)—The shattered French towns evacuated by the Germans celebrated today their first Sunday of liberty in two and a half years.

It was a brave showing they made. Countless French flags fluttered in the sunshine from both ruined and half-ruined homes, and the women, old men and children who had passed through such a long ordeal of captivity strolled through the up-torn streets dressed in the best clothes they could muster. The unconquerable French genius for dress revealed itself even in such pathetic bits of finery as the women could find.

Here and there groups of the Poilus gathered to listen to the graphic stories of the natives concerning their experiences under German rule. The villagers dwelt particularly on the time of terror which immediately preceded the departure of their enemies.

All civilians were herded in certain buildings from which they heard explosions and saw the fires which testified that their little homes were being destroyed. The towns where the inhabitants of the region were concentrated by the Germans were only half razed, while the outlying villages were completely burned down. In this way about half of a town was spared to about ten villages completely destroyed.

Despite the devastation and ruin, many French peasants returned today to the sites of their former homes, seeking temporary shelters and bringing bits of furniture with which to begin life anew. They were not downcast, but cheerful and almost gay in the enjoyment of their liberty. In Roye a triumphal arch was constructed of evergreens and lavishly decorated with tri colors as a welcome to the home comers. In the distance could be heard the reverberating echoes of the big guns, but the ceaseless booming was ignored by the people in the liberated zone, who seemed to think that the war must be over.

PROMINENT MAN LOSES HIS LIFE IN DEFENDING WIFE FROM A BURGLAR

Philadelphia, Pa., March 26—Harold Ellis Yarnall, secretary-treasurer of the Midland Valley Railroad, and prominent socially, died early today from a bullet wound sustained while defending his wife from the attack of a negro burglar at their home here last night.

Mr. Yarnall, who was fifty-one years old, was rushed to a hospital immediately after he was shot and an operation was performed about midnight. He died three hours later.

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meterological service

Synopsis — The weather is fair and mild from Ontario to the maritime provinces and fair and moderately cold in the west. A shallow depression is approaching the Great Lakes from the southwest states.

Ottawa Valley—Fair and mild followed by some local showers on Tuesday.

Fair and Mild

Maritime—Moderate southerly winds, fair and mild today and on Tuesday.

New England forecast—Increasing cloudiness tonight. Warmer on mainland. Tuesday, probably rain; moderate south winds.

St. Louis, Armed, Is Safely Across Atlantic

Washington, March 26—The American Liner St. Louis, first armed American ship to cross the Atlantic, has arrived safely at her destination, Secretary of the Navy Daniels so announced today.

Calls Upon Governor Wood To Act In New Brunswick Situation

Strong Editorial by Montreal Herald in Premises Created by Hanging on of Defeated Murray Government

Special to Times)

The Montreal Herald today publishes the following editorial on the situation in New Brunswick, under the heading "The people's will defied."

Four weeks ago the people of New Brunswick emphasized the verdict they rendered on the previous Saturday by electing four more Liberals to the legislature of the province. By this act the popular will wiped out the government of the Hon. James A. Murray, which had followed that of the Hon. George J. Clarke, which itself succeeded the notorious Flemming regime. Under democratic government the will of the people is supreme, but there have been during the last few weeks indications that attempts were being made in New Brunswick to thwart the people's will. Mr. Murray has not yet resigned and New Brunswick is still in the power of a moribund government.

It is correct constitutional usage to allow the members of a defeated government sufficient time to set their house in order and make a graceful exit. When Sir Wilfrid Laurier's ministry was defeated at the polls on Sept. 21, 1911, Sir Wilfrid's resignation was in the hands of the governor-general on October 6th, fifteen days later.

In the New Brunswick case twice fifteen days have elapsed and still the Tory government hang on to power like grim death. And to add to the scandal, some of the newspapers supporting Mr. Murray are urging him to cling to power in spite of the verdict of February 24.

It is within the memory of many of us how, in 1896, Sir Charles Tupper, defeated at the polls, tried to fill every vacancy in the senate and every office of emolument before giving up the reins of power to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and how Lord Aberdeen, the governor-general, was obliged to interfere and insist upon common decency being observed. And even Tupper gave up on the thirty-fifth day after his defeat.

Fortunately there is in New Brunswick a power above the swirl of party strife. The Hon. Josiah Wood is lieutenant governor of the province. He has an unblemished reputation. He can be depended upon to act in the best interests of the province in which he represents the crown. The time for His Honor to act has surely arrived. If Mr. Murray refuses or neglects to hand him his resignation, there is but one course open to the lieutenant governor under our system of government. That course is to ask the prime minister for his resignation without any further delay. Knowing the Hon. Mr. Wood's fine sense of public duty, we do not for a moment imagine he will shirk the responsibility.

CREWS OF INTERNED GERMAN STEAMERS TAKEN TO GEORGIA

Kept in Forts Under Heavy Guard Until Further Orders Come From Washington

Philadelphia, March 26—The seven hundred members of the crews of the German auxiliary cruiser Kron Prinz Wilhelm and Prinz Eitel Friedrich, interned at the Philadelphia navy yards since last October, started today under a heavy guard of marines for Fort Oglethorpe and Fort McPherson, Georgia, where they will be kept until further orders from Washington.

A large crowd, held back by a cordon of marines and 500 Philadelphia policemen, saw the departure of the sailors. In each car of the two train sections there was a marine guard of fourteen men Captain Thierichsen, of the Prinz Eitel Friedrich, Captain Thierfeldt of the Kronprinz Wilhelm, and Lieut Berg, who brought the British steamer Appam into the Chesepeake Cape a year ago, were among those removed from the ships.

There were no untoward incidents during the transfer.

SERBIAN PEOPLE ARE RISING AGAINST BULGARS

Forced Recruiting, Wholesale Requisitions and Inhuman Treatment

London, March 26—Reuter's Corfu correspondent says the Serbian press bureau has issued a statement to the effect that the inhabitants of eastern Serbia are revolting against the Bulgarians and are organizing bands which are operating in the mountains and forests.

The bureau's statement says the action of the Serbians is due to forced recruiting, wholesale requisitions and inhuman treatment by the Bulgarians.

WHEAT GOES UP

Chicago, March 26.—Jumps to record-breaking prices in the wheat market today accompanied by the receipts of domestic crop reports that were the worst by far this season. Word that in addition to discouraging prospects for winter wheat in the United States a famine was threatened in Argentine counted also as a bullish factor.

Opening prices, which ranged from ½ to 3⅝ higher with May at 191½ to 193 and July at 164½ to 166, were followed by moderate further gains and then something of a reaction.

THE ELEVENTH HOUR RECRUIT.

PRESIDENT WILSON: "Say, boys, here I am. Now what can I do to help?"

JOHN BULL: "Well, Woodrow, we are holding the gentleman at all points, but you can help me sit on his bread-basket, though he is already feeling the pressure pretty severely!"

(Passing Show.)

See Seriousness In Russian Situation

ST. JOHN MEN IN CASUALTY LIST

Believed That Pte. J. A. Haworth Has Given Life

WM. G. STEARS WOUNDED

Report Describes Condition as Dangerous—H. G. Knox Also Hit—Maritime Province List Lengthy Today

That the last post has sounded for Pte. John A. Haworth is regarded as apparent, from recent advices received by his wife at her home, No. 207 King street east. At the opening of the famous battle of the Somme in last June, Mrs. Haworth received an official despatch from Ottawa reporting her husband as being officially on the list of the missing. In February she received word that it was then believed that he had been killed on June 2, 1916. Last week she received another official notification from Ottawa reporting the firm belief that her husband has made the supreme sacrifice. Although nothing is official, it is taken for granted that Pte. Haworth met his death on the Somme front last June, where so many Canadians so bravely fell.

Pte. Haworth was a butcher previous to enlisting and came to Canada from the old country about six years ago. His wife and two children, who reside in King street east, have no relatives in this country.

Bomb. Wm. G. Stears.

That Bombardier William G. Stears, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Stears of Lancaster Heights, artilleryman, has been dangerously wounded, was the information that his mother received this morning from Ottawa.

He is twenty-three years old and prior to enlistment was employed with L. L. Sharp & Sons, jewellers, King street. Friends of Bombardier Stears will hope that he will rapidly recover.

Pte. H. G. Knox.

Mrs. Elizabeth Knox, of 86 Winter street, received word yesterday that her son, Private Hazen G. Knox, had been wounded on March 18. The despatch said that he had sustained a gunshot wound in the left shoulder.

He was in the infantry. Prior to enlisting he was employed with Joseph M. Sliney in Waterloo street.

Ottawa List

Ottawa, March 26.—Casualties:

INFANTRY

Killed in Action

D. McDonald, Avon, Antigonish Co., N.S.; M. Lee, Witless Bay, South Newfoundland.

Died of Wounds

H. Morrison, Ellerslie, P.E.I.

Seriously Ill

Lieut. Allan P. Hughes, Digby, N.S., home address not stated.

Previously Reported Missing, Now Remaining on Duty

G. W. Penny, Salmon Cove, Nfld.; J. A. McDougall, Marion Bridge, C. B., N.S.; J. A. McIntyre, Glace Bay, N.S.; J. M. McNeil, Iona, N.S.; M. Harris, Gabarouse, N.S.; A. J. McDonell, Inverness Co., N.S.; J. H. McInnes, New Waterford, N.S.; H. Dickson, Sydney Mines, C.B.; J. J. Curry, Sydney Mines, N.S.

Dangerously Ill

A. Johnson, Campbellton, N.B.

Missing, Believed Killed

A. P. Nicholsen, Head of Montague, P.E.I.

MOUNTED RIFLES

Presumed to Have Died

H. Long, Minto street, Sherbrooke, Que.; L. McLellan, Summerside, P.E.I.; J. Hatherway, Mellville, N.B.; J. A. Haworth, 207 King street east, St. John, N.B.

ARTILLERY

Reported Wounded

Driver J. H. Martin, Montague, P.E.I.

RECRUITING BOOKLET

As another aid to the recruiting campaign of the 236th 'Kilties Battalion,' the publicity department of the unit has issued a neat folder, the subject of which points out the particular calls made by this battalion upon the eligibles of the province of New Brunswick. In addition to this the folder contains considerable general information regarding separation allowances, pensions, etc., which will be useful to a prospective recruit joining any branch of the service.

Germans May Try To Drive Through To Petrograd

SUDDEN AND TREMENDOUS

Take Advantage of Unsettled Condition after Revolution—Extremists Calling on Soldiers to Leave the Trenches and Bring About Collapse of War

London, March 26—Special despatches from Petrograd, dated Friday, emphasize the seriousness of the situation arising from the German concentration on the Riga Dvinsk front with the apparently certain intention of attempting to break through to Petrograd. It is argued that the shortening of the German front in France is part of a plan to overwhelm Russia by a sudden and tremendous offensive before the country can recover from the unsettling effects of the revolution.

According to the accounts of these correspondents, internal conditions in Russia, notwithstanding the determination of the government and responsible leaders to conduct the war with energy, are disquieting. They say that time is needed to restore the discipline of the army and navy after the recent upheaval and they record incidents which are hindering progress in this direction. Among these is a movement by extremists to put the final overthrow of the Romanoffs, the bureaucrats and ruling classes generally in the forefront of all national effort.

This movement is indicated by the appearance in a social newspaper, Pravda, of a resolution of the social democratic party's central committee inviting the soldiers to leave the trenches and go over to the Germans. It is asserted that this step would immediately revoke a fraternal response among the Germans and the war would promptly collapse, enabling the army and people to co-operate in overthrowing the ruling classes of Russia. Some soldiers in Petrograd are said to have spent days wrangling over the wonderful promises held forth by the social propagande and to have stopped thinking about the war, which they believe to be over.

BRAVE FRENCH SOLDIERS HERE ON WAY HOME AFTER YEARS AT WAR

Optimistic as to Victory and Look for End of Conflict Ere Long

Fourteen sturdy Frenchmen, natives of St. Pierre and Miquelon, arrived in the city this morning en route to their homes, after more than two years on the western front. They were all dressed in the French blue uniforms with heavy top boots and peak caps and all were battle scarred. Yet they were one of the most jovial lot of returned soldiers.

Of the fourteen, five were decorated. Sergeant Sarasant was decorated four times. His first was the War Cross. This he won while fighting on the Somme front. He said that a Canadian soldier and himself under the cover of darkness crept out of their lines, crossed "No Man's Land" and entered the German trenches and succeeded in capturing four German sharp shooters. For this act he was awarded the War Cross. He afterwards was mentioned for bravery three times and for every time he was given a star which is pinned on the ribbon of the medal. Sergeant Sarasant, prior to going overseas, was a school teacher in St. Pierre.

Speaking of the conditions at the front, he said, that he was of the opinion that the war would be brought to a close during this summer. When he left the front on March 1 officers of the French army were of this opinion.

Another one of the decorated men who won his medal while fighting on the Verdun front, said the tide had now changed and that the German retreat was a thing that was anticipated by the French for several weeks before it really materialized. The French losses on the Verdun front, he said, had been heavy but for every man lost the Germans lost three. During the early part of this year, he said, the Germans were offering very little opposition and for twenty shells that the French sent into the German lines the Germans would send about one back. The men were only twenty-two days from the front line trenches to America. All but five of them are home on twenty-five days' furlough.

FATALITY IN HALIFAX

Halifax, March 26.—Dennis Ryan, an aged citizen, who was run down on Saturday by a tram car and taken to hospital, died there on Saturday night. He was for years an employe at the D. A. R. freight shed.

Wilhilmshaven Harbor Closed Temporarily

London, March 26—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Amsterdam says that Wilhelmshaven newspapers announce that the harbor of Wilhelmshaven will be closed to the public for the next fortnight and that a special permit from the admiralty board will be necessary for admission to the docks. The reason for the order is not given.

Wilhelmshaven is one of Germany's strongest naval stations. It is situated on Jahde Bay, thirty-three miles northwest of Bremen.