

The first car came to a halt and the party returned and assisted in rescuing the less fortunate ones. They combled their efforts in an attempt to extricate the machine but without avail. It was pitch dark and they could hardly find their way about.

They were isolated from civilization. Twelve miles to the nearest farm house. It was considered unwise to leave the car alone as it was and members of the party who could have secured a comfortable rest at the farm house, insisted on remaining with their less fortunate friends.

All night long they remained there. Some slept in Mr. Hildner's car and others slept by the roadside. Some walked about during the night and maybe they didn't say some pretty things about highways and highway bridges.

In the morning—Sunday morning, too—two blocks and tackle were secured and with the aid of planks the car was again put on the highway and about noon the party continued on its way, leaving a warning at the bridge for the benefit of other vehicles.

Officers who have risen from the ranks in the 26th, I venture, than in any two other battalions.

"On Sept. 26 the regiment took over a part of the line, and on Oct. 18 they received their first baptism of fire."

"The colonel said he was only an eyewitness of the crater charge. He was standing about 800 yards at the rear with General Watson regarding the situation through glasses."

"Nearly 800 of the regiment have now passed to the Great Beyond," he said, not without a display of emotion. "Today there are left not more than 200 of the 1,100 who left here and only about four of the original officers are there. Some are wounded, some are dead."

Hard Winter.

The men, he said, went through a hard winter. For weeks they stood in water above their waists and oftentimes he walked through the trenches himself wading with water to his hips.

"The Germans were in about the same situation as we were. Either side could have fallen back 100 yards and been in dry ground. But we were not to concede an inch of territory. Of course we were but civilians at our first introduction there, and we couldn't quite see the point of this, but later we realized that it was the moral effect and not the material effect that was feared. We were half in France and half in Belgium; our regiment crossed that frontier. Speaking of the crossing across the trenches, he concluded the diversion by remarking, "The only good German is a dead one."

The trenches that were built at first, he said, were crude, and the barbed wire entanglements were about April. They were beginning to get in good shape and the line was improved. Our last week at this part of the line we lost 100 men. On April 3 we retired from the line in favor of the Cumberland regiment. The week following about 100 men there and practically evacuated the front line."

The colonel spoke of the change in the mode of fighting and the weapons employed. Every officer now is a specialist detailed to certain work. "At first our construction was crude but now we can do it with the best of them. Canadians can dig, too, and there is no better incentive than to set them on a line and tell them a flare is coming and they had better dig themselves in."

"Only 70 per cent of the soldiers now carry rifles and bayonets. The rest carry grenades and bombs? These weapons were described by the colonel, also the rifle grenades, the trench mortars and other deadly weapons of comparatively recent innovation.

"I will write back to the boys," the colonel concluded, "and tell them what you have done for me." He expressed an ambition that, when the report of the 26th returns to St. John, he might be privileged to lead "the boys" up King Street.

Other Toasts.

The toast to Our City was proposed by Joseph Likely and Commissioner Wignmore responded. Both referred to the fact that the city has furnished for the empire and enlarged the guest of the evening.

Senator Thorne proposed the toast to the Canadian Expeditionary Forces and Lieut.-Col. Anelin and Captain May responded.

The army, which was connected with the military medical corps was in Egypt during his duty overseas. He gave an interesting discourse on the development of this branch of the army, relating of the converting of luxurious passenger boats into hospital ships. He gave numerous interesting anecdotes and reminiscences. He paid a tribute to Colonel MacLaren, C. M. G., and his work at the front.

Captain May, an officer in the 26th, received a splendid reception. He related some incidents at the front and confirmed the story that after the men were a short while in the trenches a voice shouted from the German trench across No Man's Land, "Hello, 26th. How would you like to be at Courtenay Bay?" He said the officers, non-coms and men, all showed their respect and confidence in Col. McAvity. An essential at the front was cheerfulness and "the men liked the colonel for his sunshine and cheerfulness."

He urged, in concluding, that a practical way for the eligible young men of the city to show their regard for the 26th would be to enlist and assist the cause.

The evening closed with the national anthem.

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Russians Striking at Strategic Railways; Germans Admit Importance of British Gain

ITALIANS STRIKE HARDEST BLOW OF THEIR CAMPAIGN

Strong Positions Carried in Tofano Region and on Lower Isonzo

3,600 PRISONERS TAKEN ON SUNDAY

Enemy Communications Threatened by Latest Gains—Vienna Reports Italians Using Seven Regiments on Deherdo Plateau—Several Dozen Machine Guns Taken.

Rome, via London, Aug. 7.—Italian troops have captured strong Austrian positions commanding communication between the Travenas Valley and the Sare torrent, in the Gader Valley, in the Tofano region, says an official communication issued today by the war office.

Several Austrian attacks on the slopes of Monte Zebio, on the Sette Comuni plateau, were checked by Italian artillery. On the Lower Isonzo the Italians gained possession of nearly the whole of Hill No. 88, and held it against violent counter-attacks. Prisoners taken in yesterday's fighting total 8,600. A large amount of ammunition and guns also were captured. The official statement follows:

"Between the Adige and the Upper Isonzo, artillery activity continues. On the Sette Comuni plateau, the enemy exploded several mines, destroying one of our trenches on the slopes of Monte Zebio, and then delivered attacks which were checked completely by our artillery."

"In the Tofano region our troops captured strong enemy positions commanding communication by the Travenas Valley and the Sare torrent, in the Gader Valley. The enemy continued to bombard village in the Upper Gader Valley, and we retaliated by bombing the military buildings at Tavis Rabl and Tolmino."

Cyclists Carry Hill 85.

"On the Lower Isonzo our troops began yesterday an attack on some strong enemy positions, while in the Monfalcone sector our offensive, which began on the 4th, made progress towards Hills 85 and 121. After effective preparation by artillery and trench mortars our troops carried several lines of the enemy's trenchments. In the Monfalcone area, after fierce hand to hand fighting, Bersaglier cyclists of the Third, Fourth and Eleventh battalions took and held against several violent counter-attacks nearly the whole of Hill 85."

"During yesterday's fighting we took 3,600 prisoners, including 100 officers, one of whom was a regimental commander and one a staff major, a battery of three guns, several dozen machine guns, numerous rifles and much ammunition."

"A squadron of our Caproni aeroplanes bombarded the railway junction at Opicina (northeast of Trieste) under unfavorable atmospheric conditions, and drove back hostile aeroplanes, one of which was brought down. One of our aeroplanes failed to return."

Austrians Admit Temporary Loss.

Berlin, Aug. 7, via wireless to Sayville.—"In the southern sector of Dobruja height on Friday," says the Austro-Hungarian army headquarters report of Aug. 5, "the Italians, with at least seven regiments, attacked our positions after four hours of artillery preparation. The Italian troops at first were frustrated by our artillery. Later the enemy temporarily entered the Austro-Hungarian positions at several points, but everywhere was ejected."

"We took 230 unwounded prisoners and captured two machine guns."

Battles Not Yet Concluded.

Vienna, via London, Aug. 7.—The Austrian official communication issued here today says:

TEUTONS RETIRE FROM TARNOPOL



Map showing how the Teuton army (No. 1) back of Tarnopol is in danger of being cut off from Lemberg by the simultaneous advance of Russian armies (Nos. 2 and 3) from Brody and Kolomoia.

Russians Within Striking Distance of Lemberg Railway Threatening Austrian Lines—Germans Admit Advance on Kovel-Sarny Railway in Centre.

London, Aug. 7.—A Reuter despatch from Petrograd says: "The irregular successes to the south of Brody bring the Russians within fourteen miles of the Tarnopol-Lemberg railway. It is reported that the Austrian forces at Tarnopol already are retiring in the direction of Zlochoff."

BATTLE RAGING WITH VARYING FORTUNES.

Petrograd, Aug. 7, via London.—The Russian statement follows:

"A squadron of seven enemy aeroplanes bombarded several points in the region east of the Stokhod river, causing but little damage."

"At some places along the Stokhod the enemy took the offensive, but everywhere was repulsed. Our offensive continues in the region of the Graberki and Sereth rivers. Our troops captured strongly fortified positions of the enemy in the vicinity of the villages of Zvylin, Kostinice and Reuliv. Fierce bayonet encounters took place in the woods in this region. The enemy made counter attacks."

"Engagements are proceeding under difficult conditions owing to uninterrupted rains having reduced the soil almost to a morass."

"On the River Koropiec the enemy launched several energetic attacks in the region of Velestnik. All were repulsed and the enemy suffered severe losses."

"On the River Tchernolicherevich, south of Vorokhta, the enemy succeeded in forcing back our cavalry outposts a little distance."

"Caucasus front: In the region of Kalkit-Tchiftik and Erzingan our troops again advanced several versts. North of the River Muratchais the Turks attacked all day long, but were repelled by our troops."

"In the region of Bitlis large Turkish forces assisted by Kurds launched obstinate attacks which were repelled by our rifle fire, by grenade throwing and by counter attacks."

GERMAN STATEMENT WITHOUT CHEER.

Berlin, Aug. 7, via wireless to Sayville.—"The official account of operations on the eastern front follows:

"Front of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg: In the northern section there were no events of importance. Hostile detachments which advanced against the sand hills south of Zaretsk, on the Stokhod, which was cleared by us the day before yesterday, were repulsed by a counter attack."

"Russian attacks northwest and west of Zalozce were without results. Fighting on the right bank of the Sereth is going on."

TURKISH CABINET FALLEN, IS REPORT; BRITISH PROBE ON

Lloyd George Brings Down Bill Which Governs Trial of High Official

YOUNG IRISH OFFICER HAS BEEN ACCUSED

Civilians Allowed to Appear as Witnesses in Military Court and if Civilians Accused Court May Be Partly Composed of Civilians—Finest Enquiry Courted.

London, Aug. 7.—An Exchange Telegraph Company despatch from Rome says that unconfirmed reports have been received there that the Turkish cabinet has fallen.

BILL THROWS LIGHT ON NEW SENSATION.

London, Aug. 7, 4:48 p.m.—David Lloyd George, secretary for war, in the house of commons today moved the second reading of the bill giving civilians the right to appear before military tribunals as witnesses and also providing in cases where civilians were implicated the court might be composed of civilians as well as officers. The secretary explained that the civilian members of the courts would be members of parliament. He said the bill was due to the late Sir Arthur Balfour, member of parliament, who had brought certain matters to his notice.

This is the bill which has given rise to rumors of the coming trial of a high official of the war office. Mr. Lloyd George mentioned no names, but said that all the officers concerned courted the fullest inquiry and desired that whatever court was set up should proceed with an investigation without loss of time.

Replying to criticisms of, and objections to, the bill, and Timothy Healey's demand of the supposed culprit, Mr. Lloyd George said he was doing his utmost to prevent the premature publication of allegations which an inquiry might prove to be unsupported. The affair had been investigated by the late Field Marshal Earl Kitchener, Premier Asquith and himself, he added, and he was seeking to protect the honor of a young Irish Catholic soldier against accusations involving dishonor.

The bill passed the third reading.

SHIP BUILT ON GREAT LAKES GOING AS RELIEF SHIP

Chicago, Aug. 7.—The first ship for the Norwegian merchant marine built in the Great Lakes, the 3,000 ton Nordal, sails for Montreal tonight. Her first voyage will be on a mission of mercy, as she was chartered by the Rockefeller Foundation to take a cargo of corn from Montreal to Rotterdam for the relief of Belgium war sufferers. The Nordal is one of thirty steamers being built for Norwegian firms in American shipyards.

Chatham, N. B., Sees Day of Tragedies

One Child Burned to Death When House Destroyed and Another Frightfully Burned While Playing with Matches—Woman Dies From Blood Poisoning Resulting From Bite of Insect.

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Chatham, N. B., Aug. 7.—Fire broke out this morning in the house owned and occupied by Mrs. Angelina Burke, off Wellington street, and completely destroyed it. The fire had made great headway and was a seething mass of flames when the firemen arrived. The four year old boy of Mrs. Burke was burned to death, his charred remains being found among the ruins later in the day, and close by lay the body of the little fellow's faithful dog.

The house adjoining owned by C. Breniol, was badly scorched.

Another near fatality occurred this afternoon at 8 o'clock when the six year

BRITISH HOLD GROUND GAINED WHILE FRENCH WIN MORE ON SOMME

SUBMARINE OFF MAINE COAST BUT TRAVELLING WEST?

Bremen or Deutschland the Theory and One Rumer Says Grand Manan Saw the Craft—No Cause for Alarm.

London, Aug. 7.—An Exchange Telegraph Company despatch from Rome says that unconfirmed reports have been received there that the Turkish cabinet has fallen.

Washington, Aug. 7.—Captain Small, of the Cross Island coast guard station, reported this morning that his station had sighted a large submarine bound west. Its nationality could not be determined, but the captain said he has no doubt that it was an undersea craft. The submarine was coming to the surface when it was sighted, and after running awash fifteen minutes, again submerged. It was thought that the vessel might be the German submarine Bremen. So far as can be learned there are no United States submarines off the Maine coast.

Washington, Aug. 7.—Naval officers said today no American submarines were known to be operating in the vicinity of Cross Island. They thought the boat sighted there might be the German merchant submarine Deutschland, on her homeward voyage, or her sister ship, the Bremen, bound for the United States.

Inquiries were received in the city last evening from American newspaper offices as to a submarine having been sighted off Grand Manan, but no trace could be found of the alleged submergence in the Bay of Fundy. In any case, there is no cause for alarm.

SUNK WITHOUT WARNING, REPORT OF THIS OFFICER

New York, Aug. 7.—A News Agency despatch from Barcelona, Spain, today says:

"The British steamer Mount Coniston has been sunk without warning. Her officers and twenty-five of her crew were rescued. The captain said the same submarine also sank another steamer whose identity he could not make out."

"The Mount Coniston was a vessel of 3,018 tons."

More Neutral Sunk.

London, Aug. 7, 4:30 p. m.—Lloyd's shipping agency announces that the Italian sailing vessel Eugenie and the Norwegian steamer Arana have been sunk. A report that the British steamer Spirid has been sunk, says the agency, is unconfirmed.

Germans, Ordered to Retake Hill 160 at Whatever Cost, Die in Vain Before Stonewall Defence

French Storm Line of Trenches on Somme Taking Out Ten Dismantled Machine Guns—Turning Counter-attack on Thiaumont in Morning, General Nivelle's Heroic Soldiers at Verdun Advance Later in Day and Improve Positions—Thrilling Air Fights in Allies' Favor.

Paris, Aug. 7.—A despatch to Le Liberte, dated North of France, says: "The Germans yesterday furiously counter-attacked positions taken the day before by the British north of Pozieres, but without result. An order had been given to the units in the Pozieres sector to retake from the British, at whatever cost, Hill 160, as shown by the order of the day issued by General Von Below and read to the troops yesterday."

The order said: "We must at any price regain possession of the Pozieres plateau, which, if left in the hands of the English, would give them a precious advantage. Attacks will be led by successive waves, separated by a distance of eighty metres. Troops which first gain footing on the plateau must remain there and await necessary reinforcements, at what ever loss there may be. Any officer or man who fails to resist, even unto death, on the conquered ground, will be summoned immediately before a court martial."

A number of copies of this document were taken from prisoners. Two divisions participated in the heavy attacks.

AUSTRALIANS AGAIN WIN GLORY.

The Australians again covered themselves with glory. One regiment, which occupied advanced trenches to the left of the Bapaume road, on the edge of the plateau, gave proof of magnificent heroism in resisting the assaults there of Bavarian and Saxon regiments, holding out strongly under a deluge of shot and shell and yielding not an inch of ground. The regiment sustained appreciable losses, but its courageous resistance enabled the English commander to make the necessary dispositions to check the German counter-offensive.

All enemy attacks against Hill 160 and the Pozieres mill were repulsed, the enemy sustaining serious losses. The Germans sent forward three strong columns of one battalion each. The British artillery immediately began a barraging fire of remarkable precision, which cut down the assailants ranks, forcing a precipitate retreat.

NEW BRITISH LINE FIRMLY HELD.

London, Aug. 7.—Determined attacks on the British lines north and northeast of Pozieres this morning were repulsed according to the British official statement issued tonight. The Germans succeeded in entering the British lines at one or two places, but were driven out.

FRENCH GAIN ON SOMME MEUSE.

Paris, Aug. 7.—Late today the French troops captured a line of German trenches between Hem Wood and the Somme, according to the official statement issued by the war office tonight. They also made some prisoners south of the Thiaumont Work.

The text of the statement follows: "North of the Somme, at the end of the afternoon our troops brilliantly carried a line of German trenches between Hem Wood and the river east of Monacu Farm. One hundred and twenty prisoners and about ten machine guns remained in our hands."

"South of the Somme, our artillery was very active. Enemy batteries in the region of Lihons were effectively shelled."

"On the right bank of the Meuse, in the course of a small action we made progress south of the Thiaumont Work. We took five machine guns and found in the conquered elements numerous German dead. After a somewhat spirited engagement we captured some houses in the western part of the village of Floury."

"Our lines in the region of Vaux-Le-Chapitre and Chonois were subjected to a bombardment."

The Belgian communication: "Throughout the night and day the artillery was active, especially in the direction of Dixmude and Steenstraete. At Steenstraete an engagement with bombs occurred which ended to our advantage."

SUCCESSFUL AIR FIGHTS.

Paris, Aug. 7.—The text of the morning statement follows: "North of the Somme and in the region of Chaulnes, there was intense artillery fighting. On the right bank of the Meuse (Verdun front) after artillery preparation, the Germans delivered an attack at Thiaumont Woods. Checked by our curtain of fire, the enemy was not able to advance, being thrown back on leaving his trenches in the Vaux-Chapitre Woods, an attack was delivered by the enemy at about 7:30 o'clock last night, after a heavy bombardment. It was broken by the fire of our artillery and machine guns, and failed completely."

"On the remainder of the front the night was calm."

"On the Somme front our aviators engaged in numerous combats. Three German machines were brought down, one near Roigille, the second in the vicinity of Omicourt, the third north of Neuf. Three other enemy machines were damaged seriously and compelled to land behind their own lines. Finally two captive balloons were destroyed. On the night of Aug. 6-7, French aerial squadrons carried out the following operations successfully: Twenty bombs were dropped on the railway station at Metz-Sablons; thirty on the railway station at Thionville; twenty-five on factories at Rombach, north of Metz, and twelve on military camps near Etain."