

THE WEATHER.

Maritime - Moderate to fresh winds, mostly southeast and south, occasional showers, not much change in temperature.

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ALLED SUBMARINE CAMPAIGN IN BALTIC RENEWED; FIERCE FIGHTING ON THE AUSTRO-ITALIAN FRONT

BATTLE RAGING FROM ALPS TO THE ADRIATIC

Heaviest Fighting of War on Italian Front Now in Progress.

RIVER ADRIATIC BLACK WITH BODIES OF DEAD

Austrians Bring their Biggest Guns from Germany and Archduke Frederick Arrives to Take Charge.

Geneva, May 18, via Paris.—Reports from Innsbruck indicate that the heaviest fighting of the war between Italians and Austrians during this year is in progress in the region of Rovereto and the Sugana Valley, while there is every evidence that the Austrians have begun a general offensive against the Italians from the Alps to the Adriatic. A large number of bodies of Austrian soldiers killed during the fighting are said to be floating down the river Adige.

The Austrians have brought several batteries of their heaviest guns from Germany and have installed them near Gorizia and Montebelluna, where the staff of Archduke Frederick has arrived.

The Austrians are also rushing troops from Innsbruck into the region of Trent.

Swiss troops on the frontier report that the Austrian positions on the Adamello range have recently been greatly strengthened and that the artillery duels are increasing in intensity.

Italians Capture Rich Booty.

Rome, via London, May 18.—The following official communication was issued today:

"In the Adamello zone we captured rich booty in arms, munitions and material which was abandoned by the enemy in the Toppete and Pargorizza passes, during the course of Wednesday, our Alpine troops extended the conquest to the crest north of Campagna, as far as the Matiarot zone, at the source of the Sarcar river.

"In the Ledro Valley, after intense artillery preparations throughout the night of the 16th, the enemy at dawn attacked our positions on the slopes of Monte Par, but was repulsed with serious losses.

"In the Lagarina Valley yesterday the enemy renewed, by means of numerous powerful batteries, his bombardment of our positions on Zegnetortia, after which he launched five violent attacks, each time being repulsed with sanguinary losses.

"In the zone between the Terrazzone Valley and the Upper Adige the enemy has continued an uninterrupted artillery fire against the positions of our main line of defense. We repulsed the customary feint attacks in the San Pedrino Valley, in the Marmolado zone, on the Pedia pass, on the Upper Adige and on Upper Cordevole.

"On the Isenzo front there has been moderate artillery activity. In the Montafone sector, by a brilliant counter-attack, our troops re-captured part of the trenches which remained in the enemy's hands after the action of the 15th."

Venezelos Stands His Ground.

Athens, May 18.—Former Premier Venezelos accepted entire responsibility today for articles which have appeared in his newspaper, The Herald, criticizing severely the general of the newspaper is being prosecuted for criminal libel.

M. Venezelos said he would make no statement to the examining magistrate, saying that if the prosecution were not dropped he would conduct his own defense. It is thought the case never will come to trial.

SUBMARINES OF ALLIES STRIKE HARD IN BALTIC

British and Russian Underseas Boats Renew Campaign to Prevent Supplies Reaching the Enemy from Scandinavian Countries—Several Ships with Cargoes of Ore for Germany Sent to Bottom in Past Few Days.

Stockholm, May 17.—(Via London, May 18).—The German steamer Hera was sunk this morning off Landsort, in the Baltic. The sinking of the Hera marks the first activity of British submarines in the Baltic this season. The Hera left Stockholm on Tuesday to take iron ore to Olofssund, carrying a cargo of 2,000 tons. Her captain was ordered on board the submarine with the ship's papers and made prisoner. Sufficient time was given the crew to leave the ship. Although the weather was rough all on board were saved.

The report of the submarine activity has stopped the movement of numerous German vessels with cargoes of iron ore now at Olofssund and other ports.

The Hera was a vessel of a gross tonnage of 4,705. She was owned in Hamburg, was 379 feet long and was built in 1912.

Sunk by Russian Submarine.

Stockholm, May 18.—According to the Dagens Nyheter, the German steamer Hera was torpedoed by a Russian submarine northwest of Landsort yesterday, after having received a warning.

Two Others Torpedoed.

London, May 18.—The sinking of two German steamships by a submarine, believed to be a Russian, is reported in a Reuter despatch from Stockholm. The steamships were the Kolga, Hamburg, for Stockholm, and the Blanca.

The steamships were torpedoed yesterday afternoon off the Swedish island of Landsort, in the Baltic. The Kolga was attacked at five p. m., and the Blanca at six p. m.

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The Blanca was owned in Hamburg. Her gross tonnage was 1,054. She was built in 1907 and was 226 feet long.

British Submarines in Baltic.

London, May 18.—A large number of British submarines are operating in the eastern and southern portions of the Baltic Sea, which is now ice free, says a despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Copenhagen.

It was one of these submarines which sank the German steamer Hera, the despatch adds.

Last fall British submarines, which made their way into the Baltic through the Skagerrack and Cattgat, carried on an energetic campaign against shipping between Scandinavian and German ports through Baltic waters.

In special they appear to have worked havoc with the ore trade between Scandinavia and Germany, sinking a number of ore vessels and, according to some reports, virtually paralyzing this traffic for weeks because of the presence of the hostile undersea craft.

Special despatches from Scandinavian sources to British newspapers in mid-October declared that German commercial traffic had virtually been cleared from the Baltic by the British submarine activity, one list printed containing the names of twenty German ships sunk during October.

German accounts, however, denied that there was any such stoppage of traffic as was claimed in British sources, citing the movement of hundreds of ships from various Baltic ports during the period of submarine operations.

FRENCH CURTAIN OF FIRE HALTS HUN ATTACK

Thrust at Hill 304 and Avocourt Wood Breaks Down.

THIRTEEN AIR FIGHTS OVER BRITISH LINE.

Artillery Duelling at Angres and St. Eloi Only Activity on British Front Yesterday.

Paris, May 18, 10.30 p. m.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads:

"North of the Aisne we dispersed an enemy detachment which attempted to reach one of our trenches to the south of Noyvrou.

"On the left bank of the Meuse the enemy, after a slight bombardment, launched about 6 o'clock a strong attack on our positions in the Avocourt wood and on Hill 304. Our curtain of fire and the fire of our machine guns stopped the enemy, who appeared to have suffered serious losses.

"The artillery action continued very violently on the whole of the sector. There was an intermittent bombardment on the right bank of the river, more intense at Les Eparques.

"There is no important event reported on the rest of the front."

Belgian communication: "Yesterday, toward the end of the evening, after a violent bombardment with trench mortars and heavy calibre guns a German detachment attacked one of our posts on the east bank of the Yser to the north of Steenstrate. The enemy was stopped by our barrier fire and the fire of our infantry."

On British Front.

London, May 18.—The British official statement on the campaign in France reads:

"Yesterday there was again considerable aerial work. Thirteen combats took place. One hostile machine is believed to have been accounted for, as it was last seen descending vertically.

"During the afternoon, after a strong bombardment, the enemy gained a mine crater held by us on the Vimy ridge. Last night a strong hostile patrol, which tried to rush one of our posts near Wietje, was driven back.

"Today, except for artillery activity at Angres and St. Eloi, there was no important incident to report."

MAKING POOR HEADWAY IN THE TUBANTIA CASE

The Hague, via London, May 18.—The Dutch naval department tonight issued the following communication:

"The discussions of the Dutch torpedo expert Canters, in Berlin, regarding the sinking of the steamer Tubantia have not led to any conclusive result. After an examination of the pieces of metal found in the Tubantia's bow the German admiralty acknowledged that these formed part of a torpedo belonging to a German submarine. But the submarine commander has declared that this torpedo was not fired by the Tubantia March 16, but at a British warship March 6, missing its target. The government intends to press for a deeper inquiry."

Fert Down Tete Occupied by Allies.

Berlin, via wireless, May 18.—The Overseas News Agency today gave out the following: "It is reported from Athens that"

NO FUSS OR CEREMONY FOR CLOSING OF PARLIAMENT

One of Most Memorable Sessions on Record Brought to End Yesterday—Practically Every Item on Sessional Programme Disposed of—Report of Pensions Committee Presented and Adopted—Recommends Increase for Men in Lower Ranks of Service.

PATRIOTIC FUND CHANGES

Important Findings of Special Committee Submitted to Meeting at Toronto Last Night and Accepted.

Ottawa, May 18.—Parliament prorogued at 4.30 this afternoon. It did so with little fuss or ceremony. Sir Charles Fitzpatrick, as deputy governor-general, officiating in the absence of H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, absent in Montreal. There was no last minute flurry in the senate, as has been the case at the close of the two preceding sessions, the upper chamber having finished its work last night. The commons had also disposed of practically every item on the sessional programme, which was fated to receive consideration, and put in its time until the hour of prorogation.

Both reports were accepted. That of the pensions committee and hearing a number of suggestions for economy in government printing from the committee which has considered that matter. Both reports were accepted. That of the pensions committee, which suggests an upward revision in the rates to be paid in the lower ranks, has not been embodied in legislation this session for the reason that it is desired to allow the pensions board, which the government will appoint shortly, to apply the test of practical experience first. The new scale can be brought into effect under the war measures act.

At the opening of the sitting Sir Robert Borden announced that the bill providing for the extension of the term of the present Canadian parliament until Oct. 1917, had been introduced in the British parliament on May 3. He also presented a report of the Canadian army dental services, remarking that Canada had been the second country in the world to add this useful branch to its organization.

Germany was the first.

Hon. J. D. Hazen then moved that the report of the special committee on pensions be approved. On the suggestion of Hon. Wm. Pugsley that no money could be appropriated by the house except on the recommendation of the committee, he changed the motion to read that the report be commended to the consideration of the government."

Mr. Hazen said that the committee, which was formed by members from both sides of the house, had dealt only with the question of pensions for men enlisted in the expeditionary force. The recommendation that the awarding of pensions be entrusted to a board of three men appointed for ten years was intended to take the subject out of the range of political intrigue or influence. For the same reason the committee had suggested that there should be no appeal from the decision of the board save that a dissatisfied applicant might have his case reviewed by the whole board. Pensions under the scheme proposed were not to be assigned, commuted or anticipated.

Whole Pension Scale Amended.

Mr. Hazen said that the whole scale of pensions had been amended, and a very suitable increase had been recommended for the lower ranks of the service, from privates to Lieutenants. Above the rank of Lieutenant the scale remained unchanged except that an additional \$10 was provided for captains. It had been felt that the rate of pensions for men in the higher ranks was rather high, but it was also held that it would not be fair to those who had enlisted when the old scale was in force to make reductions. Mr. Hazen said there had been much discussion in the committee, as to whether or not a distinction should be made in the rates of pensions for unmarried and married men. The majority had held, however, that the single soldier had the right to marry on his return home, and should be provided for accordingly.

Mr. Hazen said it had been suggested that reservists of the armies of the allied countries, who returned to Europe, to take up arms and left families in Canada should receive from the dominion the difference between the fort is contrary to promises given."

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, May 18.—The Journal says: "An error, which the Journal regrets, was made in the introduction to the article yesterday on the Carvell-Von Briesen-Jerome matter. The phrase appeared that Mr. Carvell had 'unwittingly' or otherwise, placed valuable military information in the hands of empire enemies through his relation with the pro-German, William Travers Jerome."

The sentence which was actually sent out to the Journal composing room had an important difference. It read 'unwittingly' or otherwise, may have placed valuable military information, etc." The Journal has no knowledge that valuable military information "was given to Mr. Jerome by Mr. Carvell. The Journal's count against Mr. Carvell is that at a time of war for Britain and Canada he went to New York and engaged a pro-German agency to undertake detective business for him against the Canadian war department. A thing which would inevitably tend to place dangerous information in the hands of enemies."

French troops have occupied Fort Dowta Tete by force, and that the Greek government has delivered an emphatic protest to the ministers at Athens of the Entente Powers, Greece points out that the occupation of the fort is contrary to promises given."

(Continued on page 2)

GREAT BRITAIN BEARS BURDEN WITHOUT STRAIN

Austin Chamberlain Hints at Economic Agreement After War.

UNWISE TO BUILD ON GERMANY'S WEAKNESS

Delegates from Great Britain to Economic Conference at Paris will have Practically a Free Hand.

London, May 18 (6.50 p. m.)—An interesting discussion on finance after the war was raised in the House of Commons today by William A. S. Hewins, Unionist member for Hertford, a representative of the tariff interests. Mr. Hewins pointed to the tremendous growth of direct, as compared with indirect taxation, and warned the country against under-estimating Germany's economic strength. He urged that it was an imperative necessity for the government to state its attitude toward the economic conference in Paris, and take steps in the direction of trade preference within the Empire and a preferential arrangement with the allies.

A. Austin Chamberlain, secretary for India, in replying made a significant speech, which seemed to fore-shadow some kind of an economic agreement among the different parties in the House of Commons. Like Mr. Hewins, he warned the House that it would be unwise to count upon the rapid economic exhaustion of Germany, and declared that it would be much better for Great Britain to build up her own strength than on Germany's weakness.

Great Britain's tremendous financial resources, as compared with Germany's, were worth remarking, however, added Mr. Chamberlain, as the fact that Great Britain seemed to be bearing the burden without undue strain, as was proved by the success of tax-reform returns. The nation was using up its capital, however, for war purposes, while neutral countries, through large profits made at the expense of the belligerents, were accumulating resources to compete with this nation after the war. How far the opposing political parties could agree upon a common after-the-war policy was an interesting question.

"We have made an immense advance towards an agreement," he said, "and at a time like this I would not like to consider myself bound to the exact principles advocated before the war."

Mr. Chamberlain invited the House to bring fresh minds to the fresh problems arising, and to consider these without prejudice. He declared it would be a much greater thing to secure a comparatively imperfect system which would form the basis of a national and imperial policy to be developed afterwards. It would not be good for any sound system of tariff duties that there should be created a series of preposterous duties which were intended to be, and were in effect, absolutely prohibitive, he asserted.

Mr. Chamberlain said that he could make no statement about the Paris conference, except that Great Britain's representatives would go unbound by any rigid code of economic thought.

French Steamer Sunk.

London, May 18, 4.17 p. m.—Lloyd's announces that the French steamer Mira has been sunk. The announcement gives no details as to how her sinking happened.

The steamer Mira was a vessel of 3,050 tons gross, built at South Shields in 1895, and owned in Marseilles. She was last reported as having arrived at Penarth, Wales, on April 21, from Algiers.