

Commission Find Kean Guilty Error of Judgement

YOU'LL BE SURE TO FIND IT IN "The MAIL and ADVOCATE"

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Important Progress In Champagne

German Works Captured and Prisoners Taken—Russians Report Progress in Poland—The Austrians Meet Defeat in Galicia

London, March 1.—The French Government reports small successes near Dixmude and Lombaertzyde, and important progress in Champagne. German works were carried north of Perthes and Beausejour. Two hundred prisoners were captured north-west of Perthes, and over 1,000 German soldiers surrendered during the

last ten days. A subsequent report confirms progress in Champagne, the gains representing 2,000 metres in trenches. In one trench the enemy left over 200 dead.

At another point the Germans sprayed the advanced French trench with burning liquid.

The Russian Government reports their offensive developing in north-eastern Poland. Przasnysz has been taken, and the German retreat is extending. About 5,500 have been taken prisoners.

The Austrians were severely defeated in Eastern Galicia, losing 4,000 prisoners and nine machine guns.—HARCOURT.

Complete Blockade of All German Ports

Is Great Britain's Answer To Germany's Submarine Warfare

NO COMMODITIES OF ANY KIND TO BE ALLOWED TO GO TO GERMAN PORTS

Answer to American Note Not Yet Prepared—Asquith Presents War Budget: Stupendous Figures—Asks \$1,800,000,000—Largest Single Vote Ever Asked—Daily War Expenses Likely To Grow From Seven-and-a-half to Eight-and-a-half Millions By April

London, March 2.—If the combined fleets of Britain and France can prevent it, no commodities of any kind, except those now on the seas, shall henceforth until the conclusion of the war, reach or leave the shore of Germany.

This is Britain's answer to Germany's submarine blockade, and it is to be effective forthwith. Premier Asquith, reading from a prepared statement, made this announcement in the Commons this afternoon, at a session which will be history. He studiously avoided the terms "blockade" and "contraband," for these words occur nowhere in the prepared statement. The Premier exclaimed after this day the Allies consider themselves justified in attempting, and would attempt to detain and take into port, all ships carrying goods presumed for enemy destination, ownership or origin. The Premier emphasized however that vessels' cargoes so seized were not necessarily liable to confiscation and begged the patience of neutral countries in face of this step, through which they were likely to suffer. He added that in making such a step, the Allies had done so in self-defence. "We are quite prepared," he went on, "to submit to arbitration of neutral opinion, still more to the verdict of impartial history, that in the circumstances in which we have been placed we have been moderate. We have been restrained, we have abstained from things that we were provoked and tempted to do, and we have adopted a policy which commends itself to reason, common sense and justice."

Every member of the House not at the front in khaki, or unavoidably detained, was in his seat to hear the Prime Minister's address. There was frequent cheering and the galleries were packed. When the Premier concluded his statement, turning to the Speaker he said, "That, sir, is our reply." There was a tremendous outburst.

Curiously, the German reply to the American Note, seeking to solve the situation growing out of Germany's declaration of the naval war zone, was

handed to Ambassador Gerard at Berlin to-day. Premier Asquith, in his address said that Britain and her Allies are still carefully considering the American Note to them on the same subject. That the British Government had rejected the proposal, he declared, was quite untrue.

The tremendous cost of modern warfare, which the Premier estimated now at \$7,500,000 daily to the Allies alone, is likely to grow to \$8,500,000, or more daily, by April, was the theme of that part of the Premier's address not dealing with the blockade. He gave these figures asking for a Supplementary Vote of credit, making the total \$1,810,000,000 to carry on the war from March 31, 1915, which the House unanimously granted. The entire struggle with Napoleon cost Britain only \$1,831,000,000 and the South African War only \$211,000,000. These were Asquith's figures.

Before the Premier had finished newspapers were on the streets, proclaiming our answer to Germany, in big letters, and it was apparent everywhere that the entire nation had been chafing for reprisals against the sinking of merchant craft by submarines. Premier Asquith said the plan of the allied governments for regulation shipping to and from ports of hostile nations, contemplates prevention of commodities of every kind reaching or leaving ports without involving risks to neutral vessels or their crews. The Allies will hold themselves at liberty to capture goods it is presumed, have come from hostile countries or to be destined for them. They have no intention however of confiscating ships or cargoes which are destined, unless they are liable to confiscation under normal conditions of the war. The Premier revealed these measures of reprisals to Parliament and nation on introducing third and fourth votes for credit to meet expenses of the war. These are respectively \$185,000,000 to balance expenditures of current fiscal year, making total cost of eight months war \$1,810,000,000. Another vote of

\$1,250,000,000 as first installment for the year opening April 1st. The Premier pointed out that by April the war would have lasted 240 days with an average expenditure of \$7,500,000 daily, after making full allowance for all items not in the nature of recoverable loans. Daily expenditure would not work out less than \$6,000,000. Total amount raised under votes for credit during current financial year \$1,810,000,000, represented broadly the difference of expenditures on peace and war footing. Of the total \$190,000,000 represented advances for war expenditure of Dominions and Crown Colonies in addition to which there has been advanced \$50,000,000 to Belgium, \$4,000,000 to Serbia and further advances these allies are contemplated. The Premier continued, it is probably within the mark to say that by April 1st we shall be spending roughly \$10,000,000 daily above the normal vote.

Credit for \$125,000,000 is the largest single vote ever put before the House. It will cover the period to second week of July. Referring to the German naval campaign against British shipping, Premier Asquith said Germany had violated systematically all conventions intended for the mitigation of warfare. She had taken further steps the Premier said by organizing an under sea campaign of piracy and pillage. Germany he declared was not blockading, could never blockade the English shores. Referring to the attack on the Dardanelles the Premier said there had been no impairment of the strength of the Allies in France or in England, as a result of withdrawals of men for service in the campaign against Turkey. We shall continue to give fullest, most effective support there. He added, referring to the Western front, neither has there been for the purpose of the Dardanelles operations, any weakening of the grand fleet. The enterprise was carefully conceived, with a distinct political and strategic and economic objects.

French Army In A Tight Corner

Germans Now Forty Miles From Paris

Paris, March 1.—Terrific efforts are being made by the French to break the German lines in Champagne district in order to force the retirement of the Kaiser's forces between Aisne and Oise rivers. In the past five days at least thirty attacks have been made by the French against the German lines between Souain and Servois, north of Perthes and Beausejour and Les Hurlus.

The German armies are lying in an angle formed by the junction of the Aisne and Oise rivers, and will continue to be a menace to Paris until they are forced to retire. These armies

are only forty miles from Paris, and if Von Kluck could pierce the French lines with a sudden movement near Soissons, he could not only drive in the direction of Paris, but could split the entire French forces in two.

In West Flanders the Belgians are continuing their activity against the extreme German right, using both infantry and artillery in their attacks.

Heavy artillery fire is reported from the district north-east of Amiens and south of the Lys, as well as from the valley of the Meuse.

In the Vosges Mountains the struggle for strategic points is becoming fiercer. The Germans have been reinforced with Landsturm forces from Southern Belgium, where they had been used as patrols and guards for the lines of communication.

250 MEN ARE RESOLVED TO DIE IF NEEDS BE TO BACK PRES. COAKER

Change Islands, March 2.—Two hundred and fifty men here are resolved to die if needs be to back President Coaker in the Fight for Right to uncaptain Ab. Kean.

We consider him no longer competent to command a sealing steamer. Neither do we want to see the Prospero again at this place commanded by Kean.—F.P.U. COUNCIL.

GERMANS IN A SORRY PLIGHT

Food Scarcity and her People Depressed and Patiently Waiting for the Final "Victory"

Oldenzaal, Holland, Feb. 26.—"The Germans are getting panicky." That is the remark I have heard from every neutral I have met on the last few days.

Here, on the border, the impressions of these neutral travellers are fresh and untaunted; they cannot conceal the truth, and the truth is the Germans are getting frightened at what is ahead of them. The nation generally, however, takes things with courage and makes ready for the worst. That is what they will get too, and they may know it.

Some of my informants have travelled straight down from Konigsberg, through Berlin, Hanover, Hamburg, some have gone to the Rhine province, looking after their business, but the latter were greeted everywhere with the gloom by their business friends.

"There is no business." That sentence has been repeated to them continually—no business except for the manufacturers who work for the army.

The complete absence of raw stuffs is killing Germany's industry, and the plight of that country could not be worse if the battle were really raging within her own borders.

All along the Rhine, in the district once humming with industry, factories are silent and workmen are idle. Misery, in spite of uncountable relief committees, is spreading rapidly. It has long since put its grip on the poor, and is now starving the middle classes.

Food is terribly dear. The poor have had no bread that is fit to eat for months, and now the "bourgeois" must feed on war bread, which a French horse would not eat.

Poor people feed on horse meat, and there is not much of that, because all the horses available are snatched away by the military authorities. In many cases horses that have been wounded or worn out at the front and no longer any use for military purposes have been sent back to Germany and put under butchers' knives.

Nobody speaks of delicacies, of pastries, of expensive fish. Even Germany used to pride herself on the fact that hers was the country where the largest quantities of caviar were eaten. Now the people do not dream of eating caviar. They cannot pay for it, and even if they could pay they could not get it out of Russia. They loss of this caviar is perhaps one of the most trying of all privations

ST. PIERRE BULLETIN

Belgian Infantry and Aviators Busy—1000 German Soldiers Surround Artillery Contest in the Vosges

Paris, via St. Pierre, Mar. 1.—Near Dixmude, Belgian artillery destroyed two German defence works. The Belgian infantry took a farm on the right bank of the Yser and Belgian aviators threw bombs on the German naval station of Ostend. Germans are still bombarding Rheims, and threw about sixty shells, of which thirty were directed against the Cathedral.

In Champagne we have realized important gains, on Saturday night, by the capture of two German works north of Perthes les Hurlus and north of Beausejour farm. Furthermore, we have progressed between these two points and made 200 prisoners.

The number of German soldiers who have surrendered during the past ten days exceed 1,000.

A sharp artillery contest occurred on the Meuse heights and in the Vosges.

We have progressed in the vicinity of Arhman and Willerkopl.

A HALIFAX SCARE

Shell Hits Two Houses—No body Hurt

Halifax, March 1.—A twelve-pound shell, presumably fired from one of the harbour forts during target practice, entered two houses in the residential section here, this afternoon. No one was in the houses at the time.

The people living in the vicinity were panic-stricken for a while, thinking that an enemy's ship had fired the shell.

The Germans have now to put up with the life of the people is correspondingly melancholy. Then men who are not serving no longer have any business to attend to; the women work in hospitals or sit at home knitting for the wounded or for the men in the field.

The possibility of a final triumph is only enthroned by professional panegyric enthusiasts. The German people are sick of their own "victories." They know that, with one or two exceptions these victories never occurred. They are not so stupid as not to come to the conclusion that if only fifty per cent. of these alleged triumphs actually had been true the Germans would have been in Paris, and even in London, long ago.

KEAN ARREST PETITION

Petitions signed by 650 electors residing at Port-de-Grave, Clarke's Beach, Island Cove, Cupids, Shearstown and Bay-de-Verde were forwarded to His Excellency the Governor by President Coaker this morning.

Petitions containing 1000 signatures have already been received—all from Conception Bay.

The fact that the Sealing Commission has reported finding Captain Kean guilty of an error in judgment will with the demand of Conception Bay and the Northern Districts, compel the Crown to arrest Abram Kean without delay, charged with criminal negligence in connection with the loss of 78 of the Newfoundland's crew last Spring.

Mr. Munn when discussing the Kean case with President Coaker some time ago assured Mr. Coaker that in event of the Commission blaming Captain Kean in anyway in connection with the disaster the firm would withdraw him as a captain of a sealing steamer, we presume the firm will now bow to the decision of the Sealing Commission and forthwith withdraw Captain Kean and end present friction regarding him sailing as captain of the Florizel.

THE PRICE OF SEALS

Sealers signing for the Gulf are not asked to sign an agreement fixing the price of seals. We understand from Mr. Job that the price is not mentioned in the agreement now being signed, hence there should be no hesitation on the part of the sealers to sign for the Gulf. The price of seals will be considered next week at the sealers meetings.

OPERATIONS IN DARDANELLES

Bad Weather is said to Delay Progress Through the Strait

London, March 1.—The attack by the allied fleet on the Dardanelles has been interrupted.

The Official Bureau issued a statement to-night saying that operations are being delayed, owing to bad weather.

ASQUITH SPEAKS

London, March 1.—Speaking in the Commons to-day, Premier Asquith made the declaration that at no time had the Government been more confident than to-day that the Allies would achieve victory.

RUNS BLOCKADE

S. S. St. Louis at Liverpool

London, March 1.—The steamer St. Louis arrived safely at Liverpool to-day, without any incident in passing through the naval zone.

Mr. John Browning returned from a business trip to Canada and the States on Saturday.

Bombardment Dardanelles Resumed

Forts Killid Bahr and Sultanie at Narrow Part of Straits Destroyed—Hundreds of Turkish Soldiers Posted to Defend Constantinople

London, March 1.—The bombardment of the inner forts of the Dardanelles was resumed at 10 o'clock yesterday morning, says an Athens despatch. A Russian Admiral delegated to attend a council of Admirals has joined the Allied Fleet in the Straits.

A despatch from Saloniki states that mines and submarines destined for the defence of Dedeagatchie have arrived at that port. According to a Havas despatch, fire from the guns of the Allied Fleet has destroyed Fort Killid Bahr and Fort Sultanie (Chand Kalsei) which guard the narrowest part of the Straits. Information from Mitylene and Tenosdos is to the effect that over 100,000 Turks have been posted along the coast of Gallipoli Peninsula, near the sea of Marmora, about 130 miles from Constantinople.

Cotton For Russia Via the Pacific

Butte, Mont., Feb. 23.—Many train loads of cotton have passed through here during the last week bound for Russia. The cotton is put on board steamers at Seattle and sent to Vladivostok, Siberia, where it will be transported by rail to Petrograd to be made into uniforms for the army.

GERMAN LOSSES

Copenhagen, Feb. 23.—The last six Prussian casualty lists published, although containing only 17,925 casualties, some of which date from August, and do not give recent heavy losses, bring the total number of lists up to 1,148, showing the total number of officers and men killed, wounded and missing as 971,042. To these, must be added 152 Bavarian, 107 Saxon, 114 Wurttemberg, and 17 naval lists.

We were shown a set of "dog irons" this morning at the store of Mr. Jas. Phillips, Water Street, and which Mr. Phillips's claims are as old—as old as the first Green Bay settlers.

Well, Jim's word is as good as his bond, anyhow.

READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE. READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

DECIDED TO BOYCOTT

Ladle Cove, via Musgrave Hr., March 2.—This Local Council have decided to boycott Bowring Bros. or any Company that will accept Abram Kean as master of any sealing ship sailing from Newfoundland.—F.P.U.

GREENSPOND COUNCIL READY TO FIGHT FOR RIGHT AND HUMANITY

Greenspond, March 1.—Greenspond Council unanimously and strongly endorses your action in the matter of Kean-Bowring outrage. Our Council is right with you. We will fight for Right and Humanity.—F.P.U. COUNCIL.