

German System of Espionage on Remarkable Scale Discovered

TWO COLUMNS OF GERMANS SLAUGHTERED ONE ANOTHER WHEN MAKING NIGHT ONSET

Sir John French's Report Confirms Disaster to Enemy—Furious Fusillade Heard on Night of Sept. 20, But No Bullets Reached Allies' Trenches—Spies in Various Ingenious Guises Caught—Comparative Lull in Fighting for Four Days.

(BRITISH OFFICIAL)

LONDON, Sept. 28.—An official statement from Sir John French's headquarters dated September 25th says that there was a comparative lull in the fighting along the allies' front for the four days preceding, accompanied by a spell of fine weather which was very welcome to both sides. The nights were somewhat colder, but the warmth of the sun brought out hordes of flies which had been torpid during the wet spell. Unimpeachable evidence has been discovered of the havoc wrought on the night of September 20 when separate German columns fired at converging other, as the result of a confused attack in the dark. They slaughtered their own men in a desperate conflict before the mistake was ascertained.

The report says: "The German methods used in the collection and conveyance of intelligence are by no means of men in plain clothes, but signal the German lines from points in the hands of the enemy by colored lights at night and by puffs of smoke from chimneys, by day. Supported by wireless telegraphy, the German columns have been detected conveying information to German officers. Soldiers in plain clothes, however, in British uniforms, remain in localities evacuated by the Germans in order to furnish intelligence of our movements. "One spy was found hidden in a church tower, his presence becoming known thru the erratic movement of the hands on the church clock which he was using as an improvised semaphore. Women spies also have been caught.

Enemy Mystified. "Anything connected with the early movements of the British expeditionary force is, of course, now an ancient history, nevertheless, the following extract from a German order is evidence of the mystification of the enemy: "On the twenty-first of August the French troops in front of the Tenth Army Corps were ordered to attack the Sambre. Part of the Belgian army has withdrawn to Antwerp and it is reported that an English army has disembarked at Boulogne and Calais en route to Brussels."

Fresh Troops to Front. "The statement in detail follows: "Sept. 25.—For four days there has been a comparative lull along our front. This has been accompanied by a spell of fine weather. The nights are now much colder. One cannot have everything, however, and one evil result of the sunshine has been the release of flies, which were torpid during the wet days. "Advantage has been taken of the arrival of reinforcements to relieve by fresh troops the men who have been on the firing line for some time. Several units, therefore, have received the baptism of fire during the week.

"Since the last report left general headquarters, evidence has been received which points to the fact that during the night of the 20th, the German infantry fired into each other as the result of an attempt to carry out the dangerous expedient of a converging advance by Spies Everywhere. "Opposite one portion of our position a considerable massing of hostile forces was observed before dark, and some hours later, ammunition and some heavy guns were heard in the night, but no bullets came over our trenches.

Found Deserted Trenches. "This narrative begins with Sept. 21, and covers only two days. On Monday, the 21st, there was but little rain and the weather took a turn for the better which was maintained. The action was practically confined to the artillery, our guns at one point shelling and driving away the enemy, who were endeavoring to construct a redoubt. The Germans for their part expended a large number of shells in a long range bombardment of a village.

"Reconnoitering parties sent out during the night of 21, 22, discovered some deserted trenches, and in them, or near them in the woods, over 100 dead and wounded were picked up. A number of rifles, ammunition and other equipment were also found. There were other signs that portions of the enemy's forces had withdrawn for some distance.

"Jack Johnson's" Again. "Tuesday, 22, was also fine, with less wind, and was one of the most uneventful days that have passed since we reached the Aisne—uneventful, that is for the British. There was less artillery work on either side, the Germans, nevertheless, giving another village a taste of the Jack Johnson's. "The spot thus honored was not far from the ridge where some of the most severe close fighting in which we have taken part has occurred. All over this 'No Man's Land' between the lines, the bodies of German infantrymen are still lying in heaps where they have fallen at different times.

"Espionage plays so large a part in the conduct of the war by the Germans that it is difficult to avoid furnishing references to the subject. They have evidently never forgotten the saying of Frederick the Great: 'When Marshal Soult goes to war he is followed by a hundred cooks; when I take the field I am preceded by a hundred spies.' "Indeed, until about 20 years ago, there was a paragraph in their field service regulations directing that the spy should be executed in the field."

outposts and advanced guards—should always be supplemented by a system of espionage. "The such instructions are no longer made public, the Germans, as is well known, still carry them into effect. Apart from the more elaborate arrangements which were made in peace time for obtaining information by paid agents, some of the methods which are being employed for the collection or conveyance of intelligence are as follows:

Night and Day Signals. "Men in plain clothes signal to the German lines from points in the hands of the enemy by means of colored lights at night and puffs of smoke from chimneys by day. Pseudo laborers working in the fields between the armies have been detected conveying information, and persons in plain clothes have acted as advanced scouts to the German cavalry when advancing.

German officers and soldiers in plain clothes, or in British uniforms, remained in localities evacuated by the Germans, in order to furnish them with intelligence. "One spy of this kind was found by our troops hidden in a church tower. His presence was only discovered thru the erratic movements of the hands of the church clock, which he was using to signal to his fellows by means of an improvised semaphore code. Had this man not been seized it is probable he would have signaled to the German artillery at the time of their arrival at the exact location of the headquarters and staff. A high explosive shell would then have mysteriously dropped on the building.

Women Spies Caught. "Women spies have also been caught; secret agents have been found at the railroads observing entrainments and detrainments. It is a simple matter for spies to mix with the refugees moving about to their homes; difficult for our troops, who speak neither French nor German, to detect them.

"The French have found it necessary to search villages and also casual wayfarers on the roads for carrier pigeons. Amongst the precautions taken by us to guard against spying is the publication of the following notice, printed in French and posted up:

Warning Given. "1. Motor cars and bicycles not carrying soldiers in uniforms may not circulate on the roads. "2. The inhabitants may not leave the localities which they reside between 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. "3. Inhabitants may not quit their homes after 8 p.m. "4. No person may on any pretext pass thru the British lines without an authorization countersigned by a British officer."

TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST CHOLERA. "The French have found it necessary to search villages and also casual wayfarers on the roads for carrier pigeons. Amongst the precautions taken by us to guard against spying is the publication of the following notice, printed in French and posted up:

New York Quarantine Officers to Watch for Symptoms on Steamers. "These reports from widely divergent sources are persistent and would indicate that the Austrian and German forces must fight disease as well as the allied forces. For the present the latter have escaped the usual horrors of a long campaign. The presence of dead horses and men over a large area and the fact that many bodies have been thrown in the rivers in the latter have escaped the usual horrors of a long campaign. The presence of dead horses and men over a large area and the fact that many bodies have been thrown in the rivers in the latter have escaped the usual horrors of a long campaign.

EXPORTATION OF FLOUR AND WHEAT PROHIBITED. Roumanian Government Takes Precautionary Measure to Conserve Its Supply of Food. "Special Direct Copyrighted Cable to The Toronto World. "ROME, Sept. 28.—A decree forbidding the exportation of flour and wheat has been issued by the Roumanian Government. It is not believed that this is preliminary to a declaration of war, but that it is merely a precautionary move.

BRITISH COMMANDER SIXTY-TWO YESTERDAY. Sir John French Observes Birthday by Maintaining "Satisfactory Position."

Canadian Press Despatch. LONDON, Sept. 28.—Field Marshal Sir John French, commander-in-chief of the British expeditionary force, is spending his sixty-second birthday in maintaining what his latest communication to the war office describes as "a satisfactory situation."

A Paris despatch yesterday told of Sir John having arrived there on Saturday, and incidentally purchased \$56 worth of groceries, probably for a "satisfactory" table.

ADMIRALTY STATES LOSSES TO SHIPPING

Twenty British Vessels Sunk and Seventy-Four Held in Ports.

FAVORABLE BALANCE

Hundreds of German Ships Have Been Detained or Captured.

Canadian Press Despatch.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—Twelve British ships with an aggregate tonnage of 55,331, have been sunk on the high seas by German cruisers up to September 28, according to an admiralty return issued this afternoon. Eight other British ships, whose tonnage aggregates 2,970, have been sunk by German mines in the North Sea, and 24 fishing craft, with a tonnage of 4,324, have been captured or sunk by the Germans in the same waters. British ships detained at German ports number 74, with a total tonnage of 170,000.

On the credit side the admiralty gives 102 German ships with a total tonnage of 200,000 detained in British ports since the outbreak of the war. Eighty-eight German ships of an aggregate tonnage of 338,000, have been captured since hostilities began. The return also shows that 138 German ships with an aggregate tonnage of 235,000 were detained or captured by the allies. Fifteen ships with a tonnage of 247,000 were detained in American ports, while 14 others with a tonnage of 72,000 remain in the Suez Canal.

The German mines in the North Sea have also to their credit seven Scandinavian ships with a tonnage of 11,038.

ASIATIC CHOLERA HAS BEEN FOUND

Austrians Suffering From the Disease Located in Vienna Hospital.

WATER CONTAMINATED

Danger to Both Sides in War Zone Declared to Be Great.

Special Direct Copyrighted Cable to The Toronto World.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—Advises from Vienna by way of Rome convey the information that Austrian bacteriologists have definitely established the presence of Asiatic cholera among the 70,000 wounded lying in the hospitals from Brussels comes the word of a typhoid epidemic in the Belgian capital and around Termonde, where German field hospitals are located. It is said that 700 deaths have occurred in that vicinity from this disease. Budapest reports the presence of cholera in that city.

These reports from widely divergent sources are persistent and would indicate that the Austrian and German forces must fight disease as well as the allied forces. For the present the latter have escaped the usual horrors of a long campaign. The presence of dead horses and men over a large area and the fact that many bodies have been thrown in the rivers in the latter have escaped the usual horrors of a long campaign. The presence of dead horses and men over a large area and the fact that many bodies have been thrown in the rivers in the latter have escaped the usual horrors of a long campaign.

GERMANS ADMIT SEVERE LOSSES

Berlin Newspaper Says Actions of Decisive Nature Are Becoming General.

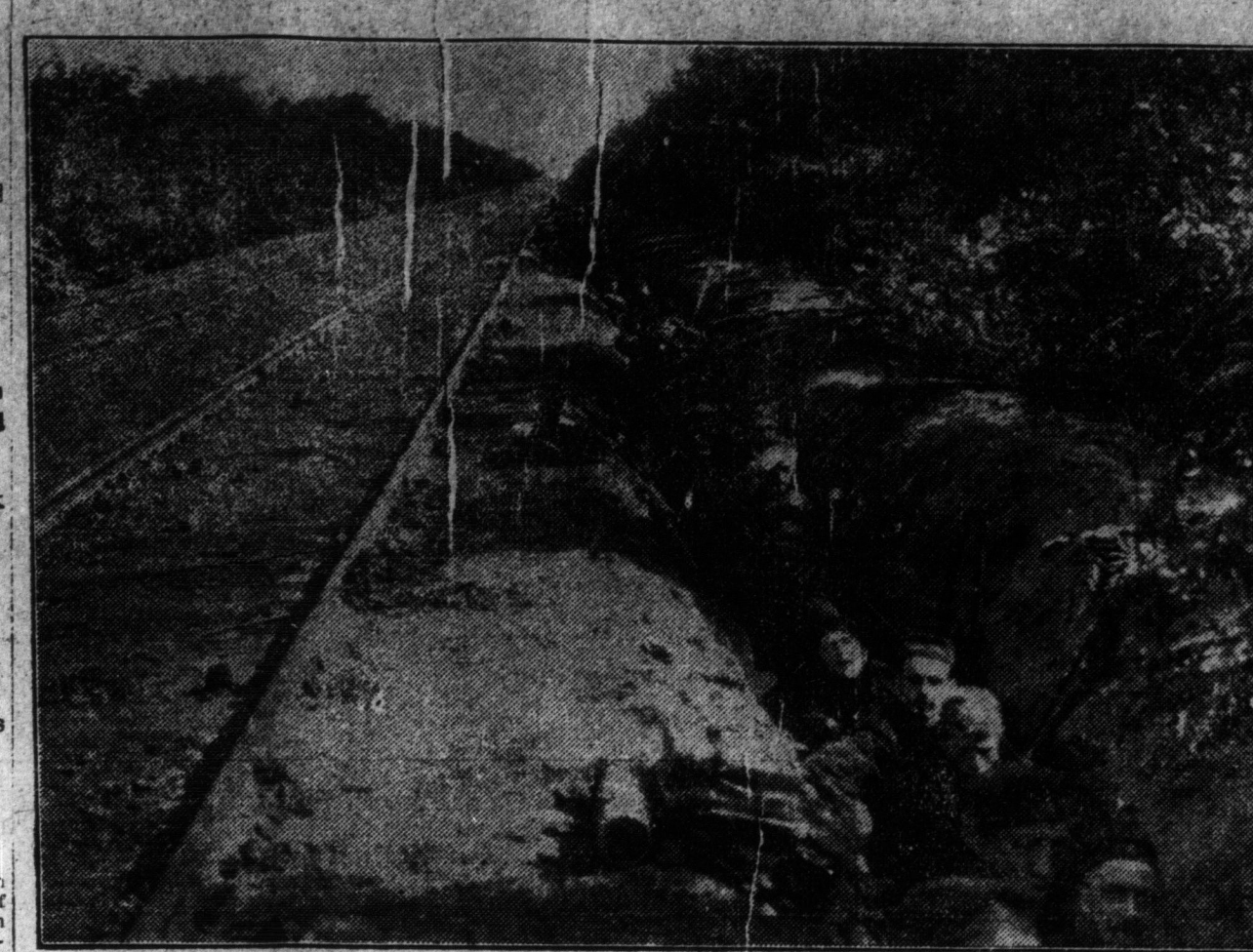
Canadian Press Despatch.

BERLIN, Sept. 28, 2:10 p.m.—A correspondent of the Trier Anzeiger in a despatch published here today points out that a decisive turn in the battle which has been raging in the western theatre of the war need not be expected for some time. Subordinate actions of a decisive character are becoming more general, the correspondent declares, and the losses of the Germans have been extraordinarily heavy.

ADDITIONS TO LIST OF BRITISH LOSSES

Canadian Press Despatch. LONDON, Sept. 28, 10:55 p.m.—A casualty list received from British headquarters at the front, covering losses up to September 24, contains the names of one officer who was killed, seven who died of wounds, nineteen who are wounded and ten who are missing. The missing men had previously been reported as wounded.

BATTLE OF HOFSTADT



Belgian soldiers entrenched, guarding the railway. Shells were bursting over them when this picture was taken.

ONE SUBMARINE DID ALL DAMAGE

Berlin Official Report on North Sea Action So Declares.

ESCAPED UNSCATHED

No Shots Fired by British Cruisers—Kaiser Visited Wounded Son.

Canadian Press Despatch.

BERLIN, Sept. 28, 4:55 a.m., via London.—By order of the military commander of the Province of Brandenburg The Vorwaerts, organ of the Social Democratic party, has suspended publication indefinitely. Emperor William on Saturday visited Prince Oscar, one of his sons, who is ill with heart trouble at Metz. The Duchess of Brunswick, sister of the prince, arrived the same day and will remain with her brother until he returns to the front.

The sinking of the three British cruisers Aboukir, Cressy and Hogue, by the German submarine U-9 in the North Sea recently, asserts that the U-9 was action one hour. This was the time elapsing between the firing of the first and last torpedo. The British cruisers, according to the report, did not fire a single shot. When attacked the U-9 was steaming abreast with the Aboukir in the middle.

It is emphatically denied that any other submarine took part in the attack and that any were sunk after the destruction of the Cressy. Several British cruisers, torpedo boats and destroyers put in an appearance and pursued the U-9 until evening, going as far as the Terschelling banks, where the submarine escaped under cover of night.

HOPE TO MOLLIFY MEXICAN LEADERS

Villa-Carranza Squabble May Be Settled Amicably by Committee.

Canadian Press Despatch.

MEXICO CITY, Mex., Sept. 28.—The pacification committee, organized among officials here in an endeavor to adjust differences between Carranza and Villa, departed today with the immediate object of reaching the nearest point where they can consult the generals of the division of the north. They will try to arrange a cessation of hostilities and secure an agreement which will prevent further clashes between the factions.

Where the conference will be held has not been made public. The city has been suggested as the most likely place. All chiefs will be kept fully informed of the proceedings of the conference.

BAPTIST CONVENTION

The Baptist convention of Ontario and Quebec will meet in the Walmer Road Church for six days, commencing on Wednesday evening, October 14th. There will be many distinguished speakers at the convention, among them Dr. Truett, one of the leading preachers of the southern states, and Rev. H. C. Mahé of Boston, prominent in the great missionary movements of the day. The officers of the convention are: Dr. W. E. Norton, president; Mr. James Ryrie and Rev. J. R. Webb, vice presidents; Rev. C. E. McLeod, secretary.

GERMANS BEATEN VIEW OF EXPERTS

London Military Officials Believe End of Battle is Near.

REPORT OF FRICTION

Sir John French Said to Have Complained of Slowness.

Canadian Press Despatch.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—The end of the battle of the Aisne, with complete success for the allies, is declared by military officials here to be in sight. Speculation generally turns to new movements of troops. It is possible that the Indian troops (who came by way of the Suez Canal, and not across Canada) have entered the field of action. There are many significant reports that would bear out this, but the censorship prohibits their being sent out at the present time.

One thing is certain. The war office is more optimistic than at any time since the closing days of the battle of the Marne.

Rumors of Friction. Rumors of a disagreement between Sir John French and the French general staff regarding certain phases of the present conflict are current in military circles. While they are far from definite, the suggestion is made that the army of Gen. d'Amade failed to take its position quickly enough in the flanking operations of last Friday, in the result that the Germans made a considerable gain, and it was necessary to send reinforcements to retake the lost ground.

The battle must be won on the left flank if at all, and the British experts believe that the winning moves are now being made.

JAP TROOPS SEIZE CHINESE RAILWAY

Cavalry to Occupy Stations Along Line to Tsinan.

Canadian Press Despatch.

PEKIN, Tuesday, Sept. 29.—The Chinese Government has received an official telegram from Weihai, stating that 200 Japanese cavalrymen have started westward along the railway. The Chinese, it is said, believe the Japanese intend to capture all the railway stations on the line, including that of Tsinan, the western terminus. The Japanese legislation says that the legislation has not been informed by Tokyo of the reason for taking over the railway.

A correspondent at Weihai sends the following under the date of September 28: "The Japanese have gone to the west along the railway leaving 20 guards in the Weihai station. The city is crowded with Chinese soldiers who are quartered in homes, causing terror to the families. "The gentry have sent numerous presents to the Japanese, and are forced to live. The discipline in both armies here is good. "The levies referred to by the correspondent are probably not monetary, but provisions.

CRUISER BRITANNIA TO PATROL ATLANTIC

Canadian Press Despatch. NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—A cruiser believed to be the Britannia has been joined the British war vessels which since the beginning of the war in Europe have been patrolling the entrance to New York harbor. She steamed directly in from sea, and joined the auxiliary cruiser fleet.

MALINES SHELLLED THO UNDEFENDED

Germans Opened Fire While People Were Leaving Church Service.

SHELL KILLS SEVERAL

Missiles Fell on Town at Rate of Fifty an Hour.

Special Direct Copyrighted Cable to The Toronto World.

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 28.—(From Central News Special Correspondent.)—I have just returned from the Belgian City of Malines, which has been bombarded by the Germans for the last time, although the town is open and is not making the least defense. Yesterday (Sunday) people were returning from church at 9:30 o'clock in the morning when a shell fell in the midst of a group, killing several. The remainder fled to a cafe, and afterward a shell exploded in a cafe, wounding several.

The rain of shells continued at fifty an hour. The first fell in the railway station and eight others fell in the Place de la Gare. The neighborhood affected by the firing included the station, the barracks, a cabinetmaker's establishment, the Sisters of the Poor factory. Many private houses and other buildings collapsed, blocking traffic.

The forts of Waelhem and Wavre repulsed the enemy's attack. The Cathedral of Saint Rombaut has been almost completely destroyed and its tower is badly injured. It is officially stated that on Saturday a German detachment, comprising a brigade of infantry, two regiments of cavalry and six batteries of artillery, including two heavy guns, was surprised during a march from Brussels to Termonde, near Alost. The Belgians attacked on both front and flank and the Germans fell back in disorder toward Assche, leaving many prisoners, wounded and several caissons.

KAMERUN CAPITAL IN BRITISH HANDS

Official Seat of German Colony in Africa Has Surrendered.

Canadian Press Despatch.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—It was officially announced in London this afternoon that Duala, the official seat of the government of the German colony of Kamerun, German Equatorial Africa, had surrendered to a British force. Kamerun lies between British Nigeria and the French Congo and extends to the southern shore of Lake Chad. Area, 191,130 square miles. Population, 2,540,000. Duala, with a population of 17,000, is the principal city. The military force is 199 Germans and 1,550 natives and a police force of 40 Germans and 1255 colored men. A new direct cable to Germany was opened in 1913.

DISHONEST CANVASSERS

The citizens of Toronto are warned against dishonest canvassers by James Craig, who says that some persons are using the name of the Red Cross Society for gain. "Do not give," he says, "until you are reasonably sure that the canvasser represents some organization actually working for the cause."

DUNNING'S

The Vienna rolls, hard rolls, milk rolls and French bread sold in our store are the same as served in the restaurant and are baked on the premises.

ALLIES CONFIDENT ENEMY DESPERATE

Violence of German Onslaughts Regarded as Highly Significant Sign.

FOOD GROWS SCARCE

Enemy's Inability to Get Supply of Provisions Spells Disaster.

Canadian Press Despatch.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—The Central News today received the following despatch from its Paris correspondent: "Both the allies and the enemy, far from being exhausted after more than a fortnight of continuous fighting, appear to be throwing increasing vigor into their operations. Expectations of a decisive engagement are being fought, particularly on the allies' left."

"It is impossible, owing to the rigorous press censorship, to divulge all the information whereon the opinions of your correspondent are based; nevertheless, one cannot help expressing the view that the Germans are fighting with the violence of desperation and the allies with the energy of those upon whose sight the dawn of success is beginning to break."

Policy of Desperation. "The movement of the German troops on the left of the centre to support the threatened right wing reveals in itself the policy of desperation—an attempt to achieve victory at a staggering cost. This movement, however, appears to be completely failing.

"Our men, despite the enemy's reinforcements, are still gaining ground and if the essentials of good spirit and excellent organization count they will continue thus to gain."

"Only a small organization could have made it possible for the Germans to reinforce their right wing, but this does not obscure the fact, they have deliberately courted serious danger, risking everything on the outcome. The most serious difficulty encountered by the enemy is that of provisioning, which is daily and may yet spell disaster."

SUPPLIES LANDED BY RED CROSS SHIP

Two Units for Britain Assigned to Hospitals in England and France.

RUSSIAN UNITS READY

Next Port of Call Pauillac—To Visit Rotterdam With German Portion.

Canadian Press Despatch.

LONDON, Sept. 28, 8:15 p.m.—The war office today assigned a Red Cross unit directed by Dr. Howard Beal of Worcester, Mass., to the American Women's Hospital, near Tournai. Another unit directed by Dr. Robert W. Hinds of Buffalo, has been assigned to the base hospital at Netley. The steamer Red Cross, fitted out by the American Red Cross Society to assist in caring for the wounded, will sail Wednesday from Falmouth to Pauillac, France, having unloaded all the medical supplies intended for England and Russia. The Russian unit will come to London Wednesday and will leave on Thursday for Dundee. Freight rates are so high on hospital medical appliances sent across the Scandinavian peninsula that it is likely the Red Cross Society hereafter will ship its supplies thru the Mediterranean to Odessa.

From Pauillac the steamer Red Cross will go to Rotterdam and will sail directly to America, not stopping at England again. It was originally planned to carry back American refugees, but sailings are now available on all the regular steamers.

PROPERTY OF C.P.R. IN AUSTRIA TAKEN

Government of Dual Monarchy Confiscates Company's Securities, Etc.

Canadian Press Despatch.

VENICE, Sept. 28 (via Paris, 8:12 p.m.).—The Austrian Government has confiscated the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's securities and money deposited in Vienna. It is reported, as well as the company's observation cars running on Austrian railroads. This has been done, it is said, as a consequence of the refusal of the company to pay the dividends of Austrian shareholders.

Italian newspapers at Trieste, Austria, have been forced to suspend publication. Italian residents are being kept under the closest surveillance.

GRIEF SHORTENED MOTHER'S LIFE

Special to The Toronto World.

ST. CATHARINES, Sept. 28.—Mrs. Charles Sargeant, mother of Private Sargeant, who was accidentally shot by a comrade while handling a revolver on guard duty on the Welland Canal three weeks ago, passed away at the General and Marine Hospital today. The death of her son hastened her end.