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Allies Fight Their Way To Second Trenches of The German Army

Despite Very Violent Fire British and French Press on—Territory Won Each Day is Being Made Secure

Paris, Dec. 19.—The French War Office this afternoon gave out an official announcement as follows:—"During the day of December 18 we organized in Belgium the territory won from the enemy the evening before to the south of Dixmude, and we advanced our front to the south of the fort at Kortrijk. "Our advance to the south of Ypres has been continued over a very difficult and swampy territory. "From the Lys to the Oise, we have progressed in the regions of Notre Dame de Consolation, to the south of Lebassee by more than one kilometre. During the last two days we also made progress in the direction of Carancy, St. Laurent and Bligny. "In the region of Albert, during the night of December 17-18 and during the day of the 18th, we launched a very violent fire of the enemy, and we reached the barbed wire entanglements of the second line of German trenches. To the north of Maricourt, we were obliged to abandon a trench occupied the night before, and set on fire by the enemy by means of hand grenades. "Several German trenches have been occupied in the region of Mametz, and in the vicinity of Liechons three violent counter-attacks on the part of the Germans were repulsed. "In the region of the Aisne there have been artillery engagements and in Champagne the artillery of the enemy showed decreased activity as compared to the 17th. In the Argonne, in the forest of La Gruerie we blew up a German undermining trench. Near St. Hubert the enemy, by a very spirited attack, succeeded in making slight progress. "It has been confirmed that on the heights of the Meuse our fire directed by aviators demolished two heavy batteries of the enemy and damaged a third battery. "From the Meuse to the Vosges there is nothing to report. In the Vosges there has been spirited German rifle firing but no attack."

The Christmas Ships

(A. M. Belding) The laden ships have sailed away Across the winter sea, With gifts to brighten one drear day In homes of misery. The shadows of the cruel war Are pierced by one warm ray, That streams from Bethlehem's quiet star To light the darkened way. Oh, cold the world were human love Unmoved by that great war, Where hate has heaped the clouds above Its victims, row on row; For millions were left to die, But that the world's great heart, To pity stirred by hunger's cry, Which filled the busy mart, Gave quick response in word and deed, Ere half the tale was told; And met a starving people's need With more than gifts of gold. Oh, never since the world began, Did pity more abound; Nor ever in the life of man Has greater need been found. Fare forth, oh ships of Christmastide, Across the winter sea, That faith and hope may still abide Around the Christmas tree. Nor deem the loving task is done, Oh man whose home is blest, When these your laden ships have gone Across the ocean's breast. For though a vision fill the sky, And though a Christ be born, Beside your door the hunger cry Will rise on Christmas morn.

THE FUNDS

L. C. Armstrong, vice-president of the Maritime Commercial Travelers' Association, called on C. B. Allan, treasurer of the Canadian Patriotic Fund, this morning and gave to him a check for \$300, from the travelers' association, being the New Brunswick members' proportion of the \$1,000 voted at the annual meeting in Halifax. Other subscriptions include: No Surrender, Thorne and Dominion lodges, I. O. G. T., per G. A. McKel, treasurer, \$5; Benjamin Miles, per December, \$1; S. H. Clark, per December, \$1; Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Scammell, \$2. Empire Novelty Company, \$50.

For the Belgians Mayor Frink has received subscriptions to the Belgian relief fund as follows: W. Mack, MacMillan, additional, from residents of Boiestown, \$75.00; J. S. Gregory, \$100; H. S. Morton, \$10; residents of Lepreau, N. B., per Mrs. Reynolds, as follows: Mr. Shaw, \$2; Mrs. Chickick, \$1; Miss Gorren, \$1; Mrs. H. P. Reynolds, \$1; Mrs. Stafford, \$5; Mrs. Garmen, \$5; Mr. Wynn, \$5; Miss Loid, \$5; Mrs. Walter Boyne, \$5; A. Shaw, \$5; Jack Cameron, \$5; Mrs. Allan Taylor, \$5; friend, \$5, total, \$95.50; W. H. H. Aromonath, \$1; Arthur Grepe, Royal Artillery, \$5; friend, \$1; O. Mc, \$1; Friend, Young's Cove, \$1; Belgian Aid Society, Woodstock, \$1; Isabel L. Martin, \$10; Friend, A. W. H., Woodstock, \$5; A. W. Clark, M. D., Ernest, Pa., third contribution, \$100; Dr. Francis Alnoworth, \$5; B. W. Steves, \$5; Red Cross Society, Centreville, N. B., per Mrs. E. C. Hickson, sale of barrels, \$25; F. M. Perkins, \$1; Miss Perkins, \$1; Mrs. D. Gray, \$1; Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Scammell, \$2; Henry Towne, Halfway River, N. S., \$5; Mrs. F. B. Jewett, Sheffield, \$5; proceeds of social, Mantle, N. B., per William Paul, \$42; Bristol, N. B., collections per Belle DeLong Lockhart, \$20; "Wa Do" Sunday school class, Bristol, \$10; Fielding Car Co, Bristol, \$11.50.

Hussian Train Blown Up?

Amsterdam, via London, Dec. 19.—According to the Budapest newspaper Pesti-Naplo, an armored train en route from Lemberg to the Carpathians with ammunition and food has been blown up. The route of the despatch "Lemberg to the Carpathians" makes it appear that the supply train blown up, was sent by the Russians who have held Lemberg for some time. The report, if true, would indicate that a line of Russian communication with their forces operating in the Carpathians has been successfully attacked.

London, Dec. 19.—A Copenhagen despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company reports that the Danish liner Fano in the North Sea, off the west coast of Julland. The aviators, an officer and a soldier, were arrested and will be interned in Denmark. Italy for Peace Rome, Dec. 19.—The senate adjourned yesterday after a marked manifestation in favor of peace. Premier Salandra expressed the hope that, as 1915 marks the conclusion of the peace after the Napoleonic war, so 1915 would be marked by a lasting peace in which Italy would acquire yet more glory and greatness. Big Clothing Order Chicago, Dec. 19.—Forty-eight thousand pairs of trousers, costing \$72,000, were ordered here today by buyers for the French government. Why the Celebration? New York, Dec. 19.—A cable to the Herald from London says:—"According to the reported victory in Poland which caused such a great celebration in Berlin on Thursday night and yesterday, when even school children were given a holiday in join in the demonstration, remains shrouded in mystery. Nothing from Berlin or Vienna tells the battle or provides details of the fighting or gives any tangible results. Went Down With Warship Athens, via London, Dec. 19.—Semi-official announcement is made here that 100 lives were lost, including some German officers, when the Turkish battleship Mesehid, which was torpedoed by a British submarine, sank in the Dardanelles. Germans Leave Lodz? London, Dec. 19.—Central News despatch from Petrograd says:—"According to high authority Lodz has been evacuated by the Germans, who are convinced that the town cannot serve as a base of operations. SCOUTS AND SOLDIERS Several Boy Scouts connected with German street Baptist church did some real scout work last evening. The institute of the church was open for the use and entertainment of the soldiers, and the boys went out to bring in more of the men in khaki. Politely asking the soldiers they met if they had any important engagement for the evening, the institute, and showed the way to those who desired to go. THE CARTHAGINIAN Steamer Carthaginian arrived at Halifax at 8 o'clock this morning. Phelps and Pflerndand WEATHER BULLETIN Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service. New England forecasts—Cloudy tonight and Sunday, probably with rain or colder Sunday afternoon or night, on south winds.

COURT-MARTIAL FOR CANADIAN AT SALISBURY PLAIN; HE ESCAPES

Charge Victor Cobb of Toronto Highlanders as Being a Spy — Princess Patricia Regiment Leaving For Front

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 19.—A cable from correspondent of Toronto World, at Salisbury Camp, England, says: Private Victor Cobb of the Toronto Highlanders, who was awaiting court martial on a charge of espionage, escaped last night. He came from Hanover, Ont. Incriminating documents were found on him when arrested in plain clothes, in a London hotel, two weeks ago. Cobb escaped from Scotland Yard, but later was caught and brought back by Sergeant John Miller, of the 48th, a former Toronto detective. Princess Patricia's Light Infantry has been brigaded with regulars who have returned from India and China. They began preparations to leave for the front today, and discarded their Ross rifles. AS TO THE ROSS RIFLE Ottawa, Dec. 19.—At the militia department this morning, it was said that they had no information bearing on the discarding of the Ross rifle by the Princess Patricia's Light Infantry. Major General Hughes is out of the city, but is expected to return from the maritime provinces tomorrow.

BERLIN REJOICES OVER REPORTED VICTORY BUT HAS NO REAL NEWS

Berlin, Dec. 18.—Via The Hague and London, Dec. 19.—Berlin was still in festive array today celebrating the reported victory in Poland, but the official experienced a shade of disappointment from the brevity of the official war bulletin, which failed to supply any further details of the Polish engagement. The newspapers this afternoon say that the present developments in the eastern arena of the war will require several days to reach a stage where the final results can be approximately set forth. In the meanwhile, various rumors are in circulation concerning a large number of prisoners taken by the Germans. Rudolph von Valentini, chief of Emperor William's civil cabinet, answering a telegram from the East Prussian Sympod to the Emperor, wrote as follows: "His Majesty confidently trusts that the newspapers will be congratulated with God's help, will lead the fatherland through the present trying days to a happier future. "By Imperial order. (Signed) Valentini."

SCUTTLED GERMAN SHIP WHEN FIRE GRIPPED HER

Ellerslie, Now at West St. John, Figured in War Incident in South Atlantic

It is learned that the steamer Ellerslie, now at Sand Point, figured prominently during the past three months in the British naval operations in the South Atlantic. She was engaged as collier for the cruiser Bristol, which was patrolling the Southern Atlantic in search of the German raider Karlsruhe. Many interesting events occurred, one of which is worthy of mention. The steamer Santa Catherine caught fire. The fire broke out in the Santa Catherine's bunkers morning during a high wind, and the prize crew signalled the Ellerslie for assistance. The latter, regardless to the risk, ran alongside the burning ship and for several hours worked in conjunction with her crew in a vain effort to quench the flames. When this failed, the Ellerslie was ordered to scuttle her. The ship was scuttled on the 17th of December. A life-boat, a relic of the ill-fated steamer, now reposes on the after deck of the Ellerslie.

YOUNG CAPTAIN OF HARBOR TUG DEAD

Merritt R. Steves Was in Charge of the Wolsley

The death of Merritt R. Steves, captain of the tugboat "Wolsley," occurred yesterday afternoon in the General Public Hospital, after an illness of about three weeks. He was twenty years of age and had many friends here and in other parts of the maritime provinces, who will regret his death. He belonged to Middleton, N. S. His uncle, J. H. Hopkins, is now in the city to arrange for the funeral.

ON LILY LAKE

The Lily Lake ice is now in excellent condition for those who are fond of skating and many wend their way there during these fine days. The building erected by the local, on the shore of the lake near the shoot-the-shoots, is being well patronized. Provision is made for the storage of skates for a very moderate fee and some light refreshments are also sold here. Along the shore of a portion of the lake a sort of rip-rap of small stones has been constructed to protect the shore from the wash of the water. Thoughtless boys and others throw these stones out on the ice thereby depriving the rest side of its protection and greatly interfering with the skating. Matches, sticks and stones are also unnecessarily thrown about, the result being that there frequently occurs a fall which could be avoided. It is earnestly hoped that boys and others will not thus spoil the skating, which is free to all.

AS TRAIN SPEEDS PAST HER HOME; SHE JUMPS TO DEATH

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 19.—Letitia Coaty, of Crow Lake, seventeen years old, was run over by a C. P. R. train near here in so as to have open air skating. This pond is one of the most popular skating resorts in the city and the endeavors of Commissioner Wigmore are being watched with interest.

Three Sunday Parades Of Soldiers To Church

Artillery, 26th and Army Service Corps Men All to March — Plans For Christmas Leave — Hon. R. J. Ritchie Addresses Soldiers

There will be three distinct church parades among the militia in St. John tomorrow. The garrison artillery on Partridge Island will attend divine service at nine o'clock, conducted by Rev. Dr. Raymond, chaplain of the 8th regiment there, after which those who are going on foreign service with the ammunition column will parade to St. Mary's church, probably headed by the St. Mary's band, for service at 11 o'clock. The members of the 26th battalion will have their usual parade, going this Sunday to Centenary church, with the Catholics parading to the Cathedral. The 8th regimental band, and the City Cornet band will accompany the troops. In West St. John the third church parade will take place, the members of the Army Service Corps, headed probably by the Carleton Cornet band, parading to Carleton Methodist church, with the Catholics in the unit going to the Church of the Assumption. Christmas Leave The strength of the units in the city, the dragoons, artillery, army service and infantry will be considerably lessened for a few days about Christmas, arrangements having been made whereby a percentage of them will be given leave of absence for the holiday. With the dragoons, 26th and Army Service Corps it is probable that fifty per cent. of the men will be given leave, the preference being given to married men. With the infantry the leave will extend from Thursday evening, Dec. 24, to Monday morning, Dec. 28. For those living out of town special rates have been arranged on the railways. Those who are not fortunate to secure leave for Christmas will likely share in it at New Years as this plan is being followed elsewhere throughout Canada where there are concentration centres. With the garrison artillery it is usual to allow only five per cent. of the men

THEY DO NOT AGREE AS TO KAISER'S APPEARANCE

Some Correspondents Have Even Cut Off His Famous Moustache, Others Have Gave Him a Beard

New York, Dec. 19.—A London cable to the Herald says:—"The description of the Kaiser as given by correspondents has varied so widely in the present condition of the man who is reported to have been seriously ill. He has been described as a broken old man; his hair grown white with anxiety, he has dyed it; he has been too much agitated to dye it. Both these versions are current. His aspect is haggard, they say, almost maniacal; his eyes are those of an insomniac, a crowning touch—he is even reported to have shaved off his terrible moustache. Earlier reports, however, represented him as bearded, but these found too little credence to persevere. This may be described as the Triple Entente view of the German Emperor. A very different Kaiser is pictured by the efficient Austrian motor howlers—representing a trip to the German headquarters and dined with the Emperor. He communicated his impressions to the Neo-Freud Press, of Vienna. He said he found the Kaiser in the best of health and looking extremely fit. The rumors of his ill health and of his having turned gray, he dismissed as idle inventions.

JUDGMENT GIVEN IN AN IMPORTANT PROPERTY MATTER

A Case Arising Out of Administration of Estate of Mrs. Margaret A. Hazen

Judgment was delivered yesterday by Chief Justice McLeod in the final remaining collateral issue in the case of Johnston et al against Hazen, an action begun in 1902 for the administration in equity of the estate of Mrs. Margaret A. Hazen, widow. Mrs. Hazen left a large amount of real estate which she inherited from her husband the late Charles Hazen. By consent of all interested parties, Hon. J. Douglas Hazen was appointed administrator. Mrs. Hazen had six brothers and sisters, children of the late Colonel Anderson of Musquash. Some of these had died before her leaving descendants to the third and fourth generation. Many subsidiary questions arose at the hearing and finally the only one left for adjudication was the claim of Miss Violet C. Wiggins for the share in the estate of her father the late George C. Wiggins, Jr., who was a grandson of a sister of the late Mrs. Hazen.

BRIDE LOSES GEMS OF \$50,000 VALUE

Missed While on Auto Ride From New York Theatre to Long Island

New York, Dec. 19.—A large reward is being offered here today for the return of jewels valued at more than \$50,000, which were lost by a bride of a few days at Hollis, Long Island. The jewels were lost on Thursday night, while she and her husband were enroute in an automobile to the theatre in this city to Hollis. They decline to give their names.

J. W. WILLIS WASN'T AT BAXTER MEETING

J. W. Willis, of Golden Grove, read, with astonishment, in Friday's Standard that he had attended a Conservative meeting the night before on the Loch Lomond road, had acted as secretary and had seconded a resolution.

DUTCH CAPTURE A BIG GERMAN STEAMER

An Amsterdam despatch to J. M. Robinson & Sons says that official announcement was made that a Dutch monitor last night captured a 6,000 ton German steamer that was trying to violate neutrality of Holland's waters by sailing from Antwerp.

TWO HUNDRED CANADIAN FREEMASONS FROM WEST TO WAR

Winnipeg, Dec. 19.—Six hundred Free Masons of this jurisdiction last night banqueted 200 fellow craftsmen from the west, who are going to the front with the second contingent. Sir Daniel McMillan was toast master and the guests included Lieutenant Governor Sir Douglas Cameron and Sir Rodmond Roblin.

WEATHER BULLETIN

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