

THE WEATHER.

Martime—Moderate westerly winds, generally fair, stationary or lower temperatures.

The St. John Standard, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

OPERA HOUSE

TODAY—AFTERNOON 2:30 and 8:00 EVENING 7:30 and 9:30 MARY PICKFORD IN THE FOUNDLING.

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TWELVE PAGES

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 10, 1916.

PRICE TWO CENTS

FOOD PROBLEM OVERSHADOWS ALL ELSE IN GERMAN CAPITAL; DEADLOCK BETWEEN FOES AT VERDUN

ONLY ONE ATTACK YESTERDAY BUT FRENCH CURTAIN OF FIRE DROVE ENEMY TO SHELTER

Russians Put Down Stubborn Attack in Armenia and Inflict Heavy Casualties on Ottomans—Reports of Another Turk Advance in Egypt—Heavy Artillery Action on Macedonian Front.

Paris, May 9.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads:

"In Champagne our artillery shelled the trenches and batteries of the Germans north of Ville-Sur-Tourbe and the enemy communications in the region of Somme-ly.

"On the left bank of the Meuse the bombardment was less intense. In the course of the day an enemy attack against our positions on Hill 257; another against our trenches northeast of Hill 304, and the last against the wood to the west. All these attacks, broken by our fire, cost the adversary very serious losses.

"Our batteries took under their fire revictualing convoys and enemy detachments on the road between Essey and Bayonville, northwest of Pont-a-Mousson."

"The German official communication reads: 'There was some slight artillery action at divers points on the front.'

According to Berlin.

Berlin, May 9.—The text of the German official statement is as follows:

"In connection with our successes at Hill 304 we took, south of Termiten Hill, to the south of Harcourt, several trenches by storm. Attempts by the enemy to recapture with strong forces the terrain lost on Hill 304 failed. The enemy's losses were heavy.

"Other attacks by the French on the east bank of the Meuse, in the district of Thiaumont Farm, were equally unsuccessful. The number of French taken prisoner there increased to three officers and 375 men, besides sixteen wounded. Nine machine guns also were taken.

"On other parts of the western front there were only a few partial enterprises which proved successful for the Germans."

The Italians have lost 3,000 officers since the beginning of the war, according to private statistics compiled in Germany. This includes killed, wounded or missing. Of these officers five were generals, 62 colonels, 104 majors and 544 captains.

Germans Abandon Attacks After Crushing Losses.

Petrograd, via London, May 9.—The following official communication was issued today:

"The Germans have again bombarded the Bekkall bridgehead. On the Drina, near Jacobstadt, our artillery dispersed enemy working parties.

"Caucasus front: In the direction of Erzingan, during the course of the day, the Turks made stubborn but unsuccessful attacks against our positions. Having suffered crushing losses, the enemy, toward evening, abandoned the offensive.

"In the direction of Diarbar we dislodged the Turks from the chain of mountains extending south of the region of Mush.

"In the direction of Bagdad, after dislodging the enemy from fortified positions, we threw them back westward and captured, in the course of the pursuit, another field gun."

No Important Actions.

London, May 9.—The British official statement on the campaign in France and Belgium reads:

"Last night there was mining activity on the front between Neuville-St. Vaast and Souchez, also northeast of Armentieres and east of Ypres, without effecting any change in the situation.

"There was quite unimportant artillery activity today."

Another Turkish Stab at Egypt.

Berlin, May 9, via St. Louis wire.—Preparations for another advance on Egypt are being made by the Turks Overseas Agency reports.

"The construction of a railroad through the desert is being advanced rapidly, according to Constantinople despatches," the News Agency says.

"In view of their defeat at Quada, and the possibility of another surprise attack, the British are conducting aeroplane raids constantly along the front, east of the canal, with the intention of destroying the railroad. The native tribes have been deeply impressed by the recent British failures."

Greek Village Bombarded.

Paris, May 9 (3:25 p. m.)—A despatch to the Havas Agency from Athens says:

"The village of Mayada was bombarded yesterday by the Germans and Bulgarians, who threw thirty heavy shells, causing much damage including the destruction of a number of houses. The reason for the bombardment is not known. The civil population is protesting."

Heavy Artillery Action in Macedonia.

Paris, May 9 (2:10 p. m.)—Reports have been received that a heavy artillery action on the Macedonian front is in progress, says a Havas despatch from Saloniki today.

Joffre in Paris.

Paris, May 9 (2:30 p. m.)—Gen. Joffre, commander-in-chief of the French armies in France and Belgium, came in from the front today and attended a meeting of the superior council of national defense at which President Poincare presided.

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YEAR BEFORE SERB ARMY IS FIT AGAIN

Will Take that Long to Recuperate from the Disastrous Campaign of Last Winter, Former Official of U. S. Legation in Serbia Claims.

New York, May 9.—The European war must last at least another year, if the Serbian army, as a fighting unit, is again to enter the conflict, as it will take that long for the weakened and sick army to recuperate from the disastrous campaign of last winter, according to Robert Maverick, formerly a secretary attached to the American legation in Serbia, who arrived here today on the French steamship La Touraine.

He said that the American legation understood the care of the Austrian prisoners among the Serbians when the retreat before the Central Powers began. He accompanied the prisoners to Corfu, and he added, that out of 50,000 men who started on the march, more than six thousand died on the road.

"We had plenty of money," Mr. Maverick asserted, "but there was no food to buy. Horse flesh was a luxury, and a plate of soup was worth \$1.00."

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MEAT FAMINE, FACES BERLIN, SUPPLY SUFFICIENT FOR ONLY FEW DAYS

London, May 9, 7:50 p. m.—A Copenhagen despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company says that the police of Berlin searched the shops and dwellings of the butchers today for hidden stocks of meat. The result showed that the supply of meat in Berlin is sufficient for only a few days. For this reason the food question overshadows all others.

All the butcher shops, including Wertheim's large meat market, have been closed. The best quality of meat now costs fourteen marks per kilo (2.20 pounds).

SMALL COMFORT FOR HUN NAVY IN BALFOUR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Additions to Grand Fleet Make Possible Removal of Several More Ships Southward and Warm Reception Waiting for Enemy Squadrons that May Attempt Raids on English Coast.

London, May 9.—A. J. Balfour, first lord of the admiralty, in a letter to the House of Commons today, announced that the German raids on east and south coast towns, foreshadowed changes in the disposition in Great Britain's naval forces, which are likely to prevent, in the future, German raiding squadrons from escaping severe punishment.

Mr. Balfour says that the net results of such hasty attacks on unfortified towns are "singularly futile." He expresses the opinion that the Germans have made their last raid, "having duped the Irish rebels to their destruction by the promise of a serious attack on Great Britain, they made a show of fulfilling their engagement by bombarding Lowestoft and Yarmouth for thirty minutes." He adds:

"It is not an experiment, so far as I can judge, they would be well advised to repeat. This would be true even if the distribution of our naval forces on the east coast was undergoing no alteration. In the earlier stages of the war considerations of strategy required us to keep our battle fleet in more northern waters. Thus situated they could concentrate effectively against any prolonged operation, such as those involved in an attempt at invasion, but not against brief dashes made under cover of night.

"But with the progress of the war, our maritime position has improved. The submarine portion of the grand fleet is now available in growing numbers for coast defense, and which is even more important—the increase in the strength of the grand fleet itself will enable us to bring important forces to the south without impairing any naval preponderance elsewhere."

It would be impolitic, says the first lord to go into details, but adds that the reasons he has given sufficiently justify his conviction, "that another raid on the coast of Norfolk—never a safe operation—will henceforth be far more perilous to the aggressor than it has been in the past, and, if our enemy is wise, is therefore less likely."

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RUSSIANS NOW ON WESTERN FRONT ONLY HARBINGERS OF LARGER FORCES YET TO COME

Their Voyage a Record in Military Transport History, in Point of Distance and Route—Two Attempts Made by Germans to Attack the Transports but Both Were Frustrated—Arrived in France Totally Unequipped.

Marseilles, Tuesday, April 25.—(Correspondence)—The second instalment of the Russian contingent for France landed here today, after a land sea journey of approximately 17,500 miles, from Moscow to Port Danly, Manchuria, overland, and thence by water transport.

The total number of Russian troops now landed, supplied with French rifles, and being prepared for service at the front, is estimated at something under 10,000.

(Since the foregoing was written three additional contingents of Russians have landed at Marseilles. On the basis of the size of the first two contingents, something like 25,000 Russians are now in camp or in the field on the western front.)

The voyage of the Russians constitutes a record in military transport history, for distance and diversity of route. The soldiers were concentrated in Moscow under the supervision of Gen. Lochwitzky, who landed with the first contingent last Thursday, and at Moscow obtained for carriage by the trans-Siberian railroad across nearly 7,500 miles of country to Port Danly, near Port Arthur, thence they were to start on a sea journey of about 10,000 miles. The Russians voyaged along the coast of half of the eastern world, the route being from Danly along the Korean shore, then through the Yellow and Chinese seas, passing Shanghai and Hong Kong, and then reaching Singapore, where the transports entered the India Ocean by the Straits of Malacca. Here they got a glimpse of Southern India at Ceylon, and so made their way by Aden and the Red Sea to the Senz Canals and Port Said.

The sending of the contingent was, in all probability, perfectly well known to the German authorities. Indeed it is practically certain, since, as the Russian general commanding the contingent, Gen. Lochwitzky, told the Associated Press correspondent two attempts were made by the Germans to attack the transports while on their way by sea from Port Danly to Marseilles.

The first of the attempts was made while the transports were in the neighborhood of Shanghai, but failed, it was said, owing to the non-arrival of the German heavy guns ammunition. The second attempt was planned to take place near Singapore, but warning of the fact reached the Russians by wireless from the British admiralty and the Russians evaded the attack by changing their course.

An interesting feature of the contingent is the fact that it arrived without arms, or indeed, military equipment of any kind, thus proving that the French are in a position to supply them with what they need.

The sending of a Russian contingent to France is more than the demonstration of friendship it is officially declared to be. The war, it is generally believed in all European countries, will be decided on the western front, so that, keeping this probability in view, it may well be that the Russian soldiers now landing on French shores are only harbingers of more substantial help to come.

Winnipeg, May 9.—The following official announcement was made public here today:

"General Lake, British commander-in-chief at Mesopotamia, reports the fourth party of sick and wounded from Kut-el-Amara, consisting of 251 persons, reached the headquarters of the Tigris corps on May 6, and the fifth party, consisting of 172, on May 7. The total number of sick and wounded evacuated from Kut-el-Amara in these five parties is 1,073. The hospital ship started for Kut again on May 8 to bring back the sixth and last party.

"On May 7 one of our machines was engaged with a hostile monoplane. Our machine was forced to descend, owing to a perforated petrol tank. It succeeded in reaching our lines. Both the pilot and the observer were unhurt."

JUDGE REFUSES TO RELEASE WINNIPEG CONTRACTOR ON BAIL

Winnipeg, May 9.—Thomas Kelly, who returned to Winnipeg today from Chicago on an order of the United States Supreme Court to stand trial on charges arising from his connection, as collector, with the Manitoba parliament buildings, is now in the provincial jail to await the disposition of his case by the Assize Court. Justice Frensdorff refused an application for Kelly's release on bail.

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A. W. BRAY NAILS AN OPPOSITION LIE REGARDING ALBERT CO. FARM

The following letter from A. W. Bray, barrister, of Hopewell Hill, Albert County, written to James Gilchrist, of the Farm Settlement Board, shows the absolute untruthfulness of Opposition Organizer Carter's statement that when the Farm Settlement Board purchased the R. L. Fullerton farm in Chester, Albert County, the property was under mortgage to Ex-Governor McClellan:

Hopewell Hill, Albert Co., N. B., May 9th, 1916.

James Gilchrist, Esq., Secretary of the F. S. B., Box 204, Saint John, N. B.

Dear Sir:— I have noted the spectacular effusions of the meteoric scribes in the newspapers, anent the Farm Settlement Board re the purchase from R. L. Fullerton of a small piece of land for two hundred dollars in town of Albert County. I may say in the words of one of our best known counsel of this part of the province that "I hate humbug," and further that as far as the Albert County records go the Honorable A. R. McClellan has not ever had any claim, whatever, on the said lands sold the Farm Board by Mr. Fullerton.

The Moncton Transcript remarks that Ex-Governor McClellan is too good a business man to have unrecorded claims against real estate. I may again say that the Honorable Mr. McClellan is a most accurate and honest business man. He is the product of Albert County and enjoys the esteem and respect of all parties, classes and creeds, but may or may not be infallible; at all events he has nothing on record against me, personally.

I have the honor to be, Your obedient servant, A. W. BRAY.

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