

PLUNGING SUCCEEDS NIBBLING ON FRENCH LINES; GERMAN FRONT IS BROKEN UP NORTH OF ATRAS

Desperate Assaults of Allied Infantry Carry Several Lines of Trenches and Large Bodies of Enemy Are Surrounded—Artillery Supports Attack With Rain of 300,000 Shells—No Check to Teutons in Galicia—Italians, Advancing, Threaten Trieste.

Paris, June 17, 10:58 p.m.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight describes intense activity along the French front, the Allied forces delivering powerful attacks and the Germans counter-attacking furiously. To the north of Atras the French have carried several lines of German trenches, and are making marked progress toward Souchez. Heavy losses on both sides are reported. The text is as follows:

"There has been great activity on the front during the last two days. The fighting to the north of Atras since yesterday has taken on a character of extreme intensity. The infantry actions have been numerous and desperate, the duel of artillery violent and continuous.

"We have realized important progress, almost all of which has been maintained, notwithstanding the furious counter-attacks of the enemy, some of which were markedly accentuated today.

"It is especially in the north part of the sector that we have progressed, carrying several lines of trenches on both sides of the road from Aix-Neulette to Souchez. The Germans are still holding on in the Fond De Buval, but they are almost completely surrounded.

"We made advances yesterday and today toward Souchez, in the directions northwest, southeast, west and east, in an uninterrupted manner.

"Further to the south we have taken foot in the park of the Château De Carleul, the moats of which, filled with water, served as a base for the enemy defenses, captured the cemetery of Souchez and gained ground on the slopes to the southeast of Souchez at Hill No. 119, thanks to several brilliant assaults.

"The gains of yesterday were enlarged today. To the north, to the east and to the south of Neuville we took by assault the enemy's first line, and at certain points the second line. The units engaged fought at the point of the bayonet and with grenades under a violent artillery fire.

300,000 SHELLS USED DURING ASSAULT.

"Our infantry, after having attacked with great spirit, very efficaciously supported by a fire of nearly 300,000 shells, was obliged to make front during the night of Wednesday-Thursday against violent and repeated counter-attacks, carried out by large effectives, and repulsed them along the entire front.

"We have evacuated only a small wood conquered yesterday morning to the south of Hill No. 119, which the enemy's artillery fire rendered untenable.

"The Germans brought into the engagement eleven divisions, which suffered extremely heavy losses. On our side we have suffered serious losses, the morale of our troops is perfect. The number of prisoners taken by us exceeds 800, including more than 20 officers.

"Our air squadron has effectively bombarded the enemy's reserves at Grandvilly and to the forest of La Folie and dispersed contingents in the act of taking up their formations.

"The grave check suffered by the enemy in his counter-attacks at Quenneville is confirmed by the great number of German dead found in front of our trenches.

"At Rheims an examination of the points where German projectiles fell establishes the fact that more than eighty shells, several of which were of incendiary type, have fallen on the town, and more particularly on the Cathedral.

"In Alsace our success continues. We have taken Altenhof, a suburb of Metzlar, then Steinbruck, and we are continuing our progress on both banks of the Ficht river. The Germans are sending fire to Metzlar.

"The number of prisoners who have fallen into our hands has reached 500, of whom ten are officers and among them eight non-commissioned officers. To the war material already reported may be added three bomb-throwers, three machine guns, some field telephones and apparatus for the emission of asphyxiating gases.

"An enemy aeroplane has been brought down by one of our machines in Alsace. The two German aviators were killed."

Palmer Describes British Attack And Gains at Two Points Wednesday

(FREDERICK PALMER, ASSOCIATED PRESS CABLE.)

General Headquarters of the British Army in France, June 16, via London, June 17, 7:25 p.m.—The heavy, distant bombardment by the French in the region of the Labyrinth, which has continued like a ceaseless roll of thunder for several days, was drowned to the ear early this (Wednesday) morning by the nearer roll of heavy artillery—preparations for an attack accompanying the offensive of the Allies at two points on the British front, where for several days we had had only a sniping exchange of rifle and machine gun shots between trenches, and of shells between batteries, and a lull in the siege warfare.

"At the transfer station for ammunition, the most significant point in the rear when an action is under way, all hands were busy through the night. Motor trucks were running from the rail head, feeding the guns as they concentrated on the German trenches, tearing them apart with high explosive shells and bathing them with shrapnel before the enemy's infantry charged.

"An attack in the sector of Hooge was made along a front of three-quarters of a mile. The front line trenches and a German salient were carried, and also a length of the second line. The number of prisoners taken has not yet been stated.

"In the Festubert region also the first line of trenches was taken and the second penetrated in parts, but the ground gained there had to be yielded.

"Through the day there was only desultory firing until mid-afternoon, when one, looking out over the country around Festubert, witnessed a renewal of the bombardment. In the warm, hazy June day only the brownish auricles from the bursting Lyddite shells as they raised the dust of the trenches heavenward were visible, while even the flashes of the hidden guns were invisible, and the foliage hid the infantry."

"The British newspapers, though not minimizing the importance of the Austro-German successes in Galicia, acclaim what is styled the Grand Duke Nicholas' decisive strategy in shifting his front from the north and south to north and south east. This manoeuvre, it is asserted, has deflected the Austro-German blow to some extent, and at the same time denied to them a full trial of strength. Thus the Russian retreat, characterized in London as strikingly paralleling the Allied retreat in the west, has fallen, which culminated in the Allied victory on the Marne. The struggle along the Diester and before Lemburg, it is considered here, must determine which side is the more astute in the present manoeuvres.

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TRIESTE INVESTED

Udine, June 17—via Chiasso to Paris, June 18—(2.20 a. m.)—Italian outposts have arrived in sight of Trieste.

See In Russian Retreat Parallel to Mons in West

London, June 17—Another twenty-four hours of fighting in Galicia had developed nothing to stem the Austro-German advance toward Lemburg from the west and northwest, and tonight Berlin claims that the Russians are retreating over their own frontier toward Tarnograd, about four miles from the Galician border.

This means an invasion of Russian territory at a new point, but, according to military observers here, it may spell ultimate advantage for the Russians in that a general Russian retirement northward may follow, which would crush the Russian centre near Zarusawa, which would effectively sever the communications of the Russian army in southeastern Galicia and Bukovina. The military writers here say that the real danger zone from the Russian standpoint is in the Zarusawa district and along the Diester.

According to Berlin the Austro-German forces have battered through Nienow, thirty miles northwest of Lemburg, and are advancing toward Jecrow, which is only 25 miles to the west of the Galician capital. Three great masses of Austro-Germans, thus, are sweeping from the S on toward the capital city, and the prediction is made that the decisive battle, if one is fought, will take place in the vicinity of Grodek, where British military observers consider that the Russians should benefit by the lake country.

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German Submarine Sunk; Lt. Warneford, V.C., Killed

Austrian Underwater Craft Torpedoes and Sinks Italian Submarine

Daring Young Canadian Aviator Met Death in Accident in Company With American Newspaper Men Near Paris—Report of Three Turkish Transports Sunk by British Submarine in Dardanelles.

Berlin, June 17—(By wireless to Sayville)—The Overseas News Agency today gave out the following:

"The admiral publicly announces the loss of the submarine U-14. Her crew was captured by the British."

The U-14 is one of the older German submarines. There is nothing to indicate whether or not this is the same submarine whose destruction was announced by the M. Hon. A. J. Balfour, first lord of the British admiralty, on June 9.

ITALIAN SUBMARINE TORPEDOED AND SUNK

London, June 17, 9:32 p. m.—It is officially announced that the Italian submarine Medusa has been torpedoed and sunk by an Austrian submarine, says a despatch from Rome to the Stefani Agency.

The Medusa was a vessel of 241 tons and was built in 1911. She had a speed of thirteen knots above water and eight knots submerged. Her ordinary complement was fourteen men.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF MEDUSA'S LOSS

Rome, via Paris, June 17, 10:30 p. m.—An official communication, issued by the ministry of marine tonight, says:

"The submarine Medusa, which had accomplished a useful and daring service of exploration, has been torpedoed by an enemy submarine. According to an Austrian official communication an officer and four men of the crew were saved and made prisoners.

"One of our dirigibles, flying over the entrenched camps of the enemy last night, let fall powerful bombs on the important railroad branch of Divaca, causing serious damage. The dirigible returned unharmed, despite a lively fire from the guns and quick-firers of the enemy."

THREE TRANSPORTS SUNK IN DARDANELLES

London, June 17—The Star received today a telegram from Athens saying news had been received there from Mudros that a British submarine torpedoed and sank three Turkish transports, loaded with troops, in the Dardanelles above Nagara.

The greater part of the troops and the crews is said to have been drowned.

LIEUT. WARNEFORD, K. C., KILLED IN FALL

Paris, June 17—Lieut. Reginald A. J. Warneford, who gained fame recently by blowing a Zeppelin over Belgium, was killed today by the falling of an aeroplane at Buc, France.

Lieut. Warneford was piloting the machine, which had as a passenger Henry B. Needham, the American writer, who also was killed.

Lieut. Warneford and Needham fell from a height of 500 feet. The lieutenant had been spending a few days in Paris, where he came after his Zeppelin exploit to receive his decoration of the Legion of Honor.

According to a report received in Paris, the accident resulted from an explosion in midair which caused Lieut. Warneford to lose control, the machine crashing to earth.

Needham's body was taken to the English hospital in Trianon Palace, Versailles. He had been in Europe about four months as a correspondent of magazines and a New York newspaper. He had received permission from the military authorities to make a flight, in order to get material for a story. His wife, who also is a writer, accompanied him during the early part of his trip abroad. Mrs. Needham sailed for America six weeks ago.

RUSHING WORK ON ZEPPELIN

Geneva, June 17—News despatches reaching here from Friedrichshafen set forth that double shifts are now working on the Zeppelin factories, which are turning out a completed Zeppelin airship every twenty days. One of the two Zeppelins destined for operations against Italy was sent away from Friedrichshafen yesterday to replace the dirigible destroyed over Belgium recently by the British aviator Warneford.

It is reported in Geneva that the German authorities are preparing for an important combined raid of Zeppelins and aeroplanes on Paris and London in retaliation for the recent attack on German towns by aviators of the Allies.

PADDING PAYROLLS IN KENT COUNTY

Amazing Stories of Petty Pilfering Told Before Commissioner Chandler

Name of Boy Ten Years Old Used as Dummy to Filch the New Brunswick Treasury—Son of M.P.P. Draws a Man's Pay at Fourteen—Bridge Officials Admit 'Helping' Their Friends in This Way—Brother-in-Law of Hon. Dr. Landry Very Active in These Transactions—Commissioner Refuses to Permit Liberal Organizer to Question Witnesses.

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Fredericton, June 17—"Col. Sheridan was good to me. He got me foreman on bridge and I was trying to be good to him," was the frank admission of Timothy Boudreau today on the witness stand before Royal Commissioner Chandler when he asked to explain certain payments on the Little Buctouche bridge made to John K. Sheridan, son of Col. Sheridan, M.P.P. for Kent county.

"When we were making up the time, my brother Camille and I, I said to Camille: 'Just put in John K. Sheridan's name for what Mr. Sheridan did for me and we did.' We added \$15 one month, \$15 another and \$10 another month. I just took a notion to do this. For three months Mr. Sheridan had not much work, I did extra work at night, lighted the lanterns at each end of the bridge and put them out in the morning and I added what I thought this worth to John K. Sheridan's account."

Again this same witness in a burst of candor said regarding the account of Fabien Savoy of \$120: "No, Savoy did not do work for this money. It was to pay Col. Sheridan for work he had done. Mr. Sheridan asked me to help him all I could to make a dollar, as he was a poor man, and my brother and I we talked it over and I said: 'I don't know how we can do it to help Sheridan, and my brother said it would be better not to have Sheridan's name appear and said to me: 'What do you say if we put it in Fabien Savoy's name?' and we did so. Fabien Savoy worked twenty-three days that month driving team for my brother Camille and we put him down for fourteen days at \$1.25 per day and gave the money to Sheridan for getting some logs for the temporary bridge from upriver."

In August, 1911, John K. Sheridan appears on the pay sheet for "Double team, eight days \$24." Foreman Boudreau when asked about this said: "I added \$15 to his real account. For the balance he worked somehow or other, went to Buctouche or somewhere."

Again commenting on the payment of \$15.75 in June, 1911, he said: "I expect that would be the money I added \$10 to."

Young Sheridan Drew Man's Pay at 14. "This John K. Sheridan is the son of Col. Sheridan, M.P.P. for Kent. He is 20 years old now and was 14 years old when he started to draw a man's pay from the public works department in 1908. The work on the Little Buctouche bridge, which is just at the door of the representative for Kent began in 1908, and according to the evidence, the last work was done on it in 1914 when Col. Sheridan's boy of 14 became a young of 19 and was foreman of the work, drawing \$2 per day. According to one of the workmen, Joseph McFadden, he wasn't on the work all the time and when he wasn't there his father (Col. Sheridan, M.P.P.) gave instructions.

Padding Pay-roll. Edward Girouard told how his 10-year-old son Tilman while attending school in 1911 had his name added to the pay list without his father's knowledge, consent or suggestion, and how Felix Michaud wrote the name of the 10-year-old son upon the back of the check and cashed the same, handing him the money along with the proceeds of the other checks properly payable to himself and his son, a voting man of 19 years, Michaud's confession.

Felix Michaud when on the stand admitted endorsing the name of Tilman the 10-year-old boy upon the check but said he did so at the father's request. He also admitted adding Tilman's name to the pay sheet which had been made out by someone else, and after he had added Tilman's name, as a magistrate, he took the affidavit of Peter Bernard as to the correctness of the account.

Protested Against the Padding. When recalled Girouard denied strenuously making any suggestion to Felix Michaud to add time that he had not been allowed on the work. He did not ask him to endorse his son's name. He told him his son was not entitled to the money, and when it was pressed upon him he took it and told four friends of his all the facts. In addition to this, he produced his account book for that year, kept by his daughter, where every day

he and his son Alban worked was set down and the amount due him and his son (\$129.11) corresponded exactly to the several checks sent them by the public works department, according to Commissioner Chandler's accounting.

Felix Michaud, Girouard swore, handed out the pay checks and when he handed him the one for his ten-year-old boy, Tilman, he said: "I asked him what that was for." "Haven't you a son named Tilman?" he asked. "I said, yes, but he didn't work; he goes to school. I handed the check back to him but he kept on giving it to me and I put it back and said: 'I got enough; I got enough.' I said to him: 'Put the name of the boy on the check and keep it.' I said it must belong to some one working on another bridge.

"Felix said: 'No, keep it.' Then he put the name of my son on the back of the check and I signed my name and he gave me money along with my own money."

Referring to this later Girouard said: "Peter Bernard came to me two weeks after the election and wanted me to pay back the money; I said to Bernard: 'I don't refuse to give up my money, it does not belong to me or to any of my family and I don't want to keep it but I want the investigation.'"

When Girouard finished his evidence he turned to Commissioner Chandler and said: "What will I do with this money. It does not belong to me?" Commissioner Chandler told him he had nothing to say as to that.

Veniot Barred From Asking Questions. Mr. Chandler surprised Mr. Veniot by refusing to permit him to ask any questions. He proposed, he said, to conduct the investigation and not allow anyone else to question the witnesses.

Mr. Veniot protested that he was in possession of many facts of which the royal commissioner could not be cognizant, and he thought it most unfair to him to invite him to make charges and then not permit him to prove them in his own way.

Mr. Chandler would not consent, however, but said Mr. Veniot could submit questions to him which he would ask if he approved of them.

"During the noon recess Mr. Veniot prepared several questions to be asked both Girouard and Michaud, but Mr. Chandler did not satisfy Mr. Veniot in this particular.

Young Sheridan's Story. Young Sheridan went on the stand with respect to the charge that he was paid as foreman without doing the work, and he swore that he was the foreman and was on the work most of the time. He is a fresh-faced boy of 20 who was attending college last fall and left work with his father, Col. Sheridan, M. P. P., when his check came to endorse his name and get the money. His father did so. But Joseph McFadden swore he was a carpenter and worked seven days on the bridge, that while young Sheridan was foreman he wasn't there some days, and when he was away his father acted in his stead.

Story of Petty Pilfering. The whole story today was one of petty pilfering of provincial funds and subterfuge of all kinds to divert money and cover up the tracks of the diversion. The amounts, it is true, were small, but there are many thousands of dollars spent in Kent as well as other counties and small thefts lead to bigger graft.

Felix Michaud, who occupies a most responsible position as a member of the public utility board and is a brother-in-law of Provincial Secretary Landry, seems to have acted as a sort of clearing house agent for the public works department in Kent. He swore he made out the accounts of the superintendents, administered the oath to them and he cashed the checks as clerk for McLaughlin & Co. in Buctouche.

Commissioner Chandler said at the close of the inquiry that he would hold the McLean bridge inquiry over for further evidence and informed Messrs. Carter and Veniot that he would meet them again at 10:30 Friday.

CHARLOTTETOWN U. S. CONSUL TRANSFERRED TO ST. STEPHEN.

Washington, June 17—Consular changes announced today by Secretary of State Lansing included the transfer of U. S. Consuls from Charlottetown (P. E. I.) to Consul at St. Stephen (N. B.); John A. Gore, of Banner (Maine), from Turks Island to Consul, Regina (Sask.).

WICKS BIG LOAD

100,000 and Has Guaranteed Than \$6,000,000. Much Has Been Compelled to Routing of Valley Railway Interest to Provincial Tagging Figures from

The gravest consideration of every business man in the province. New Brunswick is face to face with enormous interest charges and will be fortunate indeed if in time she is not called upon to pay the principal. But the province endorses upon huge bond quantities in the same position as the merchant who endorses his friend's notes. There must be a reckoning some day. The only security the province has is the Valley railway and that must come up to the requirements, and be a connecting link between the Transcontinental and St. John.

The figures.

The auditor-general's report to Oct. 31 of last year, gives a list of the bonds guaranteed by the province for railway and other purposes. Up to that date the yearly interest to be paid upon these bonds amounted to \$2,164,646. Since then there have been nearly a million dollars worth of guaranteed second mortgage bonds in addition to the \$209,000 at four and a half per cent. interest, on something over \$42,000 of annual interest, so that the total interest charge will be about \$250,000.

These guaranteed bonds are as follows:

Bond Issue.	Interest.
International railway.	\$ 896,000
N. B. Coal Storage.	50,000
Woodstock Cold Storage.	5,000
Age.	10,000
N. B. & Seaboard railway.	297,000
Town Campbellton.	100,000
Southampton railway.	125,000
Valley railway 4 p.c.	3,165,821
Valley railway 4 1/2 p.c.	126,620
Fredericton & Grand Lake railway.	1,200,