

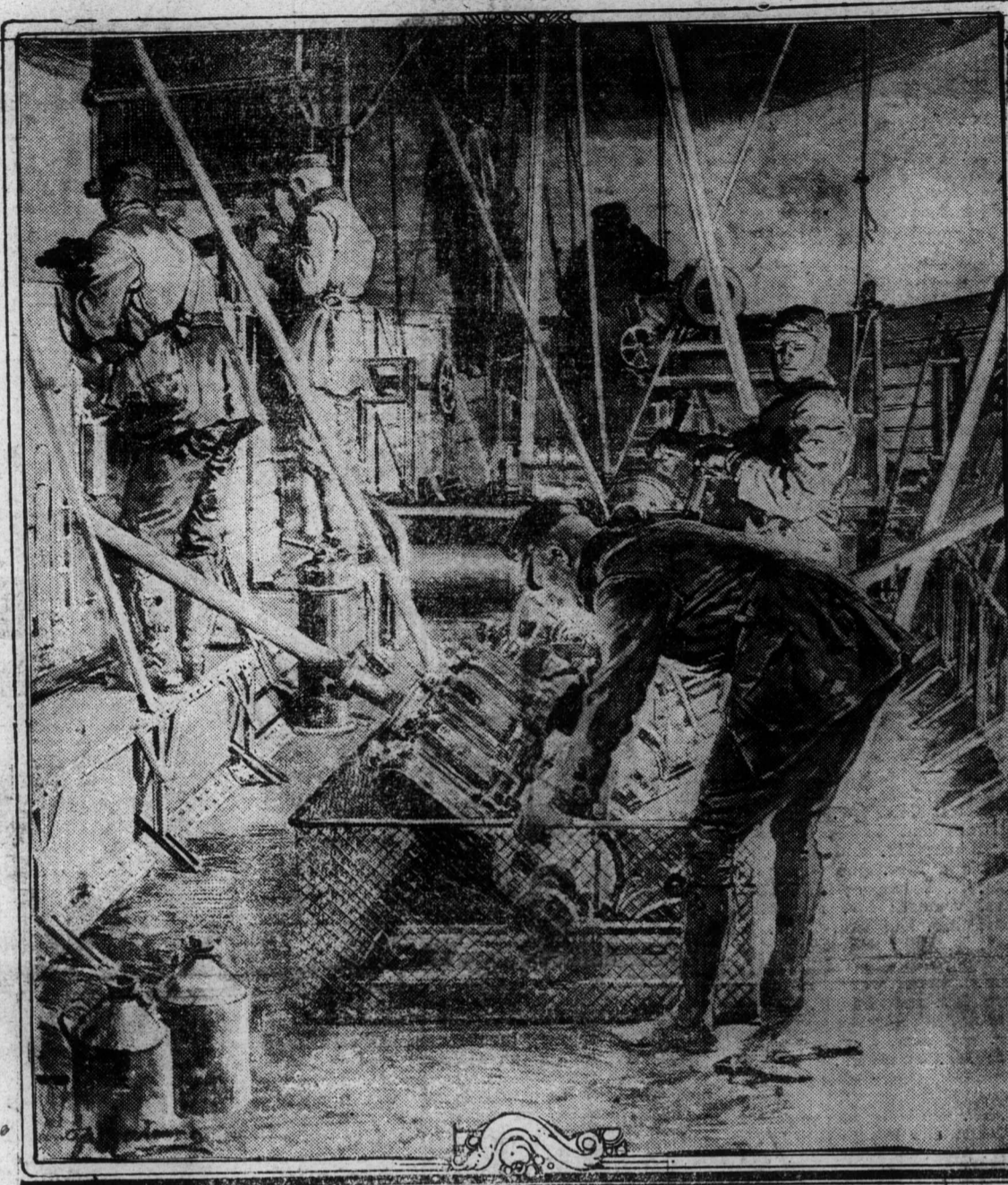
An Interesting Talk With Professor Lavell Street Railway Men Offered an Increase Sussex Case to Come Before U.S. Congress

A CHAT WITH MR. BALFOUR, FIRST LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY

All the Surprises of the War Come from Land Fighting, Not from Sea Fighting—No Pessimism Among Officers of the British Navy.

By Special Wire to the Courier. New York, April 6.—The London correspondent of The Tribune cables under yesterday's date: Arthur J. Balfour is "first lord of the admiralty," head of the British navy—the greatest navy in the world. With it out of the way, Germany could win the war in a couple of months, take over the British Isles hammer France into submission, and demand ruinous indemnities that would turn the world topsy-turvy. It is Mr. Balfour's job to see that the navy remains very much in the way. Recently I had the pleasure of seeing and talking with him at his London home, only a stone's throw from the office of the admiralty. Fully six feet tall and broad in proportion, Mr. Balfour doesn't show his sixty-eight years. His manner is courteous and charming—if that adjective may be applied to a man. He is gentle and kind, without a trace of the brusqueness commonly associated with sea lords. I should say that war is the last game Mr. Balfour would select for enjoyment or recreation. He is the antithesis of Von Tirpitz. Turning the conversation to the question of fighting, I asked: "What has been the big surprise of this war? Submarines, aerial warfare, speed or gun range?" "None of these," replied Mr. Balfour. "In my opinion, trench warfare and the value of artillery. Students of the submarine have not been surprised; they had thought out and planned ways of increasing its efficiency and also defenses against it. Students of air problems have not been surprised at the development of aerial warfare. The development of both these branches of fighting has been rapid, but along lines thought out before the war. "No one anticipated that trench warfare would play so great a part in modern fighting and no one forecasted the tremendous importance of artillery. Even the Germans, with all their thoroughness in making preparations for this conflict, failed to foresee to what extent trench fighting would have to be relied upon, once the contending forces were of any near equal strength. "The Germans prepared for artillery fighting, but Verdun is a striking illustration of the fact that they have not reached perfection. They pounded and smashed fortifications which were considered impregnable. But still they have not been able to reach their objective. NO BOASTFULNESS. We were standing at the entrance to the Admiralty, and officers passing in and out saluted the first sea lord. In every case he returned the salute, but continued to talk on just as if he were in his study with nothing to disturb him. He is a member of the war council and knows every detail of the fighting on land and sea. It struck me as highly interesting that this man, the head of Great Britain's navy should consider that the surprises of the war come from the field rather than at sea. There was not a single word of boastfulness from him about the British navy, but I came away with a feeling that he was not worried by any lack of preparation or efficiency in his department and that if Germany decided finally to try conclusions on the sea, Britain would meet her without fear of the result. Of British naval officers, I have met, there was not a single one who was not a perfect gentleman. There is a spirit of unrest among them, the unrest of a perfectly trained thoroughbred in paddock before the race, a keenness Balfour, calm, courteous and serene. He makes you feel that he is master of the situation, strong and powerful as the British navy itself. You can give no higher praise to any war leader. Steamer Zent Sunk. By Special Wire to the Courier. Queenstown, April 6.—12:45 p.m.—The British Steamer Zent has been torpedoed without warning west of Fasnet. Forty-eight members of her crew are missing and are supposed to have been drowned. Two men were killed. Captain Martin and nine of the crew were landed here. London, April 6, 12:02 p.m.—The British Steamer Zent of 3,890 tons, has been sunk. Her captain and part of her crew were landed. Colonel Dan Appleton has retired after 45 years' service in New York militia.

DESTRUCTION OF GREAT GERMAN TERROR DELIGHTS ENGLAND



NOTHING IN RECENT WEEKS HAS SO DELIGHTED THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND AS THE DESTRUCTION OF THE GREAT AIR SHIP, THE L-15, ONE OF THE NEWEST TYPE OF THE GERMAN CRAFT, WHICH TOOK PART IN THE LAST AND MOST SPECTACULAR RAID YET MADE ON ENGLAND. ACCORDING TO REPORTS ON THE RAID, THE L-15 WAS DESTROYED BY BRITISH GUNS WHILE IT WAS FLEEING TO THE CONTINENT, AND ITS CREW WERE MADE PRISONERS OF WAR.

Fury of German Assault Again Has Spent Itself

Enemy Forced to Pause in Order to Rest Up After Their Heavy Losses.

By Special Wire to the Courier. London, April 6.—(Cable to the New York Tribune)—Again the fury of the assault has spent itself, and the Germans have been forced to pause and recuperate from their losses. Except for an intermittent cannonade in the Douaumont-Vaux sector, fighting has been practically suspended. The French claim only the capture of a communication trench in the Caillotte wood. But that it is anything more than a pause the French dare not yet hope. Even as the tried troops rest after the terrific strain of the last week, they must be alert against a surprise or a new attempt to overwhelm their defence. Both the Germans and the French are utilizing the opportunity to strengthen their lines and to rush up much-needed supplies. In the close hand-to-hand fighting, the wounded have been greater than in almost any week since the attack began six weeks ago. Although the Germans have adopted the most extraordinary measures in an attempt to conceal their losses, they have decided no one except possibly themselves. Certainly they have not deceived the French, who have been able to calculate not only the number, but the disposition of the attacking troops.

GERMANS RENEW THE VERDUN OPERATIONS

By Special Wire to the Courier. BERLIN, April 6.—(via London).—German troops have stormed the village of Haucourt, on the Avocourt-Bethincourt front, northwest of Verdun, the war office announced to-day. The text of the official statement is as follows: "Western front.—There was great activity west of the Meuse during the day, chiefly on account of the preparatory fire which we directed against the district of Haucourt. During the afternoon, the activity of our infantry became more pronounced. It stormed the village of Haucourt and the strongly fortified French point of support east of the village. In addition of very considerable losses in killed and wounded, the enemy lost 11 officers and 531 unwounded prisoners, belonging to two different divisions. "On the right bank of the Meuse, the French renewed the attempt against positions we captured in Caillotte forest and northwest there on April 2. This attack was checked quickly. "Eastern and Balkan fronts.—There is nothing to report."

WILSON WILL PUT THE SUSSEX CASE BEFORE CONGRESS

And Will Ask Sanction For Immediate Action.

New York, April 6.—A news agency despatch from Washington, published here to-day, says: Satisfied that the British channel steamer Sussex was torpedoed, endangering the lives of American passengers, President Wilson has determined to put the case before congress and ask sanction for immediate action, unless some developed evidence should prove it was not the work of a German submarine. This statement was made by one of the president's confidants, who added that the president has determined upon the course of action he will ask congress to approve. He declined to state whether the president would suggest a break in diplomatic relations or would outline some other plan. It is said the president has determined that if a German submarine was guilty, neither disavowal of the commander's act nor pledges that there would be no recurrence of the violation of international law would prevent a diplomatic break. TOWN CAPTURED. LONDON, April 6.—The town of Felahie, in Mesopotamia, has been captured by the British, it was announced officially. All the positions gained have been consolidated and counter-attacks by the Turks repulsed. President Wilson has commuted the sentence, to expire at once, of John N. Rardan, convicted at Phillippi, W. Va., of robbing the mail.

PROF. LAVELL PAYS A VISIT TO BRANTFORD

Courier Representative Has An Interesting Chat With Him.

DISCUSSES HIS OWN CASE Thinks Himself Some Small Blood Vessel in His Brain Gave Way

Prof. Lavell, who suffered from such a remarkable case of amnesia, or in other words forgetfulness, arrived in the city yesterday morning on a visit to his brother, Rev. Mr. Lavell, pastor of Brant Avenue Church and Chaplain of the 125th Brant Battalion. He was accompanied by his brother, Judge Lavell, of Frontenac. The mother, Mrs. Lavell of Kingston, is a visitor at the parsonage and saw her long lost son here for the first time since his disappearance. Her family consisted of nine sons and three daughters, and on the graduate list of Queen's University, the name of the father, Dr. Lavell, is followed by that of seven of the sons, the two others having passed away while taking a University Course. In the London, England edition of "Who's Who," the notable history of the Professor is thus tersely told:—Lavell, Cecil, Fairfield, Professor of the Faculty of Education Queen's University since 1907, born at Kingston, Canada, 28 Nov. 1872, seventh son of Michael Lavell, M.D., and Betsy Reeve Lavell. Educated Kingston Collegiate Institute and Queen's University, M.A. 1874; Fellow in History Queen's 1885-86; studied further at Cornell and Columbia Universities and in Italy; staff lecturer in History, University Extension Society, Philadelphia, Pa., 1899-1905. Prof. of History Bates College, Maine 1905-6; Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., 1906-7; Charter member Ontario Historical Society; Publications "Italian Cities" 1913; magazine articles chiefly in the Chautauquan and Queen's Quarterly Magazine. AN INTERESTING CHAT. A representative of the Courier, by invitation, had a chat with Prof. Lavell at Brant Avenue parsonage yesterday afternoon when he expressed in cordial terms his thanks to the newspapers of both the States and Canada for the kindly manner in which they had treated his remarkable experiences. He is a man of bright manner and manifest erudition which he freely discussed the case as if talking of something altogether apart from himself. His own theory is that, probably by over study, some small blood vessel in the brain gave way, paralyzing one portion of his work, paralyzing one portion of his mentality until absorption of the clot took place in the natural course of events. The Courier representative was able to cite a similar case which had come under his own notice some years ago and in this the Professor, Judge Lavell and the others present seemed to be much interested, as it furnished a parallel to quite a large extent. Just prior to his disappearance, Prof. Lavell had been offered the chair of History of Education in the Ohio State University, but feeling some mental disturbance, he hesitated to accept, and consulted with a physician. The specialist said that if he could arrange for short hours of teaching for a period, the move would be helpful rather than otherwise, and he took the position on this basis. His wife was visiting in Toronto, and he thinks that he had started on a trip to see her when he found himself in Hamilton. This was in November of 1913. From that time on a blank wall seemed to interpose itself between himself and his previous career. He had the one idea that he must escape scholastic work and undertake duties which did not demand much brain effort. In this frame of mind he wandered afar, sometimes tramping "it and doing odd jobs, and sometimes taking trains, for he had a little money. He had letters in his pocket from friends, but to communicate with them he realized would be to go back to a world from which he felt that he must escape until he reached normal again, if that were possible. His main idea, in a vague way, was to reach Colorado, he cannot explain why, and he finally reached Denver, but city sounds seemed to depress him. The past was still a blank to his mind, and he had forgotten that he had a wife or near relatives, but otherwise he seemed to act normally. He also knew that he would have to work in the ranks of unskilled labor, and must have tried probably forty different jobs, including the loading of ice, tree cutting, mopping floors, in fact anything and everything that came to his hand. "As an unskilled laborer," he remarked "I can emphatically tell you that I am no good." During his wanderings he had adopted the name of Cecil Edward O'Brien, and had shaved off his moustache for no particular reason that he can recall except that he came in contact with many clean-shaven men. Finally he located in Colorado Springs, a place of 30,000 people, where he was employed as a dish washer. During the last few months his mind as to the past seemed to be getting clearer and on one occasion getting hold of an American volume of "Who's Who," he turned to the name Lavell and saw his record, but it did not at the time seem to mean very much. He made quite a few friends in Colorado Springs, among them a police officer who had been an acquaintance for months. His wife was generally known, had never given up hope of finding him, and had his picture published broadcast in various newspapers and other publications. His officer friend turning over some old numbers of a police paper one evening came across his photo and at once noticed the resemblance and the announcement underneath the picture that he was born in Kingston, Canada, a fact which the professor had previously mentioned to him. He went to the boarding house where Mr. Lavell was engaged in a game of chess and the rest was common property. If indications are any criterion, the Professor is on a more or less normal condition, the climax of identification having clarified a mind which was already on the verge of completely reasserting itself. The professor is a gifted conversationalist and his manner was entirely frank and unembarrassed, carrying with it the conviction of truth and sincerity. Altogether the call was most interesting and pleasant.

LATEST RAID

GERMAN CLAIM.

By Special Wire to the Courier. BERLIN, April 6.—(By wireless to Sayville).—The German admiralty announces to-day that German airships last night silenced a battery near Hull, England, with bombs, and destroyed a large iron works near Whitby. The airships returned safely.

ONE KILLED. By Special Wire to the Courier. LONDON, April 6, 4:10 p.m.—One person was killed

The Menace of the Zepp is Fast Being Overcome

By Special Wire to the Courier. London, April 6.—The increasing effectiveness of England's anti-aircraft defences was demonstrated last night when the single Zeppelin which undertook the fifth raid in six days, was prevented from penetrating the northeast coast and was forced to flee, after the briefest attack of the kind yet made. The night was clear with moonlight and without wind. Searchlights discovered the raider coming over the sea and never once lost him during his stay. As he reached the coast he was flying comparatively low and the smallest guns found him such an easy target that he was forced and to rise to a great height. The larger guns then found the range, and aided by the searchlights, they surrounded the Zeppelin with a terrific hail of shrapnel and high explosive shell. After manoeuvring near a northeast coast town for about ten minutes, during which only a few bombs were dropped, the raider was seen to turn and to sail homeward.

COURIER'S DAILY CARTOON



BRITANNIA: "Your heroes who have fallen are not dead—they will live for ever!"—London Opinion.

Various advertisements for theatres (Princess Players, Balfour), life insurance (E. Hess), jewelry (B. Beckett), and umbrellas.