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Street, \$100.00
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red brick bun-
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BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER.

FORTY SEVENTH YEAR

THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 1918

TWO CENTS

HEAVY INFANTRY FIGHTING IN PROGRESS ON SOMME FRONT

Franco-British Naval Raid Most Successful Sea Exploit of the War

HEAVY FIGHTING IN PROGRESS ALONG SOMME SECTOR

Strong German Attacks Developed Last Evening on Flanders front, But were repulsed—Infantry activity about Albert This Morning.

By Courier Leased Wire. Bulletin London, April 24.—Strong German attacks developed last evening in the neighborhood of Dranoutre, on the Flanders front, but were repulsed by French troops, the war office announced.

Heavy infantry attacks are reported to be in progress this morning in the Albert sector, north of the Somme and also between the French and British artillery inflicted severe losses on the Germans in the Flanders attack.

ALLIED FRONT BOMBARDED. Bulletin, Paris, April 24.—The German artillery has been conducting an extremely heavy bombardment on the Franco-British front between the Somme and the Avre, in the region of Hangard-en-Santerre and Villers-Bretonneux, the war office reports to-day.

The statement follows:—"Between the Somme and the Avre the enemy's bombardment during the night took on a character of extreme violence along the Franco-British front, especially in the region of Han-en-Santerre and Viller-Bretonneux. French artillery carried on an energetic counter-bombardment of the German batteries.

"In the region of the Ailette and Avocourt wood French patrols took prisoners. Elsewhere on the front there was intermittent cannonading."

WAR SITUATION IN REVIEW. Along both battle fronts in France the cannon continue to roar mightily, but the rumble of the artillery gives no sign of where and when the next battle or battles will be fought.

Along the Somme front around Royon. Taking advantage of the lull in German offensive movements, Field Marshal Haig is improving his position on the Flanders front by successful local attacks. In the vicinity of Roebecq, he has again advanced his lines slightly, capturing more than 100 prisoners and some machine guns.

London, April 24.—The text of the British official statement follows:—"The hostile artillery activity increased yesterday afternoon and evening on the greater part of the Somme front, particularly in the British and Ancre sectors, in the valley of the Scarpe and in the sectors north of Bethune and north-east of Bailleul.

"Strong hostile attacks developed also late in the evening in the neighborhood of Dranoutre and were repulsed by French troops after sharp fighting. French and British artillery inflicted severe loss on the enemy."

"During the night the activity of the enemy's artillery continued and at an early hour this morning, a heavy bombardment was opened along practically the whole British front from north of Albert to our junction with the French south of the Somme. Strong infantry attacks are reported in progress in the Albert sector and between the Somme and the Avre Rivers.

"Heavy hostile shelling is reported to have taken place also early this morning between Givenchy and Roebecq."

"Concentrations of hostile infantry in the neighborhood of Merville, were dispersed by our artillery."

AIR RAID WARNING IN PARIS. ENEMY MACHINES DID NOT REACH CITY; ALARM PROVED NEEDLESS. By Courier Leased Wire. Paris, April 24.—Airplanes having been heard coming toward Paris, an air raid warning was given shortly before midnight last night, but no airplanes reached the Paris district, according to an official statement issued to-day. The statement reads:—"Suspicious sounds of airplane engines having been reported by watching posts as coming in the direction of Paris, warning was given at 11.26 o'clock p.m. No airplanes crossed the fire curtain or flew over the Paris district.

DUTCH STILL NO TROUBLE IN IRELAND YESTERDAY

Relations Between the Countries are strained; Foe Demands Unknown. Labor Demonstration carried Out Without Disturbances.

Dublin, April 24.—No disturbances have been reported from anywhere in Ireland in connection with the Labor demonstration yesterday. There seems to have been a general disposition to avoid the possibility of collisions.

The Punctestown races, a big society event, were held according to schedule, but as no trains ran there from Dublin, the attendance was affected.

Oppose Industrial Conscription. Dublin, April 23.—At a Labor meeting at Athlone to-day it was resolved to oppose industrial as well as military conscription. Women workers pledged themselves to undertake no work previously done by them.

Conscription in Newfoundland. St. John's, Nfld., April 24.—The colonial legislature to-day was expected to take up consideration of the conscription bill as outlined in the announcement by Governor Hilderson in the speech from the throne at the opening yesterday.

His Resignation Likely Due to Dissension Over Siberian Policy. HAD HONORED CAREER. Viscount Motono has resigned as Japanese minister for foreign affairs. The reason for his action has not been announced, but it probably is in connection with the question of Japanese intervention in Siberia.

Twenty Nine are Found Guilty of Conspiracy. Hindus, Ex-German Consular officers, and Business Men Convicted in San Francisco; Plotted Revolution in India. By Courier Leased Wire. San Francisco, April 24.—Twenty-nine persons, Hindus, former German consular officers, business men and others, were found guilty early to-day by a jury in the federal court of conspiracy to violate the neutrality of the United States through plots to foment revolution against British rule in India.

MR. BALL IS APPOINTED REGISTRAR FOR BRANT AND OTHER DISTRICTS. In Connection with the New Registration Act—All of From Sixteen Years up Must Register and Penalties for Default are Severe.

Mr. E. A. Ball, 60 Arthur St., has received the following communication from the office of the Canada Registration Board, Ottawa: Dear Sir,—I beg to confirm the telegram sent you to-day advising that your appointment as superintendent for territory as per memo supplied, has been approved by the Governor-General-in-Council.

WEATHER BULLETIN. Toronto, April 24.—The barometer is now highest over the lower lakes and Mississippi and low over the east and west. The weather has become warmer in the Western Provinces and cooler in Ontario and Quebec.

FORECASTS. North west winds, fair and cool. Thursday—Fair and a little warmer.

EVERY GUN ON MOLE DESTROYED, AND LARGE QUANTITIES OF MUNITIONS BLOWN UP IN ADDITION TO BLOCKING MOUTH OF CANAL

DOVER SHAKEN BY EXPLOSION. SURVIVORS WERE YESTERDAY GREETED WITH CHEERS WHEN THEY RETURNED TO PORT.

London, April 24.—The return of a damaged British cruiser with its decks torn open, as described in Monday's issue, has given the British fleet a morale boost. The crew escaped injury of some kind, while many bodies were brought back, and placed reverently in a temporary mortuary.

King George has telegraphed his congratulations to Vice Admiral Keyes.

Viscount Motono Quits Post of Japanese Foreign Minister. His Resignation Likely Due to Dissension Over Siberian Policy. HAD HONORED CAREER.

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DARING RAID BY FRANCO-BRITISH NAVAL FORCES GAVE GERMANS SOMETHING TO PONDER OVER; GATE TO BRUGES CANAL DESTROYED, AND CHANEL BLOCKED BY SINKING OF CONCRETE LADEN CRUISERS

By Courier Leased Wire. In making their apparently successful attacks on the German submarine bases at Zeebrugge and Ostend, the British fleet, as ponder over British sailors and marines who have returned from the gallant action report that the lock of the Bruges canal has been blown up and the water let out into the North Sea. The channel also was blocked by sinking concrete-laden destroyers.

The Bruges canal has been used as a base by the German submarines and the blowing up of the lock, the report of which destroy Zeebrugge's usefulness for some time. British naval writers give varied estimates as to how long it will take the Germans to repair the damage done, ranging from many days to many weeks, perhaps longer.

MUNITIONS BLOWN UP. Zeebrugge blocked, but British sailors and marines who participated in the raid on the German submarine bases believe that they destroyed entire length and blew up large stores of munitions, contained in the sheds, according to stories given by the survivors to the correspondent of The Daily Chronicle at a Kentish port.

Although they were within half a mile of the harbor of Zeebrugge, no ships in the attacking force had picked up the light on the mole. The attacking ship which started for the mole followed by muttering calls of "good luck" from the ships' companies of the fleet outside the harbor, had scarcely got within sight of the light when it was discovered by the Germans. Star shells instantly pierced the dark haze, showing up the cruiser as clearly as though it had been daylight.

DARING LANDING MADE. In one second it seemed as if every battery in the neighborhood had concentrated its fire on the cruiser. How she was able to get ahead, none of those watching understood. Great 17 inch shells and others of smaller calibre flew around like hail. She was apparently hit by some of the smaller ones, but she plugged the hole and was seen to turn the corner of the mole and gain the inside of the harbor. German fire apparently was deflected from her vital parts by the intervening structure of the mole and most of the damage done was above the water line.

Disregarding all that had happened, the cruiser went up to the mole and landed a large party of blue jackets and marines. Some of the Germans bolted on masse from the nearest batteries leaving their guns to the British. The guns were destroyed one by one while others in the landing party dealt with the sheds and munition stores with flame throwers.

Apparently under cover of this operation, continues the account sent by The Daily Chronicle's correspondent, the concrete laden cruisers with which it was intended to block the channels, made their way through the harbor, accompanied as far as it can be ascertained, by only one submarine. As they approached the entrance they anchored, swung around on the cables, and according to the testimony of one of the observers were sunk within 23 minutes.

One of the destroyers or submarines exploded a charge at the gates of the locks to the Bruges canal, and they are believed to have been destroyed. Meanwhile the destroyers entered the harbor and cruised around, making observations, but were unable to take part in the battle.

When the attacking ship and its landing party had completed their work, the sailors and marines were BERESFORD HAS DOUBTS.

London, April 24.—Admiral Lord Beresford, in an interview on the raid on German submarine bases, while eulogizing the Zeebrugge achievement as a splendid thing and quite worth attempting, warns against disappointment if the results do not reach the most sanguine expectations. He says that the blocking of a harbor is a most difficult undertaking and it never can be certain that the obstacles have been placed just right.

Moreover, he says, it is asserted that they voluntarily accepted almost certain death, and only by something akin to a miracle could those who remained aboard to explore the charges have survived.

Stories of survivors who arrived at Dover flushed with belief in the full success of the expedition are not corroborated in every detail by the official account. The reported destruction of the lock gates and the consequent draining of the Bruges canal lack confirmation. If substantiated, this presumably would be the greatest achievement of the raiding squadron.