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British and French Advance On Wide Front In Flanders

Captured All The Objectives and Crossed Steenbeke River Making Progress on the Right Bank—Canadians Repulse Attacks on Newly Captured Positions—Germans Must Retake Hill 70 or Evacuate Lens—Still Fighting Tenaciously

London, Aug. 16.—Troops of the entente allies in Flanders attacked the German positions today on a wide front east and north of Ypres, in Belgium. The official report of Field Marshal Haig says that progress is being made.

Paris, Aug. 16.—French troops in Belgium, attacking early today in conjunction with the British on both sides of the road between Steenstraete and Dixmude, captured all their objectives and crossed the Steenbeke River, the War Office announced today. Further progress is being made along the river. The French made an attack on the Aisne and captured German trenches on a front of one kilometre. Four German counter-attacks were repulsed. The statement follows:—

"In Belgium, after violent and most thorough artillery preparations we made an attack at dawn this morning in conjunction with the British army on our right. With superb spirit our infantry made the assault on the enemy positions on both sides of the road between Steenstraete and Dixmude, capturing all objectives and crossing the Steenbeke. Our troops are making progress on the right bank in contact with our allies.

TRENCHES WERE TAKEN "South of Ailles, a vigorous attack made us master of a system of trenches, on a front of one kilometre, which was held strongly by the enemy. Four German counter-attacks on our new positions were repulsed easily, and 120 prisoners, one of them an officer, have been counted. In the region of the Hurbise monument, we also made progress, taking a score of prisoners.

"In the Champagne and on both banks of the Meuse, heavy artillery fighting continued. We made a surprise attack near Louvemont, taking seven prisoners. There is nothing of importance to report on the remainder of the front.

"Our bombing airplanes last night and this morning threw many bombs on enemy establishments north and east of the Houthuiste forest and also on the railway station at Lichterwald.

"During our attack in the region of Ailles and Hurbise our aviators were not deterred by the bad weather from flying very close to the ground as our infantry moved forward, turning their machine guns on the shelters and reserves of the enemy."

REPORT FROM CANADIAN LINES

Canadian Headquarters in France, Wednesday evening, Aug. 15, by London.—(By Stewart Lyon).—The Germans are now fighting with great tenacity to retain their precarious hold on the central portion of Lens. Throughout the day they have been bringing up fresh troops with which to carry on counter-attacks. The original force with which our assault was met was repulsed by the attacking force. It consisted of two battalions of the 166th regiment, two of the 24th, two of the 166th and one of the 293rd German regiments consist of three battalions each, and after the battalions of the three first-mentioned regiments holding the trenches had been put out of action the reserve battalions were moved up hurriedly. At nine o'clock, which headed toward Hill 70, these battalions were caught under our artillery fire and dispersed.

The enemy leaders next called upon the Fourth Guard division, which has been held on this part of the line for such an emergency as that which confronted the defenders of Lens. The guards proceeded towards Bois Hugo with the evident intention of retaking Hill 70. They, too, were caught under our artillery and machine gun barrage and so roughly handled that two attempts to advance, one at 11:15 o'clock and the second shortly after noon had to be abandoned.

NOT EVEN SERIOUSLY MENACED

Hill 70 was not even seriously menaced during the remainder of the day. A short way to the north, between St. Laurent and Lens, the enemy recovered a portion of a line of reserve trenches the possession of which lessens for the moment our pressure from the north.

Artillery and machine gun experts have just told me that the enemy position is an impossible one, and that if he cannot drive us off Hill 70 he will have to get out of Lens.

Our casualties can now be spoken of as light.

On the Lens front where the Canadians yesterday captured Hill 70 and made further progress in the environs of the French mining centre, all German counter-attacks, the official statement adds, were repulsed.

Italian Communication

Rome, Aug. 16.—The official statement issued today by the Italian war department says:— Military activity on the entire Austro-Italian front was limited to artillery firing. Nothing important took place.

French Lost Only One Paris, Aug. 16.—The weekly report of shipping losses gives one steamer of more than 1,000 tons and three of smaller size as having been sunk in the week ended August 12, out of 1,010 arrivals and 1,028 clearances at French ports. Five French ships were attacked unsuccessfully by submarines.

Italian Shipping Losses Rome, Aug. 16.—The Italian merchant marine losses for the week ending August 12, comprise six steamers and 17 sailing vessels out of the latter being above 100 tons. Five hundred and fifty vessels of all nationalities of a tonnage of 329,245 entered port and 609 of a tonnage of 414,775 left.

Prompt Action by China London, Aug. 16.—The Chinese government, a Reuter despatch from Peking says, is arranging for the prompt liquidation of the German Asiatic bank. The officials of the foreign office have been appointed to take over the accounts and cash here and in the Shanghai, Canton, Tientsin and Hankow branches.

Chinese troops have seized Austrian consular premises in Tien Tsin, according to an Exchange Telegraph despatch, and German and Austrian shipping is being seized at Canton, Amoy, Swatow, Shanghai and Hankow. The vessels include several small warships.

Venice Bombed Vienna, via London, Aug. 16.—Four tons of bombs were dropped by the Austrians at Venice, causing a number of conflagrations, according to the parliament precincts are prohibited.

POLICE STILL HOLD OUT HOPE FOR SOLUTION

"A Delicate Matter," Says a Chief of New Club

"VERY MATERIAL TO THE CASE"

But Police Can Disclose Nothing to Indicate That Mystery Surrounding Death of Harry L. Williams is Nearer Solution

Chief Simpson, when seen by the Times reporter this morning in connection with the mystery still surrounding the untimely death of H. L. Williams, said that there was something new in the case, but there was nothing that he could make public just yet. He intimated that the new rumor, on which the police are making all possible efforts to produce something definite, was a delicate subject and had to be handled accordingly.

"Reports," said the chief, "have to be borne out by facts, and in this case it is very material to the case inasmuch as it is a matter of fact that the police will give out no information as to nature of the investigation, but it is expected that their activities along this particular line will soon be brought to a head.

Financial Condition Good The Times has learned from unquestionable authority that Harry L. Williams, the young north end merchant who was found murdered in his store at the corner of Elm and Main streets on the night of August 11, was in excellent financial condition at the time of his death.

The statement comes from a person who is in a position to know and who unhesitatingly says that his business was in better condition than many merchants throughout the city. While, he said, it was true that he owed some firm money, the debts were not of long standing and were comparatively small amounts, which any business man would owe. To offset these debts he had accounts in his books with some of the best families in that section of the city and all were collectable.

When asked about the sum drawn on his insurance policy, which was paid in full at the time Mr. Williams bought out his partner's interest, and had since been paid in full, he said that he had paid his taxes in time to get the benefit of the discount and had laid in his winter supply of coal and also had a large amount of cash on hand. He was well prepared for any emergency that might have arisen. People in a position to know also state that his business was flourishing and that Mr. Williams had told friends that he was contemplating buying an automobile for the use of himself and family.

This completely throws aside the theory advanced as an explanation of why the tragedy occurred, that the murderer and the victim were in the city who closely followed the facts of the case give credence to the suicide theory.

There were no new developments in the case today and the murderer is still at large and the mystery apparently baffling as ever. The police are working on a clue and have hopes of obtaining results in the near future.

That one or more persons were hanging about the vicinity of the store late that night and that some of the best families in that section of the city are openly expressing the opinion that their presence there was not as though investigated as a matter of fact. Many attach considerable importance to these facts and contend that a careful enquiry might disclose some clue which would lead to the apprehension of the assassin.

TILL ROBBED WHILE EMPLOYEE SLEPT

Sneak Thief Takes Advantage of Situation in North End Barber Shop

While an apprentice peacefully reclined in a chair in the store and slept, a sneak thief entered. Fearing to disturb the youth's peaceful slumbers, he moved quietly about the store, and, locating the till, emptied out its contents, and made a get away before being detected. This little scene was enacted in Main street yesterday afternoon between two and three o'clock. Charles A. Nichols, who conducts a barber store at 462 Main street, went to his dinner and in his absence left his young apprentice in charge. When he returned he found the boy shaving a customer and thought everything was moving satisfactorily. When he went to the till to make change he discovered that it was empty and that more than \$2 had been stolen. He questioned the boy and learned that the customer had to wake him up in order that some one who entered previous to that time had sinned up the situation and took the opportunity presented to get some easy money.

While the loss is not a serious one, the proprietor was naturally angered and informed the boy that as a punishment he

Americans in Fight? London Reports Some Wounded Arriving From Western Front

London, Aug. 16.—According to The Daily News some wounded American soldiers from the western front have just arrived at the hospital at Bath.

Flemming Told Good It Would Be All Right

More Amazing Evidence in Relation to the Valley Railway; Some Interesting History

F. B. Carroll, acting on behalf of the government in the resumption of the Gould arbitration in the Equity Court this morning established in his re-cross-examination of Mr. Gould that when the Liscomb financial agents of New York found it impossible to handle the \$10,000 a mile bonds that were to be issued then Premier Fleming and his executive told Gould and his associates to proceed with the work and intimated that he and the members of the executive would see to it that the proper arrangements were made and put through the legislature. At the time the underwriting was arrived at among Mr. Gould, his associates, Premier Fleming and the members of his executive the legislature was not in session.

In the opening moments of the arbitration Mr. Carroll asked that he be permitted to re-cross-examine Mr. Gould and after outlining generally the points he desired to establish the court permitted that Mr. Gould be recalled.

P. J. Hughes of Fredericton was present representing the St. John and Quebec railway company with Messrs. Todd and Gregory appearing for Mr. Gould. E. S. Carter was also present as secretary of the Valley Railway company. Other present and who will likely be recalled to give evidence were Ross Thompson, J. J. Taylor and D. F. Maxwell.

Mr. Gould. In the beginning of his re-cross-examination Mr. Gould said that his first activities in connection with the Valley railway were in 1910. H. E. McDonald, then divisional freight agent of the C. P. R. in this city, suggested that a railway might be built down the St. John river and be operated at advantage. Mr. Hazen, then premier, had made some remarks in regard to it and thought the railway might be built to connect St. John with the main line of the C. P. R. At that time Mr. Gould had completed twelve miles of his electric railway. The plan was formed and Mr. Hazen was assisted in securing the charter for the new organization. A subsidy could not be secured for an electric railway so Mr. Gould said that it was decided to secure a charter for a steam railway. The actual construction on the road was begun in the spring of 1912. The provincial government agreed to guarantee bonds to the extent of \$25,000 a mile and the company was later authorized to issue additional bonds to the extent of \$10,000 a mile. It was hoped, said Mr. Gould, to be able to construct the road on the \$25,000 a mile guarantee and the subsidy, but the additional \$10,000 a mile was arranged as a further assurance.

In connection with the financing of the

POLICE WILL MUZZLE PRO-GERMAN SPEAKERS

Arrests to Follow Seditious Talk on New York Street Corners Hereafter

New York, Aug. 16.—The police on Wednesday were instructed to pursue a more vigorous policy in dealing upon the United States or her allies, and to make arrests for utterances that are seditious. This announcement was the result of the activities by patriotic organizations following the arrest recently of Cleveland Moffett, the author, Mr. Moffett was arrested by a policeman when he insisted upon stopping a meeting at which a soap box orator was making remarks against America's allies.

The American Defense Society, of which Mr. Moffett is a member, Wednesday issued a statement saying that irresponsible persons of German sympathies were permitted to make speeches in the streets advocating policies directly opposed to the safety of the nation and that tolerance of pro-Germans and pacifist fanatics in general was intolerable and foolhardy with the country at war, and invited all persons might have information regarding such meetings to notify the office of the society that suitable action might be taken.

BURIED TODAY

The funeral of J. Henry Durick took place this morning from his sister's residence, Mrs. Mary Durick, 188 Main street, to St. Peter's church, where solemn high mass of requiem was celebrated by Rev. Fred Coghlan, C. S. S. R., who was assisted by Rev. Joseph McLaughlin, C. S. S. R., as sub-deacon. Rev. P. McNeill, C. S. S. R., as sub-deacon. Interment was made in the new Catholic cemetery. The funeral was very largely attended. Relatives acted as pall bearers.

It would be held responsible for the money. The number of petty crimes being committed in the city is causing concern among citizens and it is felt that stern methods should be adopted to put a stop to the depredations.

MUNICIPAL SUFFRAGE CARRIES IN COLUMBUS

Columbus, O., Aug. 16.—Municipal suffrage carried here Tuesday by a majority of 925 votes. The total vote was 8,897 for suffrage and 7,708 against. East Cleveland is the only other city in Ohio allowing women the right to vote on municipal issues.

THE RASPBERRIES

The price of raspberries remains high this week, as the majority of farmers up the river are taking advantage of the fine weather to finish their crop. Merchants believe that the supply will be heavier next week and that the price will be considerably reduced. At the river steamer yesterday some crates were sold as high as seventeen cents a box.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service. A shallow depression now covers the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Valley, while an area of high pressure is continuing in over Manitoba from the northwest. The weather is fair and warm in the provinces, but conditions are favorable for local thunderstorms in Ontario and Quebec. Ottawa Valley—Local thunderstorms, but partly fair. Friday, showers at first then fresh northerly winds and cooler. Fair and Warm. Maritime—Moderate southerly winds, mostly fair and warm. Friday, southerly winds, unsettled with occasional rain. New England—Partly cloudy tonight and Friday. Gentle west to northwest winds.

THE POPE'S APPEAL TO BELLIGERENT NATIONS

Text of His Letter to the King and Summary of His Peace Communication Issued by British Foreign Office—"Concrete Peace Proposals"

London, Aug. 15.—(By the Associated Press).—The foreign office tonight issued the text of the letter from the Pope to the King disclosing a copy of his appeal to the heads of the belligerent peoples.

"Your Majesty—The Holy Father, anxious to do everything he can in order to put an end to the conflict which for the last three years has ravaged the civilized world has decided to submit to the leaders of the belligerent peoples concrete peace proposals exposed in a document which I have the honor to attach to this letter. May God grant that the words of His Holiness will this time produce the desired effect for the good of the whole of humanity.

"His Holiness, since the beginning of relations with the French government or with the governments of Italy or the United States, I respectfully beg Your Majesty to be good enough to have handed a copy of His Holiness' appeal to the president of the French republic, to His Majesty, the King of Italy, and to the president of the United States. I also beg to add twelve other copies which I request Your Majesty to good enough to hand to the leaders of the nations friendly to the allies, with the exception, however, of Russia, Belgium and Brazil to whom the document has been sent direct.

In expressing to Your Majesty my sincere thanks for this extreme kindness I am happy to take the opportunity to offer you the homage of sentiment, a very profound respect with which I have the honor to sign myself Your Majesty's very humble and devoted servant. (Signed "GASPARRI")

The appeal, at the outset, declares that His Holiness, since the beginning of the war, had three things to preserve: perfect impartiality towards all belligerents, continually to attempt to do all the good possible without regarding nationality or religion and to omit nothing that might hasten the end of the conflict. "I am trying to lead people and their leaders to more moderate resolution to hasten a serene deliberation of peace just and durable."

The horrors and sufferings of war are

HOW MAYOR'S SON WON HIS HONORS

London Times Report on Decoration of Capt. Ralph St. Clair Hayes

It will be remembered that some time ago Captain Ralph St. Clair Hayes, son of Mayor Hayes, distinguished himself on the western front and for his bravery was awarded the Military Cross. The "London Times" in a recent issue said that Captain Hayes was decorated "for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in extinguishing burning ammunition pits under heavy hostile shell fire. He has on several occasions shown great gallantry and coolness under heavy fire, setting a good example to his men."

Captain Hayes is at the present time in a hospital in London, suffering from a very bad attack of fever.

FIVE MILLION MEN TO EQUAL CANADA

New York, Aug. 16.—"Until the United States has placed 5,000,000 men in the fighting line we will have no right to consider ourselves as standing level with Canada in this fight for democracy," was the declaration of Theodore Roosevelt, at a reception given by the Chamber of Commerce to Elihu Root, special commissioner to Russia, yesterday afternoon. "Let us pull up abreast of our valiant cousins of the Dominion by placing American soldiers in masses on whichever front they are most needed." Colonel Roosevelt continued, "and let there be no slackening of our efforts until the cause for which our allies have been fighting for three years is well beyond peradventure."

FINLAND HAS A CABINET CRISIS

Helsingfors, Aug. 16.—Disorders occasioned by the scarcity of food have led to a cabinet crisis. The senators have requested the governor general to transmit their resignations to the provisional government. The governor general has asked Mr. Toikka, vice-president of the department of economics and former president of the diet to form a socialist cabinet. He has accepted. A general strike has been declared.

CHINESE NAVY TAKES OVER THREE AUSTRIAN VESSELS

Shanghai, China, Aug. 16.—Three Austrian merchantmen interned in the harbor have been taken over by Chinese naval forces. The ships were undamaged and no resistance was offered. The German and Austrian ships now taken over have an aggregate tonnage of 18,000.

"BONE DRY" PLANS FOR MINN.

Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 16.—Preliminary plans for a campaign to secure the adoption of a statewide "bone dry" amendment to the Minnesota constitution at the election next year were discussed today at a meeting under the auspices of the Anti-Saloon League of Minnesota. The conference was attended by a number of the leading prohibition workers of the state.

COMES TO ST. PETER'S

Rev. Francis Healy, C. S. S. R., who was recently transferred from one of the Redemptorist houses in western Canada to St. Peter's Church in this city, arrived here this morning. He was met at the station by Rev. Peter Costello, C. S. S. R., rector of the Redemptorist church in Quebec, arrived in the city this morning and is a guest at St. Peter's rectory.

THE BANK CLEARINGS

The St. John Bank clearings for the week ending Thursday, Aug. 16, were \$1,764,740; corresponding period last year, \$1,836,202; corresponding period 1915, \$1,469,315.

BRITISH HOUSE ADJOURNS TODAY

London, Aug. 16.—Parliament was largely attended today, being the last business sitting prior to adjournment until October 16.

The full membership was brought out by the announcement that Premier Lloyd George was to make an important speech on the progress of the war and the general situation. The premier's speech was to be followed by an address delivered by Ex-Premier Asquith.

LEADERS OF CUBAN REVOLT GIVEN LIFE IMPRISONMENT

Havana, Aug. 16.—Three Cuban officers who took part in the recent revolt in Oriente province have been condemned to imprisonment, two of them for life, by a general court martial, whose verdict was made public Tuesday night by the secretary of war and marine. Commander Jose Selles was condemned to twenty years' imprisonment and dishonorably discharged. Captain Eugene Castillo and Lieutenant La Bastido were sentenced to life imprisonment. The revolt in Oriente was led by Rigoberto Fernandez, who escaped to Haiti.

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