

THE WEATHER.

Maritime—Westerly winds, generally fair and mild.

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THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 13, 1916.

CANADIANS BY GALLANT WORK AT ST. ELOI LAST WEEK INFLECTED HEAVY LOSSES ON GERMANS

WAR OFFICE PRAISES THE CANADIAN TROOPS FOR THEIR SPLENDID WORK

British Successful in Raid on German Trenches While Enemy Fails in Three Night Attacks West of Pikelm-Ypres Road—Germans Holding Infantry in Check for New Thrust at Hill 304 and Le Mort Homme.

London, April 12.—The war office communication issued tonight says:

"Last night we made a small successful raid on enemy trenches near Richebourg L'Avoue. About ten Germans were killed. The enemy last evening made three successive attacks west of the Pikelm-Ypres road. He first gained a footing in our trenches, but was quickly driven out. Other attacks were repulsed, the Germans leaving about twenty-five dead in front of our trenches and three prisoners in our hands. We bombarded enemy trenches in this area today. There was considerable artillery activity today northwest of Wytschaete and some shelling about Souchez, Carey and Calonne. Behind St. Eloi there has been heavy hostile shelling, but little shelling on the front lines and craters. It has now been established that the gallant fighting of the Canadians in this neighborhood inflicted heavy losses on the enemy during the last week."

That a German submarine was responsible for the damage to the French cross-channel ferry steamer Sussex, but that the Germans did not sink the Channel the afternoon of the Sussex met with disaster, are statements contained in Germany's reply to the American government's request for information concerning the Sussex. The steamer was supposed to be a war vessel, "a mine layer of the recently built Arabasia class," says the statement.

The Germans along the Pikelm-Ypres road, after three attacks, inflicted British trenches, but were quickly expelled from them, while the British successfully raised the German trenches near Richebourg L'Avoue.

The British official communication says the Canadians, in their gallant fighting during the past week, have inflicted heavy losses on the Germans near St. Eloi.

The Germans northwest of Verdun evidently are holding in leash their infantry for fresh attacks in their endeavors to capture Hill 304 and Le Mort Homme, key points which are tenaciously holding their way to the fortresses.

The infantry has remained idle in their trenches while the big guns are showering shells on the region embracing the triangle formed by Hill 304, Ennez and Le Mort Homme. Not even a sally by the Germans in this district is reported in the latest French official communication.

Comparative quiet prevails to the east of the Meuse around Douaumont and Vaux, where there has recently been such vicious fighting. No infantry attacks have been made by either side, and the activity of the artillery has been less marked than on previous days.

Mining operations and grenade fighting have taken place in the Artois forest, during which the French captured the southern edges of two craters near Les Courtes Chaussees.

In the Russian theatre there have been artillery duels and infantry attacks at various places. On the Austro-Italian front the Italians have taken from the Austrians the heights north of Roponale and strong lines of trenches and redoubts on the southern slopes of Monte Pari and Cinnado road and on the rocks of Monte Sperone, the Austrians suffering heavy casualties. Elsewhere along the line the artillery duels continue.

Despatches from Saloniki report a recrudescence of the artillery fighting on the Greek front between Giveli and Dolran. In Asiatic Turkey Petrograd reports a continuation of the Turkish advance west of Erzerum. The Turks, however, in the region of Bitlis took the offensive against the invaders, but all their attacks were repulsed.

Although the Turks report a serious defeat near Palah of the British advancing to the relief of Gen. Townshend's force beleaguered in Kut-Amara, a despatch is said to have been received in South Africa from Gen. Townshend saying that he was well and expected relief shortly.

Gold, silver and paper money and all negotiable instruments and realizable securities have been placed on the contraband list by Great Britain.

Infantry Attacks Along French Line. Paris, April 12 (10.35 p. m.).—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads:

"In Belgium our artillery was active in the region of Lanemarck. Between the Somme and the Oise

CANADA COULD NOT DO WORK QUICKLY ENOUGH

Could Not Make Ordnance with Expediency Necessary on Account of Urgency of the Requirements.

Ottawa, April 12.—That the proposal to construct ordnance in Canada was not acted upon because the representations of the British minister of munitions considered that it could not be carried out "with the expedition necessary on account of the urgency of the requirements" was announced by Sir Robert Borden in reply to a question by Mr. E. M. MacDonald of the Opposition in the Commons today.

The prime minister said that he had not called the conference on the subject held last year on his return from England, but that he was present at it. "The proposal made by the manufacturer," he said, "was submitted to the representatives of the munitions of munitions who gave it their consideration. The government understands that they concluded that it would be impracticable to carry out the suggestion with the expedition necessary by the urgency of the requirements."

Hon. George P. Graham asked whether or not it was true that Mr. Borden had been asked to act for Canada at the Economic Conference of the Allies at Paris.

Sir Robert Borden replied that the correspondence with regard to the conference at Paris was of a confidential character. "Ultimately the papers would, no doubt, be brought down but for the present no announcement on the subject could be made."

Holland Not Even Discussed. The Hague, via London, April 12.—The French minister to Holland, on behalf of France, has given Holland the assurance that neither France nor her allies ever contemplated, directly or indirectly, attacking the neutrality of Holland or the inviolability of its territory, says a communication issued by the ministry of foreign affairs today.

The assurance adds that the recent conference of the Allies in Paris did not occupy itself with Holland at all.

DALHOUSIE UNIV. AND HALIFAX COUNCIL REACH AGREEMENT

Special to The Standard. Halifax, April 12.—Some time ago a million dollars for Dalhousie University and the money was secured. The city council considered they should have something in return for this and the board of control and they did not hesitate to ask the university to give three scholarships for sons of citizens of Halifax to be awarded annually. After some delay the university has acceded to the request and notification is made that one student will be taken each year from three high schools in the city for free tuition.

It is provided that the scholarship shall not be awarded to any pupil who is able himself or through his parents to pay for the education but shall be reserved for those who have not the means on their own account. The scholarships will be awarded by competitive examinations with the choice of a B. A. or B. S. The course it is provided must be completed at Dalhousie.

5 CANADIANS HAVE WON THE "V.C." TO DATE

Majors Gen. Sir Sam. Hughes and Alderson, K. C. B.'s, and 130 Canadians Have Been Awarded D. C. M.

Ottawa, April 12.—A return giving the list of Canada's soldiers who had received decorations or medals, or had been mentioned in despatches up to March 17th last was tabled in the Commons this afternoon. In keeping with the valor of the men at the front, the list is a long one.

The most coveted honor of all, the Victoria Cross, has been won by five Canadians. They are Major R. D. McQuillan, of the 13th Battalion; Captain F. A. C. Scrimger of the 14th Battalion; Lieut. F. W. Campbell of the 1st Battalion; Lieut. Corporal F. P. Fisher, of the 13th Battalion; and Color Sergeant F. W. Hall of the 8th Battalion.

The decoration of Knight Commander of the Bath has been bestowed upon Canada's war leaders in the field and at home, Major Gen. Sir E. A. H. Alderson and Major Gen. Sir Sam. Hughes. The Order of Companion of the Bath has been given to eight generals and one colonel, namely, Major Generals Carson and Gwatkin, Brigadier Generals Burrell, Currie, Mercer, Turner, Watson, and Seely, and Colonel G. L. Foster. The Order of Knight Bachelor was conferred on one Canadian only, namely, Brig. Gen. Sir Alex. Bertram, chairman of the defunct shell committee. Fourteen officers have been made Companions of St. Michael and St. George; 61 officers and men have won the Distinguished Order; 51 the Military Cross; 130 the Distinguished Conduct Medal; 494 have been mentioned in despatches, and 5 British soldiers have been decorated with the Royal Red Cross Medal.

In addition to these British decorations, France has bestowed the Order of the Legion of Honor on six Canadians, the Croix De Guerre on four, and the French Military Medal on two. Russia has given the medal of St. George to 24 Canadians, the Cross of St. George to 15, and has bestowed the Order of St. Anne on 2, the Order of St. Stanislas on one, and the Order of St. Vladimir on one. The last mentioned order went to Major A. Hamilton Gault of the Princess Patricia's.

GOLD, SILVER AND PAPER MONEY ON CONTRABAND LIST

Also All Negotiable Instruments and Realizable Securities—Tax on Railway Tickets Withdrawn.

Bulletin—London, April 12 (10.45 p. m.).—A royal proclamation has been issued tonight extending the list of articles which hereafter will be treated as actual contraband.

Included in the list are "gold, silver and paper money, and all negotiable instruments and realizable securities." Edwin J. Montagu, financial secretary to the treasury, announced in the House of Commons this evening that the government had decided to withdraw the tax on railway tickets.

Mr. Montagu explained to the House that an investigation had shown that the expense and trouble required in the collection of the tax would so deplete the 3,000,000 pounds, which was expected to gain from the tax that the government had decided not to persist in the collection of it.

Presentation to Rev. F. S. Porter. The Young Ladies' Bible Class of the German street Baptist church, which has been taught by the pastor for the last four years, called on Monday evening, and Miss Audrey Cross, on behalf of the members, presented to Mr. Porter a beautiful wrist watch engraved with his name, from the Y. L. B. C. The pastor was taken by surprise but made a very feeling reply, thanking the donors for their kindness and assuring them that he would always remember them and the happy days they had spent together.

BERLIN DENIES TORPEDOING OF THE SUSSEX, BUT ADMITS SINKING OF OTHER STEAMERS

LT. COL. SIMPSON AMONG THOSE COMING HOME

Winnipeg Physician Whose Name Figured in Royal Commission Probe Among Soldiers Returning on the Metagama.

London, April 12.—Lt. Col. R. T. Simpson, of Winnipeg, who has been before the courts on a charge of misappropriation of provincial government money, called for Canada on the Metagama on Friday last, without escort. Also aboard the Metagama were the following: Major Wm. Yates, 2nd Battalion; Major A. C. Gillespie, 10th Battalion, both on leave; Captain J. E. Griffin, in charge; Captain S. Bonnell; Captain W. J. Hendrie, 3rd Artillery, who goes to a new battery; Captain C. S. Ford, 4th Battalion; Captain J. C. Bliss, 3rd Mounted Rifles, for instructional duties in Canada; Lt. O. E. Lennox, 3rd Battalion, transferred to the 17th Battalion; Lt. C. F. Newcombe, Princess Patricia's; Lt. W. R. Garner, 18th Battalion; Lt. H. P. Lovell, 16th Battalion; Lt. M. E. Kelly, 3rd Mounted Rifles; Lt. Grant, 4th Battalion, all on leave; Lt. Randall, 2nd Mounted Rifles, transferred to the 14th Battalion; also a group of non-coms from the medical ranks to resume their studies, and ninety-eight of other ranks.

Berlin, via London, April 12 (10.55 p. m.).—The crisis in the Socialist party has led to disciplinary measures against the provincial party press. In addition to the establishment by the party of a censorship on the Vorwaerts, two editors of a Socialist organ at Duisburg, which attacked the position of the majority faction have been discharged, and the editor of the Volks Zeitung at Koenigsberg, which is in the district of Hugo Haase, former president of the Socialist party, has been disciplined.

LAURIER HAS NOT NAMED COUNSEL YET

Understood Grits Will be Invited to Appoint Carvell, Kyte or any Other Lawyer on Opposition Side as Junior Counsel.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, April 12.—Sir William Meredith and Mr. Justice Duff are prepared, it is understood, to commence their inquiry into the fuse contracts just as soon as the counsel are named to represent the Government and opposition. Mr. I. F. Helmutz, K. C., of Toronto, will be nominated by the Government, but Sir Wilfrid Laurier has not yet named the counsel to represent the opposition. It is also understood that the opposition will be invited to appoint Mr. F. B. Carvell or Mr. Geo. W. Kyte, or any other lawyer on the opposition side to act as junior counsel, for which services he would be paid. If the opposition accept the offer it will be necessary to pass legislation to enable the member so selected to act in this capacity in spite of the provisions of the independence of parliament act, which prevents a member from accepting a position of emolument under the crown.

IN REPLY TO U.S. NOTE SAYS TORPEDOING OF MANCHESTER ENGINEER, EAGLE POINT, ENGLISHMAN AND BERWINDVALE WAS LEGAL AND ACCORDING TO RULES OF WAR.

Submarine Torpedoed Steamer Where Sussex was Destroyed, but Sketch of Victim Does Not Tally with the Sussex, German Government Claims.

Berlin, April 12. (By wireless to the Associated Press.)—The German reply to the American note concerning the damaging or sinking of five steamships contains the statement that the steamers Englishman, Eagle Point, Manchester Engineer and Berwindvale were destroyed by German submarines. Evidence is presented to show that these vessels were torpedoed legally, in accordance with the rules of war.

The note states that a German submarine torpedoed a steamship in the vicinity of the place at which the cross-channel steamship Sussex was damaged by an explosion, but that evidence at hand indicates that the vessel torpedoed by the submarine was not the Sussex.

In regard to the Sussex, the note states that only one German submarine was in the vicinity and that it torpedoed one steamship. The commander of the submarine made a sketch at the time. This sketch has been compared with a photograph of the Sussex and has been found to be quite dissimilar in build, arrangements of stacks, etc. Therefore it is presumed a mine was responsible for the damage to the Sussex.

In the way of corroboration, it is stated that German naval forces destroyed 26 floating mines on that day.

Commanders "Justified Themselves Before Firing." Regarding the cases of the Englishman, Manchester Engineer, Eagle Point and Berwindvale, it is stated they were signalled to haul to but disregarded the signals. Thereupon warning shots were fired.

The statement is made that the submarine commanders assured themselves that the crew were safely in boats, no man being left aboard the vessels.

Interesting commentary on the theory that the Sussex explosion was caused by a mine is furnished by a statement of a Swiss passenger on that vessel. According to the version of the statement given to the Associated Press, he asserts he is convinced a mine was responsible, and so stated after the disaster. Investigating officers, according to this version "bully" him into changing his statement, which he now repudiates.

The following is the text of the German note on the Sussex and other steamers, dated April 10.

"The undersigned has the honor to inform your excellency, Ambassador Gerard, in response to communications of the twenty-ninth and thirtieth ult. and the third instant, regarding the steamers Sussex, Manchester Engineer, Englishman, Berwindvale and Eagle Point, that the mentioned cases, in accordance with our notes of the thirtieth and thirty-first ultimo, and the fourth and fifth instant, have been subjected to careful investigation by the admiralty staff of the navy, which has led to the following results:

"First—The English steamer Berwindvale. A steamer, which was possibly the Berwindvale, was encountered on the evening of March 16, in sight of Bull Rock Light, on the Irish coast, by a German submarine. The steamer, as soon as she noticed the submarine, which was running unshowered, turned and steamed away.

"She was ordered to halt by a warning shot. She paid no attention, however, to this warning, but extinguished all lights and attempted to escape. The vessel was then fired upon until halted and without further orders, lowered several boats. After the crew entered the boats and received enough time to row away, the ship was sunk.

"The name of this steamer was not established; it cannot be stated with assurance, even with the help of the details which were furnished by the American embassy that the above described incident concerns the steamer Berwindvale. Since, however, the steamer sunk was a tank steamer, like the Berwindvale, the identity of the ship may be assumed. In this case,

however, the statement made that the Berwindvale was torpedoed without warning would conflict with the facts.

"Second—The British steamer Englishman. This steamer, on March 24, was called upon to halt by a German submarine through two warning shots about twenty sea miles west of Islay (Hebrides). The vessel proceeded, however, without heeding the warning and was therefore forced by the submarine by artillery fire to halt after an extended chase; whereupon she lowered boats without further orders.

Case of Manchester Engineer. "After the German commandant had convinced himself that the crew had taken to the boats and rowed from the ship, he sank the steamer.

"Third—The British steamer Manchester Engineer. It is impossible to establish, through the investigation up to the present, whether the attack on this steamer, which, according to the given description occurred on March 27, in the latitude of Waterford, is attributable to a German submarine. The statement regarding the time and place of the incident gives no sufficient basis for investigation. It would, therefore, be desirable to have more exact statements of the place, time and attendant circumstances of the attack, reported by the American government, in order that the investigation might be thereupon brought to a conclusion.

"Fourth—The British steamer Eagle Point. This steamer, in the forenoon of March 28, was called upon to halt by a German submarine through signal and shot about one hundred—not one hundred and thirty sea miles from the southwest coast of Ireland, but proceeded. She was thereupon fired upon until halted, and, without further orders, lowered two boats, in which the crew took their places. After the commandant convinced himself that the boats, which had hoisted sails, had got clear of the steamer, he sank the steamer.

"At the time of the sinking a north-northwest wind of the strength of two, not a storm wind and a light swell, not a heavy sea, as stated in the given description, prevailed. The boats, therefore, had every prospect of being plucked up very quickly, because the place of the sinking lay on a much used steamer path.

"If the crew of the steamer used only two small boats for saving themselves the responsibility falls upon themselves, since there were still up on the steamer, as the submarine could establish, at least four big collapsible boats.

The Sussex. "Fifth—The French steamer Sussex. Ascertainment of the fact whether the channel steamer Sussex was damaged by a German submarine was rendered extremely difficult because no exact details of time, place and attendant circumstances of the sinking were known, and also because it was impossible to obtain a picture of the ship before April 6. Consequently the investigation had to be extended to all actions undertaken on the day in question—March 24—in the channel in the general region between Folkestone and Dieppe.

"In that region, on March 24, a long black craft without a flag, having a gray funnel, small grey forward works and two high masts, was encountered about the middle of the English Channel by a German submarine. The German commandant reached the definite conclusion that it was a war vessel and, indeed, a mine layer of the recently built British Arabasia class. He was led to this conviction by the following facts: First, by the plain, unbroken deck of the ship; second, the form of the stern, sloping downward and backward like a war vessel; third, she was painted like a war vessel; fourth, the high speed developed, about eighteen knots; fifth, the circumstances that the vessel did not keep a course northward of the light buoys between Dungeness and Beachy Head, which, according to the frequent and unvarying observations of German submarines, is about the

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