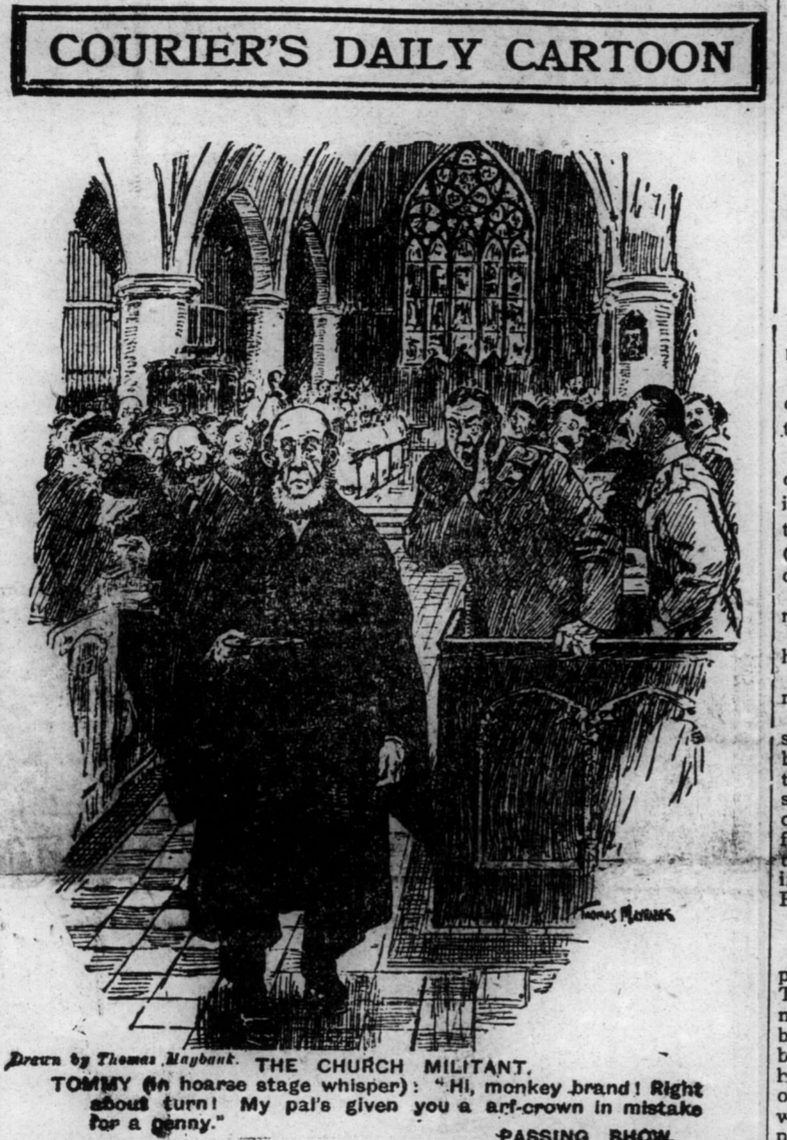


Turks are Withdrawing All Troops to Bagdad
Austrians Continue Their Drive Against Italy
German Chancellor Talks on Peace Situation

TURKISH ARMY HAS BEGUN ITS RETREAT TOWARDS CITY OF BAGDAD

Russian Menace From the North-east Has Made the Enemy Draw Back to That Vicinity—Turk Rearguard May be Cut Off.

By Special Wire to the Courier. London, May 23.—(New York Times)—The Daily Chronicle says: "The Turkish army has begun its retreat toward Bagdad. Evidently orders have been given to concentrate in that locality in view of the new Russian menace from the northeast. The Turkish base in Mesopotamia is at Mosul, which is now the railroad, and it is clearly a good strategic policy on the part of the enemy to shorten his long and exposed line of communication along the Tigris to Kut-el-Amarat."



Has Returned The Prince of Wales in France Again After a visit to Egypt.

ASQUITH MOVES ELEVENTH VOTE OF WAR FUNDS The Grand Total of Money Voted Almost Beyond Calculation.

A RELIGIOUS SERVICE. "There in that underground chapel in the front line trenches, at 10 o'clock on Sunday morning, while cannon booming overhead in a terrific bombardment told of a terrific German assault, we, with 200 French soldiers listened to the mass, the colonel taking part. We saw soldiers going to the altar and receiving communion, while two of their comrades sat in a little chamber, hollowed in one side of the chamber, with their fingers on electric buttons ready to explode mines if the signal came that the attacking Germans had reached the mine field."

AUSTRIAN ADVANCE SEEMS AS IF IT WAS NOW STOPPED BY THE ITALIAN RESISTANCE

Huge Guns of the Enemy Seem to Split the Alpine Peaks by Their Detonations--Bombardment is Kept up Night and Day.

their further advance seems impossible in view of the positions which the Italians hold tenaciously. Cont Zougata, a peak 6,000 feet high, which dominates Rovereto and the Lagarina and Arza valleys, is strongly held by the Italians. On the high plateau of Arsiero the Austrians occupy only the peak of Spitz Tonzza 5,000 feet high. All the other surrounding high mountains are in the hands of the Italians. The greatest effort of the Austrians is apparently now against the Asigo plateau, to the east of Arsiero, where desperate fighting is going on.

THE DYING GASP OF THE GERMANS IS AT VERDUN

American Military Critic Claims French Gradually Winning.

FIGHTING THERE IS TERRIBLE.

Soldiers Take Communion in a Dug-out in Midst of Bombardment.

By Special Wire to the Courier. New York, May 23.—The Paris correspondent of The Tribune cables the following: "I talked this morning with one of the American military observers in France who had just returned from the front, where he witnessed the German attacks on Verdun on Saturday and Sunday. "What do you think the attack means?" I asked. "It looks to me like the dying gasp," he replied. "But haven't there been a good many of these 'dying gasps'?" I said. "Yes," he answered. "They began several weeks ago, and since they began the French, who until that time had acted purely on the defensive, have been gradually taking the offensive into their hands. If you follow the action closely you will see that recently the offensive has often, if not more often, comes from the French as well as from the Germans."

HAVE TO ATTACK. "This puts the Germans in the position where they have to attack. They are now in the position of the man who was wrestling with the bear. The man was ready to quit, but the bear wouldn't. The Germans have either got to attack at Verdun or submit to attacks by the French, while the French hold the dominating positions."

WANTS TO GET DOWN TO FACTS AND DISCUSS PEACE.

By Special Wire to the Courier. New York, May 23.—A special cable to The World from Staff Correspondent, Karl H. Von Wiegand at Berlin, under yesterday's date, contains the following statements, as given in an interview by Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg:

"I have twice publicly stated that Germany has been, and is prepared to discuss the termination of the war upon a basis that offers guaranty against further attack from the coalition of her enemies and insures peace to Europe."

"Only when statesmen of the warring nations come down to a basis of the real facts; when they take the war situation as every war who shows it to be; when with honest sincerity will they are prepared to terminate this terrible bloodshed and are prepared to discuss war and peace problems with one another in a practical manner—only then will be nearing peace."

"I fear we will not come nearer to the peace desired by all peoples as long as the responsible statesmen of the Entente powers indulge in and confine themselves to observations about Prussian militarism, and to pathetic declamations about their own superiority and perfection."

"Did the democratic constitution of England hinder English statesmen from making secret arrangements in the agreements with Russia and France which were one of the essential causes of this war?"

"General press polemics and public speeches will only tend still more to intensify the hatred among peoples. That is not the way that leads to ideal conditions of Sir Edward Grey, when free peoples and nations with equality of rights and privileges will limit their arguments and solve their differences and disputes through arbitration's decisions instead of war."

INDICTMENTS RETURNED.

By Special Wire to the Courier. New York, May 23.—The first indictments resulting from the tapping of telephone wires in this city were returned by the King's county grand jury to-day. John A. Kingsbury, city commissioner of charities, and Winn H. Hitchcock, were men named in the indictments.

MUST HAVE PASSPORTS.

By Special Wire to the Courier. Sasse-Terre, Guadeloupe, May 23.—A decree has been promulgated stipulating that all foreigners who enter this port must have passports bearing their photographs and vised by French consuls at the points of departure.

FIGHTING ON BOTH BANKS OF THE MEUSE

French Made Further Gains Within Fort Douaumont.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Paris, May 23.—Fighting continued with extreme violence on both banks of the Meuse, along the Verdun front, during the whole night. Two German counter attacks on French positions on Hill 304 failed completely, the war office announced this afternoon.

The French made further gains within Fort Douaumont. The Germans now hold only a small angle in the northeastern corner of the fort. The battle around Hill 304 was especially severe. In attacking French positions on the west side of the hill the Germans used liquid gas, the official statement says, and penetrated one of the French trenches, but were dislodged at once. On the east side of the hill the Germans attacked in mass after intense artillery preparation, but were not permitted to reach the French lines.

The principal fighting east of the Meuse was in the sector between Thiaumont and Douaumont. The Germans attacked in mass formation, and are said to have suffered enormous losses. They succeeded in re-occupying one of the trenches north of Thiaumont farm, which had been captured by the French.

CHANCELLOR OF GERMANY GIVES AN INTERVIEW

Wants to Get Down to Facts and Discuss Peace.

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BURFORD'S NEW POST OFFICE BUILDING NOW FORMALLY OPENED

Despite Inclement Weather There Was a Large Attendance—Mr. J. H. Fisher M. P. and the Residents Came in For Many Congratulations—Very Handsome and Most Complete in Every Detail.

Monday was about the most juicy day of an exceedingly damp season, yet that fact did not prevent a large attendance at the formal opening of Burford's new public building, secured for that village by Mr. J. H. Fisher, the popular North Brant member.

The committee having the most successful affair in hand were Messrs. D. G. Hamner, W. Creighton and W. B. Messer, Village Trustees, and George Armstrong, C. F. Saunders, F. Miles, Dr. Johnston, E. A. Burgess and Geo. Aulsebrook.

Col. D. G. Hamner occupied the chair in a most happy manner, and a feature was the attendance of the school children carrying flags. They marched into the building, and under the leadership of their teacher, Miss Good, rendered "Tipperary" in good voice and tone.

Mr. Hamner said he supposed he had been asked to preside because he had looked upon as a sort of town father. He then handed Postmaster Cox a letter which he asked him to post—the first epistle to be handled in the new structure. It was written by Mr. J. H. Fisher to Hon. Mr. Rogers, apprising him of the opening.

MR. HALL, clerk of the work, handed the keys of the building to Col. Ross, chief post office inspector, and in doing so said that he could vouch for it that the workmanship was of the best. He congratulated the residents upon the fact that Mr. J. H. Fisher had been able to secure for them such a fine structure.

COL. ROSS, in accepting the keys, said that he could sincerely state that the building was one of the best of the size he had ever seen, and that all of the equipment and paraphernalia, although not extravagant, was most satisfactory in every way. He was there to represent the Postmaster-General, who, in common with the other members of the Dominion Cabinet, was kept busy at the capital during these serious war times. "I accept these keys in his name, and I assure you that anything further is required to make the office complete, it will be forthcoming."

MR. DAVIDSON, the local member for North Brant, who was heartily applauded, said the building was theirs. He was more than pleased to see so many patriotic boys and girls present, and also so many adults. On his way through the rain and over the roads deep in mud, he had thought that perhaps the meeting would consist of fifteen or twenty red hot Tories, yet here was a crowd to be proud of, formed of all classes and political beliefs. Mr. Davidson had said that the people of Burford knew how to get things, and perhaps that was because they voted right. At any rate, all other considerations aside, they had simply gained a recognition which they deserved. He was pleased to know that they had

(Continued on Page 3)

Mexican Schooner Lenora Captured by British Cruiser Now in Harbor at Victoria

First Prize of the War to be Brought Into B. C. Port.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Seattle, Wash., May 23.—The Mexican auxiliary schooner Lenora, which was captured by a British cruiser off Lower California, May 3, to-day is lying in Esquimalt harbor at Victoria, B. C., awaiting prize court proceedings. The schooner, which is the first prize brought into Victoria since the outbreak of the war arrived Sunday in charge of a prize crew. The Lenora was under charter to German interests in Mexico at the time of her capture. The captain and purser, both Mexicans, are the only members of the original crew that aboard the Lenora, the others having been put ashore at Mazatlan. It is said the schooner belongs to the Mexican Lloyd company, of which Captain Fred Jobson, who owned the steamer Mazatlan, since captured and taken as a prize to Port Stanley, Falkland Islands, was the principal owner.

HAS FINISHED ANOTHER NOTE

This Time President Wilson is Protesting to Great Britain.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Washington, May 23.—President Wilson sent to the state department to-day the completed draft of the new note to Great Britain protesting against interference with American mails. It was not laid before the cabinet, but its general terms were explained. The note will be called to London immediately, and it is understood that a duplicate will go to the French Government.

THEATRE OF FEATURES Holiday Attractions Theodore Roberts In the Great Photo Play PUDDIN'-HEAD WILSON. 12th Episode, "The Red Circle." Matinee Prices for the Holiday the Same as Evening.

FRIDAY EVE. MAY 26th PORT Prese "Years" Chas. Darnton, N.Y. World

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Lossom, Staged by F. G. Latham of Superior Excellence or Herbert Orchestra Now selling at Boles' Drug Store 5c - \$1.00 - \$1.50 - \$2.00

MONDAY, MAY 29th Night at 7.30 and 8.15.

E AND HIS BAND in Brantford at Boles Drug Store 75c, 75c and \$1.00 Paris After Performance.

Theatre 10c

ND TUESDAY "LONDON'S LEGACY"

AND THURSDAY (Comic); "Almost a Widow," "Patriot a Wilful Way."

ND SATURDAY Valley of Hate"; "Father and Mabel"; "Love and Artillery."

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The flood control bill, authorizing the expenditure of \$45,000,000 within five years for raising the levees of the lower Mississippi and \$5,600,000 for improvement of the Sacramento