

Weather Forecast:
Fair and Mild

The London Advertiser

LONDON, CANADA--THE HOME OF UNBROKEN PROSPERITY.

HOME
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THE LONDON, ONTARIO, ADVERTISER, SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 12, 1917. 128 COLUMNS

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HAIG AGAIN PASSES BACK HUN LINE

BRITISH DRIVE TURKS INTO MOUNTAIN RANGES

ALL WESTERN U. BUILDINGS MAY BE TURNED OVER FOR USE AS SOLDIERS' HOSPITAL

The Western University's grounds and buildings in the northwest section of the city will be turned over to the Hospitals Commission for Canada for the use of invalided soldiers, according to information received by The Advertiser today. The deal will be consummated this evening, when a special meeting of the board of governors will be held.

For some time negotiations have been under way, and everything is practically settled.

The only question to be decided, and for which a solution has been arrived at, is the accommodation of the arts students. Quarters will have to be secured for lectures, etc., and Chairman C. R. Somerville will have a report on the best method of dealing with this problem. The housing of the divinity students at Huron College has been settled, the details of which cannot be secured at this time.

ELMER FISHER FALLS OFF DAM AND IS DROWNED

Six-Year-Old Boy First River
Victim of Fishing Season.

TUGGED AT FAST LINE

Apparently Lost Balance and
Plunged Into Deep
Hole.

Elmer Fisher, the six-year-old son of Roy Fisher, 4 Saund street, West London, was drowned when he fell into the river about 10.30 o'clock this morning while fishing at Dexter's old dam, north of the Dexter mill.

As a result of the accident the mother is prostrated with grief, and owing to the fact that she has only partially recovered from a recent illness and came home from the hospital just about a week ago, it is feared that the sudden shock may seriously affect her health.

The little boy left the house about 9 o'clock, accompanied by his sister Violet, aged 10.

Friend Had Premonition.

"He asked his mother to let him go fishing," said Mrs. J. Sargent, who has been staying at the Fisher home in order to help Mrs. Fisher until she regains her health, "and I told her not to let him go. It seemed as if he had a presentiment that something was about to happen. The little fellow coaxed, so his mother told him he could go out here on the gravel where I don't keep." (Here she indicated a stretch of gravel along the river bank, about 200 yards from and in plain view of the house.)

Elmer and his sister went to the dam, however, and it was while that the accident occurred. Little Violet was so excited that she was scarcely able to tell what happened, but later she said that his line had caught and in an effort to loosen it he had fallen in.

Child Was Excited.

At any rate, when she discovered what had happened she ran to the house of Mr. Powers about a quarter of a mile away from the dam. In her excitement she passed by a number of men working at the Dexter mill, and had she told them it is possible that she could have been rescued.

Continued on Page Three

NO ANNEXATION IS BASE OF HUN SOCIALIST OFFER TO THE RUSSIAN RADICALS

Amsterdam, May 12.—Via London.—According to the Petrograd report the German Socialists have been communicated by M. Borjberg, the German Socialist leader, to the Russian Council of Workers and Soldiers' Delegates, the executive committee of the German Socialist party has written to the Socialist newspaper Vorwaerts of Berlin.

"We have not been informed what M. Borjberg actually said in Petrograd. In the discussion between M. Borjberg and representatives of the German Socialists peace without annexation, which naturally includes the integrity of our country, was taken as the basis of negotiation. This in no way excludes the possibility of friendly agreement on the subject of adjustment of frontiers. No one would propose the war a single day for that."

NO PEACE MESSAGE FROM GERMAN CHANCELLOR NOW

Copenhagen, Via London, May 12.—The German Socialists' clerical party, indicates that Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg does not intend to make a statement with regard to peace terms before the Reichstag. Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg has evidently won over the Centre and part of the National Liberal delegation to his view that a discussion of peace terms at the present time is inadvisable. In view of the general attitude of Philip Scheidemann and other minority Socialists it would not be surprising if the Socialists also abandoned their intention of forcing a peace debate. The result of the proposed interpellations is very probable to be a controversy between the opponents and supporters of the chancellor rather than a debate on peace possibilities.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.
Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 52; lowest, 33.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 42; lowest, 35.

DUTCH REPORT NAVAL FIGHT IN NORTH SEA; NEW AIR RAID

Flashes Indicate British Attack
On Zeebrugge—Sounds
of Sea Fight.

London, May 12.—Flashes of light, indicating another aerial attack on Zeebrugge, were observed between 3 and 4 o'clock this morning, a Reuter dispatch from Flushing, Holland, reports. Later heavy and continuous gunfire was heard from the west. It is believed a naval engagement was in progress.

BERLIN CLAIMS A SINKING.
Berlin, May 12.—Via London, 2:10 p.m.—The admiralty announces that a British destroyer was sunk in the engagement on May 10 between German light forces and their cruisers and destroyers. The announcement says the British admiralty already has asserted that it has disclosed the facts in connection with the engagements.

The British admiralty announced on Thursday that a scouting squadron of light cruisers and destroyers had routed eleven German destroyers while cruising in the North Sea.

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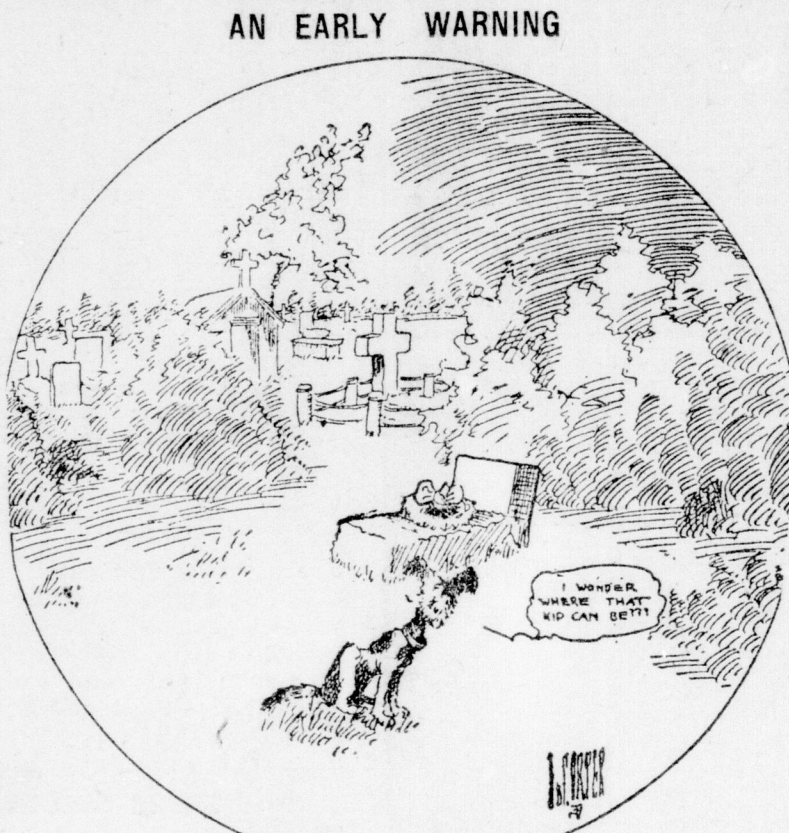
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Just Kids—The little lad who went to the river.

GERMANY USING EVERY SCIENCE TO PUT WORLD UNDERFOOT, BALFOUR TELLS AMERICANS

New York, May 12.—In his speech at the banquet here last night, Mr. Balfour moved his hearers to high enthusiasm when he said: "We have not come here as instructors of the American people, but it is important for me to proclaim my unalterable conviction that we have reached a crisis when the whole of civilization must rise up and voice its appeal for the preservation of human liberty."

"What has brought us together?" he asked. "What is the meaning of this gathering of the three great powers of the world? It is the meaning of the struggle for the preservation of human liberty."

"What is the danger we all have to meet? If we have seen the world with blood from Armenia to the Balkans, if we have seen horror heaped upon horror, we can rightly attribute it to that enemy. Shall we know what that enemy is? It is the enemy of the world, the enemy of the human race, the enemy of the future."

"The Germans have co-ordinated every means of science, not to better their own people, but to dominate others. The world has been too full of unscrupulous ambitions for us not to recognize it in the present case. This is not an instance of an individual genius, another Napoleon, seeking to overcome the world, but something far different, far more sinister—an attempt to use every means of science to put the world underfoot."

"Science has enormously expanded the ways and means of destruction, but always it has been believed and hoped that this would be controlled by considerations of humanity. We have been taught, however, a different lesson by the ruling force of Germany: we have been taught that war has been made more heinous than ever. There is not a difference in any part of the world that German diplomacy has not tried to increase, that German money has not tried to aggrandise."

"World War With Blood."

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BRITISH GAIN OBJECTIVES IN RUSH AT DAYBREAK UPON HINDENBURG LINE

ENGINEERS PAVE
WAY TO VICTORY
OF ALLIED PUSH

Wonderful Feats Performed
by Corps From the
Dominion.

ARE PLAYING BIG PART

Perfect Transportation and
Supply Systems Gave
Vimy Success.

[By Stewart Lyon, Special Correspondent of the Canadian Press in France.]
Canadian Army Headquarters, May 12.—The proposal to send engineers from the United States to aid in working out the enormous task of the Hindenburg line, the extraordinary difficult conditions of transportation of men, munitions and supplies have been overcome under the direction of Canadian engineers. Engineers from Allied countries who have visited Vimy Ridge and the region behind express profound admiration and amazement at the magnitude of the work done in a few months, which vitally influenced the strategy of the Allies on the western front this year.

Vimy Ridge the key.

The battle of Arras would have been impossible without carrying Vimy Ridge as part of the first phase. The Germans knew this and counter-attacked the development of Gen. Haig's plan for his great offensive on both sides of the Scarpe River by holding Vimy Ridge at all costs.

The capture of the position was assigned to the Canadian Corps, a decision probably influenced much by their aptitude for and experience in the construction of transportation systems.

Preparing for Drive.

For months before the assault men in thousands were building the water works plant and roads without which it is now admitted, the conquest of the ridge and the hold of the Hindenburg line would have been impossible. The railway system, begun in 1915, was reconstructed and brought into general use and served the purpose of feeding the front with supplies without disclosing information of value to the enemy, who had his eyes on the Canadian and subterranean lines of all sorts for men and material.

Big Problems Solved.

It may be said that under the direction of Canadian engineers in many places galleries were constructed as quarters for troops and as storage stations for wounded. There were water pipes which fed tap water to the front and during the campaign of 1915, was reconstructed and brought into general use and served the purpose of feeding the front with supplies without disclosing information of value to the enemy, who had his eyes on the Canadian and subterranean lines of all sorts for men and material.

Water supply for over a hundred thousand men and almost fifty thousand horses in a circumscribed area was another great problem.

Streams and rivers, an abandoned coal shaft and a spring on Vimy Ridge, almost under the Boches' lines, were the chief sources of supply. Forty miles of four-inch pipe were laid sufficiently deep to protect them against shell fire.

Unique Trouble Overcome.

It has been already told in dispatches of the tremendous labor involved in the construction and maintenance of roads and light railways. Some of the troubles were unique. Trains of wood near the front were cut down to provide material for plank roads, but were found to be too heavy to move. It was found that a portable saw mill, which had played havoc with the teeth of the saws in a portable saw mill, was not a saw with individual teeth could be got, saws had to be filed by hand after every break.

The plank roads and light railways were the only possible means of getting supplies up to Vimy Ridge after our artillery had destroyed the German road system.

A Gallant Driver.

The day before his death, Col. Driver reported the gallantry of a driver of a petrol engine, when his car, laden with shells and charges of cordite, took fire, hauled the burning explosives, and, with the aid of some soldiers, where he could get water from a shell hole and with the aid of some soldiers, to whom he set the example by his life in the flames, put out the fire.

THE WEATHER

TOMORROW—FAIR AND MILD.

Toronto, May 12, 8 a.m.

Today—Fresh northwest and north winds; fair.

Sunday—Moderate northwesterly winds; fair, with a little higher temperature.

Temperatures.

The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	52	32	Clear
Calgary	48	28	Clear
Winnipeg	46	26	Clear
Port Arthur	44	24	Clear
Parry Sound	42	22	Clear
St. John's	40	20	Clear
Buffalo	38	18	Clear
Toronto	36	16	Clear
Kingston	34	14	Clear
Ottawa	32	12	Clear
Montreal	30	10	Clear
Quebec	28	8	Clear

REVERTS TO GET TO FRANCE.

DANVILLE, Que., May 11.—Major J. H. Boutelle of Danville, who had been for some months in England awaiting a transfer to the front, has reverted to the rank of lieutenant to accomplish the purpose, and is now on the firing line, according to a letter received from the former major today. He crossed with the 11th Eastern Townships Battalion.

SHERBROOKE NURSE LOST
WHEN TRANSPORT SANK

Sherbrooke, Que., May 12.—Nurse Edna Day, who is reported to have been lost with a British transport off Malta, was recently connected with the Sherbrooke Hospital. She was a graduate of the institution and later acted as assistant superintendent for three years.

LIEUT. WELLS DEAD.

Montreal, May 12.—Lieut. C. A. Wells, son of the late Prof. Wells of Toronto, formerly principal of Moulton Ladies' College, Toronto, has fallen in action at Arras. He was first reported wounded. He is a stepson of Rev. Dr. O. C. S. Wallace, formerly chancellor of McMaster University, Toronto, and now of Montreal.

WEATHER NOTES.

The eastern disturbance is now centered off the coast of Nova Scotia, and is steadily decreasing in intensity. Showers have occurred from the Ottawa Valley eastward, while in the West the weather has been fine and warm.

British Troops Push Ahead at Bullecourt and North of Scarpe, Taking Prisoners---French Outposts Active in Alsace---Big Gun Duels at Verdun.

London, May 12, 1:05 p.m.—The official statement given out here today says that British troops attacking the Hindenburg line have gained their objective and taken some hundreds of prisoners.

The British attacked near Bullecourt, on both sides of the Arras-Cambrai road, and north of the Scarpe River, last night and early this morning. The text of the statement reads:

"Very successful operations were undertaken by our troops last night and early this morning. Attacks were delivered on the Hindenburg line in the neighborhood of Bullecourt, also astride the Arras-Cambrai road and north of the Scarpe.

"We gained our objectives at all points, and have taken some hundreds of prisoners."

PENETRATE GERMAN LINE.

Paris, May 12, noon.—Unusually heavy artillery fighting took place last night on the Verdun front, in the region of Avocourt, today's official statement says. French patrols penetrated the German lines at several points in Alsace and in the region of Bezonvaux.

Local fighting, resulting in our favor, also took place during the night east of l'Empire.

Successful raids, in which we captured several prisoners, were made by us last night east of Ypres.

THE GERMAN STATEMENT.

Berlin, May 12.—Via London, 4:31 p.m.—German troops operating in the Cerny region on the Aisne front forced the French back yesterday at Bovelle Ridge, says today's army headquarters statement. Fifteen French and British airplanes were brought down on the western front during the day, it is announced.

THE FRENCH REPORT.

Paris, May 12.—The official statement follows: "The enemy's artillery fire along the Chemin des Dames was less active last night. Our batteries kept up a destructive bombardment of the German organizations, and caused the explosion of a munitions depot northeast of Juvincourt. Patrol engagements occurred in the region of Pantheon, south of Pargny, and in the Champagne, in the wood west of Mont Camille."

"On the left bank of the Meuse (Verdun front), there was violent artillery fighting all night in the region of Avocourt wood, with no infantry actions. Our detachments penetrated the German lines north of Bezonvaux and caused the explosion of a munitions depot northeast of Juvincourt. Patrol engagements occurred in the region of Pantheon, south of Pargny, and in the Champagne, in the wood west of Mont Camille."

THE WAR SITUATION

Telling blows were struck by the British at the Hindenburg line last night and early today. The British pushed home and the objective gained despite the desperate efforts which have been made during the past few days to compel the British to relax their unceasing pressure upon this vital spot.

Further north beyond the Scarpe and along the Arras-Cambrai road, ground also was gained. The purpose of these attacks was completely attained. The London official statement declares. The German concentrations of men and guns have been broken up and prevented Gen. Haig pressing ahead when he was ready, toward the Drocourt-Queant switch in the Hindenburg line. The official report characterizes as "very successful."

French Outposts Active.

On the Aisne and Champagne fronts the French are keeping up a destructive artillery fire and harrying the Germans by outpost attacks. Less energy is being displayed by the German artillery along the line held by the French, the only exception being the Verdun region, where violent big-gun fighting in the neighborhood of Avocourt wood is reported.

Nothing spectacular has occurred in connection with the British campaign in Mesopotamia since early this month, but an official statement issued in London today reports an important clearing operation by the British. The Turks have now been driven out of virtually all the lowlands north of Bagdad, falling back to the Jebel-Hamrin range, 60 to 80 miles from that city.

LIEBKNECHT SOCIALISTS
CLASH WITH MAJORITY

Stockholm, Via London, May 12.—The Politiken prints a letter from the historian Franz Mehring of Berlin to President Teichdiele of the council of workers' and soldiers' delegates, saying that the German international group of Socialists declines to share in any conference at which the German Socialists are represented. He urges the Russian Socialists to exclude Dr. Albert Suedekum, the Socialist Reichstag deputy, and his associates. Herr Mehring adds that he speaks for the name of Rosa Luxemburg and Dr. Karl Liebknecht, both of whom are in prison.

Proposed Church Merger Called Kaiserism by Rev. A. H. Berliss.

Winnipeg, May 12.—An association, whose purpose is to "preserve and continue the Presbyterian Church in Canada as it is at present constituted," was formed last night with Judge Robson as president, at a meeting of members of practically every Presbyterian Church in Winnipeg.

Judge Robson, who was chairman of the meeting, read a telegram from Andrew Robertson of Toronto, who is at present in Vancouver, commending the purpose of the gathering. The chairman then said that the object of the meeting was not to discuss the merits or faults of the various churches, but to mean to carry a propaganda throughout the province whereby a light might be made against the coming union. Among the other speakers was Rev. H. A. Berliss, who declared that the proposed union movement "is simply Kaiserism in the church. It is entirely wrong. It seeks to establish an autocracy in the church. This union movement is rendering the church."

The meeting unanimously passed two resolutions, the more important of which was the following: "That this meeting of Presbyterians of Manitoba, regularly convened, do hereby place ourselves on record as being definitely opposed to any movement toward the disruption or discontinuance of the Presbyterian Church in Canada and do respectfully, but emphatically, protest against the continued and determined effort on the part of some to destroy our church."

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