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# THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

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## Both Armies Claim Successes At Verdun And Adjacent Points

French Have Penetrated to Douaumont Which the Germans Stormed and Captured on Feb. 25—Germans However Still Hold Northern Part of Fort—French also Gain over a Mile East of Douaumont Village

### AUSTRIAN OFFENSIVE CONTINUES UNABATED

Vienna Claims Italians Are Dislodged From all Positions and That Austrians Have Thrown Back Italians Towards Their Own Territory South East of Trent—British Forces in Mesopotamia Are Rapidly Nearing Kut-el-Amara

LONDON, May 23.—Hard fighting is still in progress between the Austrians and Italians in Tyrol, the French and Germans in the region of Verdun and the Germans and British around LaBassee.

The great offensive of the Austrians against the Italians in southern Tyrol continues unabated, and at several points the Austrians seem to be gradually throwing back the Italians toward their own territory to the southeast of Trent and on the Lavarone Plateau. Vienna says the Austrians have been dislodged from all their positions, and adds the Austrians have captured Pima Mandriola and the height immediately to the west of the frontier from the summit as far as Astach (Austico) Valley.

In the region of Verdun both French and Germans claim successes for their arms at various points. An interesting point in the latest French official is a statement that the French have penetrated to Douaumont, northeast of Verdun, which the Germans stormed and captured on February 25, four days after the commencement of the assault on Verdun, and from which all attempts to drive them out have proved futile. The Germans, however, still hold the northern part of Fort Douaumont. A violent attack also has netted for the French the German positions on a front of about a mile and a quarter east of the village of Douaumont, northwest of Verdun. The French have forced out the Germans from positions south of Hill 287, west of Le Mort Homme. Berlin on the other hand says the Germans northwest of Verdun stormed the eastern spur of Hill 304 and held them against repeated counterattacks. In this fighting the French are declared to have lost heavily in

men killed, and wounded. Admission is made in the Berlin report of the capture by the French of the quarry south of Haudromont, northeast of Verdun. Heavy losses in men were suffered by the British when the Germans took trenches from them over a front of about a mile and a quarter, near Gienchy on Gohelle and in the counter-attacks to regain them, according to Berlin.

The British operating against the Turks in Mesopotamia are gradually drawing nearer to Kut-el-Amara, where a large number of their officers and men, who recently surrendered, are still being held captive. The British, who have been reinforced by Russian cavalry, have now reached the region immediately south of Kut-el-Amara, with the intervening territory between them and their objective clear of Turks, except for small rear guards near the junction of Shatt-el-Hai and the Tigris River.

### "Was Torpedoed Without Warning"

LONDON, May 23.—The British Admiralty referring to a report sent out from Berlin to the effect that the survivors of the British steamer Cymric, which sank the "May C" asserted that Lynch participated openly in the rebellion, having been seen frequently in Irish uniform in Liberty Hall during the fighting. Court martial sentenced him to death, but General Maxwell, after receipt of the request from the American Embassy, reviewed the sentence and commuted it to ten years' imprisonment.

### Greek Steamer Sunk

LONDON, May 23.—A Lloyd's despatch says the Greek steamer Anasias Coroneos, 1,901 tons has been sunk. The French steamer Languedoc and the Italian barque Erminia have been sunk, according to reports received by Lloyd's. The Languedoc was 1,612 tons gross. Shipping registers do not report her recent movements. The Erminia was 1,544 gross gross tonnage, and sailed from Savona on May 11 for Philadelphia.

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### AFTERTHOUGHTS.



TURKEY: "Life's just one jam thing after another since I joined these Germans!"—Westminster Gazette.

## Temporary Government for Ireland

Rumored Asquith May Propose Advisory Board Consisting of Irishmen of all Parties—More Trials in on Dublin—Lynch Will be Liberated

LONDON, May 22.—Regarding the Lynch case, the Foreign Office said today that General Maxwell, Commanding the Forces in Ireland, had sent a telegram to Asquith which asserted that Lynch participated openly in the rebellion, having been seen frequently in Irish uniform in Liberty Hall during the fighting. Court martial sentenced him to death, but General Maxwell, after receipt of the request from the American Embassy, reviewed the sentence and commuted it to ten years' imprisonment.

DUBLIN, May 22.—It was officially announced today that in addition to the sentence of death imposed on Lynch, a similar sentence was imposed upon Peter Gallingham, but this sentence has been commuted to five years' penal servitude. A number of other persons were also sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. The court martial opened today the private case of John MacNeil, President of the Sinn Fein Volunteers, who was formerly a civil servant in the four courts of Dublin, but is now professor in the Irish university.

LONDON, May 22.—According to the "Evening Standard," influences are working for the settlement of the Irish question by granting Home Rule at the earliest possible moment, with a clean-cut exclusion of Ulster from operations in the Home Rule in the interim.

The newspaper says that Premier Asquith will be presented in the Commons on Thursday. There was no Cabinet meeting today, but Asquith was in consultation with different Ministers, including David Lloyd George, Minister of Munitions, and with John Redmond, the Irish leader.

### Now Very Near To Kut-el-Amara

General Goringe Operating On South Bank of Tigris Has Now Virtually Reached the City

LONDON, May 22.—A despatch received from General Sir Percy Lake, Commander of the British force in Mesopotamia, shows that the forces of Lieutenant General Goringe operating on the south bank of the Tigris, have now virtually reached Kut-el-Amara. The Turks still occupy Sannayyate.

The official communication issued tonight, concerning operations in this region says that General Lake reports that on May 20th the right south bank of the Tigris, was clear of the enemy as far as Shatt-el-Hai, except for a small rear guard covering the bridge over Hala. Some 500 yards below its junction with the Tigris our main force by this bank have reached the line of Magasid Dujailam, on the left north bank. The weather is intensely hot and trying, the temperature during the last few days being over 100 degrees in the shade.

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## Will Present His Statement On Thursday

Asquith Will Address Commons Thursday in Connection With Irish Question—Middleton in Evidence Says he Warned Wimborne and Others of Impending Danger

LONDON, May 22.—In the Irish enquiry, Viscount Middleton gave further evidence of the warning he had given Baron Wimborne, then Lord Lieutenant, Lansdowne and others, of the impending danger; he had told the Under Secretary for Ireland that the situation was so bad that Redmond was in danger of his life. Wimborne, in giving evidence, said he declared he imagined the charge that would be brought against the Irish Government would be one of supreme blindness and irresolution in dealing with the propaganda and hostile demonstration of Sinn Feiners ever since the departure of the Irish Division to the front at the end of last summer. He said that the Irish garrison had been inadequate, and in March of this year he urged on General French the desirability of sending a division of troops to Ireland. Early this year the police report, showed that the Sinn Fein movement was growing, and Lord Wimborne said he then suggested deportation or internment as a remedy. Wimborne caused a stir in the room when he said that the Admiral at Queenstown had received information that Casement had departed from Germany, that his ship was accompanied by two submarines and might be expected off the Irish coast about Easter Sunday, and that this information, he said, had not been communicated to the Irish Government.

The Commission will hold the next meeting on Thursday in Dublin.

LONDON, May 22.—A statement from Premier Asquith will be presented in the Commons on Thursday. There was no Cabinet meeting today, but Asquith was in consultation with different Ministers, including David Lloyd George, Minister of Munitions, and with John Redmond, the Irish leader.

The putting off the statement until Thursday was for the purpose of enabling the Cabinet to thoroughly review the situation.

### Prison Camps Can Be Improved On

Treatment of British Prisoners in Germany Is Somewhat Improved—Many Camps Yet Need Attention.

LONDON, May 22.—Lord Robert Cecil, Minister of War Trade, stated in the Commons this afternoon that representatives of the United States Government, had been refused permission to visit some of the industrial camps in Germany, where British prisoners were employed. The Minister added that the treatment of prisoners in Germany was somewhat better than formerly, though the situation in some of the working camps and industrial establishments left much to be desired.

A suggestion made by Rowland Hunt, Unionist member, in a question that German prisoners in Great Britain be subjected to most rigorous treatment, short of actual cruelty

## Italy's Hour Has Now Struck

News From the Front Shows Austrians Are Making Elaborate Preparations For Big Offensive Against Entire Venetian Region—Main Italian Army Threatened

ROME, May 23.—Italy's great hour has struck is the theme of comment of the public press. News has been received from the front, and all reports coming from the fighting have been in agreement that the number of Austrian troops now in action have been more than doubled, and that Austrian artillery and especially their heavy long range guns is daily increasing and unmasking an imposing offensive prepared by Austria with the object of reaching the Alps above Vienna, from which the Austrians would be able to dominate the entire Venetian region and threaten the flank and rear of the main Italian army occupying the provinces of Udine and Belluno.

### Look For Peace Before January Next

LONDON, May 23.—Underwriters yesterday charged fifty per cent. to insure against a declaration of peace between Great Britain and Germany before January 1st. This rate indicates the underwriters' opinion of the prospects of an early peace is better than two months ago, when the rate for the same risk was only 30 per cent.

### More Peace Talk

AMSTERDAM, May 23.—The "Nieuwe Machrichten" publishes a wireless despatch from Madrid which says negotiations are in progress there between the Pope and King Alfonso and the Pope and President Wilson for the purpose of arranging an armistice among the belligerent nations with the object of discussing peace terms.

## Hun Attacks On Hill 304 Have Failed

PARIS, May 23.—Fighting continued with extreme violence on both banks of the Meuse along the Verdun front the whole night. Two German attacks 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 north-eastern corner of the fort. The battle around Hill 304 was especially severe. In attacking the 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, after intense artillery preparation, but were not permitted to reach the French lines. The principle fighting east of the Meuse was in the sector between Thiaumont and Douaumont. The Germans attacked en masse and succeeded in recouping one of the trenches north of Thiaumont Farm, which had been captured by the French.

### Dr. Grenfell at Montreal

MONTREAL, May 23.—Dr. Wilfred Grenfell, C.M.G., the noted Labrador missionary, recently returned from the war. In an address before the Canadian Club in Montreal today, referring to the splendid efficiency of the Army Medical Corps, said that in spite of trench feet, typhoid and other troubles, the actual condition of health of men our army to-day was exactly twice as good as it would have been if they were living in their own homes in Canada.

### Long Jail Terms For Rebel Irishmen

DUBLIN, May 23.—In the following it is officially announced, the sentence of death of the military court-martial has been commuted to penal servitude: ten years servitude, Jeremiah C. Lynch, Peter Gallingham, Thos. Demond Fitzgerald, William Partridge, John Corcoran; five years servitude, Pat. H. Fahet; three years servitude, William Hussey; Michael Fleming, sr.; one year's servitude, Michael Fleming, jr.

## Britain Faced With Serious Food Problem

Breakdown in Home Supplies Will Come if Farmers Don't Alter Their Attitude Over Employment of Female Labor—Situation is Growing Serious

LONDON, May 23.—Francis Dyke Akland, Financial Secretary of Treasury, speaking in the Commons on the agricultural situation today, made a somewhat disturbing statement. It was imperative, Akland said, that farmers should drop their prejudice against the employment of female labor. The breakdown of home supplies was only avoidable thereby. Even as things were going it was now feared Great Britain could not hope to maintain last year's level if more men were swept into the army from farms, and she could only escape famine by diverting the importation of foodstuffs ships, which are so urgently needed for the transport of munitions, and Akland concluded, "We are unable to say whether there will be ships to divert that way."

During the course of the debate following Akland's speech, Rowland Edmund Prothero, of Oxford University expressed the opinion that sooner or later the Government would be compelled to put the country on shorter rations in order to economize the food supplies. He urged the Government to grasp the serious situation forthwith.

### Swede Steamer Sunk

STOCKHOLM, May 23.—The Swedish steamer Rosalind, 877 tons, from Copenhagen to Stugund, in ballast, has been sunk by a mine off the Stockholm Skerries. The crew were saved.

### Danish Steamer Sunk

COPENHAGEN, May 23.—The Danish steamer Oarla, 316 tons, has been sunk by a mine outside Sandhammar Point, on the southern coast of Sweden, according to a Stockholm despatch. The crew were saved.

### Enemy Plane Destroyed

ROME, May 23.—Our Naval Flying Squadron defeated and burned an enemy aeroplane in the Upper Adriatic last night, says a semi-official despatch.

## Austrian Offensive Is Checked

ROME, May 22.—The Austrian artillery of all sizes and ranges, with the monster 305 millimetre gun predominating, has transformed the battle-front between Adige and Brenta rivers into an inferno. Notwithstanding the snow-capped mountain barriers, the Austrian infantry are being launched in waves, which military observers say may break against the formidable resistance of the Italians. The Italian troops have now formed their lines of defence and are holding all passes and peaks, from which the Italian officers say, the forward movement of the Austrians has not only been successfully arrested, but the Austrians have been dislodged from several strategic positions taken in the first rush of the offensive.

### Prince of Wales Back From Egypt

LONDON, May 23.—The Prince of Wales has returned from Egypt to the British fighting line in the West. He recently visited the Italian front.

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## Hard Fighting In Region West Of Mort Homme

French Official Statement Says German Attacks all Along the Line Were Put Down—In Verdun Region Much Aerial Activity is Reported

PARIS, Official, 3 p.m., May 22nd.—On Berry Au Bac we successfully exploded two mines on Hill 108. In Champagne an emission of asphyxiation gas by the Germans in the zone comprising Souain to Sommeville Road did not give them any result; the wind suddenly changed and the gas was taken back over the enemy's trenches.

On the left bank of the Meuse infantry fighting continued during the night. In the Avocourt Woods our grenadiers scored some points and occupied several blockhouses evacuated by enemy. In the region west of Mort Homme fighting was particularly fierce, several attempts by the enemy to enlarge its progress were stopped and shattered by curtains of fire and by mitrailleuses fire. A very spirited attack launched by our troops enabled us to recapture part of ground lost Saturday night on the right bank. The Germans, several times, launched counter attacks against the captured Haudromont positions taken by us yesterday. All attacks were stopped by our cross firing, the enemy sustaining heavy losses.

At Vaux village frontier a small attack was executed by us, this enabled us to capture a German trench.

At Eparges several German mines were exploded without causing much damage.

In Verdun region our aeroplanes attacked observation balloons. Six of these balloons were brought down in flames. During an air duel one of our pilots brought down a German machine in Eparges region and two other German machines attacked by ours fell, one in German lines near Luançourt Fosse, the other in our lines at Fontenoy. This morning enemy aeroplanes threw bombs on Dunkirk. During the nights of 20th and 22nd several operations were executed by groups of bombarding aeroplanes. Shells were thrown successfully on Metz-Sablons Railway Station, on Munition Depots at Blaches and Chapelotte on Zivonacs in Azanne Itignon and on Jimetz Village, where an important commanding post was installed. Two of our dirigibles sprinkled with bombs the railway station and Railway lines of Breuille and Dun.

### Italian Steamer Sunk

LONDON, May 22.—Lloyd's announced today that the Italian steamer Birmania, a vessel of 2,215 tons, was sunk.

## Liberal Victory In Quebec

Liberals Capture 49 Seats—Twenty-Three Returned by Acclamation—Liberals Have 72 Seats in New House—Conservatives Get Seven Seats

MONTREAL, May 23.—Elections were held in fifty-three ridings of Quebec Province today. Forty-nine Liberals, and four Conservatives were returned. Twenty-three Liberals were elected by acclamation, three Conservatives, with eighty-one seats in Legislature the standing of the two parties is as follows: Liberals 72, Conservatives 7, with two deferred elections, one in Madeline Island and one in Gaspe.

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