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FRENCH AND BRITISH ON OFFENSIVE TO OPEN WAY FOR ATTACK AT LILLE

Operations In Carpathians Now in Nature of Siege, While Fighting Has Been Resumed in Northern and Western Poland

Paris, April 16—Renewing their offensive in order to open the way for an attack against the German position at Lille, French and British troops are attacking the German lines between Arras and LaBassee in an effort to gain control of the Arras-Lille railway line. Extensive mining operations are varied with severe artillery duels and fierce infantry attacks.

Near Notre Dame de Lorette and Ablain, St. Nazaire, north of Arras, the French have been successful in capturing some of the German trenches, and destroying others with artillery and mines. Fighting continues in the Woevre district, where also there is much aerial activity. German air scouts trying to spy out the French troop movements were shelled and one was brought to earth.

FIGHTING AGAIN ON POLISH SOIL

Petrograd, April 16 —While flooded streams and mud-filled roads are increasing, the difficulties of military operations in the Carpathians and hampering the advance of the Russians to a great extent, more favorable weather conditions in northern and western Poland have resulted in a renewal of fighting there after a lull of several weeks.

Russian successes in the Mlawa region and west of the Vistula River, are announced in the latest advices from Grand Duke Nicholas. The operations near Mlawa are directed against the right wing of the German forces lying along the Narow-Bobr front, with a salient extending toward the fortress of Ossowiec, against which the Germans make almost daily attacks without success.

If the Russians can maintain their offensive and reach the German lines of communication from the east Prussian frontier, the siege of Ossowiec will have to be abandoned.

West of the Vistula, in the vicinity of Sochaczew, the Russians are renewing their efforts to take the German trenches and drive the enemy back across the Bzura River.

In the Carpathians, the operations about Uszok Pass are taking on the aspect of a siege, with the Russians pressing forward gradually towards their objective, while the Austro-German forces, still holding their main positions, attempt by frequent sorties to break the cordon that is being drawn about the pass.

A despatch from Lemberg passed by the censor, but officially unconfirmed thus far by the War Office, states that in their defeat at Kozowa on Wednesday, the Austro-German forces lost 8,000 men in killed, wounded and prisoners.

GERMANS FAIL AGAIN AT OSSOWETZ

Petrograd, via London, April 16—The official communication issued by the War Office last night says:

"At Ossowetz on Wednesday the enemy ineffectually attempted an advance on the Russian position.

"In the direction of Mlawa we were successful in outpost fights.

"In the Carpathians, the Russians advanced slightly in the region north of the Uszok Pass, where 200 prisoners were taken. The enemy's attacks on the heights of Semuth and Volosaate, near Yamarow, and to the south of Koziouwka, were successfully repelled."

PICKED BODY OF GERMANS BEATEN

Geneva, Switzerland, April 16 — The Tribune publishes a despatch from Northeastern Hungary, saying a great battle has been fought between the Stry and the Valley of the Ondava. A German army of picked men attacked the Russians, but after thirty-two hours of heavy fighting, the Russians repulsed the Germans and captured a quantity of arms and ammunition.

A despatch from Vienna says sixty-five Austrian officers have been disciplined for negligence, which resulted in the annihilation of a division of reserves near Bereg, and the Austrian defeat in the Sarao region. Austrian troops from the Serbian frontier are reported being sent to the Trentina, and that some already have passed through Salsburg.

Germans Distort Facts

Basel, April 16—(via Berlin)—French aviators dropped bombs near Krotzingen and on Villingen and Donaueschingen, towns in Baden, on April 13, according to the National Zeitung. (Continued on page 2, third column).

CUSTOMS MEN WATCH FOR THE FIGHT FILMS

Jess Willard, However, Says There is no Intention to Work "Underground" Plan

New York, April 16—Warned by H. C. Stuart, special deputy collector of customs of this port, that word had been received of an attempt to bring into New York the Willard-Johnson fight film made at Havana, every examiner, was on the watch for them today.

A similar warning, it was reported, has been sent to the customs officials of all Atlantic seaboard cities.

Commenting on this, Jess Willard said: "I guess that means we can't afford to take any chances of losing the films just at present. You can say for me that we did not expect to bring the films in at this time, and that we have made no effort to break past the customs house with them, and do not intend to make any such effort."

BYE-LAW MATTERS.

In the police court this morning William J. McAlary was fined $10 for violating Sections 6 and 26 of the street traffic by-laws, by leaving his automobile standing on the wrong side of Charlotte street and also for driving along the wrong side.

James McNeill was fined $10 for operating an automobile in the city under a number which did not belong to him.

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER BULLETIN

Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meterological service.

Synopsis—Rain has fallen over the greater portion of the maritime provinces, and showers are occurring in the peninsula of Ontario. In the west the weather remains very fine.

Some Showers

Maritime—Moderate winds, occasional showers; Saturday local showers, but partly fair.

New England Forecasts—Partly cloudy tonight and Saturday, not much change in temperature; light to moderate variable winds.

IF AUSTRIA WANTS PEACE SHE MUST ASK ALLIES FOR CONDITIONS

London, April 16—A Petrograd despatch to the Daily Mail says:—

"While denying categorically that Austria has made any direct peace advances to Russia, officials here admit that peace suggestions have come from the Pope, at the instigation of private persons in Austria-Hungary.

"The Pope's communication merely asked whether, if Austria were willing, Russia would enter into negotiations with a view to peace. The answer was that if Austria desired peace she must ask the allies for their conditions, which would then be considered and communicated to the Austrian government."

SERIOUS CUT IN WAGES

Reduction of Six to Twelve Per Cent in American Sheet and Tin Plate Company Works

Pittsburg, April 16—Reductions in wages in the hot mill departments of all the works of the American Sheet and Tin Plate Company, an important subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation, was announced today.

The rate of reduction, it was said by steel authorities, would average between six and twelve per cent. It affects all the company's twenty-nine plants in Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, and comes close on the heels of a similar reduction accepted by the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, after the membership had defeated the proposition twice.

Members of the Amalgamated Association have no union lodges in the American Sheet and Tin Plate Company's plants since 1909, their scale being signed by independent companies only.

WILL COST TWO MILLIONS TO CROWN JAPANESE EMPEROR

Tokio, April 16—The cabinet today fixed November 10 as the date for the coronation of Emperor Yoshihito. The ceremony was to have taken place last November, but a postponement was necessary because of the death of the Dowager empress. The Diet has appropriated 4,000,000 yen ($2,000,000) for the expenses of the ceremony.

The old Liberty Bell is to be sent to the San Francisco exposition after July 4.

ATTACK LONDON?

Germans May Drop Bombs Tonight

PRECAUTIONS ARE TAKEN

People Warned To Be Ready To Extinguish Lights—Enemy Air Craft at Noon Today Were Over Canterbury

London, April 16—Precautions taken here today indicated that the authorities fear a great Zeppelin raid upon London tonight. Special warnings were sent out that any notice to extinguish lights must be immediately obeyed under penalty of arrest.

To assist the police and to prevent panic, if an attack is made, a special force of 7,000 constables organized since the war began, was to report at Scotland Yard this afternoon.

Weather conditions today were ideal for aerial operations, and it was apparently the belief of the authorities that the long-threatened attack of Zeppelins against the British capital was imminent.

The raids of Thursday night and this morning were regarded as reconnoitering expeditions, whose success would incite the Germans to a greater effort.

It is reported that a German aeroplane at midday today dropped bombs near Herne Bay, in Kent, six miles from Canterbury. Herne Bay is a town and watering place on an estuary of the Thames, with a population of about 7,000. It is fifty miles in an airline from London.

Over Canterbury

London, April 16—(2.20 p.m.)—Two hostile aeroplanes are reported over the city of Canterbury, which is 53 miles to the east of London. (Continued on page 2, third column).

SUPERANNUATION OF POLICE MAGISTRATE IS REPORTED TODAY

Bill in Legislature This Session is Current Rumor — The Judgeships

Since the announcement that Hon. J. G. Forbes would retire on May 10 there have been many rumors regarding the changes which would follow. The story now most generally accepted is that Judge Forbes will be succeeded by Col. J. R. Armstrong, judge of probates and that H. O. McInerney, registrar of the probate court, will become judge of that court.

Owing to various circumstances which have to be taken into consideration by the politicians this arrangement depended, to a certain extent, upon the future arrangements for the police court officials. It is now rumored that this has been straightened out and that the provincial government at this session will introduce a bill to provide for the superannuation of Hon. R. J. Ritchie, police magistrate.

The story goes that he will be succeeded by George A. Henderson, clerk of the police court. If this change takes place it is probable that no other lawyer will be appointed as clerk but that his duties will be looked after by an official stenographer.

The only appointment said to be in question is that of registrar of the probate court and it is reported that the names of E. T. C. Knowles and J. Starr Tait are being considered.

WILL NOT INVESTIGATE POTATO TRANSACTION

Public Accounts Committee Refuses to Allow Examination of Certain Witnesses

Fredericton, April 16—The public accounts committee has refused to investigate the transactions in connection with the purchase of potatoes for the patriotic gift from the province to the imperial authorities. A motion to investigate was voted down at a meeting of the committee this morning.

An attempt had been made already to secure the investigation by royal commission but it had failed and E. S. Carter addressed a letter to Mr. Stewart of Northumberland, informing him that the witnesses already secured would be available to give evidence before the committee.

Mr. Stewart this morning moved that the independent witnesses be heard regarding the ordinary cost of buying and handling potatoes and that the principal member of the firm of A. C. Smith & Company be heard with regard to the details of his bill for $90,000.

The chairman took the ground that the witnesses suggested were business rivals of Messrs. Smith & Company and that, therefore, their evidence would not be of much value and asked that the motion be withdrawn.

Mr. Stewart refused to withdraw his resolution and it went to a vote and was defeated.

German Fleet Is Reported Active

Large Cruiser and Torpedo Boat Flotilla Sighted--Times Expert Says This News Should Not be Passed Over Lightly

London, April 16—A despatch from Copenhagen states that a large German cruiser and torpedo boat flotilla, are reported moving northward between the island of Bornholm and the Swedish coast. Bornholm is a large Danish Island in the Baltic Sea.

The London Times naval expert writes:

The reports of movements, in the German high sea fleet, of cruiser squadrons in the North Sea, and destroyers off the coast of Holland, should not be passed over lightly. There are circumstances which lend support to the idea of increased activity by those forces. It would be strange if appointment of the new chief, Admiral Von Pohl, is not followed by signs of renewed briskness and energy.

"In this month the fleet receives considerable additions to its strength. It is probable the cruisers Derflinger, Seydlitz and Von Der Tann are now restored to the fleet, indeed, it is said they have been to sea again The vessels which were in various stages of completion, at the beginning of the war should now be finished and passed into commission. These units form an appreciable accession of strength.

"The movements of the German navy are never purposeless. They must not be regarded with complacency, but considered in connection with the general situation on land. The dreadnought strength of the force under Admiral Von Pohl is almost certainly seventeen battleships, and probably some battle cruisers. Ten light cruisers have gone, but it has been possible to complete ten new vessels and Admiral Von Pohl will have a force under his command, stronger than his predecessor commanded."

Y. M. C. A. DIRECTORS HEAR GOOD REPORTS

F. C. Smith Gives Cheery Financial Statement

Encouraging Word Also From Chairmen of Other Committees — Some Plans For the Near Future

Last night the monthly meeting of the board of directors of the Y. M. C. A. was held in the board room. J. Hunter White, the president, was in the chair, and the following directors were present:—F. C. Smith, G. A. Henderson, G. E. Barbour, Chas. Robinson, H. A. Porter, F. Neil Brodie, W. H. White, D. C. Clark, A. M. Gregg, W. C. Cross, F. A. Dykeman, and the general secretary, T. H. Hutchinson.

The treasurer, F. C. Smith, presented a most encouraging financial report. A deficit of $4,000, which was carried at the beginning of this year had been paid off by special subscriptions, and the finance committee felt very confident that it would be possible to close this year with a clean sheet, but yet required considerable work on the part of the canvassers, as there yet remains $1,000 to be raised in current subscriptions. The financial statement showed that the total receipts from all sources for the eleven months of the year had been $12,706. The liabilities had been $14,129. Mr. Smith expressed words of appreciation for the excellent response the people of St. John had made to the appeal of the association for funds this year, despite the fact that there had been so many unusual calls on all interested in this kind of work.

F. Neil Brodie, in reporting for the property committee, proposed a plan for greatly improving the appearance of the building by doing a considerable amount of grading and filling in. This was endorsed by the board, and will be carried out in the very near future.

The boys' work report was presented by W. C. Cross, and was most encouraging and satisfactory. He reported that during the visit of Mr. Statten, the national secretary for boys' work, there had been six meetings with an attendance of 615. In addition to this there had been seventy-six regular group meetings held for boys with an attendance of 750.

H. A. Porter, in presenting his report for the physical committee, gave facts and figures that indicated that this department was being used to a considerable extent. During the month there had been sixty-nine class sessions with a total attendance of 1,106. There had been twenty-five league basket ball games played, and about 1,000 games rolled on the bowling alleys. It also reported that the interest in both the boys' and men's classes was keeping up in excellent shape. For the last two weeks in March there had been some 700 of the enlisted men who used the gymnasium, shower baths, and swimming pool. These privileges are extended free to all enlisted men.

The report of the social committee, which is carried on under the chairmanship of Harry McFarlane, indicated that the social life of the organization was in a healthy condition. During the month fireside socials, a checker tournament, and the ping pong and billiard tables had been some of the chief features of this work.

The house committee, under the chairmanship of F. DeL. Clements, reported that the present time all the dormitories were filled. They also acknowledged a substantial gift of supplies, towels and linen from the ladies' auxiliary.

The chairman of membership, F. A. Dykeman, reported that the receipts from membership fees this year were twenty-five per cent. increase over those last year.

For the religious work, Charles Robinson, as chairman of the religious work committee, reported several encouraging things during the last month. At the present time there are some 150 men and boys enrolled in Bible classes.

The summer programme of the organization was discussed, and it is hoped that one of the features this summer will be the installing of two tennis courts on one side of the building, and at least one hand ball court. It is now practically assured that the expense on these be taken care of by the young men themselves who are interested in these features.

The request of the physical department committee to hold a gymnasium men's banquet this month, was sanctioned. This will be the big wind up of the season's programme for this department, and it is expected that Dr. George A. Smith, physical director of the Central Y. M. C. A., Montreal, will be the chief speaker.

Plans were also discussed for the holding of the annual meeting in the second week in May. G. E. Barbour, J. Hunter White and W. C. Cross were elected to nominate directors for the coming year. T. H. Sommerville and E. V. Morrow were appointed auditors for the closing year.

WAS SUBMARINE THAT SANK DUTCH STEAMER

Lights Showing and Name And Nationality Clearly Displayed

Call For Help to Tow Crew to Lightship Seven Miles Away Disregarded by German Pirates

The Hague, April 16—It was a submarine which sank the Dutch steamer Katwyk, which went down yesterday near the North Hinder lightship, according to a report of the captain of the vessel and crew, published by the department of marine.

The report says:—"The captain cast anchor in twenty fathoms of water, seven miles west of the North Hinder lightship. The anchor light immediately was lighted as well as two electric lamps illuminated the flags fore and aft. Between the flags in big letters were the words "Katwyk, Rotterdam."

'Suddenly a heavy shock was felt, and the mate observed a column of water on the port side. The lamps were thrown out and fire started immediately. The captain and crew hastened on deck and took to the boats, remaining near the sinking vessel for some time. They saw a submarine emerging, showing no number, and with none of the crew visible. The Katwyk's captain shouted a request that the submarine tow the boats to the lightship, but no attention was paid to him, and the submarine disappeared in the darkness. The Katwyk disappeared beneath the water in twenty minutes and the boats were rowed to the lightship."

CONDUCTS HIS OWN CASE; AND CHOOSES SPEEDY TRIAL

The preliminary hearing in the case of James Shaw, under arrest for alleged stealing of a pair of boots from Harriet Jones, was taken up in the police court this morning. The plaintiff said she was employed in the Gem dining rooms, King Square, and had purchased a pair of boots on Tuesday afternoon. The next morning they were missing, and she informed the police. She identified a pair produced in court as her property.

William Burroughs testified about seeing the boots on Tuesday, after they had been purchased by the plaintiff. Joseph Gilbert testified that the defendant called at his place of business, in Mill street, and sold him the shoes for 75c. The defendant, who formerly practised law, conducted his own case and cross questioned the two first witnesses. When asked if he was willing that the case be tried in the police court he said that he would prefer to go under the speedy trials act. He was then remanded.

AMATEUR BOXER DIES AFTER BOUT WITH A FRIEND

New York, April 16—George Brogan, an amateur boxer died today from the effects of a blow over the heart, in a boxing exhibition at the Loughlin Lyceum.

In St. Cecelia's Roman Catholic church in Brooklyn last night, Brogan who was twenty-six years old, was boxing with Arthur Stebbins, a friend. The blow felled him unconscious. Stebbins was not detained.

Despite Submarines, The Admiralty Has Transported More Than Million Men

Utter Failure of Eleven Weeks Of Efforts of Germans

Only Five Men Lost by Britain in Transport Since War Began is Proud Record—Effect on Shipping Trifling—A French Suggestion to Curb Kaiser's Efforts at Destruction

London, April 16—Great pride is taken in the record during the eleven weeks since the German submarine terrorist campaign started. The admiralty transported more than a million men by water, and five men represent the total losses in the transport work of the Admiralty, since the beginning of the war.

Another record has been established in the transport of horses from India, with the loss of only two.

In the merchant marine more than 11,000 English merchant ships arrived at or sailed from English ports in the last eleven weeks, while fewer than forty English merchant ships have been victims of German submarines. In the same time the number of new ships launched for the English merchant marine, makes the total number of ships and the total tonnage of England's merchant marine greater than before the "reign of terror."

A FRENCH SUGGESTION

Paris, April 16—M. Leguales De Mezauban, president of the Brittainy Ship Owners' Association, has suggested that the minister of marine replace each ship belonging to the allies sunk by a German submarine by a vessel of corresponding size from among the 278 German ships detained at French ports since the beginning of the war. This, he believes, would cause German ship owners to do their utmost to induce Emperor William to put a stop to a method of warfare, the cost of which was borne by them.

The proposal has been taken into consideration by the French government, but before it can be put into execution an arrangement must be made with the British authorities.

REFUSED TO GIVE THE INFORMATION

Matter of Prudential and Valley Railway Not For People

HON. MR. LANDRY'S DICTUM

Willing to Show Books to Opposition Leader But Only on Pledge That He Would Make Nothing Public

Fredericton, N. B., April 16—The government is bound to keep the lid on and not give the public any information as to the list of securities held as collateral for the amount of $924,648.98 by the Prudential Trust Company for the purposes of the St. John & Quebec Railway.

On March 23, in answer to an inquiry by Mr. Dugal, the provincial secretary said that the list of securities was on file in his office, but the government felt that it was not in the public interest to publish the list.

Certain information having reached the opposition since that time, Mr. Dugal, this morning, accompanied by Mr. Veniot, made a formal demand upon the provincial secretary to examine the list in the public interest.

The provincial secretary refused to allow him to do so unless he would give his word of honor that he would make no public use of the information contained in the return made by the Prudential Trust Company.

To use the provincial secretary's words: 'I will grant the privilege to the leader of the opposition alone to examine these documents so that he can satisfy himself that they are as represented, but I must have his word of honor that the contents will not be made public. I consider it is not in the interests of the public that the contents should be published.

"It would not be fair to interested persons nor to the Prudential Trust Company, who have to make quarterly returns to the government, to have these documents made public. If the leader of the opposition will give me his word of honor to do as I suggest he can at any time make an examination of these papers."

Mr. Dugal replied that he would consider the matter and let Dr. Landry know at a later date what he was prepared to do. He added that his interest was only the interest of the public and that at present he felt that the public should be made aware of the contents of this document, the list of securities.

Hon. Dr. Landry's attitude is no doubt endorsed by Premier Clarke, as a day or two ago E. S. Carter asked him for the same information and he replied that he would consult the premier and give him an answer later.

To withhold information respecting public business is not new to this government, but in such an important matter as the safety of nearly a million dollars provided by the people of New Brunswick for the construction of an important work, it is a serious step for the provincial secretary to take in keeping back from the people any information that will show them how their interests are protected.

Auditor Dunlap, who has been busy for some weeks at the departmental building, is said to have worked almost entirely upon this Valley Railway business, endeavoring to straighten it out and to show the government exactly where the province stands in relation to it. It is said that no steps will be taken to consider further work upon the Valley Railway until he completes his report.

The manager of the Hibbard Construction Company and Mr. Gaul are at present on the spot, and as the spring is opening, this concern as well as the others that were engaged upon the work are anxious to know whether they are to continue or settle up and take their plants and their capital to other operations.

THE FUNDS

Contributions for the Canadian Patriotic Fund have been received by C. B. Allan, as follows; W. J. Ambrose, for April $10; Mrs. W. J. Ambrose, for April, $5; Benjamin Mirey, for April, $1.

Belgian Fund

Major Frink has received contributions for the Belgian relief fund as follows; Proceeds pie social, Carsonville, Kings county, per P. H. Leiper, $80; proceeds sale of beads by Mrs. Allan Bustin, Lake Latimer, $2.50; concert, Canrobie, Gloucester county, per Rev. F. A. Wightman, Bathurst, N. B., $14.40; Lower Cape Baptist church, per Ina E. Hawes, secretary, $15.

DUE HERE WITH 300 WAR PRISONERS

Some 300 prisoners, Germans and Austrians, but mostly the former are expected in the city today on the arrival of the steamer St. George now in commission by the government. They are being brought from Bermuda and are to be taken to Amherst, N. S., to the detention camp, being transferred to I. C. R. cars immediately after their arrival here.

BATTLESHIP AGROUND

Wilmington, Del., April 16—The Argentine battleship Moreno, which sailed from the Philadelphia navy yard yesterday for Hampton Roads, ran aground near Reedy Island, in the Delaware river, and last night was fast on a shoal. Officers do not believe the ship was damaged, and that she will be floated.

The Moreno carries a crew of 900 and is one of the most powerful fighting ships afloat.

NEW AMBASSADOR FROM RUSSIA AT ROME

London, April 16—A Reuter despatch from Petrograd says that Michel De Giers, formerly Russian ambassador to Turkey, has been appointed ambassador at Rome.

THE ALGONQUIN

The work of building the new C. P. R. hotel at St. Andrews, replacing the Algonquin, is rapidly nearing completion. H. C. Grout, superintendent of the Atlantic division, came home last night after a trip over the line in which he visited St. Andrews and went through the new building. He said today that it was a splendid structure which should add greatly to the popularity of St. Andrews as a summer resort. It contained about 220 rooms and already the bookings have taken the majority of these for the opening which will probably be about June 1. It is expected that many tourists who might otherwise go abroad will come to St. Andrews this year, and also to other maritime points.

BEAVER LAKE FISHING CLUB

The annual meeting of the Beaver Lake Fishing Club was held on Tuesday evening. G. Fred Fisher was elected president; R. S. Ritchie, vice-president; K. J. MacRae, secretary; Dr. L. A. Langstroth, Percy B. Holman, H. J. Mowatt and H. Russell Sturdee directors.