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WEATHER—RAIN

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DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT DEAD; BRITISH AT BAPAUME GATES; GOVERNMENT WINS VICTORY

ENTENTE ALLIES STILL WINNING

Army of Britain Knocking Hard at Gates of Bapaume, Advancing Their Front of a Mile and a Half Against the Germans Holding the Town.

British Also Win Elsewhere—Russians Capture Important Town of Kermanshah, Persia—King George's Army in Mesopotamia still Pursuing Turks—American Steamer Sunk by Submarine.

The British forces fighting in France are knocking hard at the gates of Bapaume and also are continuing to swing their left wing forward in the line-straightening manoeuvre which has the flanking of Bapaume on the north as its objective. Again, this time over a front of a mile and a half southwest and west of Bapaume, the British have advanced their front against the Germans holding the town against them, according to the latest British official communication. With Tuesday's capture of the village of Grevillers and the Loupart Wood the gain of the British Wednesday in this region seemingly puts them virtually at the outskirts of Bapaume.

The advance of the left wing of the British was on a front of more than 2,000 yards south of Achiet-Le-Petit, which lies northwest of Bapaume, and the capture southwest of Essarts of a thousand yards of trenches.

Germans Fall Again.

Small enterprises by the Germans north of Arras failed, says the London statement, while British troops were successful in raiding German trenches east of Armentieres. On the remainder of the front artillery duels have predominated, except in Champagne, where the French troops made further progress in the region of Maisons De Champagne.

The British forces operating against the Turks along the Tigris river at last reports had reached a point thirty miles above Bagdad, and were still pursuing the Turks. Constantinople has admitted the evacuation of the Ottoman troops of Bagdad and the retreat of the Turks toward Samarra, seventy-five miles to the north.

Russians Take Town.

Some ninety miles east of Samarra, in Persia, the Russians are reported to have captured the important town of Kermanshah in their drive westward in an endeavor to form a junction with the British troops operating in Mesopotamia. The capture of Ker-

manshah would show that the Russians, in the short time since they began their offensive, have driven back the Turks from Hamadan to a point eighty miles southwest of that town.

Again along the Narayuvka river in Galicia, the Germans have stormed Russian positions and taken prisoners and war stores, according to Berlin. In Macedonia still, according to the German war office, further attacks by French forces between Lakes Ochrida and Gresha have been repulsed with heavy casualties.

In the Austro-Italian theatre the usual bombardments and small infantry attacks continue.

American Sunk.

A German submarine has sunk the American steamer Algonquin without warning, according to the captain and members of the crew, all of whom were saved. The vessel was bound from New York for London.

The British steamer East Point, on a voyage from London to Philadelphia, and with two Americans in her crew, likewise has been sunk without warning by a submarine. Her crew also was saved.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT WINS THE DAY ON THE INDIAN COTTON ISSUE

London, March 14.—The government successfully resisted the strong attack of the Lancashire cotton interests by carrying the Indian cotton duties resolution both in the House of Lords and House of Commons tonight, and securing the defeat of the Lancashire amendment by the substantial majority of 140, after Premier Lloyd George had conceded that the whole question should be reconsidered at the termination of the war.

Premier's Strong Plea.

This result was the outcome of a strong plea made by the premier that the government policy was only fair play toward India, which, in addition to the great assistance already given toward the prosecution of the war, would supply further manpower for military operations, and on the attitude of ex-Premier Asquith, who agreed that it would be inadvisable to go back on the decision already

taken, because it would have disastrous effects on India. Mr. Asquith proposed an amendment to reconsider the matter after the war, which the prime minister accepted.

J. Austen Chamberlain, secretary for India, alluded to grave matters in the recent government of India, which would only be revealed when the archives gave up their secrets.

The Lancashire members, realizing that the chance of defeating the duties was gone, held a hurried meeting and decided to carry the question to a division as a formal protest.

Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, in a speech winding up the debate, denied that this proposal was the thin end of the wedge of tariff reform. The viceroy of India had said it was impossible to get a loan of 100,000,000 pounds unless the duties were imposed. They had to choose between trouble in India and trouble in Lancashire.

Premier Lloyd George's reference to India supplying more troops is considered important. This course was strongly advocated recently by Winston Spencer Churchill. (See also page 2.)

DUTCH MAKE PROTEST TO GT. BRITAIN

New York, March 14.—An Associated Press despatch from Washington tonight says:

Holland has protested to Great Britain against detention in British ports of more than a dozen steamships loaded with foodstuffs and supplies for the Dutch government. The ships are under government charter, and some of them are said to have been detained six weeks or more.

Virtually all the detained vessels belong to the Holland-American Line. Six are understood to be in Halifax, and eight or more in Falmouth. Many are loaded with grain, which the Dutch population sorely needs, and which, according to the information available here, soon will deteriorate if it has not gone so already. Other ships are loaded with fertilizers, without which crops in the Netherlands will not mature.

THE STEAMER EAST POINT TORPEDOED

No Warning Given when British Vessel Sunk—All Hands Including Two Americans Saved.

Washington, Mar. 14.—Torpedoing without warning, on March 9 of the British steamer East Point, London for Philadelphia, with two Americans in her crew, was reported today in despatches to the state department. All on board were saved.

The steamer was sunk at 5 p. m. off the English coast, about 15 miles west of Eddystone lighthouse. She carried one gun aft and an armed patrol boat was nearby. The crew of 45 left the ship in small boats. The two Americans, John Webber, of Buffalo, fireman, and Edward Ellis, of Brooklyn, seaman, have made affidavits to Consul General Skinner at London.

SIX KILLED IN FACTORY

Olean, N. Y., Mar. 14.—Six men were killed in an explosion which molated the solvent factory at the Howard plant of the Aetna Explosive Company at Emporium, Pa., today, according to a message received here.

Simultaneously with the explosion in the solvent factory, fire was discovered in the cotton storage building, half a mile away. It was extinguished before serious damage was done.

THE GERMANS MAY GIVE UP BAPAUME AND PERRONE WITHOUT A SERIOUS FIGHT—BLOW UP BRIDGES AS THEY RETREAT.

London, March 14.—A Reuters despatch from British headquarters in France says:

"The British advance, which was resumed on a front of nearly four miles, directly west of Bapaume, Monday, resulted in developing a further stage of that open warfare which the British troops so welcome after the wearisome monotony of trench life. The Germans covered their retreat with a strong screen of rear guards, and although the British patrols came into contact with them at many places, their object apparently was to avoid action as far as possible. This confirms the idea that the Germans are doing their utmost to husband their strength for the future."

French Opinion.

Paris, March 14.—Great importance is attached by French military writers to the continued British successes on the Somme. The result, according to the Matin, is that it looks very much as if the Germans do not think they could hold Bapaume and Perronne any longer, and are preparing to evacuate the two cities. Reports from aviators show that all along their lines the Germans are blowing up bridges and culverts, burning munitions and provisions while trying to mask the withdrawal of heavy guns by heavy firing with field guns.

German staff headquarters on the Somme front is said to have been moved back ten miles. The Matin thinks that the German staff at first planned a strategic retreat so as to delay and upset the British plan of attack but that this scheme was frustrated by the tactics of General Gough. Instead of using cavalry against the retreating force, General Gough maintained contact by the methodical and destructive use of artillery. The result, according to the Matin, was that the Germans were caught in their own trap and their retreat, which was at first intentional, became almost a rout, under the continuous pressure of an adversary superior in material and initiative.

STOLEN CHECK NOT TAKEN BY BURGLAR

Amherst Mystery Solved—236th Klitties Battalion Meet Encouragement in Hustling Nova Scotia Town.

Special to The Standard. Amherst, N. S., Mar. 14.—Recently a cheque was stolen from the home of Mr. J. Smith and it was thought that a burglar had entered the residence and lifted the slip of paper. A woman endeavored to cash it yesterday. The police at once got on the trail of the new clue and after many twists and turns it is now alleged that the cheque was taken by a dependant of Mr. Smith's.

The 236th Klitties' delegation, which has been in Amherst recruiting for the past few days, left today for the headquarters in Fredericton. It is understood that several young men in Amherst are prepared to join the ranks of the Klitties' Battalion.

EMILE PLANTEAU DEAD.

Paris, Mar. 14.—Emile Planteau, president of the first chamber of the court of appeals, died today for the headquarters in Fredericton. It is understood that several young men in Amherst are prepared to join the ranks of the Klitties' Battalion.

MINISTER FOR WAR IN FRANCE QUILTS.

Paris, Mar. 14.—Gen. Louis Hubert Gonsalves Lyautey, minister of war in the French cabinet, had resigned, as the result of incidents in the chamber of deputies.

THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT PASSED AWAY IN ENGLAND LAST NIGHT

MAY BE NO R.R. STRIKE

New York, March 14.—Chiefs of the brotherhoods of railway employees will present to the railroad managers, at their meeting tomorrow, a modified proposition for a settlement of the eight hour controversy which will have the backing of all the railway employees. This was announced today by W. G. Lee, head of the trainmen's organization, after a conference here with local chairmen. Mr. Lee declined to disclose the nature of the modified proposal. He said it had been endorsed by the men at their meeting here today, as well as by the brotherhood representatives at Pittsburgh and other cities. The new proposition, Mr. Lee said, however, was a modification of that sought by the brotherhood chiefs from the managers last December.

He explained that negotiations now proposed were distinct from the situation created by the appeal of the railroad to the supreme court on the Adamson act, as we were not a party to the agreement between the government and the railroads that nothing would be done to change the situation pending the supreme court decision on the Adamson act, we are going ahead as if there were no supreme court."

Asked if plans for a strike had been made in the event that their proposition was rejected by the railroad managers, Mr. Lee said:

"I have not said that, and I am not saying it, but you can go ahead on the idea that someone has already some mighty good guessing."

Assurances came to the brotherhood officials from Washington tonight that full co-operation to make a strike effective will be given by the American Federation of Labor, if the railroads reject the demands to be made upon them tomorrow by the representatives of the employees.

Had Been in Ill Health for Long Time—Last Month Took Heavy Hold Which Developed into Measles and Pneumonia.

Was Popular During Her Stay at Vice-Regal Residence at Ottawa—Duchess Conscious as Late as Yesterday Afternoon.

Bulletin—London, Mar. 14.—The death of the Duchess of Connaught is announced.

During the last few days the relatives and friends of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught were aware that the case of the Duchess was hopeless. In the latter stages of her illness oxygen was frequently administered.

It is thought that the complications of broncho-pneumonia would probably have been successfully overcome but for the drain on the patient's strength caused by an operation in London in 1913. As late as this afternoon the Duchess was conscious and able to recognize the members of her family who were gathered at her bedside.

The Duchess of Connaught had been in ill-health more or less during her residence in Canada, and on one occasion, hoping to improve her health, she returned to the old country.



Sketch of Duchess.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught was formerly the Princess Louise Margaret Alexandra Victoria Agnes, the third daughter of His Royal Highness Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia. She was born July 25, 1860, and was married to the Duke of Connaught March 13, 1879. She was a member of the Royal Order of Victoria and Albert, a Lady of the Imperial Order of the Crown of India and a Lady of Justice of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England. She came to Canada in the fall of 1911, when her husband was appointed Governor-General.

She is survived by her husband, one son and two daughters. The oldest of the three is Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret Victoria Augusta Charlotte Norah, Crown Princess of Sweden, who was born January 15, 1882; the son is His Royal Highness Prince Arthur Frederick Patrick Albert, who was born January 13, 1883; the third child and the most widely known is Princess Patricia Helena Elizabeth, who was born March 17, 1886, and is familiarly known the world over as "Princess Pat."

Five Grand Children. There are five grand children. The following are the children of the Crown Princess of Sweden: Gustavus Adolphus, Duke of Westerdotten, born April 22, 1906; Prince Sigvard, Duke of Upland, born June 7, 1907; Princess Ingrid Victoria, born March 28, 1910, and Bertil, Duke of Holland, born February 28, 1912.

The remaining grandchild is Prince Alastair Arthur Earl of MacDuff, born August 8, 1914.

While in Canada the Duchess, by her unassuming and democratic manner, endeared herself to the people wherever she came in contact with them and the mourning for her will be sincere and the family will have the sympathy of the Canadian people from one end of the Dominion to the other in their time of sorrow.

While the state of her health did not permit her to take as large a share in the active life of the country as some of her predecessors, her gracious spirit endeared her to all with whom she came in contact and all were sorry to bid good-bye to her and her family when the time came for them to leave.

To the "Princess Pat" particularly will the sympathy of all Canadians go out as she was better known all over the country than any member of the family.

GERMAN PRESS COOL TO VON BERNSTORFF.

London, Mar. 14.—The German press has greeted Count Von Bernstorff with conspicuous coolness, according to an Amsterdam despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company. The papers point out that he granted interviews which he should have not done without consulting the German government.

Count Von Bernstorff, the despatch adds, spent the day in conference at the foreign office, and was also received by the imperial chancellor. He requested an immediate audience with the emperor, which, it is expected will take place tomorrow.