

TERRIFIC STORM HITS THE CITY

GREAT DAMAGE DONE BY RAIN AND THUNDERBOLT

MANY FIRES FOLLOW STORM

BERLIN ADMITS LINE PIERCED BY RUSSIANS IN GALICIA

First Front of Von Linsingen Has Been Broken.

CLOSE TO ERZINGAN

Sweep of Grand Duke in Armenia Proving Irresistible.

[Canadian Press.]
Berlin, July 25.—Via London, 4:35 p.m.—Russian troops succeeded in penetrating the German first line on a small part of the front defended by the troops under command of Gen. Von Linsingen, according to the official statement issued today by the German army headquarters staff.

CLOSE TO ERZINGAN.
[Canadian Press.]
Petrograd, July 25.—Via London, 4:05 p.m.—Some Russian detachments already have reached positions about ten miles from the Turkish fortified town of Erzincan, in Armenia, says the Russian official statement given out here today, which says:

"Caucasus front: The Turkish armies are retreating in disorder before the irresistible pressure of our troops. Some of our gallant detachments are already 15 verst (about ten miles) from the town of Erzincan, in Central Armenia. In which, according to the reports of our aviators, the Turks are hurriedly preparing all kinds of provisions."

THE GERMAN STATEMENT.
[Canadian Press.]
Berlin, July 25.—Via London, 4:45 p.m.—The text of the German official statement dealing with the eastern front was:

"Attacks by weak Russian detachments southeast of Tiflis and by Russian patrols on the Dvina were repulsed.
"Army group of Gen. Von Linsingen: Enemy attacks on the front south of Stenokovka and on the front south of Berestechko, succeeded over a small front in penetrating our first line of defence.
"West of Burkanov, a Russian aeroplane was shot down in an aerial fight.
"Balkan theatre: There is nothing to report."

TRADE BLACKLIST TO OPERATE ONLY AGAINST HOSTILES

Cecil Declares Americans Are Laboring Under Misapprehension.

[Canadian Press.]
London, July 25.—4:15 p.m.—Replying to questions in the House of Commons, Lord Robert Cecil, minister of war trade, said today that the American press criticism of the British blacklist was based largely on misapprehension. The act under which the statutory list of American firms was issued, he said, was passed last December, and lists referring to most of the neutral countries already had been published. No provisions of the act, he added, unduly stringent.

Only Hostile On List.
The French law, the minister said, provided that all persons of "enemy nationality, wherever living, were enemies of France, and that it was illegal to trade with them." In the British case, only persons who had shown themselves hostile to this country, were put on the list.
Neither did Great Britain seek by these lists to interfere with the freedom of action of neutral citizens, Lord Robert said. It sought only to secure that British goods and credit be not used for the support and enrichment of those actively assisting England's enemies.
If any persons were unjustly included in the lists, the minister said, their names would be removed, and great care would be taken in applying the law to existing contracts. He was informed that Germany had taken similar action.

EXTRA

CLOUD BURST FLOODS ALL THE DOWN TOWN STREETS CAUSING HEAVY DAMAGE

Inundates Whole City, Pavements Being Covered by Many Feet of Water That in Places Climbed Beyond Hubs of Autos—Wire Services Interrupted.

A cloudburst which dropped over London at 2 o'clock this afternoon made Dundas street look as though the River Thames had been diverted into the main thoroughfare.
While the sky was livid with intense flashes of lightning which seemed to fill the air, a perfect torrent of swirling water was whirled along in a 40-mile gale.

Although the rain seemed needle fine a tremendous volume of water fell. It was said by old residents that it was such a cloudburst that caused the July flood. (Reporter just assigned to take a look at the river and London West asks for a bathing suit.)
Streets Swept by Floods.
The stream swept along both sides of all paved streets. Automobiles were buried hub deep in water. Business was suspended, excepting a very active business with brooms on the part of merchants who endeavored to sweep back the flood. One might as well

try to confine Niagara Falls in a rain pipe.
There was wild beauty in the storm, so our poetic reporter told us. Unlameable was a better word.
Wash basins on the second floor were throwing up spurts of water from the overflowing sewers.
Looked Like Neptune.
At 2:45 Peter Taff of the street cleaning department, passed The Advertiser on the opposite sidewalk. The water was above his knees and Peter looked like Father Neptune.
Electricity flashed around linotype machines in The Advertiser, and the printers stopped getting out the great evening Journal in double-quick order. If your paper is late, blame Jupiter Pluvius, who is the original crab.
Serious results from the storm are believed to be confined to the wholesale flooding. So far, no lightning strikes have taken effect, at least so far as The Advertiser has learned.
All wire services are crippled, as well as the street railway.

MANY FIRES FOLLOW IN WAKE OF STORM

First Congregational Church Spire, Garage on King Street and Other Places Fired by Lightning—Two Other Churches Struck.

During the progress of the afternoon storm the steeple of the First Congregational Church, between Waterloo and Colborne streets, was struck and fired by lightning.
The very tip of the spire blazed up like a gigantic match that had been thrown into the sky. From downtown streets the fire was an inspiring one, though a most peculiar one at the same time.
The loss was slight and confined to the tower.
The garage of Dr. F. L. Wood, King street, was struck and fired. The building was completely gutted.
The automobile was safely removed, but all other contents were destroyed.
At 3:18 Waterloo street, a limb falling across power wires caused a short circuit and fire, that resulted in an alarm being turned in to fire headquarters.
A call to Dundas Centre Church sent the fire truck on a wildgoose chase. Although careful search was made, no fire or damage could be found on the premises.
A tree at the rear of Sumner's drug

store, Dundas street, was struck. It crashed through a glass door and knocked down a shelf of bottles.
Adelaide Street Church Struck.
Windows were broken in Adelaide Street Baptist Church. A bolt struck a fence at the rear of the Sunday school.
The lightning struck a tree between residences of Henry Jenkin and Peter Metcalfe, on William street, between King and Dundas streets, and lifted it bodily into the street. Wires were torn down and traffic impeded.
On Dundas street several trees, particularly in the vicinity of Colborne street, were torn down, and limbs were scattered everywhere.
Garage Ripped Off.
At the McCormick manufacturing plant in London East the high wind tore the roof completely from the garage and for a time fears were entertained that the basement would be flooded.
No damage was done by lightning, one tree near the asylum though being split asunder with the lightning.

KEG KNOCKED FROM HANDS; MEN ARE SLIGHTLY SHOCKED

George Ryan, driver of a Sheddin Forwarding Company lorry, and James Mitchell, shipper at the D. H. Howden wholesale hardware, had a narrow escape from death when a keg of steel, being handled by them, was

knocked from their hands by lightning. Mitchell had just handed the keg to the forwarding company's employee when the lightning struck the keg knocking it to the ground.
Both sustained slight shocks.

TREES STRUCK IN ALL SECTIONS OF THE CITY

Split and Hacked Down as if by Gigantic Knives in Many Parts, and Bring Wires Down With Them.

Trees in all sections of London were struck down by lightning, and split and hacked as if by gigantic knives. Many of the falling trees carried down electric light, telephone, telegraph and fire alarm wires, with the result that short-circuits and burned-out wires were com-

mon.
One tree, in front of the residence of J. H. Fowler, William street, was struck and split in two.
From all parts of the city came reports of the heavy damage done to shade and fruit trees.

MEMBERS OF FAMILY STUNNED BY SHOCK

Members of the family of Drs. H. A. and W. J. Stevenson, next door to the First Congregational Church, when was struck by lightning this afternoon, were stunned by the bolt that struck the church.
The telephones both in Mayor Stevenson's office and in that of Dr. W. J. Stevenson's were put out of commission.
Dr. W. J. Stevenson declared that the water pressure was hardly such, when the fire department commenced their fight to save the church, that it would not lift more than 18 feet in the air.

ROPE SEEMED LIKE REAL "LIVE" WIRE

A rope from the banner calling for recruits for No. 1 Construction Battalion, strung across Dundas street, near Richmond, gave several hundreds a bad scare while the storm was at its height. The driving rain gave the rope the appearance of a trolley wire struck down by lightning, and as it was apparently "grounded" in the flood of water on the street, the whole section was given a wide berth.

YORK STREET FLOODED TO STATION PLATFORM

York street, from the steps of the warehouse of D. H. Howden & Co., was completely covered with water to the express platform of the Canadian Express Company at the G. T. R. station across the road. Despite the closed doors in the parcel room and G. T. R. baggage room, water found its way in through the cracks.

STANDS FOR GARDEN PARTY BLOWN OVER

Stands for the garden party, which was to have been held at the St. Mary's Church this evening, were blown over by the storm and the electric light wires, strung for illuminating purposes were rendered nothing but a tangled mass. It was impossible to do anything with the wires and broken stands, and the garden party was called off.

SEWER "SHOOT" WATER 40 FEET INTO RIVER

The Richmond street sewer, tapping a considerable outlet of the city's sewage, was shooting water 40 feet into the river, following the tremendous rush of rain water.
Residents of the section complained bitterly that the sewer was poorly constructed, its outlet being compressed, with the result that the backing up of the water was greater than it should have been.

RIVER ONLY SIX INCHES HIGHER NOW

The River Thames was hardly half a foot higher than normal at 4 o'clock this afternoon. The heavy rise will come later in the evening, when the creeks and sewers start to pour in the flood-water that is rushing through them now. Considerable apprehension is felt, in certain quarters, of a flood, for if the storm of this afternoon has been a general one, the river will be taxed with an unprecedented volume of water.

HUNDREDS OF BIRDS WERE ELECTROCUTED

Hundreds of birds were electrocuted by the wires on which they were roosting being struck. In front of St. Andrew's Church the pavement was strewn with dead robins and sparrows.

PRESENT DRIVE JUST BLOODING OF HAIG'S ARMY

High British Official Says Real Advance Commences Next Spring.

MILLION VETERANS THEN

German Losses in Battle of Jutland Declared Very Heavy.

MAY ATTACK DENMARK

Berlin Is Believed About To Invade The Little Kingdom.

[Canadian Press.]
New York, July 25.—A Washington dispatch to the Herald says: In a letter just received here from a high official of the British Government, it is set forth that whatever comment the Germans make concerning the present Allied drive in the western front it now is only a temporary push. The real drive, it was said, will not come before April or May, 1917.
"It is a mistaken idea that this is a drive that will end the war," wrote this official. "We are just blooding the new army, killing plenty of Germans in the effort and gaining ground. By next year we shall have a million more seasoned men who will know what war is. Reports continue to reach me that the German losses in the great Jutland battle were far heavier than were reported. We are certain that they lost the Kaiser and the Kronprinz, two of the newest super-dreadnoughts of the German empire, which were built since the war began."

Deceived by Rulers.
"There is at least a feeling in Germany among the working classes that they have been deceived by their rulers. Also I want you to remember this: The Germans are ready for a movement on Denmark. There have been many outward symptoms of it. Don't forget Herr Ballin's work. 'We don't mind how much gold we pay to Denmark, as we can always go and fetch it back whenever we wish to do so.'"
Bowling Tournay Off Till Tomorrow.
The bowling tournament ends that were to have been played this afternoon have been postponed until tomorrow morning, commencing at 9 o'clock, when the same rinks that were to have played today will play then.
The games have been cut down to fifteen ends for the forenoon.

STRIKES CROSSING RIPPING UP TIES

Lightning struck between the tracks of the C. P. R. Waterloo street crossing, ripping the plank sidewalk and tearing the ties for some yards. The rails were not damaged.

DEUTSCHLAND READY BUT CANNOT DEPART

[Canadian Press.]
Baltimore, July 25.—"Circumstances and conditions over which we have no control are keeping us in Baltimore."
Thus did Captain Koenig, commander of the German merchant submarine Deutschland, explain his presence in Baltimore today, when asked what is delaying his sailing. What these "circumstances and conditions" are, however, he would not even hint.
Loaded with crude rubber and nickel and it is believed, with a large segment of gold, the Deutschland lies at her pier all ready to start.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.
Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 75; lowest, 63.
The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 81; lowest, 64.

MILITARY CAMP SUFFERS HEAVILY; MANY TENTS DOWN

London's military camps at Carling Heights and at the 160th lines in the Grosvenor camp, suffered heavily from the storm. The big Y. M. C. A. tent on Oxford street was blown over. The Advertiser camp branch office suffered a like fate, while many of the concession tents along the street were laid flat.
In the regimental lines the amusement and canteen tents were lowered

GREATER PART OF POZIERES NOW IN HANDS OF THE BRITISH; ENEMY COUNTER-ATTACKS FAIL

FRENCH CONTINUE TO MAKE HEADWAY ALONG THE SOMME

Storm Group of Fortified Houses South of Estrees.

DISPERSE HUN PARTIES

Germans Chased From the Trenches to the North of Vermandovillers.

[Canadian Press.]
Paris, July 25.—Noon.—On the south bank of the River Somme yesterday evening French troops captured a block of houses south of Estrees and drove the enemies out of trenches north of Vermandovillers, says the French official statement issued this afternoon.
The text of the French official statement follows:
"South of the Somme yesterday, we captured in a small attack south of Estrees, a group of powerfully fortified houses. Our troops chased the Germans from some trenches north of Vermandovillers, and occupied them."
"Between the Oise and the Aisne we dispersed with grenades several reconnoitring parties which attempted to reach our lines in the sector of Tracy-Le-Val."
"On the left bank of the Meuse, an enemy attack with hand grenades against Hill 304 failed. The machine gun fire, on the right bank there was violent bombardment in the region between Fleury and Lauffe."
"In Alsace after artillery preparation, the Germans delivered an attack upon our Balschwiller positions northwest of Altkirch. After lively fighting the enemy was driven out from some elements of the trenches, where they had gained a foothold."
"On July 22, Sub-Lieut. Nungesser brought down his tenth German aeroplane. On the night of July 24-25, one of our aeroplane squadrons bombarded the railroad stations at Pierrepont and Longuyon and the bivouacs near Mangiennes."
"Between the Oise and the Aisne, several German patrols were dispersed near Tracy-Le-Val."
"On the left bank of the Meuse, in the Verdun region, there was grenade fighting at Hill 304."

On the right bank of the Meuse a violent cannonading was in progress at Fleury and Lauffe.
A German attack on the French positions at Batschwiller, in Alsace, is claimed to have failed.
Sub-Lieut. Nungesser of the French Aviation Corps, brought down his tenth aeroplane.
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KAISER TELLS HIS SOLDIERS ENGLISH LAUNCHED WAR; SAYS THEY ARE CHIEF ENEMY

[Canadian Press.]
London, July 25.—A dispatch from Bern by way of Pontarlier, France given out today by the wireless press, says: "Another speech by Emperor William during his recent visit to the Somme front, is being discussed in Berlin. The emperor said:
"Comrades: It is your especial privilege to fight against the English, which means that you are fighting against a nation that has sworn to destroy Germany. The English built up during the years before the war the combination of countries, which at a given signal fell upon us, attacked us, the most peaceful and peace-desiring people in the world. The English led us to believe they were our friends when they were actually plotting our destruction."

STURMER'S POLICY TO BE IN ACCORD WITH THE ENTENTE

Petrograd, July 25, via London.—4:45 p.m.—Russia's foreign policy will not undergo any change under the direction of Boris V. Sturmer, the successor to Sergius Sazonoff in the ministry of foreign affairs, according to an announcement made today by Michael V. Rodzianko, the president of the Duma.
M. Rodzianko had an interview with M. Sturmer, who declared that as hitherto any action Russia might take would only be taken with the full knowledge and accord of the Entente Allies and on behalf of their common interests.

THE WEATHER
TOMORROW—FAIR.
Toronto, July 26—8 a.m.
Light winds, fair today and on Wednesday, not much change in temperature.
Temperatures.
The following were the highest and lowest temperatures for the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:
Stations. High. Low. Weather.
Victoria 58 50 Cloudy
Calgary 56 52 Cloudy
Winnipeg 46 62 Rain
Perry Sound 50 66 Clear
Port Stanley 58 64 Clear
Buffalo 50 76 Fair
Toronto 53 79 Clear
Kingston 56 88 Fair
Ottawa 50 80 Fair
Montreal 50 80 Clear

Notes.
Rain has fallen heavily in the Maritime Provinces and showers and thunderstorms have occurred in most localities from Alberta to Manitoba. The excessive heat continues in Ontario and Quebec.

Haig's Official Report States British Have Captured Major Portion of Village After Furious Fighting, and Gain Some Ground Beyond.

[Canadian Press.]
London, July 25, 3:05 p.m.—The British troops have captured the greater part of the village of Pozieres, says the British official statement issued this afternoon. The Germans brought up reinforcements of infantry and guns, but the counter-attacks everywhere, the statement adds, were repulsed by the British.
The text of the British statement follows:
"In the last few days the enemy brought further reinforcements of infantry and guns to the Somme front. Throughout yesterday the hostile bombardment was fairly continuous and at times became very heavy."
"An attempt to attack our right flank was made yesterday afternoon but it was frustrated by our artillery."
"ALL ATTACKS STOPPED."
"Last night two further infantry attacks, preceded by a specially violent artillery fire, were launched against the centre of our line. These attacks also were stopped by the concentrated fire of our guns."
"At no place did the enemy succeed in reaching the British trenches, and his casualties in these fruitless attacks must have been severe."
"Other parts in the line there has been a good deal of hand-to-hand fighting, and our infantry worked their way forward in places."
"North of Pozieres, the greater part of which village now is in our possession, the enemy continued to offer strong opposition, but here also we gained some ground and captured two machine guns, and a few more prisoners, including two battalion commanders."

BROKE DOWN, SAYS BERLIN.
[Canadian Press.]
Berlin, July 25.—Via London.—An English and French combined attack made yesterday north of the River Somme in France, says the official statement issued today by the German headquarters, broke down.
SECRET OF RUSSIAN SUCCESSES IS VAST WAR MATERIAL
[Canadian Press.]
Budapest, Via London, July 25.—Overwhelming artillery power is the secret of the Russian successes, according to a semi-official statement published here. The article says:
"What is the reason for the Russian successes? Briefly the answer is—nothing but overwhelming artillery. The war is developing more and more into a war of mechanics and industries. What Russia cannot provide in this respect is being given her by her Allies. She has received munitions in enormous quantities.
"If equipped with these technical means of power a general has no more need for the initiative which in the past have been the most prominent quality of an army leader—he gets nearer to the sober viewpoint of the engineer."
"On a front of a dozen miles the normal number of cannon is five hundred to three hundred. If this number is doubled or tripled and masses of ammunition are provided, then relative superiority is established."

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