

ered uninhabitable mainly in the districts which the Germans recently have been forced to evacuate. Every well has been rendered useless and its homeless people must now rely on supplies of water brought in barrels by the French soldiers.

The correspondent spoke to dozens of homeless inhabitants, all of whom asserted that the German soldiers, when asked why they were destroying property of householders, always replied: "It is our orders."

The wife of the village doctor at Nesle, who had housed the German regimental staff, protested to a German lieutenant against the willful destruction of her furniture. He appeared to regret what his men were doing, but said:

"I cannot do otherwise; it is my command."

Most of the liberated people are without money, their metal coinage having been taken by the Germans, who gave paper in exchange. Everything possible is being done for the refugees by the French civil and military authorities.

A visit by President Poincare and his cabinet ministers, and senators, and deputies yesterday to Noyon and Roye, two towns that probably have the record for being mentioned in the official communiques in the last thirty months, and to Nesle and Ham, two towns that will be high up in the record for devastation, developed some of the most pathetic spectacles of the war.

Old men and women, who, with children under 12 years of age, are all the human beings whom the Germans left behind them, forgot their two and a half years' of suffering, during which they stoically repressed tears of rage, and wept with joy as they were surrounded by the official representatives of France.

In Noyon there were assembled not only the remaining stricken population of the town, but refugees from villages and farms towards St. Quentin, whom the enemy in retreat had driven back into the devastated zone.

"It was hard to bear, but we never despaired of the arrival some day of the French troops in pursuit of the invaders," was the general statement made when the people were asked about their long suffering. "They left us without money and without food," said another person, "but with all their methods and science there was one thing they could not deprive us of—faith. We knew deliverance was at hand."

Used Tons of Explosives. M. Poincare and his suite inspected the ruins of Ham, where 13 tons of explosives were used in three double charges to blow up the historic ruins of the fortress with the famous dungeon of John of Luxembourg.

Where stood the high towers and massive walls of this great stronghold, which held the Spanish army in check in the sixteenth century, is now nothing but gaping craters filled with water. At the junction of the Noyon and Nesle roads at Ham, where a mine was sprung just before the Germans left, is an excavation 50 feet wide. This is a sample of what the Germans have done at every cross road. The magnitude of this work of destruction may be imagined from the pains taken to destroy the castle at Ham. The cost for the explosives alone is estimated at 80,000 francs.

In Ham there were found a considerable number of cases of munitions, which is taken as an indication that the Germans were being hard pressed there.

President Poincare, at Roye, standing before a wall of the half destroyed city hall, where the Germans threatened to shoot Assistant Mayor Mandron, pinned the insignia of the Legion of Honor on the breast of M. Mandron. A gift of 10,000 francs was left to the poor of the villages visited by the president.

France Will Protest. The French Government has given notice of its intention to address neutral countries in protest against "acts of barbarism and devastation on the part of the Germans in the French territory which they are evacuating."

The official note announcing this says: "Entire villages have been pillaged, burned and destroyed. The acts of the Germans are not destined to check the operations of the French armies but have as their object the ruining for many years of one of the most fertile regions of France."

SENATOR'S SON FALLS IN MESOPOTAMIA. Lieut. Geoffrey Lynch-Staunton Makes Supreme Sacrifice While With Cavalry.

Hamilton, Monday, March 26.—Lieut. Geoffrey Lynch-Staunton, older son of Senator George Lynch-Staunton, was killed in Mesopotamia. A cablegram received here Saturday conveyed to the family the sad intelligence. He was in his 21st year, and a young man of great promise. He was a brilliant student while at Highfield from 1905 to 1911, and also while at Downside College in England the following three years. When the war broke out he was attending Weston College, Oxford, and left his studies to come home. He enlisted here and spent some time in the remount department under Lieut.-Col. William Hendrie. When Camp Borden was opened he was appointed to the staff there, and decided, however, to go overseas, and was given a commission in one of the crack cavalry regiments of the British Empire. His death will be deeply regretted.

Lieut.-Col. Robertson Reticent On Conference of Militia Men. Hamilton, Monday, March 26.—Lieut.-Col. R. A. Robertson, commander of the 13th Royal Regiment, returned from a conference of militia men here Saturday night, where he had been attending the conference of brigadiers and militia commanders at the special meeting called by Major General W. A. Lorie. Col. Robertson stated that the plans for the new militia scheme to enroll 50,000 men for home defence were discussed and that there was a good attendance. Col. Robertson did not care to give a detailed report of the gathering, and contented himself by saying that a full report of it would come out in the Toronto papers this morning.

Returned Chaplain Denounces Extravagance Seen in Canada. Hamilton, Ont., Monday, March 26.—That the dispersal of the 120th (City of Hamilton) Battalion, was a source of much disappointment and regret to the splendid staff of officers, and to the men of the unit, was stated in the Church of the Ascension last night by the former chaplain of the battalion, Capt. Hanson Samuel Daw, who has just returned from overseas. After paying tribute to the high character of Lieut.-Col. George D. Pearson, O.C. of the unit, Captain Daw said the magnificent spirit of the men and the general efficiency of the unit had won praise from General French, General Turner and other high military authorities. England, he said, was holding up wonderfully in this hour of severe trial and all classes of society in that country were practicing economy. He denounced the extravagance to be seen in Canada and advocated that Canadians have one modest day per week as a measure of economy.

RUSSIANS DRIVE ON TOWARD KHANIKIN

Turks Lose Herin Village and Sermilkerin Pass to Ally.

FIGHT NEAR MIANTAG Germans Emit Poisonous Gases Between Dvinsk and Vilna.

Petrograd, via London, March 25.—The war office communication issued today says: "Western front: In the region of Moejok, northeast of Paskov, between Dvinsk and Vilna, the Germans launched deleterious gases, but without causing us any damage. On the remainder of the front there have been reciprocal firing encounters between sharpshooters."

"Rumanian front: There have been reconnaissances and reciprocal firing. 'Caucasus front: In the direction of Khanikain on the 18th our troops dislodged the Turks from positions near the Village of Heilin and from the Sermilkerin Pass. On the 19th we attacked the Turks, who had occupied positions near the Village of Miantag. On the remainder of the front there have been reconnaissances."

RUSSIAN REVOLT IS CELEBRATED IN U. S.

Large Mass Meeting Welcomes New Democracy Into Family of Free Nations.

New York, March 25.—The advent of Russia into the family of democracies has been celebrated by several thousand persons, including many prominent business and professional men, at a mass meeting in the Metropolitan Opera House tonight. A resolution, prepared by Charles E. Hughes, Joseph Choate and Charles R. Flint, was adopted unanimously. It declared: "It is the sense of this meeting that the people of the United States, rejoicing in the triumph of democracy in Russia, should aid and encourage her in every possible way to preserve and develop liberal institutions."

"As Americans, we are confident that the addition of Russia to the number of constitutionally governed countries is a great advance toward the time when the continents of Europe shall be of the people, by the people and for the people."

Words of Fallon. The Rev. Samuel Boal Declares Loyalty Irish Love Union Jack.

Special to The Toronto World. London, Ont., March 25.—Shame on the man who said in London that the Irish hate the flag. As an Irishman, I deny the charge and fling it back to the man who said it as the charge of a traitor to my country and my God. The loyal Irish love the Union Jack, and have given 105,000 of their sons to fight and die for it."

Germany Closes Part of Wilhelmshaven. Mysterious Order Debars Public From Hun Naval Base.

London, March 26.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph from a Berlin source says the Wilhelmshaven newspapers announce that the harbor of Wilhelmshaven will be closed to the public from the 1st of April. A special permit from the admiralty will be necessary for admission to the docks. The reason for the order is not given, the correspondent adds.

People in Serbia Rise Against Bulgarians. Inhuman Treatment Forces Population to Organize Guerilla Bands.

London, March 26.—Reuter's Corru correspondent says the Serbian press bureau has issued a statement to the effect that the inhabitants of eastern Serbia are revolting against the Bulgarians and are organizing bands which are operating in the mountains and forests. The bureau's statement says the action of the Serbians is due to forced recruiting, wholesale requisitions and inhuman treatment by the Bulgarians.

Score's Great Sale. "This sale has been timed to a tick," says one gentleman's way of expressing his appreciation of the R. Score & Son \$50,000 estate sale, and it's a true statement.

National Government Party Wins in New South Wales. Sydney, Australia, March 25, via Ottawa. Reuter's agency Latest returns of the election in New South Wales indicate that the national government party is certain of 64 seats in the new state legislature. The Independent Laborites having 35, with four seats still in doubt. Meagher, the speaker, and McGowan, the ex-labor leader, are substantially defeated.

Box of Dynamite Under Large Oil Tank. Brockville, Ont., March 24.—Late yesterday a boy found a small box containing five sticks of dynamite under an oil tank at the plant of the National Manufacturing Co. It had apparently been there some time, as the dynamite and sawdust in the box were very wet. The discovery was reported later to the police, but an investigation has failed to throw any light upon the mystery.

Britain Announces Extension of Danger Zone to Shipping. Washington, March 24.—An extension of the area of danger to shipping on the coast of the West and Elbe rivers, where the allies are employing mines and other devices in their efforts to block egress from the great German naval base, is announced in a British foreign office note filed to the state department today by Ambassador Page.

ARTILLERY KEEPS UP FIRE NEAR MONASTIR

French Declare German Communications on Recent Battle To Be False.

Paris, March 25.—Heavy artillery activity continues in the region of Monastir, according to French official communication issued today. The communication follows: "Eastern theatre: The day was calm save in the region of Monastir, where the artillery displayed its usual activity. The enemy's communications concerning the engagements of March 24 are false. We have maintained all the important positions conquered north of Monastir."

Saturday's official communication says "No event of importance has occurred. On March 21 a violent bombardment on both sides took place. The enemy directed numerous incendiary shells against the French hydro-aeroplanes bombarded Prades, Kenail and Orfano."

New York, March 25.—F. A. Wray, staff correspondent of The New York Tribune with the British army in France, sends the following despatch to his paper under date of Sunday: "I have just been watching the sight of a great army pursuing a foe. I have been trying to realize, to comprehend the amazing labor and effort such a process involves."

"The lines which the British held for four months before Bapaume are exactly the same as the lines which the British held last Friday. The British troops were miles ahead—how far none knew exactly, but in the distance the boom of the pieces could be constantly heard. Neither side was using heavy guns then—the time for them had not yet arrived."

"The road from Albert, where the statue of the Virgin just horizontally from to top of the ruined cathedral tower, but still miraculously holds in place, led up to and past Bapaume, by a gang of hundreds of trucks. The British soldiers had passed that way days before and now everything necessary to push the Boche back past the Hindenburg line of defence was being brought up for their support. The road everywhere was crowded with every kind of vehicle. I passed hundreds and hundreds of trucks, motor lorries bearing supplies of all descriptions."

Red Cross Ambulances sped by at great speed. Teams of American mules were hauling great wagons piled high with thousands of loaves of bread and hundreds of tons of canned goods were drawing wagons laden with munitions of war. Others were bringing up huge loads of fodder, or perhaps the cocoons of condensed milk. Occasionally a powerful automobile filled with staff officers threaded its way thru the throng of vehicles. From dawn till dusk this 30-mile procession went on unceasingly. About every mile in the traffic line a policeman with a red flag regulated it, and with an automatic authority kept it moving in order. That would have been a strange sight on any road, on this it was most exotic."

"It was stupendous, and moving these supplies along that road. It was not built for two lines of heavy traffic even in normal times. And since the beginning of the war it had been shelled persistently. Every yard there was a pitted shellhole. Occasionally these craters were ten feet in diameter and six feet deep. In addition to this, in several places the Germans had blown up the road when they were in a hurry to retreat."

Labor Battalion's Work. To put this road in passable shape in two or three days had been a great feat for the British labor battalions, worthy of tribute even under the most favorable circumstances. Wearing their steel helmets the road-making gangs were kept working night and day along its entire length. They are still working. There is no time to use ordinary material. The men take bricks from the ruined villages nearby, fill up the shell holes and roll them level whenever they get the chance. Where there is a mine crater they just build the roads around its edge.

My car was stopped frequently while bricks were thrown into a hole to make passage possible. It was wonderful to be able to proceed at all. Alongside the road thousands of men were working furiously laying a railroad across the shell holes. The Germans had destroyed their lines very thoroughly, but the British engineers showed no signs of resentment. They were quite pleased, however, when they were able to use up length of German rails. They have had to shed all British notions of track permanency, being intent merely on getting the locomotives over the rails at the earliest possible moment.

There were men engaged who had learned the lessons of rapid construction in many parts of the world. The rate at which the lines grew under one's eyes would have overjoyed any real hustling railroad pioneer. By yard the track creeps up, and almost as soon as the British troops halt they find a completed line at their heels, bringing them everything needed. When the war is over this roughly laid line across the mores and mud of the Picardy plain will be a sight worth coming many miles to see.

Structural Iron Workers Are Asking for Increases. Hamilton, Ont., Monday, March 26.—Owing to the high cost of living the local structural iron workers are asking for a minimum wage of 55 cents per hour for journeymen and 38 3/4 per hour for apprentices, to become effective May 1. They are also asking time and a half for overtime beyond eight hours daily and double time for Sundays and legal holidays. They are also inserting a clause in the new agreement which will do away with strikes, and any difference which may arise will be adjusted by arbitration. No limit is placed upon the amount of work that a man may do in a day.

Mrs. McConnell Injured. Hamilton, Monday, March 26.—Mrs. Emily McConnell, 18 Fifth street, sustained injuries about the back last evening when she fell on the pavement at the corner of King street east on Hurontario street. It is said that she was attempting to leave a street car while it was still moving. She was removed to her home in the police ambulance.

Parry Sound Man Arrested. Hamilton, Ont., Monday, March 26.—On a charge of violating the Ontario Temperance Act, John J. Raymond, of Parry Sound, was arrested.

Advertisement: ADVERTISE IN THE WORLD!

LAYING TRACKS ON HEELS OF TROOPS

Wonderful Speed Is Shown by Labor Battalions Behind British Lines.

A STIRRING SPECTACLE Great Army in Pursuit of Germans Moves Forward Quickly.

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Advertisement: ADVERTISE IN THE WORLD!

Hurry! Hurry!! Hurry!!!

That is the Slogan for the Dineen Fire Sale

Do you clearly understand the object of the Dineen Fire Sale?

It is not a sale for profit. The only profit to be gained is by moving the goods — getting them out of the way so that the building may be repaired and decorated.

There was a stock valued at \$125,000 in the building the night of the fire. When the fire occurred that stock became the property of the Insurance Companies, with whom policies were in force. They had the option of paying all the insured value of the stock and disposing of it themselves, or handing the stock back again to Dineen's, at a valuation, with a cash payment to make up the balance of the amount of insurance.

They elected to take this latter course, an adjustment was made and our Fire Sale began Friday, 16th.

Dineen's accepted their own fire stock from the insurance companies, on the prospect that it could be turned into cash within five or six weeks, by selling it piece by piece to the public at the Fire Sale valuation.

The Dineen Company is actually losing money every day the premises remain in their present condition, and will continue to lose until business is again restored to its former routine.

The Fire Sale represents no increase profit, nor promise of future business. The fire stock is actually an incubance, and must be disposed of so that business may be restored to its former status as quickly as possible.

It may be many years before an opportunity such as this will again present itself to retail shoppers in Toronto. For 45 years the Dineen Company had been paying insurance in Toronto without ever making a claim for loss. The firm believed in adequate insurance at all times and were amply covered on an extensive stock of furs, millinery and blouses and men's hats when the fire visited the premises. Two floors, extending from the Yonge street frontage 150 feet along Temperance street, were stored with goods, as well as a heavy stock on display in the store and basement. It is these goods, largely undamaged by fire or water, that are now the opportunity for retail shoppers.

Come early. Don't mind the crowds. You will not have to wait, as a large staff of sales-people are on duty.

The sale will stop as soon as the stock is sufficiently cleared out to permit turning the premises over to the contractors for very necessary repairs.

We are not enjoying this Fire Sale. We want to get back to real business with an entirely new stock and equipment. Goods in practically perfect condition selling at less than one-half actual cost.

Prices are set to hurry things along.

Store Open 10 o'Clock Monday Morning

W. & D. DINEEN COMPANY LIMITED

140 Yonge Street

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