

## Story of the Blocking of German U-Boat Bases. Gallantry of Canadians In Fighting of Every Kind.

10.00 A.M.

## HOW IT WAS DONE.

LONDON, April 23. Sir Eric Geddes, First Lord of the Admiralty, in supplementing the Admiralty report in last night's raids against Zebrugges and Ostend, said: "I am giving the House of Commons much information as had come to hand of this extremely gallant and hazardous raid. I ask the members to appreciate that most of the officers and men from whom we have got to date information, have been fighting the greater part of the night, and that some of them are not yet in. The raid was undertaken under command of Vice-Admiral Roger Hayes, commander of the British fleet, and was supported by the British fleet, the oblique cruisers all from twenty to thirty years old, took part in the raid. They were the Brilliant, Sir-Isaac, Intrepid, Thetis and the Vindictive. The first five of these were fitted with concrete and were to be sunk in the Channel and entrance to the ports, if this possibly could be managed. The Vindictive working with two ferry boats carried storming and demolition parties to storm the head of the Mole which runs out from Zebrugges. The Vindictive was specially fitted for landing storming parties, and was specially armed for this purpose, with flame throwers, Stokes mortars, and that sort of thing. It was employed on the block ships, and in the storming and demolition parties on the Vindictive were blue-jackets, and marines, picked from a large number of volunteers from the grand fleet and naval marine depot. There was great competition for the undertaking, and we could only use a very small proportion of those who volunteered. There was light covering force belonging to the Dover command and Harwich forces, under Admiral Tyrwhitt, covering the operation, in the north. A force of small motor boats took part in the operation, which was particularly hazardous, and had to be worked to a time table, and involved delicate navigation, on a hostile coast without light, and largely under unknown navigation conditions which have developed since the war, with the added danger of mine fields. I should like to mention that the officers who designed the operation were killed. The high development of scientific use of light or smoke was one of the essential to success. It was more fog than smoke, which combined with certain wind conditions was essential for the operation so as to protect the operation from batteries which might have flaked it. The plan was, after an intense bombardment of Zebrugges the Vindictive, with auxiliaries, was to run alongside the Mole and to attack it with gun fire as they approached. Storming and demolition parties were to be landed. Meantime three block ships, assisted by motor boats, were to make for the entrance to the Canal, run aground and be blown up. Two old and valueless submarines filled with explosives were to run against the pile work connecting the masonry with the shore, in order to cut off the Mole from the shore. At Ostend the operation was more simple but the difficulties were considerably increased by mist, rain and low visibility, and consequent absence of aerial cooperation. The results so far, are known to be two block ships run aground, and blown up at Ostend. It is too early to say definitely, whether they accomplished their objective, but far as the officers could see in the darkness, they were slightly off the mark. At Zebrugges, two or three block ships attained their objective, being sunk or blown up at the entrance of the Canal. The third attempt of damage, the extent at present unknown, was done by gun and torpedo attack on an enemy destroyer and craft lying on the Mole. Coast motor boats report having torpedoed an enemy destroyer which was trying to escape seaward. One of two old submarines gained its objective and destroyed the piling approach to the Mole. Storming parties from the Vindictive and ferry boats attacked under an extremely heavy fire, and fought with the greatest gallantry, maintaining their position along the Mole for an hour, causing, it is believed, much damage to the enemy and inflicting considerable losses. The objective for the storming and demolition parties on the Mole, were the enemy fort, the battery upon the shore, as well as the destroyer and submarine tug. After reembarquing their men, the three vessels proceeded to engage the attention of the block ships, thereby allowing the Vindictive to enter the Mole. The casualties to personnel, as we had expected on an hazardous

adventure of this kind, were heavy in proportion to the number of men engaged. Up to today, the British losses reported, are one destroyer sunk by gun fire and two coastal motor boats and two launches missing. We have sufficient information to show that the entrance to the Bruges Canal probably was effectively blocked, and that material damage was done and that the greatest credit is due to all ranks for their gallant try.

## RATHER AMBIGUOUS.

TORONTO, To-day.

Unmarried in category A, between the ages of twenty and twenty-two years, will not be put into uniform, it is possible, until the unmarried men in category B of the ages of twenty to thirty-four inclusive, who fall three to thirty-four inclusive, have been called into the army. General Newburn, Minister of Militia, who passed through here last night, stated that the proclamation calling up men of the age of nineteen years, and men who reached the age of twenty years, since the thirteenth of last October, would be probably ready for issue to-day.

## GETTING TO WORK.

OTTAWA, Ont., To-day.

The first of the new draft of men called out, will join the colors early next week. Instructions have already been given to all registrars under the military service act, that exemptions in class one, men between twenty and twenty-two years of age, inclusive, are cancelled. These men will now be notified by the registrars to report. In each district the men will be called up in batches, as required by the General Officer Commanding the military district, and as they can be handled by the military authorities, seven days will be generally allowed to a man, in which to settle up private affairs before reporting for service.

## CANADIANS IN THEIR ELEMENT.

CANADIAN HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE.—(By W. A. Wilson, Canadian Press correspondent), April 23.—

Raided in no less than seven places, gassed with thousands of lacrymatory and lethal shells, harassed by special artillery shoots, his trenches swept by machine gun and rifle bullets, his front line hammered by trench mortars, the enemy for the past twelve hours has had a lively time at the hands of the Canadians. From dusk until dawn the whole front has been lively north and south of Lens. The ceaseless rumble of our heavies, which are neutralizing hostile batteries by calculated and continuous shelling, has been accompanied by the sharp chorus of our field artillery carrying out a particularly harassing fire programme. Our artillery fire has reached a barrage intensity in support of raiding parties. Regularly the Boche lines have been lit up with scores of flares, betraying the nervousness which has been produced among the enemy by such an activity as he has not known on his front for weeks. The enemy has been forced to fight with his guns under gas clouds and in gas masks. He has betrayed the effects of our tactics by the diminishing chorus of his fire, but he has made answer to our general raiding and gas activities by projecting tear gas against our positions north of Lens. This projection was bigger in volume than anything ever attempted against the Canadians by the enemy. Its effect, beyond discomfort, was slight. The weight of evidence gathered from enemy sources gives every ground for belief that it must be far otherwise with the Boche: his gas is not so effective and his masks are nothing like as good as ours. Of the batteries bombarded by our gunners during the past twelve hours, many will not be heard from for some time. Continuous forcible feeding for such a protracted period, on lethal and tear gas, with high explosives, has proved too successful before to doubt its destructive virtue now. Unable to secure rubber to give the masks the close fit which is essential for full protection, the Germans' protective measures fall short of ours, and the enemy gunners must have suffered heavily under our bombardment. For we used nearly six thousand shells against some thirty battery positions. Our 4.5 howitzers secured six direct hits on concrete shelters in the Avion district. In some instances in our raids which were all supported by artillery, our men were unable to locate the enemy. In others sharp fighting developed, particularly in one case, where protracted hand to hand fighting took place. So close was the struggle that we were unable to take any prisoners. Our seven raids netted us altogether five prisoners and two machine guns. Two prisoners have since died. With fair weather succeeding the cold dark days of last week, our airplanes were busy. With reckless regard for the regular machine gun or rifle barrage, a patrol of four of our machines flew up and down the

enemy trenches, for no less than 15 minutes, at altitudes of from 50 to 100 yards, emptying machine gun drums into the enemy front line, and at midnight one of our planes bombed the hostile fringe trenches, encountering gas. In raiding operations one of our patrols, consisting of one officer and ten other ranks, donned masks and proceeded into the enemy trenches, until they encountered a hostile party of fifteen. A lively fight ensued with bombs and rifles. Early in the morning another one hour battle occurred between patrols, under cover of a smoke barrage from grenades. Our men entered the enemy lines, bombed a dug-out and killed two and wounded one, and also secured valuable information.

## WORTHY OF NELSON.

LONDON, To-day.

Two destroyers got inside the mole at Zebrugges and blew up the dock gate, the correspondent at Dover of the Daily Mail reports. The fact, he says, seems incredible but there seems to be no doubt about it, some of the men who took part in it say they saw the water of the Bruges Canal running out of the gate after it was destroyed and the vessels in the dock straining at their hawsers.

## AND THE ENGLISH BURY HUNS WITH HONOR. FAUGH!

LONDON, To-day.

Seven prisoners of war were burned to death at Brandenburg, Germany, and the men were prevented from escaping by the sentinels. Several witnesses assert that when the prison took fire, the Germans made no attempt to rescue the seven inmates, but they forcibly prevented other prisoners from going to the rescue, and that when the endangered men tried to climb out through the window, a sentry bayoneted them, one after the other, and they fell back into the flames. The British Government has issued the affidavits of the Spanish eye witness. The German Government admits an English sailor was burned to death, but denies that there was any loss of life.

## CASUALTIES LARGER THAN EXPECTED.

LONDON, To-day.

Archibald Hurd, the well known writer on naval subjects, reviewing the naval raid on Zebrugges in the Daily Telegraph, says: "The sea was smooth and the wind favorable, but unfortunately the wind changed after the operation was begun, with the result that the ingeniously devised smoke screen was less effective than was hoped, and the British casualties were consequently increased. Although the desperate fighting on the breakwater resulted in severe casualties, the losses in the desperate exploit of sinking the ships in the entrance of the Canal were very light."

## MUSIC HATH CHARMS.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE (By A. P.). To-day.—The fighting continued yesterday in the region of Aveluy Wood, and near Albert the British advanced their line south of the Wood some 250 yards, along a front of 1,000 yards, thereby improving their positions. Otherwise there was no change in the situation yesterday, or last night. In virtually the whole line from north to south everywhere was found a feeling of optimism. Yesterday as the shell shaken town of Villers Bretonneux was reached, a British military band in a camp not far away, played an amusing march; it was a small incident but it is indicative of the men, and it is by such things as this that the morale of the troops may be judged.

## MORE DETAILS.

LONDON, To-day.

In the British attack on the Belgian Coast, according to reports from the Celand Frontiers, transmitted by the Rotterdam correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, several German batteries at Ostend and Zebrugges were silenced by the bombardment from the sea, and there was also much aerial fighting. The attack began at midnight, the report says, and until two o'clock in the morning the German batteries fired continuously.

Miss Herder and Mr. Williams will sing at Casino on April 30th and May 1st.—april 24.

REV. J. R. SAINT, D.D.

MONTREAL, To-day.

The honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred by the Wesleyan Theological College here, at the annual convocation to-night, upon the Rev. J. R. Saint, President of the Newfoundland Methodist Conference. The degree was conferred in Absentia.

Newfoundland's  
Newest D.D.

Congratulations to Rev. Jabez R. Saint, President of the Newfoundland Methodist Conference, on the honour bestowed upon him by the conferring of the degree of Doctor of Divinity, which honour is none the less to the whole Methodist denomination.

Suffered headaches for years, nothing helped until the eye was tested and glasses fitted by TRAPNELL, the Eyesight Specialist, after which there was no return of headache. Are you subject to headaches? Go to TRAPNELL.—april 16.

## Railway Tragedy.

Section Man Killed and Two Others Badly Injured, When Hand Cars Collide Near Whitbourne.

As the result of a collision between two section cars near Whitbourne at 11 o'clock last night, Sectionman James Flynn now lies cold in death and two fellow-workers, Messrs. Peddle and Greenfield at the General Hospital in a critical condition. The news of the fatal tragedy was received by the clerk in charge of the Reid Nfld. Co's. Dispatching Department shortly after midnight. He immediately acquainted Mr. H. D. Reid, President, and the proper authorities of the happening. The facts as far as can be ascertained are as follows: At 11 o'clock last night three crews of section men, totalling twelve all told, were returning to Whitbourne from a point several miles east of that place, and when within two miles of the town the second car collided with the leading car, striking it with such force that the occupants of both cars were thrown from the car platforms. As a result of the blow Flynn became unconscious and passed away within an hour. On examining the body it was discovered that his head, arms and legs had been badly bruised and that the victim was beyond all earthly aid. Sectionman Peddle was found to have a broken leg and several nasty cuts on his arms, other leg and body. Sectionman Greenfield was also badly shaken up and is suffering from internal as well as external injuries. The two latter arrived by the local train to-day and were conveyed to the General Hospital for surgical and medical treatment. The late James Flynn was a son of Sectionforeman Flynn of Whitbourne, who for many years had been employed by the Reid Nfld. Co. He was 28 years of age and unmarried. On hearing of the sad affair President Reid ordered that a handsome casket be sent to Whitbourne and that everything possible be done for the comfort of the injured. Our sympathies are extended the relatives.

Yesterday in the  
Legislative Council.

Following the retirement of His Excellency, Hon. W. J. Ellis moved a series of resolutions which was seconded by Hon. John Anderson. The President then addressed the House after which Hon. Mr. Mews moved and Hon. F. McNamara seconded that a committee be appointed to draft an address in reply to the Governor's speech. Hon. Mr. Gibbs, leader of the Opposition, sharply criticised the speech, contending that it contained nothing of a constructive policy or one of any future good for the Dominion. The high praise of our produce was absolutely the result of war and the Government had nothing more to do with than they had with respect to the surplus revenue. Referring to the local loan the Government had gotten its idea from the Evening Telegram, which for some time has been advocating selective conscription and a local victory loan. The action of the Government in its proposed extension of Parliament was merely taking advantage of a national crisis and making it a pretext to hold on to office contrary to the people's wishes; and an amusing march; it was a small incident but it is indicative of the men, and it is by such things as this that the morale of the troops may be judged.

## NOTE OF THANKS.—Mr. and Mrs. George England of St. George's desire to thank their Majesties the King and Queen, His Excellency the Governor, Hon. J. R. Bennett, Hon. W. W. Hallyard and all other kind friends who sent notes of sympathy to them at the time of their sad bereavement on the death of their dear son Hugh, who was killed in France on March 12th, 1918; also Rev. and Mrs. Patten, Dr. Bethune and all others who visited them to help lighten their sorrow. Boto papers please copy.—adv.

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of the seal fishery of 1918 or any portion thereof be reserved for the use of the British Government.

## Successful Sale and Concert.

The Sale of Work and Concert held under the auspices of the St. Mary's Women's Association, in Botwood Hall yesterday afternoon and night was undoubtedly a great success. His Excellency the Governor and Miss Harris were in attendance as was also His Lordship Bishop White. The stalls which were laden with most useful merchandise were practically depleted of their stock at the close of the evening. At night an enjoyable concert was held, the following taking part, viz.: Master Reid; Misses Chafe, Dunfield, Russell, North; Mrs. Christian; Messrs. Lloyd, Ruggles and Walker; Miss Bremner's Dancing Class gave two dances, Mrs. Cooper and her talented company gave a farce, and Mr. Gordon Christian was accompanist.

## Mr. Grace in Line.

The following message was received from Sergt. Mitchell, by the Soldiers' Association: "Harbor Grace. "At last night's meeting resolutions favoring Selective Conscription were passed unanimously."

## Here and There.

When you want Steaks, Chops, Cutlets and Collops, try ELLIS.

TRAIN MOVEMENTS.—Sunday's outgoing express arrived at Port aux Basques at 2.45 p.m. yesterday.

You'll enjoy every minute of SUNSET — PANTALOO — ROSALIND.—april 24.

REIDS' BOATS.—The Ethie left Burgeo at 3 p.m. yesterday, coming east; the Home leaving Placentia to-day on Miramichi route; the Clyde at St. John's.

When you want something in a hurry for tea, go to ELLIS.—Head Cheese, Ox Tongue, Roasted Ham, Cooked Corned Beef, Bologna Sausage.

FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT.—Miss O'Reilly, of St. George's, who arrived in the city last night seriously ill, is being attended by Dr. Campbell, and providing she is recovered sufficient to travel, will leave by to-morrow's express for her home on the West Coast.

Seats on sale to-morrow morning at Gray & Goddard's for SUNSET — PANTALOO and ROSALIND. Make certain of yours.—april 24.

S.U.F. SERMON.—A manuscript of the sermon delivered by Rev. Canon Smart, St. Mary's Church, Heart's Content, on April 17th, to the members of the Grand Lodge, Society of United Fishermen, has been received, and will be published to-morrow.

STAFFORD'S PRESCRIPTION "A" for Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Catarrh of the Stomach and Nervous Dyspepsia. Price 30c. and 60c. bottle. Postage 5 and 10c. extra.—april 5.

Miss Beatrice Bridgen, A. C. S. E., of Toronto, will deliver an address to the Business Girls of the City in the British Hall to-morrow evening, Thursday, April 25th, at 8 o'clock. Don't fail to hear her. Entrance from Bond Street.—april 24.

BORN.—On April 23rd, a son to Mrs. and Mr. Mark W. Stevens, 45 Banerman St. At Rose Blanche, on the 23rd inst., a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Ewing.

DIED.—Passed peacefully away after a short illness, of diphtheria, Gordon, aged 14 years and 9 months, beloved son of George and Harriet March; he leaves to mourn three sisters, one brother, father and mother, and a large number of friends. "Shall we meet with many a loved one, That was torn from our embrace; Shall we listen to his voice, And we meet him face to face."

## Help The Soldiers

BY ATTENDING

## 'MYLES AROON'

AT THE

## CASINO THEATRE, THURSDAY, 25th

## CAST OF CHARACTERS.

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Squire Thurston . . . . . MR. W. WHITE  
Gerald Fosdyke . . . . . MR. J. C. PIPPY  
Mike Carney . . . . . MR. W. B. COMERFORD  
Pat. Phelan . . . . . MR. P. O'MARA  
Joe Upton . . . . . CORP. P. J. GRACE  
Officer . . . . . MR. M. CHANNING  
Lady Glover . . . . . MISS M. VIGUERS  
Maggie Farrell . . . . . MISS IDA HOWLETT  
Little Nellie . . . . . MISS KITTY RYALL  
Mrs. Farrell . . . . . MISS L. DEVEREAUX  
Mother Bet . . . . . MISS ADELAIDE  
Katie Rooney . . . . . MISS MAY JACKMAN  
Nora Murphy . . . . . MISS HAZEL LEWIS  
Lucy O'Shea . . . . . MISS GERTRUDE BYRNE  
Annie O'Connor . . . . . MISS MOLLIE DUCHEMIN

Reserved Seats now on sale at Atlantic Bookstore. \* april 23, 31

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