

THE COURIER

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Monday, May 31, 1915

THE SITUATION.

The Italian troops continue to make satisfactory headway, and they are smashing forts on the way to Trent. The latter is a walled town in Austria and capital of the southern part of the Tyrol, one of the most fertile regions in Europe. The manner in which the men of the land of Garibaldi are going at their task demonstrates that their heart is right in the work.

Sir John French, in an address issued to the troops which fought the second battle of the Ypres, declared it to be "one of the most desperate fights of the war," and expressed the opinion that their heroic action had done much "to shorten" the length of hostilities.

The French—upon whom, let it not be forgotten, the great burden of the fighting has fallen in the Western theatre of the struggle—continue to do well and report the gain of some more trenches. Slow work, of course, but satisfactory, nevertheless.

The sanguinary struggle in the neighborhood of Przemyśl is still maintained, with both sides claiming the advantage. Of all the scenes of slaughter thus far, this is undoubtedly the biggest yet recorded in connection with these world record hostilities, with the German troops sacrificed in a most prodigious manner.

News from the Dardanelles is reassuring. The Australian and New Zealand troops, in consort with men from the regulars, are proving their right to laurels of Empire accomplishment just as much as the Canadians, while the officially announced losses by the sinking of the two battleships Triumph and Majestic are, relatively speaking, small—three officers and eleven men killed, with forty-two missing in the first case and forty-nine men in the second.

In the Old Country the crying need for more munitions and still more munitions has become recognized in deadly earnest, and with Lloyd George now at the head of that branch of the service there will, without any question, be tremendous results more in accord with the necessities of the case. Bravery in this struggle cannot win through without material, and plenty of it.

GERMANY'S REPLY. The long-delayed reply of the Kaiser to the note of President Wilson, in which he emphatically protested against the sinking of the Lusitania and the consequent loss of many American lives, has at last made its appearance. The President approached Berlin with a bouquet in one hand (spoke, for instance, of German influence as always engaged "upon the side of justice and humanity") and a bludgeon in the other. The bouquet he tossed, and the bludgeon has not yet been used. It is said that Washington is not satisfied, and that Wilson is likely to send another communication.

Hon. Joseph Cannon, ex-Speaker of the United States Congress, and one of the most notable figures in the United States, recently arrived home from a trip to the Hawaiian Islands. He has a habit of using lurid language, and when asked for his views regarding the war, he replied: "We have been sending too many notes to Germany, so many that I have lost track of 'em."

As for Germany's answer, it is not only a direct justification of murder on the high seas, but also a distinct begging of the question. It is urged that for a considerable period the more valuable of the British merchant ships have had guns on board. If so, why not? The point to be emphasized, and which every reasonable individual must concede, is that such craft have every reasonable right to carry some protection against the German pirates.

In like manner it is pleaded that the British authorities have offered large prizes to merchantmen if they ram a German submarine. Equally why not? No one except a German would maintain that these pirates, who should be carrying the skull and crossbones, are entitled to anything else save destruction when the chance offers.

Another claim is that the Lusitania was on the British cruiser list. Quite true, if wanted in that capacity, but she hasn't been and wasn't on her last voyage. Another assertion is that she had Canadian troops on board (an arrant lie), and that she had some ammunition on board, the explosion of which caused her actual sinking. As to that, had the submarine not seen her sink because of the torpedoes fired, she would have stayed with her murderous job and fired more torpedoes until she had.

GERMAN NOTE

(Continued from Page One.)

The Government of the United States proceeds upon the assumption that the Lusitania is to be considered as an ordinary unarmed merchant vessel. The Imperial Government begs in this connection to point out that the Lusitania was one of the largest and fastest of English steamers participating in Government funds as an auxiliary cruiser, and is expressly included in the navy list published by the British Admiralty.

It is moreover known to the Imperial Government from reliable information furnished by its officials and neutral passengers that for some time practically all the more valuable English merchant vessels had been provided with guns, ammunition and other weapons and furnished with crews especially trained in the use of such arms. According to reports here the Lusitania, when she left New York, had guns aboard which were mounted under deck and masked.

BLAMES GREAT BRITAIN. The Imperial Government furthermore has the honor to direct the particular attention of the American Government to the fact that the British Admiralty, by secret instructions in February of this year, advised the British merchant marine to resort only to self-protection behind neutral flags and markings, but even when so disguised, to attack German submarines by ramming. High rewards were offered by the British Government as a special incentive for the destruction of submarines by merchant vessels and such rewards already have been paid. In view of these facts, which are sufficiently known to the Imperial Government, it is unable to consider British merchant vessels any longer "undefended territory" in the zone of war and time of war designated by the Admiralty and staff of the Imperial German Navy.

German commanders are consequently no longer in the position to observe the rules of right of capture otherwise usual, and with which they invariably complied before this.

Lastly, the Imperial Government must specifically point out that on her last trip the Lusitania, as on earlier occasions, had Canadian troops and munitions of war aboard, including no less than 5,400 cases of ammunition destined for the destruction of the German merchant fleet, and are fulfilling with self-sacrifice and devotion their duty to the Fatherland. The German government believes it acts in just self-defence when its soldiers destroy ammunition destined for the enemy with the means of war at its command. The English steamship company must have been aware of the dangers to which passengers aboard the Lusitania were exposed under the circumstances. In taking them aboard in spite of this, the company quite deliberately tried to use the lives of American citizens as protection for the ammunition carried, and violated the clear provisions of American laws, which expressly prohibit and provide punishment for carrying passengers on ships which have explosives aboard. The company thereby wantonly caused the death of so many British men, and believes, according to the express report of the submarine commander concerned, which is only confirmed by all other reports there can be no doubt that the rapid sinking of the Lusitania was primarily due to an explosion of her cargo of ammunition caused by a torpedo. Otherwise, there was all human possibility that the passengers would have been saved.

The Imperial Government holds the facts recited to be of sufficient importance to recommend them to careful examination by the American Government. The Imperial German Government desires to reserve its final statements of its position with regard to the demands made in connection with the sinking of the Lusitania until a reply is received from the American Government, and believes it should recall here that it took note with satisfaction of the proposals of good offices submitted by the American Government to Berlin and London with a view to providing a way for the conduct of the maritime war between Germany and Great Britain. The Imperial Government furnished at that time ample evidence of its good will by its willingness to consider these proposals, and the rejection of these proposals failed on account of their rejection by Great Britain.

DESTROYED COTTON SHEDS. London, May 31.—A Stockholm despatch to the Morning Post says that a Zeppelin raider visited Helsingfors. It dropped bombs, setting fire to several cotton sheds and destroyed a passenger ship.

ALBANIANS ACTIVE. Paris, May 31.—A Havas despatch from Nish says strong Albanian bands attacked Serbian blockhouses in the region of Mahoum on May 26. At the same time several hundred Albanians attacked frontier posts between Rastelitz and Ektirovitz with machine guns. In both cases the Albanians were repulsed. They are reported to be preparing to renew the attack on Mahoum.

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FIGHTING WAS HEAVY AS THEY LANDED

Story of French Landing Against the Turkish Ports.

By Special Wire to the Courier. PARIS, May 31.—An official note issued by the French war office gives a summary of the operations in the Dardanelles from April 25 to May 14. The note says: "Fighting was especially heavy during the debarcation of troops April 25 and 26. Landing parties succeeded in gaining a foothold, however, and established their position while waiting for reinforcements although Turkish attacks were especially violent."

"The Turks suffered a serious check on May 2," the note says, but continued their offensive against the allied forces. During the night of May 3, 4, the Turks received orders not to fire, but to take by storm the positions held by the French. All cartridges were taken away from the first line men and they were forced to charge. Time after time the line wavered and broke, the Turks being mowed down by our fire. Although the battle raged from 10 pm. until dawn the following morning the furious attack was without result as the French positions remained precisely the same as the previous night.

"On the morning of May 6, a general offensive was ordered along the entire front. This movement was exceedingly difficult owing to the stubborn Turkish resistance and the fire of their machine guns, which were numerous. "During May 7 and 8, the battle continued, but in the late afternoon of the 8th the brave colonial troops, supported by French regiments, in spite of a hail of shrapnel and shells of all calibres, surmounted all obstacles and at nightfall the position was ours, including an important spur, besides the slopes.

Bucknam Pasha, Canadian-born Turkish Admiral, is dead.

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LOCAL COUNTY COUNCIL

TEMPERATURE. Record for the last 24 hours: lowest 36; highest 65. 5 days: lowest 32; highest 68.

OFFICIAL VISIT. Grand Master D. M. I. O. F., will pay his visit to Gore Lodge to-night composed of the Past Lodge will confer the initiation.

INCOME FORMS. There are still a good income forms out which have been returned and it is City Assessors that the as speedily as possible.

GOOD RECORD. There was only one error reported in the city the medical officer. The other cases of infectious diseases reported.

IS NOW RECOVERING. Mrs. Joseph Robins, 12 Cayuga St. has recovered April the 29th her husband stated that he was wounded in the head at the Whitechapel, London sent date. He had paralyzed for a short time recovering.

HOSPITAL DAY. In all the churches fact was announced today in this city would next, June 5th, and the very heartily commended Waterloo, upon the occasion of such an event was \$2,000.

NEW SERVICE. The 20th Century M has inaugurated a new run three times daily on Wednesday and Saturday George containing. This should be of interest to folks residing on the from the terminals.

POLICE, "ATTENTION". A resident on Park at the Courier Office to a complaint that the spouts on that boulevard only created a disturbance. The attention of children. The attention is respectfully called, as this is not the Courier has had this case.

PRESENTATION MADE. Mr. Clinton Black left with the Waterloo Engine to-day to accept at the Dunlop Tire Co., well deserved recognition by the presentation to watch. Mr. Black has been member of Cal Knights of Pythias. He will wish for him the future success.

UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT. About noon on Saturday a serious accident occurred at the corner of Bridge and Dundas. Mrs. H. Chapin of Shell getting out of a rig appeared around the corner and frightened the horse was that Mrs. Chapin was to the curb, breaking his places. A doctor was immediately set the injured man unfortunate lady is quietly at home.

AN "ORRIBLE STORY". There was a terrible breathless excitement this morning, quoting it it appears thus: "An 'old radial line this morning blooming' conductor, after 'orn, 'ad to get strite down and ave a nap when shoven it off." It would fore that there was a strike the car due to arrive at ford, near the Mohawk occasioned by a steel, the danger incurred, was juicy verdure, between tracks, and necessitated towards its removal to

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