

YOU'LL BE SURE TO FIND IT IN "The MAIL and ADVOCATE"

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Amundell

THE 'SIRIUS' IS ACTIVE THO AGED

Old Cruiser, Well-Known on This Station, Gives a Good Account of Herself

WAS RESCUED FROM SCRAP-HEAP

And Sent to Bombard German Batteries on the Belgian Coast—Did it in Good Style, Too

There have been innumerable romances in the world war, both on land and on sea. Not the least of the latter is the romance of H.M.S. Sirius, the only third class cruiser of 6,300 tons which was launched at Newcastle in the good old-fashioned days of 1891.

The story of H.M.S. Sirius is a story of rescue. It is not the story of human lives heroically rescued under the dangers of fire, but the rescue of an old ship from the scrap heap of oblivion to a new life of imperishable glory.

The old Sirius had long been advertised for sale. But, somehow or other, there seemed to be no buyers of antiquities, and the Sirius remained at Chatham without a purchaser.

But just a month or so ago the Sirius, with a small crew, was sent on a lay journey to Portsmouth.

Suddenly, in the middle of the lay journey there came a telegraph message ordering the crew to prepare for active service.

Silenced Foes Batteries. The old ship awakened to a new life, and six days after hoisting her pennant she was in the midst of a tremendous bombardment of—

Her guns worked splendidly; her crew, the members of which hardly knew each other by sight, worked like heroes, and before long the old Sirius had silenced a couple of German batteries.

Other batteries opened fire, but the Sirius went at them and silenced them. In one single day the brave old ship had fired as many as 1,510 rounds of shrapnel and Lyddite from her heavy guns.

The Germans did their utmost to get their own back by concentrating their fire on the Sirius.

But the old ship was manoeuvred with all the swiftness of youth, and somehow or other their shells either dropped short or missed their mark.

One of two whistled overhead, and only the splinters of a couple of stray shell shots did any damage. These scraped the starboard bow lightly and had the impudence to chip off various bits of paint, while one bit of shrapnel passed through the Union Jack flying at the foremast.

Then, having done a good day's work, the Sirius put in at a certain dock and replenished herself with ammunition and provisions.

By this time news had come to hand that a number of German batteries in another direction appeared to be too contented with life, so the Sirius went round, gave them a friendly call, drop ped a few visiting cards and left them asleep.

"All's Enemy Remembered. She spent two hours in paying these little calls of respect to various German batteries.

Afterwards she was informed by officers of the Royal Flying Corps, who had been watching the exchange of compliments from afar, that her guns had destroyed a German convoy as it approached a coast base and had smashed up a number of the German trenches.

Well done, Sirius! No wonder her crew of reserved men and pensioners who, by the way, have got quite friendly with one another by now, are proud that the old ship was saved from the scrapheap to play so glorious a part in the life of war.

The foregoing is clipped from The Daily Mirror of Jan. 12th, and kindly sent to The Mail by a friend in London.

The Sirius was stationed in these waters for several years and Newfoundlanders will be delighted to read of her success.

It is not unlikely that some of our reservists are on board her.

German Effort Capture Bethune Was a Failure

Fierce Bayonet Attacks Were Feature Of the Battle and Carnage Was Terrible

Paris, Jan. 28.—After having concentrated large forces between La Bassée and Festubert, says a Havas Agency despatch from Saint Omer, under date of January 25th, the Germans attempted to break through the lines of the Allies in an effort to capture Bethune.

The attack commenced early in the morning, and the infantry supported the artillery and armoured trains. Five attempts were made, but all were unsuccessful. The Germans went so far as the church in Givenchy, west of La Bassée.

Fierce bayonet fights were incidents of the battle. The carnage was great, and Givenchy was covered with bodies of Germans.

According to a prisoner, the attack, the message says, was planned several days before, Emperor Wilhelm himself going to La Bassée to study the disposition of the troops.

Place Strassburg In State of Siege

Brussels, Jan. 29.—The Morning Post's correspondent at Berne telegraphs that Strassburg is being placed in a state of siege. Even the officers' wives have received orders to leave there immediately.

Allies Gained Important Advantages In A Series Of Sanguinary Conflicts On The West Front In Last Few Days

London, Jan. 29.—Although no big battles, as battles go in this war, have been fought of late, there have been engagements in all the arenas from Asiatic Turkey to the English Channel in which the loss of men and material have probably been greater in the aggregate than in any battles of history.

According to French reports, the attacks which the Germans delivered against the Allied lines in Flanders, France and Alsace on the first three days of the week cost them 20,000 men to which must be added the losses they sustained in their repeated attacks on the Russian entrenchments in Central Poland.

Met With Failure. All the German attacks in the West, the announcement of the Allies say, met with failure, except near Craonne, where it is admitted the French lost 800 men due largely to the subsidence of an old quarry. The Germans, on the other hand, assert they inflicted a severe defeat on the French at Craonne and that they repulsed all French attacks in the Vosges and in Upper Alsace with heavy losses.

While it is evident that these at-

tacks and counter attacks cost both sides dear, they make no great difference in the relative positions of the opposing armies. They convey an intimation, however, that the Germans have by no means given up the idea of delivering a smashing blow to the Allied armies.

With their approach of drier weather and the consequent hardening of the ground, the Germans have brought up new troops with the intention of getting in their blow before the full strength of the Anglo-French forces is ready to meet them.

Very Little Headway. Thus far they have made little, if any, headway, but, undismayed, they are sending still more troops through Belgium to Ypres and La Bassée, at which points, earlier in the winter, they attempted to break way through to the coast. Knowing, as they must, that the Anglo-French armies have been greatly strengthened since then, they themselves must have increased their striking power and so move their present lines forward when all preparations are completed.

In the East, interest centres in the Carpathians, where the Austro-Germans have sought up new armies to oppose the Russian invasion of Hungary, and according to announcements from Vienna, have recaptured some of the territory which the Russians were holding in strength. While, naturally, the

Russians, like the other belligerents, do not relish giving up any ground gained, they declare that this is compensated for by the fact that their aggressiveness has compelled the Austro-Germans to postpone the Expedition which they were preparing with the object of crushing Serbia.

Could Help a Lot. Russia, hopes Roumania, with her financial position guaranteed by the recent London loan of \$25,000,000, will soon send her army into the field and form the missing link between Russia and Serbia.

The Turks, by bringing up their 5th Army Corps, have been able to resume their offensive in the Caucasus, but a Russian report says they have suffered another setback.

Nothing further has been heard of the Turkish Army which is invading Egypt.

Denial Repeated. The British Admiralty issued a formal denial German reports that some British ships had been sunk in the naval battle in the North Sea on Sunday. The Admiralty adheres to its former statement that all the British vessels engaged returned safely to port.

The same department also denies the story that the Von der Tann was sunk by the British cruiser Invincible in the South Atlantic and says no engagement occurred between these two vessels.

Tried To Murder King Of Greece Say The Turks

Constantinople Says Attempt Was Made at Patras—Greeks Deny The Story

London, Jan. 28.—A Central News despatch from Copenhagen, reports an attempt made several days ago to assassinate King Constantine of Greece.

This report was conveyed to Copenhagen in a despatch from Constantinople, which says that its authority are statements of travellers, arriving at Constantinople.

The attempt on the King's life was made at Patras, Greece.

A GREEK DENIAL.

London, Jan. 29.—The Greek Minister here declares the Constantinople report of an attempt to assassinate King Constantine is absolutely untrue.

Fifty Villages Are Laid In Ruins By Turk Army

Women and Children Suffer Intensely From the Cold—Many of the Men Killed

London, Jan. 29.—A despatch from Tiflis the Russian army headquarters in Transcaucasia, says: Fifty villages around Kars, in Southern Transcaucasia, have been laid in ruins by the Turks.

In their flight the Greek inhabitants—women and children—suffered intensely from the cold weather. It is reported that many men among the Greeks were made prisoners and that some were killed.

Portia Gone West

S.S. Portia sailed at 10 a.m. taking a large freight and the following passengers:—

G. Elford, L. Farrell, G. Hollett, G. Daley, Const. O'Flaherty, P. J. Cornack, R. G. Ross, S. Hearn, Capt. Kennedy, H. Lake, Miss Kearley, Mrs. G. Devereaux, Dr. Hogan and 10 steersage.

Berlin Orders German Subjects To Leave Italy

And Switzerland Regards it as Sign Italy Will Soon Declare For The Allies

Geneva, Switzerland, Jan. 27.—A crisis is rapidly developing in the relations of Germany and Italy, according to information received from reliable sources, Swiss newspapers declare.

They state that all German residents of Italy, of whom there are more than 7,000 have been notified by Berlin to leave at once and return to Germany.

While the Swiss papers make no prediction that Italy will immediately enter the war on the side of the Allies, they intimate that such a step will not be long delayed.

Young Soldier A-Dying Sang "Marseillaise"

Pathetic Story From St. Nazaire Hospital, in France—Would Do It All Again

Paris, Jan. 27.—A pathetic story is told of the death of a seventeen-year-old Alsatian boy in the hospital at St. Nazaire the other day. The boy had fought successively in Belgium on the Marne and Ypres. At Dixmude he was wounded in the left thigh, right arm and other parts of the body.

The youth showed wonderful stoicism. When he was dying his mother asked him if, now that he knew what war was, he would be willing if he lived to undergo his sufferings again. The boy answered unhesitatingly: "There is no doubt about it, mother."

He then bade farewell to all the other patients in the ward, thanked the nurses and died singing the Marseillaise.

DIDN'T GET BIRTHDAY PRESENT

Instead, the 27th Was a Day of Defeats for the Germans and of Successes for the Allies

FRENCH SETBACK NEAR CRAONNE

Where a Quarry Caved in—Heavy German Losses in This Region—Many Allied Gains

Paris, via St. Pierre, Jan. 28.—Yesterday was the Emperor of Germany's birthday. Our adversaries had announced on this occasion a heavy effort. It took place, but did not succeed. The day was favorable for us on the whole front. Every German attack was repulsed, and all our attacks were successful.

In Belgium the enemy's positions were cannonaded and several of their trenches were destroyed.

South of La Lys, British artillery swept the roads of German troops.

Intermittent Cannonading.

In Arras, Albert, Roye, Noyon and Soissons sections, there was intermittent cannonading and firing on several points. German infantry vainly tried to come out of their trenches, but were thrown back by fierce fire.

In the Craonne district the total German losses on the 25th and 26th surely attain to the effectiveness of a brigade. German prisoners show the impression of having suffered heavy defeat. Our losses during these two days are about 800 men, an dthis is easily explained by the fierce struggle and by the losing up of a quarry reported yesterday, in which two of our companies took shelter and no doubt fell alive in the hands of the enemy. Our counter attacks gave us entire possession of the ground contested.

Artillery Duel.

In Rheims section, and from Rheims to Argonne, was an artillery duel, where our heavy artillery silenced the German batteries.

As reported last night, three German attacks in Argonne at Fontaine Madam, between 6 a.m. and 1 p.m. were completely repulsed. The same German failure marked three attacks at Alilly Woods, south-east of St. Mihiel.

German detachments were defeated at Parroy and Bures.

In the Vosges we have advanced north of Senones on the slopes of the Mere Henry Lookout. Our gain is estimated at 400 meters.

More Successes.

There was the same success southwest of Senones, and in Ban de Sapt we gained ground, coming in contact with German accessory defense line. We also progressed in Alsace in Amertville.

In Burnhaupt district we captured and kept ground near Carnay, and repulsed an attack of a German battalion.

According to the number of killed gathered on the battlefields to the east of Ypres, La Bassée, Craonne, Argonne, Woivre, and Vosges, during the 25th, 26th, and 27th, the German losses during these three days appear to be more than twenty thousand men.

King George Sends Message Of Sympathy

Condoles With Mr. and Mrs. Chaplin On the Death of Their Son In Scotland

His Excellency the Governor has received the following message of sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Mark Chaplin, from Secretary of State Harcourt, sent at the order of His Majesty the King and of the Queen: "The King and Queen deeply regret the loss you both and the Army have sustained, by the death of your son, John Fielding Chaplin, in the service of his country."

Knowling's Grocery Departments

EAST, WEST, and CENTRAL.

We offer the following:—

New Tunis Dates, 17c. carton. Extra Choice New Napples Walnuts, 23c. lb. Finest Shelled Walnuts, New Seasons, 45c. lb. New Italian Chestnuts, 14c. lb.

BEST Granulated SUGAR, 3 lbs. for 20c.

Ground Sweet Almonds, New Seasons, 22c. tin. Fruit Pudding, a splendid table dessert, 10c. pkt. Cracknel Biscuits, 28c. lb. Horlick's Malted Milk, 43c. and 85c. tin. Malt Breakfast Food, 18c. pkt. Cream Wheat, 21c. pkt.

GOOD CURRANTS, 6c. per lb.

Hunter's Genuine Scotch Oatmeal, 7½c. lb. Plasmon Oatfood, the finest and most nutritious breakfast food in the market, 26c. tin. Canadian Rolled Oats, 4½c. lb. Plasmon Oats, 16c. pkt. Canadian Oatmeal, 4½c. lb. Plasmon, 50c. tin.

TABLE CORN MEAL, 14 lbs. for 40c.

Charcoal, for poultry, 10 lbs. for 35c. "Spratt's" Mebo, meat and bone for laying hens, 7 lb. bag for 38c. Oyster shell, for poultry, 10 lbs. for 18c. Spratt's Laymor, for making hens lay, 10 lbs. for 45c. Parrot Food, "Spratt's," 9c. pkt. Spratt's Puppy or Terrier Biscuits, 9c. lb. "Lay or Bust," dry mash 10 lbs. for 33c. Spratt's Puppy or Terrier Biscuits, 9c. lb.

Maggi's Soup Squares, 15 & 21c. pkt. 5 sq. Each square sufficient for two persons.

Dodd's Kidney Pills, 40c. box. Carter's Little Liver Pills, 19c. box. Vaseline, (genuine), 5c. bottle. Vaseline Carbolated, in tubes, 9c. tube. Minard's Liniment, 14c. bottle. Stafford's Liniment, 13c. bottle. Beecham's Pills, 23c. box. Hamilton's Pills, 20c. box. Nerviline, 20c. bottle. Fellow's Syrup, genuine, 90c. bottle. Eucalyptus Oil, genuine Australian, 6c. bottle. Cuticura Soap, 30c. cake.

The cheapest place to buy genuine Patent Medicines and proprietary articles is at

George Knowling's Stores EAST, WEST and CENTRAL.

122, 51, 21w

ALLIED AVIATORS' VICTORY

Outwitted Germans, Swooped on Them and Sent One to the Ground

London, Jan. 26.—A correspondent at Verdun writes: A member of the French army aviation corps described to me a remarkable aeroplane battle. An allied aero camp, with two Farman double-deckers and a Bleriot monoplane, had just been dislodged by the fire of heavy German guns, and had sought shelter in a lay-field bordering the Meuse, when the telephone brought word that two German aeroplanes, a Taube and an Albatross, apparently bound for Verdun, were approaching. The camp disappeared in the heavy mist before the two invading machines appeared. Detecting the camp they swooped down to two hundred meters and black streaks shot out from beneath them. Five bombs struck within fifty yards. One tore to shreds one of the tarpaulins that covered the three machines. When one of the Farman shot down obliquely the Germans saw them and abandoned the camp.

Hide and Seek. For twenty minutes the five machines played hide-and-seek in the mist. The Germans soared the faster, and soon all became hidden in the black clouds. The incessant barking of the mitrailleuses became fainter and fainter until all was still.

After several minutes a Farman came down in spirals. It landed hard, breaking wheels and rudder. The men in it were unhurt. Fifteen hundred meters up the motor had stopped and they had planned down. Up above they had seen G—, the pilot of the Bleriot, trying to outsoar the Germans and top them.

Exploded and Came Down. Suddenly a report, dull, distant, was heard in the camp, and immediately three loud spits again. A shapeless mass, enveloped in flames, a streak of blue and white, crashed to the ground. The men who rushed breathlessly to the wreck found the last sizzling blue flames licking the remains of one wing, beneath which the great cross of Germany was painted.

Then the camp saw five hundred meters up, the Bleriot. Before landing, just to express his triumphant joy G—, before the little groups amazed eyes, just as he had done scores of

TRY HALT RUSSIAN ADVANCE

Austro-German Forces Concentrating in the Carpathians to March on Prezmysl

London, Jan. 29.—The Times' Petrograd correspondent telegraphs: The activity of the Austro-German forces in the Eastern or Beskidian division of the Carpathians is becoming the dominant feature in the military situation. The enemy's movements are rapidly developing along a line which extends from Dukla to Wyszow, a distance approximately one hundred miles.

Their columns are trying to cross the mountains by the numerous passes within this front fed by the four important railways from the South.

Prezmysl stands in the centre of the enemy's line of advance and its relief forms, apparently, the immediate objective of the invaders.

Try to Halt Roumania

Petrograd, Jan. 29.—Colonel Shumsky, military critic of the Bourse Gazette, in a study of the Carpathian situation presented to-day, declares that the Austrians will deliver their main attack on the right wing in West Bukowina where they hope to achieve a victory which will halt Roumania.

This view of the situation is supported by the concentration in South-eastern Hungary of the Archduke Joseph's fourth army and a German force of four corps.

lines before cheering crowds, looped the loop. He had topped the Taube at two thousand meters, far above the rain clouds. His observer had worked the quick-nerf to red heat. The German's petrol tank, punctured, had caught fire and exploded.

A quarter of an hour later the other Farman returned, half a dozen holes in the wings. The Albatross had escaped northwards.

WEATHER REPORT

Toronto (noon)—Easterly to northerly gales, with snow or rain, becoming much colder on Saturday.