

# TWENTY-SIXTH BATTALION IN ACTION

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PROBS—SHOWERS

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# SEVERAL MORE OF GERMAN SECOND LINE OF TRENCHES CAPTURED BY FRENCH TROOPS

## GERMANS LOSE HEAVILY IN VIOLENT ATTACK ON LOOS

French Report New and Important Progress Near Village of Tahure and Foothold Gained in "La Trapeze", One of Enemy's Strongly Fortified Works — Fighting Confined to Local Attacks with No Attempt to Resume General Offensive.

## ALLIES' SUBMARINES HAVE ENEMY'S SHIPPING IN THE BALTIC TIED UP

Paris, Oct. 8.—The gaining of a foothold in German positions, and the capture of several trenches and two block-houses in Champagne, is recorded for the French in the official communication made public tonight. The communication says:

"After an intense bombardment with shells of various calibre the Germans attempted today a very violent attack against Loos and its northern and southern approaches. This attack was completely repulsed and the attackers suffered heavy losses.

"In Champagne we have made new and perceptible progress to the southeast of Tahure. We have gained a foothold in the fortified work 'Le Trapeze', and carried several trenches and two blockhouses included in the salient still held by the enemy in front of his second line of defense.

"More than 200 prisoners, a bomb-thrower and some machine guns were captured by us.

"Artillery actions have taken place on both sides in the Western Argonne, in the wood of Le Pretre, in the Vosges at Braunkopf, and on the approaches to Sonderbach."

Paris, Oct. 8.—The Belgian official communication issued today says:

"The night and the day were quiet. Our front to the south of the Ferryman's House was submitted to a rather violent shelling by means of bombs."

No Attempt Yet To Resume Offensive.

London, Oct. 8.—A renewed offensive by the Allies on the western front has not materialized, the recent French attacks in Champagne and Artois apparently having been simply local attempts to capture points of vantage, which brought about furious German counter-attacks. This is notably true of the attack against the hill of Tahure, in the centre of the German lines in Champagne, which has been almost continuously under German fire since its capture by the French.

A somewhat similar situation seemingly has arisen on the eastern front. The Germans several times have shown signs of developing a big attack against Drinsk, but beyond gaining a few yards of trenches they have made no progress, while from that region right down to Galicia the Austro-Germans have been engaged in meeting strong Russian attacks.

With Polish mud again clogging the wheels of the armies it is doubtful whether either side will be able to make an important move for some weeks. But winter with its hard, frozen ground, is expected to bring a renewal of the offensive by one side or the other.

The German mercantile marine in the Baltic is beginning to feel the effect of the submarine warfare there. Virtually all German shipping in that water is being held up by British and Russian underwater craft, and the ferry services between Germany and Scandinavia are being carried on by neutral vessels.

Allied Ministers Leave Sofia.

Sofia, Oct. 7, via London, Oct. 8.—The Ministers representing the Entente Powers asked for their passports last night. The Italian minister joined with the French, British and Russian representatives in this action,

## NOVASCOTIANS AND TWO SONS BURN TO DEATH

Trapped in Burning House — Charred Remains First Knowledge Neighbors Had Victims Had Not Left the House.

Whitehead, N. S., Oct. 8.—About half-past two o'clock this morning a dwelling house owned and occupied by Arthur Munroe and his two sons, took fire and when neighbors gathered on the street, it was too late to get the fire under control and they had to stand by and watch the building burn to the ground. It was not known at the time that there was anyone in the building but after the fire burned out the charred remains of Munroe and his two sons were found in the ruins. Arthur Munroe was about forty-five years of age and leaves one son and three daughters in Boston and one daughter of Halifax. Dewey Munroe, one of the victims, was seventeen years of age and his brother Hugh, twelve.

How the fire originated is not known.

## FOUR MORE MEN FROM COLLINA

Patriotic District in Kings Co. Has Already Given Fifteen Men and More Intend to Enlist.

Special to The Standard.

Collina, Kings Co., Oct. 8.—A rousing recruiting meeting was held here this evening and four fine recruits were enlisted. They were: Percy Long, Clarence Baxter, Arthur Edwards, Benjamin Bates and Hedley Kierstead, brother of Kierstead, who enlisted the other night. This brings the recruits from this place up to fifteen and shows the fine work being done in Kings County by the recruiting speakers and speaks well for the patriotic spirit of this district. The speakers were Rev. M. E. Conroy and J. D. McKenna.

There was a large recruiting meeting at the Hillside Exhibition grounds this afternoon. It is expected that more men will enlist from Collina in the near future. All those who have enlisted expect to go with the 88th Battalion.

## CONTRACTOR WHO WAS ACQUITTED OF THEFT SUES MAYOR MARTIN

Montreal, Oct. 8.—Contractor J. W. Harris, who was acquitted on a charge of stealing \$10,178 from the city of Montreal, has issued writs against Mayor Martin and citizen Rodrigue Lamplais for \$25,000 damages each, alleging false arrest at their instance.

## PETITCODIAC MAN FIRST MEMBER OF THE "26TH" WOUNDED IN ACTION

Since the word reached this city that the Twenty-Sixth Battalion has crossed to France and gone up to the firing line reports have been circulated daily that the battalion had gone into action. Last night, however, with the issuing of the casualty list by the Militia Department came the first official word that the battalion which, more perhaps than any of the others, claims particular interest in St. John, are getting the chance for which they longed to do their bit, and having their baptism of fire.

The casualty list sent out by the militia authorities last evening contains the name of only one member of the battalion. The first to fall is a Petitcodiac man, William D. Turnbull, who is reported as wounded.

The announcement in the casualty list says: TWENTY-SIXTH BATTALION.

Wounded—William D. Turnbull, Petitcodiac, N. B., (gunshot in face and neck.) Now that the battalion is doing its share other casualties must necessarily be expected, but whatever part they are called upon to play in the great struggle their friends at home are confident that the men of the "26th" will do their bit bravely and well.

## ALLIED FLEET TO GREEK WATERS IS SUGGESTED

### FIRST STAGE IN ATTACK ON SERBIA PROVES DISASTROUS TO TEUTONS

Advance Guard Which Crossed Danube at Belgrade Destroyed or Captured—Forces Which Succeeded in Entering Serbian Territory Meet With Enormous Losses.

London, Oct. 8.—The efforts of Austria and Germany to force their way through Serbia to reach the Near Eastern seas and join hands with their Turkish allies have produced one of the most interesting situations of the war.

The Austro-German troops already have gained a footing on Serbian territory, and the advance guard who crossed the Danube at Belgrade has been partly destroyed and partly captured. The Anglo-French force which was landed at Saloniki is making its way northward to assist the Serbs, and to protect Macedonia from a threatened Bulgarian invasion.

The newspaper 'A Nette' publishes an interview with the captain of the San Melito in which he stated that the British Admiralty insisted on the strictest secrecy of the place of the attack, in order to facilitate the mission of the swift British cruisers on patrol duty. The captain is quoted as saying that he thought the attacking vessel was a German torpedo boat, for he saw off the ship's prow the peculiar wake caused by a torpedo. The captain said the first shell that struck his ship made a hole three yards long and one yard wide and pierced the steel plate half an inch thick. Other shells ricocheted among the petroleum tanks,

### BELIEVES GERMAN TORPEDO BOAT ATTACKED HIS SHIP

Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, Oct. 8.—The British freight steamship San Melito, which arrived here yesterday from Tuxpan, Mexico, and reported that she had been attacked at sea by an unknown vessel, one sailor being killed and six wounded, left this port the same day for Buenos Ayres.

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### ARMED NEUTRALITY POLICY OF GREECE

London, Oct. 8.—Premier Zaimis of Greece, informed the British, French, Russian and Italian ministers, who visited him today, that he could not define the government's policy until after a meeting of the cabinet, says a Reuter despatch from Athens.

"It is understood that the government proposes following a purely Hellenic policy, without leaning either way, and that it will not abandon armed neutrality unless high national interests compel it to take such a step."

London, Oct. 8.—(Gazette Cable)—A well-informed Greek, representing moderate Greek thought, expressed the opinion today that a coalition cabinet in Greece means a do-nothing cabinet. It is a combination of half a dozen parties, and usually avoids any aggressive movement that could offend any section. He believes that Venizelos is strong enough to destroy the government, but that he is unlikely to take this course. This man repudiates the idea of the King being pro-German, declaring that he was only inspired by what he believed to be the national interests.

### Public and Press in England and France Demand that Steps be Taken to Prevent Greece Following Bulgaria's Lead.

London, Oct. 8.—The landing of British and French troops is proceeding, despite the change in the Greek government. The ministers of the Entente Powers at Athens have asked Greece to define her policy with regard to the Balkan situation, but the premier, Alexander Zaimis, has answered that he will be unable to do this until a meeting of the cabinet is held. There is, however, evidence that Greece will maintain a policy of benevolent neutrality toward the Allies.

The press and public of London and Paris, with the experience of the sudden change in Bulgaria's attitude fresh in their memory, are demanding that steps be taken to see to it that a similar change does not take place in Athens.

It has been suggested that the appearance of an Allied fleet in Greek waters would have the effect of holding Greece in line.

Allied fleets already are reported off Bulgarian ports in the Aegean and the Black Sea, and in view of the possibility of a Russian landing on the Black Sea coast of Bulgaria, it is stated that a Turkish army is being sent there, so that the Bulgars will not be called upon to fight their old friend and protector.

What assistance Italy will lend her allies in the new venture forced upon them in the Balkans is not disclosed, nor has any change in the policy of Roumania been announced.

The German press suggests that the Allies, despite the landing of troops in Saloniki, are preparing for more energetic operations against Turkey in the hope of smashing her before German assistance arrives, and that Italy may take part in these operations.

There still are three months of good weather ahead for any new move against the Dardanelles, or for operations in other parts of the Aegean district, while the Russians, under Grand Duke Nicholas, are expected to force matters in the Caucasus, and the British to push along to Bagdad.

### FRENCH MINISTER'S SON SENTENCED TO YEAR IN GERMAN PRISON

Berlin, Oct. 8, via wireless to Tuckerton, N. J.—Lieut. Jacques Delcasse, son of the French foreign minister, who is a prisoner of war at Halle, has been sentenced to detention for one year in the fortress for having spoken abusively of Germany and declined to obey orders, according to the Overseas News Agency.

## DARING FEAT OF BRITISH OFFICER IN SEA OF MARMORA

Swam from Submarine Propelling Raft Carrying Explosives to Destroy Viaduct.

### BLEW UP CULVERT AND MADE HIS ESCAPE

Plunged Into Sea as Explosion Went Off Scattering Debris all Around Him—Almost Exhausted When Rescued.

London, Oct. 8.—How Lieut. D'Oyly Hughes, attached to a British submarine operating in the Sea of Marmora, swam from his craft, pushing ahead of him a raft bearing explosives with which he made a breach in the Turkish railway skirting the beach, is related in an official report given out here tonight. This statement, chronicling, perhaps, the strangest experience that has befallen any man during this war, says:

"His weapons consisted of an automatic service revolver and a sharpened bayonet. He also carried an electric torch and a whistle. The cliffs proved unscalable at the first point of landing. He therefore relinquished his raft till a less precipitous spot was reached and after a swift climb and a considerable march he reached the railway."

"Sighting a viaduct," continues the statement, "he planned to destroy it, but abandoned the idea because of the presence of enemy workmen. He then selected a brisk culvert, under which he placed a charge of explosive and lit a fuse. He effected his escape by running a mile down the railway, and plunged into the sea just as the explosive went off. Debris was scattered near him, indicating that the explosion was effective. Having blown his whistle to summon the submarine, the lieutenant swam for the surface. However, on sighting the submarine, he mistook it for a group of Turkish row boats, whereupon he swam towards shore and began to ascend the cliff in hope of hiding. He then discovered his mistake, and again entered the water. Subsequently he was rescued by the submarine when he was on the verge of exhaustion."

## PILOT BLAMED FOR COLLISION

Held Responsible and Fined on Account of Accident in Which Allan Liner Pretorian Was Struck.

Montreal, Oct. 8.—Pilot Wilhelm Langlois is held responsible for the steamship Kansas of the American-Hawaiian Steamship Company, colliding during a fog with the Allan Liner Pretorian about half a mile east of the White Island Lightship in the St. Lawrence river on the morning of Sept. 15, and he was fined \$100 by Captain L. A. Demers, Dominion wreck commissioner, who gave judgment today in the official inquiry held recently. The fine is payable by November 1st. The commissioner holds that no blame is to be attached to the captain, officers or Pilot Lachance of the Pretorian, whose vessel was anchored at the time.

"Under the weather conditions the speed was too great," says the judgment with reference to the Kansas, "and Pilot Langlois did not use all the prudence required of him."