

Germans Release Hon. Dr. Beland, M.P. Allies Await Attack in the Arras Sector

WATCHING FOR A HUN ATTACK NEAR ALBERT

Germans Expected to Launch Great Turning Movement Against Arras Sector

THEIR ARTILLERY FIRE TERRIFIC

Enemy Evidently Prepared to Attack as Soon as Weather Clears Up.

AUSTRIANS ARE HELD BY THE ITALIANS

In Mesopotamia British Forces Capture Kirkuk on the Tigris.

Germany's resumption of the gigantic offensive against the allies on the west front has not yet materialized. In various sectors there have been local operations which have no bearings on the situation as a whole. But along the entire front there is quiet that might be encouraging, were it not for the fact that the Germans are known to be moving up men and materials for a new move in the mighty drive launched on March 21.

Field Marshal Haig's report makes special note of activity by the Germans north of Serre. This little town is situated behind the Teutonic lines north of Albert and marks the apex of a triangle the base of which is the line between Hebuterne and Bucquoy.

Washing Albert. For several weeks military experts have been watching developments in this particular region for the reason that it is the logical point from which the Germans may be expected to launch a great turning movement against the Arras sector. During the early days of April, when the Allies made a final stand on the lines which they at present hold, the Germans are reported to have moved up men and the wooded hills to the south and southwest.

They failed to advance further and later lost ground to the Allies at this point. The country to the west of Hebuterne is quite hilly, with many steep ridges, which afford admirable defensive positions. To the north and northwest, however, the country is moderately level, with long undulating ridges which might be stormed readily by heavy masses of troops.

Field Marshal Haig mentions, too, considerable artillery fire to the north of Kemmel, but this has been a region where the cannon of both sides has been roaring for weeks.

Heavy Near Amiens. The southern portion of the British front has also been under heavy fire from the enemy's guns, and this may indicate that the Germans are getting ready for a new effort to reach Amiens.

On the rest of the western front the reports tell nothing of interest as revealing the true situation. Since the Italians captured Mont Cornio on Saturday morning the Austrians have tried in vain to regain this commanding peak of Asago but have been met by stern resistance. In Mesopotamia, the British forces have progressed further up the Tigris and have captured Kirkuk, pursuing the Turks for twenty miles to the northward. The British are now sixty miles east of the important city of Mosul; the site of the ancient city of Nineveh and the crossing of numerous caravan routes.

Revaly Captured. Ukrainian reports tell of the capture by the Germans of Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna and Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaevich and Alexander Micholovitch, who have been living in strained circumstances in the seclusion of their estates in Crimea which is now overrun by the Germans.

Emperor Charles of Austria, accompanied by his foreign minister and military leaders, has called on Emperor William. The report of the meeting says that there was "complete accord" in their discussions of the present and future relations of the countries.

The Ukrainians are said to be very cool toward the new government set up by the Germans in that country.

Some Experts Expect Germany Will Launch Strong Naval Attack

Emperor Karl's Visit to German Great Headquarters Regarded as Sign that Next Great Battle is not far Distant—Ludendorff May have Invited him to Witness Opening of Next Drive.

On Both the West and Italian Fronts Artillery Has been Exceedingly active, Haig Reporting Heavy Hostile Bombardments in Albert and Arras Sectors for Distance of 27 Miles, Indicating Possible Heavy Attack in Region of Albert.

Special Cable to New York Tribune and St. John Standard. (By Arthur S. Draper).

London, May 13—Emperor Karl's visit to the German great headquarters is a sign that the next great battle is not far distant. Whether Ludendorff invited him to witness the opening of his next drive or whether he simply wanted to convince the young Emperor of the necessity of a push against Italy time alone will show.

The German general staff has insisted on a big attack on Italy as a part of the western campaign and heavy pressure has been brought to bear on the Emperor since the publication of his letter to Prince Sixtus. The dual monarchy has tried in every way to escape the sacrifices of a fresh campaign in Italy, but the German militarists have forced the Austrians to agree to strike this spring, knowing that once committed, their ally must go the full course with them.

Heavy Gunfire. That is the meaning of the great headquarters meeting which incidentally resulted in the granting, as a sop, Karl's demands regarding Austria Poland.

On both the west and the Italian fronts the artillery has been exceedingly active. Field Marshal Haig today reports a heavy hostile bombardment in the Albert and Arras sectors, a distance aggregating twenty-seven miles, and also lively firing around the Nepe forest which covers Hazebrouck. The Italian communiques shows that the Austrian guns have hammered the newly won positions on Monte Cornio, but that the enemy's infantry attacks have been repulsed. On the western front the weather is hardly suitable for launching a big operation. However, the range and intensity of the enemy's fire is convincing evidence that he is ready.

Some French critics think that the British attacks on Zebrugge and Ostend and the criticism in the Reichstag of the German U-boat campaign, will spur Von Capelle into launching a naval attack in conjunction with Ludendorff's onslaughts by land. The German correspondents hint vaguely that Austrian divisions may be seen on the west front in the next drive. And there is a constant recurrence of the rumor that Von Mackensen is booked to play a leading part in the next blow with his Rumanian army.

PRUSSIAN FRANCHISE MEASURE LOSING.

Reform Bill Likely to be Rejected on Third Reading in Reichstag.

Stockholm, May 13.—The Berlin correspondent of the Tidningen reports that the Prussian franchise reform measure is likely to be rejected on their third reading by an increased majority. The Berlin clerical organ Germania says that the minority section of the clericals are for an equal franchise in principle and will vote for it even without the "guarantees," which the opponents of the measure have endeavored to impose on the reforms. The great majority of the party, however, will vote in the negative. The third reading begins today and a vote probably will be taken on Tuesday.

while the Lithuanians are demanding the absolute independence of their country, with a monarch chosen from some neutral state instead of a German prince, which has been said to be the programme there.

French Statement. Paris, May 13.—The official statement issued by the war office tonight reads: "There were no events of importance along the front today with the exception of bombardments, which became quite lively on both banks of the Ayré River."

THE TEUTONS ILLUMINATE THE HEAVENS

Special Cable to The New York Tribune and The St. John Standard. (By Arthur S. Draper). With the American forces in Picardy May 13 a gigantic parachute flare, ascending probably to an altitude of 5,000 feet and lighting up the immediate vicinity almost to the horizon, was the enemy's surprise packet for the American troops west of Montellier tonight. Five miles behind the lines the dull red dash glare was possible to read a newspaper. The flare, which evidently was thrown skyward by a cannon on the same principle that the well known searchlight flare is, was seen from special posts throughout the war, turned night into day for a period of ten minutes. The spectacle was magnificent. Low hanging clouds reflected the brilliant crimson, showing every billow and wrinkle in a sharp reddish blue outline. The enemy illuminated the heavens until after midnight when he ceased, leaving the heat lightning and the flashes of the guns to carry on the pyrotechnics.

THE BRITISH TAKE KIRKUK

Mesopotamian Town on Tigris Captured, Turks Being Pursued for Distance of Two Miles.

London, May 13.—British mounted troops after capturing Kirkuk in Mesopotamia, pursued the Turks for a distance of two miles to the northward, says an official statement issued today by the war office. On May 11, the Turks were driven across the lesser Zab river at Altny Kupri. The latter place is sixty miles southeast of Mosul. Thirty prisoners and two guns were captured.

The following day our airplanes bombed hostile camps between Altny Kupri and Arbil on the Tigris. Haig's Statement. London, May 13.—Field Marshal Haig's report from headquarters in France tonight says: "The hostile artillery developed considerable activity early this morning north of Serre and has been active during the day on the southern portion of the British front and in the sector north of Kemmel. There is nothing further of special interest."

Italian Statement. Rome, May 13.—Austro-Hungarian troops yesterday made an attack on Mont Cornio which recently was captured by the Italians. The war office announces that the enemy was repulsed with heavy losses. The statement:

"After an intense bombardment the enemy attacked our new position on Mont Cornio, which was held by our fire and counter-attack he was obliged to retire with heavy losses. "Along the remainder of the front there was the usual artillery and patrol activity."

JAPAN MAY BE CALLED ON TO PLAY STRONGER PART IN THE WAR.

Interchange of Messages Between Baron Goto and British Foreign Office, Seen by London Telegraph as Happy Omen.

London, May 13.—An interchange of messages between Baron Goto, the new Japanese foreign minister, and the British foreign office, is seen by the Daily Telegraph as a happy omen, emphasizing the value and reality of the Anglo-Japanese alliance.

"It is well," the paper says, "that we should be reminded from time to time of the mutual obligations between London and Tokio, obligations which have been filled punctually on both sides and recognized fully by the leading statesmen of both countries as a peculiarly binding force. The time may soon come, perhaps it already has arrived, when Japan may be called upon to play a strong and resolute part in the war. In such a contingency she must be assured of our sympathy if she takes whatever she deems to be the proper steps for protecting allied interests in the far east."

Hon. Dr. H. S. Beland, Formerly Postmaster General, is Released

Scenes of Great Enthusiasm Mark Announcement When it is Made in House of Commons—Premier Borden and Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux Receive Cablegrams Giving the Good News—Member for Beauce on way to Canada.

Dr. Beland, who was in Belgium When War Began Entered Belgian Army as Surgeon, Being Probably First Canadian to Volunteer in Struggle and was Taken Prisoner—Lost Wife by Death.

Ottawa, May 13.—Scenes of great enthusiasm marked the announcement by Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, at the evening sitting of the House of Commons, that Hon. Dr. H. S. Beland, who for almost four years has been a prisoner in Germany, had been released, and is now on his way home. Mr. Lemieux made his announcement during the discussion in committee of the civil service bill and it was a signal for sustained cheering by the members, which was followed by the singing of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow." Mr. Lemieux stated that a despatch had just been received with the news of Dr. Beland's release.

This announcement was followed, a few minutes later, by a confirmation contained in a cablegram received by Sir Robert Borden from Sir George Perley. The prime minister had not been in the house when Mr. Lemieux gave out the news, but entered shortly after. He expressed his own great satisfaction at the good news, saying that all who knew Dr. Beland had a very high appreciation of him, and that much depression had been caused by his long confinement. The news was most welcome.

The Good News. Just before the outbreak of the war Dr. Beland was married to a Belgian lady. He was on his honeymoon trip in Belgium when the Germans overran the country in August, 1914. He could have got away, but remained to give succor to the Belgian and German wounded. With characteristic difference to his labors of mercy, the Germans made him a prisoner, and he remained a prisoner despite repeated efforts on the part of the Imperial authorities and the Dominion government to secure his release. His freedom comes now as the result of a recent agreement between the British and German governments, made through neutral agencies, for the release of prisoners of forty-five years of age and upwards. Dr. Beland's health, never any too robust, failed steadily during his stay in Germany and some time ago he was given some measure of freedom.

Sketch of Dr. Beland. Hon. Henri Severin Beland, B. A., M. D. M. P., for Beauce County, Quebec, was born at Louiseville, Quebec, Oct. 11, 1869, the son of Henri Beland and Sophie Lesage. He was educated in the public schools, at Three Rivers College and at Laval University, from which he obtained his medical degree. He was mayor of St. Joseph in 1901.

Being in Belgium, the home country of Madam Beland (who was Mlle. Flore Gerin-Lajoie, when he married her June 4, 1895), when the great war broke out, Hon. Dr. Beland volunteered for service with the Belgian army in the field as surgeon, and while serving in that capacity was made prisoner of war.

Efforts to Free Him. Many efforts were made by the present and past Ottawa governments to obtain his release in exchange, but the German officials knowing they had one of the prominent men of Canada concluded they would endeavor to humiliate the Dominion by keeping one of her legislators in duress.

Madam Beland's health failed and he was not even permitted to see her. She died in Belgium. Dr. Beland was not opposed by the government in the last election, in Beauce County, in view of the doctor's inability to do any active election work for himself and because of his heroic situation. When he arrives in Canada there will be much interest in his attitude towards the military service law. He will not be able to take his seat in parliament before next year, as the House will adjourn next week. He is sure of arousing welcome regardless of politics, race or creed. He was probably the first Canadian to volunteer in the war.

AMERICAN ARMY ALREADY BEING USED IN FRANCE

Official Denial of Ottawa Report Issued by London and Washington.

ERROR APPARENTLY MADE IN LONDON

Report Stated United States Troops Would Not Fight at Present.

MUCH SURPRISE IN UNITED STATES

It Was Well Known that Americans Had Already Gone in Field.

London, May 13.—The Associated Press was officially informed tonight that the statement sent out from Ottawa attributing to the war committee of the British cabinet the announcement that it had been decided not to use the American army on the western front until it became a complete and powerful force was due to an error which has now been corrected. Lord Reading.

Washington, May 13.—Lord Reading, the British ambassador, authorized the following statement today: "The statement attributed to the British war cabinet to the effect that the Allies are so confident that having been given the choice of a small immediate American army for defence or waiting till they are re-entrained by a complete, powerful, self-supporting American army, they have chosen the latter, is diametrically opposed to all information received by me from the British war-cabinet and to all the requests which I have been issued with the knowledge of the Prime Minister or the British war cabinet."

A U. S. Denial. United States Secretary of War Baker today issued his formal denial to that of Lord Reading regarding statements as to the disposition of American forces in France. He said the facts were directly opposed to the statements and that American troops were being used actively in battle and in such ways as meet with the approval of General Foch and General Pershing. "The secretary dictated the following statement: "The statement made in the morning papers purporting to come from Ottawa seems to say that American forces in France will not be used actively for the present, but will be conserved until they constitute a larger and independent American army. "The facts are exactly otherwise. American troops in France are being used actively in battle and in the trenches and while all of the plans of the war department look to the development of the American army as such and to the erection of a distinctly American army, yet the various elements of it now in France are being used freely in the general cause and in such ways as are deemed most effective in accordance with General Pershing's action in placing all of our forces at the disposal of the British and French commanders and of the supreme commander."

Mr. Baker added that he had no information as to the source of the Ottawa despatch.

NORWEGIAN TRADE

London, May 13.—Referring to the trade agreement between Norway and the United States the Morgan Blandet of Christiania, according to a despatch to the Times from the Norwegian capital says the Allies intend to establish in Christiania a sort of branch of the war trade to facilitate commercial transactions.

IMPORTANT SHIP CONTROL PLAN IS PERFECTED

Sir Connop Guthrie Named Special Representative of British Ministry in United States and is Succeeded by T. Ashley Sparks.

New York, May 13.—To permit him more freedom of action in connection with shipping control, Sir Connop Guthrie, director in this country for the British ministry of shipping, has been appointed special representative of the ministry and T. Ashley Sparks, director in the United States of the Cunard Steamship Company, has been named to succeed Sir Connop as director of shipping, according to an announcement tonight by officials of the Cunard Line.

"The paramount importance of shipping in connection with the war is universally recognized and as this country continues to take a larger and increasing share in those burdens, the necessity for a closer and more harmonious working with the British and other allied shipping interests becomes of first rate importance," says the statement. "The British shipping controller, there, pays a signal compliment both to American shipping and Sir Connop Guthrie in selecting to undertake that work, a man, who by reason of his skill, handling of British interests in this country, has proved himself eminently fitted to undertake the task."