SIEGE WARFARE SOON BEGAN ON TURKISH FRONT

Eighteen Days' Severe Fighting Commenced After Landing.

GOT FIRM FOOTHOLD

Allies Then Dug Themselves in and Resisted Counter Attacks.

LONDON, Sept. 20, 3.40 p.m.—How the British and French thru the summer kept at grips with the Turks in Gallipoli, with terrible losses on both sides, in the arid, congested area, where the gain or loss of a few yards of trenches measured the tide of battle, and the dead lay so thick that a temporary armistice was imperative, is related by General Sir Ian Hamilton, commander of the British forces, in a despatch to Lord Kitchener, made public in London this evening.

Covering the fighting in the Dardanelles from May 5 to July 1, the account sheds little light on the general military situation, being mainly noteworthy as a soldier's description of what the contenders endured. Indirectly it pays tribute to the gallantry and fighting qualities of the Turks. General Hamilton gives no support to the numerous newspaper reports that the morale of the Turks has been shaken, but his narrative ends with July 1.

Going back to May 5, soon after the allies obtained their first footing on the peninsula, Gen. Hamilton relates how the commanders, hard pressed for reinforcements, found it necessary to mix the French and British troops "to an extent even of the French on our right having a British battalion holding their own most extreme right."

Terrible Fighting.

Followed then three days of terrible fighting with Krithia as the objective. "The steady advance of the British," says the general, "could be followed by the sparkle of bayonets until the long lines entered the smoke clouds. The French at first made no move; then, their drums beating and bugles sounding the charge, they suddenly darted forward in a stream of skirmishes, which seemed for a moment to cover the whole southern face of the ridge of Kereves Dere.

"Against these the Turkish gunners turned their heaviest pieces, and as the leading groups stormed the first Turkish redoubt, in black bursts high explosive shells blotted out both assailants and assailed.

"The trail was too severe for the Senegalese tirailleurs. They recoiled; they rallied. Another rush forward; another repulse. Then a small supporting column of French soldiers were seen silhouetted against the sky as they charged upwards along the crest of Kereves Dere.

Fruit of Three Days' Fighting.

"Not until next morning did any reliable detail come of what had happened. The net result of the three days' fighting had been a gain of 600 yards on the right of the British and 400 on the left and in the centre. The French captured all the ground in front of Farm Zjimmerman, as well as the redoubt.

"The German leaders of the Turks were quick to realize the advantage the attackers had gained," General Hamilton continues, "and by counter-attack, after counter-attack, tried to wrest away the trenches they had lost.

"Everywhere our assailants were repulsed," says the account, "and now for the first time, I felt that we had planted a fairly firm foothold upon the point of Gallipoli Peninsula."

This was on May 10, and Gen. Hamilton was able to relieve some of the exhausted men on the firing line after 13 days and nights of uninterrupted fighting.

Siege Warfare Begins.

"During this breathing space," says Gen. Hamilton, "I realized that we had now nearly reached the limit of what could be attained, mingling initiative with the surprise. The enemy was as much in possession of my numbers and dispositions as I was of his first line of defence. The opposing fronts stretched parallel from the sea to the strait, and now there was little scope left for tactics, which would bring fresh battalions against the lines of unbroken barbed wire. Siege warfare was soon bound to supersede manoeuvre battles in the open."

In preparation for this, the British commander tells of how he divided the front into four sections; then described the full fighting up to May 18, when the Turks made a most violent assault on the British positions with forces estimated at 30,000 under command of German Field Marshal Liman Von Sanders himself. But the British held firm, leaving upwards of 3000 Turks dead within open view of the trenches.

Armistice Arranged.

"The next four days," the account says, "were chiefly remarkable for carrying thru negotiations for the suspension of arms, which actually took place on May 24.

On the 20th of May while the flags with red crescents began to dot the Turkish lines, presently a Turkish staff officer and two medical officers met a British officer between the lines. An informal armistice was reached and stretcher parties on both sides began collecting the wounded.

Tried to Steal March.

"Meanwhile it was observed that columns were on the march in the valley up which Turks were accustomed to bring reinforcements. As evening drew on, the enemy's concentration continued and a message was sent stating that no clearing of the dead and wounded could be allowed during the night. The stretcher party fell back, and immediately firing broke out."

It did not profit the Turks, General Hamilton asserts, as the British guns drove them back. But as the Turks were anxious to bury their dead and as human sentiment and medical science were in favor of the removal of the dead and wounded, arrangements with a representative of Essad Pasha were finally effected.

"The negotiations resulted in a suspension of arms from 7.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., May 24," continues the report. "The burial of the dead was finished at 3 p.m. Some 3000 Turkish dead were removed or buried in the area between the opposing lines. The whole of these were killed on or since May 18."

Gen. Hamilton fails to state how many British were buried, but says that both sides observed the ethics of the situation to the letter.

Costly Attack in June.

Further fighting during the remainder of May is described, culminating in a general attack on the Turkish positions on June 4, which netted a considerable gain, but was a costly affair.

"From the date of this battle to the end of June," the British commander says, "incessant attacks and counter-attacks, which so grievously swelled our lists of casualties, had been caused by the determination of the Turks to regain the ground they had lost — this determination clashing against our firm resolve to continue to increase our holdings.

"Several of these daily counters would have been the subject of a separate despatch in the campaign of my youth and middle age, but, with due regard to proportion, they cannot even so much as be mentioned here.

Supply Hazards Overcome.

"During the whole period under review the efforts and expedients whereby the great army had its wants supplied upon a wilderness have, I believe, broken the world's record. The country is broken, mountainous, arid, void of supplies. The water found in the areas occupied by our forces is quite inadequate to their needs. The only practicable beaches are small cramped breaks in impracticable lines of cliffs. With the wind in certain quarters no sort of landing is possible.

"The wastage by the bombardment and wreckage of lighters and small craft led to crisis after crisis in our carrying capacity, whilst over every single beach plays fitfully thruout each day devastating shell fire at medium ranges.

"Upon such a situation appeared suddenly enemy submarines. On May 22 all transports had to be despatched to Mudros for safety; thenceforth the men, stores, guns and horses had to be brought from Mudros, a distance of forty miles, in the fleet sweepers and other small and shallow craft, less vulnerable to submarine attack. Every danger and every difficulty was doubled."

SAVE ARMENIANS PLEA MADE TO U.S.

(Continued from Page 1).

drowned them all, men, women and children. This was seen and described by the Italian consul.

"Some in the country escaped by professing to accept Islam, and a quarter of a million escaped over the Russian frontier, but perhaps half a million were slaughtered or deported, and those deported are fast dying from ill treatment, disease or starvation. The roads and the hillsides are strewn with corpses of innocent peasants.

"We can all try to send aid to the miserable refugees now in Russian territory; but what man can stop massacre? Not the allied powers at war with Turkey. Only one power can take action for that purpose. It is Germany. Would not the expression of American public opinion, voicing the conscience of neutral nations, lead Germany to check the Turkish Government?"

SIR CHARLES DAVIDSON SOON SETS OUT FOR B.C.

Special Sittings of War Contracts Commission Will Probe Submarine Purchases.

MONTREAL, Sept. 20.—Sir Charles Davidson will leave Montreal next Thursday, accompanied by John Thompson, K.C., and T. P. Owens, clerk of the War Contract Commission, to hold special sittings in British Columbia for investigation into submarine contracts and other matters.

BRITISH STEAMER SUNK.

LONDON, Sept. 20, 9 p.m.—Announcement was made tonight that the British steamer Horden had been sunk. The crew was landed.

The Horden was a vessel of 1434 tons. She was built in 1906, and was owned by the Burnett Steamship Company of Newcastle.

CANADIAN CASUALTIES

Mindight List

Eighth Battalion.

Died of gas poisoning—Walter Venneear, Forest, Ontario.

Previously reported prisoner of war, now dead, according to German list—Wm. McLean, Scotland.

First Battalion.

Wounded—Chas. Henry Garton, Springbank, Ont.

Previously reported missing, now killed in action—Thomas Dixon, England.

Thirteenth Battalion.

Wounded—Lieut. Stanley Victor Britton, Montreal; Sergt. James Anderson, Scotland; Lance-Corp. John O'Keefe, England.

Forty-Fifth Battalion.

Seriously ill—E. T. Menshull, Pierson, Man.

Princess Pats.

Unofficially, killed in action—William H. Bryant, Norton, N.B.

Second Canadian Mounted Rifles.

Dangerously ill—Wm. Anderson, Vernon, B.C.

Third Battalion.

Previously reported missing, now killed in action—Jonh S. Harris, England.

Fifth Battalion.

Wounded—Percy R. Briault, England; G. A. Cripps, England.

Seventh Battalion.

Previously reported missing, now, according to German list, dead—Lance-Corp. Wm. Ferguson Hay, England; Ernest F. Hunt, England.

Previously reported missing, now, unofficially, killed in action—Frank Brignall, England.

Tenth Battalion.

Died of wounds—Harold James Simpson (H. M. S. Blenheim).

Fifteenth Battalion.

Slightly wounded—Frederick Old, England.

Wounded—Wm. Robertson Nicoll, Scotland.

LANGTON TURNED DOWN BY COUNCIL

Vote Was Twelve to Twelve After a Long Discussion.

LITTLE BUSINESS DONE

Decision on Yonge Street Track Extension Will Be Appealed.

(Continued from Page 1).

back, and they even asked an aspirant for the position to come and vote against him," continued the controller, "and having found that they could not get their man in they come here to upset the recommendation of the board of control. If I have got to be here and allow such rottenness to go on, then I don't want to be a member of the city council, and I say that every decent man should rise up and protest against this thing. It looks as tho we can't succeed in appointing a commissioner unless the public does protest against this situation. I say Ald. David Spence should not be here this afternoon. I am sorry that he would allow himself to come here and be the tool in this situation."

Ald. McBride Speaks.

Ald. McBride, who has been a consistent opponent of Col. Langton's appointment, outshone all his previous protests and occupied more than three-quarters of an hour of council's time in endeavoring to show why the colonel should not be appointed. "I think this council has been so belittled in the eyes of the public that it will take a hundred years to recover," declared the alderman. Referring to Controller O'Neill's attack on the Langton opposition, he said: "Never have I heard so many base charges made against members of this council. There have been no means taken to defeat Langton that are not above board in every respect, and I want to congratulate Ald. Spence for coming here and taking his seat, and trying to stop the putting over of such a deal.

"The idea of the mayor making a tie vote to put his cousin into this position, and Mr. Langton has a man married to his sister that he is trying to put into a position in the department! We are trying to break away from family cliques." Ald. McBride thought that the mayor had lowered his dignity 99 per cent. by tying the vote to put his first cousin into the position. He said that Langton had no backbone, and was trying to crawl in, and that Controller O'Neill was trying to force the appointment thru by getting the mayor to vote for him.

"Col. Langton is a weakling, first, last and always," went on the alderman. Ald. McBride took the whole credit for telegraphing to Ald. Robbins, an opponent of Langton's, to be present at the meeting yesterday. He went over much of the ground already covered in connection with the fire department, and concluded by referring to Col. Langton as a "jelly fish," after stating that the stench and stigma of the mayor's action in stepping down to vote for his first cousin would go abroad for hundreds of years to come.

"Pump-Mouthed Alderman."

During the attack made on him by Ald. McBride, the mayor made no comment. Controller Spence congratulated him on the gentlemanly and tolerant way in which he listened to the torrent of abuse "that no man should have leveled at the chief magistrate of the city." The controller declared that Mayor Church in voting for Langton was only trying to do his duty by the city in an effort to break the deadlock, and that the question of relationship did not enter into it at all, especially as the mayor had stood for promotion all along the line, and until he saw that nothing could be accomplished by doing so. He referred to Ald. McBride's attack as a wishy-washy everlasting flow "that pours out of the pump-mouthed alderman."

Mayor Church defended his action in voting for Langton. He declared that he was still in favor of promotion; but, in order to facilitate the city's business he had forsaken his own ideas in the matter and had voted for the nominee because he wanted to see something done. He denied having relatives in the fire department, as charged by Ald. McBride, and thought it unfair that he should be charged with voting for a relative after he had consistently voted against him, and now only voted for him in order to break the deadlock.

Ald. Warren, who voted for Langton, suggested that application be made to the legislature for power to appoint a commission, and Ald. Cameron went over much ground already covered to show why Langton should not be appointed.

For a few moments it looked as tho the whole of the city's business would be tied up for two weeks, as there was not a sufficient majority to adopt the board of control's report, but it was finally decided to eliminate the clause regarding the fire department and the balance of the report was carried, the division regarding the Langton appointment being 12 to 12.

Demands Apology.

Ald. Ball opened the debate in council yesterday by calling attention to the recent pamphlet issued by Ald. Wickett on the financial condition of the city. He thought the statement was ill-advised at this time, when financing was difficult, and declared that apparently a direct attack was being made by a member of the council and an outside financier on the city's financial condition. "The pamphlet demands an apology from Ald. Wickett," he declared.

Mayor Church thought that the letter should never have been written, but this was as far as the matter got until just prior to the adjournment of council, when Ald. Ball moved that the city treasurer be asked to prepare a statement as to the city's financial condition, the motion being carried.

There was considerable discussion as to the street railway situation on north Yonge street and the paving of the new subway, the final decision being to lay a pavement thru the subway and appeal against the decision of the Ontario Railway Board giving the Toronto Railway Company the right to extend its tracks to Farnham avenue.

REVOLUTION THREATENED BY BULGAR AGRARIANS

Leader of Party Said to Have So Told King if Germanophile Policy Continues—Mobilization in Macedonia and Thrace.

ATHENS, Sept. 20.—(1.30 p.m., via Paris, 11.30 p.m.)—Advices received here from diplomatic sources are to the effect that freight traffic has been suspended on the Bulgarian railroads since last Saturday.

Forty-five thousand Bulgarians in Macedonia and Thrace have been called to the colors.

The leader of the Agrarian party in Bulgaria is declared to have threatened King Ferdinand with a revolution if the alleged Germanophile policy of Bulgaria was continued. The king is reported to have replied that the government was pursuing the policy which best served Bulgaria's interests.

REVISING PRAYERS IN CHURCH RITUAL

Alterations Suggested Occupy Attention of Anglican Synod in Session.

RESULT OF MUCH LABOR

Committee Has Dealt With Matter for Years, Making Changes.

One of the most important stages of the Anglican Synod, now in session in Toronto, was reached yesterday, when at a joint session of both houses, the committee appointed to make recommendations for the revision of the book of common prayer presented its report and the alterations containing the draft copies of the revised and adopted book were debated. The committee in charge of the work of revision and enrichment have been engaged at their task since 1911. The greatest amount of trouble and care has been taken not to make any changes which would mar the beauty of the old prayer book.

No change in text or rubric has been introduced which involves or would suggest a change in the doctrine or principles of the old book, but the idea before the committee has been to adapt prayers and rubrics to the circumstances of Canada.

The form of common prayer was authorized 250 years ago, and since that time there have been many additions and enrichments.

Change Justified.

Those supporting the revision hold that the change is justified to suit the present circumstances prevailing in this Dominion.

Rt. Rev. David Williams, D.D., Bishop of Huron, vice-chairman of the committee of revision, introduced the subject and outlined the policy adopted by the committee. Chancellor Worrell of Toronto stated that the committee did not authorize the canon that the prayer book be adopted this year. "The figures crept into the canon by mistake," the chancellor said.

The Bishop of Huron said the rubrics had only been amended to conform to existing law, in discussing the change in the rubrics of the morning prayer. "He descended into hell" had the same meaning as "He descended into the place of departed spirits," as used in the creed, the bishop said.

After the third collect a prayer for the governor-general was inserted, as the bishop explained the committee thought the people should have a prayer for the governor-general before them as well as a prayer for the clergy.

The four prayers for the king, the royal family, the governor-general and parliament were substituted for the one prayer in the revised book.

Marriage Ceremony.

In the second rubric of the marriage ceremony a change read: "Nor shall any be married without banns first asked save when license is had from authority." Parts of the marriage ceremony dealing with lust have been deleted. The second version for marriage now reads: "For the hallowing of the union betwixt man and woman, and for a protection against sin."

New Prayers Added.

In the prayers for the visitation of the sick three new prayers have been added and a psalm, De Profundis. In the burial service the 23rd psalm is substituted for the burial of children, and special prayers are inserted for child burial. Prayers of intercession for the bereaved have been added.

"God's curse" was changed to "God's wrath" in the confirmation service.

The bishop said it was almost impossible to make any change in the text of the catechism. In referring to the change in the solemnization of matrimony, Bishop Williams said the alterations refer to the words and manner of speaking, and not to the thing spoken of. The word "worship" has been changed to "honor," "with this ring I thee wed."

In the alterations made in the order for the visitation of the sick, the bishop said that the alterations have gone a long way towards making it one of the most useful services in the whole book, as the issues in sickness are, in nine cases out of ten, towards recovery, and not death. The aim of the committee has been to make the service useful, the bishop said.

All special services added by the committee have been put beyond the prayer book. The new services added to the prayer book remain as before the drafted revision.

The chief work of the committee has been adaptation and enrichment.

Need Not Hurry.

Before submitting the drafted revision to the joint houses, the Bishop of Huron said it was not the intention of the committee to secure a snap verdict or rush it thru the house. He laid emphasis on the amount of personal sacrifice which every member of the committee had given to the work, and, in conclusion, said: "I wish you to decide carefully on what has been done."

Chancellor Worrell of Toronto supported the bishop in a vigorous speech.

It was moved by the Bishop of Huron, and seconded by Chancellor Worrell, "That the draft prayer book presented by the joint committee on prayer book revision and adaptation be received and considered, section by section, as printed in the draft book, beginning with the morning prayer."

Chancellor Campbell of Quebec, who took objection to the motion, contended that the jurisdiction in the matter of the report was vested in the provincial synods of Canada.

In support of his argument he cited various statutes affecting the Anglican Church in Canada.

His Grace Archbishop Matheson promised to give due consideration to the objection.

On motion the revision of the prayer book was discussed by sections. An amendment to the motion, to discuss the revision on the grounds of the resolutions passed by the joint committee of both houses, was lost. The discussion of the word clergy in the prayer for the clergy and the people centred on the addition of the word "other" in "send down upon our bishops and clergy." On motion it was decided to read the word "other" into the sentence before the word clergy.

For Evening Prayer.

It was moved by the Bishop of Huron and seconded by Chan. Worrell, "that the order for evening prayer as printed in the draft book with amendments be approved."

It was proposed in the order of the evening prayer that the minister shall say the exhortation after reading the usual passages of scripture. In churches where morning prayer has been said the words between "dearly beloved brethren" and "I pray and beseech" may be omitted. It was contended that the words should not be omitted, as many who were not present in the morning would miss one of the finest parts of the service. Canon Murray agreed with the majority of the speakers that the whole of the exhortation should not be left out. The speaker felt that ministers should have the option of omitting the exhortation on week-day services.

A Shorter Service.

A. H. Bachus, K.C., of Aylmer, said one of the great inducements held out in many of the churches was that the evening service would be shortened. He thought it would be a great mistake if the joint houses did not stand at the back of the committee who had in view the shortening of the evening service.

Dr. Williams, the Bishop of Huron, reminded the synod that a set of questions had been sent out, and among them the omission of the exhortation in the evening service. The result was that a large number of the rank and file were for omitting the exhortation.

It was moved by the Bishop of Kootenay and seconded by Archbishop Balfour, "that the words 'all kneeling' preceding the second rubric of the collect be struck out." The motion was lost. The Bishop of Kootenay said he hoped the house would not undertake the work of reversing the collects which had been prepared by masters with great care.

It was moved that the word "both" in the sentence "that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments," in the second collect at evening prayer, be struck out. The motion was lost.

It was moved that a comma should be placed after both. The question was debated for some time. Other marks of punctuation were suggested in another part of the collect.

Bishop Bidwell pointed out that if the house was going to revise the punctuation of the prayer book it was doubtful when the work of the synod would be concluded.

It was moved by Archdeacon Cody and seconded by Dr. Robins that the word "the" be reinserted before "the giver of all spiritual gifts" in the prayer for the clergy and people. The motion was carried in the lower house and concurred in by the upper house.

The house adjourned at 10 o'clock.

Committee of Revision.

The committee of revision in the upper house consisted of the following members: Most Rev. Samuel P. Matheson, Archbishop of Rupert's Land, primate of all Canada; Most Rev. Charles Hamilton, Archbishop of Ottawa; Rt. Rev. W. C. Pinkham, Bishop of Calgary; Rt. Rev. W. D. Reeve, assistant bishop of Toronto; Rt. Rev. A. Hunter Dunn, Bishop of Quebec; Rt. Rev. J. A. Newnham, Bishop of Saskatchewan; Rt. Rev. George Thorneloe, Bishop of Algoma; Rt. Rev. W. L. Mills, Bishop of Ontario; Rt. Rev. J. Lofthouse, Bishop of Keewatin; Rt. Rev. Clare L. Worrell, Bishop of Nova Scotia; Rt. Rev. F. H. DuVernet, Bishop of Caledonia; Rt. Rev. David Williams, D.D., Bishop of Huron; Rt. Rev. J. D. Stringer, D.D., Bishop of Yukon; Rt. Rev. J. A. Richardson, D.D., Bishop of Fredericton; Rt. Rev. John C. Farthing, Bishop of Montreal; Rt. Rev. James Fielding Sweeny, Bishop of Toronto; Rt. Rev. John Geo. Anderson, Bishop of Moosonee; Rt. Rev. M. M. Harding, Bishop of Qu'Appelle; Rt. Rev. A. W. De Pencier, Bishop of New Westminster; Rt. Rev. Wm. R. Clark, Bishop of Niagara; Rt. Rev. John C. Roper, Bishop of Columbia; Rt. Rev. Edwins F. Robins, Bishop of Athabasca; Rt. Rev. E. J. Bidwell, Bishop of Kingston; Rt. Rev. J. R. Lucas, D.D., Bishop of Mackenzie River; Rt. Rev. H. Allen Gray, Bishop of Edmonton.

Members of the lower house committee consisted of: Very Rev. Dean Sargent, Very Rev. Dean Evans, Very Rev. Dean Paget, Very Rev. Dean Coombes, Very Rev. Dean Crawford, Very Rev. Dean Schofield, Very Rev. Dean Bidwell, Very Rev. Dean Doull, Ven. Arch. Armitage, Ven. Arch. Kaulbach, Ven. Arch. Gilmor, Ven. Arch. Pentreath, Ven. Arch. Bogert, Ven. Archdeacon Newnham, Ven. Archdeacon Cody, Ven. Archdeacon Rennison, Rev. President Powell (prolocutor of the lower house), Rev. Canon Neales, Rev. Canon Scott, Rev. Canon Hague, Rev. Canon Craig, Rev. Canon Patterson-Smyth, Rev. Canon Plumptre, Rev. Canon Sutherland, Rev. Canon d'Easum, Rev. Canon Simpson, Rev. H. G. Fiennes Clinton, Rev. Principal Lloyd, Rev. Prof. Abbott-Smith, D.D., Rev. Prof. Allnatt, D.D., Rev. Rural Dean Cayley, M.A., Rev. Rural Dean Graham, B.A., Mr. Percy Wollaston, His Honor Judge McDonald, Chancellor Martin, J. P. Orde, K.C., Chancellor Machray, Hon. Mr. Justice Fitzgerald, Chancellor Campbell, Principal Hoyles, E. G. Henderson, Chancellor Worrell, H. B. Schofield, Matthew Wilson, K.C., Charles Jenkins, H. S. Crotty, A. McC. Creery, John Ransford, Chancellor Davidson, K.C.

Congratulations in Order.

"The members of the lower house of the General Synod of the Church of England in Canada desire to present to Your Grace the Archbishop of Rupert's Land, the Primate of All Canada, their heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of your birthday, and the fortieth anniversary of your ordination, and that by the good hand of God upon you, you may be long spared in health and happiness to serve your Master in this church, and be a leader and inspire the public life of the Dominion."

This resolution was passed by the assembly of the lower house and presented to Archbishop Matheson, by Prolocutor Powell, as the primate took the chair at the session of the General Synod yesterday.

COMMITTEE WILL STUDY MARKETING OF CROPS

OTTAWA, Sept. 20.—A plan for concerted action in marketing Canada's agricultural products to the best advantage is the aim of a sub-committee of the cabinet. W. Sanford Evans, former mayor of Winnipeg, and now chairman of the Georgian Bay Canal Commission, who has devoted considerable time to the study of transportation and prices, has been asked to assist the committee, and will also act as secretary. Canada has had a splendid harvest, but other countries have also garnered bountiful crops, and with the abnormal conditions caused by the war the sale and distribution of produce makes a complicated problem.

HESPERIAN PROVED SUBMARINE VICTIM

British Official Press Bureau Denies German Story of Mine.

OTHER VESSELS SUNK

Berlin Claims None of Boats Cruised Near Scene of Disaster.

BERLIN (via London), Sept. 20, 8.46 p.m.—The German admiralty is now absolutely certain that the Allan Line steamer Hesperian was not destroyed by a German submarine. All the underwater boats which were out at the time of the disaster have now returned to their bases, the Associated Press is authoritatively informed, and it is stated that none of them torpedoed the steamer.

On the contrary, it is said that the admiralty is convinced the disaster was due to a floating non-German mine. As confirmation of the admiralty belief it is pointed out that a mine painted green and white, and which it is declared was not a German mine, was driven ashore a few days ago on the east coast of Ireland, in the same vicinity where the Hesperian was blown up.

SUNK BY TORPEDO

LONDON, Sept. 20. — (10 p.m.) — With respect to the German denial of responsibility for the sinking of the Allan Line steamer Hesperian, the British official press bureau has issued the following statement:

"According to information in the press, a semi-official statement has been issued at Berlin, that it was practically impossible that a German submarine could have sunk the Hesperian, since, according to the war plans, no German submarine was on Sept. 4 in the locality where the Hesperian was sunk; also, because, according to a description from English sources, the explosion was of such a kind that it must be inferred that it was caused by a mine rather than a torpedo.

"Undoubted proof exists that a German submarine was actually in the locality where the Hesperian was attacked, and ships were sunk both to the north and south of this spot on Sept. 4 and 5. The explosion was of the type caused by a torpedo. This is conclusively proved by a fair-sized fragment of a torpedo now in the possession of the admiralty, which was picked up on board the ship before she sank."

CANADIAN WOUNDED HOME ON CORSICAN

Major Barre, Survivor of Hesperian, Brings Message of Cheer.

GIVEN CIVIC WELCOME

Other Officers From Various Parts of Canada Also Arrive.

MONTREAL, Sept. 20.—Major Hercule Barre of the 14th Royal Montreals, who was wounded in battle and had a narrow escape with his life when the Hesperian was sunk by a German submarine, losing all his baggage in that disaster, arrived home in Montreal tonight on the Allan liner Corsican. He is lame from his wounds and is on leave of absence from the front. Accompanying Major Barre was Lieut. Leprohon. Both received a very hearty welcome and were given an informal reception at Freeman's Hotel, where Ald. St. Pierre represented Mayor Martin in the felicitations.

Messages of good cheer and hope of ultimate success were brought from the front by Maj. Barre and other officers who returned on the Corsican, including the following: Lieut. Rothrie of Kamloops, B. C., wounded in the right foot at Givenchy by an explosive projectile on June 22, and now suffering from shock from explosion that killed five men and wounded eleven others who were in the same trench with him, he having recovered from the first mishap and returned to the front; A. G. Stanford of Belleville, with two shrapnel wounds in his legs and another in his shoulder, also a survivor from the wreck of the Hesperian; Capt. Bandwith of the Field Ambulance of the C.A.M.C.; Major P. A. Guthrie, of Fredericton, N.B., wounded in eleven places, who is going to Niagara Camp, on the invitation of Sir Sam Hughes; Major A. W. Morley, of the 90th Winnipeg Rifles, bearing a wound inflicted by a German sniper; Pte. S. W. Chambers, Truro, N.S., who lost his sight at Ypres and regained it thru the shock of the torpedoing of the Hesperian while he was one of her passengers; Lieut. L. Keene, a Montreal artist, wounded by a German explosive, and Captain S. A. Bion, wounded at Festubert.

WAR MUNITIONS WILL NOT BLOCK LOAN TO ALLIES

First Aim of Anglo-French Commission to Stabilize Exchange.

ISSUES TO BE SEVERAL

Payment for War Materials Can Automatically Take Care of Itself.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—Munitions of war will not be allowed to block the proposed big credit loan to Great Britain and France; nor will the $600,000,000 or $300,000,000 to be secured be locked up at once in a New York treasure chest, according to a consensus of opinion today of those in close touch with negotiations for raising the money.

"It would be absurd," said a banker who has been in almost daily conference with the commission, "to assume that the whole problem of stabilizing exchange and thus providing for continuance of all American exports will be halted over a discussion as to whether a credit loan should be made available for munition payments. The big thing is to stabilize the exchange, then the matter of paying for munitions automatically takes care of itself."

Exports of munitions, it was estimated, constitute considerably less than 25 per cent. of the total value of American shipments to Great Britain and France. Leaving them out of calculations, if provisions be made for the shipment of soil products and the chief manufactured articles, exchange will become stabilized. It would not then be difficult to find a method of paying for munitions, if it were absolutely necessary to adopt a different method. Gold or American securities or both, or even some other method of payment could be arranged.

On this point, the Anglo-French Commission were said tonight to be substantially in accord with the view of their American associates.

An attempt to obtain an expression of the commission's views from B. B. Blackett, the secretary, was unsuccessful.

It was reported tonight on good authority that the tentative proposals now up for adoption provide for instalment subscriptions to the loan on the part of the guarantors, such instalments to be paid as necessity arises for the uses of the fund. Thus the commission would avoid the payment of interest on the entire loan before all the funds were needed.

Many American banker's were of the opinion that the one-half of 1 per cent. allowed them for their services would be on that basis for each year of the loan. Thus if the loan should run five years, it was thought the banks would obtain the bonds at 97½ or 2½ per cent. (five times ½ of 1 per cent.) below par.

Another proposed feature was that the short term bonds, whether 5 or 10 years, should include the privilege of conversion to long term British and French Government bonds, paying 4½ per cent. interest at the end of the short term period. By that time, it was thought, the war would have passed into history and the long term bonds, being a first mortgage on Great Britain and France and having a life of 50 or 100 years, would be regarded as a prime investment and would fetch more than par.

BATCH OF PROMOTIONS IN CANADIAN FORCES

Capt. Russell Made Temporary Major of Strathcona's Horse —New Lieutenants.

Canadian Associated Press Cable.

LONDON, Sept. 20. — Promotions gazetted today: Strathcona's Horse, Capt. Russell, to be temporary major. Lieut. Davis, to be temporary captain. First Battalion—Lieut. Creighton, to be temporary captain; Lieut. Lodge, to be temporary paymaster. Fourth Battalion—Capt. Millet, to be adjutant; Second Lieuts. Delaney and MacGregor to be lieutenants. Eighth Battalion—Second lieuts. appointed: Lieuts. E. Michelmore and E. R. Allan; Lieut. Cameron to be temporary paymaster. Tenth Battalion—Second Lieuts. Murray and Ryman appointed lieutenants; Lieut. Dawson to be temporary paymaster. Thirteenth Battalion—Second Lieuts. Aitchison and Bett appointed lieutenants. Fourteenth Battalion—Captain Warmington, since killed, to be temporary major. Sixteenth Battalion — Second Lieuts. Tupper and Lovell to be lieutenants. Princess Pats — Second Lieuts. Cowley and Nash to be lieutenants.

RUSSIANS EXTRICATE ARMY FROM FOE'S TRAP AT VILNA

Petrograd Reports Forces, After Much Fighting on Fords of Viliya River, Retired to East—Combat Resumed Near Riga.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.

LONDON, Sept. 20.—The Russians have apparently extricated their armies safely from the Vilna sector, for tonight's official statement of the Petrograd war office says: "In the Vilna region, the Russians, after much fighting on the fords of the Viliya River, retired to the east."

Fighting for the fords of the Viliya continues northwest of the Vileika-Molodedano line, where the Russians are offering a steady resistance.

Fighting is also reported at Ekan, in the Riga region, with an increased fire from the German artillery. A bridge constructed by the Germans northwest of Mitau was blown up. In the region of the railway southwest of Illkust the Russians occupied trenches formerly held by them at Steidern, capturing a quantity of rifles, cartridges and other booty in the operation.

The struggle for Dvinsk continues. The Germans were repulsed in violent engagements on the roads southwest of the city, in the lake region, and they were driven from Widsy, east of the Novo Sveintsyany-Dvinsk Railway.