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FRENCH ARE FAVORED FIGHTING WITH MINES

No Infantry Attacks in Verdun Region, is French Official Statement.

DENY GERMAN REPORT

Claim No Portion of Hill 60 is Held by the Enemy.

PARIS, March 18, 12.42 p.m.—No infantry attacks were made last night in the Verdun region, the war office announced this afternoon. There was intermittent cannonading. The text of the statement follows:

"In the Argonne region, sector of Courtes Chaussees, there has been fighting with mines, which resulted to our advantage. To the west of the River Meuse we have directed a concentrated fire on the German trenches in the direction of hill 265 and also on the Corbais wood. To this the enemy did not respond.

East of Meuse.

"To the east of the Meuse there has been a violent bombardment in the region of Vaux. There has been intermittent firing at other points in this sector, as well as in the Woëvre, Moulinville, Haumont and Les Eparges.

"To the northeast of St. Mihiel our long range artillery bombardment all night the railway between Apremont and Vigneulles over which it had been reported that certain regiments of the enemy were marching in a northerly direction.

"There has been no other event of importance on the remainder of the front.

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GERMANS ENDEAVORING TO SHIFT FROM BLAME

Disclaim Responsibility for Sinking of Steamship Tubantia.

NOT BRITISH SUBMARINE

Official Denial Given by Admiralty to German Report.

BERLIN, March 18.—(By Sayville wireless).—Commenting on the Dutch report that the steamship Tubantia was sunk by a mine, German newspapers are discussing the origin of the mine, says the Overseas News Agency. "They state that the latest statistics indicate that it was not a German mine. Since the beginning of the war 918 mines have been washed up on the Dutch coast. Of these 484 were of British origin, 58 French, 201 unknown and only 170 German."

LONDON, March 18.—Assertions having been made from German sources that the Tubantia was sunk by a British torpedo, the admiralty today announced that no British submarines were nearby when the Dutch liner went down.

An Exchange Telegraph Company despatch from Copenhagen says the German Government has ordered the admiralty to make an investigation whether a German submarine torpedoed the Tubantia.



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THIS GUNNER LIKES LIFE AT THE FRONT

Toronto Man Writing to His Chum, Says He Has Nothing to "Kick" About.

"ARTILLERY IS BEST"

Tells Boys at Home Who Intend Going Overseas to Join This Branch.

This was written by a Canadian "Gunner" to a chum in Toronto: Same address, France, 19-2-1916.

Dear Sam: Well, I have only one excuse for keeping you waiting a reply to two of your letters, dated the 9th and 23rd of January, that is (as you can imagine), we are very busy, you know, old boy, we must keep up with the good work, and I am pleased to say I have nothing to kick about; the more work I can do at the front the better I feel. I never thought I could stand so many hardships as what we have over here; but we must take it all with a good hearty—We are sure to win. I am pleased to hear that so many of the boys have joined the colors. Tell any of them any information they need re army life I would be only too pleased to give, as they will certainly be strange to real discipline. Tell them to try for artillery; it's the best branch; "nuff said." Now, old

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1916

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chum, I must remark on your good-hearted letters, and to think I have only known you such a short time, yet you make me feel that I have the honor to belong to a true-hearted Britisher. That means a lot to a man who is trying to do his bit; not forgetting Mrs. L.—; thank her for me and tell her I still they are as good as when I first got them. You asked me to tell the boys to spit on a shell for you, I well, S. me, being a bomb, gunner, I take my turn at the guns, so you can bet your life I have sent over lots of shells for you. As I remarked in a previous letter, I will do your share over here. Yesterday we had quite a hell for about two hours, so I wrote on two fuses, "S. L. with love." (how's that?) Well, we got the word to fire, so I kept yours till they replied to tell you, S., they sounded better than the rest.

Do you know we have a dandy position and it's just like being at target practice. We get a report of our sighter; then the officer says "Go to it, boys!" I would like to tell you a bit about the fighting business, but—Now, S., I am not surprised at your not having received the souvenir card, as I have sent different things home and they are minus. I think it should be stopped; they should put someone to watch, as I am not the only one to lose anything; everyone is complaining. I will have to bring home souvenirs for you and the girl, and wait until I get leave; then I can see anything for a while. We've got to "stand" until the third time I have tried to finish your letter. Since I left off last night there has been some good fighting with us. The planes have had a fight in the air; they do some good manoeuvring. You should see our fellows get after the Germans. When they are both the same height, both machines spit out their shells at each other, but what gets my goat is as hard as his plane can take him, and as must admit the Germans have faster planes, so it makes it harder for our planes. There have been several fights today and I saw one of our pilots bring one of these cowardly blokes to earth. The Germans had just dropped a cloud and brought him down with a vengeance. All we could see was a streak of fire, and then the German "loop the loop." Now, S., I am getting tired, so must quit. Good-bye.

LATE DR. BOULTBEE BURIED ON SATURDAY

Well-Known Physician's Death Was Due to Heart Trouble.

The funeral took place on Saturday of Dr. Alfred Boulton, who died at his late residence, 27 Labella street, on Friday. The late Dr. Boulton's death was caused by heart trouble, which came on several months ago, keeping him in bed for nine weeks prior to the time of death.

Born at Madras, India, deceased accompanied his father to Toronto, while quite a lad, and it was in this city that he received his education. He gave up his practice some ten years ago. He was an enthusiastic dog fancier, and up to the time of his death was secretary of the Toronto Kennel Club.

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LAST OF ALLEN CLAN KILLED FRIDAY NIGHT

Jack Allen the Last to Fall in the Notorious Kentucky Feud.

ROANOKE, Va., March 18.—Jack Allen, last of the noted Allen clan of Carroll County, was shot and killed last night in the home of Mrs. Roberta Martin, five miles from Mount Airy, N.C., by Will McCaw, a blockader. On his way home, from Mount Airy, where he sold a wagon load of lumber, Allen stopped at Mrs. Martin's home to spend the night. After supper he and Mrs. Martin, and a neighbor, were sitting before the open fire talking when McCaw came in and took part in the conversation. Discussion of the Allen trials of three years ago, took place, which led to a quarrel.

Officers are hunting for McCaw. He is believed to be hiding with friends in the mountain wilderness.

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PATEMBANG TORPEDOED ALL OF CREW SAVED

There are Two Steamers of This Register, and Both Are Dutch.

LONDON, March 18, 5 p.m.—The steamship Patebang has been torpedoed. All the members of the crew were saved.

There are two steamers of the name of Patebang, both Dutch. The larger is a vessel of 6874 tons gross, owned by the Rotterdam Lloyd. She is 480 feet long and was built in Rotterdam in 1911. She was last reported as having passed Gibraltar on Feb. 15, on the way from Batavia, Java, for Rotterdam.

The smaller vessel is owned by an Amsterdam oil company, and is 241 feet long, of 1856 tons gross. She was built in Amsterdam in 1905. The last report of her movements was on her arrival on March 10 at Kirkwall, Orkney Islands, on a voyage from Philadelphia, with a cargo of petroleum for Alesund, Norway.

BRADSHAW APPOINTMENT COMES BEFORE COUNCIL

Some Aldermen Are Likely to Object to the Big Salary.

There is only one recommendation in the board of control's report to council for Monday's meeting that may be considered of city-wide interest, and that is the nomination of Thomas Bradshaw as commissioner of finance and treasurer, at a salary of \$15,000 per year. While all of the aldermen seem to agree that Mr. Bradshaw is the right man, the salary is looked upon by some as being rather high, but despite this it would appear that the recommendation will carry with a good majority.

A bylaw for the regulating and licensing of ferries will be introduced. Having consulted the officials, the board recommends against the collection of a fee for four instalments, as suggested in a motion by Ald. McBrien. The agreement with the Grand Trunk Railway regarding the eastern entrance to the Exhibition and the new Bathurst street bridge is given for the information of the aldermen.