

GREAT BATTLE CONTINUES BEFORE ST. QUENTIN

BATTLE OF ST. QUENTIN IS STILL IN PROGRESS

French and British Continue to Force Back German Hordes—French Patrols Reach Folembray, South of Forest of Coucy—British Make Further Progress Southeast of Croisilles

Paris, March 26.—Notwithstanding the bad weather and the difficult state of the ground, the French continued last night to advance south of the Oise. The war office announces that French patrols reached Folembray, south of the Forest of Coucy.

The Germans made heavy and useless sacrifices, the statement says, in several attacks yesterday on positions captured by the French between the Somme and the Oise. Wherever they approached a French position they were thrown back by counterattacks.

The Statement.

The statement follows: "Between the Somme and the Oise the Germans made repeated attacks during the night on the front between Esbigny and Benay. All these attempts were checked by our fire or repulsed by our counterattacks. Serious losses were inflicted on the enemy. We maintained completely the positions captured yesterday."

"South of the Oise our advance continued notwithstanding the state of the ground and the bad weather. We pushed forward our patrols beyond Folembray, south of the lower forest of Coucy."

"North of Rheims our batteries caused the explosion of a munitions depot of the enemy east of Du Gobard Farm. Elsewhere the night was calm. Five German airplanes were brought down yesterday by our pilots. Two were destroyed by Adjutant Ortol, bringing up to eight the number of enemy machines brought down thus far by this officer. One of our aerial squadrons last night dropped 1,000 kilograms of projectiles on factories at Thionville and in the basin of the Briey, and also on the railroad stations of Conflans and Montmédy."

TWO REGIMENTS CALLED OUT IN MASSACHUSETTS

Will Guard Arsenals, Tunnels, Shipbuilding Plants and Other Property From Possible Underhanded Work by German Sympathizers.

Boston, March 26.—The Second and Ninth regiments of the Massachusetts National Guard have been called out for guard duty. Acting Adjutant General B. Leroy Sweetser instructed the troops to assemble at their armories and await further orders.

The calling out of the National Guard resulted from a conference between Governor McCall and Secretary of War Baker at Washington yesterday, when it was announced that two regiments would be detailed to guard arsenals, tunnels, shipbuilding plants and other points of importance.

Some members of the Second regiment already have done guard duty at bridges and tunnels in western Massachusetts, particularly the Hoosac tunnel on the Fitchburg division of the Boston and Maine railroad.

Both the Second and Ninth regiments served several months on the Mexican border.

The Second regiment has its headquarters at Springfield. Three companies of infantry and a machine gun company are stationed at Springfield; three companies are stationed at Worcester, and one company each at Holyoke, Orange, Pittsfield, Northampton, and Lowell.

Battle Rages Still.

Paris, March 26.—The battle of St. Quentin continues to rage with unabated fury. The honors of the last twenty-four hours of fighting have been with the French, who are pushing forward steadily, taking all the precautions that the nature of the operation calls for and in the face of desperate resistance by the Germans.

The advance is necessarily slow, owing to the character of the ground. St. Quentin is protected on the north-west of the Oignon river which, although only a brook, like most of the Somme tributaries runs through a broad valley full of swamps and clumps of trees which greatly increases its defensive value. To the west the approaches to the city are over a bare, flat plain, devoid of any natural obstacle and with but few villages.

Here the French advance is naturally most rapid, but the plain narrows and ends in a sharp point at St. Quentin. At Savry, the most favorable point, the Germans have built their main defensive line.

British Take Junction.

London, March 26.—The British have occupied the important railway junction of Rodiel, seven miles east of Peronne. Farther north the British made progress on a front of a mile and a half southeast of Croisilles. Heavy counterattacks were launched in the region of Beaumont-Lez-Cambrai and, although the Germans gained a footing in a small section of an advanced position, they were immediately driven out by a counter-attack.

The Germans are fighting for every inch of the plateau that lies between St. Quentin and the Oise but, despite their tenacious resistance, the French are steadily driving them back. They are now firmly established on the eastern bank of the Ailette River in the outskirts of the lower forest of Coucy, one of the three great wooded tracts lying between Laon and the Ailette.

HUN CREWS ARE SENT TO GEORGIA

Men of Kron Prinz Wilhelm and Prinz Eitel Friedrich Will be Held at Forts McPherson and Ogleshorpe.

Philadelphia, Mar. 26.—The seven hundred members of the crews of the German auxiliary cruiser Kron Prinz Wilhelm and Prinz Eitel Friedrich, interned at the Philadelphia navy yards since last October, started today under a heavy guard of marines for Fort Ogleshorpe and Fort McPherson, Georgia, where they will be kept until further orders from Washington.

A large crowd, held back by a cordon of marines and 500 Philadelphia policemen, saw the departure of the sailors. In each car of the two train sections there was a marine guard of fourteen men. Captain Thierchen, the German naval attaché, accompanied the British steamer Appam into the Chesapeake Cape a year ago, were among those removed from the ships.

There were no untoward incidents during the transfer.

Greenfield and Adams.

The headquarters of the Ninth regiment is in this city, where the machine gun company and several companies of infantry are located. The other companies are stationed at Lawrence, Worcester, Clinton, Natick and Lowell.

HOW RASPUTIN WAS A POWER BEHIND THRONE

Aided by Empress's Lady-in-Waiting, Heir to Throne Was Kept Under Influence of Drug, Alleges Newspaper

Petrograd, Mar. 25, via London, Mar. 25.—The superstitious belief that the health, and even the life, of Grand Duke Alexis, the young heir-apparent, depended on the presence of Gregory Rasputin, the mystic monk—a notion which is generally known to have accounted for Rasputin's tremendous influence over the imperial family—is explained in the following extraordinary manner by the Ruskaya Slovo.

Woman Helped.

Rasputin, according to this paper, stated in confidence to friends at convivial moments that he was able to fortify the superstition with the help of Madame Virubova, lady-in-waiting to the Empress, and M. Badmaev, court physician, until the Empress was absolutely convinced that the life of her son depended on the monk. Whenever Rasputin was absent for any length of time from the court, Madame Virubova, according to the monk's story, as given by the newspaper, obtained poisonous powders from the physician and contrived to place them in food brought to Alexis.

When Monk Away.

The result was that during Rasputin's absence the delicate health of the young heir-apparent grew steadily worse, until Rasputin was summoned back to the court, when the powders were stopped, and Alexis became immediately better.

Rasputin always announced that forty days after his death Alexis would fall ill. This prophecy came true with startling accuracy, being caused, the newspaper declares, by Madame Virubova administering another powder to the little Grand Duke in the hope of continuing the tradition of Rasputin's influence over the imperial family and preparing the way for a successor to him.

GIRLS! WOMEN! TAKE CASCARETS IF CONSTIPATED

They live your liver and bowels and clear your complexion.

Don't stay headachy, bilious with breath bad and stomach sour.

Get a 10-cent box now. Tonight sure! Take Cascarets and enjoy the nicest, gentlest liver and bowel cleansing you ever experienced. Cascarets will live your liver and clean your thirty feet of bowels with out griping. You will wake up feeling grand. Your head will be clear, breath bright, tongue clean, stomach sweet, eyes bright, set elastic and complexion rose—they're wonderful. Get a 10-cent box now at any drug store. Mothers can safely give a whole Cascaret to children any time when cross, feverish, bilious, tongue coated or constipated—they are harmless.

REGRET IN CALAIS.

The Calais correspondent of the Banzor News writes: "The many friends of Rev. Martin Maloney, C. S. R., were grieved to learn of his death which occurred at St. John, on Thursday following an illness of long duration of hardening of the arteries. Father Maloney was born at St. John, N. B., and was 62 years of age. He came to Calais with his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Martin Maloney of this city where he spent his early boyhood days."

JOHN DILLON WARNS THE GOVERNMENT ONCE MORE

Irish Nationalists Still Pressing Claims in House of Commons Regarding Demand for Home Rule—Dalziel Says Lloyd-George Devoting Attention to Green Isle's Problems.

London, March 26.—Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, today asked the House of Commons, in order to expedite business, to suspend until Easter the rule under which the House rises at eleven o'clock daily.

John Dillon, Nationalist member for East Mayo, thereupon gravely warned the government, "under a deep sense of responsibility, that if it allowed the Easter recess to pass without any indication of whether it was in earnest with regard to Ireland, its path would be beset with difficulties, and it might find the situation worse than before."

Sir James Henry Dalziel, Liberal member for Kirkcaldy Burghs, having stated that since the debate of last Thursday Premier Lloyd George had devoted every possible moment of time to the subject of Ireland, Mr. Bonar Law added that the government had a full sense of responsibility in this matter and that there would be no avoidable delay, but that the government thought it would make a statement if possible, but could not absolutely promise it before Easter. He asked the indulgence of the House not to press the government unduly.

LOWELL HAS A DEMONSTRATION IN AUSTRALIA

Fifty Thousand Participate—Boy Scout Troops and Business Prominent in War Parade.

Lowell, Mass., March 26.—More than 50,000 people joined in a patriotic demonstration in the streets of Lowell yesterday when Mayor James E. O'Donnell led a parade of several hundred persons through the streets to the state armory where speeches were made.

The demonstration had been arranged on 24 hours notice. In spite of the short notice half the city turned out. The demonstration, a test to find if the spirit that prompted Lowell to send volunteers to respond to the first call for troops in 1861 still existed. The parade consisted of the Lowell business men's training school, the boy scout troops and a long column of civilians, with a band at the head of the line.

All the speakers sought to emphasize the need for enlistment in the militia and of standing in the line with all their powers.

ST. JOHN BOYS IN THE GREAT AND GRAND FINALE.

Germany's speedy downfall has commenced and yet the Allies have not fairly started their big offensive. In fact there are numerous Canadian units yet to cross the Atlantic and hundreds of other units for the final dash that will drive the Kaiser's forces across the Rhine. Right here in St. John the Machine Gun Draft under Lieut. Scammel is rapidly filling its ranks to take part in this grand finale. It will go as a complete unit and will work in teams of six men each. Fitted with the latest type of machine-gun with a capacity of over 400 shots a minute, this little bunch of boys from St. John and vicinity will link up with thousands of other men and share in the great quest that will liberate the world from Prussian tyranny. Machine-gunners are the handiest men in the army and the ones the German's dread the most in their safe hiding places. They pepper the enemy insistently and are the greatest influence of all in forcing him to quit and lay down his arms. The few men yet needed may get all information about enlistment at the special recruiting office, 52 German street, upstairs.

SWEDEN DENIES SHE WILL BE MEDIATOR.

London, Mar. 26.—Reuter's Stockholm correspondent cables that the Swedish minister of foreign affairs has let it be known that no attempt has been made by Sweden to mediate between Germany and the Allies.

Most Members of Federal Parliament Have Gone to Constituencies—Bitter Fight Between Hughes and Laborites.

Melbourne, Mar. 26, (via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—This country is in the throes of a general election. Most of the members of the federal parliament have gone to their constituencies to open the campaign which will be bitterly fought between the supporters of the Hughes government and the Labor party, which broke away from Hughes on the conscription issue.

Right Hon. Mr. Hughes who has been offered 32 seats, has decided to contest Bendigo and makes an important speech there next Thursday.

Labors' Sentiment.

Hon. Mr. Tudor, ex-minister of customs, and now leader of the opposition, has issued an electoral address, stating that if returned the Labor party will do its utmost under the voluntary system to secure every fit man for the front.

It will also extend shipbuilding and help the Allies by stimulating food production. A scheme of tariff revision will be immediately introduced with a view to the protection of Australian manufacturers. He views the day-light saving act as a vexatious measure and promises its repeal and also says that war profits will be further taxed.

"We will again," the address continues, "submit to a referendum the proposal to extend the powers of the Commonwealth parliament and we will provide pensions for widows and orphans."

THE BRITISH BLOCKADE POLICY IS RIGHT

London, Mar. 26.—Replying to Admiral Sir Hedworth Meux, member of parliament for Portsmouth, Mr. Bonar Law in the House today said that the question of blockade had been fully considered by the cabinet, with its naval advisers, and that they were satisfied the present policy was right in principle and efficient in administration. Advice from Germany, through neutral sources, the chancellor said, seemed to confirm this view.

FOOD QUESTION MAGDALEN ISLANDERS ARE LUCKY

Board of Inland Trade to Refulate Prices Favored by Some Manufacturers.

Ottawa, Mar. 26.—A deputation of manufacturers, wholesalers and retail merchants had a long interview today with W. F. O'Connor, K. C., the cost of living commissioner, regarding the investigations which he has been pursuing into foodstuffs. The deputation was headed by H. C. Beckett of Hamilton, H. Blaine of Toronto and Gerald Fitzgerald of Ottawa.

Special to The Standard.

Incidentally they laid before Mr. O'Connor their views regarding the establishment of a board of inland trade which would take over such work as that done by the cost of living commissioner. This has been advocated by some manufacturers and wholesalers who consider that the food question should not be dealt with by the labor department at all. Mr. O'Connor undertook to incorporate their views in his report to the Minister of Labor.

Some time ago views regarding the establishment of a board of inland trade were laid before Sir George Foster. The Minister of Labor, who is the particular minister to be consulted on a matter which affects his department, is in the west.

The steamer Terra Nova was high line with 16,000 pelts; Erik, 10,000 pelts; Thetis, 7,000 pelts; Neptune, 7,000 pelts; Ranger, 7,000 pelts; Diana, 9,000 pelts; Eagle, 3,000, and three others not reported. These were taken in three days, steamers Sable J. and Seal were fishing in the Gulf; the former had taken 15,000 pelts and latter 12,000.

A wireless message from the Magdalen Islands reports the natives having killed and landed 10,000 pelts. The islands were surrounded with heavy ice, and the seal herd in that locality was very large. If the ice blockade around Magdalen continued, the largest catch in history would be made by those isolated fishermen.

ASHORE AT NEWFOUNDLAND.

Th two-masted schooner Tattler, owned by David W. Macdonald of Boston city, is stranded in Trepansey Bay, Nfld., and will probably become a total loss. The Tattler, formerly a Gloucester fishing vessel, left Boston two weeks ago for St. John's, Nfld., laden with beef, boots, shoes and general cargo.

Reports indicate that the vessel was forced ashore by the ice. She carried a crew of six men, all of whom are safe.

WOMEN ENLIST FOR NAVY IN BOSTON

Boston, Mar. 26.—Ten women listed at the Naval recruiting station for service in the event of war. They included two who desired radio work, one of whom expects to get her diploma today; two who offered themselves as clerks and one telegraph operator. The honor of being first belongs to Mrs. Sarah T. Small of Winthrop, whose husband is in the regular army. She is employed by the State Industrial Board at the State House.

The others listed were Miss Anna MacDonald and Miss Winifred Burke, both of Cambridge; Miss Harriet Stebbins, Mrs. Leroy F. Wyllie, Dorchester; Miss M. Blanche Coffin, Miss Elizabeth Lawrence, Belmont; Miss Isabel Johnson, Miss Flora Blouin, Miss Macy Dyer, River street, Norwell.

CANADIAN DROPS DEAD IN BANGOR RESTAURANT

Bangor, Me., March 26.—Alec Grenier of Quebec died suddenly at the Eastern Eating House on Sunday, Dr. H. D. McNeil, county medical examiner, who was called, stating that death was due to natural causes. Grenier had been at work in the woods at Cooper Brook for the Great Northern Paper Co. during the winter, and had been in Bangor several days. On Sunday morning a friend brought a glass of milk and two eggs to his room and after eating the eggs Grenier fell forward on the window sill, the glass of milk going out of the window.

The deceased was about 35 years of age and had been coming to Bangor for a number of years. His home was in Riviere du Loup, Quebec.

RUSSIAN WAR MINISTER ARRIVES AT RIGA.

London, March 26.—Reuter's Petrograd correspondent announces the arrival of Alexander J. Guchkoff, Russian minister of war, at Riga.

Bringing Up Father

