

Land Fighting At The Dardanelles Disastrous To Turks Whose Losses Are Repored Enormous

TURKS FELL IN THOUSANDS BEFORE BRITISH IN LAND FIGHTING AT DARDANELLES

Captured Prisoners Testify to Terrible Havoc Wrought Among Ottomans by British Guns and Bayonets — Only 120 Out of One Regiment of 3,000 Escaped — Losses to Turks in Fighting on Gallipoli Peninsula Over 40,000.

London, June 1.—A prisoner captured a fortnight ago in the Dardanelles, says that the Turkish losses in the defence of their positions on the Gallipoli Peninsula were, at that time, over forty thousand men.

This information was given out in an official statement in London today. The statement follows:

"Regarding the operations in the Dardanelles, Turkish prisoners recently arrived in Egypt say that the Ottoman losses in the fighting on the Gallipoli Peninsula have been terribly heavy. The Twentieth Regiment was almost annihilated, its colonel alone of all the officers escaping death or capture. Almost equally severe were the losses borne by the Fourteenth Regiment.

"The losses in officers generally have been very heavy and the gaps are being filled by naval officers and cadets from the military school. Men from every military class are now found in the same unit.

"The attacks on the Krithia positions early in May were mostly costly operations for the Turks. Ordered by Gen. Von Sanders, to attack with empty magazines, with the bayonet only, and by night, they assaulted our columns. Repeatedly they were caught by the searchlights of the Allies in close formation and terribly punished at point blank range by machine guns and rifle fire. Only 120 men could be collected out of a regiment originally 3,000 men strong.

"The mountain guns of the Allies on more than one occasion caught the Turks as they were assembling at night for attack, and assisted by searchlights, they were kept for some minutes at a time under heavy rifle and shrapnel fire which inflicted serious losses.

"The landing, said an Arab officer who was among the officers taken prisoners, was costly and difficult, but it was badly carried out and when your troops were once established on the peninsula it was our turn to suffer the heavier losses in a series of desperate and unavailing counter-attacks. I was made prisoner a fortnight ago. We then had lost at least 40,000 men killed and wounded."

"It is further stated by prisoners that two Turkish battalions attacked each other by night near Gaba Tepe, losing heavily and ultimately stampeding in spite of the efforts of their officers to rally them.

"Prisoners say that the firing of the British machine guns has been particularly well directed and violent, and that the naval guns have at times been most effective. Men who were in the trenches near the points where the heaviest shells burst were frequently so dazed and shaken by the explosion as to be paralyzed.

"The prisoners in some cases frankly admit that they do not in the least know why Enver Pasha and Talaat Bey went to war, while others curse the Germans heartily."

MAJ. MERSEREAU ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

Lost power of speech for time after being wounded, but is now improved.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, June 1.—Letters received here yesterday by Mrs. H. E. McLeod from Mrs. C. J. Mersereau brought cheering news that Major Mersereau, who was wounded at Ypres and was able to talk a little. Major Mersereau's speech had been paralyzed as result of shrapnel wound in the head, and according to his physicians it was only his wonderful constitution that enabled him to pull through at all. A large piece of shrapnel was taken from his brain and an abscess that had formed as result of the wound had to be removed. He is now in London, and at the time the letter was written, May 9, was sitting up in bed and drawing plans of the battle, being unable to talk enough to tell about the fighting.

NON-COMBATANTS KILLED BY AUSTRIAN AVIATORS

Rome, June 1.—Austrian aeroplanes have flown over Bari and Brindisi, scapots on the Adriatic, in Southern Italy. They threw bombs which killed one person and wounded two others. This information was conveyed in an official statement which reads as follows:

RESERVIST OFFICERS OF ITALIAN ARMY CALLED HOME FROM CANADA

Winnipeg, June 1.—The Italian Vice Consul here has been notified by his government that all Italians on the lists of reservist officers must return immediately and report in Italy at their particular military districts. The government pays all expenses.

All Italians in Canada born between 1865 and 1895 inclusive, who are liable to military service, are to hold themselves in readiness to return to Italy. When the news became known at Port Arthur one Italian exclaimed: "When we fight for Italy we fight with Canadians."

CARRIED SEVERAL OF THE RYNDHAM'S PASSENGERS

New York, June 1.—The Holland-America Line steamer Rotterdam sailed today for Rotterdam with many of the passengers of the steamer Ryndham, who were brought back to this port last week, after the Ryndham had been in collision off Nantucket Shoals Lightship. In addition to the Ryndham's passengers the Rotterdam carried a large number of her own passengers.

REPORT OF CROP CONDITIONS THROUGH WESTERN CANADA

Some time lost owing to heavy frosts, but no permanent damage has resulted.

Winnipeg, June 1.—"General conditions good, 76 points declare plenty of moisture, 69 would like rain and 23 needed it badly, little if any permanent damage from frost or cut worms, acreage reseeded very small, oats all seeded, increase of acreage 20 per cent, big increase in fodder corn and alfalfa."

Thus a local newspaper sums up the result of its investigation of crop conditions from replies received from over a 150 points scattered strategically throughout Western Canada. One hundred and thirty two points report conditions excellent and fourteen as fair. Very many reports state conditions could not be better. A number of points state crop has splendid root, is well stored and vigorous. While it is evident that some little time has been lost by heavy frosts on May 18-19, there has been absolutely no permanent damage and the season is still at least ten days in advance of last year.

WILL OPEN NEW POSTAL STATION AT YARMOUTH

Yarmouth, N. S., June 1.—A post office is to be established on the premises of A. P. Lewis. The new postal district will be named "Yarmouth South" and the postmaster will be A. P. Lewis, a gentleman who is eminently qualified to perform the duties and whose selection for the position is in every way acceptable to the people in that section. The office will be established at once. This makes the fourth post office in town, the others being Yarmouth, Yarmouth North and Salem (Yarmouth).

ITALIANS THREATENING AUSTRIAN CITY OF TRENTO BY ATTACK FROM REAR

Whole Plateau of Lovorane occupied by Italians — Weather impeding operations in Adig Valley.

Verona, Italy, via Paris, June 1, (3.25 p. m.)—Rainstorms and fog are preventing a rapid development of Italian operations against the Austrian positions in the Adig Valley. Some Alpine detachments and two regiments of Bersaglieri have been exposed to the weather, soaked for fifty hours without the possibility of going into camp.

Long range cannon are now being transported by the Italians towards the points to be occupied, one of which is within seven miles of Rovereto.

The whole high plateau of Lovorane now is in the hands of Italian troops who also are threatening to take the Austrian city of Trento from behind along the Fume Valley.

The Austrian authorities evidently realize the danger threatening Trento, because they have ordered the evacuation of all persons and institutions considered "useless." Included in this category are judges and lawyers, law courts which are being transferred to Mezzolana, a village some ten miles further to the north.

FIGHT LASTED LESS THAN A HALF HOUR

Capture of Ablain-St-Nazaire by French an easy task—400 of enemy surrounded in a body.

Paris, June 1.—The official eye-witness today gives supplementary details of the capture by French forces of the town of Ablain-St. Nazaire, to the northwest of Arras.

"French troops," the writer says, "on May 12, occupied most of the position and on May 28 and 29 succeeded in completing its capture. In the first attack we occupied many houses and important vantage points but the Germans clung tenaciously to the church and cemetery. It was through the centre of the village and in and around the cemetery, therefore, that the hot fighting took place.

"On May 28, the same division which had distinguished itself by the capture of Carency, taking 2,700 prisoners in four days began the attack. The commander of the French forces knew exactly the enemy's strength—five quick-firers in the cemetery and four quick-firers stationed in a priest's house—as well as many other details, including knowledge of the low morale of the troops to which the German prisoners had attested.

"Before the attack was begun a heavy fire was directed on the ground behind the cemetery, thus effectively preventing the enemy from advancing any reinforcements. Bravely charging over the broken ground our troops were not long in attaining their objective, dispersing the Germans before they had time to get into the low rise on which the cemetery is situated. Other soldiers executed a flank movement and attacked and routed the Germans.

"The position was being quickly organized when a strange apparition appeared. It was a thick column of the enemy running toward us. We believed it was a counter-attack and we prepared to resist it. But the men were all unarmed and with hands raised above their heads they were giving themselves up, racing at full speed across the cemetery in fear of their own guns whose fire was more deadly than that of the enemy. Four hundred Germans including seven officers, arrived breathless in our trenches. The whole action lasted but fifteen minutes.

"During the night and the following morning the whole village was captured from the several hundred soldiers holding the position. After the attack on the 29th of May, twenty alone remained living, most of the others having been killed by their own artillery for wishing to give themselves up to the French."

THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT HOLDS MONTHLY MEETING

All members present—Arrangements for completing Valley Railway work to be reached at present session.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, June 1.—The monthly meeting of the provincial government opened this evening all the members of the executive being in attendance, several members of the legislature are also here, including B. Frank Smith of Carleton, and T. J. Carter of Victoria. A. R. Gould, president of the St. John and Quebec Railway Co., also arrived this evening and some settlement of St. John Valley Railway matters so that construction work can be continued soon will be reached at this session of the government which will probably continue until Thursday evening. This evening's session was devoted entirely to routine matters on schedule.

Have you sent in the pincushion to Uncle Dick of The Standard yet ?



Last day, June 3rd, 1915

Full particulars on page nine

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BERLIN REPORTS SAY FRENCH WERE DRIVEN BACK

Berlin, June 1, via London (6 p. m.)—The war office gave out the following statement today:

"The French yesterday attempted to break through further north. An attack on a front of two and one-half kilometres (about one and one-half miles), directed against our positions between the Souchez-Bethune road and the brook at Carency, broke down under our fire with heavy losses to the enemy. The only point at which hand-to-hand fighting developed was west of Souchez."

"In the forest of Le Pretre we succeeded in recapturing the greater part of our lost trenches. Here the enemy suffered considerable losses.

"In other sectors our artillery had some gratifying successes. As the result of one fall hit on the French camp to the south of Mourmelon-Le-grand between three hundred and four hundred horses broke loose and rushed about in all directions. Numerous vehicles, including many motor cars, quickly left the camp.

"A munitions depot of the enemy, situated at a point north of Saint-Menehould and northeast of Verdun, was blown up. As a reprisal for the bombardment of the open town of Ludwigshafen we threw numerous bombs last night on wharves and docks of London. Enemy airmen last night bombed Ostend, damaging some houses without causing any other injury.

"In the eastern theatre of war: "Near Amboin, fifty kilometres (about thirty miles) east of Libau, (Courland) German cavalry defeated the Russian Fourth Regiment of Dragoons. Near Shavli hostile attacks were unsuccessful. Our booty in the month of May, north of the Niemen river, amounts to 24,700 prisoners, seventeen cannon and forty-seven machine guns; south of the Niemen and the Pilica, 6,943 prisoners, eleven machine guns and one aeroplane.

ST. MARY'S AND GIBSON RESIDENTS VOTED AGAINST INCORPORATION

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, June 1.—Residents of St. Mary's and Gibson voted against incorporation as a town today. Opponents of incorporation won out after a stiff fight. The vote was 163 for incorporation, 166 against, and two ballots rejected.

CARRIES WOMAN COOK

Another cargo of pulpwood reached here in the steamer W. H. Dwyer, coming from Dalhousie, N. B. Capt. McLeod, her commander says the ice conditions along the provincial coast have improved rapidly the past week, the course being now practically clear, although he sighted a few low lying growlers at a safe distance. The steamer has just come around from the Great Lakes, having a long and disagreeable passage in getting through the ice on her way to Dalhousie. As is customary with most of the steamers on the lakes the Dwyer carries a woman cook and steward.—Portland Argus.

HEBREW WEDDING AT WOODSTOCK LAST NIGHT

Woodstock, N. B., June 1.—One of the most important events of the season was the marriage at the Hayden Gibson Theatre, this evening, of Marion Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Isaacson, and Abraham Wilson, both of Woodstock. Rabbi Abraham Ruvetz, of St. John officiated. The Jewish residents of Carleton, Victoria and Aroostook counties, to the number of some hundreds occupied the pit of the theatre, while 500 invited guests had seats in the balcony.

As the bridal party surrounded by their compatriots carrying lighted candles, left the pit for the stage, Clyde Cambers Orchestra delightfully rendered "Mendelssohn's Wedding March." The bridesmaid were Genevieve Jacobson of Perth, and Freda Acker, of St. Stephen; Jennie Jacobson, of Perth, maid of honor; Annie Isaacson, a sister, Jennie Schwartz, Eastern Rapaport and Ida Rapaport, all of Caribou, were flower girls. Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz, of Caribou, attended the groom, and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Campbell, the latter a sister of the bride, waited upon the bride, who was given away by her parents. At the conclusion the guests partook of a beautiful supper. Dancing was enjoyed until early in the morning.

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