

THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Vol. I. No. 241.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1914.

Price:—1 cent.

GENERAL PROGRESS

Made in Western Belgium by the Allies, Says a Paris Dispatch—Good Work of the British

(Official Bulletin.)

Paris, Oct. 30.—To the extreme right the flooding effected by the Belgian army in the lower valley of the Yser, compelled the enemy's forces that had passed the river to fall back, and they were violently bombarded by French and Belgian artillery in their retreat.

The Germans tried yesterday very violent attacks on British and French armies, which were progressing to the east and north-east of Ypres.

Continuous Advance.

At the end of the day our troops had not in the least been stopped in their advance, and had attained positions they were making for.

The British troops, attacked in several points north of La Bassée by superior forces, have retaken a strong offensive and got back largely the ground previously ceded to the enemy. On several other parts of the line of battle the British repulsed heavy German attacks, inflicting strong losses on the enemy.

No General Action.

On the remainder of the front there was no general action only a partial offensive on our part and on the part of the enemy.

We have progressed everywhere, especially before several villages situated between Arras and Albert, and north of the heights of the River Aisne, and north of Soissons. North of Verdun, progress on our part is noted.

It is reported from good authority that two Turkish destroyers entered Ostend and sank a Russian warship and damaged the French steamer Port uel (5,335 tons, built in 1886.)

BAVARIANS ARE SUITED

Wanted to Meet the English and Got an Introduction—And More Also

London, Oct. 31.—The Daily Mail correspondent in Northern France telegraphs that the Allies have recaptured Lille and have advanced a considerable distance to the east.

The Times correspondent reports the same news on what he believes to be unimpeachable authority and adds that the German Emperor has had his wish that his Bavarians would meet the English troops just once.

They are now in the centre of the battle line in Flanders. They have recaptured before us in a small corner of France, North of Lille, and they have been forced back foot by foot on the Belgian frontier.

AN UTTER FAILURE

French Officer Says Germans Realise They Are Fighting a Losing Battle

Dunkirk, Oct. 28.—"The Germans are running like hares. They know they are fighting a losing battle." In these few words a French officer who returned to Furnes in charge of a convoy of wounded described to me the brilliant manner in which the Allied forces were forcing the German right wing further and further back into Belgium.

"The German retreat," he said, "threatens to become a rout. The Germans have been attacking the Allies near Neuport with extraordinary violence, and now that they see their efforts availed them nothing they are panic-stricken."

It is said that 1700 German dead have been buried near Neuport, while their total casualties in this region are said to exceed 10,000 so terrific has been the fighting in Belgium and north-western France during the week.

The large number of German dead

"A CREDIT TO THE COLONY" SAYS CAPTAIN ALEXANDER

Referring to the General Conduct of the Newfoundland Volunteers on Board the Florizel—Routine of the Voyage Across

HIS Excellency the Governor has received from L. Paterson, Lt. M.O., and A. W. Wakefield, Lt. M.O., the following letter from on board Florizel, off Plymouth:

"We have," says the writers, "the honor of submitting the following report on the work of the medical department during the voyage."

"A number of lectures have been given to the men, by companies, on elementary hygiene. Special lectures and demonstrations have also been given to the ambulance section and the members of this section have also been examined on their knowledge of 'First Aid.'"

"We enclose a summary of medical returns to date."

Health Excellent.

"The health of men is excellent. Two medical inspections of the ship have been made daily."

"A personal inspection of each man in the Contingent was made today, and the improvement in the appearance and physique of the men since the preliminary inspection on enrolment was quite striking."

"We have found the men responsive to the efforts which have been made for their education on the above lines. We would also express our deep appreciation of the efficient manner in which all our brother officers, and the N. C. O's have backed up these efforts."

Capt. Alexander's Report.

Writing under date of October 14th to Governor Davidson, Capt. Conn Alexander says: "We are nearing Plymouth and are in the midst of a N. E. gale since yesterday morning. We have not yet received orders as to where we are to disembark. Last night I received a message from the Flagship saying we were to dye all haversacks brown, so we made a concoction of burnt sugar and dyed them khaki and are now ready to march at a half hour's notice."

"I have had no questions from the G.O.C. Convoy, relating to the Regiment excepting the above and one three days ago asking what Regiment we were and our strength, and if we had any guns or maxims."

Weather Mostly Fine.

"Up to yesterday we had beautiful weather, almost a dead calm the whole voyage, very little seasickness, and very little sickness of any kind. I enclose the last sick report. I changed the Company quarters once during the voyage and would have changed twice only the men seemed to want to remain where they were."

"The pioneers made the quarters very much more comfortable soon after we sailed. I made the following promotions which were absolutely necessary, viz: four Color Sergeants, 1 Sergeant Cook, one Pioneer Sergeant, one Orderly Room Sergeant. I filled up the vacancies caused by the above promotions. These promotions were to date from the 3rd of October."

Did Ship Duties.

"A good many men had to be detailed to do ship's duties as the ship's complement was by no means complete. I enclose a list of those so employed, and am sending one to our Paymaster so that the S.S. Coy. may settle with him for the men's wages ship's captain not having enough funds on hand to pay them at once."

"I am enclosing a copy of battalion Orders which will show our daily routine, of course you will understand we could not do any drill or physical parades to any extent owing to the lack of space, there being only room for two sections to drill at a time on each Company parade deck."

Instructed the Men.

"The Company Commanders lectured their men every afternoon for one hour. Tea was at 5 p.m. So our working day was from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., a good night's rest for soldiers on active service."

"We had one alarm parade at 3 a.m. last Wednesday at which the men turned out exceptionally well, all the and wounded is partly accounted for by the fact that a large proportion of the re-enforcements were raw and almost untrained recruits."

Companies being on parade and the rolls called eight minutes after the first note of the alarm bugle which was quite unexpected and the turn out was surprisingly prompt. The N.C. O's have greatly improved. I started a Sergeants and Corporals' Mess in the Salon.

Smoking Concert.

"The men had a smoking concert organized by Colour Sergeant Steele which they seemed to greatly enjoy; the officers of course attended."

"I wish to bring especially to your notice the fact that Captain Rendell and Captain Carty have given me every possible assistance in maintaining discipline. I was also to say that Captain Paterson carried out P. M. Os inspection each day and that he and Dr. Wakefield lectured each Company on Military Hygiene."

Inoculations.

"Three hundred and fifty-eight men were inoculated for enteric; this does not include sixty inoculations, all cases of inoculation made good recoveries."

"At first we had some difficulty about the ship's rations but later on everything was satisfactory. The men

(Continued on page 5.)

TURKEY'S OLD BLUFF

Suggested She Will Lay the Blame for Black Sea Affair on German Officers in Her Navy

London, Oct. 30.—Views have been expressed in official circles here that the Turkish Government may conceivably try to dissociate itself from the action of its warships in the Black Sea, in bombarding Russian ports, including Odessa.

It is suggested that the Porte when it hears the comments of the Allied Governments may throw the onus for this course on the shoulders of the German commanders of its warships and declare that they acted without orders from the official government.

The report to this, it is said, in London, will be a demand that the German officers and crews, now in the Turkish navy, be sent home within twenty-four hours.

NO RESPECT FOR THE AGED

Turkish Navy Scares to Death a Russian Ship Fifty Years Old

London, Oct. 30.—The Russian gunboat Donoga was sunk, part of her crew drowned, and others killed or wounded by Turkish torpedo boats, which today raided a port of Odessa.

The Russian steamers Labareff (over 50 years old, 1,780 tons), Witas (built in 1906, and 1,678 tons), and Whampoa (1,724 tons, built in 1882), and a French steamer were damaged by shell fire.

Several sailors were killed and wounded. Shells were fired on the suburbs of Odessa, near a number of oil tanks, but the latter were undamaged. A sugar factory was hit, and several civilians were killed or injured by the shells.

TURKS MENACE THE SUEZ CANAL

Strong Cavalry Divisions Advancing on Waterway From the South

—London, Oct. 30.—Strong Turkish cavalry divisions are said to have arrived in the neighborhood of the Gulf of Akabah in the Red Sea, about 60 miles south of the Suez Canal, and the entire Turkish fleet is reported to have left the Black Sea.

This news was contained in a Cairo despatch received in Vienna and for-

GERMAN AEROPLANE BASES IN SCOTLAND.

New York, Oct. 22.—Passengers arriving here today on the Adriatic report that England is greatly alarmed over the discovery that the Germans have secret bases for their air craft in Scotland. They say that posters are displayed in all of the Scotch towns, which offer a reward of one hundred pounds (\$500) to anyone who gives information leading to the discovery of any place in Scotland which is being used by the Germans as a store of oil and petrol.

It was said by these passengers that the Government is in possession of authentic information showing that the Germans long before the war was even dreamed of, laid out operating bases for their aircraft in certain sections of Scotland, but that it has so far been impossible to locate these with any degree of certainty.

"RUTHLESS REMORSELESS RELENTLESS"

Given as Lord Fisher's Favorite War Maxims—Will Play the Germans at Their Own Game

London, Oct. 30.—Fred T. Jane, naval author and journalist, whose intimate acquaintance with naval matters makes his statements authoritative writing in the Evening Standard says: Under Fisher's naval administration we may expect a rapid curtailment of the right of neutrals to come and go as they please in our waters.

"Ruthless, remorseless, relentless," the writer says, was one of Lord Fisher's war maxims in the old days. We may look for short shrift from him for any German captives, who have achieved results by flying any flag except his own.

It would probably be a case of hang first and enquire afterwards; and if public opinion or the cabinet object, let them object.

Jane suggests that an element in the British cabinet has hitherto interfered in questions like that of mine laying, and he says Lord Fisher will not permit such interference.

DASTARDLY BEHAVIOR

Of the Germans in Promiscuously Scattering Mines in the Sea

London, Oct. 28.—The Chronicle's naval correspondent says the discovery of a German mine field twenty miles north of Tory Island on the west coast of Ireland will not surprise anyone. The men who destroyed Luva and shelled the cathedral at Rhims are not likely to refrain from having mines in the fairway of shipping, be it neutral or belligerent.

There is some reason to believe they dropped a few mines in the Channel for the refugee ship Admiral Gautaume was damaged near Cape Grenez, probably by contact with one.

A mine field near Tory Island has been discovered and instructions have been issued for its avoidance, so that probably no further damage will result. War cannot be made without running risks and the country will not be alarmed by this intelligence. It shows that the navy is doing splendid work, and is ready to do much more than has been yet permitted to it.

We are probably on the eve of important events at sea and the utmost confidence can be placed in the fleet. Never was it at a greater pitch of efficiency or material strength than at the present time.

'EARL GREY' SOLD TO THE RUSSIANS

A cable says the ice-breaker Earl Grey, from P. E. I., acquired from the Canadian government has arrived at Archangel, Russia, and will endeavor to keep the port open till December at least.

S. S. Mongolian leaves Liverpool, Saturday next for St. John's, forwarded to London by a correspondent at Amsterdam of the Central News Agency.

NEARLY 7,000,000 BELGIANS ARE NOW FACING FAMINE

Less Than Two Weeks' Supply of Provisions Remains in Many of the Cities—Many Now Living on Cabbage and Beets Alone

Brussels, via London, Oct. 28.—Nearly seven million people in Belgium face famine, unless they receive help from the outside at once.

The American Minister to Belgium says that less than two weeks supply of food remains in the cities, while conditions in the country districts are even worse. Though Germany has seized the food in some cities for her soldiers, she still disclaims responsibility for feeding.

Feeding 100,000 Needy.

One hundred soup kitchens are feeding over 100,000 of the needy in Brussels. Families formerly rich are discharging their servants, because they are bankrupt. Noblemen may be seen slipping into the soup kitchens.

The factories are closed. Many stores remain open, but have no business. The railway train service has been suspended. The supplies of coffee, tea, flour and salt are practically exhausted.

Reports received by the American Minister from Louvain, Liege and Namur say that the conditions in those cities are even worse than they are in Brussels. Louvain has only a four days' supply of flour, while Liege has no flour at all. The peasants in many districts have been forced to exist on legumes, as the crops of beets and cabbages have been ruined.

Supplies Cut Off.

The meat and milk supplies also have been cut off, the army having taken the cattle. It is declared absolutely essential that food be obtained from England, and it is hoped that the first shipment is now on the water.

Nearly half of those people who have been able to remain in Belgium are wandering helplessly from town to town, seeking shelter with friends and relatives. Malines, which formerly had eighty thousand inhabitants, has but few undamaged houses standing. The same situation exists at Namur and Louvain.

Black With People.

The road from Antwerp to Brussels is black with processions of people, moving in either direction. Wagons and carts are filled with the wreckage of their household effects. Thousands on foot are carrying bundles, are pushing dog carts, always moving, but with no definite destination.

Other crowds are gathered about the ruins of forts and rifle pits, staring blankly at mounds that are covered with withered flowers and surmounted by wooden crosses, upon which the helmets of dead Germans have been placed to mark their graves.

Belgians of all classes appear disheartened. Old women and cripples may be seen sitting near their shattered houses in Malines, nodding mutely at the cathedral, with the shattered windows and tottering walls, damaged beyond repair by shell fire.

All Homes Shattered.

Similar conditions are found in the small villages between Antwerp and Brussels. Few stores are open. Those attempting to re-establish their homes find their roofs, which have been pierced by shells, no protection from the rain that is now falling every day. The villages that stood near contested forts were literally razed, yet many of the inhabitants remain living in rudely constructed sheds or tents.

In Brussels the sides of buildings and billboards are plastered with German military notices, printed in French, German and Flemish. The

WANTS BRITAIN TO RELEASE THEM

Germans Angry at General Arrest of Their Fellows in England

Berlin, Oct. 30.—Germany has notified Britain, through the American Ambassador General in Berlin, that if German civilians in England, excepting those against whom there are grounds for suspicion, are not liberated by November 5th, all British subjects will be similarly arrested.

The feeling in Berlin on this subject is high.

SILENCED THEIR FIRE

Gunnery of British Ships off the Belgian Coast Too Much for the Batteries of the Germans

(Colonial Office Despatch.)

London, Oct. 30.—In future I will telegraph the purport of the French Russian and Belgian, as well as the British Official Reports.

Yesterday progress was made around Ypres and south of Arras; and in the forest of Apremont. Some of the enemy's trenches were retaken between the Aisne and Argonne.

Very Important.

Russian victories on the Vistula front are very important, and all the Austro-German army corps in that region are in retreat. Russian cavalry have entered Radom, and a further victory has been won north of the River Pilitsa. The Russians have captured several thousand prisoners.

A British naval flotilla continues to support the Allied left with effective and accurate fire. On the 27th and 28th the enemy brought up heavy guns and replied vigorously. On the 29th, opposition from the shore virtually ceased.

Well Protected.

Enemy's submarine s are reported seeking opportunity to attack our ships, which are covered by destroyers. Our casualties are small, and structural damage to our ships trifling.

Admiral Prince Louis of Battenburg has resigned his appointment as First Sea Lord, and has been succeeded by Lord Fisher. His Majesty has directed that Prince Louis be sworn a member of the Privy Council.

In South Africa some 120 further rebels have surrendered.

ONLY NEED SHIPS NOW

Germans Have Dandy Naval Base in Belgium—Oh For a Navy

London, Oct. 31.—A Rotterdam despatch to the Daily Mail says the Germans, who are reported to have evacuated Ostend, have returned to Zeebrugge, fifteen miles east of Ostend, where they have placed heavy guns and intend, from appearances, to utilize the place as a naval base.

LOST ONE MAN IN BOMBARDMENT

Light Casualties of the British Squadron—Casualties of Land Forces

London, Oct. 31.—A casualty list issued by the War Office tonight and dated October 25th gives the names of fourteen officers as killed and fifty wounded.

In the list is Capt. the Hon. Christian Melisse Home Ruthven, of the Black Watch Regiment, third son of Baron Ruthven, also the names of Lt.-Col. Cecil Pycford Higginer, of the Shropshire Light Infantry, and Capt. Sir Fredk. Villiers Robinson, of the 3rd Northamptonshire Regiment.

An Admiralty statement issued tonight gives the casualties of the British flotilla operating off the Belgian coast.

The statement, dated Oct. 30, reports one man as having been killed on board the sloop Rinaldo, one man dangerously wounded and eleven men wounded. None of these are officers.

The men previously reported as missing from the monitors Severn and Humber have rejoined their ship.

According to statements from Amsterdam both the Handelsblad and the Telegraph report that the Germans have evacuated Ostend.

WEATHER REPORT

Toronto (Noon)—Strong winds and gales S.E. shifting to S.W., mild and showery. Sunday, showery.