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The Toronto World

SATURDAY MORNING MAY 6 1916—SIXTEEN PAGES

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GERMAN NOTE HAS POSTPONED BREAK WITH UNITED STATES

Royal Highlanders of Montreal Gallantly Retake Crater BRITISH STEAMER VICTORIOUS IN FIGHT WITH TWO GERMAN SUBMARINES

WITNESSES SAY CONTRACTS LET WERE REGULAR

Col. Cantley Stoutly Denies That Outside Influence Was Employed.

NO COMMISSIONS PAID

Col. Watts Disappointed Because Fuses Were Not Canadian Made.

By a Staff Reporter. OTTAWA, Ont., May 5.—Two more members of the old shell committee now under investigation by the royal commission, took the stand today, and both emphatically denied any knowledge of any commission or rake-offs being paid to anybody in connection with the contracts let.

Col. Watts Tried Hard

From Col. Watts' evidence, it appears that he was most active in trying to keep the manufacture of fuses in Canada. He was evidently convinced, however, that the fuses and cartridge cases could be made in Canada the first orders must go to the American concerns because of the urgency. It was to him T. A. Russell and Lloyd Harris first made complaint, and he immediately took it up with the commission that it was Gen. Pease of the British War Office who first informed the members of the shell commission that they were paying too much for fuses.

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ANOTHER BRITISH SHIP SUNK

LONDON, May 5, 11.10 p.m.—The British steamer Ruxton, 2000 tons, has been sunk by a submarine, according to reports. The crew was picked up by the Italian steamer Misurata.

WAR SUMMARY

THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

SEVENTEEN days ago President Wilson of the United States sent an ultimatum to Germany demanding that submarine warfare against merchantmen should cease, in the following words: "Unless the imperial government should now and immediately declare and effect an abandonment of its present methods of submarine warfare against passenger and freight-carrying vessels, the government of the United States can have no choice but to sever diplomatic relations with the German Empire altogether." The note also recited particulars of the methods practiced by Germany on the high seas, and it said that the use of submarines for the destruction of enemy's commerce was utterly incompatible with the principles of humanity, the long established and incontrovertible rights of neutrals, and the sacred immunities of non-combatants.

Although Germany was requested to give an immediate answer to the United States, and it was intimated that two or three days should be sufficient for a response, she studiously took nearly three weeks, and her note is only expected to reach Washington today. The gist of her answer, as cabled from Berlin, is the following: "As the (German) Government (has) repeatedly declared, it cannot dispense with the conduct of warfare against enemy trade." In respect to concessions the note says that German naval forces have received "an order that merchant vessels both within and without the area declared to be a naval war zone, shall not be sunk without warning, without saving human lives, unless the ships attempt to escape or offer resistance."

The tone of the note is of studied insolence, but the nature of the promised concessions, if examined, shows that they are no concessions at all, for Germany has all along maintained that her submarine commanders had instructions to see to the safety of ships' passengers and crews. It will be recalled that in the case of the Arabic, amongst others, Germany asserted that this steamer attempted to ram the submarine, and that it sank her in self-defence. But the truth later came out that the submarine which sank the Arabic was itself sunk almost immediately afterwards, and that the German Government made its contention without having ever received a report from the commander of that craft. Thanks to the British censorship, the German Government did not know that the piratical submarine had been sunk by a British patrol boat, and as a result the allies were able directly to convict that government of plain ly-

(Continued on Page 2, Columns 1 and 2.)

FOE LOSES TWO AEROPLANES IN STRUGGLE WITH BRITISH

Machines Driven Down Behind Own Lines, One Being Wrecked—Several Mines Sprung by Germans Without Doing Damage.

LONDON, May 5, 11.27 p.m.—The British official statement on the campaign in the west, issued tonight, follows: "The enemy sprang mines last night near Neuville St. Vaast, and one today east of Albert, without effecting any alteration in the situation. During the night there was considerable artillery activity on the banks of the Somme, opposite Hulloch and west of Ypres. Today there is nothing to report. The artillery was less active than usual. "Yesterday, as a result of air combats, we drove two enemy machines down behind the German lines. One was wrecked and the pilot of our aeroplane fired on the occupants after the landing and then returned safely to our lines. The other enemy machine was damaged. During the day one of our aeroplanes was lost, being brought down within the enemy's lines."

UNITED STATES WILL RESORT TO WATCHFUL WAITING AGAIN

Germany to Be Given Opportunity to Show Intent to Carry Out New Promises, The Reply is Admitted to Be Disappointing.

WASHINGTON, May 5.—Germany's note has postponed, if it actually has not averted, a diplomatic break with the United States. President Wilson will make the decision after he has read the official text which reached the state department late tonight. It was stated authoritatively after the cabinet meeting today that if the official text bore out the unofficial version transmitted in today's Berlin news despatches, Germany's assurances undoubtedly would be accepted, and before taking another step the United States would await the fulfilment of her latest promises. In such case the United States might not reply to the note, and would await evidence of the actual abandonment of Germany's present practices of submarine warfare which is declared.

In Wilson's Hands

The German embassy view is that the note gives all President Wilson asked for; that it signifies a return to "cruiser warfare"—the use of submarines as regular naval cruisers intercepting commerce with visit and search—and that inasmuch as it makes no mention of the armed ship question the controversy is not involved. Congress took the note quietly and, although a variety of views were expressed, the general sentiment seemed to be by time.

The United States only recently declaring its views on the rights of merchant ships on the high seas recognized and provided for the condition under which Germany charges British merchant ships, by orders of the British admiralty, actually are acting as naval war vessels in attacking submarines.

Negotiations With Britain

Germany in her notes reserves "complete liberty of decision" should the United States insist on the prevalence upon Great Britain to bring her practices into conformity with international law. The official view is that the United States should not insist on such a condition, as it has been and now is conducting diplomatic correspondence with Great Britain on that subject and the success or failure of the negotiations is immaterial. The note also stated that the president's determination to make the fulfilment of her promise conditional upon the success of the president's negotiations with Great Britain warrants the severance of diplomatic relations.

At the state department after the situation had been thoroughly discussed at the cabinet meeting, it was stated that it was practically certain that the present would not reach his decision before next week.

Cannot Tolerate Errors

Out of it all two things were made clear. They were that the U. S. still holds firmly for its determination that "mistakes" of submarine commanders are not admissible; that they are unforgivable and that the U. S. must continue to regard a discussion of the conduct of other belligerents as irrelevant to its discussion of Germany's conduct. The threatened break will not come at this time; another set is convinced that Germany's apparent determination to make the fulfilment of her promise conditional upon the success of the president's negotiations with Great Britain warrants the severance of diplomatic relations.

While the tone of the German note was said to be disappointing, most officials expressed the view that after all the language was immaterial. If the assurances were all that had been asked for:

THE DAILY CALENDAR.

MAY 6, 1914.—British and Canadian force capture fortress at Oswego. Men's Hat Day at Dineen's. Saturday is men's hat day at Dineen's. The best makes of English stiff and soft felt hats—as well as the cloth caps that are most particularly suited for wear in rough weather. Dineen's, men's hatters, 140 Yonge street, corner Temperance street.

PROBE'S SCOPE BROAD ENOUGH BORDEN HOLDS

Carvell's Motion Neglected by Forty-Six to Nineteen Votes.

LIBERALS IN A TRAP

Meighen's Declaration Aroused Enthusiasm Among Government Supporters

By a Staff Reporter. OTTAWA, May 5.—The effort by the Liberals to obtain a more open inquiry into the transactions of the shell committee by the Meredith-Duff Commission was not crowned with success.

In the house of commons this afternoon Mr. Carvell's motion to adjourn the house was negatived by a party vote, yeas 19, nays 46. Broadly speaking the debate was just an unconvincing. The only speaker who attempted to get up speed was Hon. Arthur Meighen, who said the Grits were caught in a humiliating position and were trying to escape in a cloud of dust. Messrs. Carvell, Pugsford and Macdonald presented the case for the Liberals fairly enough and the prime minister answered with painstaking care and deliberation.

Status of Commission

Part of the afternoon was occupied with a discussion as to the advisability of constituting the royal commission into a court, under section 1 of the B. N. A. Act, which authorizes parliament to organize federal courts for the enforcement of federal laws. The government contended that the only purpose to be accomplished by making the commission a court would be to facilitate the taking of testimony in the United States, but contended that a matter of fact, where witnesses who could throw any light on the subject was already in Ottawa.

Carvell's Argument

Mr. Carvell in opening said that it was important to find out whether the

(Continued on Page 2, Column 3.)

HE PAID HIS BET

J. A. Bartlett, 26 Mechanics avenue, who offered to enlist last night with the 204th Beavers Battalion on condition that they give a recruit to the Bantams, in payment of a bet he made that he was not the man referred to in a letter published in The Sunday World.

GOOD SPORT PAYS BET

J. A. B. DONS THE KHAKI "Toby" Bartlett Quits the Post-office to Handle Gun at Welland Canal.

J. A. Bartlett, 26 Mechanics avenue, who made a bet that he was not the man referred to in the letter published in The Sunday World by "Toby" Bartlett, quit the post-office to handle a gun at the Welland Canal.

CANADIANS PRAISED FOR GALLANTRY IN GALLIPOLI

Several More Officers Mentioned in Sir Ian Hamilton's Despatches.

Canadian Associated Press Cable. LONDON, May 5.—The following additional names are mentioned in Sir Ian Hamilton's despatch covering the Gallipoli operations: Lieut.-Col. E. Etherington, Lieut.-Col. McKee, Major E. G. Davis, Canadian Medical, and Capt. G. G. Carruthers, Dublin Fusiliers, graduate of R. M. C., Kingston, whose award of the Military Cross was gazetted last week.

CANADIANS BEAT GERMANS IN STRUGGLES WITH BOMBS

Huns Made Vain Advances To Irishmen in Trenches

Irish Air and Rule Britannia Played on Mouth Organs Answer to Overtures.

LONDON, May 5.—Immediately after the outbreak of the Irish revolution German soldiers in trenches opposite the Irish division fighting on the western front, put up signs inviting Irishmen to join the Germans, according to news received by John E. Redmond, the Irish Nationalist, from his brother, Capt. William H. K. Redmond, now at the front. One notice read: "Irishmen in Ireland are in revolution. English guns are firing on your wives and children. We give you hearty welcome. Throw your arms away. We are Saxons and if you don't fire, we won't." The Irishmen replied by playing an Irish air and "Rule Britannia," on mouth organs.

BRITISH SHIP WINS SUBMARINE FIGHT

Clan MacFadyen Beats Off Two Hun Craft in Bay of Biscay.

ONE BELIEVED SUNK

Submersible Hit by Big Gun at Range of Fifty Yards.

LONDON, May 5, 5 p.m.—The British liner Clan MacFadyen has arrived in Gravesend from Africa somewhat damaged by the gunfire of two German submarines. The steamer returned to the bay and it was believed on board that one of the submarines was destroyed.

The steamer reports that the first attack on her was made in the Bay of Biscay, when a submarine fired six shots at her at a range of fifty yards. The steamer immediately brought her big gun into action and hit the submarine several times, and it is believed destroyed.

Three hours later another submarine fired a torpedo, but missed the Clan MacFadyen by a few feet.

ALLEGED FORGERS PASS THRU TORONTO

Police Say Bob Flannigan, Mamie Russell and Amy Grant Got Big Sum by Cheques.

"Bob" Flannigan, alias Russell, Mamie Russell, arrested at Sudbury May 4 on a charge of issuing forged militia department cheques on storekeepers in cities and towns throughout Ontario, were brought to Toronto yesterday afternoon by Inspector Parkinson of the Dominion police and Inspector Reynolds of the immigration department and lodged at detective headquarters in the city hall until 8.30 last night, when they left on the Grand Trunk train for Kingston, where they will be tried. According to the police, the gang has cleaned up probably \$2,000 since beginning operations.

ENEMY TORPEDO BOAT SUNK BY FRENCH SUB.

Exploit in Lower Adriatic—Foe Bombed Hospital at Brindisi.

ROME, via Paris, May 5, 11.40 p.m.—"The French submarine Bernouille sank an enemy torpedo boat in the lower Adriatic Sea yesterday," says an official communication issued this evening.

"Five enemy aeroplanes raided Brindisi the same day. Bombs fell on a hospital and four patients were killed and five injured."

CUNARD LINE ACQUIRES STEAMSHIPS OF C. N. R.

Agents of Former Company Give Official Confirmation of Report.

MONTREAL, May 5.—Official confirmation of the story published a few days ago that the Cunard Steamship Co. was about to take over the steamers controlled by the C. N. R. Co., was given tonight by The Hub, Bedford, Canadian agents of the Cunard Line, Liverpool, in a statement handed out for publication. The steamers in question are those which before the war were running from Avonmouth and Rotterdam and the service will be maintained between Canada and ports in the United Kingdom and on the continent. The various Canadian services of the Cunard Line and the C. N. R. system will, in effect, become a single transportation unit between Europe and the Dominion and Canada. The agreement becomes operative at once.

BRITISH DESTROY TWO ZEPPELINS

No Survivors of Dirigible Which Fell Into Saloniki Harbor.

NAVAL GUNS SURE

Zepplin Was Brought Down While Scouting Off Schleswig Coast.

Enemy's Attacks Made Against Craters Met With Stubborn Resistance and Yielded Him No Results

Many Officers and Men Win Distinction.

CANADIAN HEADQUARTERS, IN FRANCE (via London, May 5).—Warm and bright weather marked the closing week of April. Under favorable conditions aviators were unusually active. German and British machines hovered constantly over the Canadian lines and aerial combats were frequent. From time to time artillery duels developed on each section of our front.

At various points bombing attacks were attempted by the enemy. One such assault was delivered against a battalion of the Royal Highlanders of Canada. Late in the afternoon the front and support lines of this unit were subjected to a bombardment of heavy shells, mortar bombs and rifle grenades. Steady retaliation by our field batteries and howitzers failed to check the enemy's fire, which gradually increased in severity.

Foe Rushes Crater

Finally it became concentrated on a narrow section of the front line and the zone immediately behind it. Two hours after sunset a party of Germans rushed a crater held as an advance post by the Montserratians. High explosive shells had incapacitated the majority of the garrison and buried its reserve of bombs, but the few men who were able to do so, including Pte. G. Gill, D. Woods and A. Morley, fought and fired at the enemy, causing him several casualties.

Having entered the crater the Germans commenced searching the debris of entrenchments for wounded and bombing remains. Our snipers, however, after awhile they sent up a mass of flares and under the impression that a signal for further reinforcements, Private G. Gill, D. Woods and A. Morley, advanced the unequal struggle and retired on their battalions. Pte. Morley, who was badly wounded in the face by a bomb, succeeded in making his way unaided to one of our dressing stations.

Spurred Fire on Germans

As soon as definite information was received at battalion headquarters, as to what had occurred, our artillery and trench mortar batteries opened a tense fire on the German trenches and on the space between them and the front line.

Lieut. B. M. Given, bombing officer of the battalion, went out with four of his men to investigate the situation and a party under Lieut. A. W. Alcholson was sent forward over ground swept by the hostile artillery to reinforce the garrison of the front trench. On reaching the crater the men found it abandoned by the enemy, who had left it in one of his number, head. Fostering his bombers as sentries, Lieut. Given returned for reinforcements and when a fresh garrison had been brought up the work of restoring the entrenchments and recovering our dead was undertaken.

In the course of the hostile bombardment on this occasion, Capt. F. W. Peterson was wounded in the head and had several teeth knocked out by shrapnel. Nevertheless he remained at his post until relieved three hours later.

Lieut. F. J. Rowan was struck in the leg but declined to leave his men until the situation had cleared.

Lieut. F. W. Mingo, who was in charge of a wiring squad at another point when the attack commenced, withdrew his party to safe cover and then endeavored to join his company in the front line. While passing through the enemy's violent artillery barrage he was hit in the arm by a shrapnel.

Attack Forestalled

A few days later the enemy directed the fire of many guns and mortars onto the trenches of a western cavalry battalion. Between two and six o'clock in the afternoon over 2000 shells were swung into this area, causing considerable havoc and damage to our defensive system. Undismayed by the intensity of the fire, our men clung to their trenches, and with admirable fortitude held on, even to the most advanced positions. Opposite to them the fierce retaliation of our artillery was wrecking the German trenches, and there is little doubt but that the stubborn tenacity of the battalion, coupled with the splendid work of the artillery, prevented the delivery of an impending attack.

Bravery Peascey

Later in the week the battalion was complimented by the commander in chief in person on its steadiness under this trying ordeal. During the bombardment a large mine-thrower shell pitched into a trench close to one of our machine guns. It crashed through the fire step. Instantly Lance Corp. John Peascey of Vancouver, rushed forward, picked up the heavy mine and threw it out of the trench. As it cleared the parapet it exploded in the air. But for Corp. Peascey's gallantry the

(Continued on Page 11, Column 1.)

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