

BRITISH WARSHIPS AND AEROPLANES BOMBARD EL ARISH, IN EGYPT

Town Situated on the Turkish Line Between Syria and Egypt Attacked by British Forces and Fort There May be Destroyed.

London, May 19, 2.14 p.m.—British warships and aeroplanes have bombarded the town of El Arish, in Egypt near the border of Palestine, and are believed to have destroyed the fort there, it was announced officially to-day. El Arish is on the Turkish line of communications from Syria to Egypt.

El Arish is a fortified town of Egypt on the Mediterranean, about 75 miles to the east of Quatia at which point fighting occurred recently between Turkish and British troops. It lies on the main high road from Palestine to the Suez canal paralleling the coast.

The British have permitted comparatively little information regarding the military situation on this front to become known, but so far as can be gathered from the infrequent official bulletins the fighting has been confined to comparatively small forces. There has been nothing to indicate that an invasion of Egypt on a large scale is being attempted, although the reference in to-day's official announcement to the Turkish line of communication implies an organized military effort.

The text of the British official statement says: "The general officer commanding in

Egypt reports that our ships, aeroplanes and seaplanes successfully bombarded El Arish, an important post on the enemy line of communications from Syria to Egypt, on the morning of May 18. The ships bombarded the fort southwest of the town and are believed to have reduced it to ruins.

"The aerial attack was divided into two phases. The seaplanes opened the bombardment, being followed later by the aeroplanes. The latter were given orders to engage hostile machines and to give special attention to the enemy troops and camp. A column of troops about 1,000 strong was seen south of the town on the march and three bombs exploded among them. All the camps were effectively bombarded.

"All the ships and machines returned safely. "Weather conditions during the past week have been abnormal, intense heat being experienced day and night. Under these conditions the health of the troops remains good.

"Lieut-General Sir Bryan Mahon has assumed command on the western frontier of Egypt and Lieut-General Lake is now in command of the British troops at Saloniki."

WHAT IS STATUS OF KITCHENER?

Colonel Churchill Asks Questions Pertaining to His Salary.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, May 19 (Montreal Gazette cable)—Colonel Churchill in the House of Commons yesterday asked when an opportunity would be given for discussing the salary of the Secretary of State for War, Bonar Law, the Colonial Secretary, asked that the question be postponed till the return of the Premier on Monday. Since Sir William Robertson's appointment as chief of staff, with greatly extended powers, the exact character of Lord Kitchener's duties at the War Office have been the subject of frequent discussion. Colonel Churchill's question is a clear indication that he has definitely thrown in his lot with the so-called "ginger" party in parliament.

SEAGRAM ENTRY IS THE FAVORITE

Smallest Field in Years at Running of King's Plate.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Toronto, May 19.—For the grand running of the King's plate at the Woodbine track to-morrow the oldest fixture run continuously on this continent, the Seagram entry is an overwhelming favorite. The field will be the smallest in years on account of bad training weather. Outside of the Seagram lot, Sir J. S. Hendrie's Last Spark, C. A. Crew's Old Pop, and Johnny Austin are the only certain starters.

Three of the largest steamboats on the Mississippi River have been chartered as sleeping quarters for the 1,000 Chicago Democrats who will invade St. Louis during national convention week.

AUSTRIANS SAID TO HAVE TAKEN COSTABELLA

Statement From Vienna Says They Have Crossed Luan Valley.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Berlin, May 19 (By wireless to Sayville)—Austrian troops are continuing to advance at points on the Italian front, the official statement of May 18 says, although the Italians are undertaking vigorous counterattacks. The Austrians crossed the Luan valley and captured Costabella.

"The official Austrian report of May 18 is as follows: "Italian front: In the coastal region and on the Carinthian sector artillery operations were impeded by fog. Southeast of Montafone the Italians attempted to recapture positions near Bagni which they lost recently, but they were repulsed.

"In the Colli Lana district repeated hostile attacks were made without success. In the southern Tyrol Austro-Hungarian troops attacked and captured the frontier ridge of Magio, between the Astico and Leno valleys, crossed the Luan valley southeast of Piazza and took Costabella. They repulsed several hostile attacks south of Moschero, on the Zegnatorta.

"We captured yesterday more than 900 Italians, among whom were 12 officers, and took eighteen cannon and machine guns.

"The official Italian reports of May 16 and 17, state that the Austro-Hungarian losses in these engagements were enormous. These reports were invented in order to diminish the impression made by the Italian retreat. The losses of the enemy can be estimated only by those who hold the battlefield. The Italians are not in that position. The Austro-Hungarians, while appreciating at its full value the sacrifice of every brave soldier, are able to declare that the Austro-Hungarian losses have been exceedingly small, thanks to the ability of the infantry, the powerful protection given by the artillery, and the experience in war of the commanders."

PROGRESSING DAILY.

Berlin, Thursday, May 18, via London, May 19.—The Austrian offensive to the south and southeast of Rovereto is making progress daily. The Austrian front already has been advanced five miles in places.

"These gains have been made in the face of great difficulties. The mountains are still covered with snow. The Austrians fought their way ascending and descending slopes varying in altitude as much as 4,000 feet within a mile. Despatches from Austrian headquarters indicate the successes achieved are due to the superiority of the artillery, which has such a crushing effect that it is possible to launch infantry attacks after comparatively short preparation.

Captures of men and war materials are increasing daily. The number of prisoners now exceeds 7,300. The Austrians also have taken 31 cannon and 35 machine guns.

The positions captured have been in the hands of the Italians for months. They include points to which the Italians attached the greatest strategic importance. For example there fell into the hands of the Austrians on Folgaria plateau an order issued by the Italian division commander, in which the plateau was characterized as a position of fundamental importance to be held at all hazards.

Churches which fail to extend to women members the right of a voice in their affairs were criticized by delegates to the Mississippi Valley suffrage conference in Minneapolis.

AUGUSTINE BIRRELL UP AS WITNESS BEFORE ROYAL COMMISSION

Former Chief Secretary of Ireland Put on the Stand to Tell What He Knew of the Revolt—Carson's Inclusion in the Cabinet Had Bad Effect in Ireland.

London, May 19.—11.31 a.m.—Augustine Birrell, who resigned as chief secretary for Ireland after the Sinn Fein revolt, appeared to-day as a witness before the Royal Commission, which is conducting an inquiry into the Irish rebellion. The presence of the chief secretary aroused keen interest in view of the dramatic testimony given by Sir Matthew Nathan, former secretary for Ireland at yesterday's hearing.

Sir Matthew testified that the government had had advance information regarding the German plans for aiding the Irish rebels and Mr. Birrell was expected to give more details on this point.

At the outset of the hearing Mr. Birrell stated that he had read Sir Matthew Nathan's statement and that he did not know that there were any additions or modifications he wished to make. He then read a statement which he had prepared and which he described as dealing in a general manner with Sinn Feinism.

"If the Home Rule Bill had not been placed on the statute books there would have been a great explosion of rage and disappointment, both in Ireland and in the United States and what would have assumed alarming proportions. The events in the Ulsters and the gun-running at Lorne by the Ulsterites in 1914 undoubtedly had a great effect on disloyalists elsewhere."

Ireland had presented an unbroken front at the outbreak of the war through the patriotism of John Redmond, Mr. Birrell continued, but there were many who did not agree with his attitude. It was impossible to overestimate the effect which the advent of the Ulster leader, Sir Edward Carson, to the cabinet had exercised upon the minds of the people of Ireland. If Mr. Redmond had accepted office in the same cabinet he would not have remained leader of the Irish party.

two or three times that he could get the price down, to where General Hughes wanted it. He did not know what Mr. Yoakum's method of handling the contract was to be and as for getting a commission himself, he had never thought of it at that time."

The witness then made reference to the present "German inquiry."

Asked as to his meaning he stated: "This inquiry, which I have always had in my mind as emanating from German sources."

The fuse contracts were executed on June 19th and 20th in July, Yoakum informed Col. Allison that he was going to make a commission of which Allison understood he was to share one half. He had never had any conversations with General Hughes while the contract was being negotiated except as to the financial standing and ability of the two United States fuse firms to carry out the contract and had never been in Ottawa while Cadwell, Yoakum or Bassick were there.

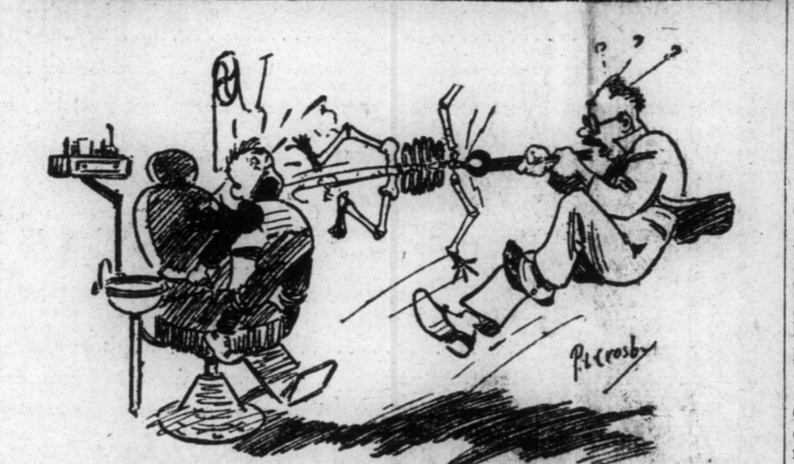
DID NOT TELL HUGHES Col. Allison then admitted to Mr. Hellmuth that he had not reported to General Hughes that Yoakum was going into the fuse business on a commission basis. Neither had he reported to the minister that he himself was to get a commission. "I am very sorry now if a wrong impression was given in any way reflecting on General Hughes by my not reporting the fact," said the witness.

May Cancel Licenses. By Special Wire to the Courier. Winnipeg, May 19.—The Free Press says the government is considering the advisability of introducing at next session of the Legislature a bill cancelling all hotel licenses.

Capt. Cane Killed. By Special Wire to the Courier. Winnipeg, May 19.—Capt. Frank E. Cane, who is reported killed in action prior to the war, lecturer in classics at Manitoba College.

Ice cream manufacturers in New York have boosted the price of their product because it costs more to deliver it as a result of the higher price of gasoline and hay.

COURIER'S DAILY CARTOON



Thought Happened When He Had His First Tooth Pulled.

ALD. GERVAIS OF MONTREAL IS MENTIONED

National Box & Packing Company Says He Demanded Money.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

St. Hyacinthe, Que., May 19.—A sensation has been caused here by letters from the National Box and Packing Company, Limited, Montreal, addressed to Mayor Rene Marin, accusing Ald. A. Gervais, of this city, of having demanded money from them for his aldermanic influence in securing concessions from the St. Hyacinthe municipal council for the establishment of a plant of the National Box and Packing Company at St. Hyacinthe.

The letters of accusation notify the St. Hyacinthe council that the proposal to establish a plant in that city has been called off as a result of the alderman's demands.

Ald. Gervais said the accusations are false. He admits meeting members of the company, both in St. Hyacinthe and Montreal, but says his actions were quite regular.

Another German.

Amsterdam, May 18, via London, May 19.—Dr. Heinz, of Leipzig, former National Liberal member of the German Reichstag, has been appointed under secretary of state in the Turkish finance ministry.

SHIPS GATHER TO CARRY TROOPS

Austrians Making Ready to Make Big Attack on Avlona.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Paris, May 19.—One hundred and fifty steamers had been assembled at the Hungarian seaport of Fiume to transport troops, munitions and supplies under protection of the Austro-Hungarian fleet to Durazzo, Albania. This information was received here to-day in advices from Innsbruck. It is supposed here that the Austrians intend to make a strong attack on the Albanian town of Avlona, which is occupied by the Italians.

Price of Bread.

There was a meeting of Brantford bakers last night to discuss the raising of the price of bread to seven cents. It is understood that one baker objected and that the matter is still in abeyance.

The Panama Canal authorities are taking special precautions to safeguard the canal locks, owing to rumors that attempts might be made to dynamite them.

With a bullet in her brain and her skull fractured, Miss Mary Be Mordecai, prominent in society circles in Baltimore, is at the point of death in Mercy Hospital.

Montclair women teachers were ordered to carry pincushions on their spring outing, because in past tents have been damaged through use as receptacles for hats.

President Wilson, before the National Press Club, said it sometimes is necessary to knock a man down to retain his respect and "for the sake of his own soul."

GREAT SEND-OFF FOR SGT. MOUNCE

125th Band, a Company of Soldiers, Crowds and Cheers.

Sergt. Jim Mounce was given a great send-off this afternoon when he started on his return to the front. He left by the radial to take in Hamilton en route and the 125th band and D company under Capt. Jordan gave him a surprise send-off. They assembled on the Market Square and headed a parade of Jim's friends. The Sergeant was in Mr. J. H. Spence's car, together with Sgt. Wallace and Mr. L. Anguish. He was heartily cheered.

There was a meeting of Brantford bakers last night to discuss the raising of the price of bread to seven cents. It is understood that one baker objected and that the matter is still in abeyance.

The Panama Canal authorities are taking special precautions to safeguard the canal locks, owing to rumors that attempts might be made to dynamite them.

With a bullet in her brain and her skull fractured, Miss Mary Be Mordecai, prominent in society circles in Baltimore, is at the point of death in Mercy Hospital.

Montclair women teachers were ordered to carry pincushions on their spring outing, because in past tents have been damaged through use as receptacles for hats.

President Wilson, before the National Press Club, said it sometimes is necessary to knock a man down to retain his respect and "for the sake of his own soul."

DENSE FORESTS MAKE FIGHTING VERY DIFFICULT

Many Obstacles to be Overcome in East African Campaign.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, May 19.—A Central News despatch quotes from the Natal Mercury accounts of the difficulties confronting the British fighting forces in East Africa, furnished by an officer of the East Africa Mounted Rifles, who formerly was a coffee planter at Nairobi. This officer said the principal difficulty was the great density of the bush, which made effective scouting almost impossible and provisioning troops very difficult.

Of the ingenuity of the Germans there is no doubt, as the following incident will prove. Roundabout Tanga, where the Lancashires landed, is a considerable big country. The natives have a device whereby they place hollow logs in trees to enable them to construct their hives, and from these the natives collect honey. In one place the Germans tied a whole lot of these logs together, and attached them to wire in long grass. They also invented a plan which caused a white flag to jump up when anyone came in contact with the wire, thus being the signal for them to turn machine guns on the spot. As a party of Lancashires had the ill-luck to stumble over the wire, with the result that dozens of beehives fell and up sprang the white flag revealing their whereabouts. The Lancashires immediately had bees and bullets to contend with, and between the two had a hot time.

P. C. Ollie Jeffries.

Another returned soldier has been added to the Brantford police force in the person of Ollie Jeffries of Galt, a well known base ball player, having been a member of Brantford's celebrated team of 1905. More recently Mr. Jeffries lived in Stratford, where he also played baseball. He enlisted early in 1915, joining the 34th battalion, and was invalided home with an injured knee a short time ago. Having recovered from this injury, he joined the local police force here a few days ago, and will be welcomed by old time baseball fans of this city.

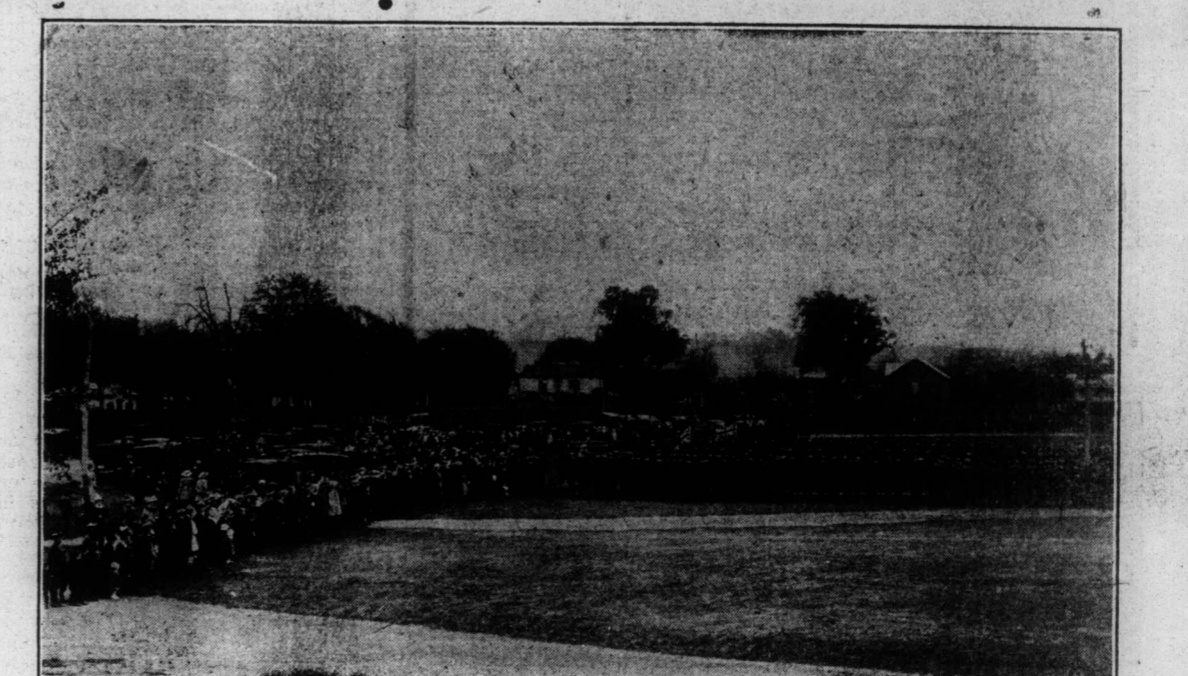
Called to Bar.

The name of Albert Hawley Boddy, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Boddy of this city, appears among those who were yesterday sworn in before Mr. Justice Riddell, Toronto, as full-fledged barristers-at-law. The Toronto News says: In welcoming the barristers, one of whom, Mr. Albert H. Boddy, was in uniform, his Lordship said: "I notice that one among you is in khaki. I hope that others will adopt the uniform later and go to the aid of your country."

The war has caused Italy to put an embargo on the export of her chief food product, macaroni, the American consul at Genoa reports.



Scene at the presentation of the colors donated by Mrs. W. F. Cockshutt to the 125th Battalion. The picture shows the consecration ceremony by Major Williams, senior chaplain of Military District No. 2, Chaplain Lavell is standing in rear of him, and Lt.-Col. Cutcliffe and other officers near by.



Scene at the presentation of colors to the 125th Battalion. The regiment marching past with the colors as the spectators stood and cheered.

THEATRE

FEATURE BILL.

CHAPLIN
Year Comedian

ON CARMEN
of Laughter

JUNT & CO.

FUN SHOP
entertainers—6

FREDERICK
National Star

PIDER
ry in Five Parts

Opera House

AKER, MGR.

May 19

Same Superb Cast and Massive Scenic Production That Has Played Three Times at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto.

BUY BATES' POST

IN

AMAR

E TEXTMAKER

A Sumptuous Persian Love Play by Richard Walton Tully, author of "The Bird of Paradise."

75c, 50c and 25c.
STORE. Mail orders NOW after Performance

Theatre

MANAGEMENT

10c

TUESDAY

LANDON'S LEGACY

AND THURSDAY

Almost a Widow, "Patriot Willful Way."

SATURDAY

Play of Hate, "Father and Mabel," "Love and Artillery."

THEATRE

ess Players

DAY : SATURDAY

Against Her

medy Drama

Photo Plays

AND 20 CENTS

Picture Shows

They Are Spoiled

on of the year to walls. Let us new PICTURE and quote you

BOOKSTORE

160 COLBORNE ST.