

YOU'LL BE SURE TO FIND IT IN "The MAIL and ADVOCATE"

THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

Official Organ of The Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland.

Vol. II. No. 24.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1915.

Price:—1 cent.

24 Nfld. Naval Reservists Reported Lost in The "Viknor"

LONDON, Jan. 30.—The casualty list issued last night, shows that the British armoured merchant vessel *Viknor*, which was lost off the coast of Ireland several days ago, carried a crew of 258 men, composed of Naval Reserve men and boys belonging to the mercantile marine, all of whom perished. Among the crew were twenty-four Royal Naval Reserve Men from Newfoundland.

OFFICIAL BULLETINS TELL OF SOME BIG ADVANTAGES TO ALLIES IN THE WEST

French Government Reports a Satisfactory Day Along the Whole Front With Some Gains

ENEMY'S LOSSES ON 25th OVER 20,000

More Than Three Hundred Bodies Found in Front of French Trenches—Official Reply to German Stories

(British Official Bulletin).

London, Jan. 29.—The French Government reports a satisfactory day along the whole front.

South of Lys, British artillery swept the routes and concentration points of German troops.

In the region of Craonne the French have recaptured the whole of the disputed ground, their total loss being about eight hundred.

German attacks in Argonne and St. Mihiel were completely defeated.

Progress was made in the Vosges and Alsace.

The losses of the enemy between Ypres and Vosges from the 25th to the 27th appear to exceed 20,000.

The Russian Government reports a successful offensive north of Tilsit, and in the Carpathians, especially south-west of Doukka, where the enemy abandoned ammunition and stores.

(French Official Bulletin)

Paris, Jan. 29.—During the night of 27th and 28th, the enemy didn't make any infantry attacks.

To the north-west of Zonnebekke the Germans bombarded strongly.

An artillery fight occurred on the Aisne.

In Argonne there was simple cannonading from enemy and ourselves.

In Alsace, north-west of Ammetz-viller, our troops maintained them-

selves in spite of violent bombardment on conquered ground during the day and organized themselves there.

Calm remained on the remainder of the front.

Paris, Jan. 29.—The 28th was only conspicuous by local actions which were favorable to the Allies.

In Belgium, in the Neuport region, our infantry took footing in Grands Dunes, the place spoken of in the communique of 17th January.

A German aeroplane has been brought to the ground by our cannons.

In Ypres, Lens and Arras sections there were artillery duels which at times were very violent. A few infantry attacks were started by the Germans, but were immediately repulsed by our fire.

In Soissons, Craonne and Rheims sections there is nothing to report.

Between Rheims and Argonne there was artillery fighting without much intensity.

Cost Germans Heavily

It is confirmed that the attack repulsed by us at Fontaine Madame on the night of the 27th and 28th cost the Germans heavily, more than three hundred corpses being found in front of our trenches.

On the heights of the Meuse and in Woivre the day was calm.

In the Vosges, there was artillery fighting, and our cannons at several points silenced batteries and German machine guns.

We have everywhere fortified our position on the ground gained on the 27th.

In the latest communique from German headquarters are three affirmations to which we reply: 1st, It is false that the enemy obtained any success in the Craonne region; 2nd, It is false that machine guns have been taken from us in Alsace; 3rd, It is false that our attacks of the 27th in the Vosges section have been repulsed.

We have gained and maintained ground for about four hundred meters.

Names of The Victims Are Not Yet Available

IN relation to the loss of the S.S. "Viknor" in which the public message to-day announces that 24 members of the Newfoundland Royal Naval Reserve have been lost, we immediately communicated with the Prime Minister to know if it was possible to obtain the names of the men, and received the following reply:

"Up to one o'clock to-day the Government had received no information in relation to the names of those who have been lost; nor indeed of the fact that any Newfoundlanders had been lost on the ship.

"On Wednesday, the 27th instant, I received a message from the Rev. R. H. Maddock, and also from Mr. Walter M. Kelly, of Brigus, Conception Bay, asking for information regarding the same matter. I immediately requested His Excellency the Governor to cable the Admiralty to obtain details, but so far nothing has been received.

"After reading the public despatch this morning I called upon His Excellency the Governor, and he is hoping to have a reply early during the day.

"Immediately upon the receipt of information regarding the names of those lost, if the news should unfortunately be true, arrangements have been made to telegraph the same to the relatives of the missing men."

Hot Air Wave Strikes U.S. Parliament 'Spreadeagleism' Characterises Session

Washington, Jan. 30.—In a final appeal in the House of Representatives for a larger navy Representative Robson, of Alabama, declared it was his firm conviction that the United States has secured peace with Japan only by giving assurances of a speedy retirement from the Philippines.

"I am further convinced," Robson continued, "that our first inquiry into the intentions of Japan in seizing Kiaoo Chow and the Islands in the Pacific will not be followed up, at least by the Administration and that Japan as the price of peace will be given a free hand in China with the prospect of a complete overthrow of the 'open-door' policy, leaving China to its fate to become a governed nation, while the commerce of America which, in cotton goods alone, fell off

over \$20,000,000 in Manchuria, after Japanese occupation, will be at the mercy of a competition, while the overthrow of the balance of power in the Pacific would lead to an inevitable war."

Hobson reviewed the situation in Europe, referring to the criticism of America's conduct by both sides in the present war and to the arbitrary treatment of American ships and declared that the situation closely paralleled the conditions which led to the war with France in 1890 and to that with England in 1812.

Napoleon's resentment which led to the war with France in 1890, he said, was not so intense as the growing resentment of Germany to-day at the great source of supply of war material her enemy and her allies are finding in America.

Britain's attitude toward our purchase of the ships of Germany is nothing short of menacing.

Representative Saunders, of Virginia, arguing against the contention that preparation for war is a guarantee of peace, suggested that the Emperor of Germany was being looked upon with mistrust now because of the preparation Germany had made for the present war.

He asked if anybody believed there would have been a war in Europe if President Wilson had occupied the place of the Emperor?

Representative Helm, of Kentucky, said England had had three quarters of the earth's surface under militarism for fifty-three years and asked which was the greater evil, England or Germany.

ONLY LOCAL ACTIONS NOW REPORTED

Interest in Russian Campaign Transferred to East Prussia and the Carpathians

FLANDERS ARMIES ARE RECUPERATING

Position in the Balkans Where Bulgaria Proves Stumbling Block—Skirmish With Turks

London, Jan. 29.—With the armies of France in Flanders, recuperating after the strenuous fighting of the earlier days of the week, only local actions are being reported.

Interest in the war situation has been transferred to the Russian offensive in East Prussia, and the attempt of a strong Austro-German army to dislodge the troops of Emperor Nicholas from their positions in the Carpathians.

In East Prussia the Russian offensive has developed in the extreme north, where renewed fighting seems to confirm the belief that definite efforts to advance north of the Mazurian Lakes district, where previously the Russians were defeated, have been decided upon by the Russian General Staff.

Vitaly Movement.

More vital to both sides, however, apparently, is the campaign in the Carpathians, where, southwest of Dukla Pass, the Russians have delivered an energetic attack and, according to their account of the combat, compelled the Austro-Germans to retreat leaving behind ammunition and stores.

This attack, according to military observers, indicated an attempt by the Russians to turn the flank of the Teuton Allies, and, if it should prove successful, observers say, it would have serious consequences for the large Austro-German army in and about the Carpathians.

Russian military experts anticipate that the Austrians will deliver their main attack with their extreme right in western Bukovina, with the hope of achieving a signal victory, and thus give Roumania cause to pause. Only one thing is holding Roumania in check at present, it is stated, and that

GERMANS MUTINOUS

Thousands of Kaiser's Reserves Sent Home Prisoners For Court Martial

Paris, Jan. 30.—The following despatch was received today from the North of France: The German line in West Flanders is still being strengthened in order to offset British reinforcements which are being moved toward the front from the Seine Valley, where they have been kept since their arrival in transports.

Many of the German soldiers of the Reserve Classes are proceeding unwillingly into the West Flanders death trap. Thousands of German soldiers recently passed Eastward through Roulers with their hands tied behind their backs. They had refused to participate in further fighting and were being sent back from the front for trial by court martial.

German prisoners report that food is very scarce in the German army and that many soldiers have openly mutinied.

HEROIC NUN GETS LEGION OF HONOR

Paris, Jan. 26.—Sister Julie Rigard, a nun, who was acting as nurse in a military hospital, has received the Legion of Honor for her valor under fire. She prevented a village from burning, and secured food for wounded men who were isolated under heavy fire.

is the uncertainty as to what action Bulgaria would be likely to take.

Bulgaria's Demands.

Bulgaria, it is asserted, is still demanding a part of Macedonia, now under Serbian rule as a price of her neutrality. This Serbia is reported to be not willing to part with. Greece, it is asserted, also objects to Bulgaria extending her boundaries westward, as taking this ground would place a wedge between her and her ally Serbia. Thus, seemingly, the whole Balkan situation remains unsolved, and it is stated it is not likely to be cleared up until the demands of Bulgaria are satisfied.

Another skirmish with the Turkish advance guard not far from Suez, is reported from the British forces in Egypt. It was not of a serious character. On the other hand, British Marines are said to have landed at Alexandria, Asiatic Turkey, and have cut the telegraph wires.

TURKS GET ANOTHER WHIPPING

Russians Rout Turkish Army in Persia and Capture Tabriz, Capital City

FORCED MOSLEMS TO BEAT RETREAT

Then Whole Force Said To Have Fallen Back to a Position Fifty Miles South of Tabriz

London, Jan. 30.—The Paris correspondent of Reuter's Telegraph Company telegraphs that he learns the Russians have routed the Turkish troops in Persia and have entered Tabriz, capital of the Province of Azerbaijan, which the Turks occupied early in January.

Paris, Jan. 30.—The Turkish forces have suffered a fresh defeat in Persia following those inflicted upon them North of Erzerum, according to a despatch received by The Matin.

The Turkish right wing, which invested Azerbaijan, the despatch says, was routed by the Russians, who have returned to Tabriz. The Turks are said to be retreating towards Maragha, fifty miles South of Tabriz.

EXPECT ATTACK SOON FROM BIG TURKISH FORCE

London, Jan. 30.—The Times' Cairo correspondent telegraphs that the recent brushes with Turkish advanced parties are likely to prove the prelude to further unimportant encounters with small bodies of the enemy who have pushed forward, presumably with the object of ascertaining the strength of the Allies' positions.

Thus far there is no proof that the enemy's main forces have yet been definitely committed to an advance across the Sinai Peninsula against the Suez Canal defences.

George St. Bible Class

George Street Adult Bible Class on Sunday afternoon, commencing at 2.30. Rev. H. Boyle will deliver an address on Temperance. Every member is asked to attend. Visitors welcome.

U.S. UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO INTERFERE IN TRADE WITH THE BELLIGERENTS

Allies Are Benefitting Most by the American Open-Door Policy Because They Control the Seas

THE U.S. ITSELF SET PRECEDENT

As Far as Copper is Concerned—Washington Authorities Straitly Define Position of the U.S.A.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 27.—The United States government has issued a lengthy defence of its interpretation of the rights and duties of a neutral in the European war.

A document, five thousand words long, prepared by President Wilson, Secretary Bryan and Counsellor Robert Lansing, of the state department, after several days of consultation, was made public in the form of a letter from the secretary of state to Senator Stone, of Missouri, chairman of the senate committee on foreign affairs relations.

While the letter is a reply to an inquiry from senator Stone for information as a result of complaints made in the press, and in letters from various parts of the country, charging the Washington government with unfairness to Germany and Austria, it is also intended as a pronouncement of policy on some questions of neutrality previously unexplained.

After answering separate and specific charges, and calling attention to

the fact that the United States, as well as Germany and every government which in any way has infringed upon the rights of this country, the letter concludes with the following declaration on the much discussed question of exportation of war munitions:

A Matter of Might.

"If any American citizens, partisans of Germany and Austria-Hungary feel that this administration is acting in a way injurious to the cause of those countries, this feeling results from the fact that on the high seas the German and Austro-Hungarian naval power is inferior thus far, to the British. It is the business of a belligerent operating on the high seas, not the duty of a neutral, to prevent contraband from reaching an enemy. Those in this country who sympathize with Germany and Austria-Hungary appear to assume that some obligation rests on this government, in the performance of its neutral duty, to prevent all trade in contraband, and thus to equalize the difference due to the relative strength of the belligerents.

"No such obligation exists; it would be an unequal act, an act of partiality on the part of this government, to adopt such a policy, if the executive had the power to do so.

"If Germany and Austria-Hungary cannot import contraband from this country, it is not because of this fact, the duty of the United States, to close its markets to the Allies. The markets of this country are open upon equal terms to all the world, to every nation, belligerent or neutral."

Pres. Coaker Expresses Sympathy for Bereaved

NEWFOUNDLAND has been called upon to pay a portion of the price of Admiralty, and twenty-four of our brave sons of the Naval Reserve have passed into the Great Beyond with the loss of the armed merchant steamer *Viknor* off the coast of Ireland several days ago.

To all who were bereaved by this hard blow we offer our deepest sympathy. It is a terrible bereavement for the whole country—more terrible still for those whose loved ones went down in the ill-fated ship.

Those brave sailor lads are the first offering made by Newfoundland upon the altar of sacrifice for the safety of the Empire. Their names will be forever enshrined in glory and their deaths will mark the initiation of our Colony into the brotherhood of nations comprised within the great British Empire.

They have passed into the Great Beyond in the performance of their duty as Britons. Our country will show its appreciation by making proper provision for the dependents of those brave lads.

Let us all bear this sacrifice bravely and remember that our forefathers made many such to make and keep us free and this is part of our payment towards handing down unimpaired to our successors the mighty Empire and its laws and institutions which make for freedom and justice—glorious heritage from a glorious ancestry.

GOD be with those bereaved families, so suddenly called upon to mourn those dead heroes who sank with the *Viknor*.

W. F. COAKER, President F.P.U.