

GERMANS AGAIN FAIL IN DRIVE ON DEAD MAN HILL

Enemy is Repulsed With Heavy Losses in Latest Attempt on Verdun

Their Previous Claim to Gains There Given Lie by French War Office.

A Paris Cable says—in the Verdun sector the Germans repeated this afternoon their attempt to gain possession of the height of La Mort Homme to the west of the Meuse, in which they were defeated on Tuesday. To-day's effort achieved even less success than that which preceded it and the Germans, failing to secure a foothold anywhere in the French lines, were forced to fall back to the Bois des Corbeaux.

No sooner had they begun their retreat than the French artillery opened a concentrated fire upon them, causing serious losses in their ranks. This was the only offensive attempted by the Germans in this sector to-day, although on the right bank of the river the artillery of both sides greatly increased its activity in the regions of Douaumont and Vaux. German troops in movement in this region were brought under the French fire on several occasions, suggesting that these troops may have been intended for some infantry action which was blocked by the effectiveness of the French guns. Both artilleries continued the cannonading on the slopes between the Woëvre plain and the heights of the Meuse.

Last night the French artillery gave particular attention to the district west of Douaumont, where the Germans were building defence works. The French bombardment of German positions in the region of Neuport, Belgium, yesterday, resulted, according to reports of French patrols, in completely destroying the German communications trenches about La Plage, and a number of enemy fatalities.

NO FOOTING ON DEAD MAN'S HILL

The following statement was issued by the French general headquarters to-day:

"The German statement of March 15 claims that German troops have advanced their line west of the Corbeaux wood, on the height of Mort Homme (Dead Man's Hill). The truth is that in the great attack, which was repulsed on a front of

more than fifty kilometres, the Germans have succeeded in penetrating an element of our front line trenches at the hill No. 265, of which we hold the trenches on the counter slope. They have never taken any footing on Dead Man's Hill (Hill No. 295), which we still hold."

Thursday night's official statement says: "To the north of the Alsas there has been artillery activity on both sides in the region of Bois des Bâtes, south of Ville aux Bois. "In the Argonne we carried out a concentrated fire on the German organizations to the northwest of the road from Varennes and on batteries in action on the outskirts of Montfaucon.

"To the west of the Meuse, after a very violent bombardment of our Bethincourt-Cumieres front, the Germans launched during the course of the afternoon a powerful attack against our positions in La Mort Homme (Dead Man's Hill). The assaulting masses, which came on like waves, were not able to gain footing at any point and were forced back in the direction of the Bois des Corbeaux, where our concentrated fire, let loose immediately, inflicted heavy losses on them.

"On the right bank of the Meuse the activity of the artillery redoubled to the east and west of Douaumont, as well as around the village of Vaux. No infantry attack was carried out, however. Our batteries took under their fire on several occasions troops engaged in evolutions in that region. "In the Woëvre a rather spirited bombardment on both sides occurred in the sectors at the foot of the hills."

BRITISH REPORT.

London Cable—The British official statement of the campaign in the western zone reads:

"Last night the enemy made a feeble demonstration with bombs near the Hohenzollern redoubt. To-day we sprang mines, one to the southwest of Leos, with good effect. "There has been considerable artillery activity on both sides about Leos and Ypres."

tion to convince the Reichstag that in the controversy with the United States the course of yielding when the people clamored for "a firm stand" was the proper one.

VON TIRPITZ'S EXIT. It is an open secret that the sudden turmoil that has broken out within the ranks of the Reichstag delegates is a reflection of the general sentiment of the bulk of the nation which has long been fostering a feeling stronger than dislike for the United States.

Closely connected with the submarine question, is the resignation of Grand Admiral Von Tirpitz, officially confirmed yesterday. There is no concealing the nation-wide dissatisfaction over what is commonly interpreted as a shelving of the man who, through his indefatigable work of a half-century, has come to be idolized by the people as "the father of the German navy" and to whom the many naval exploits of the war on the part of the warships, auxiliary cruisers and commerce raiders have been directly attributed, not to speak of the submarine warfare.

The Government in confirming Von Tirpitz's resignation, hastened yesterday to assure the public that under his successor, Admiral Von Capelle, the U-boat warfare will be carried on without abatement or modification. To-day the Overseas News Agency in a semi-official statement supplements this by saying that Admiral Von Capelle's appointment as Minister of Marine is not of importance in relation to the question of submarine warfare, "since the direction of naval warfare is in the hands of the Chief of the Admiralty."

Nevertheless the agency in an evidently inspired article given out for dissemination abroad, points out that "the belief prevails in some quarters that the resignation of Admiral Von Tirpitz, as Minister of Marine, was connected with Emperor William's decision not to extend submarine warfare beyond the limits announced to neutrals in the German Government's memorandum and not to direct it against neutral ships."

CUNARD EXTENDS.

Buys Five Boats for Freight Line to Britain.

New York Report.—Announcement of the purchase of five steamships with a total tonnage of 31,087 tons gross, by the Cunard Line was made by the company here to-day. The ships will be used to carry freight between this port and Great Britain. Officials of the line said the ships already are in its service. They are all of British register. The ships and the new names they will be given by the Cunard Line are: The Anglo-Californian, renamed Vandalia; Anglo-Bolivian, renamed Vanovia; Don of Atride, renamed Valeria; Don of Ogil, renamed Valeria; and the Lucania, renamed Valeria.

DOMINION'S TRADE

Will Reach One and a Half Billion for Year.

Ottawa Report.—The total trade of Canada for the fiscal year ending March 31 next will in all probability reach the record figure of one and a half billion dollars, according to the monthly trade statement issued by Hon. Dr. Reid, Minister of Customs, this afternoon. The figures for the eleven months ended February last were \$1,300,000,000, and March should easily bring the total up to the one and a half billion mark. The principal feature of the statement is the large increase in the volume of exports over the corresponding period of 1915, the domestic exports for the eleven months of the present fiscal year being \$653,196,000, compared with \$364,299,000 for the same months of 1915. The exports of February last were double those of February, 1915, being \$83,000,000, against \$28,000,000.

CONSERVATIVE SUB. WARFARE

That is What German Officials See in Future

In Discussing Resignation of Von Tirpitz.

Berlin Cable, via London Cable.—German officials repeat the statement that submarine warfare will go on in the limits set by the German memorandum to neutral powers of last month, but that the demands of those who wished to see the indiscriminate torpedoing of "whatever comes in front of the torpedo tubes," to use the expression of one of those who advocate this policy, will not be fulfilled. This is also the deduction which those acquainted with the situation declare can be drawn from the resignation of Admiral von Tirpitz, which was fore-shadowed a few days ago by the reports of his illness. The conclusion is said to be strengthened by the fact that Admiral von Capelle has been chosen as the new Minister. He is known merely as an excellent administrative officer, not having had ship command in the last twenty-five years. During this period he has been at the Admiralty, first as an advisor, then as head of the administrative department. He was looked on as the right hand man of Admiral von Tirpitz until his retirement in last November. The Tages Zeitung, which has been one of the strongest supporters of Admiral von Tirpitz, says that it is "shaken by the news of the Admiral's resignation, and does not at present feel itself in a condition to make a comment thereon."

The Morgen Post says: "There will be universal regret that circumstances made the retirement of the Grand Admiral necessary. The reasons for this, and the inner relation of affairs with one another, cannot now be discussed, but it will be regretted that there was no other way out."

All the newspapers pay high compliment to the career of Admiral von Tirpitz the Berliner Tagblatt terms him "one of the few strong men of the post-Bismarckian era." The new Minister Admiral von Capelle, assisted in working out the fleet plans of Admiral von Tirpitz and he is thoroughly familiar with the executive and administrative work of the Imperial navy. He is just past sixty years of age. He entered the navy in 1872, and became an Admiral in 1913. His retirement last November was explained as being due to serious considerations of health. He was ennobled in 1915.

GAULT'S MOVE.

Princess Pats. Major Sues for Separation.

Montreal Report.—Major A. Hamilton Gault, of the Princess Patricia's, whose application for a divorce has been refused by the Senate, has instituted proceedings before the local courts, seeking to obtain a separation. This morning a motion calling for the taking of Major Gault's testimony before his return to the front, was granted by Mr. Justice MacLennan. Major Gault's testimony, it is understood, will be confined to certain correspondence said to have been exchanged between himself and his wife, the defendant in the proceedings for separation. The motion presented in chambers was granted without discussion.

SAVED FROM DROWNING.

Montreal Report.—Miss Ida Moreau skated into a hole in the ice on the St. Lawrence River at Longueuil and was saved from drowning by four friends forming a human chain, with Mr. Fred Biscornais, 637 St. Christophe street, at the water's edge. He himself narrowly escaped. This was his fourth experience in rescuing people from drowning.

ALLEGED EMBEZZLER CAUGHT.

San Antonio, Tex., Report.—Jos. Parsons Brown, wanted at Regina, Sask., on a charge of having embezzled between \$150,000 and \$200,000 was arrested here to-day by Charles Augustus Mahony, Superintendent of the Saskatchewan provincial police. Brown, it is alleged, obtained the money through Government contracts while he was in charge of big interests of the Canadian city.

It's when he is coming through the eye that a thirty year is apt to drink to the bottom of the glass.

AWFUL WORK OF THE '75'S AGAINST HUNS

Man Back From Verdun Tells of the Slaughter of the Germans There.

NO FEAR OF RESULT

Heroic French, Under Terrible Fire, Foodless, Have Beaten Off Foes.

London Cable—I have just returned from a short trip to the eastern front in France, toward Verdun, and from a visit to the first line trenches at another part of the line. The French are well prepared and officers and men are all cheerful and confident of success.

French artillery officers whom I met on the train from Bar-le-Duc to Paris on Sunday told me that the German fire had been slackening for three days, with an occasional heavy rain of shells at sundown. To prevent reserves being moved up, the Germans, they said, were wasting an enormous number of shells from their 5.9-inch guns on a curtain of fire which was really spraying the ground between the first and second lines of the French forces. A major said that his battery was shelled at the rate of six shots per minute for twenty-four hours, while battleplanes operated overhead, directing the gunfire and unsuccessfully dropping bombs. German aeroplanes also tried to drop bombs on a bridge leading to Verdun, to cut the French line of communication. The French anti-aircraft guns failed to hit the battleplanes, but succeeded in bringing down one Zeppelin on March 8 while it was flying over Verdun.

After having shelled his battery for twenty-four hours, the major said, the Germans tried to take his guns by assault. As they came on in close formation the "seventy-fives" mowed them down in hundreds. At one point there was a small gully in which the German dead were piled twenty-five feet high through the assailants trying again and again to advance over the bodies of their comrades. From the opening of the bombardment until the cessation of the infantry assaults, a period of thirty-six hours, the officers and men of the main battery on a hill outside Verdun had neither food nor water. This officer said he believed that the critical stage of the battle had passed.

AMBULANCE WORK.

Walter Stanley, an English ambulance driver attached to the French Red Cross, returned yesterday after working sixteen days rushing the wounded from Verdun to Bar-le-Duc. When this bombardment began the French wounded were placed in barracks at Verdun, which had been converted into a hospital. There was also a small hospital with 125 beds near the main battery on the south side of the city. Inside of three hours the latter was filled, while more than 500 were lying on stretchers outside. When the Germans began shelling the town the wounded had to be removed from the hospital. As there were not enough French motor ambulances to do the work, forty were rushed to Verdun from the British Red Cross. Each car had accommodation for five wounded on stretchers or eight seated. The French ambulances are better fitted, as the stretchers are slung on springs, while those of the British are set on solid rollers.

"No lights were allowed," said Mr. Stanley, "and the darkness, with shell holes in the roadway sometimes three feet deep, made driving the ambulances dangerous. To light a match would have meant instant death from the rifles of the French soldiers passing. One night I bumped into four soldiers lying in the middle of the road. They had dropped from their columns, worn out with fatigue. I helped them to the side of the road. They were not badly hurt."

"The fighting is all around Verdun, from which all civilians have been sent back a distance of thirty-five miles. The town is abandoned, and no food is to be had even as far back as Bar-le-Duc. "The French Red Cross has received valuable assistance from American and British organizations. The French surgeons are doing great work at Verdun, although there are not enough to handle the wounded. The spirit of officers and men throughout the bombardment and while suffering great agony from their wounds as they lay on stretchers, exposed to the rain and cold wind, was simply heroic."

ALLIES FOUGHT.

Turco-German Mission Ended in a Battle.

London Cable says—A sanguinary conflict took place between members of the Turco-German missions which went to Asia Minor to study the defenses in Angora, says a despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Athens dated last Tuesday, and delayed in transmission. "The despatch adds that the mission returned to Constantinople without achieving any result, owing to divergence in views of its members.

Wags—How does Stanbury rank as a detective? Wags—As, though how could'st even get a legend.

GOT DIVORCE.

Senate Recognized New Plea in Divorce Proceedings.

Ottawa Report.—The Senate to-day created a precedent in divorce legislation by granting annulment of the marriage of Mabel Mills, of Toronto to her husband, Edward B. Mills, on the ground of non-consummation of the marriage. Hitherto the only ground considered by the Senate as sufficient for the granting of divorce has been the ground of adultery. The Senate to-day granted the divorce in question, and admitted the constitutionality of the plea submitted by the counsel for the petitioner, Mr. A. H. Smith, barrister, of Ottawa. The marriage took place some thirteen years ago.

HOT FIGHTING ON THE ISONZO

Anstro-Italian Front Sees Hand-to-Hand Struggle.

With the Ally Power Gaining the Advantage.

London Cable says—Desperate attacks on the Austrian lines along the Isonzo are being continued by the Italians in their determined offensive in that region, according to the Austrian headquarters statement. On the Podgora heights the Italians were only driven back from the Austrian positions by bitter hand-to-hand fighting.

The Italian statement claims that some of these positions were captured, and states that there has been fierce fighting on the Carso for the possession of the positions captured by the Italians Tuesday in the San Martino zone. After severe artillery preparations the Austrians launched two strong attacks, and succeeded in reaching the brink of the new Italian trenches, but were on each occasion vigorously repulsed, leaving the ground covered with dead. Austrian artillery subsequently endeavored to force the evacuation of the trenches by the Italians, but the latter were enabled to hold the positions.

ITALIAN REPORT.

Rome Cable—The official statement from general headquarters says: "Artillery duels and minor infantry actions have resulted successfully for us in Lagorona valley on Astico Heights and in the Sugana valley. A thick fog yesterday impeded artillery activity on the Isonzo heights, but the firing was more intense on the hills to the west of Gorizia.

"There has been fierce fighting on the Carso for the possession of the position we captured Tuesday in the San Martino zone. After severe artillery and musketry preparation, the enemy launched two strong attacks and succeeded in reaching the brink of our new trenches, but was on each occasion vigorously repulsed, leaving the ground covered with dead.

"In the morning the enemy artillery renewed the attack, maintaining it with increasing violence until night, but the firmness of our infantry and the constant and effective support of our batteries enabled us to hold our positions.

"Along the rest of the front our detachments continued their attacks, wrecking the enemy's trenches with grenades in various places, inflicting losses and causing explosions."

SETTLE THEM ON THE LAND

Military Hospitals Commission Plans Help For Soldiers Returned From Battle Front.

Ottawa Report.—The Military Hospitals Commission at a meeting just concluded here, decided that a land settlement scheme for returned soldiers, which has been under discussion between the commission and the Economic and Development Commission for some time past, should shortly be submitted for consideration by the provinces.

Reports presented by the provincial commissions were very satisfactory, and it was stated that at the present juncture no man requiring work and able to work should be idle.

The commission has already taken steps to put into effect methods of elementary training in the convalescent homes, and electro-therapeutic and mechanical apparatus have been installed in some of them, notably in the Central Military Convalescent Home at Toronto, and the benefits are very marked. W. M. Dobell, who visited England and France to study methods adopted in functional and vocational training, has presented a report to the commission, which will be issued shortly. The commission is also urging the Government to appoint a permanent pensions board along the lines of the Railway Commission, consisting of three or five men, who would give their whole time to the work.

Five provinces were represented at the meeting—Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Manitoba.

SHORT ITEMS OF THE NEWS OF THE DAY

Germany Refused to Send Aid to the Turks in Mesopotamia.

SUGAR PRICES SOAR

Gallieni Resigns French War Ministry—Gen. Roque Succeeds.

All grades of sugar advanced 15c per cwt. in Toronto.

Toronto Board of Education rejected a plan to dismiss single employees and thereby virtually force their enlistment.

The Ancient Order of United Workmen authorized a revised financial basis to put the order on an actuarial footing.

Rev. F. E. Powell, rector of St. Barnabas' Church, Toronto, gave a pint of blood to save the life of a woman in his congregation.

Mr. Thomas Bradshaw was recommended as Finance Commissioner and City Treasurer of Toronto, his duties defined and salary fixed at \$15,000 per annum.

Petitions have been received by the Federal Government asking the disallowance of the Ontario legislation establishing the Ottawa Separate School Commission.

The trial of Sir Rodmond Roblin and two of his former colleagues on charges of conspiracy to defraud the Province of Manitoba will not come up at the present sittings.

An agreement has been reached for the Toronto, Niagara & Western Railway to enter Toronto over the C.N.R. North Toronto right of way, using only steam as motive power.

The interests of Austria and Portugal have been confided to the Spanish Minister at Lisbon. One of the old landmarks of Grafton has been removed by the destruction by fire of the Cameron homestead, one of the oldest residences in the village.

General Joseph Simon Gallieni, the French Minister of War, has resigned because of ill health, and General Charles Roque has been appointed to succeed him.

The Japanese steamer Shuiki Maru, which was reported disabled off Cape Race, has affected repairs and is now proceeding to New York City.

The resignation of Vol. de Archdeacon Dr. W. A. Young, as secretary-treasurer of the Anglican Diocese of Huron, was presented at a meeting of the Synod executive.

Mayor Church and the Toronto City Council entertained Lieut-Col. Windover, O. C., and the officers of the 74th Battalion, who will go overseas at an early date at a farewell banquet.

The beautiful home of David Hinnegan, Lambton Line, Sarnia, was completely destroyed by fire, nothing being saved. The loss was covered by insurance.

One of the pioneer settlers of Lambton County passed away in the person of Mrs. Elizabeth Hutchinson, relict of the late William Hutchinson, Sarnia Township, in her 86th year.

Germany has refused to send troops to Mesopotamia and Armenia to reinforce the Turks, according to a message transmitted by the Rome wireless to London. Another despatch from the same source says Austria has called to the colors the class of 1918.

BUTCHERING THE SERBIANS

Bulgar Conquerors Are Killing Them by Wholesale.

A Reign of Terror in All Macedonia.

Paris Cable.—The Serbian Press Bureau has issued a report of atrocities committed by Bulgars on the Serbian population in the frontier districts. The report says:

"The invaders, especially the Bulgars, are doing their utmost to exterminate the remnants of the conquered people. There is a veritable reign of terror in all Macedonia.

"Refugees say that life in Serbia under the heel of the conqueror is hopeless. For instance, the town of Skopje was wiped out through pure vandalism. The houses were wantonly destroyed to make refugees for the rebel softiery who also prey on the population, massacring them by scores. At Bitolj the majority of the population, particularly the priests and intellectuals, were assembled and ordered to march under guard to Sofia. "They never arrived at their ostensible destination. They were massacred to the last man. The Bulgarians themselves admit that an order to go to Sofia is tantamount to a death warrant."

"Boys will be boys," quoted the Wine Gay. "And lots of girls would like to be," added the Simple Man.