

60 BATTLES BY AVIATORS IN ONE DAY

British Planes Fought 27 Combats, and French Had 33 Fights.

MANY AIR RAIDS

Several German Machines Were Destroyed—Bombs Did Good Work.

Lindon Cable.—Unusual aerial activity, favored by the fine weather, is reported all along the British and French lines at the front, particularly in the region of Lille, Verdun and Metz.

Twenty-seven combats in the air took place on the British front. An albatross was attacked and driven down, wrecked, near Lille. Another was driven down north of Vitry in a damaged condition. A third, attacked by one of the British scouts, was seen to turn upside down near the ground. One of the British reconnaissance machines failed to return. It was seen to land under control in hostile territory. One of the British scout aeroplanes also is missing. A great deal of successful aerial photographic work was accomplished.

FRENCH AIRMEN BUSY

French aviators engaged in 33 aerial combats with German flyers to-day and brought down three of their opponents' machines. The French aeroplanes returning safely to their bases. A French squadron again bombarded the railway station of Metz-le-Sablon, just south of Metz. A French flyer brought down a German machine with which he became engaged north-west of Rezonville, and another was shot down by French aeroplanes in the region of the Bande-Sapt, Lorraine.

Last night French bombarding squadrons dropped bombs on camps and railway stations in the region to the north and north-west of Verdun. The points bombarded included camps in the region of Damvillers, Chaumont, Nantillois and Remagne, the railway stations of Briulles, Clerly, Apremont, Grand Pre, Metz, Arville, and between Metz and Thionville, and the hangars at Frescati. A German machine was brought down by one of the French flyers at Clair-Aisne.

FRENCH REPORT

Paris Cable.—The official communication issued by the War Office Wednesday night reads:

"In the region of Verdun there was great activity by the artillery of both sides in the sectors of Avocourt, Hill 304, and between Douaumont and Vaux. On the rest of the front there was no important event except quite lively mine fighting in the Argonne.

"In the course of the day one of our pilots in an air fight brought down a German aeroplane, which fell north-west of Rezonville. Another enemy aeroplane, shot down by one of ours, fell in the region of Ban de Sapt.

"To-day one of our squadrons bombarded the Metz-Sablons station, on which it dropped twenty-five shells of large calibre.

"In the region of Verdun the aerial activity was particularly important. Thirty-three combats took place, and three German aeroplanes were brought down. All our machines returned."

BIG PRICE

Paid for Rare "Pilgrim Bottles" at Christie's.

London, Cable.—(New York Times Cable)—At a sale of silver from various collections at Christie's to-day, \$15,000 was bid by a collector for a William III. pilgrim bottles, of flattened pear shape, engraved with the arms of the second Baron Aiden and his wife. They are 2 1/2 inches high, and were executed by Pierre Harache in 1699. Their weight is forty-two pounds.

The bottles probably belonged to the first Earl of Exmouth, who obtained a charter to colonize the province of Georgia, and who was appointed president of the province. The last owner, through some error, was a titled woman. The bottles are extremely rare, and these two are regarded as very fine specimens. It is surmised that the purchaser, Crichton, acted as the agent of a museum.

PUNCH'S CARTOON

London Cable.—(Mintrel Gazette)—Punch published a cartoon yesterday, showing President Wilson offering to the German eagle a "humble pie," with a label attached, inscribed: "A Present from the United States of America." The inscription beneath the cartoon reads: "Something to go on with—President Wilson to the German eagle: 'Poor old bird. Did it say that it was being starved? Well, here's a nice square meal for it.'"

SHORTAGE OF LAKE SAILORS

Duluth, Minn., Report.—According to reports made to-day to the Federal customs house by Great Lakes vessel captains, the demand for labor ashore with higher wages, is causing serious shortages in crews. A number of vessels were held here to-day unable to secure full crews, as provided by the new Seaman's Act.

UNUSUAL

(Detroit Free Press)
"Had a queer day yesterday."
"What was that matter?"
"Wasn't either asked to buy or sell."

NO ONE KILLED

In Internment Camp Riot—Quiet Now.

Ottawa, Report.—That the report from Cochrane as to the outbreak at the internment camp at Kapuskasing "was grossly exaggerated," was the statement to-day by the officer in charge of internment operations here. A despatch from Cochrane last night reported one killed, nine wounded, four of them fatally, and several injured. According to reports received at Ottawa this morning, no one was killed, but eight were slightly wounded.

The prisoners attacked the guard and were repelled at the point of the bayonet. The outbreak occurred last Friday, and Gen. Lorie, of Hamilton, is now on the scene conducting an enquiry. His report is not expected for a few days. A wire from the camp this morning reports that all is quiet and that no further trouble is anticipated.

NEW HUN TAXES

States Ministers Compromise On Imperial Rates.

Berlin, via London, Cable.—According to the Germania, the conference of the Finance Ministers of the various German states has resulted in a compromise on new imperial taxes, as follows:

Increases in postal, telegraph and telephone charges; an increase on bills of lading; a new tax on the turnover in business; a per millage tax on all property above 20,000 marks, which is only to be collected once. Furthermore, there will be a special tax on increases in property values exceeding 3,000 marks a year.

It is estimated that the new taxes will bring a revenue of 750,000,000 marks, as against 500,000,000 marks proposed by the Government's original plan.

The compromise is noteworthy, as meeting the wishes of the Socialist and Liberal parties for some form of direct property tax.

FIGHT FOR ISLE

Pratt's Island, New York Harbor, in Dispute.

New York, Report.—Armed men in launches to-day took possession of Pratt's Island, a small bit of Richmond borough territory, lying in the harbor, after kidnapping the watchman, Jas. Farmer, whom the Vigilant Committee of the Staten Island Civic League, of Richmond borough, had placed on guard as part of its fight in opposition to a plan by the City of New York to erect a municipal plant on Pratt's Island. Some of the leading residents of Richmond have been talking of secession from the city if the plant is established, and Farmer had been instructed to prevent anyone from taking possession of the island.

The men who kidnapped Farmer bound and gagged him and took him in a launch to a Brooklyn pier, where he was left, after being warned not to return. Releasing himself, he notified the police, who upon visiting the island, arrested fifteen men who, according to the police, said they represented the plan of the contractors.

NEW SYSTEM OF IRISH CONTROL

Asquith Convinced Entirely New Plan Necessary.

Joins Irish Privy Council—Probe Opens To-day.

Lindon, Cable.—Premier Asquith was sworn in as a member of the Irish Privy Council at Dublin this afternoon. This is the first time that an English Premier has been a Minister of this body.

It means that Mr. Asquith is likely to take a greater share in the executive government of Ireland than any of his predecessors have done, and that he will have a direct part in shaping the policy to be pursued in the immediate future.

Sir Mackenzie Chalmers, a member of the Royal Commission to investigate the Irish rebellion; Major-General Sir John Maxwell, Commander-in-Chief of the forces in Ireland; and The O'Connor Don were also sworn in as members of the Irish Privy Council at the same time as Premier Asquith.

The Associated Press learns from sources in the closest touch with the Premier that Mr. Asquith's conversations and conferences have convinced him that the future government of Ireland must be conducted on an entirely different system.

His Belfast visit gave a good hint to the Premier that the Ulsterites would not accept a direct proposal implying Home Rule. But it is believed that they might be induced to enter into a concerted plan which could possibly be arranged to meet their most serious objections.

Mr. Asquith will visit Cork tomorrow to gather further opinions. He has, however, not arranged to see the politicians. Most of those with whom he will confer are of the literary and educational classes.

Dublin, May 17.—The first meeting of the Social Commission investigating the rebellion in Ireland will be held to-morrow, it was announced to-night.

THE FADDIST

(Judge)
Grammarly—What, another new gown?
Mrs. C.—Yes, I will need one to attend the lecture on domestic economy.

300,000 OF GERMANY'S BEST LOST IN VERDUN STRUGGLE

Tide Has Turned and the Kaiser Is Face to Face With Destiny.

Not Enough Men Left to Strike a Blow Anywhere Else.

Lindon, Cable.—(New York Times Cable)—The Daily Chronicle correspondent in Paris sends the following despatch:

"Although the German commanders dare not confess failure in their Verdun enterprise by closing it down and cutting off the losses, the stress of public interest here, now altogether relieved of anxiety, is passing to other fields, where events of a different character are preparing.

"Now that 300,000 of the best German soldiers have been lost on the hillside of the Meuse, a very grave and daily aggravated situation faces the Kaiser and his grand staff. The tide has definitely turned. From west and east their long-expected destiny is closing in upon them.

"At no moment in the battle of Verdun have they dared to bring thither any unit from before the British front. Other parts of the German front have been stripped of all the superfluous strength and the force in Russia is similarly crippled to feed this adventure. Since last September at least twenty-two divisions have been transferred from the east to the west front,

THE MOTORISTS' HAPPY DAYS

Reciprocity With New York Effective Saturday.

Toronto, Report.—Motor license reciprocity between Ontario and New York State will go into effect on Saturday, May 20th. The official announcement was made last night by Hon. Finlay Macdormid. The announcement refers only to New York, the negotiations with the authorities of the State of Michigan being still uncompleted to the extent that the Michigan officials have not advised the Highways Department here of the date on which they would prefer to have reciprocity made effective.

After Saturday, the motor license markers of the State of New York will have the same standing in Ontario as those of the province. Hon. Mr. Macdormid laid special emphasis upon this fact. It is desirable that police and other officials throughout the province become acquainted with the privileges extended to New York motorists in order that when they come into Ontario after Saturday without Ontario markers, as they will have a right to they will not be annoyed or interfered with by officials laboring under the impression that they require Ontario licenses.

New York motorists will be permitted to come into Ontario without any license fee, even a nominal one, but they will be allowed to remain only three weeks upon the permit furnished them when they enter. Where they remain longer, they must pay the full license fee before leaving the province. Similar conditions will govern Ontario motorists going into New York State.

Hon. Mr. Macdormid expects to be in a position to announce the date of reciprocity with the State of Michigan within a few days.

By way of suitably celebrating the formal inauguration of license reciprocity, the Ontario Motor League, with the co-operation of the New York State Automobile Association, has arranged a fête to take place at the Falls, Friday.

The Hon. Finlay Macdormid, Minister of Public Works and Highways and head of the Provincial Bureau of Automobile Licenses, and the Hon. Francis M. Hugo, Secretary of State for New York State, met to discuss license exchange, will be present. The Hon. Mr. Macdormid, President L. E. Howland, and other members of the Motor League will occupy the first car crossing into New York State, formally signalling the establishment of license exchange, at the same time.

PREMIERS OF GREAT DOMINIONS TO SETTLE IRELAND'S TROUBLE

Proposition That Canada, Australia and S. Africa Furnish Commission Gains Favor.

Lindon, Cable.—One of the suggestions for dealing with the Irish problem which has gained many supporters in the past few days is for the appointment of a commission to arrange a settlement, the members of which will include Premier Borden, of Canada, Premier Hughes, of Australia, and Premier Botha, of South Africa.

Discussing this proposal, the Chronicle says editorially to-day:

"The settlement of the Irish question is not only a matter of great moment, but also a condition precedent to any scheme of imperial federation. There is thus a double reason for the co-operation of the Dominion Premiers."

VENICE BOMBED

Austrian Airmen Raid Italy—Cadorna's Men Retaliated.

Rome, Cable.—Raids by Austrian aeroplanes on Venice and several other cities are reported in to-night's official communication, which reads:

"Enemy air raids are reported in various places—on the lower Isonzo on the night of the 4th on Venice and Mestre on the evening of the 15th; on Udine and Treviso at dawn on the 16th, with comparatively few casualties and very slight damage.

"A squadron of our Caproni aircraft bombarded at dawn the railway station at Udine and enemy encampments at Kostanjevica, Lohvica and Segoli, on the Carso. They dropped 50 bombs with success.

"Our squadron, though attacked by numerous batteries and by numerous enemy airmen, returned undamaged after having brought down two enemy aviators in the enemy lines near Gorizia."

UNTRUE WIFE PAID PENALTY

Husband Pled With Her to Return to His Love.

Shot Her When She Told of Her Plans.

Pittsburg, Pa., Report.—Mrs. Cora M. Ernst, aged 21, was shot three times and killed by her husband, William H. Ernst, aged 24, at the latter's home, 844 Estella street.

The shooting followed a family conference in which Mrs. Ernst's mother, two brothers and an aunt had participated. The four latter had come on from their home in Frostburg, Md., in order to reconcile Mrs. Ernst and her husband. The woman's mother stood close by as Ernst whipped a revolver out of his pocket and emptied five chambers at his wife.

Mrs. Ernst asserted that she would not consent to a reconciliation, but that, on the contrary, she would seek a divorce and would marry another man.

When arrested, following the tragedy, Ernst stated that it was "this other man who caused my home to be broken up." He declared that the "other man's" name was Roger Sweeney, aged 23, and that he lived at 4826 Second avenue where, for the past two weeks, Mrs. Ernst, too, had resided.

BEGGING FOOD.

German Soldiers Appeal to Swiss.

Geneva, Cable.—German soldiers along the Swiss-Alsatian frontier, chiefly elderly men of the Landstrum, have begun to ask food from the Swiss soldiers. The Germans say they have not eaten meat for weeks.

The Swiss soldiers in uniform, although fired upon, escaped across the Swiss frontier at Rodersdorf, near Basel, yesterday. They were interned at Berne.

The Neue Stuttgarter Zeitung says the food situation in Rhine towns is becoming intolerable. The newspaper advises the Government to take drastic measures to change the mode of living of the people. It suggests that cooking in private families be prohibited, and that the population be ordered to eat in common at restaurants, where meat would be served once daily, at noon, and only vegetables in the evening.

Eighteen German cattle dealers arriving in Basel yesterday hoping to buy cattle, which are becoming scarce, were turned away. For reference purposes it may be noted that the Ontario Conservative supporters of the proposal included the following: Messrs. Glass, Clark (Bruce), Gray, Wright, Boyce, Thornton, Edwards, Morphy, Hanna, Kemp, Reid and W. H. Bennett. Sir Rodolphe Forget was fully present to record his vote for his project.

WORK OF SPIES

English Wires Cut During Recent Zeppelin Raid.

Lindon, Cable.—Sir Arthur Markham asked the Government in the House of Commons to-day whether the telegraph and telephone wires had been cut in the vicinity of a town on the east coast on the occasion of the recent Zeppelin raid.

Harold J. Tennant, Under-Secretary of State for War, replied that he could not confirm or contradict the suggestion, adding: "All I can say is that it is not in the public interest to make such a statement."

HELD FOR BARR MURDER

New York, Report.—Angelo Gagliano, a laundryman, was arrested here last night, charged with murder in the first degree in connection with the shooting two years ago of Barr net Baff. Two others arrested in the case already have been convicted.

The killing of Baff, a wholesale poultry dealer, was alleged to have been inspired by business rivals.

HEAVY SNOW UP NORTH

Fort William, Report.—Trainmen coming in from the railways, both east and west, report heavy snowstorms last night and to-day. At Graham, Ont., on the Grand Trunk Pacific, nine inches of snow fell during the night. Cars of incoming freight trains are covered with snow. The weather is very cold here, and the mercury dropped to freezing point this morning.

DIVIDING THE RESPONSIBILITY

(Punch)
Mother—Did you remember to pray for everybody, dear?
Daughter—Well, Mummy, I prayed for you, but Jack prayed for daddy. He's looking after him just now.

SHORT ITEMS OF THE NEWS OF THE DAY

Motor Car License Reciprocity Being Arranged With Three More States.

A BLIND KNITTER

Canadian Assistant to the Moderator of the Church of Scotland.

The Nova Scotia Legislature was prorogued.

Toronto's lawyers have declared against Mayor Church on the war tax dispute.

Motor car license reciprocity with three more States is being arranged by Ontario.

The 92nd Battalion (Highlanders) departed from Toronto to complete their training.

Fire caused \$50,000 damage in the factory of Wm. Croft & Sons, Wellington street, Toronto.

A "preparations" campaign to keep Ontario "dry" will shortly be launched by the Ontario Alliance.

Charles Mabey, ex-Mayor of Tillsonburg, died as the result of injuries sustained in an accident on the race track.

Sectionmen of the C. W. & L. E. Railway are out on strike, pending a settlement of a dispute with the company.

George C. Holland, for forty-two years official shorthand reporter of the Canadian Senate, who took his "take" as usual this session, has resigned.

M. M. C. Reynolds, of Goderich, totally blind, and in her eightieth year, has knitted more than 125 pairs of socks for soldiers at the front.

The body of W. W. Cairns, formerly of Montreal, was found in the ruins of the Stovel printing establishment, burned two weeks ago in Winnipeg.

Sir Douglas Haig, Commander-in-Chief of the British forces at the front, has been asked by Sir Robert Borden to thoroughly test the Ross and Lee-Enfield rifles.

The body of six-year-old Thomas Arthur, drowned in Mill Creek on March 29, was recovered at Galt, some distance below the spot where the fatality occurred.

William Brooking, a well-known farmer of Hope Township, committed suicide by hanging himself from a beam in his barn. A severe illness had affected his mind.

The funeral of Capt. E. J. Kville, adjutant of the 14th Battalion, held at Lindsay, was most impressive, being attended by a large number of other interests with which he was associated.

At Folkestone Police Court, Staff Sergeant John Durand, of the 2nd Canadian Battalion, now attached as director of recruiting offices, was charged with a serious crime and was remanded without bail.

The Rev. T. Hunter Boyd, of the Canadian Presbyterian Church, who has been identified with Scotch emigration work, has been appointed assistant to the Rev. Dr. Brown, Bellahouston Parish, moderator designate of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

In what is supposed to have been a state of somnambulism, Mrs. J. W. Clendene, a patient at the Kingston General Hospital, walked out of a window on the second floor of the surgical ward, falling to the ground below, and dying a few hours later from the shock and injuries.

HON. BURRELL IS BACK

Ottawa, Report.—Hon. Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture, who was severely burned in the Parliament building fire of February 3rd, and who has since been convalescent in the south after nearly a month's confinement to his room in Ottawa, returned to his Parliamentary duties to-day.

Mr. Burrell has completely recovered from the burns, also from the nervous shock which he then sustained. His face has completely healed and remains unscarred.

BRITISH PENSIONS SCHEME

London, Cable.—A scheme of war pensions for soldiers was announced in the Commons to-day by William Hayes Fisher, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for the Local Government Board. It provides for grants of \$520 yearly to married and unmarried men called nine inches of snow fell during the night. Cars of incoming freight trains are covered with snow. The weather is very cold here, and the mercury dropped to freezing point this morning.

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WOW!

(St. Louis Star)
"That young Hercules over there is a great musical composer."
"A sound mind in a sound body, eh?"