

AN AVALANCHE OF SHELLS POURED INTO GERMAN LINES

General Offensive Foreshadowed of French and British on the Western Front

A despatch from Paris says: The French have been pouring an avalanche of shells into the German lines in the west. It is not believed that this ammunition would be used simply for the purpose of damaging the German trenches, and, therefore, an early general offensive is looked for.

Asphyxiating gas was used without success by the Germans in an attack against Linge and Schratzmaennele, in the Vosges. After releasing the gas the Germans charged the French positions, but were driven back. Elsewhere on the French front there were no infantry actions, though heavy cannonading occurred at several places. German aviators violated

Swiss territory for the fourth time. Five German military aeroplanes flew inside the Swiss frontier opposite the French town of Delle. Although under fire from French artillery, the aeroplanes turned back. One damaged machine came down near the Swiss village of Buix, but afterwards took to the air and escaped towards Alsace.

The Municipal Council is making arrangements with the Government for an official commemoration of the Battle of the Marne, in which the German advance through France in the early weeks of the war was ended. The celebration will be held on September 12.

A COMPARISON OF FORCES FOR WAR

CANADA'S RESPONSIBILITY.

From Toronto Daily News.

In a year's time we have seen our army come into being and grow into a force of very considerable size and efficiency; but this is no time to rest on our laurels, much less to indulge a tendency towards self-congratulation. Our duty now is to appreciate the full extent of our responsibilities and make adequate provision for discharging them.

The United Kingdom entered the war with a naval force of, not less than 225,000, and with a military force of at least 200,000. Since the outbreak there have been added to the military force, of completely trained and equipped soldiers, not less than 500,000. Adding to these the soldiers which the United Kingdom now has in the making, in all stages of equipment and training, numbering not less than 1,500,000, the total is at least 2,525,000. The figures are approximately only, but they will serve.

Our population being about one-sixth the population of the United Kingdom, we can readily ascertain the minimum number of men that we should now have available for service if we were doing our full share. In round figures, we should have a force of at least 400,000 men.

Turning from the ideal to the real, we may estimate the strength of the Canadian forces as follows:—

Adding the few thousands we had to begin with to those organized during the year, the total number of trained and equipped troops is not more than 60,000. Our incompletely trained and equipped troops will number not more than an additional 100,000; and that none of our fighting resources may be overlooked, we will add a naval force of 1,000, making a total of 161,000.

Our ideal minimum is 400,000, our real maximum is 161,000. The result of our calculations need not make us down hearted. We are quite entitled to comfort ourselves with the thought that the original forces of the United Kingdom were incomparably superior to ours and that the British Isles were much better supplied than we were with the means, both human and material, of creating a vast new army.

But this will not alter the fact that in the past we have not done our full duty, and we are therefore under the greater obligation to respond to the call the Government is now making. Many of the initial difficulties connected with the raising of an army have been overcome, and men are now being accepted for overseas service as rapidly as they present themselves for enlistment. Their pay, separation and other allowances commence at once, and they are clothed, equipped and trained with all possible rapidity.

But the real responsibility for the supply of men rests with the men themselves. To the man without dependents the call to service is well-nigh absolute, and it comes to the man with a job with precisely the same urgency as it does to the man without one. Your present job, important as it may be, is as nothing in importance to the one your country has for you. The call comes next to those with others dependent on them, who would suffer if they went. Some men in this position should go, others should not. No one may decide for any man but himself. But the freedom of choice which is his carries with it a corresponding responsibility. If no man may say to you, "You ought to go," neither may you lay the responsibility of your staying on anyone but yourself. Your's is the choice. Stay if your conscience says so; but go if it says to go, for your Empire needs the men.

FURTHER VICTORIES IN THE CAMEROONS

Germans are Retreating in Great Disorder After a Series of Defeats.

A despatch from Paris says: Fighting continues in the Cameroons, the German colony in Western Africa which the British and French have been attempting since the early part of the war to wrest from the Germans. The Ministry of Colonies gave out a statement to-day announcing further victories. It follows:

"French forces in the eastern and south-eastern Cameroons are continuing a vigorous offensive in the direction of Yaunde, capital of the colony. The German troops were defeated in a series of engagements and are retreating in great disorder.

"Many of the native German troops surrendered, with their arms and other equipment. A party of these deserters while on their way to our post at Aradmaki encountered a company of Germans, who attempted to bar their way. The deserters defeated the Germans, and also attacked a German post at Sangamelina.

"Our right column, coming from the north, attacked the strongly-fortified positions at the Dume station, simultaneously with an attack from our southern column. The Germans were defeated completely. They abandoned their positions, and in retreat threw most of their supplies into the river and allowed natives to pillage other abandoned stores. In evacuating Dume the enemy set it on fire, making a stand on a hill overlooking the town. This position, which was defended with artillery and machine guns, was carried by assault by one of our officers and by prisoners."

JACONA SUNK BY MINE, NOT BY A SUBMARINE

A despatch from Montreal says: Officers of the Thomson Line freighter Hurona, which arrived here, brought with them details of the sinking of the Montreal steamer Jacona. The cabled report that the Jacona was sunk by a torpedo was denied. The Jacona struck a mine and sank in two minutes. Forty of the crew, including the entire engine-room staff, were drowned. Only Capt. Organ and the nine men who comprised the night watch were saved, and they owed their lives to the chance that a boat was lying loose and floated away.

THREAT FROM AUSTRIA TO MUNITION MAKERS

A despatch to Amsterdam says: Following the example of Germany, the Austro-Hungarian Government now announces, according to the Frankfurter Zeitung, that all Austrians and Hungarians in neutral countries, particularly the United States, are warned not to work in factories producing war material for enemies of the Dual Monarchy. This newspaper says that violation of this decree is punishable by imprisonment of ten to twenty years, and even by capital punishment under certain conditions.

ENTANGLED IN A ROPE AND KILLED BY HORSES

A despatch from London says: "Death by misadventure" is the verdict at the inquest held at Shorncliffe on Pte. William Fishburn Smith, London, Ont., of the 2nd divisional cavalry, who was killed while leading horses. Smith's leg was caught in a rope with which he was leading the horses, and he lost his balance owing to the horses rearing. He had been studying for the ministry previous to enlistment.

FINE HARBOR AT ZEEBRUGGE IS SHELTER FOR SUBMARINES



Above is a general view of Zeebrugge, the German naval base on the Belgian coast. The extensive waterways provide an almost ideal haven for submarines. British warships have repeatedly shelled the German works and vessels at Zeebrugge.

Holland Purchasing Aeroplanes

A despatch from New York says: Lieut.-Commander Henri G. Van Steyn, of the Dutch navy, was one of the arrivals on the steamer Noordam from Rotterdam. He said he held a commission to purchase an unlimited

quantity of aeroplanes and hydroplanes for Holland from American manufacturers. Commander Van Steyn said that all of the machines will be used by Holland as a part of the national defence improvement now being undertaken there.

ALLIES CAPTURE TACTICAL POINT

Recent Fighting in the Dardanelles Has Been of a Severe Character.

A despatch from London says: Further gains for the allied forces on the Gallipoli Peninsula are chronicled in an official report received from General Sir Ian Hamilton, commander-in-chief of the British forces operating against the Turks. The report says: "Further fighting on the northern section of the line has resulted in the capture of an important tactical point commanding the Buvuk Anafarta valley to the east and north and an appreciable gain of the ground occupied by the Australians and New Zealand army corps.

"The fighting was almost entirely hand-to-hand and of a severe character. Very heavy losses were inflicted on the Turks, and three of their machine guns, three trench mortars, 300 rifles, 500 bombs and a large quantity of small arms ammunition were captured by us."

DENIES GERMAN WOMEN ARE LEFT TO MOB'S MERCY

A despatch to London says: The Home Secretary has issued a denial of statements published in the United States that German women and children in London are being exposed to the fury of mobs, which are encouraged by the police whenever they venture out of doors, and are prevented from buying food, and are compelled to subsist on what they can beg.

The Home Secretary says that all German women desiring to return to Germany are given facilities for so doing, and that, together with their children, they receive the same police protection as British subjects and similar relief from the guardians of the poor if they are destitute. It is added that access to hospitals on the same terms as Britishers are accorded German women and children when they are ill.

None Too Good.

The minister of a small country flock was discussing with an illiterate member of his church religious topics of varying interest. The member expressed the suggestion that even the best were none too good in this vale of sin and tribulation. "You believe, then," interposed the preacher, "in the doctrine of total depravity?" "Yes, sir, I do," responded the member, "that is, where it is lived up to."

JAPANESE TROOPS FOR DARDANELLES

Inference Is Drawn From the Words of Mikado's Envoy to Italy.

A despatch from Paris says: What appears to be an intimation that Japan may co-operate in the campaign to force the Dardanelles is contained in an interview with Baron Hayashi, Japanese Ambassador to Italy, sent to the Petit Parisien by its Rome correspondent.

"I cannot say much about that," the Baron is quoted as saying, in reply to a question regarding the Dardanelles, "for we must not allow our enemies to profit by information about the movements of troops."

Discussing the part Japan has played in the war, the Ambassador said: "We have not ceased to collaborate with our allies to the extent assigned to us. The world will be astonished when it knows what we have done, what we are doing and what we are willing to do. The Russians are nearest to us and we can be most useful to them. Rest assured it is the greatest desire of Japan to assist every day in the sacred cause of civilization."

NO REFUND OF WAR TAX.

A matter of importance to the public and the railways has been settled by the Government. A nice point has been raised as to the possibility of refund of the war tax in case a person should change his or her mind in regard to the contemplated trip by train or boat. If the railways insisted upon the tax in such cases of changed intention, it was altogether likely that the public would set them down as extortioners.

Accordingly the railways submitted the questions to the Government—what should be done in case unused tickets presented for refund to agent before the train starts; to agent or general office after train departs; the same or some following day; in the case of passenger tickets; in the case of sleeping car tickets; in the case of parlor car tickets; in the case of steamship tickets. The answer which the railways received was as follows:

There can be no refund of the tax under any circumstances. Once the ticket is sold and the tax collected, it is as though it were in the Dominion coffers and nothing but an act of Parliament can get it out again. It was explained by the Dominion authorities that in order to prevent the confusion that would arise in applying literally the millions of tax stamps that would have been required on railway tickets and the consequent difficulties which would have ensued owing to delay in affixing and cancellation of stamps, the present method had been adopted, and, that as none of the public could have reasonably expected a refund on a stamp that had been affixed and cancelled, if ticket were refunded upon, so also no refund may be expected wherever a tax had been collected, and the ticket unused and refunded upon. In other words, the act of purchase of the ticket in accordance with the Tax Act is a completed transaction so far as the collection of the tax is concerned, and under no circumstances as the law now stands could it be refunded. To make a refund of the tax possible a special act would have to be passed by parliament.

Wonders of the World.

The seven wonders of the ancient world were the Pyramids of Egypt; the Tomb of the King of Caria; the Temple of Diana at Ephesus; the Walls of Hanging Gardens of Babylon; the Colossus of Rhodes; the Ivory and Gold Statue of Jupiter Olympus; the Pharos, or Watch Tower, built at Alexandria by Ptolemy Philadelphus, King of Egypt. Some one thinks the wonders of the world to-day are the Panama Canal, the Aeroplane, the Submarine, Wireless Telegraphy, the Gramophone, the Telephone, and the Airship.

PARENTS OF WAR HERO GET VICTORIA CROSS

A despatch to Montreal says: The Victoria Cross won by the late Lance-Corporal Frederick Fisher, of the 13th battalion, at St. Julien, where he was killed, has been received by the hero's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Fisher, 576 Lansdowne Avenue, Westmount, accompanied by a letter of appreciation from the British War Office. The deceased soldier earned the distinction of the Cross by gallantly assisting with a machine gun, in covering the retreat of a battery, and later bringing his machine gun into action, under very heavy fire, in order to cover the advance of supports. It was while doing this he was killed. He was only 20 years of age.

THE DEATH OF PEGOUD IS OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED

A despatch from Paris says: Reports of the death of Adolphe Pegoud, the famous aviator, have been officially confirmed. The news caused sincere sorrow among the French people, who regarded him as a hero.

Pegoud, who was only 26 years of age, served five years in the French cavalry, fighting in the Morocco campaign. At the outbreak of the present war he joined the aviation corps as a private, but soon gained a sub-lieutenant's commission because of his skill and daring. His exploits won him the Military Medal and the Military Cross.

Pegoud brought down his sixth German aircraft on July 11.

At the declaration of war, the British Army comprised 711,500 men, of whom, in Regulars and Reserves, 601,000 were in the British Isles.

LANDED BEHIND GERMAN LINES AND RESCUED BROTHER AIRMAN

French Aviator Decorated for Brilliant Feat From Which He Returned Wounded

A despatch from Paris says: Adjutant Bertin of the French Aviation Corps, has been cited in the orders and awarded the decoration of the Legion of Honor for alighting behind the German lines and bringing back in safety Adjutant Boyer, who was compelled to set fire to his machine as the result of an accident. Both aviators were engaged in reconnoit-

ring expeditions in the same direction. Bertin's landing point was about four miles beyond that of Boyer. On returning after executing his mission, Bertin saw Boyer's machine in flames. He landed in face of a heavy fire, picked up his comrade and flew back to the French lines with a fragment of a shell in his thigh. The aeroplane was struck in 98 places by bullets and pieces of shells.