

FRENCH PRESS ONWARD DRIVING OUT THE GERMANS

And Hold Captured Lines of Trenches Despite All Attempts by Reinforced German Infantry to Dislodge Them.

All Previous Gains of the Allies Have Been Maintained— The Allies Artillery Gains a Clear Advantage in Interchange Around the Aisne and at Rheims.

Paris, Feb. 18.—Fighting in the woods around Chepy, the French troops, strongly supported by concealed artillery, forced their lines forward to-day. A large section of wooded territory was cleared of German forces, the enemy suffering severe losses.

In the same sort of fighting south of Bois des Forges, the French advanced their lines a quarter of a mile and holding the German line of trenches, resisted all attempts to dislodge them by reinforced German infantry.

Artillery duels in the neighborhood of the Aisne and Rheims continue. The official word from the war office was that the allies' batteries had gained "a clear advantage" in this interchange. It was also stated that an advance of several hundred feet had been made north of Malancourt.

"All our previous gains have been maintained," was stated in the official communique this afternoon.

BERLIN ADMITS DEFEAT BY FRENCH IN ARGONNE

Berlin, Feb. 18.—(via wireless) The German war office admitted a material reverse in the Argonne region to-day. It states that the village of Norray and the hill commanding it, previously captured from the French, were evacuated in the face of a superior force. Before leaving, the German troops are declared to have destroyed with dynamite the entrenchments that had been constructed by the French.

Very heavy fighting continues to the north of Rheims, about Lille and Arras, and to the north of Perthes where the French and British have succeeded in penetrating the German advanced trenches only to be later driven back. A series of battles is constantly increasing in intensity, and the German reports declare that the enemy is losing men very heavily.

KING'S PALACE PROTECTED AGAINST GERMAN AIR RAIDS

London, Feb. 18.—The private apartments of the royal family in Buckingham Palace are being protected against possible German air raids. Ever since the Zeppelin raid of a few weeks ago, when bombs were dropped near Sandringham, one of the royal residences, there have been reports in circulation here that the protective measures would be adopted for at least part of Buckingham Palace.

Much attention was attracted to-day when workmen began spreading heavy wire netting over part of the palace occupied as residential quarters by the royal family. This netting was placed on a heavy framework trestle which stands six feet or more from the roof proper. Among other places in London protected by a similar screen are the houses of the Duchess of Marlborough, one of the Rothschilds and some of the public institutions.

Although many of the finest works of art had already been removed from galleries here before the air raid, the attack was a signal for a more thorough paring down of collections. Not only art museums have taken the precautions; many of the priceless objects in the Victoria and Albert and British museums have been stored away.

Germans Lose A Zeppelin Off Denmark

Copenhagen, Feb. 18.—In connection with Zeppelin 13, which broke down off the island of Faeroe yesterday, it was announced that the Danish government has ordered the two officers and fourteen members of the crew interned until the end of the war. The big dirigible was completely destroyed by fire after she had been landed, presumably started by the crew to prevent construction secrets becoming known.

"It will save you shame" if you are not feeling well, by going to Gibson's Red Cross Drug Store.

GIVES FLASK TO PREACHER.

Stranger Foresees Liquor Before An Astonished Congregation.

Fort Plain, N. Y., Feb. 18.—Just as Rev. Dr. Herbert Frank Moulton, Boston, a candidate for selection as pastor of the Universalist church here, had finished his sermon a well dressed stranger hurried to the pulpit and took from his hip pocket a half-pint flask of whiskey. He handed the flask to the pastor, saying that he was through with drink forever. The stranger insisted upon binding the contact with a handkerchief and then returned to his seat. The large congregation was struck with astonishment. It was supposed that this was a dry town on Sundays.

Foreman Killed in Engine Plant.

Watertown, N. Y., Feb. 18.—Charles Sylvester, was fatally injured at the Plant of the New York Engine company on Wednesday afternoon. While changing some electric wiring his foot slipped on a decayed board and he fell backward to the floor, a distance of about fifteen feet. He did not regain consciousness and died a few minutes later.

GERMANY TO SEND 5,000,000 PERSONS To Neutral Lands in Order to Restrict Food Consumption.

Copenhagen, Feb. 18.—(via London)—The report is in circulation here that owing to the necessity to restrict food consumption, the German government intends ordering 5,000,000 Germans who possess independent incomes and are ineligible for military service, to leave Germany for neutral countries and remain there until the war is over. It is planned, according to the report, that 3,000,000 of these persons shall go to the Scandinavian countries, 1,000,000 to Holland and 1,000,000 to Switzerland.

PITH OF THE NEWS.

Despatches From Near and Distant Places.

Two British seamen were sentenced in New York for smuggling opium. Dr. W. H. Doherty, chief dental officer for the Toronto Board of Education, died at the age of thirty-two years.

John Richards, a negro, was lynched by a mob near Sparr, Fla. He is said to have insulted a white woman.

The liberals in the University College Literary and Scientific Society debated the conservatives on a want of confidence motion. Teacher N. E. Lee, of the Annetto street school, Toronto, whose loyalty has been under discussion, has applied for leave of absence to enlist.

Pte. Path, regimental postman of the 18th Battalion, London, is missing, with an alleged shortage registered mail containing cash and cheques.

Rev. William Higgs, pastor of Tyngone circuit, has received a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of Millbrook Methodist church for next conference year.

Tobacco growers of western Ontario and Quebec will ask the government for a thirty-five per cent. duty and removal of the twenty-eight per cent. excise now imposed.

David A. Sullivan, the Brooklyn banker convicted in 1913 of having misappropriated \$20,000 while he was president of the Mechanics and Traders Bank, was granted a parole on Wednesday.

The amended government ship purchase bill, rushed through the United States house on Wednesday, failed to gain ground when it reached the senate and administration leaders are in doubt as to what would be its fate.

The entire male civil German and Austrian population of British India together with many prisoners from East Africa, has been interned at Ahmednagar, a military camp about one day's travel from the city of Bombay.

Col. Herchermer Dead.

Vancouver, B.C., Feb. 18.—Col. Herchermer died last evening after an illness of some months. Deceased was in command of the Canadian Dragoons at the time of the South African war, and was afterwards appointed to the commission of the Royal North-West Mounted Police. The funeral will be of a military character.

CLAIMS RIGHT To Torpedo Merchant Ships of All Nations.

ANSWER OF GERMANY TO THE PROTEST OF THE UNITED STATES.

The hypocrites at Berlin Issue An Official Reply, Saying German Action Is Legitimate Retaliation Against British Methods.

Berlin (via Amsterdam), Feb. 18.—The text of Germany's reply to the United States protest against the submarine blockade was made public to-day, and it is expected a firm reiteration of the German claim that her action is a legitimate retaliation against British methods. In tone the answer is especially friendly to the United States, but it is carefully set forth that Germany took the step she did only after mature deliberation and "because English measures are in violation of accepted principles of international law."

The German government is declared to be "in accord" with the United States, that it is in a high degree desirable to avoid misunderstanding which might arise from measures announced by the German admiralty.

It is stated that Germany at all times has adhered to valid international rules of warfare and agreed to the very outset of the war to ratify the principles of the Declaration of London.

Germany is declared to be cut off from her overseas supplies by the silent or protesting tolerance of neutral nations, both as regards conditional and actual contraband of war, while Great Britain is, with the toleration of neutral governments, supplied with both.

THE COMMISSIONERS NOT MUCH CONCERNED Over the Charges That Have Been Made by Alderman H. C. Nickle.

It is not likely that any decided action will be taken by the police commission when they meet next week, to consider charges made by Ald. H. C. Nickle against the police force. The commissioners are a statutory body like the Board of Education and any criticism made by a member of the city council is of no more value than that made by any other citizen. It is known that, at least, some of the questions will be simply ignored as it is impossible for the commissioners to answer them. They refuse to disclose to anyone just what the beats of the police are as this would spell the system if this information were to be published. The chief of police has orders to change the beats often and the informant would be of little value as to beats would have to be changed immediately after it was given out.

Kingston does not maintain a detective force as they are very expensive. New men being required as the people they are trying to catch would soon identify them. The policemen are here to stop disturbances and maintain order and are under orders to raid places only when enough information has been secured to make a conviction a certainty. Without a detective force this is the only way in which it is possible to save private and respectable houses

TURK'S NEEDS' FIGHT.

Constantinople, Feb. 18.—For the double purpose of raising funds and for releasing persons unwilling to serve in the army, the Turkish Chamber of Deputies passed on an urgent measure a bill granting military exemption to all trained and untrained Moslem reservists and certain other classes of untrained Moslems on payment of a tax of \$120.

BOY GETS \$200 FROM RAILROAD

Oswego, N.Y., Feb. 18.—A verdict of \$200, the full amount asked, was returned by the jury in the case of Thomas Connolly, by his guardian, against the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad company. The plaintiff, who is twelve years old, was injured while playing near the company's coal trestle in this city, being struck by a piece of coal.

DENTIST IMPROVING AFTER OPERATION.

Watertown, N.Y., Feb. 18.—Dr. David Watvrey, a prominent dentist, is at the Sisters Hospital, recovering from the effects of a delicate operation. His condition is improved, although he will not be able to leave the hospital within ten days.

DR. C. C. JAMES DECLARES THAT PART OF CANADA NEEDS TO BE AWAKENED AS TO REAL RESPONSIBILITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE WAR.

Dr. C. C. James declares that parts of Canada need to be awakened as to real responsibility in connection with the war.

CONVOYING MERCHANTMEN DOES NOT MEET FAVOR

Washington, Feb. 18.—The recent suggestion from Germany sources that American merchantmen might escape attack and secure safety if convoyed by an American warship has not met with approval in naval circles here. It was pointed out that no naval captain would be willing to assume full responsibility for the non-contraband character of the cargo of any American ship which might fall in with his vessel and claim his protection, as an adequate search of the merchantmen on the high seas would be out of the question.

Furthermore, it is suggested that the threatened British retaliation for the German war zone order by the issue of notice of a blockade of the German coast. In that case not even an American man of war would have the right to pass the blockade lines alone much less with a convoy of merchant ships.

Formal notice by the British of the blockade and recognition of it by the United States, would, of course, at once remove from this field of diplomatic negotiations all questions relating to the right of neutral nations to send cargoes of food to the civil population of the blockaded state.

REFUGEES' PORTABLE HOUSES To Be Moved South When Enemy Leaves Belgium.

London, Feb. 18.—The temporary stoppage of the Zealand steamship service between Folkestone and Flushing will give a check to the transfer of Belgian refugees from Holland to England, which has been proceeding under government auspices at the rate of 2,000 weekly. Apropos of the Belgian town planning conference held this week, an official of the American Relief Commission expresses the opinion that the work of the commissioner will probably continue long after the war has been concluded, as he thinks they will have to face the work of rebuilding Belgium.

One suggestion made is that the refugees in Holland be provided with portable houses, which could be moved southward when the enemy evacuates the country.

UNION JACK DRAPED OVER DR. ROSS' DESK

Honor Paid to Kingston's Soldier Member in Ontario Legislature.

Toronto, Feb. 18.—One member of the Ontario legislature is at the front with the first contingent and another is with the second contingent. Dr. A. E. Ross, Kingston, went with the first of the overseas forces and Dr. M. Hogarth, Port Arthur, is in training with the second contingent at Winnipeg. At the suggestion of A. H. Musgrove, North Huron, and other members, it was proposed to the speaker that their desks be draped with the Union Jack. This was done, and when the session commenced yesterday afternoon the presence of the flag over the desks, which would in normal times have been occupied by the members from Kingston and Port Arthur, served to remind the legislature that they, in common with the federal house, have contributed from amongst their members to the fighting force of the British empire.

REWARDS OFFERED.

Steam trawlers have been enlisted as auxiliary naval vessels through the proffer of rewards. Five thousand dollars is to be given to any of these vessels that sink a German submarine. A similar amount will be paid for information that results in the sinking or capture of a German warship. Similar rewards will be paid for other services in behalf of the navy. With these trawlers on the lookout, the British navy will be equipped with a "mosquito fleet" that is invaluable.

Many applications for additional insurance poured into Lloyds to-day. They came from owners of merchant vessels who intend to keep their ships in operation.

The Westminster Gazette makes the following statement as to the attitude of England on the even of Germany's submarine operations:

"All we can say about 'the day' is that this country faces the prospect calmly and coolly. The pirates may do some damage, but we are none the less confident that our sailors, whether in the navy or merchant marine, will be able to threaten the terrors of torpedo and mine."

The Evening Standard says: "Any further attempt at accommodations seem somewhat misplaced. It is evident that Germany most appreciates the argument of the big stick."

Frank Darling, the well-known Toronto architect, has been nominated for the Royal gold medal for his achievements in architecture.

GREAT BRITAIN READY FOR SUBMARINE RAIDS

British Admiralty Seeks at Secret Preparations.

UNDER SEA TERRORS

WILL BE EITHER WARDED OFF OR DESTROYED.

A Surprise Has Been Prepared For the Germans — The Blockade Of the German Coast Is a Retaliatory Step.

London, Feb. 18.—With her naval plans completed to meet the submarine campaign which Germany will launch against her to-day, British admiralty awaits the issue with all confidence in her ability not only to ward off the German attacks, but also to effect a blockade of the German coast that will shorten the war.

Rejoicing over the latest successful raid of the British aviation corps upon the German naval base at Zebrugge, Belgium, was increased yesterday by reports that the bombs dropped by the aeroplanes had seriously damaged three German submarines. Advice to this effect were received from Amsterdam, the despatches also stating that it will be impossible for the Germans to repair these submarines at Zebrugge.

The attack upon Zebrugge and the placing of a prize crew upon the American steamer Wilhelmina, which is at Falmouth with a cargo of foodstuffs consigned to Germany, are taken here as the answer of the government to the German proposal of compromise.

The next active step is expected to be the establishment of a blockade of the German coast that will prevent any food supplies reaching Germany by water.

The admission made by Admiral Benham to the German marine department that Germany has not enough food to feed her civilian population, since England cut off her supplies, has strengthened the determination of Great Britain to wage a relentless campaign against Germany. The British government is confident that it will be able to place an unbreakable embargo upon the food supplies which Germany needs.

For the last twenty-four hours there has been great activity at the admiralty, Winston Spencer Churchill and his assistants spent the greater part of last night there. No information as to the cause of this activity was given out, but the quiet air of confidence by the admiralty attaches to-day spoke louder than words.

There is a unanimous belief that if the German submarines enter British waters they will receive a great surprise. What the nature of the surprise is, cannot be divulged, but there is no doubt that England has been preparing for this submarine warfare for months.

At Ogdensburg, N.Y., efforts are being made to resume operations at the Fox Shade Roller plant, which closed a year ago, throwing about 125 men out of employment.

DAILY MEMORANDUM.

Band at Covered rink to-night. Band at the Palace rink to-night. See top of page 4, right hand corner, for probabilities.

See the Minister's Ride at Cooke's church, Thursday evening at 8 p.m. Keep in mind grand musical concert in aid of boy's division, Y.M.C.A., Thursday, Feb. 18th.

THE DAILY BRITISH WHIG

Is on Sale at the Following City Stores:

- Bucknell's News Depot, 255 King St.
- Clarke, J. W. & Co., 355 Princess
- College Book Store, 133 Princess
- Coulter's Grocery, 599 Princess
- Cullen's Grocery, Cor. Prin. & Alfred
- Frontenac Hotel, Ontario St.
- Gibson's Drug Store, Market Square
- Low's Grocery, Portmouthe
- McAuley's Book Store, 86 Princess
- McGill's Cigar Store, Cor. Prin. & King
- McLeod's Grocery, 21 Union St. W.
- McLod's Drug Store, 549 University
- Fault's Cigar Store, 18 Princess
- Prosser's Drug Store, 513 Princess
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Pineapples,
White Cherries,
Black Cherries,
Golden Drop Plums,
Egg Plums,
Green Gage Plums.

Jas. Redden & Co

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE SOLDIERS' BOOT SCANDAL.



Sir James Aikins is chairman, but the premier asked that the opposition select three of the seven members of the committee. Messrs. Lemieux, E. W. Nesbitt and E. M. Macdonald were therefore selected from the left of the speaker. There has already been a departmental inquiry which resulted in a remarkable finding—both proving and condemning.