

YEAR 83, NO. 87

KINGSTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1916.

SECOND SECTION

EGYPT SAFE FROM TURKS

Its Powerful Defences Doom Any Attack.

CANNOT BRING ARMY

BIG ENOUGH TO MEET THE BRITISH FORCES.

If Ever There Were Chances of a Turkish Success They Have Completely Vanished.

Suez, Egypt, April 11.—If it has been necessary for Britain to make a vast expenditure in money and labor to secure freedom of the waterway connecting the seas of the East and the West—the expenditure is an insurance premium which no home or colonial Britain will grudge—how much greater must be the adequate preparations of the German? He has to cross a practically waterless waste, with nothing to sustain his army except what he can carry from his base, 100 miles away.

Prudence prompted the British to construct numerous light railways on the eastern side of the canal, and to lay an elaborate system of pipe lines for the water supply. Unless the Turks make similar arrangements over ten times the mileage they cannot bring an army equal in numbers to that which they have to meet, nor keep them opposite the British lines for more than two days, even without a shot being fired at them.

Plan For Serious Attack.

British preparations are planned to resist the most serious attack that could, in any circumstances be made against Egypt. The British have stores carried miles into the desert by rapid little trains over 100 miles of metalled roads made for wheeled transport. The hum of the motor is carried far in the desert air, but even the aid of almost every modern appliance for speedy locomotion is not sufficient for the purpose.

While long clouds of dust raised on the roads by self-propelled vehicles tell the story of an up-to-date transport service, you see camel trains moving, as in Pharaoh's time, larger, perhaps, than ever before in history, carrying different loads, but in the same slow, methodical following-leader way.

Next Battle On Tigris.

London, April 11.—Preparations are well under way for the next British attack in the attempt to relieve the army surrounded by the Turks at Kut-el-Amara, Mesopotamia.

This attack is to be made, according to the plans of the British staff, against Sannayat, on the Tigris, a short distance above Felahie, which recently was won from the Turks.

And It Did. Smack, smack, smack! Tommy was undergoing a painful punishment at the hands of his loving mother for eating the jam.

"Tommy," she said seriously, "when she was forced to pause, this hurts me far more than it does you."

And when Tommy was alone with his brother he produced a square board he had concealed, and thoughtfully murmured: "I bet it did!"

Ambition is a balloon which carries no parachute.

such astonishing defensive work have been completed. It is certain that if ever there were chances of a Turkish success they have completely vanished.

Gallipoli Victims.

In one section the preparation of the lines has been given to a division composed of veterans who proved their courage and martial spirit in the stern days on Gallipoli. Some had held on to their duties longer than health warranted, because they wished to see the quality of the reinforcements, and to impress upon them how vital it was that the younger nations should show the mother country that the stock was true.

They came to Egypt with nerves unshaken, for the Gallipoli ordeals had merely tempered them; but jaundice and other forms of sickness preyed on troops who had lowered systems.

After recuperating for three weeks at the desert rest camp, they were ready for fresh trials. Indeed, the divisional commander said that the news that his men were to prepare and occupy the first line gave intense satisfaction, and though the subsequent toll was heavy and the calls upon cheerfulness and endurance great, their health was splendid.

A new form of trench has been planned to meet the drifting sand difficulty. The latest design involves infinitely more labor in the initial stages, but it prevents damage by storm or pressure of sand. These elaborate trenches will stand the ravages of time and the desert storm. Perhaps some future excavators for relics of an ancient people will come upon these and wonder what they are.

To Send Ten Delegates.

Canadian Parliament Will Be Represented In London.

Ottawa, April 12.—The Canadian branch of the Empire Parliamentary Association has been invited to send ten delegates to the meeting of the association in London next July as the guests of the British members. It is altogether probable that ten members of the Canadian Parliament will arrange to go. According to the present plans these will include six members of the Commons and four members of the Senate. The arrangements are in the hands of Sir Herbert B. Ames.

German Bankers Canny.

Funds Are Being Transferred to Neutral Countries.

Rome, April 12.—German bankers according to reports received in financial circles here, are transferring their reserves to neutral countries without heeding the losses incurred by the unfavorable exchange as long as they succeed in getting their money safely out of Germany.

These steps are ascribed to reports that last war loan was a failure and that coercive measures are feared.

Conditions Are Ideal.

Acres Nearly As Large As That Last Year.

Calgary, April 12.—Spring operations are general in all the southern Alberta country. There is approximately 15 per cent. of last year's acreage already seeded. Conditions are ideal. There will be nearly as large an acreage in Alberta this year as last. There may be five or ten per cent. of a decrease.

This is the expression of Mayor H. A. Sinnott of Calgary, who returns from an extensive tour of the southern part of the province this morning.

WOMEN POLICEMEN FOR LONDON.



London is to have a police corps of women. At a recent meeting in the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor, presiding, advocated the formation of such a corps to augment the efficient London police corps, which has been depleted by men leaving for the war.

GERMANS ARE LYING

DEMAND FURTHER INQUIRY OF RECENT SEA ATROCITIES.

Leading Papers State That Teutonic Submarine Sank Both Palembang and Tubantia — Germans Accused of Starting Story About British.

By Norwegian Cox. The Hague, April 10.—The international situation here is still one of extreme delicacy. So far as the recent rumors of the landing of the British are concerned the Dutch press openly and by name accuses the Chancellor of the German Legation at the Hague and the German Consul-General at Amsterdam of responsibility for their origin. Neither has yet uttered a denial.

An early opportunity will be taken to interpellate the Government in the Second Chamber and demand an inquiry. Meanwhile the real danger is not from outside the country, but from the inside. The Dutch shipping interests, by far the most powerful in the country, are thoroughly aroused by the recent marine losses, and are pressing the Government to energetic measures.

The Amsterdam Handelsblad, commenting on the German denial of responsibility for the torpedoing of the Palembang, says:

"Either a German submarine torpedoed the Palembang and Tubantia, according to the known methods of German submarine warfare, or a British submarine first, in the case of the Tubantia, deliberately and with a German torpedo sank a large passenger liner in the dead of night, and second, in the case of the Palembang, torpedoed a peaceful ship off our own coast and with danger to

GERMANS ARE LYING

one of our own war vessels. "Must we again say which we believe is the most probable?"

The Handelsblad concludes by urging the Government to take further steps.

The Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant tabulates the same proposition as the Handelsblad, and roundly asserts the belief that both ships were sunk by a German submarine.

The Nieuwe Courant of the Hague takes the same view, and insists that the Government take further action.

AGAIN GAG LIEBKNECHT.

Told Dignity of Reichstag Is Injured By His Speeches.

London, April 12.—Dr. Karl Liebknecht, Socialist, has again been refused permission to address the Reichstag, according to Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent. The refusal to permit him to address the Chamber came during a discussion of the second reading of a bill providing for payments to disabled soldiers in a lump sum, instead of by pension.

When Dr. Liebknecht asked permission to speak the President of the Chamber is reported to have replied: "I cannot allow you to speak on a standing order, because you have repeatedly misused your opportunity in order to injure the dignity of the House."

PLOT HATCHED AT SHANGHAI.

German Consul-General's Implication In Conspiracy Established.

Vancouver, B. C., April 12.—Newspapers received aboard the Empress of Russia on Saturday evening give the details of a plot recently discovered in Shanghai involving the destruction of bridges on the Manchurian Railway connecting with Russian territory, and the placing of bombs aboard the steamer Empress of Russia before she left on the trip just ended.

It has been clearly established that the German consul-general in Shanghai made arrangements for carrying out of the plots on instructions he received from Berlin.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR BEER.

Only Difference In British Discovery Is In The Headache.

London, April 12.—The Liquor Control Board has discovered a new non-alcoholic beer, the sale of which will be pushed as far as possible in the English public-houses.

"It seems like beer, it looks like beer; it tastes like beer—the only difference is in the headache," says the statement issued by the board in a test case, a workman drank twenty pint bottles without becoming intoxicated. The new drink will be placed at the disposal of Parliament, in the House of Commons bar.

HUMAN CHAIN BACKS FOE

Remarkable Feats Under Fire of Picked Corps.

PRESENT GREAT MARK

FOR THE FRENCH GUNNERS IN CALLETTE WOOD.

Attack of French Made in Indian File—French Fought With Unfixed Bayonets—6,000 Dead Germans.

Paris, April 11.—A delayed despatch from Verdun gives further details of last week's desperate fighting for the Callette wood, still held by the French. While the German assault columns in the van fought hand to hand, a picked corps of workers behind them formed an amazing "human chain" from the woods in the centre of the Douaumont slope to the "crossroads" of the network of communication trenches six hundred yards in the rear. Four deep was the chain, and along its line of nearly three thousand men passed an unending stream of wooden billets, sand bags, chevaux de frise, steel shelters and light mitrailleuses—in a word, all the material for defensive fortifications, like buckets at a country fire. Despite the hurricane of French artillery fire, the German commander had adopted the only possible means of rapid transport over the shell-torn, debris-covered ground where neither horse nor cart could go. Every moment counted unless the barrier rose swiftly. French counter-attacks already massing would sweep the assailants back to the wood.

Cover was disdainful, the workers stood at full height, and the chain stretched openly across hollows and hillocks, a fair target for the French gunners. The latter missed no chance, and again and again great rents were torn in the line by bursting melinite, but coolly as man-o-war's oarsmen, the French soldiers sprang forward from the shelters to replace the fallen and the work went on apace. Gradually another line doubled the chain of workers as the upheaved corpses formed a continuous embankment each additional dead man giving greater protection to his comrades. In the woods others were digging and burying logs deep in the earth, installing shelters and feverishly building fortifications. At last the work was ended at a fearful cost, and from the whole length bursting, flaming havoc was poured upon the advancing Frenchmen.

Vainly the latter dashed forward they could not pass, and as evening fell the barrier still held, covering the German working parties, burrowing like moles in the maze of trenches and bayaux. So solid was the barricade and so padded with sand bags and earthworks that artillery fire was practically unavailing against it, and the French general realized that the barrier must be breached by explosives, as in Napoleon's battles. It was 8 o'clock, and

already pitch dark in that blighted atmosphere, as a special blasting corps—as devoted as the German chain of workers—crept forward to the enemy's position. The rest of the French waited, sheltered in a ravine east of Douaumont, until the explosion should signal an assault.

Attack in Indian File. In Indian file, to avoid giving possible proof of their presence to the hostile sentinels, the blasting corps advanced at first with comparative rapidity—only stiffening into grotesque rigidity of simulated death when the searchlights played upon them, to resume progress when the beam shifted—then they approached the barrier slowly and more slowly. When they arrived within fifty yards the movement of the crawling men became imperceptible through German star shells, and sentinels surprised the searchlights in vigilance. They lay at full length, just like hundreds of other motionless forms about them, but all were working busily. With a short trowel each file leader scuffed the earth from under his body, taking care not to uprise, and gradually making a shallow trench deep enough to hide him. Others followed the example until the whole line had sunk below the surface, then the leaders began scooping gently forward, while their followers deepened the furrow already made. Thus, literally inch by inch the file stole forward, sheltered in the narrow ditch from the guests of the German mitrailleuse fire that constantly swept the terrain. Here and there a sentinel's eye caught a suspicious movement and an incautious raised head sank down pierced by a bullet, but steadily the mole advance continued. Hours passed, it was nearly dawn when the remnant of the blasting corps reached the barricade at last and hurriedly put their explosives in position. Back they wriggled breathlessly. An over-hasty movement meant death, yet they must needs hurry, lest the moment explosions overwhelm them. Suddenly came a roar that dwarfed the cannonade and along the barrier fountains of fire rose skyward, hurling a rain of fragments upon what was left of the blasting party. The barricade was breached, but 75 per cent. of the devoted corps had given its life to do it.

As the survivors lay exhausted the attackers charged over them, cheering in the melee that followed. There was no room to shoot or wield the rifle. Some of the French fought with their unfixed bayonets, like the stabbing swords of the Roman legions. Others had knives or clubs; all were battle-frenzied, as only heavy movement meant death. The Frenchmen can be. The Germans broke, and as the first rays of dawn streaked the sky only a small northern section of the wood was still in the hands of the enemy.

6,000 Dead Germans. A similar barrier stopped further progress, and it was evident that the night's work must be repeated. But the hearts of the Frenchmen were leaping with victory as they dug furiously to consolidate the ground gained, and which was strewn with German bodies as thick as leaves. Over six thousand Germans were counted in a section a quarter of a mile square, and the conquerors saw why their cannonade had been so ineffective, for the enemy had piled a second barrier of corpses close behind the first, so that the soft human flesh would act as a buffer to neutralize the force of the shell.



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The Czar Certainly Has Tough Luck



By Bud Fisher

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