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THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN MORNING DAILY

CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA, SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1916

(\$3.50 Per Year (delivered) in advance (\$2.50 Per Year (Mailed) in Advance in Canada and \$3.00 for U. S. A.)

Morning Daily founded 1891 Weekly (now Evening Daily) 1887

LIEUT. ROY LEITCH RETURNS TO CANADA

He Participated in the Serbian Retreat from Durazzo and Witnessed Many of the Horrors Incident to That Disastrous March.

ST. JOHN, N. B., March 24.—Lieutenant Roy Leitch, of Charlottetown, and a staff officer in the Serbian Army arrived in the city yesterday by the steamer Corinthian. Lieutenant Leitch visited his home last summer having been invalided after ten months with the 130 Regiment, Second Infantry, Serbian Army. After a few months rest he returned to Serbia where he participated in the Serbian retreat



from Durazzo. Asked as to the truth of the reports regarding the Austrian atrocities, Lieut. Leitch said, "The half of it has never yet found its way into print and much of it will never be known. The torture brought down upon the heads of the innocent Serbians was much the same as the methods used by the North American Indians. At one place one hundred men, women and children were thrown into a huge bonfire and burned up. Again a large number of children were lined up in front of the Austrians, who charged them with fixed bayonets and cut them to pieces."

"We finally arrived at Corfu, where our horrors were in a measure at an end. King Peter was with us in the retreat and he trudged along like any common soldier. The Serbian Army is now in first-class shape."

The retreat from Durazzo he said was full of horrors. "The story will never be adequately told," he said "it was too horrible. For one hundred miles the road was strewn with bodies of men, women and children. The soldiers pressed on with the civilians, starving to death whilst continually being shot at from the rear delivering blow after blow. About three hundred English, French, Russian and Italian nurses were also in the retreat and they suffered horribly. Two Scottish nurses were killed when they fell precipitate. All our lines of communication were cut and for days and nights we existed upon almost nothing." Lieut. Leitch has written a book on his experiences in the Serbian Army. He leaves shortly for New York to arrange for further funds and will later return to Serbia.

Knows Nothing Of Severe Note To Germany

LONDON, March 23.—The Netherlands Foreign Office declares that nothing is known concerning the severe note from Holland to Germany in connection with the Tabantia, announced in the newspaper Nieuws Van Den Hag, says a Reuters despatch from The Hague.

Norwegian Steamer Sunk Without Warning

HAVRE, March 24.—The Norwegian steamer "Koina" is reported torpedoed without warning in the channel. The crew were saved.

COMING EVENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, ETC.

ONE CENT per word each insertion for advertising in this column. Cash must accompany orders. Minimum charges twenty-five cents.

BATTLES RAGING ON ALL FRONTS

French and Russian Fronts Scenes of Heaviest Fighting. French Keeping Up Bombardment of Points Northwest of Verdun Occupied by Germans. Russians Making Big Gains.

(Special to the Guardian) LONDON, March 24.—It is still in the French and Russian war theatres that the heaviest battles are in progress, but fighting is also continuing in the Austro-Italian zone, in Serbia near the Greek frontier and in Asiatic Turkey. The French are keeping up their vigorous bombardment of the woods of Malancourt and Avocourt, north-west of Verdun, which are held by the Germans and also are hammering away with their guns the German lines of communication in the eastern fringes of Argonne forest.

To north-east of Verdun an intermittent bombardment by the Germans on the French second line positions is still going on, with the French replying energetically. The only infantry encounters along the western front took place in Argonne forest, where the Germans gained a portion of the French first line trench, but were expelled from it by a counter-attack with a loss of some thirty men taken prisoners.

All along the Russian front, from the region of Friedrichstadt to the district around Vilna the Russians and Germans are at hard grips. The Petrograd and Vilna the Russians forced all the German lines and barricades and repulsed a vigorous German counter-attack. Berlin, however, says the Russian attacks failed with heavy losses before a German entrenchment. Bad weather prevails in the Austro-

CONDENSED ADS. TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION

ONE CENT per word each insertion for advertising in this column. Cash must accompany orders. Minimum charges twenty-five cents. "IDEAL" SAUSAGES ALWAYS ON HAND at Holman's, Charlottetown. OYSTERS AT BENOIT'S 98 WATER ST. 7881-3-18-M81. WANTED—A CHAMBER MAID at King Edward Hotel. 7962-3-25-M61. WANTED BY APRIL 1ST, MAID for general housework. Apply 121 Euston St. SMART BOY WANTED for composition room. Apply Foreman Guardian Office. CUT THIS OUT FOR LUCK.—SEND birth date and 10c. for wonderful horoscope of your entire life. Professor Raphael 499 Lexington Ave. New York. 7769-3-25-M11. LOST—A WRISTLET WATCH between Agricultural Hall and St. Dunstan's Cathedral. Finder please leave at Agricultural Hall. 7966-3-25-M21. TO LET—IN PRIVATE FAMILY a large bright sitting room, centrally located. All modern conveniences. Apply Guardian Office. 7911-3-21-M17. FOR SALE—IN CHARLOTTETOWN a small farm suited for market gardening with house and barn. MacKinnon & McNeill 90 Great George St. 7981-3-21-M41. FOR SALE—TWO MARE, 12 YEARS old, weight 1240 lbs., sound, a good general purpose beast. Apply to Thomas Hyde, Murray Harbour. 7645-3-41-M10th. FOR SALE—1/2 SHARES IN THE Central Fox Co., Ltd., will be sold at a bargain. Reason of selling party going overseas. service. Apply Box 103 Charlottetown. 7289-3-10-M11. STRAYED FROM RAILWAY STATION towards Hillsboro Bridge, by way of lee, on March 23rd, one red steer. Anyone giving information will be rewarded. Saunders & Newcome Co. 7958-m31. WANTED—COMPETENT WOMAN as housekeeper in small family in the city. No incumbrance. Good wages and good home for the right woman. Apply, Stating experience to housekeeper, Box 335, City. 7949-3-23-M11. WANTED—YOUNG WOMEN TO ENTER training school of large private hospital in Boston, making a specialty of surgery and obstetrics. Applicants must be healthy, have a high school education or its equivalent and be at least 20 years old. Apply to Superintendent, The Hart Private Hospital, Inc., 95 Moreland St. Roxbury, Mass. 7873-3-25-S11.

GERMAN LOSSES IN VERDUN BATTLE

One Company Annihilated, Others Decimated and Losses Out of All Proportion to Gains.

(Special to the Guardian) LONDON, March 24.—The Germans would have believed that their losses at Verdun were not greater than those of the French army, says a semi-official note this afternoon. The following example will show how great the German sacrifices were: On the forenoon of March 9, the first battalion of the nineteenth regiment attacked the village of Vaux in columns of four. The French allowed the first company to penetrate the village, where it was surprised by a violent machine gun fire and then charged with bayonets. The survivors, those able to do so, took refuge in houses where they fell. This company was annihilated. The second and third battalions of the same regiment passed east of the village at the same time going forward in squads to the first French trenches on the northern slope of Fort Vaux. The second and third battalions of the same regiment passed east of the village at the same time going forward in squads to the first French trenches on the northern slope of Fort Vaux. The second and third battalions of the same regiment passed east of the village at the same time going forward in squads to the first French trenches on the northern slope of Fort Vaux.

(Special to the Guardian) LONDON, March 24.—The British official statement on the campaign on the western front says: "The enemy exploded mines last night and today near Guinchy, just north of La Bassee Canal. They did no damage. We bombarded hostile trenches south of Comines Canal."

(Special to the Guardian) PARIS, March 24.—Bombardment by the French of the German positions in the Woods of Malancourt and Avocourt and by both German and French guns in opposing positions on all sides continue, according to a French official communication tonight. No infantry action has taken place except in Argonne forest where the Germans entered the French first line of trenches but were immediately expelled with losses.

English Woman Arrested as Spy

LONDON, March 24.—A complaint was made in the Commons that the daughter of an English squire had been put in jail summarily some time ago and still was kept there. The members were impressed with the apparent injustice till it was explained that she was in close touch with a German spy who had to flee the country and when she was arrested there was found in her possession literature advocating revolution and murder.

Trouble Between Vatican and Berlin

ROME, March 23.—The Messagero publishes a report that the situation between the Vatican and Germany is most delicate as a result of what is happening in Belgium between the German authorities and Cardinal Mercier. It says that the Vatican may be placed in a difficult position. Cardinal Mercier, it is feared, will be interned in Germany.

4 Dummy Guns Saved Steamer From Disaster

NEW YORK, March 22.—Four dummy guns made of spars and mounted on the after and quarter decks of the Harrison line steamer Director, saved that vessel from being a submarine victim, according to A. C. Rivers, of Santa Fe, N. M., a horseman who arrived here yesterday on the steamship Cameronia, from Liverpool. Mr. Rivers said that he was on the Director when the incident occurred. "The ship left Pensacola, Florida, January 15, with a cargo for Liverpool," he said. "On January 25, when about 200 miles from the Irish coast, a submarine was sighted several miles astern. It immediately gave chase and for two hours hung on to us despite the best speed the Director was able to run. Finding that the submarine was gaining, the Director's captain gave orders to bring up from the hold a spare deck spar, and it was saved in a conspicuous manner on deck, so that they would resemble guns."

ACTIVE ON DUTCH FRONTIER

AMSTERDAM, via London, March 23.—Information reaching Amsterdam shows that Germany is tightening its grip along the Holland frontier. Many German places that never before had a garrison are now being promoted to garrison towns. Geldern, Emmerich and Bocholt are being garrisoned. In other towns like Cleves, which have long been garrison towns, the contingents of troops have been greatly increased. Soldiers in the Dutch army whose families live in German border places or in any other towns in Germany are no longer permitted to visit their relatives. This order has been in force for two months.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Debate on Estimates of Justice Department Brought Forth an Allegation of Religious Discrimination on Part of Minister of Justice and a Crushing Reply from Minister.

(From our Own Correspondent.) OTTAWA, March 24.—Another attack on the Kingston penitentiary administration by Dr. J. E. Edwards of Frontenac, coupled with the allegation that the Minister of Justice had apparently been guilty of religious discrimination in the treatment of penitentiary officials, featured the discussion of the Justice Department estimates in the House to-day. Most of the earlier part of the day was spent on these topics, but the penitentiary estimates were finally passed and the Inland Revenue Department appropriations taken up. Good progress had been made with the latter by the time the House adjourned. Dr. Edwards took occasion to reply to the last report of penitentiary inspection in which Inspectors Douglas Stewart and W. S. Hughes had paid their respects to the member for Frontenac. He also criticized Hon. C. J. Doherty because a guard at Stoney Mountain penitentiary, who had carried letters to convicts, had been dismissed, while a Roman Catholic chaplain who had done the same thing had been retained. The same thing had happened in Kingston penitentiary with regard to the conveying of money from friends outside to convicts in the institution. The Frontenac member also protested against the granting of superannuation allowance to Dr. Phelan, surgeon of the penitentiary, alleging he had never done his duty in a manner to deserve such consideration. The reply of the Minister of Justice as regards the religious discrimination alleged was that the Roman Catholic chaplain at Stoney Mountain had sent a letter away for a convict while still a new appointee. He had done it in ignorance of the rules. Father McDonnell of Kingston penitentiary had not transferred any money to a convict but had simply received money orders from a woman who happened to be a convict's mother, in connection with a private affair. The Minister of Justice said that after sixty years in a mixed community of Catholics and Protestants it was hard for him to keep a straight face when it was suggested that in matters of Justice and fair play creed counted with him. The Minister said that he hoped to have improved the penitentiary system and adopted a plan whereby Government Departments would be supplied with the products of prison labour. The war had prevented the latter reform, but he had been preparing a better system of regulations for convicts in Canadian penitentiaries.

Securities Valued At £20,000,000 are Before Prize Court

LONDON, March 23.—Securities valued at £20,000,000, suspected of being of German ownership seized from mails in transit, are now in possession of the prize court, according to an announcement by the foreign office. Securities have not yet been declared absolute contraband, but it is possible that they will soon be placed on the contraband list. Meanwhile the seizures will be continued on the ground that under the orders in council these securities establish credit for hostile belligerents and therefore can be legally held up. The authorities declare that innocent owners can be easily proved by reference to the banks which hold any of the detained securities, and that therefore nothing in the nature of a hardship, beyond a slight delay, is liable to be suffered by innocent owners.

General Offensive Ordered by Germany

ROME, March 24.—Saloniki sends word that the Bulgarian commander-in-chief has arrived at the Macedonian front preparatory to a general offensive ordered by Germany. A simultaneous offensive is to be made on all fronts against the French, British, Italians and Russians.

Rioting in Germany

LONDON, March 23.—Reports continue to be published here of the rioting in German cities consequent on the failure of the crown prince's army before Verdun. The Daily Express prints a dispatch from Amsterdam to the effect that riots of the most serious character have been taking place almost daily in Cologne since the beginning of the Verdun offensive and that police and troops have been called upon to keep order. The reason for the trouble is said to be popular indignation caused by the continued passage of wounded in trains from France. This is telling on the nerves of the Cologne people. For a fortnight past trains have been running constantly in such numbers that it has been impossible to confine their passage to nights.

Roumania Prepares To Enter War

LONDON, March 24.—The Daily Mail's Athens correspondent says that the date of the Roumanian intervention soon will be settled on the conclusion of negotiations related to the Russian preparations for an offensive. At present and Bulgarian officers inspected the strategic positions on the Roumanian frontier last week.

DOMINION LINE STEAMER SUNK

(Special to the Guardian) LONDON, March 24.—According to Lloyd's the steamer Englishman of the Dominion Line has been sunk. Thus far 68 survivors have been accounted for. The Englishman shows she sailed from Portland, Maine, February 17, for St. Nazaire and Avonmouth. She was 5,267 tons and was owned by the Mississippi and Dominion S.S. Co.

Sixty-eight Survivors Accounted For. Was Bound From Portland, Maine, to England.

The British steamer Englishman, a vessel of 5,267 tons, which plies between Portland, Maine, and Avonmouth, has been sunk, but whether by a mine or torpedo has not been stated. Sixty-eight persons on board were rescued. Whether this number constituted the entire ship's company is not known.

THE WEATHER, TEMPERATURE, TIDE, MOON, ETC.

(Special to the Guardian) TORONTO, March 23.—Maritime: Northwest to west winds, fresh to strong at first, fair and comparatively mild. THE WEATHER.—Yesterday was mostly fine with occasional light snow. The highest temperature recorded yesterday was 29 degrees above zero. At nine o'clock yesterday morning it registered 17 above; at nine last night 29 above. The coldest the previous night was 16 above. The tide will be high this afternoon at 1:47 tomorrow at 2:30 and Monday at 3:34. It will be high tomorrow morning at 3:56, Monday at 5:05 and Tuesday at 6:22. The sun sets this evening at 6:20, tomorrow at 6:22 and Monday at 6:23; it rises tomorrow at 5:50, Monday at 5:49 and Tuesday at 5:47. The moon sets this morning at 9:06, tomorrow at 10:06 and Monday at 11:15. There was a full moon on Sunday, March 19th at 1:27 p. m. The last quarter of the moon will be on Sunday, March 26th at 12:22 p. m. The length of today will be twelve hours and 32 minutes.

BRITISH STEAMER WAS TORPEDOED

Passengers, 380 in All Reported Safe and Steamer Still Floating. Particulars Meagre. Supposed Number of Americans On Board.

(Special to the Guardian) LONDON, March 24.—It is reported that a cross channel passenger boat from Folkestone to Dieppe was sunk this afternoon. Nothing is obtainable yet from any reliable quarter here concerning the Folkestone boat, but she is understood to have been carrying 240 civilian passengers and a crew of 50 men. It is rumoured the steamer was sunk at four o'clock this afternoon. The Continental traffic office of the Brighton Railway says that according to reports received by it all on the steamer were saved and that the vessel is still afloat.

BRITISH STEAMER WAS TORPEDOED

(Special to the Guardian) LONDON, March 24.—A Central News bulletin published to-night says the steamer sunk was the Sussex and that she was torpedoed off Beachy-Head. The agency gives the number of passengers as 380, a few of whom were British.

BRITISH STEAMER WAS TORPEDOED

(Special to the Guardian) LONDON, March 24.—With 386 passengers, some of them probably Americans, and a crew of about fifty on board the cross channel steamer, Sussex, plying between Folkestone and Dieppe, France, is in distress in the English Channel. Dieppe unofficial reports say the vessel was torpedoed. At last reports rescue boats were standing by.

BRITISH STEAMER WAS TORPEDOED

(Special to the Guardian) RIO JANEIRO, March 23.—From a reliable source it was declared that the Brazilian government, despite reports to the contrary in circulation in the United States, has taken no action towards requisitioning merchant vessels of German ownership interned in Brazilian ports.

BRITISH STEAMER WAS TORPEDOED

(Special to the Guardian) According to information published in the newspapers, the Brazilian government would not consider taking such action without an amicable agreement with all interests concerned. The neutrality of Brazil in the war between Germany and Portugal has been decreed.

GREEK ROYALISTS ARE EMBARRASSED

ATHENS, March 21.—(Via Paris, March 20.)—The impression prevails in high political circles at Athens that Roumania will shortly abandon her policy of neutrality in favor of the Entente Allies. Should Roumania enter the war, Greek officials would be placed in an embarrassing position, the force of which is already felt. Military reports of the Entente Allies do not disguise the fact that at present they have no need for Greece and do not desire to assume responsibility for maintenance and equipment of the Greek army unless they are assured definitely of cooperation in the event of an allied offensive in Macedonia. The course of the fighting at Verdun has produced a marked impression on event the most determined non-interventionists and the Royalist press is changing its tone in regard to participation of Greece in the war. The feeling of allied diplomatists seems to be that if Greece desires to enter the war now, she will have to do so on her own initiative and with no conditions with respect to territorial compensation.

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