

THE DAILY NEWS

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FRENCH TROOPS STORM HILL IN FLANDERS

REGAIN POSITION NORTH OF KEMMEL -- DR. BELAND EXCHANGED FOR BEULOW

HARD FIGHTING IN FLANDERS--
FRENCH STORM ENEMY POSITIONS

HILL 44, NORTH OF KEMMEL, STORMED AND CAPTURED FROM THE GERMANS--ARTILLERY ON BOTH SIDES ACTIVE IN PICARDY--ENEMY AEROPLANES ATTEMPT TO RAID PARIS BUT FAIL

With the British Armies in France, May 16.—Hard fighting continued yesterday on the Flanders front at various places. At Hill 44, which lies north of Kemmel, the enemy positions were stormed by the French troops in a gallant charge, and the German forces ejected, or taken prisoner. The French suffered severe losses in this engagement, which however was successful, and they were able to inflict further heavy losses upon the retreating Germans. The position was quickly turned about from which a strong fire was immediately poured into the enemy lines to the rear, which are overlooked from Hill 44. The enemy losses were not negligible.

French Front.
Paris, May 16.—Great activity has been displayed by the artillery batteries of both the French and the German armies in the region of the Aisne river. Near Juvenecourt the Germans unsuccessfully attempted to raid the French positions. Their attack however was prevented from reaching the French front line trenches, being mowed down by machine gun and rifle fire.

Raid on Paris.
Paris, May 16.—Squadrons of enemy aeroplanes appeared over the outskirts of Paris yesterday, where they dropped several bombs. Details of the damage done are still coming in, which, however, appears to be slight. No casualties have yet been reported. The enemy machines were unable to make their way over the city proper. The anti-aircraft batteries opened fire on the invaders and the aeroplanes attached to the defence organization drove off the invaders early. The enemy machines did not wait to become engaged by the French machines, but turned tail upon their appearance, and ineffectually fled.

In Picardy.
London, May 16.—Yesterday the Germans attacked the British lines along a front of one mile near Morlanecourt. Their initial rush enabled them to penetrate the British line temporarily at one point, but everywhere else they were repulsed. Heavy losses were inflicted upon the German forces who fought desperately, until they were overwhelmed. At the one point where they did penetrate the British line, the Australian troops in a brilliant counter attack drove them out, and regained the lost position.

75's on the Job.
Paris, May 16.—Intermittent

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bombardments are reported from the Grivesnes sector. In the neighborhood of Mont-didier, and on the road between Noyon and Guiscard the French batteries of 75's dispersed the enemy concentrations in overwhelming shoots of fire, which took the Germans completely by surprise. Allied aviators report that the enemy formations were scattered in inextricable confusion by the furious bombardment, which was timed exactly. Many of the enemy convoys of food and ammunition and other war material have been dispersed and broken up by the French guns, preventing them from reaching their destination. In the Champagne country, an enemy surprise attack failed completely, the attacking forces being unable to attain to the French lines.

DR. BELAND EXCHANGED
FOR PRINCE VON BUELOW

Ottawa, May 15.—Just as soon as the information was received here that Dr. Beland had reached the sanctuary of the neutral country of Holland, Premier Borden released for publication here the announcement that the German government agreed to exchange Dr. Beland for Prince von Buelow, who has been interned in England since the early days of the war.

Dr. Beland was taking the cure at one of the German Spas when war broke out, and was in no fit condition physically to be removed from the enemy country in time to escape, being interned by the German government. Dr. Beland is an old man and an ex-cabinet minister of Canada, and the knowledge that he has at last been freed from the rigors of German supervision will be thankfully received throughout Canada.

U. S. FOOD CONTROLLER
SEIZES SURPLUS WHEAT

Washington, May 15.—Actual seizing of wheat hoarded by farmers has begun.

State food administrators, given broad powers by Hoover, are requisitioning grain in several states. The government is paying the regular market price with the expense of seizure deducted.

Food Administrator Hoover has again warned state officials that every bushel of wheat—even that held for seed—must be offered to keep the Allies from starving. Less than 50,000,000 bushels of wheat were on the farms May 1, officials believe—most of this held for seed purposes. Seizing of wheat began in Kansas, Indiana and other states May 4. Other state administrators are using every effort to induce farmers still holding wheat to release it voluntarily.

More than 90 per cent. of the farmers there have sold their wheat, officials state.

Food officials here say the nation is now living on 35 to 40 per cent. of its normal food requirements without complaint.

Ladysmith Wellington Coal reduces your fuel bill and gives satisfaction. Phone 15. P. R. Coal Co.

Dance in Harvey's Hall tonight.
Sign the launch petition.

ATTEMPT TO TIE UP
OCEAN FALLS PLANT

A report from the provincial constable at Ocean Falls was received in the city yesterday giving details of an attempt to interfere with the power wires connected with the Ocean Falls plant. A man named Mike Errico has been arrested, and after the preliminary hearing at Ocean Falls, has been taken to Vancouver. The deed was committed at 2:15 a.m. and the accused had cut a large cable carrying 2,200 volts of electricity, and had it connected up to another cable carrying only 400 volts. He had a rope tied to the switch, hanging out of the window of the finishing room, where he had all his preparations made. After having everything connected up finely, he, it is supposed, would pull the rope, throwing the switch in to turn on the current.

While the full details have not yet come out, it is possible that a man who knew enough to do so much would be able to have everything arranged to make the damage as complete as possible. While fuses are always installed just to take care of any such contingency as a greater load, had these been interfered with, the result would probably be that the motors would be burnt out, and the whole power system thrown out of commission, which would tie up the work at this plant for some considerable time. The consequential loss would therefore have been much greater than the direct loss of the motors, which would be heavy enough these days.

WITHDRAWING TANKERS
FROM PACIFIC OCEAN

Seattle, May 15.—Pacific Northwest Oil consumers who cannot change to coal must submit to Mr. R. M. Folsom, San Francisco, Pacific Coast Federal oil director, by June 10, a statement giving the nature of their business and their reasons for not changing, according to a telegram received today from Mr. Folsom at the offices of the Washington State Fuel Administration here.

"We are advised that a large number of tankers are to be withdrawn from the Pacific Ocean for Atlantic service within six months," the telegram said in part. "This will necessitate the changing of Northwestern industries to coal wherever possible regardless of cost."

FRENCH BONDS WILL PAY
INTEREST EVERY MONTH

Paris, May 15.—"One month bonds" for the national defense have been created by the ministry of finance. A person investing in them may collect interest on the first of each month at the rate of 3.60 per cent. a year. The bonds, however, may be carried two or three months, in which event the investor would receive interest at the rate of 4 per cent. for the period of three months.

Bonds calling for 100, 500 and 1,000 francs will be placed at the disposal of the public May 31.

NOTICE

Will all those receiving Launch Petitions please sign them up and either mail them to the minister of marine and fisheries at Ottawa, or to me at Box 109, Prince Rupert, before May 18, and oblige,
HOOMES K. FREEMAN

For New Wellington Coal and Lumber of all dimensions. Phone 116.
Sign the launch petition.

TWO MILLION DOLLAR FIRE
IN VANCOUVER SHIPYARD

Coughlan's Yard on False Creek is Reported Utterly Destroyed—Two Million Dollar Loss.

A private message was received in town last evening to the effect that the large shipyard belonging to Messrs. Coughlan, which is situated between the Granville Street and Main Street bridges on False Creek in Vancouver, was destroyed by fire, which broke out yesterday afternoon. The information is that this plant has been completely wiped out, and that the loss is estimated at \$2,000,000.

On account of the telegraph wires being down today, no press dispatches have been received today, and further confirmation of this information cannot be got in the meantime. This news, therefore, must be accepted with all reserve in the meantime.

HUNS WANT COMPLETE
CONTROL OF RUSSIA

Washington, May 16.—Details of Germany's latest demands upon Russia show that the Germans have asked her to make the final concessions in giving up Moscow and other large cities which are centres throughout the country. These will be garrisoned by strong German forces. The Russians have also to cease from arming their troops, and are to dissolve all their recently formed military units.

This of course means the complete subjugation of the whole empire of Russia by the Germans, who will govern the country for their own uses. It is not expected that Russia, even with Lenin and Trotsky at the head of her government, will stand for any such course of action. Strict discipline is being maintained in the new Soviet regiments, and their recent parade in Moscow, which the German ambassador attended, shows that the Russian military organization is by no means disorganized.

The handing over of Russia's Holy City to the Germans will hardly be accomplished without fighting. The Russians themselves set the city alight to prevent it from falling into the hands of Napoleon more than a hundred years ago, and there is sufficient spirit in the Russian of today to follow this historic example. The whole Russian situation is being watched closely.

JUNKERS KEEP LID
TIGHTLY CLAMPED

Amsterdam, May 15.—Three meetings which had been arranged for the Independent Socialists to be held in Berlin on Wednesday evening to discuss the question of Prussian electoral reform were forbidden by the police.

This action probably was the outcome of an attack at a recent session of the House of Deputies by the Independent Socialist Heinrich Stroebeel on Junkerdom, when he said:

"Attempts are being made to build up a modern political system of mediaeval lines under which the Junkers and capitalists can join hands to deprive the working classes of their rights and keep them in permanent subjugation."

DUBLIN'S LORD MAYOR
WILL CROSS ATLANTIC

Dublin, May 16.—The Lord Mayor of Dublin has received his passports for his projected visit to the United States, and is arranging for his immediate departure.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP
WILL SOLVE FUEL PROBLEM

Only a few days ago, the Canadian Fuel Controller, informed the communities in the eastern portion of the Dominion that it was up to the civic authorities there to lay in a stock of coal now, in view of the possible and probable scarcity which will again happen this coming winter. The experience which many of the eastern towns and villages suffered this last winter was none too pleasant, through the cutting off of the imports of Pennsylvania coal into Canada.

The state of affairs obtaining last winter threaten to become more marked this winter, through the embargo upon the export of fuel oil from the United States on the Pacific coast. This will naturally create a greater demand for coal. And one of the facts which Prince Rupert and other cities will have to consider is how to keep up the supply. Even now, the coal mines on Vancouver Island, whence we draw our supplies, are working to capacity. And even with all the fuel oil coming to British Columbia, owing to combinations of circumstances, once or twice last season there threatened to be a scarcity right here in town. We got by, however, without it becoming too noticeable. It is possible that if the United States do not permit the export of fuel oil into Canada, for her own preservation Canada will have to prohibit the export of coal to the United States. This, however, will not go very far in meeting the large extra consumption of coal which will ensue in this province. New sources of supplies of coal will, therefore, have to be looked for and developed.

Last summer, before coal reached its present high price, there was considerable discussion in this city regarding the establishing of the civic coal depot. The advantages of this development of the idea of municipal ownership of utilities was admirable—so far as it went. But the trouble was it did not go far enough. When administered properly, it might work all right provided the coal could be got. But this year, the advocates of municipal ownership will have another problem to face, which is the provision of the coal itself. The situation which threatens to develop this fall is one which is a direct challenge to the idea of municipal ownership and all that it means. The logical sequence of the action of the city of Prince Rupert in former years in acquiring and operating for the common good its own public utilities is that the city adds another one to the list. It is up to the city now to mine its own coal as well as sell it.

This may seem to be radical action for a municipality, but in practice and in reality it is not any more so than the city generating its own power and light. Proven coal fields lie within easy distance of Prince Rupert. The coal has already been tested, and is of such high quality that the city could sell its surplus to His Majesty's fleet for bunkers.

Competent mining engineers who have been on the ground are confident that in the space of three months, sufficient development work could be done on the Telkwa coal fields to permit of sufficient coal being produced there daily to take care of the present demand all over northern British Columbia. The coal is there, and it is simply a matter of getting it to Prince Rupert. There seems to be little doubt that there will be a serious situa-

tion prevailing along this coast next winter, unless new sources of supply are tapped, and in view of the many warnings which have been given by government officials and others of the impending scarcity, there will be no excuse for our civic authorities should they permit any shortage to take place here. Their natural course would be to secure a lease at the earliest possible moment of some suitable coal property. The Provincial Government has provided a Mining Engineer, with headquarters right in Prince Rupert who will give ripe judgment upon their choice.

Action of this kind taken by the city of Prince Rupert, besides making for the security of the coal supply of the city, will also go a long way towards opening up the interior country, and will be one of the best advertisements which it has ever received. With the city possessing its own waterfront, and its own wharf, and producing more coal from its own mine than is required for local consumption, the possibilities for the future are immense. There is little reason to doubt the success of such an undertaking, provided Prince Rupert has sufficient breadth of vision of the future, and sufficient faith—in themselves.

TRAIN OF SETTLERS
FOR NECHACO VALLEY

The increased attraction possessed by Northern British Columbia agricultural lands for prairie farmers was forcibly demonstrated last week, when a train of eleven cars, loaded with settlers and settlers' effects, arrived at Engen last week, to take up land previously secured in the Nechaco Valley. There were thirty-eight in the colony, the majority being accompanied by their wives and families.

The new colonists are from a point in Manitoba, and from accounts received they are described as a very prosperous people, capable of financing their own venture. Included among their effects was the first tractor to be brought into that section.

Engen is located on the G. T. P. about mid-way between Fraser Lake and Vanderhoof. The thirty-two quarter sections they occupy contains some of the finest mixed farming land in the Nechaco, and were selected after a thorough investigation of the land all along the G. T. P. railway, the colonization department of this railway being alone responsible for securing the settlers and bringing them to this district.—Interior News.

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