

ALLIES FELL BACK ON 10-MILE FRONT IN THE REGION OF KEMMEL HILL BUT REGAINED GROUND BEFORE AMIENS

Battle Raged All Day in Flanders and the Allied Forces Were Obligated to Retreat Before Greatly Superior Enemy Forces

GERMANS WERE FORCED BACK ALL ABOUT VILLERS-BRETONNEUX

London, April 26.—A footing has been obtained on Kemmel hill by the Germans in their attacks on the northern battlefield, the war office announced to-day. The fighting is continuing in this region. The allies were compelled to give ground after an all-day's engagement yesterday with greatly superior enemy forces along a ten-mile front from Bailleul to Holbeke.

German posts which held out southeast of Villers-Bretonneux on the front south of the Somme after its recapture by the British were cleared up.

With the British Army in France, April 26 (By Associated Press).—The French this morning are counter attacking at Mount Kemmel in an attempt to reclaim the positions taken by the Germans. Yesterday's fighting was of a desperate nature and the enemy gains were only made at frightful cost.

FIERCE WARFARE SOUTH OF SOMME

French Official Statement Issued To-day Told of Heavy Artillery Fighting on Southern Battle Front.

Paris, April 26.—Heavy artillery fighting south of the Somme was reported by the war office to-day.

75 CASUALTIES REPORTED TO-DAY

Nine Americans Killed in Action, Five Died of Wounds and Three Died of Disease.

Washington, D. C., April 26.—The American casualty list to-day contains 75 names, as follows: Killed in action, 9; died of wounds, 3; died of disease, 3; wounded severely, 33; wounded slightly, 25.

WARDLAW CAPTURED

St. Albans Man Gets Word of Brother Formerly Reported Missing.

St. Albans, April 26.—J. Walter Wardlaw yesterday received a cable from London telling him that his brother, Capt. James M. Wardlaw, tenth Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, of the regular British army, who had been reported missing since April 10, is slightly wounded and a prisoner of war in Germany.

PLANNED TO BLOW UP RAILROADS

Germans Plotted Great Destruction in the United States.

Washington, D. C., April 26.—Repeated declarations by the German emperor, Hindenburg and Ludendorff that the war was forced upon Germany, and assertions from the same source that Germany was taken by surprise by the Russian mobilization attack particularly interest to certain papers taken from Capt. Von Pappen, late military attache at Washington.

MORE CREDIT FOR BELGIUM

Allowed \$3,250,000 by the United States Government.

Washington, D. C., April 26.—Belgium was granted another credit of three and a quarter million dollars by the treasury to-day, making her total borrowings from the United States \$107,850,000 and credits to all the allies \$3,288,850,000.

RESIGNS HIS POST

Baron Rhonda, British Food Controller, is Now Ill.

London, April 26.—Baron Rhonda, the Daily Mail understands, has resigned his office as British food controller. He had been absent from the post for some weeks owing to illness.

CHAMP CLARK DECLINES. He Will Not Be New Senator from Missouri.

FRENCH DESTROY GERMAN LONG RANGE GUN

One of the Three That Have Been Bombarding Paris is Said to Have Been Put Out of Commission—Bombardment of the City Was Resumed Last Night.

Paris, April 26.—The long-range bombardment of Paris was resumed during the night.

600 PRISONERS WERE TAKEN BY BRITISH AT VILLERS-BRETONNEUX

Australians Aided the English in Counter Attack in Which They Recaptured Village Which Was Lost Earlier in Week.

London, April 26.—Australian and English troops have recaptured Villers-Bretonneux and taken more than 600 prisoners in that region, Field Marshal Haig reported last night. Further to the north on the line from Bailleul to Wytschaete there has been very heavy fighting and the allied troops were obliged to withdraw from their positions.

GERMAN ADMIRAL WILL LOSE COMMAND

Schroeder, Commander at Zebrugge, Will Be Punished, According to Report in Amsterdam, For Being Caught Napping.

Amsterdam, April 26.—Vice Admiral Schroeder, commander at Zebrugge, according to reports reaching here, will be deprived of his command for being taken by surprise by the British on Tuesday.

METHODISTS KEPT BUSY

At Their Conference Being Held in St. Johnsbury.

St. Johnsbury, April 26.—The second day of the Vermont conference brought 125 delegates and opened with the annual report of the superintendent of the St. Johnsbury district, Rev. Dr. William Shaw of St. Johnsbury. Fraternal greetings followed from the St. Johnsbury pastors and from Henry V. Martin of Newport, representing the Baptist denomination. The rest of the morning hour was devoted to greetings from those connected with the various activities of the church, including the Wesley foundation at Cambridge, Mass., the Methodist Book Concern, Zion's Herald, the deaconess hospital at Boston, and the Vermont Bible society.

TO DEPORT LYNCH TO UNITED STATES

Sinn Fein Food Controller, Who Has Just Completed Two Months' Term in Prison for Slaughtering Pigs, Said to Be an American.

Dublin, April 26.—Diarmid Lynch, the Sinn Fein food controller, who has just completed a term of two months' imprisonment for seizing and slaughtering pigs in Ireland, and who is an American, will be deported to America.

AMERICANS FOUND ALIVE IN DUGOUT

Wounded at Battle of Seicheprey Last Saturday, They Had Taken Shelter in Ruined Hut in No Man's Land—Another American Buried Under Refuse Three Days Found by Stretcher-Bearers.

With the American Army in France, Thursday, April 25 (By Associated Press).—Two American soldiers who were wounded at Seicheprey Saturday were found alive to-day in a dugout in No Man's land which had been smashed by German shell fire.

Another soldier, who was buried alive for three days before crawling to the surface, was found by stretcher bearers this morning.

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ST. JOHNSBURY MAN KILLED IN ACTION

Sergeant William R. Knapp Fell in Battle of Seicheprey—He Went Over in 26th Division on Last Trip of Steamer Antilles.

St. Johnsbury, April 26.—The war department notified Henry Knapp last night of the death of his only son, Sergeant William R. Knapp, who was killed in action April 20. He was the mess sergeant in the machine gun battalion of the 102d U. S. infantry, 26th division, going over with a number of the boys in the old 1st Vermont regiment on the last trip made by the Antilles last fall. He was a native of Franklin, N. H., where he was born 42 years ago, and came here six years ago from Dover, Me. He was married in Dover and his wife is now living in Portland. He leaves a father and mother and two married sisters. This is the first St. Johnsbury boy to be killed in action, two having previously died of pneumonia somewhere in France.

FIVE BURNED TO DEATH IN A BAKERY

Explosion of Gasoline Tank at Brookline, Mass., Cave Impetus to the Flames and Caught Many Employees.

Brookline, Mass., April 26.—Five employees, who have not yet been identified, were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the bakery of H. Blewett & Son and the home of Mrs. Eugene W. Blewett here early this morning.

NEARLY CENTURY OLD

John MacInnes of Graniteville Was Native of Scotland.

John MacInnes passed away this morning at 7 o'clock at the home of Malcolm McAuley of Graniteville, where he had been confined to the bed nearly five years. Mr. MacInnes was born about the year 1819 in the Isle of Lewis, Storraway, Scotland, coming to Canada 45 years ago with his family, where he resided until the past five years.

AGREEMENT REACHED

By Which Aircraft Program Will Be Speeded Up.

Washington, D. C., April 26.—An addition to the Overman bill of the amendment of Senator Wadsworth, providing for the reorganization of the aircraft program by authorizing the president to establish an executive agency with complete powers, was agreed to-day, when Senator Overman, in charge of the bill, advised the Senate that he would accept the provision.

VERMONT'S TOTAL \$4,493,000

Boston, April 26.—The New England Liberty loan total to-day was \$168,898,000. Vermont's was \$4,493,000.

HOLLAND TAKES HOSTILE STAND

Places an Embargo on Products Much Needed in United States

REFUSES AMERICA TIT FOR WAR PURPOSES

Puts Ban on Its Importation from Dutch East Indies

Washington, D. C., April 26.—Holland has placed an embargo on the exportation from the Dutch East Indies of tin, tin ore, cinchona bark, quinine, quinine salts and kapok, all of which are needed in large quantities by the United States for war purposes.

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TOOK HIS LIFE BEFORE MIRROR

Frank E. Graham of Montpelier Shot Himself Through Mouth

HE HAD BEEN SICK FOR FIVE YEARS

He Was a Native of Chelsea and Lived for a Time in Barre

Frank E. Graham, aged 57 years, committed suicide at his room in the Hyde block, Montpelier, this forenoon at 10 o'clock by shooting through the mouth with a revolver while sitting in a chair in front of a mirror. Dr. J. R. Grimes, the man's physician, who was called, stated that Graham probably died instantly. The body was moved later to the Graham home on Hubbard street, where it will remain until the funeral.

Mr. Graham had been ill for about five years, suffering with hardening of the arteries. He rented a room of a Mrs. Lewis in the Hyde block and had been in the room most of the time for several months. During the last few days he had been in Barre to see J. Ward Carver, his attorney, about the adjustment of his affairs. He had told Mrs. Lewis that he would commit suicide, so she had been watching him to a considerable extent. She had reasoned with him, trying to get the idea of suicide out of his mind. Mrs. Lewis was summoned and he did not have a gun in his room. She believed that while he was in Barre Thursday he bought a revolver.

Mrs. Lewis was working in her tenement on the floor below the room occupied by Mr. Graham when she heard a noise in his room at 10 o'clock. She called to him through the stovepipe hole but got no response. So she went to the room and at once saw that something was the matter, as blood was coming from his mouth, but she did not see the revolver. She thought that because the man had been having hemorrhages several times of late, he might be having another attack of that sort.

However, Mrs. Lewis rushed to H. O. Kent's store and asked that Dr. Grimes be called. Dr. Grimes arrived a few minutes later and found the man dead. Chief of Police Connolly, Sheriff Tracy and Mayor Mitchell were called, after which Dr. Lindsay was summoned and the order was given for the removal of the body to the Graham home.

The deceased was a native of Chelsea and was born Sept. 20, 1860, the son of Edmond and Elizabeth (Field) Graham. He was educated in the Chelsea schools and was graduated from the academy in that place. When a youth he came to Barre and was employed for three years in the jewelry store of Perley Chandler. When 22 years old he went to Montpelier and was associated with his father in the lumber and wood business. They bought wood all over the state, and on the elder man's death the son continued the business on a smaller scale, confining his efforts to Washington county.

Mr. Graham is survived by three sisters, Adelaide, Ellen and Mary C. Graham, all of whom reside in the Graham home on Hubbard street, Montpelier. The funeral will be held there Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

STILL SHORT OF QUOTA

Barre People Are Urged to Make Liberty Loan Subscriptions.

Barre bankers, swamped with the returns from the Liberty bond drive of Wednesday, were unable to-day to furnish figures from which the total of Barre's subscription to the third loan might be computed. All day yesterday and again to-day subscriptions, big and little, continued to find their way into the banks. Classification of denominations and methods of payment is being expedited as rapidly as possible, and figures are being continuing, but the fact remains that subscriptions must be added to the present total if this city's quota is to be realized before the campaign ends May 4. Before the drive started some \$60,000 had been subscribed, and while the intensive efforts of Wednesday yielded nearly \$100,000, it will be seen that Barre could not afford to lag. A number of 100 per cent granite sheets have been reported, and other plans may be listed in the honor class before the campaign ends.

CASES CLEANED UP

Washington County Court is Rushing Along Its Work.

In Washington county court Thursday afternoon the George vs. Dutton estate case was finished, the attorneys placing before the court an agreed statement of facts. This case develops out of a difference in the interpretation of the probate court laws and it is possible that the case will go to supreme court after the county court has given its decision in the matter.

TALKED OF WAR CHEST

Directors of Barre Board of Trade Find Sentiment Growing.

Directors of the Barre Board of Trade conferred on the proposal to establish a war chest in this city at their regular meeting last evening. The directorate is under instructions from the Board of Trade to make arrangements for a war chest campaign similar to those waged in cities where the plan has been adopted. Sentiment in favor of the idea is growing rapidly, according to reports by the several directors, and it is expected that the community will align itself squarely behind the organization when the campaign begins. There is a probability that the drive will be waged in connection with the Red Cross canvass to be conducted sometime next month.

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THREE LIVES WERE LOST AND \$2,000,000 DAMAGE WAS DONE IN BURLINGTON LAST NIGHT

ODD FELLOW PROGRAM

State Convention in Barre Next Month May Curtail Some Features.

Fraternal organizations the country over are eliminating some of the non-essential features of their yearly state and national gatherings, and for that reason, the approaching convocation of Odd Fellows bodies to be held in Barre may be less of an affair than usual. Nevertheless, plans for the convention are going rapidly forward and a good attendance is anticipated. The dates are May 14, 15, 16 and 17. Frank W. Jackson of this city, grand secretary of the state lodge, has announced the following program:

Monday, May 13.—In the evening Canton Vinton keeps open house at the canton headquarters.

Tuesday, May 14.—10 a. m., twenty-third annual session of the department council, Patriarchs Militant, Col. W. E. Frost, commander, in Howland hall, 2 p. m., parade of the first regiment, P. M. of Vermont; grand officers and guests in automobiles; 3 p. m., dress parade and price drill; 7:30 p. m., conferring of the decoration of chivalry; 9 a. m., dance in Howland hall.

Wednesday, May 15.—9 a. m., forty-eighth annual session of the grand encampment, E. E. Jones, grand patriarch, in Howland hall; 7 p. m., annual meeting of past grand officers' association and post-prandial exercises and remarks by Henry V. Frost, deputy grand sire.

Thursday, May 16.—9 a. m., seventy-second annual session of the grand lodge, E. A. Spear, grand master, in Howland hall. There will be an auto ride for the visiting ladies in the forenoon; reception to members of the Rebekah degree at Hotel Barre, 3 to 4 p. m.; 8 p. m., exemplification of the Rebekah degree by Ivy lodge, No. 24, of Montpelier, Howland hall.

Friday, May 17.—9 a. m., thirty-third annual session of the Rebekah assembly, Mrs. Emma S. Rand, president, in Howland hall; 8 p. m., Odd Fellows and Rebekahs keep open house at Howland hall.

Owing to conditions, the annual banquet of the past grand officers' association will be omitted. Reservations at local hotels are necessarily limited, but the committee has arranged for accommodations at private houses. Hotel Barre and the restaurants will be prepared to furnish meals. Alexander, who was chairman of the local committee and requests for reservations may be forwarded to him. It is stated in the convention circular that the railroads have declined to make special rates for the convention.

ASSIGNED TO OLD 1ST VT.

Vermonters Who Recently Self-Inducted Were Sent to Camp Wadsworth.

Complying with the request of the Vermont adjutant general's office the commanding officer of the 57th Pioneer regiment, 1st Vermont infantry, has sent to his office the number of men who were assigned to that regiment as the result of the induction which occurred through the efforts of Capt. E. W. Gibson in February. Of these there were 28 boys from Washington county, who were in the old Vermont regiment, the remainder apparently staying in Camp Greene instead of going to Camp Wadsworth.

According to the report those who were assigned to the Vermont regiment from Washington county Feb. 2 were Richard A. Barre, Worcester; John W. Brown, Waterbury; Jeremiah M. Boucher, Westerville; John A. Cannon, Northfield; Henry J. Deslites, Montpelier; Ernest Gilbert, Graniteville; Frank P. Gin grass, Westerville; Lemuel T. Halligan, Graniteville; Harry E. Hathaway, Montpelier; Lawrence J. Hodges, Northfield; C. E. Hensley, Worcester; John W. Moriarty, Montpelier; Anthony H. Jary, Montpelier; Chester N. Scribner, Montpelier; Neal J. Sylvester, Northfield; Perley D. Sanders, East Calais; Elmer E. Stevens, Northfield; John Torbiana, Waterbury; Harry E. White, Montpelier; Roy W. White, Waterbury; Charles W. Willard, Montpelier; Forrest B. Willey, Barre; Paul Cleveland, Northfield. In addition, Charles L. Beck, Barre; William Blanchard, Barre; Wilfred C. Herbert, Montpelier, and Bernard J. Tobin, Montpelier, were assigned to the Vermont regiment on February 24 and Erwin R. Wakefield, Montpelier, on April 1.

NO ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION

Gov. Graham Will Not Issue One This Year.

Governor Graham has decided not to issue an Arbor and Bird day proclamation this year. At the request of the president or members of his cabinet, there have been many proclamations for patriotic purposes during the past year. The governor feels that the publishing and distributing of the usual Arbor day proclamations are unnecessary toward winning the war.

No state has greater beauty than that provided by the trees on our own Green mountains. The necessity of raising and conserving every form of food is sufficient stimulus to ensure the planting of trees. The problem of food commands our utmost care in the protection of insect-destroying birds. We do not overlook the beauty and pleasure afforded us by our birds and trees, but this year we are compelled by necessity to raise food and to utilize the practical help of the birds in protecting our food-bearing trees.

ACCEPTED FOR NAVY

George A. Pratt of Barre to Enter That Service.

George A. Pratt of Barre was accepted at the navy recruiting office in Montpelier this morning. James Mcintosh, who went to Burlington Thursday for medical examination, was accepted there and will go to the navy next week.

Leo McGibney, who has been visiting his mother in Montpelier, has been assigned to his duties in the navy at New London, Conn. Chief Master-at-Arms Charles Mitchell has requested the navy department to assign Mr. McGibney to the recruiting office here for service, as one of two men whom Inspector Grady two weeks ago permitted Mr. Mitchell while he was in New York.

NEARLY TWO BILLIONS

Liberty Loan Total To-day as Tabulated Was \$1,956,776,650.

New Factory of Vermont Milk Chocolate Company Was Totally Destroyed

Following an Explosion in the Shipping Room Last Night

WATER PRESSURE FAILED FURNACE MEN

As Yet the Cause of the Explosion Has Not Been Explained—There Were 130 Persons in the Factory at the Time, and Explosion Caused Rush for Safety

Burlington, April 26.—The new plant of the Vermont Milk Chocolate company was totally destroyed by fire last night, with a loss of \$2,000,000. Three persons lost their lives and a fourth was severely burned. The fire started from an explosion and there is yet no satisfactory explanation of the cause of the explosion.

About 130 people were in the plant at the time of the explosion and there was a mad rush for the main exit, many of the people being knocked about and injured in the excitement.

The dead are: David Upton, night watchman; John Crowley, a carpenter; Percut Companion, a carpenter.

The body of Upton was recovered last night but the bodies of Crowley and Companion were still in the ruins to-day. E. B. Besette in the Mary Fletcher hospital, suffering from severe burns about the head.

The explosion occurred at 9:30 in the shipping room where there were a few workmen. The three men who lost their lives were in that room. Besette, though badly burned, was able to make his way out of the building and was taken to the hospital.

When the firemen arrived with their apparatus it was found that there was not enough pressure to throw much water on the fire and, therefore, they could do nothing but watch the flames eat their way through the building. At first no flames were to be seen outside of the plant, but smoke filled all the departments of the factory where the shipping room was located. The company was engaged in filling a large order for the Belgian relief commission.

The body of Upton, mutilated and burned to a crisp in places, was discovered amid the ruins of the old, adjoining factory, shortly after 1:30 o'clock this morning. The body showed the marks of having borne the brunt of the terrible explosion, and the sufferings of the man must have been excruciating before he was relieved of his misery.

There were 25 men working in the cell of the factory where the shipping room was located. They were making boxes in which to ship the finished products. Without a warning a deafening explosion, like the sound of a cannon, boomed through the room, the noise seeming to come from the elevator well.

The flames seemed to shoot from the first story of the cell to the top story, where the business offices of the concern were located, and down to the basement, where the cocoa cooling room was located. It went by the way of the elevator and though there were fireproof doors leading to the floors they were not closed by the employees, who had all they could do to save their lives.

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