

Historical Officers Report

Events of the Great War as reported in the Camden News
Cables from the European War

INCOMPLETE ISSUES

February 3 1916 Front page missing no Cables from the War

February 10 1916 Front page missing no Cables from the War

February 17 1916

A writer in The Daily Chronicle comparing the sea power of the allies with that of the enemy Power, states that the Allies have a total of 918 vessels of all classes against 280 of the enemy.

A, brisk naval battle has been fought in the Adriatic French and British warships forced the enemy destroyers to run to Cattaro for protection.

The Germans claim to have captured on February 9, 682 men and 35 machine guns in the Vimy District. The capture of trenches and men in the Champagne area is also claimed.

There has been no news of the French Cruiser Admiral Charnier since February 6, when *she* was off the coast of Syria. The Germans claim to have sunk a French warship that day.

French Artillery fire blew up an ammunition depot near Boesinghe, and a German salient was effectively shelled. The enemy attempt to attack *was* frustrated.

24th February

It was reported that native operations are practically ended in the Cameroons with the exception of one isolated position. The Cameroons is in South Africa possession formerly a British territory and was handed to the Germans.

A Budapest message asserts the Turks are making a desperate rally west of Erzerum where a big battle has begun.

German artillery and infantry continue to move across Belgium, vast quantities of poison gas and munitions have been stored.

German seaplanes raided the coast of Kent on Sunday killing two men and a boy and damaging some buildings.

Returning War prisoners from Wittenburg, Germany state that the conditions there were deplorable. And that the treatment of the interned had been scandalous.

A German report, purporting to originate in Italy, asserts that the Japanese fleet has arrived in the Mediterranean, with many aircraft.

29th February Trooper Campbell Throsby died of Illness, Cairo Egypt

From the Home Front

Sand Bags for the front

A Soldier from the 20th Battalion AIF in a letter published in Metropolitan Newspaper says "Sandbags are a great institution and thousands of our boys lives and limbs saved by them but they get used up quickly through bursting shells that we always want more bags". If Australian has 100 thousand men in the field a million bags mean ten bags per man and as new bags are needed as fast as the men move from one position to the other the supply is endless.

Of the first six Australian to receive the V.C. during this war, Three of them were received on account of bravery displayed by the recipients in dashing forward under a shower of bullets and rebuilding the Sandbag barricade.

SEND OFF TO RECRUITS AT THE OAKS.

The Oaks Hall was crowded to the door on Saturday evening last to bid farewell to recruit. Messrs Bede Hennessy, Thom Hoskisson, G Jarvis, E Inglis, J C Shief, E Leece, W Brigden, Sgt Young, E Longhurst, J Hutchison and Sgt T Inglis.

Capt Larkin urged the necessity of discipline amongst the troops, urging the men to obey their sergeants who were only passing on orders, from higher Authority, He said the Australian soldiers were the finest in the world, and well he know it, for he had had once fifty under his charge, and no matter where the next fifty came from his were the best.

He appreciated the soldiers' life.

NARELLAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

The following goods have been forwarded to Sydney:

26 shirts, 21 suits of pyjamas, 33 pairs of underpants, 21 pairs of knitted socks, 5 pairs of knitted mittens, 3 mufflers and 47 handkerchiefs.

1 cap besides sundries which include bandages, books, washers, writing pads etc

THE OAKS RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Sent the following

10 suits pyjamas, 15 flannel shirts, 5 cotton shirts, 10 pairs of underpants, 4 pairs of socks, 2 caps 7 pairs of mittens, 15 washers, 10 pairs pillow cases, 30 handkerchiefs.

Ray Herbert
Historical Officer