

World War One News



Lest We Forget.

Monthly News from Home & Abroad



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November 1917

2nd November Raid by British naval light forces on the Kattegat.

3rd November Arrival of French troops in Italy announced. Agreement concluded between British, French and Italian Governments for provision of tonnage for the Allied food programme.

4th November Arrival of British troops in Italy announced.

5th November Action of Tikrit (Mesopotamia).

6th November Passchendaele captured by British (Canadian) forces. Tikrit (Mesopotamia) Occupied by British forces.

10th November Second Battle of Passchendaele ends and Battles of Ypres, 1917, end.

16th November Jaffa (Palestine) taken by British forces.

17th November Light cruiser action off Heligoland.

23rd November German airship "L.-59" reaches East Africa, but turns back without alighting.

25th November German airship "L.-59" returns to Yambol from flight to East Africa.

27th November First meeting of Russian and German delegates behind German lines to arrange for armistice.

28th November German force under Captain Tafel surrenders to the British in the Mwit Valley.

BORTH

Lost in the Bay? Aberystwyth Lifeboat Out.

Tragic end to a Fishing Expedition. One of the saddest tragedies of the sea in the history of Cardigan Bay happened last week when two men and a boy left Borth in a small boat and never returned. Search was made by the Aberystwyth lifeboat but without success and later the boat of the ill-fated party was washed up at Aberdovey. Early on the morning of Thursday, Mr. Jas. Davies, of Wesleyan-place, Borth, accompanied by his nephew, David Davies (21), and a lad, Henry Jones (13), Troedyrhiw, went out in a small boat intending to do some fishing and if possible gather some floating wreckage which was visible from the shore. Mr. Davies was an old A.B. of the Navy, and although the morning was misty the sea was smooth. As the day passed and the party did not return an alarm was raised and according to a statement made at Borth to a "Cambrian News" representative the Police at Aberystwyth were communicated with at 5 o'clock that evening, and asked if anything had been seen of the missing boat. The reply was in the negative, and later in the evening a definite request came for the lifeboat to be launched. This was at 8 o'clock and with the greatest promptitude the crew, mustered by Captain Doughton, were on the spot and in half-an-hour the lifeboat was on its way. The rockets summoning the crew drew a big crowd to the Promenade, many of whom stayed out until a late hour hoping for the return of the boat. The task proved a wearisome one and after going as far as the Fairway Buoy outside Aberdovey the crew returned. It was a dirty night and in the darkness it was well-nigh impossible to find any trace of the boat or its occupants. Not until 4.30 was the search abandoned. At Borth a coast search was conducted all through the night, and on Friday morning the sad news was received that the empty boat had been washed ashore on the Aberdovey bar. It is surmised that the men were endeavouring to get some wreckage into the boat when by reaching over they capsized it; but what really happened will probably never be known. The sea was choppy towards evening but hardly rough enough to swamp a small craft in the hands of an experienced man like Mr Davies. Up to the time of writing no news has been received to allay the anxiety of the relatives, who fear the worst. The elder of the men was one of the Naval Reserve and left the Navy only some twelve months ago, after serving a long period on- patrol duty. His son is in the Navy and his brother, Mr. Richard Davies, was also a follower of the sea and was recently killed on a mine sweeper and his body was brought home for burial to Penygarn. The younger man was a son of the late Mr. Richard Davies, and was engaged in farm work. Henry Jones, the boy, was a pupil at Borth Council-School, and was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jones, Troedyrhiw, who have three sons serving in the forces. The deepest sympathy of the county will be extended to the relatives. The work of Captain Doughton and the lifeboat crew was promptly and efficiently carried out immediately a demand was made for their services. A cap supposed to be that belonging to David Davies, one of the missing occupants of the boat, was found on Friday afternoon on the beach by Mr. D. Llew. Lewis. Pte. Edward Jones, brother of Henry Jones, the lad who was in the boat, is home on leave from hospital, having been severely wounded in France.