

PREMIER LLOYD GEORGE WINS SWEEPING VICTORY; GREAT GERMAN SMASH ABOUT TO BEGIN IN WEST; BRITISH FORCES RE-ESTABLISH THEIR POSITIONS

COMING GERMAN ONSLAUGHT MAY EQUAL DRIVE OF MARCH

Increasing Roar of the Artillery, Activity of Airplanes and Rapid Preparations Indicate that the Mighty Struggle to Decide Fate of Nations will Soon be in Progress Again—Minor Testing Attacks by Germans are well Held and British Lines are Intact—Air of Expectancy Pervades Entire Allied Front—Allies Concentrate Great Forces North of Amiens and Their Losses of Guns and Ammunition in Last Hun Tidal Wave Have Been Made Good.

Special Cable to N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard.
(By Arthur S. Draper.)

London, May 9.—A great German smash through the Allied defense seems imminent. South of Ypres among the upper half of the northern battlefield the bombardment is growing in intensity.

A bright sun, a cloudless sky, and the rising barometer were the weather conditions in Northern France this morning. Every sign points to a resumption of the major operations.

Whatever the feeling regarding the political developments here all attention will soon be riveted on the battlefronts of France where issues of much greater moment than the fate of an individual statesman and a soldier is about to be decided.

All along the wide battlefield there is a spirit of restlessness and expectancy. Ten thousand guns roar a deafening chorus, the high sky airplanes ride on the smoke balls of the anti-aircraft guns, while now and again the roar of the artillery increases to such intensity that observers conclude the great offensive has begun.

Strain of Waiting.

The strain of waiting is equalled only by the fierceness of the fighting itself. South of Ypres a little battle, as modern struggles are waged, has continued almost unceasingly for forty eight hours. Some twenty odd thousand Germans were thrown against the junction of the British and French defenses around Dickebusch Pond. Here the ground is level and if the enemy advanced any considerable distance the British tenure of the Ypres salient would become decidedly unhealthy, while the Allies hold on stoutly Scherpenberg and the other units to the west would be greatly weakened.

Two German divisions wrested a few positions away and then the Anglo-French forces reacted sharply and regained every thing they had lost. Again today German troops attacked in the same region. But bitter as the fighting is it is hardly more than a local affair, merely a preliminary to the great battle which is brewing rapidly. It is a test of the Allied defense and an effort to get Haig to uncover his hand. It might even prove to be a feint to distract attention from the enemy's preparations on another sector.

Before Amiens.

Similarly on the front before Amiens the British activity should be interpreted as defensive operations. This is another local thrust calculated to test and even to weaken the enemy's offensive strength. Field Marshal Haig reports that the Germans made unsuccessful raids in the region of Lens, where the Canadians won glory in the bitter fighting of last summer. Throughout the night the Albert front was shelled heavily by the enemy. This sector is where many expect the great weight of the enemy's push to fall.

As I stated yesterday an immediate attack on a large scale is probable unless it should rain. It is well to anticipate a thrust equalling almost that of March 21, but this time the element of surprise will be much smaller.

The allies have had opportunity to concentrate great forces north of Amiens and Winston Churchill, minister of munitions, has assured the country that the losses of guns and ammunition in the battle on the

LORD ABERDEEN ABANDONS HIS CHARITY WORK

Former Governor General has Encounter with District Attorney.

FAILURE OF NEW YORK BENEFIT CONCERT

Earl and Countess Must Confine Activities to War Work.

New York, May 9.—After being questioned by District Attorney Swann, Lord Aberdeen, formerly governor-general of Canada, and Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, agreed today to abandon the collection of funds for the benefit of the war. He expects to sail shortly with his wife for England. Lord Aberdeen and his wife have been active heads of an organization known as the Women's National Health Association of Ireland, and allied organization known as the Child Welfare Association, with headquarters in New York, Boston and Philadelphia, which has been collecting funds for the benefit as they announced, of poor children in Ireland. Benefit failed.

His Lordship's appearance before the district attorney was due to the failure of a benefit entertainment at Carnegie Hall yesterday under the auspices of Lord and Lady Aberdeen, at which star attractions, which had been advertised to appear, and many in the audience demanded and received their money back.

Lord Aberdeen was questioned by the district attorney, it was learned, as to the amount of funds that had been collected by the organization, and the uses to which the money had been put. He then agreed, according to the district attorney, to desist from any further collections, Mr. Swann advising him that only collections for war charities were desirable at this time.

The funds thus far collected, Lord Aberdeen said, according to the district attorney, amount to about \$40,000.

DALHOUSIE JUST 100 YEARS OLD

Fifty-Fourth Spring Convocation Attended by Presidents Boyle of Kings and Cutten of Acadia.

Halifax, May 9.—The fifty-fourth spring convocation of Dalhousie University was held this afternoon, Dr. G. B. Cutten, president of the Acadia University, offered the invocation, after which A. S. McKenzie, president of Dalhousie, reviewed the work of the year, referred to the University's splendid record of contributions to the empire's man power and noted the fact that just one hundred years ago Lord Dalhousie, then governor of Nova Scotia, founded the university.

The number of degrees conferred today was limited. There are eighteen graduates in the bachelor of arts course, one in engineers, one in science, five in law, four in music, two master of arts, and one master of science.

The Ayer prize for graduates was shared by Miss Christine A. M. McKinnon, of Louisburg, N. S., and Claude J. W. Keddy, Mahone Bay, N. S.

The governor-general's medal was awarded to John H. Mitchell, of Halifax, (proficiency in French language.) The Alliance Francaise bronze medals was won by Miss Mary C. Sutherland, of Pictou, N. S.

The address to the graduates was delivered by Dr. T. Stannage Boyle, president of the King's College.

THE BRITISH HAVE RE-ESTABLISHED THEIR POSITIONS

London, May 9.—At the close of the fighting this morning in the La Clytte-Voormesle sector, says Field Marshal Haig's report from British headquarters in France tonight, "the French and British positions on this front were completely re-established."

"Following upon hostile artillery activity already reported, the enemy launched two local attacks early this morning in the neighborhood of Albert and Bouvincourt. In the latter locality the enemy's attack was broken up by our rifle and machine gun fire and failed to reach our trenches."

"At Albert, after suffering heavy casualties from our fire, his troops succeeded in effecting a lodgment in our advanced position on a front of about 150 yards. On the remainder of the British front there is nothing to report beyond artillery activity on both sides in the different sectors."

Rome, May 9.—Active artillery fighting at some points in the Asago Basin to the left of the Brenta and in the Maserada districts is reported in today's official communication. In other sectors enemy troops were hampered by the Italian fire.

British aviators bombarded the aviation ground at Motte A Di Livens.

Paris, May 9.—The war office announcement tonight reads: "There was marked activity by both artilleries on the Hallies-Montdidier front."

Eastern theatre, May 8.—West of Lake Dolran a British company entered the enemy trenches and blew up numerous shelters where Bulgarians had taken refuge. Enemy reconnaissances were repulsed near Dobropojie and between the lakes. At the Cerna Bend and north of Monastir there were spirited artillery actions. British aviators bombed an airdrome at Drama."

FAMOUS TREASURE HOUSE LOCATED

Kremlin Chamber Contains Sacred Relics, Including Reported Shroud of Christ and Robe Alleged to have been Worn by Blessed Virgin.

Petrograd, May 9.—The famous patriarchal treasure house in the Kremlin at Moscow has been looted. The treasure house is the repository of many sacred treasures, including the reported Shroud of Christ, a robe alleged to have been worn by the Virgin Mary, one of the nails from the cross and a painting said to have been done by St. Luke. Its jewels and precious stones were said to be worth nearly ten million dollars.

PHYSICIAN GUILTY IN BRIBERY CASE

Ottawa, May 9.—The trial of Dr. Horace Legault, a well known physician of the capital, on a charge of having attempted to bribe Captain Dr. Andrew P. Davies, a member of the army medical board, closed with almost dramatic suddenness this afternoon in the police court, when Dr. Legault pleaded guilty to the charge as soon as it was read to him, and was fined \$500 and sentenced to one day in jail by Magistrate Askwith.

26 LIVES LOST.

London, May 9.—A British mine sweeper struck a mine and sank on May 1, the Admiralty announces. Three officers and twenty-three men were lost.

POPE ORDERS SPECIAL ST. PETER'S DAY MASS

Rome, May 9.—The Pope has issued a special message addressed to the whole world for a mass to be said on St. Peter's Day, June 29, for "the present necessities of human society."

HOUSE OF COMMONS UPHOLDS PRIME MINISTER 293 TO 106

CITY OF AMIENS IS BEING DESTROYED BY HUN GUN-FIRE

Venerable Cathedral, One of Finest in Europe, in Grave Peril.

BRITISH ARE USING NEW GAS SHELLS

War Mission Announces they are Getting Excellent Results on Front.

DUTCH MINISTER DID NOT PROPOSE PEACE

No Offer Made to Britain and Mr. Balfour's Statement is Confirmed.

SUSPICIOUS TEUTON IS ARRESTED ON THE N. B. BORDER

Man Arrested at Vanceboro Puts Up Lively Fight when His Picture was Taken—Had Map of New York Harbor on His Person.

THIRTY BUILDINGS BURNED IN MAINE

\$20,000 Fire Sweeps Twelve Square Miles Near Wiscasset—Another Destroys Nine Buildings in Portland Harbor and Burns Over Twenty Acres.

SACKVILLE SOLDIER KILLED IN FRANCE

Corporal Henry Dixon, Winner of Military Medal, Loses His Life.

NEW BEDFORD MILL HANDS MAY STRIKE

Boston, May 9.—The textile councils of Fall River and New Bedford, representing 70,000 cotton operatives, demand an advance in wages of 25 per cent. The New Bedford council has declined an offer of 12 1/2 per cent. and a strike vote will be taken.

Wages have been advanced 57 per cent. in the two cities since January 24, 1916.

"I Have Just Returned from France, Where the Generals Were Telling Me How the Germans were Silently Preparing, Perhaps, for the Biggest Blow of the War—These Things are Happening Now—They are Asking Me for Certain Help—I have Brought Home a Lot of Things they Want Done, and I Want to Attend to them—I Really Beg for our Common Country, the Fate of Which is in the Balance Now and in the Next Few Weeks, I Beg and Implore that there Should be an End to this Sniping"—Lloyd George

London, May 9.—Former Premier Asquith's motion for the appointment of a select committee to investigate the charges made by General Maurice was rejected in the House of Commons tonight by a vote of 293 to 106.

Mr. Lloyd George said that if the motion was carried Mr. Asquith would again be responsible for the conduct of the war. Former Premier Asquith denied that his motion respecting the Maurice affair was designed to obtain a vote of censure of the government, saying it was absurd to describe it as such. Should he find it his duty to censure the government, he said, he hoped that he would have the courage to do so in direct and unequivocal form.

Moving for the appointment of a select committee to investigate the charges made by General Maurice, former director of military operations at the war office, ex-Premier Asquith said he thought it was not the business of parliament to constantly inquire into the conduct of successive phases of the war. The House of Commons, he added, had more than enough of such inquiries already.

Amsterdam, May 9.—On his return from England Former Minister of War Colijn stated to the Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant, when asked as to rumors that he would resign in connection with a reported peace mission, that his business in England was in the interest of an oil company of which he is manager.

Regarding the coupling of his name with peace rumors, he said he was in entire accord with what Foreign Secretary Balfour said in parliament on Monday, when he stated that there was no representative of a neutral nation in England for the purpose of making suggestions of peace negotiations.

Wiscasset, Maine, May 9.—After an all-night fight by citizens, fire, which swept over the southern end of Westport, an island town in Sheepscot river, was brought under control today. The loss was estimated at \$200,000.

Most of the twenty-four buildings destroyed were summer cottages owned by residents of other states. The fire swept over an area of twelve square miles. Serious damage to pine and spruce timber was reported.

Peaks Island Blaze.

Portland, May 9.—Fire which started in a wooden tract at Evergreen landing, Peaks Island yesterday, was carried by a high wind to a group of cottages near the landing, destroying eight small summer dwellings and a two-story wooden building connected with the Kaickerbocker Hotel and used as a garage and servants' house.

Another wooded tract of about twenty acres, containing some timber of value, was also burned over. The total loss was about \$25,000.

The owners of the cottages were: George W. Gatehouse of Brooklyn, N. Y., Frank A. Bibber, Miss Frederica Parks, John Parks and Albion S. Sen net of Portland; Harry Holland and John Wright of Boston and Mary Griffin of South Portland. The Kaickerbocker property is owned by the estate of Mrs. Mary Anderson of Brooklyn, N. Y. The buildings were all partially insured.

Eight companies of soldiers from Fort McKinley assisted in preventing the spread of the flames to other property.

Sackville, May 9.—A telegram from Ottawa received by Mr. J. W. Dixon, announces that his son, Corporal Henry Dixon, was killed in action on April 28. Corporal Dixon, who was 23 years of age, enlisted in the first contingent in August, 1914, in the 12th Battalion. He went to Valcartier and trained with the first 33,000 volunteers.

Corporal Dixon was in the first battle of Ypres and other big battles in France, where he won the Military Medal, and had been fortunate enough to escape being wounded.

Besides his parents, he is survived by three brothers, Charles T. James, R., and John W. L., and two sisters, Mrs. Mary Eva and Perla Isabella, at home.