

HAIG REVIEWS OPERATIONS OF PAST TERM

Says Final Destruction of the Enemy is Appreciably Nearer.

GOOD WORK DONE

And Done Despite Heart-breaking Difficulties of Many Sorts.

London Cable—"The additional strength which two enemy can obtain from the events in Russia and Italy already has been largely discounted, and the ultimate destruction of the enemy's field forces has been brought appreciably nearer," is the confident summing up by Field Marshal Haig, the British Commander-in-Chief in France and Belgium, of last year's work by the British army on the western front. The statement is contained in an official report of Gen. Haig's Spring and Summer campaign, which occupies 26 pages in to-day's Official Gazette.

The report covers the period from the opening of the Arras offensive, April 9, to the conclusion of the Flanders offensive in November. Subsequent events of the year, including the Cambrai battle, will occupy a separate report, which is to be published shortly.

Gen. Haig closes to-day's report with a brief tribute to the Americans.

At the outset of his report Gen. Haig explains how the general allied plan of campaign for the year was settled at a conference at French headquarters in November, 1916.

"The plan," the report says, "comprised a series of offensives on all fronts, so timed as to assist each other by depriving any of his fronts to reinforce another."

HAD TO BE MODIFIED.
This plan had to be modified on a wholesale scale from the very start owing to a variety of unexpected developments, such as the Russian situation, the requirements of the allies, and, particularly in later months, to adverse weather conditions.

Notwithstanding these difficulties the whole story of the year's work is a steady continuation of British successes and German setbacks, which give General Haig his ground for his optimistic conclusion.

"The Flanders offensive was maintained for three and a half months under most adverse conditions," says Field Marshal Haig. "The weather entailed almost superhuman exertions on the part of the troops of all arms. The enemy did his utmost to hold his ground, and in endeavoring to do so used up no less than 75 divisions, or which 18 were engaged a second or third time after being withdrawn to rest and refit."

"Despite the magnitude of his efforts, it was the immense natural difficulties, accentuated manifold by abnormally wet weather rather than the enemy's resistance, which limited our progress and prevented the complete capture of the ridge. What was actually accomplished under such adverse conditions is the most conclusive proof that, given a normally fine August, the capture of the whole ridge in a few weeks was well within the power of our men."

CONFIDENCE OF ARMY.

"They advanced every time with absolute confidence in their power to overcome the enemy, even though sometimes they had to struggle through mud waist-deep to reach him. As long as they could reach him they overcame him, but physical exhaustion placed narrow limits on the depth to which such advance could be pushed and compelled long pauses between advances. The full fruits of each success consequently were not always obtainable."

"Time after time the physically beaten enemy was enabled to reorganize and relieve his men and bring up reinforcements behind the sea of mud, which constituted his main protection. Notwithstanding the many difficulties which was achieved. Our captures in Flanders since the end of July amount to 24,000 prisoners, 74 guns, and 941 machine guns. It is certain that the enemy losses exceeded ours."

"The most important of all is that our new and hastily trained armies again have shown that they are capable of meeting and beating the enemy's best troops under conditions which favor his defense."

IMPORTANCE OF TRAINING.
"In this respect I desire to emphasize the supreme importance of adequate training prior to placing troops in the line of battle. It is, so much as it is to be avoided, long success assured that the troops going into battle should first be given the opportunity for special training under officers who are to command them in the task which they are to be called upon to perform."

"The general conditions of the struggle this year have been very different from those contemplated at the conference in November, 1916. The great general and simultaneous offensive then agreed upon did not materialize. Russia though some of her leaders made a fine effort, not only failed to give the help expected, but even failed to prevent the enemy from capturing her front in exchange for French ones in the West, or from capturing her losses on the West by drafts of fresh men from the East."

LAUNCHED PAST ITALY WAS READY.

"The combined Franco-British offensive in the spring was launched

before Italy was ready, and the splendid effort made by Italy later was unfortunately followed by developments which resulted in the weakening of the allied forces in this theatre. In the circumstances the task of the British and French armies have been far heavier throughout the year than originally was anticipated, and the enemy's means of meeting our attack was greater than he or we expected."

"That under such circumstances we won the victories of Arras, Vimy and Messines, and the French those at Moronvillers, Verdun and Malmaison constitutes a record of which the allies have a right to be proud. The British armies have maintained a vigorous and continuous offensive throughout the period covered by this despatch. No other example of offensive action on so large a scale and so long and successfully sustained has been furnished by the war."

"In the operations at Arras, Messines, Lens and Ypres, 131 German divisions were engaged and defeated by less than half that number of British."

"Without reckoning the possibilities opened up by our territorial gains in Flanders, and without considering the effect which a less vigorous prosecution of the war by us might have had in the other theatres, we have every reason to be satisfied with the results achieved in the past year's fighting."

SUBMARINE THE GREAT MENACE

In the Opinion of Lord Milner, of War Cabinet.

But He is Confident of Final Triumph.

London Cable—Lord Milner, member of the War Cabinet, gave a statement last night. In response to a request to single out what he regarded as the most essential point in the war situation at present, he said:

"The submarine. "Of our ability to hold the western front," said Lord Milner, "which of course, together with curbing the submarine, it is necessary to winning the war, I feel no doubt. There may be tremendous attacks but they will fail. We may have strain and loss, but there will be no breaking through, and if the Germans attempt it seriously so much the better for us."

"The question of success in the war comes back to the submarine, which hampers our war activities in many directions and would, unless controlled, gravely interfere with the transport and supply of the American army. America has come to our aid against the U-boat promptly and efficiently, but nothing America can do in that direction can be too much. All efforts against the submarine will count at the maximum."

"There are two sides to this effort—building to replace losses caused by the submarines and building destroyers and other fighting craft to hunt and sink the pirates. The former, it may be said, should have priority and the latter super-priority for the construction of anti-submarine craft and other engines of offence against the U-boat."

"The convoy system, in which the American navy has co-operated with such good results has worked well, and the hunting down of the U-boats progresses satisfactorily, but there has got to be more and more improvement."

RUSSIAN TROOPS DEMAND BATTLE

Appeal to Trotzky Against Dishonorable Peace.

Latter Makes a Satisfactory Answer.

Petrograd Cable—As the Russian peace delegates passed along the way to renew the negotiations with the Germans, the Russian troops in the trenches near Brest-Litovsk urged upon Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik Foreign Minister:

"Be firm. Don't make a dishonorable peace!"

A despatch detailing this and other important facts, was received at Smolny Institute, the Bolshevik headquarters, this afternoon.

Trotsky replied to their urging: "We did not overtake the Czar to bow to German imperialism."

The tenor of the despatch indicated that the Russians would continue to insist upon the transfer of the conference to a neutral state in order to give more publicity, which the Russians consider extremely important.

Peace delegates of Ukraine conferred yesterday at Brest-Litovsk with the Bolshevik delegates, and reached an agreement whereby the Russian authorities consent to consider Ukraine an independent factor in making such terms as its leaders deem advisable with the Germans.

DIED OF BLOW FROM TREE.

ELK Lake, Jan. 15—Joe Chertier, an employee of the Tule Lake Lumber Company, has died from injuries received more than a week ago. He was struck over the eye by the rebound of a small birch tree. The eye was bandaged in the camp, but no medical examination was made. A week later a doctor was called, when it was found the brain structures had been lacerated and a septal condition induced. The man died a few days later. He was a widower and leaves two children.

GERMAN MUTINY IS CONFIRMED

25,000 Men Entrenched in an Armed Camp.

Threaten to Attack Their Former Comrades.

(By Arno Dosch Fleuret.)

Petergrad Cable—Confirmation of the report that an armed camp of 25,000 German soldiers have mutinied against being shifted to the western front, and are holding the forest near Kovno and are threatening an attack upon the other German troops from the rear if they resume offensive against Russia, has been borne out by four German soldiers who recently deserted and who offered to enlist in the international army now being organized to fight for Socialist principles under the direction of the bureau headed by Boris Reinstein, internationalist delegate of the Socialist Labor party of America.

The soldiers are named Lieut. Wilhelm Mueller, 237th Infantry, 173rd Brigade; Jarl Friedrich Heisold Kunert and Reinhardt Bregulla, all members of the 88th Sharpshooters, 78th Division. Lieut. Mueller signed this statement given to Reinstein:

"For some time the men under 35 years old have been taken from divisions on the eastern front to go to the western front, leaving only the older men in the divisions. Many soldiers mutinied and were forced into trains, but deserted in masses in the forest and soon formed a great army of outlaws with rifles, machine guns and even cannon."

"Already these men are so strong they have defeated the troops led against them. In one battle 250 loyal Kaiser troops were killed."

"Efforts to cut them off from food and ammunition failed, because they descended on villages in force and cut up the troops sent to stop them. They also stopped trains, taking provisions and arms and winning recruits. They have sent word to the front that they will attack the German troops in the rear if the present peace negotiations failed and a new attack is made on Russia."

"The camp has been in existence several weeks. The Government is unable to bring troops to attack, as the mutineers capture the approaching trains. Lieut. Mueller says the troops consider the western front certain death. The army is so depressed the Government cannot find sufficient troops of good morale to lead against Russia."

Lieut. Mueller's story is corroborated by the three others. When questioned by a Russian colonel who knew the Kovno region they gave convincing details. All agree that the food situation is serious in Germany, particularly the poorer parts of the cities.

Artillery in Berlin is constantly ready to meet a proletarian uprising. Food is better in the villages, although the depots for soldiers are surrounded by starving children. The soldiers are refusing furloughs because they are better fed at the front.

BRITISH SHIP LOSS FOR WEEK

London Cable—The British Admiralty announced that in the past week of 18 merchantmen of 1,600 tons or over, by mine or submarine, as well as three merchantmen under that tonnage. Four fishing vessels also were sunk.

The Admiralty statement follows: "Arrivals, 2,085; sailings, 2,244. British merchantmen over 1,600 tons sunk by mine or submarine, including two previously, 18; under 1,600 tons, including one previously, three; British merchantmen unsuccessfully attacked, including two previously, 11; British fishing vessels sunk, four."

Mrs. Bostonne Why, Emerson, did you run away and leave your little cousin from Chicago all alone? Emerson (7 years old)—Yes, although he's a year older than I, he knows positively nothing of the historical side of the Christmas fable, and his conversation about the Santa Claus myth is simply so childish I can't stand it.—Life.

WILSON BACKS WOMAN'S VOTE

President Favors the Federal Amendment

And Passage in House is Expected.

Washington, D.C., Report—President Wilson to-night gave his support to the Federal amendment for woman suffrage.

On the eve of a vote on suffrage in the House twelve Democratic members called at the White House with word that many of their colleagues wanted advice from the head of their party as to the position they should take. There was a conference of forty minutes, the result of which was described in this statement, indicated by the President himself and made public by the delegation:

"The committee found that the President had not felt at liberty to volunteer his advice to members of Congress in this important matter, but when we sought his advice he very frankly and earnestly advised us to vote for the amendment as an act of right and justice to the women of the country and of the world."

"In these few lines suffrage champions saw certain victory where a few days ago most of them privately were conceding defeat. A large majority of the Republicans in the House have been counted upon to support the amendment, and enough Democrats are committed to assure a close vote. With the weight of the President's influence to swing doubtful Democrats, Representative Baker, chairman of the Suffrage Committee, rededicated to-night, that the necessary two-thirds would be exceeded by 15 or 20 votes."

SHORT ITEMS OF THE NEWS OF THE DAY

Ontario Will Not Bring Chinese Labor to Work On the Farms.

HUGHES CABINET

British Textile Men Have Got Germany's Dye Secrets.

The Toronto City Abattoir will be used by the Government for its supply of fish.

A circular was issued by the Canadian Bank of Commerce promising financial aid to farmers who go into hog raising.

David W. McLeod, son of Rev. Mr. J. B. McLeod, of Deer Park Presbyterian Church, Toronto, was killed instantly when he fell down an elevator shaft.

British island colonies in the Atlantic will have their food needs taken care of.

Plans have been made to reduce the annual coal consumption in the United States by 50,000,000 tons.

The Duke and Duchess of Devonshire were guests at a luncheon at the British Embassy in Washington.

The new Hughes Cabinet, of Australia, has been sworn in, with practically no changes. Hon. Frank Tudor has given notice of a motion of no confidence.

Gen. Juan J. Canas, Dean of the Central American poets, and author of the Salvadoran National Hymn, died at San Salvador.

James Fisher, colored, who was at least one hundred years old, was found dead in his shack at Murvale, near Kingston.

Ratepayers of Windsor face an increase of two mills in their tax rate this year, because of the tight money market which militates

against the sale of municipal debentures.

Estimates indicate that well over half a million pounds sterling was raised as a result of "our day" collections in aid of the Red Cross.

Edward Louks, a Michigan Central section man, was killed some time Wednesday evening just outside St. Thomas.

Two lives were lost in a fire which destroyed a wing of the Connecticut Insane Asylum at Middletown. Four patients are unaccounted for.

Four little children are dead as the result of the fire which swept through the east wing of the Water Street Catholic General Hospital, Ottawa.

A veteran of the Crimean war, Geo. Bush, 81 years old, dropped dead on the street at Detroit. He was born in London, in 1836.

The Governor-in-Council has decided not to intervene in the sentence of death passed on Natali Neri, an Italian, found guilty of murder at Pietru, N. S. Neri is to be executed on Tuesday.

The Department of Naval Service announces the transfer of the training school for wireless telegraph operators to Ottawa, the building occupied by the school in Halifax having been destroyed in the recent explosion.

The London, Eng., meat situation, which has been so acute during the past week, was greatly improved. Large consignments of beef and mutton reached Smithfield, and all retailers applying received supplies this morning.

The London Daily Mail's announcement that a group of men in the British textile trade has succeeded in obtaining in Switzerland the secret recipes of the German dye industry has created great satisfaction in industrial circles.

Hon. A. K. MacLean, vice-chairman of the Canadian Government reconstruction committee, was in conference with the deputy leader of the various departments to consider the reduction of staffs and curtailment of departmental expenditure.

F. C. Sparks, alias H. Birch, a bogus cheque artist, who victimized a number of people in Montreal, was sentenced to prison for four years. He was out on ticket-of-leave, and has a number of terms in prison to his discredit.

The big Italian steamship Milazzo, 11,477 tons gross register, launched in 1916, was sunk during the early part of December by a German submarine while the ship was in Mediterranean waters. It is understood no lives were lost.

James Garvy, superintendent of the glazing department of the Patterson Powder Co., at Patterson, Okla., was killed when an explosion wrecked the plant. As far as has been learned, only one man was killed, although the property damage is large.

The Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada has ordered the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway to divert to the Government elevator in Transcona, Man., all wheat shipped from points on that railway west of Winnipeg. This order applies to all wheat moving eastward on that line of railway.

Gen. Robert George Nivelle has been appointed to command the French army serving in Algeria. The appointment of Gen. Nivelle is considered by the newspapers as the commencement of reparation to the former Generalissimo for the discredit into which he fell as a result of the April offensive.

ALLIES TO SIGN NEW PEACE NOTE

(By Lincoln Eyre.)

Paris Cable—A joint conference on peace terms, I have good reason to believe, is soon to follow the announcements by Wilson and Lloyd George. All the Allied Governments would unite in it.

Such a declaration doubtless would be given out from Paris. The French Government has favored such a step for several weeks, but apparently it was thought wisest to have preliminary statements from London and Washington. The French, British and Italian Premiers are to debate the question here.

The Government has agreed to a discussion of its war policies to-morrow in the Chamber of Deputies.

A man must either imitate the vicious or hate them.—Montaigne.

FOOD THE ONLY TOPIC TALKED IN GERMANY

Neutral Recently There Tells Gruesome Story of Country's Condition.

VERY FEW DOGS

Mostly Eaten as Food—People Clamor for War's End—Huge Prices.

(By J. C. Segrue.)

Berne Cable—I am able to send you the following trustworthy account of Germany at the beginning of 1918. I owe it to a distinguished Hollander, who has just passed through here on his way to a Swiss health resort.

His impressions were formed in Germany during the latter part of last month in the course of an important mission. Owing to the nature of this mission and the credentials he presented, my informant was treated with great consideration by the authorities, and on one occasion was entertained at luncheon by representatives of the German Government.

"Let me first tell the truth about the German food situation as I saw it," he said. "Only the very rich can stave off the pangs of hunger."

"I called on two women friends who live in a flourishing Rhenish town. The principal ambition of these two women was to procure some condensed milk. Their maid spent almost all her time, as most maid-servants now do in Germany, running from shop to shop trying to get food."

"How much weight have you lost recently?" is a question you hear asked on all sides. Soldiers told me they had lost as much as twenty pounds during a brief period of leave at home.

"Conversation everywhere is about food, and the German women told me that 'what is going through our heads is our stomach,' summed up the situation exactly."

VERY FEW DOGS

"You see very few dogs in Germany for two different reasons. There is no food to give the dogs, and the people have eaten the dogs for food."

"The food shortage in Germany has become a tragedy. I heard that dysentery still rages, and that children die from starvation. In Berlin I saw with my own eyes the terrible effects it has upon the health and stamina of the adult population. One curious point, I heard that many cases of hernia occur through loss of girth."

"The stranger is at first amazed at the voracious and disgusting manner in which the Germans now eat, even at the best hotels. Only one helping being allowed, they fill their plates to overflowing, and looking neither to right nor left, eat with animal ferocity."

"Evidence of food shortage meet the eye at every turn. For instance, empty boxes, and empty bottles are now displayed in shop windows."

"From the national standpoint the reduction of productivity is the most serious result of the persistent undernourishment now prevailing in Germany. The output of munition factories has sensibly declined, and all German organization and method cannot remove the cause."

FABULOUS PRICES.

"Prices have reached fabulous proportions. Christmas geese at Berlin brought \$30 each. Soap is unobtainable. Soap and chocolates were the Christmas presents mostly in demand."

"The clamor for peace arises from all classes, but particularly from workers. The constant disillusion, strangely enough, do not seem to affect the optimism which prevails. People believe firmly that the negotiations with Russia will end the war on the eastern front, remove the food shortage, and open the door to general peace."

"A spirit of questioning, of unrest, even of incipient revolt, is abroad and is spreading. For example, I learned the significance of the fact that the prisons of Spandau, to which all political prisoners are sent, are filled to over-crowding, and recently sentenced offenders have to wait their turn for admission."

"Soldiers and workmen who have had the courage to denounce the Kaiser publicly form a proportion of these prisoners."

"It would be folly, however, to attach any exaggerated importance to this new spirit, which is stronger in Berlin and Prussia than in other parts of the Empire."

NO ANTI-DYNASTIC MOVEMENT.

"An anti-dynastic movement on the Russian lines is out of the question in Germany during the war. German discipline, German severity and German respect for authority are more than the iron hand of authority to render such revolution impossible."

"In Berlin the Kaiser and the royal family are looked on as saviors. The Crown Prince is everywhere intensely disliked by all classes. People dislike him, because he lives in comfort, even in luxury, at the front, thus forming a glaring contrast to the life led by the troops."

BRITISH RAID FOR TRENCHES.

London, Jan. 15—The official report from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters in France to-night says: "Early this morning we successfully raided at three different points the enemy's trenches south-east of Ypres, capturing many casualties and capturing a few prisoners and two machine guns. The hostile artillery was active during the day south of Bullecourt, west of Lens, and east of Ypres."



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