

BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR

THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 1917.

TWO CENTS

BRITISH FORCES SMASH TEUTON LINES

Canadians Shared in the Victory of Gen. Haig's Forces

Nine Thousand Captives are Taken in the Smashing Drive

British Spring Offensive Off to a Victorious Commencement

Drive Now Launched May Terminate in Streets of Berlin

BRITISH DESTROY U-BOATS

Hun Subs. Exterminated at Rate of More Than One Daily

SUB. CHASERS ACTIVE And Reap a Fine Harvest of Submersibles

THE NEW YORK MINED No Casualties aboard the Vessel

By Courier Leased Wire.

New York, April 10.—New York Times this morning publishes the following:

The British have been destroying U-boats at the average rate of one a day since February 1, and latterly at an even higher rate, according to information brought to New York, by persons returning from Europe, who said they had the authority of naval officers and officials high in the admiralty for the figures. In the month following the declaration of unrestricted submarine warfare British ships sank thirty-two submarines. Since then it is said the average number destroyed a week has been between seven and fifteen, with the number running as high as twenty three in the week.

British naval officers assert their methods in fighting the submarine are being improved constantly. The small motor boat, known as "the submarine chaser" following in the wake of destroyers dragging cables or chains between them has sunk most of the U-boats with a new explosive bomb effective within a circumference of 500 yards. Airplanes are used also, while the practice of equipping merchant ships with guns forward, as well as aft, has caused the destruction of several U-boats.

British officers say the Germans profess to be turning out a submarine a day, but they do not see how submarines, manned by competent crews can be sent to sea at this rate.

Liner Struck Mine. Washington, April 10.—The American liner New York struck a mine 7:40 p.m. last night, five miles off Liverpool bar. No casualties were reported. The vessel later proceeded to Liverpool.

Consul Washington at Liverpool reporting the incident to the State department today said:

No Casualties. "The American liner New York struck a mine 7:40 p.m. last night, five miles off Liverpool bar. The company reports passengers landed at Liverpool except four who are still on the ship. No casualties. Vessel proceeded under own power. It is now (one o'clock this morning) entering her dock."

New York, April 10.—The American Line Steamship New York left this port on March 29 with 58 passengers, cargo and mail. She carried a naval crew of gunners and was armed. The ship's crew consisted of 214 men and was commanded by Captain W. J. Roberts.

The union of British Columbia municipalities committee adopted the proposal recommending to the Department of Agriculture for the tuberculin testing of cattle and rigid inspection of dairies be continued.

Weather Bulletin Toronto, April 10.—The disturbance which was off the middle Atlantic coast yesterday has moved into the Maritime provinces accompanied by gales with snow and rain. The weather continued very cold throughout Ontario and Quebec but in the western provinces, there has been a change to somewhat milder conditions.

Forecasts. Fine today. Wednesday—South-easterly winds; fair and a little milder.

Successes of the British Forces of Even Greater Importance Than Realized; Canadian Played Important Part in Drive

By Courier Leased Wire. London, April 10.—The British offensive between Lens and St. Quentin with which the spring operations have been opened and which is still in progress has proved even more successful than the earlier accounts indicated.

Canadians Active General Sir Douglas Haig to-day reports that yesterday's captures exceeded 9,000 men, while forty guns fell into the hands of his troops.

The Canadians, who had one of the hardest bits of the front to contend with, are now in complete occupation of the famous Vimy ridge, even the eastern slopes of the ridge having been cleared of Germans. The Canadians also have repulsed German counter-attacks.

These reactions by the Germans indicate the importance they attach to this position, where the conquerors look down over the plain of Douai.

German Line Shattered With Vimy ridge gone the whole German line covering the French towns and industrial districts to the north becomes a wavering one and any leisurely retreat the Germans may have planned is made uncertain and precarious.

Chain Tightened With the capture of the famous ridge, the British made a considerable stride along the road to Douai, while the capture of the high ground northwest of St. Quentin tightens the chain which the Anglo-French forces are drawing around that town.

A German diversion southeast of Ypres, according to General Haig's report, met with no success.

SEA RAID ON RUSSIA EXPECTED

Kronstadt Anticipates German Attack Through Gulf of Finland

PREPARATIONS MADE Garrison Working Night and Day to be Ready

By Courier Leased Wire.

Kronstadt, April 8.—via London, April 10.—Kronstadt is feverishly preparing to repel an expected German naval attack when the Gulf of Finland is free of ice. A correspondent of the Associated Press reached the famous island fortress by travelling over the vast ice waste, which separates it from the mainland and found the garrison working night and day in anticipation of the long predicted assault.

The fortress is entirely controlled by a council elected by the troops, which is unanimously resolved to defend Russian freedom and territory to the last. The council is equally resolute against fighting for the annexation of foreign territory. One member of the council said that as long as Germany was unwilling to abandon its plans of annexation there was nothing to do but fight. He said that everything possible had been done to put the defences of the fortress in first class order and that the stronghold was as strong to-day as ever. An impressive sight is offered the visitor to Kronstadt from the walls after dark. At every half mile along the tracks across the ice bonfires flare and in their gleam the red flags of the revolution can be seen faintly waving. Around the fires, the revolutionary soldiers march in solemn silence, their arms by their sides and their faces lit by the coming of the Russian republic.

KERENSKY IN DEFENSE OF HIMSELF

Russian Minister of Justice Refutes Charges of Favoritism

TO RETAIN HIS POST Until Assured That Russia Remains Republic

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, April 10.—A Reuter's Petrograd correspondent says that Minister of Justice Kerensky, addressing a military delegation on Monday, said that he wished to put an end to certain insinuations that he has not been severe enough towards some former partisans of the deposed emperor. He charged that these rumors were spread with the malicious purpose of sowing discord between himself and the democracy. "If I did not arrest Grand Duke Dmitrie Pavlovitch," said Minister Kerensky, "it was because he hatched the plot against Rasputin. If I did not arrest Rasputin, it was because he is an old man and an invalid and prison would have killed him in three days."

"As for the prisoners in Tsarskoye Selo, I have visited them and I can tell you that the soldiers guarding them have promised to obey no orders but mine. Moreover, the commanding officer is a friend of mine in whom I have complete confidence. I will not abandon my post as long as I am without an assurance that the only political regime in Russia will be a republic."

At the conclusion of his address, Minister Kerensky was cheered by the delegates, who unanimously voted confidence in him.

NEW CHAPTER IN GREAT WAR OPENED BY OFFENSIVE

Capture of Vimy Ridge, Taken by the Canadians, a Stroke of Magnitude; British by Holding It May Dominate the Entire Military Situation on Western Front—England Acclaims Latest Victory of Her Forces

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, April 10.—The news of the successful opening of the new British offensive has stirred intense interest and high hope among the people throughout the country. Whatever the enemy may have claimed as to the retreat in the Somme sector having been pre-arranged and strategic, it is contended that their recoil before the blow delivered in the Arras-Lens region cannot be explained away in any such manner. It is urged that there is no possible voluntary element in this retirement and that there can be no dispute as to who took the initiative.

New Chapter Begun. A new chapter in the conflict on the western front has begun and whether or not it is to prove the beginning of a decisive battle it is bound, according to the prevalent opinion here to lead to results of the highest importance. The main feature of the battle thus far, on which attention has been focussed is the capture of Vimy ridge. The immense value of this series of heights, which dominate the plain from an elevation of 400 to 500 ft. has been recognized throughout the war and great sacrifices have been regarded as justifiable if they resulted in its possession.

Vimy Important. The French and Germans fought fiercely for control of the ridge in the summer of 1915, both sides suffering heavy losses, but in the end the Germans held the main portion of the position. Later the British took over the French line and were ousted by the Germans from the

part of the ridge, which had been won by their predecessors. One military critic, commenting on the present battle, thus describes the importance of the Vimy heights: "They are admittedly the bastion of the enemy's western line. Whatever else has been allowed to go he held Vimy ridge with grim resolve and lavished upon it all the arts in fortifications and defensive skill that the war has taught him. Upon it hinges the whole strategy of the enemy's retreat in the west. With Vimy firmly held he can swing his line farther south slowly back, until each part of it reaches the position where he has a mind to stand and he can cover the French industrial districts upon which he depends so much for supplies. But with Vimy gone the defense of these districts can hardly be maintained, the pivot of the whole retreat shifts and gives backward and is in instant risk of fracture."

Will Hold Ridge. The issues depending upon British ability to hold the ridge are therefore immense. At the moment there is nothing to suggest a doubt that the ridge will be held, but the battle is still fiercely continuing and there is little disposition here to indulge in confident predictions. Nevertheless the opinion is expressed that if the Germans are definitely driven from the ridge, without hope of retaking it, they are likely enough to be compelled to acknowledge defeat and retire to what is called the Meuse line, running from Verdun through Metz, Mauberge and Lille.

In the meantime the fighting goes on over a front of about fifty miles, roughly from Lens to St. Quentin, the core of attack being around and north of Arras. As far as information goes everything is going well for the British and justifies their sanguine hopes but the comments today generally include a warning not to allow these hopes to run too high. The enemy is known to have great reserves at hand and an iron compulsion binds him to make every effort to avoid defeat. The papers warn the country that it should await the event in a spirit of sober expectation and that it is not the time for exuberant boasting.

Robinson V. C. is Now Missing

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, April 10.—The Evening News says that Lieut. William Lee Robinson, the first aviator to bring down a Zeppelin in England is reported missing.

Lieut. Robinson earned the V.C. for his exploit in the night of September 12, 1915, when he shot down a Zeppelin at a height of 10,000 feet. The Zeppelin which was taking part in an attack on the London area was brought down in flames at Cuffley. The Lieutenant is 21 years old.

Prisoners Taken by Haig's Forces Now Total Over Nine Thousand; Official Statement Sums Up British Gains

By Courier Leased Wire. Bulletin, London, April 10.—1 p.m.—It is officially reported that the British forces captured over 9,000 prisoners and more than forty guns, in yesterday's operations.

Heavy fighting took place last night on the northern end of Vimy ridge from which the Germans were driven. The eastern slope was also cleared.

Near St. Quentin, the Germans have been driven from the high ground between Le Verquier and Hargicourt. Fighting continues along the entire battle front.

The British have seized the village of Reoux and the neighboring defences north and south of the Scarpe river.

The Germans made a strong attack on a narrow front southeast of Ypres and reached the British support lines. They were driven from the British trenches by a counter-attack.

Bulletin, Paris, April 10.—A further advance was made south of the Cise by the French last night, the war office announces. The statement follows:

"North of the Oise the enemy's artillery showed less activity than on preceding days. Patrol encounters and rifle firing in the first lines occurred."

"South of the Oise we made progress east of the lower forest of Coucy. The artillery fighting was rather heavy in the region northeast of Soissons and especially severe in the sector of Laffaux. Southeast of Rheims we repulsed a surprise attack against one of our trenches north of Sillery. Fighting with grenades occurred in the Champagne, west of Maisons de Champagne."

RUSSIA IS WITH ALLIES TO THE END

Russian Pacifists Denounced by Governor General of Finland

UPHOLD GOVERNMENT And Prosecute the War to the End

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, April 10.—Russia has renounced all idea of territorial expansion, according to a Petrograd despatch to Reuter's quoting a statement by Minister of Justice Kerensky. Minister Kerensky in the course of a speech delivered on Monday before the military delegates, declared that while Russia wished no more territory, she would defend to the end the liberty which she had won.

Denounced Pacifists. Reuter's correspondent also reports that the new governor-general of Finland, Pedro Rodicheff, denounced Russian peace advocates in an address before the Congress of the Constitutional Democrats, the party which he formerly led in the duma. Governor Rodicheff, after referring to the sacrifices made at Gallipoli for Russia by France and England, said:

No Peace. "In Petrograd there is a body of bold persons which dares to speak of peace in the name of the people. But the people themselves are silent. Our duty toward the provisional government is to raise our voices and say:

"Russia is with you, yield to nothing which concerns her requirements and interests."

U. S. MUST PREPARE TROOPS

Military Critic Explains That America Must Take Time

IN EQUIPPING FORCES Submarine Menace Must Also be Combated

ALLIED NAVIES JOIN To Clear Seas of U-Boat Piracy

London, April 10.—The Times' military correspondent, discussing American participation in the war, heartily endorses the apparent intentions of the American government to use the regular army and the National Guard as a nucleus for the formation of a national army. He recalls what a serious disadvantage it was to Great Britain to be compelled to throw her regular forces into the fighting line in 1914 because of France's urgent need of help.

May Have to Wait. "If the United States," he says, "cares to send a regiment or two to London or Rome to affirm the solidarity of the allied cause, it would be a graceful and rightly appreciated act. But this war is a very serious business, and, for the national army which America proposes to create, the whole of her existing professional cadre is little enough. We shall not misunderstand American action in the least if we have to wait some months until her first division, well equipped and thoroughly trained, make their appearance in France."

Delays Inevitable. "Hastily formed untrained levies are useless. Our new armies in 1914 took nine months in forming before the first division arrived in France and this division took three months more to harden in trench warfare before it could safely engage in a great attack. America may be able to curtail these periods and send over a few divisions this autumn, but it will hardly be this year that America is adequately represented on the battlefield. Germany certainly reckoned on this delay when she deliberately preferred the hostility of the United States to abandonment of ruthless submarine warfare."

The writer emphasizes the necessity of systematic training of officers and points out that the experience of the allies has been that this is best done at the seat of war. He continues:

"Every facility will certainly be accorded by the allies if America takes this hint from our experience and sends batch after batch of officers and non-coms to be trained in our schools or similar schools to be established by the American army. We fully expect that American science and invention will teach the United States a great deal when the Stars and Stripes come over the water, but meanwhile elementary professional education of all ranks is as much a necessity to the American army as it has been and still is for ours."

Sub Menace. The correspondent concludes by insisting on the necessity of countering the submarine menace before everything else, in order to clear the Atlantic for the passing of the American army and supplies.

"To this task," he concludes, "the skill and valor of the American and allied navies must be uninterruptedly devoted."

SAVE FOOD STUFFS By Courier Leased Wire.

Leeds, England, April 10.—At the conference here of the Independent Labor party, a resolution was unanimously adopted calling on the government to prohibit absolutely the use of food stuffs in the manufacture of alcoholic liquors during the war.

T THEATRE
Easter Week Features
on & Madelyn
IN
Classy Dance Offering
Kimball Young
Star Supreme, in
"Foolish Virgin"
Sensuously Dramatic
of Money Madness
Willie Burke
IN
"Romance"
Festy Comedy
Thurs., Fri.,
and Sat.
more Ulrich
IN
"Own People"

NIGHT
"FLUFF"
From To-Night
Oc. 25c.
your seats early.

April 13-14
LY at 2:30

Presents
Motion Pictures

Raid
Convention
before in Pictures

Thriller

Thriller

Thriller

Thriller

Thriller

Thriller

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