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# The Toronto World

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# BRITISH TROOPS STAND AT BAY WITH THEIR BACKS TO THE WALL

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## DEFINITE CRISIS REACHED; DANGEROUS ATTACK COMING

**New Gun**  
*British War Office is Making One to Throw Shells 80 Miles.*

London, April 12.—In the house of commons today J. I. MacPherson, parliamentary under secretary of the war office, informed a questioner that steps had been taken to construct a British gun capable of throwing a shell more than eighty miles.

## BRITISH TROOPS STAND AT BAY WITH THEIR BACKS TO THE WALL

**Gen. Haig's Message to the British Army**

LONDON, April 12.—Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig in a special order of the day, addressed to "All Ranks of the British Army in France and Flanders," says:  
"Three weeks ago today the enemy began his terrific attacks against us on a 50-mile front. His objects are to separate us from the French, to take the channel ports and to destroy the British army."  
"In spite of throwing, already, one hundred and six divisions into the battle and enduring the most reckless sacrifice of human life, he has yet made little progress towards his goals."  
"We owe this to the determined fighting and self-sacrifice of our troops. Words fail me to express the admiration which I feel for the splendid resistance offered by all ranks of our army under the most trying circumstances."  
"Many among you now are tired. To those I would say that victory will belong to the side which holds out the longest. The French army is moving rapidly and in great force to our support. There is no other course open to us but to fight it out."  
"Every position must be held to the last man. There must be no retirement. With our backs to the wall and believing in the justice of our cause each one of us must fight to the end. The safety of our homes and the freedom of mankind depend alike upon the conduct of each one of us at this critical moment."

## PARIS AND ENGLAND RAIDED

**Eastern Midland Districts Attacked and Some Bombed Further Inland.**

London, April 12.—A German aerial raid was made on the east coast of England this evening. One or two of the raiders succeeded in penetrating further inland than the coast, where some bombs are reported to have fallen. Further details are not yet available.  
"The raid is still in progress."

## REVELATIONS EXPECTED

**Telegraph Operators and Handbook Men May Be Implicated.**

L. Morris Maynard, for three years manager of the Dominion Bank branch at McCaul and Dundas streets, gave himself up to the police in Ottawa on Thursday night, was brought to Toronto by Inspector Bunty of Ottawa, taken into custody at the Union Station at 7 o'clock yesterday morning by Detectives Nurney and Cronin, appeared in the police court on the charge of stealing \$3,000 from the Dominion Bank, and was remanded for a week. The charge was laid by C. W. Macagy, chief inspector for the bank.

## DESPERATE FIGHTING AT VIELLE CHAPELLE RESULTS IN HEAVY ENEMY CASUALTIES.

With the British Army in France, April 12.—Thruout last night and this morning the northern battle line has continued to seethe with attacks and counter-attacks. From Givenchy to the Lawe river the situation remained unchanged, but further north the British withdrew somewhat from a point west of Estaires northward to the region of Steenwerck. There was desperate fighting at Vielle Chapelle during the night as the result of heavy hostile attacks.

## IRELAND'S PLANS FOR HOME RULE

**Asquith Appeals to Government to Omit Clause on Conscription and Prevent Controversy.**

London, April 12.—Former Premier Asquith suggested this afternoon that it would take some weeks after the bill was passed to undertake the preliminary work connected with conscription in Ireland, the interval should be occupied in passing through the Irish convention. By that course the prolongation of the unhappy controversy would be prevented.  
Mr. Asquith again appealed to the government to omit the clause on conscription. If these were normal times, he said, he would not hesitate to take appropriate parliamentary action to give effect to his opposition to the clause, but it would be criminal to blind our eyes to the extent of the peril at this moment.  
"I could not be a party to any proposal to leave the engaged nation to the fate of the nation, if it is legitimate in normal conditions, which, if it succeeded, must have the effect of preventing those who for the time being are responsible for the nation and to the allies from extricating the greatest of causes from the greatest of perils."  
"When every moment of their time, every faculty of their mind and every fibre of their being needs to be devoted to saving from disaster the allies' cause, I cannot take that responsibility."

## BRITISH GIVE GROUND NEAR LA BASSEE CANAL

Troops Have Been Pushed Back Slightly and Are Heavily Engaged With the Enemy.

London, April 12.—Field Marshal Haig's report from headquarters in France, says:  
"Strong pressure has been maintained by the enemy all day south and southwest of Bailluel. Constant attacks in great force were made in this area and are continuing."  
"Our troops have been pushed back slowly in continuous fighting to positions in the neighborhood of the Bailluel railway, where they are heavily engaged with the enemy."  
"Sharp fighting occurred also on other parts of the battlefield north of La Bassee Canal, and the enemy made slight progress between the Lawe and Clarence Rivers."  
"At other points our positions have been maintained."  
"The remainder of the British front the position is unchanged."  
"Over 110 German divisions so far have been engaged since the morning of March 21, and over 40 of these have been thrown into the battle two or three times."

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## ENEMY U-BOAT SHELLS CAPITAL OF LIBERIA

Washington, April 12.—A German submarine of the largest sea-going type on April 10 appeared in the port of Monrovia, the capital of Liberia, on the west coast of Africa, and bombarded the wireless and cable stations there, the state department has been informed in an official despatch.

## TORONTO

The Dominion Seed Purchasing Commission purchases 300,000 bushels of seed corn.  
Five nationalities are represented in a lien case being considered by Judge Winchester.  
York County executive of the G.W.V.A. deplures unruly tactics adopted by some of the members.  
There is no relief for the residents of the flooded area in Kew Beach district until the storms allow the water to recede.  
Ward Six Liberal-Conservatives in the northeast portion of the riding support the claim of postmen to higher wages.  
Speaking at the reunion of the sergeants of the Queen's Own, Hon. W. D. McPherson says that Canada is not war-weary.

## IRELAND'S PLANS FOR HOME RULE

**Asquith Appeals to Government to Omit Clause on Conscription and Prevent Controversy.**

London, April 12.—When the house of commons, in committee of the whole, this afternoon, reached the clause in the manpower bill extending conscription to Ireland, James C. R. Lardner, National member for North Monaghan, moved that the bill should not be enforced with regard to Ireland until the passage of a resolution by the Irish parliament approving it.  
"Today," he said, "County Clare is an armed camp, and what Clare is today the rest of Ireland will be tomorrow if the government went on with this proposal."  
Eventually Mr. Lardner's motion was rejected 259 to 198.  
Arthur Henderson, leader of the Labour party, warned the government that it was displaying more reckless courage than wisdom in staking its existence on the clause applying conscription to Ireland. Unless the government was prepared to modify its proposals, it was creating a situation which contained all the elements of the greatest disaster which had befallen the country in the last four years.  
The government's present proposals, he declared, would place Sinn Feinism in the ascendancy in Ireland, as they had placed Bolshevism in the ascendancy in Russia. The minimum the government could do was to say frankly that it would not make the clause operative until home rule was absolutely the law in Ireland.

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**Bargains**  
In fumed or golden oak and 5 small chairs, fumed finish; massive drawer on each side. \$21.50, \$15.95.  
Frames, having deep coil link springs with full weight mattress. Only, 42-inch top, exc. Princess design, has \$3.95.  
and Mary design, fitted sides or fumed finish, \$2.50, for \$22.45.

**Special**  
Special Varnish floors, stains and varnishes; operation; light oak, 500 quarts, gain, per quart, 49c. 90% wax, full weight color; spreads and sily, 200 lbs. on sale lb, tin, 25c. Fishes, 3 and 4 inches & bristles, securely regular 3c. Friday, 2c. Brushes, 7 inches & white bristles. To-day, 2c.

**\$5.95**  
style, with convertible 29 to 35. To-day \$1.95.

**\$1.95**  
made in double-breasted with top flaps. Old braids on sleeves; at 8.30. Sizes 2 1/2 to 4. Today \$1.95.

**Soft**  
s \$1.45  
arly \$2--\$2.50  
ing lot of Soft Felt many shapes and  
curl brim shapes, fedora styles, in pearl grey, steel, in navy, brown and grey \$1.45.

**Rugs**  
50 Regular \$10.50  
Auto Rugs, in an choice of patterns, plain black mo- Today \$7.50.  
's Hat Dept.)

**\$9.75**  
ung his first suit of in the form-fitting eeds and tweed mix- \$10.50, \$12.50, \$15.50

**ings**  
llover Sweaters, grey all collar; sizes 28 to each, 39c.  
glighte Shirts, having cuffs; also some sport. Today, each, 99c.

fancy knit stitch Or- is brown trimmed. 50. Today, each, 99c.

## Period for Strategic Withdrawals Has Passed and Tremendous German Attacks Are Being Met by Savage Resistance.

GREAT BRITAIN'S armies stand at bay in France and Flanders. After three weeks of a combat which has eclipsed anything that has raged during the entire four years of warfare, Field Marshal Haig has issued a command to his men to hold their ground at whatever cost, and fight with the knowledge that their blows are struck "for the safety of their homes and the freedom of mankind."  
The end of the first phase of this great struggle may now be considered as passed. "There must be no retreat," is Haig's admonition, which adds that the British are now fighting "with their backs to the wall."  
The withdrawal in France was officially reported to have been a part of the allied strategy, but the period for such tactics seemingly has gone into history.

**Ready to Strike Back.**  
The order issued by the field marshal contains another sentence which may be pregnant with significance. "The French army is moving rapidly and in great force to our support," he said, and this is the first official intimation that the allies are ready to strike back to hold the German invaders. This blow may not necessarily fall in Flanders, nor yet in Italy, but may be aimed at some part of the line where the German line may believe he can cut thru the German front and compel the Germans to relax their pressure against the British.

The allies stand today on a front which has been dented and battered, but which is very strong thruout. Tracing this line from the south, it is found to leave the old battlefield at Brusacourt, west of Lezon. From this point it runs to the west, passes south of Coucy le Chateau and crosses the north until it reaches the Oise River, which it follows until it reaches a point south of Novon. Here the line crosses over some high hills and runs just north of west to Massigny, west of Montdidier, where it turns to the north. This line is continued as far as Castel, where it turns northeast to Hangard and thence north to the line thru Albert to a point east of Hebuterne. Here the line runs off to the northeast thru Bucquoy and Boisieux to Peronne.

**Scene of Bitter Fighting.**  
At this point it turns north to beyond Lens and then turns sharply to the northwest as Bethune, entering the scene of the most bitter fighting. It continues as far as Merville, which marks the farthest advance of the Germans in their present offensive operation, and then bends to the northeast to Passchendaele, north and east of Ypres. Here it curves to the northwest to Merkem and thence north over the lowlands of Belgium to Neuport to the sea.  
The capture of Merville features the fighting during the past day, but all along the line from just north of Lens to Hellebeke, southeast of Ypres, there have been tremendous attacks which have been met by savage resistance. The hardest fighting along this front seems to have centred about Messines Ridge, for which the Germans and British have struggled hand-to-hand.

**Each Side Holds Half.**  
At last reports the Germans held the eastern half of the ridge, while the British were in control of the western slope.  
This sector has seen the only infantry fighting of the past day, but a bombardment of the Bray-Corbie road, south of Albert and north of the Somme, may foreshadow another blow there. Hangard, too, has been heavily shelled by the Germans. On the other fronts reports show only usual trench operations.

**SATURDAY A BIG HAT DAY AT DINEEN'S.**  
Something tempts a man to purchase what he requires on Saturday. The merchants, generally speaking, make that day a special one for his benefit by having some tempting designs in men's goods. The Dineen Co. have gone some distance for this Saturday and have imported splendid new designs in soft and stiff hats, as well as outing and golf caps and hats.  
We show today:  
The Dunlap Hats.  
New Stetson Hats.  
New Christy Hats.  
New Heath Hats.  
New Hillgate Hats.  
Prices of all good hats are going up, and it is advisable to buy today. Next shipment may be higher. Call and see the new shipment at Dineen's, 140 Yonge street, Toronto.

The usual bargain sale in the basement all day Saturday. Special display of men's and boys' hats and caps.