

HAIIG DRIVES BIG HOLES IN FOE'S LINE

French Thrust Gets Trenches, Guns, Prisoners

SHARP BLOWS BY NIVELLE'S TROOPS FOR ST. QUENTIN

Pushing at Fortress From South, French Troops Have Taken Several Lines of Trenches, Prisoners and War Booty From Germans—Two Surprise Attacks at Verdun Fail.

Paris, April 13.—Noon.—The French made an attack this morning on new front south of St. Quentin. Today's official statement says the Germans resisted desperately but the French captured several lines of trenches, taking prisoners and a considerable number of machine guns.

The French also made further gains east of Couchy-la-Ville, taking prisoners and booty.

The statement follows:

"Between the Somme and the Oise our troops this morning attacked German positions south of St. Quentin. Notwithstanding desperate resistance by the enemy, we carried several lines of trenches between the Somme and the St. Quentin Railway. We brought back prisoners and a number of machine guns.

"South of the Oise our advanced troops made progress east of Couchy-la-Ville and took prisoners and material. There was artillery fighting in the region of the Aisne and in the Champagne. Near Verdun, two surprise attacks were made by the enemy. They were broken up by our fire. The night was calm on the remainder of the front."



Mr. Wilson—"And now... cut off my wings."—L'Asino, Rome.

DESPERATION STALKS BEHIND THE GERMAN LINES WHILE BRITISH FORCES SMASH ON

New York, April 13.—A news agency dispatch published here today follows:

"With the British Armies Afield, April 13.—Desperation stalks behind the German lines. The German army chiefs, astounded at the tremendous increasing strength of the British smash, are using prisoners of war to dig trenches, thus relieving a few more German fighters, while the word has gone out for reinforcements.

Using Non-Fighters.

While awaiting those reinforcements the enemy is using non-fighting auxiliaries of the army to fill up depleted ranks of its fighting regiments. Scores of captured trench defenders today were transport drivers and assistants, chauffeurs, bandmen and other auxiliary service men. They had been pressed into service around Fampoux and the Houdouin redoubt, where the British smashed hardest, in the hurried call for every available man to withstand the British blows.

Armen Outfought.

The Bavarians claimed they had been hurled to the Arras sector to relieve the Saxons and had not been told of what they would have to face. The Bavarians insisted it always fell to their lot to do the disagreeable tasks of fighting and when they were rushed to Arras they felt something tremendous was on.

Prisoners' Stories.

The way in which German army chiefs are scraping all possible men together to fight against the British onslaught is graphically detailed by Russian prisoners who escaped to Allied lines today. They had been forced to dig trenches at the point of the German bayonet, permitting the soldiers to be hurled a few hundred yards further toward the front to fight.

Hold At All Costs.

Orders have gone out all along the line of Haig's smash to German commanders to "hold at all costs," because four army divisions are coming to reinforce.

From various sources today it was learned the Germans were preparing to complete the destruction of Arras with the great 42-centimeter howitzers when the British "push" interrupted. The German guns were on their way to points near the city and shells reported reliably to contain prussic acid were likewise in course of transport.

Lieut.-Colonel Woodman Leonard

TODAY our city shrouded in sorrow's sable pall, Mourning one who was a chief amongst worthy men. Whose large heart averted quickly when he heard his country's call, Who fought and died a hero—who will not come back again.

In the flesh no more we'll see you, but your memory's enshrined In each heart that knew you, for we loved you well, And your name in history's story will be entwined, And your deeds to children's children we will tell.

Sleep in thy quiet corner with the fallen overseas, Woodman Leonard, you will have been kept in mind, For you gave your all ungrudgingly that nations might be free, You died like a true hero, to save your kin and kind.

We know today you're standing in the presence of the King, To whom we all praise and allegiance give, And that you have heard His saying, while heaven's glad harp rings, "Well done, good and faithful servant, rest, and 'mongst God's great ones live."

POWER FOR WILSON TO TAKE OVER ALL RAILWAY SYSTEMS

Govt. Can Have All Railroads, Phones and Telegraphs.

RETURN AT WAR'S END

Important Amendment to Carrier Regulations Bill of United States.

Washington, April 13.—Power for the president to order railway officials to operate any part of the rolling stock during wartime as he may see fit, without actually taking over railroads, is given in the common carrier regulation bill of last session, reintroduced in amended form today by Chairman Adamson of the House commerce committee. Provisions to permit the president to control and operate all railroad telegraph and telephone lines, to draft their employees into the military service, to use the military in protecting the operation of railway lines and to increase the personnel of the interstate commerce commission from seven to eleven members are included as in the previous bill.

Of Great Importance.

The action by which the president might order the operation of part of a road's rolling stock is considered of the greatest importance. It would permit the Government to obtain the same service that it would if the railroads were taken over and at the same time prove economical in time and cost, it is believed, in comparison with the use of rolling stock by the Government would be fixed by the interstate commerce commission.

All property taken over by the president "will be returned to its owners at the close of the war. Attempts to evade service ordered by the Government would be severely punished."

Sub-Divide Commission.

Coupled with the proposed increase of the personnel of the interstate commerce commission would be a provision to subdivide it with the purpose of expediting business. As now constituted, the commission finds itself impossible to keep abreast of its work. No special provision, other than permitting the president to use the military to guard the operation of the trains is made against strikes.

RUSS SOCIALISTS DENY SENDING DELEGATES TO COPENHAGEN CONFERENCE

Petrograd, April 13.—Via London.—The executive committee of the council of women, soldiers and delegates, comprising representatives of all branches of the Socialist party, has authorized the official news agency to say that neither the committee nor the leaders of the Socialist party know anything of the reported negotiations at Copenhagen between Russian and German Socialists. The Russian Socialist party has sent no delegates to any such conference.

JOFFRE COMING.

Washington, April 13.—All the names of the French commissioners who are coming to this country have not been disclosed, but it now is definitely established that the commission will include Gen. Joffre, representing the French army.

THE COBB-SUNDAY EXCLUSIVE ARTICLES

The Advertiser has made arrangements with Irvin Cobb, the famous writer, for the publication of a wonderful series of exclusive articles on Billy Sunday during the latter's appearance in New York.

The first article will appear in tomorrow's evening paper. Watch for it. We have read it and can vouch for its engrossing interest.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 56; lowest, 29.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 30; lowest, 23.

AMERICANS WITH CANADIANS MAY FORM NEW ARMY

32,000 Could Be Transferred to the Stars and Stripes.

SEND 10,000 REGULARS

Considered Important That United States Should Have Force at Front.

New York, April 13.—A special cable to the Herald from London, dated yesterday, says:

"The prospect of the early participation of American troops fighting under the United States flag on the western front has caused tremendous enthusiasm here.

"Already the nucleus for a force is at grips with the Prussians in France, it being estimated that 32,000 American soldiers are fighting in the Canadian unit. It is surmised here that a request will be made to obtain the release of the 22,000 trained fighters from the Canadian unit to enable them to fight hereafter under their own flag.

"The force could be strengthened by the addition of about 10,000 regulars, to be sent from the United States army at once, thus forming a powerful army corps which, in the forthcoming operations, would bear the brunt of the fighting.

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POSITION OF NETHERLANDS GROWING MORE DIFFICULT, DECLARES DUTCH PREMIER

The Hague, April 12.—Via London.

April 12.—Premier Cort Van der Linden, speaking in the First Chamber today, said:

"The longer the war lasts the more difficult becomes the situation, while the limits of international law grow continually narrower. We suffer from the economic and blockade policy, but we do not deviate from our policy of strict neutrality and readiness to defend ourselves against anyone attacking us. The belligerents injure us by their warfare, and our neutrality increases their interests.

"The Netherlands, said the prime minister, grants favors to neither party, but is doing what, according to the best judgment, appears to be right.

"We become more lonely, and by what we do we win the affection of neither party. But in any case we shall retain their respect," he continued.

He expressed the opinion that after the war the Netherlands may occupy a mediatory position, which would possibly lead to increasing prosperity. But, he added, "we should then refrain from a fiscal war."

BRUCE TRAIN TO BE RESTORED WITH OTHERS AT MONTH END

"On the 23rd of this month a new timetable will be come effective, and a certain number of passenger trains that were cancelled some months ago will again be restored to service," said G. T. R. Supt. Charles Forrester today in discussing the contemplated changes in passenger trains was put into effect in April. At a meeting now being held in Montreal the new timetable is being planned.

One-a-Day Trains Restored.

Supt. Forrester said that the first trains that would be restored to service would be those that formerly operated on branch lines, that were even now only one train each way a day.

The two passenger trains taken from the Huron and Bruce will be put on again at the end of the month, along with several others in this division. Residents along some of the lines operating only two trains daily have entered many complaints.

The trains were taken off in the first place to make available a greater number of locomotives and train crews for the purpose of the transportation of war materials, food and coal.

Situation is Normal.

The freight congestion at the Niagara frontier is again normal less than 400 cars being reported here today, compared with 4,000 two months ago today.

The officials of the C. P. R. are to call a meeting in a few days to plan a new table and also to replace several of its passenger trains that were cancelled in the early winter.

BRITISH CUT ANOTHER LINK OF HINDENBURG LINE; NOTABLE VICTORY WON ON A NINE-MILE FRONT; GERMANS FORCED BACK TO EMERGENCY DEFENCES

SPAIN SHARP WITH THE GERMAN GOVT.; MAY JOIN ALLIES

New York, April 13.—A news agency dispatch from London says: British press comment today voiced optimism over the prospect of Spain joining with the Allies in view of the sinking of the Spanish steamship Fulgencio by a German U-boat.

Information received here was that the Spanish note of protest to Berlin over this act was couched in extremely sharp terms.

London, April 13.—A demand for indemnity for the sinking of the Spanish steamship San Fulgencio has been made on Germany by the Spanish council of ministers, the Madrid correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company cables.

The San Fulgencio was torpedoed without warning, being the first Spanish ship to be sunk by the Germans under these conditions. A London dispatch of Wednesday said the Spanish Government had made a strong protest to Germany.

Thrust by French.

While the British were halting momentarily on the northern end of the line to consolidate their gains and move up their artillery, the French chose the opportunity to make a sharp thrust south to St. Quentin. The attack was delivered this morning, and its success is recorded in the Paris official statement which recounts the capture of several lines of trenches between the Somme and the St. Quentin railway against desperate German resistance.

War Offices Announce Enemy Positions Carried On New Front Between Arras and St. Quentin—Raid Southwest of Loos Wrecks Dugouts of Germans.

London, April 13.—1:46 p.m.—German positions on a wide front have been captured by the British after severe fighting, the war office announces.

The front attacked extended from a point north of Hargicourt to the village of Metz-en-Coutre.

It is 9 miles from Hargicourt to Metz-en-Coutre. This sector is on the new front between Arras and St. Quentin, where the Germans took up positions after their retirement.

The British captured the town and wood of Gouzeaucourt, Gauche wood and Sart farm.

The announcement follows:

"We attacked last night in the region between St. Quentin and Cambrai. After sharp fighting we captured the enemy's positions on a wide front from north of Hargicourt to Metz-en-Coutre. We now hold Sart farm, Gauche wood, Gouzeaucourt village and Gouzeaucourt wood.

"During the night our troops carried out a successful raid southwest of Loos. The enemy's dugouts were bombed and considerable damage was done to his defences. In the neighborhood of Ploegsteert a hostile raiding party came under our machine-gun fire, failing to reach our trenches."

ENROLL U. S. YOUTH TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION OF LAND

Army of Two Million Planned for Purpose.

SCHOOLBOYS TO ENLIST

Six Thousand From Chicago Are To Get Holidays At Once.

Washington, April 13.—Proposals for enlistment of a work army of two million men and boys for agricultural service, and other drastic steps to increase food production during the war, were given enthusiastic endorsement at the department of agriculture today.

"Upon the farmer rests in large measure the final responsibility of winning the war," declared the resolutions made public here.

"Because of the world shortage of food, it is scarcely possible that the production of staple crops by the farmers of the United States can be too great this year."

Enroll the Boys.

It is recommended that boys under military age and men beyond the age of 45 who are physically disqualified for military service, be enrolled in the national army for labor in production of food, munitions and supplies. Other recommendations are for creation of an agricultural body under the council of national defense to supervise agricultural matters, and for the vesting of wide authority in the secretary of agriculture to regulate and standardize food production and distribution.

ENEMY DRIVEN TO EMERGENCY LINE; ANOTHER MAIN LINE LINK SEVERED BY THE BRITISH-CANADIAN ATTACK

London, April 13.—2 p.m.—Under improved weather conditions there was stiff fighting along virtually two-thirds of the British front today. In addition to the gain made in the new attack between Hargicourt and Metz-en-Coutre, the British are making progress further north. Another mile from the Hargicourt, giving a total width of three and one-half miles to the turning movement at the top of this famous position.

MAKE FOR EMERGENCY LINE.

In falling back the Germans are making in the direction of an emergency auxiliary line to the rear of the Hindenburg line, called the Drocourt-Queant line. Work on this position is far from complete, and the Germans seem to have had no idea of using it except as a last resort. They are now fighting under orders to delay the British advance at every point to permit completion of the work of making a new position defensible.

EXPECTED TO HOLD VIMY.

On retreating from the Somme last month the Germans apparently expected to hold all the Hindenburg line, running southeast from Arras in front of the Vimy ridge. The important point at the northern end of this line was Vimy ridge. There is no doubt the Germans never expected to be driven off that ridge by a frontal attack, as was done by the Canadians on Monday.

FEARED OUTFLANKING.

Anticipating a northern offensive, however, and the possible outflanking of the Vimy positions, the Drocourt-Queant switch running north from the Hindenburg line was planned.

In the meantime the Germans, driven back from their old positions, were endeavoring to dig themselves in at various places, especially in front of Monchy-le-Preux, in which process they suffered heavy casualties from the artillery and machine gun fire. There is no doubt the Germans never expected to be driven off that ridge by a frontal attack, as was done by the Canadians on Monday.

ADVANCED MORE THAN MILE.

Toward the southern end of the British line northwest of St. Quentin an attack was made today over an extended front, and at some places the British advanced more than a mile. Various important places, including Gouzeaucourt, were captured. In the meantime the Canadians further north fought their way through the wood located on the eastern front of Vimy ridge.

COMMERCE RAIDER IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

Vessel Said To Be Disguised as Sailing Ship.

Galveston, Texas, April 13.—Information that a German commerce raider, in the guise of a sailing ship, has entered the Gulf of Mexico, was reported today in Galveston. This news was received from an unnamed British steamer in a radio message to a ship anchored here. The vessel is said to be equipped with auxiliary power. It also has been reported that a German submarine is operating in the eastern gulf.

MOTOR GOES OVER BANK NEAR BURLINGTON, ONT.; ONE KILLED, FOUR HURT

Hamilton, April 13.—One man was killed and four others more or less seriously injured when the automobile in which they were traveling, plunging over an embankment in a turn in the Toronto-Hamilton highway, a mile west of Burlington, shortly after one o'clock today. The dead man is John Brick, son of License Inspector Brick. His neck was broken. The others in the car were Gordon Baker, William Hines, Joe Collins and Eddie Carroll. Baker, a munition worker, was driving the car.

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