

ANOTHER HALF MILE GAIN BY BRITISH AT MIRAUMONT

Have Pushed Forward Their Line North of the Ancre at That Place

Huge Results of Gen. Haig's Troops Work in Last Month.

London cable says: Fittison Young, correspondent of the Daily Mail at British headquarters in France, wires his paper that German howitzers are using ammunition freely in trying to prevent the rapid pursuit of the retreating enemy. He adds that the return of clear, dry weather is favoring the British.

London cable: Again the British have pushed forward their line to the north of the Ancre, and again apparently without much opposition from the Germans. The latest point of retreat of the Germans, as reported by the London War Office, is north of Miraumont, where over a front of a mile and a half the British advanced an average distance of 600 yards.

Since the retreat began the British have occupied ten villages and captured 3,000 prisoners.

THE OFFICIAL REPORT.
The official communication from British headquarters in France to-day reads:

"During February we captured 2,132 German prisoners, including 26 officers. The following villages were also either captured or surrendered to us by the withdrawal of the Germans: Ligny, Thiilloy, La Barque, Warlencourt, Miraumont, Puisseux-au-Mont, Serré and Goumourt.

"The enemy continues to yield ground on the Ancre. North of Miraumont our line advanced to-day an average distance of 600 yards on a front of one and a half miles.

"We discharged gas this morning south of Soehetz, followed by a raid in which we took some prisoners. A British raiding party also entered German trenches northeast of Givonchy, Lens and La Bassée, and captured eight prisoners.

"Under cover of a heavy artillery bombardment, a hostile raiding party succeeded last night in reaching our trenches near Ablaincourt and Rancourt. In both cases the enemy was ejected by our counter-attacks. A few men were missing.

"There was considerable mutual artillery activity to-day on the Ypres sector."

Major-General F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations of the British War Office, said to-day: "The Germans on the western front have made their biggest withdrawal since the battle of the Marne. How far they will retreat I cannot say, but they will not retreat beyond the point which they are forced to leave either by the economic necessity of saving their losses or from a position which our superior position prevents them from holding."

The announcement of the British War Office of the withdrawal of the German forces along an eleven-mile front on both sides of the River Ancre in France is limited by the Berlin War Office for the first time. The ground was "voluntarily and systematically evacuated and the defence placed in another prepared line," says Berlin, which adds that the movement "remained concealed from the enemy."

10 VILLAGES, 3,000 PRISONERS.

London cable: In a statement in the House of Commons today dealing with recent happenings on the Franco-Belgian front, Henry W. Foster, financial secretary of the War Office, said that until the last few days the British operations necessarily had been confined to minor attacks. In these, he said, heavy losses had been inflicted upon the Germans, more than 3,000 prisoners taken and ground of considerable importance gained.

During the past days, continued Mr. Foster, as the result of the continuous pressure on the Ancre front, the enemy had retired on a front of 12 miles to a depth of two miles, giving the British possession of 10 villages and several important positions, to which the Germans hitherto had clung with the utmost determination. Up to the present the Germans had been engaged upon their troops the necessity of defending these positions and fighting to the very end.

"In view of these instructions," the secretary went on, "this withdrawal cannot but have an unfavorable effect upon the enemy troops and upon the German people when they know."

"At the same time it is probable the enemy is retiring not merely as a defensive measure, but with the object of saving his strength for a great blow on one or another of the Allied fronts. There is every indication that he will make a supreme effort to end the war in his favor this year, an effort which can only be met by a corresponding determination on the part of Great Britain and her allies."

REPORT FROM TREE TO TREE.

Headquarters of British Army in France, cable says: Our men died in vain in an attempt to carry Gommecourt. Now they must be controlled. Missions has been used in combination with the lead for this work, but has been found unnecessary.

"As all our districts are more or less troubled with pear blight, an account of Prof. Caesar's experiments in this line, which have been most successful at a small cost, proved very interesting. The blight, he said, must be cut before the growth of the wood begins again in the spring. All cuttings must be burned so as to destroy the fungus.

"The growing and marketing of vegetables was divided by Mr. Theo. Dilling into several classes, including

the absolute vegetable gardener, who raises all classes of vegetables extensively for city supply; the specialist in one crop on a large scale, and the farmer who grows a few vegetables as a side line. The intending grower, he said, should first consider his market and then give much attention to the building up of his soil, as in vegetable growing there is no danger of over-fertilization. For his part Mr. Dillworth uses from 50 to 60 tons of manure to the acre on his land.

He advised the drawing of manure in the winter, but in answer to a question as to the advisability of spreading it on the land at that time, he advised against it in the case of land that is to be used very early in the spring, or in case the land is heavily covered by snow. The use of quick-maturing varieties of vegetables he recommended as worth considering in the Niagara district with a view of obtaining two crops in one season. Grow varieties to suit the taste of the consumer, he said; do not try to make the buyer take what you like yourself.

Mr. Dillworth advised the staking of tomato plants and pruning to a single stalk for the production of first-class tomatoes, to supply the best table.

The afternoon session was opened by Mr. Hamilton Fleming, president of the association.

Discussing the labor problem and giving an idea of sources from which help might be expected in the coming season, Mr. P. W. Hodgett said that parents would be justified in taking their children out of school this year so as to provide for the raising and harvesting of the crops.

Dr. G. C. Creelman agreed that fruit growers did not get the price they should for their product. He admitted the big investment in land and outfit made by the fruit farmer, which does not bring a fair return.

In analyzing the conditions of country life, which back town and country dwellings consider unsatisfactory, Dr. Creelman pointed out that what is most needed is a wider outlook for the dweller on the average size farm, and a better chance for the farmer's boy to enjoy himself. To the farmers, he said, take the boy into partnership early in his life, so that he will stay on the farm because he wishes to and not because he must.

Proper fertilization of soil was Prof. R. Harcourt's address, and his note of warning against absolutely useless materials sold as fertilizers was heard with some wonder by many who had been paying with their money for stuff that did nothing but add a little bulk to the soil.

SAW NO SUBS.
U. S. Freighter Had Un-eventful Trip.

Paris cable says: The American freighter Rochester has been greeted at Bordeaux with the same enthusiasm as was shown in the case of the Orleans, according to a Bordeaux despatch to the Havas Agency. Captain A. Korowitz, in an interview, said, in regard to his trip:

"We left New York two hours after the Orleans. The voyage was not marked by any incident except for a severe storm which we ran into. I saw no submarines, but thought it prudent to steam with lights on for four nights. We entered the danger zone on Monday evening, but saw nothing from then until we reached the Giroude, except one sailing ship. After all, it was not so very difficult to force the blockade and arrive safely."

GRANTS TO ROADS
To be Part of Provincial System.

A Toronto despatch: Amendments that will increase Ontario highway laws with the provincial highways system legislation, to be introduced later in the session, was brought down in the House by Hon. Wm. Mackenzie-Bowden yesterday. The most important feature of the new legislation is a clause giving the provincial power to designate as a provincial road any main road in a county system and to contribute a grant of sixty per cent. of the cost of construction. This would mean an addition of twenty per cent. upon the present grant. In exchange the road would come under a measure of provincial control and would have a higher type of construction. These roads would draw their traffic from ordinary county and town roads and carry it to the provincial highway.

Another amendment gives the Government power, in proceeding with the construction of a provincial highway, to construct within the boundaries of urban municipalities, or to give grants to the municipalities toward construction. Both amendments are related to the proposed provincial system, but are more conveniently fitted into existing statutes.

J. H. Hart, of South Brant, introduced a bill to give cities the right to tax land at a higher rate than improvements. J. H. T. Ryan, of South Wentworth, introduced a municipal act amendment, providing for a township assessment commissioner for Barton Township.

New Cloth.
They are for female spring coats. And quite new and pleasing, all of them. A gentina cloth is one of these—it resembles Bolivia but has a jersey back. It comes in very bright colors and is very popular for suits and coats in a durable cloth with a heavy texture. This comes in mixtures as well as plain colors and is even wider than the Argentinian cloth.

And, of course, there are new Bolivias and new velours, in weights and colorings suitable for spring.

Grandma had a very bad cold one day when her little granddaughter made her a visit. Suddenly she sneezed very hard. Much pleased with the unexpected excitement, the child looked up and said: "Honk again, grandma."—The Christian Herald.

BERNSTORFF KNOWS NOW SEAS' RULER

British Navy's Readiness and Control Was Never Better Shown.

WORLD ROVERS

In Canadian Troops Waiting to Go Across—Show Why Huns Will Lose.

Halifax despatch: Count Johann von Bernstorff has had occasion recently to contrast British and German methods of Empire building. When the Count and his retinue passed the harbor of Halifax in the Frederick VIII, to the land-locked inner anchorage known as Bedford Basin, there to be subjected to a careful search for dangerous documents or contraband articles, they sailed within pistol shot of a huge transport laden with Canadians on their way to the front. Von Bernstorff and his staff, in the darkness of the night, saw nothing of the troops or of the vessels of war that lay near by. But the Count knew that it was only by the courtesy of his country's foes the Atlantic was open to him, while Canada's lighting men would not let a German steamer, searched as he has been since the first by the warships that have safely piloted every transport on the Atlantic route.

Why had permission to submit to the indignity of detention by the representatives of British sea power gone ungranted, the Count of the German soldiers can guess in safety? The obvious answer is that the German navy is not a matter for that of a land army, and therefore must yield control on the surface, however degrading it may strike for mastery beneath. The British navy was ready, by its preparedness the war was won before a shot was fired. Without the British navy to keep the seas Germany would have had victory over us and complete.

Why was the British navy ready to submit to such indignities? The answer is, as a thousand unadmitted shores have mirrored the British love of adventure. For centuries the British sailor has voyaged to far lands. For him there is no longer any land of mystery. If there were he would not be content until he had mastered its secrets, sought and sold its wares, and colonized its empty spaces.

Centuries of struggle with Nature on land and sea, and with men in every quarter of the globe, have given the British an inheritance of racial and individual self-confidence all the more remarkable because it is often concealed beneath a heavy crust of reserve and outward self-depreciation. Probe beneath the crust and in the milk of the United Kingdom and the overseas dominions, among the uneducated as well as among the cultured, one finds the pride of race and consciousness of high ancestry that has not been extinguished in the British and the Roman in the days of their greatness. It is this pride of race which after two and a half years of a tremendous conflict sends men eagerly into the "very heart of the inferno" to do their bit.

The matter-of-fact talk of the officers and men on route to the front might lead the casual hearer to suppose that the men were of a common stock. A summer breeze might have blown in from the sea and the words of the men might have been those of a common stock. But the words of the men might have been those of a common stock. But the words of the men might have been those of a common stock.

There is another type. He is a young Canadian, born in Edmonton of English parents. He never saw the sea till last morning, but he never saw a vessel bigger than the little five-storied ship that ply on the St. Lawrence. Yet he comes aboard without the slightest perturbation. The salt sea air, the great ship, the heaving water, are his mental inheritance. He will take generations of the pains to make landmen of his kind and create in his descendants a distrust of the sea.

To many of the men of the western world the world is very small. One tells a story of Shanghai. Another talks with intimate knowledge of the Kaffir problem in South Africa, whether he went in 1890 to fight the Boers, and where he lived long enough to respect them. Sprits and both are well-known figures to him. Something turns the conversation to navigation, and descriptions of ports on many lands are available. The man who knows all about the Straits of Magellan sways experienced with the boatman from the coast river. The rancher who got 125 bushels of oats per acre from part of his Alberta holding, and secured sixty cents a bushel, gives a short dissertation on the absolute folly of permitting men to desert their holdings and their cattle when the Empire needs meat so badly. Lots of them, he says, turned their live stock over to the buyer at any offered price, and left their places unoccupied.

I had not suspected him of such speculation, but he, too, made valuable contribution to the mental movie entertainment. He had gone to France two years ago with a very poor opinion of Englishmen. They were, he fancied, surly, uncompanionable and lacked adaptation to Canadian conditions. "I found out," he said, "that the English officer is the finest gentleman I have ever met, a model of courtesy, and as brave as he as he is courteous."

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Only 13 of 416 Opposed Bill to Arm United States Ships.

ONE CLAUSE OFF

But "Other Instrumentalities" Come Up in the Senate To-day.

Berlin cable: The tension of the last 48 hours ended at this morning on the receipt of advices that Washington was not contemplating precipitate action in regard to the sinking of the Laconia. Official circles, the press and the public continue to manifest calm indifference as to future developments. The press reiterates that Germany has spoken the final word in regard to submarine warfare, and that the response has been crossed.

Washington, March 1.—Aroused by the associates of Germany's plot to unite Japan and Mexico with her in a war upon the United States, and their convinced by official evidence of its authenticity, Congress to-day aligned the delays and objections which have checked President Wilson's efforts to be clothed with executive authority to deal with the submarine menace.

The House after a ten-hour debate and by an overwhelming majority passed a bill to empower the President to arm merchant ships and provide for a hundred-million dollar bond issue. This bill, however, does not contain the grant of authority to use "other instrumentalities" which the President specifically desires, and would prevent Government war in aid of the merchant ship, a prohibition which the President does not approve.

When the House bill is received in the Senate tomorrow the Senate bill which the Administration fully commends, will be substituted, and that is expected to be finally accepted by both Houses as the law.

Official announcement was made at the White House today that the Administration stands behind the Senate bill "first, last and in every way," with its provision for "other instrumentalities." In the Senate an attempt to force the President to disclose the Government's source of information of the attempted intrigue with Mexico and Japan, on the supposition that it came from one of Germany's enemies, was defeated after a sharp and sensational debate. Instead, the Senate merely asked for official notice of the authenticity of the despatch of instructions from German Foreign Minister Zimmermann to German Minister von Eckhardt in Mexico City. The President transmitted it immediately with the statement that it would not be compatible with the public interest to reveal further details concerning it.

Congressmen clashed with the so-called pacifist group in the House who have been opposing a grant of authority to the President on the subject, announced that they would vote for the armed neutrality bill in the belief that to aim the President to protect American rights might be the way to avoid war.

Republican senators who have been filibustering against the armed neutrality bill, not because opposed to it, but to force an extra session of Congress, declared their conviction that the situation demanded united support of the President.

NO MORE "PLAYING POLITICS."
A Congress badly divided, and, in its dying moments, with its legislative programme at sixes and sevens, and charges of "playing politics" flying from every side, suddenly took on a new aspect.

It was as if the cry "America first!" had rung through the halls of both Houses, and the response has been almost instantaneous.

In the Senate members who have opposed the President in his manner of dealing with Germany on the ground that it was leading to war, were found fighting influences which the President's supporters declared were calculated to embarrass him.

There were bitter references in debate to senators to whom the President would be expected to look for advice on foreign affairs, Chairman Stone, of the Foreign Relations Committee, was voted down in his own committee on his own draft of a resolution asking the President to disclose if the

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NEW HUN SUBS. 350 FEET LONG

Carry 20 Torpedoes and Crew of 32 Men. Five Victims Yesterday—U. S. Seamen Missing.

Amsterdam cable: The Telegmaat publishes an account of an interview with a German soldier who has been for some time serving as a clerk at the Vulkan dock-yard in Hamburg. To avoid punishment for some trivial offence he escaped across the frontier. The man left Hamburg in February. There were then in the Vulkan dock-yard eight large submarines on the stocks. These latest submarines are nearly 350 feet long, and are armed like a small cruiser. They can take 20 torpedoes and a crew of 32. Gangs of 120 men are at work day and night on each submarine. The completion of a submarine requires three months. Besides the submarines, small cruisers are now being built at the Vulkan dock-yard of a new class, so-called the Stadt class. These are 450 feet long.

FIVE SHIP VICTIMS.
London cable: The reports of the past 24 hours show five additional ships of an aggregate tonnage of 7,267 have been sunk.

The following are the ships reported sunk: Harriet Williams, British sailing ship, 157 tons; Belgian fishing boat; Clan Farquhar, British steamship, 5,251 tons gross, on Feb. 28; Marie Joseph, French schooner, of Fochamp, 152 tons, on Feb. 25; Sjøstad, Norwegian steamship, 1,155 tons, on Feb. 2.

SINKING OF GALGORM CASTLE.
Queenstown cable: The British barque Galgorm Castle has been sunk by a German submarine. The survivors include two Americans, Harry Merritt, of Beaver Falls, Pa., and Harry Richardson, of Boston, Mass. They were 13 hours in the boats.

Captain Frampton, of the Galgorm Castle, his wife and 12 of the crew passed through Cork to-day. They had been landed at a western port.

The Galgorm Castle was shelled and sunk Tuesday evening by a submarine which started firing at a mile and a half range, and continued until two boats got away from the ship.

Harry Merritt, one of the two American survivors on the first boat, said that a second boat was lost sight of during the night, and probably was swamped, as bad weather prevailed.

The missing boat contained the chief and third officers, and ten men, including two Americans, named Jackson, ordinary seaman, and David Walker, cook.

The sinking of the Galgorm Castle was previously reported from Paris (March 1).