

BRITISH AND FRENCH ARE STILL POUNDING RELENTLESSLY AT HINDENBURG LINE WITH A FINE PROSPECT OF WINNING GREAT VICTORY

CANADIAN WOUNDED AND DEAD ARE WELL CARED FOR

Extra Ambulances Provided and Supplementary Dressing Stations Opened—Stretcher-bearers Well Organized and Practically Every Sufferer Attended to.

Individual Grave for Each Man and Burial Service Read by Minister of His Own Denomination—Crosses to Mark Spot—Shell Holes Carefully Searched for Bodies.

Canadian Headquarters in France, via London, April 18.—(By Stewart Lyon, special Correspondent of the Canadian Press.)—Now that the lists of casualties from the actions of the last week are beginning to appear in the Canadian press it may bring solace to the sad hearts to know how carefully the wounded were handled, and how reverently the dead were buried. Hospital arrangements were made to handle far more than the number actually wounded. Extra ambulances were provided at the front, and many supplementary dressing stations were opened. There was little congestion anywhere. Over two thousand who were wounded on the first day were so lightly hit that they were able to walk back to the stations without aid.

Despite the extraordinary conditions of the ground over which the advance was made, the stretcher-bearers found and brought out practically all the wounded before nightfall each day. In only a few cases, where the wounded lay in deep shell holes and were not suitable for transport, were their presence known to the search parties. It is believed that this prompt handling has resulted in a material reduction under the heading "died of wounds." Similar systematic care was shown in the disposal of the dead, who are now believed to bear the remarkably low ratio of one to five wounded.

New Cemeteries Opened.

There are two important military cemeteries on the Canadian front, at Carancy and Ecotree. These are connected with trenches by light railways and the dead customarily are brought there for burial.

For the operations of last week additional burying grounds were opened near the front of the line, so that the work of the burial parties might be more quickly done. Each body of our own men is given individual burial and over each of the dead is placed a simple wooden cross, giving his name, rank and identification number. Even if these crosses should be removed, the records of the burial are so complete that the location of every body can be indicated. The dead are wrapped in blankets before being committed to the earth by the men's own units, and

the burial service is read by a clergyman of the dead soldier's own denomination. The army chaplains are so distributed as almost invariably to permit of this reverence for the dead, which is one of the marked characteristics of the British and Canadian troops.

The German dead are buried where found, after their identification disks have been removed so that they may be passed on to the German authorities, through the Geneva committees. Our own dead even, when there is no possibility of establishing their identity—and this occasionally happens from shell fire, which is destructive to the frail tissues of the human frame—the victims are laid away beside their comrades. I know of one case where the chaplain and four bearers carried the shell of a rent body of an unknown Canadian over almost two miles of practically impassable ground in order that he might rest with his comrades in the divisional cemetery.

Still Finding Bodies of Dead.

A week after the battle occasional bodies are still being discovered, showing the fate of some missing men. While traversing the shell-torn ground near the main street of Buzancy a scout in my company two days ago found the body of one of our men in the bottom of a deep shell hole. Fatally wounded by splinters he had crept into the hole to die, and there he lay undiscovered for a week, while thousands of people passed within twenty feet of him. A search of the battlefield, containing hundreds of thousands of such shell holes required days of arduous labor. Hundreds of men have been specially detailed for this work, and it has been well. Sorrowing relatives in Canada of our returning brave men may take comfort in the fact that their dead have been cared for as reverently as if they had been laid to rest in the family burial plot at home.

The French nation has offered to maintain cemeteries along the front for all time, and arrangements have already been made for the planting of trees and evergreens around them.

While the tide of war rolls on there is no material change in the situation here. The enemy is said to be greatly depressed.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION OF U.S. ENTRY TO WAR

Historic Resolution Passed in Lords and Commons Commending United States for Openly Espousing Cause of Liberty.

London, April 18.—Today's sitting of the British parliament will be a historical landmark. Both the legislative houses adopted—the House of Lords unanimously, and the House of Commons with one dissenting voice—resolutions expressing the profound appreciation of the British nation for the action of the United States government in entering the war in defense of the high cause of freedom and the rights of humanity. The unusual importance of the occasion was shown in the crowded state of the galleries in the House of Commons. Among those in the galleries were Walter Hines Page, the American ambassador, and many other Americans, as well as the representatives of the Entente Allied states. An unaccustomed air of enthusiasm was given the occasion.

The resolution in the House of Commons was moved by Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer. Former Premier Asquith seconded it in an eloquent speech. The resolution in the House of Lords was introduced by Earl Curzon, of Kedleston, lord president of the council.

Earl Curzon said the entry of the United States into the war stamped the struggle as a great uprising of the conscience of mankind, to put an end to the rule of Satan on earth. The president's speech to congress, Earl Curzon added, was a trumpet call, the sound of which would ring throughout the ages.

Viscount Bryce former ambassador to the United States alluded to the same lofty ideals animating both the United States and Great Britain. The Marquis of Crewe admitting that the material resources of the United States were unespeakably welcome to the Entente said that even more welcome was the moral force of which Earl Curzon had spoken. The Archbishop of Canterbury said that when the elementary principles of right and wrong were at issue, the

greatest of all issues which will be decided in this struggle is whether or not the free institutions of which the progress of civilization and the welfare of mankind depends can survive against the centralized power of military despots.

"In this connection the entrance of the great republic is a fitting pendant to the revolution which has brought the Russian people, whose courage and endurance we have so much admired, and whose sufferings have been so terrible, into the circle of the freed nations of mankind."

"Being in the United States has already shown that her enemies must beware of her, and despite the fact that the path immediately before us is more difficult than ever before, I venture to express the hope and belief that a change is coming—that the long night of sorrow and anguish which has desolated the world is drawing to a close."

"The United States," Mr. Bonar Law continued, "possesses resources of all kinds, resources which, in the long run, are decisive in war, to a greater extent, probably, than any other nation. The quality of her people was shown nearly sixty years ago, in a struggle which, in its essentials, was not dissimilar to that which they are now entering. Since then the American people have shown qualities of resource, energy and readiness to adopt themselves to new situations in the art of peace, and the same qualities will now be directed in no halting way, and with equal success to the art of war."

"We welcome the adhesion of our new ally for another reason—for the moral justification which it gives us for our own action."

"At this point the chancellor was interrupted by cheers, and he continued: "America, like the British Empire, is engaged in the war from no desire, from no fault of her own, but because she can do no other. I profoundly believe that

the British war office reports that the forces of Pierre Marievaux have gained additional ground along the River Scarpe, to the east of Fampoux, and also captured the village of Villers-Gablain, north of St. Quentin. North in the region of Loos, a system of German front line trenches also was taken.

Northwest of Brailles, on the Danube river, in Roumania, the Germans delivered a violent attack against the Russians, but were repulsed, says the Petrograd war office.

Paris, April 18.—Since the beginning of the great French drive on the southern end of the battle line the French have captured 17,000 unwounded prisoners, together with seventy-five cannon, according to the official statement issued by the war office tonight.

Desperate fighting took place over many sectors between French and German troops today, the Germans launching numerous powerful counter-attacks, all of which were put down with great losses. The official report says:

"South of St. Quentin, after a very spirited bombardment, the Germans attacked our positions east of Gauthy. The first attempt, stopped short by our fire, was followed by a second of greater violence, in the course of which groups of the enemy succeeded in penetrating our advanced elements. In immediate counter-attacks all the occupants were killed or taken prisoner. Our line was completely re-established."

"Between Soissons and Aubertve we energetically continued our action at various points despite the persistent bad weather. On the west front of attack these operations resulted in a most brilliant success. North of Chavonne our troops occupied the village of Ostel and drove back the enemy a kilometre (two-thirds of a mile) to the north. Braye-En-Laonnais was likewise captured, as well as all the ground to the east as far as the outskirts of Courtenot."

"Under the energetic pressure of our infantry and the murderous action of our cannon the enemy fell back in disorder, abandoning important material, and leaving in our hands his supply depots. A single one of our regiments took 300 prisoners belonging to seven different regiments. We captured nineteen cannon, of which five were short (siege guns)."

"South of Laifang our troops covered on the south by divisionary cavalry, routed the enemy and occupied Nanteuil-La-Fosse."

"Finally, on the south bank of the Aisne an attack, carried out in spirit of fashion, gave us a bridgehead organized by the enemy between Conde and Vailly, as well as the latter place in its entirety."

"In the forest of Ville-Au-Bois an important unit, surrounded by us, threw down its arms. Thirteen hundred prisoners and 180 machine guns which served as the defense of the wood were taken."

IT'S ARTILLERY VS. MACHINE GUNS ON THE WESTERN FRONT

Germans Increasing Their Machine Gun Batteries Until Each Front Line Company Now Has Six or Eight—So far, However, Big Guns have Won Out.

Flexibility of Trench Communications Also Relied on by Enemy to Keep Hindenburg Line Intact Until It Reaches the Rhine—Bad Weather Delays Operations.

British Headquarters in France, April 18, via London.—The flexibility of the trench communications and the effectiveness of their machine guns are the two elements of defense upon which the Germans appear to be placing their greatest reliance in the present fighting. In effect, the various elements of the more important defensive trenches enable the German fighting line to swing upon double hinges, so, if pressed hard, one pivot swings back from the other. In this manner such ground can be held in a series of angular or cross-crest retreatment without the fighting front technically being broken.

These trenches are known as switches and a great system of them is connected with the Hindenburg or Siegfried position. It was undoubtedly with these strategic switch lines in view that Field Marshal Von Hindenburg recently declared that the German line in the west could not be broken.

The preparation and maintenance of the elaborate system requires an untold amount of labor, for each section of trench must have several belts of wire front. The Germans have become so accustomed to fighting behind barbed wire that they would not now think of doing otherwise, if it can be avoided.

Using More Machine Guns. Most of the digging appears to have been done by prisoners of war. As the German lines fall back, the diggers also fall back, to construct still more trenches in which the Germans may later find shelter. Under this plan, of course, it would be possible to drive back the Germans to the Rhine, and they could still say the line was unbroken. In the meantime the Germans are employing more machine guns than ever before in their attempt to hold up the British infantry advances. As high as six or eight of these ghastly weapons are now assigned to each company on the front line, and they undoubtedly constitute the German effort to counteract the preponderance of allied cannon. The artillery, however, remains the great unanswerable argument.

But in cases of great drives like that of Arras, the enemy temporarily gets beyond the effective reach of the great machine guns. While they are being brought up anew, the Germans cut loose with thousands of machine guns. Nowhere along the front do the Germans longer attempt

to keep up with the allied increase in artillery. Even if they had the guns, the Germans lack transport facilities to supply them. Horses are extremely scarce, while the motor trucks lack rubber tires and are ineffective. Due to this, the Germans are locating their batteries more and more along the railway line, in order to be certain of shell supplies, when it is pointed out by British officers, strategic reasons would call for far different positions.

That machine guns are the real difference of the Germans, however, is shown by the construction of the famed Hindenburg lines, which are mostly railroads, built just to permit the intensive use of these weapons. Machine guns are being used largely in the defense of Lens.

Weather Bad for Air Work. Although the weather condition continues precarious, the airplanes daily brave the gales and snow squalls and carry on the important work of serving as the "eyes" of the army. This work is more important during an advance than at any other time, and without the loyal co-operation of the planes progress would virtually be impossible. The airmen reflect the offensive spirit of the entire British fighting force, and carry out their task with daring self-sacrifice, which will ever be one of the brightest chapters in the history of the war.

Two of them had a new experience yesterday. They were forced to land within the German lines southeast of Lens, neither the pilot nor the observer being injured. Realizing their position, they saved two machine guns from the wrecked plane and drove off two German patrols which attacked them. They held the ground until nightfall, when eventually they returned safely to their own lines.

In addition to its thousands of other duties and activities, the British army is now endeavoring to give the French farmers every possible assistance in getting their crops under way. A bureau has been established where farmers requiring help register. Troops resting in the neighborhood of farms volunteer their help, and horses temporarily unemployed are loaned for plowing and other farm duties. Tractors also are occasionally furnished. Some of the principal work consists in reclaiming the battlefields, filling up of trenches and shell holes and leveling the ground.

ALIEN ENEMIES IN U.S. WILL BE RESTRICTED AS TO RESIDENCE LOCATION

Cannot Live Within Half Mile of any Fort, Camp or Government Munition Plant.

Washington, April 18.—All alien enemies residing within one-half mile of a fort, camp, aircraft station, government or naval vessel, navy yard, factory or workshop for the manufacture of munitions are required to remove prior to June 1, under penalty of summary arrest, under instructions issued today by the attorney-general to the United States Marshals. This carries out the terms of the president's proclamation. The attorney-general's instructions also cover the enforcement of other regulations prescribed in the president's proclamation. Alien enemies found with forbidden articles in their possession after April 24 shall be arrested, except in cases where the marshal shall be satisfied they are not dangerous to public safety.

MADAME BERNHARDT'S CONDITION UNCERTAIN.

New York, April 18.—The outcome of the critical illness of Madame Sarah Bernhardt, who was operated upon last night at Mount Sinai Hospital is still uncertain. "Because of previous underlying conditions," according to a bulletin issued by her physicians tonight. She was said, however, to have stood the operation well, in spite of her advanced age.

RUSSIA APPEALS FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS TO A GREAT "LIBERTY LOAN"

Provisional Government will Open Books for New Offering Today.

Petrograd, via London, April 18.—The provisional government has issued the following appeal for subscriptions to a "Liberty loan," the books for which will be opened tomorrow: "A powerful enemy has deeply penetrated our country and threatens to defeat us and subject us to the old regime we have just overthrown. Only the expenditure of billions can save the country and accomplish the organization of a free Russia upon the foundations of equality and right. It is not sacrifice we are asking of the country, but the fulfillment of a duty. Let us bring our money to the state and place it in the new loan in order to safeguard both our liberty and our possessions."

ALLIES CAN RECRUIT IN U.S.

Washington, April 18.—The bill permitting the Allies to recruit their citizens in the United States was passed today by the Senate by unanimous consent, and sent to the house to wait action there.

VON BISSING DEAD?

London, April 18.—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent says that according to a Brussels despatch Gen. Von Bissing, German governor-general in Belgium, died today.

THE FRENCH CONTINUE THEIR ONWARD SWEEP AGAINST HUNS

Since the Beginning of the Great Drive on the Southern End of Western Battle Line They Have Captured 17,000 Unwounded Prisoners and Many Guns, also Taking Positions of Vantage.

The great offensive of the French army against the Germans from the bend in the line in France from Soissons eastward into the Champagne continues unabated. Numerous new points of vantage have been taken, prisoners and guns captured, and violent counter-attacks put down with heavy casualties. In three days of fighting more than 17,000 unwounded prisoners have fallen into the hands of the French, together with seventy-five cannon.

In Wednesday's battle in the forest of Ville-Au-Bois an enveloping movement was carried out against the Germans and 1,300 of them threw down their arms and surrendered. In addition 180 machine guns were captured.

Between Soissons and Rheims the villages of Ostel and Braye-En-Laonnais were captured, together with territory about them, the Germans in the latter region retreating in disorder and losing to the French regiments alone 300 prisoners belonging to seven different regiments. In their flight the Germans left behind much war material. Here the French captured nineteen cannon.

German Attacks Repulsed.

Between Juvincourt and the Aisne the Germans threw a counter-attack against the French line with about 40,000 men, but according to Paris the artillery of General Nivelle's men repulsed the attack with sanguinary losses.

South of St. Quentin during Wednesday the Germans also made an attack against the French east of Gauthy. This attack, which failed, was followed by another in which the Germans penetrated advanced French positions. In a counter-attack the French killed or made prisoner of them and regained their lost trenches. Troops occupied the village of Ostel

and drove back the enemy a kilometre (two-thirds of a mile) to the north. Braye-En-Laonnais was likewise captured, as well as all the ground to the east as far as the outskirts of Courtenot."

"Under the energetic pressure of our infantry and the murderous action of our cannon the enemy fell back in disorder, abandoning important material, and leaving in our hands his supply depots. A single one of our regiments took 300 prisoners belonging to seven different regiments. We captured nineteen cannon, of which five were short (siege guns)."

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CANADA'S MUNITION ORDERS TOTAL A VAST SUM, REPORT SHOWS

J. W. Flavelle Says their Gross Value will be \$850,000,000—Quarter Million of Employees Engaged.

Ottawa, April 18.—A statement to the Minister of Finance by J. W. Flavelle, chairman of the Imperial Munitions Board, shows the total value of orders received to be \$850,000,000. Millions shipped to March 30 were valued at \$470,000,000 and total disbursements to March 30 \$643,000,000. Employees, direct and indirect, number over 250,000, and 630 factories and plants are in operation.

"A thousand shells for each piece. These guns were turned against the enemy by our artillery."

"In Champagne we reduced isolated places which were still resisting and occupied enemy points of support. Twenty cannon, of which eight were heavy guns, and five hundred additional prisoners fell into our power. The total number of unwounded enemy prisoners whom we have taken from the rear since the beginning of the battle exceeds at the present time 17,000. Seventy-five cannon have so far been counted."

"Belgian communication: There was feeble artillery firing at several points on the Belgian front."

ARTILLERY ACTION IS BECOMING MORE INTENSE ALONG ITALIAN FRONT

Vigorous and Successful Bombardments of German Lines and Positions—Aerial Squadron Busy.

Rome, April 18, via London.—The Italian war office today issued the following statement: "Between the Adige and the Brenta the artillery action yesterday was more intense. Our artillery destroyed enemy huts on the Zugna slopes, bombarded the station at Rovereto, and harassed the movement of troops and trains along the Sugana Valley road and railway."

"On the northern slopes of Col Bricon, Travignolo, an attempted enemy attack was immediately repulsed by our troops. Two attacks against our advanced position on the second summit of Col Bricon last night met with the same fate."

"On the Julian Alps front yesterday the enemy's artillery continued particularly active. In the Gorizia region it was energetically answered by our artillery. Some shells fell in Gorizia."

"One of our aerial squadrons bombarded Chiapovano, an important enemy recruiting centre east of the Spiro Basazza plateau. In spite of a violent fire from the enemy's artillery our aviators returned to our lines uninjured."