

GERMAN EFFORT AGAINST AMIENS RENEWED WITH VIGOR OFFENSIVE ON SOMME FRONT RESUMED WITH HEAVY FORCES Only Slight Gains Made, Attackers Being Repulsed

British Pressed Back a Short Distance on Front East of Amiens; The Teutons Hurlled Large Bodies of Troops Against Lines Between Luce and Somme, But Were Repulsed With Heavy Losses

London, April 5.—The British have been pressed back a short distance on the front east of Amiens to positions east of Villers-Bretonneux, the War Office announces. The Germans hurled large bodies of troops against the British between the Luce and Somme Rivers, making repeated assaults. For the most part the enemy was thrown back with losses. The statement follows: "Between the Luce River and the Somme, heavy fighting continued yesterday during the afternoon and evening till a late hour. The enemy employed strong forces, and delivered repeated assaults on our positions. These attacks were beaten off with loss to the enemy, but our troops were pressed back a short distance to positions east of Villers-Bretonneux (about nine miles east of Amiens) which they now maintain. "North of the Somme, the enemy's artillery has been active during the night in the neighborhood of Bucquoy and in the Scarpe valley. Hostile concentrations early this morning in the neighborhood of Albert were engaged by our artillery."

FOE FORCES CONCENTRATED. London, April 5.—The Germans concentrated troops early this morning near Albert, the War Office announces. British artillery took them under its fire. In the neighborhood of Bucquoy and in the Scarpe valley there was active artillery fighting during the night.

THE SITUATION. Striking at positions south of the Somme, nearest Amiens, the Germans have renewed their offensive with heavy forces. In desperate fighting with the British and French the enemy has been able to make only slight gains in isolated points, being repulsed with great loss everywhere else. How well the valiant Franco-British forces withstood the enemy onslaughts is shown by the fact that on a front of nine miles north of Montdidier the Germans used more than 100,000 men. Field Marshal Haig's centre and right held its ground against the heavy attacks, while the left fell back some what around Hamel, south of the Somme, and about 12 miles directly east of Amiens.

FRENCH ON DEFENSIVE. Between the Arre and the Luce the French and Germans contested all the ground bitterly. The enemy was determined to break through, used his masses of infantry in ten reckless assaults, the French mowing the Germans down with artillery fire. On either side of Montdidier, the French repulsed several hundred yards from the villages of Mailly-Rainval and Moreuil, the heights around which are still held by the French. The French lines have held below Amiens and the Germans have been defeated with great losses in what probably constituted their most desperate effort yet to break in and cut off the communications of this important base from the south. Also to the east of Amiens, the British have maintained their steadfast defense and prevented the Germans from making any important headway here.

WATCHMAN MURDERED. By Courier Leased Wire. Washington, April 4.—James King, night watchman at the offices of the Committee on Public Information, was found dead early today with a bullet hole through his head. Officials of the committee thought he had been murdered. Examination of King's pistol indicated that he had tried to fire it and that the cartridges failed to explode. Officials said no valuable papers were kept at the committee's office and that they could find nothing to show that the place had been ransacked. The police arrested a negro employee at the committee's offices. They say that King and the negro had quarreled. Suggestions that King was killed by some one in search of papers containing war secrets were made, but the police after an examination of the place, said they did not believe this was the case.

EKNES IS OCCUPIED BY GERMAN TROOPS WHICH LANDED IN FINLAND

Russ Warships Were Powerless to Prevent Landing of Teutons

DESTROYED OWN SHIPS Sank Vessels Rather Than Have Them Captured By Foe

By Courier Leased Wire. Petrograd, Thursday, April 4.—(By the Associated Press)—Two German warships and several torpedo boats have landed troops in Finland and occupied the town of Eknes, southwest of Helsinki. Several Russian warships, including four submarines, were powerless to prevent the entry of the Germans into the harbor of Hangoo, and the sailors sunk three of the ships in the harbor to prevent their capture. The commander of the Baltic fleet has sent a communication to the German commander concerning the German aims and protesting against the entry of German warships as a violation of the Brest-Litovsk peace treaty which guaranteed the security of the Russian fleet. An anti-Soviet uprising among the Ural Cossacks in southeastern Russia is reported.

PAUSE IN BOMBING

By Courier Leased Wire. Amsterdam, April 4.—A Berlin official statement to-day says that the bombardment of Paris was suspended on Wednesday because of the funeral of the Counsellor of the Swiss Legation in Paris. M. Stroheim, counsellor of the Swiss Legation in Paris, was one of the worshippers in the Paris church struck by a shell from the German long range gun on Good Friday, and with many others, was killed by the explosion. German many has already expressed regret for the death of M. Stroheim to the Swiss foreign office at Bern. If there was a suspension of the German bombardment because of the counsellor's funeral, it was not one which included the entire day of Wednesday, as Paris despatches reported the resumption of the bombardment Wednesday morning.

SAY CZERNIN HAS BROACHED WILSON

Zurich, April 5.—Austrian parliamentary circles believe that negotiations have been opened between President Wilson and Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister. The telegram from Vienna to the Neuse Nachrichten of Munich says: "Count Czernin's speech has created a profound impression in Austrian parliamentary circles, where it is believed that communications have been opened between Count Czernin and President Wilson, which already have reached further than Count Czernin's statements show."

PROVINCES ARE UNDER RUSS RULE

Livonia and Estonia are to be Under Sovereignty of Russia. PEACE TREATY SIGNED Russ Emissary Returns From Berlin With the Final Agreement. UKRAINE IS DIVIDED

Opposing Factions Favor Continuation of War and Conclusion of Peace

By Courier Leased Wire. Moscow, April 4.—(By the Associated Press)—Peter Petroff, the Russian emissary, who yesterday returned from Berlin with the ratified peace treaty signed by Chancellor von Hertling and Emperor William, tells The Investor, the Bolshevik organ, that the provisions of the ratified treaty confirm the declaration of Russian sovereignty over the provinces of Livonia and Estonia lying east of the new Russo-German frontier, and to be under Russian sovereignty. A map accompanying the treaty shows the frontier running west of the provinces in question, which fact, at M. Petroff's suggestion he says, was specifically stated in a special document drawn up when the treaty was ratified. M. Petroff reports that only the peace treaty with Germany has been ratified, the representatives of the other Central Powers being absent. They have been officially notified of the ratification of the German document, however, and the Exchange of ratified treaties with them will be made soon.

DISSENSION IN UKRAINE

Moscow, April 4.—(By the Associated Press)—A press despatch from Kiev says the Ukrainian Rada has passed a resolution favoring the continuation of military operations against the government of the Soviet and Workmen's Republics, although the president of the Rada, Prof. Grushevski, argued that peace should be concluded because of widespread dissatisfaction among the peasants with the Rada's policy. Repeated requisitions of grain by the Germans are being resisted violently by the peasants. One village was destroyed by artillery because its inhabitants offered armed opposition to the requisition. The Rada passed the resolution after a German military representative, Col. von Kulberg, made an address, pointing out the successes of the German and Ukrainian troops, saying that the capture of Kharkov and Yekaterinoslav was imminent and giving assurance of German support in the future against the Bolsheviks. On being asked regarding the situation in Ukraine, Major General Koch-Brunsvich, secretary of state, denied that Russia was warring with the Rada. He said it was purely civil war between the Bourgeois government and the Ukrainian Rada, who have formed a government of their own. The Bolshevik foreign minister, M. Tchitcherin, has made a protest against the invasion by German and Ukrainian troops of Kiev province, which is indisputable Russian territory. Germany did not include this province in her definition of Ukraine, and even the Ukrainian declaration at Brest-Litovsk did not claim it. The council of National Commissioners yesterday received a special mission sent by the Ukrainian Bolshevik Government, which made a declaration proclaiming Ukraine to be an independent Socialist Republic. The commissioners replied with speeches in which they all recognized the Soviet Government of Ukraine. The U. S. Steel Company has granted a 15 per cent increase to its 200,000 employees.

BRANTFORD HONORED HER RETURNED HEROES

Banquet Tendered to Over Four Hundred Veterans in Masonic Temple Last Evening Was Memorable Occasion HALL FILLED

The Parade. Veterans of the first contingent, the second, and of every subsequent contingent, there were in the band which assembled at the headquarters of the Great War Veterans Association on Dalhousie street, early in the evening. Some of them, men once rendered totally unfit for service, had so far recovered that their bearing was as martial and erect as in the halcyon days of 1914, which marked a classic era for posterity; others still infirm, or bearing visible traces of their honorable wounds. Some in uniform, perhaps the uniform through which a Prussian bullet ploughed when it so narrowly missed cutting the vital thread of the wearer; some in mufti, even as they were arrayed when they sprang to attention at the first call to arms. But one and all, a band of heroes, of good men, and true.

If you saw them last night, well nigh four hundred strong, some firm and erect as in days bygone, others limping or bent by the bitter blast of war, but all of them bronzed, weather beaten, disciplined, men among men, men who have seen and done those things whereof the rest of us have but read and dreamed—if you saw them last night, you will not wonder that it was such a meet as these who held the line at Ypres, who wrested the ridge of Vimy from its seemingly invincible occupants, who braved the inferno of German gas at Lens—whose names are writ indelibly upon the scroll of fame. You will not wonder at the tales borne home from every side, of deeds of heroism and of sacrifice almost surpassing the ken of human understanding; you will not wonder, for upon the faces of those men you must have read that they were of the brood of heroes, who answered at the call of country, and gave of their best that we at home might be safe. Who lives, if England die?

Do you remember the men who went forth in the bright sunlight of an August morning, back in the stirring days of 1914, a staunch and merry band, nondescript as to dress, uniformly a thing unknown, but each of them every inch a man, stalwarts of heart and soul and body. How they sang and cheered when they marched away, that none might suspect the lump which welled up within their throats and the tears which quivered on their eyelids? How they laughed and jested as they trained, and gaily bade adieu, promising to be home for Christmas, sure?

And the other men who went forth in the bleak, drear days of the November that followed, when the first realization of the horrors of war was coming over us; and in the chill winter months of early 1915? And still the call came, and still they answered, and to-day—today, where are they, those four thousand heroes? Some are still holding the lines as they held at Langemarck and St. Julien and Givenchy and Courcette, bearing, night and day, the battle's brunt; others have fought their last fight, and sleep in unknown graves.

Between the crosses, row on row, That mark their place. In Flanders fields the poppies grow. But there are others still, and it was those others whom Brantford honored last night, who are heroes who have borne their share, and nobly, and whose fighting days are over, or who are enjoying a well-earned holiday before their return to Flanders fields. It was a royal reception which Brantford tendered them last night, and yet what reception can make adequate expression of her debt to them?

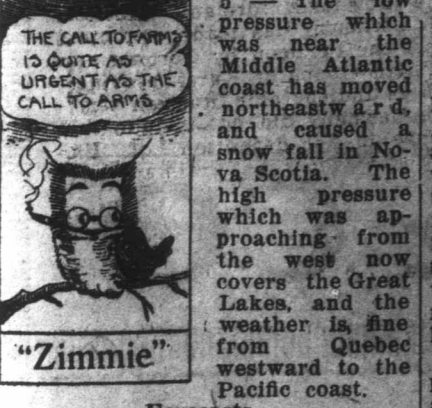
Men of our overseas forces, we rejoice that you have been spared to return to us. Welcome that seems a small word in which to attempt to convey to you the feelings of the people of this city, but I ask you to believe that each letter of that word is pregnant with the heart-felt feelings of every man, woman and child desiring of citizenship in Brantford. I know that it has been the desire of our people that a fitting reception should be tendered you, and now that we have with us the veterans of the Original First Contingent, we are glad of the opportunity to shake you all by the hand, and bid you a hearty welcome. The Original Firsts! I wonder if we even yet realize what the departure of that noble army of men had meant to Canada. Many of the men in that contingent were former residents of the Old Country, who had come here to make their homes. At the first call from the Motherland, how nobly they answered; not the

slightest sign of hesitation. Twenty thousand were called, thirty-five thousand responded. What an inspiration it proved for others. How proud we were to call them Canadians when Sir John French flashed the words from Ypres, "They saved the day." Since that time, many brave men have left our shores for the battle-fields of freedom. We regret that the war is not yet ended, but we are none of us pacifists, and having unleashed the sword in defence of our principles, surely we should have no hesitation about this. What Canada does need is a broad and clean plan of evolution, and I hope the time is not far distant when our Government will take measures to see that our returned men are given opportunities to assist in the honest development of the country they have so nobly defended. It should not be a difficult matter to find means of providing profitable employment for men who have so conclusively proven their worth. Surely you have a right to share in the benefits to be derived from the development of our beloved homeland. Again, I bid you welcome. Brantford is honored in calling you citizens. You have "done your bit," and your greatest reward lies in the satisfaction you must all feel in having proven your right to citizenship in the Empire which has always led in the march of freedom. We rejoice with the veterans, mothers, sweethearts and children who have waited so patiently for your return. Their fortitude and bravery has been most commendable, and we are proud also to call them citizens. In closing, the Mayor added a word of praise for the Army and Navy veterans of previous wars, some six of whom were present. He expressed hope for an early peace, and the home-coming of the men still overseas. After a vocal solo, "There's a Land," pleasingly given by Miss Hilda Ripley, the toast to "Our Soldiers," responded to by Mr. W. G.

Mayor Made Civic Address of Welcome; W. G. Raymond, Col. Howard, Mrs. Livingston and Others Spoke FINE EVENING to the principles for which you have fought side by side with British soldiers from all parts of the Empire. Now that you have returned to us, Canada has need of you. These are some of the country who talk of revolutionary times after the war. Under the British flag there is no need of anything even approaching revolution. We have the necessary machinery for the best form of democracy—and the issue has been clearly defined—Autocracy versus Democracy. Let us all accept it as a life principle. Surely we should have no hesitation about this. What Canada does need is a broad and clean plan of evolution, and I hope the time is not far distant when our Government will take measures to see that our returned men are given opportunities to assist in the honest development of the country they have so nobly defended. It should not be a difficult matter to find means of providing profitable employment for men who have so conclusively proven their worth. Surely you have a right to share in the benefits to be derived from the development of our beloved homeland. Again, I bid you welcome. Brantford is honored in calling you citizens. You have "done your bit," and your greatest reward lies in the satisfaction you must all feel in having proven your right to citizenship in the Empire which has always led in the march of freedom. We rejoice with the veterans, mothers, sweethearts and children who have waited so patiently for your return. Their fortitude and bravery has been most commendable, and we are proud also to call them citizens. In closing, the Mayor added a word of praise for the Army and Navy veterans of previous wars, some six of whom were present. He expressed hope for an early peace, and the home-coming of the men still overseas. After a vocal solo, "There's a Land," pleasingly given by Miss Hilda Ripley, the toast to "Our Soldiers," responded to by Mr. W. G.

WEATHER BULLETIN

Toronto, April 5.—The low pressure which was near the Middle Atlantic coast has moved northeastward, and caused a snow fall in Nova Scotia. The high pressure which was approaching from the west now covers the Great Lakes, and the weather is fine from Quebec westward to the Pacific coast. Forecast: Light winds; fine and a little milder. Saturday, easterly winds; fine and mild.



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