

GERMANY SAID TO HAVE 2,460,000 MEN IN THE WEST

LUDENDORFF PREPARES TO RESUME HIS OPERATIONS

Heavy Fighting in France, Flanders and Italy Expected — German Commander Advertises a Grand "Peace Drive"—He Has Tremendous Fighting Force Still at His Disposal — Allies are Ready to Meet Renewed Onslaught so Far as it is Humanly Possible.

Special Cable to N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard.
(By Arthur S. Draper)

London, May 4.—Ludendorff began on March 21 a campaign for peace. The first step called for military conquest, by the demoralization and destruction of the Anglo-French armies and by the occupation of the Channel ports and Paris. Having failed to realize his ambitions, Ludendorff has taken the second step, consisting of a combination of military force and diplomatic penetration.

After a rest of four full days, the German forces in the field now await the word to resume operations on the northern battlefield where the guns are never quiet night or day. Dissatisfied with the team work of Von Hertling and Von Kuehlmann and fearing that they—mere political strategists—lacked his courage and will to win the war, Ludendorff has assumed the management of the diplomatic drive.

His Peace Plans.

Before he launched his great military push, Ludendorff fooled even the wisest by advertising his intentions to the world. Now he is following the same policy. Ludendorff has told the world through the press Germany is about to make a great peace drive as a supplement to the military campaign. Instead of adopting secret methods, such as those resulting in Czerin's Fall and the Imbroglio into which Emperor Kars fell, Ludendorff is attempting to overwhelm his enemies by the force of peace.

His methods are so audacious that they contain the same element of surprise which attended his military campaign.

He obtained the military initiative in one week, now he is trying to repeat the performance in another field, having a reputation for untruthfulness the German Militarists can camouflage the truth simply by telling the truth.

The result of this is that today half the world believes the Central powers have begun a peace drive while the other half is skeptical. Part of the Allies are watching only the battle front, while another portion is dividing its attention between peace manoeuvres and the rest have begun to figure on the prospects of an early peace.

Another Failure.

Ludendorff has not succeeded in splitting the British and French armies, so now he is trying to separate the strong from the weak hearts in all the Allied countries. He is recovering rapidly after its ordeal of the last six weeks and it faces fresh blows with strengthened confidence and a cheerful spirit. Ordinarily this is the beginning of the fighting season in France. The weather, which plays such an important part in modern warfare is now favorable for a long and sustained military effort.

Ludendorff has a tremendous fighting force still at his disposal. Lloyd George has just returned from a conference with field Marshal Haig and with General's Byng and Rawlinson. Prior to seeing the field Marshal the premier conferred with premier Clemenceau of France and premier Orlando of Italy. Everything indicates that the Allied supreme command expects a resumption of hostilities immediately and that final preparations have been completed.

New Hostilities.

Not only in France and Belgium, but in Italy as well, terrific fighting may come next week. So far as it is humanly possible, the Allies are ready to meet the supreme effort of the enemy.

A fresh battle storm is brewing rapidly and already the German activity extending from the German right along a wide curving front to Givenchy. Simultaneously the bombardment is increasing around Amiens. No great infantry action has developed thus far but the signs point to an early resumption of major operations. The enemy has brought up more divisions behind the lines on both fronts.

Storming divisions which fought through the first fortnight of the campaign are practically ready for the coming phase of the great battle. The Allies have been heavily on the enemy's forces. It is intimated that Germany now has 205 divisions in the west (about 2,460,000 men). On the French front Ludendorff has thrown a total of forty-four divisions. Twelve of these were fresh troops which took part in the campaign for the first time.

Food's economy in employing his forces has been finally rewarded for today he has a fresh army which is numerically as large as that of the enemy. Official figures show that the enemy paid an extremely high price for Mount Kemmel, valuable as it is because it dominates the country north to Ypres as well as the region to the south.

Since April 23 the Germans have advanced an average of a mile and a half in a seven mile front between

GOOD WORK BY COM. WIGMORE LAST SIX YEARS

Old Council Meets at Eleven O'clock this Morning — Summary of Activities in W. and S. Dept. Since Com. Wigmore Took Charge.

Today Commissioner Wigmore hands back to the citizens of St. John the trust reposed in him for the past six years as commissioner of water and sewerage, having been honored at their hands by being elected to represent the constituency in parliament at Ottawa, and at noon his successor will be sworn in and assume charge of the department.

Under Commissioner Wigmore's regime there has been a lot of work done, and his successor will find a much better service than did the retiring official when he took charge.

Speaking with The Standard yesterday Commissioner Wigmore gave the following summary of the activities of the department since he took charge six years ago:

During the past six years the total amount expended by the water and sewerage department was \$1,500,000, of which \$1,285,882.40 was provided by water revenue and the balance by proceeds of bond and city appropriations for sewerage and fire hydrants.

The water revenue was derived from the following sources:

Assessment	\$963,796.91
Meters and agreements	262,318.96
Steamships supplied	45,845.46
Sundry	23,221.07
Total	\$1,295,882.40

The average yearly increase over previous six years, 1905 to 1911, was:

Assessment	\$37,264.42
Meters and agreements	16,124.50
Steamships supplied	1,073.74
Total	\$54,462.75

The sundry receipts were about \$5,000 less.

The expenditure was:

Interest, sinking funds and taxes	\$667,922.76
Repairs and maintenance	293,061.34
Additions to plant:	
Main pipe extension	\$93,740.83
Main pipe renewal	73,403.88
New Service pipes	21,711.48
Land purchase	20,426.63
Autos & Motor	13,416.21
Various construction work	8,820.05
Total	\$1,295,882.40

Compared with the previous six years, expenditure of interest was \$35,995.42 less, and additions to sinking fund was \$61,892.54 more.

In addition to the expenditure under water maintenance, the following amounts were expended: Water construction, \$50,876.73; sewerage construction, \$19,666.00; sewerage maintenance, \$19,143.55; fire hydrants, \$41,117.53.

While there was expended over \$70,000 from the sale of bonds, there was only \$25,000 of bonds issued during the six years, the balance being provided for in previous years.

Against this issue of \$25,000 there was the payment of the old Carleton water debt for a like amount; so that there has been no increase in the water and sewerage debt during the past six years.

The total length of water main laid during the six years was: On the East side, 37,104 feet; on the West side, 25,177 feet, a total of 62,281 feet.

About 18,000 feet of small sized cast iron and cement lined sheet iron pipe have been renewed with larger sized iron pipes. The total cost of these works was \$218,121.44, of which \$167,144.71 was from revenue.

A comparison with the previous six years shows as follows: Increase in

main laid, 62,281, as against 22,174; renewals, 17,574 feet as against 4,600 feet.

\$7,433 feet of mains ranging in size from 10 to 24 inch have been cleaned at a cost of \$9,491.93, materially increasing both flow and pressure.

663 new service pipes have been laid with a length of 20,000 feet at a cost of \$7,112.25.

64 new fire hydrants have been installed and 167 of the old one-way hydrants replaced with modern three-way hydrants at a cost of \$22,768.28.

There has been an increase in the sewerage system of 27,567 feet of brick and stoneware sewers, and a decrease of 5,600 feet of old wooden sewers, making a net increase of 21,967 feet.

In the previous six years the increase was 11,175 feet, and the decrease in wooden sewers 1,000 feet. There was no increase in the bonded debt for new sewers.

Last year the water assessment was reduced from \$170,612.80 in 1916 to \$152,668.55, less 10 per cent. cash discount, \$152,301.97, making a total decrease of \$23,310.83, a greater amount than all the increases in the assessment since 1911. Last year's net assessment was \$9,357.87 less than that of 1912.

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MANY HONOR MRS. OSCAR R. PATRIQUEN

Largely Attended Funeral of Estimable Lady at Norton Saturday—Numerous Beautiful Floral Offerings.

Norton, May 4.—One of the largest funerals seen here for some time was that of Alice Wilmet Patriquen, wife of Mr. Oscar R. Patriquen, of this village, which took place this afternoon.

Rev. C. W. Waldon, pastor of the Baptist church at Norton, officiated. After a short service at the home of the husband a longer and an impressive service was held at the Baptist church which was filled with the friends of the deceased. Mr. Waldon spoke from the text, "For the living know that they shall die." Ecclesiastes, 9, 5. He referred feelingly to the splendid and beautiful life of the deceased, both in her own home and in the community, and of the very high esteem in which she was held by all who knew her, recognizing as they did her unfailing kindness, great sympathy and true Christian character. During the service Teanyson's "Crossing the Bar" was very nicely sung by Miss Kathleen Campbell.

After the service at the church the body was taken to the Riverbank cemetery, three miles above Norton, where interment was made. There were floral tributes from the husband and son, Earle, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Bolton, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Dawson, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Richards, Mrs. D. Myers and family, Mrs. McHaffie and Miss Edith McHaffie, Moncton; Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Travis, Petticoat; Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Steeves, Moncton; Mr. and Mrs. Harry D. Sullivan, St. John; Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Murphy, Moncton; and many others.

The service was largely attended and many beautiful floral offerings were received.

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TOTAL CANADIAN CASUALTIES 217 SATURDAY NIGHT

Twelve Die of Wounds, Ten Killed in Action, Eighteen Supposed Dead, Five Die and 139 Wounded.

Ottawa, May 5.—Saturday night's list of 217 casualties, reports ten killed in action, twelve died of wounds, eighteen presumed to have died, five died, one prisoner of war, one prisoner repatriated, one hundred and thirty-nine wounded, fifteen gassed, fifteen ill, and one reported missing in error.

The Maritimes names:

Infantry.

Killed in action—L. Doyle, Rocky Point, P. E. I.

Died:

A. S. Fraser, Milton, N. S.

Presumed to have died:

W. E. Burdill, Cloverdale, N. B.

F. Broad, Beechwood, N. B.

Wounded:

T. Cox, Sydney, N. S.

J. R. Craig, Dartmouth, N. S.

N. LaPierre, Grand Desert, N. S.

W. A. Rankin, Broad Cove, Banks, N. S.

F. T. Freeman, Bridgewater, N. S.

C. Farquharson, Sydney, N. S.

H. McLeod, New Harbor, N. S.

E. Munro, Yarmouth, N. S.

Gassed:

Lieut. H. W. Oxenham, Royalty Junction, P. E. I.

Wounded:

A. MacDougall, Antigonish, N. S.

Forestry Corps.

R. Bourque, Brouville, N. B.

Machinists Gun Company.

Died of wounds:

E. Boudreau, Cheticamp, N. S.

Artillery.

Wounded:

L. L. Lawrence, Hantsport, N. S.

Gassed:

L. E. Cox, Shelburne, N. S.

Mounted Rifles.

Prisoner repatriated:

E. Lawson, Young's Cove Road, N. B.

UNGRATEFUL YOUTH ROBS BENEFACTOR

Now Allan McLean, Reformatory and Jail Graduate, will Begin Three Years Course in Penitentiary.

Chatham, May 5.—Allan McLean, a nineteen year old youth, has been sentenced to three years in the reformatory for stealing several articles from Mr. Rubenstein, among which was a small cheque. McLean had been in the reformatory and had just completed a jail sentence. Mr. Rubenstein had kindly given him lodging for the night and he repaid him by stealing his property.

HOLLAND SETTLES

The Hague, May 5.—Jonkheer Londen, Dutch minister of foreign affairs, informed the chamber today that the tension between Holland and Germany was ended.

He said that as Germany had agreed to limit the amount of sand and gravel transported through Dutch waterways to a maximum of 1,500,000 tons per annum—an amount considered needful for the repair and maintenance of the Belgian roads—and had undertaken not to use the material for military purposes, Holland had withdrawn her demand that a commission of control should be constituted in Belgium to supervise the employment of the materials.

Funeral Monday, at 2.30 p. m., from the residence of A. N. Nixon, 9 Wright street.

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QUEBEC BISHOP HAS WORDS OF APPROVAL FOR Y.M.C.A. WORK

Roman Catholic Prelate writes Letter Endorsing Contributions by Members of His Church to Soldiers Aid Fund

Quebec, May 5.—His Grace Mgr. Roy, auxiliary bishop of Quebec, has made public his hearty approval of the campaign started by the Y. M. C. A. for overseas work in the following letter which he addressed to G. B. Ramsey, chairman of the local branch of the campaign:

Archbishop's Palace, Quebec, May 2, 1918.

Dear Mr. Ramsey:

Herewith I am sending you my sentiments regarding the organization of the Y. M. C. A. for the Canadian soldiers.

It is excellent in its intentions and in its results. Our Catholic soldiers have already greatly benefited by it. Praise must be given to the generosity of the citizens who have made great sacrifices to maintain and develop it.

The movement is very generous and very broad of inspiration.

Catholics who wish to help it by donations therefore participate in a useful work of high patriotic and social value.

Yours very truly,
P. E. ROY,
Auxiliary Bishop of Quebec.

ANCESTOR OF LIEUT. GOV. GRANT HONORED