

The Evening Times Star

VOL. XIV., No. 175.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, APRIL 29, 1918

TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

Crucial Test of Allied Holding Power at Hand

New Phase of Great Hun Drive In Flanders Opened

Heavy Attack This Morning in Effort to Capture British Hill Positions on Kemmel Front—Post Near Festubert Recaptured By Our Men—Germans Trying to Take Ypres, Whence Issue British S. O. S. Signals for Artillery Help

The Germans began today what seems to be a general assault on the British hill positions on the Kemmel front, southwest of Ypres, opening a new phase of the great drive in Flanders. Apparently the crucial test of the Allied holding power in this area is at hand. The preliminary bombardment, started in the early morning, took in a ten-mile front from Meteren, west of Baillieu, to Voormezele, two miles south of Ypres. Infantry attacks in this area developed shortly afterward and the battle appears to have been on in earnest when Field Marshal Haig's report was issued in London at noon.

TO FORCE WITHDRAWAL FROM YPRES.

The enemy has been striking with great fury at Voormezele for the last two or three days, evidently hoping to drive in behind Ypres and break up the orderly withdrawal of the British from the further portions of the Ypres salient which they have been evacuating. Gen. Von Arnim has been successfully held off from this southern bulwark of the salient, but meanwhile he has been preparing to take advantage of the success he won last week in the capture of Mount Kemmel, which he was unable to develop immediately because of the stiff allied resistance.

As in the case of the last previous heavy assault in Flanders, the Germans have also been demonstrating on the Somme front, although not in such force as was the case last week. They drove several times last night at the French positions in Hangard Wood, however, and heavily bombarded this sector north to Villers-Bretonneux. The infantry attacks were broken up by the French fire, and the allied artillery vigorously answered the German guns in this region and between Lassigny and Noyon, on the lower side of the Mont Didier salient.

EFFORT TO CAPTURE YPRES.

With the British Army in France, April 29.—(By the A. P.)—The fourth German army this morning heavily attacked the allied front in Flanders. Prisoners captured today admitted that the German intention is to attempt to capture Ypres. Severe fighting is reported in both the French and British areas. The attack extends over a front of about fifteen miles.

The Belgians on the Yser front are also reported to have been attacked.

CALL FOR ARTILLERY HELP

London, April 29.—The British troops around Ypres several times after dawn this morning sent up S. O. S. signals for artillery support, telegraphs the Reuter correspondent at British headquarters in France.

FROM VIMY TO LENS

London, April 29.—(via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—All intense bombardment from artillery concentrations is in progress from La Bassée to south of Hoofstede Forest and from Vimy to Lens.

London, April 29.—The Germans this morning opened a heavy bombardment with high explosive and gas shells on the entire front between Meteren and Voormezele, south and southwest of Ypres. The war office so announces today. Infantry attacks developed soon afterwards.

The post near Festubert, north of Givenchy, taken by the Germans last week, was recaptured by the British last night. More than fifty prisoners were taken here, and other prisoners and four machine guns were brought in as a result of raiding operations in sectors farther south.

The enemy attack which developed yesterday afternoon in the vicinity of Loere, west of Mount Kemmel, was repulsed.

There was great activity by the hostile artillery during last night from the River Scarpe, opposite Arras, north of Lens, and between Givenchy and Nieppe Wood, on the south side of the Lys battlefield.

FAIL NEAR HANGARD

Paris, April 29.—The Germans made several attempts last night to advance on French positions in Hangard Wood, on the front before Amiens, but were checked by the French fire, the war office announces.

Y.M.C.A. PARTY ON TORPEDOED SHIP

Three of Crew Drowned and All Rest Recan Land Safely

London, April 29.—A party of fifty-seven American army Y. M. C. A. workers, under Arthur E. Hungerford, arrived in London last night. The ship on which they sailed was torpedoed yesterday morning and sank in twelve minutes. All the passengers and all but three of the crew were saved.

French Senator Dead.

Paris, April 29.—Senator Emile De Maricr is dead, aged ninety. He was the last of seventy-five senators nominated for life by the senate under the constitution of 1875.

ANTI-GERMAN DEMONSTRATIONS IN AUSTRIAN TOWN

Amsterdam, April 29.—Serious anti-German demonstrations have occurred at Salzburg as a result of the crisis in the affairs of the Austrian cabinet headed by Dr. Von Seydler. Crowns of Slavens, according to Vienna newspapers, almost completely destroyed the German Club and smashed the windows of German stores and cafes.

Troops were called out, but the demonstrators continued to throng the streets, carrying Slovenian emblems, singing anti-German songs and cheering for the Entente.

An Exchange Telegraph despatch received in London Saturday from the Hague reported that the Papal Nuncio in Vienna, at the request of the Austrian government, had begun an inquiry into the case of the Archbishop of Ljubach.

The archbishop was said to have been charged with taking the leadership of the southern Slav movement, the aims of which were said to constitute high treason. A large portion of the southern Slavs are Serbians who desire separation from Austria.

HAS RUSSIA ONCE MORE AN EMPEROR?

Reported That Former Czar's Son Has Been Chosen

THROW ASIDE GERMAN TREATY

Rumors of Important Happenings Heard Through Sweden and Denmark—Viborg Cut Off from Communication With Petrograd

Stockholm, April 29.—(By the Associated Press)—Correspondence of Swedish newspapers in Finland telegraph persistent rumors of important happenings in Russia. The most definite declares that the former Grand Duke Alexis, son of the former Emperor, has been declared emperor with Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich as regent, and that the new government would refuse to recognize the Bolshevik peace treaty with Germany.

The rumors would be disregarded here were it not for the fact that a report from Vasa, Finland, on last Thursday declared that the transportation of Russian civilian prisoners had had to be suspended "because of current disorders in Russia."

Another Report.

London, April 29.—The newest Russian government in Petrograd, according to the Aftonbladet, of Copenhagen, says an Exchange Telegraph despatch has denounced the Brest-Litovsk treaty with Germany. It calls for a new treaty with Estonia under Russian rule.

In the Crimea.

London, April 29.—The Russian government has sent the following wireless message to Vienna.

"In view of the advance of German and Ukrainian troops into the Crimea, it is necessary to point out that in the Crimean regions of Ialta, Alushta, Alushta, Balantavi, Eupatria and Theodor (Continued on page 3, sixth column)

VERY LARGE QUOTAS FOR AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE SOON NEEDED

Washington, April 29.—The weekly review of the war situation says: "Ours is the imperative duty of providing replacements, units for the armies in France. We must be able to put fresh men in the field thoroughly and methodically trained. In addition to those already called to the colors and now training at our cantonments or already selected for service, very large quotas will be required in the immediate future to fill the gaps."

LIBERTY LOAN TO EXCEED MINIMUM BUT EFFORT BIG TO REACH MAXIMUM

Washington, April 28.—Over-subscription of the three million dollar minimum of the third Liberty loan is now looked for during the final week of the campaign, but treasury officials declared tonight the five billions needed would be subscribed only if millions of citizens take shares of the loan in the next few days.

RECRUITING BETTER ALL OVER AUSTRALIA

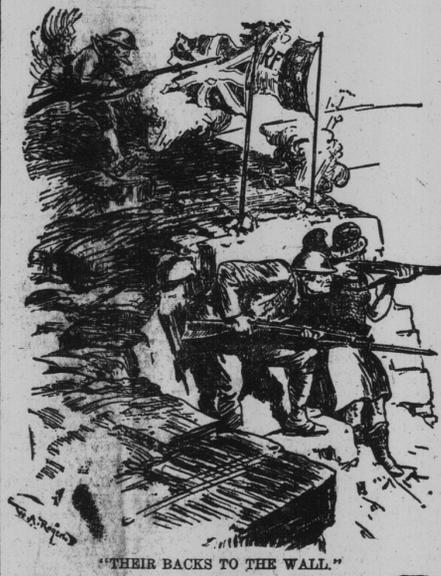
Melbourne, Australia, April 29.—(Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—Recruiting has improved in all the states of the commonwealth. Hon. Mr. Watt, treasurer of Australia, announced that subscriptions to the war loan total more than \$42,000,000 sterling.

The interstate commission report on British and Australian trade in the south Pacific says that the trade of the islands is growing, while the population is steadily increasing.

Restrictions on foreign ships trading between the Pacific islands and Australia are suggested in order to protect British interests from competition.

Halifax Road Race.

Halifax, N. S., April 29.—Private Yager, of Hamilton, Ont., who says he holds the London, Ont., road championship, and Private De Mello, of Bermuda, claiming a similar championship there, ran a so-called fourteen mile match race from Halifax to Bedford and back on Saturday. De Mello won in two hours and two minutes. Yager arrived five minutes later.



Likely Call on The Rich To Pay More

Budget Speech in The Ottawa House Tomorrow

TARIFF CHANGES IMPORTANT

That is Belief Prior to Mr. McLean's Announcement—The Opposition Course—Credit of \$40,000,000 For Cheese Arranged in New York

Ottawa, April 29.—The budget statement in the commons has been definitely fixed for Tuesday afternoon. Hon. A. K. MacLean, acting minister of finance, expects to speak soon after the house meets at 3 o'clock. He intimated that he was ready to proceed and that whatever new taxation proposals will be made have been decided upon.

A renewal of the existing income tax is regarded as certain with an increase in the share of the burden to be borne by those best able to pay. Tariff changes it is believed, will be few and unimportant. Apart from new taxation proposals, the colossal nature of the dominion's field operations, as compared with pre-war days, will be the feature of the budget.

The debate is liable to last for five or six days. Opposition members have no definite plans, but say all depends upon the character of the government's proposals. There may be an opposition caucus following the government's announcement.

Credit Arranged in New York. Sir Robert Borden and Sir Thomas White, during their recent visit to New York, succeeded in arranging a necessary credit in Canada for the British government to purchase the entire exportable surplus of Canada's cheese production for the present year. The amount will be \$40,000,000. The arrangement will mean a certain market for Canadian produced cheese at market prices already fixed.

Sir Thomas White will proceed to Washington this week to take up further questions of international finance with the United States government.

FIRE IN FREDERICTON; SURVEY FOR RE-RATING

Fredricton, N. B., April 29.—A dwelling owned and occupied by Bernard McGinnity, Charlotte street, was seriously damaged by fire this morning. The damage is estimated in the neighborhood of \$500. The adjoining property owned by Sylvester Belyea was also damaged.

A survey of Fredericton for the national board of fireunderwriters with re-rating as the object, is now being carried on by C. E. Holt of St. John. Some conditions will have to be remedied if Fredericton is to get full benefit of its fire department and water system.

A feature, which has been particularly noted in the survey is the existence of wooden buildings in the middle of blocks in the business part of the city.

THOS. GIBBARD DEAD IN MONTREAL

Word was received in the city today of the death of Thomas Gibbard of Montreal, formerly manager of the Canadian Drug Company here. Mr. Gibbard while in St. John made many friends who will be sorry to learn of his death. He leaves one daughter, Helen, of Montreal. Mr. Gibbard's wife died but a few months ago. Mr. Gibbard since leaving St. John had been a manufacturer's agent in Montreal.

Mighty Blow To Gain The Coast

CHANGED HANDS TIME AND AGAIN

Hard Fighting For Loere And Voormezele

SATURDAY'S COMBAT

Desperate Battle For These Two Places But Infantry Had Rest Elsewhere—Germans Smother Ypres Ruins With Gas

With the British Army in France, April 29.—(By the Associated Press)—Hard fighting continued about Loere and Voormezele, but elsewhere thus far today has been a day of rest for the infantry as a whole. The battle for Loere and Voormezele has been most desperate. Both places have changed hands several times in the last twenty-four hours, and at the latest reports it was an "even break" for the British were in possession of Voormezele, while the enemy seems to have succeeded early in the day in getting a foothold in Loere again.

An engagement north of the Ypres-Comines Canal was in progress throughout most of the night, with the British holding doggedly and inflicting heavy losses on the attacking troops. The German casualties in this part of the front have been very heavy.

The German artillery was today smothering the ruins of Ypres in gas and there was considerable artillery firing all along the line.

Loere has changed hands at least five times since Friday. The Germans forced their way into the village after a sanguinary battle Friday, but were thrust out by a French counter-attack that night. Yesterday forenoon the enemy again attacked heavily and recovered the village, only to lose it when the French counter-attacked in the afternoon.

This morning's assault was delivered about 4 o'clock, and while the Germans apparently had gained an entrance to the place, their tenure of it was being hotly contested by the Poles. A similar fight has been waged for Voormezele. The Germans retook the hamlet last night, but were able to hold it only a short time, for the British in a brilliant counter-attack, stormed their way through the place and ejected the enemy.

An attempted enemy attack near Villers-Bretonneux yesterday was smashed by artillery fire. The German concentration of the town during the forenoon, but the British guns put down a heavy barrage among the troops and dispersed them.

AMERICANS WIN THE WAR CROSS

With the American Army in France, Sunday, April 28.—(By the Associated Press)—The French army today decorated 122 American soldiers of a Massachusetts regiment with the War Cross for bravery displayed in recent fighting.

One hundred and seventeen men from the 14th Massachusetts regiment who bore the brunt of the German attack in the Apremont Forest on April 12, received medals as did five Wisconsin and one Canadian soldiers in earlier fighting around Soissons.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, B. F. Sturpart, director of meteorological service

Synopsis—The disturbance which was centred in Texas on Saturday morning has moved northward to Wisconsin and has caused heavy rains in the Lake Superior district and showers in other parts of Ontario and in eastern Manitoba. The temperature has risen considerably in all the provinces.

Forecasts. Lakes and Georgian Bay, Upper St. Lawrence and Ottawa Valley—Southerly winds, occasional showers, but mostly fair and moderately warm today and on Tuesday.

Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—East and south winds, mostly fair and milder today and on Tuesday. Fair and Mild.

Maritime—Increasing easterly winds, fair and mild today and Tuesday. Superior—Fresh to strong winds, unsettled and showery today and on Tuesday. Manitoba—Strong northwest winds, some local showers, but mostly fair and cool.

Saskatchewan and Alberta—Fair and moderately warm. New England—Rain tonight and Tuesday; increasing east to south winds.

That Is Believed To Be The German Decision

WEEK-END NEWS BETTER

Stout Resistance Has Prevented Enemy From Exploiting Kemmel Success—London Writers See Heavy and Steady Fighting Ahead All Summer and Fall

London, April 29.—(via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—Week-end reports from the front are distinctly heartening, showing that the Germans have been prevented from exploiting the Kemmel success, thanks to the stout Anglo-French resistance. On the whole, indeed, the Germans have been pushed back somewhat, losing even heavier than they did in the storming of Mount Kemmel. The French at Loere and the British at Voormezele, two local points of fighting, fought with the most furious tenacity. Though neither place can be called vital to any line of defence, yet the resistance has hampered progress of the enveloping movement which the enemy now seems to be directing against the next chain of heights. Little doubt is entertained that the enemy, having failed to roll up the British army from Givenchy to Arras, has decided to strike northward for the coast with all his might.

Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters says that whether the enemy attempts to carry the strongly defended hills by frontal attack or reduce them by a converging movement, he will find the operation of the costliest kind. There is abundance of evidence that the hardest struggle is in prospect in this area. The Germans are bringing up new divisions, while the enormous gun power accumulated on both sides is shelling the roads, towns and hills in the rear continuously, and Ypres has been drenched with gas shells.

Writers in London discuss the regretful possibility of the abandonment of Ypres, so long the northern buttress of the allied line, drenched with British blood as no other battle field, but they emphasize that it is for Foch to decide whether it is too costly to hold or so vital that every effort must be made to recover the position whence the Germans are now threatening it. The conclusion drawn from the course of events is that Germany is far from achieving a quick decision and that we must expect heavy and continuous fighting all summer and autumn.

The Times, which has not been unduly optimistic, says there is a growing conviction that the first swift German advances will not recur. "This is to be a long battle," it says, "and it is not going quite as Hindenburg and Ludendorff planned and expected."

NEW INCENTIVE TO THE FRENCH

Division of Alsace-Lorraine Between Prussia And Bavaria About Decided On

Washington, April 28.—Partition of Alsace-Lorraine between Prussia and Bavaria appears to have been decided in principle, according to an official despatch today from Switzerland, quoting an announcement made in Zurich. The principal committee of the Reichstag will very soon consider at a secret sitting the future of the former French provinces, the despatch said, and negotiations upon this subject are now in progress between the governments of the German states.

It is said that Germany has always considered Alsace-Lorraine as colonial territory to exploit and divide at need.

NOTED CANADIAN "AGE" IS KILLED

Captain S. Rosevear, Only Twenty One Years Old, Had Broken Down Twenty One German Airmen

Port Arthur, Ont., April 28.—Captain Stanley Rosevear, D. S. O., with bar, Royal Flying Corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Rosevear, of Port Arthur, was killed in action on April 25. Next to Major Bishop of Owen Sound, Captain Rosevear was probably Canada's foremost aviator. Until two weeks ago, with reports for the fortnight still to come, he had brought down, single-handed, twenty-one German airmen, thus becoming a quadruple "ace."

He was twenty-one years old.

KAISER ON KEMMEL HILL

Amsterdam, April 29.—Emperor William watched the battle from Kemmel Hill on April 25, says the correspondent at the front of the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger.