

# VICIOUS FIGHTING CONTINUES AT FRESNOY AND BULLECOURT

## British Take Another Portion of the German Trenches Defending Lens and its Coal Fields.

A despatch from London says: The Germans are keeping up with great intensity their offensive against the British around Fresnoy and to the east of Bullecourt, but are being hard held by Field Marshal Haig's forces. The village of Fresnoy apparently remains in the hands of the Germans after its recapture Tuesday, but the Canadians and South Englishers are still holding vantage points around it, from which the Germans are vainly endeavoring to expel them and put an end to their harassing fire.

To the east of Bullecourt, where the British have established themselves a scant two miles from the outskirts of Queant, the Germans are striving hard to push back the British to prevent the capture of the southern end of the Drocourt-Queant line, which

would prove of great menace to the important town of Cambrai. The viciousness of the battle is indicated by the German official communication, which announces that the fight for the village is of a fluctuating nature.

The British evidently have pushed a step forward toward the capture of the town of Lens, and the important coal fields in its immediate vicinity. South of the Souchez River during a night attack another portion of the German front and support lines, together with a number of prisoners, was captured.

For the most part the line where the French are facing the Germans is undergoing a period of comparative calm, except for artillery duels and small German counter-attacks, none of the latter of which met with success.

# Markets of the World

**Breadstuffs**  
 Toronto, May 15.—Manitoba wheat—No official quotations.  
 Manitoba oats—No official quotations.  
 American corn—No. 2 yellow, \$1.71, nominal, subject to embargo, track Toronto.  
 Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 75 to 78c, nominal; No. 3 white, 75 to 77c, nominal, according to freight outside.  
 Ontario wheat—No. 2 Winter, per car lot, \$2.98 to \$3.00; No. 3 do., \$2.96 to \$2.98, according to freight outside.  
 No. 2, nominal, according to freight outside.  
 Barley—Malt, \$1.40 to \$1.42, nominal, according to freight outside.  
 Rye—No. 2, \$1.93 to \$1.95, nominal, according to freight outside.  
 Manitoba flour—First patents, in 48 lb. bags, \$14.50; strong bakers', in 48 lb. bags, \$14.10; second patents, in 48 lb. bags, \$13.70; according to freight outside.  
 Ontario flour—Winter, according to sample, \$12.50 to \$12.60, in bags, track Toronto, prompt shipment, 25c; squabs, \$12.50; strong bakers', in 48 lb. bags, \$12.50; second patents, in 48 lb. bags, \$12.50; according to freight outside.  
 Hay—Extra No. 2, per ton, \$12 to \$13; mixed, per ton, \$9 to \$11.50, track Toronto.  
 Straw—Car lots, per ton, \$8.50 to \$9, track Toronto.

# ALLIES CAPTURE 50,000 TEUTONS

## Total of 450 Guns Also Taken in Spring Offensive.

A despatch from London says: The recent partial success of the Germans at Fresnoy, on the Arras front in France, has not upset the British plans of operation nor has it caused surprise, said Major-General Frederick B. Maurice, Chief Director of Military Operations at the War Office, in his weekly statement on Thursday.

As a matter of fact, the General added, the British Staff has been surprised that the Germans have not succeeded before in making gains in view of the tremendous counter-attacks which they have been hurling against the British front. The Chief Director continued:

"Bodies of Teutons continually have been sent against the British over open ground without any apparent regard for casualties, but the British have held their line when it might have been expected they would give way, and have inflicted tremendous losses on their opponents."

"During the month since the offensive began we have taken twice the number of prisoners, four times the amount of ground, and five times the number of guns taken in the Somme offensive. The British and French between them have captured some 50,000 prisoners and 450 guns. If this is the result of defeat, then we are willing to go on being defeated. We have kept on going and we are going to keep on going. The Arras offensive is much bigger than the Somme, and our next offensive will be bigger than Arras."

# From The Middle West

## BETWEEN ONTARIO AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

### Items From Provinces Where Many Ontario Boys and Girls Are Living.

Four hundred trees were planted in Henderson Park, Lethbridge, last week.

This is the latest spring the Kootenay valley has known in almost 25 years.

One big farming concern at New Dayton, Alta., had 200 acres seeded last week.

A farmer in the vicinity of High River, Alta., sold 4,000 bushels of wheat last week at \$2.24 per bushel. He has still 18,000 bushels of grain on hand.

At least 500 cars of potatoes will be shipped from Alberta to the United States this spring.

Alberta's provincial police are to be more closely modelled after the R. N. W. M. P. in regard to uniforms, mounts, etc.

The British Columbia branch of the Great War Veterans has been formed. Sergt. Charles Pendry, a Creston recruit, was killed in action recently.

A six-year-old Vulcan boy, whose leg was broken, crawled on his hands and knees quite a distance to his home before he was discovered.

Retail price of flour in Prince Albert, Sask., jumped 20 cents per hundred one day last week, and two days afterwards another 20-cent rise was announced, \$6.50 and \$6.40 being the prices last week.

On the arrival of a troop train at Cranston, B.C., recently, the marriage of Quartermaster-Sergt. Murer and Miss Mamie Folds was celebrated in the dining car while the train made its usual 10-minute stop.

Because of heavy snowfalls in the Rocky Mountains a warning to the residents of Edmonton of the possibility of a big flood in the Saskatchewan River this summer is given by those who have recently travelled through the section.

# 3,000,000 TONS OF SHIPS YEARLY

## Program of British Shipping Minister to Meet the Sub Menace.

A despatch from London says:—During a discussion of the shipping problem in the House of Lords on Thursday, Earl Curzon said that the Admiralty had the first claim and the first call on the national shipbuilding resources. The result of the British naval program, he stated, would be that after the war Great Britain's naval tonnage would exceed the naval tonnage of all the other nations of the world.

In making his statement in the House of Lords, Lord Curzon announced that the program of the Minister of Shipping provided for the creation each year of mercantile shipping aggregating 3,000,000 tons gross. The Government, said Lord Curzon, was taking the most drastic steps in its power to acquire merchant ships by building or purchase, and after the war, he predicted, the British mercantile fleet would be equal to or better than before the war.

Lord Curzon gave figures showing that before the war the United Kingdom had 45.3 per cent. of the mercantile ships under 1,600 tons each, and 45.2 per cent. in December, 1916, in ships exceeding 1,600 tons each, he said, the United Kingdom had in June, 1914, 3,900 vessels of gross tonnage totalling 16,900,000 tons. The corresponding figures in March, 1917, he said, were 3,500 ships aggregating nearly 16,000,000 tons.

If the Shipping Minister's program was to be realized, it would be necessary, he said, to provide an additional 100,000 workmen and to double the weekly supply of steel, while, at the same time, allowing the present Admiralty program to proceed.

# HOSPITAL WING CANADIAN GIFT

## Queen Officiates at Opening of New Section of Naval Institution.

A despatch from London says:—The inauguration of the new wing of the Haslar Royal Naval Hospital at Portsmouth on Wednesday by the Queen was the final achievement of a movement initiated at the outbreak of war by certain Canadian ladies. Miss Plummer, secretary of the Field Comforts, claims to have made the original suggestion for the hospital ship, and which found the ready support of Mrs. Gooderham, Mrs. Ellen Bruce and Lady Drummond, with the result that \$250,000 was collected. Of this \$100,000 was handed to the War Office for Military use. Another amount was devoted to the building of a wing to the Chatham Naval Hospital and the balance to Haslar. As the authorities decided against the hospital ship scheme for providing a hospital for naval nurses was accepted. This new wing overlooking the most famous naval centre of Britain bears a suitable inscription on behalf of the women of Canada.

The opening ceremony by her Majesty was quiet but impressive, and Sir George Perley's speech handing it over, emphasized the magnitude of the war work carried out by Canadian women.

A considerable number of Canadians availed themselves of the invitation to travel on the Royal train to Portsmouth, and they were favorably impressed with this permanent memorial of the Dominion's interest in the welfare of the navy.

# DAILY WAR COST IS \$37,000,000

## Average Expenditure of Great Britain for Military Operations.

A despatch from London says:—In the House of Commons on Wednesday Right Hon. Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, referring to the west front, said the rapidity of the attack had forestalled the enemy, who had to fight in the open, with heavy losses, because he had not had time to prepare trenches. Since April 1 we had taken 20,000 prisoners, 257 guns, 227 trench mortars. While in the first 24 days of the Somme drive we advanced three and one-half miles on a six-mile front, we had now advanced from two to five miles on a 20-mile front, where there were twice as many German divisions against us as on the Somme, and half of them had to be withdrawn. Our casualties in the present offensive were from 50 to 75 per cent, less than on the Somme. Our success was largely due to our distinct artillery superiority, in connection with which the Chancellor paid a warm tribute to the flying corps.

# STEEL SHIPBUILDING DIRECTOR CHOSEN

## W. I. Gear Appointed by the Imperial Munitions Board—Govt. Action Expected

A despatch from Ottawa says:—The Imperial Munitions Board announced on Wednesday night that W. I. Gear, of the Robert Reford Company, Montreal, has been appointed to take charge, under the board, of steel merchant ship construction in Canada for the British Government. Mr. Gear will establish an office at Ottawa, and will at once assume the duties of his position. It is understood that Sir Robert Borden on his return to Canada will at once take up the question of further stimulating shipbuilding in Canada, this being one of the most important phases of Canadian co-operation in war work urged by the Imperial authorities in London.

# LOAN FOR BELGIUM FROM UNITED STATES

## Will Remove Heavy Burden From Great Britain and France.

A despatch from Washington says:—The United States has arranged to make a loan of \$75,000,000 to Belgium, which will be extended by the Belgian Relief Commission.

The loan will be advanced at the rate of \$12,500,000 a month, of which \$7,000,000 will be available for relief in Belgium and \$5,500,000 for relief in Northern France.

By making the loan the United States will take the burden of the relief of Belgium and France from the shoulders of Great Britain and France and conduct it from this country so far as possible.

# RUSSKY REMOVED FROM COMMAND

## Famous Russian General Is Superseded on the Northern Front.

A despatch from Petrograd says: General Rusky has been removed from the chief command of the army on the northern front. He remains, however, a member of the Council of War.

The Moscow executive committee of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates is opposed to the idea of a coalition Government, and advocates the immediate summoning of an all-Russian congress of soldiers' and workmen's delegates.

The Provisional Government will, however, insist on coalition in order to force the Socialists to share in the responsibility of the government of the country. They have repeated the appeal recently issued warning the people against anarchy and civil war, with a possible return to despotism.

# SINGING CANARY BIRDS.

## Supply Has Been Cut Off by the War and Prices Are High.

One of the sidelights of the great war is furnished by the disappearance from the market of singing canary birds, of which many thousands were formerly imported annually from Germany, where their breeding and training occupied many of the peasants of the Hartz Mountains and neighboring districts. War conditions, it is said, have caused the birds practically to disappear in the Hartz. The services of the inhabitants have been otherwise required and the birds have lacked their customary supplies of food, so that the region will have to be restocked after the war before a fresh supply of the familiar songsters is available for export. As a consequence, the price of canaries, which before the war was about \$3 or \$4 in Chicago bird stores, has jumped to \$12 or \$15, and there are few to be had at any price.

# SAVE THE HEIFER.

## Number of Cattle Decreasing, Price of Food Rising.

The first step to reduce the high cost of food, according to W. Scott Matthews, state dairy and food commissioner of Illinois, should be the passage of a federal law forbidding the sale of heifers.

"While the population of the United States has increased 24,000,000 in the last fifteen years, the number of cattle has decreased 6,000,000. If the 2,500,000 heifers now slaughtered annually were allowed to bear, they would be ancestors of 45,000,000 cattle in five years."

"Milk is one of our most important staples, and it costs far less for its actual food value than meat or wheat. Approximately 98 per cent. of our farms are understocked because slaughter houses will pay larger prices for calves."

# NEW OFFENSIVE IN MACEDONIA

## British Attack on Four-Mile Front and Occupy Bulgar Trenches.

A despatch from London says:—With the advent of Spring weather in Macedonia contingents of the Salonica army have become active, separate successes having been scored on Wednesday by the British, Serbian and Russian forces.

Attacking on a front of about four miles in the Lake Doiran region, British troops on one wing took Teutonic allied trenches on a front of two miles and on the other flank advanced on a front of about a mile. At the Cerna bend the Russians carried several trenches by assault, while north of Monastir the Serbians occupied two points of support and took a few prisoners. A Serbian official statement, dated May 9, reports violent artillery duels along the whole Serbian front. The Bulgarians bombarded Monastir with asphyxiating shells, the statement adds. A number of civilians were killed.

# U.S. EXPERTS LEAVE FOR RUSSIAN CAPITAL

## Every Assistance to Russian Railroads Will Readily be Furnished

A despatch from Washington says:—The United States Railroad Commission to the Russian Government left Washington on Wednesday for Petrograd, where it will give assurances to the Russian national authorities that this country stands ready to furnish all the rolling stock and other material that may be needed to increase the capacity and efficiency of the Russian and Siberian railroads.

# ONE HUNDRED ALL RIGHT.

Two Englishmen were one day walking along a road in Kerry when they met an Irishman.

"How many of us are here now?" they asked jokingly.

"I'm not such an omadhaun as all that," said Pat. "There's 100 of us."

"Oh," said the Englishman, "how do you make out that?"

"Well," said Pat. "I am the one and you are the two naughts."

# THE DOINGS OF THE DUFFS.

**Live Stock Markets**  
 Toronto, May 15.—Extra choice steers, \$12.00 to \$12.75; choice heavy steers, \$11.50 to \$11.75; good heavy steers, \$11.00 to \$11.25; butchers' choice, \$11.50 to \$11.75; do. good, \$10.50 to \$11.00; do. medium, \$9.75 to \$10.00; do. common, \$8.50 to \$9.15; butchers' bullocks, choice, \$10.50 to \$11.00; do. medium bullocks, \$8.50 to \$9.00; do. rough bullocks, \$8.00 to \$8.50; butchers' cows, choice, \$10.00 to \$10.75; do. good, \$9.00 to \$9.75; do. medium, \$7.50 to \$7.75; stock, \$7.50 to \$8.00; calves, good to choice, \$10.25 to \$10.50; camers and cutters, \$5.50 to \$6.25; milkers, good to choice, \$5.50 to \$6.25; do. and mixed, each, \$4.00 to \$6.00; springers, \$6.00 to \$10.00; light ewes, \$12.00 to \$15.00; sheep, heavy, \$8.50 to \$10.00; calves, good to choice, \$12.00 to \$13.00; spring lambs, each, \$5.00 to \$11.50; lambs, choice, \$11.50 to \$12.25; do. medium, \$10.00 to \$12.00; hog and mixed watered, \$16.50 to \$17.00; do. weighed off cars, \$17.10 to \$17.25; do. on h., \$18.15 to \$18.40.

**Winnipeg Grain**  
 Winnipeg, May 15.—Cash prices: Wheat—No. 1 Northern, \$2.94; No. 2 Northern, \$2.91; No. 3 Northern, \$2.86; No. 4, \$2.74; No. 5, \$2.49; No. 6, \$1.90; feed, \$1.10; Corn, No. 3 yellow, \$1.56; No. 1, \$1.54; Oats, No. 3 white, 74 to 72c; No. 2, 72 to 70c; extra No. 1 feed 78c; Barley—No. 3, \$1.29; No. 4, \$1.24; selected, \$1.02; feed, \$1.02; Flax, No. 1, \$2.85; No. 2, \$2.70; No. 3, \$2.50; No. 4, \$2.35.

**United States Markets**  
 Minneapolis, May 15.—Wheat, May, \$3.02; July, \$2.71; Cash, No. 1 hard, \$3.25; No. 2, \$3.15; No. 3, \$3.05; No. 4, \$2.95; No. 5, \$2.85; No. 6, \$2.75; No. 7, \$2.65; No. 8, \$2.55; No. 9, \$2.45; No. 10, \$2.35; No. 11, \$2.25; No. 12, \$2.15; No. 13, \$2.05; No. 14, \$1.95; No. 15, \$1.85; No. 16, \$1.75; No. 17, \$1.65; No. 18, \$1.55; No. 19, \$1.45; No. 20, \$1.35; No. 21, \$1.25; No. 22, \$1.15; No. 23, \$1.05; No. 24, \$0.95; No. 25, \$0.85; No. 26, \$0.75; No. 27, \$0.65; No. 28, \$0.55; No. 29, \$0.45; No. 30, \$0.35; No. 31, \$0.25; No. 32, \$0.15; No. 33, \$0.05.

# U-BOAT "KILLER" IS ENDORSED.

## Author of Gyroscope Submits Plan That Amazes Naval Experts.

A despatch from Washington says: It was learned Wednesday night on unquestionable authority that the Naval Consulting Board has submitted to Secretary Daniels and his advisers a definite and completed plan to cope with the German U-boats which has proved a revelation to the best technical brains in the service here.

