

BRITISH AND FRENCH TAKE THREE ADDITIONAL TOWNS

THREE MORE TOWNS TAKEN BY ALLIES

British Capture Village of Lagnicourt and French Take Towns of Folembray and La Feuillie, South of the Coucy Forest--German Army Making Strong Resistance Before St. Quentin.

BRITISH MACHINE GUN FIRE DISPERSES TEUTONS IN NEIGHBORHOOD OF FAUQUISSART AND EAST OF YPRES--MUCH FIGHTING IN AIR EAST OF NIVELLE-ST. VAAST AND ARMENTIERES--FIGHTING NEAR MONASTIR.

London, March 26.—The British this morning attacked and captured the village of Lagnicourt, according to the official report from British headquarters this evening. North of the Bapaume-Cambrai road thirty prisoners and a machine gun were taken. During the afternoon the Germans delivered counter-attacks from the east and north-east. These attacks the statement says, were repulsed.

The text reads: "This morning we attacked and captured the village of Lagnicourt. North of the Bapaume-Cambrai road we took thirty prisoners and a machine gun. During the afternoon the enemy delivered determined counter-attacks from the east and northeast, but were driven off. A third attack, caught in the open by our artillery, failed to develop.

Were Attacked by Bombs. "Another bombing attack made by the enemy during the night upon our positions north of Beaumetz-Les-Cambrai was repulsed. Parties of the enemy who endeavored to approach our lines in the neighborhood of Fauquissart and east of Ypres were dispersed by our machine gun fire.

"There was considerable artillery activity today by both sides. "East of Nivelles-St. Vaast and Armentieres there was much fighting in the air yesterday, in the course of which two German machines were brought down and three others were driven down damaged. Seven of our machines are missing."

French Take Two Towns. Paris, March 26.—Though strongly opposed by the Germans, the French troops today occupied the towns of Folembray and La Feuillie, south of the Coucy Forest, says the official statement issued by the war office tonight.

Progress has also been made by the French north of Soissons in the neighborhood of Vreigny. The text reads: "North of the Somme there have been no essential changes. Splendid artillery actions occurred today in the direction of Dixmude and Steenstraete.

"Eastern theatre: Yesterday east of Lake Dorian a raid by the British troops permitted them to bring back prisoners. In the region of Monastir the enemy having caused the evacuation on March 24 by means of jets of liquid flames, of one of our trenches, which he occupied, was later driven out by a counter-attack.

"There was intermittent cannonading along the front on March 25th."

TWO SCHOONERS, WELL KNOWN, TOTAL WRECKS

Calais Built Craft Lost on Cape Cod—Another Wrecked at Newfoundland—Crews Saved.

Provincetown, Mass., March 26.—The schooner Maggie Todd, built at Calais, Me., in 1873, is a total wreck of the Wood End Lighthouse. The schooner while bound from Boston for Venezuela, went ashore in a heavy gale.

The Jel Hto savers have rescued the crew. The schooner registered 135 tons.

FOR CLOSER UNION WITH DOMINIONS

Dominions Commission Recommends Central Control of Commodities to Bar Out Foreign Powers' Products—Immigration Problem.

NO SHIPMENTS OF NICKEL TO THE GERMANS

Royal Commission which Investigated Nickel Situation in Ontario Submits Report—Sudbury Deposits Worth \$100,000,000.

Toronto, March 26, (Canadian Press.)—The long awaited report of the Royal Commission on nickel was brought down in the legislature this afternoon.

The commission summarizes its opinions as follows: "The nickel ore deposits of Ontario are much more extensive and offer better facilities for the production of nickel at a low cost than do those of any other country."

"The output of the refineries, to be built in Ontario, added to the nickel now being produced in England from Ontario matter, will fully meet, if not surpass, the entire requirements of the British Empire."

German Interests. Regarding government ownership the commission points out that to expropriate the deposits and plants of the Sudbury nickel area would probably cost not less than \$100,000,000, a sum approximately equal to the total paid-up capital of all the chartered banks in the United States, Canada and Britain.

With regard to German interests in the company and shipments to enemy countries the report shows that the great bulk of the shares are held in the United States, Canada and Britain, and that only 256 of the preferred and 462 of the common are held in Germany and Austria. A table shows that since the war there has been no shipment to Germany.

HUNS ACTIVE ON RUSSIAN NORTH FRONT

London, Mar. 27.—The Germans, who are reported to be in force on the north Russian front, are again becoming active. South of Dvinsk, in the region of Postavy, after having loosed gas waves against the Russians, the Germans essayed an advance, but according to Petrograd they were repulsed. East of Baranovitch another Teutonic attack was put down by the Russian artillery fire. The Russian war minister has arrived at Riga, probably to consider the situation created by the arrival of German reinforcements.

Still another crossing of the Persian frontier into Turkey has been effected by the Russians who have entered the Vilayet of Mosul, through which flows the Tigris river, along which the British are still in pursuit of the Turks retreating from Bagdad.

To the southwest on the Turco-Persian frontier near Kharakhan the Russians have captured the Turkish fortifications at Kalatehah, thereby placing a further menace in the way of the Turks making their way up the Diale river before the British. In the Austro-Italian and Macedonian theatres the situation is unchanged.

HUN MINISTER LEAVES PEKING. Peking, Sunday, March 25.—The German minister, Admiral Von Hintze, and the staff of the legation left here today by special train for Shanghai. The German colony gave the departing diplomats a rousing farewell. From Shanghai the minister will proceed to San Francisco, and thence across the continent and then by steamer to Europe.

CANADIAN WAR LOAN, GREATLY OVERSUBSCRIBED, MAGNIFICENT, SAYS MINISTER OF FINANCE

Loan Oversubscribed by One Hundred Million Dollars—Applications for \$250,000,000 Means that Banks will Not Receive any Part of their Subscriptions and that People of Canada Able to Largely Finance Their Part in War.

Ottawa, Mar. 26.—The third Canadian war loan has been a third magnificent success. It has been oversubscribed by one hundred million dollars. The loan was issued March 12, and in less than a fortnight applications aggregating over \$250,000,000 reached the Minister of Finance. As a result the banks will not receive any part of their sixty millions of subscriptions.

Official Statement. The following official statement was issued by the Minister of Finance: "While it will be some days before all applications in the mails and now on their way from all parts of Canada will come to hand we are able to announce officially that the loan has been oversubscribed by one hundred million dollars. This means that the banks will receive no part of their sixty millions of subscriptions and that the other large subscriptions will be substantially scaled down on allotment."

This will make for a very strong financial market situation, as Canadian loan bank funds will be conserved for the general purposes of the community and the unsatisfied demand for the loan should more than maintain the issue price. Applications will aggregate over forty thousand, and it is particularly gratifying to note the increased number of small subscriptions.

"The result is a most notable and significant success for the Canadian people. In the eyes of the outside world it will be regarded as our greatest achievement of the war next to mobilize our army and sending it overseas. It will immensely enhance our financial prestige and strengthen our credit should we later have recourse to foreign money markets. One thing it has demonstrated and that is that Canada, if she chooses, can do her own war financing among her own people. That is to say it is within our power to be self-contained financially."

Especially do we feel that we should thank the press whose editorial support was valuable beyond monetary computation, the brokers who rendered magnificent service employing their most efficient organizations both in Canada and the United States, and making lavish expenditure of money in public advertising and upon private propaganda reaching all sections of the community and to the chartered banks whose managers at over three thousand offices throughout Canada used their best endeavors to make the issue a success. It all comes back to the starting point that the Canadians are a wonderful people, capable of any national achievement. With them the bigger the undertaking the greater the certainty of success."

THE GERMANS MAY MAKE A PEACE OFFER

Amsterdam, Mar. 26, via London.—The Socialist newspaper Vorwarts foreshadows a probable declaration by Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the imperial chancellor, on Thursday next similar to his peace proposal of December last.

"Let us tell Russia," says Vorwarts, "that she can have peace. If Russia continues to remain our enemy she will do so for all time. We shall not be fighting against Czarism but against an alliance of democratic peoples which wishes to break Germany, the last bastion standing for reaction."

VON MACKENSEN TO REORGANIZE TURKISH ARMY

London, March 26.—Field Marshal August Von Mackensen, of the German army, according to a despatch from Bern, has arrived at Constantinople to reorganize the Turkish army.

HUN MINISTER LEAVES PEKING

Peking, Sunday, March 25.—The German minister, Admiral Von Hintze, and the staff of the legation left here today by special train for Shanghai. The German colony gave the departing diplomats a rousing farewell. From Shanghai the minister will proceed to San Francisco, and thence across the continent and then by steamer to Europe.

DUTCH EAST INDIES SUBJECTS SUBSCRIBE. London, Mar. 26, via Reuters's Ottawa agency—British subjects in the Dutch East Indies have sent subscriptions amounting to £2,815 to the Overseas Club for the purpose of purchasing two aeroplanes. Overseas residents have now paid for ninety units of the Imperial aircraft fleet, following the court's recent decision that the Appan violated American neutrality.

THE RETREAT OF THE ARMY OF GERMANY

Stewart Lyon Tells of Ruined Villages of Northern France—People in Ten Thousand Churches in Republic Praying for Success of Entente—Roar of Artillery—Death Reaping Harvest.

At the Front, Sunday morning, via London, Mar. 26.—(By Stewart Lyon, special correspondent, Canadian Press.)—The battle of the open fields is more picturesque than that of the boxed position, but the people back home, whose sons are doing their share all around this spot to make the enemy sorry that he invaded France, and who, at this moment, in ten thousand churches, are praying for their safety, may be interested in the sights and sounds of a modern battlefield. The sights are peaceful, to a marvellous degree. From the height on which the situation of our army is at present one can see the promised land straight ahead, where the towers of a cathedral well within the German lines are plainly visible.

Scarred With Trenches. A ridge which stretches to the right is scarred with trenches, our own and the enemy's. The ruins of a village within our lines look utterly wretched, though the shell fire blends harmoniously in the grey green of the early spring, more like the decaying relic of the middle ages than that before the war which sheltered two thousand people.

In all this spacious landscape, extending several miles north and south, no human being is visible in the roads or fields. Scarcely nearby, singing as he rises, and far above him the only sign of the grim meaning of this empty countryside, three British planes wing their way over the town to the enemy front in pursuit of German planes who were lately over our lines, the drone of whose engines are still plainly audible. They look like clumps of trees, curiously gaunt, but are too far distant to show the scars of frequent bombardment.

Desolate District. Looking over the landscape a deaf man, unaware of where he was, would see little abnormal, save the strange absence of men and beast, and the presence of at least half a dozen observation balloons and seven or eight aeroplanes, patrolling the front side, a deceptive means of judging what is afoot. The roar of the great guns is continuous. There is more weight of projectiles used by the enemy and ourselves along this narrow front today than was used at Waterloo or any of the great battles of the past. Many of the guns are of the calibre of nine inches and over, and the explosion of shells from them is like the setting off of a blast in a quarry.

With the drone of the machine guns, could our deaf man hear, he would have no doubt at all that tens of thousands of men, invisible to the eye, were doing their very best to kill one another, while the lark still sang and sings.

The thing seems monstrous, incredible, but the casualty list from the front and points behind the lines of the Germans and ourselves prove that death is reaping a harvest in this seemingly deserted countryside. One recent achievement of the enemy of which he, doubtless, is proud has been to destroy a part of the famous old Abbey towers, one of the few relics of the middle ages remaining on this part of the battlefield.

COMPLETE DESTRUCTION OF FRENCH VILLAGES BY HUNS IN RETREAT.

Compiègne, France, March 26.—The village of Reyno Ribecourt, in the direction of Noyon, were completely destroyed on the eve of the rapid flight of the Germans. Of Baillie there remains nothing but a mass of ruins. Only a few agricultural implements escaped the systematic destruction.

MARSEILLAISE POPULAR AIR IN PETROGRAD

London, Mar. 27.—The Volynsky Guards, the first regiment which declared for the revolution, marched yesterday to the Tauride Palace to express loyalty to the government and the necessity of carrying on the war to a victorious end, says a Reuters Petrograd correspondent.

The news about Bapaume Ridge aroused intense interest in the Canadian corps. Speculation has been rife as to the probable point north of Bapaume on which the enemy will pivot his retirement.

The death of the Duchess of Connaught is regretted by all the Canadian officers. Prince Arthur left for England on leave of absence when the condition of the Duchess became serious.

APPAM GOES TO BRITISH OWNERS

Washington, Mar. 26.—Immediate transfer of the prize ship Appam at Newport News, Va., to the British owners was ordered today by the supreme court. This is the last step in taking the vessel from Lieutenant Hans Berg and the German prize crew, following the court's recent decision that the Appan violated American neutrality.