

GERMANS ASTRIDE SOMME TWELVE MILES EAST OF AMIENS ALLIES MAKING READY TO LAUNCH COUNTER OFFENSIVE General Foch in Command of Western Front Forces

ALL WORKING TO WIN WAR IN THE OLD LAND

Capt. W. Bentham Home From Overseas—Escape From Submarine

U-BOAT DESTROYED

In six months in England I did not see one case of drunkenness among Canadian soldiers. The war is going to make us a better, broad-minded lot of men, it is going to break down the barriers of religious divisions, and unite us instead in bonds of brotherhood.

British Were Yesterday Pressed Back From Mezieres But all Teuton Offensive Gives Numerous Indications of Waning Strength, and Allies Prepare Counter Stroke

London, March 30.—The Germans attacking yesterday at Demuin and Mezieres pressed back the British from Mezieres, the War Office announced. All the enemy's attempts to capture Demuin broke down after sharp fighting which lasted through the afternoon.

The statement follows: "North of the Somme only local actions have taken place. South of the Somme the enemy's attacks yesterday at Demuin and Mezieres succeeded in pressing back our troops from the latter village. We secured a number of prisoners in our counter-attacks. At Demuin all the enemy's attempts to capture the village broke down after sharp fighting which lasted throughout the afternoon.

"During the past week our cavalry have fought with great gallantry, both mounted and dismounted, and repulsed the enemy, inflicting heavy losses on him in numerous engagements."

THE SITUATION SUMMARIZED.

Fighting on the battle front between the Scarpe and the Oise having diminished greatly except between Albert and Montdidier, Allied forces are being made ready for a counter-blow against the Germans, whose strength has given numerous indications of waning. General Foch, who played a memorable role in stopping the first German rush toward Paris and the channel ports, has been given command of the British, French and American armies in the present operation.

Repulsed in attempts to widen their salient by pressing back the northern and southern wings, the Germans have driven forward in the apex of their wedge toward Amiens and are now astride the Somme about twelve miles east of that important point. Between the Somme and the Avre, the British have retired to a line through Hamel, Marcel Cave and Neuville. Just south of Albert, however, the British hold to the line of the Ancre, which makes a salient into the German line that may prove dangerous to a further enemy advance.

FORMER LOCAL PASTOR AT WAR CONFERENCE

Major Rev. Dr. G. W. Kerby of Calgary, a former pastor of Brant Avenue church, passed through Brantford Thursday en route to Ottawa and Washington, D.C. Major Kerby goes to Washington as a representative from the Western Canada branch of the Y.M.C.A. to attend a special conference on "war problems," called by President Wilson. Major Kerby is president of the Royal College, Calgary, and was pastor for eight years of Central Church of that city. He was chief recruiting officer of M. D. No. 13, which includes the province of Alberta. When the Military Service Act came into force he was appointed district military representative for M. D. No. 13, which position he held until the Department of Justice took over the work.

General Foch's appointment to the chief command not only brings all Allied forces under one head, but indicates that the moment for a strong counter-offensive probably has arrived. With the Allied reserves and American divisions for a mobile force and the British and French troops, General Foch will have full scope for his strategic powers. The wings of the German salient are its weak points and

the Germans failed in their first attempt to capture them by capturing Arras and crossing the Oise. As the Germans press forward between Albert and Montdidier without stopping their wings simultaneously their position becomes more precarious. The region about Arras and the line of the Oise offer two positions from which a counter-blow intended to roll up one side of the German wedge can be launched. The situation is unchanged

on the other side of the Channel. In Italy, a German attack on the American front southwest of Toul. The activities of the Germans behind these lines are concealed, but they have no indications of possible counter-attacks on a large scale. Germany's newest war strategy, the long range gun which has been reported to have been tested at sea, has surpassed the bombing airplane in frightfulness. One shell struck a church

in the Paris region as the von Schulerberg was ordered for a head-on attack on the German front. The German command has been ordered to make a counter-attack at the hands of the Government forces and are reported to have lost 30,000 prisoners after their defeat at Tannenberg. (Continued on page four)

SEVENTY FIVE KILLED WHEN SHELL HIT CHURCH

Long Range Bombardment of Paris Continues; Huns Desecrate Places of Worship—Swiss Counsellor Among Those Killed.

Paris, March 29.—Seventy-five persons were killed and ninety wounded, mostly women and children, when a shell fired by a German long-range gun fell on a church in the region of Paris which Good Friday services were being held, according to an official communication issued this evening. Among those killed was H. Stroehlin, Counsellor of the Swiss Legation in Paris.

This same church was struck by a shell during the celebration of High Mass last Sunday and many casualties resulted. The killing of the women and children who were praying in the church, has caused a feeling of horror and intense indignation in Paris. The German explosive missile fell amid a gathering of peace-loving people who were beseeching Heaven to send an enduring peace on the day they were commemorating the greatest sacrifice ever offered that peace should reign on earth.

Feeling runs high in Paris tonight. It is no peace crowd that walks the streets or congregates in the cafes, theatres and churches. The stern resolution to conduct the war to a successful termination, is written on the face of everyone. The American Red Cross once more distinguished itself in rescuing injured persons from the epidemic.

M. Grasseaux in the Chamber of Deputies late tonight, referring to the disaster, said: "The barbarian enemy resumed his bombardment on Good Friday and his victims are numerous. It is with extreme sorrow and intense indignation that I note most of them were assembled in churches. We must not forget that justice and right shall have the last word before God and before man."

Jean Bon, Socialist leader, said: "At the moment when women, children and the aged were imploring Heaven to end this horrible butchery, the roof of the church, shattered by steel, responded with blood to their prayers. "We add our indignation protest to those of the faithful against the crimes of false believers who mix blood with prayers. In France, England and America there will be another conception of justice."

Reception by W.C.T.U.

Collection Made For Silver Thimble and Trinket Fund Was on Exhibition

There was a large turnout at the Y.M.C.A. Thursday night last when the ladies of the W.C.T.U. held a reception for the people who had so kindly donated the large display of trinkets and silverware for the soldiers' free drinks. Many articles were sold at an advance of the price they would bring when remitted, and on Monday there will be an auction of some articles that would not bring much when melted over. A very pleasing program was given by the following: Piano solo, Miss Fuller; chairman's address by Rev. Mr. Martin; solo, Mr. Passmore. Then followed an address by Rev. Mr. Laywell, who spoke of the good work of the Y.M.C.A. and also how the W.C.T.U. had so generously been furnishing free hot drinks through their three representatives among the Y.M.C.A. workers. The boys were very appreciative and realized they were being helped both physically and spiritually—and the need, was very great. Next came a piano solo by Miss Eloise Beard, followed by a recitation by Master Leslie Brown, and a violin solo by Miss Fuller. Rewards were then given to the successful competitors in the drawings that have been displayed in store windows. This was done by Mr. Adam Shultz. The first prize was to Miss Wrightman, second to Miss Foster, third to Miss Eleanor Porter, fourth to Miss Constance Laborde. The full amount of money raised will be given out after the Schubert Chorus concert, which will be for the benefit of this fund, and due notice will be given as to the date.

MERCHANTS CORNER

If everybody knew all about your goods, what they were like and why they were good, they would still require advertising. An increase of 100 per cent. in volume of business in less than two years' time is some record—said all due to advertising. The Stanley works had been manufacturing hardware for seventy-four years. Two years ago they started to advertise. As a result the total business for 1916 was three times that of 1915, and the business for 1917, up to May 1st has shown an increase of 2 1/2 times that of 1916!

Say Bourassa Deserves Trial By Court Martial

By Courier Special Wire Montreal, March 30.—L'Evenement of Quebec, whose offices were wrecked last night, yesterday published a communication which states that if Henri Bourassa were in France he would be sent before a court-martial on account of his seditious articles. "His articles are directed against the Allies and especially against England, which he constantly represents under the worst possible colors. His articles are of the most criminal and seditious character and have done an irreparable wrong to the French-Canadian and the Province of Quebec, a great many of our people being influenced by his crazy doctrines."

BRANTFORD LED ALL CITIES

In Bank Clearings Last Week Gain in This City Was Over Fifty Per Cent.

Toronto, March 28.—A general improvement in trade conditions is reflected in the substantial increase made in the majority of Canadian cities' reporting bank clearances for the week ending Thursday. There were three cities that showed a same seven-day period in 1917, but in the three instances the decreases were not heavy ones. The greatest increase of all the Canadian cities reporting was made by Brantford with the week's total at \$1,020,841. The gain amounted to \$252,890, or 25.89 per cent. Vancouver was second with clearings at \$9,123,285, the increase being \$2,881,628, or 46.91 per cent. Total clearings for all cities reporting amounted to \$173,136,785, an increase of \$21,809,894, or 13.77 per cent., over the same week in 1917.

CAR PLUNGED OVER BRIDGE; BOY DROWNED

Motoring Fatality Occurred In East Ward on Thursday Night.

DRIVER IS INJURED

Plunging over the Murray street bridge shortly after nine o'clock Thursday night, a Ford car carried nine year old Charles Ellison to his death in the waters of the canal, while Andrew Ellison, the driver of the car, is lying seriously injured in the hospital. Thomas C. Ellison, the father of the boy, escaped with minor injuries, as did also Cecil Robinson, a companion.

Lost Control of Car

The fatality, which is one of the saddest in Brantford's history, is intensified by the fact that Mr. T. C. Ellison was 14 working street, the owner of the car, made the last payment on it only Thursday afternoon, and was on his way home when the accident occurred. With him in the car were his brother, Andrew Ellison, who was driving, his son Charles Ellison and Cecil Robinson, a friend of the latter. The party was near the Murray street bridge when the car suddenly

lost control and plunged into the canal. The car was completely wrecked and the boy was killed. The driver, Andrew Ellison, was seriously injured and is lying in the hospital. The car was a Ford model 1917, and was being driven by Andrew Ellison, who was driving with the aid of a pocket torch light, described a limp white hand protruding from the folded bonnet of the car. The firemen once again returned to their work, and were finally successful in removing the body of the boy, which had become so entangled in the top of the car that it was necessary to tear this away. The body of the boy was tenderly conveyed to the undertaking establishment of Reid and Bryson, Andrew Ellison had meanwhile been removed to the hospital, where he was attended by Dr. Paris, and Thomas Ellison removed to his home.

Many Rumors

The usual vague and distorted rumors spread throughout the city immediately following the accident. One version reported that at least one man had been killed, in addition to the drowning of the boy; another, that two men and two women were pinned beneath the wreckage of the car at the bottom of the canal; as other gained circulation yesterday to the effect that Mr. Andrew Ellison (Continued on page four)

Conservatives Attention!

A meeting by wards of the Liberal-Conservative Association will be held on Friday and Saturday evenings, March 29th and 30th, at the rooms, corner of King and Dalhousie Sts., Brantford, for the purpose of electing Ward Chairmen for 1918, as follows: SATURDAY EVENING Ward Three at 8 p.m. Ward Four at 8.30 p.m. Ward Five at 9 p.m. F. J. CALBECK, President. R. B. LONG, Secretary.

RECOUNT FOR BRANT

Major Sweet Cables Outcome in the Matter.

Mr. W. S. Brewster, K.C., received the following cablegram from Major E. Sweet, who has been looking after the recount of the soldier vote in Brant in the Old Land: "Recount finished. Harold loses one vote, otherwise no change. Judge held he had no jurisdiction to consider envelopes set aside or wrongly allocated. Judgment lengthy. Mailing copy. E. SWEET." A press cablegram from London, with reference to the above matter, states "the recount demanded by Cockshutt against Harold, is withdrawn," but nothing of this is known locally.

WEATHER BULLETIN

Toronto, March 28.—Fair and mild weather prevails over the Dominion. Forecasts: Fair and very mild to-day and on Sunday.



"Zimmie"

ays

PRICE! Time to place your next winter's coal. Give for prices. HIGH COAL YARD Phone 345.

Sale!

Table with 3 columns: Mth. Payment, Including Interest, Price. Rows list various amounts from \$12.00 to \$120.00.

Sale

Table with 3 columns: Price, Cash, Mthly. Rows list various amounts from \$14.00 to \$120.00.

ANY MORE houses in West or on my list? PERSONS Fire Insurance Residence 1742 Kerby Block EVENINGS.

SEE

L. WITH

Real Estate? Properties for sale change. almost every meet. easy terms. 2 acres up.

SMITH

Chambers Machine 233

SALE

house on Brock St. cottage on Albion St. cottage on Terrace Hill

new brick on 14 Street. St. Paul's Ave. use on Chatham St. house, brick, on street. cottage on Murray

farm near Burford. farm 4 1/2 miles out. farm, 7 miles out.

ns, near Cathcart. ns, near Fairfield. ns, nine miles south. ns, near Burford. ns, near Waterford. ns, near Bealton. ns, eight miles out.

AVILAND

Brantford. Phone 1630

ADRIAN NORTH

REGULATIONS family or any male who was at the conference war, and has a British subject land or neutral countries. Applicant must be a Dominion Lands by or District. Entry on certain conditions residence upon in each of three

a homestead may quarter-section as \$300 per acre. Duties each of three consecutive patent. May obtain pre-emption as homestead. Patents homestead pre-emption, homestead in order of priority. Must each of three years, erect a house worth

may count time of labourers in Canada duties under and are advertised returned soldiers who were at home agents. Agency) Discharged into Agent.

Mr. W. COLE, user of the Interior, publication of this to be paid for.