s of dark green ne of the sea-odels. Doublewith belt loops, m. Sizes 35 to

614.00 g Trouser Suits e brown tweed reasted, three-lk style, with and slash pock-Narrow trouand cuff bot-6. Price \$14.00.

316.50 g Trouser Suits ble stripe, mill-Popular trench ound belt and

chable belt can rench or formim height vest. loops, cuff or zes 33 to 35.

\$15.00 ts in military nd belt and me-soft roll lapels, flaps, low-cu ps, self belt and from neat grey weed. Sizes 34

\$20.00 s of a dark Oxsingle-breasted, ting style, with back. Medium ers with tunnel bottom. Sizes

limit lower, and I cannot help thinking that the extension of conscription to Ireland is very doubtful wisdom, while it is still more objectionable that this part of the question should be linked up with home rule."

Lord Derby, secretary of state for war, replying for the government, sumphasized the gravity of the present limits to the linked up with home rule."

Any replying for the government, sumphasized the gravity of the present limits to the linked up with home rule. It is a solution of the war, was an nounced today by the fuel administration, in the issuance of orders curtailing the manufacture of ten principal clay products, from 15 to as high as 50 per cent. Simultaneonsly the manufacturing program of this industry was ordered rearranged and lituation of the war, was an nounced today by the fuel administration, in the issuance of orders curtailing the manufacture of ten principal clay products, from 15 to as high as 50 per cent. Simultaneonsly the manufacturing program of this industry was ordered rearranged and lituation of the war, was an nounced today by the fuel administration, in the issuance of orders curtailing the manufacture of ten principal clay products, from 15 to as high as 50 per cent. Simultaneonsly the manufacturing program of this industry was ordered rearranged and lituation of the war, was an nounced today by the fuel administration, in the issuance of orders curtailing the manufacture of ten principal clay products, from 15 to as high as 50 per cent. Simultaneonsly the manufacture of ten principal clay products, from 15 to as high as 50 per cent. ituation. Any minimizing of the ravity would, in his opinion, be disthe divided, placing it on the basis of war ravity would, in his opinion, be dis-strous. At the same time, he desir-d to emphasize that altho one must are the greatest anxiety, he was still uite confident on and paving brick, terra cotta, roofing tile, floor and the almed armies are st.ll intact, while the Germans and wall tile and sanitary ware were unite confident on the control of their at the same time, he desirnave the greatest anxiety, he was still and wall tile and sanitary ware were quite confident as regards the result. He supported conscription in Ireland tile, sewer pipe and drain pipe 25 per cent.; and stone ware, with the exception of chemical stone ware, is ception of chemical stone ware, is curtailed 15 per cent. Another new capture of a large tract of country to the casualties sustained since ware 50 per cent.

Six Hundred Prisoners Are Taken by Belgians

Paris, April 17.—Belgian communiand the Ypres railroad and suc-

FOR SALE

(Ing Street East.

The Toronto World

THURSDAY MORNING APRIL 18 1918 -FOURTEEN PAGES

VOL. XXXVIII.-No. 13,672 TWO CENTS

Frightful Losses Inflicted On Advancing Massed Troops

eports From the Tremendous Battle Are More Encouraging to the Allies, For the British Have Held Their Defences and Retired Intact Only After Heavy Attacks.

Out of the chaos of the tremendous battle along the Lys River, south and southwest of Ypres, the thunder of which may be heard forty or fifty miles away, there have come during the past day reports which are more encouraging to the allied powers. The British have not only held all the granite wall of the British defence. Official and semi-official despatches have told of the frightful losses inflicted on the attacking masses of troops by the British retire again from the villages.

The most disturbing news has been a report from Berlin that Poelcapelle and Langemarck, north of Ypres, have been taken by the Germans, and the admission from London that the British have retired from certain of their lines in the Ypres sallent. The refirement here was expected, for the advance of the Germans at Neuve Eglise and Bailleul left the positions in front of Ypres open to a flank at-

ise and Bailleul left the positions front of Ypres open to a flank att. It is officially stated that the rement was orderly, and it is prob-

The battle, now in its ninth day, has been active in the curve front from Messines along the curved front from Messines Bidge to Meteren. There have been reports that the Germans have occupied the Village of St. Eloi, which lies less than three miles south of Ypres, but these have not been confirmed. It was also said that the Germans have also been active in this theatre taken positions on the south slopes of the war.

Russian defenders of the city were driven out.

The Macedonian front has again become active. General Edwards' troops executed a troops have advanced and driven the Teutonic allies from seven towns along the Struma River, on the eastight march and seized Medowtoma on April 12 after an all-day engagement, in which the German losses were have also been active in this theatre of the war.

ord Lansdowne Says He is Pre-

don, April 17.-The house of

rds today passed the second reading

of the government's man-power bill-

The Marquis of Lansdowne, dis-

ng the bill, heartily welcomed

Our duty," he said, "is to help

and I believe that this can be done

ithout harm to consistency or the

Very different under less serious

init lower, and I cannot help think-ing that the extension of conscription to Ireland is year.

of the government. It would

pared to Throw Aside Many

Old Notions.

BIG OFFENSIVE HAS FAILED

Another Attack is Impending

British Headquarters in France, April 17.—An attack is impending be-

moourage the gallant army to the timest of our ability. I feel so trongly on this point that I am troops were unable to maintain their positions there.

"I could, however, have wished that the government had fixed the age limit lower, and I cannot help think-

ANOTHER EFFORT IMMINENT

War News

Evacuation of positions east of Ypres mables the British to consolidate their

French troops are now co-operating with the Bditish on the Flanders battle-

Enemy infantry attacks from Nieppe forest to Wytschaete fail to make progress.

The Turks have captured Batum from the Russians after fighting in Trans-

British, without fighting, voluntarily evacuate Passchendaele Ridge, in region of Ypres, including Langemarck and

OF CLAY PRODUCTS

CURTAILMENT IN U. S.

TOLL OF SINKINGS SHOWS INCREASE

Fifteen Vessels, Eleven Over 1,600 Tons, Are Torpedoed.

London, April 17 .- The losses to British shipping by mine or submarine in the past week totaled fifteen, according to the admiralty report

Eleven of the merchantmen sunk were 1600 tons or over and four under that tonnage.

One fishing vessel also was sunk. Twelve vessels were unsuccessfully attacked.

The arrivals numbered 2.211. settings 2458

2,211; sailings 2456.

In the previous week only six British merchantmen were sunk by mine or submarine, four of them of more than 1600 tons.

ENEMY SUFFERS LOSS IN EAST AFRICAN FIGHT

British Heavily Engage Main German Column Near Mahua.

tween the Somme and Oise Rivers, to only patrol encounters are retimental than a strategic effect. Just how far the British lines have been withdrawn is not known. It may be, however, that the German claim of taking Poelca, alle and Langemarck is the result of the British retirement.

Despens in Intensity.

The battle, now in its ninth day, has beened in intensity at many points of the Black Sea. They report strenuous fighting before the Russian defenders of the city were described by the strength of the city were defenders of the city were defenders of the city were man main force and inflicted severe

Not Last Battle.

similar lack of success.

but they had not counted on the ten-

acity of either the allied armies or

As far as it has gone the German

offensive may be looked on as a fail-ure, since none of the objectives have

selves in. They are engaged in doing this on some parts of their new front,

April 17,-While the cannon continue

to roar along the battle line there has

ANOTHER WATERLOO

British Army Has to Hold Enemy Till a Modern Blucher Comes Up.

NO REASON FOR DESPAIR

Gen. Maurice Says Only Anxiety Exists Regarding Endurance of Hammering.

London, April 17.—In summarizing the general situation on the British front. Major-General F. B. Maurice said today:

"What of the whole battle situation? Our army has been going thru a very severe strain and that strain has been reflected at home. The situation has had its critical moments and still is decidedly anxious. But renomber we have accepted the principle of a united front and must accept the consequences of that principle. Wo must look at the whole battle not from our army's sacretice and sufferings, but from the standpoint of the whole entente.

entente.

Playing Old Role.

"The Brit.sh army is playing the role which it often has played before. It is fightling a Waterloo while Blucher is marching to the battlefield. Multiply the battle of Waterloo a hundreffold and the situation at noon in that battle corresponds to the situation now in the great world battle.

"The British army is under a terrible hammering, but providing we stand that hammering without breaking and providing Blucher is marching to the battlefield there is no reason for discouragement.

battlefield there is no reason for discouragement.

"The enormous task which the lightlish army has performed and still is performing may be shown by a few rigures. In this battle of Armentieres itse Germans thus far have engaged 28 divisions and since March 21 they have cagaged 126 divisions.

"Of these the British army alone has engaged 79, the French alone have engaged 24 and the remainder, 23, have been engaged by the British and French together.

French together.

Some Fight Thrice.

'Of the German divisions which the British engaged 22 have been fought twice and once thrice. Of the German divisions which the French engaged four have fought twice. Of the German divisions which the French and British engaged together 15 have been fought twice and one thrice.

'It is unpleasant business standing the hammering, but so long as we can mand it the only question to be asked is: What is happening to Blucher? What has become of the reserves?

"Altho the French army is larger than ours we have taken the strain of these battles off them. There is no Allied Commanders Feel Certain Future Attacks these battles off them. There is no eason to be in a state of despair if Will Similarly Be Unable the situation is regarded from a broad point of view and if we regard our great sacrifices rightly as a necessary part of the great drama." to Break Thru Front--

With the French Army in France, FIVE RUSSIAN AIRMEN TO FIGHT FOR BRITAIN

for some days been a virtual cessa-tion of infentry combats, especially on to Canada Thru Japan.

the French part of the front. No one the French part of the front. No one A Canadian Pacific Port, April 17,—in the allied camp, however, regards, Five Russian aviators, officers of the the German push as being terminated. Russian flying corps, arrived here to-day on a transpacific liner to offer their services to the British Royal Plying Corps. They have served on the Austrian and Rumanian fronts, their divisions, it is considered prob- and all have been decorated for bravand all have been decorated for brawable that the German general staff is
merely pausing to gather forces for
another effort and will try to go yet
farther in the hope of eventually
breaking thru.

Any such effort is awaited confidently by the allies, whose commanddently by the allies, whose commandconsular officers arranged their pas
and all have been decorated for brawery. Col. Duklan, who heads the
party, has been wounded three times.

When Russia lapsed into anarchy,
the aviators said, they resolved to
come to Canada. They practically
fought their way out of the country,
they asserted, and after weeks of
hardship reached Japan, where British
consular officers arranged their pasers feel certain that it will meet a

sage overseas.
In addition to Col. Duklan the party is composed of Capt. Rosmanof and Lieuts. Katlarssfski, Petrenki and As-The correspondent has been able to glean the prevalent views of the allied

side as to the situation. Almost without exception it is thought the preout exception it is thought the present battle will have a decisive influence on the result of the war, but it would be an error to regard it as the last battle. There has been a campaign on the German side to proclaim that this immense effort would result in the allies demanding peace,

Food Board Appeals to All Who a Have Surplus to Return to Merchants.

Ottawa, April 17.—The Canada Food Board is inaugurating an antihoarding drive in order to prevent waste of four and other food products and also to make available largest possible amount of food for shipment to the allies.

In a statement today the board appeals to all classes who have in their possession larger quantities of flour or other foodstuffs than are required for current needs, to return these thru the ordinary channels of trade. Merchants are asked as a patriotic duty to accept such returns at the purchase price in all cases where

Thousands of Families, Especially at Prague, Have no Food.

Thousands of Families, Especially at allied cannon, which are most active day and night. In consequent April 17.—Belgian communitation of the Germans and the Germans felling all the trees in the Somme sector before they restricted last year, the French and of families in Bohemia, especially at posts between Le Blanckaert and the Ypres railroad and succording to an official despatch from In securing a foothold in a profour projections, but energounter-attacks by our troops them out. About 600 prisoners in our hands,

Washington, April 17.—Thousands the Somme sector before they returned at the French and British gunners have a perfectly clear view of working parties. The Germans may decide, or be allowed, to remain there until all is in favor of the allies, who are awaiting constant increase of their strength thrust the arrival of American contingents.

HOUSE TOLD IN SECRET SESSION OF VITAL NEEDS OF THE EMPIRE

BRITISH GUNNERS BY SMART RUSE CAUGHT GERMANS WITHOUT MASKS

Fired Shells Filled Only With Stinking Composition, and Suddenly Changed the Dose.

Paris, April 17.—The evolution of the use of gas shells has taken surprising form in the present battle. One new method is to fire heavy slowly-dispersing gases along charted lanes against the enemy, filling in the alternative spaces with quickly dissipating poison fumes. Storming attacks are then made by troops who charge when a sufficient interval of time has been given for the light gases to rise.

The British gunners at one part of the line threw shells charged simply with a stinking composition. The Germans after a few hours discovered that this was non-poisonous and began laying aside their masks. After these shells had been fired for another 12 hours there was a sudden change to poison gases. About 2000 Germans were caught without their masks and suffocated.

Haig Says They Are Co-operating With His Men on Lys Battlefront.

London, April 17.-After gaining a footing today in the villages of Meteren and Wytschaete, the British Haig's report from France tonight. their casualty list. French troops, it is added, have now

of the statement reads:

ceeded in entering the villages of Meteren and Wytschaete, but, in the face of continued hostile attacks, were unable to maintain their positions there.

"French troops are co-operating with the British on this front.
"On the remainder of the British front there is nothing to report."

Toronto

Dr. Hastings will reply today to harges of Controller McBride. Toronto University will confer honorary degree on Lord Reading and Hon.

Rev. H. C. Stillwell, treasurer of the Baptist foreign missions, makes his re-port to the board.

The Royal Grenadiers and the Queen't Own Rifles begin the season of spring drills next week.

The United Farmers' Co-Operative Company will take a lease of a King street property, from which to supply foodstuffs direct from the farms.

Thirty-four Toronto members of the Canadian expeditionary force, who are on furlough, will arrive today, with 234 officers and soldiers invalided home;

The eleventh annual report of the game and fisheries department of the Dominion Government recommends that a whitefish and trout hatchery be established in the Thunder Bay District. Comrade Haight, in his report to the West Toronto branch of the G.W.V.A. concerning a conference in Ottawa, states that Premier Borden declared that labor delegations had advised the shelving of the allen question.

PREPARE FOR A RAINY DAY.

here yesterday morning was de-layed somewhere, but it was bound to come. This pared.

WEARING OUT OF ENEMY

Shortening of Passchendaele Salient and Giving Up Ground

April 17.-The past 24 hours have been anything but a good time for the enemy. Von Ludendorff is doubtless tellwere forced to make a second retire-ment, according to Field Marshal The answer is: Tell them to look at

reinforced the British lines. The text Sailent and the giving up of the

The bitter intensity of the fighting lulled during the forenoon, the hurricane artillery duel subsiding to spasmodic outbursts with long intervals of

mparative calm. We have taken numerous prisoners the last two days.

There are indications that an attack There are indications that an attack is coming between Bailleul and Wyt-schaete. At Boyelles, south of Arras, there was a sharp conflict yesterday afternoon and night, but quiet seems to be restored there, our positions remaining the same. An unexpected infantry attack following flerce shelling of Villers-Brettonneux did not materialize and the enemy did not attempt ialize and the enemy did not attempt

Royal Grenadiers and Oueen's Own Start Next Week.

At least three of the Toronto city militia regiments have decided definitely to hold spring drills. Two of them will commence the regular drill reason during next week.

Lieut.-Col. J. Cooper Mason, D.S.O., The John Gray Construction Company is blamed by the jury investigating the death of William Zagg, for not having proper supervision at their work at the Swift plant. O.C. the 10th Royal Grenadlers, stated last night that the regiment had decided to "carry on" during the day, April 25.

A spring drill season for the Queen's A spring drill season for the Queen's Gwn Rifles was unanimously decided upon at a meting of the officers of that regiment called by Brigadier-General Sir H. M. Pellatt and held at the armories yesterday afternoon. The first parade of the spring season will be held next Wednesday night. During the summer season the Q.O.R. members will hold muskerry practice at the Long Branch ranges.

Borden, After Reviewing the Situation, Points Out Extreme Gravity and Emphasizes Need of Canada Providing All the Assistance in Her Power.

Ottawa, April 17.—The house of commons met in secret session for two hours this afternoon. Peyond members and officials of the house, there were present members of the senaty offy. The following report of the proceedings at the secret session was tassued tonight under the authority of the Speaker:

The prime minister, on a motion to go into committee of supply, made

The prime minister, on a motion to go into 20mmittee of styply, made a rull statement. Surveying present war situation, treading of the military position, the supply and production of foodsuffs and the problem of morthant shipping and the submannes, with special reference to the manpower position of the British Emptre and the allies.

He stated that the government, being impressed with the desirability of giving to the house the fullest possible information, had communicated to the prime infuster of the United Kingdom its infention to move for a secret session, and had requested from Lloyd George's a statement of the present position which might be made known to the house. Lloyd George's message in response to this request was then read.

British headquarters in France,

Premier on Situation

their casualty list.

Our shortening of the Passchendaele Salient and the giving up of the ground won last autumn has not been in vain, since it played a large part ments were opened by the enemy on practically the whole of the Lys battlefront, and from the Forest of Nieppe to Wytschaete were followed by in antry attacks. All these attacks have been repulsed and considerable losses inflicted on the enemy.

"In counter-attacks, reported in the morning communique, our troops such morning the such mor casualties in France and Flanders, their places being taken in turn by the youngest recruits for purposes of training, the cessation of war wasttraining, the cessation of war wastage in the east, and the transfer in addition of large numbers of Austro-Hungarian troops—considering all these factors the Russian withdrawal had increased the potential enemy strength on the western front, including the large transfer of the control of t strength on the western tront, includ-ing Italy, by possibly as many as 1,-600,000 men without taking into ac-count the reserves which would other-wise have been necessary for the Rus-

Enormous Sacrifices.

France had made already enormous sacrifices, and she would continue her heroic and glorious effort to the end.

The government of the United Kingdom' had accordingly initiated the most drastic measures for maintaining their effective forces and practice. ing their effective forces and provid-ing the necessary reserves for the fu-

the military effort already made by the Umited Kingdom, France and the Dominion was shown by means of de-tailed confidential information as to the strength of the forces which have

the strength of the forces which have been raised by each.

As to the position confronting this Dominion, it was apparent that an attack upon the Canadian army corps in full force must be expected. No one could say when, but in view of the strategic value of their position mere could be no doubt they must be prepared to meet any attack launched by the enemy, and the country must be prepared to provide the reinforcements to make good all losses. The government had been in communication with the overseas military authorities, and as the result of the most careful consideration the clear concareful consideration the clear concausion had been reached that if the Canadian army corps was to be maintained as an effective fighting force, additional measures must be taken. The Canadian army corps must be maintained; no one could question that. There was therefore no other alternative before the government but

that allied and neutral ocean-going that the Long Branch ranges.

When the decision of the Grenadiers and the Queen's Own to drill this spring was brought to the notice of Lieut-Col. W. S. Dinnick, commanding officer of the 109th Regiment, he said: "We have been carred a reduction of 20 per cent., the force our instructional work—necessity and that allied and neutral ocean-going tonnage, estimated at 33,000,000 tons at the beginning of the war, had been reduced at the end of 1917 by a net los sof 2,500,000 tons, that is, about 8 per cent.; while British tonnage, considered separately, had suffered a reduction of 20 per cent., the was bound to come ing on our instructional work—nc.o's tonnage being 18,000,000 tons at the ing on our instructional work—nc.o's tonnage being 18,000,000 tons at the pre-ing outbreak of war and the net loss, taktraining classes and officers' training classes and officers' training classes—all the winter, and we intend to parade this spring. But we have yonge street, are offering special values in men's raincoats, direct from England: Fine Paramatta raincoats, \$950; plain and tweed mixtures, \$16.50; gabardines, \$22.50 to \$27.50; civil and military trench coats, \$25.00, \$30.00 and \$35.00. These are all good coats, and can be recommended for their durability, and guaranteed waterproof.

The Dineen Co., 140 to parade this spring. But we have the seem waiting for the meeting of commanding officers to have been called by Brig.-General Sir Henry Pellatt. It was our intention to have paraded last Monday, but we deferred the parade until after the meeting."

No plans have been made as yet by the 48th Highlanders to have a spring drill season. This was the statement made by the regiment's commander, Lieut.-Col. C. W. Darling, last night.



Limite