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FRIDAY MORNING AUGUST 17 1917—FOURTEEN PAGES

VOL. XXXVII.—No. 13,428 PRICE—TWO CENTS.

CANADIANS PRESSING ON EAST OF LOOS

Gen. Currie's Forces Enlarge Gains Beyond Hill 70, Taking Nearly 800 Prisoners--
Anglo-French Onset Makes Good Progress on Right and Centre--French Penetrate
Thousand Yards Deep on Wide Front--British, After Capturing Langemarck,
Force Way Half Mile Beyond Village--1800 Prisoners Captured.

Bill to Acquire C. N. R. is Upheld by Majority of 25

"BIG INTERESTS" CRY RAISED
BY OPPONENTS OF C. N. R. BILL

Liberals Term Legislation
Raid on Treasury, Engi-
neered by Big Financial
Group in Toronto--Vote
on Second Reading Almost
Strictly on Party Lines.

By a Staff Reporter.
Ottawa, August 15.—The government
by a majority of 25 carried the second
reading of the Canadian Northern bill
in the house of commons today, and
by the same majority defeated the
Graham amendment which proposed to
take over the road without any com-
pensation for the common stock.

NO MEAT TODAY
Today will be meatless for all patriotic citizens. It is the third
meatless day under the food controller's order, but it differs from the
past two meatless days in that stiff penalties are provided for those
proprietors, managers and employees of public eating places who offend
against the new regulations.

FAMOUS ST. QUENTIN
CATHEDRAL IS BURNING

Germans Blame French for Setting Historic
Edifice on Fire by Bombardment--Full
of Historic Monuments.

Berlin, Aug. 16.—A German official statement says:
Near St. Quentin, the French, in the afternoon, developed special
firing activity. They were successful by means of about 3000 shells thrown on
the inner town, in setting the presbytery on fire. From there the flames
spread to the cathedral, which has been burning since 8.30 o'clock last
evening.

London, Aug. 16.—(Via Reuter's)—The correspondent of Reuter's at
French headquarters, telegraphs this evening:
Flames and smoke were seen pouring from the roof of the St. Quentin
Cathedral last evening from the observation posts. All night the great
cathedral flamed, and when day broke it was seen that the massive roof had
fallen in, carrying with it the central tower. This afternoon I looked at
the ruined shell of the ancient church. The fire was still burning and smoke
was pouring out from the cathedral.

ANGLO-FRENCH FORCE GAINS
ON NINE-MILE BELGIAN FRONT



Yvonne, the railway crossing gatekeeper, somewhere near the Cana-
dian rest camp.—Canadian official photograph from the western front.

Left Wing and Centre of Allies Make Best Pro-
gress, While the Right Runs Into Fierce
Resistance, Delaying Arrival at Objectives--
Canadians Advance After Repelling Ten
Counter-Attacks.

London, Aug. 16.—British and French troops attacking on a nine-
mile front east and northeast of Ypres, in Flanders, today gained all their
objectives except on the right flank. The French drove the Germans from
between the Yser Canal and Martvevaert, and captured the bridgehead of
Dreigrachten. The Village of Langemarck was carried by the British after
they had taken all their first objectives in the centre of the attacking
lines. The official statement from British headquarters in France tonight
adds that the Germans fought stubbornly on Field Marshal Haig's right
for the possession of the high ground north of the Menin road. Suffering
heavy losses, the Germans finally pressed back the British from part of
the terrain they had gained early in the day.

More than 1,800 prisoners, including 38 officers, already have been
counted by the Anglo-French forces. Some German guns also were taken.
The British have made further progress east of Loos, in the Lens
area, and the total of prisoners captured there has now reached 896.
The statement reads:
"The allied attacks delivered early in the morning on a front of
nine miles north of the Ypres-Menin road have been continued during the
day in the face of strong enemy resistance.

"On the left the French troops, advancing on both sides of the
Zuytdoche-Dixmude road, drove the enemy from the tongue of land
between the Yser Canal and Martvevaert, and captured the bridgehead of
Dreigrachten.

"In the centre the British troops rapidly captured their first objec-
tives, and continuing their advance carried the Village of Langemarck after
heavy fighting. They then forced their way forward for a distance of
half a mile beyond the village and established themselves in the German
trench system, which constituted their final objective for the day.

"On the right there has been fierce and continuous fighting since the
early morning for the possession of the high ground north of the Menin
road. The enemy disputed our advance with determined counter-attack-
ing with large forces. As the result of the counter-attacks the enemy
succeeded during the afternoon, at great cost, in pressing back our troops
in this area from part of the ground won earlier in the day.

"This evening further enemy counter-attacks in this neighborhood
were broken up by our artillery fire. The number of prisoners taken by the
allies in the course of this attack cannot yet be ascertained, but over
1,800, including 38 officers, already have been brought in. A few Ger-
man guns also were captured.

"Our troops made further progress this afternoon east of Loos. The
number of enemy troops we captured on this front since the opening of
our attack has now reached a total of 896, including 22 officers."

Smash Sixteen Hun Airplanes.
"Through yesterday's attack our airplanes co-operated successfully
with the artillery and assisted effectively with machine gun fire in repelling
the enemy's counter-attacks. In the air fighting, eleven German airplanes
were brought down and four others were driven down out of control. An-
other was brought down by anti-aircraft fire. Three of our airplanes are
missing.

"Today also our aircraft has done excellent work."

By R. T. Small, Staff Correspondent
of the Associated Press.

British Front in France and Bel-
gium, Aug. 16.—At 4 o'clock this
afternoon the battle in Flanders,
French occupied with little resistance,
southward the French pushed their
positions forward to the edge of the
flooded area along the left bank of
the St. Janneke River and on the
right bank they surged across the
Steenbeek, which is a continuation of
the Yser, and occupied German
positions to an extreme depth of
about 1000 yards.

At the same time the British ad-
vanced on the right of the French and
occupied considerable territory in the
region of St. Julien and Langemarck.
Langemarck Village itself apparently
is firmly in the hands of the allies.
Further south the British had pushed
forward at various points as far
down the salient as the country west
of the Polygon wood. In all this re-
gion heavy fighting was in progress,
especially in the vicinity of the Poly-
gon wood and the neighboring forests.

Heavy Blow Dealt Enemy.
At this time it is impossible to give
more than a general idea of the
events that are transpiring, since a
signal was given a few hours ago for
an advance. There is little doubt,
however, that the German troops en-
gaged have been dealt a heavy blow
and that the British have made ap-
preciable advances at many points in
this difficult country.

The preliminary bombardment by the
British artillery worked havoc in the
German ranks, according to prisoners.
All night the heavy guns poured a
steady stream of shells into the small
forts and the fortified farms in which
the Germans had established machine
gun squads, and many of their de-
fenses were wiped out or made unten-
able.

About Langemarck, where heavy
fighting occurred, the 17th Reserve Di-
vision of the Prussians suffered se-
verely from the bombardment.
The barrage which the British ar-
tillery dropped before the infantry for

The French began at 4.45 simultane-
ously with the British advance and the
contact between the allied armies was
excellent throughout. The French com-
pleted the task mapped out for them
in about one hour. The extreme depth
which they penetrated into the Ger-
man territory was over 1000 yards.
The terrain over which the French
advanced was most difficult, for on
their right, the Steenbeek River was
in flood and on their left they were
moving toward an inundated area and

(Concluded on Page 11, Column 3).

WESTERN MEN MARCH
HALF-A-MILE ONWARD

Manitobans and British Columbians Smash
Pathway Thousand Yards Wide, East of
Hill Seventy, Into Lens.

By Stewart Lyon.
Canadian Headquarters in France, via London, Aug. 16.—All hope
that the enemy may have had of recovering Hill 70 was given up late this
afternoon when an assaulting column of Manitobans and
British Columbians, by a gallant attack, drove the Germans, who clung
to the eastward slope of the hill, back 700 yards on a front of over a
thousand yards. The enemy is now down in a hollow with our troops
overlooking his positions. The assault was the most impetuous charge
I have yet seen. Despite a heavy enemy barrage, put down almost as
soon as our own indicated the locality of the attack, the first wave went
forward at the double. In less than three minutes afterwards prisoners
were seen running back thru the smoke toward our trenches. They num-
bered between eighty and ninety, and suffered some casualties en route
from their own guns.

With characteristic thoroughness the German engineers had mined some
of the chalk pits that formed the easterly limits of our advance, and when
it was believed by the enemy that our soldiers had settled down there was
a series of explosions in these pits.
It was very fine, and the Boche is probably still chuckling, but the
fact is that no one was hurt.

B.C. Prohibition Bill Passes

Victoria, B. C., August 16.—British Columbia prohibition bill
passed its first and second reading at this evening's session.

Count Von Bernstorff Goes
As Hun Minister to Turkey

Berlin, Aug. 15, via London, Aug. 16.—
The appointment of Count von Bernstorff,
former German ambassador to the United
States, as German ambassador at Con-
stantinople is forecast. Count von Bern-
storff arrived in Berlin today and has
been in communication with Chancellor
Michaelis.

Dr. Von Bethmann Hollweg
Will Study Art in Munich

Amsterdam, Aug. 16.—Dr. von Beth-
mann-Hollweg, the former German Im-
perial Chancellor, who last month re-
turned to his estate in Hohenfinow, will
soon go to Munich, Bavaria, according
to The Berlin Lokal Anzeiger, and has
been in communication with Chancellor
Michaelis.

U-BOAT PERIL MELTS AWAY
BRITISH FOOD SUPPLY GOOD

Lloyd George Says Monthly
Loss of Tonnage Has Been
Quarter of Million, But
Big Shrinkage is Now Be-
ing Shown--Food Situa-
tion Shows Great Im-
provement.

London, Aug. 16.—A message of
hope and quiet confidence in the future
was given to the British nation today
in the house of commons by Premier
Lloyd George. The people of the
British Isles cannot be starved, despite
the German submarine campaign, and
the military situation grows more
hopeful. The difficulties of the allies
will grow less and their power in-
crease, while the troubles of Germany
will increase and her power fall away.
The stock of wheat in Great Britain
had increased by one-third within a
year and this year's harvest promises
well, but economy will be necessary.
German claims as to British ship-
ping losses, the premier said, were
exaggerated in the hope of cheering
up the people of the central powers.
Although the submarine losses in April
had been 500,000 tons, they had de-
creased until the average for July and
August would be 175,000 tons per
month. Shipbuilding had been speeded
up, vessels had been purchased
abroad and the total tonnage acquired
in 1917 would reach nearly two mil-
lion tons. The premier said he be-
lieved the losses would grow smaller
and that the admiralty had met with
success in meeting the submarine men-
ace, while measures taken by the

shipping controller had permitted ves-
sels to carry increased tonnage.
Military Situation.
"I do not think," the premier said,
"the time has come for a useful re-
view of the military situation. The
main facts are well known to the
house and the country. I had antici-
pated this year a great converging
movement against our foes. Russia
was equipped for that part as she
never before had been equipped. I
venture to say that the nippers were
beginning to grip, but to be quite
frank, one claw of the nippers is out
of repair for the moment, and there-
fore we have not got that same con-
verging pressure we had anticipated.
"But things are mending. The situ-
ation in Russia is a very difficult
one, and I should be sorry to say any-
thing which would make it more
difficult, because it is quite obvious
that cannot even state facts without
embarrassing those who are trying to

restore the situation in that country.
But while they are doing it bravely,
with great courage, and I think, with
great thoroughness, the brunt of the
fighting must fall upon other coun-
tries. And considering all the diffi-
culties with which we are confronted,
our armies have won very conspicu-
ous successes.
"It is difficult even to dwell on the
difference which temporary collapse
of the Russian military power has
made in the task with which our sol-
diers are confronted."

Brilliant Episodes.
Mr. Lloyd George said that British
divisions which have been fighting
and temporarily are exhausted, pass
onward the lines until they are re-
formed, but that the German divisions
in the same condition go to Russia
and hold a front which does not im-
pose severe military obligations, while
our divisions are being reformed.
(Concluded on Page 4, Column 3).

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