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# The London Advertiser

LONDON, CANADA—THE HOME OF UNBROKEN PROSPERITY.

HOME  
EDITION  
THE WEATHER—FINE AND WARM

56TH YEAR. No. 22167

THE LONDON ADVERTISER, LONDON, CANADA. TUESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 20, 1918. 96 COLUMNS

PRICE TWO CENTS.

## THE GERMAN LINE FROM THE AISNE TO SOISSONS ENDANGERED AUSTRIA TO RESUME OFFENSIVE ON ITALIAN FRONT

### HUNS ARE ON THE HORNS OF A DILEMMA; DEFENSIVE AND OFFENSIVE BOTH DISASTROUS

Canadian Forces Are Now Fighting on the Old Battlefield of the Somme of 1916—Quebec Battalion Won Imperishable Fame at Courcelette.

By J. F. B. LIVESAY,  
Canadian Press Correspondent.

With the Canadian Forces, Aug. 19.—We are now fighting on the old battlefield of the Somme of 1916, a difficult country, networked with abandoned trenches and wire left by the Boche when he fell back to the Hindenburg line in the spring of 1917. Whether he intends now to make a determined stand this side of the Somme remains to be seen. His losses, not only of men, but of guns and kind of material, in the battle of the Marne and the second battle of Arras, have been so enormous that it is doubtful whether he can undertake anywhere a strong offensive, and he has recently a too ruinous experience of the passive defensive.

Germans Are Confused.  
Captured official documents give some idea of his confusion of mind and proof of his low morale. How different is the spirit of the Canadian force, fully up to strength after ten days of hard fighting, with splendid reserves to draw upon, enriched by many batteries of enemy guns, both heavy and light, and above all convinced of its invincibility.

Here is a story told of a Quebec battalion that won imperishable fame at Courcelette. It was directed to throw out a strong patrol. The officer was wounded and the patrol returned with nine men missing. On the evening of the following day two came in. "Where have you garçons been?" was the inquiry. "We did not understand the patrol was to retire," came the reply. "We understood we were to penetrate behind the enemy's line to his artillery position, and here you are," throwing down the shoulder-straps and cap badge of the artillery commandant. Others of the party trickled in during the night.

### CANADA NOW IN CONTROL OF ALL HER OVERSEAS FIGHTING MEN

Change in Methods Result of Imperial Cabinet Conferences.

Ottawa, Aug. 20.—Present in matters of discipline and military operations, Canada now has complete control over all her troops overseas. Recent imperial developments have brought the change about as regarded here as the most momentous since confederation.

"They indicate," remarked one cabinet minister today, who attended the imperial conference, "that recognition is now given to Canada's status as a nation."

The change in control over Canadian troops comes after continued negotiations with the imperial government. From the outbreak of war, Canada has controlled her troops till they were dispatched overseas. On arrival in Great Britain, they were taken over by the war office. Now, except as regards military operations and discipline, the Dominion government retains control.

Here the change also made in regard to what is officially termed "channels of communication" is regarded as being of vital importance. Direct communication between the prime minister of Canada and the prime minister of Great Britain, it is felt, will do away with delays incidental to the old method of communication via the governor-general and the colonial office. In regard to communications between Canada and the United States, the new development has been made. In matters of commerce, Canada now communicates directly with Washington through the war mission there instead of by the colonial office and the British embassy.

Control Over Troops.  
Summarized, the most important developments in imperial relations are given as:

Direct communication with the British prime minister.

Control over Canadian troops.

Permanent Canadian representation on the imperial war cabinet.

In regard to the last named, it is announced, the Canadian representative has not yet been chosen, and is not likely to be chosen till after the return of Sir Robert Borden from overseas.

### HUNDREDS KILLED IN PETROGRAD FOOD RIOTS

London, Aug. 20.—Hundreds of people were killed and wounded in a regular battle between British guards and rioters during food disorders in Petrograd, according to an Amsterdam dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company.

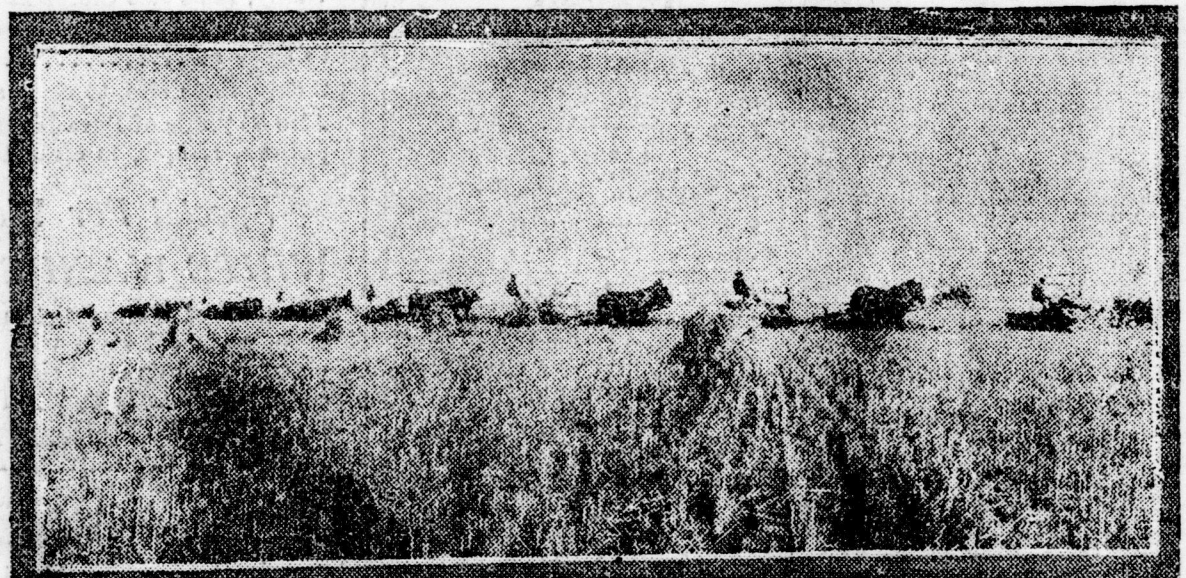
The dispatch which quotes Petrograd sources by way of Berlin, says that after the city had been without food for two days a procession of workmen marched through the streets, shouting: "Down with the Germans; down with the Kremlin!"

The battle between the rioters and the British guards occurred before the Smolny Institute. Martial law was proclaimed in Petrograd the same evening.

Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 3 o'clock last night: Highest, 83; lowest, 51.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 71; lowest, 50.

### WESTERN HARVEST SCENES



Crop cutting is about to begin in the West. Here are scenes on a typical farm in Saskatchewan during the crop season. Above, reaping on a large scale; below, threshing, which comes some weeks later.



Reaping on a large scale; below, threshing, which comes some weeks later.

### DIES FROM BURNS SUSTAINED WHILE PLAYING WITH FIRE

Brantford Child Fatally Injured When Dress Ignites.

Brantford, Aug. 20.—Ethel Fletcher, 5-year-old daughter of John Fletcher, 7 Huron street, died in the hospital this morning from burns received when her dress caught fire while she was playing around a bonfire near her home.

### RIOTOUS MOBS IN JAPAN BURN HOMES

Trouble in Some Parts Subsiding, in Others Spreading.

Tokyo, Aug. 20.—The disturbances over the high price of rice are reported to be subsiding, except in North Japan, where they apparently are spreading. Mobs have burned several houses at Sendai. The rice exchange announces that thirty houses were burned in the Taiyuei prefecture on Thursday.

### BOLSHEVIKI BLOW UP RAILWAY TUNNEL

Allied Troops Have Drawn Outside Range of Soviet Artillery.

Amsterdam, Aug. 20.—It is officially reported from Volozh, says the correspondent at Moscow of the Rheinische Westfälische Zeitung of Essen, that the Entente allied troops in the Archangel sector of Northwestern Russia have withdrawn outside the range of the Bolshevik artillery.

Soviet troops are reported to have blown up the Bakul tunnel of the Trans-Siberian Railway.

### CAPT. BERNIER TO RECRUIT FOR FORCE GOING TO SIBERIA

Montreal, Que., Aug. 20.—Capt. A. C. Bernier, who has seen much service overseas has been provisionally appointed to take charge of the recruiting and organization of the Montreal company of 300 officers and men for the Canadian Siberian expeditionary force. Already a number of recruits have been secured, most of whom have seen service overseas with various forces, the men including French and English Canadians, Russians and other nationalities.

### FRENCH BATTER DOWN FOE LINES BETWEEN THE AISNE AND OISE

Brilliant Early Morning Attack By Poilus Takes Them In For Two Miles On A Ten-Mile Front—Germans May Withdraw to the Chemin-des-Dames.

FRENCH DRIVE IN TWO MILES.  
London, Aug. 20, 1 p.m.—The French 10th Army attacked again this morning on a front of ten miles, between the Oise and the Aisne, and reached a maximum depth of two miles, according to a dispatch from the battlefield.

The advance of the French troops endangers the whole German position at Soissons and on the River Aisne.

It is possible that the Germans will withdraw to the Chemin-des-Dames.

Before 9 o'clock this morning the French had captured 500 Germans in the sector attacked.

North of Roye the French have taken the Bracquemont and Fendu Woods and have occupied the greater part of Beuvraignes, according to advices. It is also reported that they have made progress to the southeast of Beuvraignes.

### AUSTRIANS TO RESUME THEIR OFFENSIVE ON ITALIAN FRONT

Activity in Emperor Karl's Armies Indicates Early Attacks.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 20.—Resumption of the Austrian offensive on the Italian front is to be expected at any time, according to the military critic of the Italian newspaper, Corriere d'Italia, says a dispatch received here from Rome. Undoubtedly the Austrian high command now is actively reorganizing the Austrian army, the military critic writes, and bases his prediction on such recent events as the closing of the Swiss frontier, the visit of Emperor Karl to the Trentino and the conference at German military headquarters. Commenting on the meeting of the German and Austrian emperors, the Italian newspapers almost universally agree that it must be taken as new proof that the hope of separating Austria from Germany is a "mad delusion."

New York, Aug. 20.—Allied pressure against the German lines from Soissons northward to the Somme and in the Flanders sector continues. Just northwest of Soissons, the French have occupied the village of Plessier, which is on the eastward bank of a small stream which flows into the Oise River at Morsain, a town to the southeast which was captured by the French yesterday.

Further north, in the mountainous region, between Lassigny and Drelinecourt, reciprocal artillery fire was heard in the night. The French debouched from Thiescourt forest yesterday and also captured the village of Pimprez on the Oise above Ribecourt.

In the old Picardy battlefield, the Germans have been launching repeated counter-attacks against the British line in the region southeast of Chilly, which is north of Roye. These assaults were repulsed by the British.

Flattening Out Salient.  
The old Lys salient is being rapidly flattened out by the German retirement from the extreme western positions held by them after their April offensive. The British official statement shows that the line now runs from Merville, on the north, to the vicinity of Locon, on the south, leaving a large triangle of abandoned territory in the direction of St. Venant, which has been occupied by the British.

German armies have again bombarded the city of Nancy, according to the official report from Paris. Six of the civilian population were killed and a score wounded.

Terrific food riots have occurred at Petrograd, according to reports reaching Amsterdam by way of Berlin. It is said that hundreds were killed and wounded during a battle between rioters and British guards, which are the main support of the Bolshevik regime, according to recent reports. It is stated that martial law has been proclaimed by Petrograd.

Allied forces again are making progress on important sectors. Further successful developments of the present operations doubtlessly will force the enemy to readjust his line at least locally, if not over the entire front from Ypres to Rheims.

### PRINCE TO PRESENT MEDALS TO "VETS" ON MONTREAL VISIT

Montreal, Aug. 20.—During his stay here Prince Arthur of Connaught, who arrives in Montreal on Wednesday morning, will be almost entirely engaged on military work in connection with the returned soldiers. He will inspect the veterans on the McGill Campus, during which he will present a number of medals won by soldiers at the front. He will leave Montreal in the evening.

### PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM VACATION

Washington, Aug. 20.—President Wilson returned to Washington this afternoon after his brief vacation on the Massachusetts coast as the guest of Col. E. M. House.

### REFUSES ALIENS PERMISSION TO GO TO THE WEST

Brantford, Aug. 20.—Some 25 alien enemies, resident here, have been refused permission to take in the harvesters' excursion to western points, and the money they paid for tickets has been refunded. Chief Constable Slemin felt that the sudden exodus of so many aliens had some ulterior motive behind it, and as a precaution refused permission to travel. There is also plenty of work for these men in this city and district.

### STEAMER TORPEDOED OFF SPANISH COAST

Paris, Aug. 20.—Newspapers of Oporto, Portugal, report that an unidentified steamer outbound from Bordeaux, sunk a submarine near the Spanish coast. There are no details of the incident.

### DOMINION BANK GETS JUDGMENT FOR \$50,000

Toronto, Aug. 20.—The Dominion Bank today secured default judgment against L. M. Maynard for \$50,000. Maynard is a former Toronto bank manager now serving a term in the penitentiary for the theft of nearly \$75,000 from the Dominion Bank.