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BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER.

FORTY SEVENTH YEAR

THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1918

TWO CENTS

ENEMY REPULSED AT KEMMEL HILL AND IN BAILLEUL SECTOR BRITISH COUNTER ATTACK WON BACK LOST GROUND French Troops Fight Side by Side With Haig's Men

Past Five Days Most Anxious in Britain During the Entire War; Call Made For Return of Robertson

By Courier Leased Wire London, April 18.—The past five days have been the most anxious since the beginning of the war.

There is no lack of confidence that the British soldiers will do all any men can do and there is the greatest pride in their gallantry and their stubborn defence with backs to the wall against great odds.

There is great anxiety for news of the French reinforcements, which Haig told his army were coming to his support.

The war cabinet is being criticized sharply by some military experts and editors. Col. Repington, in The Morning Post, says the British forces are greatly inferior in numbers to the Germans.

"Bring back Robertson," is the appeal with which the weekly paper John Bull, having a great circulation among the masses, has placarded the country today.

With the British Army in France, April 18.—(By the Associated Press)—Had anyone said a month ago that there would soon be rejoicing to see the British withdraw and abandon the Paschendaele ridge system, which was won with such difficulty last summer, it would have evoked derision.

BELFAST SCENE OF SERIOUS RIOTING

Disturbances Followed the Breaking Up of Anti-Conscription Meeting

By Courier Leased Wire London, April 18.—Rioting attending the breaking up of an anti-conscription meeting in Belfast yesterday, according to a despatch to The Daily News.

PTE. F. J. GULLEN BELIEVED DEAD

Member of 125th Battalion Had Been Missing Since May Last

Official notice has been received by Mr. J. F. Gulley, that his son, Pte. W. Roy Gulley of the 125th Brant Battalion, and who was reported missing last May, is now presumed to have died.

U. S. MUST SUPPORT MEN OVERSEAS

Condition of Troops is Excellent, Says Baker

By Courier Leased Wire Washington, April 17.—Secretary of War Baker's observations in Europe were laid before President Wilson today at the White House.

The condition of the American troops, the Secretary said, is excellent. They are all well physically, their spirits are high, their behaviour admirable and their relations with the French and British cordial and sympathetic, he said.

UNDIMINISHED IN INTENSITY, GREAT BATTLE CONTINUES ON WIDE SPREAD FRONT

Three German Attacks in Bailleul Sector Beaten Off—Heavy Bombardment of British Position on Southwestern Portion of Levs Battle Front Reported To Be Still In Progress

London, April 18.—Southeast of Kemmel hill, on the northern battle front, the Germans pressed back the British line slightly, but the situation was restored by a counter-attack, the war office announced.

On the British front during the night, the hostile artillery has shown great activity on the southern portion of the Levs battle front from Givenchy to east of Robecq.

French troops in a neighboring sector to regain trenches temporarily taken by the Germans.

THE WAR SITUATION IN REVIEW

Undiminished in intensity the great battle in Flanders and south across the French border goes on. Having retired east of Ypres, the British are now putting up a most desperate resistance to the Germans.

Retiring to Prepared Positions. Correspondents report the British along or close to the line from which the offensive was launched in 1917.

On the remainder of the British front and on the Pledary battle front on the French sectors, there has been no infantry activity.

GERMAN TROOPS ARE WELL TRAINED

Rehearse Long and Carefully Before Launching Their Attacks

New York, April 17.—An account of the training German troops are receiving for the present campaign in France as related by a German, who has just been captured, is contained in a message from the Belgian front to Senator Henri Lafontaine, president of the executive committee of Gifts for Belgian Soldiers.

"We are taught to throw at a target at some distance while standing, lying, sheltered in a trench or while running," the account says.

Continued on page 4

DERBY GOING TO PARIS AS AMBASSADOR

Viscount Milner Becomes War Secretary in British Cabinet

By Courier Leased Wire London, April 18.—Official announcement was made today that the Earl of Derby has been appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary on a special mission to France, in succession to Lord Bertie.

Viscount Milner becomes secretary for war and J. Austen Chamberlain a member of the war cabinet.

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Retirement From Passchendaele Ridge a Master Stroke; Line of Defense Greatly Shortened

With the British Army in France, April 18.—(By the Associated Press)—Had anyone said a month ago that there would soon be rejoicing to see the British withdraw and abandon the Paschendaele ridge system, which was won with such difficulty last summer, it would have evoked derision.

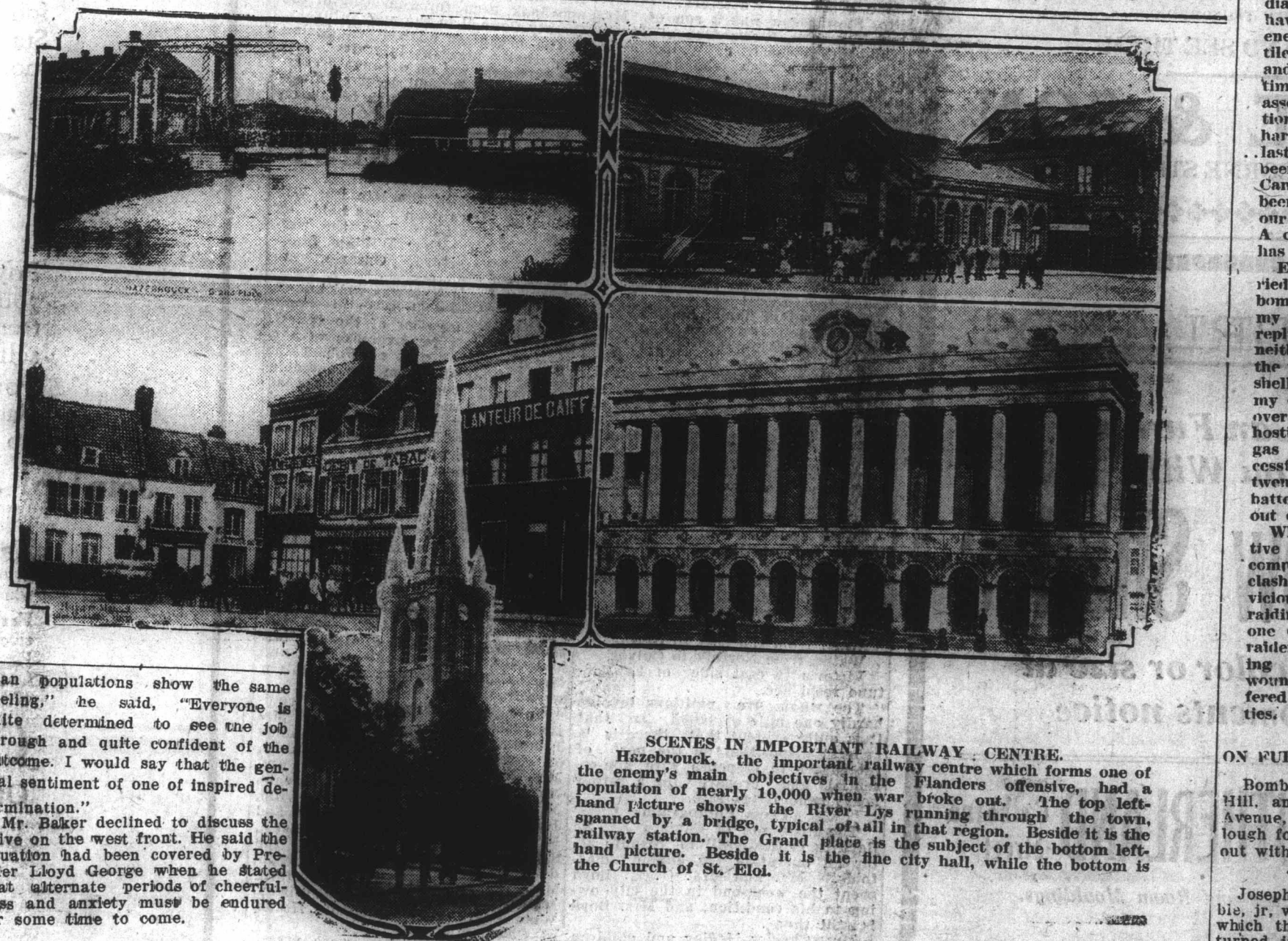
The retirement was a result of matured judgment and was no snap shot affair, for it was known it was pending.

Continued on page 4

Early this morning we carried out a small projector gas bombardment against the enemy positions to which the Huns replied with gas shelling, but neither operations approached the magnitude of our heavy gas shell bombardment reported in my cable of April 8 in which over 9,000 shells were fired on hostile artillery positions.

While our guns have been active our infantry have had a comparatively quiet time. Except clashes between patrols in vicious encounter with hostile raiding party, twenty strong, one of our patrols drove the raiders back in disorder, killing six, capturing two and wounding ten at least. We suffered only three slight casualties.

Various small notices, advertisements, and railway timetables on the left margin.



WEATHER BULLETIN section with a cartoon character named 'Zimmie' and weather forecasts.

Portrait of Lt. Col. Harry Blaylock with a caption describing his service in the Canadian Red Cross.

ON FURLOUGH. Bombarrier Howlett of Terraced Hill, and Pte. W. Grant of Rose Avenue, have arrived home on furlough for three months.