BRITISH ARE PERFECTLY CONFIDENT OF FUTURE

WEEK ENDED WITH THE BATTLE FRONT UNBELIEVABLY CALM \$40,000 Fire Wipes Out 12

Spring Rains and High Wi ds Add to Discomfort of Attacking Army and the Defending Forces as Well-Intervention of Elements Welcomed at this Juncture—British and Allies Strengthening Defenses and Germans Bringing up More Guns.

Special Cable to N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard. (By Arthur S. Draper.

London, April 20. -After the terrific fighting of the last fortnight the battle front seems unbelievably calm. It is as if a hurricane had swept over northwest France, leaving the country battered, uprooted and exhausted.

The first phase of the great German effort to reach the coast has definitely ended. The spring rains and high winds add to the discomfort of the attacking army and the defending forces. The intervention of the elements is welcome at this juncture. Only on the southern portion of the Armentieres front has the last day brought any fighting and here it as of a fitful character, merely local engagements to rectify the line or strengthen the position.

These small affairs around Robecq, Givenchy and Festubert resulted in an eminently satisfactory manner to the British in every case. At the foot of heights north of Bailleul and along the ridges to the east of the Ypres plain the enemy made no fresh efforts, but there is plenty of evidence of activity behind his lines.

British Build Defenses.

cover of the mist and night the my.

IRISH PROBLEM BECOMES

The same is true on this side. While the enemy is drawing up his guns unlowing the first bull rushes of the ene-

Heavy Fighting To Come.

British are building new defences, placing batteries and disposing troops. From Italy the Anglo-French allies have received reinforcements, from the Russian front the Germans have drawn more divisions. Generalissing Foch expresses his satisfaction with the situation and declares "We have ample resources and we shall do something more," which would indicate that more still will be heard of the reserves.

German critics are turning their attention to the Ypres salient and speculate on the developments there, where they consider there is strong possibility of strategical results. On the other hand the British have the greatest confidence in General Plumer and think he will succeed in shattering the attacks which are certain to be made on the ridges covering the Ypres plain is retching north to Dunkirk and around the Ypres bend where the enemy made large concentrations last week. Every day's delay is greatly to

INTERNATIONAL QUESTION

(Continued from page one.)

Home Rule Soon.

Lloyd George succeeds—and therettle danger of fallure—Ireland toon have a parliament. The will be fought every step of ay through both houses.

Lloyd George succeeds—and therettle danger of fallure—Ireland toon have a parliament. The will be fought every step of ay through both houses.

Line home rule measure is a copted in parliament in the parliament in the product of the measure is a coupled by S. M. Lockhart, grocer, and A. J. Ropp, grocer. The goods in both stores were badly damaged by smoke and water. Mr. Eastwood's both stores were badly damaged by smoke and water. Mr. Eastwood's loss will be very heavy as in addition to losing all his machinery for the moment, but is only almost a total wreck.

The lower section of the building is occupied by S. M. Lockhart, grocer, and A. J. Ropp, grocer. The goods in both stores were badly damaged by smoke and water. Mr. Eastwood's lost will be very heavy as in addition to losing all his machinery for the manufacture of jewelry, the building is of Viscount Halifax; George A. Lloyd George succeeds—and therettle danger of failure—Ireland toon have a parliament. The lewill be fought every step of ay through both houses.

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Lloyd George succeeds—and therettle danger of failure—Ireland toon have a parliament. The lewill be fought every step of ay through both houses.

Home Rule or Fall.

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Having stood firm in the product of the moment, but is only large and the parliament is set up in Dublin irobably he

Having stood firm on conscription in Ireland against the advice and warning of the Nationalists, Dillion. Devlin and their followers, Sir Edward Carson, Asquith and a number of English Conservatives, Lloyd George must carry through home rule are being placed in position by the car accomplish government steamers above and bewill soon have a parliament. The scheme will be fought every step of the way through both houses.

Once parliament is set up in Dublin, the question of Irish conscription would probably be exactly what it was a month ago. Few politicians believe that any Dritish convernment would

ward Carson, Asquith and a number of English Conservatives, Lloyd at amount ago. Few politicians believed that any British government would attempt to force conscription if the Irish parliament were opposed to it. Tribunals would have to be set up throughout the country. If they were composed of Irishmen, it is believed that a big voluntary army could be raised by Deviln and his colleagues.

Many consider that this will prove the ultimate solution. Its influence among the Conservatives is far reaching. Old reactionary methods are passing rapidly in these times of profound change, and progress is no longer confined to labor and Liberal circles. The greatest radicals today are found among the solders—men who have suffered most and who are unalified to speak for Britain.

Unusual Feature.

The unusual feature of the political situation is the support accorded Lord Milner by the Liberal organs which have been his bitterest opponents in the past. The explanation of this is that they are so happy over the rebuff Northcliffe has received that they are so happy over the rebuff Northcliffe has received that they are ready to swallow the disappointment of Milner.

Sacking in two months Robertson, tellicee, Trenchard and now Henderson, the directors of Great Britain's strategy on land, see and air, gives the government opposition plenty of ammunition at this time. To illustrate the profound change in the political situation it is only necessary to record the fact that the Daliy Chronicle, Dally Mail, and the Times, the strongest Lloyd George supporters up to the last fortnight, have suddenly broken away.

Political Whirlpool.

SIXTEEN FAMILIES IN MARYSVILLE ARE HOMELESS

Dwellings of Cotton Mill Operatives-Proberty Owned by Alexander Gibson.

Fredericton, April 20.—Fire originating in a house occupied by Gardiel Peterson, Maryeville, this morning, wiped out twelve dwellings in the section known as Sandyville. The homes destroyed were occupied by opefatives of the Canadian Cotton Mills. There was no water supply there for fighting fire and the auto chemical truck from this city was summoned.

Sixteen families are left heavier.

Special to The Standard.

New Glasgow, N. S., April 21—At 7.15 o'clock last night the fire alarm rang out and almost at the same moment flames were seen to burst from the top story of James Eastwood's brick building on Archimedes street. When the firemen arrived the upper part of the entire building was a roaring mass of flames. Four streams of water were soon playing on the building from different sides, but the fire still held sway, and for nearly three shours the fire brigade worked with might and main before the "all out" to bell sounded.

bell sounded.
One of the firemen was ascending

CANADIANS ACTIVE

ALLIED CONFIDENCE IN LEADERS AND TROOPS REMAINS UNSHAKEN

Since Enemy Selected British for Their Attack the British Must Bear the Brunt for a Time-Fighting Must Continue for Lengthy Period While German Reinforcements are Being Exhausted

Proceedings, April 20—The contrast, and the second process of the Canadian Octoo Mile. There is no contrast, played out twelve desilings in the second process of the Canadian Octoo Mile. There is no contrast, played out twelve desilings in the second process of the Canadian Octoo Mile. There is no contrast, played the Canadian Octoo Mile. There is no contrast, played the Canadian Octoo Mile. There is no contrast, played the Canadian Octoo Mile. There is no contrast, played the Canadian Octoo Mile. There is no contrast, played the Canadian Octoo Mile. There is no contrast, played the Canadian Octoo Mile. The contrast of the most experience and the contrast of the most despected and most of the most despected and the most of the most despected and the most of the most despected and the most of the m

GERMANS FORCED OUT BY BRITISH NEAR BETHUNE

French Lines North of Seicheprey, where Germans **Inaugurated Heavy Attack Against French and** Americans Saturday have been Completely Re-established—No Infantry Action— Suspension in Battle of Lys Likely Only Temporary.

(Continued from page one.)

'North of Seicheprey our line has been entirely re-es tablished. The enemy bombarded Rheims, where several fires

"Eastern theatre, April 20 .- On the left bank of the

Struma the enemy violently bombarded villages which the British and Greek troops had occupied. There were artillery actions in the Doiren sector and on the Varder. Near Shorsko several Serbian detachments in driving back enemy advanced posts caused a movement of Bulgarian reinforcements which, caught under the fire of our artillery, suffered appre-

Lulf In Struggle.

Paris, April 21—(Via Reuter's Ottawa agency)—The following semi-official note was issued last evening:

"The forty eight hour lull in the traveled to the fo struggle along the Anglo-French most probably marks a suspension, rather than the end of the battle of

That a see battle is in prospect at a marry date seems probable. Following up their recent foray into the Cattegat, where they destroyed German trawlers, British naval forces have penetrated into Heligoland Bight and offered battle to the German warships, which retired behind the mine fields, which retired behind the mine fields. The British opened fire on the Germans at long range and one of the enemy destroyers was hit.

Browner and doing as well as could be expected.

Mrs. S. H. Hayward of Hampton was the guest of Mrs. Arthur Keith on Tuesday.

Pte. Berham Crawford of Moncton spent several days last week the guest of Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Crawford. Pte. (Crawford, who went oversees with the standard of the death of this father. His brither was killed in action in January.

Miss Nine Wassing as well as could be expected.

Two Villages Entirely Des troyed and Much Damag

Los Angeles, Cat., April 21.—All o Southern California and part of West ern Arisona and Utah were shakes today at 3.32 p. m. by an earthquab which wrecked virtually all building and residences in Hemet and Sas Jacinto, two inland towns, forty-div miles southwest of Riverside, California, and caused minor damage to property in practically every town and city.

Sussex, April 21—Mrs. B. J. Sharp and little son Beverley returned on Monday from a trip to Montreal. Miss Morton of Sackville has been the guest of Mrs. W. H. McLeod this

Ine guest of Mrs. W. H. McLeod this week.

Mrs. Hornbrook, Maple Avenue, entertained at afternoon tea on Friday last in honor of Mrs. Townsend, who soon leaves to take up her residence in St. John. The guests included Mrs. H. E. Gould, Mrs. Trank Roach, Mrs. Robert McFee, Mrs. Jabes Rice, Mrs. Land, Mrs. C. H. Perry, Mrs. Worrell, Mrs. Townsend, Mrs. W. Turner, Miss Hattie Mace. Miss Alice Mace served.

Mrs. Rice of Windsor, N. S., is the guest of Mrs. W. F. Parker, Broad street.

Mrs. Clarence Spooner, Hammers was the guest of Mrs. Name of Mrs. W. F. Parker, Broad street. THE WEATHER.

Toronto, April 21.—The barometer is now quite low over the Great Lakes and relatively high both east and street.

Mrs. Clarence Spooner, Hampton, was the guest of Mrs. W. F. Parker, Broad street.

Mrs. Clarence Spooner, Hampton, was the guest of her sister, Mrs. W. B. McKay, this week.

Miss Alice White of Boston arrived in Sussex on Monday, being called here on account of the illness of her sister, Mrs. W. B. McKay.

Rev. A. V. Morash spent part of this week in Haffax, Nova Scotia, attending a meeting of the college board in connection with the Presbyterian church.

Mayor McKenna arrived home upper provinces.

Lt. Yosne.



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SWBOIL	20	
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ictoria	10	
ancouver	46	
dmonton	82	
algary	32	
rince Albert	24	
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laskatoon	. 30	226
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Coronto	97	500
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Quebec	. 28	
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NEWCASTLE

Newcastle, April 18.—Miss Florence

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