

CANADIANS TAKE STRONG POSITIONS HOLD GAINS AGAINST TEUTONS

Capture Village of Arleux Between Dawn and Seven O'clock on Saturday Morning—German Line Occupied After Desperate Fighting.

Canadian Headquarters, April 29.—Once again the Canadians have driven German picked troops from carefully prepared positions which they were confident of holding, and are now in possession of Arleux.

The bite taken by the Canadians Saturday morning was about 2,500 yards in length, with the penetration of the enemy's line at the deepest point of 1,800 yards. A feature of the action was a procession of our stretcher cases across the open plain, borne by German prisoners. They came across the fire-swept zone carrying either our wounded, who, even when badly hit, enjoyed the triumph of being thus served by the enemy, or their own seriously wounded. The number of prisoners who have already passed through unwounded

is about 200, while over one hundred wounded enemies are being cared for by our surgeons. These figures are liable to be increased.

In the grey dawn of Saturday morning, after an artillery bombardment of great intensity, the troops advanced under the protection of a barrage which swept the ground through which they had to push with a hail of steel, and attacked the village of Arleux.

Going forward in steady waves, each, like an incoming tide, encroaching on the defenses of the Germans further than that preceding, our men passed through the remains of what a few days ago were exceedingly strong wire entanglements erected or strengthened since the Battle of Vimy by the continual labor of thousands of the enemy.

JOFFRE ASKS UNITED STATES TO SEND ARMY TO BATTLEFIELD

French War Mission Exchanges Views With American Government Officials.

A despatch from Washington says:—Conferees between members of the French war mission and American Government officials for exchanges of views regarding the conduct of the war against Germany began here on Thursday after the leading commissioners had paid official calls upon President Wilson, Vice-President Marshall and Secretaries Lansing, Baker and Daniels.

Of foremost importance was a long talk between Marshall Joffre and members of his staff and Secretary Baker, Gen. Scott, chief of staff, and several other American army officers. France is known to desire the sending of an American expeditionary force to co-operate with her armies,

and Marshal Joffre came to the United States prepared to give reasons for the opinion of French military experts that the sending of such a force is advisable. Information regarding the meeting between the military leaders was withheld.

Soon after the conclusion of the conference Rene Viviani, vice-premier of France, head of the mission, made a statement, in which he declared that the co-operation of the United States in the war would mean not only a victory for France, which already was assured, but a victory of morality and right, which will "forever secure the existence of a world in which all our children shall draw free breath in full peace and undisturbed pursuit of their labors."

CONGRESS VOTES FOR COMPULSION

Administration's Bill to Raise Army by Selective Draft is Adopted.

Washington, April 29.—By overwhelming majorities both the Senate and House passed late last night the Administration bill to raise a war army by selective draft.

The final roll calls brought into line behind the bill many Senators and representatives who had sought for the volunteer system until routed by decisive defeat of volunteer amendments earlier in the day in both Houses. The Senate, which had voted down the volunteer plan, 69 to 18, passed the bill by a vote of 81 to 8. In the House the vote against the volunteer plan was 212 to 199, and that by which the bill itself was passed was 397 to 24.

GERMANS AGAIN RAID RAMSGATE

Heaviest Bombardment Coast Town Has Yet Experienced.

A despatch from London says: German destroyers attacked Ramsgate Thursday night, according to an official announcement issued by the War office. A large number of shells were fired, but the destroyers were driven off by the fire from the land batteries. One man and one woman were killed during the bombardment and one man and two women were injured.

DEADLY WORK OF BRITISH GUNS CONTINUES WITHOUT A HALT

All Efforts of Germans to Recapture Positions Meet With Bloody Failure. Territory Gained by British.

A despatch from London says:—The British artillery, which, in the second week of the Battle of Arras, used up more shells than ever had been used in one action in the history of modern warfare, continues its deadly and destructive work, while the German artillery answers here and there. Apparently this is the lull before the next great clash. An effort of Crown Prince Rupprecht's troops to recapture positions taken from them by the British, have met with bloody failure. South and north-west of St. Quentin, that strong and important link in the German defense system, British troops have hurled back Ger-

GEN. PETAIN HEADS FRENCH ARMY

"Defender of Verdun" Placed in Highest Position by Decision of the Cabinet.

Paris, April 29.—General Petain, who commanded the French army defending Verdun during the critical stages of the battle in February and March, 1916, is to be appointed Chief of Staff at the Ministry of War. The Cabinet decided upon this this afternoon. The Cabinet meeting was presided over by President Poincaré, and was held after a session of the War Committee. After a general discussion it was determined to restore the post of Chief of Staff at the Ministry of War and confide the post to Gen. Petain.

Markets of the World FOE EXHAUSTED FRENCH MASTERS

Germany, Failing in Counter-attacks, Leave Allied Troops Alone.

A despatch from London says: A pause has settled upon the great battlefield east of Arras—apparently a pause of utter exhaustion on the part of the Germans, who are obliged to rest without recompense to show for their appalling sacrifices of the last five days, while the British methodically reformed the objectives won in the thrust begun on Monday.

The German reactions died out in front of Gavrelle last night. German bulletins to the contrary notwithstanding. To-day there were no attacks whatever and the British sappers were able to work undisturbed, save for bursting German shells. What fighting there was shifted southward on the line running down to St. Quentin. Last night also marked the climax of the German counter-attacks upon the new French line.

The renewed German efforts twice Thursday night to loosen the French grip on the Chemin-des-Dames around Cerny, westward of Craonne, wilted, then died away, under the stubborn resistance of the French. Strong German forces were thrown toward the French positions about nightfall, along a 2,000-yard front, where the French, as a result of their forward push last week, virtually dominate the valley through which the Ailette stream runs.

Further along towards Craonne, which sits on the road, and commands the main road from Rheims to Laon, on the plain spreading eastward, lies Hurtisbise Farm, which shares with Cerny constant German attention, in consequence of its situation near Craonne, the continued possession of which is of great importance to the Germans. The opposing artillery fight an incessant duel in this sector, and the Germans are doing their utmost by holding Craonne to threaten the French advance across the flat lands towards Laon.

BRITISH ARMY IN FRUITFUL LAND

Army in Palestine Advances Through Grain and Fruits.

A despatch from British Forces in Palestine says: It is over two months since the British troops entered El-Arish, which geographically and historically is the gate of Palestine, and the continuation of the advance has now put them firmly on the soil of the Holy Land.

Progress from the sands of the desert to the sown land was gradual and was marked by three separate stages. The first ended at El-Burg, bringing the troops to the region of Grass. After a year of yellow sand and the green vistas were soothing and refreshing to the eye, especially with the relief afforded by the tamarisk trees rising between the sand dunes. The second stage was from El-Burg to Sheikh-Zoweid, marking the transition from the green meadows to a land of barley fields.

Sheikh-Zoweid is a mud village, but boasts a fruitful orchard with a cactus hedge, such as surrounds every place of fruitfulness in Palestine. The orchard blossoms were a joy to the eyes of thousands of men who had seen no signs of spring for two years past.

The third stage of the transition was from Sheikh-Zoweid to Rafa, and marked the entry into the country of wheat. The grass was no longer found in patches, but stretching away in undulating plains, like the downs of Sussex and Hampshire in England.

With the passing of Rafa the British army began the British occupation of Palestine, and opened a new era in the history of the East.

WILL COMPLETE SHIP EVERY TEN DAYS

Big Plans in U.S. to Aid Allies Combat the Sub Menace. New York, April 28.—The United States Government awarded yesterday to the Foundation Company of this city a contract for building an indefinite number of wooden ships, part of the fleet which is to "bridge" the seas, carrying food, munitions and supplies to our allies. To-morrow more than 1,000 men will be put to work building the plan near this city, which, when it is running at maximum capacity, will be able to turn out one ship ready for service every ten days. The plant will occupy 55 acres, with 1,500 feet of water frontage.

FISHERMEN MASSACRED BY HUN SUBMARINE

Sixty-three Children Orphaned When Men Were Slain in Cold Blood. Paris, April 29.—Twenty-one members of the crews of two French fishing boats who took refuge in the rigging after their craft had been attacked by a submarine off Audenne were shot to the last man.

A Nantes despatch to The Gaulois, the French Maritime League immediately opened an emergency subscription for the sixty-three children who were left orphans.

One stroke with sharp harrow teeth does as much good as two with dull points.

There is one line in which over-production never takes place. This is corn.

DARE DEATH IN THE CLOUDS; WHIP ENEMY AT BIG ODDS

Thrilling Stories of Wondrous Displays of Bravery by British Airmen—One Aviator Goes Up and Humbles Three Teuton Machines.

A despatch from the British Air Corps in France says: The German airmen had one of the greatest surprises of their lives late on Thursday. The day had been heavily overcast until nearly 6 p.m., when the clouds suddenly thinned and the sun broke through. A few German machines had been sighted well back of their lines during the obscured period, but when the sun shone out several enemy squadrons, which had been housed all day, came out to stretch their wings in the slanting afternoon's rays.

They had scarcely taken the air when the British machines pounced upon them, and in the after-noon fighting that ensued several German machines were seen to crash and eight others to be driven down completely out of control, which are believed to have been destroyed.

Between 6 and 8 o'clock the air was

FOOD SHORTAGE FACES THE WORLD

Ontario Farmers Eager to Do What They Can.

A despatch from Guelph says: Meatless days are staring Ontario in the face, and not only in this Province but all over the world there is a serious shortage of food. Reserve supplies are lower perhaps than they have ever been. Starvation threatens the poorer people in the war zone, where the number of non-producing consumers has been increased by millions.

Who is to provide food for the allies? What can Ontario do? Another year like 1916 would bring still higher prices for foodstuffs and possibly starvation to many across the sea.

Although seriously handicapped by the great shortage of labor, Ontario's patriotic and progressive farmers are doing their best to "save" the situation. Day after day Professor C. A. Zavitz of the Ontario Agricultural College is besieged by mail and telephone with inquiries as to how best the problem can be met. What are the best varieties of seed for Ontario? What should the farmers of Ontario do? When is the best time to do it, and what is the best method? These are some of the questions fired at the professor of field husbandry and director of field experiments.

OVERWHELM HUNS WITH BAYONETS

British Take Positions Without Use of a Bullet.

A despatch from a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press with the British Armies in France (via London), says: Despite all the wondrous weapons modern science has created, the cold steel of the bayonet has asserted itself anew in much of the recent bitter fighting as the arm of last appeal. As already related, the struggles about Monchy-le-Preux, since Monday have attained an intensity unequalled by any of the fighting in the Somme campaign last year.

There was a lone German position north of the town, and paralleling the Scarpe River, which resisted four desperate attacks. It was finally decided to take this position at the point of the bayonet without a shot of any kind being fired to rob the attack of its surprise nature. The attack was made along a three-quarters of a mile front under cover of darkness.

RUSSIANS FACE 2,250,000 HUNS

Germans Predominate in Numbers North of Pripet.

A despatch from Petrograd says: The Russian Invalid states that the enemy has from 150 to 155 divisions of infantry and cavalry on the Russian front (a German division is about 15,000 men), consisting of eighty-five to ninety German, fifty-five Austrian, and fifteen Turkish and Bulgarian divisions. On the front of Prince Leopold of Bavaria, who commands eleven armies, there are three grouped under Generals Eichen, Linsing, and the Austrian General, Boehm-Ermolli.

He holds two-thirds of the whole front with 105 divisions, while Archduke Joseph commands in Bukovina, with fifteen and General Mackensen on the Rumanian front with thirty-five mixed divisions. Only three of the northern armies from Riga to Vilna, and the Pinsk army, under General Grenau, are purely German, while only one army, under General Kerbach, is Austrian. In the remainder of the Austro-German army the German element is predominant north of Pripet, and the Austrian element south of it. Turkish troops are found in the armies commanded by Generals Bothmer, Falkenhayn and Toschev on the Bukovina, Rumanian and Dobrudja fronts.

ENEMY LOSSES ON THE AISNE

Killed, Wounded and Prisoners Are Estimated at 235,000.

A despatch from Paris says: The extent of the German losses in the recent desperate fighting along the Aisne (not including those in the Arras area in which the British are fighting), where the German losses are probably 100,000, is partially disclosed in the reference in Friday's official statement to the capture of 130 guns, of which a considerable number were of heavy calibre.

The German losses in men are estimated at more than 200,000, with the probability that the total reached 235,000. These figures include killed, wounded and prisoners, and constitute one of the most formidable totals of the present war.

HAIG BENDS NEW GERMAN LINE TRIUMPH NORTH OF SCARPE

Turns Oppy Line and Threatens Oppy Village Itself—Prisoners Total 976—Strong Trench System Taken.

London, April 29.—The British have broken the deadlock at Arras, and despite a German resistance still stubborn and reckless have advanced at practically every point on a wide front north of the Scarpe. The attack began yesterday morning, and heavy fighting is continuing, with every prospect of more success for the British before it ends.

After two days of fighting Field Marshal Haig's troops have turned the Oppy line, outpost of the Wotan line, from the north, and are threatening the key position, the village of Oppy itself. Arleux-en-Gohelle, north

filled with wonderful incidents of deeds of daring. There were running fights and general melees. One distinguished young Britisher, who but recently returned to the air after several months of rest, deliberately "sat over an enemy aeroplane" and watched six enemy machines leave the ground and begin to climb towards him. He was sitting at 15,000 feet, and calmly remained there until the leader of the challenging planes had attained about 6,000 feet.

In the meantime he had noticed that one of the hostile birds was something of a stranger. It had a very long tail and a very short nose. The Britisher, however, did not stop to worry about it. He dived at the highest of the climbers and gave him two bursts from his machine gun. Down went the German in a crash just outside a bit of wood.

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TOUCH EVERY PHASE OF AID FROM U.S.

British War Commission Spends Day in Conference With American Officials.

A despatch from Washington says:—The British War Commission on Thursday entered upon its first day of uninterrupted work with a wide series of conferences touching every phase of American participation in the war. Experts in all lines set out in earnest on the various paths prescribed by Foreign Secretary Balfour as a result of his preliminary conferences with American officials to learn how most effectively the British mission could be of service.

Mr. Balfour himself passed a strenuous day. The morning he devoted to writing his first report to England, which, it is stated, will be made public later. Attorney-General Gregory called on Mr. Balfour in the afternoon and is understood to have discussed with him the many kinds of legislation needed to protect public safety in war-time and to prevent aid and comfort reaching the enemy.

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ANTISUBSCRIPTION MEN BEATEN IN NEW ZEALAND

Wellington, New Zealand, April 29.—All the Laborites who opposed subscription have been defeated in the municipal elections in New Zealand.

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