

Great German Effort Has Exhausted Itself

Eight British Divisions Met The Attack of 38 Divisions GERMANS STRIP THE DEAD

WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES IN speak loudly. In this respect the FRANCE, March 28.—Fresh German troops were thrown to-day against the French army maintaining the junction between the British and French, and despite the determined stand made by the French they were forced to retire towards the west, the Germans breaking through at Mont Didier and occupying that place. Further south the French held well, resisting all German efforts. In the rear of the French army movements were so intense that it was impossible to approach the firing line. Notwithstanding the continued advance of the Germans the battle has become more or less established the past two days. The French are pushing north in order to keep in close touch with the British who have been forced back by overwhelming forces. The French have relieved part of the British line. Nothing as yet has been allowed to develop regarding the intentions of the Allied commanders, but it is certain that at an opportune moment they will make a counter stroke. The general idea of the battle as far as it has gone shows the Germans chose to make their principal attack against the British. At the same time they made a demonstration just where the French forces closed, but first sending cavalry to fill the gap. The Germans had carefully prepared for this offensive, rehearsing the parts they were to play when the moment came. Just before the assault the British lines were deluged with shells for a short period and with projectiles charged with noxious gas. Then came thick waves of infantry closely following one another. The first wave or what remained of it reached the objective, and held on till further waves came and cleaned up the islands of British who were holding on with obstinacy, using for that purpose jets of liquid flame.

The Great German effort appears to have exhausted itself. At many places along the front of attack the enemy is being driven back and at others the British and French are offering firm resistance. Infantry fighting has begun to give place to artillery battles and in the next few days the guns may be expected to

ceded in saving it. A German prisoner who was captured to-day said the Germans were greatly surprised at the small numbers of British found. They had been told that the British in front of them had been annihilated. The same prisoner said the Germans had formed a special corps whose duties were to advance behind the fighting troops and strip all clothing from the dead. The bodies, he said, were buried without any covering and the clothing thus obtained was served out again. Reports from other parts of the front say the German line is being held by mediocre divisions brought from the Russian front, the best troops having been withdrawn to participate in the battle. Every one of the divisions which has been identified since the offensive began had already been classified. Among them are three of the famous Guard divisions and some of the Bavarians. Whether they will hurl more divisions in the furnace is of course unknown; it's considered possible that they still have approximately 40 divisions which may be used to replace those that have suffered the most heavily.

THE AIR FIGHTING.

LONDON, Mar. 28.—The continuance of fierce fighting on the battle area is shown by the report of aerial operations issued last night which says that on Wednesday 24 German machines were brought down in the air fighting and seven were driven down out of control. Nineteen British machines are missing.



NOTICE.

To Cod Liver Oil Refiners

In order to encourage the better manufacture of Medicinal Cod Liver Oil the Department of Marine and Fisheries has decided to offer a series of Prizes "In Gold" for the finest quality of Oil produced by manufacturers, taking into consideration the cleanliness of the factories, fittings, appliances, drainage, surroundings, etc., in conformity with the Rules and Regulations laid down.

Prizes to be awarded to the actual manufacturers or foremen of factories.

Only factories capable of producing "Three Hundred Gallons" or over will be considered when awarding the prizes.

Samples in bottles produced by manufacturers will not be allowed in competition; but prizes will be awarded from samples taken by the authorized inspectors and to be as follows:—

To manufacturers operating North and East of Cape St. Francis:

1st Prize \$50.00
2nd Prize 30.00
3rd Prize 20.00

To manufacturers operating North and East of Cape St. Francis:

1st Prize \$50.00
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J. G. STONE,
Min. of Marine and Fisheries.
Dept. of Marine & Fisheries,
19th March, 1918.
mar25,27,30,apl1,3,5,6

TO-DAY'S EARLY CABLES

NEWS IN TABLOID

The Prince of Wales, who has been in England for several weeks, has again left for the front.

That Germany is waging a war for world domination was frankly admitted at a meeting of German junkers recently held in Berlin.

Dunkirk has been bombarded with long range cannon for several days. Twenty persons have been killed and much material damage done.

The Madrid press claims that the long range gun which has been bombarding Paris is the invention of two Catalanion Spaniards. The guns were first offered to the Allies, but was refused, the newspapers say.

The American tank steamer O. B. Jennings, 10,290 gross tons, owned by the Standard Oil Co., is beached on the British coast as a result of a collision and fire at sea. One member of the crew is missing.

A report from the American Minister at Stockholm says, Germany has agreed to recognize the independence of Lithuania, provided it joins the German confederation and shoulders part of the German war debt.

An official report says a Chaplain and two nuns of the Hospital of St. Elizabeth, at Antwerp, have been executed by the Huns. They were killed in the courtyard barracks at the same time as the Belgian occultist Dr. Demets.

To make known to British and French Labor the position of Labor in the United States with regard to the war, a deputation of nine American leaders with credentials from the American Federation of Labor will sail soon for England and France.

Formal notices have been given to the Dutch Minister that Dutch ships would be permitted to come to the United States and take back to Holland cargoes of food stuffs without the vessels being taken over by the U. S. Government when they reach that country.

Moscow newspapers report that a Persian delegation has left Teheran for Berlin to arrange a permanent alliance between Persia and Germany, based on a loan to finance Persian railways and equip the Persian army with German instructors. This is denied by a Persian official, who says the object of the delegation is to arrange for Persian representation at the peace conference, in order to secure payment for damages in the war.

The attitude of British sailors with regard to Germany's submarine campaign was shown when J. Havelock Wilson, General Secretary of the National Seaman's Union, speaking at a meeting of the sailors, asked those who had been torpedoed to stand, 117 of the 300 present arose. Wilson then remarked, "You men who are standing have had some experience with German Kultur, are you prepared to follow the advice of some of our labor leaders and shake hands with pirates? All those who are willing to shake hands with Germans will remain standing." Not one of the 117 men remained on his feet.

LONDON, Mar. 28.—German casualties since the beginning of the offensive are estimated at the front at 300,000, according to the Daily Mail's correspondent.

ADVERTISE IN THE ADVOCATE

THE BRITISH LINE.

LONDON, Mar. 29.—(Official)—North of the Somme we maintained all our positions, and no serious enemy attacks have been launched today. South of the Somme there has been heavy fighting, and our troops have been pressed back to a line running west of Hamel, Marcelcave and Demum. On the French front south of Demum the French line runs through Mezières la Neuville, Sire, Bernard, and Gratibus to just west of Mont Didier. There has been further heavy fighting today on this line. Between Mont Didier and Lassigny the French counter-offensive continues. Fresh French troops are arriving. East of Lassigny there is no change in the French line. A captured German order shows that on March 21st the objective of an enemy division, which attacked near St. Quentin, was to be the Somme-Ham, a distance of at least 11 miles. Actually the division in question penetrated rather less than three miles.

GREAT WORKS AT HALIFAX

Will be Great Shipbuilding Centre
—Sydney to Have Five Million Dollar Plant

OTTAWA, Mar. 28.—Hon. Mr. Balfour has promptly carried out his promise regarding the National permanent shipbuilding programme and Halifax is to be made one of the shipbuilding centres in Canada. The first recognition in steel plates and an order has just been given to the Dominion Iron and Coal Co. for two hundred and fifty thousand tons of steel plates with deliveries of fifty thousand to seventy thousand tons a year. This initial order induces the Dominion Iron people to erect rolling mills at Sydney to cost between three and five million dollars and to be completed within eighteen months. This insures increase of population and great prosperity to Sydney. Within a few days a contract will be awarded to build a number of ships in Halifax. The yard will be located at Tuit's Cove and the first unit of the plant will permit the simultaneous construction of six large ships. Pending deliveries from the new mill at Sydney, steel for the Halifax yard will be obtained from the United States by arrangement with the American authorities. A yard may also be established at Sydney. The new dry dock at Halifax will not be proceeded with at the present time.

FRENCH OFFICIAL.

PARIS, Mar. 29.—(French Official).—The battle was continued yesterday evening and part of the night in the region of Mont Didier. Notwithstanding repeated counter attacks the enemy was not able to eject the French from the villages which they captured yesterday. The French troops following up their success took possession of Moncel after severe fighting. All the German attacks against this village broke down before the indomitable resistance of the French troops. Statements obtained from prisoners confirm reports that the losses suffered by the Germans were extremely heavy. The number of corpses found in the vicinity of Mont Didier and Rlessier Roye also confirm this statement. To the north of Mont Didier Franco-British troops continue victoriously to hold the Germans on the line along the Arve River and in front of Neuville, Sire, Bernard, Mezières, Marcel Cave and Hamel. Certain columns of German infantry and convoys reported on the road between Laon and La Fère were brought under the firm of our long range artillery and dispersed. There has been notable artillery activity along the remainder of the front.

A SLOWER ADVANCE.

AMSTERDAM, Mar. 29.—Berlin advices state that on Wednesday evening the German newspapers showed remarkable unanimity in voicing the difficulties which lay in the way of the German advance on the western front. It is observed that these difficulties are increasing daily and that the public must expect a somewhat slower advance in the forthcoming days. Field Marshal Von Hindenburg, they add, is as confident as ever he will overcome the new difficulties, the nature of which is not revealed.

WORSHIPPERS KILLED.

PARIS, Mar. 29.—Seventy five persons were killed and 90 wounded, mostly women and children, when a shell fired by the German long range gun fell on a church in the region of Paris while Good Friday services were being held, according to an official

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BRITISH CASUALTIES.

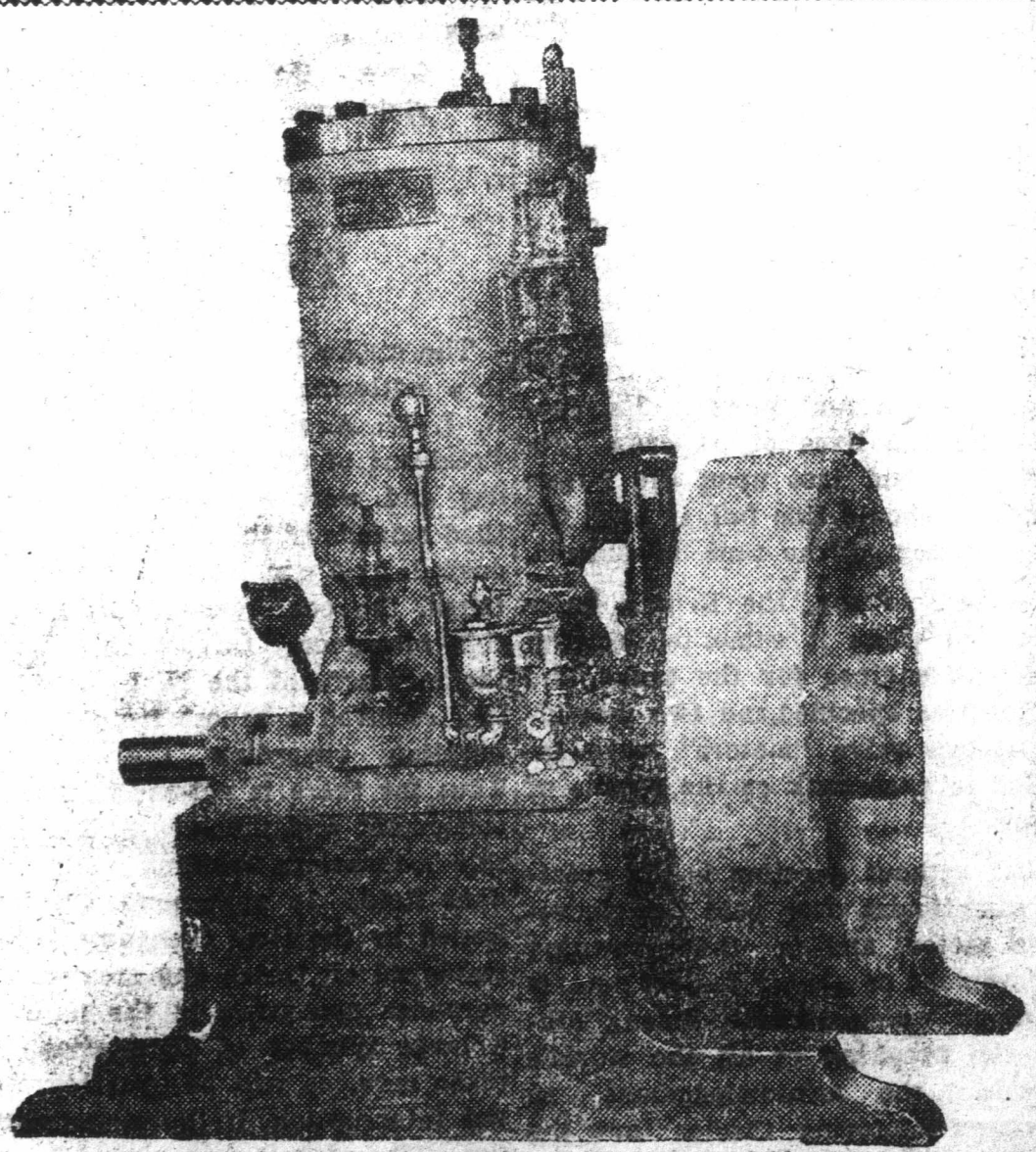
British casualties reported for the week ending Thursday aggregated 3618, divided as follows: Officers killed or died of wounds 79; men killed or died of wounds 604; officers wounded or missing 2,697. The fact that only 3618 casualties were reported for the week would indicate that the losses since March 21st, in the Cambrai battle, are not included in the figures given out.

NO WHEAT AT HOTELS.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 29.—An absolute abolition of wheat and wheat products from menus of all first class hotels in the United States, was asked of 700 hotel men by Food Administration today. The response was an outburst of cheering. Rising to their feet the hotel men raised their right hands and pledged themselves to effect 100 per cent. saving in wheat to be sent to the Allies.

Denial that the Bolsheviks have retaken Odessa is made officially in Vienna. It is said the city is still occupied by the Austro-Germans.

Five standard ships were launched in British ship yards Wednesday. Four vessels left the ways at the Harland and Wolf yards at Belfast.



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PRELIMINARY NOTICE AS TO THE PAYMENT OF AUGMENTATION PAY TO MEN OF THE ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE (NFLD.)

The Government are arranging through the Militia Department for the payment of Augmentation Pay to the men of the Newfoundland Royal Naval Reserve. These payments will be made from first of May next and will cover the period from the commencement of the war or from the date of enlistment as the case may be. Full instructions as to claims, and regulations as to payments will be published within the next few days.

J. R. BENNETT,
Acting Minister of Militia.

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