

# French Advance on Forty-Mile Front German Losses Already Total 100,000

## TREMENDOUS VICTORY GAINED BY THE GALLANT ARMIES IN FRANCE

**German Losses in Killed, Wounded and Prisoners Already Total 100,000--The French Victoriously Advance Two Miles on Forty-Mile Front--Strongest Part of German Lines Taken--Counter Attack Fail--Further Progress by British--Italians Prepare for Huge Offensive--Narrow Escape of Canadian Troopship--General Meade's Forces Advance 70 Miles From Bagdad.**

### FRENCH CARRY FORTY MILES OF GERMAN LINES

PARIS, April 17.—French War office announcement says that forty miles of the strongest part of the German line between Soissons and Rheims, to an average depth of two miles, was captured by French troops during yesterday and last night with an estimated loss to the enemy of 100,000 killed, wounded and prisoners. The positions captured have been strongly organized and firmly held despite desperate counter-attacks by the enemy. The French advance is extending.

### GREAT PROGRESS IN MESOPOTAMIA

LONDON, April 17.—The British troops in Mesopotamia it is announced are continuing their advance up the Tigris in pursuit of the retreating Turks and are now within a little more than ten miles of Samarra seventy miles northwest of Bagdad.

### BRITISH PARLIAMENT REASSEMBLES

LONDON, April 17.—Parliament reassembled this afternoon after the Easter recess.

### MURDERER OF CANADIAN SOLDIER PAYS PENALTY

LONDON, April 17.—William James Robinson sentenced to death for the murder of Alfred Williams, a Canadian soldier belonging to Toronto, was executed today.

### AIR ATTACK DOES DAMAGE AT FREIBURG

BERLIN, April 17.—An official announcement by the war office says eleven persons have been killed, twenty-nine injured and considerable damage done to the University building by an air attack on Freiburg.

### STRIKE NOT VERY SERIOUS SAYS BERLIN

BERLIN, April 17.—The threatened strikers, because of a reduction in the weekly bread ration materialized in only a por-

tion of the larger factories and did not affect transportation or public utilities. The day passed off quietly.

### BRITISH STILL DRIVING FORWARD

LONDON, April 17.—British headquarters report that the British forces drive forward a mile nearer la Catelet and the main line of the German communications between Cambrai and St. Quentin last night capturing Tomboise and much territory northeast of Epehy.

### HEAVY LOSSES SUSTAINED BY AUSTRIANS

LONDON, April 17.—A Rome despatch reports that heavy losses were sustained by the Austrians on the Isonzo front where the Italians are preparing an offensive.

### CANADIAN TROOPSHIP HAS CLOSE CALL

NEW YORK, April 17.—The British steamship "Lapland," carrying troops from Halifax to Liverpool, struck a mine off the British coast but reached her destination unaided and no lives lost, according to passengers on an American steamship which arrived here today.

### 14,000 PRISONERS IN SEVEN DAYS

LONDON, April 16.—Since the morning of April 9, says the official report from British headquarters in France, tonight, "we have taken over 14,000 prisoners. The captured material includes 194 guns."

### BRITISH DRIVE TURKS TO HILLS

LONDON, April 16.—A continuation of the official communication of last Saturday, dealing with Gen. Maude's operations against the Turks in Mesopotamia, was received here this afternoon. The Saturday communication told of the fighting from April 10 to April 13, and reported progress for the British along the west bank of the Tigris, toward the Dila and a withdrawal of the Turks from various points.

## TEN THOUSAND PRISONERS TAKEN IN FRENCH ADVANCE

German Lines Attacked Between Soissons and Rheims and Whole Positions Fall to French, Who Also Advance to Outskirts of Berniercourt, Capturing Thousands of Men and Important War Material

PARIS, April 16.—The French began an attack this morning, after several days' artillery preparation, between Soissons and Rheims. Several German lines were carried and more than 10,000 Germans were taken prisoner.

The official announcement of this success issued by the war office tonight describes the fighting as being of the utmost violence. The text of the statement reads:

"Between St. Quentin and the Oise artillery fighting continued throughout the day. South of the Oise we made new progress on the plateau east of the line of Brailis-Quincy Basse.

"Between Soissons and Rheims, after artillery preparation which lasted several days, we attacked this morning the German lines along an extent of about 40 kilometres. A desperate battle was fought along the whole front, where the enemy had grouped very important forces and numerous artillery. Everywhere the valor of our troops overcame the energetic defence of our adversary.

"Between Soissons and Craonne the whole German first position fell into our power. East of Craonne our troops occupied the enemy's second positions south of Juvincourt. Further to the south we carried our line as far as the outskirts of Bernier-

court and up to the Aisne Canal at Loivre and Courcy.

"Violent counter attacks launched several times north of Ville-au-Bois were broken down by our fire, with considerable losses to the enemy.

"The number of prisoners made by us up to the present exceeds 10,000. Likewise we captured important material, which has not yet been inventoried.

"In Champagne artillery fighting continued actively during the day on the various sectors. The cannonade was intermittent on the rest of the front.

"Belgian communication: There was artillery fighting along the whole Belgian front."

### TODAY'S CASUALTIES

Killed in Action

Lt. B. C. Pierce, Kingston

Ill and Wounded

Wm. H. Roddick, Trenton

G. McConachie, Kingston

Dangerously Ill

J. M. Baillie, Kingston

Wounded

Lt. W. G. Hazlett, Kingston

F. G. Hammett, Belleville

G. A. Mounsey, Rosebath

NOT DEAD BUT A PRISONER

An item appeared in the Mount

Zion correspondence last week in

which the omission of the word "not"

caused an entire change of meaning.

It was stated that Pte. Clifford West-

lake, who has been a prisoner in Ger-

many since last fall, "was dead."

This should have read: "was not

dead." This latter good news has

just been received by the young sol-

dier's father, Mr. R. Westlake.

### LETTERS FROM OUR SOLDIERS

France, 10-2, '17.

Mrs. Howard G. Huff,

Rossmore.

Received a box with socks yesterday and they could not have reached me in a more opportune time, for the boys have to change every day to prevent trench feet, and as the weather is so cold, we cannot have too many socks.

It has been very much like Canada here this winter and sometimes it makes one wish to be at home in the good old land of the maple.

Kindly accept my sincere thanks and extend them to the Rosemores and Massacaga Red Cross for the Canadian boys with me at present.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Sgt. Major J. H. Bradley,

2nd Can. Inf. Battn.

P.S.—Thank Miss C. B. Simonds

for the pair I am wearing and tell her they are just the thing. J.H.B.

## GREAT NIGHT OF ENTERTAINMENT

254th Battalion Minstrels Gave a  
Notable Performance at Grif-  
fin's Last Night

The 254th Battalion did themselves proud in the superb entertainment furnished last night to a large audience at Griffin's. There was about the performance a variety that was pleasing and satisfying. The show throughout was clean and the shafts of satire left no sting behind. Every patron came away delighted for they had spent an evening in which there were no dull moments.

Owing to indisposition of Mr. Geo. Dulmage, Belleville's veteran interlocutor, this part of the performance had to be turned over to Mr. John T. Shunk, band leader of Campbellford. The choice was a most happy one. Mr. Shunk has about him a dignity and drollery that seemed to fit him especially for the part.

Ab. Wheeler, the incomparable endman, was suffering from hoarseness and labored under great difficulties, but he carried a very heavy role with remarkable success. The hit of the evening was scored in a stormy scene with the interlocutor, during which the endman threatened to carry his chair. The chair was then turned around and on the back displayed a huge label "\$1.35." By taking it down to the City Hall he could sell it for \$1.50.

The other endman, the "bones" and "tambos" were scarcely less successful in their fun-making than Mr. Wheeler. They were Messrs. Bert Bell, Pomp, Moyness, Chas. Holland, Tommy Redway and Herb Berkley.

In the first part of the program special numbers were contributed with fine effect by Tommy Redway, "Uba Dam," Bandman Fred Burke, "The Song the Anvil Sings," Bandman Moyness, "I'm the Henroost, Inspector Man," Bandman Wilkinson, "It's a Long Long Trail," Bandman Bell, "Where Did Robinson Crusoe go With Friday on Saturday Night," Bandman Parks, "Good Night," Mr. Ab. Wheeler, "Are You From Dixie?" and Mr. C. J. L. Rickwood, "Our Union Jack, Our Empire Flag."

After the intermission two clever vaudeville artists gave some pleasing turns. Mr. C. J. L. Rickwood presented a delightful musical humorous sketch, "Ten Minutes at the Piano." Then came Ab Wheeler with a monologue, "Politics," which scored many repeated hits. Tommy Redway and his expert juggling were hugely enjoyed.

The performance concluded with a brief farcical act, "Wanted—Musicians."

Especially for this entertainment Miss Marguerite Snow, who won fame and fortune as one of the stars in the noted film production, "The Million Dollar Mystery," made her first appearance on a Canadian stage. Miss Snow is now filling an engagement with Canadian Features Limited, the new moving picture film manufacturers at Trenton. Miss Snow is a very pretty and vivacious young lady and her little speech won the hearts of the audience and called forth deafening applause. She wound up by saying that she hoped the Canadian and American soldiers would soon be fighting together, "not in France, but on the soil of Germany." At the close of her address Miss Snow was presented with a beautiful bouquet of roses.

To Capt. B. L. Hyman who had the performance specially in charge to Bandmaster Hinchey and the others associated with them great credit is due for the successful outcome of their efforts.

### CONVALESCENTS REACH KINGSTON

Ptes. H. Clark and J. Taylor, Belleville. E. Idiffe, Campbellford and R. Mattland, Brighton are among the thirty convalescents who reached Kingston today.

### DIED

COLLINS—At her late residence 147, Pinnacle St. on Monday April 16th, 1917, Mrs. Elizabeth Collins, widow of late Hugh Collins.

## RITCHIE'S

THIS WEEK IS  
HOME FURNISHING  
WEEK  
AT RITCHIE'S

DRESS UP  
THE HOME

It is high time to think of the Summer Comfort and beauty of your home. That is why with Easter out of the way, we have planned a home furnishing week that in dressing up the home you will come to Ritchie's for advice, assistance and make your selection from our magnificent stock. These stocks are brim full of all that is New, Artistic and Well Bought. So that our prices are the minimum throughout, for the quality bought. Large purchases made well ahead play a large part in keeping down the cost to you, and you save by coming to Ritchie's for your—



NEW CURTAINS!  
NEW DRAPERIES!  
NEW RUGS!  
NEW WINDOW SHADES!  
NEW CARPETS!  
NEW OILCLOTHS!  
NEW LINOLEUMS!

Special Order  
DRAPERIES  
A Specialty

Our Workroom Staff is turning out many new and artistic Draperies daily and we would be pleased to submit sketch and estimate on your needs. All you pay is the cost of material and actual time making



RITCHIE'S  
MEN'S  
STORE

PINCH BACK  
SUITS  
For The Young Men

It goes without saying that the stylish young men this season will wear a pinch-back suit. Ours are more than stylish they are serviceable, and the prices are consistent with their style and wearing qualities. We would be pleased to show you our New Models, priced from \$13.50 to \$20.00

The Ritchie Company  
Limited

### GUNNER WICKENS REPORTED SERIOUSLY WOUNDED

Mr. John Wickens, Everett St., received word today that his son, Gunner Fred D. Wickens had been

seriously wounded in the abdomen and hips. The message stated that he had been admitted to No. 5 stationary hospital at Wincereux. Dr. Wickens went overseas with one of the battery drafts from Kingston some months ago.