

BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR

THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, MONDAY, APRIL 16, 1917.

TWO CENTS

FALL OF LENS TO BRITISH IS IMMINENT

Sweeping Successes of the Allies in the West Continue | Lens and St. Quentin Both Harrassed by British Forces | Germans Left Behind Fifteen Hundred Dead on Bapaume Road

Great Coal Centre May at Any Moment be Taken

Second German Line Pierced by French; Terrible Destruction Among the Foe Wrought by the Shell Fire

By Courier Leased Wire.
Bulletin, Paris, April 16.—The French penetrated the German second line last night at several points in Alsace. The war office reports that great numbers of German dead were found in the trenches, which had been torn up by the French shell fire.

Prisoners and booty were brought back by the French.

Further gains were made by French troops south of the Oise.

There was heavy artillery fighting during the night in Alsace, Lorraine, the Champagne, in the region of Soissons and Rheims and south of the Oise. Between Soissons and Rheims the shell fire was particularly severe.

The statement follows: "Between St. Quentin and the Oise we continued to direct a de-

struction of the defenses of the German line, and vigorously in the region south of St. Quentin. South of the Oise we made further progress eastward on the plateau between Baris and Quincy-Basse and occupied several points of support of the enemy. Our patrols are in contact with the German positions on the western edge of the upper forest of Concy.

Artillery Fighting
"The artillery fighting became extremely violent during the night on the front between Soissons and Rheims.

Repulsed Attacks
"In the Champagne we successfully repulsed two surprise attacks east of Auberive. French patrols brought back prisoners.

"In Lorraine and in Alsace French detachments after violent artillery preparation, penetrated the enemy lines at several points. In the forest of Farroy we found numerous German dead in the trenches blown up by our fire. In the Alsatian plain, French detachments at six points reached the second German line and inflicted serious losses on the enemy. Prisoners and material were brought back."

DIOCESAN ARE RESTORED BY ANGLO-FRENCH

Advances of Allies Wins Back Ecclesiastical Territory

By Courier Leased Wire.
Paris, April 16.—Cardinal Amette, archbishop of Paris, has issued a pastoral letter, which was read in all the churches yesterday pointing out that the recent Anglo-French advances had already restored two dioceses to France. The Cardinal referred also to the importance of the action of the United States in "taking up arms in behalf of liberty and justice."

Weather Bulletin

Toronto, April 16.—An important area of high pressure covers the great lakes and Manitoba, while in the South western States there is a widespread low area which may move northeastward. The weather is fair throughout the Dominion with a slight tendency towards rain.

Forecast:
Moderate winds, fair to-day and on Tuesday. A little higher temperature.

MEXICO ADHERES TO STRICT AND UNRELENTING NEUTRALITY

Position of Nation Reaffirmed by Gen. Carranza Last Night; Friendly to All Peoples

By Courier Leased Wire.
Mexico City, April 16.—In regard to Mexico's position as a neutral nation, General Carranza in his address to the new congress last night, said:

"With respect to the gigantic war, which is being sustained by two groups of European nations and in which the United States, Cuba and Brazil have now entered, the government under my charge sent to the neutral nations on February 11, a note in which upon the basis of the most absolute impartiality it invited all these countries to use the necessary efforts to discourage the progress of the war and prevent its spread. The note also suggested the discussion of measures which would serve to prevent wars in the future. Mexico will endeavour to continue to follow a policy of the most rigorous and strictest neutrality in the European conflict. I am able to assure you that actual relations with all the peoples on earth are friendly."

Discussing finances General Carranza announced that 51,000,000 pesos in national gold, and about 600,000,000 pesos in paper had been expended on the army.

BITTER ATTACK ON U. S.

Anti-American Demonstration in Hamburg Calls Wilson Hypocrite

ACTION IMPERTINENT In Attempting to Interfere With German Internal Affairs

By Courier Leased Wire.
Amsterdam, April 16.—via London.—The Hamburg Fremdenblatt publishes an account of anti-American demonstration in Hamburg at which speakers bitterly attacked the United States. Among the assertions were claims that no nation enjoys greater internal liberties than Germany, and that President Wilson is a hypocrite in pretending that the German government forced America to abandon her neutrality.

Loud laughter greeted a question as to how America would feel if Germany wanted to proclaim President Wilson the Kaiser of the United States. The following resolution was telegraphed to the emperor:

"Three thousand burghers of Hamburg inform President Wilson that the only true and just answer to his message to Congress is their affirmation of unshakable trust and loyalty to their Kaiser and empire. They present as an impertinence, any outside attempt to interfere in Germany's internal affairs, and likewise reject the vain effort to remove the guilt for the world war from the shoulders of the Entente peoples."

NEW ARBITRATION

By Courier Leased Wire.
Copenhagen, via London, April 15.—A despatch to the National Tidende says the Swedish parliament has passed a resolution calling for the opening of negotiations for a new arbitration agreement between Sweden and the new Government of Russia. The resolution was proposed by Carl Lindhagen, the Socialist Mayor of Stockholm.

British Hem in Lens and St. Quentin; Fall is Momentarily Expected

By Courier Leased Wire.
London, April 16.—Although British patrols have been in the streets of Lens and General Haig's men are in the outskirts of St. Quentin, the fall of neither of these towns has as yet been officially announced.

The Germans, it is apparent, have sent in their reserves, and are making a desperate attempt to enable their engineers to complete the destruction of the mines and factories of Lens, which might have been useful to the allies.

Despite the fact that all along the line between Lens and St. Quentin, the German resistance has stiffened, General Haig reports to-day the capture of Villerey, which straightens his line northwest of St. Quentin and announces further progress to the northwest of Lens. Counter attacks, which the Germans have launched at Monchy and Lagucourt suggest that the British are approaching dangerously near the new German line, which according to unofficial accounts, the Germans had not had time to complete before the British offensive was launched.

AUSTRIA DESIROUS OF MAKING PEACE WITH RUSSIAN PEOPLE

TWO DANISH VESSELS ARE TORPEDOED

Vessels Nanzoy and Saxo Sunk Forty-Two Miles From Land

By Courier Leased Wire.
Christiania, Norway, April 16, via London.—Seamen saved from the torpedoed Danish ships Nanzoy and Saxo have reported to the Danish consulate in Bergen that the ship was sunk 42 miles from land and four miles outside the blockade zone.

The Saxo was a Danish steamer of 711 tons gross, built in 1907 and owned in Copenhagen. There is no Danish vessel Nanzoy listed, but the Danish steamer Nancy, of 1,311 tons gross, built in 1888 and owned in Esbjerg, is on the shipping records. There are no recent records of the movement of either of these vessels.

Villeret Village is Taken by Forces of Gen. Haig; Large Captures of Guns and War Material Near Lens

By Courier Leased Wire.
Bulletin, London, April 16.—12.26 p.m.—The British captured last night the village of Villeret, southeast of Hargicourt, according to an official statement issued by the British war office. They also made progress northwest of Lens.

Large captures of guns and war material were made by the British at Lievin and on the Souchez River in the Lens region, the statement announces. The cannon taken include a six inch naval gun of long range. Truckloads of new tools, many thousand rounds of munition and quantities of bombs, grenades and engineering equipment also were captured.

The text of the statement reads: "We captured last night the village of Villeret, southeast of Hargicourt and progressed northeast of Lens.

"Full particulars of the booty we took at Lievin and on the Souchez River are unavailable, but the fact is established that our captures were exceedingly large, including long range six inch naval gun, many thousand rounds of ammunition of all calibres up to eight inch, a number of trench mortars and great quantities of bombs and grenades of all kinds. In addition truckloads of new tools, many lengths of tram lines with trucks complete and two large engineer dumps have fallen intact into our possession.

"The attack at Monchy-le-Preux on the 14th was pressed by the enemy with great determination. The Third Bavarian Division, which was brought down to resist our offensive during the battle of Loos in 1916 and later on took part in the fighting near High Wood during the Somme battle in 1916, was again hurled down to reinforce the divisions already in line. It was ordered to retake Monchy le Preux at all costs. Its losses in this fruitless attack were exceptionally heavy as has been the case with all the Bavarian troops throughout the whole recent operations. Of the prisoners taken by us since the 9th more than one third are Bavarians."

LT. SIMMONS IS WOUNDED

Young Local Officer Shot in Arm; Other Local Casualties

Mr. F. Simmons, 114 Clarence St., on Sunday received a cablegram from his son, Lieut. J. F. L. Simmons, 87th Battalion, in which the latter stated that he was wounded. The message read: "Bullet in left arm."

The despatch was dated from Boulogne and Lieut. Simmons is presumably in hospital there. He had just taken his Science degree at Toronto University when he decided that he should answer the Empire's call and he accordingly joined the 4th Artillery Brigade as a gunner. After reaching the Old Land he had eleven months service at the front when he was taken ill with trench fever and was under treatment four months in England. He was gazetted a lieutenant in November, 1916, and back again at the front on December 2nd with his regiment, the 87th. He was evidently injured in the Vimy fighting. Lieut. Simmons has shown himself to be possessed of good stuff and his many Brantford friends will hope for a speedy recovery. He is 24 years of age.

PTE. E. EASTMAN.
Mr. Fred Eastman, 311 Dalhousie street, yesterday received a cable containing the information that his son, Private Harold Eastman, had been wounded in France and was now undergoing treatment in number two hospital there. Pte. Eastman continued on page six.

AMERICAN GUNBOAT IS INTERNED

Yacht Stationed at Constantinople Seized by Turkey

By Courier Leased Wire.
London, April 16.—An official statement issued by the Turkish war office says that the American Gunboat Scorpion has been interned.

The Scorpion is a converted yacht and has been stationed at Constantinople as a despatch boat for the American embassy since November, 1908. A year ago members of the Scorpion's crew were reported to have clashed with German soldiers in Constantinople, and in March of this year. The Italian newspapers printed reports that the Scorpion had been blown up. Constantinople despatches denied this report. The commander of the Scorpion is Commander J. P. Morton.

SOUTH AMERICA ENDORSES ACTION OF U. S. AGAINST HUNS

Cuba Has Already Followed Lead of America in Declaring War, While Majority of Other Latin Countries Are Upon the Verge of Such a Course

By Courier Leased Wire.
Washington, April 16.—Prompt endorsements from South America of the action of the United States in taking up Germany's challenge to war are the source of great gratification, to officials of the Administration. There remained today, but three countries—Ecuador, Venezuela and Colombia, which had not defined their positions, and it was believed that before the end of the week, they too would respond. With the exception of Costa Rica, none of the Central American group had declared its attitude, but no concern over where their sympathy will be placed has been felt at the State department.

So far Cuba is the only war spot in Latin-America, but the position assumed by Panama and Costa Rica, place them practically in the line of warring nations and almost no doubt remains that Brazil will be at war within a few days. The only governments that have not been frank in their endorsement of the step taken by the United States are Chile and Peru, the former confining itself to a formal declaration of neutrality and the latter to "deploring" the fact that the United States had been unable to adjust her difficulty with Germany without recourse to war.

Following is the way the other Latin-American nations whose positions are defined, were lined up today:

Cuba—Declared war against Germany.
Panama—Declared her readiness to assist in anyway possible in the protection of the Panama canal.
Costa Rica—Offered her ports and other territorial waters to the United States for war needs of the American navy.
Brazil—Relations broken with Germany.
Bolivia—Relations broken with Germany.
Uruguay—Endorsed the action of the United States and characterized Germany's submarine warfare as an "insult to humanity."
Paraguay—Expressed sympathy with the government of the United States, forced into war to rehabilitate the rights of neutrals.
Argentina—Endorsed the action of the United States as just and right.
Mexico—Neutral.

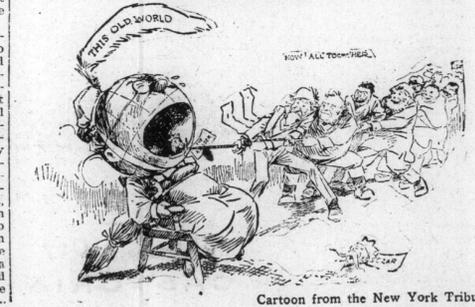
CONFERENCE OF RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE MAKERS NOT YET HELD

Indications Tend, However, Toward Such a Meeting in Near Future; Russian Peace Agitators Permitted to Cross German Territory From Switzerland

By Courier Leased Wire.
Stockholm, April 15.—via London.—Recent reports concerning a meeting of Russian and German peace agitators in Stockholm, to further the agitation for peace now appearing to have been anticipatory. Such a meeting however, may be held in the near future. The fact that Russian peace agitators have been permitted to cross Germany from Switzerland seems also to indicate that the German Government at least does not desire to throw any obstacles in the way of such a movement.

The party which arrived here Friday, included thirty Russians who came through Germany in a sealed coach. Among the principal members of the party were Nikolai Lenin, the Russian Radical Socialist leader, and Zinovyev, another radical and peace advocate. Both are members of their party's central committee and both are editors of party newspapers in Geneva as well as being prominent figures in the Zimmerwald Congress. Another member of the group was Misha Zhukaya, one of the founders of the party in the Caucasus and the man who brought M. Tschaidze, the Russian Labor Leader, into the party. While in Stockholm, the Russians issued a statement attacking England and accusing it of trying to "destroy one of the Russian revolution's results—political amnesty," and of refusing to permit Russian revolutionists abroad, who oppose war, to return to Russia. The statement reviewed the negotiations with Germany for permission to cross that country and declared that the Germans had loyally kept their agreement. It was disclosed in the statement that the Russians while in Switzerland, had been in communication with French Socialists and German radical Socialists.

SHE'LL FEEL SO MUCH BETTER WHEN ALL THOSE TROUBLE-SOME CROWNS ARE OUT



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