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MANAGER

CANADA'S NET DEBT OVER BILLION

Liabilities Amounted on May 31 to \$2,248,745,482, and Assets, \$1,104,509,855.

Ottawa, June 9.—Canada's net debt on May 31 amounted to \$1,144,336,627, according to the monthly statement issued by the finance department. Liabilities amounted to \$2,248,745,482, and total assets \$1,104,509,855. On May 31, 1917, the total net debt of the Dominion was \$223,793,769. Revenue on consolidated fund account declined somewhat during May as compared with the same month last year. Last month's revenue was \$22,754,912, and expenditure \$23,838,074. Customs revenue was \$14,655,792 in May last, and \$16,259,731 in May, 1917. Excise revenue was: May, 1918, \$2,302,920; May, 1917, \$2,059,025. War expenditure on capital account was \$4,323,411 last month as compared with \$11,064,206 in May, 1917. The statement points out, however, that the above represents only payments and receipts which passed thru the books of the finance department up to the last day of the month.

REPULSES OF ALLIES CLAIMED BY BERLIN

Berlin, via London, June 9.—American troops in an attack northwest of Chateau Thierry were driven back with heavy losses, according to the official report from general headquarters today, and some prisoners were taken. The statement says: "The artillery duel increased many times in the evening and early this morning. It increased in intensity in the Kammer region, south of the Somme and on the Aisne. Local attacks by the French south of Ypres and by the British north of Beaumont-Hamel were singularly repulsed. "On the Oise fighting activity revived. Local French attacks on the southern bank of the Aisne and south of the Ourcq failed. Thrusts by our troops east of Cutry resulted in the capture of 45 prisoners. "Americans who attempted again to attack northwest of Chateau Thierry were driven back beyond their positions of departure, with heavy losses, and prisoners were captured. "In a successful undertaking on the east bank of the Moselle we captured prisoners."

COL. J. A. FAGES TO RETIRE

Montreal, June 9.—Colonel J. A. Fages, D.A.A. and quartermaster-general of No. 4 military district, has been granted six months' leave of absence, and it is understood that at the end of his leave he will retire from the service. Col. Fages, who is in poor health, is the present time the oldest officer of the Permanent Force here in point of service, having started in 1874 as a cadet.

BRITISH PARTY INFLECTS DAMAGE ON AUSTRIANS

Successful Surprise Attack Enables Capturing of Eleven Enemy Soldiers on Italian Front.

Rome, June 9.—The action of both armies was quite intense from the Astico to the Piave, and moderate on the rest of the front," says the announcement from headquarters today. "To the south of the Aase a British party in a successful surprise attack, inflicted considerable losses on the enemy and brought back eleven prisoners. "To the east of Brenta one of our detachments carried out a raid on Monte Periccia, doing great damage to defence and garrison. A few prisoners and one machine gun were captured. In the Valarsa and Astico valley attacks attempted by the enemy infantry were checked by our fire. "Our airships and airplanes bombed railway stations, aviation camps, and enemy positions, and destroyed troops in movement with machine gun fire. At Nattarello station the explosion of a large ammunition dump was observed. "During the air fighting today five machines were brought down."

A MISTAKE IMPOSSIBLE

Willful Destruction of Hospital Ship Calls for Action by Germany.

Amsterdam, June 9.—The willful destruction of the hospital ship Konin-gen, Regentes," says the Nieuwe Courant of The Hague, occurred under circumstances which virtually exclude the possibility of a "mistake." There cannot be a submarine commander, it says, who does not know for what purpose hospital ships are sent to sea. The paper points out further that the German authorities always had said a paddle boat was clearly recognizable by submarines owing to the peculiar sound it makes. The paper makes it clear that in its opinion the incident calls for speedy action on the part of the German Government.

FRENCH WARN FINNS

Helsingfors, Finland, June 9.—The French consul has notified the senate that any act directly against the Murman railway would be considered a breach of neutrality.

SCORE'S \$38 SPECIAL IN IRISH SERGE SUITINGS

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WAR SUMMARY THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

In northern France the battle began furiously again yesterday on a new sector northwest of Paris, and between Montdidier and Noyon. At certain points the enemy penetrated a distance of about 4000 yards before the French held up his advance. The fighting proceeded with varying fortunes, but everywhere the French soldiers fought tenaciously and inflicted murderous losses on their opponents. The German attack here is under the command of Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria. The frontage of the attack has an extent of about 48, 500 yards and, although nothing definite has yet been received of the German strength, it was probably at least 25 divisions. If the French held this front with their normal density, they would have in line about four or five divisions.

In regard to details, the battle proceeded furiously on the French right and left and in the centre. On the right the enemy encountered a firm resistance, and, despite his fiercest efforts, he was held on the line of Belval, Cannocourt, and Ville. In the centre, the enemy fought his way into the French battle positions and gained footing in the Villages of Moreuil and Rezon-sur-Matz. French fire line units in these villages are still making a stout resistance. On the left the French prevented the enemy from wholly piercing their fire or covering line, and at nightfall they were strongly holding him on the line of Rubescourt-le-Fretay-Mortemer. It is too early yet to declare the battle as wholly checked this German rush, but they are resisting more firmly than in the Chemin des Dames and their two wings appear to have held him up, so that the result will depend on the stand maintained by their centre.

In making this attack the enemy appears to have as his first object the driving of an immense wedge in the French front so as to reach or get within easy cannon shot of Compiègne. This is an important railway junction in the French communications and its loss would cut off direct communication between the armies east of Compiègne, including the British. This blow then has a similar object to the original German plan of capturing Amiens. Since Prince Rupprecht is undertaking the attack and since he has the bulk of the fresh German reserves under his control, it is to be inferred that he will not spare his troops to achieve his object. Fortunately for the allies the front under pressure adjoins the Amiens front and the allies had long expected an attack in this region.

This new action apparently has several other objects. These may include the flattening of the salient in the French lines from the Marne to Noyon, so as to come closer to Paris; the resumption of the original plan to divide the allied armies, so as to defeat each in detail, and to further this aim, the renewal of the offensive against the British right wing on the Somme. At any rate the enemy is still prepared for heavy fighting on the British front. The most encouraging sign is that the French are fighting magnificently and the Germans are falling in heaps.

General Foch comes out as an upholder of the offensive to achieve victory. In a Paris weekly paper he writes that battles can be won only by the army which takes the offensive. The object of a general is to destroy the organized forces of the enemy, that is to disorganize his command, to ruin his discipline, and to smash the power of his military units. Foch also maintains that a purely defensive will achieve victory. For an army to maintain its positions is not the equivalent of its being victorious. The offensive only can give results. For that reason the general should be parsimonious with his reserves so as to make his offensive blow as violent as possible. This revelation of the Foch doctrine is valuable in making clear the theory upon which Foch is acting in the present campaign. He would rather lose ground than use up his reserves rapidly, and he is prepared to make many sacrifices in order to preserve as large a force as possible for his coming blow, so as to deliver it with enough power, perhaps, to decide the war at a single monster stroke.

On the British front the capturing of a post west of Voormezele from the Germans vastly improves the British defensive position, and the raiding operation by British troops on a large scale, for 30 prisoners were taken, seems to show that the Austrians, who hold the line south of Beaumont-Hamel, where this minor operation took place, have left this region. French troops also obtained a minor success north of Bailleul, and the British repulsed German attempts at raiding in the regions southeast of Arras and near Givenchy-les-La-Bassee. The enemy's artillery fire has suddenly increased to a high pitch of violence from the Somme to La Bassee.

In Italy the allies are carrying out numerous raids, including an important one by the British south of Asolo. As previous reports of an impending Austrian offensive are based on pure conjecture, it is necessary for the allied supreme command to keep itself constantly informed of the enemy disposition. One of the things most looked for is the appearance of German troops upon this front. Until the present no German has been seen. The allied air service in this theatre of the war appears to have received strong reinforcement for it has much increased its raiding operations. Airplanes as scouts still have their defects, for it is possible, as the British have shown at Cambrai and the Germans at several other points, to make contrabands by night, hiding the troops in the villages by day until the time comes for an offensive.

AIM TO BEND BACK THE ALLIED FRONT

Germans Hope to Get Astride of Oise and Then Drive Southwest to Paris.

NOT TAKEN UNAWARES

Allied Commanders Anticipated Move and Made Preparations to Resist.

Associated Press War Summary. The armies of Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria again are hitting the allied line in a new offensive, with Paris apparently their objective. Between Montdidier and Noyon, over a front of about twenty miles, preceded as usual, by a heavy bombardment with shells of all calibres and with noxious gases, the enemy's initial manoeuvre evidently has in view the bending back of the allied front toward the town of St. Just, on the northern wing and toward the railroad junction of Compiègne on the southern flank, astride the Oise River and driving southwest toward the French capital. The French troops are resisting the impact with their wonted valor, but the Germans on their right and in the centre have been able to penetrate the line for distances ranging from two-thirds of a mile south of Montdidier, to relatively 2 1/2 miles at Rezon-sur-Matz, in the centre. Then to Noyon, however, the allied line is holding strongly.

If success should rest with the enemy on the new battle front it possibly might back affect the stability of the line of the defenders from the Oise to the Marne and compel a falling back westward from the Oise to the region of the Marne northwest of Chateau Thierry in order to straighten out the deep salient that would then project eastward with the Soissons sector as its apex.

Not Taken Unaware. The allied commanders, it is asserted, were not taken unaware by the new offensive. On the other hand, they had anticipated that since the failure of the army of the German crown prince to gain its objectives between Soissons and the Marne, and thence on the southern part of the line running to Rheims, the German high command would decree another manoeuvre to the north and preparations accordingly were made to withstand the shock. The fighting is of extremely sanguinary character, and whether it will be confined to the area at present affected remains to be seen. At last accounts it had not spread north of Montdidier to the Village of Cantigny, which the Americans are holding.

Comparative quiet prevails in the region of the Marne, and on that portion of the line in Flanders held by the British there have been no occurrences of interest, according to Field Marshal Haig's latest communication. The only attack reported in the French official communication in the region of Rheims, was delivered by the Germans, who suffered serious losses, but gained no ground. From the Astico region to the Piave River in the Italian theatre, there have been intense artillery duels, but no infantry engagements of great importance, although the British south of the Aase and the Italians east of the Brenta River carried out successful surprise attacks, inflicting considerable losses on the enemy and taking prisoners and machine guns. Similar attacks by the enemy in the Val Arsa and Astico Valley were repulsed.

POISONED BY GAS.

Many have been poisoned by gas during the past six months. The Electric Wiring and Fixture Co., 261 College street, corner of Spadina ave., are taxed to the limit with shortage of electricians trying to keep up with orders for wiring and fixtures. They have disposed of their entire stock of samples and have installed a new line at surprisingly low prices, and all made of solid brass. A visit to their showrooms, corner of College and Spadina avenue, between the hours of eight and five is worth the cost of a trip on wiring and fixtures free. Phone College 1878.

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