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WEATHER—SHOWERY

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BRITISH AND FRENCH HOLD OWN IN DESPERATE COMBAT

GERMANS FALL BACK ALL ALONG THE LINE

On Twelve Mile Front from North of Rivor of Scarpe To South of Loos, British Troops Pressed Back Germans Along Line.

London, April 13.—The British official communication issued this evening announces that the total prisoners taken in the offensive begun early last Monday morning now aggregate more than 15,000. Guns to the number of 165 also have been taken.

Pressed Back Hun.

London, April 13.—On a twelve mile front from north of the River Scarpe to south of Loos, British troops today pressed back the Germans all along the line and captured six villages. Field Marshal Haig's men, the official communication from British headquarters in France tonight adds also have gained a footing in German trenches northeast of Lens. Prisoners and guns also were taken in the advance.

Southeast of Arras, the statement adds, the British also made progress and are now astride the Hindenburg line as far as a point seven miles southeast of Arras.

The villages seized by the British

are all east and north of the Vimy Ridge. They are Bailleul, Willerval, Vimy, Givenchy-En-Gohelle and Angres.

The text of the statement reads: "The area of active operations extended today toward the north. East and north of the Vimy Ridge our troops pressed back the enemy on our whole front from north of the River Scarpe to south of Loos.

"We have seized the villages of Bailleul, Willerval, Vimy, Petit Vimy, Givenchy-En-Gohelle and Angres and have gained a footing in the enemy's trenches northeast of Lens.

Capture Gun.

"In this area we have captured prisoners and guns.

"South of the Arras-Cambrai road we captured Wancourt tower on a spur east of Wancourt village and advanced astride the Hindenburg line as far as a point seven miles southeast of Arras.

"We have also made further pro-

gress on the high ground east of Le Vesquer and in Hazincourt Wood (northeast of St. Quentin).

"Much useful work was done by our airplanes yesterday, although the weather continued unfavorable for flying. The only hostile formation encountered was severely handled by one of our patrols, which drove down four enemy machines out of control. One other hostile airplane was destroyed by us during the day. Three of our machines are missing.

"The number of prisoners taken since the commencement of our operations exceeds 13,000, including 285 officers. We have also captured 169 guns, including eight 8-inch howitzers, twenty-eight 5.9-inch howitzers, 94 trench mortars and 250 machine guns. In addition to a considerable number of guns, trench mortars, and machine guns which were demolished or buried by shell fire and cannot be enumerated.

"Many of the captured guns have been turned upon the enemy by us with good effect."

SPAIN MAY ENTER THE GREAT WAR

Demands Indemnity for Sinking of Spanish Steamer San Fulgenio.

BRITISH PRESS GLAD SPAIN JOINS ALLIES

New Commercial Convention Between the United States and Great Britain Has Been Concluded.

London, April 13.—A demand for indemnity for the sinking of the Spanish steamer San Fulgenio has been made on Germany by the Spanish council of ministers, the Madrid correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company cables.

The San Fulgenio was torpedoed without warning, being the first Spanish vessel to be sunk by the Germans under these conditions. A London despatch of Wednesday said the Spanish government had made a strong protest to Germany.

British Press Enthusiastic.

New York, April 13.—A news agency despatch from London says: "British press commentators expressed optimism over the prospect of Spain joining with the Allies in view of the sinking of the Spanish steamship Fulgenio by a German U-boat."

Information received here was that the Spanish note of protest to Berlin over this act was couched in extremely sharp terms.

Commercial Convention.

London, April 13.—A new commercial convention between Spain and Great Britain has been concluded. Among its stipulations is an agreement that Great Britain shall supply 150,000 tons of coal monthly to Spain. In return Spain will export to England as much ore as it requires.

The Spanish government agrees to permit the chartering of Spanish ships by the British government.

THOUSANDS HONOR VICTIMS OF THE CHESTER HORROR

Eddystone Works Shut Down Monday in Honor of the Dead Women and Girls, Victims of the Unknown Tragedy.

Chester, Pa., April 13.—Thousands of persons assembled in the Chester rural cemetery as rain fell today to witness the funeral of the two scores unidentified dead of the explosion at the plant of the Eddystone Ammunition Corporation on Tuesday which killed 123 persons. Services were held at a long trench in which the unidentified were buried in oaken caskets. A clergy of all denominations took part in the ceremony.

Chester and Eddystons were places of mourning. The Eddystone works shut down until Monday in respect to the memory of the dead. The locomotive plant of the Baldwin Works, the Remington Arms Company and numerous business places closed part of the day.

The bodies of many victims were taken during the night to the cemetery, to avoid distressing relatives. It is said the cause of the explosion is still a mystery.

ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP N. Y. NEWSPAPER

New York, April 13.—A loaded three-inch shell, weighing fifteen pounds, made in the United States, was found tonight in the press room of the New York Globe after the last edition had gone to press. According to the police, the shell was leaning against one of the presses in such a position that it would have exploded had the machinery been started.

The discovery was made by an employe of the paper. Government agents and detectives are working on the case.

SERBIANS AGAIN FIGHT BULGARIANS

London, April 13.—An uprising of Serbians against the Bulgarians who are now occupying their country is reported in an Exchange Telegraph despatch from Athens. As a result of pressure exerted by the Bulgarians, the Serbian population revolted and took to the hills. The insurgents divided into battalions and companies and are engaged in destroying bridges, railways and other means of communication.

The Bulgarian government has dispatched troops to Nish to suppress the disorders, which are said to have reached grave proportions.

GERMAN SOLDIERS GLAD TO SURRENDER TO THE CANADIAN SOLDIERS

Most of Prisoners Captured Are Bavarians (South German) Indicating that Kaiser Has Withdrawn His Prussians for Final Stand—Bavarians and Prussians Speak Different Languages.

Canadian Headquarters in France, via London, April 13.—(By Stewart Lyon, Special Correspondent of the Canadian Press)—There has been a remarkable change in the demeanor of the prisoners recently taken by the Canadian corps, as compared with those taken in the Somme offensive last season, so Canadians who were engaged in "gagging" the German prisoners then, and again the past few days say. The most notable difference is an increase of anti-dynastic sentiment.

Chiefly Bavarians.

Our prisoners are chiefly Bavarians, with Prussian officers. The latter still retain the pride of caste, with an admixture of insolence. One of these told his captors, condescendingly, that if the assault on Vimy Ridge had not been made with such a rush the whole top of the ridge would have been blown off by an explosion of mines provided for that very purpose. His hint was useful in a sense other than he intended.

Glad to be Prisoners.

The captives are glad to be out of it. Among them, Bavarians and Prussians alike, the bragging spirit is no longer evident. One non-commissioned officer surprised his captors by breaking out in bitter epithets against the Hohenzollerns and Junkers, the cause of his country's misfortunes. In response to questions he said that feeling was becoming far more general in the enemy ranks than even a few months ago, the considerable treatment of the German wounded by the British doing much to prove to Fritz that Great Britain is not seeking the destruction of the German people.

British and Germans.

After the recent battles I saw motor lorries delivering, at the ambulance stations, mixed loads of British and German wounded. They were packed in, side by side, all stained with mud and blood—men who an hour before had been doing their best to kill one another. Our men waited their turn patiently. If badly hurt, Fritz was permitted to be ahead in the line, and our men seemed to bear no animosity. Their attitude was that of kindly toleration, even while they turned the full resources of the English language loose in vivid description of their captives. This consideration has led to curious results.

A wet and weary chaplain, with no place to lay his head, was called upon by a wounded officer prisoner to provide him with a second blanket because the hospital was cold, and the chaplain said: "I would have been set enough to give it to him if I had a blanket to my name."

When the people in Canada read what appear to be authentic stories about the cruel treatment, even by the German women, of the British wounded, it is worth while knowing that the Canadians at the front, no less than the tolerant British Tommy, refuse to descend, in the treatment of wounded prisoners, to the enemy level. But Fritz must work and earn his keep, when unwounded, on the roads.

HIS MAJESTY TO ATTEND NOTABLE SERVICE IN ST. PAUL'S, LONDON.

London, April 13.—King George and Queen Mary will attend the service to be held in St. Paul's Cathedral in commemoration of the entrance of the United States into the war. The time for the ceremony has been fixed as 11.30 a.m. on April 20. It is understood that King and Queen expressed a special desire to be present.

REUBEN JOHNSON DEAD

Special to The Standard, Richbucto, April 13.—Reuben Johnson, former M. L. A. for Kent, died today at St. Louis, Kent, aged 94.

GRAND DUKE BORIS ARRESTED.

Petrograd, April 13, via London.—Grand Duke Boris, a cousin of former Emperor Nicholas, has been arrested at army headquarters and sent to Transvaal, where he is interned. A Petrograd despatch on April 11, announced the recent arrest of Grand Duchess Marie Pavlovna, a cousin of the former Emperor, together with a group of personages in the entourage of Grand Duke Boris, was said by the police to have led to the discovery of a plot in which the Grand Duchess and two unnamed grand dukes were involved for the proclaiming of Grand Duke Nicholas as Emperor of Russia.

HOSPITAL SHIP SUNK.

London, April 13.—The British hospital ship Gloucester Castle was torpedoed without warning in the English Channel on March 30. All the wounded on the Gloucester Castle were saved. There were no wounded on board the Salta. A German wireless despatch of April 1 says the Gloucester Castle was torpedoed by a German submarine.

HIS MAJESTY ADOPTS HOUSEHOLD ECONOMY.

London, April 13.—It is announced that, realizing the urgent need for economy, particularly with regard to breadstuffs, the King and Queen, together with their household and servants, have adopted the scale of national ration since early in February.

Shediac, April 13.—Conductor John S. Nickerson received word today that his son, Gunner Cecil Nickerson, was slightly wounded in France.

ARMIES OF FRANCE HOLD BACK TEUTON HORDES

Battle Continues in Front of Positions French Troops Captured in Front of St. Quentin.

South of River Oise and to North of the Ailette French Carried Out Detailed Operations.

Paris, April 13.—The war office communication issued tonight reads: "The battle continues in front of the positions our troops captured this morning to the south of St. Quentin. The enemy is offering stubborn resistance."

"Our artillery had violently bombarded German organizations between the Somme and the Oise. To the south of the Oise and to the north of the Ailette we carried out with success some detailed operations in the course of which we brought back about sixty prisoners."

Artillery Duel.

"An artillery struggle is reported in the region of the Aisne and in Champagne."

"Origny, April 13: After a bombardment in which poisonous shells were used, the enemy started on the 11th instant in the region of Budinica an attack which was repulsed by the Serbians. On the 12th artillery actions, which were rather violent in character, took place on various parts of the front. British aviators efficaciously bombarded the station of Pona."

"Belgian communication: The Belgian lines to the south of the Ferryman's House were violently bombarded during the night. The Belgian artillery replied with energy. During the day reciprocal artillery actions were reported."

Petrograd, April 13, via London.—Austrian troops engaged with the Russians in Galicia ran up white flags and attempted to go over to the Russian lines yesterday, the war office announces.

On being attacked by their own artillery they returned to their trenches. The official report of operations on the Russo-Galician front follows:

"In the region of Ozarki, in Galicia, in the direction of Sokal, the enemy, after artillery preparation, attacked our positions and occupied them, but by a counter-attack which we immediately organized was driven off, and our position was restored."

"In the region of Bohorodczany the Austrians delivered a gas attack, but the gas waves dispersed upon reaching the River Bystritsa without causing any damage to us. Immediately thereafter the Austrians opened a bombardment during which period disorder was observed in the first line trenches of the enemy. Part of the Austrians retired. The remainder attempted to approach our trenches,

U. S. TO PUT VESSELS INTO ATLANTIC TRADE

Washington, April 13.—Means of quickly putting additional vessels into the transatlantic trade and thus fulfilling the prophecy of Premier David Lloyd George, of Great Britain, the more ships meant victory for the Entente Allies, was the principal subject before today's meeting of President Wilson's cabinet.

As a result a bill will be introduced in both houses of congress early next week, probably Monday, substantially increasing the \$50,000,000 appropriation now available for the shipping board, and giving the board authority so that the building of wooden ships and the acquisition of other vessels may be expedited.

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bearing white flags. They were subjected to the fire of their own artillery, and fled back to their trenches.

"In the region of the Pogorelye station, on the Alexandrov railway, a German airplane was brought down. The pilot was captured. Russian aviators flew over Gorokhov, east of Sokal and the adjoining railway line. Scores of bombs were dropped. A squadron of German airplanes, consisting of sixteen machines made an unsuccessful attack on our rear in the region north of Monastyrzeka."

Regarding the Rumanian and Caucasian fronts, the war office announced that rifle and reconnaissances occurred.

BIG BLAZE IN CHARLOTTETOWN

Auld Bros., Wholesale Grocers and Egg Dealers, Lose Heavily—Total Loss Probably \$60,000.

Charlottetown, April 13.—Fire broke out at three o'clock this morning in the large brick building on Queen street owned by I. B. & D. J. Riley, and occupied by themselves and Auld Brothers, wholesale grocers and egg dealers. The fire started in the third story in Auld's section in the department filled with egg cases and fillers, and the origin is unknown. The upper part of the building was badly damaged and a considerable quantity of goods destroyed or damaged by fire, smoke and water.

Auld Brothers had goods destroyed to the value of \$25,000. Their total stock was insured as follows: \$24,000 in British American General; Continental, Caladonian, Quebec, Yorkshire and Home Companies, about equally divided, and \$5,000 in the Palatine.

The Riley building and Riley's stocks were damaged to the extent of about \$35,000, the total insurance on the building was as follows: \$9,500 in the General, Fidelity, Phoenix and Quebec companies; \$1,500 in Phoenix; \$1,000 in Queen; \$3,000 in Royal. There was \$4,000 on the building and stock in the Acadia; \$1,500 on stock on the Atlas. The building was also badly gutted by fire 15 years ago.

HUN U-BOATS LAYING FOR U. S. SHIPS?

Washington, April 13.—Many reports of German raiders and submarines lying in wait near American ports to destroy commerce reached the navy department today through civilian channels, but official confirmation was consistently lacking. Secretary Daniels said the utmost vigilance was being exercised, and although hundreds of rumors had been investigated no basis in fact had been found for any.

The most persistent report was that of a German submarine in the south Pacific. No naval vessels or official agency, however, has been able to confirm it.

POPULAR MAN OF SUSSEX IS DEAD

Special to The Standard, Sussex, April 13.—Hugh Cunningham died at his home here this morning after a brief illness. The deceased was affected with blood poisoning caused from a scratch his finger and a few days later contracted pneumonia. He was ill just one week. Mr. Cunningham, who was 57 years of age, was widely known, being engaged in the express business for a number of years and later as mail driver. He is survived by his wife and two sons, Lloyd, at home, and Roy at Vermillion, Alta. The funeral will take place on Sunday at 2 o'clock, interment in Kirk Hill cemetery.

London, April 13.—Lt. William Leafe Robinson, according to a German official statement, received here, was shot down on April 5 by a German battle airplane.

The London Evening News on April 10 announced that Lt. Robinson was missing. Lt. Robinson became a popular hero in England early last fall by shooting down a Zeppelin which was taking part in an attack on London. He was the first aviator to bring down a Zeppelin and was awarded the Victoria Cross.



NO RESPROTER OF LINE-FENCES