

GERMAN DRIVE, CHECKED ON FIFTY MILE FRONT, IS NEAR END

GERMAN DIPLOMAT FIXES WAR GUILT ON HIS OWN NATION

Allied Resistance is Stiffening Along Whole Front

ATTACK DEVELOPS EAST OF ARRAS FOLLOWING HEAVY BOMBARDMENT BY FOE EARLY THIS MORNING

Repeated German Attacks Along Valley of the Somme and Elsewhere Were Repulsed by British, War Office Reports—Prisoners and Machine Guns Captured, While Fighting Continues Fiercely

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, March 28.—This morning the enemy opened a heavy bombardment on the British defences east of Arras. An attack is developing in this section.

Repeated attacks were made by the enemy along the valley of the Somme, in the neighborhood of Beaumont-Hamel, Puisieux and Moyenneville. They were repulsed. The statement follows:

"Severe fighting took place again yesterday evening and again last night astride the Somme and northward, from Albert to Boyelles. Repeated attacks were made by the enemy along the valley of the Somme and in the neighborhood of Beaumont-Hamel, Puisieux and Moyenneville. They were repulsed. We captured a number of prisoners and number of machine guns.

"The fighting is continuing fiercely on both banks of the Somme.

"This morning the enemy opened a heavy bombardment on our defenses east of Arras, and an attack is developing in this sector."

PRISONERS AND GUNS.

London, March 28.—Prisoners and machine guns have been captured by the British, the war office announces. The fighting continues fiercely on both banks of the Somme.

BATTLE FRONT IS WIDENED

The reference in the official British statement to an attack east of Arras evidently means that the Germans have widened their battle front and are delivering a new stroke on the north. The battle was begun last week on a front extending as far north as the River Scarpe, the junction of which with the battle line is almost due east of Arras. No fighting north of the river has been reported.

The attacks which are developing to-day may mark the beginning of a second phase of the battle. German military writers in the last few days have been hinting that surprises were in store for the British and there has been much discussion of the possibility of a German drive for the coast with the channel ports of Calais and Dunkirk as the objectives.

FRENCH OFFICIAL

Paris, March 28.—Blocked on the Lassigny and Noyon fronts and on the left bank of the Oise, the Germans last night threw forward important forces in the region of Mont Didier, the war office announced to-day. Here the fighting rapidly took on extraordinary ferocity. French regiments fought hand to hand with the enemy and inflicted heavy losses. Finally the French fell back to the heights immediately to the west of Mont Didier.

ALLIED RESERVE FORCE TO BE USED

Germans Will Not Be Able to Hold Dearly Bought Gains

By Courier Leased Wire.

With the Allied line holding against the enemy onslaughts, a counter blow may be in preparation.

Premier Clemenceau has declared that the moment is near when the Allied reserve force will be thrown into the fight. He added that the Germans would not be able to hold to the gains they had made at such great loss.

On seas as well as on the land the German offensive last week was much stronger. Enemy submarines and mines accounted for 28 British ships, sixteen of more than 1,600 tons. The total is greater than that for any week since last September 16.

In the previous week seventeen steamers, including eleven of the larger tonnage, were sunk. French and Italian losses also increased somewhat and the aggregate for these three merchant marines was thirty seven.

WEATHER BULLETIN

Toronto, Mar. 28.—A few scattered showers have occurred in the western provinces otherwise the weather has been fine in all portions of the Dominion.

Forecasts: Fine and a little milder to-day and on Friday.

COURIER BULLETINS.

In view of the still critical situation on the West front, where the German offensive has come virtually to a standstill, and the French and British in a series of counter-attacks are winning back the dearly bought German gains of the past week, The Courier bulletin service to-morrow, Good Friday, will be of special interest. No paper will be published, but the regular bulletin service will be augmented, and the news of the day posted outside the office both in the morning and afternoon.

MERCHANTS RETURN TO OLD HOURS

Commencing on Saturday the merchants of the city will revert to their former business hours, stores opening at 10 o'clock, the morning and closing at 10 p.m., according to information given The Courier to-day by Mr. Bert Inglis, president of the Merchants' Club.

After complying with the wishes of the fuel controller and the hydro commission and curtailing their hours to effect a saving in fuel and electric power, the merchants feel that the need for such measures is now past, and accordingly the executive of the Merchants' Club has decided to recommend to the merchants that the old hours be resumed. To-night the stores will be open until nine o'clock, as to-morrow is a holiday.

NO INQUEST IN CRUTHERS CASE

"Matter is Past" Says the Coroner—No Need for Inquiry

The John Cruthers case is closed, so far as official quarters are concerned, and there will be no inquest according to Coroner Dr. Fissette.

"I reserve the right to run my own business," said Dr. Fissette at an inquest into the death of Asa Shaver last night. "The Cruthers case is past and there will be no inquest. There is a body of men in every community who are ready to run the business of others rather than their own. The plea is raised that fair treatment is not accorded the workman, yet if inquests were held in every case of sudden death, which would be burdened to pay the costs. We are ready to conduct inquests wherever these are deemed necessary, and in the meantime the sooner we get rid of these arrogant agitators the better."

A. J. Wilkes, Crown Attorney, addressing the jury, pointed out that it was not every case of sudden death which required an inquest. On the contrary, the law specified that an inquest should not be held, except in cases where something had occurred which might be construed as culpable negligence by some individual, causing death, and which might result in criminal prosecution. In older days, inquests had been held for all violent deaths, but of late years the law of Canada had been changed in this regard, to save the needless expense of too many inquests. It was the duty of officials to hold inquests when they were necessary, and at other times to effect economy by not holding them.

DEMAND AN INQUEST

Delegate McGrattan again asked for an inquest in the case of the death of John Carriers. From McGrattan's statement a number of hitherto unstated facts were learned. An inquest had not yet been held, and this action was still further urged.

Delegate Noble moved that the various local unions be notified and a live deputation appeal to officials for an inquest.

Delegate Kyle moved an amendment to this motion. He claimed that it would take considerable time to carry out. Delegate Noble's resolution. The amendment asked that Crown Attorney Wilkes be asked to hold an investigation. If such should be refused a protest will be sent to the Attorney General.

The committee appointed to wait on the Crown Attorney is formed of delegates McGrattan, Crandall and Brown.

THROW FOE BACK

Along the Ancre, north of Albert, the British threw the Germans back across the river and drove them from two towns between Albert and Monchy. On this front, which has been held fast for more than two days, the British have also repulsed strong enemy efforts at other points.

FRENCH IN FIGHT

On the southern flank the French have held the German advance west of Noyon. At Issigny, northwest of Noyon, after heavy fighting, the French have retired slightly toward Mont Didier, being overwhelmed by superior numbers.

CAPTURE OF ODESSA IS CONFIRMED

Russ Stronghold Retaken From Teuton by Bolshevik Troops

FIRST BOMBARDED

By Courier Leased Wire.

Photograph, Wednesday, March 27.—Official despatches published here confirm the report that Odessa has been recaptured by the Bolshevik troops.

Odessa was first bombarded by cruisers which came from Sebastopol.

There was desperate fighting for three days, in the vicinity of Sebastopol, between the Bolsheviks and the Austro-German detachments.

The latest war bulletins report Austro-Germans to be within 40 miles of the city, a commercial and industrial town of 250 miles northeast of Odessa.

MUSCOVITES INCURSED

Moscow, Tuesday, March 28.—An American, who escaped from Minsk two days after the Germans occupied the city, reached Moscow and reports the local population there much incensed against the invaders. Polish troops who assisted the Germans in capturing Minsk, he says, were amazed and disgusted when, three days after the occupation, the Germans seized their armored motor cars.

(Continued on Page 4.)

READ GADSBY.

On Saturday The Courier inaugurates a new and timely feature in the form of H. F. Gadsby's letter from Ottawa, which will appear weekly in the future. Gadsby is so well known throughout the whole of Canada, that comment is practically superfluous; his humorous writings in Saturday Night have placed him in a class by himself, and he has never written with a keener or kindlier vein of humor than in his essays on Union Government. The first appears on Saturday. Read it. Then you are sure to read the rest.

LONG RANGE GERMAN GUN KRUPP-MADE

Kaiser Sends Thanks and Congratulations to Head of Firm.

By Courier Leased Wire.

Amsterdam, March 28.—The gun, with which the Germans are bombarding Paris, is a product of the Krupp Works at Essen. Emperor William has sent a telegram of thanks to Dr. Krupp von Bohlen and Halbach, the head of the Krupp Works. The telegram reads:

"By bombardment of Paris from a distance of considerably more than 100 kilometres, your new gun has brilliantly stood the test. By the manufacture of the gun you have added a new page to the fame and history of Krupp. I, therefore, express to you and all your co-workers, my Imperial thanks for this achievement of German science and labor."

Churchill wanted a pause of one year in building ships. Officially, the Prince adds, the suggestion was not supported by Secretary Grey and he never spoke to Lichnowsky about it. Although Churchill did on repeated occasions.

The initiative of Mr. Churchill, Prince Lichnowsky says he is convinced, was honest in purpose "running in general, not being a part of an Englishman's constitution."

The holiday would have been a real success for Churchill and would have secured economies for the country and lightened the burden of (Continued on Page 4.)

GERMAN AGGRESSION BLAMED BY TEUTON DIPLOMAT FOR WAR

Personal Memorandum of Prince Lichnowsky, Former German Ambassador at London, Rouses Feeling in Berlin Because of Frank Revelation of Condition Before War—German Naval Policy and Failure of Peace Plan Criticized.

By Courier Leased Wire.

Stochholm, March 28.—Anglo-German negotiations concerning the Berlin-Bagdad railway and German naval and commercial jealousy of Great Britain are touched upon in further sections of the personal memorandum, written by Prince Lichnowsky, German ambassador at London at the outbreak of the war. Excerpts from the memorandum are being published by The Politician and already have brought the Prince into disfavour in Germany and England and the negotiations over the Anglo-German treaty, refers to the so-called Bagdad railway treaty. This aimed in fact at a division of Asia Minor into spheres of interest.

Although the Prince writes, this expression was carefully avoided in consideration of the rights of the Sultan of Turkey.

Sir Edward Grey, then British foreign secretary, declared repeatedly that there was no agreement between England and France, aiming at a division of Asia Minor. The greatest concession that Sir Edward made to Prince Lichnowsky personally, it is declared, was for the continuation of the railway line to Baku. By this treaty the whole of Mesopotamia, up to Basra became a German zone of interest by which all British rights and the question of shipping on the Tigris were left untouched. The British economic territories, the Prince adds, included the coast of the Persian Gulf and the Smyrna-Aden railway. The French territory was Syria and the Russian, Armenia. Had the treaty been concluded and published, he declares, the greatest would have been reached with England which would have finally ended all doubt of the possibility of Anglo-German co-operation.

Referring to the difficult question of German naval activity, Prince Lichnowsky says it was never judged quite correctly. The creation of a mighty fleet of the other shore of the North Sea and the simultaneous development of the continent's most important military power into a most important naval power, he declares, had at least to be recognized by Great Britain as uncomfortable.

To maintain the necessary lead and to preserve the supremacy of the sea, which Great Britain must have in order not to go down, the Prince adds, she had to undertake preparations and expenses which weighed heavily on the tax payers. The threat against British world position was that the German policy permitted the possibility of a war-like development to appear. This possibility the Prince asserts, was obviously near during the Moroccan crisis and the Bosnian question.

The powers have become reconciled to the German fleet in its definite strength. Obviously it was not welcome to Great Britain and, the Prince declares, constituted one of the motives, but neither the only nor most important motive, for England's joining hands with Russia and France.

On account of the German fleet alone, Prince Lichnowsky says, Great Britain would have drawn the sword as little as on account of German trade, "which it is pretended called forth her jealousy and finally brought about war."

From the beginning Prince Lichnowsky says he adopted the standpoint that in spite of the fleet it would be possible to come to a friendly understanding and rapprochement if the Germans did not propose new votes of credit and, above all, if the Germans did carry out an indisputable peace policy.

The Prince adds that he avoided all mention of the German fleet and never a word was uttered concerning it between himself and Foreign Secretary Grey, who, he says, declared on one occasion at a cabinet meeting:

"The present German ambassador has never mentioned the fleet to me."

During Prince Lichnowsky's term of office, Winston Spencer Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty, raised the question of the so-called naval holiday, proposing it for financial reasons as much as on account of the pacifist inclinations of his party.

Churchill wanted a pause of one year in building ships. Officially, the Prince adds, the suggestion was not supported by Secretary Grey and he never spoke to Lichnowsky about it. Although Churchill did on repeated occasions.

The initiative of Mr. Churchill, Prince Lichnowsky says he is convinced, was honest in purpose "running in general, not being a part of an Englishman's constitution."

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MUST FIGHT TO OPPOSE FOE MENACE

Assistant Russ Minister of War Delivers Warning at Moscow

NEED STANDING ARMY

Says Russians Must Stand on Guard With Rifle and Hammer.

LEADERS ARE NEEDED

By the Associated Press.

Moscow, March 26.—"Russians must take a rifle in one hand and a hammer in the other, submit to the most strict discipline and work sixteen hours a day if they hope to combat the menace which threatens them," declared M. Podvoisky, assistant minister of war, in an address advocating the immediate creation of a regular army. He ridiculed the idea of guerrilla warfare and said that such a "forty women's only" army "is no life."

"Russia, he said, wants discipline and business organization instead of plans and intentions. M. Podvoisky urged compulsory training and commercial as well as military mobilization.

The Bolsheviks, he said, are that recruiting for the Red army is unsuccessful so far because of the opposition of the bourgeoisie, who must be removed by merciless terror if necessary.

Conservatives ATTENTION!

A meeting by wards of the Liberal-Conservative Association will be held on Friday and Saturday evenings, March 29th and 30th, at the rooms, corner of King and Dalhousie Sts., Brantford, for the purpose of electing Ward Chairmen for 1918, as follows:

FRIDAY EVENING

Ward One at 8 p.m.

Ward Two at 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY EVENING

Ward Three at 8 p.m.

Ward Four at 8:30 p.m.

Ward Five at 9 p.m.

F. J. CALBECK,

President

R. R. LONG,

Secretary

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Sale! Cash Mthly Down Pymt

Table with 2 columns: Cash Down, Mthly Pymt. Rows show various amounts from \$14.00 to \$120.00.

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