

HAIG'S SPECIAL ORDER.

No Further Retirement.

History Repeats Itself. French Reinforcements Being Rushed to Front. British Holding Line by Magnificent Fighting.

HAIG SAYS "NO RETIREMENT!"

LONDON, April 12. Field Marshal Haig, in a special order of the day addressed to all ranks of the British army in France and Flanders says: "Three weeks ago to-day the enemy began his terrible attacks against us on a fifty-mile front. His objects are to separate us from the French, to take the Channel ports and to destroy our army. In order to do this he has thrown already one hundred and six divisions into the battle and is expending the most reckless sacrifice of human life. He has yet made no progress towards his goals. We are this to the determined fighting and self-sacrifice of our troops. Words fail me to express the admiration which I feel for the splendid resistance offered by all ranks of our army under the most trying circumstances. Many among you are now fighting who were not in the front line when the war began. To those I would say that victory will belong to the side which holds out the longest. The French are moving rapidly and in great force to our support. There is no other course open to us but to fight it out. Every position must be held to the last man. There must be no retirement. With our backs to the wall and believing in the justice of our cause, each one of us must fight to the end. The safety of our homes and the freedom of mankind depend alike upon the conduct of each one of us at this critical moment."

THE BATTLE OF THE HOUR.

LONDON, April 12. (Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency.)—The nation is watching with anxiety and interest since the beginning of the war the progress of the critical battle in Northern France. This anxiety is mingled with admiration for the tenacity of the British troops, who are meeting every foot of ground with the utmost stubbornness that makes the enemy pay dearly for his slow advance. As the struggle swayed along the thirty-mile front, observers here and in Paris are divided in opinion as to the enemy's intentions. One section regarding the offensive as a diversion intended to draw out the British reserves while preparing a fresh attack on Amiens. The other believes it is a definite, systematic attempt to destroy the British Army and break through to Calais while holding the French in the south. The consensus now favors the latter theory. It is indeed obvious that the enemy, backed by unlimited artillery, is doing what has up till this time been considered in this war, namely, conducting two or three very different simultaneous attacks at the very same time, launching a second before the first had time to draw away from the first. This prospect is grim for the British, but accounts of the fighting continue to breathe confidence that the British, however prolonged the struggle, won't give to the enemy in what is becoming more clear as a test of endurance. The key points of the battle are the heights of Messines and Passchendaele, which the Germans are endeavoring to outflank and carry by surprise assault. There is no evidence to suggest that the enemy has gained control of a single bit of rising ground. Replies from correspondents do not confirm the enemy official claim of capturing the Messines Ridge. This claim is probably an euphemism for securing a lodgement on the eastern slopes, as the correspondents are unanimous in declaring the fierce British counter attacks flung back the enemy from the ridge, and with the heaviest results, while further south the enemy was dangerously pushing in the direction of Bailleul the splendid resistance of the British checked the advance of the Germans to a continually contracting front.

Here enemy corpses were heaped beside the River Lys, as the British machine guns mowed down the oncoming waves with point blank fire, yet fresh waves advanced as though the enemy reserves were inexhaustible. The Germans poured gas shells into towns like Bethune crowded with civilians. Many of the gassed were women and children in British hospitals.

TERRIFIC FIGHTING IN FLANDERS.

LONDON, April 12. (Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency.)—Telegraphing from British headquarters in France to-night, Reuter's correspondent says the enemy continues to strain every effort to break through Flanders. Already thirty enemy divisions have been thrown into the battle, including reserves from other parts of the front. The enemy is employing great gun power, reinforced by great hauls from the east, in the same lavish manner as his men, thus imposing the most severe test upon our troops. Their response to this in courage and endurance defies all praise. By the sustained pressure of dense masses and constant blows and shock tactics the enemy has succeeded in the past twenty-four hours in advancing in the centre of attack. The flanks are holding. The enemy has extended the nose of his salient in a way in which nothing but immense superiority in numbers could render tactically feasible. We have been counter attacking to-day. The battle is progressing fiercely in clear weather, enabling the airmen to thoroughly assist in the reconnoitering co-operating in the combat with the most effective results. The enemy's objectives in this drive include Bailleul, Estaires, Bethune and Merville. The enemy had two hundred divisions at the beginning of the offensive on the western front, of which twenty are believed to be practically uncommitted. On our battle line their forces consist of twenty divisions which have been thrown in the battle line three times since the 21st March, and forty-five divisions which have been thrown in twice, while over four times the number of divisions have been hurled against the British than against the French. The enemy rate of spending man power cannot be long maintained. Already to a considerable extent the 1919 class is being sent to refill the battle line division while the calling up of the 1920 class began a month ago. Our reinforcements are steadily coming up. From Givenchy to Loconour the line is holding well. Everywhere the troops are fighting magnificently. Owing to pressure we have fallen back slightly in the area east of Bailleul.

THE FIGHTING IN BELGIUM.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN FRANCE, April 11.—Determined enemy attacks continued to-day against points of strategic value along the new battlefront north and south of Armentieres, from which the British have withdrawn, the Germans having placed it in a pocket by driving a wedge on either side of it. On the extreme right the Germans to-day were pounding away against the British defences at Givenchy, which has changed hands many times since the initial German onslaught on Tuesday. North of Armentieres the Germans were showing an equal desire to possess Messines Ridge and Whytchaete, which are dominating positions and which changed hands several times. Last night the Germans got a footing in Messines Village and they were still there to-night, but the British were clinging to the west ridge and were keeping the enemy from Whytchaete. In the neighborhood of Ploegstreet the enemy again surged forward, and hard fighting was proceeding in this section late to-day. South of Armentieres the enemy also delivered violent assaults. The British this morning made a successful counter-attack and forced the enemy from Paradise, southwest of Lestrem. The abandonment of five or ten miles of territory in any sector does not mean disaster. The battle has got beyond such considerations, and has settled down to a grim race to determine whether the German man-power is enough to make good the threat to annihilate the British Army and force its capitulation. It is a cold proposition of which side can kill the most men in the next few weeks, and at the same time find more recruits to fill the depleted ranks. The mist yesterday continued to favor the enemy and to hamper the defending gunners. It was partly on account of these fogs that the Germans progressed so far as they did above Armentieres. The situation here to-day did not appear to be critical. The enemy yesterday did not attack with the huge forces employed on other sectors since the opening of the offensive, although he undoubtedly used many more men than were holding the line attacked. South of Armentieres the British yesterday and last night continued to hold most of their front satisfactorily. The enemy crossed the River Lawe and obtained a footing in Lestrem but were quickly forced out again. Last night a considerable German force crossed the river between Vielle Chapelle and Lestrem, but again were thrust back. Throughout the day German aviators did much flying at low heights, and also were active in bombing work along the battle line. A small force of the British bicycle force did brilliant work for a short time on Tuesday when the Portuguese were forced back, and it was necessary to reinforce the centre of the Allies' battle line below Armentieres. This little body of troops were thrown in and held on gallantly until the regular infantry could be brought up. There was especially heavy fighting along the Lys, at Les Croix Du Bau, where the Germans crossed by wading. As they worked in towards the river from both flanks the British held their fire and allowed the enemy to assemble. Once the Germans were in the river the defenders opened a terrific fire and there was a huge pile of bodies in the waterway before some of the enemy succeeded in getting across. Armentieres was evacuated yesterday, but was still reeking to-day with clouds of poisonous gas and was a most inhospitable place for the enemy. The British withdrawal became necessary when the Germans on the north drove forward to the vicinity of Steenwerck, bottling the city. By their operations the Germans had gradually thrust forward lines on either side of the city toward the west until yesterday Armentieres lay at the bottom of a sack shaped salient, whose sides were 12,000 yards long and whose mouth near Steenwerck was only 3,000 yards across. The withdrawal does not mean as much from a military standpoint as might appear from a first glance, but the Germans undoubtedly will make much of the capture for the moral effect at home. Any distress over the abandonment of Armentieres is due more to sentimental than tactical reasons. In order to appreciate fully the trend of the present fighting the offensive operations must be viewed as a whole, for they must be made up of what undoubtedly is the crucial conflict of the war.

HUN MOVEMENTS UNCERTAIN.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, April 11.—(By Associated Press).—Two strong enemy attacks last night and this morning in the region of Noyon, which were repulsed easily by the French, give rise to the question whether the Germans are about to make another attack on their southern flank. It is quite evident that the German high command is beginning to experience some disquietude over the loss of so many men and the dislocation of so many divisions which has not given the result expected. Already considerably over one hundred German divisions have been thrown into the fight and over seventy divisions have since been withdrawn to fill up the gaps in the ranks. When it is remembered that the Germans hitherto have not taken a division out of the fighting line until it has suffered a minimum of 2,500 casualties, some idea may be obtained of the enormous extent of their losses. Casualties in the divisions which have been withdrawn must be added to those of the divisions still engaged in the battle. They still have enough effective in depots to re-establish their strength, but many of these reserves are made up of the inferior elements, such as convalescents and men who were partially exempted from service at the front. These must replace the carefully chosen men composing the crack divisions heretofore used. The total strength of a German division on this front is 12,570 men, of whom 8,900 are infantry, machine gunners and cyclists and the remainder artillerymen, engineers, ambulance attendants, transport workers and a squadron of cavalry. It is believed certain that the Germans can't satisfy the public to whom absolute victory has been promised, and will be compelled to

make further efforts before abandoning their attempt to break through the Allied lines. Otherwise they would be in a bad position to explain the loss of so many men in an abortive offensive. Whether they continue to try to obtain possession of Amiens for moral effect, endeavor to capture the Aisne heights, or throw the remainder of their available forces against the British and Belgians in the north is a secret with their own staff. For the moment the northern part of the battle line appears to occupy their sole attention with the exception of last night's and to-day's attacks near Noyon, but any day may see a change in the direction of the German thrust. The situation is viewed with complete confidence by the French high command. Detailed particulars concerning the German liquid flame throwing organizations show that to a reserve regiment of engineers of the Prussian Guards is entrusted this terrible arm. Three battalions each of four companies containing 120 men, and especially trained for the purpose are used. The men are all young, and is very hazardous. De- tachment from this regiment are attached to all units along the front.

THE FIGHTING IN BELGIUM.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN FRANCE, April 11.—Determined enemy attacks continued to-day against points of strategic value along the new battlefront north and south of Armentieres, from which the British have withdrawn, the Germans having placed it in a pocket by driving a wedge on either side of it. On the extreme right the Germans to-day were pounding away against the British defences at Givenchy, which has changed hands many times since the initial German onslaught on Tuesday. North of Armentieres the Germans were showing an equal desire to possess Messines Ridge and Whytchaete, which are dominating positions and which changed hands several times. Last night the Germans got a footing in Messines Village and they were still there to-night, but the British were clinging to the west ridge and were keeping the enemy from Whytchaete. In the neighborhood of Ploegstreet the enemy again surged forward, and hard fighting was proceeding in this section late to-day. South of Armentieres the enemy also delivered violent assaults. The British this morning made a successful counter-attack and forced the enemy from Paradise, southwest of Lestrem. The abandonment of five or ten miles of territory in any sector does not mean disaster. The battle has got beyond such considerations, and has settled down to a grim race to determine whether the German man-power is enough to make good the threat to annihilate the British Army and force its capitulation. It is a cold proposition of which side can kill the most men in the next few weeks, and at the same time find more recruits to fill the depleted ranks. The mist yesterday continued to favor the enemy and to hamper the defending gunners. It was partly on account of these fogs that the Germans progressed so far as they did above Armentieres. The situation here to-day did not appear to be critical. The enemy yesterday did not attack with the huge forces employed on other sectors since the opening of the offensive, although he undoubtedly used many more men than were holding the line attacked. South of Armentieres the British yesterday and last night continued to hold most of their front satisfactorily. The enemy crossed the River Lawe and obtained a footing in Lestrem but were quickly

SLAUGHTERING THE HUNS.

LONDON, April 12. "You could have shot them down with your eyes shut," said a wounded machine-gunner in describing how the Germans attacked on the Western front, according to the correspondent there of the Daily Mail. "We fired straight into them, and they went down in heaps, yet we could not stop them; it was one down and another come on." The correspondent quotes other remarks from wounded soldiers which are indicative of the unconquerable spirit of the British defenders, and which bear further testimony to the terrible toll the Germans are paying for every foot they advance. The correspondent says that wounded soldiers agreed that the Germans outnumbered the defenders at least two to one. "Aye, we're never far away," a wounded Highlander replied to the remark of the correspondent that the Highlanders seemed to get into all the battles. He proceeded to tell how his regiment was on a canal bank with the Germans coming up on the other side in an attempt to get across. We were told to hold our fire, and we waited until they were well in view. Then when there were hundreds before us we let fly. Monu, monu. it was murderous." (Continued on 7th page.)

When you want something in a hurry for tea, go to ELLIS' Head Cheese, Ox Tongue, Boiled Ham, Cooked Corned Beef, Bologna Sausage.

CODFISH IMPORTERS,
UNIAO IMPORTADORA, Ltd.
Trust of 18 Great Importers,
OPORTO—PORTUGAL.
Telegrams:—Uniao Importadora.
Buyers and Consignees. Liberal advances on consignments.
References:—
Banco de Portugal, Banco Nacional Ultramarino, London & Brazilian Bank, Ltd., Oporto. jan19,eow



An Appeal

I am addressing this Appeal to all the people of Newfoundland, but especially to those of the Outports.

Your Government have decided to make another special attempt to obtain further recruits for the duties forced upon us by the War. I am anxious to explain to you in simple and strong words why those duties are yours.

In your sea-girt home you have, I know, your own dangers and anxieties to face. As I write this my mind is still full of the appalling disaster to the Florizel. But War you do not realise; you are beyond the sound of the guns which, in the South East corner of England, I have heard day after day breaking in upon the beauty and calmness of the summer air.

That awe-inspiring rumble of the guns which I ask you to imagine—that lurid light on the horizon which I ask you to picture are the signs of a terrible struggle for Right—of a mighty effort to save from ruin, not only France, but every bit of free soil in the world, including this island of which you are so proud. The awful struggle seems to be approaching its climax now and your close kinsmen are in the middle of it.

Some may ask, What is the danger? and it is my purpose to endeavour to make it clear to you.

By some permission of Divine Providence, which we do not understand, a nation of criminals is now attacking all that is just and true in the whole world. Germany has set herself deliberately to violate every law of Right and every principle of Humanity.

Never before in History has a War been planned like this. Hitherto all wars have had some sort of pretext of right or impulse of passion. It has been reserved to the German military party to plot wilfully and wantonly a great crime against the peace of mankind.

And the hypocrisy with which Germany supports the crime makes it still more abominable. As Judas treated the Christ, Germany is treating Civilization. Under appeals to God, Germany masks the utmost malignities of the devil. The German nation to-day knows no Law except that of the pagan, the liar, the ravisher, the murderer. They are a curse let loose on the Earth. And the task demanded of all of us is to fight and conquer this curse just as in our moral life we are bound to fight and conquer Sin. The Cause is a far broader and holier Cause than that which impelled the Crusaders against the Saracens.

We may thank God that the greater nations of the World have realised the justice of the Cause; and I believe that every man in Newfoundland will one day be thankful that he was at least asked to face this question—"Is it not my higher duty to go out and save humanity from destruction?"

Remember that your wives, your children, your cottages, your boats, are in positive danger if the German breaks through France. As he is treating the foolish Russians, so he will treat every nation whom he touches—America, Canada, Newfoundland, are to him mere objectives for his greedy brutality. He is entirely evil, he has no sense of right and no feelings of Mercy.

This mass of incarnate selfishness is held back by the strong arm of the Allies in France. Will any man of British race decline to do all he can to defeat and crush it?

At this moment the need is specially great, for the Germans are now desperate. They begin to realise the truth of that dread decree "He that takes the sword, shall perish with the sword". At no horror will they hesitate if they can but escape the punishment that is their due.

Now on every man and woman among us lies the duty to bear a hand in administering that punishment a duty not only to ourselves but to posterity. If age or health prevent some of us from going they do not prevent us from following the greatest example ever set to mankind and making the sacrifice of that which is dearest to our hearts.

You young men I ask to listen carefully to the appeals which will once more be made to you in the next few weeks. Believe me that the voluntary act of a man, impelled by the high sense of duty, is far nobler than the mere obedience to the provisions of a public enactment.

One special word I say to women. Try to realise the sufferings of women and children wherever the Germans come: think of the little children starved in Belgium and slaughtered in cold blood in Armenia. Let your men folk stand out and protect you, for in helping to defeat the Germans they are protecting the honour and safety of all their dear ones at home.

C. ALEXANDER HARRIS,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
Government House, St. John's,
30th March, 1918. apr6,eod,tft

Stanfield
rwear
AND SUMMER.

shipment of this reliable
in Spring and Summer
t value in Men's Under-
from a mere standpoint of
We are this season, in ac-
requests, showing

Combination Suits,
40 each.

was booked last year, and
and have to be re-ordered,
down. We protect you as
anced buying and reasonable
protect yourself by early pur-
ds and ends in

ere Underwear,
y smaller sizes to suit small
8 years old. These are dead

y Blair

Two Imperial
Forces

RENDERING YEOMAN SERVICE
TO THE CONSTITUTION.
Fry's
COCOA
THE HIGHEST COCOA VALUE OBTAINABLE

MAKERS TO H.M. THE KING.
enab & Co.,
ators for Newfoundland.

ns and Summer
k and Pictorial
Magazine.

Send 27c. for Fashion
r 15c. Pattern, mail us
with 2c. stamp and we

S HUTTON,
ent Newfoundland.

ple of Modern
ess is SERVICE.



Clothing Co., Ltd.
WM. WHITE, Manager.

ing Telegram
ople's Paper.

**MILLINERY
ECONOMY** Worth
While
You can freshen
up your Old Straw
Hats, or take new
ones, if they are
out the color you
desire and re-color
with "DY-O-LA"
STRAW HAT
COLOR. Puttyn
Black, Blue, Navy
Blue, Tan, Brown,
Green, Chestnut,
and Purple.
Ready for use
with every bottle.
Simply simple,
Simply perfect.
TRY IT!
ASK your Druggist or Dealer for
DY-O-LA
Straw Hat Color