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British Again Have Ayette

Re-capture Town Eight Miles from Arras; Repulse Determined Enemy Attack; French Withstand Charge and Gain Some Ground

Washington, April 3—An indication that heavy French reinforcements are being brought up rapidly to the point on the western front, where the Germans appear to have concentrated their strongest efforts is carried in information received at the British war mission today from British headquarters in France. The French forces, it was said, have extended their line to Thennes, near the Luce river. This enables the British to shorten their own line and to concentrate their forces.

London, April 3—British troops, after sharp fighting last night, repulsed a determined attack by the Germans in the neighborhood of Fampoux. The war office announced this today.

The town of Ayette (about eight miles southwest of Arras) is again in British possession.

"More than 100 prisoners and three machine guns were captured by us," says the official statement. "We secured a few prisoners yesterday through an enterprise in the neighborhood of Serre already reported. There is nothing further to report from the battlefront

"Lincolnshire troops raided the enemy's trenches north of Loos yesterday morning and captured thirty-one prisoners and a machine gun. Another successful raid in which we captured a few Germans was carried out by us last night northeast of Poelcapelle."

Paris, April 3—A German attack south of Moreuil last night was repulsed by the French fire, and the enemy was unable to gain a footing in any part of the French position, except at one point. The French also broke up a German attack near Rollot, and gained ground north of Piemont.

French Official.

Paris, April 3—The French official statement follows:

"On the front between the Somme and the Oise there was increasing activity on the part of the artillery on both sides. South of Moreuil the enemy made a spirited attack against the French positions between Morisel and Nailly-Rameville. It was repulsed by the French fire, and the enemy was not able to gain a footing in the French defences, except at a single point.

"A German effort north of Rollot was broken up by the French fire. Last night the French carried out a local operation on the slopes north of Piemont, in the course of which our troops enlarged their position appreciably and took sixty prisoners. There is nothing to report from the remainder of the front.

"On March 31 and April 1, French aerial squadrons threw down 12,000 kilograms (more than thirteen tons) of projectiles on railways and cantonments at Ham, Chauny, Noyon, etc. A large fire was observed in the railway station at Chaulnes. German cantonments in the region of Roye were bombarded with many projectiles and attacked with machine guns from a low elevation. French pursuit planes were engaged in many fights, in the course of which eight German airplanes were brought down. Two others were put out of action."

INFANTRY RESTING ON ARMS TUESDAY.

With the British Army in France, April 2—(By the Associated Press)—The British armies were waiting today for the next move along the extended battle front. Possibly the enemy also was waiting for the British to show their hand, but the probabilities are that the Germans were not quite ready to begin the struggle anew in the north.

In any event the infantry on both sides were resting on their arms in most places up to noon of Tuesday. Even below the Somme, where there had been such bitter fighting, there was a lull, although from the French sector to the south came reports that the enemy was continuing to pound the Allied lines with all the strength that could be mustered.

Notwithstanding the inactivity along the British line, no one doubted that the storm would break anew with great violence, and further activity is expected at any hour. Meantime the delay is working to the advantage of the Allies who are rapidly perfecting their plans to meet the next onslaught.

The Airmen.

London, April 3—British aviators were very active on Monday on the battle front in France, dropping seventeen tons of bombs and bringing down sixteen German airplanes and two balloons. Eleven British machines are missing. British flying machines also bombed enemy railway stations, billets, troops and transports, dropping many bombs on the Cambrai railway station, on the station southeast of Douai, on the railway line south of that town, as well as on other targets. All the British machines returned.

DEATH OF MRS. WALTER COBHAM.

Many will learn with regret of the death of Mrs. Walter Cobham of this city, which occurred this morning after a lingering illness, aged forty-six. She leaves her husband, two sons and four daughters to mourn. There was a service on Wednesday night at 8 o'clock at her residence, 31 Market Place, West St. John. Interment will be at Whitehead, Kings county.

TAKES BRIDE TO WEST.

At the manse in Fairville yesterday, Rev. W. M. Townsend united in marriage Fred I. Keirstead, formerly of Apohaqui, and Miss Mabel I. Keirstead of Fairville. They will leave tonight for the west, Mr. Keirstead being a prosperous farmer near Turtleford, Sask. The bride is a niece of Rev. Professor Keirstead of MacMaster University, Toronto.

Accepts Nova Scotia Call.

Guelph, Ont., April 8—Rev. H. H. Wahl, the student pastor of St. Paul's English Lutheran church here, has accepted a call to the Conquerall parish of Nova Scotia, and expects to leave for that place in a few days.

"WILL HOLD OUT TILL AMERICANS READY"

Allies in Great Need of Men and Military Age Limit in Britain Will Likely be Advanced

New York, April 3—The Allies are so terribly in need of men that the military age in Great Britain probably will be advanced after the present German offensive, according to a statement made here by Sir George Adam Smith, principal and vice-chancellor of Aberdeen University, who has just arrived from England as a representative of the department of public information of the British foreign office to deliver a series of lectures.

"What we need from America is ships and men," he said, "but aside from the material aid, I may say that the moral stimulus given by the entrance of America in the war is tremendous. Man power, however, is the vital issue. We are now facing a very serious crisis but we will hold out until you are ready."

A TIMELY ARRANGEMENT

London, April 3—The treaty of industrial peace between labor and capital in the United States, the Times says in an editorial, coincides appropriately with the military decision to bring the American forces in France at once into the battlefield among their British and French comrades in arms.

"Both moves," the editorial continues, "are an earnest of the determination of the United States to put all its strength into the struggle. The effect of the peace treaty will be watched here with keen interest and with the earnest hope that it may be more successful than the corresponding agreement concluded in our own war industries three years ago."

"A hopeful feature of the American treaty is the spirit out of which it comes, and that it is due to an actual condition of affairs. The issue and nature of the conflict are understood as they never have been before. The fate of Russia, the accumulated evidence of German designs, the revelations of German character and conduct and the present military situation has opened the eyes of all men."

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of Meterological service

Synopsis—A shallow low area which was in the far southwest yesterday is now moving eastward across the middle states and the western high is spreading over Ontario and Quebec accompanied by rather low temperature. The weather is fine throughout the dominion.

Forecasts.

Lakes and Georgian Bay — Fresh northerly winds; fair and cold today and on Thursday.

Upper St. Lawrence and Ottawa Valley—Moderate west and north winds, fine and cold today and on Thursday.

Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—Fresh northwesterly winds, fair and cold today and on Thursday.

Fair and Cool.

Maritime—Fresh to strong west and northwest winds, fair; Thursday, fresh northwest, fair and quite cool.

Superior—Moderate winds, fine and cold today and on Thursday.

All West—Fine, becoming milder today and on Thursday.

New England—Gradually fair tonight and Thursday, except probably rain along the south coast; colder, variable winds becoming northwest

POWER BILL NOT LIKELY TAKEN UP FOR SOME TIME YET

That is Outlook in Fredericton Today

ANOTHER SHIPBUILDING PLAN

St. John Drydock and Shipbuilding Co. Asks Government for Assistance—Public Accounts Committee Takes Up Financial Matters

(Special to Times.)

Fredericton, April 3—So far as can be learned, it does not seem likely that the N. B. Power Company bill will be up for discussion this week, and it is possible that it will not be dealt with in committee until the week after next.

To Build Ships Here.

Thomas A. Duff of Toronto and J. B. Craven of New York, waited on the government this morning to ask for assistance for the St. John Drydock and Shipbuilding Company which has under consideration the establishment of a plant for the construction of steel steamers at St. John. Consideration was promised.

T. P. Regan of St. John is in Fredericton as president of the N. B. Automobile Association in connection with the Highways bill.

W. G. Pugsley of Montreal is here to spend a few days with his father, Lieut.-Governor Pugsley.

H. P. Robinson arrived from St. John this morning.

E. J. Tighe came to Fredericton this morning in the interests of the labor unions, in connection with the Workmen's Compensation Act.

Public Accounts.

The public accounts committee held its first meeting of this session this morning and made considerable progress passing all the receipts and about half the expenditures as shown in the comparative statement. The committee did not get down to the detailed statements today.

There was little criticism of any of the items, although each party was responsible for the administration during half of the period for which the accounts are presented.

The committee met at ten o'clock and proceeded to organize, re-electing Fred Magee as chairman. John Keeffe is secretary. The auditor-general was in attendance. The comparative statement of receipts and expenditures was gone over item by item.

In the receipts it was shown that the territorial revenue was $4,000 less than last year, due to reduction in lumber cut. The total ordinary revenue was only about $8,000 less, despite a reduction of $10,000 in fees received, $47,000 less in succession duties and $40,000 less in liquor licenses. Among the increases were $9,000 in taxes on incorporated companies, $6,000 from school book sales, $23,000 from motor vehicles fees, $14,000 from prohibition act fines and $18,000 received from sale of seeds and various small increases.

It was suggested by Mr. Smith of Carleton that the royalty on coal mines might be increased from fifteen to thirty cents a ton. Mr. King of Queens said that with the increased cost of labor and other production expenses, this would be prohibitive.

In taking up the expenditures Mr. Smith of Carleton drew attention to an item of $3,700 for the greater production campaign, alleging that this was a waste of money.

When the committee arose it was to resume on Thursday morning.

The law practice and procedure committee met this morning for consideration of a bill relating to marsh lands in Albert county.

SPURRING ON THE SHIPBUILDERS

Why Has March Output Fallen Behind Schedule?

Washington, April 3—American shipbuilders were called upon last night by Chairman Hurley of the shipping board and General Manager Piez, of the emergency fleet corporation, to explain why their output for March fell behind schedule.

"Keynote of present situation is management—leadership," a telegram said. "Money, material and men have been supplied without stint by the nation. The American people want ships, not excuses."

In discussing the telegram Chairman Hurley said it was his intention to find out exactly where the fault lay.

CRAVES CLOSER RELATIONS.

One of the chief export firms at Williamsfield, Jamaica, B. W. I., writes to the secretary of the board of trade as follows:

"Your letter in the Gleaner (on closer commercial relations with the British West Indies through the ports of St. John and Halifax) has interested us.

"We are large exporters of coffee, pimento, cocoa, honey, orange oil (sweet and bitter), ginger, anatto, wax, sugar, goat skins, ginger peel, etc., and shall be much obliged if you will assist us in getting in touch with dominion firms interested in our products.

"Thanking you in anticipation and craving for closer commercial relations with you."

The name of this firm and its references can be obtained at the board of trade rooms.

Austria Was Close To Beginning of Peace Negotiations

Count Czernin Says "Wind Suddenly Veered," Allies Deciding to Await Developments Which Would Make Dual Monarchy Defenceless

London, April 3—Austro-Hungary was recently almost on the point "of beginning peace negotiations with the Entente," Count Czernin, Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, declared yesterday in an address to the Vienna municipal council. The wind "suddenly veered," he added, the Entente deciding to await developments in his country which caused it to hope that the dual monarchy "would soon be defenceless."

"The foreign ministers words were: 'Recently we were almost on the point of entering into negotiations with the western powers, when the wind suddenly veered round, and, as we know with certainty, the Entente decided it had better wait, as parliamentary and political events in our country justified the hope that the monarchy would soon be defenceless.

"I do not intend to go begging for peace or to obtain it by entreaties and lamentations, but to enforce it by our moral right and physical strength," said the count. "Any other tactics I consider will tend to the prolongation of the war."

In regard to Bulgaria's attitude toward Serbia, he said: "Bulgaria must receive from Serbia certain districts inhabited by Bulgarians. We, however, have no desire to destroy Serbia. We will enable Serbia to develop, and would welcome closer economic relations with her.

"Since I came into office, I have striven only after one aim, namely, to secure an honorable peace to the monarchy and to create a situation which will secure to Austria-Hungary her future development, and moreover, to do everything possible to insure that this terrible war will be the last one for time out of mind. I have never spoken differently."

Is New Bid For Peace?

Washington, April 3—Count Czernin's statement was characterized here today as the beginning of a new peace offensive at Germany's behest. It was timed, officials said, to follow the breakdown of the Teutonic military offensive. Czernin's statements that Premier Clemenceau had indicated a willingness to discuss peace was not given credence.

A Lie.

Paris, April 3—"Czernin lied." This is all Premier Clemenceau had to say when told of the statement of Czernin that he had inquired whether Austria-Hungary was ready to negotiate, and if so on what basis.

INSURANCE RATES IN FREDERICTON CUT

(Special to Times.)

Fredericton, N. B., April 3—Merchants of Fredericton this morning received word that the fire insurance companies have made a general reduction of five per cent on the premiums on all mercantile risks in this city. The reduction went into effect March 8.

The reduction in rates on stocks is made in accordance with the agreement made by the fire underwriters last year when the city made extensive improvements and additions to the equipment of the fire department.

Dr. C. Gordon Hewitt, of Ottawa, is at the Queen. He is on a tour to this part of the dominion, inspecting the work of his department.

FEWER FISHERIES GUARDIANS

Elimination of Political Influence In Appointments

Ottawa, April 3—The number of fisheries guardians is to be reduced. In making announcement to this effect to the house in committee of supply last night, Hon. C. C. Ballantyne, minister of marine and fisheries, declared also that it was his intention to eliminate political influence, where it exists, in making appointments. The fisheries estimates were under consideration at the time—estimates which show a reduction of $319,900, as compared with the vote last year.

From the opposition side doubt was raised whether political influence had been eliminated in appointing guardians. Mr. Ballantyne said he was holding the district inspector responsible for recommendations of candidates.

"If," he added, "it can be shown to me that the inspector is not acting fairly and is making appointments on a political basis, I will guarantee instant dismissal of the inspector. I do not care how long he has been in the service."

Hon. J. D. Reid said that the department of railways had entered into a contract for the construction of from 150 to 200 refrigerator cars to carry fish inland, and that some second hand cars had been purchased. The cars would also be utilized for the transport of apples and potatoes.

BURIED TODAY.

The funeral of Mrs. Mary Duffy took place this morning from the residence of her brother-in-law, Thomas Morris, 184 Bridge street, to St. Peter's church, where high mass of requiem was celebrated by Rev. F. J. Coghlan. Interment was made in the new Catholic cemetery.

The funeral of Mrs. LeBaron Flewelling took place this afternoon from her late residence, Manawagonish road. Services were conducted by Rev. Walter P. Dunham and interment was made in the Good Shepherd cemetery.

PIUS MECHAUD OPPOSES IT

Leasing of Two Miles of Bangor & Aroostook Railway

COMES UP IN COMMONS

Hon. Mr. Reid Says Government Would Buy But Bonds Will Not Mature Till 1934—Matter of Newspaper Advertising

Ottawa, April 3—In the commons last night the house then went into committee on the minister of railways bill providing for the leasing of two miles of the Bangor & Aroostook Railway, so as to connect the Transcontinental and International railways, running through a section of New Brunswick.

Dr. Reid said that the rental of this piece of road would make a single station do the work which now required two. He said that the government would have purchased this short piece of road, but the bonds did not mature until 1934. Therefore, the lease would be made until that year.

P. Michaud of Restigouche objected to the passage of the bill, saying he had just come from the district and that the people were opposed to its leasing. He read a petition from the residents of St. Leonard's objecting to the proposed removal of the station.

Hon. Mr. Reid consented to an adjournment of the discussion so that some other objections might be looked into.

D. D. McKenzie drew the attention of the minister of the interior to the publication of certain regulations, emanating from the interior department, in maritime provinces Conservative papers. Mr. McKenzie said that Mr. Meighen surely must have been greatly relieved when the union government abolished patronage. Strangely enough, official notifications, like the one to which he referred, appeared only in the Conservative papers. They were not to be found in Liberal newspapers. This seemed very strange, in view of the government's declaration about patronage.

"My friend," said Mr. Meighen, replying to Mr. McKenzie, "is, as usual, behind the times. Patronage has been abolished, but it was not possible for the government to turn contracts into scraps of paper. The newspaper which my friend is reading is the last month's paper. Beginning with this month such notices will not appear in any papers, Conservative or Liberal."

Mr. McKenzie admitted that the newspaper had been published at the latter end of March.

GROUND GLASS IN BREAD; BAKERS ARE DISCHARGING GERMANS

New York, April 3—As a result of many complaints of glass being found in bread and flour, the federal food board has ordered Brooklyn bakeries to discharge all Germans in their employ. One large concern reported that it had discharged two German employes.

SUPREME COURT DECIDES IT CANNOT REVIEW THE JUDGE RUSSELL DECISION

Halifax, N. S., April 3—The supreme court of Nova Scotia this morning decided, Mr. Justice Drysdale dissenting, "that it had no jurisdiction to entertain a motion to review a decision discharging a prisoner on habeas corpus." This was in the case of Francis MacKay, who was pilot of the munitions ship Mont Blanc when the collision of December occurred, and who was held on the charge of manslaughter, but later discharged from custody by order of Mr. Justice Russell. This decision in the supreme court does not prevent the case of Pilot MacKay or Captain Lemedec, master of the Mont Blanc, from going to the grand jury, and in legal circles here this morning it was said that that step might be taken.

BRINGS MATTER OF ALIEN CONSCRIPTION OF LABOR TO PARLIAMENT.

Ottawa, April 3—W. F. MacLean of South York has given notice of the following resolution:

"That, in the opinion of this house, aliens of enemy birth resident in Canada should be conscripted by the government for industrial purposes, and such laborers be leased to employers on such terms as will maintain the standard rate of wages in Canada, while limiting the wage to be paid such alien for his own use to soldiers' pay."

Smashing The Hun Trenches

Canadian Guns, Heavy and Light, Pour In Rain of Shells—Grim Notice to Fritz That Dominion Troops Are Ready For Him

Canadian Army Headquarters in the Field, April 3—(By W. A. Willison, Canadian Press Correspondent)—Again this morning our guns, heavy and light, have smashed up the enemy trenches, communications and assembly areas, our artillery co-operating with the infantry in fifteen minutes' of barrage fire, while our machine guns swept No Man's Land and the opposing trenches.

Our strokes and trench mortars added the weight of their fire to the programme, which gave the enemy further grim notice of our readiness to meet his offensive operations. All night long, too, our guns maintained a slow fire on enemy areas, punctuated with harassing fire programmes at intervals.

While both the enemy's weight of artillery and infantry concentration point to another attempt against Arras and Vimy Ridge, nothing more than patrol activity has characterized our front line, save for one raid north of Acheville against an enemy post, as a result of which we captured one prisoner.

In visits to batteries, battalions and brigades and divisions I have found high spirits everywhere. It is felt that Germany has lost the first play in her desperate gamble for victory and while further bitter fighting is anticipated there is no conviction anywhere that the enemy can succeed in the future where he has failed in the past.

Vimy Anniversary.

Save for constant duels between our own and enemy batteries, Easter Monday, the first anniversary of the day the Canadians took Vimy Ridge, passed without incident beyond marked aerial activity. All day long the intermittent rattle of machine guns could be heard from our trenches directed against enemy planes, while our anti-aircraft guns were repeatedly in action. At the same time our own machines were carrying out operations far into enemy territory and clashes between enemy planes were numerous.

Battle conditions have succeeded the ordinary routine for the Canadian corps, but as yet no heavy fighting has taken place.

TALK OF "JOKER" IN PROHIBITION BILL

Chief Inspector Wilson Quotes Order-in-Council and Judges it Sound

Montreal, April 2—A "joker" has been discovered in the prohibition bill, so prominent grocers and liquor dealers here contend, whereby they can continue to supply "dry" districts within the province of Quebec.

They have had advice of legal experts, and these are of the opinion that the "joker" is in the preamble to the order-in-council, which sets forth that it was designed to further the enforcement of provincial laws, which do not apply to shipments from wet parts of the province to dry parts. Outside of this supposed defect, the legal experts say, the law is very clear, and provides that after April 1 liquors shall not be shipped from wet to dry provinces.

When Rev. Mr. Wilson, New Brunswick chief inspector, was shown this today, he quoted the federal order-in-council on the prohibition act as follows:

"'Prohibited area' means any province, territory, municipality, district, county, or other area wherein the sale of intoxicating liquor is under or by any law, federal or provincial, prohibited."

The chief inspector did not think there was any joker in that.

FOUR NEW BRUNSWICKERS

Ottawa, Ont., April 3—Last night's list of 106 names reports twenty Canadians killed in action, four died of wounds, two died, five missing, fifty wounded, eight gassed, and seventeen ill. The list:

INFANTRY

Killed in Action

W. Robertson Spear, Spanish Ship Bay, N. S.; W. A. Gayton, Yarmouth, N. S.

Wounded

Andred A. MacDonell, Enfield, N. S.; Sergt. Edward L. Cuvelier, Amherst, N. S.; H. J. Samford, Maccan, N. S.

Gassed

H. E. Ison, Sackville, N. B.

MOUNTED RIFLES

H. L. Nodwell, Norton, N. B.; Lance-Sergt. W. Mann, Keswick, N. B.

LONG RANGE GUN SHELLS PARIS AGAIN

Paris, April 3—The Germans again began to bombard Paris at 9.50 o'clock this morning.

QUEBEC SITUATION

Prisoners Held Pending Decision As To Status

Undergoing Examination As To Liability for Service in Army—Counsel Say Habeas Corpus Proceedings May Be Taken

Quebec, April 3—When Judge Langelier took his seat this morning to conduct the preliminary hearing into the cases against sixty-two men arrested in connection with the rioting here, it was announced that none of the prisoners had been released from the citadel by the military authorities. It is understood that details of the method of prosecuting the young men have not yet been worked out. Judge Langelier adjourned the cases till this afternoon and intimated that he would communicate with the department of justice at Ottawa. Several lawyers were present to represent the prisoners. They asserted that if the prisoners were not liberated on bail this afternoon they would apply for writs of habeas corpus.

General Lessard announced that the men under arrest are to be examined to see if they come under the M. S. A. and that until this work is complete the men will not be turned over to the civil authorities.

Failure of the rioters to continue their disturbances last night has relieved the tension here, though the general feeling is that further trouble may yet develop.

Pilgrimages are being organized to the chapel of Notre Dame de Lourdes to pray for peace in the city.

Several men were arrested today for carrying concealed weapons.

General Lessard this morning said he hoped the rioting was over. The express companies have been notified that they must not carry firearms or ammunition or high explosives to Quebec.

Lavergne Takes Libel Action.

Quebec, April 3—Armand Lavergne today had a warrant served on Edwin J. Smith, manager of the Quebec Daily Telegraph, for alleged criminal libel. Mr. Smith appeared before Judge Langelier and was allowed out on bail. Mr. Lavergne's action is based on comment made in the Daily Telegraph in connection with the recent disturbances.

London Opinion.

London, April 3—(Canadian Associated Press)—There is no need of misgivings in Canada that the Quebec disturbances are considered at the exaggerated value of the cables describing them. The same are given prominence, but no responsible editorial opinion has so far appeared, the English seemingly being of the opinion that Canada's enthusiasm in the war is beyond question. Among Canadians here, civil and military, the feeling is one of complete indignation, combined with the fervent hope and belief that the government will not hesitate to take drastic measures.

TODAY IN WALL STREET.

New York, April 3—Stocks were steady to strong at the opening of the market today, but a disposition to wait for decisive news from abroad was again evident. Pools resumed their operations in special issues, Sumatra Tobacco soon gaining two and three-quarter points on further reports of a forthcoming increased dividend. Such varieties as Baldwin Locomotive, Studebaker, U. S. Steel, American International Corporation, American Woolen and Distillers were higher by fractions to a point. Liberty bonds were unchanged.

Noon Report.

The market continues to manifest all its superficial features of the previous session, stocks like Studebaker, Sumatra Tobacco and Ontario Silver, taking precedence in point of prominence over the recognized leaders. Dealings dwindled steadily, the first hour's sales falling below yesterday's meagre total. Later the list hardened on a very moderate demand for Reading and United States Steel. American Car and Baldwin Locomotive also made substantial gains.

ARE IN FINE SHAPE.

General Edwin F. Glenn Says Americans at Front in Good Condition.

An Atlantic Port, April 3—Major-General Edwin F. Glenn, U. S. A., who has been at the front in France, has arrived here on an American ship.

Speaking of the American troops now at the front, General Glenn said:

"I never saw the American army in such fine condition as it is now."

He described the spirit and morale of the British and French armies as "wonderful."

BEAUTIFUL NOYON CATHEDRAL REPORTED ABLAZE

Amsterdam, April 3—The Cathedral at Noyon is afire, according to a semi-official statement from Berlin. The blaze is attributed by the Germans to the French bombardment.

The cathedral at Noyon is one of the most beautiful French examples of the transition style of architecture of the 11th-12th century.