

BOTH SIDES DETERMINE TO FIGHT TO A FINISH

BLOW STRUCK BY GERMANY PROVED A HUGE SURPRISE

To Smash Her So She Cannot Longer Threaten to Force a German Peace on the World is a Gigantic Undertaking—Teuton Imperial Staff Decides to Fight to a Finish.

Special Cable to New York Tribune and St. John Standard. (By Arthur S. Draper). London, April 14—Stripped of all camouflage the situation is something like this—Germany has sprung a huge surprise. She has overturned preconceived views. She has won big successes, not by peace propaganda as charged at the time of the Italian reverses or by some supernatural ability to forecast the weather conditions, but only by concentrating great forces at specified points and launching terrific blows and catching the Anglo-French armies off their equilibrium.

The German imperial staff has decided to fight to a finish for the vindication of militarism, Kaiserism and every other "ism" against which we are united to destroy. Germany is trying to crush Great Britain. Must Be Smashed. To smash her so she cannot longer threaten, to force a German peace on the world is a gigantic undertaking. It is no less of a job to overturn the programme German militarists are supreme. They are not troubled by any age limit debates. They are professional fighting amateurs. Had the British held the Somme, the situation would be profoundly different today. But the only thing that counts now is to prepare for the immediate future. If everyone accepts the situation as it exists and acts accordingly the Allies can weather the storm. In short, this allied victory has become a will of the wisp. It is on Flanders and France that America must rivet her attention, for there are her sons, along with the greatest military power the world has produced.

War aims mean nothing at this moment, the only aim that counts is to "beat the enemy" or as the president says "force to the utmost." Mistakes of the past must be forgotten. national unity and allied co-ordination are absolutely essential, first to prevent defeat, then to win victory.

BRITISH LINE IS HOLDING AND GERMAN DRIVE WEST OF ARMENTIERES CHECKED

(Continued from page one.) Huns Beaten Back. A determined assault on the British defences in the region of Festubert have been beaten back. British and French reserves are reported to have arrived in the battle area in considerable numbers. That they have been badly needed is shown by the fact that the Fifth First Scotch division, which saved the day on the Somme, had a similar task to face on the Armentieres front. It is too early to judge even the present situation without attempting to forecast future developments. The enemy is unpleasantly close to Bailleul and has made a serious indentation south of Messines Ridge. The British hold exceedingly strong natural defences, they are commanded by a general who knows every inch of Messines Ridge, but the enemy's attack carries considerable momentum and he is short of neither men nor guns. He is less than thirty miles from Dunkirk and that is the goal on the attainment of which he has set his mind.

Attack Well Prepared. It would cause no surprise if the attack spread right along the Passchendaele front to the coast. But Ludendorff is unlikely to attempt the passage of the Yser until his effort to turn Messines Ridge proves a failure. The whole course of the battle may turn upon the developments between Wytchaele and Bailleul. If the Germans penetrate a few miles here, the whole northern front must be altered by withdrawal of several miles, which would lead to a gigantic battle in the open similar in character to that in the fall of 1914. The naval activity along the Belgian coast is significant. If the British should be forced to withdraw, the Germans would undoubtedly attempt to block their way to a coastal raid and might possibly attempt to land troops west of Newport. There has been heavy fighting in the Amiens sector but only of a local character. The enemy has not resumed his offensive on a big scale.

Recover Positions. The British and French troops have recovered the positions they lost at Hagard-En-Santerre and there is little change. Apparently another attempt to smash the British line between Albert and Arras is imminent, the artillery fire increasing. Does America appreciate what Field Marshal Haig means when he says that the British army has its back against the wall? Does America grasp the astounding changes which three weeks of fighting have brought? Does America understand what is happening in France and Flanders today? Probably not. Even the British who are almost within sound of the guns awaken very slowly to the gravity of their position. As one critic writes, "Earthquakes are in progress and to speak more bluntly of their devastations continue their present scale for another week, the problem may be not to get men into France but to get them out. That may seem a pessimistic forecast, but

CANADA WILL HASTEN AID

Ottawa Cabinet in Session Until Midnight Last Night—To Speed up Militia Act.

Ottawa, April 14—The cabinet council was in session for four hours this evening. Sunday sittings of the cabinet are quite unusual, but when the ministers dispersed at midnight, Sir Robert Borden said he had no statement to make as to the nature of the deliberations. It is understood, however, that the cabinet met to put the final touches on a number of amendments to the military service act which are designed to increase the flow of reinforcements for the Canadian army in France.

In the absence of an official announcement it is impossible to say whether the amendments have been definitely framed. If they have their purpose will doubtless be announced in parliament without delay. Will Hurry Aid. The object of the government is to speed up the working of the act, so that additional fighting forces may be secured with the least possible delay. It is certain that all exemptions granted will be subjected to review the urgency of the situation being emphasized by the serious developments on the western front during the past fortnight.

Lloyd-George, in his recent speech in the British House of Commons, said that the greatest need for men would be felt by the end of May or in June. The government is determined to do everything possible to have Canada's army maintained at its present high state of efficiency when the need is greatest.

THE AMERICANS REPEL SEVERE HUN ATTACKS

(Continued from page one.) The latest German official communication dealing with the situation in the region of St. Mihiel, where the Americans are defending the line, says that the Germans inflicted heavy losses on the Americans in a successful thrust and also took prisoners. The same report gives the Germans credit for gains of ground on the western front, where the British are opposed to them.

In Finland the Germans are continuing to overrun the country and the fall of Helsinki is daily to be expected, according to advices from Stockholm. Detachments of the enemy already are within twelve miles of the Finnish capital, in the harbor of which German war vessels are lying.

The German long range gun continued throughout Saturday night and Sunday to bombard Paris. The material damage was slight and only one person, a woman, was killed.

Prof. Haycock Dead. Halifax April 14—Ernest Haycock, professor of geology at Acadia College, died yesterday at Wolfville, the result of an attack of heart trouble which he had contracted at the age of fifty five years ago. He was born in Acadia in 1856, taking his V. A. Degree at Harvard in 1898. In that year he was appointed professor of geology and chemistry at Acadia College.

C. P. R. Steamers Taken. Victoria, B.C., April 14—The C.P.R. steamers Empress of Asia and Empress of Russia have been commended to the dominion government. The order has already been issued that the sailings of these ships have been cancelled.

Face Great Odds. They never have faced greater odds, but they thrive on punishment. Great Britain has been slow in measuring up her enemy. It was not so with the soldiers from France and Flanders. They never under-rated Fritz, they smiled when he read tales of his broken morale, and of his ammunition shortage, and of his desire for surrender. Over-confidence and false optimism existed only in civilian camps, so there is no fear that a sudden change will cause the lowering of morale of the British forces. Bolshism does not beat armies. Lack of troops, shortage of guns, and self complacency do. Within the last fortnight hundreds of thousands of soldiers left these shores. For obvious reasons the numbers cannot be given, but reinforcements should soon make their weight felt.

THE BRITISH REMAIN IN THE POSSESSION OF NEUVE EGLISE

Village Changes Hands Several Times, Field Marshal Haig Announces—German Losses Heavy—Berlin Claims Americans Have Been Defeated North of St. Mihiel—Nieuwerkerke Taken by Storm and Merris and Berguein Captured by Teutons.

London, April 14—The Germans continue their powerful attacks against the British line in Flanders. The town of Neuve Eglise, an important strategic point, which has changed hands several times, remains in possession of the British. Field Marshal Haig's report tonight says:

"At the close of many hours of obstinate fighting during the night and again this morning, about Neuve Eglise our troops remained in possession of the village. The enemy's attacks in this sector have been pressed with great determination and his losses throughout have been heavy. Today the enemy renewed his attempts to gain possession of the village and the fighting continues."

Near Bailleul fighting occurred with variable results. Merris and Berguein were taken. "Enemy forces which were pushing forward towards the battle front sustained heavy losses by our fire which was effectively directed by ground and air observations. "On the battle front on both sides of the Somme there have been artillery duels. An attack by several French battalions against Hainvillers angularly collapsed; numerous prisoners remained in our hands. "North of St. Mihiel we carried out a successful thrust against American troops. We inflicted heavy losses on them and brought back prisoners. "In aerial battles during the last few days, thirty-seven enemy airships and five German bombers were shot down. Lieutenant Menech' attained his twenty-fourth aerial victory."

Berlin, via London, April 14—German troops, according to the official report from headquarters today, made a successful attack against the Americans north of St. Mihiel. The Germans claimed to have inflicted heavy losses and to have taken prisoners. The statement reads: "On the Lys battlefield we gained ground as a result of hard fighting. South of Douve River General Eberhardt's troops penetrated the enemy's position southwest of Wulverghem and took Nieuwerkerke by storm, after a desperate struggle with bodies of British troops who counter-attacked. "An attack carried through in the evening hours under the leadership of General Maercker brought up into possession of a height to the west of the town."

PLAN WAS TO SEPARATE THE BRITISH AND FRENCH

Diary of German Prisoner Contains Some Interesting Records—Army on March Had Good Luck at First, but Struck Some Snags—Heavy Losses and a Mix-up.

With the British Army in France, April 13—(Saturday)—By The Associated Press—An interesting and illuminating diary concerning the great German offensive was found on an enemy officer belonging to the present sixth division, who was killed south of Hebuterne on April 6. In this document the writer stated that the general intention was to separate the British from the French but in any case the main effort would be directed against the former.

The day for the beginning of the attack, March 21, was called "Michael Day." To symbolize the fact that it was to be "German Michael's" day of revenge, Michael is a popular generic name for the German. Writing on March 18, the officer said: "We belong to the seventh division. The commander is at present unknown. The chief of the general staff of this army is Graf Von Delmeisen, who was with us in Italy. At last we are getting further information about operations on this front. Masses of troops are moving forward. In the salients south of Arras attacks will be launched at three different points, the code names for which will be Michael 1, 2 and 3. Zero day is to be called Michael Day. The name is also the symbol for the German Michael's day of revenge.

Drive for Boulogne. "The general line of advance is in a westerly direction to the ports of Boulogne, Abbeville, etc., in order to separate the British from the French. If France is left to herself she will come to terms quickly, therefore the chief blows are to be directed against the British. Preparations have been so thoroughly planned that failure is almost an impossibility. "In spite of all this, if it should happen that our attack is held up at any one point, it will be immediately broken off and troops moved to another sector. We have a colossal amount of artillery at our disposal. For instance, in our own division, of which only two regiments will be in line, we have sixty-eight batteries and several hundred trench mortars of various calibres. Gas is to be freely used. "An immeasurable quantity of material is at hand for bridging trenches and shell holes to enable transport and artillery of the attacking infantry to follow up the enemy. Large formations are following behind to deal with the booty, wounded and prisoners."

Germany On The March. "Our forward move is via Valenciennes, and Demain to the neighborhood of Charleroi. I have forty men in my platoon. Their morale and general condition is satisfactory. Everything passes on smoothly and it is strange to think of all the masses of troops which are marching west-

STEEVES MOUNTAIN BOY IS MISSING

Zeeenas Steeves Disappears Mysteriously—Smallpox at Leger's Corner—Man's Hip Fractured.

Special to The Standard. Moncton, April 14.—Asor Steeves of Steeves' Mountain, has reported to the police that his seventeen year old son, Zeeenas, has mysteriously disappeared from his home. The boy has been missing since Thursday last and the family are much worried concerning his absence. Two smallpox cases developed today at Leger's Corner. The outbreak is the first reported from the county since the appearance of the disease in Moncton. F. J. Gorbell, retired C. G. R. employee, Saturday night, sustained a fractured hip as the result of a fall while working around his home.

BISHOP OF CORK ISSUES WARNING

Urges Young Men of Ireland to Avoid Playing Into the Hands of Enemy by Joining Formal Military Rising.

Cork, April 14.—In the city churches today a letter from the Catholic bishop of Cork was read, advising the young men of Ireland to avoid playing into the hands of their enemies by joining a formal military rising, which the bishop said would be quickly crushed. The letter said the bishop thought that at the coming conferences between the Nationalist and the Sinn Fein leaders a program would be evolved. The bishop therefore advised the people to defer action pending the decision of the conferees.

GIRL DROWNED BY COLLAPSE OF ICE

Team Owned by Walter Gambelin of Carlingford Breaks Through Thin Ice of Tobique River.

Perth, April 14.—The decaying ice in the Tobique River is responsible for the death of a girl, several other persons narrowly escaping with their lives. While Walter Gambelin, of Carlingford, and his family were driving across the river with a double team, the ice, which was thin in spots, gave way. A little girl, three years of age was drowned and one of the horses was lost. After much difficulty the other occupants of the team saved themselves and one of the horses.

GRAND DUCHY BADEN WANTS RAIDS STOPPED

Karlsruhe Requests General Agreement to Cease Hostile Bombardments of Cities.

Amsterdam, April 14.—A Karlsruhe despatch to the Frankfurter Zeitung reports the passage by Baden of the Grand Duchy of Baden there is a resolution requesting the Imperial German government, to endeavor to secure a general agreement for the cessation of hostile air raids on places outside the zone of military operations.

Karlsruhe, capital of the Grand Duchy of Baden, with a population of between 75,000 and 100,000 and situated about 60 miles from the French border, has been several times visited by Allied airmen. There was a daylight air raid by British squadrons on Karlsruhe in January during which a ton and a quarter of bombs were dropped.

Vienna, via Basel, Switzerland, April 13.—Emperor William, in a telegram to Emperor Charles, cordially thanks the Austrian emperor for his telegram repudiating the affirmation of Premier Clemenceau of France. Emperor William said there was not the slightest need for the assurance given him by Emperor Charles as the German emperor "never had doubted the fidelity of the Austrian emperor to the common cause, while their enemies do not shrink from the lowest and basest means of attacking."

GERMAN BATTLESHIP RHEINLAND STRANDED

Amsterdam, April 13.—The German battleship Rheinland, which was reported to have struck a mine and sunk, has not gone down, according to Berlin despatch. She is said to have been stranded near the island of Heligoland, in the main, in a fog on Wednesday, and efforts are being made to refloat her.

GEN. FOCH'S TITLE

Paris, April 13.—An official note issued tonight says: "The British and French governments have agreed to confer the title of commander-in-chief of the allied armies in France on General Foch."



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MINIATURE ALMANAC

April—Phases of the Moon.

Date	D. of M.	Sum Rise	Sum Sets	H. Water a.m.	H. Water p.m.	L. Water a.m.	L. Water p.m.
12 Fri	5.49	7.00	...	12.19	...	18.42	...
13 Sat	5.47	7.02	0.41	13.09	0.41	19.32	...
14 Sun	5.46	7.03	1.22	14.00	1.22	20.23	...
15 Mon	5.45	7.04	2.02	14.51	2.02	21.13	...
16 Tue	5.41	7.05	2.83	15.53	2.83	22.11	...
17 Wed	5.40	7.07	3.62	16.57	3.62	23.10	...

THE WEATHER

Toronto, Ont., April 14.—The weather has been showery today in Nova Scotia and Alberta, elsewhere fine. The temperature has been fairly high in Ontario and Western Quebec and also in Manitoba and Southern Saskatchewan.

Dawson ... 12 50
Prince Rupert ... 36 40
Victoria ... 36 48
Vancouver ... 34 52
Calgary ... 33 47
Edmonton ... 38 40
Prince Albert ... 34 44
Winnipeg ... 50 74
Port Huron ... 28 48
Ferry Sound ... 30 64
London ... 29 67
Toronto ... 35 67
Ottawa ... 30 68
Montreal ... 34 69
Quebec ... 32 52
Halifax ... 32 42

Forecast: Maritime—Moderate winds; mostly fair and a little milder. Northern New England—Generally fair Monday and Tuesday. Moderately variable winds.

Sackville, April 13.—Miss Annie Ford, who has been soloist and choir leader of Knox Presbyterian church, Campbellton, N. B., has been granted leave of absence for six weeks, during which she will be in vocal at the Boston Conservatory of Music. Miss Ford spent a couple of days here the first of the week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Ford, before leaving for Boston.

Prof. Line of Mount Allison spent Sunday in Moncton and occupied the pulpit in Central Methodist church. Mrs. Keiver of Albert, Albert Co., spent the week-end here, guest of her daughter, Mrs. H. T. Knapp. Mrs. J. F. Allison was hostess at a couple of tables of bridge last Monday evening in honor of Miss Mary L. Smith of Bedford, N. S. The prizes were won by Miss Tweedie, the consolation falling to Miss Frydell. The guests included Mrs. C. W. Fawcett, Mrs. Robert Duncan, Miss M. Smith, Miss Frydell, Miss Tweedie and Miss Elizabeth McLeod.

Hostesses at this week's L. O. D. E. tea on Tuesday afternoon were Mrs. Freeman-Lake, Miss Tweedie, Mrs. S. Taylor and Miss Muriel Taylor. Miss Lillian Hart, who has been visiting her parents, Rev. and Mrs. T. D. Hart, has returned to Kentville. The annual business meeting of the Once-in-a-While Club, held Friday afternoon at the home of the vice-president, Mrs. S. W. Hutton, closed the fifth session of the club's existence. Mrs. Gronlund, who has been the unanimous choice of the members as president during the past three seasons, was in the chair. An interesting feature of the meeting was the presentation of an initiated fountain pen, as a souvenir from members to Mrs. Gronlund who is soon to leave Sackville for Toronto. In making the presentation Mrs. Hutton very truly voiced the sense of loss and genuine regret among the members at Mrs. Gronlund's departure. She was sure it would be difficult for the club to find a successor who would so capably fill the position.

Replying to the address of appreciation, Mrs. Gronlund spoke of the pleasant memories she would carry away with her of the friendships formed, and the loyalty and support of the members at all times freely given her as presiding officer. The election of officers for the coming season was by closed ballot, and resulted in the practically unanimous choice of the following officers: President—Mrs. S. W. Hutton. Vice-President—Mrs. John Hammond. Sec. Treasurer—Mrs. A. H. McCready. Additional members of the executive are Mrs. J. F. Allison, Mrs. A. W. Bennett, Mrs. H. E. Bigelow, Mrs. B. C. Borden.

The return to Sackville of Mrs. E. A. Trice, a charter member of the club, fills the vacancy created by the departure of Mrs. Gronlund.

REVIEW DESTROYED IS Situation Has Been Enemy of Artillery Last Weather London, the fighting further east southward of Arras the violent bombers members seen On the ninth thousand yards the centre wide at Givency thick mist, ed beyond th on the tenth seven hundred A further tween a poin Messines. C further south egsteer Wood of Armentieres inadvisable. The A withdrawal, line north and resulting in one mately 20 miles To destroy the by the enemy separate the arm failed to take Ar wall of the Arras tive for him. Viny is the st than any other bly since Arras hol to win his way Rige through Bethune. Although there sation of the ene Amiens, which is checked and is cle of the Somme though brief, the Somme being al ed, he is now di the main front, mately return vailable. The rapid rot is calculated to in reserve a gre ones. The ene has available. viously has its only be carried It is one more termination to battle and risk. Losses The destructio is his object satisfaction in destruction of ceeded more rati on is still a British army of 500,000 men supported by an artillery of all circumstances it the enemy's g termination to battle and risk. Losses There has be air this week owing to num on hostile troop been productive Air fighting h owing to the weather, but ev enemy on suc bringing down du thirty-on of him. Luxembourg ton of bombs in Palestine cessfully coop bombing an Amman railway and other imp der the b the whole of der the operat scheme for ruction of a p London area is abolished the expected throughout eighth of the to local ration and margaria try has encou in a p The c equality of s public to ac strictions aga and has encou