

BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR

THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1917.

TWO CENTS

BRITISH CAPTURE VILLAGE OF FAYET

Whirlwind Week's Drive of British Nets 13,000 Prisoners | Smashing Advance Upon Front of Twelve Miles Made | Canadians and British Share in Latest Victories Against Foe

Canadians Share in Big Successes on Western Front

French Patrols Harrass Enemy Continually and Take Prisoners; Artillery Fighting Very Active

By Courier Leased Wire
Bulletin, Paris, April 14.—Noon—Artillery fighting continues with marked intensity in the Champagne, the war office announces. French patrols were active and brought back prisoners. South of St. Quentin there were heavy artillery actions. The statement follows: "South of St. Quentin our artillery continues to bombard the German positions. There was no infantry fighting during the night between the Somme and the Oise. Two German surprise attacks were broken up by our fire.

"In the Champagne the artillery fighting was very severe. On this part of the front we made numerous reconnaissances, bringing back prisoners. Near La Chappelle a German reconnoitering party attempted to reach our lines after a violent bombardment. It was dispersed and driven back to the German trenches."

RETURNED SOLDIERS RAN RIOT

Raided Munition Plant of Russell Motor Co., in Toronto

Toronto, April 14.—Jumping over benches and shell-making machines as if in a charge on the German trenches, half a hundred returned, disheveled soldiers, with a few from Exhibition Camp, last night raided the munitions factory of the Russell Motor Company at King and Dufferin streets with the object of ransacking the alien enemies employed there. Soldiers went through the great machine shops as they dashed last summer down the communicating trenches of the Teutons on the Somme, and in less than ten minutes emerged with a score or two of prisoners. City constables, military police, mounted officers, a platoon from the Irish Fusiliers Battalion and members of the headquarters staff at Exhibition Camp looked helplessly on. A throng of citizens in Dufferin street cheered the wounded men as they returned from the factory with their captives.

Weather Bulletin

Toronto, April 14.—The pressure is now all along the Atlantic coast from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to Florida and highest to the westward of the Great Lakes. The weather is mild and showery in the Maritime provinces and cold with snow flurries in Ontario and Quebec.

Forecasts
Moderate northwesterly winds, partly cloudy and quite cool today and Sunday, local snow flurries.

TEUTONS BELITTLE BATTLE

Seek to Convince People That Arras Struggle is Unimportant

CANNOT ALWAYS WIN

But Claim Their Line is Impregnable Against British

CLAIM DESTRUCTION

Of Allied Tanks and Airplanes

Copenhagen, via London, April 14.—German military critics are still endeavoring to convince their readers that the Battle of Arras is only of tactical, not strategic, importance and without effect upon the general situation. They are occasionally betrayed, however, into making damaging admissions.

Captain von Salzmenn in the Vossische Zeitung, says that the events proved the correctness of Field Marshal von Hindenburg's decision to shorten his line, since nothing can be done against superiority in heavy artillery. He speaks of German inferiority in material as well as in numbers—a noteworthy admission in view of Germany's unredeemed efforts to manufacture munitions under industrial mobilization. Captain Salzmenn concludes:

"Germany cannot expect always to go with flying banners from victory to victory, but, despite her inferiority in men and material, she has the nerves which will prevent the British from breaking the line." Major Morant says that the British have succeeded in shaking the first line, but that the assault has been stopped by the German special and main reserve. The latter statement is interesting, if it means the strategic reserve which von Hindenburg mentioned recently as being accumulated for a striking force in this year's campaign.

In a semi-official description of the fighting it is declared that three quarters of the tanks and armored automobiles used by the British were destroyed within or without the German lines. It is also recalled that in a battle in the air nine British airplanes were shot down above the Scarpe river.

CITY SOLDIER WAS STABBED IN HAMILTON

Word was received this morning by Lt. Col. H. E. Snider of the 115th that Pte. Zenkowitz, one of the best Russian members of the battalion, while on leave, in Hamilton, had been stabbed there last night in the chest, once in the abdomen, and once in the side. He was conveyed to the stationary hospital, where his wounds were dressed. The military authorities there are investigating the trouble. Pte. Zenkowitz is the man, who some time ago left the ranks of the battalion, and had travelled as far as New York, but voluntarily returned and met Major Sweet one morning as he was returning from Toronto, accompanied him to the Armories. Since that time Zenkowitz has been a model soldier and one of the best Russians in the unit.

Sir Henry Newell Gate, head of the wholesale grocery firm of Gate and Sons, Ltd., Ottawa, died after a lengthy illness, aged 87.

HYDRO RATES OF BRANTFORD ARE ONCE MORE REDUCED

Hydro Commission Announces Further Cut in Power Charges, This Being the Third Reduction in Rates Made Since the Installation of the System Here Three Years Ago

In accordance with the recommendation made by the Ontario Power Commission the local Hydro Commission has decided to make reductions to all classes of users. They will result in a further saving of \$9,000 to those taking power and light during 1917.

The following schedule of rates will take effect as from April 1st:

Domestic—Usual fixed charge plus 2c and 1c per K. W. H. less 10 per cent. on gross bill.

Commercial—Consumption charge first 30 hours use of load 4½c per K. W. H. Consumption charge next 70 hours use of load 2½c per K. W. H. Consumption charge over above, 15.100c per K. W. H., less 10 per cent. on gross bill.

Power—Usual fixed charges plus consumption charge first 50 hours use, 1.67c per K. W. H. Consumption charge next 50 hours use, 1.11c per K. W. H. Consumption charge over 100 hours use, 1.33c per K. W. H., usual discounts as before.

Difference in rates 1916-17.

Domestic 1916, 2½c and 1½c per K. W. H. 1917, 2c and 1c per K. W. H., a reduction of 20 per cent. on consumption charge.

Commercial—1916, 5c, 2½c and 15 per K. W. H.; 1917, 4½c, 2½c and 15 per K. W. H., a reduction of 10 per cent. on consumption charge.

Power—1916, 1.9c, 1.3c and 1.5c; 1917, 1.67, 1.11 and 1.33, a reduction of 13 per cent.

This is the third reduction made since the Hydro was installed in 1914.

AN OMINOUS SHADOW



NO LIVES LOST ON TORPEDOED HOSPITAL SHIP

By Courier Leased Wire.
London, April 14.—There were 450 wounded, including a few German prisoners, on board the Hospital Ship Gloucester Castle, which was torpedoed without warning in the English channel on March 20. All of these were saved by a number of vessels which hastened to the aid of the sinking hospital ship. None of the hospital staff were injured, but an engineer and fireman were killed by the explosion of the torpedo and several members of the engine room staff were wounded.

Moonlight and a smooth sea greatly helped in the work of rescue, which was carried on with remarkable speed.

Hon. Geo. P. Graham, M.P., and E. M. MacDonald, M.P., who have been visiting western Canada, left Winnipeg for the east yesterday.

The Kitchener Board of Trade will co-operate with the County Agricultural Association in assisting to provide farm labor during the summer.

SEMI OPEN WARFARE SLOWLY REPLACING TRENCH FIGHTING

Change Has Come During Most Recent Offensives of the Allied Forces; Field Manoeuvring Becomes More General

British Headquarters in France, via London, April 14.—(From a staff correspondent of the Associated Press)—It is not without difficulty that one comes to a realization that semi-open warfare has replaced the old deep trench fighting on the greater part of the British front. It is difficult even for the fighting men actually to grasp the situation, a situation for which they have waited so long. The Germans possibly feel the change more than anyone else for, above all things they love their underground comfort. The Germans were the first to transfer fighting to ditches and they are reluctantly giving up that style of warfare.

The deep concrete dugouts and tunnels along the old front, were the only protection the Germans had against the ever-increasing British gun fire, and every time they get an opportunity to pause now they immediately dig in. They take to cover as if by second nature. The British have always contended that the German dugouts soften the men who congregated in them always and there could only be kept with difficulty in the open trenches. So it was easier to break the British of the trench habit than has been the case with the Germans. Open field tactics have been a part of the training of the new British army very since its organization began in 1914. There has been some criticism of that system from time to time on the ground that the war would always be fought from trench to trench, but for the last few months, the British army in France has been drilled in open tactics almost daily. The results of these training methods have been apparent in the last few days and will undoubtedly prove still more valuable in the wider operations which are unquestionably coming.

The correspondent saw a bit of field manoeuvring two days ago in

FOE FRONT SHATTERED BY BRITISH

Broken for Distance of Four Miles; Huns in Retreat

By Courier Leased Wire.
British Headquarters, France April 14, via London.—(From a staff correspondent of the Associated Press)—The British last night broke the German front for a distance of four miles. The Germans are in retreat.

The gaps in the German defences were made in two places. Positions on a front of three miles between the Double Crassier and Givenchy and another mile on the north flank of the Hindenburg trench system were captured. Advanced posts were pushed well toward Queant and Pronville, important points in the German defences.

The Germans are fighting as they retire from Loos southward, and are being hard pressed.

Fires and explosions in the territory to the rear of the German lines continue. The weather to-day was favorable for campaigning.

became the officer in command of the British unit was a young solicitor such a thing as leading soldiers into battle had never entered his head. Two years of training in a school of actual war works its own wonders.

The losses in the recently inaugurated operations, which continue to widen with time, have been so much smaller than would be naturally expected in attacks upon such strong positions as those from which the Germans have been driven that the army authorities are fairly jubilant. Another gratifying feature of the fighting has been the speed with which the British troops have everywhere attained their objective. Driving the Germans from positions which they had held for two years has given the army a higher fighting spirit than it ever had before. The turning of the top of the Hindenburg line, to which attention is now officially called in the communiqués, has been an achievement of which the full importance has naturally not yet been developed. The Germans, by the way, no longer call this line after Hindenburg, but know it as the Siegfried line. The switch to that line from Queant north, which prisoners say, is not yet finished and which was not expected to be used except as a last resort, is known as the Wotan line. In the extreme south the Hindenburg line is known as the Albrecht line. The complete smashing of the Vimy ridge seems to have somewhat upset the German plan, but they are evidently determined to put up the strongest possible defensive fight before falling back again.

These days are filled with thrilling incidents of individual exploits which are difficult to sort from the

GERMANY READY TO GIVE IN

Copenhagen Correspondent Forecasts Peace in Three Months

TEUTONS CAPITULATE

And Would Make Terms With France and Russia

ENGLAND OBSTACLE

To an Agreement; The Story Doubted

Copenhagen, via London, April 14.—Peace within two months and a half is predicted by the Copenhagen correspondent of the Danish Socialist press, who confirms the reports of unofficial negotiations between Russian and German Socialists against the diplomatic denials in the Socialist newspapers here and in Berlin.

The first negotiations, says the correspondent, who is a Socialist member of the Danish parliament, were broken off enabling two papers to launch a denial that they were in progress, but they were again resumed and are being prosecuted vigorously. The correspondent then enters into a discussion of peace terms in which he appears to take German Socialist expectations and hopes for the government policy.

"I am assured from an absolutely trustworthy source," he says, "that Germany is ready to restore Belgium and Serbia, evacuate France, and, with Turkey arrange an agreement with Russia over the free navigation of the Dardanelles. An agreement is also possible on the Polish question as the Russian Government knows."

The correspondent pictures England as the sole obstacle to peace. There is reason to believe that the first part of his statement, regarding negotiations between Russian and German Socialists, is correct, but his exposition of German peace terms conflicts with the recent highly official declaration of the North German Gazette that Germany is willing to conclude peace, but on terms compatible with the great sacrifice which she has made.

RUMORS WRONG

Amsterdam, via London, April 14.—An official statement issued in Berlin says that all recent reports of illness of the Emperor are unfounded.

BRAZIL ABOUT TO BREAK WITH AUSTRIA ALSO

By Courier Leased Wire.
Rio Janeiro, April 14.—Great activity in military circles is reported by the newspapers. The army staff is said to be studying every phase of national defense, including munition production and the protection of the ports. Reports are current that a break of relations with Austria will probably occur soon.

Telegrams from all points in Brazil report patriotic demonstrations. The police at Sao Paulo were compelled to intervene to save the plant of a German newspaper which was attacked by a mob. The Jornal do Commercio advocates the mobilization of all rifle societies in Southern Brazil.

mass coming in from so wide a battle front. One of the most remarkable is that of a young airman, who although shot in the eye and the leg, in an air duel yesterday, succeeded in bringing down the opposing machine in his own lines, dragged himself from the airplane, made a verbal report on his mission and died a few moments later.

Vimy Station and Strong Positions Nearby Taken by British; Eight Inch Howitzers Captured

By Courier Leased Wire
Bulletin, London, April 14.—The village of Fayet, one mile northwest of St. Quentin, has been captured by the British after a sharp fight, according to an official statement issued by the war office.

The important positions of Ascension Farm and Grand Priel Farm, east of Le Verquier were also reported captured.

Bulletin London, April 14.—In the direction of Vimy, the British seized the Vimy station, La Chaudiere and enemy positions between Givenchy-en-Gohelle and Angres. Progress was also made north of the Bapaume-Cambrai road.

Among the guns captured by the British were four howitzers of eight inches. The text of the statement reads:

"The village of Fayet, one mile northwest of St. Quentin, was captured last night after a sharp fight. On the high ground east of Le Verquier we captured the important positions of Ascension Farm and Grand Priel Farm. We also made progress north of the Bapaume-Cambrai road in the direction of Queant.

"North of the Scarpe our constant pressure compelled the enemy to yield further ground. We seized Vimy station, La Chaudiere and the enemy's positions at Fosse number 6, Buquet mill between Givenchy-en-Gohelle and Angres.

"The guns taken from the enemy in this area included four howitzers, eight inchers.

"The ground gained in our recent operations now links up with the positions wrested from the enemy in the battle of Loos and include the double crassier.

"The enemy attempted a raid east of Loos during the night, but was driven off."

GRAND DUKE ARRESTED

By Courier Leased Wire.
Petrograd, April 14.—Grand Duke Boris, a cousin of former Emperor Nicholas, has been arrested at army headquarters and sent to Tsarakoselo, where he is interned.

A Petrograd despatch on April 1, announced that the recent arrest of Grand Duchess Marie Pavlovna, a cousin of the former emperor, together with a group of personages in the entourage of Grand Duke Boris was said by the police to have led to the discovery of a plot in which the Grand Duchesses and two unnamed Grand Dukes were involved for the proclaiming of Grand Duke Nicholas as Emperor of Russia.