

# DRIVE AGAINST BRITISH LINE BEGINS TO WEAKEN

## Hun Long Range Gun Drops Shell in Paris Church During Good Friday Service

### SITUATION IN QUEBEC CAUSES CONSIDERABLE CONCERN AT OTTAWA

#### MILITARY CHARGED WITH CAUSING RIOT IN CITY OF QUEBEC

Mayor Returns Warm Reply to Sir Robert Borden's Telegram.

#### CLAIM DISCRIMINATION SAYS OFFICERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ACT'S ENFORCEMENT ARE TO BLAME.

Ottawa, March 30.—The cabinet is holding a special session, called for 12 o'clock noon today, to consider the situation in the City of Quebec. Reports from there this morning indicate that the city is quiet, but another outbreak tonight is anticipated, as the government has learned Friday night's demonstrations were evidently organized. Sir Robert Borden and Hon. C. J. Doherty, who, as minister of justice, has charge of the administration of the Military Service Act, have had several conferences with the general officer commanding the Quebec district, and have received several reports by telephone from the special officers sent by the government to Quebec. While official announcement is lacking, there is reason to believe that the municipal authorities of Quebec City are rendering little or no assistance in repressing the disturbances.

This morning the government has been in communication with Colonel Machin, the special representative sent to Quebec yesterday, and it is believed that a confidential report has been received from him dealing with the situation as it has developed and is likely to develop.

The matter of proclaiming martial law has not, it is understood, yet been considered by the government. That it is likely to depend on whether or not there is a serious recurrence of the disturbances.

Mayor Makes Charges. The prime minister received from H. E. Lavigne, M.P., mayor of Quebec, the following telegram: "I am unaware of press accounts on which you base statement contained in your telegram of March 29 to the effect that the attitude of the municipal police authorities was passive, that no real effort was made by the civic authorities to prevent the assault on federal offices, and that a disturbance occurred. Such accounts, doubtless, were grossly exaggerated in the outside press. The disturbances of last night and tonight are sincerely deplored by myself and citizens of Quebec. The lack of discretion, tact and discrimination on the part of the officers responsible for the enforcement of the Military Service Act seems to a large extent, to account for the unfortunate occurrence. I sincerely hope that immediate instructions will be issued to the proper authorities here in order that further trouble be avoided."

Particulars Demanded. To this telegram the prime minister sent the following reply: "Your telegram has been received and transmitted to the militia service council for their consideration. They desire to have particulars of the alleged lack of discretion, tact and discrimination to which you allude. My telegram to you made no statement beyond a reference to the press reports which were fairly summarized therein. If these reports are inaccurate it would be greatly in the public interest that the truth should be known immediately. To that end I hope that you will let me know what steps were taken by the civic authorities to identify those who engaged in the assault upon the federal offices and whether any arrests have been made."

Colonel H. A. B. Machin, director of the military council, left the capital yesterday for Quebec City to investigate the situation and take charge of the military.



English women are doing most of the farm work of the country. In the above photograph they are seen threshing during the women's land army efficiency test recently held at Warrington.

#### FLEECE "BOOKIES" OUT OF THOUSANDS

Flash Over the Wire Told Result of Race Hour in Advance.

#### POLICE ON THEIR TRAIL

Knowledge of All Parties to "Betting Syndicate" Now at Hand.

Members of the betting ring which has been receiving "inside" information on race results have fleeced certain local handbook makers to the extent of \$25,000 within the past month. The work of the private detectives, engaged by the G.N.W. Telegraph Co. to discover those guilty of supplying racing information from the company's wires, demonstrates that many of the smaller "bookies" were sent to the wall, while the larger ones suffered such severe financial setbacks that suspicion was aroused.

It is learned that the police have knowledge of all parties to the betting syndicate. The details of how certain operators received "flash" messages from the race tracks giving the result of a race long before the bookies could receive it, and were able to phone the information to the wager layers on the outside, have been given the crown. Having found out by telephone the result of the race from the operator, who learned it in the "flash," the wager layers placed heavy bets on the winner, and an hour later, when the result appeared in the papers, the bookies found they had lost very heavy stakes.

One bet maker stated Saturday morning that the "betting syndicate" has "ripped" the bookies to the extent of thousands of dollars by this trick.

It is claimed by the Telegraphers' Union that the G.N.W. Company, by suspending four operators and voicing suspicion of ten others, has opened the way to a charge under the Miller law, concerning the supplying of race track information.

When questioned on this phase of the case this morning, George W. Perry, general manager of the G.N.W., expressed no fears.

He said that he had received a deputation of two from the Telegraphers' Union during the morning, and discussed with them the reasons for the dismissal of the operators. The criminal end of the case, both regarding the operators and the keepers of the "bucket shops" where the information is said to have been sent by the operators, is in the hands of Crown Attorney Corley and the morality department.

#### CHILD SERIOUSLY HURT

William Clare in Hospital With Fractured Skull After Being Struck by Motor.

Little six-year-old William Clare of 417 Erie Terrace, while playing on East Gerrard street, near Erie Terrace, Saturday afternoon, about 3:15 p.m., was knocked down and seriously injured by a motor car. The owner of the car, it was stated, did not stop, and the police have so far been unable to find any clue as to his identity. Dr. H. O. McKeehan of 686 Broadview street ordered the child's removal to the Hospital for Sick Children. Latest enquiries at the hospital elicited the information that the child, it was thought, was suffering from a fractured skull and his condition was regarded as serious. The police have the matter in hand and are making an investigation.

#### CHURCH IN PARIS STRUCK BY SHELL

Edifice Reduced to Mass of Crumbled Stone by Long-Range Gun.

Paris, March 30.—Rescue parties at work in the church which was struck yesterday by a shell from a German long-range gun have found more bodies. It is now known that 57 women were killed.

The shell struck the north side of the church, bringing down part of the roof and opening a breach twelve feet high and twenty feet wide. Nearly all the debris fell inward upon the heads of the worshippers sixty feet below.

The edifice is now a heartrending sight. The enormous mass of stone crumbled into all kinds of shapes, lies in the middle of the nave and piled to the same height as the high altar, which was not damaged. The side aisles are littered with less cumbersome wreckage and the pavement is covered with grey dust. All stained glass windows, some of which were of historical interest, are shattered. The church, although begun in the middle ages, was entirely remodelled in the epoch of the renaissance. The beauty of its musical services, which were sung unaccompanied, attracted many music-lovers.

#### BRITISH ANNOUNCE IMPORTANT CAPTURES

Campaign in Mesopotamia Meets With Splendid Success Against Turks.

#### DEPOTS TAKEN

Large Quantities of Prisoners, Guns and Ammunition Fall to Troops.

London, March 30.—The British column which recently won a striking victory on the front along the Euphrates River, in Mesopotamia, putting out of action the entire Turkish forces in the Hit area, has advanced to a point 82 miles beyond Hit, the war office announces. The number of prisoners has been increased to 5000. The statement follows: "Full particulars of the captures have not yet been received, but they are of great importance. Large depots at Hadith and Anah have fallen into our hands, containing quantities of ammunition, mine-throwers, guns, etc. The number of prisoners has been increased to 5000."

#### LATE NEWS BULLETINS

London, March 30.—The Germans have captured the Villages of Aubvillers (5 1/2 miles northwest of Montdidier), Grivesnes, Cantigny, Mesnil-St. Georges, Le Monchel and Ayencourt, the war office announced this evening. All the villages named are in the Montdidier region. Heavy fighting is progressing to the eastward of Ayencourt (2 miles south of Montdidier). The exact situation is unknown. A heavy rain is falling. Besides gaining ground south and southeast of Montdidier, the Germans made some progress west of the Aves (southeast of Amiens).

London, March 30.—The summary of the situation issued tonight by the war office reads: "North of the Somme, on the British front, there is no change in the situation. South of the Somme we maintained our positions."

"Further south, during the course of the day, heavy attacks on the French front have enabled the Germans to gain ground west of the Aves and south and southeast of Montdidier."

"The Germans have captured the Villages of Aubvillers, Grivesnes, Cantigny, Mesnil-St. Georges, Le Monchel and Ayencourt."

"East of this latter place heavy fighting is going on, and the exact situation is not known."

"The weather has broken and a heavy rain is falling."

Amsterdam, March 30.—Trains carrying wounded Germans from the battle front in France are proceeding continuously along the frontier between Germany and Holland, according to a despatch to The Telegraaf from Kerkrade. It has been necessary to replace hospital cars by freight cars. The wounded lie on straw.

London, March 30.—On Thursday and Friday, our operations east of the Jordan continued successfully, in spite of the stubborn opposition of the enemy. Colonial mounted troops destroyed several miles of the track of the Hedjaz railway. Two hostile airplanes were destroyed.

#### BRITISH ARE HOLDING ENEMY ALL ALONG THE BATTLEFRONT

#### CONTEMPLATING THE CRISIS WITH CALM, STEADFAST HEARTS

Sir Arthur Currie Replies to Premier's Message and Tells of Confidence Felt by Entire Canadian Army.

Ottawa, March 30.—The following reply has been received thru Sir Edward Kemp, from Lieut.-General Sir Arthur Currie, to the message recently sent by Sir Robert Borden, on behalf of the Canadian people to the Canadian expeditionary force:

"Please convey to Sir Robert Borden and to the people of Canada our heartfelt gratitude for their message of appreciation for the past and confidence and hope for the future. With an ever-increasing knowledge of the justice of our cause inspired and strengthened by the prayers of those at home, we contemplate the present crisis with calm and steadfast hearts. When the call comes I am confident that all ranks of the corps will continue to play their part and maintain and enhance their proud record."

#### ONE MAN KILLED, THREE HURT WHEN CAR SKIDS INTO POLE

Sam Green, Todmorden Blacksmith, is Dead and Others Are Severely Injured on Don Mills Road Saturday Afternoon.

In a motor accident at Patterson's Corners, on the Don Mills road, Todmorden, shortly after 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon, Samuel Green, aged about 54, blacksmith at Todmorden, was almost instantly killed, and Jerry Nelson, sanitary contractor, 115 Jarvis street, was so seriously injured that his recovery is very uncertain. George Dart and J. Bell of Todmorden were also injured, but were taken to their homes in motor cars.

Car Struck Post. The four men were riding at a good rate of speed in a motor car driven by Nelson. The car suddenly swerved and crashed into a post. Sam Green was thrown from the front seat of the car and died a few moments later. Nelson shot thru the windshield and was so severely out and

bruised about the head that he has not yet regained consciousness. Dart and Bell, sitting in the back, escaped by being thrown heavily from the car and landing on the ground.

Dr. R. H. Fleming hurried to the scene and found Green expiring. Nelson and Green were both placed in Washington and Johnston's ambulance, which had rushed to the scene, but Green died before the ambulance had gone many feet. Nelson was taken to the General Hospital, and on Saturday night no much hope for his recovery was held out.

Lost Control of Wheel. There seems to be some doubt as to how the accident occurred. It is claimed that the driver lost control of the steering wheel when the car struck a rut, and before he could regain control the motor smashed into the post.

#### FIRE FROM CANADIANS PREVENTED FOE ATTACK

Creeping Barrage Held Enemy North of Oppy and Patrols Were Repulsed By Rifle and Machine-gun Fire.

By W. A. Willison. Canadian Army Headquarters, March 30.—From early last night until six this morning the noise of guns has been persistent upon the whole front from the south to Hill 70 in the north. Steadily for over ten hours our heaviest field guns, trench mortars and machine guns maintained their fire on thousands of yards of front against the enemy trenches, support and assembly areas, communications and strong points. At 11 o'clock and again at 5:30 our artillery fire increased to battle intensity, the enemy assembly and concentration areas and communication roads being raked with creeping barrages. The intensity and duration of the fire was such that no enemy attack developed north of Oppy.

Before the great battle began two enemy attempts were made to raid our lines. At one point an enemy party was sent over to see if our confidence for whatever may develop, having no fear of the ultimate issue. The morale of the Canadian forces were never better and whatever happens Canada in the end will not be unworthy of its glorious record.

The interest among Canadians is centered particularly on the gallant struggle of the Third Army under Canada's old leader, General Byng. As the once master-soldier of the Canadian forces he holds a warm place in Canadian hearts and Canadian admiration for his gallant army is intense and universal.

DEATH FOR SPIES. Washington, March 30.—The death penalty for any acts of espionage will be proposed in legislation to be brought before congress. Senator Overman of North Carolina, active head of the senate judiciary committee, said today after hearing testimony of several government agents in charge of anti-spy work.

#### Germans Taking Second Breath to Prepare for Another Thrust and Recover From Tremendous Losses Inflicted During Brilliant Allied Retirement.

British Army Headquarters in France, March 30.—The situation today, from the entente viewpoint, is reported more satisfactory. Along the British section of the battlefield last night was comparatively quiet. The statement follows:

"North of the Somme only local actions have taken place. South of the Somme the enemy's attacks yesterday at Domum and Meseres succeeded in pressing back our troops from the latter village. We secured a number of prisoners in our counter-attacks. At Domum all the enemy's attempts to capture the village broke down after sharp fighting which lasted throughout the afternoon."

"During the past week our cavalry have fought with great gallantry, both mounted and dismounted, and repulsed the enemy, inflicting heavy losses on him in numerous engagements."

The British lines have been strengthened rapidly in every quarter along the front. There is a most heartening display of determination and optimism. In the vicinity of Albert the Germans today were reported to be digging themselves in along the line from Thiépval to La Boisselle.

The Germans, attacking yesterday at Domum and Meseres, pressed back the British from Meseres, the war office announced. All the enemy's attempts to capture Domum broke down after sharp fighting, which lasted thru the afternoon.

Fighting Has Slackened. For a brief space the tides of conflict have slackened, but any moment they may see in again. When the Germans have brought forward their artillery and overhauled their fighting machine the struggle undoubtedly will be reactivated, perhaps with greater ferocity than before.

Yesterday afternoon the enemy had a small success south of the Luce River, on the British right flank. Strong German forces, attacking there, captured Mesieres and also Maison Blanche, north of that village. The British immediately organized a counter-attack and pushed forward determinedly against the invaders. At one point the attacking troops were held back by machine gun fire, but other forces pressed on doggedly. The Germans, however, opposed with too great strength and were too well protected, and the British were forced to abandon the effort after a hard struggle, during which 25 Germans were taken prisoner in hand-to-hand fighting.

The loss of these positions does not alter the situation materially, and the British hold on the Luce Valley is considered satisfactory.

The Germans are still rushing forward fighting and reorganizing their forces. Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters reports. The slowing down in the battle, he says, probably is only a lull before another storm, of still greater intensity.

Arras at Arms. German prisoners taken in yesterday's fighting declare that they were told before entering the battle that Arras must be taken at all costs. Already they have paid a great price in lives in the endeavor to occupy the city, for the slaughter among the storming troops was exceedingly heavy.

Along the rest of the battlefield the fighting was normal. The British defenses today were drawn closer about the eastern side of Arras, yesterday's fierce attacks having forced a readjustment of the line in some places. Four divisions were used by the Germans along a narrow front between Gavrelle and Boeselle, east of Arras, and at least two of these were special storming divisions.

After a strong bombardment, the enemy advanced in masses, carrying large numbers of machine guns. One report says there was one machine gun for every two infantrymen. An intense barrage by the British artillery did terrible execution.

A Splendid Retirement. "At one point only," says Reuter's correspondent, "where the Germans got across the river in force about Cerisy, and so taking the troops in the rear, did we fall back Friday; but that retirement was gallantly done. Our men were taken in the rear before they knew it."

As there were guns to be got away both infantry and gunners faced round and for awhile some of our lead armor was firing with open sights into the enemy. Then the infantry charged and succeeded in driving the superior force of the enemy back to the river bank, holding them there until the guns were got away. This section of the line then swung