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TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

Germans Capture Merville; British Retire Bit More

Retirement in Vicinity of Neuve Eglise; Little Change Elsewhere But Some Ground Regained North of Festubert; England Mingles Anxiety With Admiration for Tenacity of Troops

London, April 12—Attacking yesterday in the neighborhood of Ploegsteert, the Germans pressed back the British to the vicinity of Neuve Eglise. This is announced officially. Last night the Germans captured Merville. Heavy fighting is continuing in the neighborhood of Merville and Neuve Eglise. On the remainder of the northern battle front there is little change. North of Festubert the British regained ground by a counter-attack. On the front between Loos and the Lawe river German attacks were repulsed.

AT MESSINES RIDGE London, April 12—German troops made a determined attack along the Messines Ridge and succeeded in gaining some ground, says a Reuter despatch from British army headquarters in France and Belgium, but the British once again drove them out by a counter-attack. The Germans are developing great artillery activity in the southern area, it is believed, further infantry attacks.

Three attacks which the enemy launched yesterday in great waves near Villers-Chapelle were repulsed with immense losses to the Germans. The ground was strewn with their corpses.

ALLIED LINE ON WEST WILL HOLD

Earl Reading in Chicago Speech Says German Objectives Never Be Attained

Chicago, April 12—The allied line on the western front will hold, the Earl of Reading, British ambassador to the United States and Lord Chief Justice of England, said in an address last night before the Chamber of Commerce of the United States in session here.

It would be foolish to minimize the onslaught of the German horde against our line in the west," he said. "Gains have been made by the enemy. Our line has been pushed back but the objectives are still the same. They never will be attained. He said that more than 12,000,000 men have been transported to France from England, with a loss of only 6,000 men. Of this number 500 were lost while travelling on passenger ships.

REPORT ON MUNITIONS VERY SATISFACTORY

London, April 12—(Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—Dr. Kellaway, parliamentary secretary of the ministry of munitions at Bedford last night, outlined the increase in the production of munitions. In the first two months of 1918, as compared with 1917, it was as follows: Light guns, thirty per cent.; medium guns, 57 per cent.; heavy guns, 88 per cent.; machine guns, 99 per cent.; shells, 88 per cent.; tanks, 89 per cent.; aeroplanes, 228 per cent.; aero engines, 240 per cent.

WANT WASHINGTON TO GIVE OUT MORE

New York, April 12—There is a growing demand in financial circles for greater frankness on the part of Washington authorities with regard to the American progress of the war. What seems to be wanted are definite and concrete statements made to congress like those Lloyd George has submitted from time to time, and especially the last one to the British parliament.

SAYS AUSTRIA HOLDS TO BULLYING ALLY

Vienna, via Amsterdam, April 12—Complete solidarity exists between Austria and Germany, and "we shall jointly enforce an honorable peace," says Emperor Charles in a telegram to Emperor William, denying that the Austrian emperor recognized France's claim to Alsace-Lorraine.

SLEET, SNOW AND DRIVING RAIN ON ATLANTIC COAST

Washington, April 12—Southern New England and the middle Atlantic coast district last night experienced extraordinary April weather—sleet, snow and driving rain accompanying a high northern wind blowing along much of the coast from Cape Hatteras to Cape Cod.

GERMAN WEDGE ON EITHER SIDE

Reason of British Retirement on New Battle Front

POSITIONS MANY TIMES CHANGE

Loss of Armentieres Chiefly Felt in Moral Affect—Operations Regarded as Crucial Conflict of the War—A Question of Man Power

(With the British Army in France, April 11—(By the Associated Press)—Determined enemy attacks continued today against posts of strategic value along the new battle front just west of Armentieres, from which the British have withdrawn, the Germans having placed it in a pocket by arriving on the eastern side of it.

On the extreme right the Germans today were pouring away against the British defenses at Arras, which had changed hands numerous times since the initial enemy onslaught took place on Tuesday. North of Armentieres the Germans were showing an equal desire to possess the heights and the area which are dominating positions and which changed hands several times yesterday and last night.

The British withdrawal became necessary because the enemy's advance was too rapid for the necessary counter-attacks. The British have been fighting a rearguard action since they were driven from their positions.

GERMANS FELL IN HEAPS BUT OTHERS TOOK THEIR PLACES

Wounded Soldiers in England Tell Grim Tales of the Terrific Fighting

London, April 12—"You could have shot them down with your eyes shut," said a wounded soldier who was lying in a hospital in England yesterday. He described how the Germans attacked the British positions and how the British fought back.

POLICE COURT

John Ward was before the court this morning charged with vagrancy. He was sentenced to a month in the workhouse for failing to support his family.

NOVELTY SHOWER

About thirty friends of Miss Maud Mosher assembled last evening at the home of Miss Olive Harding, Horsfield street, and treated her to a novelty shower. A feature of the evening was a congratulatory address by Charles Wilson.

THE QUEBEC INQUEST

Quebec, April 12—That the federal detectives engaged in arresting draftees did not have any other interest in the arrest, and that it was in no way to their advantage to destroy exemption papers as had been contended, was stated today by Capt. Desrochers of the federal police under the Military Service Act at the coroner's inquest into the fatal riot at the corner of Quebec's riots.

WEATHER REPORT

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

ANOTHER LARGE SEIZURE OF LIQUOR MADE TODAY

Inspectors Crawford and Ross made another large seizure of wet goods today. They visited the express offices and found two barrels and five cases of liquor not properly addressed. This was added to the accumulated stock withdrawn from circulation, greatly to the regret of persons who had anticipated quite a different result.

GERMANS BRUTALLY TREAT BRITISH WAR PRISONERS

London, April 12—How British prisoners of war in Germany are enslaved, starved and subjected to untold cruelties, is related in an official report made public today.

The detention and employment of non-commissioned officers and men captured on the western front, says the report of unjustifiable suffering for which they have brought on these prisoners which it would be hard to find a parallel in history.

The report is based on an accumulation of evidence and shows that prisoners have been employed constantly under shell fire and that many have been killed by British guns, that they have been kicked and beaten, denied clothing and adequate shelter, many have been shot and deaths from starvation and overwork have been constant.

TONS MORE OF FOOD SENT TO INCINERATOR

Toronto, April 12—Nearly 100,000 pounds of vegetables and apples have been destroyed at the western crematorium and Don destructor, between April 4 and April 10, according to an announcement made yesterday by Street Commissioners.

Turnips and onions were the principal vegetables.

SHELL FROM GREAT GUN KILLS NURSE, WOMAN AND BABE

Paris, April 12—A shell fired by the German long range cannon yesterday struck a foundling asylum in the Rue de Creche, on the southern outskirts of Paris, and three persons there were killed and eleven wounded. Within the hospital were thirty women with newborn babies. One maternity nurse, one patient and one baby were killed, while two probationers, six women patients and three infants were injured.

FOUNDLING ASYLUM IN PARIS OUTSKIRTS STRUCK—MAN AND BOY IN BOWLING ALLEY KILLED

Another shell struck an open air bowling alley and killed a man and a boy and wounded ten others.

NEED ONLY SEVEN PER CENT. IN THIS YEAR

Statement of Sir Auckland Geddes on Man Power Bill—Nottingham Miners Volunteering

London, April 12—(Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—In the House of Commons last night Sir Auckland Geddes intimated that only seven per cent of the men affected under the new man power bill would be required this year and the remainder, 93 per cent, would remain in civil life. If three or four years were left of the same number of men would be taken from a smaller block and be less fit physically on an average. Sir Auckland mentioned that engineers were volunteering to the colors.

M. S. A. FOR NEWFOUNDLAND

Unmarried Men, 25 to 35 Years Old, Meanwhile Not Allowed to Leave Island

St. Johns, Nfld., April 12—Unmarried men between twenty and thirty-five years of age today were refused permission to leave the island by an order-in-council passed by the Newfoundland government. This was preliminary to a military service law which is expected to be enacted by the legislature in a special session called for April 23.

Need of raising men to fill the Newfoundland navy and military forces was given by the cabinet as the reason for calling the legislative session, and conscription has been proposed as necessary for the conservation of man power in vital industries.

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War Material On Way To Ireland?

John Dillon, in Commons, Speaks of Report of Transfer of Motor Cars, Machine Guns and Tanks; Comment on the Situation re Home Rule and Conscription

London, April 12—John Dillon, Irish Nationalist leader, in the House of Commons yesterday said he understood that motor cars, machine guns and tanks already had been shipped and were sailing away from the battle front toward Ireland. Mr. Dillon pleaded strongly against what he termed the government's "gullotine methods."

UNIONISTS OF ULSTER HELD TO OBJECTIONS

Sir Horace Plunkett's Report on Irish Convention

Meanwhile the Irish Times, which in the past clamored for conscription and on Wednesday endorsed the resolution of Ulster Unionists in parliament in accepting it, yesterday invited John Dillon to make a bargain with the government.

SOUTHERN MEN FOR AGREEMENT

Scheme of Self Government United Upon by Majority of Nationalist, All Southern Unionists and Five Labor Representatives—Says This Should Be Made Law

London, April 12—The Irish convention laid the foundation for an agreement on the Irish question which is unprecedented in history, Sir Horace Plunkett, chairman of the convention says, in a letter accompanying the report of that body.

"We had every reason to believe the government contemplated immediate legislation upon the results of our labor," says Sir Horace. "The work of an Irish settlement, it is now felt admits of no further postponement. In the dominions and the United States, as well as the allied countries, the unsettled Irish question is a disturbing factor, both as regards war effort and peace aims."

After every possibility of an agreement had been explored, Sir Horace writes, as was instructed to draft a report which would be a narrative of the convention's proceedings with a statement for the government's information of the prominent commercial men had come to a majority. This report was adopted by a majority.

MCAVITY LEAGUE

In a very close and exciting game between the 4.5 Plant and Water Street clubs, the latter won three points to one. The game was well contested, only four pins separating the teams at the finish. The string was the best of the three, McAvity winning for the office team by finishing with a spare. Harrison rolled a strong game for the losers, while the players on the winning side were well bunched. The following is the score:

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Score. Includes names like Phinney, Gray, Doherty, Campbell, Harrison, Meyers, Cheesman, McAvity, Crabbe, Letney.

HINDENBURG HIT?

London, April 11—(Montreal Gazette Cable)—A despatch to the Daily Express from Geneva says that a despatch received at Zurich from Strassburg states that Field Marshal Hindenburg is in a private hospital there, suffering from a slight wound caused by a bomb dropped by one of the Allies' airplanes on the western front.

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