

20



# Women's Silk Blouses

That Strike the Note of Spring in Newness and Color.

Georgette expresses itself in new ways, while Tub Silk of the new Gingham design charms with a freshness of beauty. Beading trims in a bright and captivating way, while the simplicity of hand embroidery appeals in dainty ways with new interest.

At \$3.90  
each.

Dainty light and dark stripe silk, Crepe de Chene in shades of Maize and White.

At \$7.70  
each.

Fine firm Georgette of Navy, Nigger, Flesh, Ivory, Bisque, Black and Amethyst.

At \$5.70 each.

Crepe de Chene of Ivory, Peach, Black, Flesh, Coral and White; Tub Silk of Black and White Stripe, and all the newest tints of Gingham Plaids. Georgette, White only, in many new styles.

A New Shipment of  
**MIDDY BLOUSES and SMOCKS**  
Now Opening.

## BISHOP, SONS & COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE HOME OF HOLE-PROOF HOSIERY.

Phone 484.

P.O. Box 920, St. John's

## NO SLACKENING

### In Violence of Battle!

**Over One Million Germans Attacking --- Enemy Using Giant Gun With Range of 76 Miles--Allies' Confidence Unshaken.**

#### NEWFOUNDLANDERS IN THE FIGHT.

(Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency).—Reuter's correspondent at British Headquarters pays a high tribute to the magnificent participation in the offensive of the Newfoundlanders.

#### WAR SUMMARY.

The withdrawal of the British forces along the front in France was long ago planned in the event of the Germans attacking in great force. This announcement comes from the British front through the Associated Press correspondent, who describes the operations of the British Army as a masterly withdrawal made possible by gallant troops in the front lines, who checked the advance of the Germans, while artillery, machine gun and rifle worked appalling slaughter among the masses of German infantry as they were sent forward, thus enabling the main body of the British to fall back deliberately and without confusion. This army, it is declared, has been conserved, and a few counter attacks have been made against the Germans. Where the British have stormed the German newly acquired positions, however, they have driven them back, but each mile of advance makes the bringing up of supplies to artillery more difficult, and unquestionably the British strategy as demonstrated since the beginning of the great attack, is to let the enemy go so far as he may wear himself out against the powerful defenses. Both British and French forces where their lines meet south of St. Quentin are watching events with optimistic eyes. The town of Chaunoy, west of St. Quentin, on the road to Compiègne, the gateway to Paris, has been occupied by the Germans, and, according to the Berlin official everywhere between the Somme and the Oise the Germans are pressing their advantage. Throughout Sunday along the entire 50 mile battle front fighting never ceased for a moment. Where Field Marshal Haig's army were unable to withstand the terrific onslaught, delivered by greatly superior forces the ground was given, but always in orderly fashion. It has now been definitely ascertained that considerably more than a million West front to endeavor to crush the British army holding the line from the region of Arras to south of St. Quentin, but it daily becomes increasingly evident that the enemy in his drive has been unable to realize to the full his objectives. In addition to the Germans claim the capture of both Peronne and Ham and more than 30,000, in addition to the guns and large stores of war material. In their retirement, according to Berlin, the British are burning the towns and villages behind them. This, however, is seemingly capable of being received with reserve as the Germans themselves in their famous strategic retirement left little standing in the territory they evacuated, even denuding the country of trees. One of the mysteries of the offensive which now has been solved is that the shelling of Paris is being done by a long range German gun.

#### FIERCE FIGHTING.

British Army Headquarters in France, (By the Associated Press), March 23.—The Germans this afternoon were pressing their attack hard on the right flank of the British near Ham, while on the northern end of the battle line desperate fighting has been going on since yesterday about Mory, which has changed hands several times. It is reported that some of the enemy infantry pushed down across the Somme Canal and drove forward against prepared positions to which the British had retired. German cavalry was seen behind the advancing infantry and there was small doubt that the attacking forces intended to make a supreme effort to rupture the British line in this sector, which is near the junction of the French and British lines. The British strategic withdrawal along the hostile front to the better positions has been carried out deliberately and in accordance with the plan, thereby saving the lives of British troops while the attacking forces have been advancing under increasing difficulties with huge cost of life. About Mory the battle has been especially fierce and when the story of the British defence can be told it will be a record of a magnificent stand. The fighting here began yesterday morning when the Germans attacked with a superior number of troops. The British held on during the day but last evening the enemy gained a footing in the village after a sanguinary struggle at close quarters. The Germans advanced for this new attack from Croiselles and for hours were held off by a company of British machine gunners who were stationed on high ground and swept the enemy flanks with a grueling fire. The British organized a counter attack as soon as the Germans entered the village and pushed the enemy back. Bitter fighting continued throughout the night and is not less bitter today with fluctuating fortunes.

#### NO CHANGE IN SITUATION SUNDAY.

LONDON, March 24. There was no material change in the situation on the battlefield in Northern France throughout the night although further fighting occurred at a number of points, the War Office announced today. British troops, the statement announces, are holding the line of the Somme River to Fer-

rence. Small enemy parties which attempted to cross the river in the neighborhood of Paragay were driven back. Northward from the Somme to Peronne the British troops are holding their positions after beating off a number of attacks during last night.

#### SMITH-DORRIEN'S OPINION.

LONDON, March 24. "Nothing we have heard up to the present would lead me to think that anything has happened which could not have been expected. There is no reason to come to the conclusion that things are looking bad," General Sir Horace Lockwood Smith-Dorrien says in an interview with the Weekly Dispatch.

#### ENEMY THROWING IN LAST RESOURCES.

LONDON, March 24. (Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency).—Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters in France in a message today states:—The enemy is now throwing his last ounce of weight and resource into the struggle. Upon the course of the immediate future hangs the issue of the war. A captured German stated this offensive is the result of desperation. We must have peace quickly now. Our troops throughout the 23rd and 24th were very hard pressed by the endless onrushing legions through whose weary ranks fresh divisions were being successfully poured. The magnificent defense which the slowly retreating British line has been thus far able to put up, may assuredly constitute one of the greatest epics in history. I find at the headquarters today unbroken serenity, confidence and satisfaction with the general change in position. During Saturday afternoon in the region of Ham, things temporarily looked ugly when the enemy outflanked us and his cavalry poured out in order to extend on enveloping movement, but vigorous counter-attacks drove the enemy back and restored our positions. When reading German claims remember the extent of the battle front, the enemy's unforgettable concentration of guns which is the greatest ever collected, a vast host marking the wake of his advance. The French troops on our right, after the lengthy rest, are at the top of their heroic morale. Yesterday there was heroic fighting in the centre of the battlefield, where our machine gunners a number of times had to cease killing through sheer exhaustion. Never have the British armies so superbly met such an overwhelming test. Included are the South African contingents and the NEWFOUNDLAND battalions, both of which have been fighting magnificently. The fourth day of the offensive has failed to bring any surprises, although the long range guns are doing their utmost day and night. Within Lagnicourt and Hermies our troops were confronted by nine or ten divisions and seven hundred guns. The preliminary bombardment on the whole front the first day was the heaviest ever experienced, and ranged to exceptional depth. Probably owing to the German gunning not being so accurate as ours before the infantry advanced, the barrage was lifted a considerable distance, as the Germans won't bug the barrage as the British do. Otherwise the advance

was similar to our attacks, except that the enemy waves were far denser. Since the preliminary bombardment the enemy artillery has shown a tendency to decrease. The situation at present seems to be that we are holding the enemy on virtually the whole front, although he is pressing his attacks very heavily. For example, one village was taken by the Germans, then retaken by us, and retaken again by the Germans and once again recaptured by the British. At present it is not definitely known to be occupied by either side. There are wide stretches of No Man's Land with pockets of enemy intersecting our posts. In the covering actions, brigades and divisions fought with the view of securing orderly withdrawals. All were magnificent. Two battalions sustained flank fights until when the object had been obtained they were reduced to 70 a piece. The enemy's cavalry were reported at various points, but usually were only screen patrols. As yet there are no signs of the German tanks, although picked men have been trained to operate them. The heaviest fighting has been on the flanks of the battlefield, the southern flank yielding much ground. The withdrawal in the centre has been very slow and carried out in most places under the necessity of maintaining a good line. The weather still continues gloriously fine, and our airmen are playing a brilliant part in the struggle. Although tired, the spirit of the troops defies all language of praise.

#### GERMAN GAINS NOT UP TO PLANS.

LONDON, Mar. 24. Copies of the German plan of offensive taken from prisoners, according to Reuter's correspondents at British Headquarters, show that the enemy's objectives were as follows: First day, average penetration along the whole front of attack, eight kilometres; second day, 12 kilometres, and on the third day, beyond which the scheme does not appear to be carried, 20 kilometres. The success attained thus far falls much short of these objectives, the despatch states.

#### HINDENBURG'S PLANS.

LONDON, Mar. 24. While clouds of uncertainty obscure the details of the world's greatest battle, the guns of which were heard in London last night, there is a measure of relief that Germany has finally shown her hand. The purpose and method of her long talked of blow are now plain. Hindenburg's objective is undoubtedly the Channel ports, but he purposes to take the first step toward them by breaking through the Allies' line near the junction of the French and British armies. The attack thus far has shown no new strategy, but appears to be simply a colossal blow with masses of guns and men hitherto never used together on any battlefield. There is no surprise that the British line has been forced back; lines of defence have bent before all great offensives in this war. What the British people look to the army for is that it shall not break. With usual caution, the German official reports of the first day's fighting did not reveal to their own people the extent or importance of their effort. Only when a partial success had been recorded was Emperor William designated as Commander-in-Chief and the Crown Prince mentioned.

#### ON FRENCH FRONT.

PARIS, Mar. 24. German troops after a violent bombardment undertook a surprise attack to the south of Juvençourt, but quite without success. There has been fairly spirited artillery fighting in the region of Le Pretre Wood, in the Vosges, not far from Le Fontenelle and at Hartmannsweilerkopf.

#### MONSTER CANNON LOCATED.

PARIS, Mar. 24. The German monster cannon, which has been bombarding Paris, has been located in the forest of St. Gobin, west of Laon, exactly 122 miles (approximately 76 miles) from the Paris City Hall. The gun bombarded Paris during the greater part of Sunday. The day was ushered in by loud

explosions from those shells, and immediately the alarm to take shelter was sounded. This occurred at 6.55 o'clock. Many persons sought shelter, but the greater number appeared in the streets on their way to churches which were almost well filled as usual. At first the shells began to arrive at intervals of 20 minutes, and the detonations seemed louder than those of Saturday. Their power to disturb the tranquillity of the people, however, seemed less, the people refusing to be distracted from their Sunday habits to any great extent. For the benefit of at least a portion of the people, who had been led to believe that the Germans had broken through the line and were bombarding Paris from a nearby position, a semi-official note was issued today. This warned the people against believing pessimistic reports. The French front is intact. Any assertion to the contrary is a lie. The bombardment of the capital ended about 1 o'clock, and as late as 3 no explosions had been heard. The "all clear" signal was sounded at 3.30. In military circles the belief is expressed that the Germans were using two long range guns. The Matin says the position of one of the guns is established in St. Gobain forest, which would place it somewhat further south than had been believed, and in the wooded area its position would be about 70 miles from Paris. The comment of the French press today was about evenly divided between the big gun which is bombarding the city from back of the German lines, and the terrible battle raging on the British front. The tone of the comment on the bombardment was astonishment at the feasibility of the performances. As to the battle, a favorable ending to it is confidently expected. Prof. Paul Painlevé, former President of the Academy of Sciences, told the Excelsior that by using Tungsten in the fabrication of the projectiles, Tungsten shells would be about half the diameter of steel shells of even weight, and therefore the atmospheric resistance would be less, this accounting for the extremely long range. He also touched on the possibility of a propeller being employed on the projectile. Alfred Capus, in the Figaro, alludes to the making of the gun as a great mechanical feat but points out that as a military factor the weapon is entirely inefficient. The Petit Parisien comments on the bombardment as a mere incident as compared with the gigantic battle in progress on the British front. The Echo de Paris declared the bombardment is designed to give the impression that Paris is within range of the German guns. It is a political cannon, the paper says. Premier Clemenceau's "L'homme Libre" asserts that the passport of the hour is confidence. Germany, it declares, wished to make a complete offensive on all fronts, land and air fronts as well as rear. We are opposing the enemy who wishes to end the struggle as soon as possible. That suits us. Every shell falling into Paris drives deeper into our confidence in the ultimate victory. La Journal in an article regarding the gun, says it is of 240 mill. calibre and of Austrian manufacture. It is a very delicate piece of machinery, which must be handled by expert mathematicians and gunners. The paper says the loading and pointing is a difficult task. It declares each shot costs about \$4,000. Ordnance experts were not ready last night to commit themselves as to whether the shell was a sort of aerial torpedo driven by propellers, whether an inner projectile contained in the original shell is released by an explosive after the shell had travelled a certain distance from the gun, or whether the original projectile itself reaches its destination propelled perhaps by explosive or force hitherto unknown. In Saturday's bombardment 24 shots in all were fired from 2.30 a.m. to 3 p.m., a shell dropping every 20 minutes, with monotonous regularity. The bombardment presented all the character-

istics of bombardment by heavy artillery, there being a regular interval between shells and the shells falling within a restricted area. Enemy airplanes which flew high over Paris regulated the firing.

#### SERIOUS BUT NOT ALARMING.

LONDON, Mar. 24.

Serious but not alarming, sums up the reception by London of to-day's action from the west front. It is pointed out that in battles such dimensions of attacking forces by the employment of troops regardless of sacrifices are nearly always enabled to win first line positions. The Evening News in its comment refers to the failure of the British report to say anything about prisoners, and adds in the matter of figures our opponents have been notoriously inaccurate.

#### REPEATED ASSAULTS REPULSED.

LONDON, March 24.

North of Peronne, says the official to-night from British headquarters in France, enemy attacks were directed with greatest violence on the line of the River Tertille (a tributary of the Somme). Our troops of this portion of the battle front have been withdrawn and are fighting on new positions. Further north repeated assaults by large bodies of German infantry have been repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. In this fighting the 17th and 40th divisions greatly distinguished themselves, beating off many hostile attacks.

#### BRITISH CROSS JORDAN.

LONDON, March 24.

The British in Palestine have forced a passage of the River Jordan. The text of the official statement reads: In the early hours of Friday our troops effected a passage of the Jordan. Despite the strong current the river was bridged and passed by our forces which established themselves on the left bank and made progress eastward, encountering considerable resistance. Operations are continuing.

#### DISORDER IN WATERFORD.

WATERFORD, Ireland, March 24.

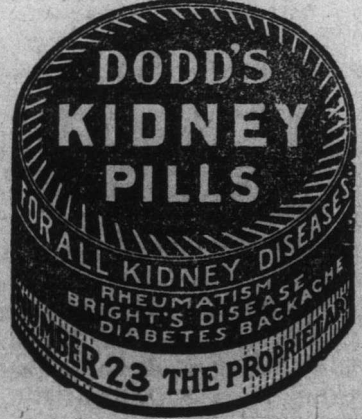
The election of Capt. William Redmond to the Commons over Dr. White, Sinn Féin, was accompanied by disorders here which lasted all night. Crowds of men and women paraded the streets, windows were broken, firearms were used. Twenty persons were injured, one of these is Dr. White who was hit on the head with a brick. When the election was announced Capt. Redmond was cheered. Joseph Devlin, prominent Nationalist member, in a speech from a window of a hotel said, Waterford had struck a blow for the honor of Ireland. Captain Redmond said triumph had been gained for policy of sanity and common sense in Irish affairs.

#### CONFIDENCE IN OUTCOME.

LONDON, March 23.

Confidence that the Allied line, though it may bend will not break, is expressed by the newspapers who are unanimously hopeful of the outcome of the desperate fighting between the British and Germans. The papers dwell on the accuracy of the British intelligence service in divining the enemy's intention and foreseeing the point and time of attack. The battles on the western front are only beginning and the newspapers think the assault on the Cambrai front, which probably was chosen because of the undulating land in this region usually recovers from the effects of winter some weeks earlier than on the Franco-Belgian frontier, may not represent the main and ultimate feature of the enemy's offensive. It is felt there may yet be sudden attacks elsewhere, but there is no doubt of the ability of the British troops to hold the enemy just as they barred the road to Ypres.

(See 7th page.)



Store  
Closes  
6 p.m.