

BRITISH IN FIERCE FIGHTING; 167,780 WAR PRISONERS

Good Enough to Fight But Not Good Enough to Vote, Pugsley's Idea

Member for St. John Moves Amendment to the Military Voters' Bill to Prevent Members of Canadian Forces Who Were Not Ordinarily Residents of Canada Right to Exercise Franchise

W. S. Middlebro, James Arthurs and Dr. Edwards of Frontenac Assail Dr. Pugsley — Dr. Edwards Accuses St. John Member of Being Consistently Opposed to Helping the Boys at the Front.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Aug. 24.—It can be understood that the honorable member from St. John moving a resolution of this kind. It is in line with his whole course in this House since the conscription bill was brought in. He has opposed most consistently any assistance to boys overseas. He has not done his part as a citizen of Canada, apart altogether from his duty as a representative in this House, in trying to get recruits in this country.

house, in trying to get recruits in this country. Continuing, Dr. Edwards said: "The hon. gentleman (Pugsley) is moving an amendment to cut out men which have gone over to risk their lives for Canada. He has said that they should not be allowed to cast a ballot in the election to say who shall represent this country for the next five years. I take issue with him and say that they should, that these men are entitled to every consideration. I would say that if I were one of those men and I was aware of what is going on in the house, and aware of the attitude of the hon. member for St. John or the hon. member for Welland and had any choice and could say where my ballot should be counted, I would say 'count it in St. John,' and count it against the hon. member for St. John. He has shown he does not want to back us up, and does not want to help the boys in the trenches.

Pugsley Starts Something. A rancorous debate followed the moving of an amendment by Hon. Wm. Pugsley to prevent members of the Canadian forces who were not ordinarily residents in Canada, being given the right to vote. Dr. Pugsley argued that under the phrasology of the clause, a man might be given a vote and it was not desirable to give men such a right to take part in the civil life of Canada. It was worse, he said, when it was realized that a non-Canadian who knew nothing of Canadian affairs, would be given the right to elect his constituency. It might turn the election in many constituencies.

The "Purist" of Welland. Mr. W. M. German, of Welland, who seconded the amendment, declared it was an outrage on the civil rights of Canadians and an outrage on the soldier electors of Canada who were fighting the battles in the trenches. The votes of non-Canadians could be placed in constituencies where elections were won or lost by less than 300 votes. Residential manhood franchise was the only franchise in Canada except in the case of Canadian soldiers who had gone to war.

Mr. James Arthurs. Mr. James Arthurs of Ferry Sound remarked that while Mr. Pugsley was talking about preventing soldiers from voting, he was saying nothing about preventing men voting who had come over to Canada to take their place in the nation and other factors of the boys who had gone to do the fighting. Dr. Edwards expressed surprise at the attitude of Dr. Pugsley. He declared that ever since the war started that gentleman had consistently opposed helping the boys at the front. He has opposed most consistently any assistance to our boys overseas, said Dr. Edwards. He declared that "he has not done his part as a citizen of Canada, apart altogether from his duty as a representative in this

EYES OF THE ALLIES TURNED TOWARD RUSSIA AS TEUTONS DRIVE ON RIGA

London, Aug. 24.—The Allies' eyes were turned to Russia again today. Germany was driving powerfully toward Riga. A number of Petrograd despatches admitting considerable advance in this offensive, suggested the possibility that the government would move from Petrograd to Moscow. Petrograd is less than 400 miles from Riga, and the Baltic seaport is one of the key cities to the capital. All Russian advice characterized the front situation as grave, but not necessarily without hope. Sunday's conference of all political factions in Moscow is looked to for energetic action. Russia's whole internal and military situation will be discussed. Military chiefs will be there to report in person. So will all cabinet heads. The direct purpose of the gathering is the formation of a coalition government which will accurately represent the whole people and which, by this power will be able to extend its iron hand to sweep out disaffection in the army as well as at home.

GERMANS HAVE TAKEN 43,000 PRISONERS

These Include British Subjects Alone in Campaign This Year—Allies Took 167,218 Huns. London, Aug. 24.—The text of a statement tonight follows: "The number of prisoners captured by the Entente Allies since April 9 when the 1917 campaign opened with the battle of Arras up to August 22nd is: 'German war prisoners captured by British, 46,155. 'German war prisoners captured by French, 45,722. 'German war prisoners captured by Italian, 40,681. 'Chiefly Austrians captured by Russians, 27,221. Total 167,780. The total number of German war prisoners captured by us since the beginning of the war is 102,218. 'The total number of British prisoners, including Indians, captured by the Germans is approximately 49,000, but exact information as to small captures made by the enemy in recent fighting cannot be given until the necessary information is received from Germany. 'The total number of prisoners captured by us in all the war theatres since the beginning of the war, exclusive of African natives, is 131,776. 'The total number of prisoners lost by us since the beginning of the war, exclusive of African natives, but including Indians is approximately 56,500.

DESTRUCTIVE HAIL STORM IN ALBERTA

High River, Alta., Aug. 24.—Just following the moon hour (7:30 p.m.) was visited by the most violent and destructive hail storm in the history of the district. The town of High River is practically the centre of the area covered by the storm. In this area it is estimated there are at least fifteen square miles of destruction was complete in a district which promised a return in crop sufficient to be a record. The storm was of short duration, covering a period of not more than ten to fifteen minutes, but in that short time it created loss of crops estimated at \$30,000 to 1,000,000 bushels. Garden produce and hay that has not been cut, are literally ground to a pulp, and all that was growing in the area has been damaged. In the town the loss by the storm is principally broken windows, flooded cellars and punctured roofs. Crops destroyed include those of many of the best farms in the district, one of which was of twelve hundred acres.

FRANCE WILL TRY EDITOR FOR TREASON

Paris, Aug. 24.—M. Duval director of the Bonnet Rouge, whose editor, Miguel Almeyda, committed suicide August 15, after being arrested on the charge of sedition, was today turned over to the military authorities by an examining magistrate. M. Duval had been charged with trading with the enemy but, according to the police, evidence collected in the investigation proved that the Bonnet Rouge director, instead of trading with the countries hostile to France, supplied the enemy with information. This charge involves capital punishment.

GOVERNMENT OF RUSSIA STRONGER

This is Opinion of Secretary of State Lansing — Capital May Move to Moscow if Petrograd is Threatened. Washington, Aug. 24.—The United States reaffirmed today its faith in the new Russian democracy, and gave concrete evidence of its confidence by loaning another hundred million dollars to the provisional government. Announcement of the loan came from the treasury soon after Secretary Lansing, at the state department, had denied formally that reports from Russia were of an unfavorable nature, and declared that, on the contrary, confidential despatches to the government were the basis for his belief that the administration at Petrograd was strengthening its position. "I think Russia stronger. "I regard the government of Russia as stronger today than it has been for a month," Mr. Lansing said. "As a general, both from political and military points of view. This opinion is based upon reports, more or less confidential, that we have been getting. So far as the military situation is

BRITISH IMPROVE THEIR POSITIONS AT THREE POINTS

THE BRITISH HALTED ON YPRES ROAD

Fierce Fighting Has Taken Place in Inverness Copse and Glencorse Wood and Still Continues.

London, Aug. 24.—The Germans, in violent attacks with fresh effectiveness along the Ypres-Menin road, have driven out the British advanced forces from positions captured in Wednesday's fighting, according to the official communication issued by the war office this evening. Fierce fighting continues in this region. The Germans have lost heavily under the fire of the British guns. The communication says: "This morning the enemy strongly counter-attacked, with fresh troops, the positions gained by us on Wednesday in the neighborhood of the Ypres-Menin road. He repeated his assaults with great violence throughout the day, and forced back our advanced troops. "Fierce fighting has taken place in the Inverness Copse and the Glencorse Wood and still continues. Numerous concentrations in this area have been dealt with effectively by our artillery. The enemy's losses in the stubborn fighting which has taken place all day are heavy. "We advanced our lines slightly during the night southeast of St. Julien and took several prisoners."

FRENCH PAY TRIBUTE TO CANADIANS

Praise Splendid Work of Boys in Trenches "In This Corner of Hell." Paris, Aug. 24.—(Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—The newspapers of the French capital all pay glowing tributes to the splendid work of the Canadian troops. Le Petit Parisien says: "If it were known what human misery, abnegation and self-sacrifice were involved in those 1300 metres of trenches recently captured by the Canadians in this corner of hell, in which every German soldier fought like a wild beast, the people would be touched and thrilled. An enemy officer remarked of the Canadians, 'Only once have I known a class of soldiers as brave and thoroughly trained, namely, Von Kluck's men in 1914.' "The correspondent of Petit Parisien points out that it is noteworthy that all prisoners, even the officers, declare the war is nearing its close because Germany is at the end of her resources.

CASUALTIES

Ottawa, Aug. 24. Infantry. Killed in action: Lieut. L. V. Gray, Vancouver. P. E. I. Lieut. R. L. Perry, Cody, N. B. Lieut. A. W. Allan, West Cow Herd, N. B. Lieut. E. J. Lounsbury, Fredericton, N. B. Acting Captain J. D. McNeil, White Bay Pier, N. S. Mounted Rifles. Presumed dead: J. A. Gallagher, Torribarra, N. B.

British, French, Italians and Russians Have Captured 167,780 War Prisoners Since April 9, When 1917 Campaign Opened — Portuguese Respond Nobly—Canadians Practically Besieging Lens.

London, Aug. 24.—The British, French, Italians and Russians have captured 167,780 war prisoners since April 9, when the 1917 campaign opened, according to a statement issued by the British war department this evening. The Germans during the night turned their attention to the Portuguese north of La Bassée and attempted two raids against the Portuguese trenches, but each time they were driven off by the alert defenders. Northeast of Ypres the situation virtually is unchanged. The British have improved their position in three places and have successfully withstood a number of counter-attacks. The Germans shelled this section of the British front heavily in the course of the night.

Canadian Headquarters in France, via London, Aug. 24.—(By Stewart Lyon, special correspondent of the Canadian Press)—The operations about Lens assumed, more and more, the characteristics of a siege. The official report of this action says that in six determined attacks on Fosse Four the enemy lost very heavily. From a point a little further north on the city frontier comes one of the stories of cool daring, so common in the annals of the Canadians there. During an encounter between patrols it came to the knowledge of a lieutenant in charge of our patrol that a German party on outpost duty were sheltered in the cellar of a wrecked house on the German front. The lieutenant in charge of our patrol went over, accompanied by only one man, in response to his demand to the enemy below to come up unarmed and surrender, ten unwounded and four wounded Germans emerged from the cellar, and were marched into our lines by their two captors. They had enough and they made no show of resistance.

CAPTURE OF HILL NO. 304 IMPORTANT

With Le Mort Homme It Commands All Ravines and Approaches as Far as Douaumont. Grand Headquarters of the French Army, Aug. 24.—(By the A. P.)—Hill 304, the last remaining important stronghold of the Germans fronting Verdun, fell into French hands at dawn today. The French infantry, who had almost encircled the hill in previous attacks, charged the German positions in a brilliant dash and carried them by storm, capturing the remainder of the Germans entrenched there. Not content with this splendid achievement, the French advanced a further 2,000 yards and made possession of the hill doubly secure. Hill 304 together with Le Mort Homme, commands all the ravines and approaches as far as Douaumont.

POISONOUS GASES

In recently issued instructions to enemy troops regarding the wearing of gas masks it is stated that in these projects the British possess a very effective means of projecting upon our trenches large quantities of highly poisonous and dangerously concentrated gas. Our infantry assaults during the past ten days have given us the high ground on the north and west of the city, from which, with the utmost accuracy, both high explosive and gas can be directed upon the enemy in his crowded quarters. The position is entirely satisfactory. The enemy has never before, on the western front, occupied ground where heavy hourly losses have been so inevitable. The enemy never fought with greater determination than during the past week.

BERLIN EVENING REPORT

Berlin, Aug. 24.—(By the A. P.)—The evening communication issued by the war office says: "In Flanders there have been local engagements near St. Julien and south of Ypres-Menin road, which went in our favor. "Western front: West of the Meuse the French, attacking beyond Hill 304 were repulsed with heavy losses. "In the eastern theatre there is nothing to report."

DEVONIAN'S CREW SAVED

Washington, Aug. 24.—All members of the crew of the submarine steamer Devonian were saved, according to today's advice to the state department.