

# HUNS FAIL IN EXECUTION OF THEIR PROGRAMME

## VIGOROUS COUNTER-ATTACKS RESTORE BRITISH POSITIONS

### Several Places Abandoned in Big Drive Thursday Reoccupied—Thursday Night Fairly Quiet One—Cold Weather Against Best Fighting—Germans in Many Sections Advances in Three Waves of Infantry, Followed by Shock Troops and Hun Losses Heavy.

British Army Headquarters in France, Mar. 22.—(By The Associated Press)—The fighting is still continuing, but the first stage of the offensive has passed. The enemy has fallen back in the execution of his programme as is attested by captured documents showing what he planned to do in the early hours of his offensive.

Vigorous counter-attacks late yesterday restored some of the positions which the British had abandoned temporarily. British line cannot be made public at present. The only reason is that it might furnish the enemy with valuable information.

Last night was fairly quiet along the front. This morning the Germans were bombing in the region of Croisettes. There were indications that they intended to continue their attacks today.

#### Weather Cold.

The weather is cold and black. A heavy mist makes a reconnaissance impossible. This is of advantage to the British, as the enemy is deprived of greatly needed aerial observation.

The Germans in many sections yesterday attacked in three waves of infantry, followed up by shock troops. As a result they have suffered very heavy casualties.

The heavily massed German artillery has been badly hammered by the British guns.

One of the most brilliant British counter-attacks occurred at Dolmies. The British advanced with infantry and tanks at 7 p. m. and after fierce fighting drove out the enemy.

#### Holding the Enemy.

London, Mar. 22.—The great battle on the western front continued until late last night, the war office reports. The British are holding the enemy. The statement follows:

Fighting continued until a late hour last night on the whole front between the River Oise and the River Senne. Our troops continue to hold the enemy in their battle positions.

"During the enemy's attacks yesterday his massed infantry offered remarkable targets to our rifles, machine guns and artillery, of which full advantage was taken by our troops. All the reports testify to the especially heavy losses suffered by the enemy.

"No serious attack has yet developed this morning, but heavy fighting is still to be expected."

#### Heavy Hun Losses.

London, Mar. 22.—The eagerly awaited British official statement of today which was expected to give further details of the tremendous fighting indicated in last night's reports, was read with great satisfaction, inasmuch as it revealed that the enemy had been held and had suffered great losses.

If this turns out to be the great German offensive that has been predicted the preliminary round appears to have gone in favor of the Entente, although as the official report points out, further heavy fighting is still to be expected.

The tremendous artillery duel was heard more distinctly than ever in Kent last night. Houses were continually shaken as the result of the violent concussions.

#### Want Old Line.

The German attack made on the British front west and southwest of Cambrai evidently aims at recapturing all the Hindenburg line, says a despatch to the Morning Post from British headquarters in France, which adds:

"The German army attacking south of the Scarpe seems to have delivered its first blow principally in the triangle of the Arras-Cambrai and Bapaume-Cambrai roads, while the German army south of Cambrai is striking against our trench systems in the region west of the Scheldt Canal. No doubt the enemy hopes that the attacking forces of their two armies may succeed in forming a junction and cutting off a considerable slice of the British front and taking back all the Hindenburg trenches lost exactly four months ago."

Struggles for villages and ruined farm houses continued throughout the night, according to the correspondent of the Daily Mail. The enemy bombardment, he says, began at 5 o'clock in the morning and at 7 o'clock some of the German units left their trenches and attacked the British with heavy and light machine guns. Between 9 and 10 the engagement became general on a front of some twenty-five miles.

Aimed at Croisettes.

The right of the German attack was aimed at Croisettes, Bullecourt and Lagincourt, the correspondent says, and there was hard fighting in a field near the first named village.

Along the Bapaume-Cambrai road the enemy also attacked and pushed towards Gossencourt, while his left wing was pushed in the direction of Roncy and Hargincourt.

The British front in the area of attack forms a rather sharp salient. If the enemy could pinch off this salient and run his line straight in a north-westerly slant instead of having it run as an angle first north and then west, he would be able to hold it with fewer

The German Version.

Berlin, Mar. 22, via London.—The British first line has been captured by German troops attacking from the southeast of Arras as far as La Fere, the war office announces. Heavy artillery fighting continues in Belgium and French Flanders. Reconnoitering detachments are said to have penetrated the opposing lines at many points. Ostend was bombed from the sea.

The text of the statement reads: "Between La Fere and Soissons, on both sides of Rheims and in the Champagne the firing duel increased in intensity. Storming detachments brought in prisoners in many sectors. Ostend has been bombed from the sea."

"In Belgium and French Flanders the heavy artillery duel continued. Reconnoitering detachments penetrated on many occasions into the enemy lines."

"Our artillery continued the destruction of enemy infantry positions and batteries before Verdun. On the Lorraine front, also, the artillery activity increased on many occasions. From the other theatres of war there is nothing new to report."

Repeats Tactics.

The enemy is trying to repeat on a larger scale the operation by which he won back some of the ground he gained in the battle of Cambrai. Then he passed on an angle of our front both from the north and the east. His two bodies of troops did their best to join hands, but could not make it, though they had first considerable success. Much the same design is being followed now. We have good reason to hope that it will be checkmated as was the previous one.

London, Mar. 22.—Emperor William, Field Marshal Von Hindenburg and General Von Ludendorff have gone to the western front to witness the German attack, says an Exchange Telegraph despatch from Copenhagen. The despatch reports Bulgarian and Austrian troops now on the western front.

The Bulgarian troops which have arrived on the western front will be used as a strategic reserve, the despatch says. The number of Austrians on this front is not large, but Austrian cannon in great amount have been concentrated there.

The Austrian war minister, General Von Steiner, who is now in Berlin, is said to have promised Field Marshal Von Hindenburg that the Austrians would take over the work of guarding the eastern front, when the offensive in the west began.

London, Mar. 22.—"We are now engaged in a decisive battle for general peace," says the Tagliche Rundschau of Berlin, according to the Exchange Telegraph Company despatch from Copenhagen, in announcing that the commencement of the German offensive in the west is received with great felicitation by the German people. The newspaper adds:

"A single combat between England and Germany which is to decide the war, or rupture position in the world and whether the Anglo-Saxons shall continue to press their will on the world, opened today."

During the last twenty-four hours the commanding in the western front has been distinctly heard in Holland, the Exchange Telegraph Company correspondent at Amsterdam reports.

Ochakov Captured.

London, Mar. 22.—The Germans have occupied the city of Ochakov on the Danube estuary, 41 miles northeast of Odessa, Reuter's Petrograd correspondent reports.

Buenos Aires, Mar. 21.—Advice received here today seem to confirm the reports current yesterday that the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's steamer Amazon, a 10,000 ton vessel, had been torpedoed. The only notice received from the London office of the company was one stating that the sailing of the Amazon for this date of the Atlantic from Liverpool had been cancelled. A cable message from a passenger, however, says that all on board the Amazon had been saved but that the cargo was lost.

Government Takes Over Section Owned by Bangor and Aroostook Railroad.

Ottawa, Mar. 21.—At the opening of the evening sitting of the House tonight it went into committee on a resolution proposed by Dr. Reid that parliament ratify an agreement between the government and the Van Buren Bridge Company for a lease of a section of the Bangor and Aroostook Railway in the parish of St. Leonard's, N. B. The annual rental would amount to \$1,200 and the lease would extend until the 31st of August, 1924.

LEASES RAILROAD IN MADAWASKA

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Dr. Reid explained that the piece of road which it was proposed to lease ran between the International Railway and the National Transcontinental Railway. It was about two miles in length. By leasing this small portion of line the government could do away with one railway station, thus saving a considerable amount of expense. The reason that the government did not suggest buying this piece of road was that it was bonded and could not be taken over unless the bonds were cancelled.

RED GUARDS TAKE BLAGOVISHTCHENSK

Teutonic Forces Capture City of Kherson, Important Place 92 Miles North of Odessa.

Moscow, Wednesday, March 20.—(By The Associated Press)—Red Guards and revolutionary troops have recaptured Blagovishchensk, after a battle with the Cossacks. They have restored the Soviet authority, as well as order in the town.

(Recent despatches said that the Siberian Bolshevik had murdered a number of Japanese at Blagovishchensk, which lies 500 miles north of Harbin.)

The city of Kherson, ninety-two miles northeast of Odessa, has been captured by the Teutonic forces. This is an important commercial town and possesses a fine harbor.

Washington, Mar. 21.—The British embassy announces that since the beginning of the war, 11,827,572 tons of British shipping have been destroyed. During the year 1917, 6,723,623 tons, or over half the total loss during the conflict, were lost.

AWFUL ATTACKS OF HEART TROUBLE

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One of the first danger signals announcing something wrong with the heart is the irregular beat or violent throb. Often there is only a fluttering sensation, or an "all-gone" sinking feeling, or, again you may experience a smothering sensation, gasp for breath and feel as though about to die.

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Mrs. Frank Arsenau, Newcastle, N. B., writes: "I had awful attacks of heart trouble for the past five or six years, and as I had tried many kinds of medicine without getting any better, I decided to give Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills a trial, and to my surprise I found ease from the second dose. I continued taking them until I had used six boxes, and now I feel as well as can be."

"At present my sister is taking them for nervousness, and finds great comfort by their use."

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are 50c. a box at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

AMAZON LOST

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## New April Numbers of Columbia Records

# Columbia Records

### Rigoletto's song that won Stracciari fame

The climax of Stracciari's triumphant debuts in both New York and Chicago was his dramatic singing of *Cortigiani vil razza dannata*. And this is the song he has now recorded as his Columbia masterpiece. A wonderful record, reproducing the world-famous baritone's art at its best.

49192—\$1.50

### Oscar Seagle sings "The Beautiful Isle of Somewhere"

It has been well said of Oscar Seagle that he always "sings from the heart." And never has he proved it better than in this beautiful and sympathetic recording of McKinley's favorite hymn. On the back, "Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand."

A2487—\$1.00

### Casals' exquisite cello record of "Spring Song"

Acknowledged by musical critics as the greatest living cello, Casals has won even wider popularity through the radiant beauty of his Columbia Records. His interpretation of Mendelssohn's "Spring Song" is an amazing revelation of the cello's musical possibilities.

A6020—\$1.50

### Tom, Dick, Harry and Jack, hurry back!

A cooking patriotic song hit that will surely appeal to the girls they left behind them. Coupled, appropriately enough, with another lively, timely popular air, "I'll Come Back to You When It's All Over." Both sung by Arthur Fields, the soldier baritone.

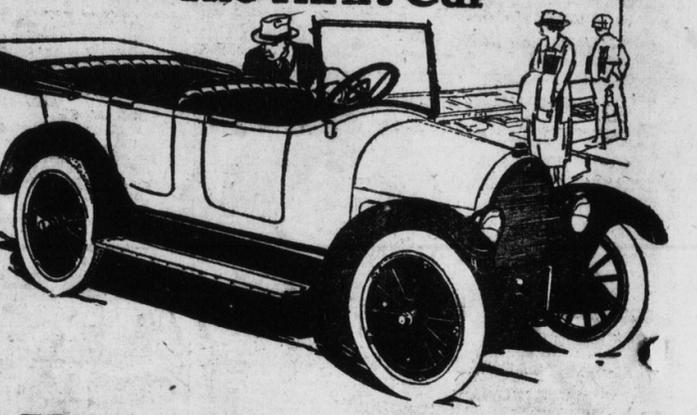
A2496—85c

Many Other Sparking Numbers

These are only a few winners from the wonderful, complete April list of Columbia Records including 61 different selections. Beautiful Easter music, open song, orchestral numbers, monologues, patriotic airs, song hits, dance records, and more. Be sure to get the full list from the nearest Columbia dealer. Send some records to your soldier. There are Columbia Gift Certificates in his Y. M. C. A. or Knights of Columbus hut.

See Columbia Records at 205 St. John Street, St. John, N. B. Columbia Graphophone Company, Toronto.

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