

News of the Week

TUESDAY, APRIL 23.

Official despatches from Paris report "Great Fighting activity" on all sectors of the Macedonian front. The day was relatively quiet along the British front. The Germans carried an advanced British post northwest of Festubert after a heavy preliminary bombardment. To the west, along La Bassée Canal sector, the British carried out a minor operation near Robecq, which resulted in a slight advance of the line and the capture of sixty-eight prisoners. Assembling German infantry here came under fire of the British artillery.

There is no news of importance from the Western front. Paris tells of pronounced artillery activity in the region of Montdidier and Noyon, where the Germans are either preparing for an offensive of their own, or suspect that the French are gathering troops for a counter-attack.

There was fighting during the night of Sunday at Aveluy Wood, north of the Somme, which ended in a draw. At one point the Germans took a British outpost, and at another they lost some ground. Sir Douglas Haig reports the repulse of German raiders yesterday morning near Hamel, south of the Somme. The only other activity recorded was a German raid at Cambrin, south of a Bassée Canal, and a short distance north of the Canadian positions in the Lens region.

Two more earthquake shocks were felt yesterday at Hemei and San Jacinto, California.

Dublin trades unions decided to go on one day's strike as protest against the imposition of conscription on Ireland.

The United States suspends shipment of grain to neutrals till Belgium's and Northern France's immediate needs are supplied.

The plans of the National Registration Board for a complete registration of the man-power and woman-power of Canada between the ages of sixteen and sixty have been approved by the Cabinet; the registration will be made on a day in June.

Premier Clemenceau in a visit to the British front yesterday reviewed a battle-worn division of British troops.

The Armenians have recaptured Van, in Turkish Armenia, from the Ottomans and have repulsed attacks on Baku.

The Soviet soldiery are reported to have stamped out disorders in Moscow and placed over 300 Anarchists under arrest.

Canada's new man-power measure, which was signed on Saturday by the Governor-General, and is now in effect, is expected to add 30,000 men of the ages of 20, 21 and 22.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24.

British and French naval forces made a daring raid on Ostend and Zeebrugge early yesterday morning, and effectively blocked the entrance to the Bruges Canal.

There is nothing to report along the French lines save some heavy artillery duels near Hangard, on the Amiens front, and at Noyon. The French and American lines on that part of the Lorraine front where the Germans attacked and penetrated the French and American positions have been entirely restored.

The British report advantages secured in outpost fight north of Albert, along La Bassée Canal, at Robecq, and in the Wytschaete sector. There the British by an advance also improved their positions. The German artillery on the Ypres front, and also along the Somme, continues its activity, and south of the Somme concentrations of the enemy's infantry have been observed.

Intense activity is reported on the Macedonian front. On Monday, as on several days previously, there was infantry and artillery activity all along the front. The French again raided an enemy work and killed most of the occupants, while the Serbs beat back three attempts by the Bulgars to regain a position from which they had been driven on the previous day.

The Turks claim that they are battling their way towards Kars, and have reached a point twenty miles northeast of Batum. The Armenians who are fighting against the Turkish advance are apparently making a heroic effort to prevent the enemy of their race from repeating in the Caucasus the terrible excesses of Turkish Armenia.

A quantity of butter with finely cut wire mixed in it has been found at Calgary.

The first of the new draft of men of the ages of twenty to twenty-two will be called to the colors early next week.

Canada's trade during the year ending with March increased by \$315,292,044, totalling in exports and imports \$2,564,462,215.

Three days in the week have been set aside in Jamaica when meat is not to be eaten.

American newspapers, it is announced, will have to reduce their size by 50 per cent in the coming year.

Lack of coal has forced the Austrian Minister of Railways to suspend passenger traffic on the northern roads.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25.

The battle of the Somme has been resumed, and in the first day's fighting the Germans have captured the village of Villers-Bretonneux, which lies eight miles east of Amiens on the St. Quentin road.

On the Lys battlefield the enemy begins to lose ground. Sir Douglas Haig reports the recapture of an advanced post near Festubert taken by the enemy on Monday. At Robecq the enemy tried to regain the ground they lost two days ago, but failed and withdrew, leaving eighty-four prisoners behind them. In the Nieppe Forest sector also the British secured some prisoners by minor enterprises.

It is now officially announced that German troops operating in the Crimea have reached Simferopol, and have thus cut the railway uniting the Crimean peninsula with the mainland of Russia. The Germans are now 35 miles northeast of Sebastopol, but there is still time for the Russian warships to take refuge at some of the Black Sea ports east of the Sea of Azov.

Two large Austrian power factories have been destroyed by explosions.

Four hundred and ninety-seven daily newspaper publishers in the United States passed a convention resolution to support President Wilson in his war policy.

Viscount Bryce has submitted the report of the committee appointed to suggest plans for reform of the House of Lords. He proposes a twelve-year term of office, and appointments by Commons committees.

Four months of the Military Service Act yielded 13,365 men physically fit for combatant service, out of some 24,000 who reported.

The Governor-General sent a cablegram to the First Lord of the Admiralty of congratulation upon the navy's recent exploit in Flanders.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26.

Australian and British troops have recaptured Villers-Bretonneux, on the road to Amiens, and taken more than six hundred prisoners in that region. The French admit the loss of Hangard.

An official report from General Haig says that in the north, on a line from Bailleul to Wytschaete, there has been very heavy fighting, and the Allied troops were obliged to withdraw from their positions in the neighborhood of Dranoutre, Kemmel and Vierstraet.

The street car strike in Detroit has been called off, and the dispute will be settled by Federal mediation.

Wood growers of the United States have agreed to turn over to the Government the entire output at prices based on the price prevailing for washed wool on July 30 last.

Norwegian capitalists are making arrangements to revive the whaling industry in Newfoundland waters. They plan to sell the meat in the United States and make the fat into margarine.

The time for completion of the Georgian Bay Canal has been extended to May, 1921.

A steamer with 738 returned officers, non-coms, and men of the C. E. F. reached an Atlantic port.

Nine sons of the late J. A. MacKay, of Montreal, who was buried Wednesday, a few weeks after his wife, are in khaki.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

It is officially announced that the Germans are in possession of Kemmel Hill and Ypres is in danger. Counter-attacks against the German lines from Villers-Bretonneux to the south of the Luce were launched by French and British troops, who succeeded in retaking a large part of the ground which had been lost in that region, says the official statements issued by the War Offices at Paris and London.

On the Macedonian front a French official report says there has been great activity on the part of the heavy artillery of the Allies, particularly on the right bank of the Vardar and in the region of Monastir.

Vice-Admiral Schroeder of the German fleet is to be removed from his position as Commander at Zeebrugge, owing to the raid.

The Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene was organized at Ottawa.

Results of the Military Service Act in Quebec are now pronounced extremely gratifying.

St. Catharines has formed the War Chest Club to be the sole organization for war relief work.

Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, addressed the Senate and Commons.

Dr. Robert J. McFall, M.A., Ph.D., has been selected as Cost of Living Commissioner, succeeding W. F. O'Connor, K.C.

The Halifax Relief Commission by a bill passed by the Nova Scotia Legislature, just prorogued, is given extensive powers, independent of civic control.

The Canada Food Board has issued an order limiting the holding of sugar by anyone except manufacturers or dealers to fifteen days' supply, except persons living more than two miles from a licensed dealer.

MONDAY, APRIL 29.

Hard fighting has been in progress on the Ypres sector around Voormezele and to the south at Loere. Both places have several times changed hands, but at last reports Voormezele had been recaptured by the British, but the Germans had obtained another foothold in Loere.

The London Times warns public that the Channel ports, Dunkirk, Calais and Boulogne are endangered.

The Turks are reported to be advancing in the Caucasus to perpetrate wholesale massacres against Christians, killing indiscriminately Armenians, Greeks and even American missionaries.

The Stockholm Aftonbladet says that definite reports have been received from Abo, Finland, that Grand Duke Alexis Nikolaievitch, son of the former Emperor of Russia, has been proclaimed Emperor, with Grand Duke Michel Alexandrovitch as regent.

Arab forces opposing the Turks have occupied a portion of the Hedjaz railway at a point 125 miles southeast of the Dead Sea, according to an official statement issued.

The Canadians have carried out three successful raids opposite Lens, taking sixty prisoners and four machine guns and killing many Germans.

SUGAR.

The Canada Sugar Refining Company announce that they advanced prices for all grades of refined sugar 25c. per 100 lbs., and that they are now selling extra granulated at \$8.65 per 100 lbs. in bags, while the St. Lawrence Sugar Refining Co., and the Dominion Sugar Co. prices are \$8.80, and the Atlantic \$8.90.

BANK OF MONTREAL

NOTICE is hereby given that a DIVIDEND OF TWO-AND-ONE-HALF PER CENT. upon the paid up Capital Stock of this Institution has been declared for the current quarter, also a BONUS OF ONE PER CENT., both payable on and after Saturday, the FIRST DAY OF JUNE next, to Shareholders of record of 30th April, 1918.

By order of the Board.
FREDERICK WILLIAMS-TAYLOR,
General Manager.

Montreal, 23rd April, 1918.

PROFESSIONAL

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