

## BRITISH LAUNCH GREAT NEW OFFENSIVE

**Turkey Severs Diplomatic Relations With United States**

**Allies Score Fresh Successes in Advance on Western Front**

**China to Declare War on Germany Independent of Allies**

### Attack Opened on Wide Front in Scarpe Region

#### DELIBERATE AND SYSTEMATIC VANDALISM PRACTISED BY FOE IN BURNING OF LENS

**Hun Incendiaries Carry out Campaign of Intentional and Wanton Destruction; British Nemesis Approaches**

(By Stewart Lyon, special correspondent of the Canadian Press in France)

Canadian Army Headquarters, April 22.—The burning of Lens by the enemy is a most thorough and systematic process. Beginning in the southern end of the town incendiaries yesterday extended operations in the northern district. Simultaneously Aton and other centres of the mining district adjoining Lens are being destroyed with all the appliances of the enemy. Where he has been driven out and no longer apply the torch he neglects even working parties to make targets of the overhead lines of mines and the houses of miners.

A trip up the Souchez valley today through the mining region furnished evidence that the enemy is basing on solely for the purpose of completing his destruction. Everywhere in the valley are ruin and desolation, some of it caused by our bombs before the taking of the Vimy ridge, but much of it by the enemy. In his hurried flight he left many unexploded bombs and others hastily buried, which he had not been able to bring to view by German shells. The narrow valley between Lorette ridge and Vimy ridge is a charnel house of the bones of thousands of both sides, who died during the great French offensive of 1915. Once more the tide of war has swept up the valley and added horror to horror.

Nowhere is the utter wreck made by the long continued bombardment of heavy guns so apparent as at Souchez, which is still crumbling into heaps of unrecognizable rubble. A notice board placed on a prominent point in the spot as Souchez square.

All over this region one hears the roar of our guns and encounters groups of enthusiastic British and Canadian gunners, who work overtime in the mining villages in the valley between Souchez and Lievin. No two cases of shell effect on the houses are alike. The mining villages present a far wider assortment of ruin than one may see at Arras itself. The enemy can still observe here the effect of his fire without the use of aeroplanes. His aerial observers have an increasing unwholesome time of it. This morning two of his planes tried to destroy one of our which was being used for observation rather than for fighting. One was destroyed and the other left the vicinity hurriedly. Of twenty-six enemy aeroplanes seen yesterday, only five crossed our front.

Our patrols out on the Douai plain are keeping the enemy jumpy by pushing near his outposts in the night. During these affairs the enemy makes a fearful row with his barrage fire, being in nightly fear of an attack in force. His trouble may be diagnosed as bad case of neurosis.

In reference to the case of the Continued on page three.

#### Weather Bulletin

Toronto, April 22.—Several minor depressions exist on the continent this morning, while cold waves covers Lake Superior. Snow and rain occurred locally during the night over the lakes area and Ontario, and some light snow has fallen in the western provinces.

Forecasts: Moderate north to northeast winds fair and comparatively cool to-day and on Tuesday.

#### ABSOLUTELY UNTRUE STATEMENT

A despatch issued from Ottawa with reference to "soldier members" of the Dominion House and their pay and printed in morning papers of Saturday, said:

"Those who have served in Canada and received pay and separation allowance are Hon. Captain J. A. Douglas and Hon. Col. W. F. Cockshutt."

Later on in the same despatch the name of Mr. Cockshutt was given as among those whose pay had been stopped.

**Absolutely Untrue**  
There is not a word of truth in either of the above statements as anyone who knows the member for Brantford must have immediately realized without any denial.

Mr. Cockshutt has never taken one cent of pay, either directly or indirectly.

As a matter of fact he has contributed large sums on behalf of war and patriotic purposes since the war started and never once attempted to take, or thought of taking, any emolument, (although so entitled), in connection with his position as Hon. Colonel of the 125th a Battalion with regard to the successful formation of which he played so large a part.

**In the House**  
Mr. Cockshutt at the first opportunity will rise to a question of privilege in the Dominion House, and have the injustice associated with his name officially removed by a record on Hansard.

Spoken to by a Courier man with reference to the matter, Mr. Cockshutt said that he believed his friends must have realized from the first that a gross mistake had been made but as the mistatement had been scattered broadcast, he deemed it to be his duty to have the matter ventilated and rectified in the Commons Chamber.

#### HUN CRUISERS ARE AT LARGE

London, April 22.—German transports have left Libau, on the Baltic south of the Gulf of Riga for an unknown destination, according to a Central News despatch from Petrograd today.

#### WAR VETERANS GIVEN COLORS

Presentation Made by Women of City on Saturday Evening

**AN IMPRESSIVE SCENE**

Doing Honor to Brantford's Returned Soldiers

An event of unique significance, and one which will live long in the memory of all concerned, as well as in the annals of the city itself, was that which took place on Saturday evening on the Market square in the presentation of colors from the women's organizations of the city to Brantford's returned soldiers, who were present in goodly attendance for the occasion. A scene dramatic and impressive was presented by the little knot of heroes, nearly one hundred strong, veterans of France and Flanders of Ypres, Festubert, the Somme, where they aided in the encircling of Canada's name in letters of gold upon fame's page. The returned men gathered at the Y. M. C. A. and at seven o'clock, headed by the band of the 215th battalion, paraded via Dalhousie St to the market. Many there were as tall and erect as ever in their lives, their martial instincts re-asserted in the march; others shrank by the blast of war, and bearing visible evidence of their sacrifices at the altar of king and country. Some clad in khaki, the very uniforms which they wore upon the field of battle, others returned to muff, but one and all representative of the true spirit of heroic Canada to-day, and typical of the best class of citizens to be found within the confines of the Dominion.

Arrived at the market, the party was met by representatives of the Women's Patriotic League and the three Chapters of the I.O.G.E., and addressed briefly by Mrs. W. C. Livingston, president of the W. P. L. as follows:

Mr. President and men of the Great War Veterans Association: We feel that the anniversary of the second battle of Ypres is a most fitting occasion upon which to present the colors to your Association. When the Canadians stood firm as a rock in spite of gas and shell and withstood the advancing hordes of barbarians they wrote a page in Canadian history that will thrill generations yet to come, and saved us from a fate more terrible than that of Belgium or Northern France. We are indeed proud of our war veterans who have borne the burden and heat of battle and are now invalided home—many of you bearing in your bodies the marks of the terrible conflict. You gallant men who left all at the call of the Motherland and did your bit, that those whom you loved might enjoy the blessings of freedom. Deep in our hearts is a profound gratitude to you, and to the brave men who are yet in the strife, for your courage and endurance. May we never forget the debt of gratitude we owe to you.

As women of Brantford, you may depend upon us to further your interests to the very best of our ability. Just the beloved Canadian flag, is the emblem we have chosen for you to carry. That flag has been torn by shot and shell, and stained by the blood of heroes, but has never yet been trailed in the dust of dishonor. Cherish it! Love it to your dying day.

May you emulate in your lives the principles of which it is symbolic. Purity, Justice and Truth. And ever bear in mind that "Righteousness exalteth a nation."

The colors were then presented, being received by the sergeant at arms, and Sergt. G. W. Broomfield, formerly of the 58th Battalion, replied to the ladies as follows: "We receive these colors to keep, protect and revere until all the boys come home realizing that they are emblems of liberty and honor, and we must ever strive to be worthy of them. We have a duty to perform

#### Battle Rages in Vicinity of Scarpe River and Progress is Made by Haig's Forces; Trescault Village and Havrincourt Wood Taken

Bulletin, London, April 23.—The British have opened an attack on a wide front in the region of the Scarpe River. The official report issued to-day says that the battle is proceeding and that satisfactory progress is being made.

The British completed the conquest of the village of Trescault and gained the greater part of Havrincourt wood.

The announcement followed: "We attacked at dawn this morning on a wide front on both banks of the River Scarpe. Fighting is proceeding and our troops are making satisfactory progress."

"South of the Bapaume-Cambrai road we captured the remainder of the village of Trescault during the night and gained possession of the greater part of Havrincourt wood."

Paris, April 23.—Heavy artillery fighting continues along the front of the French offensive, the war office announces. East of Craonne the Germans, after a fierce bombardment, grouped detachments for an attack. French guns replied effectively and prevented the attack.



THAT "STRATEGIC" WITHDRAWAL FROM LONDON OPINION

#### Washington Entertains Balfour and His Party

British Foreign Minister Calls Upon Lansing, Wilson and Vice President; Has Busy Day Discharging Calls of Courtesy

Washington, April 23.—Calls of courtesy filled part of the program today of Foreign Minister Balfour and other distinguished members of the British Commission, who arrived here yesterday to confer with American officials on the nation's joint task of beating Germany. Tomorrow also the visitors will be entertained by the Pan-American building for the show to guests of such high rank on a mission of such tremendous significance and then will come a series of official conferences for the exchange of counsel on America's part in the war.

Mr. Balfour today arranged to drive from the big Sixteenth street mansion, which has been placed at his disposal, to the state department to call formally on Secretary Lansing. Then the two will go across the street to the White House to allow Mr. Balfour to greet President Wilson and later the foreign minister expected to go to the capitol to call on Vice President Marshall. Lunch is to be with the French ambassador, J. J. Jusserand, and dinner this evening with the President. Tomorrow evening there will be a reception by Secretary Lansing at the Pan-American building for the noted visitors, preceded by dinners of cabinet members to their special guests.

#### WELCOME TO CAPTAIN CORNELIUS

Wounded Officer of 58th Battalion Returned Home This Morning GIVEN BIG RECEPTION Soldiers' Aid and Others Welcomed Returning Hero

One of the most cordial receptions that has been tendered to any of the many heroes who have returned from overseas to their native city of Brantford, was given to Captain Cornelius of the 58th Battalion, who arrived in Brantford about half past ten o'clock this morning. Notification of his expected arrival was only received at the soldiers' Aid Commission shortly before ten o'clock, and immediately a strong deputation was assembled to do honor to him who has faced death on the battle field, and has twice been wounded.

He was met at the Grand Trunk depot, and preceded by the brass band of the 215th Battalion, a procession of ten or twelve automobiles paraded down Market street to Market Square, where an official civic welcome was conveyed to Capt. Cornelius by Mayor Bowby, who explained that he felt a double interest in one, who previous to his enlistment, had been a neighbor. "I take off my hat to any returned hero," declared Mayor Bowby, as an evidence of his respect for our soldiers coming back from overseas. Aid. Dowling expressed his pleasure at the return of one who had been so popular and well known to the citizenry of Brantford, and paid a tribute to the mother and sisters who had waited in suspense for so long. He thought that the large burden of anxiety that had been borne by them was a proud attribute, and was deserving of recognition. He therefore called for cheers which were heartily given. Mr. A. G. Olive who was an active associate of Capt. Cornelius in church work, spoke briefly, extending on behalf of the church in which he had been organist, a cheerful welcome back to their midst. He hoped for a speedy convalescence of his friend.

Mr. W. F. Cockshutt, who had been a close neighbor of Capt. Cornelius, before the latter's departure for overseas, stated that for many years he had known Mr. Cornelius, and had fully appreciated his services to the community. He was, however, glad that Capt. Cornelius had been to the front, experienced the brunt of the fighting, and had once more returned to join his friends. Without exception the men and the regiments that had left Canada had acquitted themselves well on the fields of Europe, and while he did not wish to individualize, Mr. Cockshutt thought that none had accomplished better results than the 58th, who had been early in the fray, and were still actively engaged therein. Mr. Cockshutt regretted exceedingly that in discharging his duty, Capt. Cornelius had suffered wounds, but expressed the hope that the refreshing air of his native city might exert a beneficial effect and might once again restore health. In fighting the Empire's battles, the speaker was aware that Capt. Cornelius had seen and spoken to many Brantford boys who will not come back crippled or in any other way. Continued on page five.

#### CHINA IS ANXIOUS FOR WAR

War Sentiment Increases Daily; Chinese Minister Held by Huns

WILL DECLARE WAR On Germany Independently of Allies

Peking, April 23.—The war sentiment in China is increasing daily. The Chinese are incensed over the action of Germany in detaining the Chinese minister in Berlin pending the safe arrival of von Hintze German minister to Peking. There is also great indignation over the detention of Chinese students in Berlin and Munich. The military governors will hold their first war conference in Peking on April 25. The majority of the governors and parliament favor war, but they differ over the attitude China should adopt toward the Entente. The indications are that China will declare war independently.

The Chinese newspapers reproduce a Washington despatch from Dr. Y. K. Wellington Koo, Chinese minister to the United States, in which he urges China to declare war by itself and not in partnership with the Entente. Dr. Koo argues that China's position would be stronger if it acted independently and that it could co-operate freely with the allies and the United States.

#### Heavy Fighting

Cheng-Tu, China, April 23.—Fierce fighting has broken out in the streets here between the Sze-Chuen and Yunnan troops. The outbreak is the climax to the friction between the two parties which has steadily increased since Yunnanese forces entered Cheng-Tu last April. The direct cause of the explosion was the attempt of the military governor of Sze-Chuen, who is a Yunnanese, to disband the provincial troops and strengthen his grip on the province. The fighting started on Wednesday night and continued all next day and night. Many houses were burned and trenches and barricades were constructed by both parties. The British, French and Japanese consuls, at much personal risk have succeeded in arranging an armistice, but the situation is still critical. All foreigners are safe so far. Cheng-Tu is the capital of the province of Sze-Chuen. It has a population estimated at 800,000, and it is the seat of eight American and British missions.

#### TURKEY AND U. S. BREAK

Washington, April 23.—Official notification of the Turkish Government breaking off diplomatic relations with the United States was received today by the State department in a despatch from American Minister Stovall at Berne, Switzerland.

#### RUGS AND CARPETS

Special selling of Carpets, Rugs and floor coverings, all this week at Crompton's.

#### URGES HOSTILITIES

Amsterdam, via London, April 23.—Count von Reventlow returns in The Tages Zeitung to his attack on the German official statement that there are no German submarines in the west Atlantic. He says: "It would seem that Germany is again building hopes on the United States. Two well known American newspapers are said to have free access to the foreign office in Wilhelmstrasse. Which enemy power is to be approached next?" The Koelnische Volks-Zeitung also disapproves of the assurance that no submarines have been sent to American waters. It says: "We understand why, for the present we refrain from attempts to blockade American ports. Our submarines would be too far from home and we have better use for them elsewhere. But surely we have the right to open hostilities and we do not see any reason why we should not. Anyhow the announcement was not a diplomatic masterpiece."

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