

# The Toronto World

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## FRENCH TAKE LAST GERMAN STRONGHOLD AT VERDUN

### Canadian Gains Pin Enemy Entirely to Cellars of Houses

## 167,780 PRISONERS TAKEN BY ALLIES SINCE APRIL 9

Of This Number, 102,218 Are Germans—British Prisoners Captured in Same Time Number 43,000

London, Aug. 24.—The British, French, Italians and Russians have captured 167,780 war prisoners since April 9, when the 1917 campaign opened with the battle of Arras, up to August 22, it is stated.

"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 22, is:—

"German war prisoners captured by British, 46,156.  
 "German war prisoners captured by French, 43,723.  
 "Chiefly Austrian war prisoners captured by Italians, 46,681.  
 "Chiefly Austrians captured by Russians, 37,221.  
 "Total, 167,780.

"The total number of German war prisoners captured by us since the beginning of the war is 1,022,218.

"The total number of British prisoners, including Indians, captured by the Germans is approximately 4,000, but exact information as to the 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 1,311,776.

"The total number of prisoners captured by us since the beginning of the war, exclusive of African natives, but including Indians, is approximately 1,350,000."

### Potash Discovered at Muskoka Answer Given to German Boast

Dominion Government Gives Toronto Firm Permission to Extract Mineral From Water.

Ottawa, Ont., August 24.—The German boast that the world would accordingly be starved of potash, appears to be an empty one. Potash has been discovered at Muskoka, Ont., and the Salt and Potash Company of Canada of Toronto have been granted permission, on the application of J. Ogilvie Cars, to divert water from the lake to extract the potash, and also to lease vacant Dominion lands abutting on Muskoka Lake in connection with the recovery and utilization of the potash and other minerals.

### SPLENDID WORK OF CANADIANS IS PRAISED BY PARIS PAPERS

People Would Be Touched and Thrilled if Story of Human Misery, Abnegation and Self-Sacrifice Were Told.

Paris, Aug. 24.—(Via Reuters' Ottawa Agency).—The newspapers of the French capital pay glowing tribute 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 1500 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 Le 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.

Sir William Hearst has sent the following cable, thru Sir Douglas Haig, to Lieut.-Gen. Sir Arthur Currie and the forces under his command:

"Ontario heartily congratulates Canadian forces on their inspiring achievements in recent victories under your command."

He has received the reply which follows:

"All ranks of the Canadian forces under my command join with me in thanking you very warmly for the inspiring message of congratulation that you have sent us on behalf of the Province of Ontario."  
 (Signed) Douglas Haig.

### SOLDIERS' BILL IS READ SECOND TIME

Amendments Incorporated and Liberals Appear to Be Satisfied.

### PUGSLEY'S PROTEST

Charges Government With Framing Bill to Swing Doubtful Ridings.

Ottawa, Aug. 24.—The military voters' act passed successfully thru the house of commons tonight and now stands for third reading. The amendments agreed upon yesterday were all incorporated, and the Liberals professed themselves much better satisfied with the bill. There was quite a lively debate, however, upon an amendment moved by Hon. Wm. Pugsley which sought to exclude from the military franchise members in Canadian expeditionary forces who had never lived in Canada. Both he and Mr. German, of Welland, contended that these electors, having the right to vote wherever they pleased, could be so fitted as to swing nearly every doubtful riding for the government. Hon. C. J. Doherty, minister of justice, who was in charge of the bill, refused to accept the amendment, and was vigorously opposed by many government supporters, including Messrs. Bennett (Calgary), Arthur, Edwards and Morphy. A number of the opposition Liberals also refused to support the amendment, which was finally defeated by a vote of 83 to 15. Those supporting the Pugsley amendment were Messrs. Pugsley, German, Oliver, Murphy, Turgeon, Knowles, Copp, Macdonald, Michael, Marlin (Bago) and Frouz.

When the house got into committee on the bill, Mr. Doherty moved an amendment to make it plain that the

(Continued on Page 2, Column 4).

### RANK FOLLY TO MAKE CLEANLINESS CRIMINAL

Berlin Newspapers Don't Like Proposal to Prohibit Home-Bathing.

Amsterdam, Aug. 24.—The proposed prohibition of bathing at home in Germany to save fuel and soap is called rank folly by the Vossische Zeitung of Berlin. The paper says many public baths already are closed, owing to lack of coal, and attributes notable increases in skin diseases, dysentery and other disorders to the "bathless" Germans. The Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung also points out the increase in cases of dysentery in Berlin, which, it says, is due to the fact that, while typhoid, which spreading, also is causing uneasiness.

## FRENCH ADVANCE 2000 YARDS AFTER CAPTURING HILL 304

### Win-the-War League Not Satisfied With Laurier's Reply to Its Letter

Frank Wise, honorary secretary of the Win-the-War League, has sent the following letter to Sir Wilfrid Laurier asking for a more definite statement of his views upon conscription:

Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, G.C.M.G.  
 Dear Sir: I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter addressed to me as honorary secretary of the Win-the-War League.

On behalf of the league, I beg to thank you for the statement of your views with which you have favored us. I am, however, instructed to call your attention to the fact that our communication appealed to you 1. To place a definite time limit on the period you would allow for recruiting.

2. To state that if voluntary effort failed to produce the necessary reinforcements, you would resort to conscription.

The statement of your views does not appear to furnish an answer to this appeal. May we ask to be favored with a definite reply as to your intentions on these two points of policy which we regard as of cardinal importance?

Yours very truly,  
 Frank Wise, honorary secretary.

### Last Remaining Stronghold of the Germans Fronting Verdun Carried by Storm, and Many Prisoners Are Taken.

By the Associated Press.  
 Grand Headquarters of the French Army in France, Aug. 24.—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 500 yards and made possession of the hill doubly secure. Hill 504, together with Le Mort Homme, commands all the ravines and approaches as far as Douaumont. The loss of these positions deprives the Germans of all observatories from which they could watch the French movements.

### ITALIANS CARRY LINES FURTHER TOWARD GOAL

Cadorna's Men Have Taken Twenty Thousand Prisoners and Still Advance After Crushing Desperate Austrian Counter-Attacks.

Rome, Aug. 24.—The war office reports that the battle on the Isonzo front continues, and that about sixty guns have been captured. More than 20,000 prisoners, the war office statement says, have been removed from the Austro-Italian front by the Italians. General Cadorna announces that the Italians yesterday stormed the Austrian positions, broke up violent counter-attacks made by the enemy and took a large number of Austro-Hungarian prisoners.

The text reads:

"The battle is continuing. We have carried new positions, broken up the enemy's violent counter-attacks, and have captured a large number of prisoners."

"Altogether, up to the present, we have removed from the battle front more than 500 officers and 20,000 men, about 60 guns, mostly of medium calibre, numerous machine guns and machine guns, and a large quantity of war material."

"On high our aviators, with unending effort and driving the enemy no truce, have bombarded his mixed troops and have carried destruction into his line of communication by dropping fifteen tons of bombs."

"On the Trentino front, where the enemy persists in his fruitless attempts to create a diversion, we completely repulsed patrols in the Giudicarie and storming parties in the Lagarina Valley and at Monte Croce."

"Albania.—During the night of Tuesday, in a lively encounter of the right bank of the middle Vouras River, one of our patrols almost destroyed an enemy party. The few survivors were taken prisoner."

### UNION MINISTRY SEEMS ASSURED

Western Liberals Reported as Favorable to Fifty-Fifty Arrangement.

Winnipeg, Aug. 24.—The Free Press says today:

"The fate of union government depends on the outcome of a conference which is being held between prominent western Liberals, who returned from Ottawa today, and members of the Manitoba Government."

"It is reported that the chances for a union government are bright, and it will be formed on a fifty-fifty basis. It is said that a sufficient number of western Liberals are willing to come into the agreement."

"Those who returned from conferring with the authorities at Ottawa are: Hon. A. L. Blifton, premier of Alberta; Hon. W. H. Martin, premier of Saskatchewan; H. W. Wood, president of the United Farmers of Alberta; and T. A. Crerar, president of the Grain Growers' Grain Company. The party went into conference with some of the members of the Manitoba Government, and the conference is likely to last all day."

### FAITH IN RUSSIA REAFFIRMED BY U. S.

Another Hundred Million Dollar Loan is the Concrete Evidence.

NO CONCERN OVER RIGAS City Has Been Evacuated Five Times Since Start of War.

Washington, Aug. 24.—The United States reaffirmed today its faith in the new Russian democracy and gave concrete evidence of its confidence by lending 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 dispatches to the government were the basis for his belief that the administration at Petrograd was strengthening its position.

"I regard the government of Russia as stronger today than it has been for a month," Mr. Lansing said. "I mean in general, both from political and military points of view. This opinion is upon reports more or less confidential that we have been getting."

"So far as the military situation is concerned the secretary indicated that he felt little concern over the advance upon Riga by the Germans, receding from the place had been evacuated five times during the war."

"Much of the money placed to Russia's credit, bringing her total loans from the United States to \$275,000,000, probably will be spent immediately for supplies and equipment, which must be shipped quickly if they are to arrive before the closing of the northern ports by ice. One of the great needs is railroad locomotives and rails, which American producers are endeavoring to provide."

### ALLIES MADE ATTACK ON METZ FROM AIR

Germans Admit Casualties in Fortress and Adjacent Towns.

Amsterdam, Aug. 24.—A semi-official telegram from Berlin says that during an enemy attack Tuesday night a girl was killed at Metz. A woman and five children were injured at other towns.

Wanted by Toronto Police.  
 Winnipeg, Aug. 24.—Stephen Madden, wanted by the Toronto police on a charge of conspiracy, was arrested in Winnipeg tonight.

### GERMANS SUCCEED IN MINOR FIGHT

British Advanced Forces Driven From Positions Captured Wednesday.

### FIERCE FIGHTS GO ON

Enemy's Losses at Inverness and Glencorse Wood Are Heavy.

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 is still continuing. 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. The customary work of our airplanes was continued yesterday, despite unfavorable weather and high westerly winds. The enemy's aircraft showed little activity. In air fighting one German airplane was downed and another driven down out of control. Three of our machines are missing."

## CANADIANS HOLD FOSSE FOUR AGAINST SIX HEAVY ASSAULTS

Important Position Near Green Crassier Torn From Germans, Changes Hands Several Times, With Manitoba Troops Winning Fight --- Gas Pours Into Lens Cellars.

By Stewart Lyon.  
 Canadian Headquarters in France, via London, Aug. 24.—The operations about Lens assume, more and more, the characteristics of a siege. The city is not encircled by our troops, but as the result of the continuous fighting of the past ten days the Germans in the environs have been driven in upon the thickly built central portion of Lens, which now forms a wedge-shaped intrusion in our battle front, with the point of the wedge almost due west of the cathedral.

The enemy is seeking by the most desperate fighting to secure more room in the open to the north and south of the wedge, because at the present thousands of men who form the garrison of Lens are forced to remain in cellars, mine galleries and wrecked houses, where life is one long horror. This we know from prisoners who have described the conditions under which the Germans in Lens are now living. Night and day they are in imminent peril from huge shells that fall into the city in a never-ending stream. These shells are frequently projectiles from super-howitzers of twelve and fifteen-inch calibres. The bursting power of high explosives in these shells is terrific, and even the deepest dugouts, reinforced with ferro-concrete cannot indefinitely resist their impact. An officer, recently captured, states that a single company of a battalion which was sent in to strengthen the garrison, lost 35 men on their first day in the city during the bombardment.

Gas Deluge Continuous.  
 Gas, in large volumes, is thrown into the city from projectors, and being heavier than air, seeks the lowest places, in which it remains a long time and retains its deadly nature. The Pugsley's instruction to enemy troops regarding the wearing of gas masks, it is stated that in these projectors 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 land 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.

After the capture of Fosse Four, St. Louis, and Green Crassier, yesterday morning, our men discovered German order dated the 22nd, saying:

"Whatever happens Fosse Four and St. Louis are to be held."

Throughout the day, in pursuance of this order, the enemy attempted to retake Fosse Four and the Green Crassier.

Bitter Fighting.  
 The Manitobans who had taken their positions before daybreak, fought until far into the night, to make good their footing. Hour after hour they resisted bombing attacks by an endless succession of German assaulting troops. At three o'clock our men were drawn back to the western side of

### MUNITION WORKERS SHOULD NOT WAIT

Mark Irish, M.L.A., Advises Those Laid Off to Seek Other Work.

### CONDITIONS CHANGED

Can Now Maintain Supply Without Risk of Shipping Overseas.

Mark Irish, M.L.A., director of the department of labor, Imperial Munitions Board, interviewed by The World last night on the labor situation in connection with the number of hands lately laid off, and rumors of further releases on the part of munition factories, admitted that there was a slowing down on work in this line.

"I would recommend all who have been laid off," he said, "to seek other employment and not wait for possible re-employment in munition factories."

"Does that mean that the war is drawing to a close?" he was asked.

"That is not the point at all. It is rather that a great surplus of munitions has been piled up, and it is most satisfactory to Canada, that there should be such abundance that the authorities overseas feel capable of maintaining the supply at a sufficient level without the cost and risk of ocean shipment."

"It is very undesirable also," he remarked, "that men who have presumably saved a certain amount out of their good wages should spend this now on an idle time. Thrift and economy are essential in war time."

"I would add also that it is a mistake for a man who has acquired a certain amount of skill in turning out a shell should on that account fancy that he is a skilled mechanic. Let him get into productive work as soon as he can if he wishes to benefit himself and the country."

### DINEEN'S NEW STYLE CHRISTIES

They have arrived—a shipment of the new fall style English Christy hats for men. This is the stiff hat that leads the world in quality and style—the original, famous "Christy stiff." All the quality and all the style is still here for \$2.65 at Dineen's, 140 Yonge street.

### PROF. J. C. MACLENNAN IS INCLUDED IN HONORS

Becomes an Officer in New Order of the British Empire in First List.

Canadian Associated Press Cable.  
 London, Aug. 24.—The first list of the new order of the British Empire, which has been expected for nearly two months, was published tonight, with the intimation that after consultation with the governments of the dominions a list for the same will appear later. The present list includes the following of special interest to Canada:

Knight Grand Cross British Empire, Lord Emmott, formerly colonial under-secretary, who visited Canada, a few years back.

Knight Commander British Empire, Charles Blair Gordon, formerly vice-president of the Canadian Munitions Board; Herbert Edward Morgan, previously of the Canadian Munitions Board and now of the English ministry of labor.

Officer of the Order of the British Empire, Professor John Cunningham MacLennan, University of Toronto.

### GERMAN STEAMER SUNK BY TORPEDO

Enemy Vessel, Bound for Dutch Port, Destroyed at Sea.

London, Aug. 24.—A despatch to The Daily Telegraph from Rotterdam says the German steamer Ronde, bound from Rotterdam for a German port, has been torpedoed off the Dutch coast and sank in deep water.

A News Agency despatch from Amsterdam says the steamer presumably was sunk outside Dutch territorial waters.

The Ronde, a vessel of 1,125 tons, was owned in Hamburg.