

# BRITISH CAPTURE TOWN OF BOYELLES FRENCH CONTINUE VICTORIOUS ADVANCE

## British Overwhelm Germans in Boyelles and Now Hold the Town in Great Strength--French Capture More Important German Positions--Within Two Miles of St. Gobain--Bad Weather Impedes Operations--German Food Dictator Admits Over-Estimate of Supplies--Emperor William Suffering From Diabetes.

### FRENCH TAKE POSITIONS WITHIN TWO MILES OF ST. GOBAIN

PARIS, March 28.—The war office announces that the advance of the French north of Ailette river and east of the Leuilly-Neuville-Margival line where important German positions were taken. The French forces are now within less than two miles of St. Gobain. Heavy artillery fighting is in progress on the Champagne front.

### GERMANY'S FOOD SUPPLY OVERESTIMATED

AMSTERDAM, March 28.—A Berlin despatch says the German food dictator admits that there has been an overestimate in the amount of Germany's food supplies.

### GREECE SENDS PROTEST TO ITALY

LONDON, March 27.—A despatch to Reuters from its Athens correspondent states that Greece has presented a note to Italy regarding the withdrawal of Italian troops from Epirus to Avlona.

### DISMISS TWO THOUSAND GERMANS

SAN LUIS POTOSI, Mex., March 27.—More than 2,000 Germans who have been working in the oil fields at Tampico and Vera Cruz have been dismissed by the oil companies. Many of these men have arrived here. They are without employment.

### INVESTIGATING CANADIAN'S DEATH

LONDON, March 27.—In the house of commons tonight J. L. Macpherson said an inquiry was being held into the death of Pte. J. F. Mitchell, aged 20, a Canadian, from alcoholic poisoning at Surrey camp. A private member protested against drink temptations put in the way of young Canadians in camps. Mr. Macpherson said wet canteens were introduced into the camps at the request of the Canadian authorities.

### PEACE OFFER TO RUSSIA RUMORED

LONDON, March 27.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Amsterdam says: "According to a Berlin telegram received by the Amsterdam bourse Berlin is filled with rumors that Germany has offered a separate peace to Russia. The terms are said to be complete autonomy to Poland, the internationalization of Constantinople, the evacuation by Russia of Austrian territory and a Russian protectorate over Armenia."

### FRENCH ADVANCE IN MACEDONIA.

PARIS, March 27.—A French official communication issued tonight says: "Eastern theater: After efficacious artillery preparation a French battalion captured 400 metres of enemy trenches in the direction of Cervraigna Crest, taking about 100 prisoners. In the Cerna bend Italian troops, supported by our artillery, checked a Bulgarian attack. Great aerial activity has occurred along the whole front. A German aeroplane was brought down near Lake Presba, the pilot and observer being made prisoners."

### WILL REPORT ON THE DEVASTATION OF FRANCE

PARIS, March 28.—Gen. Nivelle, at the request of Rene Besnard, under secretary for war, has appointed an officers' commission to report on the devastation caused by the Germans in the evacuated portion of France.

### MOHRAT OPPOSES OFFENSIVE AGAINST RUSSIA

BERLIN, March 28.—The idea of a great offensive against Russia in order to take advantage of her supposed demoralization is opposed by Major Mohrat, military expert of The Tageblatt. The foreground of interest in Major Mohrat's opinion still lies in the situation on the Western front.

### HOSPITAL SHIP SUNK

LONDON, March 28.—The survivors of the British hospital ship, "Asturias," were landed at a village on the shore of an unnamed estuary. The refugees said the torpedo, which sank the ship which was blazing with light and easy to identify, struck near the stern and almost missed.

### REDUCTION OF 50 CENTS IN COAL PRICES

NEW YORK, March 28.—The Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company today announced a reduction of 50c a ton in the price of coal, to become effective April 2. The reduction applies only to stove, egg, and nut sizes.

### DIABETES THREATENS EMPEROR WILLIAM

BERNE, Switzerland, March 28.—Wireless advices state that Emperor William is suffering from a mild form of diabetes and is undergoing treatment at Hamburg. Worry is said to be retarding his recovery.

### SWISS RECOGNISE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT.

BERNE, Switzerland, via Paris, March 27.—The federal council has instructed the Swiss minister in Petrograd to enter into diplomatic relations with the new Russian Government.

### BRITISH TAKE BOYELLES WITH ARMORED CARS AND CAVALRY

LONDON, March 28.—British headquarters report the capture of the town of Boyelles, three miles west of Croiselles, by a British force of armored cars supported by cavalry. The Germans holding the position were overwhelmed and retreated. The British are now holding the town in great strength. The weather continues bad.

### STRAIGHT FRONT NOW FROM AISNE RIVER TO SOMME

PARIS, March 27.—The French made a substantial advance today south of the Somme, moving forward in places as far as three miles from their positions yesterday, with the result that the big bulge in the line formed by the lower Coucy forest has disappeared and the front runs continuously straight from the Somme to the Aisne.

Coucy-le-Chateau, which is perched on a height could not be attacked from the front, and the French, following Napoleon's maxim of going around an obstacle that cannot be surmounted, cleared the Germans out of the lower forest. The operations were carried out with skill and despatch and Coucy, turned on the right, fell into their hands like ripe fruit.

The Germans naturally did not place their main position on the automatically outflanked Coucy plateau, and it evidently lies farther in the rear. Behind the lower forest and plateau is a vale passing from Anizy-le-Chateau through Quincy-Basse and Aulers to Fresnes. On the upper side of this natural moat, rising abruptly to a height of 650 feet, lies the upper Coucy forest, from which artillery can sweep the plateau on which the old tower of Coucy stood.

It is there that the enemy's main position will be found. It is a most formidable position and admirably adapted to defence and it is to be foreseen that the French who are acting with the great prudence that the situation demands, will mark time here as on the more northerly sections and give the columns operating between the Ailette and the Aisne time to work up toward Anizy and threaten the position from the left flank.

### WILSON PLANS FIRM MESSAGE FOR CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—With army, navy and industrial preparedness measures to meet German aggression going forward as rapidly as possible, President Wilson and his cabinet today took up consideration of further steps to follow the convening of congress in extra session next Monday.

The president has not yet written the message which he will deliver Tuesday or Wednesday, and is said to have reached no final conclusion as to just what recommendation to make. Because of possible changes in the situation, he is not expected to put the address in final shape until the last moment.

There is no doubt in the minds of administration officials that whatever may be its details the policy laid before congress will be both vigorous and comprehensive. The general opinion after the cabinet meeting apparently was that the program most likely to be followed by congress will include a declaration that a state of war exists between the U. S. and Germany, an authorization for the president to use the armed forces of the nation to protect its rights, the granting of a large credit to the government to carry out its policy, passage of censorship and espionage bills, and provision for the employment of additional secret service agents.

No final decision has been reached as to whether financial assistance should be given the entente allies, though a strong sentiment for such a step exists among government officials. If this is done the government probably will deal directly with the other governments concerned and not through agents.

Col. E. M. House, the president's personal adviser, arrived at the White House tonight from New York. He is expected to stay several days.

Senator Hitchcock, a member of the senate foreign relations committee, conferred with the president during the day, and later he said that he believed Mr. Wilson still had an open mind regarding recommendations to congress. Personally, Senator Hitchcock thought that the passage of a resolution by congress endorsing the president's armed neutrality stand would be better than a declaration of war, or a declaration that a state of war exists. Afterwards the statement was authorized at the White House that the president had invited suggestions, but he had not committed himself to any course in his talk with Senator Hitchcock. Senator Hitchcock said he called to impress the president with the western sentiment against "precipitate action." "I wished the president to know," he explained, "that I believed my own state and most of the people of the western states are most desirous of avoiding a declaration of war, or a declaration that a state of war exists, until no other course remains open. I approve and I believe the country approves of the steps taken toward defence—of complete preparation looking to war, if it becomes necessary."

## WOUNDS ARE NOT SERIOUS

### Belleville Nurses in Hospital Where Belleville Boy is Lying Wounded

Pte Arthur Ferguson, who was reported wounded in the side some time ago, has written to Mr. G. G. Taylor, North Front Street, giving an account of his wounding. A high explosive shell from the German lines fell where Pte. Ferguson and some other Canadian Highlanders were and exploded. One of the men was killed and three besides Pte. Ferguson were wounded. Pte. Ferguson's wounds are not serious. He writes that he is in the ward where Nursing Sister Mastin of Belleville is in charge. Two other Belleville ladies are in the same hospital Miss Jenkins and Miss Waters.

## TRESPASSERS HEAVILY FINED

### Youths Who Rode on G. T. R. Train Without Tickets In Court Today.

The Grand Trunk passenger train No. 16, from the West early this morning carried in five men who did not pay their fare. They rode from Toronto on the coal tender. At Belleville, Constable John Truatsch rushed at the bunch and got two of the five without assistance. Had he had help he would have landed the rest.

The two captives were John Wade 17 years, and Philip Bellefontaine 19 years. Both pleaded guilty in court to entering on the train without knowledge or consent of railway officials with intent to ride thereon fraudulently without paying fare for the trip. "We had no money, sir," Wade told Magistrate "and we were trying to beat our way home." They had come up from Halifax and reached Collingwood last Friday. They admitted having beaten their way to Collingwood.

### FORTY HOURS' DEVOTIONS

A Number of Priests From Surrounding District Were at St. Michael's Church

The "Forty Hours' Devotions" which began at St. Michael's church on Monday morning at nine o'clock, were concluded this morning at the same hour. Rev. Father Killen and Rev. Father Hyland were assisted by Rev. Fathers O'Riordan, of Madoc, Carson of Picton, Meagher, of Marysville and Connolly of Trenton. St. Michael's parishioners were faithful attendants at the devotions.

### TORONTO DOES WELL IN LOAN SUBSCRIPTIONS

A summary of the subscriptions to the war loan thru Wood, Gundy and Company of Toronto, whose subscriptions total almost one quarter of the amount set for the entire loan shows almost twice as many subscribers as the last loan. The actual number of subscriptions exceed 2500, aggregating \$34,562,000. This compares with subscriptions of \$22,000,000 to the second loan, and \$7,000,000 to the first Canadian war loan. Of the total amount subscribed \$33,250,000 or over 96 per cent, is new money.

### ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED

Mr. and Mrs. Neil S. McEachren, Owen Sound, announce the engagement of their only daughter, Annie Jean, to Mr. James Joseph Wilson, B.A., of the Belleville High School. Staff, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson, Guelph. The marriage will take place early in April.

### TO INCORPORATE GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION

An application will be made to the Parliament of Canada at the present session for an act incorporating the Dominion Council of the Girl Guides Association having for its primary object the instructing of girls in the principles of discipline, loyalty and good citizenship and to obtain the sole and exclusive rights to have and use all emblems, badges and decorations, descriptive or designating marks and titles now or heretofore used by the association and the title "Girl Guides." Lt.-Col. W. N. Fonton, K. C., is solicitor for the application.

Mrs. W. A. Lingham, of Halifax, N. S., is visiting her mother, Mrs. Job. Lingham, George St.

### CAN BELGIUM ARISE FROM HER ASHES?

Extinction Now Threatens Gallant Nation Which Saved Europe Because of Pitiful Need of More Food Contributed From Canada and Elsewhere.

Montreal, Mar. 28.—"One of those chosen spots where civilization blossomed out as by some mysterious spontaneous process." Such was the description of Belgium given before the Women's Art Society of Montreal, by Philip J. Turner, in an address on 'Belgium, its Art and its People.' He declared that to no small nation had civilization been more deeply indebted than to the people of Belgium, for ever since the Middle Ages they have achieved conspicuous and almost continuous triumphs in all the arts of peace. They had also been again and again the champions of political liberty. The last heroic stand which they have made today, and which has saved Europe from an appalling catastrophe, is but the concluding chapter of a stirring and inspiring national history.

Mr. Turner aroused great enthusiasm in his audience by a series of illuminating views of some of the more wonderful examples of architecture in Belgium. These, he said, were monuments of those times when the rich and powerful inhabitants of the great trading towns were enabled to make displays of wealth and magnificence which might vie with the grandeur of princes, and by their collective influence and authority often resist that oppression which the feudal lords sought to exercise. Such monuments belonged to the history of civilization.

"But now," said Mr. Turner, "this beehive of industry is destroyed, the market gardens and flower gardens are ravaged, the thickly-populated country is deserted, its property ruined. The busy people have become a nation unemployed. Those peaceful plains have become the theatre of the most appalling war in history. Everywhere the Belgian people are sorrow-stricken, panic-stricken, famine-stricken. But the final ordeal is certain. From this awful ordeal a greater and nobler Belgium will emerge. The Belgian people in the supreme crisis of modern history, have remained true to the traditions of their past. They have added a stirring chapter to the annals of human heroism, and have triumphantly proved the value of small nationalities. Belgium has saved Europe, and when the day of settlement comes, Europe will not repudiate the debt she owes to the small nation that saved her."

To this it may be added that meanwhile the Belgian nation is in the gravest peril of extinction. War-torn France and England have given largely to the Belgian Relief Commission, which is the only agency supplying the Belgians with food. But the need is greater than they can meet. Hundreds of thousands of Belgians are now on a daily ration that simply keeps body and soul together, and 1,250,000 growing children—the hope of the Belgian nation—are on the edge of irretrievable physical ruin unless larger rations can be given them. Canadians are earnestly asked to help in this work by sending contributions to the Central Belgian Relief Committee, 59 St. Peter Street, Montreal, or to any branch committee throughout Canada.

### ABSCONDER BAGGED AT PETERBORO

James A. Hird, treasurer of St. John's Anglican Church, Toronto, was arrested in Peterboro, Wednesday, on a charge of absconding with the funds of the church, amounting to \$1,408. He left Toronto early in December, since when the police have been searching for him. It was believed that he had crossed the border and the police distributed pamphlets, describing the man, all over Canada and the United States, that a man answering to the wanted man's description was arrested in Peterboro. The latter admitted his identity.

### NO MORE C.E.F. COMMISSIONS

It is published in district orders that there are in Canada many Lieutenants who are qualified and awaiting appointment in the Canadian Expeditionary Force, who have no chance of going over seas unless they are either seconded or resign their commissions, and if they select to enlist, they will not need to serve with units in Canada, but will be collected at convenient centres and sent over to England as special drafts as soon as troop-ships are available. On their arrival in England, arrangements will be made, if possible, to allow them to be posted to any unit they prefer (subject to the exigencies of the service) and with the qualifications they possess, their advancement should be rapid.

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Commanding officers will submit the names of all Lieutenants in the unit under their command, who are likely to avail themselves of the opportunity above offered. The intention is that in the future, no more commissions will be granted in the C.E.F. in Canada.

### 'TODDLE' STRIKES BELLEVILLE

Class of Twenty-Four Instructed in Going through the Measures Last Evening

The "Toddle" has struck Belleville. The question among some of the young people is now "Can you 'toddle'?" The toddle is the latest dance from New York.

Twenty-four young people in Belleville have taken the new terpsichorean to heart. Last night Mr. Albert Johnston led them through the measures at the Johnstone Academy, Front Street.

How do you toddle? The toddle is danced to music in the same tempo as the old scottische, which is an innovation in modern ballrooms, but in the theaters and music halls has set the feet of the audiences tapping for generations. The new dance consists of a few walking steps, some turns, several running steps and a jump in the air. The formula is four steps forward by the man, four steps backward by the lady, pivot, sway and turn on one foot.

### LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR JEWS.

The Jewish Feast of the Passover commences on Friday, April 6th and the Jewish soldiers of the Canadian Expeditionary Force have been granted leave of absence from sunset on that date till sunset on April 8th. The Festival is celebrated till April 14th and the same soldiers have also been given permission to take their meals outside of the camp or quarters, with their co-religionists. There are about fifty Jews enlisted in overseas units in this district.

Mr. Chas. S. Clapp, is recovering from a severe attack of la-grippe which has confined him to his residence for the past week.

Ex-Mayor Sulman, is in Toronto on business also to see his brother G. W. Sulman M.P.P. who has lately returned from a trip to South America, where he visited Bolivia, Peru and other places.

## Fro

Mr. and Mrs. J. Y. visited his on Saturday and Sunday. A number of the school children visited on March 30th. Mr. J. Y. spent the week-end at a goodly table. Mr. Percie new car. Mr. G. D. on the Ridge. The W. M. the personage was served amount Misses Lu visited at M.

Services were held Sunday last. The funeral of Mrs. C. M. took place at Elm P. Wilson, B. services, assisted by Plainfield, and R. The sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. in our neighborly Mr. Rowland.

Clarke's farm Mrs. C. R. and at Mr. Mr. and Mrs. spent Sunday in Plainfield. Mr. and Mrs. took dinner Wednesday. Rev. H. K. Deny and Misses at Mr. E. S. last.

Mr. and Mrs. spent Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. spent the night's. Miss Mary calling Friday. Mr. Frank called while struck by a severe laceration.

Mr. and Mrs. a few friends. Mrs. V. days at Mr. week. Mr. J. W. Harry Crow. Owing to illness our school is days last week.

attended the Mrs. Jas. I. Mrs. G. S. friends at Mrs. Har. Collier visited Wednesday. Mrs. G. friends at Mr. and Mrs. Mr. and Mrs. M. day with Mr. Mr. and Mrs. and tained a few evening.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Davidson Bryant to Mrs. N. B. Mr. and Mrs. Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. on Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Miss G. with Miss. The rob and the winter is to stay.

The war high at broken up. Don't for day. April all who commission.

No surary in re Corn Cure