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Canadians Exert Pressure at Lens

RAIDS, GASSINGS, ARTILLERY, MACHINE GUNNING KEPT UP AGAINST THE ENEMY
Dominion Men's Heavy Pieces Knock Out Many German Batteries. (By W. A. Willison.)
Canadian Army Headquarters, April 23.—Raided in no less than seven places, gassed with thousands oflachrymatory and lethal shells, harassed by special artillery shots, trenches swept by machine gun and rifle bullets, his front line hampered by trench mortars, the enemy for the past twelve hours has had a lively time at the hands of the Canadians.

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FLORISTS
CUT FLOWERS In Season WEDDING AND FUNERAL DESIGNS A Speciality COLLIPI Phone 205 Night Phone 176

has been accompanied by the sharper chorus of our field artillery carrying out a particularly harassing fire program. Periodically our artillery fire has reached a barrage intensity in support of raiding parties. Enemy Nervousness Regularly the Boche lines have been lit up with scores of flares, betraying the nervousness which has been produced among the enemy by such activity as he has not known on his front for weeks. The enemy has been forced to fight his guns under gas clouds and in gas masks. He has betrayed the effect of our tactics by the diminishing volume of his fire, but he has made answer to our general raiding and gas activities by projecting much tear gas against our positions north of Lens.

Batteries Silent
Of the batteries bombarded by our gunners, during the past twelve hours, many will not be heard from for some time. Continuous forcible feeding, for such a protracted period on lethal and tear gas, mixed with high explosives, has proved too successful before to doubt its destructive virtue now. Unable to secure rubber to give the masks that close fit which is essential for full protection, the Germans' protective measures fall short of our own, and the enemy gunners must have suffered heavily under our bombardment; for we used nearly six thousand shells against some thirty battery positions. Our 4.5 howitzers secured six direct hits on concrete shelters in the Avion district.

Seven Raids
Our seven raids netted us altogether five prisoners and two machine guns. Two prisoners have since died. Encountering gas in raiding operations one of our patrols, consisting of one officer and ten other ranks, donned masks and proceeded into the enemy trenches, until they encountered a hostile party of fifteen.

With fair weather succeeding the cold, dark days of last week, our aeroplanes were busy. With reckless disregard for the regular machine gun or rifle bullet barrage, a patrol of four of our machines flew up and down the enemy trenches for no less than fifteen minutes at altitudes of from fifty to a hundred yards, emptying machine gun drums into the enemy front line. Like work was carried out in other parts of the line, and at midnight one of our planes bombed the hostile firing trenches.

They Had Very Narrow Escape

NO VEHICLES IN WHICH THEY COULD BE MOVED AND THEY WERE NEARLY CAUGHT BY THE GERMAN INFANTRY
With the British Army in France, April 23.—When the big German offensive opened the British had big advance stations at such places as Noyon, Cugny, Ham, Grevillers and Achiet-le-Grand. All these almost immediately came under pressure as the Germans swarmed swiftly forward. Practically the same scenes were enacted at all these places, as their evacuation was carried out during the first and second days.

With the beginning of the drive shells and bombs began to rain about the stations with their crowded wards, but doctors and nurses stuck to the last possible moment, although numbers of them were killed or wounded. At one place several orderlies were killed and the lighting system of the operating room wrecked on the first day.

Were Pressing Close
In almost every case the Germans were pressing close to the vicinity when the station finally was abandoned. At Grevillers, for instance, where the medical corps hung on until the second day, the enemy was so close that as the patients and equipment were moved out, British batteries rushed up and began firing at the advancing enemy.

Had to be Abandoned
Iron beds and other heavy things had to be abandoned, and in some instances considerable stores of medicines, but most of these were destroyed and a torch was applied to the huts. The precious surgical instruments were taken in charge by the surgeons themselves, who in many cases piled them on wheeled stretchers and started back along the congested highways.

Up Go The British Taxes
POSTAGE, MATCHES, BEER
Bonar Law Says the French System Will Be Followed in Taxing Luxuries—Greatly Increase Revenue
London, April 25.—In presenting his budget yesterday Chancellor of the Exchequer Bonar Law estimated the expenditures in the coming year at £2,972,187,000. He placed the revenue at £774,250,000, plus £67,800,000 to be gained from new taxation, making a total of £842,050,000. This left a balance of £2,130,147,000 to be covered by borrowing.

Canada's Assistance
The chancellor expressed the Government's appreciation of the hearty co-operation on the part of the Canadian Government in assisting to finance the war. He referred to the fact that last year Great Britain had to borrow £1,989,340,000. Mr. Bonar Law said he would like to remind the House how small the advances to the dominions had been kept during the war, showing how great was the desire not only of Canada, but of the other dominions, to meet their own war expenditures.

LEVY BY GERMANY
Assuming that the German estimates would be realized, the total taxation levied by the German Government would amount to £2,650,000,000, as against £1,444,000,000 in Great Britain. This was not enough to pay the interest on the war loan. The German balance sheet, reckoned on the same basis as the British, would, with the interest on the sinking fund, pensions and pre-war expenditure be £720,000,000 yearly.

Airmen's Stunts Over Oshawa

Oshawa, April 25.—An aviator from Leaside Camp, Toronto, flying in plane No. C526, arrived over Oshawa about ten minutes to six on evening recently, having covered the distance he said in about twenty minutes. After entertaining practically the entire population of the town with his various stunts—looping the loop, figure eight, flying upside down, etc.—he circled the water tanks of the factories and the Methodist church steeple and then headed west, making for a block of buildings all of three stories in height, near the centre of the town intending to alight on the roof of the block. Evidently mistaking the distance somewhat, he lit on the top of the Dominion Bank and caught in the wires, his plane remaining suspended there.

The aviator was able to climb up his machine to the roof and thence make his way down. He declined to give his name. A great quantity of bricks and mortar were knocked off the building, tumbling into the street, where fortunately only one person was hurt, Mrs. W. B. Guy, an elderly person, having her arm broken and receiving two or three scalp wounds.

Wedding Bells

A quiet wedding took place at the Tabernacle parlour on Wednesday afternoon, April 24th when Miss Mabel Gertrude Sager was united in marriage with Mr. Harry Johnson both of Madoc. Rev. S. C. Moore officiated. The young couple will make their home in Madoc after a brief honeymoon. After reaching a ripe old age some men have nothing to do but sit around and nurse their frustrated aspirations.

Black Puddings Are in Demand
NATIONAL FACTORY MAKING THEM IN BRITAIN—SAVING IN FOODSTUFFS
Ottawa, April 25.—A review of the food and trade situation in Britain received by the Governor-General and issued through the Chief General's office says: "The Food Minister reports that notwithstanding the substantial enforced reduction in the amount of meat consumed there has been a notable absence of complaint from any quarter. Heavy workers are now receiving supplementary rations of bacon rendered available by considerable imports from America. Bacon not needed for immediate consumption is being stored against the requirements of the summer period. Substantial economies are being effected in the consumption of bread, which is on a lower level than same period last year.

Cannel Coal Has Variety of Use

Cannel coal has long been a will-o'-the-wisp to coal men, and to many of them its mere mention brings up visions of wealth. The reason becomes obvious when its price on the market is compared with that of ordinary bituminous coal, for in days past cannel coal has sold in New York market at a price about three times that of the best bituminous coal and perhaps double the price of anthracite. This high price is due to old causes—strong demand and weak supply.

As a coal for use in office and household grates, as an enricher of coal gas, and as a quick-firing coal for use in the fire-engines and otherwise, cannel coal has filled a unique place; and these uses coupled with its scarcity in the earth have made it an object of much search and of many disappointments because wherever it is found there has usually proved to be very little of it. Of late years, however, fewer grates are used in the office and the home, and water gas, enriched with oil, has replaced the old type of coal gas so that when the European war broke out the demand for cannel coal as such had largely disappeared.

More Autos This Year

FARMERS ARE CHIEF PURCHASERS—100,000 TO BE SOLD IN CANADA
'It is probable that at least 100,000 new cars will be sold in Canada this year,' said Mr. W. G. Robertson, Toronto, of the Ontario Motor League, this morning, "and a greater proportion than ever of the new cars are going to the rural districts. The farmers, and especially western farmers, are the principle purchasers for they are coming to regard the automobile as a necessary part of farm equipment. It can be easily understood when help is so scarce, and such a great deal of time can be saved by travelling in a motor car, as compared with the old-fashioned way."

Mr. Robertson said that in the United States the Farm Loan Board of the Government had classed the automobile as farm equipment along with agricultural implements for which the farmer could borrow money. The Canadian Government had taken similar action in classing the automobile "with settlers' effects, which could be brought in free of duty.

HALSTON

spring work again. Misses Margaret Moul and Margie Glass spent one afternoon last week at Mr. T. Parks. Mr. W. Sherry has purchased a new Grey Duff car. Mr. and Mrs. W. Goodman of Hay Bay, spent a couple of days recently at Mr. C. L. Goodman's. Mrs. J. Holdrick spent the weekend with friends in Prince Edward. Mr. Miller and Miss Edna Parks visited at Mr. R. Kerr's on Sunday. Mrs. J. Shannon is spending a few days with her mother, Mrs. J. McWilliams. Mrs. Platt of Plainfield is the teacher at our school at present. Mr. Allen, our former teacher has donated the khaki.

DOUBLE INCOME TAX
With regard to a double income tax within the Empire, he proposed to adopt the principle of his predecessor, and the extra shilling would not apply when the double tax was equal to six shillings. Allowances for children would apply to incomes up to £800, instead of £700, as at present. According to the new taxation, the super-tax would be four shillings, six pence in the pound instead of three shillings, six pence and would begin with incomes amounting to £2,500, instead of £3,000. The chancellor said that farmers would be taxed on the assumption that their profits were twice the rentals. The present law assumes that a farmer's income is exactly equal to his rental.

BIG ISLAND

This community was saddened on Thursday morning when it was reported that Mr. Louis Williams had passed away after a few days' illness with pneumonia. The funeral service conducted by the Rev. R. J. Craiga of Demorestville, was held at the family residence on Saturday afternoon and was largely attended. Interment in Glenwood Cemetery, at Picton. The sorrowing relatives have the sympathy of the community in their great loss. Our Sunday School has re-opened with Mr. Albert Wager as superintendent. Pte. Harold E. Colborne is at Norfolk Hospital, England suffering from a wound in the hand. The Women's Institute met at Mrs. S. Fox's on Wednesday and considering the small number present a fine lot of sewing was done. We hope for a larger attendance at our next meeting this Wednesday at Mrs. Johnson's. Mrs. A. Dunning is home again after spending a few weeks with Mrs. James Semple. Very sorry to report Mr. S. L. Williams very ill with pneumonia. All hope for a speedy recovery under the skillful care of Miss Daly of Belleville. Rev. and Mrs. G. D. Campbell called in this vicinity on Tuesday.

DOUBLE ON SPIRITS AND BEER

The spirit duty would be increased from fourteen shillings nine pence a gallon to thirty shillings bringing in £5,500,000 this year. The beer duty would be raised from twenty-five to fifty shillings a barrel, and would bring in £9,700,000 this year. The tobacco duty would be raised from six shillings five pence to eight shillings two pence a pound. Tobacco was under the control of the Tobacco Controller, and the result of the increased tax would be that the retail price would be fixed at two

NEW TAXATION SCHEMES

Mr. Bonar Law introduced new taxation schemes with the proposal to increase the postal rate within the United Kingdom and to the United States, Canada, India and the other dominions from a penny to three half pence, yielding £3,400,000. The postage on post cards would be a penny. The income tax would be raised from five shillings to six shillings in the pound. The stamp duty on cheques would be raised from one penny to two pence, yielding £750,000. The increased income tax would yield £11,000,000. There would be no change in the tax on incomes under £500. There would be no increase in the rate on service pay.

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