

HAIG ABOUT TO CUT ARTERY OF FOE

Weather Forecast:

Fair and Milder

53rd YEAR. No. 22747

LONDON, CANADA—THE HOME OF UNBROKEN PROSPERITY.

THE LONDON, ONTARIO, ADVERTISER, TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 17, 1917. 96 COLUMNS.

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GERMANS START SUB BLOCKADE U.S. PORTS; FIRE ON DESTROYER

Allies Striking Terrific Blow At Hindenburg Keys

Fall of Lens, La Fere and St. Quentin Likely To Franco-British Onslaught at Any Hour.

(Special Cable to The Advertiser.)

London, April 17.—Five key points to the much vaunted Hindenburg line were struck at so savagely by the great Franco-British drive today that their continuation in the enemy's hands much longer seems impossible.

Of the five, Lens, La Fere and St. Quentin may fall to the Allied onslaught at almost any hour. Cambrai and Laon are less closely enveloped, but the menace of the drive was none the less potent.

The Paris official statement more than confirmed the most sanguine hopes of success in the joint offensive entertained here.

DUAL MONARCHY ASKS RUSSIANS TO MAKE PEACE

London Believes Petrograd Will Keep Pledge To Allies.

EMPERORS QUARRELED? Some Possibility of Exhausted Austria Deserting Her Allies.

London, April 17.—Vienna's offer of a separate peace to Russia is variously explained in London. Both diplomats and military men are positive that Russia will yield to no blandishments, because their advice says that the army and the Provisional Government are watching each other, each being determined to demonstrate its superior loyalty to Russia's pledge to her allies.

May Desert Germany.

There is a strong impression that Austria, while offering a separate peace to Russia, is ready to make a separate peace for Austria; the agreement to withdraw from the war if Russia will do the same. If this should occur, it would cut off Germany from Turkey and Bulgaria, and force them to make peace immediately, leaving Germany single-handed against the world.

Emperors Quarreled.

The Kaiser and Emperor Charles of Austria are believed to have quarreled at their recent meeting, with Austria's move as the result. Advice from Petrograd justifies the conviction that Russia will make no separate peace. The increased disorders in Germany are possibly a revolution. Some advice from Germany show that such developments are expected to mark the approach of the end of the war. Powerful elements in Germany are planning to win the utmost democratic advantage when the crisis comes.

PERHAPS ANOTHER TRICK.

London, April 17.—A dispatch to the Daily Telegraph from Milan says: The new Austrian proposal which is manifestly the outcome of a conference between the two emperors, has already received diverse and opposite interpretations here. The first impression is that it is another trick on the part of Austria, instigated by Germany, to induce Russia to betray her allies. But apart from this interpretation there is another. It is that Austria needs peace and must have it.

Austria is Bad Case.

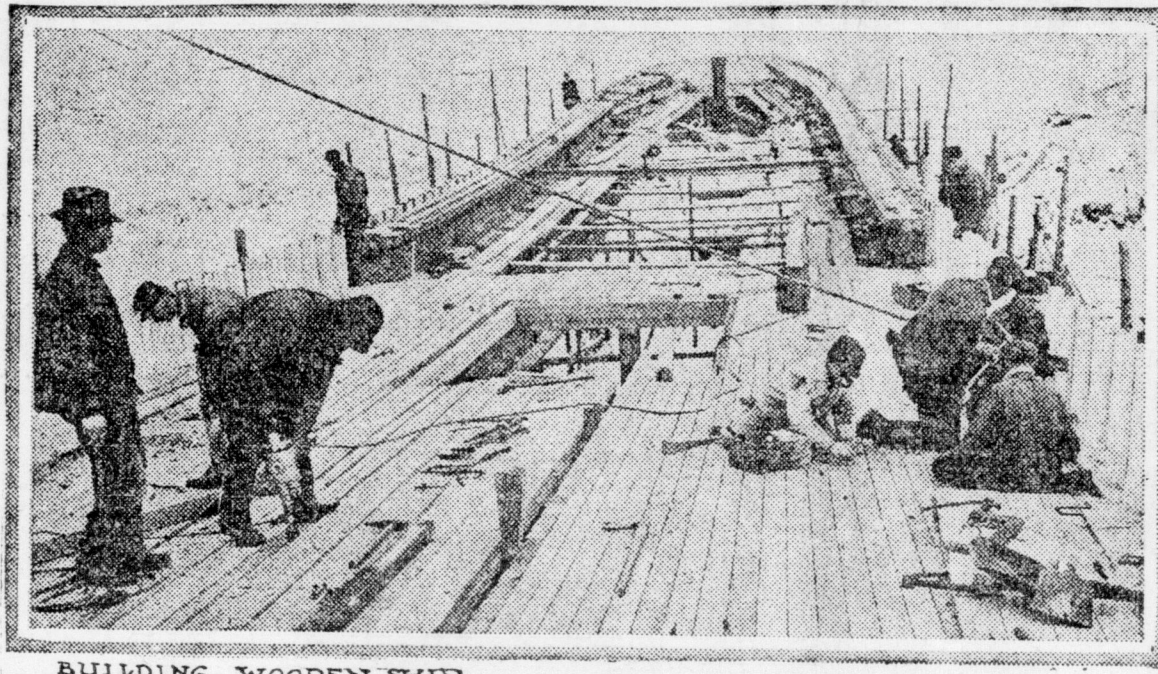
"Americans who have just reached Switzerland from Vienna with the American charge d'affaires, confirm the worst that has been said of Austria. They unanimously declare the economic situation terrible. The people are in a

Continued on Page 4.

A FULL PAGE MAP

The Advertiser will tomorrow print a full page map, just prepared, showing the area in which the great drive is taking place. Readers should preserve this and warn friends to buy tomorrow's paper.

GOETHALS TO BRIDGE ATLANTIC WITH 1,000 WOODEN SHIPS.



BUILDING WOODEN SHIP. One of the type under construction at Essex, Mass., in an ancient shipyard.

MAUDE KEEPING RIGHT ON HEELS OF FLEEING FOE

British Forces Continue Their Advance Up the River Tigris.

ARE CLOSE TO SAMARA

Night March Carries Army Within Striking Distance of 18th Corps.

London, April 17.—British troops in Mesopotamia are continuing their advance up the Tigris in pursuit of the retreating Turks. It was officially announced today. They have pushed to within a little more than 10 miles of Samara, 70 miles northwest of Baghdad, and within a mile and a half of Istablat, where the Turks apparently are expected to make their next stand. The official statement reads:

"Gen. Maude, telegraphing yesterday, reports an advance by our forces on the right bank of the Tigris by means of a night march to within one and one-half miles of the position occupied by the 18th Turkish Army Corps, covering Istablat station on the Bagdad-Samara railway. The enemy's advanced troops fell back without offering opposition."

TWENTY OFFICERS KILLED, 11 WOUNDED

Ottawa, April 17.—Today's casualty list contains the names of 20 officers killed and 11 wounded, out of a total of 117 of all ranks.

It is stated officially that no information has been received at militia headquarters as to the total casualties to date, and that all figures so far published are unauthorized estimates. The only statement headquarters will make is that their information is to the effect that while heavy losses are lighter than might be expected under the circumstances.

SATURDAY FEATURES

Irvin Cobb will have another article on the great Billy Sunday revival in New York City. Readers who enjoyed the fairness and logical review of the evangelist should have their friends follow the series.

Donald A. Campbell, formerly of The Advertiser staff, now in charge of the pensions office here, will write an article descriptive of the battle of Ypres, which commenced April 22, 1915. Mr. Campbell served through the battle, and has recently sold a number of articles on the war to metropolitan American papers. It will be worth reading.

U-BOAT ATTACKS U. S. DESTROYER; OPEN BLOCKADE

American Warship Narrowly Escapes Destruction by Torpedo from German Submarine 100 Miles South of New York.

Washington, April 17.—A German submarine today fired on the destroyer Smith, about 100 miles south of New York.

The presence of enemy submarines in American waters indicates that the threatened German blockade of American Atlantic ports has begun.

This announcement was made at the navy department: "Reported from Fire Island Lightship to the naval stations at Boston and New York at 3:30 a.m. on the 17th, an enemy submarine was sighted by the U. S. S. Smith, running apparently submerged. Submarine fired a torpedo at the U. S. S. Smith, which missed her by thirty yards. The wake of the torpedo was plainly seen crossing the bow. Submarine disappeared."

MAY BE RAIDER.

Washington, April 17.—The first information of the encounter between a submarine and a United States destroyer, came to the navy department in a roundabout way from the Boston navy yard, which picked up the Smith's report saying she had been fired upon by a German sub.

The navy department after communicating with Fire Island, Boston, New York and some other points on the Atlantic Coast, announced that the report of the Smith's encounter had been substantiated by official investigation. At noon no further details were available here.

Whether the presence of the German submarine merely foreshadowed a sporadic raid such as the U-53 conducted off the New England coast or whether it is the signal for the beginning of a general submarine blockade of the Atlantic coast is not known. The attack by the U-boat is Germany's first recognition of the state of war declared by the United States.

ZEALANDIA STRUCK A MINE, TWO OF CREW PERISHED

New York, April 17.—The Associated Press this morning carries the following: The loss of the American steamship Zealandia on the Pacific coast, early this month was due to striking a mine, and two of the crew were scalded to death, according to officers of the vessel, who arrived here today on an American steamship.

GREATEST BATTLE OF WAR RAGING

Berlin, April 17, via London, 5:35 p.m.—"One of the greatest battles of the mighty war, and therefore, also in world's history," says the official statement issued today by the German army headquarters staff, "is in progress on the River Aisne."

BRITISH CLOSE TO VITAL POSITION OF ENEMY; MAKE PROGRESS DESPITE HAMPERING STORMS; FOE'S COUNTER-ATTACKS AGAINST FRENCH FAIL

PARIS PLACES GERMAN LOSSES AT ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND

Paris, April 16—12 p.m.—Germany suffered another crushing blow upon the western front today when 40 miles of the strongest part of her line were wrested from her with an estimated loss of nearly 100,000 killed, wounded and prisoners. All France hails the victory as a brilliant demonstration of the skill of her generals and the courage of her troops.

CANADIAN CAVALRY TOOK SIX VILLAGES AND HARRIED RUSS

Horsemen of Dominion Play Big Part in Advance.

FEAT OF A LIEUTENANT

Hurdles Wire Barrier and Slays Crew of Machine Gun.

BY STEWART LYON, Special Correspondent of the Canadian Press.

Canadian Headquarters in France, via London, April 16.—The day of the cavalryman in war has not passed. Details are now available of front operations of the Canadian cavalry in the wooded region where the enemy's withdrawal shows that the Canadian horsemen were used to keep him on the move, and they did so with such success that in four days the horsemen captured six villages; three of them were well organized for defence, and made an advance ahead of the infantry on a twelve-mile front to a depth of six and a half miles. This cavalry dash into enemy lines was one of the first operations on the western front since the Marne campaign, and it furnished many incidents that, but for the great events taking place elsewhere, would have afforded much material for descriptive writers.

A Dramatic Incident.

The most dramatic of all is the case of a young lieutenant, who, while leading his troops to the attack on one of the villages, the Canadians captured, came upon a trench which was protected by three strands of wire and was manned by twenty Germans who had a machine gun. The lieutenant jumped from his horse and ran straight for the machine gun, clearing the wire in the best cross-country running form. He shot with a revolver the machine gunner and captured the gun. He found out afterwards that the unexpected appearance of a high ground near the trench, the gunner nervous, and prevented him from getting into action before being shot down. A second's hesitation on the part of the horseman would have meant many casualties to the men of his troop.

The first time for over two years in which cavalry galloped straight into a position occupied by the enemy with rifles and machine guns, was in the capture of a village, held a clump of woods. Then the horsemen attacked in open order at a gallop.

Taken By Surprise.

The enemy's first attack, making machine guns with them, but suffering many casualties before they found safety in a trench on a hill, which some horses were hit. In this action a lieutenant of a western regiment had a horse shot under him and jumped on a troop horse. This also was shot under him, and he finished the charge upon the wood on foot.

The capture of the village, upon which the cavalry were congratulated by the commander of the army to which they are attached, followed. Before the Germans knew any horsemen were near the village, their fire defenses had been turned from the rear.

The long cavalry sword is still a formidable weapon. In the capture of a certain hill from a body of the enemy's infantry a squadron of horsemen charged with drawn swords, capturing nine and killing and mortally wounding six of the enemy.

Machine guns are carried into action at the gallop and aid in the effectiveness of the work of our cavalry as open warfare develops.

RUSSIANS USE GAS IN ATTACK ON THE GERMANS

Petrograd, April 17.—A gas attack by Russian forces on the Russian front, followed by a reconnoitering advance, is reported in today's war office statement. "Western Front: On Sunday night in the region of Koutkary, we made a gas attack. Our troops which made a reconnaissance advance afterward were met by machine gun fire.

Measured by the amount of territory freed, the victory does not compare with the Somme offensive which opened a month ago, but, viewed from the amount of the destruction done to the enemy's armed forces and the damage to his military prestige, it is a far greater success.

Here there can be no question either of a previously planned retreat or of a surprise. The enemy expected an attack and made every preparation to defeat it.

Smashed the Reserves. From Soissons to Craonne the German line runs along a series of hills an average height of 500 feet, with deep valleys between. The attackers advanced up the valleys under a cross-fire from each flank, but the artillery curtain, on a new plan invented by a British general, was so effective that the operation was carried out at less cost than might be expected. The weak point of the German line is from Craonne to Rheims, where ground is more level. Here the attack made more progress, and the danger of a rupture of the line became so imminent that the Germans threw in all available reserves. The reserves were smashed by the French field artillery, which kept close on the heels of the waves of infantry. The strike leaders had planned operations that the great western battle has now joined along a front of close to 150 miles, more than one-third of the mighty line from Switzerland to the sea.

POLICE ON GUARD IN BERLIN STREETS TO HANDLE STRIKE

No Alarming Events, According to Official Report.

Berlin, Monday, April 16.—A day of apprehension in Berlin ended tonight with no alarming events. The threatened strikes because of a reduction in the weekly wages, because the only registered portion of the larger factories and did not affect transportation or public utility. The strike leaders had planned an elaborate system of street demonstrations, which were to unite in an outdoor assembly, but inclement weather kept down enthusiasm.

Some of the factories affected announced tonight that the workers would resume work tomorrow. In other meetings will be held in the morning to decide the future course of the strikers.

Police On Guard. The streets are quiet tonight but the police are still on guard. The government authorities declare that they will make no effort to interfere with the strikers, because the case only registered disapproval of the new food regulations and are expected to resume work tomorrow.

The strikes are limited to factories manned by unions belonging to the Liebknecht-Lenin branch of the Social Democracy. The Scheideemann group is not striking. The Vorwaerts, the organ of the schiedemann Socialists, prints a warning against striking for fear that the latter would interfere with efforts to obtain a separate peace with Russia.

AIR ATTACK ON FREIBURG HAD EXCELLENT RESULTS

Berlin, April 17, via London.—An official statement by the war office says that eleven persons have been killed, twenty-nine injured and considerable damage done to the university buildings by an air attack on Freiburg.

A British admiralty statement issued last night stated that a large squadron of British and French airplanes had bombed Freiburg on Saturday. It was stated that the bombardment was a reprisal for German submarine attacks on British hospital ships.

CLASH AT BUENOS AYRES.

Buenos Ayres, April 17.—Supporters of the Allies and advocates of neutrality clashed last night during a street demonstration. Several persons were injured.

READS LIKE JULES VERNE

London, April 16.—Here is a Jules Verne story of modern war. One morning recently a big flock of airplanes training in England made the trip by air to the front in France in three hours. The aviators ate lunch and then rose. In two hours they had bagged three German airplanes. They dined, slept and arose early the next morning. Then they flew back to Great Britain.

General Haig Jams His Forces Ahead For Another Mile.

AIMING AT THE HIGHWAY

Heavy Losses For Germans in Night Assaults On the French Troops—Latter Hold Gains.

(Special Cable to The Advertiser.) London, April 17.—Field Marshal Haig today jammed his British forces a mile closer to Leatelet and the main line of German communications between Cambrai and St. Quentin.

All the way from Fayet, a scant two miles north of St. Quentin to Ephe, eleven miles north, the British now are within two miles of the St. Quentin-Cambrai high road. The road is really the artery giving life to the German forces at St. Quentin and La Fere. Once it is cut the cities below must fall.

The British now hold Fayet, Fresnoy, Le Petit, Pronlu, Leverguier, Villert, ground near Hargicourt and Ronsoy, and today ground near Ephe. All are nearly equidistant from this "Widened" line of Cambrai-St. Quentin.

HAMPERED BY STORMS.

London, April 17.—The British made a further advance in the neighborhood of Ephe last night, according to an official statement issued by the war office. Rainstorms are hampering operations.

GERMANS REPULSED.

Paris, April 17.—German counter-attacks in force in the region of Ailles and Courcy were repulsed last night by the French, according to an official statement issued by the French war office. Heavy losses were inflicted on the Germans.

THE BRITISH STATEMENT.

The British made a further advance at the Peronne-Cambrai railroad, at a point about half-way between St. Quentin and Cambrai. The statement reads: "Between the positions of Ephe and Fresnoy, the British have captured during the night Le Tonneau farm, on the Lempre-Vendhuile road, and gained ground along the spur northeast of Ephe station. We took a few prisoners."

"The weather continues stormy, with high winds and squalls of rain."

THE FRENCH STATEMENT.

"North and south of the Oise there was intermittent artillery fighting. Our patrols brought back prisoners. "Between Soissons and Rheims our troops are organizing the positions captured. In the region of Ailles a strong German counter-attack on our new lines was broken up by our artillery and machine-gun fire, which inflicted severe losses on the enemy. Other German counter-attacks in the sector of Courcy also were broken up. The weather continues to be very bad over the whole front."

Continued from Page Three.

THE WEATHER

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 47; lowest, 37. The official temperatures for the 12 hours from 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 45; lowest, 36.

TOMORROW—FAIR AND MILD.

Toronto, April 17.—8 a.m. Forecast.

Moderate southeasterly winds; mostly fair today and Wednesday; a little higher temperature.

Temperatures.

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	54	42	Fair
Calgary	54	44	Cloudy
Winnipeg	50	32	Cloudy
Port Arthur	42	24	Clear
Perry Sound	42	24	Clear
Port Stanley	40	24	Clear
Buffalo	42	24	Clear
Toronto	42	28	Clear
Kingston	46	36	Clear
Ottawa	42	26	Clear
Montreal	44	34	Clear
Quebec	40	32	Clear
Father Point	40	32	Clear

Weather Notes.

The pressure continues high over the Great Lakes and Middle States, and comparatively low both east and west. The temperature remains low in the Western Provinces, but has risen slightly from Ontario eastward.