

GREAT GERMAN ATTACK OVER 13-MILE FRONT AT VERDUN

Results in Defeat-British Preparing for Forward Drive?—Austria Making Preparation for Great Offensive Against Italians—German Banks Placing Their Reserves in Neutral Countries for Fear of Seizure by Government—Guarantee by Allied Powers of Integrity of Belgian Congo.

FOUR MORE BRITISH STEAMERS ARE REPORTED TO BE SUNK

GERMANS AGAIN FAIL AT VERDUN.

PARIS, April 10.—The French war office announces that the Germans continued their attacks last night in the Verdun region east and west of the Meuse, over a front thirteen miles long in the fighting west of the river for the possession of Dead Man's Hill. The enemy was repulsed. Except on a front of five hundred yards near Hill 295, west of the river, the German assaults gained no appreciable results.

BRITISH PREPARING FOR FORWARD DRIVE?

LONDON, April 10.—It is reported from Paris that the British are making preparations for a forward drive between Ypres and the Somme.

AUSTRIA ASSUMING THE OFFENSIVE ON A LARGE SCALE.

ROME, April 10.—Reports received here indicate that Austria is preparing for an offensive against the Italians on a large scale. Troops are being brought from the Roumanian border.

GERMAN BANKS PLACING RESERVE IN NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.

ROME, April 10.—The German banks are placing their reserves in neutral countries. This action was taken it is rumored because the last German loan was a failure and that as a result the German bankers fear the seizure of their funds.

GUARANTEE INTEGRITY OF BELGIAN CONGO.

LONDON, April 10.—The Daily Telegraph's Havre correspondent says, Great Britain, France and Russia have agreed to guarantee to Belgium the integrity of the Belgian Congo, similarly to the guarantee for the integrity of Belgium itself.

FOUR MORE BRITISH STEAMERS SUNK.

LONDON, April 10.—Four British steamers in addition to those announced yesterday, have been sunk during the past twenty-four hours, namely, the Silksworth Hall, Glenalmond, Zeafra, and Yonne. Several lives are reported lost.

PLAIN WORDS FROM GERMAN SOCIALIST.

AMSTERDAM, April 10.—Herr Cohen, a member of the new Socialist Labor Union denounced in the Reichstag yesterday the manner of internment of British civilians in Germany, and condemned the refusal to allow the wives and children of British men to visit them. Such things he said "are monuments to Germany's barbarous method of waging war."

TURKISH LIE-FABRICATOR RESUMES OPERATIONS.

PETROGRAD, April 10.—Turkish official statements, reporting the sinking of two Russian transports in the Black Sea, are declared by the Ministry of Marine to be fabrications.

ENEMY'S SUBMARINES GATHER MORE VICTIMS.

LONDON, April 10.—Several more vessels were today reported sunk or damaged by enemy submarines.

Lloyd's announce that the British steamer Avon of 670 tons has been sunk and also publishes a report that the British steamer Adamton of 2304 tons has been sunk.

Lloyd's announced last night that the French fishing vessel Sainte Marie had been sunk. The crew was landed.

A cablegram to Lloyd's from Kobe, Japan, states that the Japanese steamship Ide Maru, 4543 tons, Seattle Feb. 22, for Vladivostok, is twelve days overdue at the latter port. The cablegram says there are reasons to fear the worst concerning the Ide Maru's fate.

A Malta despatch received last night says one engineer and eight lascars of the crew of the steamship Chantala were killed when the vessel was sunk by a submarine. Ninety-two survivors were rescued and landed here. They declare they had no warning of the impending attack.

The sinking of the Chantala, a vessel of 4949 tons, gross, which sailed from London, March 10, for Calcutta, was reported Saturday in a despatch received from London.

The Danish steamer Asger Ryg has been sighted to the south of the Isle of Wight badly damaged. It is supposed that she has been torpedoed. She is a steamer of 1101 tons, built in 1902 and owned in Copenhagen.

LONDON, April 10.—A violent battle was fought by the French and Germans all day yesterday on the front extending from Cumieres and Le Mort Homme to Avacourt, west and north-west of Verdun, and even to the eastern bank of the Meuse, and ended with the repulse of the Germans everywhere. The French

secretly evacuated the salient of Bethincourt in the night and had established a continuous line which runs from the Avocourt corner along the southern bank of the Forges brook to the northeast of Haucourt and reaches their own positions a little to the south of the crossing of the roads of Bethincourt-Esnes and Bethincourt-Chattancourt. This whole line was attacked by the Germans, and it withstood the fiercest onsets. One column of the enemy debouched from the Cumieres wood and it was violently assailed by the fire of Maxims and field artillery, under which it was dispersed. Hundreds of bodies were left on the ground by the Germans. Attacks were also made on Le Mort Homme and these were severely repulsed, the German losses being heavy. The Germans also met with a fierce resistance from the French soldiers when they attempted simultaneously an offensive movement against the French positions between the Avocourt wood and Forges brook, and they were everywhere repulsed. Finally they made a big attack on one of the French works to the north-east of Avocourt and momentarily succeeded in gaining a foothold in the trenches, but a French counter attack at once threw them out.

Just west of the scene of this fighting the French batteries in the Argonne did effective work in shelling a sector with heavy shells where the enemy was seen collecting important bodies of troops, and they also fired on columns of Germans on the march in the region of Mont Faucon and Nantillois. German batteries were also actively engaged in the bombardment of French organizations at Cote du Poivre and round the line Douaumont-Vaux. They also fired over on the French second line of defence, but the

FIVE CHILD PERFORMERS WERE BURNED TO DEATH.

LONDON, April 10.—Five child performers were burned to death on the stage of the Garrick Theatre at Hereford Friday night. It was a children's entertainment to provide comforts for the soldiers. The curtain fell on the final scene, and the audience was departing when the cry of fire was raised. A panic ensued. Many in the audience were crushed, but none seriously injured. The fire was confined to the stage, where the performers were wearing dresses covered with cotton wool for a snow scene. The flames spread furiously and the children ran frantically about the stage with their garments on fire.

BIG AUSTRIAN ATTACK BEATEN OFF BY ITALIANS.

ROME, April 10.—Owing to a heavy bombardment of their newly won positions on Raichkogel in the Cristallo zone, from the concentration of many batteries, the Italian troops withdrew their men from the most advanced line in good order to avoid useless losses. They also repulsed a surprise Austrian attack on their positions in the Vodil district, Monte Nero zone, and by a prompt counter-attack they forced the hostile troops back in disorder, taking five officers and 124 men prisoner and capturing a machine gun. They also surrounded and captured an advanced Austrian advance post in the Goebner sector in the middle Isongo.

Fires were caused in the great Austrian provision depot of Opicina, northeast of Trieste, by the bombardment of an Italian dirigible.

AMERICAN TROOPS ARE

ON FRESH VILLA TRAIL.

TERES, south of Namiq Pa, April 5, by aeroplane and wireless to Columbus, N.M., April 8.—That the American troops are on a fresh trail of Villa is a report made by an army aviator and an observer who returned today from what may prove one of the most important scouting flights of the year.

BERLIN IS PREPARING TO FIX MEAT POLICY.

BERLIN, via London, April 10.—Maximum meat prices and the amount of meat to be allotted daily in the future to each individual and the manner of distribution will be agreed upon tomorrow, when representatives of all the Greater Berlin municipalities gather for a discussion of the food problem.

A decision, however, may have to be contingent on a general census of the existing live stock in the empire, which begins next Saturday. The census will include horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, goats, tame rabbits and poultry. Counters from each municipality will be appointed to take the census.

Hand Lacerated

Mr. Wm. Craig, 199 Lingham St., had his right hand badly lacerated last week at the G. T. R. shops by being caught in a pulley. Several fingers were badly torn and it was found necessary to amputate the little finger. The work was successfully performed by Dr. Connor.

French threw out a curtain of fire and prevented the Germans from debouching from their trenches.

The capture by French troops of about 150 metres of a German trench southwest of Douaumont Village, northeast of Verdun, was announced by the Paris war office this afternoon. Progress in communicating trenches south of the village also was reported.

The Germans made two handg renade attacks on French positions in the Caillette wood, in this region, but both were repulsed.

West of the Meuse there was only feeble artillery activity.

80th Battalion at St. Andrews

The 80th Battalion attended Divine service on Sunday morning at St. Andrews' Presbyterian church. A large number of the men are away on leave and consequently the attendance of men in khaki was not so large. The band rendered the musical service. Rev. Prof. Dall of Kingston occupied the pulpit in the absence of Rev. A. S. Kerr, the pastor. Miss Stares contributed a solo.

Still in Hospital

Mr. William Craig, 199 Lingham St., has received word that his brother Pte. Walter Craig is still in hospital at Havre, France. Pte. Craig was wounded in the hand on Christmas day, but it was not then so supposed that his wounds were of so serious a nature as to necessitate this long confinement in hospital.

Mr. F. E. O'Flynn is in Trenton today where he has charge of an important law case.

Another Triumph For 80th Band

Last evening Griffin's Opera House was crowded to the doors on the occasion of the 80th Band Concert. Lt. Stares' organization again scored a triumph by their mastery of the instruments. Miss Stares assisted with vocal selections. By request the band played the William Tell overture. Band Sergt. Cummings was again heard in a cornet solo.

Error in Names

In the article, "Soldiers' Friends," that was handed us for publication on Saturday it was stated that "Mrs. Vanblaricom" took charge of the guests and ushered them into the refreshment room."

Instead of "Mrs. Vanblaricom" the name should have been Mrs. Van Buskirk.

Mr. Jas. H. Reid, of Great Falls, Mont., is in the city renewing acquaintances. It is eighteen years since his last visit.

Alterations in Store Front

Alterations were commenced this morning on the new handsome metal store front for The J. J. Haines shoe House of Belleville. Mr. Haines, who is always alive to the present day demands is to be congratulated on his leadership along these lines. The alterations will include new interior lighting, seating and decorating. It might be said when the work is completed it will be a new store right through. The work is in charge of Mr. P. G. Demko of this city, who will have everything ready before Easter.

Street Wrangles

There were a couple of quarrels on the streets since Saturday, but the police quieted things down. In one of them some soldiers and civilians participated.

The Cochranes Serve

Two more Belleville High School boys in addition to those recorded in "The Elevator" are in khaki, namely Archie Cochran, Barrister-at-law, who is with the Signallers of the 34th Battery, Canadian Artillery at the front, and William Cochran, teller in the Bank of Montreal, who is with the Royal Mounted Rifles of Kamloops, B.C. Both are sons of Mr. William Cochran, formerly Bursar of the Provincial School for the Deaf here, and now of Orillia. The Donald blood will not down when the call to service comes.

RITCHIE'S SILK SUITS

In a Strictly New Showing For Easter

\$20, \$25, \$30, \$32, \$35 Up to \$45

Cloth Suits

\$15.00

TO

\$45.00

The new Suits for EASTER

Are really beautiful to view—unquestionably the smartest garments presented for several seasons, of course we haven't the space to tell you about the different models in detail so we want you to come in personally and see them. Come in at your earliest opportunity as every day now means a heavy days selling which tends to deplete the showings even though new models are arriving daily. As for prices, the range is broader than ever before and furthermore the values are exceptionally good.

\$15.00



We Make
Window Shades
To Order



Perhaps that wide range of prices will convey to you some idea of our present display of New Silk Suits for Easter—and it is truly a fresh new showing, as the majority of the garments were only placed in stock Saturday. They are in the most wanted fabrics such as Taffetas, Silk Poplins, Silk Crepe Poplins and Taffeta and Serge Combinations—various new style effects are introduced and the shades are what fashion smiles most favorably upon just now. If it is to be a Silk Suit be sure and see

OUR LEADING
SILK SUIT VALUE AT
\$20.00

All stunning garments in Silk Poplin materials, featuring such new shades as Russian Green, Copenhagen, Navy and Black. Suit Coat has fancy girdle, two patch pockets, large collar and revers, fancy sleeves and bell cuff—collar, cuff and pocket stitched with white silk, also silk lined throughout. Fancy buttons on coat and skirt, the latter being a plain flared style. They are indeed extra value at \$20.00. The Higher Priced Models are Equally as Good Values.

SEE WINDOWS

SEPARATE COATS For Every Occasion

Whatever your taste or fancy may be, you are sure to find just the coat you like best in our superb collection and at a price to exactly suit you. There are coats to put on for every occasion with, of course, the Sport coats largely in evidence. These we are showing in all the latest New York Styles and Fabrics, in checks, plaids, stripes and tweed mixtures with a range of prices from \$5 to \$18.50.

Men! Choose Your New Spring Hats at RITCHIE'S

Our Easter Showing of Men's Spring Hats represent the products of the world's most authoritative makers only.

STETSON'S AND CHRISTY'S

These two famous makers have contributed the majority of the new Hat Models to our spring display, although a few of the more reasonable priced soft hat models are from a well known Canadian Firm they are priced from \$1.50 to 3.50 Stetson's Fur Felt at \$4.50 Christy's Soft Felt Hats 3.00. Christy's English Hard Felt Hats 2.50 and 3.00. What better choosing could one desire.

MEN'S STORE



Furniture
Upholstery a
Specialty.

The RITCHIE Company
Limited