

News of the Week

TUESDAY, APRIL 16.

The Germans continue their attacks and are storming their way up the westerly slope of Messines Ridge near Wulverghem.

The struggle for Bailloul has been renewed, and is continuing.

There is a great deal of artillery activity in the region between Givenchy and Robecq, but at no point have the Germans been able to cross La Basse Canal.

No changes have taken place on the Somme front.

Helsingfors, the former Russian naval base in Finland, is now in possession of the Germans.

The Zeppelin factories at Manzell, near Friedrichshafen, were destroyed by fire on Saturday last.

A great anti-German demonstration was held in Prague on Saturday, at which the Entente and President Wilson were cheered. Strong feeling was shown against Count Czernin.

Lieut. Cenderaria, of the Argentina army, has crossed the Andes by airplane from Zapala to Curico. The machine crossed the mountains at an altitude of 3,200 metres.

Sixty-two persons were killed in the air raid on Paris on Friday night.

Count Czernin has issued an official statement saying that Emperor Charles' letter to Prince Sextus was falsified.

A rather poor crop of maple sugar is reported from Quebec.

Three Military Service Act objectors in Calgary were sentenced to five years in the penitentiary at hard labor.

The first session of the fourth Alberta Legislature prorogued quietly on Saturday, having enacted most important legislation.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17.

The enemy has recaptured Messines Ridge.

The capture of parts of Meteren, a small town on the Bailloul-Cassel road, about two miles west of Bailloul, is reported. The enemy has been close to Meteren since Sunday, and has now obtained a footing there.

There has been a renewal of fighting at Boyelles, to the south of Arras, and of German artillery fire in the Albert sector.

Admiral Beatty of the Grand Fleet, reports the sweeping of the Cattegat, a body of water which lies between the east coast of Denmark and the west coast of Sweden, and constitutes a sort of vestibule to the Baltic, and the destruction by gunfire of ten German trawlers, the crews being saved by British vessels.

British and Greek troops, acting together, have raided ten villages in the Struma Valley, on the Saloniki front, and have captured a number of Bulgars. Venizelos will not rest content till he recovers Kavala from the enemy, and his Greeks are evidently recovering from their pro-Germanism and falling in behind him.

Count Czernin has accepted command of a brigade in the Austrian army on the Italian front.

New Zealand is raising another twenty million pound war loan. Persons able to subscribe, but failing to do so will be fined double the amount through their income tax.

New and drastic amendments to the censorship regulations are announced.

A large steamship from England brought 704 returned officers and soldiers, and 675 wives and children dependents of soldiers and other civilians, to Halifax on Monday.

Sweeping changes are made in the Military Service Act to meet the urgent need of reinforcements, in a resolution embodying an Order in Council to be introduced in the House of Commons and the Senate to-morrow.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18.

The evacuation of the British "forward positions east of Ypres" is officially announced, the troops holding them having been withdrawn on Sunday night and Monday to a new line without interference by the enemy, and apparently without his knowledge.

The counter-attacks by Sir Douglas Haig's troops, which enabled them on Tuesday night to regain a footing in Wytschaete and in the village of Meteren, failed in the end to maintain possession. The British official report last night, stated that the troops engaged in the counter-attack were forced yesterday to make a second retirement, leaving Meteren and Wytschaete in possession of the enemy.

Belgian troops scored when heavy German forces extended the attack to their section of the line, and

assaulted the advanced posts between Le Blankaert Pond and the Ypres Railway. These posts were carried in the first rush, but the Belgians drove the Germans out, and took six hundred prisoners.

The occupation of Batum, the Black Sea port of the Caucasus, by the Turks after several days of hard fighting, during which the outer and inner forts were stormed, gives Germany a grip of one of the chief shipping centres of the Black Sea.

There has been a marked renewal of activity on the Macedonian front, where Greek and British troops have occupied a number of tons on the east bank of the Struma.

The U. S. Government has taken over control of the Erie Canal.

Prince von Hohenlohe has been dismissed by Emperor Charles of Austria from his office at the Court.

The Government of New Zealand announces that it does not intend to exempt members of Parliament from military service.

Wholesale evasion of the Canadian draft law by means of United States registration cards has been disclosed at Windsor.

The Canada Food Board is appealing to all having larger quantities of flour or other foodstuffs than required for current needs, to return these through the merchants.

The Commons and Senate met in secret session for the first time in Canada's history, to hear from the Prime Minister confidential information about the war situation.

A new company, the Canadian Niagara Bridge Company, has been formed by the T. H. & E., C.N.R. and N.Y.C. Railways, to construct a new bridge across the Niagara near Bridgeburg.

The steamer Harvester, the first of the grain fleet to sail, is bound from South Chicago for Port McNicoll, with 640,000 bushels of oats, the largest grain cargo ever loaded at a Lake Michigan port.

Commander Frederick Wyatt, R.N.R., chief examining officer at the port of Halifax, where the disastrous collision took place, was acquitted in the Supreme Court by a jury on the charge of manslaughter.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19.

The war situation is reported to be more satisfactory to-day and gives more evidence of the ability of the Allies to stay the enemy's rush than at any time since the opening of the great offensive on March 21.

The Allied forces repulse intense artillery attacks, northwest of Bethune between Locon and Robug, as well as infantry assaults along the front from Givenchy to St. Venant.

On the Lys battlefield the British and French stand firmly in their positions on Kemmel Hill and the adjacent hills to the west. The Germans in three waves made an entry into the British positions. They were driven out again. After heavy shelling they tried again on Thursday, and were once more repulsed. The line in the north holds against all assaults, and the enemy losses multiply without producing the hoped-for results.

Foch has struck hard on the Aves front southeast of Amiens. An attack was made yesterday along a four-thousand-yard front between Thennes and Mailly. The greater part of the Senecat Wood was captured, and to the south the French line was carried forward to the slopes west of the heights of the Aves. 500 prisoners being captured during the assault. At the point where the French attacked the Germans were dangerously near the Paris-Amiens Railway. The victory deprives the enemy of high ground two miles from the railway that was doubtless being used for the emplacement of guns.

About 2,000 American soldiers, ill and wounded, have been brought back from France. They reached New York yesterday.

News have been received at New York of the sinking of the American steamer A. A. Raven by a submarine in second week of March.

The Government has arranged for pooling of steam-generated power for munitions manufacture.

The Military Service Act amendments discussion was deferred to to-day, when the House will sit continuously till the vote is taken.

The Montreal, Ottawa and Georgian Bay Canal bill to extend time was vigorously opposed in the Railway Committee of the Commons and its consideration postponed to the next meeting.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20.

Sir Douglas reports: "There was no change during the day along the British front in France.

Italian troops are now posted on the right of the Allied battlefield on the Oise.

The British troops who hold the line on the Asiago sector of the Alpine front in Italy have been engaged in lively output fighting with the Austrians.

When the Bolsheviki ceded Batum to the Turks the latter captured 600 officers, 2,500 men and 150 guns.

By the rectification of the Polish border Germany will secure nearly all the coal fields of those provinces.

Prince Friedrich Wilhelm of Prussia in a speech at Breslau says indemnities will be exacted from the Entente powers.

President Wilson yesterday rode about the White House grounds in the British army fighting tank on exhibition in Washington.

Night driving of motor truck supply trains from the West to the seaboard has been inaugurated by the U. S. Quartermasters' Department as a step toward training for the battlefront.

No more hard coal is to be permitted to be shipped into the Canadian West, and only a small supply to Winnipeg.

Vancouver has arranged for a fish market for five years, where fish is to be sold to the consumer at from five to eight cents a pound.

Fuel Controller Magrath advises the people to arrange at once for their coal supplies for next winter to be delivered during the summer.

Both Houses of Parliament passed the resolution for the calling out of unmarried men and childless widowers in Class 1 of the age of 20 to 22, both inclusive.

Mgr. Neil McNeil, Archbishop of Toronto, makes an urgent plea for unity between the Catholics in Ontario, both French-speaking and English-speaking.

MONDAY, APRIL 22.

After a meeting in Dublin the Irish party pledged itself to help opposition.

The long range bombardment of Paris continues. All of Southern California and part of western Arizona and Utah were shaken by an earthquake which wrecked virtually all buildings and residences in Hemet and Can Javinto, two inland towns, forty-five miles southeast of Riverside, California, caused minor property damage in practically every town and city.

Another quiet day is reported on the British front in France.

It is estimated that during the month's unprecedentedly furious German attacks in the west the Kaiser has had 300,000 of his men killed and about half that number wounded.

Twelve hundred German storm troops, the largest number ever concentrated against the American troops for an offensive operation, were hurled against the American positions on a one-mile front west of Renneres forest, northwest of Toul, to-day, after a terrific bombardment of gas and high explosive shells.

The enemy succeeded in penetrating the front line trenches and taking the village of Seechepprey, but after furious hand-to-hand fighting, which was still going on at night-fall, the American troops recaptured the village and most of the ground lost in the early fighting. Three Germans were taken prisoner.

The Armenians are reported to have recaptured the town of Van, in Turkish Armenia, after heavy fighting. The despatch says also that Mussulman attacks on Baku have been repulsed by the Armenians and the populace of the town.

Exemptions of men in Class One of the ages of twenty, twenty-one and twenty-two are canceled.

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