

SOLDIERS STILL HUNTING ENEMIES

Pay More Orderly Visits to Several Down-Town Restaurants.

CONFERENCE PROMISED

Deputation Will Visit City Hall to Discuss Returned Men Problem.

Saturday and Sunday nights were comparatively quiet in regard to the visitation of soldiers to munition plants, restaurants and places where alien enemies might be employed. No disturbances were reported by the police, altho several places were called upon during the two nights.

Peter Kolinsky, 121 University ave., an Austrian, was picked up on the street by a picket, and examination of his card at Agnes police station proved that he had not reported regularly. He was taken to Central police station, later released. The New London Cafe, corner York and Queen streets, and various other places were visited, but little was gained in the way of alien enemies.

Both Saturday and Sunday nights the police rounds were held in readiness for eventualities at various police stations throughout the city. A visit to the Fairbanks-Morse was planned for Saturday night, but did not materialize.

SWISS DECLARE NEUTRALITY.

Geneva, April 15.—The federal council today proclaimed Switzerland's neutrality in connection with the declaration of a state of war between the United States and Germany.

SCORE'S GREAT SALE.

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THE OCCUPATION OF PERONNE



A British advance squad marching thru the wrecked town of Peronne, northern France, after its evacuation by the Germans. The photo illustrates the work of devastation that is being carried on by the retreating Germans.

At nightfall yesterday the British army in France was closely pressing three important points in the German system of defence, Lens, Queant and St. Quentin. Napoleon, of course, warned his generals that the taking of towns while the enemy was unbroken was an empty honor, but these places have a particular significance in the German defensive scheme, making their capture of importance. Lens and La Bassée form strong outworks of Lille, and especially of its important railway junction. The British are now moving to turn the enemy out of La Bassée, and his forces at Lens are extremely nervous, sending up flares and signals for help at every slight alarm. Queant, the next town threatened, forms the hinge of a new line hastily constructed by the enemy after the loss of Vimy ridge. It runs southward from Lens to Bucquoy, and at Queant it connects with the remains of the Van Hindenburg line.

In the fighting towards Lens the British chose to advance along the route north of the Souchez River. They captured Lévin Village and then they assaulted and carried German defences east of the village on the line between Riomont Wood and the eastern corner of Cite St. Pierre. Next they gained ground eastward, and when last heard from they were approaching the outskirts of Lens. Before Queant, southeast of Arras, the Germans are putting up a defensive-offensive fight. When they lost the Vimy ridge they began hastily to dig a rudimentary line of trenches from Lens southward to Queant, where this new front connected with the Von Hindenburg line. The Germans counter-attacked the British on a six-mile front before Queant and they entered Lagrigne, only to be repelled. They lost heavily. The British took 300 prisoners and counted 1500 dead before their outposts. In the third fighting zone the British drove forward to within 100 yards of St. Quentin, capturing Gricourt Village at the point of the bayonet and passing beyond to the south and north.

Reuter's correspondent sends an important item of news. He says that the German officers are experiencing greater and greater difficulty in inducing their men to fight, and that the bonds of discipline are being loosened. In a military sense this is what the allies are striving to bring about the destruction of the German army, that is, the breaking up of its cohesion. As the campaign develops the losing side will eventually find more and more difficulty in keeping an army in the field. Eventually the army will lose its discipline and cohesive force and it will dissolve. In a political sense, the breaking up of the German army's cohesion may coincide with revolution in Germany. Another forerunner to the revolution will be the open bankruptcy of the German Government.

It is quite possible that for the next few days the progress of the British will be slow, for they have to undertake the complete reconstruction of all the roads ahead of them, rendered almost impassable by preceding terrific bombardments. They have also to move up their heavy guns at a slow pace.

The French continue chiefly to give strong support to the British army by means of artillery pressure on the fronts between the Somme and the Oise and the Oise and the Aisne. Reconnaissances have discovered the trenches in this region to be strongly held by the Germans. The fiercest fighting has developed about St. Quentin in co-operation with the British, who are within a few yards of the city from the west. The allied guns are delivering destructive fires on the German defences in the region of the town, and they are compelling the enemy to stand terrible punishment in order to hold this important position a little longer for the safety of his army. In the Champagne the artillery firing has developed into a fierce engagement. On the banks of the Meuse the Germans made two attacks. In Lorraine heavy gunfire is proceeding.

In the air the French are also gaining the mastery over the German machines. They have already destroyed and brought down many others. In nocturnal raids they have diverted their attention chiefly to the dropping of vast quantities of explosives in the Brie Basin and the Mezieres-Sedan area. These districts contain the principal German steel blast furnaces and the French seek to destroy as many as possible in order to cripple the German steel production and consequently the German munitions industry.

The French official communications have suddenly begun to give extensive space to the operations north of Salonic, although action so far has not developed into either a general engagement or even a series of fierce local combats. Violent artillery activity has broken out, however, in the region between the Vardar River and Prespa Lake. This is the front where the big operations took place last autumn. The enemy has bombarded Monastir, destroying seventeen houses; he has launched attacks at Serova, southwest of Monastir, and these have failed. Bands of Bulgarian Bash-Bazouks, aided by Austrian units, attempted an offensive against the Italians in the Kortiza region of Albania and suffered a repulse. The enemy increased his artillery firing in the zone between the Cerna Lake and the Prespa bend, using poisonous gas shells. He also attacked the Italians about Hill 1050, suffering a lively fusillade. This caused him to withdraw.

The situation in this theatre of the war is interesting. By his behavior the enemy shows that he has been heavily reinforced, but whether to stand strongly on the defensive or to take the offensive remains unknown. It is probable that the Bulgarians are insisting upon an attempt to recover Monastir and that the Germans have promised to do it, but future initiative depends on their ability to do as promised. It is believed that the allies have received strong reinforcements, both in men and artillery, since last autumn and that they can undertake a formidable attack when the moment is ripe.

The Russian Government has issued a statement to expose the underground objects of the overtures for a separate peace made by the German Socialists to the Russian Socialists. By interrogating Austrian prisoners the Russian military authorities have ascertained that the German chancellor has sent some German Socialists to Stockholm to meet the Russian Socialists. The German Social-Democrats are working solidly with the German Government, and they consider themselves Germans before everything. Everywhere in Germany and Austria-Hungary now hopes that internal disorders in Russia will help to bring about her destruction. In brief, those Russian Socialists who are common with a small and insignificant group of British pacifists, are working with the German Social Democrats, are the tools of the German Government. They belong to the same class of amiable but impracticable persons who, before the war, preached that the Prussian tiger would become a harmless, necessary cat by stroking it on the back and calling it "poor pussy."

CANADIAN CASUALTIES

Killed in action—F. Wilby, England;

S. Wight, New Zealand; T. Shaw, Scotland; T. Mearns, Southern Rhodesia; Ont.; T. R. H. H. Edwards, England; R. Baden, Ireland.

England; F. J. Ayen, Hawkesbury, Ont.; S. Irwin, Broadbent, Ont.; C. Von Ende, Germany; F. W. Storger, Kamsack, Sask.; R. Agster, Winnipeg; A. C. Hunter, Rosedale, Ont.; C. E. Irving, Rosedale, Ont.; P. McDonald, Montclair, N.J.; Major A. P. McDonald, Swift Current, Sask.; A. P. Gibault, Quebec.

INFANTRY.

Killed in action—Lieut. A. P. Gibault, Quebec.

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