HUNS PRESENT PEACE PROPOSAL VIA DUTCH?

Circulation Last Week
276,990
Daily Average, 46,165

The London Advertiser

LONDON, CANADA—THE HOME OF UNBROKEN PROSPERITY.

HOME EDITION

55TH YEAR. No. 22076 | THE LONDON ADVERTISER, LONDON, CANADA. MONDAY EVENING, MAY 6, 1918. 80 COLUMNS | PRICE, TWO CENTS.

ALLIES PUSH BACK THE ENEMY

HAIG MAKES GOOD GAINS AND BREAKS UP ATTACKS

ALLEGED OFFER OF HUN AGENT SHOWS ENEMY COMING DOWN

Would Renounce All West Claims and Restore Belgium

AUTONOMOUS ALSACE

Concessions to Italy and Other Disputes To Be Arbitrated.

London, May 6.—Foreign Secretary Balfour told the House of Commons today that no peace offers had been made recently by the enemy. He added: "There is no representative of a neutral nation in this country who has made tentative or informal suggestions of peace negotiations."

London, May 6.—The proposals made by Jonkheer Colyn, the German peace emissary, are said there to have been as follows:

1. Germany to renounce all claims in the west.
2. Restoration of Belgium.
3. Alsace-Lorraine to be autonomous, within the German federation.
4. The status in the east to remain as at present.
5. Austria to make certain concessions to Italy in the Trentino.
6. Balkan questions to be solved by an international conference.
7. All colonial questions affecting Africa and Asia Minor to be settled by a conference of all the belligerents.
8. Germany to abandon all claims to her former Chinese protectorate of Kiao-Chow, but in exchange to receive certain economic concessions in China.

"NOTHING DOING."

London, May 6.—Germany's peace emissary, according to the Daily Mail, has been busily working here, but has made no progress in any direction. There is reason to believe, it says, that the German agent, who has been reported to be a Dutch financier, returns to Germany to report that there is nothing doing.

Colyn the Man.

A Central News dispatch from The Hague says the Dutch intermediary is reported to be Jonkheer Colyn, former minister of war.

Jonkheer Colyn went to England last week at the head of a mission whose purpose was said to be to explain to the British Government the difficulties caused by Germany's demand on Holland concerning the transfer of German materials across Dutch territory to Belgium.

GERMAN EDITORS ARE TALKING OF REPRISALS FOR PRAGER LYNCHING

Amsterdam, May 6.—The lynching at Collinsville, Ill., last month, of Robert P. Prager, a German, who was accused by the mob which hanged him of disloyalty, has infuriated German editors. The Zeitung Am Mittag of Berlin calls on the German Government to make strong representations to Washington, reminding the American Government that Germany holds a number of American prisoners on whom reprisals might be taken so as to prevent the lynching of Germans in America from becoming a fashionable sport.

WILSON DENIES SAYING FARMERS WOULD BE FREE

Montreal, May 6.—Major-Gen. E. W. Wilson, G.O.C., said that statements in Ottawa and other newspapers quoting him to the effect that under the new enforcement of the military service act exemptions were to be given to farmers, were quite erroneous, and that he had never made any such statement.

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, 83; lowest, 43.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 78; lowest, 63.

TOMORROW—FAIR, QUITE WARM.

Toronto, May 6—8 a.m.

Forecasts.

Moderate to fresh south to southwest winds; mostly fair and quite warm, but some local thunderstorms or showers, chiefly on Tuesday.

Temperatures.

The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	58	44	Cloudy
Calgary	54	36	Fair
Winnipeg	78	38	Clear
Port Arthur	58	42	Fair
Parry Sound	72	54	Cloudy
Port Stanley	64	42	Cloudy
Buffalo	64	46	Rain
Toronto	64	48	Cloudy
Kingston	60	42	Fair
Ottawa	70	48	Fair
Montreal	66	54	Clear
Quebec	48	38	Fair
Father Point	40	34	Rain

Weather Notes.

Since Saturday, with the exception of a few light scattered showers, the weather has been fine over Canada, warmer in Ontario and continued warm in the west.

ANOTHER DRUBBING FOR ENEMY AT HANDS OF THE ANZACS, WHO SWEEP IN 500 YARDS

With the British Armies in France, May 6.—By the Associated Press.—Last night the irrepressible Australians gave the Germans west and southwest of Morlancourt, between the Ancre and the Somme Rivers, another drubbing and advanced the Entente line to a depth of 500 yards along a front of 2,000 yards. The enemy offered strong resistance, which was entirely to the liking of the hardy Australians, who inflicted heavy casualties, and came back with more than 150 prisoners.

The losses of the attacking troops were light.

AIR SQUADRON HAD GREAT BAG FOR SIX WEEKS

106 Machines Brought Down by One Group of British Fliers.

SWOOPED ON INFANTRY

Enemy Refuses To Fight Unless Every Advantage Is With Him.

London, May 6.—Wounded British airmen back from France report that the squadron operating in an important sector on the Amiens front, has probably made a record by bringing down 106 enemy machines in six weeks, including 21 in one day.

The only member of the squadron known to have been wounded up to this time this man returned to London, said it was hard work getting the German airmen to fight. "Practically the only times they would come out," he said, "was about 9 a.m., when the sun's glare would be in our faces, and in the evening. Even then they would slip away if they had half a chance.

"The supreme confidence of our fellows is half the battle. During the great offensive they have been doing four 'shows' a day, returning only for ammunition and an occasional meal, and possibly a game of cards, if the morning's work was particularly good and the afternoons threatened to be heavy.

"Nearly all the machines we brought down were two-seaters. In fact, few of the German airmen will fly in anything else. The pilots like a man with a gun behind them."

The airman said the German infantry was bombed and machine gunned by the aviators four times a day regularly, and that when the enemy came forward in masses they were easy prey for the air forces.

"We would swoop down while flying at a speed of 130 miles an hour, firing our machine guns all the while. Sometimes we came within fifty feet of the ground, going so fast they could do nothing with us."

STILL TALKING OF PEACE WITH SWORD

Germany Replies to Cecil's "Peace Offensive" Words.

Amsterdam, May 6.—"The assertion of Lord Robert Cecil that Germany will undertake a 'peace offensive' if she does not succeed in overcoming the Allies is the latest means whereby Entente statesmen are seeking to stimulate the war ardor of their people, whose belief in the justice of their own cause is vanishing," says Baron von Dem Busesche-Haddenhausen, German under-secretary for foreign affairs, in an interview published in Berlin newspapers in reply to the statement of the British minister of blockade last week. In this statement Lord Robert said the failure of Germany's "knockout offensive" on the western front would result in a great peace offensive, in his opinion.

"Let the British people deal with such manoeuvres as they will," says the German under secretary. "The sword first has to speak. Our task is to break with hard steel our enemies' destructive aims against our existence and our integrity. We have attained gigantic successes. We can see the future with firm confidence."

PARLIAMENT WILL RUSH ALL BUSINESS THROUGH; PROROGUES NEXT WEEK

Ottawa, May 6.—The budget debate in the Commons is likely to be concluded on Tuesday evening, but it will take a couple of additional days to consider the details of the taxation proposals in committee. It was authoritatively stated this afternoon that the Opposition will not move any amendments in regard to the movement for free agricultural implements or matters at the present stage of the discussion, but it is not so certain what will happen when the details are being considered in committee.

One Opposition proposal has been that the new automblie tax should not become immediately effective in order to give dealers an opportunity of disposing of stocks in hand. An amendment may be moved along these lines.

With morning sittings commencing tomorrow business will be rushed, and prorogation is hoped for before the end of next week. Considerable legislation, which it was planned to deal with, may be dropped, including the civil service act and the bill to consolidate the railway act. It is said that the supplementary estimates may include salary increases for postmen and the lower grades of the civil service in the form of a war bonus.

MRS. POTTER PALMER DEAD.

Sarasota, Fla., May 6.—Mrs. Potter Palmer of Chicago is dead at her winter home here.

PLUNKETT ADVISES RESPONSIBLE GOVT. BE GIVEN IRELAND

Otherwise Lasting Hate and Bloodshed Will Ensue.

Dublin, May 6.—Declaring that the Government's conscription, home rule policy is disastrous, Sir Horace Plunkett chairman of the recent Irish convention in a letter to the press suggests the immediate establishment of a responsible government in Ireland as a way out of the difficulty.

He says that the attempt to enforce conscription will cause much bloodshed and lasting hate.

He says the present crisis resembles the Fenian situation of 50 years ago.

He believes that if Ireland is given immediate representative government it would pass legislation to do its bit in the war.

London, May 6.—Anti-conscription speeches were made from the same platform by John Dillon, Nationalist leader, and Professor Edward De Valera, head of the Sinn Fein, yesterday, at Ballaghadereen, in Dillon's constituency of East Mayo. Good humor and enthusiasm characterized the demonstration, which was attended by 15,000 persons.

Dillon denounced conscription for any part of the United Kingdom and objected to sending of huge armies to the continent. He said the Government had paused in the face of Irish hostility to the bill, but declared the danger was not over.

Dillon advised them to form committees in churches and chapels and to secure instruction from the priests. He said it would take a great army to enforce compulsion on Ireland.

De Valera said the Sinn Feiners would unite with the Nationalists.

WHAT SMITH'S PLACE MUST LOOK LIKE, TO JUDGE FROM HIS STORY

Advertiser Illustrations. —Passing Show, London.

THREE DAYS WITHOUT FOOD OR FUEL LIVING IN BARE ONE-ROOMED "HOME"

Truck Driver Gives Blood To Save Life Of Famous Actress

Transfusion Resorted to in Unusual Illness of Anna Held.

New York, May 6.—To offset the ravages of the rare disease, multiple myeloma, or softening of the bone tissue, an operation for blood transfusion was performed on Miss Anna Held, the actress. Saturday afternoon at the Savoy Hotel, where she has been critically ill for some time. Since Friday her condition has been growing worse, and late on Saturday it was decided that she was so weak transfusion would have to be resorted to.

Miss Held's physicians stated last night that the operation had an immediate good effect on the patient. Ernest Lane, a motor truck driver, volunteered to give his blood in order to save Miss Held's life. Fifteen minutes after the operation, he left the hotel, saying he felt as strong as ever.

Aged Couple Finally Aided by Salvation Army—Husband Says Appeal for City Aid Brought No Response.

Three days without food or fuel last week, an aged couple, Mr. and Mrs. John Park, lived in a little room over 183 Dundas street, which serves as a bedroom, dining-room, kitchen and living-room. The only furniture consists of a bed, a small table, two chairs and an old stove. The floor is bare and the room has none of the appearances of a home.

The Salvation Army officers heard of the couple's condition last week and supplied them with enough food and fuel to last for a few days.

The couple have applied to the city for relief, but was given to understand that he is a foreigner and not entitled to any consideration. He says he has lived in London for over fifty years, where he worked first as a printer, next as a painter, and lastly as a carpenter.

A daughter in the south sends some money once in a while, but she has not sent any for three months. The aged couple owe three months' rent, and they do not know what they are going to do. They think that if they had a small plot of garden ground they could eke out a living, but they hardly seem able to do the work. Grocers in the vicinity have been supplying them with a few necessaries of life for some time. They have no relatives who are able to provide for them, and the future certainly is not very bright, they think.

EASTERN FRONT COLLAPSE HAS HEARTENED GERMANY, SAYS REPATRIATED OFFICER

Caused Reversion From War Weariness Apparent Even in 1916 — Boxes From Home Form Big Bulk of the Prisoners' Food.

"I am afraid the Germans have been a good deal bucked up by the collapse on the eastern front. I noticed a change in the spirit of the people before I was transferred to Switzerland last November. When I was taken a prisoner in June, 1916, they were pretty well fed up with the war. Of course, food conditions are pretty bad in Germany, but no worse than in 1916, and possibly a little better since the taking of Rumania. So far as relief of the food situation through the breakdown of Russia is concerned, that is simply living on hope. The trouble in Russia has always been lack of food, and until another harvest conditions can't be improved any for Germany. The moral effect on the people is the thing to be reckoned with. On the other hand, the scarcity has been increasing of leather goods, clothing, and things like that, and prices have been going away up. When I first was taken prisoner, it was possible to get almost anything along these lines I wanted, but all that has changed in eighteen months."

This story was told to The Advertiser today by Capt. J. E. Lattimer, the first repatriated Canadian officer to reach London, and who is visiting his sister, Mrs. Alfred Raymond, 16 Cove road. Capt. Lattimer went overseas in July, 1915, as a lieutenant with the 4th C. M. R., and was promoted to the rank of captain while on service in Belgium. When wounded in the fighting at Zillebeke, he was taken prisoner and transported to Stuttgart Prison Camp Hospital. Owing to the fact that he has been incapacitated by wounds for further service, along with other allied prisoners, he was exchanged some months ago for German prisoners held by the Allies.

Was With London Boy.

Becher Ward, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Ward, King street, was taken a prisoner at the same time as Capt. Lattimer, and was for several weeks in the same hospital with him. When Capt. Lattimer left the hospital to go to a prison camp at the end of ten weeks, the London boy had almost entirely recovered. Like Becher Ward, Capt. Lattimer was first reported missing, and at no time reported wounded.

In his experience as a prisoner of war, Capt. Lattimer passed through several camps, finding conditions fairly comfortable so far as treatment was concerned in Bishopswerde, in Saxony, owing to the comparatively friendly attitude of the Saxons. Next, he was taken to Cresweld, in the Rhine provinces, in his estimation a "good camp," owing to the fact that the food was "fairly good."

From Bad to Worse.

"What about the food?" he was asked at this point.

"It's only a question of from bad to worse," he said, "depending on where you are, ranging from not so bad at Cresweld, to practically nothing at Schwarmstedt, in Hanover, the worst camp in every sense I encountered. In the heart of Prussiandom, the camp is run according to Prussian ideas. From there I was taken to Holzminden and finally up at Heidelberg. The famous university town is the place the men are taken before being transferred to Switzerland. They say good-bye to us there, and apparently try to leave a good impression on us, consequently, Heidleberg is among the good camps.

Depend on Boxes From Home.

"The boys in the prison camps live largely on the boxes they get from home and from England. My experience has been that the boxes come through about as well from Canada as from England. The boys need all that can be sent to them, and the fellows are in pretty hard luck who don't get them. I know, the first ten weeks I was there, in the hospital, I, with others, was hungry every day. So far as the bread from Switzerland was concerned, the distance was so great to the camps in which I was located, that it was not in good condition when it arrived. The bread from Copenhagen was better. Now, I understand, the French system of sending hard biscuits instead of bread to the prisoners of war is being adopted by the British. This is far better. Again, comparatively speaking, hard biscuits are much to be preferred to blue bread."

Swiss Conditions Bad.

"What about food conditions in England," was asked of the returned officer.

"They have rationing there, of coufse," he said, "but they haven't yet begun to know what it means. That is, they aren't suffering hunger yet through the rationing. In Switzerland, food conditions were getting pretty bad."

"What of food control in Canada?"

Capt. Lattimer laughed. "I haven't yet been able to make out if Canada knows there is a war on," he said.

"What about the continual reinforcements which Germany seems to get for the army? It puzzles people here to know how the men hold out. It looks as if every time one was killed, two more popped up in their places," said the reporter.

500,000 Every Year.

"Study Germany's birth rate for a number of years back and you will see," he said, adding, "according to the most reliable statistics that can be obtained, Germany has a new army of about 500,000 coming on every year."

NEWFOUNDLAND JOINS THE DAYLIGHT CLUB

St. Johns, Newfoundland, May 6.—Newfoundland began the daylight saving system last night. At midnight the clocks were advanced one hour. The new time will prevail until the first Sunday in October.

RECORD SHIPBUILDING.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 5.—All records for rapid construction of a ship were broken yesterday, when the 5,548-ton steel collier Tuckahoe, was launched at the yard of the New York Shipbuilding Corporation in Camden, N. J. The keel of this wonder ship was laid on April 8, and only 27 days were required to prepare the hull for launching. The boat was 90 per cent completed when it slid into the water, and in fifteen days more it will take its place in the commerce of the world, complete and ready for a cargo.

ALL BRITISH NATION UNITED FOR THE WAR

Montreal, May 6.—Declaring that a mass of misconceptions regarding labor conditions in Great Britain throughout the war had arisen in the western hemisphere because of comparatively meagre cable information, S. F. Ratcliffe, late of the Manchester Guardian, told the People's Forum yesterday afternoon that from the beginning the entire British nation had been united in the determination to carry the war through to a successful issue. There had been divisions of opinion among labor leaders, but there was not, and never had been, a "peace at any price" party or group.

ANOTHER DIRTY TRICK OF GERMANS EXPOSED

Paris, May 6.—Germans are credited, in reports received here, with injecting asphyxiating gas into letters sent home by prisoners in their camps. A woman living in the village of La Sicotiere recently was ill for several days after opening a letter from a French prisoner in Germany.

On the same day, it is said, another woman received a letter, also containing poison gas, from her husband, a captive in Bavaria. Other cases have been reported.

NORWAY'S SUB LOSSES 776 SHIPS, 1,006 MEN

Washington, D. C., May 6.—Ten vessels, aggregating 13,794 tons, and 20 seamen, were Norway's losses during April, the Norwegian legation here was informed today by a cablegram from the foreign office. The April totals bring Norway's losses due to the war to 755 vessels, aggregating 1,115,5519 tons and the lives of 1,006 seamen, in addition to about 700 men on 53 vessels missing, two-thirds of which are declared to be war losses.

ASK BILLION DOLLARS FOR AIRCRAFT DRIVE

Washington, D. C., May 6.—A billion dollar appropriation for aircraft production was asked of Congress today by the war department. This would add to the $640,000,000 appropriation already made and expended.

SIXTEEN SHIPS TURNED OUT BY U. S. LAST WEEK

Washington, D. C., May 6.—Ten steel ships of 57,695 tons, and six wooden ships of 21,500 tons were launched by American yards in the week ended May 5, the shipping board announced today. Twelve steel ships of 80,180 tons were delivered to the board complete in the same period.

WELL KNOWN AT GALT.

Montreal, May 6.—Douglas McNaught and Ethel McKinnon, who appeared in court last week charged with forgery and false pretenses respectively, in connection with an alleged false check, are known in Galt, Ont. McNaught will probably be turned over to an official from Galt. McNaught was arrested on the charge of having signed the name of Goldie & McCullough to a check, while Ethel McKinnon was charged with having attempted to pass the check.

BRITISH GUNS SMOTHER ENEMY; ALLIES ADVANCE ALONG SOMME; SEVERAL ATTACKS ARE BEATEN

NEW YORK CHEERS FIGHTING ALLIES

New York, May 6.—The Canadian Club, this city, raised $20,000 at the Hippodrome last night toward a fund of $100,000 for the benefit of dependents of Canadian, British and American soldiers from the United States, who are fighting with the Canadian forces.

Governor Whitman, in a brief speech, appealed for aid for these families, who by their residence in this country are cut off from the British-Canadian patriotic fund. The governor said: "We're going to win this war. The cause is a holy one. The dead who lie in Flanders' fields have not died in vain."

The Hippodrome was packed, and in the course of the long program, on which were many theatrical stars, everybody had a chance to cheer for all of the Allies. Bagpipes led a company of Anzacs on the stage, and the soldiers were enthusiastically greeted with the Australian yell. Another shout was given the Alpine Chasseurs, the "blue devils" of France, who sang "La Marseillaise."

COUNTING COLONIES BEFORE THEY'RE WON

Foe Hopes to Get Material by Threat, Conquest.

London, May 6.—Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency.—With reference to cable messages announcing Germany's commercial preparations for after the war, the newspapers of that country are featuring German dependence on raw materials controlled by the Allies and the consequent necessity of making the question of raw materials one of the most important at the peace negotiations. Herr Dittmann, a former German consul, advocates playing off the Allies against one another, telling America, for instance, that she cannot have peace except supplies of cotton and copper are guaranteed to Germany and influencing Australia through her interest in maintaining the German wool market.

Wants Colonial Empire.

Herr Zimmermann, well-known colonial enthusiast, in a remarkable article goes farther, and says that the remedy is a vast colonial empire. "We shall have to make our deductions ruthlessly," says Zimmermann, "from our military superiority after further great events in the west. Our colonial demands must not be confined to the Belgian and French Congo." Proceeding in this strain, he draws attention to Nigeria's exports of palm kernels and palm oil, and says that Nigeria, Cameroon and the Congo territories are in a position to deliver immediately over 300,000 tons of palm kernels and palm oil, and he would conceive a German colonial empire in Central Africa and the South Seas, which would supply immediately 300,000 tons of mill fruits and more than a million tons at an early date, thus making Germany almost entirely independent.

THE PRESENT NOT HOUR TO DISCUSS A PEACE

London, May 6.—James H. Thomas, Liberal M. P. for Derby, speaking at Derby today, said that the millions already killed or wounded must make every good citizen long for such a peace as would render impossible a renewal of the conflict in ten or fifteen years with whatever additional horrors science might devise. In the meantime, however, he said, it was futile to talk of peace in the present military situation. He believed Germany would accept a peace tomorrow on the basis of the status quo ante in the west, and would even give France some territorial compensation in return for a free hand in the east. But that would only lay the foundation for another war, as Japan and America would have to maintain large armies and navies, and militarism, instead of being defeated, would be triumphant.

CROP CONDITIONS IN FAR WEST EXCELLENT

Calgary, May 6.—Crop conditions are as good as they possibly could be, and the farmers are optimistic, declared Mayor Costello, who has just finished a two days' tour between Calgary and Edmonton, and east of Lacombe.

Mayor Costello asserts that he found a good tone everywhere, and in the districts visited from 12 to 28 per cent more acreage is in wheat than last year.

MANY DROWNED THROUGH A SUDDEN RISE OF TIDE

San Diego, May 6—Two soldiers were drowned and eleven other persons are missing as the result of a terrific tide rise late yesterday at Ocean Beach, a resort 12 miles from San Diego. Sixty persons were rescued.

Dozens of bathers were caught in the rise which, as the result of a rough sea, and an unusually high tide, started with scarcely a moment's warning.

LITTLE COAL FROM SYDNEY.

Quebec, May 6.—Dominion Coal Company officials say that owing to lack of shipping facilities, it is unlikely much coal will be sent from Sydney up to the St. Lawrence this summer. The company is taxed to find bottoms to supply the maritime provinces' trade.

Haig's Line Moves Ahead On a Considerable Front Between the Somme and Ancre, and Position In Flanders Is Improved—British Artillery Breaking Up Every Attempt of Germans To Get Started On New Drive.

London, May 6.—The British line has been advanced on a considerable front between the Somme and the Ancre rivers west-southwest of Morlancourt, says the official statement from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters today.

The British positions in the neighborhood of Locre and the Law River, on the southern leg of the Lys salient in Flanders, have been improved as the result of local fighting.

BRITISH GUNS SMOTHER FOE.

London, May 6—(Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency).—Correspondents in France state that the British gunfire in Flanders during the past three days has completely prevented any enemy movement. The enemy had undoubtedly prepared to attack the Allied positions on Saturday, but the British gunners smothered the attack before it could be launched. This increased the disorganization in the enemy's rear. The French prevented the attack on their front by attacking first.

MAY RETAKE KEMMEL.

Experts emphasize the difficulty of the enemy finding the target which is to take the Allies by surprise. Certain points of importance are carefully watched, and if other points are attacked the Allied reserves reach the battlefields as quickly as the German reserves. The experts are confident that Mont Kemmel can be recovered if the enemy fail to advance his line in this region.

FRENCH STOP LOCAL RUSH.

Paris, May 6.—After an intense bombardment the Germans last night attempted to carry out a local attack near Anchin Farm, southeast of Amiens. Today's official statement says the enemy was repulsed completely.

ATTACK REPULSED.

LONDON, May 5.—German troops this morning attacked the new positions gained by the British Friday night on the Flanders battlefront, near Hinges, northwest of Bethune. They were repulsed, the war office announces, the British line remaining intact. The artillery on both sides is continuing its activity along the Lys battlefront.

The British positions were improved in local operations last night east of Amiens, near Sailly-le-Sec, and north of Albert, in the vicinity of Hebuterne.

ALLIES' ACTIVITY UPSET FOE'S PLANS.

With the British Army in France, May 5. — Luck seems to be going against the German along the crucial northern battlefront. Sunday still found the Prussian commanders working desperately to whip their organizations into shape for a renewal of the delayed offensive, while the Allied forces, aided by the weather, continued counter-operations which are most disconcerting to an enemy playing against time.

Planned New Assault.

It was quite apparent the Germans intended another assault in Flanders yesterday morning, but the arrangements were upset by a combination of events. There were the Allied operations and the heavy rain, which converted the ground into mud flats, over which it was difficult to move either infantry or artillery. There was also confusion arising from wholesale relifs and the arrival of strange troops in the German area.

The Allied artillery has been maintaining an incessant bombardment of enemy territory, and Friday night, before the projected German attack, the French and British gunners played havoc with the German preparations. The Allied troops also have been carrying out in succession local operations which improved their lines and upset enemy schemes to a marked degree.

Attacks Smashed.

Yesterday the Allies occupied a large number of important positions at various points along the front of 4,000 yards west of Kemmel. The British also made an advance of 500 yards along the front of 1,000 yards northwest of Locon, thereby gaining a number of positions which had been contested many days. This morning the Germans tried to regain some of these positions, but were repulsed. An enemy attack yesterday morning in the Locon area under cover of a heavy barrage likewise was smashed.

On the southern battlefront the British last night near Sailly-le-Sec, advanced their line in a minor operation without casualties. The German prisoners taken in all these local engagements make a considerable total.

Allied Spirit High.

The spirit of the Allied troops remains at the highest pitch. They know that every day's delay is in itself a victory for them. Each twenty-four hours that slips by makes the United States loom larger on the horizon and brings the much needed overseas troops nearer the battle lines.

Interesting comments by German civilians have been furnished from an enemy mail bag captured by the British before it was delivered to the soldiers along a section of the Flanders front. Almost without exception references are made in the letters to the stoppage of leave and the parcel post from the front. The tone is resigned rather than recalcitrant. One letter from Berlin, dated April 25, said:

Peace Hopes Vanish.

"Peace does not seem to be coming along as we fondly hoped. All this in the west is too wicked for anything. Four years of it now, and no sign of the end. We hope every day it will come to a decision and that the British will be driven into the North Sea, but they stand firm."

"We have such a scarcity of shoes in Ettlingen it is impossible to get them. If here are any in Belgium, please send me a pair," says a letter, dated Ettlingen April 26.

"Are you not coming home on leave soon? How much longer is it going to last?" reads a third letter.

A note from Rhumsfringe, dated April 23, says: "The musterung of the 1920 class took place here last Friday. Most of them were accepted."

GERMANS ARE FACING A GREAT DILEMMA.

NEW YORK, May 5. — Writing in the New York Tribune, Frank H. Simonds declares the Germans are facing a dilemma of great magnitude. Amiens is the kaiser's main objective, and the chances of a Teuton defeat in this endeavor are very great. Von Ludendorff may possible get to the channel, in Mr. Simonds' opinion, but this will not smash the British. He cannot split the British and French forces. Haig's armies can swing south, just as the Belgians came out of Antwerp in 1914. Therefore, concludes the noted war critic, a colossal blow against Amiens is likely; there alone lie the Teuton hopes.

C. W. Gilbert, in a dispatch to the Tribune from Washington, says von Hindenburg has reorganized the German army to escape the psychology of a deadlock. He made over the German command till the names of his generals now read like a roll call of the east front.

But Foch is onto all of Hindy's curves, and will fight him with chiefs who know their opponents' style.

IMPORTANT GAIN FOR FRENCH AND BRITISH.

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, May 5.—Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency.—Some disorganization is indicated among the enemy troops, who are hindered by heavy rains.

Franco-British forces, in the course of a successful operation between Locre and Drancourt, advanced their positions on a thousand-yard front to an average depth of five hundred yards. We took 48 prisoners and the French about 32. We drove out the enemy from two or three ruined farms, and took some high ground near Keoudekot. The French, continuing their operations on our flank, carried some strongly-held buildings in the neighboring sector. All the enemy counter-efforts were broken up with considerable loss. These local successes are of distinct tactical value, strengthening our defences of the approach to Scherpenberg and Mont Rouge.

"There is little doubt that the new German tanks are proving a disappointment, developing defects in actual service. Their ponderous weight makes manoeuvring over bad ground difficult. Generally they are much inferior to ours."