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British Resume Drive Quickly Make Gains

Attack On Wide Front On Both Sides Of The Scarpe River

Satisfactory Progress, Says General Haig—Associated Press Correspondent Says Last Point of German Defences on Hindenburg Line North of Scarpe is Captured

LONDON, April 22.—After a week's lull, during which they had been busy consolidating the gains of the first week's offensive and bringing up their guns, the British at dawn this morning began another phase of the operations against the formidable German defences on the front in Northern France.

General Sir Douglas Haig reports that the forces under his command attacked on a wide front on both sides of the River Scarpe, where a portion of the Hindenburg line forms a barrier defending Cambrai, and that they are making satisfactory progress.

Further south British troops have captured the remainder of the village of Trescault and occupied the greater part of Havrincourt wood, which formed a two mile bulge in their lines. From this point to St. Quentin the line approaches very closely to the Cambrai-St. Quentin road and canal. A success along the Scarpe not only would threaten the new German line, but would further outflank Lens on the south.

GAINS IMPORTANT

British Headquarters in France, April 23.—(From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press)—In their new offensive, the British have captured the town of Gavrelle, the last part of the defences of the Hindenburg line north of the Scarpe. They have also taken the village of Guenappe, south of the Scarpe. More than 1,000 prisoners have been taken today.

LONDON, April 23.—The British have opened an attack on a wide front in the region of the Scarpe River.

The official report, issued today, says that the battle is proceeding and that satisfactory progress is being made.

The British completed the conquest of the village of Trescault and gained the greater part of Havrincourt Woods. The announcement follows:—

"We attacked at dawn this morning on a wide front on both sides of the River Scarpe. Fighting is proceeding and our troops are making satisfactory progress."

"South of the Bapaume-Cambrai road we captured the remainder of the village of Trescault during the night and gained possession of the greater part of Havrincourt Wood."

FRENCH CHECK ENEMY ATTACKS

Paris, April 23.—The French statement of today follows:—

"There was very active artillery fighting last night south of St. Quentin and between Soissons and Rheims. East of Craonne a very violent German bombardment was followed by preparations to attack. Our batteries replied effectively and the enemy was not able to launch the attack."

"In the Champagne the Germans at six o'clock last evening directed a strong attack against the sector northeast of Mont Haut. It was broken by our artillery and machine gun fire. The enemy renewed his efforts during the night on the ridges which we hold before Moronvilliers. The fighting was very spirited at some points, resulting everywhere to our advantage."

"East of St. Mihiel and in the Woëvre we repulsed two surprise attacks made by strong enemy detachments, one in the Ally Wood, the other against the Calonne trench. In the Vosges an enemy attack south of the Ste Marie Pass was without success."

Kaiser to the Crown Prince.

Amsterdam, via London, April 23.—An official despatch from Berlin says that Emperor William has sent the following telegram to the crown prince:—

"The troops of all the German tribes under your command with steel-hard determination and strongly led have brought to failure the great French attempt to break through on the Aisne and in Champagne. There, also, the infantry again has to bear the brunt and thanks to the indefatigable assistance of the artillery and other arms, has accomplished great things in its death-defying perseverance and irresistible attacks. Convey my and the Fatherland's thanks to the leaders and men. The battle on the Aisne and in Champagne is not yet over, but all that fight and bleed there shall know that the whole of Germany will remember their deeds and is as one with them to carry through to the fight for existence to a victorious end, God grant it!"

TURKEY RANGES AS AN ENEMY OF UNITED STATES

Washington, April 23.—Official notification of the Turkish government breaking off diplomatic relations with the United States was received today by the state department in a despatch from American minister Stovall at Bern, Switzerland.

TURKS FALL BACK FROM ISTABILAT POSITION; BRITISH ARE ATTACKING

LONDON, April 23.—The Turks in Mesopotamia have evacuated the Istabilat position, on the right bank of the Tigris, ten miles below Samarra, the war office announces. They are now being attacked at a point six miles nearer Samarra.

EXAMINATION OF THE PROVINCE ACCOUNTS TO BE MADE BY EXPERTS

Price, Waterhouse & Co. Begin Work

NOTED ACCOUNTANTS Same Firm Who Audited Manitoba Books And Now Are Engaged in Similar Work in British Columbia—Representatives Reach Fredericton

(Special to Times) Fredericton, April 23.—The provincial government has arranged with Price, Waterhouse & Co., of Montreal, perhaps the best known firm of chartered accountants in Canada, to make a thorough examination of the accounts of the province with a view to ascertaining the exact condition of the finances. This concern lately completed an audit of the accounts of the province of Manitoba and recommended a new system of bookkeeping for that province. The government was so well pleased with the work accomplished that it appointed the firm's representative comptroller of the treasury. The same firm is now engaged in making an audit of the accounts of the province of British Columbia.

POLICE COURT

Fourteen prisoners were before Police Magistrate Ritchie in the police court this morning. Most of them were lined up on drunkenness charges. Two bottles, taken from one of the prisoners, were displayed on the magistrate's desk. Picking up one of the bottles, he made the remark—'If it was not for this stuff I would have very little to do.' There were no arrests yesterday.

Five prisoners were fined \$8 or two months in jail for drunkenness. Two soldiers were before the court on charge of being drunk together in King square. Policeman Ward, who with Sergeant Journey arrested the men, was given strict orders by the magistrate to make every effort to secure the names or names of any who supplied liquor to the men in khaki. Two sailors arrested in Hospital street on drunkenness charge by Detective Briggs, were remanded.

Another man left a deposit of \$8 for acting disgracefully in Mill street. Noble Melcod and Albert Beem were remanded, being told that they were liable to nine months in jail for wandering about South wharf at an early hour this morning and not giving a satisfactory account of themselves to Detective Briggs, and also on charge of being intoxicated. One of the men said that he went to the late train to see his brother away and afterwards he, with a friend, went to the wharf for a joy-ride. This was the reason for their being out late. A soldier arrested with the two, was taken to the military hospital on order of Dr. Dunlop.

CALLS OF COURTESY MARK THE FIRST DAY

Washington, April 23.—Calls of courtesy today filled part of the programme of Foreign Minister Balfour and other distinguished members of the British commission who arrived here yesterday to confer with American officials on the nations' joint task of beating Germany. Tomorrow also the visitors will be entertained with all the honor the nation can show to guests of such high rank on a mission of such tremendous significance and then will come a series of official conferences for the exchange of counsel on America's part in the world war.

Mr. Balfour today arranged to drive from the big Sixteenth street mansion, which has been placed at his disposal, to the state department to call formally on Secretary Lansing.

The two will go across to the White House to allow Mr. Balfour to greet President Wilson, and later the foreign minister is expected to go to the Capitol to call on Vice-President Marshall. Lunch is to be with the French Ambassador, J. J. Jusserand, and dinner this evening with the president.

Tomorrow evening there will be a reception by Secretary Lansing at the Pan-American building for the noted visitors, preceded by a dinner of cabinet members to their special guests.

JOHN BRIGHT DEAD Dominion Live Stock Commissioner Was in 51st Year.

Ottawa, April 23.—John Bright, dominion live stock commissioner and president of the Central Canada Exhibition Association, died at his home here last night after an illness of three weeks. He was in his 51st year and was appointed to the important federal position five years ago. He came to Ottawa from Myrtleont.

GERMAN CHIEF IN BELGIUM Amsterdam, April 23.—According to a Hanover newspaper received here, Colonel General Baron Von Falkenhayn, chief of the German general staff, is expected to arrive in Belgium in succession to General Von Bissing, who died several days ago.

IN HONOR OF ST. GEORGE'S DAY At noon today the massed bands of the 217th and 177th battalions played in King square in honor of St. George's Day. The battalions were drawn up on either side of the square and made a fine appearance. The massed bands played the national anthems of the various allied countries. The concert was brought to a close with the playing of God Save the King. The battalions were then brought to the present and marched to their quarters.

GERMAN DESTROYERS SENT DOWN WERE OF THE NEWEST TYPE Two Others Badly Damaged in Channel Fight—Marked Activity Along Belgian Coast

Amsterdam, April 23, via London.—The Maandag Ochtensblad learns that two German destroyers which were sunk in the battle off Dover sailed from Zeebrugge and were of the newest type, with four funnels each. Two other destroyers were heavily damaged and numerous wounded sailors were brought to Bruges on Saturday.

A squadron of eight vessels is said to have left Zeebrugge about seven o'clock on Friday night.

The greatest activity was apparent along the Belgian coast yesterday and today, searchlights were being worked vigorously and rockets were going up at frequent intervals.

The Provincial Ministers Were Not Opposed

Hon. Messrs Foster, Veniot, Byrne, Smith, Tweeddale and Murray Elected by Acclamation

Nomination day proceedings in the by-elections today resulted in the return of Hon. Walter E. Foster, premier of the province and the members of his cabinet by acclamation.

Premier Foster stood for election today in Victoria county, W. J. Burgess having resigned his seat.

The other members who were returned today are:— Hon. J. P. Byrne, attorney-general, Gloucester. Hon. Robert Murray, provincial secretary, Northumberland. Hon. P. J. Veniot, minister of public works, Gloucester. Hon. J. F. Tweeddale, minister of agriculture, Victoria. Hon. Dr. E. A. Smith, minister of lands and mines, Westmorland.

In addition to those with portfolios, the other members of the cabinet are Hon. Dr. W. F. Roberts, St. John city; Hon. C. W. Robinson, Moncton city, and Hon. L. A. Dugal, Madawaska.

Today's proceedings place the new government securely in office, ready to proceed with the administration of the affairs of the province which have been in their hands since Mr. Foster was called upon by the lieutenant-governor to form a government. The next step will be the summoning of the legislature to meet and this may be expected soon.

Premier Foster left St. John on the early train this morning for Andover to be present at the nomination proceedings. Hon. Mr. Tweeddale also was present. They were given a hearty reception. Hon. Mr. Foster will return home tomorrow.

Dorchester, April 23.—The nomination proceedings in the Court House in the Westmorland by-election for the office of minister of lands and mines were of a purely formal nature. The returning officer, W. A. K. McQueen, opened the election court at ten o'clock. G. A. Taylor was the election clerk. James McQueen, barrister, of Shediac, presented the nomination papers of Ernest Albert Smith, and as these were the only ones received, he was declared elected by the returning officer.

FLAGS BRING IN MUCH MONEY FOR RED CROSS HERE ON ST. GEORGE'S DAY

Flag Day, under the auspices of St. George's Society and under the management of the Young Women's Patriotic Association, will be a marked success.

Beginning in the southern end of the town, incendiaries yesterday extended operations to the northern district. Simultaneously, Avion and other centres of the mining district adjoining Lens are being destroyed with all the appliances of the enemy. Where he has been driven out and can no longer apply the torch, he neglects even our working parties to make targets of the overhead plant of mines and the houses of miners.

A trip up the Souchez Valley through the mining region furnished evidence that the enemy is hanging on solely for the purpose of completing his destruction.

Everywhere in the valley are ruin and desolation. Souchez is crumbling. Our patrols out of Douai Plane are keeping the enemy jump by pushing near his outposts in the night. During these affairs the enemy makes a fearful row with his barrage fire, being in nightly fear of an attack in force. His trouble may be diagnosed as a bad case of nervous Vimy-ana.

AMERICAN INVENTION TO MEET GERMAN GAS

Washington, April 23.—Experts of the bureau of mines are designing an apparatus to combat noxious gases which it is declared promises to be superior to any now in use on the European battle fields.

Details of the invention are being withheld for obvious reasons.

THE NIGHT SCHOOLS.

Fredrickson (Gleaner)—Dr. Carter, who left for St. John last Tuesday, has returned to the city. He was in conference with the instructors in St. John of the night schools in that city, and says that the attendance of the Fredrickson night schools is much better than at St. John, probably due to the interest shown by the instructors in the welfare of their pupils.

CHINA MAY GO TO WAR; PLAY A LONE HAND

Peking Reports Indication of Independent Declaration Against Germany

Peking, April 23.—The war sentiment in China is increasing daily. The Chinese are incensed over the action of Germany in detaining the Chinese minister in Berlin pending the safe arrival of Von Sinto, German minister to Peking. There is also great indignation over the detention of Chinese students in Berlin and Munich.

The military governors will hold their first war conference in Peking on April 25. The majority of the governors and parliament favor war, but they differ over the attitude China should adopt toward the Entente. The indications are that China will declare war independently.

LOCAL NEWS

NO COUNCIL TODAY Owing to the lack of a quorum the common council meeting was not held this morning.

RETURNED FROM QUEBEC Lieutenant J. Herbert Crockett of the city, of the C. G. A., Partridge Island, has returned from Quebec, where he has completed a course in heavy artillery.

NEWS OF SOLDIER Mrs. Georgiana Ashcroft, formerly residing at 181 Bejamin street, near Waterloo, has returned from Quebec, where she has completed a course in heavy artillery.

FLOUR UNCHANGED TODAY. There was no change in flour prices today. Wheat again showed a decline and this prevented further advances in flour, but the drop in wheat has not yet influenced the millers in reducing flour prices.

SEWER HAS COLLAPSED An old timber sewer which runs from Waterloo to Brussels streets, under Ungar's Laundry and other private properties, is blocked and it is believed that the structure has collapsed. Commissioner Wigmore is investigating the possibility of abandoning this section and making connections by the sewer mains through Union street.

COMEAU & SHEEHAN INSURANCE The loss sustained by ComEAU & Sheehan in the fire in their premises in Prince William street a week ago has been adjusted. They carried \$87,000 insurance and the amount allowed by the adjusters has been fixed at \$17,281.19. The adjustment was arranged by E. P. Howard and H. W. Frink for the companies interested.

TWO SOLDIERS ARRESTED Two soldiers of a unit now stationed in the city were taken into custody this afternoon by Detective Duncan on the charge of stabbing and doing serious bodily harm to John Williamson of 38 Long Street. There are some unexplained circumstances. It is said that the two soldiers called at the boarding house in Long Wharf on the 18th inst. and went up stairs. As they were about to leave the house they engaged in conversation with Williamson and, it is said, one of the prisoners drew a knife and inflicted a serious wound in Williamson's leg. The woman who conducts the boarding house identified the two soldiers.

THE ROTARY CLUB At a largely attended luncheon of the Rotary Club at Bond's today suggestions were made and discussed with regard to making the club a still more vigorous and helpful institution. There was no special speaker, but K. J. Macrae told of a visit to the Rotary Club of Portland and Engineer Hatfield to that of Boston. Quite a number of practical suggestions were made, and a marked spirit of enthusiasm was shown. President Genter was in the chair, and among the speakers were Rev. Ralph Sherman, E. A. Schofield, F. W. Roach, C. H. Smythe, W. F. Burditt and others. Rev. Mr. Sherman will address the club before he departs for Toronto.

MEATLESS MEAL A DAY IS ORDER France Puts This Into Effect In Place of Two Days a Week Without Meat

Paris, April 23.—One meatless meal each day has been officially decided upon instead of two meatless days per week as a measure of economy by the minister of agriculture.

All restaurants will be prohibited from serving anything in the nature of meat, poultry or game for the evening meal. All butcher shops will be obliged to close their shops at one o'clock in the afternoon.

WEATHER REPORT
Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Sturp, Director of meteorological service.
Synopsis—Several minor depressions exist on the continent this morning, while a cool wave covers Lake Superior. Snow and rain occurred locally during the night over the lakes area and Ontario and some light snow has fallen in the western provinces.
Ottawa Valley—Moderate northwest to north winds, fair and a little cooler today and on Tuesday.
Mostly Fair
Maritime—Moderate winds, shifting to northwest and north, a few scattered showers but mostly fair today and Tuesday.
New England—Threatening this afternoon and cooler tonight and Tuesday, moderate west and northwest winds.

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