CANADIANS RAID ENEMY TRENCHES AND INFLICT CONSIDERABLE LOSSES

Prisoners and Machine Guns Captured, Trench Mortars Destroyed and Many Germans Killed.

A despatch from London says:—Canadian troops have carried out two successful raids in which they captured prisoners and inflicted losses upon the enemy, the official statement from British headquarters in France and Belgium says:

"In an attack Wednesday morning, northwest of Passchendaele, in the Ypres sector, German troops temporarily occupied two British posts. The British later drove the Germans out in a counter-attack."

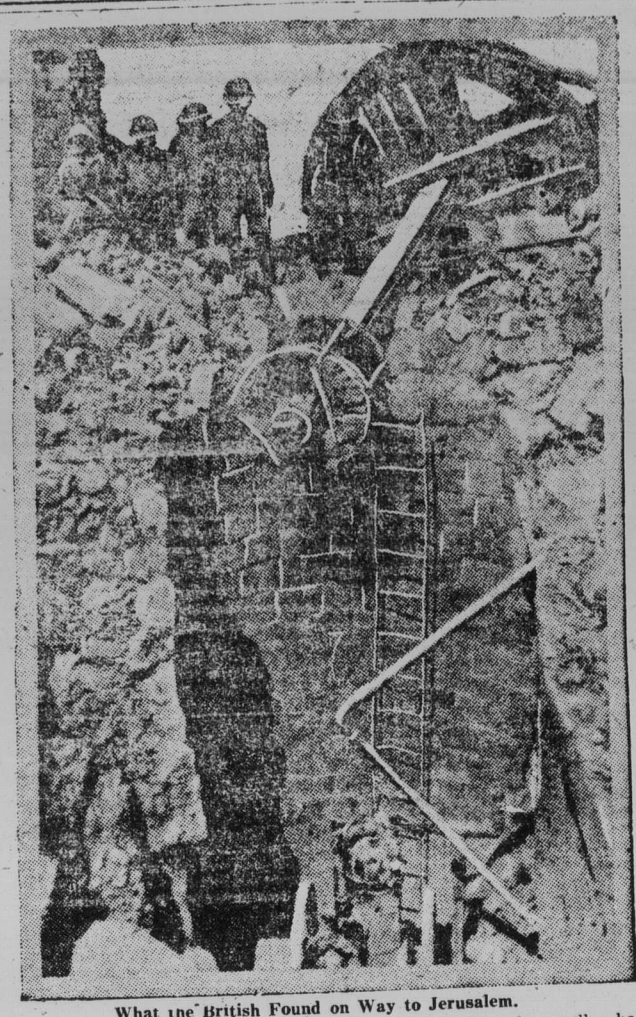
The statement reads:

"In a successful raid south-east of Hargicourt reported Wednesday morning, carried out by the Canadians, in addition to 13 prisoners, two machine-guns were brought back to our lines. Many Germans were killed in fighting above ground and four trench mortars were destroyed. Seventeen dugouts in the enemy's first line and others in his support line whose occupants refused to come when summoned, were bombed. The casualties incurred by the raiding party were slight and all were brought in. Another successful raid was carried out Tuesday night by Canadians in the neighborhood of Hill 70, north of Lens. Considerable opposition was encountered, in spite of which six prisoners and a machine gun were captured. Our casualties again were small.

A later despatch says:—The following official statement was issued by the War Office Thursday evening:

"Early Thursday morning the enemy's trenches at Lens again were raided successfully by the Canadian troops. A number of Germans were killed and a few prisoners and two machine-guns were captured. The raiding party returned to our lines without loss.

"Several other prisoners were brought in during the day by our patrols. On the southern portion of our front there was some hostile artillery activity to-day in the neighborhood of the Souchez River."



What the British Found on Way to Jerusalem.

As the British advanced in Palestine they found that the wells had been destroyed. Since such an outrage is forbidden by the religion of the Orthodox Turks, the presumption is that the well shown in the above photograph was destroyed by the Germans who were with the Turkish army. This well was at Bersheba and was blown up with a high explosive.

ATTITUDE OF RUSSIA UNCERTAIN: ALLY, ENEMY OR NEUTRAL

Peace Between Russia and Central Powers By No Means Assured—Prospect of Future Conflict.

A despatch from London says: "It is impossible to say whether Russia is an ally, a neutral or an enemy," Lord Cecil, Minister of Blockade, declared in the House of Commons on Thursday.

The Munich, Bavaria, correspondent of the Zurich Neue Augsburg Zeitung, says he learns that the discussions at Brest-Litovsk last Sunday between Dr. von Kuehlmann, the German Foreign Secretary; Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister, and Leon Trotzky, the Bolsheviki Foreign Minister, were particularly stormy and ended in a violent rupture, which bore all the seeds of a future conflict.

"That is why the conference at German main headquarters is discussing the eventuality of very energetic military measures against the Russians," says the correspondent.

FARM LABOR NOT CONSCRIPTED

But Inventory of Man-Power of Dominion Will be Taken At Once.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Subsequent to a sitting of the Cabinet Council the Government gave out an announcement as to its immediate policy in regard to labor. The Government will not conscript men for farm labor under the Military Service Act, but will take immediate steps to secure a registration and inventory of the classification of the industries of man-power of the Dominion. There will be no importation of coolie labor at present, to which exception is taken by the labor men, but this matter may be given further consideration at a later date. No decision has been reached in regard to the conscription of alien labor.

MUCH WESTERN LAND READY FOR SOWING.

A despatch from Regina, Sask., says: The area of land prepared in the Fall of 1917, in Saskatchewan, owing to open weather experienced in November, was greatly in advance of that prepared during the previous Fall. A conservative estimate based on reports from the staff of crop correspondents places the amount of Fall plowing at fifty per cent. increase on the area Fall plowed in 1916. The area under Summer fallow prepared in 1917 for the 1918 crop, as shown by the Dominion census returns, also shows a big increase above the area estimated by the Provincial Department of Agriculture. The total amount of land prepared during 1917 for the 1918 crop is estimated to be 6,134,619 acres.

CANADA'S ARMY STRONGER IN MEN AND MATERIALS.

A despatch from Canadian Army Headquarters says: After three and a half years of war Canada in the field is to march on to victory stronger than ever before.

The Dominion's fighting strength, both in men and in guns, is constantly increasing. Canada is entering upon the Spring campaign stronger in men, material and guns than at any time since the mobilization at Valcartier marked the creation of the historic First Division, and is holding a larger front than ever before.

GERMANS STILL DEPORT BELGIAN WORKERS.

A despatch from Havre says: Deportation of Belgians by the Germans are continuing, despite the protestation to the contrary by the German authorities. Within the past few weeks the Germans have carried off 2,700 persons from the town of Lokeren, in East Flanders, and put them on military work on the western front.

WORLD'S STRANGEST CITY.

Consists of Wooden Huts on Wheels—Is Moved to Huron's Ice.

The most curious of cities consists of wooden huts on wheels, to the number of about one hundred and thirty, which, when the season arrives, are rolled on to the ice on Saginaw Bay, Lake Huron. The population of this city without a name is about five hundred. Each hut is fitted with cooking utensils, hammocks, and a stove, and is occupied by three men, whose business on the ice is to follow a peculiar method of fishing.

In the centre of each hut a hole, about a yard square, is dug to the water. One of the fishermen then takes a live fish of the herring tribe, and after fastening it to a piece of pack-thread drops it into the water. The fish dashes away as swift as an arrow until it is pulled up by the thread, when it returns towards the hole followed by a host of pike and other fish desirous of feasting on the dainty morsel. Beside the hole stand the fishermen, harpoon in hand, waiting the arrival of the pursuers, who are received with thrusts of the four or five-pronged instrument, which rarely fails to bring up some writhing victims.

Some huts can show two hundred or more of fine fish at the end of the day's work. The most weird appearance of this city is at night, when the fishermen prosecute the work by the light of torches, which, as is well known, attract fish without the aid of the herring bait. The flaming torches and the shadows of the men leaning over the holes make a strange spectacle. If fish are not abundant in the spot first chosen the hut is wheeled to another site.

ROYAL PALACES FOR NATIONAL USE.

A despatch from London says: King George, the Daily News says, has offered three Royal palaces for national use. They are Balmoral Castle, Buckingham Palace, and Kensington Palace, for public offices. The Government has not taken any action on the offer.

Balmoral is near Perth, Scotland, and is the Scottish Highland residence of the British Royal family. Buckingham Palace and Kensington Palace are in London. Since 1837 Buckingham Palace has been the London residence of the sovereign. It is at the western end of St. James' Park, Kensington Palace, on the west side of Kensington Gardens, was erected in 1689-91.

The late Queen Victoria and Queen Mary were both born in Kensington Palace.

U. S. LOANS TO ITALY ANOTHER $50,000,000.

A despatch from Washington, D.C., says: An additional $50,000,000 placed to the credit of Italy by Secretary McAdoo, brings the total of American loans to that country to $550,000,000, and the total of American credits to the allies to $4,734,400,000.

Markets of the World

Breadstuffs

Toronto, Feb. 19—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, $2.23½; No. 2, do., $2.20½; No. 3, do., $2.17½; No. 4 wheat, $2.10½; in store Fort William, including 2½c tax.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 88⅔c; No. 3 C.W., 85⅔c; extra No. 1 feed, 85c; No. 1 feed, 81⅔c; in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, kiln dried, $1.90, track Toronto.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 93 to 94c; No. 3 white, 92 to 93c, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—No. 2 Winter, per car lot, $2.22; basis in store Montreal.

Peas—No. 2, $3.70 to $3.80, according to freights outside.

Barley—Malting, $1.59 to $1.61, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—$1.63 to $1.65, according to freights outside.

Rye—No. 2, $1.98 to $2, according to freights outside.

Manitoba flour—War quality, $11.10, new bags, Toronto.

Ontario flour—War quality, $10.60, new bags, Toronto and Montreal freights, prompt shipment.

Millfeed—Car lots, delivered Montreal freights, bags included—Bran, per ton, white, per ton, $45 to $46; good feed flour, per bag, $3.40.

Hay—No. 1, per ton, $16 to $17; mixed, $13 to $16, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, per ton, $8.50 to $9, track Toronto.

Country Produce—Wholesale

Butter—Creamery, solids, per lb, 45 to 46c; prints, per lb, 46 to 46½c; dairy, per lb, 36 to 37c.

Eggs—Fresh gathered eggs, 50 to 52c; new laid, 55c.

Dressed poultry—Chickens, 26 to 28c; fowl, 23 to 25c; ducks, 23 to 24c; geese, 21 to 22c; turkeys, 28 to 30c.

Potatoes—Wholesalers are paying to growers and country shippers, for first-class stock, f.o.b. outside points, $2.25 to $2.35 for Delawares, and $2 to $2.10 for Ontarios.

Wholesalers are selling to the retail trade at the following prices:—

Cheese—New, large, 23 to 23½c; twins, 23¾ to 23¾c; early cheese, 25½ to 26c, large twin, 26 to 26½c.

Butter—Fresh dairy, choice, 38 to 39c; creamery prints, 49 to 50c; solids, 47 to 48c.

Margarine—29 to 32c.

Eggs—New laid, in cartons, 60 to 65c; No. 1 storage, 49 to 50c; select storage, 52 to 53c.

Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 30 to 33c; milk-fed chickens, 32 to 35c; fowl, 26 to 30c; turkeys, 35 to 40c; ducks, Spring, 27 to 30c; geese, 27 to 28c.

Live poultry—Turkeys, 30c; Spring chickens, lb, 22 to 26c; hens, 22 to 28c; ducks, Spring, 25c; geese, 15 to 17c.

Honey—Strained, tins, 2½'s and 5's 20 to 22c per lb, 10's, 22c; 60's, 20c.

Beans—Canadian, hand-picked, bush, $8 to $8.25, imported, hand-picked, Burma or Indian, $6.75 to $7; Japan, $8 to $8.25; Limas, 18½ to 19c.

Potatoes—Delawares, bag, $2.25 to $2.35; Ontarios, bag, $2.10 to $2.25.

Provisions—Wholesale

Smoked meats—Hams, medium, 32 to 34c; do., heavy, 26 to 27c; cooked, 44 to 46c; rolls, 28 to 30c; breakfast bacon, 40 to 42c; backs, plain, 43 to 44c; boneless, 45 to 46c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 28 to 29c; clear bellies, 27 to 28c.

Lard—Pure lard, tierces, 28¾ to 29¼c; tubs, 29 to 29½c; pails, 29¼ to 29¾c; compound, tierces, 25½ to 26c; tubs, 25¾ to 26¼c; pails, 26 to 26½c.

Montreal Markets

Montreal, Feb. 19—Oats—Canadian Western, No. 3, $1.03; extra No. 1 feed, $1.03; No. 2 local white, $1.02; No. 3 local white, $1.01; No. 4 local white, $1. Flour—New standard grade, $10.70 to $10.90. Rolled oats—Bags, 90 lbs. $5.40. Bran, $35. Shorts, $40. Middlings, $48 to $50. Mouillie, $58 to $60. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, $14.50 to $15.50. Cheese—Finest westerns, 21¾c; do., finest easterns, 21½c. Butter—Choicest creamery, 49½ to 50c; seconds, 48½ to 49c. Eggs—Fresh, 58 to 60c; selected, 52 to 54c; No. 1 stock, 50 to 52c; No. 2 stock, 45 to 47c. Potatoes—Per bag, car lots, $2.15 to $2.25.

Winnipeg Grain

Winnipeg, Feb. 19—Cash prices:—Oats—No. 2 C.W., 88⅔c; No. 3 C.W., 85⅔c; extra No. 1 feed, 85c; No. 1 feed, 81⅔c; No. 2 feed, 78⅔c. Barley—No. 3 C.W., $1.60; No. 4 C.W., $1.55; rejected, $1.31; feed, $1.30. Flax—No. 1 N.W.C., not quoted; No. 2 C.W., $3.26½; No. 3 C.W., $3.08⅔.

United States Markets

Minneapolis, Feb. 19—Corn—No. 3 yellow, $1.70 to $1.75. Oats—No. 3 white, 84⅔ to 85⅔c. Flour—Unchanged. Bran—$32.50.

Duluth, Feb. 19—Linseed—$3.59 to $3.71; to arrive, $3.59; May, $3.59 asked; July, $3.54 asked; October, $3.22½ nominal.

Live Stock Markets

Toronto, Feb. 19—Extra choice heavy steers, $11.25 to $11.90; do., good heavy, $10.50 to $11; butchers' cattle, choice, $10.75 to $11; do., good, $10.25 to $10.50; do., medium, $9.50 to $9.75; do., common, $8 to $8.50; butchers' bulls, choice, $9.50 to $10; do., good bulls, $8.75 to $9; do., medium bulls, $7.60 to $8; do., rough bulls, $6.35 to $6.85; butchers' cows, choice, $9.50 to $10; do., good, $8.50 to $9; do., medium, $7.75 to $8; stockers, $7.50 to $8.50; feeders, $9 to $10; canners and cutters, $5.75 to $6.25; milkers, good to choice, $90 to $140; do., com. and med., $65 to $80; springers, $90 to $140; light ewes, $13.50 to $14.50; sheep, heavy, $6 to $7.25; yearlings, $11.75 to $12.75; lambs, $18 to $18.75; calves, good to choice, $15 to $16.75; hogs, fed and watered, $18.75; do., weighed off cars, $19; do., f.o.b., $17.75.

Montreal, Feb. 19—Choice steers, $10.50 to $11.25; good steers, $8.50 to $10; choice butchers' cows, $9 to $9.50; good cows, $8 to $8.75; medium, $6.50 to $7.50; choice butchers' bulls, $9 to $10; good bulls, $8.25 to $8.50; medium, $7.50 to $8; sheep, $10 to $12.50; lambs, $14 to $16; canners' cattle, $5.50 to $6; select hogs, off cars, $19.75.

Movement of Corn

Arrangements have been made by the Food Controller's Office which are expected to facilitate the movement of corn into Canada. The unprecedented railway congestion in the United States is responsible for most of the difficulties in securing corn. The corn crop in the United States this year is officially estimated at considerably in excess of 3,000,000,000 bushels.

From The Middle West

BETWEEN ONTARIO AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Items From Provinces Where Many Ontario Boys and Girls Are Living.

The Winnipeg Council has appropriated $63,600 for hospitals.

Lieut. Harold Leach, of Winnipeg, has won the Military Cross.

Regina is strongly in favor of Dominion-wide daylight saving.

H. L. Tweed was re-elected president of the Medicine Hat Board of Trade.

30,000 school children of Winnipeg will be organized to raise garden produce this year.

Constable Gates, of Regina, has been added to the Blairmore detachment of R.N.W.M.P.

W. G. Baker has been elected president of the Moose Jaw branch of the Saskatchewan Labor Representation League.

David Wright, for 40 years a resident of Emerson, Man., died recently. He had been mayor, custom collector and registrar of titles.

Seven hundred applications have been received from returned soldiers at the Winnipeg office of the Great War Veterans' Association.

It is reported that the enforcing of the Military Service Act has greatly increased the work of the Royal North-west Mounted Police.

R. C. Henders, M.P., has again been elected president of the Manitoba Grain Growers. J. S. Wood refused election as vice-president.

Five hundred soldiers of the first Saskatchewan depot battalion will be quartered in the Moose Jaw armoury in the course of the next few weeks.

Liquor fines totalling $775 were imposed in Brandon courts in one week, according to a report received by Rev. J. N. McLean, administrator of the Temperance Act.

Forty school teachers are badly needed in Manitoba, is the report of Mr. A. W. Jones, head of the teachers' bureau.

The number of pupils enrolled in the Edmonton Public Schools is 8,834.

6,200 children were cared for in the Mothers' Association day nursery during 1917.

An army medical board will be established in Edmonton to relieve the congestion in Calgary.

Government officials are buying 100,000 bushels of seed oats for the west. They will be placed in the Government elevators at Calgary and Moose Jaw.

M. S. Lougheed and E. N. Macdonald, two young graduates of the Manitoba Medical College, have received commissions as lieutenants in the Canadian Army Medical Corps.

At a meeting of the Regina local of the Grain Growers' Association a resolution was passed declaring in favor of a survey of the boys of High school age in the province with a view to arranging for such boys to help seed and harvest this year's crop.

To Save on Shortening.

In substituting a pure vegetable shortening in a recipe, leaving all other ingredients the same, we must remember that the vegetable shortening goes further than butter or ordinary lard. When the recipe calls for a tablespoon of butter use a scant three-quarters of a tablespoon of vegetable shortening. In substituting oleomargarine for butter use one-fourth less oleomargarine.

6,000,000 TONNAGE LOST IN 1917

Destruction Was Three Times Greater Than Production by Britain and United States.

A despatch from Washington, D.C., says: Ship tonnage sunk by submarines in 1917 was nearly three times as great as the total of production in the United States and Great Britain during the year.

This was disclosed by the announcement of Andrew Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the British House of Commons, that Great Britain produced only 1,163,474 tons of shipping last year. The output in the United States was 901,223 tons, making a total combined tonnage of 2,064,607, while sinkings by submarines last year generally are reckoned at 6,000,000 tons.

While complete figures on construction in Japan, Italy, France, and other nations in 1917 are not yet available, officials here do not believe their aggregate equalled the total of the United States. If that is the case submarine sinkings more than doubled all new tonnage produced.

Both American and British officials expect a very dieffrent story in 1918, however. The United States and Great Britain are speeding up their building programmes, and naval officials in both countries have confidently predicted that the submarine will be curbed this Summer. Secretary Daniels believes that effectual results will be obtained in the early Summer.

NORWAY HAS LOST 714 SHIPS DURING WAR.

A despatch from London says: The Norwegian Legation in London announces that from the outbreak of the war to the end of January, 1918, Norway has lost 714 vessels of 1,050,583 gross tons. Seamen to the number of 883 lost their lives through the sinking of these vessels.

During the same period 53 Norwegian vessels, with more than 700 crew, were posted as missing. About two-thirds of these are war losses.

RETURNED SOLDIERS FOR CANADIAN FARMS.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Returned soldiers who have had experience as farmers in Canada will contribute their share to increased production during the coming Summer. A transport which arrived at a Canadian port several days ago brought home a large party of soldiers who are classified as "experienced farmers." The majority belong to Western Canada. Other large batches of returned farmers are expected to arrive later on.

NEARLY $300,000,000 FOR AEROPLANE BOMBS.

A despatch from Washington says: The principal items for the army in the billion-dollar urgent deficiency appropriation bill favorably reported to the House on Thursday include $277,732,000 for bombs for aeroplane, $100,000,000 for quartermaster storage plants on the sea coast and at interior points, and $81,000,000 for mountain, field, siege and other artillery, in addition to the billion dollars already spent for ordnance and contract authorizations for $779,000,000 additional.

If you can obtain stable manure cover your garden plot to depth of two or three inches with it before spading this spring.

...n Cattle
...rd
Sheep.

...ering in Shorthorns:—
...ulls from 8 to 10 mos. old, by
...me sire as Junior Champion. Female,
...Leading Canadian Fairs, 1918.
In Oxfords:—
Choice Ram Lambs by imported sire.

JAS. G. THOMSO...

The Doings of the Duffs.