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ISH TIGHTEN HOLD SOUTH OF POLYGON WOOD Sixteen Hundred Prisoners Taken in Battle East of Ypres

Damage Estimated at Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars.

FROM UNKNOWN CAUSE

Employes Hold Meeting While Flames Make Headway in Basement.

Fire from unknown origin broke out in the office and supply building of the Toronto Hydro-Electric System at 226-228 Yonge street, last night, and did damage estimated by an official of the company, to the extent of \$250,000. The blaze was discovered correct of the basein the north end corner of the base-ment by the night watchman and when the firemen arrived it had gain-ed so great a hold that the building was completely gutted. When the fire was discovered five meter men were was discovered five meter men were holding a meeting on the second floor. They were forced to come down the front stairs of the building, and when they reached the front door they found it locked. The switchboard operator, a returned soldier, named James Lodge, 65 Sussex avenue, was found lying at the door overcome by smoke, and after the door had been forced was carried onto the street. He recovered consciousness in ten minutes and was able to go to his home.

one and had recently been remodeled by the hydro company when they took it over for offices. It is two storeys high and owned by the McKay eshigh and owned by the McKay estate. The flooring is double, and the double and the double

nain on the outside. the side of the building. Within an hour's time the second floor collapsed

building were torn down.

The basement of the building is valuable electrical large quantity of excelsior in the basement, and this was mainly responsible for the dense clouds of smoke which for the dense clouds of smoke which issued from the windows. The main and second floors are used as offices and for demonstrating electrical fixtures. The damage to the fixtures was set at \$25,000, and the damage to the building and office fittings at the building and office fittings at the fixtures are to the building the cost of remodel. \$30,000, including the cost of remodel-

Whether or not the hydro will reerect the building could not be ascertained, altho it was given out on good authority that the accommodation was not large enough to meet the requirements of the system's business. Twenty tons of coal were stored in the base-ment and it fed the flames to some extent. The wall separating the building from the Nordheimer premises is fireproof and protected them from the

eral alarm was signaled ten minutes street was at a standstill until the early hours of the morning. The people going worth by using the lines up Teraulay and Church streets. At o'clock this morning the firemen did not have the fire under control. The building and contents are all covered by insurance.

CONSERVATIVE BIG WIGS GATHER IN CONFERENCE

Prominent Members of Party Discuss Matters Connected With the Coming Election.

A meeting of the Central Conserva ing in Victoria Hall, the president, a large and representative gathering present, including Sir Edward Kemp,



Canadian pioneers felling shell-shattered trees thousands of which are destroyed during a battle and millions since the war began. All the men wear steel helmets and gas masks while at work.

The German Metal Trust in Ontario CUT IS UNLIKELY

Metalgesellschaft, the great German hand in the United States. Many cooper the states trust with headquarters at Frank companies using flotation or an improved

Fought From Outside.

Chief Smith and his men fought the the late Wilhelm Merton, absolutely domflames from the front and rear of the inated the metal markets of the world at Junctions and other vexatious litigation, flames from the front and rear of the building. The water pressure was sattle outbreak of the war. Its agent, Henry isfactory, and at 11.30 two lines of high pressure hose were run to the premises. District Chief Sinclafr, under orders of Chief Smith, directed the Government, and yet even fit by the fire from a lane commenced assisted in smargling large. that fought the fire from a lane commenced assisted in smuggling large that they preferred to let their mines lie off Albert street. At 10.45 the ground cargoes of zinc from Australia to Geridle until the litigation was ended. The floor gave way, and the flames shot up many. The Metalgesellschaft absolutely litigation, by the way, has been prohour's time the second floor collapsed and a number of valuable record pasplendid work of the firemen States and Canada.

stopped the flames from spreading to
the Liggett Drug store, altho it was
badly damaged by smoke and water.
At midnight Chief Smith ordered

At midnight Chief Smith ordered Germany had by no means released her four years, partly because it rendered cording to an announcement made tothe fire fighters to break the two grip on the international metal situation, the fire fighters to break the two and we find German influences tying up front plate glass windows and the minute profit of the federal food controller's high pressure was thrown on. So mineral production in New Ontario, and party because scarcity of skilled labor fruit and vegetable committee. The titions of offices at the front of the panies with ruin.

Most astonishing of all is the fact that the courts of Canada are to be used to equipment and fixtures. There was a help the Germans curtail our mineral production. Germany naturally does not desire war metals or precious metals to be produced in this country while the war is in progress. The kaiser himself can scarcely come into a Canadian court and ask for help in blocking the allies, but a German company with an American char-

> The situation is set forth with great clearness and ability in the last issue of The Northern Miner, of Cobalt, which seems to have all the facts at its finger ends. Many of these facts can be easily established, and they will be found to be confirmed by official reports of the U.S. Government.

er & Co., with head offices at 61 Broadway, New York City. This concern liceman Laidlaw at 10.20, and a gen- gesellschaft in the elaborate chart pub- and probably would be, difficult figures as the right arm of the Metallished a year or two ago by the United for firm is not only German in personnel and delay, to prove that Beer, Sondlater. Street car traffic on Yonge States Federal Trade Commission. The sympathy, but is on the British blacklist. when the fire was at its height, and It was blacklisted because, after the war view of the official publications of the via London, Sept. 27.—The front conwere forced to carry the thousands of copper, zinc and nickel to Germany. Now this firm is applying to the courts

as an auxiliary to the old methods. The ply of metals they can receive from seriously curtail the output of our mines and seriously curtail the output of our mines. as an auxiliary to the old methods. The Canada and thus help the kaiser and the by reason of a monopoly in the way of a dred and fifty millions of dollars, addresstive Association was held last even- and air is then supplied, with the result Huns. that the small oil-coated bubbles carry There is great excitement, therefore, in war by the Dominion Government. The full of party bitterness at one and the J. R. L. Starr, presiding. There was the metallics to the surface. To instal our north country, and the miners are north country will therefore appeal to same time. The war loan will be out in the metallics to the surface. To list a point to appeal to Ottawa. They say Ottawa, and the result of their application a few days and may run into December. only a few thousand dollars, but the ex- that these German-American companies will be watched with keen interest, not McPherson, H. A. Birmingham and where under discussion, among which were soldiers' pensions and the coming election. It is pretty generally understood from statements made at this meeting that the elections will be rocess, instead of collecting a reasover before Christmas.

Can only get a standing in court from the ores by its fact that they have Canadian patents, but by the governments of the entents alles, and by the governments of the economic continuous to lift poachers' nets in this peaceful penetration of Canada by the German metal trust be allowed to impair the efficiency and to some extent destroy the from the commencement of the war. It is pretty generally understood from statements made at this meeting that the elections will be process, instead of collecting a reasonable royalty, are bent upon preventing on the formular of the milions. Also many the fact that they have Canadian patents. They will therefore demand that the powers as well. Shall this peaceful penetration of Canada by the German metal trust be allowed to impair the efficiency and to some extent destroy the dark of collecting a reasonable royalty, are bent upon preventing on the constitution of the entents alles, and by the governments of the entents alles, but by the governments of the entents alles, and by the governments of the entents alles, and by the governments of the entents alles, and by the governments of the economic control to continuous and the committee of the commercial telegraphers' union, was in this peaceful penetration of Canada by the German metal trust be allowed to impair the efficiency and to some extent destroy the dark of the control to list that they have Canadian patents.

Nontreal, Yept. 27.—The "Viginal trust is control to like of the commercial telegraphers' into the commercial telegraphers' into the commercial telegraphers' trust

The miners of Northern Ontario are the use of the process in the United They have been operating with a high

fort-on-the-Main. This trust, founded by process along the same line, of American controlled; the zinc concentrates of Aus- longed by every device known to able of the mineral companies of the United production of metal in the States during | the war.

Flotation has been extensively used in ern Ontario.

erican firm already mentioned, which ocblacklist. But it will come into court without disclosing this fact, and for that matter it may be doubted whether Beer, Sondheimer & Co. could not maintain the one of the King's enemies as would be a as potatoes," said Mr. Black. subject of the German emperor. It might, without great expense, trouble and hand of the Metalgesellschaft, altho in

be ultimately established. of Canada for writs of injunction and by But while this litigation is going on other legal process threatens to hold up and these questions are being investiand virtually paralyze the mining pro- gated, mining production in New Ontario duction of our north country. Thru its will be checked and so far as some comagent, the Minerals Separation North panies are concerned, will be suspended American Corporation, it claims to own altogether, until the war is over. The and control the process known as "flota- litigation will not be brought in good faith tion." Its claim is entrenched by patents, to collect money due, or vindicate prooriginally German, secured before the outbreak of the war from the Dominion Gov- brought solely for the purpose of hindering and delaying the metal production of eign affairs in the new cabinet of five. Flotation is a process that has been Canada. The end in view will be to emused in the treatment of ores principally barrass the allies by curtailing the sup-

After, is View of J. M. Black.

WARNING BY FARMER

Many Potato Growers to Let Crops Rot if Price is Reduced.

Winnipeg. Sept. 27.-The present market price of potatoes, 75 cents a our north country during the past three or bushel, is not likely to be lowered, acvaluable many low-grade ores that could day by F. M. Black, of Ottawa, chairand engineering talent made its use imlisted so freely for service in our armies ston of a conference between Mr. overseas as the men engaged in or con- Black, A. Bright and J. H. Evans, nected with mineral production in North- members of the local committee. Mr. Black stated that there was another The Minerals Separation North Amer- side to the potato question besides ican Corporation has an American char- that of the consumer. The producer ter, and by the comity of nations has an had to be looked after. This, he said, undoubted right to sue in our Canadian courts. It could probably make out a was made plain by a telegram which was made plain by a telegram which prima facie case for an injunction, and he had received from a farmer in the it will endeavor to collect ruinous dam- western part of the province which ages. It is undoubtedly controlled by stated that if it was the policy to Beer, Sondheimer & Co., the German-Am- lower the price many farmers would leave their potatoes in the ground, as cupies a prominent place on the British it would not pay to harvest the potatoes at the present cost of labor.

"The food controller is not unpre pared to take such steps as may be There is a German company in the united States, known as Beer, Sondheimblacklisted, but it may not be technically distribution of such an essential food men who come between packer and con-

CANADIAN FRONT QUIET CASUALTIES ARE LIGHT

By Stewart Lyon. Canadian Headquarters in France duels between the enemy artillery and our own, and the use of gas by both sides. The casualties are fewer than at any time since the Hill 70 battle.

Terestchenko Has Resigned Post as Foreign Minister

Petrograd, Sept. 27. - The newspapers today announce the resignation of M. I. Terestchenko, minister of for-

patent granted to Germans before the ed to all our people, and an election fight Men Are Addressed By National

SEVEN POWERFUL ATTEMPTS DRIVEN BACK IN SUCCESSION

Embargo on Export of Foodstuffs United States Adds Other Articles to Those

Washington, Sept. 27 .- A virtual embargo on the export of certain foodstuffs and feeds was declared tonight by the exports administrative board in adding a list of articles to those already denied shipment, except where their export will contribute to the conduct of the

Denied Shipment

The commodities added are food grains and feed grains, oil cake and meal, animal fats, vegetable oils and soap, caustic soda and certain machinery. Where the foods and feeds named are permitted to go forward they can be licensed only with the approval of the food administration. The additional articles, it was announced, are placed under embargo because of diminishing supplies and to meet the actual

CARNAGE OF GERMANS EXCEEDS COMPARISON text of the report reads: "After all our objective

British Succeed in Fighting for Key of Flanders Ridges-Will Claim Victory After Completing Operation, Maurice Says.

London, Sept. 27.—On his return of ridges. There is a good deal more of military operations at the war office, today discussed the situation in
Flanders with the Associated Press.

"During the past month there has
been a long pause, thanks to the rain
and mud in Flanders," has said. "The
pause made necessary there ample

ded "Officers who have been with the
British army from the beginning all
agree that since the first battle of
siderable 'artillery activity
sides at intervals thrubut
they suffered in the repulsed counterattacks of the past few days. The
germans counter-attacked in masses,
Germans counter-attacked in masses,
and dozens of these counter-attacks
and dozens of these counter-attacks

first advance—preparation, equivalent to launching an entirely new battle.

But the result amply justified the prepreparations, and while on preparation of these counter-attacks of this, our accordance were exterrible German losses.

Dominate Austrians. parations; and while on previous oc-casions we won our objectives only after protracted fighting, we yesterday were in possession of the whole of our objectives before 8 a.m.

"The fighting yesterday was in the most vital area, the nexus of the ridge

system dominating the plain of Flan-

Street Talks.

sumer and bleed the latter white.

fits equal their capital invested.

strong: but what about the profiteers?

out: and they are satisfied if yearly pro-

Bill: That the supply should equal the

demand, and the profit the money put in.

John D. Rockfeller thinks that, too: but

Sir Joe: But as our dear friend and co

worker in Social Uplift, Josephus Star,

remarks, you can't have Ecclesiastical

No Election This Year.

As pointed out in The World's political

lews on another page, it may be almost

coming Dominion War Loan of one hun-

Architecture in the Society without

Shakspere says: Must give us pause.

ders, and the key to the whole series

from a visit to the Italian front Major-General F. B. Maurice, chief director "Officers who have been with the proved our positions slightly son

General Maurice, discussing the impressions received on his tour of the Italian front, said: "The visit has given me a greatly increased respect for what the Italians have done. From the beginning of their campaign, the Italians have been

(Concluded on Page 2, Column 1.)

HOPE TO SOLVE

Importers and Manufacturers Today.

RELAX REGULATIONS

Washington Likely to Permit fantry fire. Thirteen of our man Metal to Enter for War Orders.

Ottawa, Sept. 27.-There will be a conference at the trades and comis hoped, will do much to relieve the is noped, will do much to relieve the on the 20th. This is perfectly true. The attacking troops gained all their ophibited the appropriate the content of the content ophibited the appropriate the content ophibited the co prohibited the exportation from the United States of listed iron and steel products. Of these a certain number were prohibited from export unless it were prohibited from export unless it could be shown that the country to which they were exported would use them exclusively for war purposes.

"In sentences, which are purposely misleading, Von Ludemoorff describes the fighting near Zonnebeke and Gheluvelt. He omits to state that Bill: Yes I got them going good and Among the articles so forbidden for export were some of great importance to Canada. Steel plate, for instance, which was named, forms the raw ma-Joe: They are absolutely necessary to carry on the law of supply and demand as you, in your admirable thesis, pointed terial of large Canadian industries, both war and commercial. The plate is of a type not rolled in Canada, and

could only be rolled here at the cost of heavy capital expenditure.

Since the United States took the step what would Jim Whitney think? As indicated the whole matter has been one of negotiation between Ottawa and Washington, altho so far without de- sitions wrested from the enemy yescisive result. Tomorrow Sir George terday, but this morning found the Foster, minister of trade and com-situation virtually unchanged. Furimerce, will meet the larger importers and users of iron and steel in Canada thruout yesterday and last night and the situation will be canvassed.

With full knowledge of the position in Canada it is felt that a solution of the difficulty will be satisfactorily

mpossible to carry on a nation-wide cam- G. N. W. STRIKERS CLAIM paign spread over two months for the ARE GAINING SUPPORT

President Konenkamp at Montreal.

Casualties of Haig's Troops Are Again Light---New Lines Are Maintained in Entirety---Australians Defeat Polish Contingents.

London, Sept. 27.- The report from Field Marshal Haig tonight refers only briefly to the operations of today in Flanders. On the previous day seven powerful hostile counter-attacks were repulsed with heavy losses and 1614 Germans were taken prisoner.

During Wednesday's fighting large numbers of airplanes aided the infantrymen, attacking the Germans from low altitudes with great effect. The German airmen put up strong opposition and as a result the casualties among the fliers were high Fifteen German machines were accounted for, but 13 British airplanes failed to return to their base. The

"After all our objectives had been gained yesterday seven powerful hostile counter-attacks were made during the afternoon and evening. All were repulsed with heavy loss to the

"The total number of prisoners captured in yesterday's offensive operation was 1614, including 48 officers.

"On the battlefront today we improved our positions slightly south of Polygon Wood. There has been considerable artillery activity on both sides at intervals thrubut the day."

Airmen's Effective Work. "The weather was misty Wednesday morning and later the day was over-

tremely active in co-operation with the artillery and infantry in the battle area. "The enemy's troops on the fighting

line and his reserves in the rear were harassed with machine gunfire thru-out the day. Some thirty thousand rounds were fired from altitudes of one hundred feet and upwards, and many parties of Germaan infantry were dispersed with casualties. On one occasion three of the enemy's guns were fired on while moving. The teams of two of the guns bolted and

the third was overturned,
"Strong opposition was encountered STEEL PROBLEM from the enemy's fighting machines, and a very large number of combats occurred at low altitudes. Heavy casu-Sir George E. Foster Meets of damaged machines when flying near

the ground.
"The weather prevented any extensive bombing operations during the day, but at hight over two tons of bombs were dropped on the enemy's reserves near the battle front.

"Seven hostile machines were

brought down in air fighting, three were driven down out of control and five others were brought down by in-

are missing. German Statements False. A British official statement was issued tonight with reference to

statements contained in the German communication, It says: "Today's German official com-munique states that the British troops objectives on both days, but the objectives set for the operations of

yesterday were smaller than those for the 20th. Zonnebeke was lost by the Germans, emphasizes the retention Gheluvelt, which was not one of the

British objectives." Hard Night Struggles.
A despatch by R. T. Small, staff correspondent of the Associated

Press. says: Hard fighting occurred during the night, at various points along the Ypres battle front as a result of heavy German counter-attacks on poous enemy assaults, which continued morning was in the neighborhood of

(Concluded on Page 4, Column 3.)

which lies just south of the eastern

GENUINELY GOOD HATS.

This Friday and Saturday will be feature days for genuine London-made Christys, the redoubtable hard felt. otherwise the reliable "Christy New fall styles, regular \$3.50.

for \$2.65. An important soft felt, in the sea-An important soft felt, in the seasonable colors, fall styles and weights, also a \$3.50 value, for \$2.65.

The Italian Barbisio, new styles, fall colors—a genuine fine texture Italian felt. Regular \$5.00. for \$4.50. Get a genuinely good hat at Dineen's, 140 Yonge street.