

FOR SALE
6 W. COR. DAVENPORT ROAD AND
DUFFERIN STREET

The Toronto World

FOR SALE
NORTHEAST CORNER KING & YORK
STS. 100 x 90. Apply
H. H. WILLIAMS & CO.

PROBS.—Moderate northwesterly to southwesterly
winds; fair; slightly lower temperature.

FRIDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 28, 1917.—FOURTEEN PAGES

VOL. XXXVII.—No. 13,470

TWO CENTS.

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

FIRE DESTROYS
YONGE STREET
HYDRO OFFICES

Damage Estimated at Two
Hundred and Fifty Thou-
sand Dollars.
FROM UNKNOWN CAUSE
Employees 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 two-storey building is an old
one and had recently been remodelled
by the hydro company when they took
it over for offices. It is two storeys
high and owned by the McKay gen-
eral. The floor is of concrete and is
very dense with the clouds of smoke
when the firemen opened the doors and
windows.

Fought From Outside.
Chief Smith and his men fought the
flames from the front and rear of the
building. The water pressure was sat-
isfactory, and at 11.30 two lines of
high pressure hose were run to the
premises. District Chief Simpson,
under orders of Chief Smith, directed
the men that fought the fire from a lane
off Albert street. At 10.45 the ground
floor gave way, and the flames shot up
the side of the building. Within an
hour's time the second floor collapsed
and a number of valuable record pa-
pers were totally destroyed.

Whether or not the hydro will re-
build the building could not be ascer-
tained, although it was given out on
good authority that the accommodation was
not large enough to meet the require-
ments of the hydro. Twenty tons
of coal were stored in the basement
and it fed the flames to some
extent. The water separator in the
basement from the Nordheim premises is
fireproof and protected them from the
fire.

CONSERVATIVE BIG WIGS
GATHER IN CONFERENCE

Prominent Members of Party Dis-
cuss Matters Connected With
the Coming Election.

A meeting of the Central Conserva-
tive Association was held last evening
in Victoria Hall, the president,
J. R. L. Starr, presiding. There was
a large and representative gathering
present, including Sir Edward Kemp,
Edmund Bristol, M.P., Sir George
Foster, T. Crawford, Hon. W. D.
McPherson, H. A. Birmingham and
others. Many questions of importance
were 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
over before Christmas.



FELLING SHATTERED TREES
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

The miners of Northern Ontario are
finding themselves in the grip of the
Metallgesellschaft, the great German
metal trust, which has acquired a
fort-of-the-main. This trust, founded by
the late Wilhelm Mertop, absolutely dom-
inated the metal markets of the world at
the outbreak of the war. Its agent, Henry
S. Morton Sons, Ltd., of London, England,
was the buyer of metals for the British
Government, and yet even after the war
commenced assisted in smuggling large
quantities of zinc from Australia to Ger-
many. The Metallgesellschaft absolutely
controlled the zinc concentrates of Aus-
tralia, and had a strange hold on many
of the mineral companies of the United
States and Canada.

Quite recently Dr. Christopher Addison,
of the British Government, declared that
Germany had by no means released her
grip on the international metal situation,
and we find German influences tying up
mineral production in New Ontario, and
threatening many Ontario mining com-
panies with ruin.

Most astonishing of all is the fact that
the courts of Canada are to be used to
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-
ter may do this very thing.

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.

There is a German company in the
United States, known as Beer, Sondheimer
& Co., with head offices at 61 Broad-
way, New York City. This concern
figures as the right arm of the Metall-
gesellschaft in the elaborate chart pub-
lished a year or two ago by the United
States Federal Trade Commission. The
firm is not only German in personnel and
sympathy, but is on the British blacklist.
It was blacklisted because, after the war
commenced, it succeeded in sending over
copper, zinc and nickel to Germany.

CUT IS UNLIKELY
IN POTATO PRICES

Producers Have to Be Looked
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
bushel, is not likely to be lowered, ac-
cording to an announcement made to-
day by F. M. Black, of Ottawa, chair-
man of the federal food controller's
fruit and vegetable committee. The
announcement came after the conclu-
sion of a conference between Mr.
Black, A. Bright and J. H. Evans,
members of the local committee. Mr.
Black stated that there was another
side to the potato question besides
that of the consumer. The producer
had to be looked after. This, he said,
was made plain by a telegram which
he had received from a farmer in the
western part of the province which
stated that if it was the policy to
lower the price many farmers would
leave their potatoes in the ground, as
it would not pay to harvest the po-
tatoes at the present cost of labor.

CANADIAN FRONT QUIET
CASUALTIES ARE LIGHT

By Stewart Lyon.
Canadian Headquarters in Franco,
via London, Sept. 27.—The front con-
tinues quiet, except for occasional
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.

Teratzenko Has Resigned
Post as Foreign Minister

Petrograd, Sept. 27.—The news-
papers today announce the resignation
of M. I. Teratzenko, minister of for-
eign affairs in the new cabinet of five.

No Election This Year.

As pointed out in The World's political
news on another page, it may be almost
impossible to carry on a nation-wide cam-
paign spread over two months for the
coming Dominion War Loan of one hun-
dred and fifty millions of dollars, ad-
dressed to all our people, and an election
fight full of party bitterness at one and
the same time. The war loan will be out
in a few days and may run into December.

SEVEN POWERFUL ATTEMPTS
DRIVEN BACK IN SUCCESSION

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

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

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
administration. The additional articles, it was
announced, are placed under embargo be-
cause of diminishing supplies and to meet the
actual needs of America.

CARNAGE OF GERMANS
EXCEEDS COMPARISON

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

London, Sept. 27.—On his return
from a visit to the Italian front Major-
General F. B. Maurice, chief director
of military operations at the war of-
fice, 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," he said. "The
pause made necessary more ample
preparations than in the past. The
first advance—preparations equivalent
to launching an entirely new battle.
But the result amply justified the pre-
parations; and while on previous oc-
casions we won our objectives only
after protracted fighting, we yester-
day 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 Flanders,
and the key to the whole series
of ridges. There is a good deal more
to be said about this battle than what
we gained.

"Officers who have been with the
British army from the beginning all
agree that since the first battle of
Ypres there has never been a slaughter
of the Germans comparable to that
they suffered in the repulsed counter-
attacks of the past few days. The
Germans counter-attacked in masses,
and dozens were hurled away by our fire,
with terrible German losses.

"Dominate Austrians.
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
(Continued on Page 2, Column 1.)

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

London, Sept. 27.—The report from
Field Marshal Haig tonight refers
only briefly to the operations of to-
day 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 in-
fantry, attacking the Germans
from low altitudes with great effect.
The German airmen put up strong
opposition and as a result the casu-
alties among the fliers were high.
Fifteen German machines were ac-
counted for, but 13 British airplanes
failed to return to their base. The
text of the report reads:

"After all our objectives had been
gained yesterday seven powerful hos-
tile counter-attacks were made dur-
ing the afternoon and evening. All
were repulsed with heavy loss to the
enemy.

"The total number of prisoners cap-
tured in yesterday's offensive opera-
tion was 1614, including 48 officers.
Our casualties were again light.

"On the battlefield today we im-
proved our positions slightly south of
Polygon Wood. There has been con-
siderable shelling, but no serious
losses at intervals throughout the day.

"The weather was misty Wednesday
morning and later the day was over-
cast with a strong west wind in spite
of this our airplanes were ex-
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
waxed with such activity that they
could not get away. Some thirty thousand
rounds were fired from altitudes of
one hundred feet and upwards, and
many parties of German 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.



Street Talks.

HOPE TO SOLVE
STEEL PROBLEM

Sir George E. Foster Meets
Importers and Manufac-
turers Today.

RELAX REGULATIONS

Washington Likely to Permit
Metal to Enter for
War Orders.

Ottawa, Sept. 27.—There will be a
conference at the trades and com-
merce department tomorrow which
is hoped will do much to relieve the
iron and steel situation. Some time
ago the United States Government
prohibited the exportation from the
United States of hot iron and steel
products. Of these a certain number
were prohibited from export unless it
could be shown that the country to
which they were exported would use
them exclusively for war purposes.

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-
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
indicated the whole matter has been
one of negotiation between Ottawa and
Washington, although so far without
decisive result. Tomorrow Sir George
Foster, minister of trade and com-
merce, will meet the larger importers
and users of iron and steel in Canada
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
reached.

G. N. W. STRIKERS CLAIM
ARE GAINING SUPPORT

Men Are Addressed By National
President Konenkamp at
Montreal.

Montreal, Sept. 27.—President S. J.
Konenkamp, international president of
the commercial telegraphers' union,
was in this city today and addressed the
G. N. W. strikers at two meetings in Ger-
don Hall. He left for Toronto tonight.
There was no change in the local sit-
uation as telegraphers strike today
except that the men claim an addition to
their numbers.

ROUND UP POACHERS' NETS.

Port Dover, Ont., Sept. 27.—The "Vig-
ilant" committee to lift poachers' nets
off Long Point. Captain Robinson and
his jugs crew were loaded merrily yester-
day as they unloaded 112 nets, bringing
the total since Saturday to 426, and return-
ed again to patrol. Local fishermen are
making good hauls.

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