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## ALLIES ON WESTERN FRONT DAMAGE THE GERMAN LINES

### GERMAN U-BOAT OPERATIONS ARE BADLY HAMPERED

Handling of Submarines at Ostend Base Will be Carried on with Difficulty if Not Altogether Suspended as Result of British Raid on Belgian Port and the Sinking of Old Cruiser Vindictive, Which was Sunk in or Near Channel Leading Out of Inner Harbor.

Berlin Claims that Channel is Not Blocked and that Raid was Failure—If Ostend and Zeebrugge are Removed as Ports from which U-boats may be Operated, they will have to Withdraw to German Harbors.

German submarine operations from the harbor of Ostend, Belgium, have been seriously hampered for a time if not rendered impossible by a daring raid made on the harbor by the British Friday morning. An official statement is issued by the British Admiralty and says the channel leading out of the inner harbor has been completely blocked by the hulk of the old cruiser Vindictive, which was manoeuvred into position under heavy fire and then sunk by bombs.

It appears, however, that there is some doubt that the entire channel is blocked, one report saying that the vessel lies at an angle and does not absolutely interrupt the use of the fairway.

German official statement concerning the raids says the attempt was a failure and that the hulk of the old cruiser lies outside of the navigation channel. This report may be compared to the one issued on April 24, the day following the raid on Zeebrugge, which claimed that no damage to the Mole or harbor there. Subsequent events have proved that the damage done by the raid on April 23 was of a serious nature.

It is pointed out that the obstruction in the channel at Ostend will tend to eventually close the harbor through the action of the tides and the rapid siltting up of the harbor.

If Ostend and Zeebrugge are removed as ports from which the German U-boats may be operated, the Germans apparently will be compelled to withdraw their submarines to their home ports.

London, May 10.—The Vindictive lies at an angle not effectively blocking the channel at Ostend, but serving a very useful purpose, according to the press association. A partial and very serious blockade has been achieved, and under the conditions of the tide and siltting prevailing, this obstruction will certainly tend to increase.

Some of the men who participated in the affair returned here today. They say it was completely successful. The firing which covered the sinking of the Vindictive began about one o'clock this morning and lasted until three o'clock. The bombardment was very heavy and could be heard at Dover. The night was clear, with the stars shining brightly, but there was a haze over the sea.

The Vindictive came under a fierce fire from the German shore batteries. She was navigated close into the pier in fine style and sunk by an internal charge. The crew escaped in fast motor boats. Only the number of officers and men absolutely necessary were on board the ship on account of danger of her total loss. These on signal swarmed up from the engine room and stockholds and took their positions at stations appointed so as to slide quickly into the motor boats. The small boats were under heavy gun fire all the time while they were transferring the crew to waiting destroyers.

Berlin Denies Success.

General and Leaders of Two British Parties He Accused.



GEN. FREDERICK MAURICE

LOYD GEORGE  
BONAR LAW

### LOYD-GEORGE IS LEADING CONSERVATIVE MEMBERS

(By Arthur Draper.)  
Special Cable to N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard.

London, May 10.—In and out of parliament the chief topic today has been the Maurice debate. As might be expected, opinion is sharply divided on the question of the value of the debate in clearing the decks for a stronger prosecution of the war.

The premier's large majority is interpreted in many ways. Some say that it means the political rout of Asquith, others that it proves that parliament is no longer representative of the country's opinion, and others that the government now faces a definite opposition.

Some of the newspapers think that the charges by General Maurice are exactly where they were before the debate began, while others consider that a complete answer has been made.

The Liberals are now in direct opposition to the Conservatives with Asquith at the head of the former and with Lloyd George leading the latter. Strong political opposition should make for higher efficiency that could

be expected from what Asquith described as a "mealy mouth" policy. After next week there will be a period of political quiet for a fortnight. The very gravity of the military situation precludes all thought of a political change.

Military developments may bring a political re-adjustment just as the war exigencies of March resulted in Foch's elevation.

Home Rule.  
The home rule measure will probably bring another political test of strength. It is unlikely that the division on that measure will find the composition of the opposing forces the same as in last night's division.

George W. Russell contributes a letter to the Manchester Guardian in which he says:  
"I cannot expect many in England to sympathize with Irish feeling, but I may ask them to consider it in relation to the woe of the empire. If they persist in forcing military service in Ireland, if they insist on breaking the Irish will there will not be a par-

ish here where blood will not be shed. There will grow up a hate unextinguishable and lasting from generation to generation. It will be fed by tradition everywhere and our people live by tradition.

"Here this man rests. There that group made their last stand. No expression of regret after the deed is done will wipe out these memories. The resentment will spread over the empire. It will invade the great republic where so many of our exiled children have their homes.

"The Irish are capable of the most bitter as of the most gentle speech and the darkest side of that eloquence shall be turned against you. Millions of the bitterest tongues in the world will be incessantly wagging, breeding sedition in your dominions and hostility against you in whatever alien state they may live.

"There are already many burdens laid on the weary titan of the empire. Will this burden be laid on it also? I ask the English people to consider in connection with this question what may be the effect on the dominions of an unsatisfactory inconclusive peace?

### HEAVY BLOW COMING TO SOUTH OF AMIENS

(By Arthur S. Draper.)  
Special Cable to the N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard.

London, May 10.—Though the guns are booming loudly in many sectors of the battle front and a bright and sunny day is clearing the air, the German infantry still awaiting the artillery duel on the Somme presses an early resumption of artillery operations. Amiens is now showing many battle scars. It has been under fire for several days. The Germans are making their preparations cleverly, but there seems to be good reason to expect a heavy blow to the south of Amiens, just as the signs point to a drive south of Ypres.

Germany Busy.  
The clear weather of last few days has given the allied airmen an opportunity to observe the tremendous amount of work which the enemy has done since his drive halted east of

Amiens a month ago. Light railways, bridges and corduroy roads have been built. Heavy howitzers have been brought up and great quantities of ammunition and stores have been carted across the devastated area.

Behind his lines there is the industry and activity of a million ants for the next blow is intended to be a mighty effort equalling if not exceeding in power the March drive. The Germans know that on this side of the line similar preparations are going on and that their task will be much heavier than when they hit the thin British line.

Allied Improvements  
What is true on the Somme holds good for Ypres, but in the north the forces are hardly half of that on the southern battle front. The allied communications have been greatly improved in the last fortnight. American railway engineers deserve no small credit for their skill and speed

in laying the tracks along the new routes. The lines which come under the fire of the German guns and airplanes have been repaired and in some cases entirely new roadbeds have been made.

Ludendorff's communications, one of his greatest assets in this gigantic battle, have been bombed heavily for many nights. The allied air service is maintaining its superiority over the Germans, who sadly miss their star Captain Baron Von Richtofen. Especially in the preliminaries to the great struggle does air superiority count. Foch has had an opportunity to dispose of his forces to the greatest advantage and to prepare for emergencies.

### FRENCH MAKE A STRONG ADVANCE NEAR GRIVESNES

General Petain's Men Take the Park of Town which had been in German Hands for Three Weeks—Scattering Engagements, Notably at Aveluy Wood, North of Albert, where Contending Armies Strike for Strategic Ground.

British Active in Vimy and Robecq Sector and to South of Dickebusch—Lively Artillery Firing and Patrol Actions on the Italian Front—Germans Claim Allied Advances on Western Front Repulsed.

While the naval arm of the Entente nations was busy on the Belgian coast, the military forces were engaged in local fighting in the Ypres and Somme sectors. The French made a notable advance at Grivesnes, where they took the park of the town which had been in German hands for three weeks.

Along the front to the north there were scattering engagements, notably at Aveluy Wood, north of Albert, where the contending armies are striving for strategic ground. There were also small operations in the Kemmel Hill front, southwest of Ypres.

### KERENSKY IS ON WAY TO AMERICA

Special Cable to New York Tribune and St. John Standard.  
(By Vladimir Bourzoff).  
Stockholm, May 10.—I am informed that Kerensky is now in Norway on his way to America. Let Kerensky explain to the American people. Recent events are showing that he was the greatest enemy of the Russian republic. He ruined Korniloff, who could have saved Russia. Only allied intervention can now save Russia. It is probable that the entire democracy now believes that Germany will utilize Russia's resources even to her manpower to an enormous degree and make an allied victory in France very difficult.

The Allies should co-operate with a legal government organized to oppose the Bolsheviks. The intellectuals favor intervention and the peasants and soldiers will acclaim intervention, provided economic and food conditions are improved and starvation is prevented. Are the Bolsheviks sincere? It is Lenin's own statement that for every ideal Bolshevik there are sixty incendiaries and thirty rascals.

German Statement.  
Berlin, via London, May 10.—The German official communication, issued today says:  
"On the battle front throughout the day there was lively artillery activity only in the region of Mont Kemmel, on both sides of the Luze Brook and on the western bank of the Avre. The strong increase in the firing in those sectors was followed by enemy advances. During the repulse of these and during lively reconnoitering activity we took a number of prisoners.

"In the evening and during the night the artillery battle was frequently revived between the Year and the O. On the remainder of the front the fighting activity remained restricted to reconnoitering engagements."  
The supplementary official communication issued by the war office this evening says: "An English local attack north of Albert was repulsed. A French advance in the Apremont Wood also failed."

### ST. JOHN MAN LOSES CASE AT MONCTON

Maritime Coal, Railway and Power Co. Awarded Verdict of \$916.84 with Costs Against Charles A. Clark.  
Special to The Standard.  
Moncton, May 10.—Justice Chandler today gave judgment in the case of the Maritime Coal, Railway and Power Company of Joggins, N. S., vs. Charles A. Clark of the City Fuel Company, St. John. The plaintiff was awarded a verdict for \$916.84, with costs. The action was brought for \$917 to recover for coal supplied the defendant under contract. M. G. Teed, K. C., and A. Reilly appeared for the plaintiff, and Dr. W. B. Wallace, K. C., for the defendant.

GEN. CAREY PROMOTED.  
London, May 10. (Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—Brigadier General Sandeman Carey, who commanded the scratch force of British and American troops which closed up the gap in the British line between the third and fifth armies in the early days of the March offensive, has been promoted to be Major General.

BOSTON CLOSED  
Boston, May 10.—The port of Boston was closed to all shipping by the naval authorities on orders from Washington today, but was opened again a few hours later.  
No explanation was given.