

OPENING OF THE LONG-EXPECTED GERMAN OFFENSIVE ON WEST FRONT

Field Marshall Haig's Report States That Enemy's Losses Were Very Heavy—British Positions Penetrated but Enemy Failed to Attain Objective.

A despatch from London says: On the British front in Northern France the Germans on Thursday began what may be the greatest battle of the war. The attack was made on a scale hitherto unknown during this war of major offensives.

Field Marshall Haig's report from British headquarters in France describes the German offensive as comprising an intense bombardment by the artillery and a powerful infantry attack on a front of over 50 miles. Some of the British positions were penetrated, but the German losses are declared to have been exceptionally heavy.

On no part of the long front of the attack did the Germans attain their objective.

A despatch from British Army Headquarters in France says: The Germans on Thursday launched a heavy attack against the British lines over a wide front in and near the Cambrai sector, and the assault bears all the earmarks of being the beginning of the enemy's much-heralded grand offensive.

Hard fighting is proceeding from a point north of Lagnicourt southward to Gueude Wood, just below Gouzeaucourt. The attack was preceded by a heavy bombardment from guns of all calibres, and the duel between the opposing heavy batteries has been rocking the countryside for hours.

The Germans have employed gas shells freely, and a constant stream of high velocity shells has been breaking with frightful concussion far back of the British lines.

Germany is staking everything on this play, and if the great attack fails to break clear through, it is believed that the Germans will be finished, for they have nothing further to offer, except a gradually weakening defence.

A despatch from British Army Headquarters in France, says: The Germans on Friday continued their assault against the positions in the Cambrai sector, notably in the region of Croisilles and Hargicourt. At least

forty divisions have been identified on the battle front. No such concentration of artillery has been seen since the war began.

On the southern battlefield a bitter struggle waged on Friday. The enemy had 1,000 guns in one small sector—one for every 12 yards. Severe fighting was proceeding Friday morning in St. Leger, south-west of Croisilles.

The hardest fighting on Thursday in the northern battle was between the Canal du Nord and Croisilles. Doignies was retaken on Thursday evening in a brilliant counter-attack. A bright sun at midday to-day rendered observation possible.

Great numbers of Austrian cannon are declared to have been transferred to the western front to reinforce the German artillery. Bulgarians, too, have been brought into the field by the German command, it is declared, the understanding being that they are to be used as a strategic reserve.

Altogether the indications are that the Central Powers have massed all possible forces at their disposal on the western front for their present drive. The prospects seem, however, that they will need every man of them if they keep up their attack long with anything like its initial force, as all the reports indicate that the German losses have been terrific, under the withering fire of the British artillery and machine guns.

The German artillery, too, has suffered heavily through counter battery work by the British, who found the massed guns fine targets for effective destructive work.

A despatch from London says: British aircraft during the fighting along the front in France Thursday aided materially the infantry forces before, killing or wounding many German men with the machine guns while flying at low altitudes, according to a British official statement issued on Thursday night dealing with aviation.

In addition, British aircraft bombed important military positions behind the line and aviators accounted for numerous German airmen in battles in the air.

NAVAL BATTLE OFF DUNKIRK

Results in Sinking of Four German Raiders—No Allied Vessels Sunk.

A despatch from London says: Two German destroyers and two torpedo boats were sunk in a naval engagement off Dunkirk on Thursday morning. The British official report reads:

"Vice-Admiral Dour reports that an action occurred off Dunkirk between 4 and 5 o'clock on Thursday morning. Two British and three French destroyers were engaged with a force of German destroyers which had previously bombarded Dunkirk for 10 minutes. Two enemy destroyers and two enemy torpedo boats are believed to have been sunk. Survivors have been picked up from two enemy torpedo boats.

"No allied vessels were sunk. One British destroyer was damaged, but reached harbor. The British casualties were slight. There were no French casualties."

RED GUARDS CAPTURE SIBERIAN TOWN

A despatch from Moscow says: Red Guards and revolutionary troops have recaptured Blagoveshchensk, after a battle with the Cossacks. They have restored the Soviet authority as well as order in town.

Recent despatches said that the Siberian Bolsheviks had murdered a number of Japanese at Blagoveshchensk, which lies 500 miles north of Harbin. The Bolshevik leaders, including the president of the local Soviet, later were arrested and imprisoned by Cossacks and volunteer militia. The Red Guards and sailors in the city were disarmed.

The world needs men who can change cents into dollars and dollars into sense.

GERMAN ATTACKS ARE CHECKED

French Drive Back Three Enemy Assaults in the Champagne Sector.

A despatch from Paris says: Violent artillery engagements are reported in the official statement issued by the War Office on Friday. The statement reads:

"Great activity by the artillery early Friday because most violent this afternoon at divers points north of Chemin-des-Dames, in the region of Courcy and Pompele and in the Champagne south of Moronvilliers. Three attacks made by the enemy north of Souaie and east of the Tonnons were without result.

"Two German airships were destroyed and four badly damaged in a series of combats with our air squadron. Three enemy machines were shot down by our special artillery."

FARM WORK BEGINS IN SASKATCHEWAN

A despatch from Regina says: Spring work has begun on the farms in Southern Saskatchewan, the earliest start in several years. Farmers of the Forget and Carlyle districts are plowing, while harrowing has started near Fillmore. Hon. George Brown, who has been organizing local farm labor committees in the South country, brought the news to the city on Friday morning. The soil is in holding back to avoid unnecessary good shape for seeding, but farmers chances. The earliest start of seeding in this province was April 3, according to official records.

When making mustard mix with a little milk and a pinch of salt. It keeps the mustard soft and makes it go farther.

Markets of the World

Breadstuffs
Toronto, Mar. 26—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, 12 1/2; No. 2 do., 12 1/4; No. 3 do., 12 1/8; No. 4 do., 12 1/8; No. 5 do., 12 1/8; No. 6 do., 12 1/8; No. 7 do., 12 1/8; No. 8 do., 12 1/8; No. 9 do., 12 1/8; No. 10 do., 12 1/8; No. 11 do., 12 1/8; No. 12 do., 12 1/8; No. 13 do., 12 1/8; No. 14 do., 12 1/8; No. 15 do., 12 1/8; No. 16 do., 12 1/8; No. 17 do., 12 1/8; No. 18 do., 12 1/8; No. 19 do., 12 1/8; No. 20 do., 12 1/8; No. 21 do., 12 1/8; No. 22 do., 12 1/8; No. 23 do., 12 1/8; No. 24 do., 12 1/8; No. 25 do., 12 1/8; No. 26 do., 12 1/8; No. 27 do., 12 1/8; No. 28 do., 12 1/8; No. 29 do., 12 1/8; No. 30 do., 12 1/8; No. 31 do., 12 1/8; No. 32 do., 12 1/8; No. 33 do., 12 1/8; No. 34 do., 12 1/8; No. 35 do., 12 1/8; No. 36 do., 12 1/8; No. 37 do., 12 1/8; No. 38 do., 12 1/8; No. 39 do., 12 1/8; No. 40 do., 12 1/8; No. 41 do., 12 1/8; No. 42 do., 12 1/8; No. 43 do., 12 1/8; No. 44 do., 12 1/8; No. 45 do., 12 1/8; No. 46 do., 12 1/8; No. 47 do., 12 1/8; No. 48 do., 12 1/8; No. 49 do., 12 1/8; No. 50 do., 12 1/8; No. 51 do., 12 1/8; No. 52 do., 12 1/8; No. 53 do., 12 1/8; No. 54 do., 12 1/8; No. 55 do., 12 1/8; No. 56 do., 12 1/8; No. 57 do., 12 1/8; No. 58 do., 12 1/8; No. 59 do., 12 1/8; No. 60 do., 12 1/8; No. 61 do., 12 1/8; No. 62 do., 12 1/8; No. 63 do., 12 1/8; No. 64 do., 12 1/8; No. 65 do., 12 1/8; No. 66 do., 12 1/8; No. 67 do., 12 1/8; No. 68 do., 12 1/8; No. 69 do., 12 1/8; No. 70 do., 12 1/8; No. 71 do., 12 1/8; No. 72 do., 12 1/8; No. 73 do., 12 1/8; No. 74 do., 12 1/8; No. 75 do., 12 1/8; No. 76 do., 12 1/8; No. 77 do., 12 1/8; No. 78 do., 12 1/8; No. 79 do., 12 1/8; No. 80 do., 12 1/8; No. 81 do., 12 1/8; No. 82 do., 12 1/8; No. 83 do., 12 1/8; No. 84 do., 12 1/8; No. 85 do., 12 1/8; No. 86 do., 12 1/8; No. 87 do., 12 1/8; No. 88 do., 12 1/8; No. 89 do., 12 1/8; No. 90 do., 12 1/8; No. 91 do., 12 1/8; No. 92 do., 12 1/8; No. 93 do., 12 1/8; No. 94 do., 12 1/8; No. 95 do., 12 1/8; No. 96 do., 12 1/8; No. 97 do., 12 1/8; No. 98 do., 12 1/8; No. 99 do., 12 1/8; No. 100 do., 12 1/8.

Country Produce—Wholesale
Eggs—Current receipts, cases returnable, 23 to 24; do., 24 to 25; do., 25 to 26; do., 26 to 27; do., 27 to 28; do., 28 to 29; do., 29 to 30; do., 30 to 31; do., 31 to 32; do., 32 to 33; do., 33 to 34; do., 34 to 35; do., 35 to 36; do., 36 to 37; do., 37 to 38; do., 38 to 39; do., 39 to 40; do., 40 to 41; do., 41 to 42; do., 42 to 43; do., 43 to 44; do., 44 to 45; do., 45 to 46; do., 46 to 47; do., 47 to 48; do., 48 to 49; do., 49 to 50; do., 50 to 51; do., 51 to 52; do., 52 to 53; do., 53 to 54; do., 54 to 55; do., 55 to 56; do., 56 to 57; do., 57 to 58; do., 58 to 59; do., 59 to 60; do., 60 to 61; do., 61 to 62; do., 62 to 63; do., 63 to 64; do., 64 to 65; do., 65 to 66; do., 66 to 67; do., 67 to 68; do., 68 to 69; do., 69 to 70; do., 70 to 71; do., 71 to 72; do., 72 to 73; do., 73 to 74; do., 74 to 75; do., 75 to 76; do., 76 to 77; do., 77 to 78; do., 78 to 79; do., 79 to 80; do., 80 to 81; do., 81 to 82; do., 82 to 83; do., 83 to 84; do., 84 to 85; do., 85 to 86; do., 86 to 87; do., 87 to 88; 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