

# The Evening Times ★ Star

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## Canadians In Complete Control Of Vimy Ridge And Are Said To Have Passed On Beyond It; More British Gains Made During Last Night

CANADA WILL BE PROUD OF WHAT HER TROOPS HAVE DONE—KING GEORGE

London, April 10.—King George sent the following message today to Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, commander of the British armies on the western front:—"The whole empire will rejoice at the news of yesterday's successful operations. Canada will be proud that the taking of the coveted Vimy Ridge has fallen to the lot of her troops. I heartily congratulate you and all who have taken part in this splendid achievement."

### First Day's Success In Drive Exceeds Early Gains On Somme

British Pressing Northward and Fighting Today is in Direction of La Basse

Town Beyond Famous Ridge Taken—Germans Destroyed Great Quantities of Supplies at Last Minute—Believed Number of Large Guns Captured Will Reach Three Figures—Prisoners 9,000

London, April 10.—The British offensive between Lens and St. Quentin, with which the spring operations have been opened and which is still in progress, has proved even more successful than the earlier accounts indicated.

General Sir Douglas Haig today reports that yesterday's captures exceeded 9,000 men, while forty guns fell into the hands of his troops.

The Canadians, who had one of the hardest bits of the front to contend with, are now in complete occupation of the famous Vimy Ridge, even the eastern slopes of the ridge having been cleared of Germans. The Canadians also have repulsed German counter-attacks.

These reactions by the Germans indicate the importance they attach to this position, whence the conquerors look down over the plain of Douai. With Vimy Ridge gone, the whole German line covering the French towns and industrial districts to the north becomes a wavering one, and any leisurely retreat the Germans may have planned is made uncertain and precarious.

With the capture of the famous ridge, the British made a considerable stride along the road to Douai, while the capture of the high ground northwest of St. Quentin tightens the chain which the Anglo-French forces are drawing around that town. A German diversion southwest of Ypres, according to General Haig's report, met with no success.

#### NOW TOWARD LA BASSEE

Correspondents at the front report the fighting continuing keenly throughout last night with the British offensive gradually extending northward, there being fighting this morning in the direction of La Bassee.

Some 150 officers are among the prisoners already taken, these including five battalion commanders. Although forty guns captured is the official count thus far, the number is expected to reach three figures, while quantities of trench mortars, bomb throwers, machine guns and ammunition also have been captured.

The Germans destroyed great quantities of supplies at the last minute to prevent their capture. The weather continues bitterly cold with snow flurries, but the British forces are clad in sheep skins and are being kept well fed.

#### OVER THE RIDGE?

London, April 10.—A Berlin official announcement says that heavy fighting took place last night on the northern end of the Vimy Ridge, from which the Germans were driven. The eastern slope was also cleared.

Near St. Quentin the Germans have been driven from the high ground between Le Verguier and Hargicourt. Fighting continues along the entire battle-front.

The announcement, which is time 11.50, is as follows:—"During the night there was severe fighting at the northern end of Vimy ridge where the enemy had retained a foothold. He was ejected and an attempted counter-attack failed to materialize. The eastern slope of the ridge has been cleared of the enemy and counter attacks repulsed. Our troops advanced and seized the village of Fampoux and neighboring defenses north and south of the Scarpe."

9000 PRISONERS, 40 GUNS.  
"The number of prisoners taken yesterday exceeds 9,000, and more than forty guns have been captured."

"In the neighborhood of St. Quentin the enemy has been driven from the high ground between Le Verguier and Hargicourt. Fighting continues throughout the whole battle-front."

"After an intense bombardment the enemy made a strong attack last night on a narrow front southeast of Ypres and succeeded in reaching our support lines. He was immediately ejected from our trenches, leaving several dead."

#### FRENCH DRIVE AHEAD

Paris, April 10.—A further advance was made south of the Oise by the French last night, the war office announced. The statement follows:

"North of the Oise the enemy's artillery showed less activity than on preceding days. Patrol encounters and rifle firing in the first lines occurred."

"South of the Oise we made progress east of the lower forest of Coucy. The artillery fighting was rather heavy in the region northeast of Soissons and especially severe in the sector of Laffaux. Southeast of Rheims we repulsed a surprise attack against one of our trenches north of Sillery. Fighting with grenades occurred in the Champagne, west of Maisons De Champagne."

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### JUBILATION IN ENGLAND OVER THE GREAT NEWS FROM WEST

If British Hold Vimy Ridge, It Means Further German Retreat

#### ALL LOOKS WELL SO FAR

Comment in London, While Full of Cheer, Warns People Not to Build Too High Hopes, For Enemy Has Large Reserves and Knows Desperate Need of Averting Defeat

London, April 10.—The news of the successful opening of the new British offensive has stirred intense interest and high hope among the people throughout the country. Whatever the enemy may have claimed as to the retreat in the Somme sector having been pre-arranged and strategic, it is contended that their recoil before the blow delivered in the Arras-Lens region cannot be explained away in any such manner. It is urged that there is no possible voluntary element in this retirement and that there can be no dispute as to who took the initiative.

A new chapter in the conflict on the western front has begun and whether or not it is to prove the beginning of a decisive battle it is bound, according to the prevalent opinion here, to lead to results of the highest importance.

#### Vimy Ridge

The main feature of the battle thus far on which attention has been focused is the capture of Vimy Ridge. The importance of this series of heights, which dominate the plain from an elevation of 400 to 500 feet has been recognized throughout the war and great prizes have been regarded as justifiable if they resulted in its possession.

The French and Germans fought fiercely for control of the ridge in the present battle thus described by the Germans held the main portion of the position. Later the British took over the French line and were ousted by the Germans from the part of the ridge which had been won by their predecessor.

One military critic commenting on the present battle thus described the importance of the Vimy Ridge: They are admittedly the bastion of the enemy's western line. Whoever else has been allowed to go, he held Vimy Ridge with grim resolve and lavished upon it all the arts in fortification and defensive skill that the German has at his command. It hinges the whole strategy of the enemy's retreat in the west.

With Vimy firmly held he can swing his line farther south slowly back until each part of it reaches the position upon which he depends so much for supplies. But with Vimy gone the defense of these districts can hardly be maintained, the pivot of the whole retreat shifts and gives backward and is in instant risk of fracture.

The issues depending upon British ability to hold the ridge are therefore immense. At the moment there is nothing to suggest a doubt that the ridge will be held, but the battle is still fiercely continuing and there is little disposition here to indulge in confident predictions. Nevertheless, the opinion is expressed that if the Germans are definitely driven from the ridge without hope of re-taking it, they are likely enough to be compelled to acknowledge defeat and retire to what is called the Meuse line, running from Verdun through Metz, Mauberge and Lille.

In the meantime the fighting goes on over a front of about fifty miles roughly from Lens to St. Quentin, the core of attack being around and north of Arras. So far as information goes, everything is going well for the British and their sanguine hopes, but the comments today generally include a warning not to allow these hopes to run too high. The enemy is known to have great reserves at hand and an iron compulsion binds him to make every effort to avoid defeat.

The papers warn the country that it should await the event in a spirit of sober expectation and that it is not the time for exuberant boasting.

#### PERFORMANCE OF OUR TROOPS THRILLS OTTAWA

Cables of Congratulation Sent to Sir Julian Byng—Not Known Yet What Divisions or Brigades Took Part

Ottawa, April 10.—The splendid performance of the Canadian troops in the capture of Vimy Ridge causes intense satisfaction at headquarters in Ottawa and felicitous cables went forward to General Sir Julian Byng, commander-in-chief of the dominion's forces.

That in such a momentous offensive, making what may well be the turning point of the war, Canadian troops should be assigned to the very forefront is regarded in itself as a signal honor and compliment to their steadiness and efficiency. How their work maintained the magnificent record at St. Julien and elsewhere is told of in the cable despatches which give much more detail than the brief messages, which have come here.

What divisions and brigades took part is not yet known.

It is assumed that a victory so remarkable as this has not been accomplished without some resultant losses, but the intimation that they are slight is particularly gratifying.

#### ALLEGED FORESTALLING

Allen McIntyre, grocer in North End, was reported by John T. Stephenson, clerk of the country market, for forestalling on two occasions in the local market. The first included nine pairs of poultry on April 3. On the day following, Mr. Stephenson said, it was poultry and butter. The case was set over until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

### BRAZIL ENTERS LISTS AGAINST HUNS

Diplomatic Relations Broken Off  
SITUATION IN STATES

Washington Believes Turkey and Bulgaria to be War-Weary but Likely to Follow Austria Under Lash of Germany

#### Monday's Gains Far Surpassed First Days of Somme Battle—Great Work in Preventing German Counter Attack

With the British Armies in France, April 10, via London.—(From a staff correspondent of the Associated Press)

Under blinding snow squalls, with intermittent flashes of sunshine, the British pressed their attack against the Germans today along the line from a point south of Cambrai to the vicinity of Lens. So much booty was taken in the first rush of this new assault that it has not all been reported, but it is believed a large number of guns were captured.

Yesterday's fighting and gains far surpassed the first days of the battle of the Somme last July. The Canadians today command the Vimy Ridge and are reported to be well beyond it at some points.

More villages were captured today in the direction of Cambrai and the fighting there is intense.

#### Counter Attack Frustrated

Clearing weather yesterday afternoon permitted the airplanes to detect German trains moving toward the rail-head, apparently for a counter-attack on Vimy Ridge. This fact was reported to the artillery and all long-range guns for ten miles around were concentrated suddenly on the indicated points in what probably constituted a new record for long distance barrage fire with heavy guns. Thus the plans for a counter-attack were absolutely destroyed before the reserve troops could detrain.

#### SIX INCHES OF SNOW HERE IN A SPRING BLIZZARD

One of the Worst Storms Since Winter Set In—Province Deep Under White Mantle

The snow storm, which has been raging here since yesterday at noon, is considered one of the most severe of the winter season, and at times assumed the proportions of a blizzard. Snow began to fall a little before 1 o'clock on Monday and continued into today. Nearly six inches fell. At first the snow was wet, but a drop in temperature to twenty-two degrees above zero changed conditions. The wind shifted from the east to the northwest and has since varied in velocity from thirty-four miles to fifty miles an hour. The snow has been drifting, causing a handicap to the street railway as well as to traffic in general. In some places the snow is five feet deep.

Last evening the street railway began to experience difficulty in keeping up to their regular schedule and despite their efforts to cope with the situation they partially failed. Sweepers, ploughs and salt cars were kept going over the various lines, but the wind drifted the snow back over the rails almost as fast as it could be removed. This morning

Phelix and Ferdinand

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service

Synopsis.—The disturbance which was off the middle Atlantic yesterday has moved into the maritime provinces, accompanied by gales with snow and rain. The weather continues very cold throughout Ontario and Quebec, but in the western provinces there has been a change to somewhat milder conditions.

Ottawa Valley.—Strong, northwest winds, fair and cold; Wednesday fine with a little higher temperature.

Maritime.—Western portion, northwest gales, colder with light snowfalls. Wednesday fair and cold; eastern portion, moderate south and southwest gales with rain. Wednesday colder.

New England forecasts.—Fair tonight and Wednesday. Warmer Wednesday, fresh northwest gales diminishing.

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It was nearly 8.30 o'clock before the cars succeeded in making their round trip throughout the city, and it was late in the morning before any West St. John cars were able to pass along Lancaster Heights. The line to East St. John and to Glen Falls was not opened until this afternoon.

The storm while quite severe, is not unusual at this time of year. Last year on the same dates a similar storm is recorded and eight inches of snow fell.

Other Places  
Other places report:  
Woodstock, about four inches of snow.  
Grand Falls, two or three inches of snow.  
Moncton, five or six inches of soft snow.  
Newcastle, eight inches of light snow.  
Halifax, rain all night; today turning to snow.

Sydney, raining since last night.  
Fredericton, N. B., April 10.—One of the worst snow storms of the season set in last night and continued until after daylight today. Ten inches of snow fell, but as there was no wind it did not drift. City snowplows turned out early this morning and made sidewalks passable for the pedestrians. The intercolonial train from Newcastle, due at noon, is not expected until six o'clock this evening. Trains on other roads are also behind time as a result of the storm. The sleighs are in general use here.

BERLIN ADMITS LOSS OF A TORPEDO BOAT

Amsterdam, April 9.—The German torpedo boat G-88 was torpedoed and sunk by an enemy submarine off the Flemish coast on the night of April 7, according to an official statement issued at Berlin.

Most of the crew were saved.

An admiralty statement issued at London on Sunday announced the sinking of a German torpedo boat off Zeebrugge. Another torpedo boat was reported to have been severely damaged in the same operations.

SEEK BAN ON USE OF FOODSTUFFS IN MAKING OF LIQUOR DURING WAR

Leeds, Eng., April 10.—At a conference of the Independent Labor party here a resolution was unanimously adopted calling on the government to prohibit absolutely the use of foodstuffs in the manufacture of alcoholic liquors during the war.

British Destroying U Boats At The Rate Of Seven To Fifteen A Week

New York, April 10.—The New York Times publishes the following: The British have been destroying U-boats at the average rate of one a day since February 1, and latterly at an even higher rate, according to information brought to New York yesterday by persons returning from Europe, who said they had the authority of naval officers and officials high in the admiralty, for the figures.

In the month following the declaration of unrestricted submarine warfare, British ships sank thirty-two submarines. Since then, it is said, the average number destroyed a week has been between seven and fifteen, with the number running as high as twenty-three in the week.

FEAR FOR LIEUTENANT AVIATOR WHO WON V.C. FOR BRINGING DOWN ZEPPELIN IN ENGLAND

London, April 10.—The Evening News says that Lieut. William Leefe Robinson, the first aviator to bring down a Zeppelin in England, is reported missing. Lieut. Robinson earned the Victoria Cross and became a popular hero in England in last September by shooting down a Zeppelin at a height of 10,000 feet. The Zeppelin, which was taking part in an attack on the London area, was brought down in flames at Cuffley.

The lieutenant is twenty-one years of age.

#### CARL MORRIS KNOCKS OUT ANDERSON IN THE THIRD

Baltimore, April 10.—With a right cross to the jaw, Carl Morris, Oklahoma giant, who some day hopes to give Jess Willard a battle for the world's heavyweight title, knocked out Andre Anderson, a Chicago entry, in the third round of a scheduled fifteen round fight here last night.

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE IS TO OPEN SEASON TOMORROW

New York, April 10.—The National League announces the following assignments of umpires for the opening game of the season tomorrow: O'Day and Bransfield, at Brooklyn; Byron and Quigley, at Boston; Klem and Egan, at Chicago; Rigler and Orth, at Cincinnati.