

BRITISH ADVANCE LINES BETWEEN SOMME AND ANCRE RIVERS

Also Improve Positions in Southern Lys Salient

HAIG'S MEN ACTIVE ON TWO FRONTS, AND GAIN GROUND THROUGH LOCAL OPERATIONS

British Advance Their Lines West-Southwest of Marlandcourt, And in Neighborhood of Locon And Lawe River, On Flanders Front

By Canadian Leased Wire.

London, May 6.—(Bulletin).—The British line has been advanced on a considerable front between the Somme and Ancre rivers, west-southwest of Morlandcourt, says the official statement from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters today.

The British positions in the neighborhood of Locon and the Lawe river, on the southern leg of the Lys salient in Flanders, have been improved as the result of local fighting.

The text of the statement reads: "A successful minor operation was carried out by us last night between the Somme and Ancre rivers, west-southwest of Morlandcourt. Our line in this locality has been advanced on a considerable front in spite of strong opposition from the enemy, whose losses were heavy. Over 150 prisoners, two machine guns, and a trench mortar were captured by our troops. Our own casualties were slight.

"Local fighting took place last night to our advantage in the neighborhood of Locon and the Lawe river. Our positions in this locality have been improved.

"On the remainder of the front, the situation is unchanged."

CLAIM ALLIES REPULSED

Berlin, May 5.—(via London).—Repulse of Anglo-French attacks on the Flanders battle front is reported in the official announcement by the war office today. More than 300 prisoners are reported captured in the fighting. Increased artillery activity south of the Somme is announced in the statement which reads:

"After the strongest artillery preparation, French divisions attacked our positions on Kemmel Hill and near Bailleul unsuccessfully. They were repulsed with heavy losses, and left over 300 prisoners in our hands. An intended attack by an English division west of Bailleul, failed to develop because of our fire.

"South of Hebuterne (north of the Somme), strong British thrusts failed. The battle front on both sides of the Somme saw a revival of artillery activity in the evening. It increased especially near Villers-Bretonneux, and on the west bank of the Avre."

AIRMEN'S RECORD WORK

By Courier Leased Wire

London, May 6.—Wounded British airmen back from France, report that the squadron operating in an important sector on the Amiens has probably established a record by bringing down 106 enemy machines in six weeks, including 21 on one day.

The only member of the squadron known to have been wounded up to the time this man returned to London, said it was hard work getting the German airmen to fight.

"Practically the only times they would come out," he said, "was about nine o'clock in the morning when the glare of the sun would be in our faces. Even then they would slip away if they had half a chance.

"The supreme confidence of our fellows is half the battle. During the German offensive they have been doing four 'shows' a day, re-

turning only for ammunition, and an occasional meal and possibly a game of cards. If the morning's work was particularly good and the afternoon's threatened to be heavy, "Nearly all the machines we brought down were two seaters. In fact, few of the German airmen will fly in anything else. The pilots fly a man with a gun behind them."

The airman said the German infantry was bombed and machine-gunned by the aviators four times a day regularly and that when the enemy came forward in masses they were easy prey for the air forces.

"We would swoop down while flying at a speed of 130 miles an hour, firing our machine guns all the while. Sometimes we came within fifty feet of the ground, going so fast they could do nothing with us. Their machine gun fire from the ground improved after the first few weeks, but it did little damage."

Aerial Activity London, May 5.—(Delayed)—The official statement on aerial activity issued to-night by the war office reads:

"There was a sense mist Saturday until evening when reconnaissance was possible. Nine tons of bombs were dropped on the Chaulnes railway junction on the Bapaume, Armentieres, Merville and Estaires.

"There was very little air fighting. One hostile machine was brought down by our aviators and four others were disabled. Two of our machines are missing. Two of our machines missing since May 3 have returned.

"After dark, although conditions were still unfavorable, more than three tons of bombs were dropped on the Chaulnes railway junction and on Bapaume. All machines returned."

A SURPRISE

By Courier Leased Wire

London, May 6.—The appointment of Field Marshal Viscount French as viceroy of Ireland comes somewhat as a surprise. It was known that the government was experiencing considerable difficulty in finding a successor to Baron Wimborne and that this was the reason for the delay in announcing officially the appointment of Edward Shortt as chief secretary, which was known unofficially many days ago.

No one, however, anticipated such a purely military appointment as the celebrated Field Marshal. His name certainly had been mentioned, but only in connection with a scheme for placing the lord-lieutenancy in a commission as a way out of the difficulty and even in that case the name of General Mahon was generally favored as a likely member of the triumvirate.

Viscount French is of Irish extraction. He has a seat in Ireland, is colonel of Irish regiments and a popular figure in the country, but that is hardly likely to reconcile the Irish people to his appointment, which will consist in nothing but a threat to put conscription into effect.

FUTILE TO SPEAK OF PEACE AT PRESENT

Allies Must Persevere Until German Menace is Crushed—Foe Prepared for Peace on "Status Quo" Basis Today.

By Courier Leased Wire

London, May 6.—James H. Thomas, Liberal M.P. for Derby, speaking at Derby to-day, said that the millions already killed or wounded must make every good citizen long for such a peace as would render impossible a renewal of the conflict in ten or fifteen years with whatever additional horrors science might devise.

In the meantime, however, he said, it was futile to talk of peace in the present military situation. He believed Germany would accept a peace to-morrow on the basis of the status quo ante in the west and would even give France some territorial compensation in return for a free hand in the east. But that would only lay the foundation for another war as Japan and America would have to maintain large armies and navies, and militarism instead of being defeated, would be triumphant.

GOVT. POLICY IS DISASTROUS SAYS PLUNKETT

Conscription and Home Rule Plan Cannot be Made Successful

OFFERS SUGGESTIONS

Immediate Establishment of Responsible Government is Solution

By Courier Leased Wire

Dublin, May 6.—Declaring that the government's conscription-home rule policy is disastrous, Sir Horace Plunkett, chairman of the recent Irish convention, in a letter to the press suggests the immediate establishment of a responsible government in Ireland as a way out of the difficulty.

"At the gravest crisis which the empire has ever been faced," says the letter, "the government has staked their existence on a two-fold Irish policy, in a letter to the press suggests the immediate establishment of a responsible government in Ireland as a way out of the difficulty.

"I believe the government could not do so satisfy the reasonable aspirations of the Irish at home, but also get them to follow the voluntary instincts of the valourous race and the example of their kinsmen and sympathizers throughout the United States and the British Dominions. There is only one alternative to the disastrous policy upon which the government in Ireland is pursuing."

"The report of the convention has shown this could be done with the support of a large body of Nationalists and Unionists. The bill should pass through parliament without delay the necessary legislation as a war measure. The present chaos with its growing bitterness, and the demoralization of our public life and its discredit to British statesmanship, need not be continued while we are waiting for a parliament. The moment the bill is passed an Irish executive, broadly representative and composed of responsible men, who would not shirk the burden of their brief authority, should be appointed and given the task of setting up a parliament as quickly as possible, promoting voluntary recruiting and generally carrying on the work of the government, would quickly show the world their real attitude in this war. It then dawned upon Englishmen that we have in Ireland no programs except those they have made not of malicious through inability to know us."

put in the constable, "he told me he was a married man with two children."

"And I am," maintained the man under detention, and a short time later he was proven to have told the truth in both instances. He had married at the age of sixteen.

"Look out, the military police are here," was the warning, buzzed from one to another through the evening, and there was a stampede to the city hall, in an endeavor to obtain a birth certificate. H. F. Leonard, city clerk, states that he was besieged at his home at an early hour Sunday morning by anxious applicants, and this morning the rush had only partially abated.

TEUTONS DENY RUMOR OF NEW PEACE DRIVE

"Entente Statesmen Seek to Stimulate War Ardor of Their People"

SAYS HUN MINISTER

Declares Germany Fighting For Her Existence and Integrity

By Courier Leased Wire

Amsterdam, May 6.—The assertion of Lord Robert Cecil that Germany will undertake a peace offensive if she does not succeed in overcoming the Allies, is the latest means whereby Entente statesmen are seeking to stimulate the war ardor of their people, whose belief in the justice of their own cause is vanishing, says Baron von Dem Bussche-Hadenhausen, German under secretary for foreign affairs, published in Berlin newspapers, in reply to the statement of the British minister of blockade, last week. In this statement Lord Robert said the failure of Germany's "knockout offensive" in the western front would result in a great peace offensive in his opinion.

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"The Russian sentiment in that country will be strengthened, and the separation of the Ukraine from Russia will last only as long as the Austro-German troops remain there."

Grain in Ukraine Amsterdam, May 6.—There is grain in the Ukraine, German experts agree. This was the answer made by the Reichstag Saturday by Under Secretary of State von Graven, who returned recently from Kiev, in reply to questions whether the grain export from the Ukraine really existed. He added:

"The experts inform us that in a small part of the Ukraine there are at least 100,000,000 pounds (about 2,000,000 tons)."

He said that it had been arranged that in the first two months Austria had received two thirds of the entire exports from the Ukraine, and that from June 1, Germany would receive two-thirds.

At present, he added, it was exceedingly difficult to make any forecast regarding the quantity of Ukraine would supply. According to the latest reports, about four million pounds had been found, but they had

ENEMY PREPARATIONS HARASSED BY ALLIES

Franco-British Continue to Impede Reorganization of Shattered Teuton Forces; Civilian Letters From Germany Reveal Attitude of Resignation

By Courier Leased Wire

London, May 6.—Luck seems to be going against the Germans along the crucial northern battle front. Sunday still found the Prussian commanders working desperately to whip their organizations into shape for a renewal of the delayed offensive, while the allied forces aided by the weather, continued counter operations which are most disconcerting to an enemy playing against time.

It was quite apparent the Germans intended another assault in Flanders yesterday, but the arrangements were upset by a combination of events. There were the allied operations and the heavy rain which converted the ground into mud flats over which it was difficult to move their infantry or artillery, there was also confusion arising from wholesale reliefs and the arrival of strange troops in the German area.

The allied artillery has been maintaining an incessant bombardment of enemy territory, and Friday night, before the projected German attack, the French and British gunners played havoc with the German preparations. The allied troops also have been carrying out in succession local operations which improved their lines and upset enemy schemes to a marked degree.

Yesterday the allies occupied a large number of important positions at various points along the front of 4,000 yards west of Kemmel. The British also made an advance of 500 yards along the front of 1,000 yards northwest of Locon, thereby gaining a number of positions which had been contested many days. This morning the Germans tried to regain some of these positions but were repulsed. An enemy attack yesterday morning in the Locon area, under cover of a heavy barrage, likewise was smashed.

On the southern battle front the British last night near Saille-le-Sec advanced their line in a minor operation without casualties. The Germans taken in all these local engagements make a considerable total.

The spirit of the allied troops remains at the highest pitch. They know that every day's delay is in itself a victory for them. Each twenty-four hours that slips by makes the United States loom larger on the horizon, and brings the much needed overseas troops nearer the battle lines.

DESPAIR OF PEACE

By Courier Leased Wire

London, May 6.—Germany's peace emissary, according to the Daily Mail, has been busy working here, but has made no progress in any direction. There is reason to believe it says that the German agent, who has been reported to be a Dutch financier returning to Germany, to report that there is nothing doing.

Condemn Oppression Zurich, May 6.—German and Austrian conduct in the Ukraine is condemned by The Arbeiter Zeitung of Vienna, who foresees perilous complications as a result.

"The Ukrainian people," it says, "will not regard the occupying troops as liberators from Russian domination, but as armed forces establishing a military regime in order to requisition food stuffs for the German powers. The Germans and Austrians will be as much beloved by the Ukrainians as they are by the Letts, Poles, Estonians and Lithuanians."

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Interesting comments by German civilians have been furnished from an enemy mail bag captured by the British before it was delivered to the soldiers along a section of the Flanders front. Almost without exception references are made in the letters to the stoppage of leave and the parcel post from the front. The tone is resigned rather than recalcitrant. One letter from Berlin, dated April 25, said:

"Peace does not seem to be coming along as we fondly hoped. All this in the west is too wicked for anything. Four years of it now and no sign of the end. We hope every day it will come to a decision and that the British will be driven into the North Sea, but they stand firm."

"We have such a scarcity of shoes in Ettlingen it is impossible to get them. If there are any in Belgium, please send me a pair," says a letter dated Ettlingen, April 26.

"Are you not coming home on leave soon? How much longer is it going to last?" reads a third letter. "A note from Rhunstrunge, dated April 23, says:

"The mustering of the 1920 class took place here last Friday. Most of them were accepted."

Further details are now available from various sources regarding the new German tanks, several of which made such a poor showing at Villers-Bretonneux on April 24. The machine weighs forty-five tons and is so unwieldy it is unable to negotiate broad trenches and cannot move over ground torn heavily by shells. The tank is pointed at both ends. It is approximately 23 feet long, nine and one-half feet wide and eleven feet high. The armor is of a poor quality of steel and varies in thickness up to three millimetres. A direct artillery hit will put one out of action and they are also vulnerable to machine gun and rifle fire at various points. The armament consists of a two-two inch gun forward which fires high explosives and case shot, six heavy machine guns, two on each side and two in the rear. It is equipped with two 100-horsepower four-cylinder valve engines with an electric starter and one man can control and drive it easily. Its top speed on good ground is ten miles an hour. A crew of 19

is carried, consisting of one officer, three gunners for the forward gun, two drivers, two mechanics, ten machine gunners and one signaller. The driver and mechanics are volunteers from motor transport units and the gunners are drawn from the artillery and infantry. These volunteers are promised double pay and rations.

There is slight cohesion among the crews which have had little training. The tanks appear to have been hurried out of the works and used as soon as possible. Their operators have no training with infantry as was quite apparent at Villers-Bretonneux.

TAKING UP THE SELKIRK PIPES?

Report That Gas Company is Destroying Pure Gas Main

It is reported that the Dominion Gas Company are taking up the pipe line leading to the Selkirk field—the only pure gas area now connected with the city. The city authorities have been advised and are looking into the matter.

WEATHER BULLETIN

Toronto, Ont., May 6.—Since Saturday, with the exception of a few light scattered showers, the weather has been fine over Canada, warmer in Ontario and continued warm in the west. Forecasts: Moderate to fresh south to southwest winds, mostly fair and quite warm, but some local showers or thunderstorms, chiefly on Tuesday.

"Zimmie"

WE COULD SEND ALL OUR TOBACCO TO FRANCE AND BUY OUR GIGARS OF OUR GIGARS.



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SALE

Red Brick House

thorough street,

Cottages, High

particulars apply

HER & SON

and Auctioneers

Bank Railway

LINE EAST

Standard Time

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