

# 100,000 GERMAN TROOPS THROWN AGAINST FRENCH

**In Renewed Desperate Attempt to Smash Through On Nine-Mile Front—Lost Heavily, and Only Gained Ground On a Few Hundred Yards.**

Paris Cable — The German troops numbering over 100,000, delivered a terrible attack to-day against the French along a front of nearly nine miles from Grivesnes to north of the Amiens-Roye Road. They were met with a storm of fire from the French guns, and although the assaults were repeated time after time, they succeeded in gaining only a small section of ground. The French retained Grivesnes, but the Germans occupied the villages of Mailly, Rainval and Morisel.

**WATCHING LILLE SECTOR.**  
German troops, who have been especially trained all winter in shock tactics, are reported to be going forward for the incorporation in the regrouping process now actively proceeding in preparation for a general renewal of the German offensive. This threat, which is contained in the German press, is thought here, is not solely born of von Hindenburg's desire to draw all the Entente reserves to the threatened spot and to launch a swift offensive in another sector, which certainly figures in the German plans, but it is believed it represents the determination to spill more blood in the hope of capturing Amiens and rolling up the northern section of the allied line. The Kaiser's dream of reaching the sea is still the predominant influence in the main plans of the enemy. It is be-

lieved in well-informed quarters here that a new attack, if it is at all possible, is more likely to be launched in the Lille area, where there is a network of railways favorable to the speedy concentration or transfer of troops to those portions of the line where junctions exist between sections of the Entente armies.

It is stated that Austrian troops are concentrated ready to take part in the battle, their numbers, however, being relatively insignificant.

The announcement by the War Office to-night of this new offensive also says that by a powerful counter-attack, the French made progress at this point.

The text of the statement reads: "The battle was resumed this morning with extreme violence in the region north of Montdidier, and still continues. On a front of about 15 kilometres, from Grivesnes as far as north of the road between Amiens and Roye, the Germans attacked with enormous forces, showing a firm determination to break through our front at any cost. Up to the present we have identified by prisoners 11 enemy divisions.

"Our troops with intrepid courage resisted the shock of the assaulting masses, who were mowed down by our artillery fire. Despite their efforts, ten times repeated, the Germans succeeded, in gaining only a few hundred metres of terrain and occupying the villages of Mailly, Rainval and Morisel, the neighboring heights of which we hold. "Grivesnes, which was attacked with particular violence, remained in the hands of our troops, who, after having broken down all the assaults, counter-attacked with vigor and realized progress at this point.

"Between Montdidier and Lassigny there was great activity by the two artillery divisions."

## GERMANS RENEWED DRIVE AGAINST BRITISH LINE, TOO

**Attacked On Whole Front Between Somme and Avre Rivers—Failed On the Right and Centre, Made Small Gains On Left.**

London Cable — After several days of comparative inactivity along the battle front in Picardy, bitter fighting has been resumed along the western sector of the salient in the lines of the Entente armies. Attacks by the Germans against the British and French are admitted to have yielded some gains to the invaders in the critical sectors just to the east of the city of Amiens in the neighborhood of Hamel, the British were forced back slightly.

Pious sacred Haig, report from British headquarters in France to-night reads: "After heavy artillery preparation the enemy launched a strong attack this morning on the whole front between the Somme and Avre Rivers. On the right and centre of the British lines the attacking German infantry were repulsed, but on the left the weight of the assault succeeded in pressing back our troops for a short distance in the neighborhood of Hamel, on the south bank of the Somme. The fighting is continuing in this area.

"Early in the afternoon the enemy also attacked our line west of Albert and was completely repulsed.

"During the past few days there has been heavy fighting south of the River Luce. A Canadian cavalry brigade greatly distinguished itself in many successful actions, both mounted and dismounted.

Thursday Evening — "South of the Somme the enemy launched heavy attacks early this morning, and on the British front made progress in the direction of Hamel and Vaire Wood. On the remainder of the British front all attacks were beaten back with considerable loss. The fighting still continues."

**THE GERMAN CLAIMS.**  
Berlin Cable, via London — Four times yesterday the enemy forces vainly endeavored to recapture the heights southwest of Moreuil, says the official statement issued to-day by the German War Office. The attacks, it is added, broke down with heavy losses.

"Western front: 'Fighting activity

revived south of the Somme. By means of surprise and after strong artillery preparation the enemy during the early morning and afternoon for times vainly endeavored to recapture heights wrested from him southwest of Moreuil. This attack broke down with heavy losses.

"Before Verdun and at Parroy Wood there was at times a more lively firing engagement."

Thursday Evening — "During the continuation of our attack south of the Somme fresh successes have been won.

"As reprisals for the French bombardment of our shelters in Laon in the past few days Rheims has been subjected to our fire."

**It Will Prevent Ulcerated Throat.**  
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**GALLANT DEEDS  
BY CANADIANS**

**Personal Heroism in Many Cases Rewarded**

**With Distinguished Conduct Medal.**

London Cable says: Dramatic vignettes of personal heroism are furnished in the following incidents which earned the Distinguished Conduct Medal:

Gunner 91,621 W. A. Allan, under a heavy barrage, established a signalling lamp, was blown up and stunned for several minutes, yet continued working machine gun, then rescued the wounded from a shattered pill box.

Pte. 775,962 A. R. Bandy, has stretcher-bearer, was thrice buried by shellfire, insisted in rescuing his wounded Commander, who ordered him in, but he pointed out the number of wounded and shortage of bearers, and remained till the battalion was relieved, and even then went off assisting other battalions.

Pte. 466,627 Beggs, while carrying a message, was shot through the legs. He completed the journey, then undertook a reconnaissance with his company Commander, was caught by machine-gun fire, became separated, but after reporting to company headquarters went to search for his Commander.

Corpl. J. Bussineau, when in charge of an outpost at night, saw three enemy scouts, worked towards them, killing one, capturing the other two, then seeing a strong enemy patrol approaching, he outflanked them, capturing one officer and ten others and a machine gun.

The following striking achievements of Canadian cavaliers were revealed at the conferment to-day of Distinguished Conduct Medals:

Sergt. J. A. Bernas galloped through the enemy lines before his horse was shot, collected all the other dismounted men and defended

a position till after dark, when a squadron joined him and brought the party back.

Sergt. S. Cook of the Light Horse, when attached to the motor machine guns, found his gun buried by shell fire, and most of the crew casualties. He organized a salvage party, dug up the gun and took it to a new position.

Pte. W. A. Morrall volunteered to carry a message back when his squadron had galloped through the enemy's lines. His horse was shot, but he delivered the message afoot and then took a message back. His horse was again shot, and himself wounded when completing the journey on foot.

Pte. A. Rutherford rushed a trench, causing 75 enemy to retire, and captured several.

Corp. A. J. Stark of the Mounted Rifles engaged ten single-handed, killed four, and drove off the remainder.

Corp. A. O. Swanby entered a concrete shelter, where three enemy were killed and two captured.

**ENSILAGE SEED CORN.**

**Plentiful Supply at \$3.75 to \$4 Per Bushel.**

Ottawa Despatch — The seed corn committee of the wholesale seed trade, nominated by the Seed Commissioner in February to take over the war-time responsibility of securing seed corn of ensilage varieties for Canada, now reports that an abundance of good seed has been purchased and will be available in plenty of time for spring planting. Average cost prices for late varieties during the past month, plus five per cent. net profit to the importer, in carload lots, will bring the wholesale price of this seed, freight paid, to Toronto to between \$3.75 and \$4 per bushel.

"Did the prisoner strike the witness in the heat of passion?" "No sir, he struck him in the jaw."—Baltimore American.

## GERMAN FLEET TO RISK FIGHT

**If Foe Makes Much Gain On Western Front,**

**Is the Belief of British Naval Men.**

London Cable — There is a growing feeling among naval men that the German high seas fleet will come out for action should military developments on the west front in the near future turn further in the Germans' favor.

Nothing could better please the British fleet than this long-awaited occasion. The opinion was expressed to-day in authoritative quarters that it probably is true that some of Germany's capital ships were in the fleet which recently was reported cruising off the upper Dutch coast, but the Germans were not then looking for trouble.

The good showing of shipping last week was due to effective anti-submarine work, it is asserted, and not to any diminution in U-boat efforts, for it is thought that Germany is pressing just as hard against the sea flank of the allies as they are capable of doing. As indicated in recent dispatches, there is unevenness in the manning of the U-boats at present. Some submarines are sent to sea with practically newly-trained crews. This, it is asserted by naval men, shows that the losses sustained make it necessary for the Germans to use only a sprinkling of men who have had long experience. Every confidence is expressed that the situation will be further improved in the Mediterranean in the immediate future because of the measures adopted.

Mother — Now, Willie, when I have to punish you like this it hurts me more than it does you. Willie — But you ain't a-hollerin' any. — Baltimore

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## NO HUN FOOD FROM UKRAINE

**Austria Has to Feed Her Troops There,**

**And is Near Starvation Point Herself.**

London Cable — That Germany and Austria will not get their much-needed supplies of foodstuffs from the Ukraine, despite the glowing accounts which are used to bolster up the spirits of the hungry peoples, is confirmed by the Bernese correspondent of the Morning Post, who telegraphs that the German authorities admit these hopes must remain unfulfilled for the present.

Austria is actually sending flour to the Ukraine to feed her troops operating there, the correspondent adds.

Within the last few days 100 wagon loads of Austrian flour has been sent in, and other consignments were to follow. This condition is confirmed by a recent speech of the president of the Cracow Municipal Council, who, referring to the danger of famine that was menacing that city, said there were wagon loads full of flour on the trains traversing Galicia, but only on those going from west to east.

The Arbeiter Zeitung is quoted as saying that there is only a week's supply of food for the whole population of Austria. It urges that the only way to avert a catastrophe is to seize the reserves of farmers in order to tide over the period until July, when the Ukrainian wheat harvest was expected to relieve the situation.

An American business man, who arrived in London last week, after spending two months in the Ukraine, confirms the fact that there will be no appreciable quantity of wheat available for at least a year. He says the farmers have not planted for a harvest this year, and show no disposition to begin now.

## GERMAN CITIES MUCH DAMAGED

**By the Bombing Raids of British Fliers.**

**Cannot Keep Truth From German People.**

The Hague Cable — Information reaching your correspondent from Germany reports that damage done in Rhenish cities by recent air raids is much more extensive than has been hitherto admitted. Places where bombs actually fell are described as "unrecognizable."

Of the bombs dropped at Coblenz in the last air raid, eight did considerable damage. One fell upon a station, one fell amid a company of soldiers going to get food, and others practically destroyed half of the barracks where French prisoners were confined in 1870. In Cologne a branch factory of the Baden Anilin Works was partly destroyed and a number of people were killed and

wounded. Great damage also was done at Mainz. It is also reported that much damage was done at Düsseldorf. After the raids the authorities made every effort to clear up the wreckage as soon as possible, and the town was made to resume normal life immediately.

Despite precautions taken to prevent the people from learning the colossal extent of the casualties, the facts gradually are getting out. It is reported that peace demonstrations took place in Frankfurt before large Red Cross sheds where stretchers were being collected. It is now confidently asserted that the Germans themselves will refuse to go through another war winter. Men at the front fully expect a strong German peace as a result of the present offensive.

## NOT A NEW INVENTION

**British Gunmakers Can Reproduce Mystery Gun.**

London Cable — Rear-Admiral T. B. S. Adair, of the parkhead steel works, Glasgow, commenting on the "mystery" gun, says that as far back as 1905 a certain 12-inch gun of Scottish design was tested at Woolwich and some very remarkable and unprecedented ballistics were obtained. The gun could easily throw a 700-pound projectile of modern contour a distance of sixty-two miles, at an expense, however, of shortening its life to about forty rounds, but it could then be reloaded. The recent German spectacular effect obtained with a 24-centimeter gun can be reproduced by British gunmakers whenever required.

For years Mother Graves' Worm Extirminator has ranked as the most effective preparation manufactured, and it always maintains its reputation.

## BRITISH AGE LIMIT TO 50

**But Not Below 18, is Said to Be the Plan.**

**Scheme to Raise Men Rapidly for Emergency.**

London Cable — The lobby correspondent of the Daily News says the new Military Service Bill will be subject to alterations up to the last moment before Parliament reassembles, as the Prime Minister may take the view that requirements in France call for even more drastic steps, but the proposals as at present drafted may now be indicated from an authoritative source.

The present proposal is that men of 41 to 50 should be subject to military service, but the military age will not be lowered below 18. It is understood that the Government in drafting a scheme has sought to make it one by which men can be raised with great rapidity so as to be able to cope with an even greater emergency than the present.

It is not intended to take all men between 41 and 50 for the army who are not doing national work, though it is the intention to take a good many. The power to take all is wanted in case of a vital emergency.

## ENEMY SHORT OF UNIFORMS

London Cable — Wounded soldiers arriving in England say that among the German troops in the first rush in the great battle were large numbers without uniforms. The Globe quotes a soldier as saying: "They came over the top like a lot of civilians, and it seemed like murder firing into their ranks. But we knew they were trained soldiers, and concluded the German depots had not enough uniforms to fit them out. In striking contrast, other Germans were resplendent in brand new rigs."

## SEED WHEAT IS BEING HELD UP

**Only Small Part of Supply Yet Received.**

**Campaign for Growing of Flax Launched.**

Toronto Despatch — Delays in the shipment from the West of the 50,000 bushels of Marquis Wheat secured by them Ontario Department of Agriculture for distribution among Ontario farmers, may result in a considerable portion of the wheat not being available for seeding operations. The Department sent shipping instructions to the West on February 21st, but it was a month before the grain was all under way. So far only a few cars containing three or four thousand bushels have come through and these have been immediately forwarded to distribution centres in Southern Ontario, where seeding is under way or about to begin.

The demands of the farmers in these districts have been pressing, and the Department has shipped to Chatham a car of Spring wheat secured in Quebec. While in many sections of the southern part of the province seeding is under way this week, there are some sections where a start will not be made for ten days yet, and by that time it is hoped the bulk of the Western seed wheat will be available. The Department is making every effort to get the seed to the farmers without delay, and in special cases will make shipments by express in order to get the maximum acreage planted with wheat. This will mean a slightly increased expense, but the Department believes the extra acreage planted will be worth the expenditure.

The Department is now launching a campaign to encourage the growing of flax in Ontario. The Russian collapse closed the chief source of supply for Great Britain. So acute is the scarcity that the British Government is spending \$7,500,000 in a big experiment in growing flax in Ireland. An organized effort to grow flax is being made in several districts in Ontario. Near St. Catharines 100 acres of land is being seeded with flax, and in Essex County one 500-acre experiment is being made, the scheme being financed by a popular issue of shares.

The Ontario Department has been asked by the Dominion Seed Commissioner to encourage the planting of peas and beans this Spring. The Dominion Commissioner has 15,000 bushels of peas left of a stock of 50,000 bushels, and these will be sold at \$4.50 per bushel, bags included. There are about 10,000 bushels of seed beans in store at Oshawa that are available at \$3 per bushel. The Ontario officials will assist farmers in getting a supply.

**BIG DROP IN  
U-BOATS' TOLL**

**Six Large, Seven Small British Ships Sunk**

**As Compared With Total of 28 Week Before.**

London Cable — There was a sudden and marked decrease in the losses to British shipping through mine or submarine in the past week. The Admiralty reports that only six British merchantmen of 1,000 tons or over, and seven under that tonnage, were sunk in the week ending March 30. Five fishing vessels also were sent to the bottom.

The Admiralty statement continues: "Fifteen British merchant vessels were unsuccessfully attacked by submarines. The large vessels reported sunk included one sunk during the week ending March 16 and the smaller vessels reported sunk included one during the week ending March 23."

"The arrivals during the week ending March 30 were 2,415 and the sailings 2,372. The losses to British merchantmen through submarines and mines in the past week are less than one-half the losses of the previous week, when twenty-eight merchantmen were sunk, sixteen of the vessels over 1,000 tons. The Admiralty report for the preceding week showed the loss of seventeen vessels, while for several weeks prior to that the weekly loss was eight or nine. In the week ending March 30 Teutonic submarines sank three Italian steamships of more than 1,500 tons, and destroyed one sailing vessel of more than 197 tons, and nine sailing vessels of a tonnage under that figure.

## HEAVY DAMAGE TO HUN CITIES

**In Recent Air Raids by the Allied Fliers.**

**Kaiser Visited Cologne the Day After.**

Amsterdam Cable — Despatches to Los Angeles state that on the occasion of the last allied air raid on Cologne, 26 persons were killed and wounded. Great damage was done to the railroad station being demolished the last raid on Treves, 60 were killed and hundreds were wounded. The railroad station was damaged and in the neighborhood were seen ruins. In the rail station

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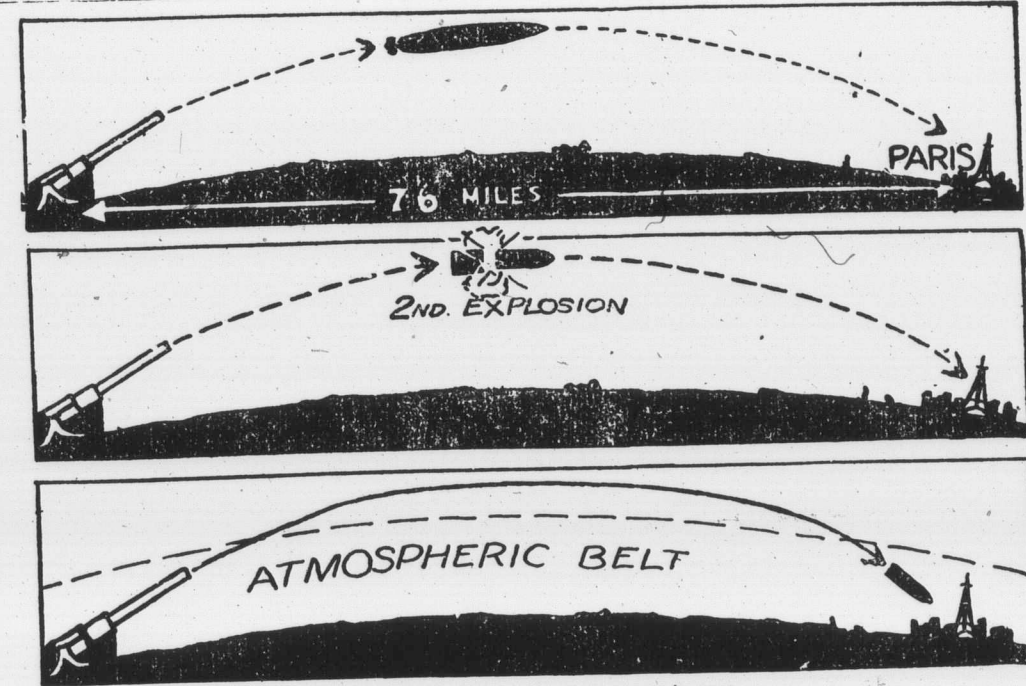


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**THREE VERSIONS OF THE 75-MILE GUN.**  
The German gun which has been shelling Paris periodically, has been located in the Forest of St. Gobain, 76 miles distant. Ordnance experts are producing several theories as to how it may be possible to throw a shell 75 miles or over. Here are three. One is that of the aerial torpedo, with propeller and wings. Another theory is that the gun shoots a re-fired shell. In this feature, when the shell leaves the gun and is in its destination, a timing arrangement causes a second explosion, giving a new impetus to the shell. The third is that the gun itself, charged with some new super-explosive, will throw a shell so high that it would run clear of the atmospheric belt, thus evading the greatest resistance.