

SUPERIORITY OF ALLIES' ARTILLERY OVER THE ENEMY'S GUNS DAILY DEMONSTRATED

GERMAN LOSSES HEAVY IN TWENTY DAYS' FIGHTING IN CHAMPAGNE COUNTRY

Chalons-sur-Marne, France, Mar. 28.—Eleven thousand German dead have been taken from the trenches won by the French during twenty days of fighting in the Champagne country. The German losses in killed, in prisoners and in wounded are estimated by the French military authorities at 50,000.

The German wastage, they say, has been two to one, compared with the French losses, because the Germans would try to regain lost ground by counter-attacks, repeated again and again, with obstinate courage. For nearly a month now the French, their officers declare, by the superiority of their artillery of both large and small calibre, and by a certain irresistible spirit, have day by day, gained ground, some times a few hundred yards of trenches; on other days a mile of frontage, and from three to five hundred yards deep.

The Germans are bringing up new contingents steadily. They have had in action on this part of the fighting lines during March, five army corps or about 200,000 men. Yet, on the evening of every day, the French officers assert that the French have held somewhat more of the field than they did the evening before. The Associated Press correspondent has been over the ground, and found that this has what has taken place: "The French artillery, numerous and concentrated at times, subdues the German guns and tears up parts of the German trenches by sustained shell fire. Then, at a moment signalled by telephone, the runs cease; and the men in the trenches, with reserves, crowded into the approaches, jump out and make a quick run for the trenches opposite. Then body to body fighting finishes the attack."

French Guns Dominate Enemy's Positions

The French are employing such quantities of artillery, newly constructed and of heavy field calibre, that they are able to combine and concentrate the fire in such a way as has not been seen before in this war. The French officers say their guns can dominate the adversary's positions at any time or place. All along this front one heard narratives of deeds of individual soldiers and of officers. There was the incident of Vandal, a first lieutenant. He was badly wounded at the same time as one of his fellow gunners, Jacques. To a comrade, who was trying to banter him, Vandal said: "I feel that I am dying. Save Jacques."

Then to a lieutenant who was arranging to have him taken to the rear, an enemy aeroplane flew overhead. Vandal said: "Do not let them trouble about me. Do not let them see the battery. Vive La France." The next moment Vandal was dead.

Sixty-four buglers sounded the salute in a review of the troops, and General Joffre had a word or two with the commanding general. Then he walked along the lines and shook hands with each of the thirty men to be decorated, and pinned the Cross of the Legion of Honor or Military Medal upon his breast. One of the men, M. Joux, had been a sentinel at the entrance of a cut leading to the main line of trenches.

He fired upon Germans creeping up to a surprise attack, and killed six of them, but was wounded in the arm by a bayonet thrust of the seventh German, whom he killed, and was slashed on the head by the sabre of a German officer, whom he also killed. Joux then retreated, and let his comrades, who had been aroused by the shots, take the attack. He thus won the Military Medal.

Georges Bastard was twice wounded in a night charge, but sang the Marseillaise to encourage his comrades, his clear tenor voice rising above the shots and the clanging of arms.

General Joffre, after attaching the Military Medal to the breast of a youth, a private soldier, whose name was not ascertained, put his arms around him and kissed him on both cheeks, and then passed on. The boy remained strictly at "attention," but tears were slowly falling from his eyes when the touching ceremony ended.

Later the Associated Press correspondent was presented to General Joffre.

"You see how these men look," said the General, "after months of hard fighting, and in what fine condition they are, though just from the trenches."

Well, it would be the same after three weeks, or three months, or three years, until there is a definite result. The men did look hard and unfigured. They were bright-eyed and in a pleasant humor. They passed in review at a swinging step.

NAVAL ESTIMATES BEFORE THE HOUSE

Vote of Million Dollars For Maintenance of Ships, Naval College and Dockyards—Conference Between Representatives of Canada, Great Britain and United States May Soon be Held to Deal With Question of Beam Trawling in Atlantic Waters.

Ottawa, March 28.—When the naval estimates were under consideration in the House on Saturday Hon. J. D. Hazen promised to make a statement of the work of the naval department during the present war on the second reading of the war appropriation bill. He said that the vote of \$1,000,000 to provide for the maintenance of ships, the naval college, the dockyards at Halifax and Esquimault, and the Royal Naval Canadian Volunteer Reserve was the same as that of last year. Mr. Hazen did not think that the whole of the appropriation would be extended, because the cost of maintenance of the Niobe, Rainbow and other vessels was being paid out of the war vote. He had thought of reducing the appropriation, but had come to the conclusion that there should be a vote to fall back upon, in case the war should suddenly end.

On the war footing the cost per annum of operating the Niobe was \$726,126; of operating the Rainbow, \$236,450; of the two submarines, \$170,975; of Atlantic coast defence, \$250,000; of Pacific coast defence, \$229,000.

The Minister of Marine told Mr. MacLean of Halifax, that it would have been practically impossible to work out a scheme whereby part of the cost of naval operations would have been paid out of the ordinary departmental vote, and part out of the war appropriations. He informed Mr. Sinclair, of Guysboro, the naval volunteer movement had started in British Columbia, and that it had been largely stopped since the outbreak of war on account of the impossibility of securing competent instructors. Nevertheless, 35 officers and 387 men of the British naval force were now serving on the Rainbow and other vessels on the Pacific coast.

Mr. Hazen said that the crew of the Niobe was about 700 men and that of the Rainbow about 300. The crew of the former vessel had been made up in part of the crews of the two British gunboats Shearwater and Algerine, one of which was laid up at Esquimault and the other of which was used as a parent ship for the Canadian sub-marines of a number of reservists, from Toronto, of 100 reservists from Newfoundland and of the nucleus crew.

The Minister of Marine replying to Mr. A. K. MacLean, said that at the outbreak of war the Niobe was in good condition and in charge of a nucleus crew. She was placed in dry dock, her machinery was overhauled and she was ready for sea by September 1.

Mr. Kite of Richmond asked a number of questions as to whether the ship and her officers and crew would give a good account of themselves if they met a hostile cruiser.

Hon. Mr. Hazen replied that the British sailor would do his duty under any circumstances. Therefore, he felt that the officers and men of the Niobe would have the courage to engage any enemy.

At the same time, he pointed out, in naval warfare much depended upon the ship, her speed and the range of her guns. Mr. Hazen told Mr. Kite that the Niobe was under the control of the British Admiralty and that therefore he had not interfered with her armament. He said that besides the Niobe, there had been on duty on the Atlantic coast the British cruisers Princess Royal, which had taken part in the North Sea battle, the Essex and the Lancaster and several French cruisers.

On the Pacific coast, in addition to the Rainbow and the Canadian submarines, there had been several British ships and several Japanese cruisers.

Mr. MacDonald of Pictou said that the Niobe was of the same class as H. M. S. Arcturion which had been such an important part in the battle of Heligoland.

Mr. Hazen thought it was the Arcturion which had been prominent in that battle. The Minister said that the accommodation at the naval college at Halifax would be taxed by the students during the next term. An unusually large number of candidates would go up for the entrance examination there in April.

He said that eight of the college cadets were serving on H. M. S. Berwick, and a number of others on other British ships, including a son of Mr. Gauvreau, the member for Temiscouata.

Four graduates of the college had lost their lives when H. M. S. Good Hope was sunk off the coast of Chili. Mr. Loggie, of Northumberland, N. B., complained that the United States flag was flown over the wireless station of the Universal Radio Company, at Newcastle, N. B. He was told by Mr. Hazen that the company was an English one, that the department of the naval service had no control over the flag flown there, and that the militia department censored messages sent out.

Mr. Hazen agreed with Mr. MacDonald that the action of Mr. J. K. L. Ross, in presenting the steamer Canada to the government for the use in the war, was deserving of acknowledgment by parliament.

"It is not the only patriotic action of Mr. Ross," said the minister.

Beam Trawling

The Minister of Marine told Mr. Sinclair, of Guysboro, that he expected that in a very few weeks, it would be possible to have a conference between representatives of Canada, the United States and Great Britain, as to the control of beam trawling off the Atlantic coast. He pointed out that French beam trawlers could cross the ocean and fish. He hoped, however, that regulations satisfactory to the shore fishermen would soon be made.

Mr. Hazen said that in the legislation of 1913, it was believed a fund had been found to minimize the operations of French trawlers. Unfortunately the Japanese treaty had proved an obstacle, because under the favored nation treaties, the French vessels were able to claim the same rights as the Japanese. Hence it had been impossible to enforce the act. An effort was now being made to work out an agreement under which certain waters would be reserved for Canadians.

No Word of Stefansson Since a Year Ago

On the vote of \$50,000 for the patrol of northern waters, Mr. Oliver asked what the government was doing to discover the whereabouts of the explorer Stefansson and his missing party. The Minister of Marine said that he had conferred with Captain Bartlett, who had been with the expedition, and had come to the conclusion that it was barely possible that Mr. Stefansson had made his way to Siberia or to the north pole. However, Mr. Hazen did not think this a possibility. Replying to a further question, the Minister of Marine told of the sinking of Stefansson's ship Karluk and said that nothing had been heard of Mr. Stefansson since March 23, 1914.

CONDITION OF PREMIER'S MOTHER IS CRITICAL

Halifax, March 28.—Word from Grand Pre, N. S., tonight states that the condition of Mrs. Borden (mother of Sir Robert Borden), is very critical. She is unconscious, and there is practically no hope held out for her recovery.

DIED.

HAMM—At Provincial Hospital, on March 26th, Julia L. widow of the late W. D. Hamm, of Grand Bay, aged 73 years. Funeral from Baptist Church, Grand Bay, Monday afternoon at 2:30 p. m. Friends and acquaintances respectfully invited to attend.

NIXON—On Saturday, March 27th, John L. Nixon, in the sixty-ninth year of his age, leaving a widow, two sons, three daughters and five grand-children. Funeral (this Monday afternoon from late residence, 23 Paddock St. Service at 2:30.

RISTEN—At Fredericton, on Saturday March 27, Augusta, daughter of the late Andrew Richey and wife of Joseph C. Risten.

PRISONERS IN GERMAN CAMPS LEFT FOR DAYS WITHOUT FOOD OR DRINK

Paris, Mar. 27.—Shocking outrages upon non-combatants have been officially reported by a committee consisting of Messrs. Paville, the president of the Cour des Comptes; Mollard, Minister Plenipotentiary; Maringer, Councillor of State; and Fillion, Councillor of the Court of Cassation. They have examined some 10,000 French persons—women, children, youths under seventeen and men over sixty—who were first of all taken into captivity, and then sent back from Germany to Switzerland after a sojourn of several months in various German concentration camps. All the prisoners were taken away on foot, then shut up in various buildings, generally without food or drink, and finally removed to Germany in cattle wagons. Thus prisoners from Roubaix were herded up to eighty-five persons per wagon, and were only twice given food in seventy-two hours. Several prisoners were massacred without the slightest reason. An old man of seventy-three was dragged along, and when he could walk no further he received a bayonet thrust in the head, and was then shot through the heart. Another man, aged sixty-one, was shot. A third, aged sixty-seven, was beaten to death, and a fourth, aged seventy-eight, was shot.

A number of prisoners were only given food once during the four days railway journey, and were repeatedly struck by soldiers with sticks and their fists. Two of the peasants, aged sixty-one and sixty-five, were accused of being fractious. One had lately broken his foot and the other was suffering from chronic rheumatism. They could not walk without crutches. The latter was tied with a rope, the ends of which were held by two men on horseback. Whenever he fell he was prodded with lances. Finally, the men brought into the house were compelled to stand against a wall with arms extended, while German soldiers pretended to prepare to shoot them. At last they were left

ENGLAND UNDER WAR CONDITIONS

The Bakers must give good weight in London. A committee of the County Council has issued a proclamation saying: "Bread must be sold by weight in all cases, whether at a shop or at the residence of a customer, and in either case the seller is liable to a penalty for refusing to weigh in the presence of the purchaser. It is extremely important, in purchasing bread, ask for four-pound or two-pound loaves, and then definitely request that the bread shall be weighed in their presence. If, when a loaf of given weight is purchased, the seller refuses, on request, to weigh it in the presence of the purchaser, the latter on any member of the public can prosecute as a common informer."

At a recent luncheon, in Sydney, of the Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber of Manufacturers, and the Millions' Club, Senator Gardiner, representing the Crime Minister, moved a resolution in favor of promoting trade with Siberia. The Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce announced the appointment of a "trade expansion committee" to direct trade, recently German, to the Dominions, Great Britain, and their fellow-fighters.

Owners of cameras in England have to be careful how they use them these days. John Richard Jones, of Gateshead, saw a man of war in the Tyne, and snap-shotted it. This cost him nearly £2 in a police court.

The Petitions. The petitions for giving the citizens the privilege of voting on the matter of discarding the present system of government were handed in on Saturday and there will be a meeting of the committee this evening. It is the intention to present the petition to the legislature some time this week.

A correspondent writing from Interlaken to a London weekly, says: "All the best elements of German speaking Switzerland—as of the Suisse Romande—are more concerned to preserve the unity and independence of their cherished republic than to create bad feeling against themselves in any of the countries engaged in the war. At no time have they spoken with so much uncertainty as to the violation of Belgium's neutrality, and even in cities like Zurich and Basel, with their strong leaning of German nationality, nothing but applause has greeted the public men who have in open meeting denounced this crime against humanity. On this subject I have heard but one opinion among both the working and educated classes. Even in quarters where belief in Teutonic invincibility as the beginning of the war induced

on the floor and given bread and water, the first food they had touched for twenty-four hours. On October 10 a column of 2,000 conscripts, who were on their way to Gravelines to pass the medical examination, were attacked by the Germans with machine guns. The survivors were taken by Hussars stripped of their baggage and valuables, thrown into cattle trucks, and thus transported for a long distance. Between Meuil and Beaucamps the Hussars compelled the prisoners to advance at a quick march, and shot those who fell behind. On September 30 all the inhabitants of Cambrai, in the Meuse, were arrested and massed on the flank of a hill, exposed to French artillery and rifle fire. Under compulsion they waved their handkerchiefs and hats, and the French fire was silent.

In the concentration camps the conditions were terrible. At the camps of Parchim and Cassel the prisoners slept under canvas on straw spread on the bare ground and hardly ever renewed. The hygienic conditions were unspeakable. Many prisoners were soon literally covered with vermin. In Gastrow German soldiers made public fun of those who tried to free themselves from parasites. At Landau they stripped an old woman of eighty-seven who complained of the intolerable heat and drenched her from head to foot with petrol. The old woman fell ill and died. Rations were short and often disgusting. One witness, Madame Rayson, says that she has seen men die with hunger pick up and devour decayed fish heads. One hundred and thirty civilian prisoners died at Grafenwohr.

An over-loud friendliness towards Germany which I have never observed in peace times, feelings have veered round considerably during the last three months."

Sturgeon-General Sir Alfred Keogh was so impressed by the work of the women doctors in their hospitals in Paris and Boulogne that he invited Dr. Flora Murray and Dr. Garrett Anderson to go to England and take charge of a hospital of 500 beds. Dr. Murray and Dr. Anderson accepted Sir Alfred Keogh's offer. The site for the new hospital had not been chosen then. It will contain 500 beds and be staffed entirely by women, women orderlies working under sisters.

The Indian army has been largely drawn on for senior officers for the fifth British army, nearly all the brigade commanders being Indian army colonels either on the retired or unemployed list.

At a recent luncheon, in Sydney, of the Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber of Manufacturers, and the Millions' Club, Senator Gardiner, representing the Crime Minister, moved a resolution in favor of promoting trade with Siberia. The Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce announced the appointment of a "trade expansion committee" to direct trade, recently German, to the Dominions, Great Britain, and their fellow-fighters.

Owners of cameras in England have to be careful how they use them these days. John Richard Jones, of Gateshead, saw a man of war in the Tyne, and snap-shotted it. This cost him nearly £2 in a police court.

The Petitions. The petitions for giving the citizens the privilege of voting on the matter of discarding the present system of government were handed in on Saturday and there will be a meeting of the committee this evening. It is the intention to present the petition to the legislature some time this week.

A correspondent writing from Interlaken to a London weekly, says: "All the best elements of German speaking Switzerland—as of the Suisse Romande—are more concerned to preserve the unity and independence of their cherished republic than to create bad feeling against themselves in any of the countries engaged in the war. At no time have they spoken with so much uncertainty as to the violation of Belgium's neutrality, and even in cities like Zurich and Basel, with their strong leaning of German nationality, nothing but applause has greeted the public men who have in open meeting denounced this crime against humanity. On this subject I have heard but one opinion among both the working and educated classes. Even in quarters where belief in Teutonic invincibility as the beginning of the war induced

Easter Millinery

Every day since our Spring Opening new hats have gone on sale. Our tagel, hemp, milan and hair hats at \$2.00 and \$3.00 are wonderful value. Our chip hats at \$1.00 are easily worth three times the price. From our own work rooms our show rooms are daily being replenished with dainty and artistically trimmed hats.

Marr Millinery Co., Limited

Official Reports

FRANCE

Paris, Mar. 28, via London.—The French War Department today gave out the following official statement: "Belgian aviators have bombed the German aviation camp at Ghistelles (in West Flanders, seven miles southwest of Bruges). To the east of the heights of the Meuse, near Marcheville, we captured 300 metres (100 yards) of the enemy's trenches, and repulsed counter-attacks. "At Les Eparges we continued our progress of the previous days, winning 150 metres of trenches." The following official statement was issued by the War Office last night: "The day passed quietly all along the front, the enemy showing no activity. A German aeroplane, which had thrown a bomb in the region of Badonviller, was brought down by us. The pilot and observer were captured."

SUNDAY'S REPORT.

Paris, via London, March 28.—The following official communication was issued by the War Office tonight: "There is nothing of importance to report on the whole front. To the east of the heights of the Meuse, near Marcheville, we lost a portion of a German trench which we had captured Saturday. "At Hartmann-Weilerkopf we have consolidated our positions. The total number of prisoners taken by us in the course of the attack which made us masters of the summit is six officers, 34 non-commissioned officers and 353 men. None of these were wounded. We took, in addition, many wounded prisoners."

AUSTRIA

Vienna, via London, Mar. 28.—The following Austrian official statement was issued here last night: "Russian attacks, with strong new forces on the Carpathian front have miscarried and the enemy suffered severe losses. "In the hills near Bonyavoelz, on both sides of the Latorca Valley, south of Labozovoz, very violent fighting continues. "In Bukovina, northeast of Czernowitz, our troops, after a violent engagement, repulsed superior Russian forces driving them back to the frontier. We took several villages and captured over one thousand prisoners and two guns. "In Russian Poland and in West-

OXFORD FOUR AT IMPERIAL

Splendid Male Quartette in Popular Numbers
Vitagrap Three-Reel Feature Production
"HER STRANGE INHERITANCE"
HEARST-SELIG WEEKLY
TRAINING BRITISH BOYS for the Imperial Navy.
ALSO SCENES in Germany, United States, in the Panama Canal and elsewhere.
SPECIAL NOTICE: The Vitagrap Picture in this Programme is the Most Powerfully Edifying Lesson on the Evils of Strong Drink We Have Ever Shown
WED. "THE SIGN OF THE CROSS"
Superb 5-Reel Religious Drama

Opera House

TONIGHT—Young-Adams Co.
"The Great John Ganton"
And Sovenir Photo of Mr. Young
Tue. Night—"East Lynne"
Wed. Night—"Fatal Wedding"
Chocolates at Mat.—Sovenir Photo of MARGUERITE at both Performances
Thur—"St. Elmo"
Sovenir Photo of Miss Stevenson

OXFORD FOUR AT IMPERIAL

Splendid Male Quartette in Popular Numbers
Vitagrap Three-Reel Feature Production
"HER STRANGE INHERITANCE"
HEARST-SELIG WEEKLY
TRAINING BRITISH BOYS for the Imperial Navy.
ALSO SCENES in Germany, United States, in the Panama Canal and elsewhere.
SPECIAL NOTICE: The Vitagrap Picture in this Programme is the Most Powerfully Edifying Lesson on the Evils of Strong Drink We Have Ever Shown
WED. "THE SIGN OF THE CROSS"
Superb 5-Reel Religious Drama