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# The Toronto World

THURSDAY MORNING APRIL 25 1918 —SIXTEEN PAGES

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VOL. XXXVIII—No. 13,679 TWO CENTS

## ENEMY BLOCKED AT POITTS NEAR AMIENS

### ZEEBRUGGE MOLE IS BROKEN AND OSSEND HARBOR BLOCKED

Official Admiralty Bulletin Gives Results of Air Observation After Naval Exploit—Crews Tell Thrilling Stories of Their Adventures and How the Raid Was Carried Out.

**RECOGNITION**  
London, April 24.—The order of King's Commander of the Bath has been conferred on Admiral Keyes in recognition of his services in command of the operations against Zebrugge and Ostend. Commander Carpenter, for his services in command of the Vindictive, has been promoted to captain.

London, April 24.—Air observation shows a clear break of twenty yards in the Zebrugge mole at the inner end, and that a sunken object blocks the greater part of the channel in the harbor of Ostend, according to an official bulletin issued by the Admiralty. The text of the statement reads:

"Following the naval operation on the enemy's coast yesterday morning, observations were made by aircraft, and bomb attacks carried out. Observation was difficult on account of the clouds, and on this account our machines descended as low as fifty feet.

"A clear break 20 yards wide was observed in the Zebrugge mole at its inner end. At Ostend a sunken object was seen lying between the piers and blocking the greater part of the fairway.

"Numerous bombs were dropped on objectives on shore."

**Says Pier Was Destroyed.**  
Dover, April 24.—The crew of one of the British submarines which was used to destroy the German piers at Zebrugge during yesterday morning's raid were rescued, according to a member of the crew, by an escorting destroyer. The sailor said that after the destroyer slipped the submarine at the entrance to the harbor, the underwater boat made straight for the target. A time fuse was set, and the crew abandoned the craft a few moments later. The submarine struck the objective and blew up. The sailor said the pier was blown to pieces.

**Thrilling Stories.**  
Crews of the ships which took part in the raid on Zebrugge have many thrilling stories of their adventures. One of them has described how, despite the fact that the Germans discovered their presence while they were still outside the harbor, they made their way in thru heavy gun fire, the Vindictive reaching the

wharf, where she remained for an hour and a half.

"A landing party was put ashore," the seaman said, "and we captured the German guns on the breakwater and turned them around, bringing them on the German fortified positions. As far as we could see, there was not a place of any military importance left—we destroyed a lot."

"We had to leave many of our landing parties behind, but they were taken off by motor boats. One of the destroyers received a salvo of shells in her engine room and had to be beached. She was blown up after the survivors had been rescued.

"Motor boats destroyed every floating thing in sight, including Zebrugge. Those of the landing party who remained behind to continue the work of smashing guns knew they would either lose their lives or be taken prisoner. They were volunteers and a brave lot of fellows."

**The German Version.**  
Berlin, April 24, via London.—In the British navy raid on Zebrugge and Ostend, the German submarine bases on the Belgian coast the German admiralty announces that in addition to the five British cruisers, sunk near the coast, three destroyers and a number

of motor boats were sunk by the fire of the coast batteries.

Beyond damage caused to the mole by a torpedo, the official statement adds, the harbor works and coast batteries at Zebrugge were undamaged. One German torpedo boat suffered slight damage.

The text of the statement reads:

"On Tuesday morning an enterprise of British naval forces against our Flanders bases resulted on a large scale and planned regardless of sacrifices, was frustrated.

"After a violent bombardment by the enemy at sea small cruisers, escorted by numerous destroyers and motorboats, under cover of a thick veil of artificial fog, pushed forward near Ostend and Zebrugge with the intention of destroying the locks and harbor works.

"According to prisoners, four companies of marines were to occupy the mole at Zebrugge by a coup de main in order to destroy all structures, guns and war material thereon, and the vessels lying in the harbor.

"Only about 40 of them got on the mole. These fell into our hands, some alive and some dead. On the narrow high wall of the mole both parties fought with the utmost fierceness.

"Of the naval forces which participated in the attack the small cruisers Virginia, Enterprise and Sirius, and two others of similar construction whose names are unknown, were sunk close off the coast. Moreover, three destroyers and a considerable number of torpedo boats and motors were sunk by our artillery fire. Only a few men of the crews could be saved by us.

"Beyond the damage caused to the mole by a torpedo hit, our harbor works are quite undamaged. Of our naval forces only one torpedo boat suffered damage of the lightest character. Our casualties were small."

### GERMANS RESUME THEIR HAMMERING AT FRONT DOOR OF CITY OF AMIENS



Pupils of the Toronto high schools and collegiate institutes and the older boys of the public and separate schools took part yesterday in a great parade in aid of greater production. The point of assembly was in Queen's Park, whence the procession passed to the Arena, where competitions and demonstrations were held. Some of the "farmerettes" are seen in the picture riding in a wagon in the parade.

**New Drive Made at Same Time That Another Blow Has Been Struck at Allies' Lines Northeast of Ypres.**

**Associated Press War Summary.**  
After three weeks of preparation in the Somme, during which time they launched an offensive in Flanders, the Germans have resumed their hammering at the front door of Amiens. For days there has been heavy artillery firing along the northern sectors of the Somme salient, and finally the German infantry began their attempts to advance on the line passing Villers-Bretonneux, Hangard, Hailles and Castel. The first attacks were repulsed, but subsequent attacks, centred about Villers-Bretonneux, have caused a British withdrawal from this village, according to a report from Field Marshal Haig. This marks a German gain of about a mile.

Villers-Bretonneux is about 11 miles directly east of Amiens and is on the western end of the most fighting front. It is situated between the Somme and Luce rivers, and while it is flanked on the south by low-lying ground it is backed by rolling hills to the west and northwest.

**Another Blow Near Ypres.**  
This new drive has been made at the same time that another blow has been struck at the British and French lines northeast of Ypres. Savage fighting is reported at various points along the line from Bailleul to Merville, and British claims that heights to the northeast of Bailleul have been stormed. Coincident with these attacks there have been assaults on the British front near Belgium along the Luce River, but these have been repulsed.

Some of the uncertainty as to the success of the British attempt to seal up the harbors of Zebrugge and Ostend has been cleared up by observations carried out by aviators. Heavy damage was done to the mole at Zebrugge, while the hulks of sunken steamers are said to at least partially block the channel leading out to sea from the harbor of Ostend. On the front in Belgium, with the exception of the Somme salient, there has been little fighting of an unusual nature.

The fighting on the rest of the front, where the Germans have resumed their drive toward the allied base of supplies in northern France, has not, so far as known, resulted in any notable retirements on the part of the allies. The German official report, issued on Wednesday, was silent as to events in this sector of the front.

**Attack Was Expected.**  
An attack on this particular part of the line in the Somme region had been expected, and it is believed that preparations to meet it had been made. The British lines held firm in this region during the last days of the initial drive, while the Germans were able to forge ahead farther south until they reached the village of Castel, about three miles from the railroad running to Paris from Amiens. Recently a French offensive at Castel went back considerable ground, and it was evident that unless the line farther north could be advanced materially, the Germans had little chance to make important gains in their operations to the south of Amiens.

The situation between Germany and Holland is still obscure. It has been reported that a virtual ultimatum was delivered to the Netherlands Government by Berlin, but this is not as yet known to be a fact. Despatches from The Hague insist that Holland will not depart from her attitude of neutrality. An unofficial report says that the Dutch minister has left for The Hague and that the German minister has started for Berlin.

**Spring With a Camouflage.**  
Yesterday was cold and windy and lacking in sunshine; and when, at the early daylight hour, the teams got on the land the outlook was anything but spring-like. The plows, cultivators, harrows, seeders, nevertheless got in their work, and by evening a fair day's progress had been made.

Pasture fields and meadows are turning green slowly; but the warm rain has yet to come to justify the farmer in letting out his young cattle. The sheep, however, are nibbling about, and the lambs besport themselves to make believe that spring is here. And yet there was a lot of camouflage to the spring exercises of yesterday. And after supper the tired farm hands got nearer the stove and the gramophone and said even these conditions were better than what prevailed in the trenches in France and Flanders.

**MOURNING DAYS.**  
A silk hat with the deep felt band is the proper emblem of mourning. The silk hats Dineen sets are made by Henry Heath and Christie of London. Heath is maker to His Majesty King George. Christie & Co. has a world wide reputation for fine hats. Call into Dineen's, 140 Yonge St., and look them over.

### SEVERAL SUCCESSES AGAINST BULGARIANS

**British Make Big Attack, While Allied Column Carries Heights and Villages.**

Paris, April 24.—An official statement says: "Eastern theatre, April 23: Very spirited fighting activity has continued in the various sectors. The day was marked by a series of new successes for our troops. West of Dourain British detachments penetrated Bulgarian trenches on an extended front. They destroyed shelters and inflicted very serious losses on the enemy. In the region west of the lake, a mobile reconnoitering column, operating north of Davoli, drove the enemy from the line of heights which dominate the right bank of the Vrbica valley, and pushing beyond occupied the villages of Sals and Strelca, taking prisoners. On both sides of the Cerna Bend and on the Serbian front we repulsed several enemy attacks, notably a new attempt by the Bulgarians to retake the work which the Serbians captured on April 21."

### GALLANT CANADIAN WINS VICTORIA CROSS

**Leads Three Troops Against Lines Heavily Manned in Manchuria.**

Canadian Associated Press Cable.  
London, April 24.—The Victoria Cross has been awarded to Gordon Murrie, Flowerdew, late of the Canadian cavalry, for most conspicuous bravery and dash when in command of a squadron detailed for special service of a very important nature.

On reaching his first objective Flowerdew saw two lines of the enemy, each 800 strong, with machine guns in the centre and on the flanks, one line being about 200 yards behind the other.

Realizing the critical nature of the operation and how much depended on it, Flowerdew ordered the troops under his command to advance in a column and carry out a special movement, while he led the remaining three troops to the rear. The squadron, less one troop, passed over the crest of the ridge, bayonetted the enemy with the sword, and then, with the aid of machine guns and machine rifles directed on it from the front and both flanks.

The enemy broke and retired, and the survivors of the squadron established themselves in the position, where they were joined after much hand-to-hand fighting by Lieut. Harvey's party.

Flowerdew was dangerously wounded, being shot through both thighs, but he continued to direct his men. There is no doubt that his bravery was a prime factor in the capture of the position.

### DUTCH AND GERMAN MINISTERS RETURNING TO THEIR CAPITALS

**Difficulties Have Arisen in Negotiations Between the Countries, and Diplomatic Relations May Be Severed.**

Amsterdam, April 24.—The Het Volk announces that the German minister to the Netherlands has left The Hague for Berlin and that the Dutch minister to Germany is on his way from Berlin to The Hague.

The Berlin correspondent of The Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant is informed by a person in authority that difficulties have arisen in the negotiations between Germany and Holland and the negotiations are not making headway.

The Hague correspondent of The Handelsblad says that the question of the transport of sand and gravel and the use of the railway line thru Limbourg depends entirely on the intentions of Germany. The correspondent adds that the Dutch Government will firmly observe neutrality, whatever happens.

### Toronto

Results of fifth year examinations in medicine are announced.

Spring parades by Toronto militia regiments begin at the armories.

Miss Frieda Held's case is placed on file at the public school management committee meeting.

Active service units are ordered to save all used tin cans, which are to be sold for further use.

Rev. Dr. S. D. Chown issues a call for a meeting of the Methodist General Mission Board for May 30.

McMaster University will confer the degree of D.D. on Rev. John MacNeill, pastor of Walmer Road Baptist Church.

Sir William Hearst, on his return from Porto Rico, tells of the increased enthusiasm in war work in the United States.

Rev. Dr. Endicott, general secretary of the Methodist Home and Foreign Mission Board, will arrive in Toronto tomorrow.

The jury investigating the death of Dominic Zangari brings in a verdict to the effect that he was shot by a person unknown.

The Riverdale branch of the G.W.V.A. is taking up the case of Mrs. Goodlife, who makes complaint against Toronto General Hospital.

A member of the Riverdale branch of the G.W.V.A. claims that men wearing G.W.V.A. buttons are selling cheap stenders at fancy prices.

That a pupil-card system for the public schools of Toronto would cost three thousand dollars is the assertion of R. H. Cowley, chief inspector.

John Roberts is found guilty of attempting to desert the ship canal thru Ashbridge's Bay, as navigation plants had been built and were being built along its streams in the district, but that no further work would be done towards completing the breakwaters and other work at the western end of the harbor improvement. The work will not be permanently abandoned, but postponed till after the war.

The minister stated that the proposed work on the western end of the harbor improvement was not necessary for navigation or for the winning of the war, and he therefore, could not see his way clear at this time to spend the three million dollars that would be required to complete the work.

### SHARP AIR FIGHTING OVERCOMES ENEMY

**British Down Sixteen German Machines, Besides Bombarding Important Hostile Points.**

London, April 24.—The official statement relative to air operations issued by the war office tonight reads: "The weather on Tuesday was unfavorable for flying until 5 p.m., after which fighting occurred in the air. Reconnaissance were carried out at a few altitudes on the coast. Hostile balloons, Stienwerck, La Gorgue, the 4th Avenue railway junction and the docks at Ostend were heavily bombed. Fourteen hostile machines were brought down, two were driven out of control and one was shot down back of our lines by anti-aircraft fire. One of our machines is missing.

"During the night 21 tons of bombs were dropped on different targets, including Roulers, Merville, Armentieres, Hazebrouck, the railway stations at Chaulnes, Thourout, Tournai and Courtrai and the docks at Zebrugge."

### ASHBRIDGE SHIP CANAL TO BE COMPLETED NOW

Ottawa, April 24.—Hon. F. B. Carroll, minister of public works, announced in the house of commons tonight that the government would push to the completion the ship canal thru Ashbridge's Bay, as navigation plants had been built and were being built along its streams in the district, but that no further work would be done towards completing the breakwaters and other work at the western end of the harbor improvement. The work will not be permanently abandoned, but postponed till after the war.

The minister stated that the proposed work on the western end of the harbor improvement was not necessary for navigation or for the winning of the war, and he therefore, could not see his way clear at this time to spend the three million dollars that would be required to complete the work.

### ENEMY TANKS ARE IN ACTION FIRST TIME SINCE WAR BEGAN

**Haig's Report on Wednesday's Fighting**

London, April 24.—Field Marshal Haig reports that the Germans have taken Villers-Bretonneux. The text of the statement reads:

"About 6.30 this morning, after a violent bombardment, the enemy attacked our whole front south of the Somme, the French on our right was repulsed.

"Later in the morning an attack on our positions in this sector was renewed in strength, and, although repulsed with loss on the southern and northern positions of the front, made progress at Villers-Bretonneux, where the fighting has been severe throughout the day. By evening the enemy had gained possession of the village, and the fighting was continuing.

"Other attacks by the enemy this morning on the north bank of the Somme and north of Albert, were repulsed; we secured a few prisoners."

"By a successful local operation, carried out this morning northwest of Festubert, a post, captured by the enemy in this locality on the twenty-second, was regained. The hostile garrison offered strong resistance, and lost heavily. We captured a few prisoners and four machine guns.

"Early in the morning the enemy delivered a strong local attack, with some success, against our new positions east of Robecq. Our line was maintained intact and eighty-four prisoners were left in our hands. Additional prisoners were secured in successful minor enterprises in the forests Nieppe and in the neighborhood of Meteren."

### PARTICULARLY STUBBORN BATTLE CONTINUES ALL DAY AT HANGARD

**French Troops Desperately Defending the Village, at Which Enemy Aims Furious Assaults.**

Paris, April 24.—The battle on the whole front south of the Somme and on the Avese lasted all day and still continues, according to the war office announcement tonight. The Germans gained a footing in the woods to the northward of Hangard-en-Santerre and also in the eastern outskirts of the village, which the French are desperately defending.

Several enemy assaults were shattered near Hailles, and attacks at Senecat wood and Hill 82 also failed. The statement says:

"An intense bombardment of the Franco-American positions south of the Somme and on the Avese was followed by a German attack carried out all along this front by a considerable force at five o'clock in the morning. The efforts of the enemy were directed against Hangard-en-Santerre, the region of Hailles and Senecat wood.

"South of the Avese the battle, which lasted all day, continues at the present hour. It was particularly stubborn in the region of Hangard. After a series of furious assaults the enemy succeeded in gaining a footing in the wood in the eastern outskirts of the village, which our troops are desperately defending.

"The fighting was less violent in the neighborhood of Hailles. Several enemy assaults directed against the ridge east of the village were broken down by our fire and our counter-attacks.

"Further to the south the Germans were similarly checked in their attempts against Senecat wood and Hill 82 which remained entirely in our possession."

"On the right bank of the Meuse the artillery was quite active."

### War News

Germany capture Villers-Bretonneux from the British.

Enemy attempt before Albert is crushed by British artillery.

British on Lys capture strong German post near Festubert.

British defeat strong German local attack east of Robecq.

A sunken object also almost completely blocks fairway at Ostend.

German offensive is renewed, and except at one village it fails.

The Dutch press declares that Holland will strictly enforce her neutrality.

Enemy apparently fighting only for local objectives in renewed attacks.

Correspondents report the fighting as hard on the southern British battle front.

Heavy fighting develops on the front from Castel to the Somme to the south of the river.

British repulse powerful assaults against right and left wings, inflicting heavy losses.

In Dutch-German dispute, Dutch minister leaves Berlin and German minister leaves The Hague.

British admiralty reports a twenty-foot break in the Zebrugge mole as a result of the raid.

The French shatter several enemy assaults near Hailles and defeat attacks at Senecat Wood and Hill 82.

The only things that the enemy has to show against the French are a footing in the eastern outskirts of Hangard-en-Santerre and also in nearby woods.

### CHAMP CLARK SENATOR

Jefferson City, Mo., April 24.—Governor Gardner tonight tendered to Champ Clark, Speaker of the house of representatives, the appointment as senator to succeed the late William J. Stone.