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# e Toronto World

THURSDAY MORNING APRIL 11 1918 -SIXTEEN PAGES

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New Offensive by Germans Is Being Carried Out With Great Ferocity Under Cover of Unprecedented Bombardment, But British Line Merely Bends Under Pressure

# TENACIOUS BRITISH TROOPS

Givenchy is Retaken With 1,000 Prisoners, and the Messines Ridge Are Everywhere Decisively Repulsed.

American troops are now rein-

Germans are keeping up their ong attacks with hordes of men and est concentrations of artillery in already alts that now apperently have morning objective in the penetrating of strengtl

he new offersive of the Germans is north of La Bassee canal. being carried out with great despera- of the enemy's assaults pressed our tion, with thousands of men, under of unprecedented bombardments Mes of the allied rear lines, endeavoring to pierce the bravely defended fronts driven out this morning by a counter-driven out this morning by a counter-attack. On several sectors of the new 20-

road junction of Bethune.

Some Pressed Back.

British positions southwest of Ar-

along the five-mile front between the

Ploegsteert Wood and the Wytschaete-

Messines ridge, have been pressed back by the Germans, but east of La Bassee, Givenchy hill, the key to Bethune, has been tenaciously held, and the Town of Givenchy retaken, while to the sorth in the region of Ypres, the en-

north, in the region of Ypres, the enemy's attacks against the high ground about the Messines Ridge everywhere have been decisively, repulsed. The British in recapturing Givenchy made rearly a thousand Germans, prisoner.

tearly a thousand Germans prisoner.

The latest German official state-

ment asserts that between Armen-tieres and Estaires the Germans have crossed the Lys River and that

north of Armentieres the British lines on both sides of Waasten-

Warneton have been penetrated. Six

housand prisoners and 100 guns are laimed to have been taken by the

Germans in the fighting between

Armentieres and La Bassee Canal.
The famous Vimy Ridge, won a year

ago by the Canadians, is receiving

prodigious visitation of shells from ferman batteries. The Canadians,

owever, with their usual compla-

ency, are awaiting an infantry attack, satisfied that they will be able

and hold this important sector.

Furious Assaults Here.

While the battle in the north has

en in progress, the fighting south

aligned against the Germans, has been rather subdued. Not so, how-

ever, on the other sectors where the

French and Germans are disputing occupancy of the terrain. Furi-

en-Santerre, the village changing hands many times. At last, accounts the French not only held the village,

The Germans essayed an attack

which had as its purpose the driving

f the French out of the woods near

Likewise west of Noyon the French repulsed an enemy attack.

The German submarine menace

evidently is growing less each week.
According to the British Admiralty's

statement the sinkings of British

than 1600 tons and two of less than

1600 tons. The total of the previous

larger category, and seven under

Only two French merchantmen

were sent to the bottom during the

STIFFENED RESISTANCE

ing to Powerful Support of United

States, Cables King Emmanuel.

Washington, April 10. - That the

bowerful support of the United States has stiffened the resistance of the beople and soldiers of Italy, King Em-

manuel cabled President Wilson in a message on the occasion of the first anniversary of the United States' en-

week ending April 6.

bmarine consisted of four of more

but suffered a severe check.

intmen last week by mine or

week was six merchantmen of the tish man power as well as to advance.

but also the nearby cemetery.

assaults and counter-assaults ave been going on around Hangard-

Somme, where the British are

decisively to defeat the enemy

mile battle line a few deep salients have been driven by the enemy, but in the process the Germans nowhere have been able to break thru, the line a few deep salients in establishing himself on the left bank of the Lys River at certain points east of Estaires and in the neighborhood of Bac St. Maur. ding back under the great "This morning the enemy

vest of La Bassee-salients which west of La Bassee—salients which across the river, seem to make certain the evacuation "Between Estaires and Givenchy

mentieres, lying between the Rivers Lys and Doube, north of Armentieres First American Troops

## BRITISH

Enemy's Attempts About Report That Troops Were Forced Report Loss and Recapture of Back by Fresh Enemy

Battalion of Infantry Given Enthusiastic Wel-

come on Taking Up Positions.

can fighting troops have arrived on the British front and have been greeted

with intense enthusiasm. The overseas pioneers were a battalion of in-

an all-night march, the same being on the anniversary of the entrance of

the United States in the war. The dusty and unshaven faces of the

Americans showed that they had been long on the road.

War News

Britist lose and recapture Givenchy.

Enemy fails to capture Givenchy Hill.

Armentieres still stays in British hands.

Dominion artillery joins heavily in the

Terrific bombardments prevail from Arras to Ypres.

British maintain positions between Es-

Canadians wait for the Germans. to dare a frontal attack.

Enemy fails in efforts west of Noyon and in region of Suzoy.

French fight series of local actions at several points in the front.

German attack against a wood west of

A mutiny is reported among some Ger-man troops ordered to France.

Berlin claims that the Germans cap-

Two Canadian raiding parties make successful efforts against the enemy.

French reconnoitring parties gain minor success north of Mont Renaud,

German manoeuvre is an attempt to outflank Vimy Ridge by way of Bethune,

A division of Lancashire Territorials makes a fine charge in fight for Givenchy.

British troops are fighting magnifi-

Germans maintain powerful attacks against the northern part of the British

Particularly sanguinary fighting has proceed about Fleurbaix and near Givenchy.

Hangard-en-Santerre changes hands several times, but finally remains with the French.

Cassel suffers complete check.

With the British Army in France, April 10 .- The first of the Ameri-

London, April 10 .- Maintaining their powerful attacks in the northern part of the British line, the Germans continued to gain ground today. The of- of local actions begun by the Germans continued to gain ground today.

The text of the statement reads: "Following upon the bombardment The text of the statement reads:

"Following upon the bombardment already reported, the enemy this morning launched a fresh attack in strength against our positions between the Lys River and Armentieres and the Ypres-Comines canal. Heavy fighting has been taking place in this sector thruout the day, as well as on the whole front of yesterday's attack.

"At the same time a German attack in men could be found both in and out of the army in Canad, whom they could well replace. All but three had been more than three lears in France, and their wives and families in Canadah ad suffered during their absence, they claimed.

"At the same time a German attack which was intended to drive the troops brought the village and cemetery into our possession. From the south of Yores in Belgium sector thruout the day, as well as on o the region of La Bassee in France the whole front of yesterday's attack,

> "North of Armentieres the weight troops back to the line Wytschaete-"Bodies of German infantry who had forced their way into Messines were

pressure. Particularly deep are wedges crossed the Lawe at Lestrem, but was "Northwest of Rheims the French counter-attacked by our troops and succeeded in penetrating the enemy driven out of the village and back lines and in bringing back some pri-

## **FRENCH**

Village of Hangard-en-Santerre.

Paris, April 10.-The text of the ficial report from Field Marshal Haig mans at several points on the front.

ficial report from Field Marshal Haig mans at several points on the front.

ficial report from Field Marshal Haig mans at several points on the front.

"In the region of Hangard-en-Santored lack to the line of Wytschaete, Messines Ridge and Ploegsteert.

Germans are keening up their terre the Germans yesterday evening delivered an attack which was preceded by strong artillery preparation-

> tack which was intended to drive the French out of the wood to the west of Castel suffered a severe check. 'West of Noyon the Germans were

"In the region of Suzoy French Canada troops smashed the German efforts, which increased the number of his "We"

"There was great activity of both by the British of Armentieres and to our positions have been maintained. On other parts of the British front the threaten seriously the important rail-out positions have been maintained. On other parts of the British front the day again passed comparatively quiet-out of Bethune.

Toronto

"Original Firsts" meet and pass a reso-ution against returning to the front.

The board of education will consider

Mayor Church is out to clean up the municipal slate by dealing successively with the several problems awaiting ad-

# PROTESTING RETURN

Forty Original Firsts Hold Meeting and Discuss Hardship of Such.

### SUGGEST MARCH PAST

They Agree to Attend Celebration in Their Honor on Tribute Day.

More than 40 "Original Firsts," 13 of them over 40 years, and 4 of them over 45, met last evening at Victoria Hall and voiced their feeling that while

The following resolution was passed:
"Whereas we find that the married men in Canada have not yet been conscripted, and that a arge number of fit single men are ergaged here in Canada both in civil and military duties."

which increased the number of his losses without giving him any gain.
"Northeast of Mont Renaud French reconnoiting parties took some prisoners and captured two machine guns.
"On the left bank of the River Oise and in the region of the canal there was intermittent artillery fighting.
"Northwest of Rheims the French succeeded in penetrating the energy of the canal the minister of militia."

Complains of Aliens
The chairman pointed out that all
the men present were directly from
the trenches in France. There were scores of Austrians and Bulgarians scores of Austrians and Bulgarians here in Toronto getting \$7 a day.

A Voice: What's the matter with the government?

The president stated that the slogan of the Union government had been:
"As soon as conscription comes the original firsts will return to Canada."

One of the men stated that it was only right for fit men in the militia Reinforce the British to be replaced by those who had been long months and years in France. "Are the married men of Canada

being conscripted?" asked one man. On a reply in the negative the meet-ing asked why married original firsts should be returned.

Another man pointed out that there was not an imperial of the "contemptible army" in the trenches today. All had returned to England and were holding down good jobs.

Frequency of Furlough.
One of those present pointed out that every British Tommy had furfantry, which came swinging along the road into a certain sector after lough every nine months, and every poilu got his every six months. Another matter came up for serious discussion—that of the celebration on May 4. One member stated that he would spend that day home, because his time in Canada was short. The chairman felt it would be well to attend. The civic authorities were doing their best to make everyone com-

fortable. Another man pointed out that the Tribute Day celebration was originally The itinerancy of Methodist pastors may be suspended during the war, devised as a grand reception to the original firsts. It would be well, he A new Masonic lodge, to be known as Metropolitan Lodge, is being formed in said, to not ignore the fact that there were many men and women in the city who were heart and soul with the soldier boys. It was finally moved The food control board appeals again to women to help in enforcing economy upon citizens, and seconded that the original firsts hold a march past at the grand stand on that day, provided no objection be on that day, provided no objection be on that day are the citizens. hold a march past at the grand stand on that day, provided no objection be raised by the civic authorities. The board of education will allow male

### RELIEF STEAMER SUNK

Nine new Ford tractors arrive for distribution around Toronto, and will all be at work by tonight.

Beigian Vessel Flandres Struck Mine in Free Channel.

The Lucky Clover Club presents a Victrola and 50 records to convalescent soldiers in the General Hospital. Amsterdam, April 10.—The Belgian relief steamer Flandres struck a mine in the free channel Monday and sank, according to The Handelsblad. The Prof. S. B. McCready expresses his willingness to supervise food production work of school pupils without salary.

The Flandres was last reported in available shipping records as having The Dominion Government has taken an option on six large ships to be built by the Dominion Shipbuilding Co.

available shipping records as having arrived at an American port Feb. 10. She was a vessel of 4157 tons, and was owned at Anvers.

### a plan for adding to the number of pupils in each room and thus effecting a saving of \$20,000. ANOTHER ARRIVAL FROM THE WAR ZONE.

Christy & Co., the famous London Hatters, have been endeavoring for months to fill a big order for Men's Hats placed by The W. & D. Dineen Co., Ltd., 140 Yonge street. The dif-The municipal intelligence bureau has issued a booklet entitled "Toronto Does Her Bit," which is a very comprehensive review of the city's war activities.

Co. Ltd. 140 Yonge street. The direction of the colors in hats so popular this spring greens, greys, states, blue-greys and pearls.

The hats were finally shipped and According to statements issued by officials of the Veterans' Association, another mass meeting regarding aliens may be held, at which violence may prevail.

The hats were finally shipped and the boat, though chased by submatines, safely escaped and the cases full of hats are being unpacked to-

Accidental death is the verdict of the jury enquiring into the accident on the Don Mills road, which resulted in the death of Samue' Green and Jerry Nelson. Yonge street.

## DRAW UP MEMIRIAL VICIOUS ATTACKS ARE MADE AGAINST THE BRITISH LINES

German Hordes Flung Themselves Against Defenders, Hoping By Sheer Weight of Numbers to Annihilate the British Army.

With the British Army in France, April 10 .- The p.m., Wednesday) which way the tide of conflict was Messines Ridge and the Ploegsteert Wood, which last June were cleared of Germans by a spectacular coup, again today were filled with swirling masses of fiercely battling troops as the result of a new drive launched by the enemy between Armentieres and Messines

For hours the German hordes have been flinging themselves viciously against the defending lines, and by sheer weight of numbers forced their way forward at several points into the British positions. Messines, Ploegsteert and Nieppe all had come within the zone of the bitter fighting during the forenoon, but with the attacks and counter-attacks in progress the situto say at the time of the filing of this despatch (2 far as is possible.

Today's push north of Armentieres was a continuation of the new phase of the great offensive which boiled up yesterday between Givenchy and Armentieres, when the enemy surged forward suddenly with fresh troops and made a considerable dent in the defend-

If the enemy attack of today should succeed, Armentieres would lie in a deep salient with the Germans well in on either side of it.

In the meantime fighting is still proceeding at various points in the sector between Givenchy and

One of the main features of the German plans for ation was changing so rapidly that it was impossible kaiser is bent on annihilating the British army, as

# BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS

### **BRITISH SINKINGS** TOUCH LOW LEVEL

Only Four Vessels Over 1,600 Tons and Two Under Sunk.

London, April 10.—The sink-ing of British merchantmen by mines or submarines last week reached the next lowest level of any week since Germany began any week since Germany begon her intensive submarine cam-paign early in 1917. Four ves-sels of more than 1600 tons, two of less than 1600 tons, and two fishing boats were sent to the bottom. The admiralty state-

ment adds: "Vessels unsuccessfully at-tacked, 11, including two previously. "Arrivals, 2534; sailings, 2495.

"Both fishermen reported to-day were sunk during the week ending March 30."
The low record in sinkings for any week since Germany began her intensive submarine campaign was, in the aggregate weight of tonnage sunk, the week of Nov. 11 last. Then only one vessel of over 1600 tons and five vessels of less than 1600 tons were destroyed.

### WOUNDED SOLDIERS ARE EXPECTED TODAY

Exact Time of Arrival Can Be Got by Telephoning Military Head-quarters.

Official information given out late last night by Toronto military headquarters regarding the next contingent of returned men due in Toronto was that the soldiers were on two trains, Nos. 976 and 977, further treatment cases on one and hospital cases on the other, and that the trains would reach Toronto Union station, via G. T. R., some time today, this morning. Further information as to the time of the train arrivals will be available today to those who military headquarters; or the soldiers aid commission, after 9 a.m., North

DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED. Ottawa, April 10.-The sentence on William Bennett, of Montreal, under the death penalty for the killing of Sergt. Leitch of the same city on a lonely road near Pembroke, Ont., has been commuted to life imprisonment.

Second Reading is Given Measure by Vote of 323 to 100--- Crisis in British Military Strength Expected at End of May.

London, April 10.-The house of ommons tonight passed the second. reading of the government's manpower bill. The vote was 323 to 100. Closure was applied and carried by a vote of 319 to 105, and Sir Charles Hobhouse's amendment, declaring but not before mid-day. Late last hight the trains were just outside of Quebec, and scheduled to reach Montreal at 2 o'clock and 4 o'clock the opinion that the measure diminthe opinion that the measure diminishes the naval and economic power of the nation without adding commensurately to the military strength,"
was defeated by a vote of 321 to 106.
Factors which governed the recent crisis over the removal of General Sir William Robertson as chief of the general staff still seem to control the political situation, The Lloyd George Government has again challenged the house of commons to accept its man-power policy or pro-

vide another government.
To Carry Bill. Since no parliamentary section ap-pears ready to take the government responsibility, the indications are, as shown by today's debate on the second reading of the bill, that the government will carry the day, despite clear evidence that the new proposals meet with the most widespread criti-cism. Moreover, the news from the front today showing the continued gravity of the military situation, is helping the ministers in their new

campaign.

Opinion in the lobby of the house was that former Premier Asquith could have taken a much stronger attitude against the government than he did, and the fact that he refrained from utilizing the opportunity to mbarrass the government, is indicative of the spirit of a large section

house. Irish May Compromise. Ireland and the attitude of the Nationalists, of course, remains an un-known factor, but John Dillon at the end of his speech seemed to indicate same manoeuvre from the north by fear for the future. Everywhere a possible means of agreeing with the Bethune. The anniversary of the there is confidence and sure foreproposals on the projected home rule measure become known nothing can be predicted with any degree of certainty After a somewhat exciting sitting today the government carried the sec-ond reading of the man power bill by the unexpected substantial majority of 223. It is not unlikely, however, that the bill may be modified considerably in its passage thru committee. Andrew Bonar Law, government leader, intimated in the course of the dehate that the government might con-sider fixing the conscription age at 48

After Captain William A. Redmond had spoken against the government measure a sensational scene arose in the house. Leifchild Jones, Liberal War broods over the ridge.

From Lens to Arras ruin is being added to ruin. Smoky by day, rip
added to ruin. Smoky by day, rip
luck, but the other, 25 strong, took 10 Sir Auckland Geddes, minister of re-

## IF GERMANS ATTACK VIMY CANADIANS TO BE READY

Enemy's Price for His Attempt Will Be Terrible, as Canadians Wait With Calm Confidence.

By W. A. Willison.

outflank Vimy Ridge in the south, front, assembly and rear areas. the Germans are now attempting the date that saw Canada victorious in knowledge that if the enemy attacks winning back so much of the coal lands of France finds those lands menaced again. Canada, with its nificent. It found repeated expression hard-won Vimy Ridge behind it, yesterday. At one point two Canadian parties raided enemy lines. The waits for Germany to dare a Crontal

swered to those of the enemy. Thruout the area from the Scarpe to Sou- party, in a stealthy raid, found the chez little villages have known again enemy in some strength and According to statements made at the Canadian Northern arb'tration proceedings land in Manitoba and Saskatchewan would not bring more than \$7 to \$10 an \$5; Stiff Hats, black only, \$5 and \$6.

med in fire by night, our old battle prisoners,

grounds are alive to battle again. Canadian Army Headquarters, Lievin, Asqueroivres and other big April 10 .- Foiled in their attempt to and little centres is answered by the roar of our guns, sweeping the enemy

Our men wait in trenches without our heights his price for that attack will be terrible.

The temper of our forces is magwaits for Germany to dare a Crontal first advancing after artillery barrage, found the enemy outpost line deserted. It pushed on to the front and this morning our guns have anof the enemy being found. They resisted and were killed. The other

instead of 50.

Geddes Shouted Down.