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THREE MORE VILLAGES FALL

HURSDAY MORNING MARCH 1 1917 - FOURTEEN PAGES

AS BRITISH STILL ADVANCE

Seeking Mexico and Japan As Allies Against U.S.

Man Power Inventory Discloses Many Men Available for Factories.

Government Takes Measures to Solve Coming Problem of Employment.

ister in his recent statement to parliament is now being launched from Ottawa by the National Service Board. thruout Canada excepting small retailers, brokers, professions and farmers. It is pointed out that the man power inventory of Canada now being completed at the statistical branch of the National Service Board, discloses & large number of men available for work in the regular industries of the country in case of need. This poten-tial labor will be of little value to the state unless it can be usefully em-poyed in connection with the different types of productive, essential industry. The questionnaire now being issued is partly designed to reveal the extent and nature of the present demand for labor, and it is also intended to en-able the National Service Board to make a forecast of the general conditions in regard to employment likely prevail immediately following

and of the war.

To Classify Employes.

Employers are requested to classify their employes, including office staffs, instaling the number of each class employed. loyed before the war and at the resent time. Inquiry is made as to the additional number of workers in each class that could now be profit-

Continued on Page 9, Col. 3).

STEAMERS SUNK

FEW BRITISH VESSELS SUNK IN PAST WEEK

Official Figures Show Percentage of Losses is Remarkably

British official weekly statement of urrivals and sailings, war losses and unsuccessful attacks on shipping for the week ending Sunday, Feb. 25: Arrivals and sailings, merchant vessels of all nationalities (over 100 tons net) at and from United Kingdom ports (exclusive of fishing and local craft): Arrivals, 2280; sailings, 2261. British merchant vessels sunk by mine or submarine, of 1600 tons gross

h fishing vessels sunk, 4.

OVERTURES BY BERLIN TO MEXICO AND JAPAN

Documents Reveal Amazing Effort By Germany to Line Up Mexico and Japan in Warfare Against U.S., By Offers of Bribes.

Washington, Feb. 28.—The Associated Press is enabled to reveal that deed Press is enabled to reveal that tory in New Mexico, Texas and Articles of the Press of t Germany, in planning unrestricted submarine warfare and counting its settlement. consequences, proposed an alliance WILL AID AFTER WAR with Mexico and Japan to make war

should not remain neutral. Japan, thru Mexican mediation, was to be urged to abandon her allies and join in the attack on the U.S. Mexico, for her reward, was to re

ceive general financial support from Ottawa, Feb. 28.—The occupational Germany, reconquer Texas, New Mex-survey foreshadowed by the prime min-ico and Arizona, lost provinces—and ment of ruthless submarine warfare share in the victorious peace terms

Some 200,000 forms and covering let- ter, Von Eckhardt, in Mexico City, ters are being mailed to all employers who by instructions signed by Gerco seek to bring Japan into the plot

Bernst rff in Plot.

These instructions were transmitted to Von Eckhardt thru Count Von Bernstorff, former German ambassador here, now on his way home to Germany under a safe conduct obtained from his enemies by the country against which he was plotting Germany pictured to Mexico,

broad intimation. Engand and the

make war together and together make peace. We shall give general financial

Washington, Feb. 28 .- The Associ-| support, and it is understood that zona. The details are left to you for

"You are instructed to president of Mexico of the above in the greatest confidence, as soon as it is on the United States, if this country certain that there will be an outbreak of war with the United States, and suggest that the president of Mexico, on his own initiative, should communi cate with Japan, suggesting adherence at once to this plan; at the same time offer to mediate between Germany and

now promises to compel England to make peace in a few months,

Germany contemplated.

Details were left to German minister, Von Eckhardt, in Mexico City, who by instructions signed by Germaan Foreign Minister Zimmerman at Berlin, Jan. 19, 1917, was directed to propose the alliance with Mexico to Gen. Carranza and suggest that Mexico seek to bring Japan into the plot and while congress has been hesitating. It was in the president's hands while Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg was declaring that the United States had placed an interpretation on the submarine declaration "never intended by Germany," and that Germany had promoted and honored friendly relations with the United States "as an heirloom from Frederick the Great."

Of itself, if there were no other, it is considered a sufficient answer to the German Chancellor's plaint that the United States "brusquely" broke off relations, without giving "authentic" reasons for its actions.

Supplies Missing Link.

The document supplies the missing

Concluded on Page 4, Col. 4).



BRITISH PREMIER AND HIS SOLDIER SON

ther allies deteated, Germany and her allies triumphant and in world domination by the instrument of unstricted submarine warfare. Zimmermann's Instructions. A copy of Herr Zimmermann's instructions. You be nest to von Eckhardt, sent thrue you be nest to von the united States Government. It is as follows: "Berlin, Jan. 19. 1917. "On the first of February we intend to begin submarine warfare unrestricted. In spite of this, it is our intention to endeavor to keep neutral the United States of America. "If this attempt is not successful we propose an alliance on the following basis with Mexico: That we shall make war together and t Will Be for Bapaume Ridge

Is That Move is Beginning of Realignment.

London, Feb. 28 .- In London there is much speculation in the press as to the meaning of the enemy's retirement on the Ancre. The general view is that it means the beginning of a realignment, which will involve the evacuation of the entire salient, now dangerous and costly, held by the Germans in the region west of the Bapaume-Arras line. British guns now command the only railway by which the southern part of the salient can be provided with food and shells. The road system is also menaced by Gen. Gough's possession of Serre.

The Evening Standard presents its military correspondent's opinion that "the Germans voluntarily gave up a strip of ground two miles wide in order to forestall the upset intended by a British attack on a large scale. It is as if the anvil had been suddenly removed when the powerful hammer stroke was about to be struck. Delay is necessitated on our part by the Dr. Hawke Gave San Fran-digging of new trenches in front of the new German line and the displacing of heavy, as well as light artillery. This may be the aim of the enemy.

The French view is also quoted to the effect that the Germans retired in order to prevent overwhelming disaster. In any event the next big struggle on this part of the front must be for the command of Bapaume ridge and the series of heights north of the Ancre, covering Bapaume, on BRITISH KEEP UP DRIVE

AGAINST FOE ON TIGRIS

Advance of General Maude Proceeds Rapidly North of

DR. HAWKE, EXILE, **LACONIA SURVIVOR**

Identity of Former Toronto Medical Man Has Been Established.

ON WAY TO FRONT

cisco as Address in Booking Passage.

Canadian Associated Press Cable. London, Feb. 28.—Among the sur-vivers of the sinking of the Laconia

are Edmund S. Duggan of Toronto and Benjamin Hawke, formerly of Toronto; also Mrs. Reid, daughter of Fred Buscombe, formerly mayor

in the passenger list, is Dr. Hawke, who disappeared from Toronto several years ago just before a warrant was issued for his arrest on a charge of performing an illegal operation, which resulted fatally. It is reported that Dr. Hawke obtained permission from the British consul at San Francisco to go to England to offer his services Dr. Hawke was one of the best

known medical men in Toronto and a member of the board of education for some years.

NEXT BRITISH MAIL.

The next British and foreign mail (via England), will close at the general post office as follows: Ordinary letter matter only, regular mail, at 9 p.m., Thursday, March 1, Supplementary—6 a.m., Frida

Parcel post and registered matter-5 p.m., Thursday, March 1.

UNUSUAL FUR BARGAINS. The most sensational fur sale of the



figures that are less

Kut-el-Amara — Turks Are Almost Surrounded. The rapid advance of the British London, Feb. 28.-The British are continuing to advance rapidly on expeditionary force under Gen. Maude the Tigris front. Official announce-

Monday the Turks were being engaged on the left bank of the river, City of Bagdad, capital of the caliphs niore than thirty miles west and and famed in fable and story. northwest of Kut-el-Amara, The British gunboat Firefly, which hend's force at Kut was forced to sur-

one destroyed.

Mesopotamia gives the following:

"The cicse pursuit of the retreating a function between the Tigris forces and those in Persia was at one time thruout Monday, and our advanced thought to be in prospect, and one troops were thus engaging the enemy Russian cavalry detachment, indeed, from three sides at a point on the left bank of the Tigris, over 30 miles west northwest of Kut-el-Amara, after Townshend's The enemy has abandoned quantities surrender.

of arms, ammunition, tents, equipwear in spring and fall. Dineen's, 140 thrown some of his guns, including capture of Bagdad by these joint and Yonge street.

up the Tigris after the capture of Kutel-Amara from the Turks has revived ment was made here today that on interest in the various phases of the long halted campaign for the ancient Last spring, before Gen. Towns-

was lost at the time of the retreat render to the Turks, Russian operafrom Cteslphon, has been recaptured. tions in Persia and Armenia were from Cresiphon, has been recaptured:

One Turkish ship has been taken and counted upon to aid in driving against the Ottoman armies defending Bag-The three branches of the drive A report despatched late Mon-were directed respectively from A report despatched late Mon-day by the officer commanding in from the east, by the Russians in Persia, and from the north, by Grand "The cicse pursuit of the retreating Duke Nicholas, in Turkish Armenia.

The fall of Kut, however, really of arms, ammunition, tents, equipment and stores of all kinds, and has spelled the collapse of the entente plan, if one there was, to effect the

Gommecourt, Thilloy and Puisieux-au-Mont Have Been Captured and the British Line Pushed Forward More Than Half Mile Northeast of Gommecourt-Successful Raid Near Clery.

London, Feb. 28.—British troops occupied the important Village of Gommecourt today and captured the villages of Thilloy and Puisieux-au-Mont as well, advancing their line more than a mile to the northeast of Gommecourt. This announcement is made in the official report from British headquarters in France, which also records several raids of minor importance. The text of the statement reads:

"This morning we attacked and captured a portion of an enemy trench northeast of Sailly-Saillisel and took 85 prisoners, including two officers, and also a machine gun.

"Our advance north and south of the Ancre continued during the night. We occupied Gommecourt today. We have captured the villages of Thilloy and Puisieux-au-Mont, together with the trench systems adjoining them, and have pushed our line forward a thousand yards to the northeast of Gommecourt. A successful raid was carried out last night in the neighborhood of Clery. Our troops reached the enemy's second line and captured 22 prisoners. We also entered the enemy's positions northeast of Arras and southwest and west of Lens and bombed several occupied dugouts.

"An enemy raid northeast of Armentieres was repulsed with

"Much available reconnaissance work was carried out by our aeroplanes yesterday. A number of air fights took place and three of our machines were brought down."

STORY FROM HEADQUARTERS.

Gommecourt, one of the German strong points which held out against the fury of the British offensive launched last July, in the latest David Lloyd George, premier of Great Britain, walking thru his native vil-age, Criccieth, in Wales, with his eldest son, who is a lieutenant in the British army and has seen service on the Verdun and Somme fronts. of the salient jutting into the British lines for months pation marks the giving away of what was regarded as the northern hinge of the German line, which is now swinging back, and lends further color to the theory that this is but the first step towards shortening the line in the Arras-Somme region.

Meantime the British have approached to within a mile of Bapaume, in which town further explosions have been heard. It is re-General View in London of German Retirement liably reported that the famous Bapaume clock tower, long spared by the British artillery, has been blown up by the Germans.

In fine weather the British have been able to read the hour by this clock and picture the German activities about the tower. The weather today was dark and gloomy and these observations could not be made. The clock towers at Achiet-le-Petit and Bucquoy have also been blown up, the Germans apparently being determined to leave nothing behind which by any chance could be made available for

Ever since the beginning of the German withdrawal the British advance has largely been won after severe fighting. The Germans appear to have picked their best men and officers to cover the retreat. these being left in machine gun groups approximating 90 men, protected by high velocity guns far in the rear and linked up with the rctiring headquarters by telephone.

PARTICULARLY HARD FIGHTING.

There was particularly hard fighting about Puisieux-au-Mont, and when the British entered they found many German dead. The Germans also adopted their favorite practice of incessantly shelling the evacuated points. They poured perfect streams of shells into Irles, Miraumont, Serre and other villages today from far away "heavies" mounted on railway trucks and lighter calibre weapons which seemingly were doing the double duty of shooting off reserve ammunition and wearing themselves out before possible abandon-

It was with a sense of immense gratification that the British officers led their troops thru what once had been a beautiful park surrounding the chateau of Gommecourt on the way to occupy that town and points beyond. The assault launched against it last July was one of the most vicious of the war, the casualties on both sides being very heavy. The assault was repeated several times during the summer and autumn offensive, but, despite the terrible hammering it received, the Germans managed to hold it, only to yield now under the pressure of the British guns, which has been going on all thru the long winter days and nights. There has been a tremendous expenditure of ammunition in the continuous bombardments along the whole length of the British line, the results of which are now becoming more

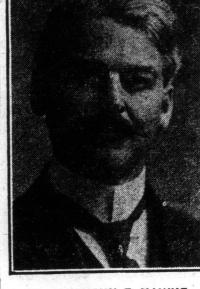
In addition to depending upon picked troops, carefully selected from each regiment, to cover their retirement, the Germans have also placed confidence in the temporary barrier imposed by a belt of ground more than a mile wide, which has been shelled for two years in some places, representing a chaos of churned-up earth where once fair fields and modern railways existed. Once this is bridged, however, the battle against the Germans will be transferred to firm ground.

ANYTHING TO DELAY BRITISH. The outposts have been fighting for the past 48 hours with grim determination. Orders have been found on the Germans to impede enemy pursuit at all hazards. Some of the German dead among the rear guard appear to be equipped for three or four weeks, another indication, as figured by British officers, that the retirement movement may extend over thirty days and that the desire is to delay any

extensive British forward movement during that time. Altho the fighting has been heavy, it is evidently designed to

London, Feb. 28 .- Following is the

or over, 15; under 1600 tons gross ,6.
British merchant vessels unsuccessly attacked by submarines, 12; Brit- | front.



DR. BENJAMIN E. HAWKE,

formerly of Toronto. He left the city when a warrant was issued for his . The C.A.P. despatch makes it arrest several years ago. He was a clear that "Dr. Benjamin Hawke of passenger on the torpedoed Laconia, San Francisco," as his name appeared in the warrant list is Dr. Herbert on his way for medical service at the

* WAR SUMMARY *

THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

OR the fifth day the British continued their advance on the Ancre yesterday. They captured Thilloy and Puisieux-au-Mont and the trench systems adjoining them, and they then occupied Gommecourt, vacated by the Germans, and shoved their line forward one thousand yards to a point northeast of Commecourt. Southeast of Le Transloy and northeast of Sailly-Saillisel the British captured a portion of a German trench, taking

The British operations yesterday comprised the deflection of their advance by wheeling at a point north of Gommecourt and swinging a section of their front northeastward instead of eastward. The German lines to the north of the sector which is retreating bulge out into the British lines as a salient, between a point north of Gommecourt and a point north of Arras, about Souchez and Lens. Sir Douglas Haig is now swinging a portion of his front of advance from the east towards the north so as to make the elbow of the salient north of Gommecourt as sharp as possible. His object is by pressure to force the Germans to evacuate the large salient that bulges out north and south of Arras. The British army now grips it like a vice at the two points, Loos and near Gommecourt, where it begins to curve outward from the alignment of the salients that the British have driven before Lens and Bapaume.

en another day's fighting the British drove the Turks 15 miles further ent cost of the unfashioned skins and up the Tigris River and the battle was proceeding, according to the latest pelts. All Hudson Seal and Persian official communication, at a point 30 miles west and northwest of Kut-el-Lamb coats are included, as well as

Amera. The British advanced troops were engaging the enemy on three

sets of furs that are seasonable for

(Continued on Page 2, Cols. 3 and 4.)