

# Germans Capture Key to Ypres.

## Kemmel Hill in Their Possession. Fighting of Most Bitter Nature Being Waged. Allied Reserves Intact.

### WAR SUMMARY.

Kemmel Hill, a position which has been looked upon as the key to the southern side of the Ypres salient, and one of the most important strategic points on the north battle front in France, has been taken by the enemy after a defence which will be one of the heroic chapters of the war. The hill was surrounded and the French forces entrenched on its slopes were overcome. The loss of the hill is admitted in an official by General Delmas-Radcliffe, Chief of Military Operations of the British Expeditionary Force, which says the whole Ypres position is in peril from the German drive north from the low lands lying to the west of Ypres. The Germans launched terrific attacks on the whole Wytchaete-Bailieu-Meteren line Wednesday, apparently for the purpose of finding a point which might yield. They evidently found that spot in the section of the front held jointly by the British and French troops against which they hurled fresh divisions which fought their way forward all day Thursday until at nightfall they had surrounded Kemmel Hill and isolated the French troops holding the position. All night long the fight went on and it was not until Friday that the Germans succeeded in storming up the slopes of the hill. The loss of Kemmel Hill is serious, for it overlooks much of the low lands lying back of the Allied lines in the Ypres salient. The hill is 464 feet in height. Rising from low lands on the south and east it is six miles south-west of Ypres and three miles west of Wytchaete. The German success cuts a deep notch in the Allied line to the southeast of Ypres and has threatened the British on the northern slopes of Messines Ridge which they were forced to evacuate by the German assaults on the line to the west of Ypres and three miles west of Wytchaete. The German success cuts a deep notch in the Allied line to the southeast of Ypres and has threatened the British on the northern slopes of Messines Ridge which they were forced to evacuate by the German assaults on the line to the west of Ypres and three miles west of Wytchaete.

French batteries in reply, however, never ceased. This lasted all night long and in the morning the fire was intensified to a degree not reached since the opening of the German offensive a month ago. An enemy infantry attack was then launched on an eight mile front between Breton and Senect Wood on the south bank of the Luce. The heaviest fighting ranged around Hangard where our line curves in a narrow salient. By the middle of the afternoon the enemy had fought his way into the village, capturing the woods to the north. The French managed to retake Hill 59 overlooking the village and it appears to be still ours. The Germans have retaken Hill 63 southward on the Luce and the French are fighting up to the village of Hailes, thereby advancing their lines a mile.

### ALLIED RESERVES INTACT.

ON THE FRENCH FRONT IN FRANCE, April 26. (By the Associated Press.)—The more they advance along the road towards Amiens the more perilous becomes the salient the Germans are forming in the Somme region, especially in view of the fact that the Allied reserves are virtually intact, and the Allied armies are now commanded by a single chief. The present moment is less favorable to the German plans than when they started their advance on March 21. Then a weak point existed between the French and British armies. Now there is no sensitive part of the line, since the united command has been given the opportunity to make the most practical use of the Allied troops. From March 21 until to-day the British have been approximately 130 divisions, of which 40 have been withdrawn to refill their ranks and have been sent into the battle for the second time, making the total divisions in action 130. About 70 other divisions have not yet been engaged in the battle, but of these a considerable proportion are uncommitted to more than hold quiet sectors. The forward movement must therefore be carried through very quiet sectors, as the German staff will itself be without further reserves.

### ENEMY PROGRESS.

LONDON, April 26. (Official.)—North of the Lys River the battle is continuing feverishly on the whole front from the neighborhood of Dranoutre to the Ypres-Comines Canal. The enemy has gained possession of Dranoutre, Kemmel village and Mt. Kemmel. The enemy's attack yesterday was made in great strength by nine German divisions. This morning the French and British troops counter-attacked and succeeded at first in making some progress capturing a number of prisoners. Later in the day the enemy renewed his attacks directing his assaults with particular insistence against the positions from Longueval to Kemmel and Scherenberg. All the enemy's attacks have been held; but after severe fighting, in the course of which a series of determined attacks were repulsed with heavy losses to his troops, he succeeded in pressing our line back in the direction of Longueval, both sides of the Ypres-Comines Canal the enemy also progressed. Early in the day the French and British troops attacked the enemy positions south of the Somme in the neighborhood of Hangard and Hangard Wood, and have carried their line forward at certain points by heavy fighting. On the remainder of the British front the situation is unchanged.

### FRENCH OFFICIAL.

PARIS, April 26. (Official.)—Our troops counter-attacked the German lines this morning from Villers-Bretonneux to south of the Luce, and have succeeded despite the fierce resistance of the enemy, who had brought up important forces, in retaking a large part of the ground which was lost yesterday. We have retaken the position at the monument, south of Villers-Bretonneux, penetrated into the wood of Hangard-en-Sautere and conquered a part of the western part of that village. The battle has been going on all day and is continuing with exceptional violence. The Germans have tried to arrest our advance at any price and have suffered great losses which were inflicted by our artillery. The German resistance was most notable north of the wood of Hangard-en-Sautere where the enemy seven times launched their assault battalions against our lines without forcing our valiant troops to

### ENEMY ADVANCES.

FRENCH HEADQUARTERS, April 26. (Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency.)—Pursuing the policy of alternating his attacks the enemy attacked southward on the Somme. His artillery preparation left no doubt that his aim was the junction point between the British and French armies north of Hangard. A subsidiary blow was delivered against the French positions south of the River Luce, suggesting that the Germans were endeavoring to drive a wedge between the British and French Armies, ward, or wipe out the Hangard salient where so many of their attacks have been broken. The enemy artillery attacked on a front of sixteen miles between Rebecourt-sur-Ancre and Alley-sur-Noye. Gas shells were hurled against the French lines like hail. The fire of British and

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The combat was no less fierce in the village of Hangard which has changed hands twice during the day. South of the Luce river we have retaken positions which we have held since the efforts of the enemy. There have been intermittent bombardments of the right bank of the Luce and at Hartmanns-Wiesloch.

### DISCHARGING EMPLOYEES.

SYDNEY, Australia, April 26. (Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency.)—The Massey-Harris Company, a large manufacturing firm is discharging its uncommitted employees declaring it feels bound to release the men for service of the Empire. It is reported other firms are acting similarly. This is probably the Australian branch of the well-known Canadian firm implement manufacturing company whose Canadian headquarters are in Toronto.

### DEPRIVED OF COMMAND.

AMSTERDAM, April 26. Vice-Admiral Schreeder, the commander at Zebrugga, according to reports reaching here, has been deprived of his command for being taken by surprise by the British navy. German newspapers in commenting on the report state that the German admiral had given in the official report at Berlin and represent the enterprise as having been a failure. Some however admit that the attack was made with great boldness.

### FRENCH COUNTER-ATTACKING.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, April 26. (By the Associated Press.)—The French this morning were counter-attacking at Mont Kemmel in an attempt to reclaim the position taken by the German yesterday's fighting was of a desperate nature and the enemy gains were only made at a fearful cost.

### CONSCRIPTION FOR IRELAND.

LONDON, April 26. It is reported in Nationalist circles that an Order-in-Council will be signed enforcing conscription in Ireland next week, says a Central News despatch from Dublin.

### OFFICIAL REVIEW.

To Governor, St. John's: LONDON, April 26. Operations on April 25: Raids had been carried out on both sides, chiefly for identification purposes and not for any other purpose. The fighting was very active. The new offensive began on the night of April 23. After an advance westward on Hazebrouck, the enemy made a series of desperate offensive moves transferring his attack to the North. In this case also he accepted a rebuff for the moment and centered his energies on the next operations. After artillery preparation on the 23rd, infantry attacks were launched by the enemy at dusk north of the wood of Albert, and in the neighbourhood of Dranoutre, which were broken up. After general artillery activity during the night of April 23-24, the enemy's infantry attacks developed between Albert and the Avre. The enemy made some progress, capturing the village of Villers-Bretonneux, from the British, and a small wood to the northward of Hangard from the French. Counter-attacks deprived him of the greater part of his gains, including Villers-Bretonneux. The resumption of the fight for Amiens is not yet developed. The enemy had only set himself limited objectives, aimed at points favorable for further exploitation. The use of tanks by the Germans for the first time in attack gave the impression that the operations were experimental. In this case he aimed at the Cuchy-Fouilly road, about two miles westward of his former positions. In renewed fighting on the 24th the French were gradually driven back short distances from Hangard, which already had changed hands frequently, but they remained in possession of Hailes and Senect. Although the French are involved in this fresh attack, the blow is still mainly directed against the British. The enemy, who now launched his new offensive after a pause, when he was able to some extent rest his tired troops and organize his supply, has on the battle-fronts 130 divisions. There are in addition other exhausted and also fresh divisions in reserve, but it is doubtful whether he can effect the same concentration as on the 22nd of March, partly because of the exhaustion of many units, but chiefly because of the dispersal of effort and the stopping of withdrawals from the East. He now, however, has acquired a numerical preponderance over the British and

French in the West. He also has the advantage of interior lines and initiative, and can therefore obtain local superiority, and it is the Allied object to wear down his numbers by doggedly defensive methods. This local superiority is all the greater in that he has singled out the British Army for destruction, but so far, although reserves have naturally been drawn on and the French have shouldered a share of the burden, he has neither worn down the British nor used up their strategic reserves as he hoped. On other fronts there is no special feature except in Palestine, where the Hedjaz railway was raided by Arab troops.

Five Austrian destroyers were engaged by British and French destroyers in the southern Adriatic. The enemy retreated to Durazzo pursued by Allied vessels. The activities of the Royal Aircraft were hampered in the week under review by adverse weather conditions. Aerial operations consequently were greatly restricted, and it was impossible to undertake long distance raids into Germany. During operations on the 17th, on the Meteren-Wytchaete front, airmen continually attacked enemy infantry, guns and transport, dropping over five hundred bombs in this neighbourhood and firing a large quantity of ammunition at different ground targets with excellent effect. Night bombing squadrons, whenever the weather permitted, continued to harass the enemy's communications, hampering the flow of supplies, allowing the troops withdrawn to billets no rest. Aerial combats were few, but the enemy's superiority in their foremost fighting pilot, Von Richtofen, who was brought down as the result of a fight between our own and the enemy's scouts in the Somme area, constituting a heavy blow to enemy morale.

In Italy the weather has been unfavorable. British aircraft on the 17th downed eleven machines and drove down another in addition to those destroyed by the enemy. They have done their best "over there." We have not done our best "over here." While we waited they have been hard at work. They have endured many hardships, but each one cheerfully. They have spurned "the sneaking hope" that the rationing of the most essential requirements of food and munition transport. The Food Ministry reports the national demand for foodstuffs is still bound to increase throughout the country as the local scheme previously worked in London and some consideration of the well-known scheme of rationing. Improved weather encourages hopes regarding the Home front. The improved weather encourages increased production of a greatly needed increased ration of fats. Improved imports of sugar are being utilized to stock up supplies. There is no increase in bread consumption, but increased imports of cereals are urgently needed, also cheese.

LONG.

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WHEN you're not yourself and feverish, sallow complexion, nervous stomach and promote a vigorous, healthy appetite. Your Doctor will proudly prescribe ABBEY'S SALT in Sealed Bottles.

**German Potato Bug**  
The way Germany prepared for this war was just as unaccountable as the way Germany's forty years of war-preparation is as unaccountable a story of the potato-bugs.  
"On an autumn evening in Minnesota farmers sat around a fire in the general store and complained of the potato-bugs ravaging their crops. 'The pests ate my whole crop in two weeks,' said one farmer. 'They ate my crop in two weeks,' said a second farmer, and they croaked on the trees to see if they were more."

One often hears the question asked "Why are so many young men wearing glasses nowadays?" Young people wearing glasses have suffered from some form of Astigmatism, Hyperopia or Myopia. Take the Eyesight Specialist, takes care of both young and old when glasses are needed.—April 15th.

Navy blue makes a good thing for a brown hat.

### Their First 1,000,000

Boston Transcript: Ours is the fault, not theirs, that they are our first hundred thousand and not our first million; that they are dependent upon their Allies for battleplanes, artillery, and much of their equipment. They have done their best "over there." We have not done our best "over here." While we waited they have been hard at work. They have endured many hardships, but each one cheerfully. They have spurned "the sneaking hope" that the rationing of the most essential requirements of food and munition transport.

vice and the example of their sacrifice, will awaken us "over here," quicken the conscience of the country, stiffen its leadership, speed up its every effort, and teach a might nation anew the almost forgotten lesson that Life is no life to him that dares not die, and death no death to him that dares to live.

### A Brilliant Record.

Lance-Corporal James Stanley of "Ours" who was so seriously wounded a few days ago, is an uncle of Private Albert Carter, discharged soldier, and of the late Pte. William Taylor, who died of wounds received at the Battle of Monchy, and of stoker Chas. Stanley, of H.M.S. Glasgow, who is here at present on leave, and Harold Stanley was also a nephew. He lost his life in the North Sea and two other nephews are serving in the Navy. Stan Guest and Frank Taylor, who offered and were rejected are nephews of his also. Jim's brothers and sisters are sorry he did not give longer service, but he did his best and they all hope to see him back home again in the near future. And so say we all.

### City Council and Local Affairs.

Dear Sir—In December last I was asked by the St. John's Municipal Council to quote prices on Iron Piping and Fittings, which I did on Jan. 17th last. Not hearing anything from the Council, I rang up the Office in March and I was informed that there was one other Tender yet to be heard from. About two weeks ago I noticed at meeting of the Board that the Wood Co., of Philadelphia, got the business. I just want to point out to the citizens of St. John's that the local representatives of the Wood Co. are not the only local agent for these products, hence, it is not a personal grievance of mine but just to show the injustice, we, the local agents receive from the City Council. We are asked in December to give prices and in April the same products are bought without giving us an opportunity to quote again. We may probably be in just as good a position to sell against the Wood Co. had we been asked for prices. The local man is a taxpayer and some of us are pretty heavy ones at that. Are not our rights the same as the man who is asked to quote on Hay, Oats, Kerosene Oil, and other civic necessities? I say yes and the local representative or dealer should get the preference and not send away the business from our doors without a proper explanation of why the local agents were not asked to quote prices at the time these necessities were really purchased.

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### Daylight Saving.

Editor Evening Telegram.  
Sir—The theory advanced by "Mechanic" in this morning's "News" that the Daylight Saving Bill savours of Prussianism, seem to be so childish that it is hardly worth noticing. If it is savouring of Prussianism, then so far as I can see the whole of Europe, and the British Isles, America, Australia, and Canada are in the same box. All of those great countries have partaken of the boon bestowed by the Daylight Saving Bill. In your note appearing last evening to another anonymous writer against the Daylight Saving, you reasonably and truthfully declared, "what thousands of persons in this country believe, as regards the benefit to be received by the Daylight Saving Bill."  
Will you please in anticipation of publication.

### Daylight Saving.

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