# British Drive Out GermansNearRobecq; French Lines Completely Re-established 

## IRISH PROBLEM BECOMES SERIOUS AND DIFFICULT INTERNATIONAL QUESTION

News from Ireland is Bad and the Fate of Lloyd George Governmentis Involved in Solution of the Difficulty-Irish People Appear to be United in Opposition to Conscription.
*Few Politicians Believe that Any British Governmient Would Attempt to Force Conscription if the Irish Parliament Were Opposed to it-Big Voluntary Army May be Raised by Devlin and His Colleagues and this May Prove the Uultimate Solution.
Special Cable to N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard (By Arthur S. Draper.)
London, April 21. - England's greatest domestic problem in these anxious days is not the position of labor or
the economic situation, or the problem of financing the war, the economic situation, or the problem of financing the war,
but Ireland. It is a domestic affair, but has become also an but Ireland. It is a do
international question.

The news from Ireland is bad. That is the interpretation even of those who are most hopeful of an amicable settlement of the problen which ha's plagued England so many times in the past and which now rises to embarrass her in the most critical days of her long history. Ireland is finally unit-
ed. Nationalists, Ulstermen and Sinn Feiners are today all of one mind, but their unity is based upon the opposition to Phe policy of

Wmitted.
What is the position of the British government? Having forced through the measure for conscription in Ireland on the ground that it would be an injustice to raise the age limit in the United Kingdom without compelling the Irishmen to ac-
cept their share of the burden of the war, the government cept their share of the burden of the war, the government
agreed that compulsion should not be enforced in Ireland without giving warning in the House of Commons, and also promised to speed up the Home Rule scheme, upon
sage of which in both houses it stakes its existence.
GERMANS FORCED OUT BY BRIISH $a$

British Troops Near Robecq Drive Our Enemy from Some of His Advanced Positions Field MarMarshal Haig Announces-Aside from Artil lery Engagements there was Little Other Activity Along Front Sunday.

- London, April 21. -The British troops near Robecq, northwest of Bethune, today drove out the Germans from some of their advanced positions, according to Field Marsha
Haig's statement, issued by the war office. Aside from ar Haig's statement, issued by the war office. Aside from a
tillery engagements there was little other activity along the tillery engag
front Sunday

Part Sunday. April 21.-The French lines north of Seicheprey where the Germans inaugurated a heavy attack against the 1. established, according to the war office announcement today

The text of the statement reads:-
"There was no infantry actio
"There was no infantry action, but both artilleries wer
active at various points on the Somme, the Ayre and th active at various points on the Somme, the Ay
Oise, as well as on the right bank of the Meuse
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& \text { (By Colonel Raoul Rouset, Military } \\
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THE FRENCH PRESS

## IS UNANIMOUS IN <br> ITS OPTIMINISM

## After Month's Operations th

 Enemy, with the Battle fields Everywhere Strew with Bodies of His Soldiers,is Compelled to Abandon the Attacks.




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SMALLPOX AT MAYFIELD soling top The surndard.


BOMBARDMENT OF
PARIS CONTINUED


## ORE THMN 4UU Speaker Currie Fails to Keep Good Order in the Legislature Until He Cverhears Private Remark by Hon. Mr. Baxter-The Speaker Gets Mad and Time of House is Wasted for Almost an Hour-After Tempest in a Teapot Subsides Much Better Order is Maintained - Government Supporters Wholly to Blame for Incident. <br> fty-Three Killed in Action <br> And Eighteen are Dead <br> of Wounds. <br> ELEVEN OTHERS <br> REPORTED DEAD <br> Total of 228 Men Wounded, 83 Gassed and Ten Men are III:      <br>  <br>   CIMDMAMBUYS <br> Special to The Standard <br> Fredericton, April 21.-There was an interesting inci dent in the House on Saturday morning which, while pro viding amusement for the spectators, did not altogether con duce to the dignity of that august body or the respect in which the presiding officer of the House is regarded. <br> During Hon. B. Frank Smith's address members on the government side interrupted audibly and frequently but the Speaker paid no attention to them. Finally after one interuption Hon. Mr. Baxter remarked to Hon. Mr. Smith: If hat occurred on this side of the House we would be called to rder." Mr . <br> Mr. Speaker at once arose and said that several times g the present session insinuations that he had shown partiality to government supporters had been thrown across he floor and he had determined that they should cease. He must ask the honorable member to withdraw. <br> Mr. Baxter-"I made no statement to this House. I made one of voice than has been used by members interrupting and seated to Mr. Speaker's right." <br> A Sensitive Speaker. apologize. <br> $$
\begin{gathered} \text { ologize. } \\ \text { Mr. } \end{gathered}
$$ <br> . Baxter-"I have nothing to apologize for; I have HON. B. F. SMTH <br> WORRIES VENOT

Former Minister of Public Works, in Brilliant and Dignified Speech, Makes it Decidedly Uncomfortable for the Windy One of the Chaleur Re-gion-Facts and Figures Dissipate the Buncombe of the Hon. Peter,, who More than Once Squirms in His Seat and Manifests an Uncontrollable Desire to "Explain"-The Hon. Petér Reminded of His Intolerant Speech During the Mahoney-Smith By-Election.
dent, succeeded to power. He did not
special to The standard.
Fredericton, Aprrll 20 .-Calm, digni- deal with the past except as it was




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Spring Rains and High Wi ids Add to Discomfort of Attacking Army and the Defending Forces as Well-Intervention of Elements Welcomed at this Juncture-British and Allies Strengthening Defenses and Germans Bringing up More Guns.

Special Cable to N. Tribune and St John Standard (By Arthur S. Draper.
London, April 20. -After the terrific fighting of
he last fortnight the battle front seems unbelievably calm. It is as if a hurricane had swept over northwest Fra
ing the country battered, uprooted and exhausted.

The first phase of the great German effort to reach the coast has definitely ended. The spring rains and high winds
add to the discomfort of the attacking army and the defending forces. The intervention of the elements is welcome at
this juncture. Only on the southern portion of the Armentieres front has the last day brought any fighting and here it was of a fitful character, merely lo ca

These small affairs around Robecq, Givenchy and Festubert resulted in an eminently satisfactory manner to the
British in every case. At the foot of heights north of Bailleul and along the ridges to the east of the Ypres plain the of activity behind his lines.

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## A SERIOUS BLAZE

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French Lines North of Seicheprey, where Germans Inaugurated Heavy Attack Against French and Americans Saturday have been Completely Re-established-No Infantry Action-Suspension in Battle of Leys Likely Only Temporary.

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The enemy bombarded Rheims, where several fires
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Eastern theatre, April 20.-On the left bank of the Struma the enemy violently bombarded villages which the British and Greek troops had occupied. There were artillery
actions in the Doiren sector and on the Varder. Near Sborsactions in the Doiren sector and on the Vang back enemy advanced posts caused a movement of Bulgarian reinforcement

which, caught

Lull in struggle.
April


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(Continued from pasgonese.)

##  MID TROOPSAREMINS USISHEEN

## Since Enemy Selected British for Their Attack the British Must Bear the Brunt for a Time-Fighting Must Continue for Lengthy Period. While German Reinforcements are Being Exhausted -Official Review of Operations.





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Gilmour's, 68 King St.

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Former Minister of Public Works, in Brilliant and Dignified Speech, Makes it Decidedly Uncomfortable for the Windy One of the Chaleur Re-gion-Facts and Figures Dissipate the Buncombe of the Hon. Peter, who More than Once Squirms in His Seat and Manifests an Uncontrollable Desire to "Explain"-The Hon. Peter Reminded of His Intolerant Speech During the Mahoney-Smith By-Election.

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