BRITISH CONTROL SITUATION IN FLANDERS: ENEMY GAIN A BARREN ONE

Fighting Continues on Large Scale—German Success Was Short-Lived—Relatively Quiet on French Front.

A despatch from the British Army in France says: The Messines Ridge and the Ploegsteert Wood, which last June were cleared of Germans by a spectacular coup, again were filled with swirling masses of fiercely-battling troops as the result of a new drive launched by the enemy between Armentieres and Messines.

The Germans are partiulcarly desirous of capturing Messines Ridge and Wytschaete, and pressed their attacks hard there throughout the day. Much sanguinary hand-to-hand fighting occurred at the places, the tide of battle surging back and forth for many hours before the enemy finally abandoned temporarily his attempts here.

Coincident with the attack north of Armentieres the enemy continued to push northwestward from Croix du Bac below Armentieres in order to complete the pocketing of the latter city.

A later despatch says: "The situation in Flanders is regarded on Thursday as fairly well in hand, but the fighting continues on a heavy scale and is likely to continue. What success the Germans achieved developed out of an advance in the centre of the original front of attack, helped out by the misty weather. The territory which the enemy over-ran was sparsely populated by civilians, and as regards the character of the country, it is a barren gain. Moreover, the enemy communications are lengthened across long tracts of clay.

"The weather has improved and on Thursday morning the allies were effectively co-operating in large numbers.

"At 10 o'clock Thursday morning the enemy made a formidable attack against Hollebeke, and fighting of great intensity followed. Masses of the enemy advanced in waves over heavy ground flanking Roozebeck, making a great target for the riflemen and machine guns, which wrought what is described as terrible execution.

A despatch from French Headquarters says: Relative quiet prevails from Hangard to Noyon. The French carried out a small infantry attack at Grivesnes Chateau, locally improving their position in the park.

The guns are active on both sides along the whole front. The Germans have done little trench digging. The enemy airmen are more active, but are showing little inclination to take the offensive.

Type of shelter built by the municipal authorities of a London suburb as a refuge during air raids. It costs about $7.50 to build and is fitted with electric light.

Markets of the World

Breadstuffs

Toronto, April 16—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, $2.23½; No. 2, do., $2.20½; No. 3, do., $2.17½; No. 4 wheat, $2.10½; in store Fort William, including 2½c tax.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 96½c; No. 3 C.W., 92½c; extra No. 1 feed, 91¾c; No. 1 feed, 89½c, in store Fort William.

American corn—The War Board in the United States prohibit importations.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 93 to 94c; No. 3 white, 92 to 93c, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—No. 2 Winter, per car lot, $2.22; basis in store Montreal.

Peas—No. 2, $3.60 to $3.70, according to freights outside.

Barley—Malting, $1.68 to $1.70, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—$1.83 to $1.85, according to freights outside.

Rye—No. 2, $2.60, according to freights outside.

Manitoba flour—War quality, $11.10, new bags, Toronto.

Ontario flour—War quality, $10.70, new bags, Toronto and Montreal freights prompt shipment.

Millfeed—Car lots—Delivered Montreal freights, bags included: Bran, per ton, $35.40; shorts, per ton, $40.40.

Hay—No. 1, per ton, $17 to $18; mixed, $14 to $16, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, per ton, $8.50 to $9, track Toronto.

Country Produce—Wholesale

Butter—Creamery, solids, per lb., 47 to 48c; prints, per lb., 48 to 49c; dairy, per lb., 39 to 40c.

Eggs—New laid, 35 to 36c.

Poultry—Dressed, chickens, 26 to 28c; fowl, 27 to 30c; ducks, 25 to 30c; geese, 21 to 22c; turkeys, 30 to 35c.

Wholesalers are selling to the retail trade at the following prices:—

Cheese—New, large, 23 to 23½c; twins, 23¾ to 23¾c; early cheese, 25½ to 26c; large twin, 26 to 26½c.

Butter—Fresh dairy, choice, 41 to 42c; creamery prints, 50 to 52c; solids, 49 to 50c.

Margarine—32 to 33c lb.

Eggs—New laid, 42 to 43c; new laid, in cartons, 46 to 47c.

Dressed poultry—Milk-fed chickens, 35 to 38c; fowl, 30 to 33c; turkeys, 40 to 45c.

Live poultry—Turkeys, 30c; chickens, lb., 26 to 28c; hens, 30 to 33c.

Beans—Canadian, hand-picked, bush., $8.50; Imp. hand-picked, Burma or Indian, $6.50 to $7; Japan, $8 to $8.25; Limas, 19 to 20c.

Maple syrup—Imperial gallon, $2.25; wine gallon, $1.75.

Provisions—Wholesale

Smoked meats—Hams, medium, 36 to 38c; do., heavy, 30 to 32c; cooked, 46 to 48c; rolls, 31 to 32c; breakfast bacon, 41 to 44c; backs, plain, 43 to 44c; boneless, 47 to 48c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 29 to 30c; clear bellies, 29 to 30c.

Lard—Pure, tierces, 31½ to 32c; tubs, 31¾ to 32¼c; pails, 32 to 32½c; prints, 33 to 33½c. Compound tierces, 26 to 26½c; tubs, 26¼ to 26¾c; pails, 26½ to 27c; prints, 27½ to 28c.

Montreal Markets

Montreal, April 16—Oats—Canadian Western, No. 3, $1.07; extra No. 1 feed, $1.07; No. 2 local white, $1.05½; No. 3, do., $1.03½. Flour—New standard Spring wheat grade, $11.10 to $11.20. Rolled oats—Bag of 90 lbs., $5.60. Millfeed—Bran, $35.40; shorts, $40.40; middlings, $48.50; mouillie, $60 to $62. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, $17.

Winnipeg Grain

Winnipeg, April 16—Cash prices:—Oats—No. 2 C.W., 96½c; No. 3 C.W., 92½c; extra No. 1 feed, 91¾c; No. 1 feed, 89½c; No. 2 feed, 86c. Barley—No. 3, $1.66; No. 4, $1.61. Flax—No. 1 N.W.C., $3.89; No. 2 C.W., $3.79½; No. 3 C.W., $3.60.

United States Markets

Minneapolis, April 16—Corn—No. 3 yellow, $1.60 to $1.70. Oats—No. 3 white, 90½ to 91½c. Flour unchanged. Bran—$33.14.

Duluth, Minn., April 16—Linseed—$4.08½ to $4.15; arrive, $4.08½; May, $4.10½ bid; July, $4.06½ bid; October, $3.61 bid.

Live Stock Markets

Toronto, April 16—Heavy steers, choice, $12.25 to $13; do., good, $11.50 to $12, butchers' steers and heifers, choice, $11.50 to $12; do., good, $11.25 to $11.75; do., medium, $10 to $10.25; do., common, $8.50 to $9.25; butchers' cows, choice, $9.75 to $10.50; do., good, $9 to $9.50; do., medium, $7.75 to $8.50; do., common, $6.50 to $7.25; do., canners', $6 to $6.25; butchers' bulls, choice, $10.25 to $11; do., good, $9.25 to $9.75; do., medium, $8.25 to $9; do., common, $7.50 to $8; feeders, best, $9.50 to $10.50; stockers, best, $9.50 to $9.75; grass cows, $7 to $7.75; milkers and springers, choice, $100 to $135; do., com. to med., $65 to $90; calves, choice, $16.50 to $17; do., medium, $14 to $14.75; do., common, $8 to $10; heavy fat, $10 to $12; lambs, choice, $19.50 to $20.75; sheep, choice handy, $13 to $14.50; do., heavy and fat bucks, $11 to $12.25; hogs, fed and watered, $20.25 to $20.50; do., off cars, $20.50 to $20.75; do., f.o.b., $19.25 to $19.50.

Montreal, April 16—Choice steers, $12 to $13; good steers, $10.50 to $11.75; choice butcher cows, $9 to $10.50; good cows, $7 to $9; butcher bulls, $8 to $10.50; canners' cattle, $5 to $6; calves, milk-fed, $7 to $14; some very choice at $15; spring lambs, from $10 to $15 apiece; choice select hogs, off cars, $21 to $22; sows, $19 to $20.

UKRAINIAN GRAIN ALREADY EN ROUTE.

A despatch from Amsterdam says: A despatch received here from Kiev, Russia, says that an agreement was signed Tuesday afternoon by the Ukrainian and German and Austro-Hungarian delegates for the supply to the Central Powers of some 60,000,000 poods (a pood is a little more than one-third of a pound) of bread, fodder, grain, peas, beans and seeds. Of these 9,000,000 poods are to be delivered in April, 15,000,000 in May, 20,000,000 in June, and 19,000,000 in July. The despatch adds that the deliveries of the grain already have begun.

29 MEN OF CANADA WON VICTORIA CROSS

A despatch from Ottawa says:—A return tabled in Parliament on Thursday at the request of Mr. W. S. Middlebro, Chief Government Whip, shows that up to the present time 29 Canadians have won Victoria Crosses for deeds of valor on the battlefield. The names and particulars of the individual acts of heroism included in the return are the same as already published in cable despatches.

BRITISH CAPTURE PALESTINE TOWNS

A despatch from London says:—British troops on April 9 advanced their line north of Jerusalem, in Palestine, to a depth of one and a half miles along a front of five miles, the British War Office announced on Thursday. Notwithstanding the stubborn resistance of the Turks, the British captured the villages of Rafat and El Kefr.

FOOD BOARD STOPS HOARDING

Dealers Notified They Will Be Prosecuted if Stocks Allowed to Spoil.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The Canada Food Board states that the new anti-waste and anti-hoarding orders made by the board have been responsible, in part at least, for a large reduction in the surplus of apples and potatoes in Canada. The quantity of apples in the Annapolis Valley and in leading marketing centres was reduced during the month of March by nearly 100,000 barrels.

The smallest reduction has taken place at Winnipeg, where 13,000 barrels of apples were in store on March 30, as compared with 15,400 barrels on March 1. The Canada Food Board has telegraphed the chief food inspector at Winnipeg enquiring whether these holdings are liable to be marketed without loss. If the stocks there cannot be taken care of without waste, the Food Board is prepared to require dealers to dispose of their holdings without delay. Very considerable supplies of onions are reported to be held in British Columbia. Dealers are warned that they are liable to prosecution if any part of these stocks be allowed to spoil.

NO ONE-CENT PAPERS IN BRITISH ISLES

A despatch from London says:—The last one-cent newspaper in the British Isles, the Daily Express, has now gone up to two cents. London now has one 6-cent morning paper, two at 4 cents and the remainder at 2 cents each. The afternoon papers are all two cents, except one, which sells at four cents.

German Long-Range Gun Joins Enemy Airmen in Killing Babies

A despatch from Paris says:—The bombardment of Paris by the German long-range gun was resumed Thursday afternoon.

One shell struck a foundling asylum. The total victims of the bombardment were four killed and 21 wounded.

SPLENDID PART PLAYED BY CANADA

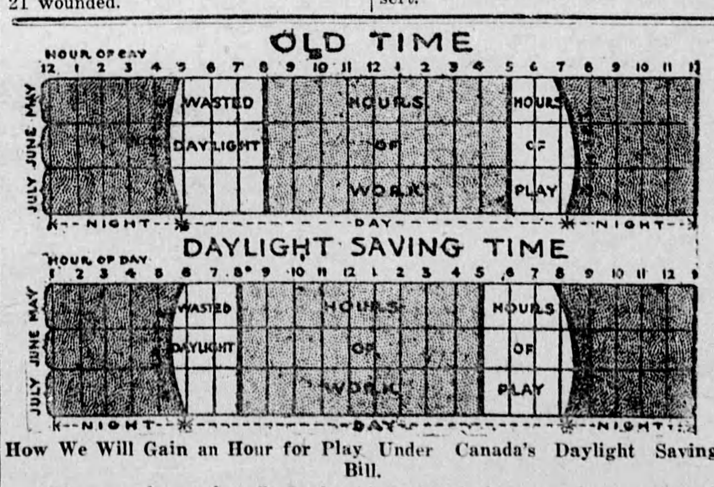
War Has Cost to Date 835 Millions and 100,000 Casualties.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The tale of Canada's outpouring of treasure for the attainment of the objects involved in the present conflict of nations is told in the great mass of figures with which Sir Robert Borden introduced the discussion of the Dominion's fifth war appropriation bill in Committee of the Whole in the Commons. The recital of statistics brings few thrills to the listener, but a study of the Prime Minister's statement is rewarded by a new and clearer appreciation of the magnitude of Canada's share of the financial burdens of the struggle. To the end of the fiscal year 1917-18 Canada's war expenditure at home and abroad so far as it has to date been reported amounted to $835,950,019. To that will be added if the disbursements for the present year are as estimated, $516,277,804, making a total since the outbreak of war of $1,352,227,823. As the Prime Minister pointed out, however, that sum does not represent all the expenditures of the period inasmuch as certain large amounts laid out in Great Britain have not yet been reported and included in the amounts.

4,000,000 MORE ACRES UNDER CROP THIS YEAR.

A despatch from Victoria says: Prof. W. J. Black, commissioner administering the Agricultural Instruction Act, estimates there will be an addition of 4,000,000 acres under crop in Canada this year as compared with 1917. Half will be in the provinces east of the Great Lakes, probably nearly a million acres in Ontario, 600,000 in Quebec, where many of the grass lands are being broken up, and 400,000 in the Maritime Provinces. Of the 2,000,000 acres in the Western provinces, about half will be in Saskatchewan.

Boiled rice served with any stewed fruit makes a good, inexpensive dessert.



How We Will Gain an Hour for Play Under Canada's Daylight Saving Bill.

Diagram shows the effect of setting the clock on one hour. Observe that it gives us an extra hour of play-time without cutting down our hours of work or sleep.

MUST RAISE FOOD OR JOIN THE ARMY

Only Farmers Who Show Adequate Results Will Be Exempted.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The attention of farmers receiving conditional exemption from military service until a fixed date is directed to certain principles which have been laid down by the central appeal judge at Ottawa which apply to all exempted men in this class.

The need for troops cannot be exaggerated. On the other hand, the necessity for maintaining food production is likewise pressing. The exemption granted farmers is granted solely because of the conviction that they are, or may be, more useful in food production than as troops at the front.

AIRSHIPS RAID ENGLISH COAST

Enemy Also Attempted Air Raid on Paris District.

A despatch from London, says:—A German aerial raid was made on the east coast of England Friday evening. One or two of the raiders succeeded in penetrating further inland.

Field Marshal French's report said: "Some hostile airships crossed the east coast this evening, and proceeded to attack certain Eastern Midland districts. One or two raiders succeeded in penetrating further inland, where some bombs are reported to have fallen. Further details are not yet available. The raid is still in progress."

A despatch from Paris says:—German airplanes attempted a raid on the Paris district Friday night. They dropped a few bombs, but it is not known whether there are any casualties.

Mustache an Army Badge.

It is against the British army regulations for an officer to shave his upper lip, and from time to time the British War Office has issued general orders expressing its disapproval of the growing disregard of this regulation.

The mustache long has been regarded as a military badge. Only one regiment in the Austro-Hungarian cavalry may go smooth faced, and this is because during the Seven Years War recruits were so scarce that this regiment once had to go into battle when there were nothing but beardless boys in its ranks. It behaved with such gallantry, however, that its members remain beardless to the present day.

Poor Overworked Words.

It is declared by a philologist that nine words do one-fourth of our verbal work, and forty-three words one-half. The nine most useful words are: And, be, have, it, of, the, to, will, you. Among the thirty-four are: About, all, as, at, but, can, come, day, dear, for, get, go.

AIM TO RE-TAKE JERUSALEM

Turks, Reinforced by German Troops, Open an Offensive Near Palestine Coast.

A despatch from London says The Turkish and German forces in Palestine on Wednesday opened an offensive, attacking the British front near the coast, the War offices announces.

In both Palestine and Mesopotamia the British have been carrying on successful campaigns for several months, and have accomplished the destruction of two Turkish armies. The situation became such a desperate one for the Turks that the Germans sent troops to their assistance. Last week, for the first time, the German War Office referred in the war report to Palestine. Another indication that the Germans were planning offensive operations on that front was the statement a few days ago by Lieut.-Gen. von Ardenne, a German military writer, that the tide was about to turn in Syria and Palestine, and that the recapture of Jerusalem had become a practicable possibility.

The British front extends across Palestine from the Mediterranean to the Jordan River, passing about 15 miles north of Jerusalem. Along the Mediterranean, where the Turco-German attack is being made, the British have pushed some distance north of the port of Jaffa, which is important because it serves as a base for the British sea communications and also is connected by railroad with Jerusalem. The capture of Jaffa and the cutting of the railway line probably are the immediate objectives of the enemy.

35 HUN PLANES IN ONE DAY

Bombs Dropped on Metz Railway Station, Also on Zeebrugge and Ostend.

A despatch from London says:—Thirty-five German airplanes, 21 of which were destroyed, were brought down by British aviators on Thursday. The official statement on aerial activities reports the dropping of bombs on military targets behind the battle front and on a railway station at Metz. The statement reads:

"The mist which prevailed the last few days continued until late Thursda afternoon, when there was great activity in the air along the whole front. Twenty-one hostile machines were destroyed and 14 were driven down out of control.

"Four of ours are missing. Two of our machines reported missing yesterday have since returned.

"During the night over eight tons of bombs were dropped on Bapaume, on villages south of the Somme and on military objectives at Ostend and Zeebrugge. One of our machines did not return.

"On Friday the Sablons railway station at Metz was bombed successfully. Twenty-two heavy bombs were dropped, all of which burst on the railway and sidings. All of our machines returned."

TWO NEW DREADNOUGHTS ADDED TO KAISER'S NAVY

A despatch from Amsterdam says:—Two new dreadnoughts have been added to the German fleet during the war, according to the Vossische Zeitung, and have participated in the bombardment of the fortifications on the Islands of Oesel and Dago. These vessels are the Baden and Bayern, which were launched in 1915, at Kiel and Danzig. They fire 38-centimetre shells.

BRITISH TO CONSTRUCT GUN TO THROW SHELL 80 MILES.

A despatch from London says: In the House of Commons on Friday J. I. MacPherson, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of the War Office, informed a questioner that steps had been taken to construct a British gun capable of throwing a shell more than 80 miles.

The Doings of the Duffs.