BRITISH SUCCESS SOUTH OF ANCRE; ALLIES WELDED IN STRONG LINE

No Weak Point in Allied Chain—Foch's Reserves Equal Those of the Enemy—Preparations For Fresh Attack.

A despatch from British Headquarters in France says: Early Thursday morning the Germans heavily bombarded with gas shells and high explosives west of Merris and the area around Villers-Bretonneux. There was no infantry action. Possibly the purpose of these practice barrages is with a view to an early resumption of the offensive.

During Wednesday we carried out a successful local enterprise south of the Ancre, advancing our front over a width of nearly half a mile to a depth of 400 yards.

The weather has improved and the airmen are doing deadly work over enemy positions.

A despatch from French Army Headquarters says: Under the German blows the allied armies seem to be welded together as never before. There is now no point of junction at which the Germans can thrust. The process of welding together the two armies is complete, but it will not stop there. Franco-British divisions will be moved about on a solidly-knitted front at the wish of our high command as freely as German divisions.

Against the enemy's territorial gains must be set the fact that he had to throw 140 divisions into battle in five weeks. A considerable number of these have been twice engaged and some thrice. Adding these reappearances together there is a total of 186 engagements of divisions, equivalent to a mass of two and one-half million men whom the enemy has already put into battle. As a German division is never withdrawn until it has sustained severe losses, on an average of 2,500, it is reasonable to reckon the enemy's loss since the beginning of the battle at not less than 350,000.

The Germans began the offensive with a reserve of 650,000 in depots in France and at home. Behind these there is only the 1919-20 class, consisting of youths, half of whom are under 18. The enemy's genuine fighting reserve is thus half exhausted before he has covered anything like half the distance to his goal. His reckless employment of divisions has left him with a total of 66 out of 206 in France which have not yet been engaged. Of these 12 are Landsturm divisions, which cannot be used for the purpose of an offensive. The Germans thus can have little hope that the remaining 60 divisions can accomplish what the first 140 failed to achieve.

Already the German staff is most anxiously realizing that their reserves of fresh troops are not greater than those under General Foch.

We have been profiting by the lull to prepare to meet any fresh enemy effort.

15,000 BRITISH SEAMEN MURDERED DURING WAR BY GERMAN PIRATES

Enemy is Determined That Sailors in Wrecked Ships Shall Not Survive—Seaman's League Advocates Boycot of Germany.

A despatch from London says: Havelock Wilson, president of the British Seamen's and Firemen's Union, in a statement as regards the sacrifices of the mercantile marine, says that 15,000 British seamen have been murdered by German pirates during the war. Sea murders are growing because the Boche is more determined than ever that sailors in sunken ships should not live to tell the tale.

British sailors were in deadly earnest in their determination to apply a punitive boycot to Germany after the war. All were in hearty unanimity in their determination not to handle stuff in any way connected with Germany after the war. A year ago the limit of the boycot was for two years. Now, owing to the increase of such crimes, it had been extended to 5½ years. He added that the Seamen's League was growing daily. Already it had 100,000 members.

AUSTRALIANS AND CANADIANS IN SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS.

A despatch from British Headquarters in France says: The Germans have not renewed their efforts to advance in Flanders or on the Somme, and their objective timetables indicate that they are finding their task much heavier than they anticipated.

On Thursday night there was much bombing activity on both sides, our airmen inflicting heavy casualties. The Australians carried out successful minor operations at Villers-Bretonneux, while the Canadians mopped up a strong post, taking seven prisoners and five machine-guns.

Farther north the British rushed a machine-gun emplacement, clearing it out and bringing back three survivors of the garrison.

A tremendous crescendo of gunfire has broken out on Friday morning, apparently in the Lys region.

GERMANS ADVANCE INTO COSSACK REGION.

A despatch from Basel, Switzerland, says: German troops in Ukraine, with a base on the line between Ekaterinoslav and Kharkov, have advanced into the region of the Donetz River Coal Basin, according to a despatch received here.

The Donetz River coal region is in the eastern part of the Government of Kharkov and extends into the Government of the Don Cossacks. This report shows that the German advance in Southern Russia has extended to a line almost directly north from the eastern shore of the Sea of Azov.

DRAFT IN IRELAND IS POSTPONED.

A despatch from London says: An order-in-Council has been issued further postponing the operation of the National Service Act, or conscription, as respects Ireland, beyond May 1, to which it had been postponed previously. Some of the morning newspapers say the postponement is due to the Government's wish to introduce a Home Rule bill, and to see what measure of success it gets before proceeding to enforce conscription in Ireland, which, it is said in some quarters, is not likely to be attempted in the next few weeks.

TOIL UNDER LASHES OF GERMAN SENTRIES.

A despatch from London says: Reuter's learns that 25,000 Belgian men and boys have been compelled to work on military operations behind the German lines in the region of Valenciennes and Maubeuge alone, under the whip of German sentries. The mortality in the deportees' camps is terrible. The numbers sent back as unfit are replaced by fresh recruits.

ROBBING BIRDS' NESTS IS A CRIME

Also Collecting of Birds' Eggs—Order Protecting Migratory Birds.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The old and often cruel sport of boys in robbing birds' nests and making rival collections of birds' eggs is now officially put on the list of national crimes. The sport is banned, according to an order in Council just passed. The order is passed under the provisions of the migratory birds convention, passed last session.

The new regulations provide for the protection of migratory game birds, migratory insectivorous and migratory non-game birds, which inhabit Canada during the whole or any part of the year. New close seasons are established for ducks, geese, brant or rails, and other edible wild fowl, from December 15 to August 31, both days inclusive. The killing, capturing, injuring or molesting of insectivorous birds, their eggs or nests, is prohibited throughout the year, except where special permits are granted to recognized museums for scientific purposes. These insectivorous birds include robins, woodpeckers, wrens, meadow larks, humming birds, whippoor-wills, thrushes, and "all other perching birds which feed entirely or chiefly on insects." A close season for ten years is proclaimed for cranes, swans and nearly all shore birds, and a close season for five years on wood duck and eiderduck.

AMERICAN SOLDIERS IN FRANCE ADOPT THE NAME OF "BUDDIES"

A despatch from the American Army in France, says:—"Buddies" is the new sobriquet for the members of the American National Army in France. While the entire allied world has been hunting around for a suitable name for Uncle Sam's forces, the men fresh from America took the task upon themselves, and "Buddies" is the result. From east to west, from north to south, "Buddies" is the accepted brand of comradeship. It means "pal," "comrade." It is safe to say the American forces will take to it with alacrity. "Amexes" and "Sammies" were distasteful to the men.

UNITED STATES TROOPS MOVING TO FRONT.

A despatch from the American Army in France says: America's khaki tide now flows into France in a volume not heretofore approximated. The United States is literally "dumping an army into France," to use the words Premier Lloyd George recently used in the House of Commons.

AUSTRALIANS ENTER ES-SALT

350 Prisoners Taken in Palestine Advance.

A despatch from London says:—The official statement dealing with military operations in Palestine, issued on Thursday by the War Office, reads:

"On Wednesday morning while our infantry moved to attack the enemy in the foothills south and south-east of Es-Salt, Australian mounted troops entered Es-Salt, capturing 33 German and 317 Turkish prisoners.

"In the course of these operations a mounted brigade debouched to watch the Jordan crossings was attacked by a superior force of the enemy, which had crossed the river during the night, and was compelled to fall back Horse artillery batteries supporting this brigade, in the most difficult and broken country, were obliged to abandon nine guns which could not be saved, although the detachment and horses were safely withdrawn. Necessary support for this detached brigade was immediately forthcoming, and the operations are continuing.

"West of the Jordan local enemy attacks at several points were repulsed during Tuesday night."

The amount realized by Paisley's Red Cross week was £5,600 after defraying all expenses.

ZEEBRUGGE CANAL STILL BLOCKED

German Efforts to Free It Are Without Avail.

A despatch from London says:—It is established, according to a high naval authority, that the entrance to the Zeebrugge Canal is still effectively blocked. Although the Germans are trying hard to free it, they have made no progress in the work as yet. Meantime, the anti-U-boat warfare has produced satisfactory results during the past week, although the weather conditions in the North Sea have been unfavorable for such operations.

ROBBED OF CLOTHING IN BERLIN STREETS

A despatch from London says:—So acute is the scarcity of clothing in Germany that men and women are being attacked daily by ruffians in the streets of Berlin and stripped of their garments, according to German newspapers received here. It is said that one insurance office alone in Berlin is notified of an average of 200 thefts daily. Thread for mending clothing is said to be virtually unobtainable.

Commenting on the food situation in Germany, the papers intimate that the hope entertained of speedy relief from the Ukraine has been dispelled.

GERMANS ABANDON ATTEMPT TO TAKE YPRES; SUCCESSFUL FRENCH ATTACKS

French Troops Capture Tactical Position Near Amiens—New Thrust For Arras—Lens Sector in Preparation.

A despatch from London says: Signs are not wanting that the German masses, checked by the British in their drive for the Channel ports in the north, are assembling reserves for another stroke further south.

On Thursday night and Friday the German artillery had seemingly centred its fire on the line between Givenchy and the Nieppe forest, and it may be that the enemy soon will launch an attack against this vital section of the British line.

Despatches from the British headquarters tell of a tremendous cannonade in the Lys region, which may be taken to mean the part of the Flanders battlefield at or near Merville, where the Germans made their greatest advances after the fall of Armentieres.

Articles appearing in German newspapers would seem to indicate efforts to prepare the German people for an announcement that there will be no immediate attempt to take Ypres. Experts, writing what may be considered inspired reviews of the situation, say that nothing would be gained by the capture of the ruined city. This may mean that the Germans will turn their attention to some other part of the front for a new effort, and the bombardment of the lines near Merville and further east may be the first step in an attempt to force a British retirement from the Arras-Lens salient. So far as known, no infantry fighting has occurred in this sector in the past day.

While waiting for the Germans to make the next move, the allies have not been idle. All along the line their patrols have been active, and at Hangard and Villers-Bretonneux, before Amiens, they have taken tactical positions from the Teutons. One of these positions was Hill 82, north of Castel, a height which afforded good observation of the allied communication lines.

Markets of the World

Toronto, May:—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., 86c; No. 3 C. W., 83½c; extra No. 1 feed, 83⅛c; No. 1 feed, 80½c, in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, kiln dried, $1.90 nominal; No. 4 yellow, kiln dried, $1.85 nominal.

Ontario oats.—No. 2 white, 89 to 90c; No. 3 white, 88 to 89c, according to freights outside.

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

Barley.—Malting, $1.54 to $1.55, according to freights outside

Buckwheat.—$1.84 to $1.86, according to freights outside.

Rye.—No. 2, $2.50, according to frieghts outside.

Manitoba flour. — War quality, $10.95, new bags, Toronto.

Ontario flour. — War quality, $10.80, 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 $9.00, track Toronto.

Country Produces—Wholesale

Eggs, new-laid, 40c; selected, new-laid, 42 to 43c; cartons, 43 to 44c.

Butter.—Creamery, solids, 48 to 49c; do., prints, 50 to 51c; do., fresh made, 51 to 52c; choice dairy prints, 42 to 43c; ordinary dairy prints, 38 to 40c;bakers', 36 to 38c; oleomargarine, (best grade), 32 to 33c.

Cheese.—New, large, 23 to 23½c; twins, 23¼ to 23¾c ; spring made, large, 25 to 26c; twins, 25½ to 26½c.

Beans.—Canadian, prime, bushel, $7.50 to $8. Foreign, hand-picked, bushel, $6.75 to $7.

Comb Honey.—Choice, 16 oz., $3.50 per dozen; 12 oz., $3 per dozen; seconds and dark comb, $2.50 to $2.75.

Maple Syrup.—Imperial gallons, $2.25; 5-gallon tins, $2.10 per gallon. Maple sugar, per pound, 24 to 25c.

Provisions—Wholesale

Barrelled Meats—Pickled pork, $49; mess pork, $47.

Green Meats.—Out of pickle, 1c less than smoked.

Smoked Meats.—Rolls, 32 to 33c; hams, medium, 36 to 37c; heavy, 30 to 31c; cooked hams, 47 to 48c; backs, plain, 43 to 41c; backs, boneless, 46 to 48c. Breakfast bacon, 40 to 42c. Cottage rolls, 35 to 36c.

Dry Salted Meats.—Long clears, in tons, 29c; in cases, 29½c; clear bellies, 26 to 26½c; fat backs, 25c.

Lard.—Pure, tierces, 31 to 32c; tubs, 31¼ to 32¼c; pails, 31½ to 32½c; 1-lb. prints, 33 to 33½c. Shortening, tierces, 26 to 26½c; tubs, 26¼ to 26¾c; pails, 26½ to 27c; 1-lb. prints, 27½ to 28c.

Montreal Markets

Montreal, May 7:—Oats, Canadian Western, No. 3, 96c; extra No. 1 feed, 86c. Flour, new standard Government Spring wheat grade, $10.95 to $11.05. Rolled oats, bags, 90 lbs, $5.35. Bran, $35.40. Shorts, $40.40. Mouillie, $75. Hay, No. 2, per ton, car lots, $17.

Winnipeg Grain

Winnipeg, May 7:—Cash prices:—Oats—No. 2 C.W., 86⅝c; No. 3 C.W., 83⅛c; extra No. 1 feed, 88⅛c; No. 1 feed, 80⅛c; No. 2 feed, 77⅛c. Barley—No. 3 C.W., $1.50; No. 4 C.W., $1.45; rejected, $1.20; feed, $1.18. Flax—No. 1 N.W.C., $3.80; No. 2 C.W., $3.77; No. 3 C.W., $3.55.

United States Markets

Mineapolis, May 7:—Corn No. 3 yellow, $1.55 to $1.65. Oats—No. 3 white, 78 to 79c. Flour unchanged. Bran—$33.14.

Duluth, May 7:—Linseed, $4.01 to $4.07; arrive, $4.01; May, $4.01 bid; July, $4.04½ bid; October, $3.55 asked.

Live Stock Markets

Toronto, May 7.—Extra choice, heavy steers, $14.50 to $15.75; choice heavy steers, $13.50 to $14.00; good heavy steers, $13.00 to $13.25; butchers' cattle, choice, $13.25 to $13.75; do., good, $12.00 to $12.25; do., medium, $11.65 to $11.85; do., common, $11.00 to $11.25; butchers' bulls, choice, $11.00 to $12.00; do., good bulls, $10.25 to $10.75; do., medium bulls, $9.25 to $9.75; do., rough bulls, $7.25 to $7.50; butchers' cows, choice, $11.25 to $12.25; do., good, $10.50 to $11.00; do., medium, $9.50 to $10.00; stockers, $9.50 to $11.00; feeders, $11.00 to $11.75; canners and cutters, $6.50 to $7.50; milkers, good to choice, $90.00 to $140.00; do., com. and med., $65.00 to $80.00;; springers, $90.00 to $140.00; light ewes, $13.50 to $15.00; lambs, $18.00 to $20.50; calves, good to choice, 13.00 to $15.00; hogs, fed and watered, $20.25 to 20.50; do., weighed off cars, $20.50 to $20.75; do., f.o.b., $19.25 to $19.50.

Montreal, May 7.—Choice steers, $12.00 to $13.50; good steers, $11.00 to $12.00; medium steers, $10.00 to $10.50; choice butchers' cows, $11.00 to $11.50; good cows $10.00 to $11 00; medium, $9.50; canners' cows, $5.50 to $6.00; hoice butchers' bulls, $12.00 to $13 00; good bulls, $11.00 to $12.00; medium, $10.00 to $10 50; commoner stuff, $8.00 to $9.50; milk fed calves, $3 00 to $13.00; Spring lambs, $8.00 to $13.00; Spring lambs, $12.00 to $15.00; choice selects, hogs, $21.50 to $22.00; good selects, $20.00 to $21.00.

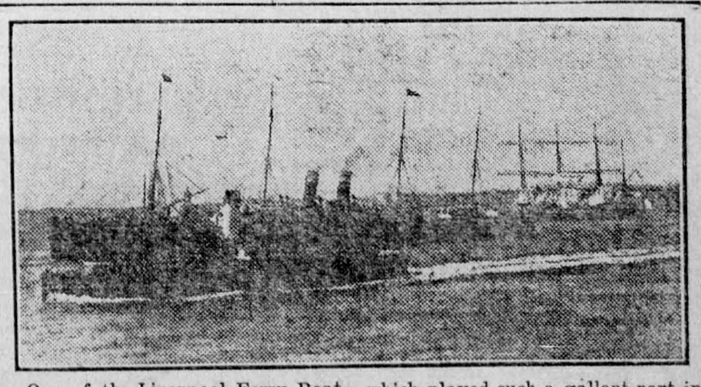
GERMANS WILL MELT BRONZE STATUES.

A despatch from Amsterdam says: The German Minister of War has ordered an inventory of all bronze statues throughout Germany, directing that the list indicate those which "can best be spared" with a view to their requisition for military use. He has also ordered an inventory of church bells, which have hitherto escaped military confiscation.

RUSSIAN FORTRESS IN CRIMEA IN POSSESSION OF GERMANS

A despatch from Berlin says:—German forces have occupied Sebastopol, the great Russian fortress in the Crimea. The official communication from headquarters reads:

"In Ukraine we have broken the enemy's resistance before Sebastopol and occupied the town Wednesday without fighting."



One of the Liverpool Ferry Boats, which played such a gallant part in the British naval raid at Zeebrugge.

The Doings of the Duffs.