

CANADIANS RAID ENEMY TRENCHES AND INFLICT CONSIDERABLE LOSSES

Prisoners and Machine Guns Captured, Trench Mortars Destroyed and Many Germans Killed.

A despatch from London says:—Canadian troops have carried out two successful raids in which they captured prisoners and inflicted losses upon the enemy, the official statement from British headquarters in France and Belgium says:

"In an attack Wednesday morning, northwest of Passchendaele, in the Ypres sector, German troops temporarily occupied two British posts. The British later drove the Germans out in a counter-attack."

The statement reads:

"In a successful raid south-east of Hargicourt reported Wednesday morning, carried out by the Canadians, in addition to 13 prisoners, two machine-guns were brought back to our lines. Many Germans were killed in fighting above ground and four trench mortars were destroyed. Seventeen dugouts in the enemy's first line and others in his support line whose occupants refused to come when summoned, were bombed. The casualties incurred by the raiding party were slight and all were brought in. Another successful raid was carried out Tuesday night by Canadians in the neighborhood of Hill 70, north of Lens. Considerable opposition was encountered, in spite of which six prisoners and a machine gun were captured. Our casualties again were small.

A later despatch says:—The fol-

lowing official statement was issued by the War Office Thursday evening:

"Early Thursday morning the enemy's trenches at Lens again were raided successfully by the Canadian troops. A number of Germans were killed and a few prisoners and two machine-guns were captured. The raiding party returned to our lines without loss.

"Several other prisoners were brought in during the day by our patrols. On the southern portion of our front there was some hostile artillery activity to-day in the neighborhood of the Souchez River."

A later despatch says: The Canadians on Wednesday morning raided the enemy lines near Hill 70 and in front of Lens, capturing a total of ten prisoners and two machine guns. At approximately the same time, far south at Hargicourt, other Canadians again crossed 1,000 yards of No Man's Land, took 13 prisoners and two machine guns, destroyed four trench mortars, and bombed both the enemy's front and support lines.

The raid in the Hill 70 sector was supported by a heavy barrage from our artillery, to which the enemy replied with straggling artillery fire. He also offered strong resistance with machine gun and rifle fire; but our veteran troops broke into the line, returning with six prisoners and two machine guns as proof of the success of the operation.

GERMANY'S LOSSES IN THE WAR ARE ESTIMATED AT 2,500,000 KILLED

Total Number of Casualties Reckoned at 4,225,000—Number of Troops Available at the Present Time Placed at 4,805,000

Paris, Feb. 17.—The Echo de Paris after a careful and minute examination of allied and enemy documents which it has in its possession publishes what the newspaper reckons to be Germany's losses in the war and the number of troops which she has available.

The losses through the war, it declares, are 4,225,000 men, of whom 2,500,000 are dead. Since 1914 Germany has been able to mobilize 14,000,000, from which 500,000 must be deducted, having remained in Entente or neutral countries. The first figure does not include the 1920 class, which would increase the forces by 450,000 men.

Following medical examinations at

the beginning of the war 2,250,000 men were rejected as unfit. This left a total of 11,250,000, from which losses must be deducted. At present Germany has in hospitals or waiting to be examined 950,000 men, while 70,000 men are employed in depots or the interior of the country.

Then the number of men Germany has lost as prisoners is given, taken from official lists published by the German Government and reproduced by Swiss, Swedish and German papers. There are: Prisoners in France, 250,000; in Russia, 200,000; in England, 120,000, making a total of 570,000, which is considered below the actual figures.

This would apparently leave Germany 4,805,000 men still available.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT RAID LONDON

Two Attacks by German Squadrons on Saturday and Sunday Nights.

London, Feb. 17.—Six German aircraft crossed the Kent coast of the Thames estuary about 10 o'clock last evening and proceeded towards London. Only one of the aeroplanes succeeded in reaching the capital, it is announced officially. This raider dropped one bomb in the south-west district, which caused four casualties. An aerial raid on Dover was repelled by British pilots, who engaged the Germans over the Kent coast. One large raider is reported to have crashed into the sea.

German aeroplanes again raided London to-night. Lord French, commander of the home forces, reports "hostile aeroplanes came in over the Thames estuary shortly after ten o'clock to-night, and proceeded towards London. Some bombs have been dropped in the capital. The raid is still in progress."

FRENCH BOMBARD COURCY REGION

Fired 5,000 Shells in Fifteen Minutes—German Losses Were Heavy.

Headquarters of the French Army in France, Feb. 17.—More than 5,000 shells of every calibre were launched by the French batteries in the course of fifteen minutes in preparation for a french raid north-east of Courcy, north-west of Rheims. A small party of infantry selected for this operation went over the top at the appointed hour, but not alone, for the spirit of the French troops was such that even orderlies accompanied them across the churned ground.

The French casualties were only one dead and seven wounded, while the ground over which the engagement had taken place was thickly covered with German bodies.

The raiding party also brought back much desired and precious information regarding the German dispositions in the vicinity of Fort Brimont, around which much movement has recently been observed.

GERMAN RAIDERS SINK 8 SMALL BRITISH CRAFT IN STRAITS OF DOVER

When Occupied in Hunting a Submarine British Vessels Were Sunk by Enemy Destroyers.

A despatch from London says: Eight British craft which were hunting submarines have been sunk by a raiding flotilla of enemy destroyers, it is announced officially. The text of the Admiralty statement reads:

"A swift raid was made by a flotilla of large enemy torpedo-boat destroyers at 1 a.m. on Thursday on our patrol forces in Dover Straits.

"The following craft, which were occupied in hunting a submarine, which had been sighted by the patrol, were sunk:

"Trawler James Pond, Drifters Jamie Murray, Cloverbank, Welliott, Cosmos, Silver Queen, Veracity and Christina Craig.

"After having sunk these vessels, the enemy destroyers returned rapidly to the north before any of our forces could engage them."

Wounded men injured in the raid were taken to Dover and are housed in the market place, which was converted into a temporary hospital. The firing lasted for 45 minutes and was plainly heard on shore.



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FARM LABOR NOT CONSCRIPTED

But Inventory of Man-Power of Dominion Will be Taken At Once.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Subsequent to a sitting of the Cabinet Council the Government gave out an announcement as to its immediate policy in regard to labor. The Government will not conscript men for farm labor under the Military Service Act, but will take immediate steps to secure a registration and inventory of the classification of the industries of man-power of the Dominion. There

will be no importation of coolie labor at present, to which exception is taken by the labor men, but this matter may be given further consideration at a later date. No decision has been reached in regard to the conscription of alien labor.

FIRST CONTINGENT TROOPS GET FURLOUGH.

A despatch from Canadian Army Headquarters in France says: Early this week the first batch of married n.c.o.'s and men of the First Expeditionary Force left the front on a three months' furlough to Canada. Altogether, nearly 700 married men have applied for this special veterans' leave which Canada has made possible by the striking support of its forces in the field.

CANADA'S ARMY STRONGER IN MEN AND MATERIALS.

A despatch from Canadian Army Headquarters says: After three and a half years of war Canada in the field is to march on to victory stronger than ever before.

The Dominion's fighting strength, both in men and in guns, is constantly increasing. Canada is entering upon the Spring campaign stronger in men, material and guns than at any time since the mobilization at Valcartier marked the creation of the historic First Division, and is holding a larger front than ever before.

Cream cheese mixed with chili sauce and served on lettuce leaves makes a good salad.