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LAST EDITION

UNDREAMED OF LOSSES TO GERMAN FORCES

Preparing the People For the Terrible News-- A Great Battle Won But What Will Result From it is Not Apparent.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Amsterdam, March 27.—A great battle has been fought and victory has been won, but nobody can foresee what will result from it, said Gen. von Ludendorff, chief aide to Field Marshal von Hindenburg, in an interview with the correspondent at the front of the Tages Zeitung of Berlin.

Field Marshal Haig Exhorts His Troops.

London, March 27.—Field Marshal Haig has issued the following special order to the British troops: "To all ranks of the British army in France and Flanders: We are again at a crisis in the war. The enemy has collected on this front every available division and is aiming at the destruction of the British army. We have already inflicted on the enemy in the course of the last few days very heavy loss and the French are sending troops as quickly as possible to our support. I feel that every one in the army fully realizing how much depends on the exertions and steadfastness of each one of us, will do his utmost to prevent the enemy from attaining his object."

GERMANS STRIKE FURTHER SOUTH

In An Effort to Split the Allied Front There.

RESISTANCE OF BRITISH CAUSED SLOWING UP OF ATTEMPT FURTHER NORTH.

It is Figured That the Kaiser Has Lost Fifty Per Cent. of the Germans He Threw Into the Offensive.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) British Army Headquarters in France, March 27.—The Germans last night continued their furious onslaught southward from Ham against the allied defenses in the region of Roye and Noyon, having slowed in their patent attempt to cut through the British line farther north where such desperate resistance was offered.

The Germans have now reclaimed virtually all the territory they held at the beginning of the battle of the Somme in 1916. At some places they have not retaken all the old ground, but at other points they have overstepped it somewhat.

Hard fighting occurred last night about the town of Albert. Large enemy forces pushed forward toward the place, but at last accounts the British were holding them doggedly at this possible gateway to Amiens.

The conflict in the sector around Roye and Noyon appears to be of great importance from many indications that the German higher command is attempting to split the Allied front there and start a rolling-up process either way.

From an average of the casualties in various German units, as given by prisoners, one arrives at the conclusion that the German Emperor has lost fifty per cent. of these men since he gave the signal for the advance.

Situation Still Grave.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) London, March 27.—The situation last night was undoubtedly more hopeful than it has been since the battle began, says the Times to-day, but it is still exceedingly grave, for although the enemy's rush in the northern section is apparently held,

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there is clearly a race against time in the progress in the south and everything depends upon the next few hours. We regard to-day and tomorrow as very critical. The enemy, south of the Somme, has crossed the 1916 Allied line from a point near Bray to near Roye, but southeast of Roye he is still well within the 1916 line. This is the point which gives the most anxiety and also the most ground for hope.

Enemy's Main Effort.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) London, March 27.—The zone of open warfare is continuing to enlarge as the Entente forces fall back fighting under the enormous weight of the German numbers, says a Reuter's despatch. It is now clearly established, he adds, that the present offensive is the great main effort of the Germans and that it has not been as successful as they anticipated.

Enemy Loses 400,000 Men.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) New York, March 27.—The Associated Press says that Germany's supreme effort to break the Allied front in the west apparently is no nearer accomplishment to-day than it was on the day the great drive started, and she is estimated to have lost 400,000 men in a futile effort during less than a week's fighting.

War Tidings.

The British wounded from the German offensive reached Paris Tuesday night.

The German Emperor and his staff are now at St. Quentin. Berlin reports that the number of guns captured now totals 363. More than 100 tanks were found in captured positions, says German Army Headquarters.

HOPES HUN GOD WILL NOT WIN.

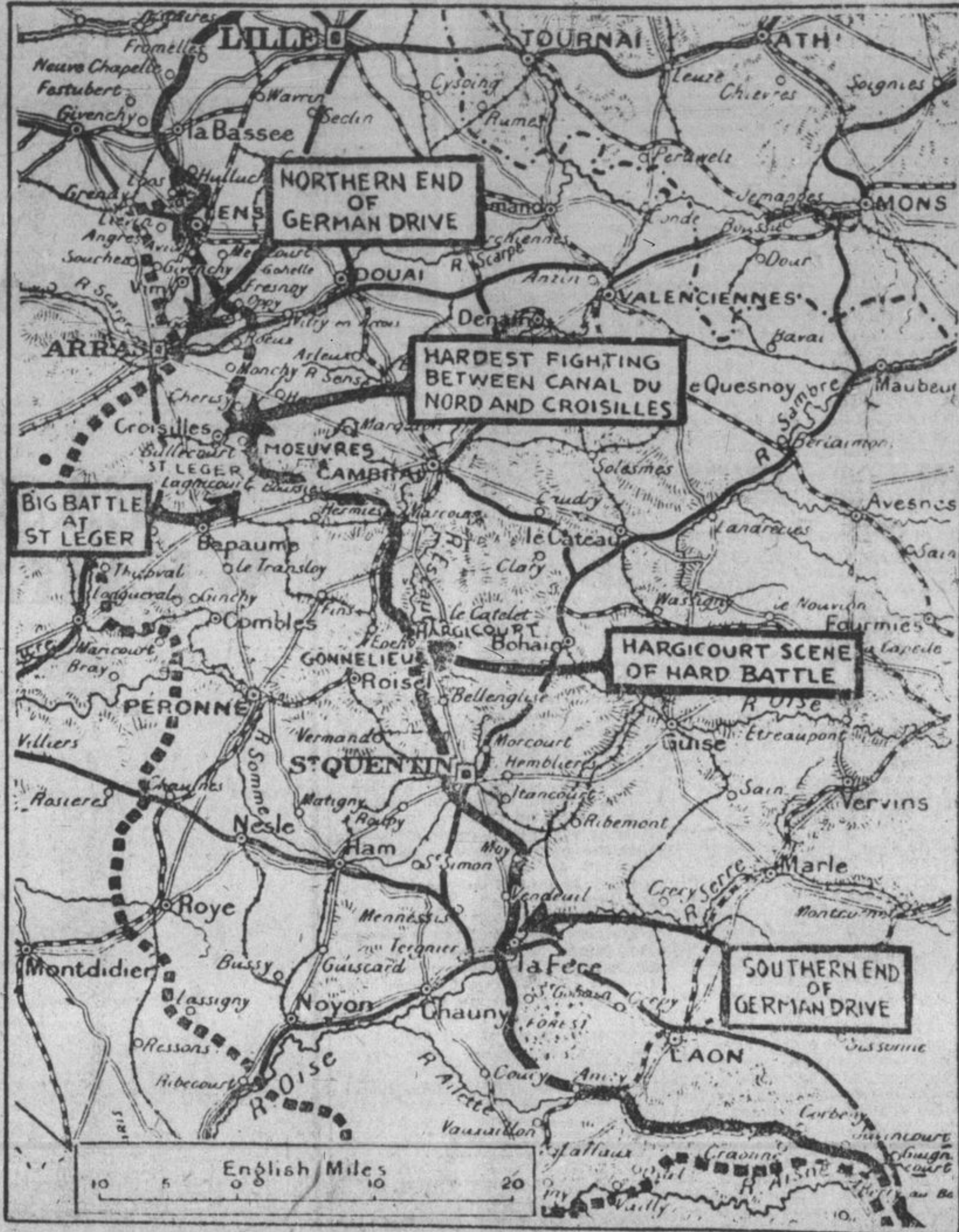
Stockholm, March 27.—"A few days will show whether the German God, who has been officially called upon, achieves a victory," declares the newspaper Social Demokraten. "We hope the opposite, for the freedom of the world."

OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) London, March 27.—The situation last night was undoubtedly more hopeful than it has been since the battle began, says the Times to-day, but it is still exceedingly grave, for although the enemy's rush in the northern section is apparently held,

In consequence of attacks yesterday afternoon and evening astride the Somme, the British troops on both banks were forced back a short distance in the neighborhood of Bray. The official announcement follows: "As a result of the enemy's attacks yesterday afternoon and evening astride the Somme, our troops on both banks were forced back a short distance in the neighborhood of Bray. A heavy attack made early in the night against our new line, south of the Somme, was repulsed after severe fighting. At one point in the neighborhood of the river the enemy forced his way into our positions, but was thrown back by our counter-attacks. Further local fighting has taken place also north and north-east of Albert, but the situation on this part of the battle front remains unchanged."

MAP SHOWING WHERE GREAT BATTLE IS RAGING



In a battle that has raged in ferocity any that has preceded it during three and a half years of warfare, the British, on a fifty mile front, have withstood a German offensive in its initial stages. At some points the British line has been broken but not as much as had been expected by military experts acquainted with the forces the Germans had brought up and the power of the guns they had upon and behind the line.

THE LATEST NEWS BRIEFLY GIVEN

Despatches That Come From Near And Distant Places.

TIDINGS FOR OUR READERS PRESENTED IN THE BRIEFEST POSSIBLE FORM.

The Whig's Daily Condensation of the News of the World From Telegraph Service and Newspaper Exchange.

At Lethbridge, Alta., Adam Neigel was hanged for the crime of poisoning his wife on their farm near Medicine Hat.

If the Ontario License Board has its way there will be no advertising of native wines allowed in the newspapers of the province.

Soviet forces smashed Gen. Korniloff's army, which appeared suddenly on the borders of the Charkoff Province, in the Don region, near the station of Pissarevskaya.

Canadian authorities will ask Canadian women and soldiers' dependents to return to Canada at an early date, or else to sign statements agreeing to remain in England one year after the war's conclusion.

The House of Commons agreed to a motion providing for evening sittings on Wednesday, April 3rd, and the taking of Wednesdays and Thursdays for Government business after that date.

WOUNDED REACH LONDON. Crowds Cheered and Threw Flowers at the Heroes.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) London, March 27.—Four train loads of wounded officers and men from the battlefield in France reached London last night. As they were being transferred to ambulances, crowds cheered and threw flowers. The wounded responded smilingly to these greetings. They said: "Fritz just rained shells on us like a hail storm."

A German General Killed. (Canadian Press Despatch.) Amsterdam, March 27.—German newspapers announce that Gen. Paul Bloch Von Moltwitz, an infantry division commander in the German army, was killed at the front on March 23rd.

The Berlin Vorwaerts says that when the war is over if Germany is victorious her role must be one of peacefulness towards her neighboring nations.

GERMAN ADVANCE WOULD CONVOKE PARLIAMENT NOW

The Enemy, Owing to Heavy Losses, Has Had to Slow Up.

VALIANCE OF THE FRENCH IN THEIR DEFENSE IS BEYOND ALL PRAISE.

The British Repulsed a Heavy Attack South of the Somme After Severe Fighting.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Paris, March 27.—Last night the German advance was held up everywhere, according to the official statement of the War Office to-day. The enemy, weakened by heavy losses it adds, has been obliged to slow up his efforts. The statement follows: "Last evening and during the night, the Germans weakened by their heavy losses, were compelled to retard their efforts, the valiance of the French troops defending the ground foot by foot is beyond all praise. The French are holding a line running through Lechelle, St. Laurin and Beuvraignes, north of Lassigny, in front of southern part of Noyon and along the left bank of the Oise. During the night the French repulsed strong reconnoitering parties, which attempted to approach their positions northwest of Noyon. On the remainder of the front there was an intermittent bombardment."

British Repulse Attack. (Canadian Press Despatch.) London, March 27.—A heavy attack was made early in the night against the new British line south of the Somme. It was repulsed after severe fighting, the War Office announces.

Third Liberty Loan. Washington, D.C., March 27.—Secretary McAdoo announced that the amount of the third Liberty Loan would be three billion dollars, at 4 1/2 per cent. and that all over-subscriptions would be accepted.

At Paris, Claude de Bussy, the noted composer, is dead. He was fifty-six years old.

British Repulse Attack. (Canadian Press Despatch.) London, March 27.—A heavy attack was made early in the night against the new British line south of the Somme. It was repulsed after severe fighting, the War Office announces.

JAPAN NOT INTERVENING. Premier Says Not Afraid of German Penetration.

Osaka, March 27.—Premier Terauchi, replying to an interpellation in the House of Peers, said: "The Government has not considered the question of intervention in Siberia. The Empire is not so powerful as to be frightened to such an extent by German penetration in the east."

Pte. George Harman, of the Canadian forces, sentenced to death in London, Eng., for the murder of a maid, has been reprieved.

ALL UNFIT MEN ARE TO BE SENT BACK

Only Those With Special Qualifications Will Be Kept in England Now.

London, March 27.—On the principle that men of a low physical category militate against the strength of the Canadian force here, a new measure has been adopted in regard to 33 men. Whether they are likely to be raised in category within the prescribed six months or not, these men will be returned to Canada at once for disposal there. Exceptions to this rule are men capable of being instructors, clerks, and technical men employed by railways and forestry units, and cooks, butchers and bakers.

Technically qualified recruits are also in demand in other directions. Owing to the shortage of wireless operators, all units having on their strength here wireless operators have been instructed to supply the Canadian Engineers Training Depots with rolls showing the extent to which they have "wireless" men in their ranks.

Men who have had experience in civil life in special trades, besides wireless telegraphy, such as ordinary telegraph operators, and mechanics, are now being withdrawn from drafts on arrival in this country and sent to engineer depots to keep up the strength.

The "sweet-tooths" in the Canadian overseas forces have had a curb put on their appetites for dainties which involve trespass on the floor and sugar supplies. The Navy and Army Canteens Board has issued an instruction that the total weight of bread, cake and pastry supplied daily in any canteen for sale to troops must not exceed an allowance of 1 1/2 oz. per man. Military sugar permits now entitle the holder to 1 7-8 ozs. instead of 2 ozs.

URGES COMPULSION THROUGHOUT IRELAND

London Morning Post Condemns British Government For Neglecting West Front

London, March 27.—That Great Britain failed to make a greater concentration of men on the western front is deplored by the Morning Post, which urges that conscription be put into effect in Ireland to fill the gap.

"This great battle," it says, "teaches us all the vital nature of the western front. It is here that the war is being decided. What would we give now for all those glorious legions we have sent to the ends of the earth at the behest of our aimless strategists? Even the dazzling glories of Jerusalem fade into insignificance in the light of this conflict on the Somme."

"We have all along urged that the western front be the decisive front. The skill of our generals and the steadiness of our men are now barely enabling our armies to hold their own against this tremendous assault which our commanders had foreseen. The most urgent need is for men upon the western front. They must be got if our army and our country are to be saved. And to get them, one measure above all others is needed. "We must apply the National Service Act to Ireland. When we do that, our Government will rest its further claims upon this country upon a rock of justice as well as of necessity."

SWITZERLAND ASKS FOR AN INDEMNITY

Sinking of Vessel With Cargo For Swiss Is Resented.

Berne, March 27.—An official report has just been received giving details of the sinking of the Spanish steamer Sardinero, with American grain for Switzerland. The sinking of the Sardinero was reported on February 27th, and ten days ago it was announced from Bern that the Swiss Government had demanded an indemnity from Germany for the destruction of the vessel.

The report states that the vessel was attacked in the free zone, 12 miles from Cassablanca. The members of the crew declare that the commander of the German submarine, after searching the Sardinero, made a particular point of the fact that the ship was not provided with a letter of safe conduct from the German Embassy in Spain. The steamer was then sunk by shell fire after the crew had left.

The Swiss Government, now claiming restitution for the cargo in the nature of grain or flour and the payment of damages for the unrecovered freight. It is emphasized that the demand for such a safe conduct was unusual, even unprecedented, and it is noted that the German commander obviously had made a mistake or had acted capriciously.

INFECTION IN BEER MUGS.

Canadian Authorities Order Sterilization of Canteens.

London, March 27.—The innocent beer mug, even when used for non-alcoholic beverages, may be the cause of dangerous infection, so the Canadian army medical authorities have instituted very necessary precautions. An order has been issued that all drinking mugs used in places serving refreshments to Canadian troops must be regularly sterilized and each establishment must install a sterilizing apparatus under pain of being placed "out of bounds."

Various simple methods of sterilization are suggested by the authorities, and there should be no difficulty in adapting one or another in every refreshment place.

BIG OFFENSIVE SLOWING DOWN

The Enemy Has Been Checked West of Roye and Noyon.

GERMAN AIRMEN SMOTHERED

BY THE BRITISH WHO ARE IN FULL CONTROL.

There Were 264 Enemy Airplanes Brought Down in Four Days—Unshaken Confidence on Part of French.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) London, March 27.—After six days of intense fighting the German offensive is slowing down.

The War Office last night announced that the Germans took Roye at 10.30 o'clock this morning. The enemy has been checked west of Roye and Noyon, the announcement adds.

In the Roye area British, French and American troops are fighting shoulder to shoulder, the official announcement states. French reinforcements are rapidly coming up.

It is in this sector and in the Noyon region that the German wedge is being driven in hardest, and it is here, or on the line to the east, should the Germans further expose their life wing, that the weight of the expected counter-blow may fall.

The French on their front are holding the line of the Oise strongly. Their artillery is cutting huge swaths in the German columns and the French infantry is making frequent counter-attacks, inflicting heavy losses on the Germans and retarding their advance.

The British evidently are maintaining their marked superiority in the air on the battlefield and are throwing the German supply stations and lines of communication in the rear into confusion by air attacks at close range.

Aviators' Great Work.

The British have brought down two hundred and sixty-four airplanes in four days and lost only thirty-one. Bapaume was turned into an inferno by squadrons of British aviators. Their bombs tore to pieces what ever was left of the place. The work of the British aviators since the beginning of the battle has been one of the biggest pages. Bitter battles in the air have been fought by scores of aviators, and the service has proved fully its ability to smother the German airman at a crucial time.

Unshaken Confidence.

London, March 27.—A despatch from French Headquarters says that the news should be read with entire calm and unshaken confidence and that although our front was compelled to recede under the hammer blow of von Hindenburg—inevitably—a move that was fully foreseen by the Allied staffs—counter measures prepared in advance will take effect at the right moment. These first days of the battle presumably mark the high-water level of the German advance, but we are nearer to the moment when the allied armies in reserve will be ready to intervene. Before that moment comes Hindenburg must have achieved the decision, or be prepared to see it go against him.

Hitherto, with three human material and means employed by the French and British armies last year, the enemy gained proportionately less than the Allies did in a series of brilliant attacks beginning with Vimy Ridge and ending with the Malmesbury fort. All such operations result in the gain of ground exactly proportionate to the accumulation of men, material and means behind the attacking front. As the Germans have been able to accumulate a greater force behind the front than the Allies have ever been able to achieve, their advance has been proportionately swifter and greater.

The Germans are advancing through the same territory where they did not find a whole roof except in the towns of Guisard and Ham, nor an inhabitant nor an ounce of food.

U-Boat Destroys Itself.

London, March 27.—How a German submarine was destroyed by one of its own torpedoes, which acted as a booby-trap, is vouched for in an official statement by Captain Frewen of the British steamer Piton. The Captain declares that, while on his way from Havre to a Welsh port, a German U-boat discharged a torpedo, which, when a short distance from the steamer, was deflected, and, describing a semi-circle, struck the submarine and sank it.

The new Union Station in Toronto will be completed by Dec. 30th, 1918.

ODESSA RE-CAPTURED.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) London, March 27.—Odessa has been re-captured from the Germans by the Soviet and Ukrainian troops, after a bloody battle in which the naval forces took part, according to a Moscow despatch from the semi-official Russian News Agency.