

MESSINES RIDGE IS HELD BY THE BRITISH FORCES

The Germans Take Half of Ploegsteert Village And Wood North of Armentieres - The British Counter-Attacks Drive Them From Several Positions.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) With the British Army in Belgium, April 11.—The Germans this morning were in possession of about half of Ploegsteert village and wood on the Flanders battlefield, just to the north of Armentieres. Fighting was continuing this morning north of Armentieres with the British still holding Messines ridge and Wytschaete which yesterday changed hands several times. During the day enemy succeeded in entering not only these positions, but Lacreche, Nippe and Hollebeke. Vigorous counter-attacks forced the enemy from all these places.

Desperate Fighting Continues. (Canadian Press Despatch.) New York, April 11.—This afternoon's Associated Press war summary says:

"Armentieres has been evacuated by the British, while the Germans, driving in from the southwest of the town, are struggling to push forward in the area southwest of Messines ridge, the key point of the British line in Flanders. Messines ridge itself has been the objective of desperate frontal attacks and the Germans are reported to have pushed on to the ridge several times during fierce hand-to-hand fighting. Each time however, the British came back at them with effective counter-attacks and to-day were still holding the ridge.

West of Armentieres the enemy, struggling in his deep salient, has pushed the fighting to the limit and at one time succeeded in driving the British miles beyond the river Lys to Lacreche. In this situation the British likewise reacted strongly, and by vigorous counter-attacks ousted the Germans from Lacreche and other neighboring terrain. Other places taken by the Germans were retaken in counter-attacks.

The evacuation of Armentieres had been forecast and discounted, as the place is without strategic value. There was no let-up in the engagement to-day, the battle continuing on the entire twenty-five mile front from Labassee north to the Ypres-Comines canal just below Ypres.

German Attack Was Broken Up. (Canadian Press Despatch.)

Paris, April 11.—A German attack in Champagne last night was broken up by the French fire. On the principal battle front there was heavy artillery fighting between Montdidier and Noyon.

OPINION IN BRITAIN IS NOW STIFFENING

No Reason Why Young and Fit Irishmen Should Not Do Their Bit.

London, April 11.—Overwhelming determination to avert a Prussian victory on land this year stiffens the public opinion of Great Britain beyond anything heretofore seen during the war. This outstanding fact was reflected with grave intensity in both Houses of Parliament.

The English, Scotch and Welsh nationalities declare that while they are sending their boys of eighteen and their men of fifty into the army to fight for the security of the British Isles, young and fit Irishmen, who profit by this security as much as anyone, should not be exempted.

It is strongly held now that an unprecedented emergency, affecting all alike, calls imperatively for the total fighting strength of the United Kingdom.

SUNK IN MEDITERRANEAN.

A Big British Steamer Was Torpedoed in February.

(Special to the Whig.) New York, April 11.—The big British steamer Minnetonka, 15,523 tons gross register, and formerly in the New York-London passenger trade for the Atlantic Transport Line, was sunk by a German submarine in the Mediterranean during February. The Marine Register reports to-day:

The Minnetonka was one of a line of four passenger ships aggregating 55,095 gross tons, all of which have been sunk since the war began. The three others were Minneapolis, sunk March 22nd, 1918; Minnehaha, sunk Sept. 7th, 1917; and Minnesota, sunk Nov. 29th, 1917.

There will be an addition of 4,000,000 acres under crop in Canada this year as compared with 1917. Half of it east of the Great Lakes.

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AMERICAN SUPPLY WAGONS PASSING THROUGH FRENCH TOWN



AMERICAN TROOPS ON THE MOVE IN FRANCE

This is how the American troops in France escort their supplies to the front. The huge motor trucks, protected by an armed escort of Uncle Sam's soldiers, convey plenty of supplies for the boys in the trenches.

CHARGES A RING IS WORKING HERE

Dr. Edwards Pays His Compliments to Military District No. 3 Officers.

MONEY IS UNNECESSARILY USED IN PAYING SALARIES TO OFFICERS IN CANADA.

"You Boost Me and I Will Boost You" Ring is Operated According to Frontenac's Member in Kingston—The Work Done by Veterinary Colonels.

(Special to the Whig.) OTTAWA, April 11.—During the course of the discussion last night on the bill to organize the department of soldiers' civil re-establishment, Dr. J. W. Edwards, member for Frontenac, claimed there were still too many officers drawing pay in Canada. Tens of thousands of dollars, he asserted, had been unnecessarily paid out since the war started.

TRYING TO DESTROY THE BRITISH ARMIES

By Holding the French and Continuing Smashing Against Haig's Forces.

London, April 11.—Phillip Gibbs writes that it is made certain by this new thrust that the German High Command has decided to check the full weight of their armies against us in northern France instead of dividing their efforts by striking also at the Franco.

THREE ARE ARRESTED FOR BANK ROBBERY

Two Men and Woman Caught in Brockville—\$800 Recovered From Them.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Montreal, April 11.—Three persons have been detained by the police in connection with the daring robbery of Cote des Neiges branch of the Royal Bank of Canada last Friday. Early this morning two men and a woman were taken into charge at Brockville, Ont., and later brought to Montreal. About \$800 in cash, supposed to have formed part of the stolen \$5,000, was recovered when the capture was made.

SINN FEINNERS CALM

But Orders Have Been Given With Regard to Conscription.

(Special to the Whig.) London, April 11.—Absolute calm seems to prevail among the Sinn Fein party, says a Central News despatch from Dublin, but it is understood that orders have been given to all sections of Irish volunteers regarding action to be taken in the event of Irish conscription being agreed upon.

One Canadian airman recently fell five thousand feet into a canal in France, escaping scratches.

GERMANY INTENDS TO KEEP ANTWERP

Will Not Be Restored to Belgium Under Any Consideration.

London, April 11.—The Cologne Gazette in an inspired sketch of the economic conditions which Germany would be disposed to dictate to Belgium in the event of the nominal restoration of that country, deals particularly with Antwerp.

"It may be stated without exaggeration," says the Gazette, "that the port of Antwerp is indispensable for the interests of industry, commerce and traffic in the west and south of Germany. If we lost the port of Antwerp or if we were hampered in using it, this would mean the renunciation of all the advantages which Antwerp possesses for great parts of Germany as compared with other world trade ports.

London, April 11.—Gen. Haig reports that the German attack north of Armentieres forced the British to the line of the Wytschaete-Messines ridge and Ploegteret. The Germans secured position on the north bank of the Lys river, but were driven out of Messines village. The Germans claim 6,000 prisoners and 100 guns.

BISHOP HENDERSON URGES METHODISTS BUY BONDS

With 200,000 Boys of Faith in Arms, Church Must See It Through, He Says.

Philadelphia, April 11.—"Methodists must see it through," is the text of an appeal issued in the interest of the third liberty loan, by Bishop Theodore S. Henderson, executive officer of the newly created National War Council. If we lost the port of Antwerp or if we were hampered in using it, this would mean the renunciation of all the advantages which Antwerp possesses for great parts of Germany as compared with other world trade ports.

MINISTERS ASSESSED

By City of Ottawa For War Tax and Patriotic Grants.

Ottawa, April 11.—General Mewburn, Minister of Militia, and Hon. F. B. Carvell, Minister of Public Works, have entered appeals against the assessment by the city for war tax and patriotic grants on their incomes.

WANTS TWO RESIGNATIONS

Demands for Heads of Mayor and Police Chief.

Quebec, April 11.—In a letter to the Quebec Chronicle, E. Tremblay, 82 King street, a member of the Quebec Clearing Depot, urges the people to unite and force Mayor Lavigne to resign, in view of his lack of energy and initiative in handling the recent riots. He also advocates the immediate replacement of Captain Trudel as chief of police.

TO SAVE LOBSTER INDUSTRY

Naval Department to Start Educational Campaign.

Ottawa, April 11.—Hon. C. G. Ballantyne, Minister of the Naval Service, announces that he has decided to close the fourteen hatteries scattered about the coasts of the Maritime Provinces permanently.

DRIVE GERMANS FROM MESSINES

The British Are Holding the Line of Wytschaete-Messines Ridge.

FIERCE FIGHT IN GIVENCHY

The British Wielded Bayonets, Clubs and Fists.

Fought in Black Darkness Until the German Stormers Retired Beaten—Enemy Attacks in Dense Masses. (Canadian Press Despatch.) London, April 11.—Gen. Haig reports that the German attack north of Armentieres forced the British to the line of the Wytschaete-Messines ridge and Ploegteret. The Germans secured position on the north bank of the Lys river, but were driven out of Messines village. The Germans claim 6,000 prisoners and 100 guns.

British Evacuate Armentieres.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) London, April 11.—The British have withdrawn from Armentieres on the northern battle front. Violent fighting continues all along the front from Labassee Canal to the Ypres-Comines Canal. The statement follows: "The battle is continuing on the whole front from Labassee Canal to the Ypres-Comines Canal. Severe fighting has taken place in the neighborhood of Lawe and Lys canals from about Lestrem to Armentieres. Our troops have been withdrawn from Armentieres, which is full of gas.

HELD AS WHITE SLAVE

Five Indictments Result of Girl's Testimony.

East St. Louis, Ill., April 11.—Five indictments resulting from the recent Congressional inquiry into the East St. Louis race riots have been returned by the federal grand jury at Cairo, Ill. It was learned yesterday. The indictments are based on the testimony of Myrtle Gardner, who said she had been held as a white slave at a hotel here.

LIKELIHOOD OF MERGER IS REMOTE.

Montreal, April 11.—The general impression seems to be that at the present time there is much chance of a merger. This official announcement was made to-day after the meeting of representatives of the Board of Directors of the Dominion Steel and Nova Scotia Steel in regard to an amalgamation of the two companies. The meetings of the directors have been suspended for the time being.

SASKATOON BANK ROBBED.

Saskatoon, April 11.—An unmasked bandit on Tuesday before two o'clock, held up the south branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce here and got away with between three and four thousand dollars in currency. The bandit was a young man of about twenty-five years.

THE CANADIANS READY FOR THE TEUTONS

Violent Artillery Duels—Dare the Huns to Make Frontal Attack.

(Special to the Whig.) Canadian Army Headquarters, April 11.—Foiled in their attempt to outflank Vimy Ridge in the south, the Germans are now attempting the same manoeuvre from the north by Beuvin. The analysis at this point of the date that saw Canada victorious in winning back so much of the coal lands of France finds these hands menaced again. Canada, with its hard-won Vimy Ridge behind it, waits for Germany to dare a frontal attack.

All yesterday afternoon, evening and this morning our guns have answered to those of the enemy. Throughout the area from the Scarpe to Spueche, little villages have known again the blood price of battle.

Women and children are evacuating loved homes. Death has visited many. War broods over the ridge. From Lens to Arras ruin is being added to ruin. Smoky by day, rimmed in fire by night, our old battle grounds are alive to battle again by the constant clumping of shells in Arras, Lezin, Acqueroliers and other big and little centres is answered by the roar of our guns, sweeping the enemy front, assembly, and rear areas.

Our men wait in trenches without fear or the future. Everywhere there is confidence and sure foreknowledge that if the enemy attacks our heights his price for that attack will be terrible.

The temper of our forces is magnificent. It found repeated expression on Tuesday. At one point two Canadian parties raided enemy lines.

PERSIANS STARVING

4,000 Families in Teheran Are Being Fed. (Special to the Whig.) London, April 11.—It is announced here that there are 5,000 families in Teheran which are in need of financial assistance and that 4,000 of them are being furnished with food daily.

FEW VESSELS SUNK BY U-BOATS LAST WEEK.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) London, April 11.—Submarine sinkings last week were four vessels over and two under six—teen hundred tons, the smallest—weekly record since November 11th.

FARMING OUTLOOK IN ONTARIO ACUTE

Faces Decreased Production If Labor Required is Not Furnished.

Ottawa, April 11.—A deputation representing the citizens of Ottawa and comprising Messrs. John Reid, L. N. Newman, ex-Controller J. W. Nelson, R. B. Faith, Lieut. F. J. P. Green and members of the Board of Trade, will interview the officials at the Ottawa farm show.

GEN FOCH'S MAXIMS

In Regard to The Art of War Are Interesting.

Paris, April 11.—Gen. Foch, apart from his military genius, has written books and articles on military strategy and tactics. The French review, La France Militaire, recalls certain passages in the General's articles. Three passages read as follows:

"For chiefs: The 38th article of war does not exist in punishing the enemy like a wild bear. There must be harmony of all wills, submission of the subordinate higher command. The War Department is a moral force. A battle is a struggle of two wills. A victory is a moral superiority in the victor; moral depression in the vanquished.

A battle is lost morally, but it is also morally that it is won. A battle won is a battle in which one will not admit being vanquished.

CASUALTIES

Relatives Are Requested to Notify the Whig.

Upon receipt of messages of casualties relatives are requested to notify the Whig. By doing this they will take the most convenient and expeditious manner of conveying the news to their friends. The names are not published in the casualty lists till four or five days following the receipt of the official telegram, and the publication of the news is therefore delayed unless the Whig is notified.

Relatives who reside in the vicinity are also asked to notify this paper of casualties. The Baroness Strathcona and Mount Royal has given another recreation hut to the Church Army.