

BATTLE NOW GOING IN FAVOR OF BRITISH

BRITISH REGAINING SOME LOST GROUND

The Enemy Has Made No Further Advances Since Tuesday Morning--The Fighting is the Most Terrible of the War.

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

London, April 17.—The battle in Flanders is raging today with incredible intensity, telegraphs the correspondent of Reuters at British army headquarters. As far as the latest reports enable the correspondent to judge the battle is going in favor of the British. Notwithstanding the desperate attacks of the Germans, they have gained no further ground since Tuesday morning and apparently they have lost some. During his three years' experience in the war zone the correspondent says he never has heard such terrific uninterrupted gunfire as has gone on since Tuesday afternoon.

According to a Reuter's despatch the British are continuing to regain ground lost recently in the Wyttschaete sector, south of Ypres. The fighting is terrific at all points and the Germans are paying dearly in killed and wounded for every inch of ground taken by them.

Regained Wyttschaete. (Canadian Press Despatch.)

With the British Army in France, April 17.—It was reported this morning that the British, fighting magnificently, had regained the much-contested town of Wyttschaete.

THE ENEMY AT ST. ELOI AND MOUNT KEMMEL SLOPES

British Have Been Making Successful Counter-Attacks at Wyttschaete and North of Bailleul—Retirement East of Ypres Voluntary.

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

London, April 17.—According to an Exchange Telegraph despatch from Paris, the Germans have advanced from Wyttschaete as far as St. Eloi, and also have a grip on the southern slopes of Mount Kemmel. The British War Office statement says:

"Yesterday evening we delivered a successful counter-attack in the neighborhood of Wyttschaete. At Metren also our counter-attack restored the situation and the village remains in our hands. Throughout the afternoon and evening yesterday, repeated hostile attacks north of Bailleul were repulsed with loss to the enemy. Bodies of German infantry advancing in close formation were caught under the fire of our troops at short range and suffered heavy casualties. We secured a few prisoners.

"The enemy also endeavored to develop an attack yesterday afternoon east of Robecq, following the bombardment already reported, but his advance was broken up by our artillery fire.

Forward Positions East of Ypres Withdrawn.

"In consequence of the progress made the enemy on the Lys front, our troops holding our forward positions east of Ypres have been withdrawn to a new line. The withdrawal was carried out deliberately without interference by the enemy.

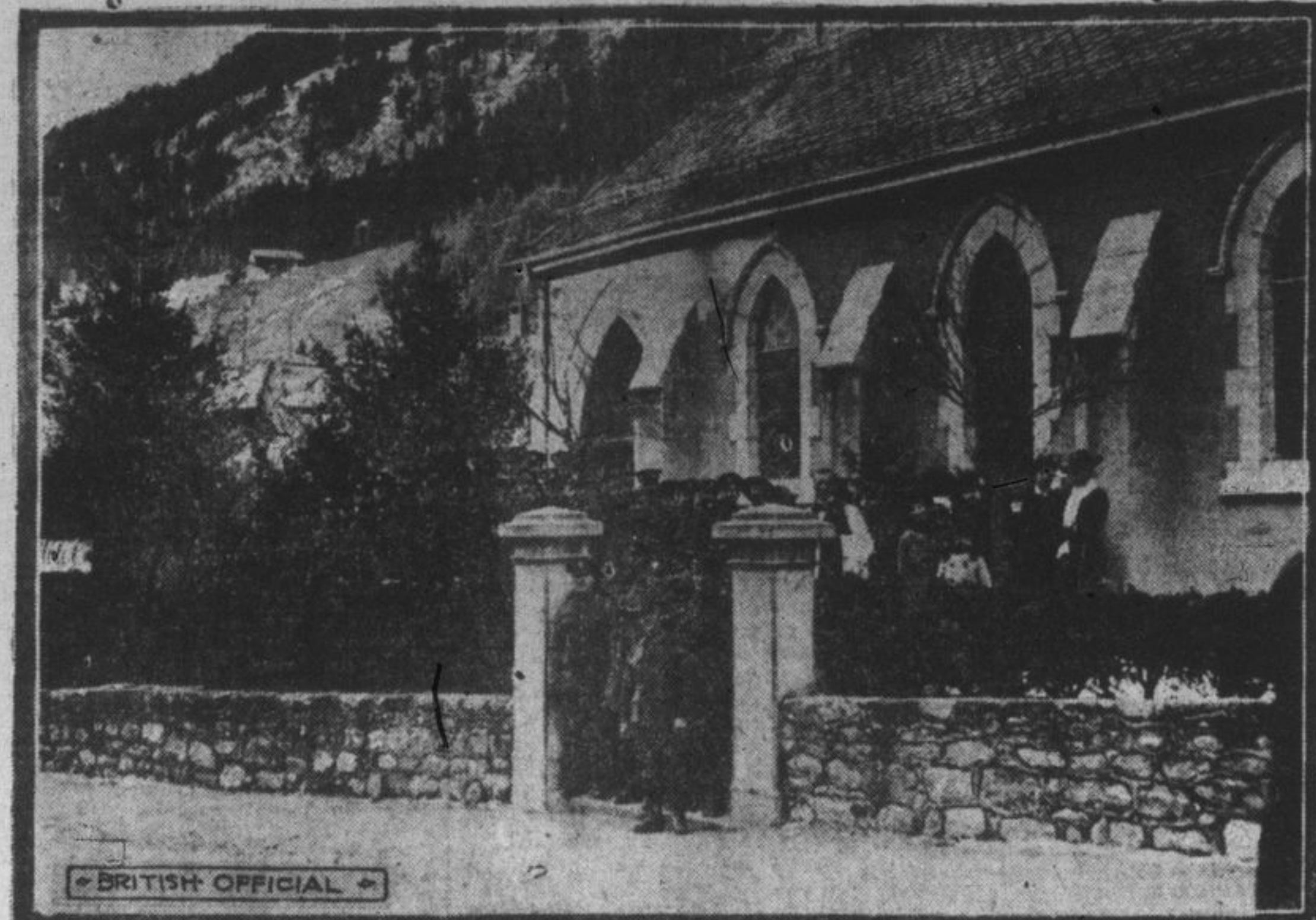
"On the battlefield south of Arras parties of German infantry, who had entered our trenches opposite Boyelles, were driven out yesterday afternoon with the loss of several prisoners. Our line in this locality has been completely restored."

The Brighter Side.

London, April 17.—The battlefield conditions to-day may seem somewhat grim in the reading, but they have their brighter side. The Germans have won new ground at a great cost of life, and there is no diminution in that magnificent spirit which has been holding against the enemy invasion since April 9th. There is absolutely no flagging of faith among the officers and men along this front in their ultimate victory.

No more gallant defence has been recorded since the war began than that now going on, and while further sacrifices are expected, and even further loss of ground, no doubt exists on the British front that ultimately the Allies will come into their own when the German side has spent its fury.

INTERNED BRITISH SOLDIERS SAY A PRAYER FOR THE ALLIED ARMIES



British soldiers interned in Switzerland leaving the English church Chateau d'Oex after Sunday service. The English report says the men attend church "quite voluntarily."

CANADA TO CALL UP MORE MEN

Military Service Act Machinery is Virtually All Wiped Out.

YOUNG MEN OF NINETEEN WILL BE REQUIRED TO REGISTER AT ONCE

Men Between Twenty and Twenty-three to be Called out by Minister of Militia Regardless of Occupation.

Ottawa, April 17.—The urgency of the demand for reinforcements to meet the Hun peril at the front, and the failure of the cumbersome machinery provided by the Military Service Act to supply these reinforcements quickly, have necessitated the virtual wiping out of the whole machinery of the act and the substitution at once of a direct call to the colors of all unmarried young men physically fit for military service between the ages of twenty and twenty-three.

It is the intention to call out in the first instance unmarried men and widowers without children between the ages of twenty and twenty-three, both inclusive. It is believed that these young men can be spared with the least disturbance to agriculture and other essential industries. The calling out of men of other ages under the proposed Order-in-Council must necessarily depend upon the exigencies of the war and the need for reinforcements.

Men of Nineteen Must Register.

In the meantime the Military Service Act will continue in operation as to all other men in class 1, and as regards other classes under the act. Men of nineteen will be required to register without delay. Every effort shall be made to speed up the work of the tribunals and appeal courts in dealing with the balance of exemption claims, outside of course, of the men called out under the new order.

The Order-in-Council not only makes all young men now 19 years of age subject to the provisions of the Military Service Act, but also all other young men as and when they attain 19 years of age.

An Exemption Removed. The order removes the exemption now enjoyed by officers and men who have served in the expeditionary forces, but who did not proceed farther than Great Britain and have since returned to Canada and been discharged. They will be required to serve if physically fit when their class is called.

The number of men the Government is authorized to raise under the Military Service Act remains at 100,000. Whether or not Parliament will be asked to increase this number before the House prorogues depends entirely upon developments at the front and the prospective need for reinforcements.

Senator Landry Operated On. Quebec, April 17.—Senator Landry, former speaker of the Senate, was operated upon here yesterday at the Hotel Dieu Hospital. He is doing well.

New Zealand is raising another twenty million pound war loan. Persons able to subscribe but failing to do so will be fined the amount through their income tax.

BORDER TOWNS KEEP TO THE OLD TIME

Canvass of Merchants and Factories Followed by Vote 11 to 1 in Council.

Windsor, April 17.—Clocks in Windsor and adjacent municipalities will not be changed but will remain one hour behind the rest of Canada. The decision was arrived at when the City Council, by a vote of 11 to 1, voted to retain the old time. The vote was taken after Mayor Tison had informed the aldermen that a canvass made showed 45 retail merchants against any change, only 19 being in favor of it. Out of 57 factories visited, 39 expressed themselves as against any change, while 18 were willing to accept it. Alderman Blake Winter was the only alderman voting for the new time. The adoption of the new time by some merchants and organizations in this city caused great confusion on Monday.

BOLO PASHA DIES. He Was Executed in Forest of Vincennes on Wednesday.



Paris, April 17.—Standing before a firing squad in the forest of Vincennes early to-day Paul Bolo Pasha, condemned traitor, lost entirely the attitude of indifference he had maintained subsequent to and during his trial. When the order to fire was given the rifles spoke and Bolo crumpled up with several bullets in his head. The condemned man went to his execution in a new suit of clothes, brought to the prison by his brother, and wearing white gloves.

A New Foreign Minister.

Amsterdam, April 17.—Baron Buriac has been appointed Austro-Hungarian foreign minister in succession to Count Czernin, according to a Vienna despatch.

Capt. E. F. Mathers, formerly well-known Winnipeg newspaper man, was killed in action on April 9th.

FOCH'S RESERVES AWAIT PSYCHOLOGICAL MOMENT.

London, April 17.—"All this time, French reserves under Gen. Foch, who is commander-in-chief in this battle, have not given a sign of life. I can see no good reason why they should have done so, hitherto. Reserves are very good things while one has them, but when they are put in during such a battle as this they soon are spent."—Col. Repington in reviewing present situation at the front.

BRITISH MOVED TO A NEW LINE

They Have Withdrawn From Their Positions Before Ypres.

HAVE RETAKEN METELEN

The British Have Won Out in a Counter-Attack.

There is marked German artillery activity south of the Somme. The Greek and British have crossed the Struma River and occupied seven towns.

London, April 17.—The British positions before Ypres have been withdrawn to a new line. South of Arras the Germans were driven out of the British trenches, into which they had forced their way. Early this morning the German artillery became more active south of the Somme.

The British have recaptured Metelen, on the northern battle front, by counter-attack, it is announced officially.

Fighting on the Somme.

Paris, April 17.—Heavy artillery fighting occurred last night on the principal battle front between the Somme and the Oise, the War Office reports. The French carried out several raids, especially southwest of Butte Dumesnil, in the region of Thure and north of Epierey. On the right bank of the Meuse a German attack east of Samogneux was repulsed.

Greeks and British Advance.

London, April 17.—The Greek and British troops, which on Monday crossed the Struma river on the eastern flank of the Macedonian front, occupied seven towns, the War Office announces.

HERTLING'S NEW STAND.

Amsterdam, April 17.—The Tageliche Rundschau gives great prominence to a curious statement regarding the Imperial Chancellor and the Reichstag peace resolution. A few days ago, it declares, the Rhineland Centre party met—Hertling belongs to the Centre party—and there was conveyed to the meeting a statement from the Chancellor that he would resign if the party did not break away from the Erzberger peace policy, that is the policy of the Reichstag Majority parties, as expressed in the July resolution. The meeting therefore passed a resolution saying there could now be no question of peace without "territorial quantities" and indemnities as far as the western enemies were concerned.

The journal adds, by way of confirmation of this that the Chancellor has so far broken with Erzberger that he will not receive this champion of peace without annexations and indemnities.

Political warfare in the Fatherland has been further embittered by the rejection for the second time of the equal franchise for Prussia by the Constitution committee of the Prussian lower house.

"By this rejection," says the Vorwarts, "the victors of Armenia receive a box on the ears as thanks." Democratic papers predict a great political battle over the question and a possible dissolution of the House.

ENEMY IS FORCED TO PLAY TRUMP CARD

The Germans Out For Great Victory, But Risk Great Defeat.

Paris, April 17.—Henri Bidon, military critic of the Journal writes: The Germans are in an unstable and dangerous situation, having behind them wasted ground and difficult communications.

But more than that, in order to carry out this operation they had to engage divisions of that precious general reserve they had so carefully prepared. This is the capital fact. They had, as a gambler says, to play a trump card. For what purpose?

Evidently in order to compel the allies to do the same and maintain in the north a certain number of divisions. From this we can conclude almost with certainty that their true objective remains in the south, and that, by forcing their adversary to the north they are preparing a thorough attack in the south.

It is, therefore, in their interest to vary the points of attack. They do so and play their game. But on seeing them thus everywhere engaged, increasingly everywhere the number of divisions which they waste, one feels that it is a supreme effort they make and that this effort is of an incontestable power. But if it has not in a few days obtained any essential result we will see the enemy left without resources. It will be all over with partial gains and small results. The enemy is out for a great victory, but he risks a great defeat.

WOULD RATHER JOIN THAN BE CONSCRIPTED

Voluntary Recruiting is in Progress in Many Parts of Ireland.

Belfast, April 17.—Since the Government introduced their new man-power bill seeking power to enforce conscription in Ireland there has been a notable increase of voluntary recruiting in the Belfast district. The enlistments are for all branches of the army, and are principally recruits of the young unmarried class. The proposal of the Government to rush through the Home Rule Bill as a pre-emptive measure is causing growing indignation in Ulster, and in this connection there is serious danger of the Government creating grave discontent, if nothing worse, among a large section of the population of Belfast engaged in imperative munition and shipbuilding work. This is an aspect of the situation the Government would be well advised to keep clearly before them.

There is, however, a disposition in Ulster to suspend judgment on the Home Rule scheme until the actual text of the bill is issued, and meantime to assist the Government in every possible way to carry through the man-power proposals, always provided that conscription is to be applied fairly to all parts of Ireland without relaxation in the face of threatened opposition.

At Arragh it is stated that recruits are already coming in, saying that they prefer to join without the disgrace of being taken as conscripts.

LAURIE WAS SNUBBED.

Strongly Protested Knighthood For Max Aitken.

London, April 17.—The Saturday Review alludes to the richly deserved rebuke which the Canadian Government administered to the snobbish and shameless traffic in titles practised by Asquith and Lloyd George more lavishly than any of their predecessors. It is an open secret, adds the Review, that in 1910, when it became known that Max Aitken was to receive a knighthood, Sir Wilfrid Laurier cabled a strong protest, but Bonar Law insisted and Laurier was politely told by Right Hon. L. Harcourt, then Colonial Secretary, to mind his own business.

The St. Lawrence will be free for navigation from Montreal to the ocean by Thursday or Friday.

Record Acreage for Sugar Beets.

London, Ont., April 17.—The greatest acreage of sugar beets ever planted in this district will be put in shortly. Already more than 25,000 acres have been contracted for, and the Belgians who will care for them are coming from across the line in about ten days. Ten thousand acres will be sown in Kent County, and the balance in Essex, Lambton, Oxford, Perth, Waterloo and Huron Counties.

SPEEDING CANADIANS TRAINING IN ENGLAND.

London, April 17.—The great German offensive has caused the training of Canadians in England to be speeded up. Every one connected with training has been working practically day and night. The Canadian forces have been combed for all fully trained men, who have been sent to the reinforcement camps in France to be ready for any call. The new drafts from Canada are shaping splendidly.

GENERAL PLUMER

In command of the British at Messines Ridge, is quite confident. He says the British have lost territory but nothing vital.

GERMANS TAKE CREST OF RIDGE

British Hold Slopes And Terrible Fighting is in Progress.

LLOYD GEORGE CONFIDENT

IN THE OUTCOME OF THE GREAT BATTLE.

Every Hour the Strength of the Allied Defence is Increasing—The Germans Have Difficulty With Their Transports.

London, April 17.—The town of Wyttschaete and the crest of Messines ridge are now in German hands. The British still hold the slopes of the ridge and terrible fighting is in progress.

Despite the latest events, Lloyd George told the Commons last night he was full of confidence in the outcome of the battle.

The desperate struggle to advance towards Messines ridge shows that the enemy is able and willing to continue to pay an appalling price in attempts to crush the British army.

Against this, however, every-hour the strength of the defence is increasing. The enemy's failure to reach his final objective in the Somme battle is being repeated to-day in Flanders.

The German Strength.

With the British Armies in France, April 17.—About 120 enemy divisions (1,440,000 men) have already been identified on the Somme and Lys fighting. With their unused divisions, the German masses are still colossal. Fresh troops continue to arrive from Russia and Rumania.

Hindenburg has well over 200 divisions (2,400,000 men) on the west front. Reliable authorities in Switzerland say the German forces would before a definite decline.

Prisoners admit the Germans' great difficulty is in bringing up guns and material. The British artillery has killed many horses and the badly cratered roads are frequently impassable for motor trucks, necessitating rebuilding. Bridges also must be reconstructed and narrow-gauge railroads prolonged.

War Tidings.

The next step foreshadowed is the organization of a single Anglo-French General Staff.

The question is already being asked in Paris why the Italian front has not also being brought under Foch, and it is being emphatically urged that this be done.

The Kaiser was on the Flanders battlefield near Lille (eighteen miles back of the present line) from Tuesday to Thursday of last week according to German newspapers.

Everything points to the likelihood of a third phase of the offensive into which the enemy will throw every ounce of power he has available for the final effort.

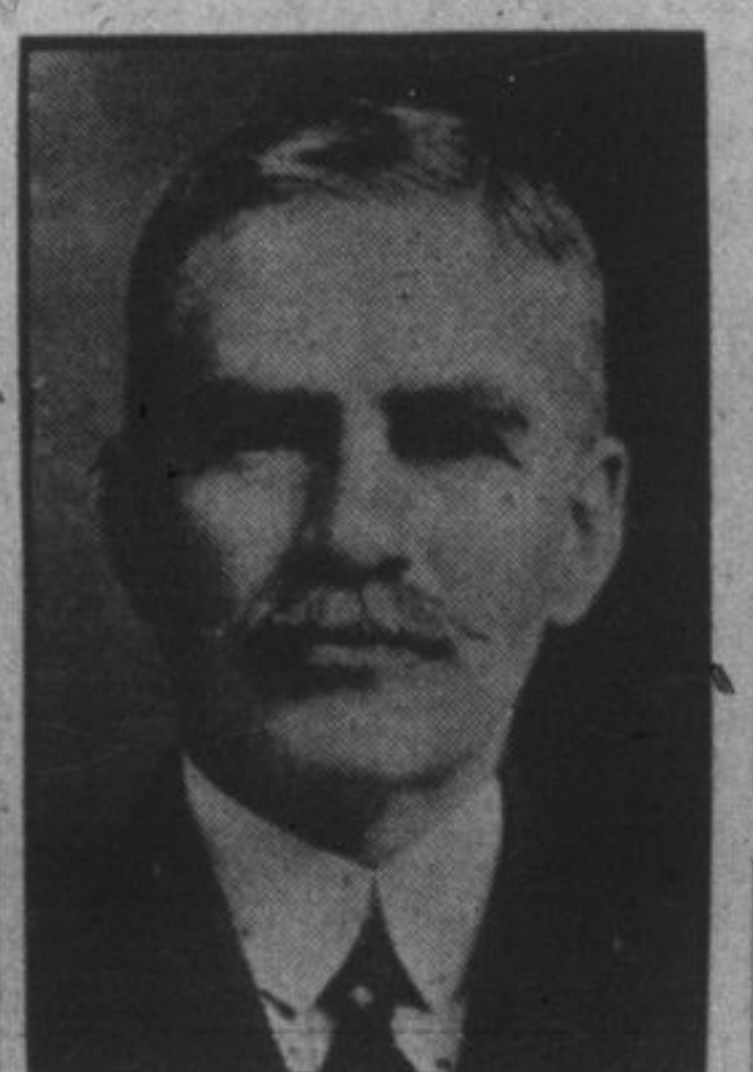
Twenty German prisoners of the German sub U-58, sunk by an American destroyer, have arrived at an Atlantic port. They are the first German prisoners to arrive in the United States.

DOGGED TENACITY.

Captured American Doctors Show British Spirit.

Stockholm, April 17.—The Svenska Dagbladet's correspondent with the German armies on the western front, reports a conversation with three captured American doctors. He says: "None of them was enthusiastic for the war, but they exhibited the same spirit of dogged tenacity as the British prisoners. They had the greatest confidence in America's new organized army, saying, 'If we don't get over this year, we shall be here next year.'"

- 1—Enemy Nearing St. Eloi: British on New Line; Germans on Crest.
- 2—Few Houses To Let Now: Incidents of the Day.
- 3—Social News: Fighting in Hand.
- 4—Editorial: Rippling Rhymes.
- 5—Making Political Calls: Reminders of the Wooden Bridge.
- 6—Military: Eastern Ontario News.
- 7—Announcements: The Forum.
- 8—Military: Theatrical.
- 9—George Lane of Alberta: The Cousins.
- 10—Social News: The Woman Who Changed.
- 11—Country News: Market Reports.
- 12—In Field of Sport: Mutt and Jeff.



CAPT. A. P. CHOWN, M.D. He has been made director of Canadian Medical Stores in London, Eng., supplying five depots.

Col. Beattie, formerly of Cobourg, is in London as temporary director of chaplains during Col. Almond's absence in Canada.

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