

GERMAN ATTACK IS FAULTY; 1500 DEAD

Two Hundred, in Offensive on Bapaume-Cambria Line, Captured by British.

SUPPLIES AT LENS BURNED

Preparations for Retreat Are Indicated and Prisoners Report Wild Scenes; Canadians Are Dreaded by Enemy.

(Continued From First Page.)

vance, especially along the Hindenburg line from Queant to St. Quentin. This line has been definitely broken between Queant and Arras, consequently the Germans are attempting to hold from Queant southward.

In the meantime, Lens was being approached late today from three directions. The civil population was evacuated by the Germans Friday. No person was allowed more than 30 pounds of baggage. With the departure of the civilians the Germans seized three months' rations gathered at Lens by the American Relief Commission.

Lagnicourt Won and Lost. Fires continued to glow in Lens today, while far away to the south fires were seen at St. Quentin, toward which the British and French are converging.

Realizing that the important town of Queant, the switch point of the Hindenburg line, was threatened by the close proximity of the British, the Germans early today launched an attack from there over a six-mile front. While suffering immediate reverses everywhere else, they managed by the concentration of artillery to recapture Lagnicourt, opposite Queant, which was taken from them several weeks ago.

Their victory at this point was short-lived, however, for the British immediately counter attacked and retook Lagnicourt with more than 200 prisoners and catching the retreating Germans under an intensive field gun fire cut them to bits. Thus ended the first real "defensive offensive" the Germans have attempted since the battle of Arras began.

Germans Nervous and Jumpy. From one end of the British front to the other the Germans are palpably nervous and jumpy. When they have been driven from their old positions they are feverishly digging at every opportunity, particularly at night.

Each morning new aeroplane photographs show the results of the nocturnal activities behind the temporary line. Most of the new trenches are merely emergency defenses built at angles with a view to giving cover to machine guns and other weapons. The hope to delay the British advance until further work can make the rear defenses tenable.

It is now stated that no part of the Hindenburg line was expected to be completed until the end of April, notwithstanding the claims that recent western movement has been recent according to German plans. Where the Germans still hold their old positions they are making slight movements on the part of the British sends them into a panic. Flares and signal rockets are frequently seen from their trenches. Bombs are cast into no-man's land; trench mortars set up a defensive barrage and artillery help is frantically summoned.

Inferior Guns Worried. Some of the German flares and lights are most amusing as well as spectacular. Their latest star shells have a parachute attachment which suspends in the air for a long time, lighting up the surrounding country for several hundred yards. They break into three balls, and the British soldiers call them "pawncakes."

The Germans in the front line have long been worried by the superiority of their artillery to that of the British. A recently captured German report makes complaint that the artillery often fails to answer the call for help and continues:

"For our infantry, which since the Somme battle has been on the defensive, it is from the point of view of morale of importance to be able to count upon artillery support. Infantry that comes to regard itself merely as a target for the hostile artillery must in the long run give way. A prompt and effective reply to hostile shells has a recuperative effect on the morale of the troops, even in the most difficult situations."

Letters indicate Depression. Conditions within the German lines just prior to the battle of Arras and the depressed state of many of the German soldiers are eloquently described in translated extracts from letters captured during the recent fighting. Two letters in particular, both written by Bavarians in regiments opposite Arras, are wonderfully impressive. One of them indicates clearly the disheartening effect the entry of the United States into the war has had. It is dated April 8 and reads:

"We now have a very bad position at Arras, where we have been under continuous hurricane of fire for six days. The English at times fire gas shells, which are not exactly pleasant when everything imaginable is turned against one, one cannot stand it; then it

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is all over. The sights around one are simply cruel; it is enough to drive one mad.

"It is no longer a righteous cause; of that I am convinced. But one always begins to hope again, and think that it must come to an end. But yet it is not possible. The world is still in too mad a state. We are the tools and allow ourselves to be belabored."

"Now America comes in to make it last longer. Everybody wants to chip in. I believe it will never end; peace will never return to the land."

The second letter, dated "Easter," which was the day before the British attack began, tells how unwelcome to the Germans have been the weapons of their own invention when turned against them. It says:

"For the last four days the English have been firing gas shells all over the ground to harm the Germans as much as possible. The regiment—the Eighth Bavarian—has already had considerable losses in killed and gassed. The sad point is that the English gas shells almost always burst and can only be seen by the practiced eye while escaping from the shell. The gas steals slowly over the ground in a bluish haze and kills anyone who does not draw his mask as quick as lightning over his face before taking a breath."

Sight Worse Than at Verdun. "Night before last I was in the front line. What a sight! The time we were in the front-line trenches we were easily accessible. Now all communications and all parapets have been shot to pieces. It is a gruesome sight there. The prospect looks terrible. Our people say that things were not so bad at Verdun as here."

Another captured document shows that the Germans fully appreciated the meaning of the extensive British preparations about Arras, but had no idea that the blow was coming so swiftly or with such force. The presence of the Canadian divisions within the zone of probable attack had a particularly disquieting effect, for the document in one part says:

"The Canadians are known to be good troops and well suited to assaulting purposes. There are no deserters to be found among the Canadians."

It further declares that to succeed in their plans the British would have to take Vimy ridge, leaving the inference that the Germans thought this task an impossible one.

German officers taken during the battle were incredulous when told that the British had held Vimy ridge, but have pressed far beyond. They say that the plans and the orders to all reserves were to counter-attack at once, but the British threw the Germans off the crest.

Canadians Long Foodless. However, when the Canadians, ably assisted by many English divisions, went over Vimy ridge this time, it was with the determination to place that long-disputed vantage ground once for all within the allied lines.

It is one of the most perversities of the great world war that some of the most heroic fighting on Vimy ridge should have been about a place so remote and so unimportant. The Associated Press correspondent met some worn and muddy Canadians returning from beyond "The Pimple" yesterday afternoon. Among them were many Nova Scotians. They had been fighting from Sunday night until Friday night and declared they had enjoyed every minute of it.

They were not in "The Pimple" all this time, but well beyond it. Before "The Pimple" could be cut out, however, it was necessary to drive the Germans back to several long, converging tunnels that were fortified in such a manner that they were believed to be absolutely impregnable.

The Germans inside those tunnels said they felt so safe that they hoped to remain there for the rest of the war. Some of the Canadians had subsisted on "iron rations" for five days and nights, and were very tired. The day's hunting expedition.

ST. QUENTIN HEAVILY SHELLED

Belgians Reach Unoccupied Second German Lines at Dixmude.

PARIS, April 15.—The French guns today continued to shell heavily St. Quentin and the region roundabout, says the official communication issued by the War Office tonight.

The National Security League representatives encouraged after making speaking tour.

NEW YORK, April 15.—The people of the Middle West are not opposed to universal military training "when its true meaning is explained to them," according to a statement issued tonight by the National Security League after the return to this city of representatives of the league who have completed a two weeks' speaking tour of that section of the country.

The members of the league who appeared before chambers of commerce and at large public meetings in Detroit, Chicago, Des Moines, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Omaha, St. Joseph, Topeka, Kansas City, St. Louis and Indianapolis, included Rear-Admiral Robert B. Peary, Henry L. Stimson, ex-Secretary of War, Frederic R. Coudert and Frederick C. Wolcott.

"All the speakers return," the statement said, "deeply impressed with the sympathy of the Middle West in the active entrance of the United States into the war and the readiness of the people to appreciate the benefits and necessity of universal military training when its true meaning is explained to them."

MANY VISIT BARRACKS

FRIENDS OF GUARDSMEN DEFY INCLEMENT WEATHER. Company of Business Men Drills at Vancouver and Red Cross Society is Organized.

VANCOUVER, Wash., April 15.—(Special.)—Although the day was wet and rainy, it did not prevent hundreds of friends of the National Guardsmen from visiting Vancouver Barracks.

While there has been no organized recruiting in this city, nevertheless there have been a large number of recruits to join the Army in the past year. Several from this section have joined the Oregon regiment and some the Naval Militia.

There is a company of business men drilling several times a week, under the instruction of Spanish War Veterans, who have volunteered their services. From 40 to 50 turn out for drill each time.

A Red Cross society has been organized with 19 members. Miss May Geoghegan being secretary.

PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO EUROPE WHITE

Theory Based on Advantage to Be Gained by Thorough Co-operation of Allies.

LLOYD GEORGE TIED DOWN

Belief Grows in London That America, by Supplying Ships and Food, Will Decide War, but Food Rationing Predicted.

BY ARTHUR S. DRAPER.

LONDON, April 15.—(Special.)—As the character of the role which America must play in the huge war drama becomes better realized here, it is hinted in semi-official quarters that a visit to England or France by President Wilson would be of great value in arranging for more effective co-operation between the United States and the allies.

Premier Lloyd George, it is known, would be willing to leave his post for a conference in Washington, if he could spare the time from his arduous duties as the directing head of the British and industrial machine.

This, however, is out of the question at present. Similarly, it is not believed here that President Wilson could now absent himself from affairs at Washington, although a meeting of the two leaders is regarded as possible when the American preparations are more fully under way.

Daily the belief is growing here that America will decide the war by her ships—mercantile and naval—and her food. The war is now largely an economic struggle against starvation, with the United States holding the balance of power and responsibility.

Unquestionably, America must experience the disagreeable conditions of food rationing, but it is a cheap price to pay in such a conflict.

Three years ago a prophet predicting continuous sunshine in England would have had as good a hearing as another forecasting the present events of this topsy-turvy world. Today we see Russia, almost a republic, meriting about to fight in Europe, Germany, the mightiest of military nations, breaking under the blows of Great Britain's "contemptible little army" and Britons winning on land.

WAR PRISONERS MOVED

INTERNED GERMANS TO BE DETAINED AT ANGEL ISLAND.

Seattle Sends Party of 16 Mariners From Ships, and Three More Go From Astoria.

SEATTLE, Wash., April 15.—(Special.)—Sixteen prisoners from five German vessels left Seattle tonight for Angel Island, San Francisco bay, where they will be "interned" until the end of the war. Three other German officers of interned German merchantmen, were sent away Saturday night to Astoria where they will gather up some of their personal property and join the main party enroute to the island.

The party here were moved onto a special car this evening, with Immigration Inspector J. V. Stewart in charge, and the car attached to a southbound train.

The nineteen men taken south from here were gathered from five German vessels at Astoria, Portland and Eagle Harbor. Many members of the crews, who have been idle since war broke out, are glad to have left the ships and secured work in this country, most of them declaring their intention to be naturalized and make their homes in the United States.

Progress of the War.

THE Germans with very large forces on Sunday attacked the British along the Bapaume-Cambria road over a front of six miles and, fighting desperately, gained a foothold in the village of Lagnicourt, which lies southwest of Queant, a position of great strategic importance in the German line. Everywhere else along the British front the Germans were repulsed, according to the official reports from Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, and their successes at Lagnicourt were not for long, as a powerful British counter attack drove them out. Three hundred Germans were made prisoner and 1500 German dead were counted in front of the British position.

While unofficial reports say British patrols entered the town of Lens, the night British official communication merely says the British now are approaching the outskirts of the town, having captured German defenses from Riament Wood to the eastern corner of Cite St. Pierre, and also east of Lievin. Ground was gained Sunday by the British Northwest of St. Quentin.

The French are violently bombarding the sector of St. Quentin and are being answered spiritedly by the Germans. The artillery duel continues unabated in Champagne. Two German attacks on the right bank of the Meuse, in the Verdun sector, were repulsed. Some German infantrymen succeeded in entering a French position near the Carrières in this region, but according to Paris, they either were killed or made prisoner.

What may be indicative of an intention on the part of the Germans to fall back on the northern front in Belgium is the fact that the Belgian troops have penetrated into the town of Dixmude as far as the German second lines and found them unoccupied.

Fighting in the air between Germans and British aviators continues intense. Berlin tells of the loss by the French, British and Americans of 17 airplanes Sunday four German airplanes were brought down by British fighters and 11 others were driven down. Ten British troops have penetrated into the town of Dixmude as far as the German second lines and found them unoccupied.

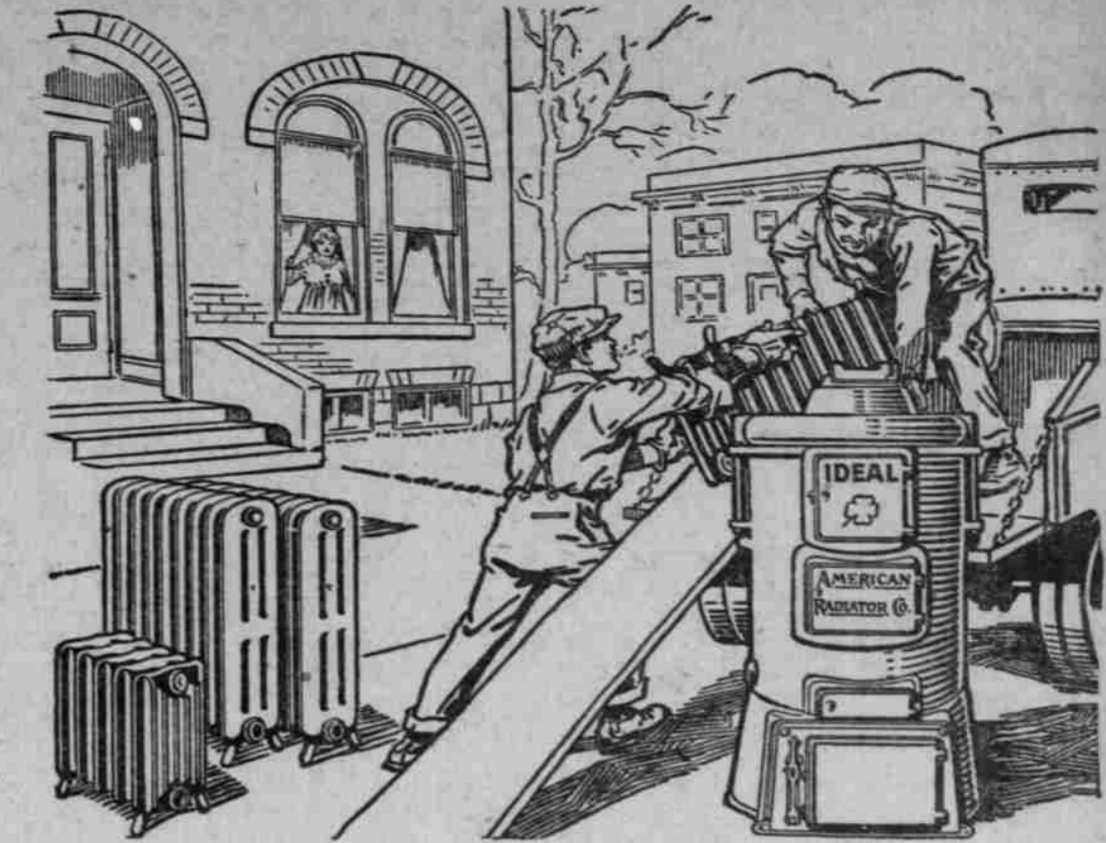
Paris reports that French aviators in the last three days of the last week accounted for 25 German airplanes and a captive balloon.

The mention of "American airplanes" as having been lost would indicate that the members of the Lafayette squadrons have carried out their intention to hoist the American flag from their machines over the battle line in France.

President Wilson has addressed a personal appeal to the American people to make the nation a union for the preservation of its ideals and for the triumph of the democracy of the world.

Don't wait to put in Ideal heating!

Now that the hardships and fuel-extravagance of last Winter are fresh in your mind, act today by calling up your dealer for estimate on an IDEAL-AMERICAN heating outfit for your building. Decide to put it in now! Heating contractors can do best work now, when rush season is not full on.



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Arco Wand sold through dealers on easy terms of payment. Installed in any new or old building without tearing up anything. Now also made in two-sweeper size for apartments, hotels, office buildings, etc. Lasts for years—always ready for most thorough cleaning. Fully guaranteed, in sizes at \$175 up. Sold on Easy Payment Plan. Send for catalog and know why the ARCO WAND Vacuum Cleaner is best to buy.

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SHIP PLANTS ASTOR

Report Persists 2 Submarines Will Be Built Here.

OFFICIALS MAKE DENIAL. Government May Take Over Vesterlide, Recently Launched, and Other Steel Craft Under Construction, Rumor Says.

Portland shipyard may soon take on a war time activity. The Government already has canvassed every yard for complete information bearing on its availability for possible future use in the Government service.

Now it is persistently reported, but just as positively denied, that the Northwest-Willamette plants have entered into a joint contract with the Navy Department for construction of two submarines for the new United States Navy.

Local shipbuilders are preparing with feverish energy to take on a large share of the Government's orders for "jitney ships" which are to be used in carrying freight across the Atlantic.

It is possible, further, that the Federal authorities may commandeer the War Baron—formerly the Vesterlide—and others of the steel freighters now being built in the Northwestern and Willamette yards. The Vesterlide was launched here a few weeks ago and now is being finished.

Whether or not the Government will take over any or all the local shipbuilding plants merely is a question of expediency, it is said. If the Government can get better results by taking over the plants and operating them itself it will take them over. But the private owners believe they can give every bit as good service as the Government can, and that they can turn out the ships at the same cost and in just as short a time.

It is understood that the authorities at Washington prefer to leave the plants in private hands, but if they are used extensively on Government contracts it is probable that officials of the Navy Department or some other Federal bureau will exercise close supervision over them.

It is well understood that the Navy Department is eager to employ every available yard on submarine contracts and the local plants could readily be equipped for such use, but officials denied last night that any such orders have been received, even tentatively.

NEW SCHOOL VOTED DOWN

Levy of 20 Mills Defeated in Western Lewis County Election.

CHEHALIS, Wash., April 15.—(Special.)—In a lively election yesterday in the big consolidated school district in Western Lewis County, of which Klaber is the center, a 20-mill special levy to erect a new grade and high school building was defeated.

The levy was lost by a vote of 92 for to 137 against.

GERMAN SEAMEN ARRESTED

Three Are Taken for Attempting to Leave Without Permission.

LOS ANGELES, April 15.—Three German seamen arrested today were being detained in the county jail here tonight, according to the Federal authorities.

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Several thousands of 88-note Rolls—all kinds of music; classic, operatic, patriotic, sacred, dance. They are absolutely new and are guaranteed as to their playing conditions. This clearance includes such makes as Universal, Uni Record, Q. R. S. and Imperial.

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GIRLS TO GO ON FARMS

New York High School Students to Be Taught Agriculture.

NEW YORK, April 15.—Arrangements have been made with high schools in this city, it was announced Saturday by the National League of Women's Service, to train thousands of girl students for farming and dairying. Gardens will be planted on vacant lots and when the girls have had sufficient training they will be sent to the farms of the league.

The girls will be taught scientific gardening, to operate tractors and plows, to repair farming implements and the proper use of shovels, hoes and rakes. Those sent to the farms will work only eight hours a day. They will wear practical uniforms, consisting of overalls, "chinese smocks" and straw hats, Malay style.

Montanans Favor Conscription.

MISSOULA, Mont., April 15.—In reply to an inquiry from Representative John Evans, the Missoula Chamber of Commerce and the Missoula Woman's Club have adopted resolutions calling for immediate passage of a selective conscription law.

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Sherman, Clay & Co. SIXTH AND MORRISON STREETS, OPPOSITE POSTOFFICE.