

BRITISH Smash Great GERMANS Leave 1,500 Foe Attack Dead Behind

LIEVIN TAKEN, LENS EVACUATED, ST. QUENTIN TO FALL

LENS REPORTED IN BRITISH HANDS: GERMANS SUFFER FRIGHTFUL LOSSES

Last Official Report of General Haig, Though Not Claiming Possession of Great Coal Centre, Says Troops Are Operating East of Lievin, Which Was Taken Saturday—Foe Leaves 1,500 Dead Before British Lines in Counter-attack on Bapaume Road

London, April 15.—Apparently the city of Lens, the great coal centre of northern France, has fallen before the British drive. The night official report speaks only of progress "east of Lievin, where our troops are approaching the outskirts of Lens."

Lille is the Key Haig Would Turn

(Canadian Press Despatch.) London, April 15.—Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig's principal object in his advance on Lens, is rather to turn La Bassée from the south, La Bassée and Lens forming the outworks of Lille, which is the key to the whole German position in Flanders, and once these two towns are in the hands of the British, Lille will be seriously threatened.

The German trench system along the slag heaps in front of the city has been practically pulverized by the blast-fire from General Horne's batteries. East of the city they have another network of trenches in which it is believed they may make a temporary stand before retiring to the supplementary Hindenburg line between Drocourt and Queant.

While British guns were plowing a way to turn the northern hinge of the Hindenburg line at Lens, the German Field Marshal let loose against the British wedge threatening the southern hinge the most powerful blow he has delivered since the beginning of his withdrawal from Arras.

The Roper correspondent at British Headquarters, gives an interesting story of how the British officials "figuring the men with their backs to the wall, the Germans are making desperate resistance to the British advance, 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."

This general engagement and decisive defeat is noteworthy, because it indicates that the Germans, with all their resources on their side, are unable to stem the British tide. Noureuil is just west of Queant, the strong bastion of the second line of defence, which the Germans have massed their heavy and light artillery. There is a striking contrast between this action and the performance of the British two days ago, when they made their wide gains along the Metz-Hargicourt sector. Though exceedingly well provided with artillery, both powerful and mobile, Prince Rupprecht's first thrust in what the Germans call "the war of movement" must be recorded as a costly failure. The Berlin notice merely states: "There has been lively fighting north of the Bapaume-Cambrai road."

THE NEWS OF THE DAY

- 1. Detailed weather report, page 8.
 - 2. United States House passes big bond bill. War Summary (continued from page 1). Hamilton news.
 - 3. Turks ousted from the British. Bishop Fulton criticized London Council.
 - 4. Official Canadian casualty lists.
 - 5. Vimy's inferno outside Lens (continued from page 1). Haig's men fight fiercely (continued from page 1).
 - 6. Editorial.
 - 7. Alberta plans for big crop. East Middlesex Liberals. Duke inspects Canadians.
 - 8. Toronto news. Legal.
 - 9. What women are doing.
 - 10. Sporting news.
 - 11. Financial and commercial.
 - 12. Financial and commercial (continued from page 1). Railway time-tables.
 - 13. Navigation news. The world's advancement. Spain distrusts Teutons. Condensed advertisements.
 - 14. Condensed advertisements.
 - 15. Eaton's advertisement.
- TORONTO.**
- The Greater Toronto Labor party was formed and officers elected.
 - The Y. M. C. A. opened a Red Triangle Club for soldiers in a former hotel.
 - Merchants protested before the Dominion Railway Board against the new carriage rates.
 - Sir Lyman Melvin-Jones, Senator and President of the Massey-Harris Company, died in his 74th year.
 - Soldiers and employers are to meet today in an effort to adjust the matters which resulted in recent raids.
 - Speaking at a memorial service, Rev. T. G. Wallace said soldiers' standards would compare with those of the Church.
 - Prof. C. A. Zavitz, speaking before the Royal Canadian Institute, said good seed will first step towards increased production.
 - Prof. J. C. McLennan of the department of physics, University of Toronto, has been

GREAT GAINS FOR ALLIES ON WEST FRONT

(Canadian Press Despatch.) LONDON, April 15.—Tonight's official report reads: "Fighting again to-day northwest of St. Quentin, we gained ground east and north of Gricourt and captured some prisoners. We also further progressed in the neighborhood of Havrincourt Wood, and east of Lievin (captured on Saturday), where our troops are approaching Lens."

"Further particulars of the enemy attack this morning astride the Bapaume-Cambrai road show that his losses were even heavier than at first reported. The attack was pressed with great determination under a heavy fire from our infantry and artillery. In addition to the three hundred prisoners captured, fifteen hundred dead Germans were left in front of our positions."

"Our airplanes carried out successful bombing raids yesterday. Valuable work was performed in co-operation with our artillery. Severe fighting occurred in the air throughout the day. Four German airplanes were brought down, and eleven others were driven down by our machines. Ten of our airplanes are missing."

200 PRISONERS CAPTURED

The text of the Sunday afternoon statement follows: "Early this morning the enemy launched a strong attack on a front of more than six miles astride the Bapaume-Cambrai road, under cover of a heavy bombardment against our new positions from Hermites to Noureuil. The attack was everywhere unsuccessful, except at Lagnicourt, where, after heavy fighting, the enemy gained a foothold. Our counter-attack forthwith drove him back out of the village, and his troops, retiring under our artillery fire, suffered very heavy losses. More than two hundred prisoners remained in our hands."

"We advanced our line slightly during the night east of Heimein. "North of the Souchez River our progress has been continued. We captured the enemy defences east of Lievin from Riamont Wood to the eastern corner of Cite St. Pierre, and our troops are pushing on in the direction of Lens."

LEVIN IS OCCUPIED

The text of the Saturday night statement reads: "The town of Lievin, southwest of and adjoining Lens, was captured this morning. Considerable quantities of war material have fallen into our hands. In the afternoon we seized Cite St. Pierre, northwest of Lens, and our troops pressed on along the whole front from the Scarpe River to the south of Loos and reached points two to three miles east of Vimy Ridge."

"South of the Scarpe heavy fighting, in which the enemy employed strong reserves, has taken place all day. Attacks and counter-attacks followed each other at short intervals. Our troops everywhere maintained the positions previously captured and inflicted serious losses on the enemy."

"We made further progress during the day on a wide front north and south of the Bapaume-Cambrai road. In the course of a series of fierce encounters, all of which resulted in our favor, our troops fought their way forward during the day south and east of Fayet to within a few hundred yards of the town of St. Quentin, and carried the village of Gricourt at the point of the bayonet. The enemy resister stubbornly."

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 6.)

HAIG'S MEN FIGHT FIERCELY FOR FRENCH COAL CAPITAL

Wild Scenes in Lens When Beaten Germans Attempted to Save Guns and Supplies—Vivid Stories of Splendid Work Done by the Canadians, Who Suffered Terribly From Exposure and Lack of Water—Cheerful in the Midst of Danger—Enemy Destroys Mines

(Special Cable Despatch to The Globe.)

War Correspondents' Headquarters, April 14.—The capture of Vimy Ridge has been followed swiftly by great and far-reaching results. Our troops pushed forward to-day through Lievin, a long and straggling suburb of Lens, clearing street after street of German machine gunners and rear-guard posts, and our patrols have already penetrated into Lens itself, which is famous in France as the capital and centre of her northern mine fields. The retaking of this city of mine shafts and pit heads, electrical power stations, and a great hive of mining activity, where the population is something like 40,000 people, who lived in rows of red brick cottages under a forest of high chimneys and mountainous slag-heaps, will be one of the greatest achievements of the war, a tremendous feat of arms for the British troops.

Battle in the Outskirts. I looked into the city to-day, down its silent and deserted streets, and I saw a body of our men working forward to get into the heart of it. They attacked a little wooded hill called Bois de Riamont, just to the south of the city, and, with great cunning and courage, ascended its lower slopes and made their way into a street of houses, behind a line of trees which is the southern way into Lens. From the western side up through Lievin other troops were advancing cautiously. The enemy is still there in machine-gun redoubts, which will be very troublesome to our gallant men, but they are only rear-guards, for the main body of the enemy has already retreated. When the Canadians swept over Vimy Ridge, capturing thousands of prisoners, and when yesterday the British and Canadian troops seized Bois-en-Hache, and "The Pimple," at the northern end of Vimy Ridge, the enemy saw his last chance of a successful counter-attack foiled, and at once he was seized with fear, and prepared for instant retreat in wild confusion. Lens and Lievin had been attacked with his own guns. Both towns

had been fortified in a most formidable way, and were strongholds of massed artillery. It is certain the enemy had at least 150 guns in that great network of mines and pitheads, but they were all threatened by the advance down the northern slopes of Vimy, and the Canadians were not likely to stay inactive after the great triumph. They were also threatened by the British advance from the Loos battlefield by way of that great pair of black slag hills called the Double Crassier, famous in this war for close, long and bloody fighting, where since September, 1915, our men have been only a few yards away from the enemy. The German Staff knew their great peril yesterday and before.

Wild Scenes in Lens. From prisoners we know wild scenes took place in Lens, frantic efforts being made to get away the guns and stores, to defend the line of retreat by blowing up roads, to carry out orders for complete destruction by firing charges down the mine shafts, flooding the great mine galleries so that over two million square yards, is inconceivable. Dante never imagined an inferno like it. That great numbers of the enemy were buried in their trenches becomes evident as the clearing up proceeds. Many so buried were disinterred by later shells, which destroyed their place of sepulture.

A Crushing Disaster. To the disaster which overtook the German army here the ridge of Vimy will remain a monument of the unparalleled destruction of the hill, a some convulsion of nature that changes the surface of the earth. Sheep matted grass in the trenches, craters and shell-holes, but months of labor by a great army would not prepare the soil for the plow.

The enemy is doing his best to-night to add to the desolation. He has been shelling steadily the crest of the ridge with his big guns, located in the vicinity of Lens, which still holds out against us and points well out into the plain to which he has been driven. Since his retreat began, his efforts to stay the forwarding of our guns and supplies have been pitifully futile. Our answering fire is increasing steadily in volume as the night passes and fresh batteries come into action. The captured enemy guns are playing an important part in convincing the Germans that the vicinity of Vimy Ridge is a most unhealthy place for them.

Despite the vibration of the gun fire when at its worst, this dugout evidently was occupied by some high reaped.

HOME-GROWN FOOD FOR FIGHTING MEN

British Civilians May Also Have to Depend on Home Production

London, April 15.—"We may have to feed our army and navy, as well as ourselves, on home-grown food," said Premier Lloyd George in a letter which was read at a meeting to-night of the Norwich, Norfolk, Agricultural Committee. The letter was addressed "To All Workers on Land," and appealed to them to do their utmost to help raise all food possible.

"The line which the British Empire holds against the Germans," the letter continues, "is held at home as well as abroad. If it breaks at any point it breaks everywhere. In the face of the enemy the seamen of our Royal naval and mercantile marine and the soldiers gathered from every part of our Empire hold our line firmly. You workers on land must hold your part of our line as strongly. . . . "Every full day's labor you do helps to shorten the struggle and bring us nearer victory. Every idle day, all idling, lengthens the struggle and makes defeat more possible. Therefore, in the nation's honor, heed! Acquit yourselves like men, and as workers on land do your duty with all your strength!"

New Food Restrictions. To-day a new set of restrictions became effective, which requires proprietors of eating places to keep a record of all meals served. They must not serve more than a specified amount each week. The following is the scale of allowances per meal: Breakfast—Meat, 2 ounces; sugar, 2.7 ounces; bread, 2 ounces; flour, 1 ounce. Luncheon—Meat, 5 ounces; sugar, 2.7 ounces; bread, 2 ounces; flour, 1 ounce. Dinner—Meat, 5 ounces; sugar, 2.7 ounces; bread, 2 ounces; flour, 1 ounce. No meat or flour is allowed in place of tea or sugar. Tuesday is designated as a meatless day in London, Wednesday in the provinces. Britain issued to-day a call to all

VIMY'S INFERNO OUTDID DANTE'S

Fearful Destruction Along Ridge by British Shells

BURIED IN TRENCHES

Remains of the German Soldiers Were Later Disinterred by Explosions—Lens is Still Holding Out—Sunday a Peaceful Day.

(By Stewart Lyon, Special Correspondent of the Canadian Press.) Canadian Headquarters in France (via London), April 15.—This despatch is written in the depth of a German dugout near the crest of Vimy Ridge. It is Sunday morning. The battalion commander and staff, who are occupying the dugout, are snatching a few hours' sleep, after a long day of hard work upon the roads. The work of this sort already done is wonderful. The battlefield, across which rails and roads had to be constructed, was so pitted with shell-holes that, as an officer said, not one blade of grass remains, and there is not a spot without either a shell-hole or a mound thrown up by the explosions. How any men lived in the trenches through the bombardment which produced these amazing results, on an area of over two million square yards, is inconceivable. Dante never imagined an inferno like it. That great numbers of the enemy were buried in their trenches becomes evident as the clearing up proceeds. Many so buried were disinterred by later shells, which destroyed their place of sepulture.

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WAR SUMMARY

THE GERMANS ARE AT BAY, fighting desperately to hold up the British advance which, like a spring tide, is sweeping eastward. From Queant to St. Quentin the enemy is stiffening the Hindenburg line. Lens and St. Quentin, which the Allied forces are fast encircling, were ablaze yesterday. The enemy suffered heavy losses in a strong counter-attack on a six-mile front to relieve the British pressure on Queant, important as the switch-point of the Hindenburg line. Through the concentration of artillery the enemy gained a temporary foothold at Lagnicourt, opposite Queant, which had been captured by the British several weeks ago. A British counter-attack regained Lagnicourt. Two hundred prisoners were taken and heavy losses inflicted on the retiring foe.

AIRPLANE PHOTOS OF THE GERMAN LINES show that the retiring troops are digging in behind the temporary line, but the trenches are merely emergency defences to provide cover for machine guns. The Germans are fighting to delay the British advance long enough to complete the rear defences on which they are falling back.

LENS HAS FALLEN, according to unofficial reports. Patrols entered the burning town yesterday morning at 5 o'clock. Surrounded on three sides, the enemy's defences were obliterated by the concentrated fire of the British guns under General Horne, the leading artillery expert in the British army. Lens is the coal centre of Northern France. Its loss will be keenly felt by the enemy. The German garrison, it is believed, will make a stand east of the city before falling back on the Drocourt-Queant line. The civil population evacuated Lens on Friday. The Germans

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2 and 3.)