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 In order to ensure changes being made in advertisements, copy must reach this office not later than 9 a. m. on the day of publication.

The Daily Mail

The Weather.
 Maritime: Moderate winds, fair, much the same temperature.

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, MONDAY, APRIL 16, 1917

TWO CENTS PER COPY

NEWS OF THE FALL OF ST. QUENTIN AND LENS HOURLY EXPECTED

The Village of Velleret Captured by the British

**Official Report of War Office Tells of Further Successes
 ---Good Progress Made in the Direction of Lens---An Immense Quantity of Booty Gathered in.**

LONDON, April 16.—The British captured last night the village of Velleret, southeast of Hargicourt, according to an official statement issued by the British War Office. They also made progress northwest of Lens. Large captures of guns and war material were made by the British at Lievin and on the Souchez river in the Lens region. The statement reads:

"We captured last night the village of Velleret, southeast of Hargicourt, and progressed northwest of Lens. Full particulars of the booty we took at Lievin and in the Souchez river are unavailable, but the fact is established that our captures were exceedingly large, and included a long-range six-inch naval gun, many thousand rounds of ammunition of all calibres up to eight inch, a number of trench mortars, and great quantities of bombs and grenades of all kinds. In addition, truckloads of new tools, many lengths of tram lines with trucks complete and two large engineer dumps have fallen into our possession.

The attack at Monchy le Preux on the 14th was pressed by the enemy with great determination. The third Bavarian division, which was brought down to resist our offensive during the battle of Loos in 1915, and later on took part in the fighting near High Wood, during the Somme battle in 1916, was again hurried down to reinforce the divisions already in line. It was ordered to retake Monchy le Preux at all costs. Its losses in this fruitless attack were exceptionally heavy, as has been the case with all the Bavarian troops throughout the whole recent operations. Of the prisoners taken by us since the 9th, more than one-third are Bavarians."

Austria-Hungary is Anxious to Secure a Treaty of Peace with the Russian People

PARIS, April 16.—A semi-official statement has been issued in Vienna declaring that Austria desires peace with the Russian people and that there is no real obstacle to this aim, according to a Zurich despatch to the radio agency. The despatch quotes a statement issued by a semi-official press bureau in Vienna, in which it is said that the Austro-Hungarian monarchy has taken note of the recent declaration of the Russian provisional government that it does not seek foreign territory, but desires a durable peace, founded on the rights of peoples to dispose of themselves.

The statement says that the Austro-Hungarian government is inspired by the same desire, and continues: "Therefore, both having common ends, it is not difficult to find means of arriving at accord. This is much less difficult since His Majesty the Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary, in perfect union with his allied monarchs, wishes to live in future peace and friendship with the Russian people."

Russian and German Socialists Soon to Hold A Peace Meeting on Neutral Territory

STOCKHOLM, via London, April 16.—Recent reports concerning a meeting of Russian and German Socialists in Stockholm, to further the agitation for peace, now appear to have been anticipatory. Such a meeting, however, may be held in the near future. The fact that Russian peace advocates have been permitted to cross Germany from Switzerland seems also to indicate that the German government at least does not desire to throw any obstacles in the way of such a movement.

The party which arrived here Friday included thirty Russians, who came through Germany in a sealed coach. Among the principal members of the party were Nikolai Lenin, the Russian radical socialist leader, and Zinoyoff, another radical and strong peace advocate.

IMPORTANT CONGRESS.

ROME, April 16.—The inter-parliamentary commercial congress, which will assemble here on May 17, will comprise delegates from France, Italy, England, Belgium, Russia and perhaps the United States. The Congress will consider questions relating to the economic union of the Allies.

HUNS MADE BIG OFFER TO MR. SCHWAB

Boston, April 16.—An emissary of the German government recently offered Charles M. Schwab the enormous sum of \$100,000,000 on condition that he induce the Bethlehem Steel Corporation to abandon the manufacture of munitions for the Allies.

Mayor Curley, speaking yesterday at a patriotic meeting in the Roxbury high school building, created something of a sensation when he declared that he had received this information directly from Mr. Schwab.

The mayor said the statement was made about two weeks ago at a launching of an Argentine transport at the Fore River Shipyards and that Schwab had told him the offer was made two days before this country declared a state of war with Germany.

Rescued at Sea After Tough Ordeal

Boston, Mass., April 16.—After ninety hours in an open boat, captain Theodore Doucette and four other members of the crew of the schooner John Beacham, were rescued at sea by the steam trawler Wave, eight days ago and brought here yesterday. The men were frozen so badly that it was necessary to lift them all to the rescuing boat. For twenty hours they had been without food or water and much of the time they were exposed to a snow storm. The Beacham was bound from Liverpool, N. S. for New York, with wood pulp, when her seams opened in a stiff southwest gale forcing the crew to take to the boats.

PERSONAL.

Mr. John S. Addy, of St. John, is in the city.
 Mr. J. S. MacLellan, of St. John, is in the city.

BRITISH CLOSING IN ON ST. QUENTIN AND LENS

German Engineers Are Blowing up the Mines and Factories in Lens---British Troops Making Steady Progress.

LONDON, April 16.—Although British patrols have been in the streets of Lens, and General Haig's men are in the outskirts of St. Quentin, the fall of neither of these towns has as yet been officially announced. The Germans, it is apparent, have sent in their reserves and are making a desperate defence to enable their engineers to complete the destruction of the mines and factories of Lens, which might become useful to the Allies.

Despite the fact that along the line between Lens and St. Quentin the German resistance has stiffened, General Haig reports today the capture of Villeret, which straightens his line northwest of Lens.

Counter-attacks which the Germans have launched at Monchy and Lagincourt suggest that the British are approaching dangerously near the new German line which, according to unofficial accounts the Germans had not had time to complete before the British offensive was launched.

Widening the Gap in the Hindenburg Line.

British Headquarters in France, via London, April 16.—The British continued today gradually to widen the second gap cut in the Hindenburg line, north of St. Quentin, having captured the position known as the east of Gricourt. St. Quentin continues to burn. Away to the north Lens still holds out. The Germans have several strong positions about the city, to which they still cling. The British apparently would like to take Lens without inflicting too great damage by bombardment. They have always been in a position to reduce the city to ruins, but the shells have been directed against selected spots known to be used for military purposes by the Germans. Nevertheless the Germans continue their work of destroying the city by blowing up buildings.

BIG BATTLE IN FRANCE BEING FOUGHT OVER A FIFTY MILE FRONT

Four British Armies are Taking Part in The Great Struggle---The Assault on Vimy Ridge Described as a Masterpiece of Modern Tactics.

LONDON, April 16.—The Times' military correspondent, reviewing the battle of the past week, notes that it is being fought by four of the British armies in France over more than a fifty mile front, and says:

"We have not hitherto attempted to fight a great offensive battle with more than one or two at most of our armies simultaneously. We warmly admire the excellence of the staff arrangements, the close co-operation of the neighboring armies and the orderly advance of the whole line. The attack on Vimy Ridge by General Horne's army was a masterpiece of modern military tactics."

Superiority of British Artillery Over That of Germany Has Been Fully Demonstrated

Discussing the German retreat, the correspondent says that the Germans left the Somme and the Ancre because they were unable to stay, and left Vimy Ridge because they were "kicked off." "The fear of our artillery on the whole," he says, "appears to have been the main cause of the retreat. Our armies now all have their guns. Let the Germans bury themselves as deep as they please, the deeper they go the more the prisoners. The gun and howitzer have beaten the trench, and so long as our artillery armament is superior, shells plentiful, and the air-men have more machines and guns than the enemy, we must regard the Germans as lost souls."

The correspondent predicts that the victory of Vimy will be repeated at the next German position, when the British guns are brought up, "unless the Germans denude the eastern front for the benefit of the western. This they may elect to do, transfer of some German troops from east to west having already begun. "But," he adds, "it would be absurd to suppose that the Germans on our front are weak. They are thicker there than anywhere else. They have sixty divisions against us."

AMERICAN GUARD SHIP INTERNED BY THE TURKS

Was Unable to Leave the Harbor of Constantinople Within the Prescribed Twenty-four Hours, and was Tied Up---Washington not Surprised at the News.

AMSTERDAM, via London, April 16.—The American guard ship Scorpion has been interned at Constantinople by the Turkish government, according to a news despatch from the Turkish capital, quoting the Turkish newspaper Sabah. The Sabah says that the Scorpion was given twenty-four hours to leave the harbor, but was unable to do so and was therefore interned "in accordance with The Hague convention."

Was Expected at Washington.

WASHINGTON, April 16.—The internment of the Scorpion has been expected here for some time, and is perfectly in accord with the rule necessitating such action for a belligerent war vessel not leaving port within a prescribed time.

About two weeks ago the Navy Department, through the State Department, cabled Ambassador Elkus, suggesting that the Scorpion leave Turkish waters for the Black Sea, but Turkey objected to this on the ground that the sea was practically dominated by Russia, an enemy of Turkey's ally, Germany. Departure through the Dardanelles was thought impossible and as a result a part of the crew went through Austria into Switzerland before the break with the former country.