

## A VIOLENT BATTLE IS RAGING ON SECTION OF FRENCH FRONT

### Rival Forces in Deadlock On Franco-Belgian Front

#### Russian Army Seems to be Demoralized and Heavy Reinforcements Have Been Sent to the Aid of Von Hindenburg---Revolution in Germany is Possible.

The demoralization of the Russian army and the consequent withdrawal of German forces from the eastern front are having their effect in France. The heavy reinforcements of men and guns which Field Marshal Von Hindenburg has been able to throw into the defence of his sorely battered lines have for the time being at least caused a deadlock which the most furious efforts of the British and French have failed to break.

The first fruits of the chaos in Russia are the more ominous in the hints they offer of future possibilities. The council of soldiers' and workmen's delegates seems to have been aroused at last to the perils it has elected to follow, but it is a question if its awakening has not come too late. The soldiers in the ranks evidently have taken the bit in their teeth, and it remains to be seen if there is a hand strong enough to check them from bringing about practical anarchy. The hopeful side of the picture is found in the multiplying signs that the political and economic crisis in Germany is as acute as ever. The extraordinary actions taken by the German censorship to prevent the outside world from learning conditions in the Empire have been largely successful, but some facts could not be concealed.

Possibly for the first time in history, a revolution and a German republic have been openly talked about in the Reichstag, and, most significant of all, apparently the authorities do not dare to check the growing audacity of the radicals. In fact, the pressure of the malcontents has become so great as to force the government to hastily withdraw its refusal to permit radical socialist delegates to attend the international socialist conference at Stockholm. The food situation in Germany also appears to be growing steadily worse, and alarm is expressed in various quarters that the available supply will not suffice to feed the nation until the next harvest. The effusive promises with which the administration checked the May day strike agitation have proved hollow and there are complaints that the attempt to substitute meat for bread is seriously diminishing the country stock of milk animals.

#### BRITISH TROOPS HAVE RECOVERED GROUND LOST NEAR THE VILLAGE OF BULLECOURT

LONDON, May 16.—The British have recaptured most of the ground they lost in Bullecourt, and have established new positions in the west part of the village, says a despatch today from Reuters' correspondent at British headquarters.

Severe fighting is reported today north of the Scarpe river, on the Arras battlefield, says today's official statement of operations in the Franco-Belgian war theatre.

The text of the statement reads: "Fighting continued yesterday to our advantage on the western portion of Bullecourt. We captured a few prisoners in the course of a small encounter last night on the right of Nurpon, in the Hindenburg line, east of the village. Severe fighting is in progress north of Scarpe."

#### VON BETHMANN-HOLLWEG IS APPARENTLY ANXIOUS TO FLATTER RUSSIAN IDEALISTS

LONDON, May 16.—Only three or four morning papers comment on the speech of Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg in the Reichstag. The general tenor of the comment is that the Chancellor's words were cunningly chosen to flatter Russian idealists, without definitely renewing his hopes of annexation. It is noted that the German premier's declaration of complete agreement with the army chiefs was greeted with especial enthusiasm. The opinion is expressed that the Russian revolutionists are in danger of falling into the German trap, and it is urged that Great Britain, France and America should send their ablest socialist speakers and thinkers to Russia to help and guide those who are trying to construct the new government of that country.

#### SIX KILLED IN AN EXPLOSION

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., May 16.—Six men were killed and several others seriously injured in an explosion this afternoon at the end of the Fort Brady pier. Most of the victims were laborers. It is believed dynamite stored under the dock exploded.

#### AN HONOR FOR MR. BALFOUR

Richmond, Virginia, May 16.—Arthur James Balfour, and twelve other members of the British war commission, will be initiated as members of the Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest scholastic honorary fraternity in America, it was announced here today.

#### FOOD SITUATION ALL IMPORTANT

Washington, May 16.—Members of the Senate and House agriculture committees today reported to their colleagues that President Wilson is unusually anxious for early passage of legislation to stop speculating in foods and regulate production and distribution. The food situation ranks second only to the army and navy in importance for the war, the President told the committee members at a White House conference last night.

#### RESIGNS TO ENTER ARMY

Washington, May 16.—Representative Gardener of Massachusetts has resigned from Congress to enter the army.

#### F. W. DEMILLE DIED IN STREET THIS AFTERNOON

F. W. deMille, manager of the local branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, died suddenly on the street at the corner of George street and University avenue, shortly after 2 o'clock this afternoon. He was returning from his residence to the bank when seized by hemorrhage.

Dr. H. H. McNally and Dr. C. P. Holden were summoned, but death had occurred before their arrival.

The deceased was a son of the late Prof. deMille, of Dalhousie University, Halifax. He had been a resident of Fredericton for about two years, coming to the Fredericton branch of the Bank of Commerce from Waterloo, Ont. Since residing here he had made a host of friends, and as a vocalist was very popular.

He was a member of the choir of Christchurch Cathedral, and also of the Fredericton Curling Club. A widow and two young sons survive. He was aged about forty years.

The late Mr. deMille had been in poor health for some time, but his death came with tragic suddenness.

While walking along University avenue, he was observed this afternoon to stagger. Soon afterward he sat down. Ald. R. W. McLellan went to his assistance. It was observed that he had had a severe hemorrhage.

Passers by helped to carry him into the residence of Mr. John Cameron, but he was dead before he arrived there.

#### No Permission Granted.

The impression having gone abroad that the City Council had given permission for the Ashburnham building in King street to be destroyed by fire, Ald. Wilkinson at the meeting of the City Council last night stated that no permission had been given. The firemen had been notified by the telephone operator that a building in King street was afire and had responded to the still alarm. They had played a stream of water on the roof. Ald. Shea was of the opinion that they should have made an effort to put out the fire.

Mr. George E. Fisher of Chatham is a guest at the Barker House.

### TWENTY-TWO DEGREES IN COURSE AT U.N.B. TOMORROW

#### Nineteen in Graduating Class and Three Masters' Degrees---Leo C. Kelley of Fredericton Winner of Governor General's Medal.

Dr. C. C. Jones, Chancellor of the University of New Brunswick, this morning announced the higher degrees to be given at the encoenia tomorrow, also the order of graduation, honors and distinctions, and winners of prizes, medals and scholarships. Announcement concerning two of the medals and one scholarship cannot be made until tonight.

Tomorrow the U. N. B. will graduate a class of nineteen, fifteen in Arts and four in Applied Science. Six are young ladies. Three masters' degrees will also be conferred, one in Arts and two in Science.

One medallist is from Fredericton, Mr. Leo C. Kelley, son of ex-Ald. Cornelius Kelley, winner of the Governor General's gold medal for fourth year Natural Science and Chemistry. A Moncton man has the distinction of winning both the Ketchum and City of Fredericton medals in engineering subjects. He is Mr. Austin P. MacDonald.

#### Tomorrow's Proceedings.

The Senate of the University will meet tomorrow morning at ten o'clock. The encoenia proceedings will begin at two o'clock in the University library. In addition to the granting of degrees there will be several addresses. The address in Praise of the Founders will be by Prof. John A. Stiles, and the valedictory by Mr. Charles R. Smith, of Lower Coverdale, Albert county.

Hon. Mr. Hazen, selected as Alumni orator, will be unable to attend. The address to the graduating class will be by Sir Ezekiel McLeod, Chief Justice. Dr. W. S. Carter also will speak. MEDALS AND PRIZES--ENCAENIA 1917.

Douglas Gold Medal, for best English essay on subject "The Geology and Mineral Deposits of New Brunswick"—D. Gordon Willet of St. John. Alumni Gold Medal, announcement by Alumni Society.

The Montgomery Campbell Prize, for fourth year Latin and Greek, ordinary and honor—Charles R. Smith of Lower Coverdale, Albert Co.

The Governor General's Gold Medal, for fourth year Natural Science and Chemistry, ordinary and distinction—Leo C. Kelley of Fredericton.

The Brydson-Jack Scholarship, third year Physics, ordinary honor and laboratory, announced by Alumni Society.

The Ketchum Silver Medal, for fourth year Civil Engineering—Austin P. MacDonald of Shediac Road, Moncton.

The City of Fredericton Gold Medal, for the best design of a Water Tower for the City of Fredericton—Austin P. MacDonald.

Alumnae Society's Scholarship, for highest standing among the young women students of the second year—Maude M. McMonagle of Fredericton. The William Crockett Scholarship, for first year Latin and Greek, ordinary and distinction—Walter R. Fleet of Fredericton.

Dr. W. W. White's Prize, for best essay work in the Freshman Course in Ordinary English—M. Louise Friel, Moncton, N. B.

Sir Frederic Williams-Taylor's Gold Medal, for best all-round athlete, announced later.

Purves Loggie Memorial Scholarship for second year Surveying, Descriptive Geometry and Mechanics of Materials—J. Ellis Taylor of St. John West.

Higher Degrees.

Degree of M. A.—Kenneth A. Baird, George J. Marr.

Degree of M. Sc. in Electrical Engineering—A. Foster Baird.

Degree of M. Sc. in Forestry—Peter Z. Caverhill.

Graduating Class.  
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### ITALIANS ACHIEVE IMPORTANT SUCCESS ON THE ISONZO FRONT

#### Artillery Preparations Preceded a Big Offensive Action---Difficult Positions Were Successfully Stormed by the Italian Infantry---Official Statement

ROME, May 15, via Paris, May 16.—Important successes were won by the Italians today in inaugurating their drive on the Isonzo front. The following official note in regard to these operations was given out here tonight:

"The offensive action now being developed on the Julian front, which was announced in today's statement, was preceded by vast, intense and methodical artillery preparations.

"Fire was opened on the morning of May 12 along the whole line from Tolmino to the sea. It was maintained with a regularly quickened rhythm until the morning of May 14, when it was intensified to a powerful drum fire.

"During the first part of the bombardment the enemy reacted but feebly. It seemed as though the Austrians had been taken by surprise; but their reply was more vigorous on May 13th, and extremely violent on the morning of the 14th. The Austrian batteries then opened a heavy curtain of fire, pouring thousands of projectiles on the trenches in the Italian line.

"Undaunted by the temper of the fire, the Italian infantry towards noon leaped over the parapets and dashed resolutely forward toward the objectives previously assigned. These positions were almost all difficult ones, and some of them hitherto had been regarded as impregnable, such as the heights on the left bank of the Isonzo from Plava to Salcano Pass."

### IMPORTANT SPEECH BY LIEUT. GENERAL SMUTS

#### Spirit of Comradeship on the Battlefield Will be More Powerful Than Any Instrument of Govern- ment---Future Security Must be Secured.

LONDON, May 16.—Lieut. General Smuts, minister of defence for South Africa, and representative of the Union at the Imperial Conference, was the guest of the House of Lords and the Commons at a banquet in the royal gallery.

Viscount French presided. General Smuts said that the spirit of comradeship on the battlefields of Europe would be more powerful than any instrument of government they could erect. Our commonwealth would go to pieces if its world-wide communications were not maintained. Germany, during the past thirty years, had settled everywhere. The day would have come when the Empire would have been jeopardized by the cutting of communications. Now the world outside of Europe had been cleared of the enemy, and we were most providentially brought to the position that we could consider the future problem as a whole.

General Smuts said he hoped when the time for settlement came we would remember not merely central Europe, but the whole British Empire. He did not wish the Empire to have fought in vain. "We have not fought for material gain nor for territory," said General Smuts, "but for future security."

#### INCORPORATION IS FAVORED

The ratepayers of the villages of St. Mary's and Gibson are in favor of incorporating the two places into a town according to the opinion expressed at a largely attended public meeting held last night in St. Anthony's hall. This meeting was called for the purpose of discussing the subject. Mr. Gilbert Henry of Gibson was chairman. Of those who took part in the discussion only two were against incorporation. They were Dr. B. M. Mullin and Mr. James D. Blair, both of St. Mary's. When the vote on the question of incorporation was taken a few years ago there was a small majority against the proposition.

Warden A. T. LeBlanc of Shediac, is in the city today, en route home from a trip to Boston and New York.

#### FLOUR DROPS IN WINNIPEG

Winnipeg, May 16.—A drop of forty cents in the price of flour is announced by local millers, and first patents are quoted at \$7.50 per sack of 98 pounds.

Change at Marysville. The Canadian Cottons, Limited, has purchased the tenements in Marysville previously owned by the Nashwaak Pulp & Paper Co. The latter company also is closing its store at Marysville on May 31st. Preparations for rafting the Nashwaak company's logs at the mouth of the Nashwaak River are under way.

Messrs. H. A. Porter and A. C. Thompson of St. John, are registered at the Queen.