

Huns Throwing All Their Strength Into Aisne Battle

May Possibly Strike Another Blow Also NAVY LEAGUE For Amiens or Dunkirk---Forty Divisions Engaged in the Aisne Conflict---**Situation Still Serious** 

LONDON, May 31 .- Forty German divisions are engaged in the Aisne battle and forty more are in reserve, says a despatch from Reuters' correspondent at French headquarters. It is possible, the despate hadds, that the enemy may strike another blow for Amiens or Dunkirk, but for the moment he appears to be throwing his entire strength into the conflict on the Aisne. Fierce attacks were, it is added, attended by the capture of Soissons by the Germans. The city was reported to have been in flames Wednesday evening.

The Germans continued to push forward south of Fere en Tardenois, according to latest advices from Paris, but neither Shateau Thierry nor Dornans have yet fallen into their hands. There is reason to hope that Chateau Thierry, the population of which fled, will be saved.

## ENEMY BAFFLED BY THE VALOR OF THE ALLIES, HAVE FAILED TO ENLARGE POCKET IN THEIR LINES

PARIS, May 31.-Baffled by the valor of the Allied soldiers, the Germans yesterday failed to enlarge greatly the pocket in the Allied lines. Even in the centre the enemy appears to been held and the advance is slackening.

In accordance with their favorite manoeuvre, the Germans apparently are swinging their column's eastward with the object of getting around Rheims through Ville en Tardenois and the valley of the Ardre. The bastion constituted by the ruined city and the high ground known as the mountain of Rheims, is a menace to the German flank. It is too strong to be attacked from in front with any chance of success, so the enemy is trying to turn it from the southwest.

### THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN FRANCE VIEW THE SITUATION WITH EXTREME CONFIDENCE

While any progress by the Germns oan French soil, with the inevitable trail of ruin and desolation, strikes French hearts sorely, the unswerving confidence with which the general pub-Tic views the situation is most remarkable. No doubt is felt as to the outcome, and there is no weakening in the resolve to fight to the end.

The Havas correspondent at the front, who is considered to know the official view, thus summarizes the situation: The rapid advance of the enemy is due to the temporary numerical inferiority of the Allies, which has completely changed the aspect of the struggle. It is necessary to go back to the beginning of the war for an analogous situation. This is a war of movement where two armies manoeuvre under the open sky.

#### **ALLIES HAVE CHOICE OF FIELD OF BATTLE ON** WHICH GERMANY'S DESTINY WILL BE DECIDED

"Shall we accept battle this time as we formerly accepted it, on the Marne? That is the secret for our command. The HUN Germans have no illusions as to the value of the success they Germans have no illusions as to the value of the success they have gained. They know we have several million picked troops

LOCAL BRANCH ONE THOUSAND MEMBERS WANTED IN THIS SECTION

REORGANIZED

Canvass will be Carried Out the Coming Month-Committees Appointed for City Wards.

The executive of the Navy League had a meeting at the Board of Trade men of the battalion were now all in Rooms last night to re-organize the France having been drafted to various Navy League established in Freder- Highland units, over half of them gocton in the Summer of 1916. The ing to the Royal Highlanders. Some object of the meeting was to further of the officers are already in France arrangements regarding the membership canvass in this city and the sur- the channel in the near future. ounding country with a view of ob-

earry this out a committee of two was appointed from each ward, viz:

J. J. F. Winslow.

A. A. Shute

another to be elected. St. Anns Ward-W. VanWart

and R. B. Wallace. Wellington Ward-F. W. Porter and had been performed while with the

H. S. Campbell. To Appoint Canvassers

and Capt. McPeake, paymaster, had This Committee will meet at eight been given the same positions with o'clock at the Mayor's Office on Wed- the British Columbia reserve battalion nesday evening the fifth of June to- and Capt. Black had also come in for gether with the Executive of the praise for the very efficient way his League in order to appoint thirty can- duties had been carried out.

vassers required to carry out the above arrangements. Explanation

By way of explanation it may be stated that there is at present the enson. parent society in England, the Navy League of the British Empire, then there is the Navy League of Canada, Provincial Leagues for each Province and branch leagues for each city or locality. It is proposed by the Fredericton branch to clean up the canvass before the 30th of June in order that the half yearly returns may be sent in to the Parent Society.

St. John, May 31-While in the midst of his combat with small pox cases in St. John Dr. G. G. Melvin, chief medical health officer in St. John was bereaved today by the death of his wife, who succumbed to



Major H. H. McLean, of St. John, Talks of Disposition of the MacLean Highlanders.

(St. John Standard) Major H. H. McLean, son of Major General McLean, M. P., arrived in the ity last night on a short furlough. Major McLean went overseas with

the McLean Kilties as second in command and since the breaking up of that unit has been with one of the reserve battalions in England.

Talking with a Standard represen tative last night the major said the and many others expect to go acros

Lieut.-Col. Guthrie was still in Eng taining one thousand members. To land, Major Mersereau came home with Major McLean, Major Lauri came home some months ago but all Kings Ward-Mayor Hanson and expect to go back again; Major Ryder and Major Eason were in England Queens Ward-Ald. D. J. Shea and the latter in hospital. Capt. Sturde who filled the position of adjutant of Carleton Ward-Ald. Wilkinson and the Kilties, had been adjutant of one of the reserve battalions and he had

> tary authorities on the way his work Kilties. Capt. Black, quartermaster

been highly complimented by the mil

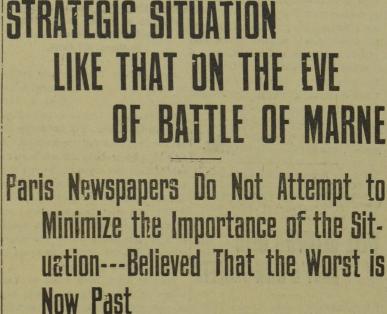
Four of the officers had transferred to the Royal Flying Corps. They were Kinnon, Lieut. Ryder and Lieut. Stev-

Lieut. Budd, D. C. M., was in France as was Lieut. Norman McLean Acting Lieutenants Appleby and Delaney had given up their rank and gone over to France as privates in or der to get a crack at the Hun.

Lieut. Derrol Peters, M. M., was in hespital at Shorncliffe. He had been quite ill but was on the mend.

### MUST TAKE OATH

Dublin, May 31-A. M. O'Mara mayor of Limerick, has been ordered by the court of Kings Bench to take the oath of allegiance before exer cising his Magisterial functions. The mayor had refused to take the oath.



PARIS, May 31-The extreme point of the German advance is Lecharmel, about two miles north of the river Marne, according to an outline of the battle front as marked out by newspaper correspondents, the Havas agency says.

The fighting front, it is declared, runs as follows: From Chavigny, north of Soissons, it describes a circle west of that city and rejoins the river Oise south of Soissons. Then it goes to Berzy, follows the Soissons-Chateau-Thierry road until near Hartenneo, where it bends southeast to Grand Rozoy. Thence southward, leaving Mulcahy Le Chateau, it passes Nateuil-Notre Dame and advances toward the Marne to Courcy, Brecy, Courpoil and Le Charmel, which marks its extreme southern point. Through Vezilly, Brouilet, Savigny and Thillois, it runs northeastward to the environs of Rheims.

### COMMENTATORS EXPRESS CONFIDENCE THAT THE SITUAUTION WILL SOON BE RESTORED

The newspapers do not attempt to minimize the importance of the Germa nadvance. Gabriel Hanotaux, in the Figaro, compares the strategic situation with that on the eve of the battle of the Marne. All the commentators, however, express confidence that the high command will so dispose the Allied troops as to restore the situation, which L'Homme Libre considers to have reached its maximum point of gravity yesterday.

It is the resistance of the two wings of the Allied forces Lieut. Earle Scovil, M. M., Lieut. Mc- which inspires the confidence of all military critics. To take victorious advantage of the success they have so far gained, the Germans must succeed in bending these two hinges, and all their efforts to do this have up to this time been vain.

#### **RESERVES REPORTED TODAY TO BE ARRIVING ON THE BATTLE GROUND WITH ARTILLERY**

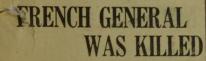
Another reason for the confident feeling is the arrival of Allied reserves. Besides the mention in the official report of the beginning of intervention by these reserves, the Echo de Paris, in a despatch from the front filed at 2 a.m. today, reports that the reserves are arriving on the battle ground with artillery and auxiliary services. Their entrance into action, the message reports, was effected methodically without any display of nervousness. General Foch and General Petain are working intimately together, it adds, to meet the serious situation.

In commenting on the intervening of fresh forces, L'Homme Libre says it does not appear doubtful that the enemy has reached the extreme point of his advance and that he will encounter the Allied reserve, carefully withheld until a favorable moment shall arrive for a counter-attack.

forming in manoeuvring masses which they will have to encounter. If the enemy had the choice of ground for the offensive we have the much more important choice of the field of battle on which Germany's destiny will be decided.

"It will be seen, therefore, that there is no ground for We probably are witnessing the preliminaries to a alarm. great battle which both sides wish to be decisive. Consequent Ty it is comprehensible that our commanders do not act hurriedly, but strictly in accordance with plans agreed upon."

#### **GERMAN DRIVE** HUN AIRPLANES **SLOWING UP DRIVEN OFF**



(Canadian Press direct wire.) St. John, May 30.-Frederick Lomax

AT ST. JOHN

Paris, May 31.— According to the Hayas agency correspondent at the A st. the French general killed last Tuesday on the field of honor was General Pierre de Vallieres. He was struck by a shell fragment, while lead-ing his men. He was 49 years of age.

# The Wedge Driven Into Allied Lines is Getting Norrower and Its Flanks Are **Being Firmly Held**

TWO MILLS UP

Keeping the tide of their advance in the centre flowing strongly, though seemingly less swiftly, toward the Marne, the Germans simultaneously have executed a stroke on the Allied left flank that has extended the battle line westward and virtually linked up the present battlefield with that on the Somme. The attack was delivered along the Ailette river, northwest of Soissons, sweeping forward in the salient that projected between the Somme and

The advance in the centre has now brought the Germans within two miles of the Marne at one point, Paris despatches report. The wedge here appears increasingly narrow, however, and on its flanks below Soissons and Rheims, the nemy is reported firmly held.

The French War Office announces the breaking down of enemy attacks in of Port Arthur, Ont., was killed, and another man had an ankle broken, and the Soissons area and to the south, while on Allied right the line extending northwestward toward Rheims from the neighborhood of Vezilly, appears vrtually unchanged, the Germans failing in all their efforts to win ground.

> The energetic defence on the right wing is exemplified by the fighting at Thillois several miles east of Rheims, where the Germans entered the town, to be driven out by a French counter-attack.

London, May 31.— The Whitehead torpedo works at St. Poelten, Austria, have been destroyed by fire, accord-ing te an Exchange Telegraph des-patch from Zurich. Vienna newspap-ers declare the fire was the result of sabetage by Italian workmen in the sabotage by Italian workmen in the

DESTROYED

gressing favorably towards recovery.

THE BRITISH **PEOPLE** ARE DETERMINED

PASSES AWAY

IN TORONTO

THE MARNE NOTED EDITOR

**TORPEDO WORKS** 

Canadian Press direct wire.) Toronto, May 31.—John Ross Robertson, president of the Evening Telegram, died this morning. He had been lit for six weeks from pneumonia. Mr. Robertson was one of Canadars for his deeds of philanthropy. His is means to hospital stand only recently gave \$110,000 to a children's hospital at Toronto, making a total of \$600,000. Mr. Robertson had long been an outstanding figure in the political world and the charitable work of all kinds. Among the Stock Children's Hospital at the toronto active of the Historical Association. Mr. Robertson at one stand the monuments to his generosity are the Stock Children's Hospital and the Multitary states to the capitals and and France. The monuments to his generosity are the Stock Children's Hospital and the Multitary states to the generosity are the Stock Children's Hospital and the Multitary states to the generosity are the Stock Children's Hospital and the Generosity are the House of Commons, build are the tore and indecisive and patched to the united States are the struggle.

ACCEPTABLE

Stockholm, May 31.—The agreement between Sweden and the Allies for a between Sweden and the Allies for a supply of foodstuffs and other vital ne-cessities, in return for Swedish ton-nage, is completely acceptable to all shades of opinion. Germany did her utmost to delay negotiations, but Swe-den succeeded in carrying her point, owing to Germany's pressing need of wood nuln and iron ore

sabotage by Italian workmen in the plant. Mrs. C. A. MacVey, who recently underwent an operation for appendi-citis at the Victoria Hospital, is pro-gressing favorably towards recovery.