

THE WAR WEEK—Commentary on Current Events

Biggest Battle in History Raging on Western Front

The fiercest battle in the history of the world began last week when, having pulverized Holland in five days and made deep thrusts into Belgium, the German armies turned and head-on in violent and deadly action against the Maginot Line, meeting the French, British, Belgian forces on a front 300 miles long. A titanic struggle was in progress, and the fate of many nations depended upon the outcome.

Write New York Times' correspondent Archambault: "There is in Paris the general impression that the Germans have launched an offensive of such a nature that it will not end until a decision has been obtained. If the conflict can be continued as a matter of movement, that decision may not be far distant — not more than weeks. But if it is a front-line battle, the campaign may drag on for months. . . . The general battle will be fought, a right-angle front having as pivot the twin French towns of Metz and Charleville — from there one section of the front runs northward along the course of the River Meuse as far as Namur and Liège; the other runs eastward parallel to the Maginot Line as far as the Rhine."

Another Napoleon? "The Editor of the New York Herald-Tribune, writing from Berlin, told of a possible German plan for the inclusion 'in certain eventualities' of the whole of Europe east of the Rhine and the counter-blockade of England, comparable to Napoleon's famous 'continental system.' The German, he said, would attempt to carry out such a plan only if the Allies, by 'aggressive' measures, carried the war into the German territory. (It should be noted that the dynamic Nazi policy has always been to counteract possible 'aggressive' by striking the first blow.)

BRITAIN: The people of England last week were in a grim and heroic mood for the worst. The 180,000 air crews of Holland had never before been called for the war. The British air force was to be increased to 200,000 men and German operations said that "mass air spears against England could be expected in the next few days."

"Blood And Tears" Winston Churchill, himself, the new Prime Minister, promised on his own shoulders and suffering adversity until one day the victory would be gained. He spoke of the marked disparity of the strength of "our" air force as compared with that of the enemy. . . . the new War Secretary Anthony Eden called for the mobilization of 100,000 "minutemen" between the ages of 16 and 45 as an armed guard against German parachutists who might land anywhere in England.

With men of three parties (Conservative, Labor, Liberal) in the Cabinet, it was thought that Britain's prosecution of the war would be much more vigorous hereafter. Herbert Morrison, a supply minister, was particularly welcomed by the British press.

Italy Gets Ready ITALY: During the week indications multiplied that Italy was about to enter the war. The War Ministry confirmed that 1,000,000 conscripts had been called up; Mussolini ordered Italian French frontier defenses perfected; plating of anti-British posters in Italian cities continued despite British protests, and the Italian press raved against the Allied blockade. . . . The Vatican newspaper "Osservatore Romano" was burned in the streets because of its expressed sympathy for Belgium and Holland. Mussolini made the declaration that Italian belligerence remained unchanged "until some new developments in Europe throw the country into war." Mice, Gen. Evie Taboussi, celebrated French Journalist, said that foreign observers in Berlin found high Nazis who were convinced the time had come for Italy to act — before the great battle on the Western Front had reached its turning-point. Would Switzerland be Italy's first victim?

"Say Goodbye to Balkans!" RUSSIA: Soviet diplomats last week told Britain, France, Germany and Italy to stay out of the Balkans. This action followed upon reports of the Italian troop concentrations near the frontiers of Yugoslavia, and making of Allied fleets at Alexandria, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, possible partners in a military alliance with Russia, were informed of the step. Yugoslavia and Soviet Russia agreed to work at top speed on plans for political and military co-operation. The Soviet Government newspaper also warned that if Britain and

Federal-Provincial relations were planned . . . During the week, also, Hon. R. J. Manion resigned as a leader in the Conservative party, and Hon. E. B. Hanson became House Leader . . . The Communist party of Canada was declared an illegal organization . . .

Gardening . . .

GARDEN WALKS In the smaller garden where visitors and children soon wear grass thin along the edges of the flower beds or between the house and the swing or arbour, regular paths are needed. With a little care they will add beauty to the rest of the garden, too. Most pleasing materials of all for this purpose are flagstones. These are broad, flat, thin slabs of soft stone, usually found in abundance around certain river beds.

UNITED STATES: The invasion by Germany of the Low Countries brought a noticeable shift in American policy toward favoring the Allies. Although President Roosevelt said that he saw no change with respect to the possibilities of the campaign keeping out of Europe's war, the impact of last week's European developments on the U. S. public mind was terrific. The American people appeared to be expressing in the progress of the war, a feeling of relief, reform and recovery. . . . An extraordinary arms program boosting next fiscal year's defense spending over the two-and-a-half billion mark was reported in the making; while the Senate naval committee approved an eleven per cent increase in the U. S. naval fighting strength . . .

CANADA: Speeding up of Canada's war effort was expected shortly to come as a result of the smashing of Holland by the German juggernaut. . . . Last week the Federal Government had taken "three or four" emergency steps, according to the Prime Minister (we surmised these had to do with acceleration of the Commonwealth air training plan, and with extra precautions on the eastern seaboard), details of which were to be given in Parliament early in the session. . . . Cabinet changes during the week: Hon. J. A. Mackenzie became Minister of Trade and Commerce, replacing Hon. W. D. Euler who went to the Senate; Hon. Pierre P. Casgrain, former Speaker of the House, became Secretary of State. . . . The program of legislation facing Parliament comprised: new war appropriations; a budget designed to raise the money; steps to create a system of unemployment insurance on a contributory basis; amendments to various acts to bring them in line with war requirements. . . . The implementation of the long-awaited (2½ years) report on

Populace Greet Tommies As British Tanks Speed Into Belgium



This radio photo shows a British tank clanking through the streets of a Belgian village headed for the front as citizens of the town line the street to hail the incoming British troops.

REG'LAR FELLERS—The Real Thing



CURRIE'S SPECIAL ORDERS AT WAR'S TURNING-POINTS

Historic Copies of Order Issued March 28, 1918, When the Allies Were Fighting With Their Backs to the Wall, and Another Issued October 3, 1918, Reflect the First World War's Changing Situation in Its Last Few Months

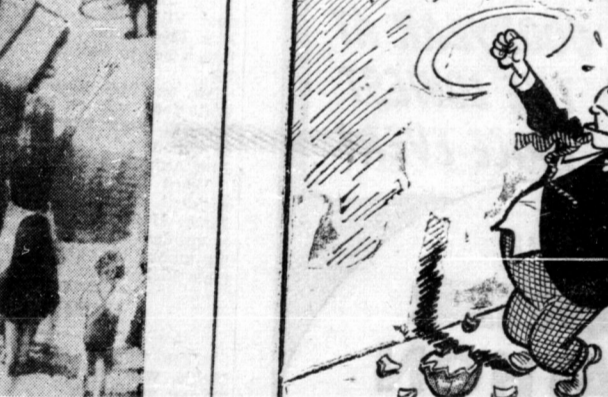
In those dark hours of March 1918, when the German armies were driving the British back and back, the following special order, copies of which have been carefully kept, was issued to battalions, batteries and Field Companies by Sir Arthur W. Currie, K.C.B., Commanding the Canadian Corps (dated March 28, 1918): "In an endeavour to reach an immediate decision, the enemy has gathered all his forces and struck a mighty blow at the British Army. Overwhelmed by sheer weight of numbers, the British Divisions in the line between the Scarpe and the Oise have fallen back fighting hard, steady and undismayed. "The mission assigned to the Corps was the protection of the flank of the Third and Fourth Armies in their retrograde movement. This mission has been carried out to the complete satisfaction of the Commander-in-Chief. "In your advance you overcame the very formidable obstacle of the Canal du Nord; you carried by assault the fortified Bourlon Wood, the Maroing Line, and seized the high ground extending along the Douai-Cambrai road. The towns of Oisy le Verger, Eploey, Haynescourt, Maroing, Bourlon, Pontaine Notre Dame, Ralluencourt, Sully, St. Omer, Neuville, St. Remy and Tilloy are now ours, and your patrols have entered Cambrai itself. "In the short period of two months the Canadian Corps — 10 Divisions for the Battle of Arras, the Fourth and the Fifty-First Divisions for the Battle of Arras, and the Seventh Division for the Battle of Arras — has earned and defeated decisively forty-seven German divisions — that is nearly a quarter of the total German forces on the Western Front. "The victories you have achieved are the fruit of the iron discipline you accepted freely and of the high standard you have reached in the most of your arms. . . . You must therefore with relentless energy maintain and perfect the high standard of training you set with them had so hard to earn. . . . I command you and I trust you will fight as you have ever fought with all your tranquil courage. On many a hard-fought field of battle you have overcome this enemy. With God's help you shall achieve victory once more."

Another different war picture is reflected in the special order issued by Sir Arthur Currie on October 3, 1918, when the German armies were on the run and victory for the Allies appeared on the near horizon: "I wish to express to all Troops now fighting in the Canadian Corps my high appreciation of the splendid fighting qualities displayed by them in the successful battle of the last five days. "The mission assigned to the Corps was the protection of the flank of the Third and Fourth Armies in their retrograde movement. This mission has been carried out to the complete satisfaction of the Commander-in-Chief. "In your advance you overcame the very formidable obstacle of the Canal du Nord; you carried by assault the fortified Bourlon Wood, the Maroing Line, and seized the high ground extending along the Douai-Cambrai road. The towns of Oisy le Verger, Eploey, Haynescourt, Maroing, Bourlon, Pontaine Notre Dame, Ralluencourt, Sully, St. Omer, Neuville, St. Remy and Tilloy are now ours, and your patrols have entered Cambrai itself. "In the short period of two months the Canadian Corps — 10 Divisions for the Battle of Arras, the Fourth and the Fifty-First Divisions for the Battle of Arras, and the Seventh Division for the Battle of Arras — has earned and defeated decisively forty-seven German divisions — that is nearly a quarter of the total German forces on the Western Front. "The victories you have achieved are the fruit of the iron discipline you accepted freely and of the high standard you have reached in the most of your arms. . . . You must therefore with relentless energy maintain and perfect the high standard of training you set with them had so hard to earn. . . . I command you and I trust you will fight as you have ever fought with all your tranquil courage. On many a hard-fought field of battle you have overcome this enemy. With God's help you shall achieve victory once more."

Canada's exports of paper and manufactures totalled \$10,707,310 in March compared with \$10,254,545 in March, 1928. The exports to the United States aggregated \$7,342,328 and to the United Kingdom, \$1,159,900.

Human Bat For two years an Indian named Gargam has been hanging by his toes from the branch of a tree in the forest of Erban, near Bhadrachalam. He believes he will obtain godly powers. His followers feed him with their own hands so as not to disturb his poise and he sleeps during the night without getting out of his battike position.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT By Fred Neher



COLEMAN HOT PLATES DO BIG-STOVE JOBS



OVERSEAS

BRITISH CONSOLS EXPORT LEGION

Moses Caused First Blackout

Ask for BEE HIVE Patented POURING SPOUT ON EVERY TIN



Man Who Never Saw a Woman

Man Who Never Saw a Woman

Man Who Never Saw a Woman

Man Who Never Saw a Woman

Christie's Graham Wafers



Lost Kingdom

Lost Kingdom

Lost Kingdom

Lost Kingdom

Lost Kingdom

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Lost Kingdom

Jacket Dresses Are Essential For Travelling

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There's DOUBLE ENJOYMENT in delicious DOUBLEMENT GUM



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