

# BRITISH DEFEATED TO HOLD GROUND TO THE LAST MAN

## Haig Says the Armies Now Stand at Bay in Flanders With "Their Backs to the Wall"

### FRENCH ARMY IS MOVING TO THEIR SUPPORT

In Issuing Command That There Must Be No More Retirement Field Marshal Haig Warned His Men That "They Are Fighting For Safety of Their Homes and the Freedom of Mankind"—The Allies Now Stand on a Front Which Has Been Dented and Battered, But Which Is Very Strong Throughout—There Are Indications That Generalissimo Foch Is Ready to Strike Back at the German Invaders—The Enemy Yesterday Succeeded in Capturing Merville.

Great Britain's armies stand at bay in France and Flanders. After three weeks of a combat which has elapsed everything that was regarded during the entire four years of the war as the French army has issued a command to his men to hold their ground at whatever cost, and fight with the knowledge that their blows are struck for safety of their homes and the freedom of mankind.

### AMERICANS REPULSE SHOCK GERMAN TROOPS

No Man's Land Was Strewn With Dead Germans. With the American Army in France, April 12.—(By The Associated Press.)—In the raid carried out by the Germans on Wednesday against the American positions northwest of Toul, the enemy intended to penetrate to the third line positions, according to information obtained from a prisoner. The enemy carried wire, dynamite, trenching tools and other implements for organizing the positions.

### BOCHE LOST BOTH LEGS FOR TAUNTING AMERICANS.

Adjutant Starbird Describes German Raid of March 7. New York, April 12.—A raid by a party of 200 Germans on a portion of the American-held line, in which all but 20 of the attacking force were accounted for by the defending Americans, was described by Raymond Starbird, an adjutant in the American army, who arrived here today after having been within range of German artillery on the western front for seven months.

### MARSHAL HAIG ISSUES STATEMENT TO HIS TROOPS.

Warns Them That Every Position Must Be Held to the Last Man. London, April 12.—Field Marshal Haig, commander of the British forces in France, in a statement issued today to his troops, said: "Every position must be held to the last man. There must be no retirement. With our backs to the wall and believing in the justice of our cause, each one of us must fight on to the end."

### GREAT ACTIVITY AT GERMAN NAVAL BASES.

Indications Are That a Great Naval Raid Is to Be Attempted. Geneva, Switzerland, April 12.—Greatest activity reigns at German naval bases, especially at Kiel. Coal and ammunition is being shipped to the fleet in large quantities, according to information received here this morning from a reliable neutral source.

# Coal Mines Closing Great Damage by Storm Along Coast

FUEL ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS ARE ALARMED ON THE NEW JERSEY AND LONG ISLAND SHORES

## MINERS NEED WORK RECORD HIGH TIDES

In the Fairmount District of West Virginia 54 Mines Have Been Shut Down—Big Reduction in Output. Washington, April 12.—Coal mines in many sections are beginning to close down because of car shortage and both reduced production and unemployment have reached a serious stage that fuel administration officials are frankly alarmed. The situation has been placed before the railroad administration with a request for drastic steps to keep the mines supplied with cars.

## Cabled Paragraphs

36 German Airplanes Brought Down Thursday. London, April 12.—Thirty-five German airplanes, 21 of which were destroyed, were brought down by British fighters on Thursday. The official statement on aerial activities reports the dropping of bombs on military targets behind the battle front and on a railway station at Metz.

## NEW ENGLAND TOWNS ENTITLED TO HONOR FLAGS

East Granby and Beacon Falls Among Fifteen Added to the List. Boston, April 12.—Thirteen New England towns today were added to the rapidly growing list of municipalities entitled to honor flags as an indication of having oversubscribed the quota for themselves and allied communities. Banners were awarded by the committee to Mt. Vernon, Westworth, Grafton, East Kingston and Wilton, N. H.; Sterling, Mass.; Granby and Beacon Falls, Conn.; Falmouth and Aurora, Me.; and St. Albans, Proctorsville, Cavendish, Johnson and Milton, Vt. The quota for some of the other towns were being checked up with the expectation that honor flags would be awarded them soon.

## LIBERTY LOAN TOTAL FOR FIVE DAYS \$451,744,000

Oregon the First State to Register Oversubscriptions. Washington, April 11.—Liberty loan subscriptions reported to federal reserve banks up to the close of business last night, representing results of five days canvassing, were \$451,744,000 or \$175,325,000 more than the total reported last night. This is just enough to pay the United States war expenses for two weeks.

## 6,500 Men Idle Per Day.

An average of approximately 6,500 men have been idle per day in the Fairmount district, a similar condition existing in the possession of the National Coal Association. In Iowa, Illinois, Ohio and Pennsylvania, and practically every other bituminous coal producing state, a similar condition is declared to exist. Miners are becoming disheartened and a serious loss of mine labor is threatened by idle miners going to other work unless immediate relief is obtained.

## TO LIFT EMBARGO ON SALE OR KILLING OF HENS

It Will Cease to Be Operative at Midnight April 19. Hartford, Conn., April 12.—The federal food administration order which forbade the sale of live or the killing for sale of hens between the dates of February 11 and April 30 has been amended to end these embargoes at midnight of April 19, according to word received tonight by Federal Food Administrator Robert Scoville.

## SENATE TO SIDETRACK THE OVERMAN BILL

Several Days Because of Prospects of Indefinite Debate. Washington, April 12.—Prospects of indefinite debate over the Overman bill, with its broad grant of authority to the president to reorganize government departments, caused administration leaders today to decide on laying aside the measure tomorrow probably for several days in order to pass the legislative, executive and judicial appropriations bill and other urgent legislation.

## GOV. HOLCOMB AWARDED LIBERTY SERVICE MEDAL

By N. Y. Branch of Nat. Institute of Social Sciences. Hartford, Conn., April 12.—Governor Marcus H. Holcomb has been awarded a Liberty Service Medal by the New York branch of the National Institute of Social Sciences for patriotic endeavor. The award was made some days ago but the medal was "lost" and found again today after which the governor announced the gift. The medal was discovered in the executive desk.

## 51 NAMES IN THE LATEST CASUALTY LIST

Five Men Killed in Action—Three Died of Wounds. Washington, April 12.—Today's casualty list contains 51 names, five of whom died in action, three died of wounds, two died of accident, six died of disease, four wounded severely, 28 wounded slightly, and three missing in action.

# ULSTER STANDS FIRM AGAINST HOME RULE

## Unionist Delegates to the Irish Convention Have Issued a Report

### DECLARE NATIONALIST POLICY IS A MENACE

### In Opposition to Fiscal Independence, the Report Declares That the Fiscal Unity of the United Kingdom Must Be Preserved Intact—Holds For Imperialistic Parliament With Due Representation Therein—The Report of the Convention to British Parliament Calls for an Irish Parliament Modelled After That of the Empire.

LONDON, April 12.—The Ulster unionist delegates to the Irish convention have issued a report, signed by nineteen delegates, including the Marquis of Londonderry, the Earl of Londonderry, Colonel Robert Gordon Lusk, Crawford and James Johnston, lord mayor of Belfast. The delegates find themselves unable to concur in the chairman's draft report, and protests against the latter's implication that a measure of agreement regarding the issue of fiscal independence was attained. It states that upon the fundamental issues no agreement was at any time visible. On many important questions the nationalists were sharply divided.

"We expect that the real work of the convention would have been directed towards a sincere and patriotic endeavor to find common ground between the views of Ulster, on the one hand, and the views of the rest of the island, on the other. From the first week we urged this course and repeatedly expressed our disappointment that all but every nationalist's speech outlined a form of home rule far in advance of any previous claims. The scheme finally brought forward by the Bishop of Raphoe in behalf of the nationalists included the following demands:

"First—A sovereign independent parliament for Ireland, co-equal in power and authority with the imperial parliament. "Second—Complete fiscal autonomy for Ireland, including the power of imposing tariffs and control of the excise, involving, as it would, the right of making commercial treaties with foreign countries and full powers of direct taxation. "Third—A complete and permanent military territorial force in Ireland. "Fourth—Repatriation of any liability for the debt of the United Kingdom, with the principle of a small annual contribution to the imperial expenditure. "Fifth—Denial of the right of the imperial parliament to impose military service in Ireland, unless with the consent of the Irish parliament. "Over the fiscal question," the report continues, "no approach to an agreement was possible, and the real object of the proposal was to present an ultimatum to the fiscal and economic policy."

The report declares in opposition to the demands for fiscal independence: "Ulster takes a firm stand on the basis of the peoples common property and maintains that the fiscal unity of the United Kingdom must be preserved, and that any attempt to divide the sovereignty of the imperial parliament and due representation therein. The report concludes that while Ireland's contribution to imperial tax for the current year was about 12,000,000 pounds, an important section of the nationalists opposing any contribution, but the majority favored a contribution ranging from 2,500,000 pounds to 4,500,000 pounds yearly. The Bishop of Raphoe's fifth proposal was supported by a majority vote of the convention. The report continues: "We regard as excessively dangerous the nationalist claim that the Irish constitution should have temporary control of the Irish parliament at the end of the war, instead of remaining under imperial control for six years, as provided in the 1914 act. "Ulster Opposes Self-Government. "Failing any evidence of an approach to the narrowing of our differences, and in view of the new demands of the nationalist party, we were finally forced to declare that Ulster is unable to participate in any scheme of self-government for Ireland. We cannot overlook the strong probability that the controlling force of such would today be the republican, or Sinn Fein, party, which is openly and aggressively hostile to Great Britain and the empire. "A proposal was brought forward under which in the Irish parliament the nationalists should have temporary representation largely in excess of what they were entitled to on a population basis. While appreciating the desire of the nationalists, we were unable to consider that the undemocratic character of the proposal rendered it wholly unacceptable. "The report also states that the nationalists, with the object of meeting the nationalist demand for an alternative scheme for the exclusion of Ulster based on lines agreed to by the official nationalist party in 1916, were finally forced to declare that the aim of the nationalists is to establish a parliament in Ireland which would be practically free from effective control by the imperial parliament. It is only necessary to draw attention to modern political movements to realize the unwisdom of establishing within the United Kingdom two parliaments having so equal powers. All other countries have fought against this distribution of power. "Nationalist Policy a Menace. Declaring that the nationalist policy would be a constant menace to the empire, the report continues: "Had we thought that a majority of the convention intended to demand not the subordinate powers of previous home rule bills, but what is tantamount to full national independence, we would not have agreed to enter the convention. "The report also states, among other examples, that of the United States, which, established at the cost of much blood and treasure, national unity, when the Confederacy claimed, like the Irish nationalists, the right to set up an independent government," and adds: "With these and other examples before us, we cannot help feeling that the demands put forward, if conceded, would create turmoil at home and weaken to a degree the British empire. 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