THE WEATHER
Washington, May 3.—Fair tonight and Saturday; little change in temperature.
TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR

8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5
55	57	62	68	72					

Evening Public Ledger

POSTSCRIPT

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CITY OVER TOP IN LOAN DRIVE; AIMS HIGHER

District Also Exceeds Its Quota, Say Members of Committee

MORE THAN MILLION INDIVIDUAL PLEDGES

Official Figures Lacking as Banks Report Only Subscriptions Actually Paid

"STAR" FOR DELAWARE

Diamond State and New Jersey Also Assured of Honors in Campaign

Philadelphia and the Third Federal Reserve District have "gone over the top" in the Liberty Loan campaign.

While official announcement was not made today to this effect, officials of the Liberty Loan committee are confident that the quota has been subscribed. Delay in making official announcement is caused by the difficulty of getting official figures.

The official quotas for the divisions of the Third Federal Reserve District are as follows:

Philadelphia	$136,000,000
Eastern Pennsylvania outside of Philadelphia	102,000,000
Southern New Jersey	19,000,000
Delaware	8,500,000
Total for district	$265,500,000

Despite the attempts of the Third Federal Reserve Bank to have all banks report subscriptions received, many of Philadelphia's financial institutions have reported only those subscriptions on which first payments have been made.

In only a small percentage of the subscriptions received have first payments been made. When all returns have been officially tabulated, it is said by Liberty Loan officials that Philadelphia will have come close to equalling the record of the leading districts of the country.

Another record at which this city is aiming is in the number of subscriptions. Official figures will not be available for several days after the campaign closes, the workers say. However unofficial estimates place the number at more than 1,000,000.

The quota allotted to New Jersey, which is divided among the Second (or New York) and the Third (or Philadelphia) districts has been exceeded by that State. The nine southern counties are in this district. The quota of the entire State was $91,000,000.

Delaware Assured of Star

Delaware, with a quota of $8,500,000, also unofficially credited with having exceeded this allotment. The official figures do not show this sum, owing to delay in returns being received in this city. The du Pont Powder Company has pledged a sum equal to that raised in the whole State of Delaware.

This will assure Delaware of not only completing its quota, but of winning a star for its honor flag. New Jersey is also fighting for a star. Eastern Pennsylvania outside of Philadelphia is lagging behind in the official figures. This is due to the time required for returns to come in from outlying districts. Every section of the State has completed its quota and will go well over, the Liberty Loan officials believe.

The Boy Scouts have pledged themselves to raise more than $100,000,000 for the third Liberty Loan, according to George I. Bodine, who is in charge of the boys in this city. If the returns from other sections and districts come in the way they have in Philadelphia, this figure will be far exceeded, he says.

The boys opened their campaign at the beginning of the present week. They have been making a special drive to "Match the President." All of the subscription slips they have distributed have this phrase stamped on the face. The headquarters at 45 South Broad street will be open until midnight Saturday to receive the subscriptions taken by the boys. Also a $5000 Liberty Bond has been hidden in the suburbs.

PEASANTS MUST RETURN LAND

Order of German Military Commander to Ukrainians

Zurich, May 3.—General von Eichhorn, the German military commander in the Ukraine, has ordered the Ukrainian peasants to return the property taken from the land owners and to begin cultivation of the land, a dispatch from Kieff declares. The peasants are burning their crops to keep them from falling into the German hands.

Members of the old Rada protested against German interference in the government. They said they were unable to furnish the 6000 tons of grain promised Germany, because the peasants refused to sell.

FOCH SUPREME IN WEST

Generalissimo's Authority Extended to Italy Also

Paris, May 3.—General Foch's authority has been extended to all the western fronts. The General now becomes commander-in-chief of all the Allied armies in the west, including Italy, says Marcel Hutin in the Echo de Paris.

Hutin saw Premier Clemenceau on his return from the session of the Supreme War Council at Abbeville. The Premier expressed satisfaction with the results of the conference.

"And the situation at the front?" asked the writer.

"General Foch is very optimistic; that's all I can tell you," was the Premier's reply.

PERSHING SENDS MESSAGE TO AID LOAN CAMPAIGN

"Let Soldiers at Front Know Country Is Unit Behind Them," He Says

"The people of America should let every man at the front know and realize that the entire country as a unit is behind the men on the firing line."

General Pershing, in command of American troops in France, has just sent this message from overseas and Liberty Loan workers are using it today as a boost for bond sales.

It was brought to Philadelphia last night by Augustus Post, noted balloonist, who reported it to the Contemporary Club meeting at the Bellevue-Stratford. He read also this message from Premier Clemenceau, of France:

"America is known for what it has done in the material world. Now it must be known for what it will do for the morale of the world."

Mr. Post some time ago was sent to France and England as a foreign delegate of the Aero Club of America. He visited the front at the invitation of the French Government and went over the devastated district in the vicinity of St. Quentin. While in England and France he was given the above messages to be carried back to the American people.

ITALIAN MINISTER ROBBED

Little Security for Life or Property in Petrograd

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger
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Stockholm, May 3 (Dispatch to the London Morning Post).—The Greek Minister to Petrograd, who has just arrived here, reports that so far there has been no change in the political situation in Russia. There is still very little security for life and property in the capital. The Italian Minister was robbed the other day in a frequented thoroughfare.

The legations are experiencing great difficulty in getting money from banks. The food situation is extremely serious. In some cases people had to exist for many days on one egg daily.

The Bolsheviki will possibly continue to rule for a while, but their downfall is only a matter of time.

DIARMID LYNCH COMING TO U. S.

Sinn Fein "Food Dictator" Deported From Ireland

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger
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Dublin, May 3.—Diarmid Lynch, who was dubbed the "Sinn Fein food dictator," is on his way to America. Lynch was deported to England last week. He was then serving a term of imprisonment in Dundalk in connection with the seizure of pigs while they were being taken through Dublin for shipment to England.

The authorities permitted Lynch to marry a Dundalk woman while in jail. Mrs. Lynch did not accompany her husband to America, but saw him off at the port of embarkation.

SELLS LIBERTY LOAN BUTTONS

Director Parsons on Trail of Drygoods Dealer

A dry goods dealer in the city has been making real money out of the Liberty Loan by selling loan buttons over his counter at five cents each, according to Lewis H. Parsons, director of the Liberty Loan committee of the Third District.

This is the first specific charge of that nature which has come to the attention of the Liberty Loan committee.

Information against the dealer was received through the women's committee for South Philadelphia. Director Parsons and his aides declare they will expose the scheme within the next two days.

SNATCH CHILDREN'S BREAD

Austrians Take Food Away After Photographing Smiles

Washington, May 3.—Austrian military authorities, in order to convince neutral countries of the humane and charitable care of enemy children taken by them in occupied territory, assemble these children before a feast and photograph them, then take away the food, according to an official dispatch received from Rome. The dispatch said:

"On February 28 last in the market place of Feltre thirty-six children were gathered together by order of the enemy authorities to receive a present of bread. When they had received the bread, their smiling faces were photographed by the operator placed there for the purpose. Then the bread was taken away from them and they were sent to their homes with threats and curses."

WAR ANGELUS RINGS TODAY

Holy Trinity's Bells Will Call for Soldier Prayer

A wartime angelus will ring forth today at noon when the chimes of Holy Trinity Church, Rittenhouse Square, will play the national anthem as a call to all within hearing to bow their heads in prayer for the soldiers in France.

The community prayer idea conveyed by the ringing of the chimes at the noon hour each day is being taken up by many churches throughout the city and will be urged Sunday by most of the ministers here.

The national anthem is being played each day at noon by the chimes in St. James's Episcopal Church, Twenty-second and Walnut streets. The Holy Cross German Lutheran Church will also adopt the idea.

GERMAN COERCIVE MEASURES

Attempted Against Switzerland to Reach Economic Agreement

Paris, May 3.—Negotiations between Germany and Switzerland for the renewal of the economic agreement are proceeding tediously, said a Geneva dispatch to the Petit Parisien.

Directors of the Swiss Federal railway fear to break in upon their coal reserves, the dispatch added.

Switzerland has been getting her coal supply from Germany.

Germany, taking advantage of this condition of affairs, has been attempting coercive measures.

When you think of writing, think of WHITING.—Adv.

BROTHERS UNITED AFTER TEN YEARS

The war has sundered many family ties, but it has also served to bring two brothers together after ten years' separation, making the Pershing veteran and French chasseur in the photograph the happiest men in New York today. Rene and Marcel Humbert lived with their parents in France ten years ago. When the former came to America with the family the latter stayed in France. Now Rene is here as one of General Pershing's veterans aiding the Liberty Loan, while Marcel has come as one of the famous French "Blue Devils" now visiting the country. They met by chance at an armory and a happy informal reunion followed

FIREMEN ASK PAY FOR EXTRA HOURS

City Obligated for "Overtime" Since Two-Shift Plan Became a Law

TO VOTE ON PROCEDURE

Payment of four months' salary representing extra services rendered between January 1 and May 1, 1918, is to be asked from the city of Philadelphia by employes of the Bureau of Fire, who are members of the City Firemen's Protective Association.

Decision to this effect was reached at a special meeting of the association last night in the Parkway Building and attended by a representative gathering, which taxed the capacity of the room.

Debate at times was stormy over the method of procedure to be adopted, but the determination to seek remuneration from the city for the alleged "overtime" was unanimous.

William F. Rorke, counsel for the association, was present and addressed the members, while legal opinions from other members of the Bar were read, explaining their views on the subject at issue.

Defer Definite Action

The chief contention hinged upon the advisability of entering equity proceedings against the city at the present time, in view of unusual conditions due to the war and the depleted state of the municipal finances.

It was finally decided to leave this question for settlement at the next regular meeting, members, meanwhile, to express by signed ballot their affirmative or negative stand on the suggested litigation.

The meeting was called ostensibly to celebrate the installation of the two-platoon system in the Bureau of Fire. It was the first occasion when so many members of the bureau were able to assemble in their own time and out of uniform. James M. Sinister, president of the association, introduced Attorney Rorke as the first speaker. The latter counseled moderation in action and an avoidance of litigation, leaving adjustment of the claim for back salary to the public sense of justice.

Equity proceedings, either by mandamus or otherwise, he declared, were inadvisable at this time, and the justice of the claim in no wise would suffer by delay until Councils might be brought to see and provide for the firemen's back wages.

Provided for Change January 1

Other speakers maintained that the Act of Legislature by which the Philadelphia Bureau of Fire was placed on a two-platoon basis was mandatory as to fixing January 1, 1918, for such installation, and that from that date onward all services performed by the firemen over and above those prescribed in the bill was in the nature of overtime. This point Mr. Rorke admitted, but ques-

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ASKS 13 BILLIONS FOR HUGE ARMY

Baker's New Estimate of Expense Doubles His Previous Figure

PLANS REVISED UPWARD

By CLINTON W. GILBERT
[illegible]

Washington, May 3.

Secretary Baker appeared before the Military Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives yesterday and asked for blanket authority to the President to create an army of whatever size was necessary to prosecute the war.

He will go before the committee today with his department estimates which make a total of about $13,000,000,000. This is about double the original estimates for 1918-19.

The appropriation of this amount will apparently provide for an army of 3,000,000, which is as large an army as it is believed can be transported to the other side with the shipping that is in prospect. If the President uses his power under the legislation asked to raise more than 3,000,000 men before July 1, 1919, he will have to ask Congress for deficiency appropriations.

A greatly enlarged artillery program is included in the plans, of which Mr. Baker will submit details to the House committee today. About one-half of the $13,000,000,000 will be spent by the ordnance department of the army.

The British within the last few days have considerably increased the shipping which they have made available for transporting American troops to France, so that our men will soon go over even more rapidly than they have been going for the last month, which was about twice as fast as before the German offensive began.

The shipping problem is relieved by the brigading of American troops in French and British armies, as under this system the British and French feed and arm the American soldiers. About one-fifth as much shipping is required to send over merely infantrymen to be absorbed into the existing Allied organizations as would be re-

Continued on Page Six, Column Five

'SQUARE DEAL' NOW PLEA FOR LLOYD GEORGE

Editor of British Weekly Defends Premier in War Storm

URGES SAME LENIENCY SHOWN COLLEAGUES

Chief Is Violently and Unjustly Stigmatized, Nicholl Says

RETIREMENT AN ISSUE

Charges of Playing Politics Bring Hint Nation Needs Younger Men

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger
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London, May 3.

Much interest has been aroused by an article in the British Weekly, organ of the Nonconformists, edited by Sir W. Robertson Nicoll, who has long been regarded as one of Premier Lloyd George's closest friends. Sir William pleads for a "more charitable treatment of the Government and particularly the Prime Minister by newspapers and politicians."

He paints a lurid picture of the "strength and fury of the storm" which has gathered around the head of the Prime Minister. "There are many," says the article, "who cannot speak or write about him without foaming at the mouth. This hatred is intelligible to some extent. The circumstances of his appointment enraged many. He had before the war the hatred of the Conservative party. They gave him temporary absolution because they thought he was a good fighting man and might hasten the end of the war. But the war has not gone as was hoped. Unforeseen factors have emerged.

"The Premier himself has added his enemies, in our opinion, by certain errors, but the result is that many men who really want to be fair can do him no sort of justice. He is made responsible for every disaster and can do nothing right.

"There is tolerance and even charity for his colleagues, but for him there is neither tolerance nor charity. He seems to be credited with a diabolical desire to ruin his country by dismissing every distinguished and successful general from his post. So there are men who think that they hear groanings and crashings which portend the fall of the Government. Well, if it be so, so be it."

Nation Would Confirm Premier

Nicoll goes on to call Lord Hugh Cecil's statement in the House of Commons that Lloyd George really seemed to care about nothing but his own retention in office a base accusation, and declares the Prime Minister "cares nothing for office," adding: "We are as confident as it is right to be that if Lloyd George appealed to the nation he would be confirmed in his place by an overwhelming majority. If he is to be the leader of the people while this war lasts let him have fair play. There may be those who cannot regard him with enthusiasm, but charity he has a right to claim. He is entitled to protection from insinuations, from imputations of evil motive, from reckless slander.

"If he is so intolerable as many say he is, then let his enemies choose a leader who will direct opposition and bring about his overthrow."

The Morning Post, whose criticisms of Lloyd George are among those which have attracted the British Weekly's attention, today prints a letter from Richard Wolde, M. P., in which the writer says: "Who advised Lloyd George that unless Ireland were immediately given home rule on the lines of the convention's report, whatever that may mean, the United States and the Dominions would be disheartened and their cooperation impaired? Absurdities of this kind have emanated from time to time in certain American dispatches to the Times, which by now the Government should have learned to discount, but surely in no other public quarter that matters.

"Unfortunately this incident is only the latest of a series which seems to show that the Government is constitutionally suffering from bad advice in regard to American and Dominion opinion. At the beginning of the war the blockade was emasculated on the ground that the United States would not tolerate measures on our part which conformed to its own practice in the Civil War, and less drastic than those which it is now itself enforcing against neutrals. Surely the Government, even without expert advice, might have believed that the American view of what war necessitates, and incidentally of home rule, too, is the view which was burned into them by their own Civil War and Lincoln's successful handling of it.

Suggests Premier Retire Now

"Bad advice, however, is not the whole source of their present plight. Again and again, you, sir, have exposed Lloyd George as playing the old game of politics and recently offered him a last chance. Let us rather give him credit and thanks for having done his best and ask him now to make way, as his predecessor did, for the different man whom the crisis imperatively demands.

"It is not reasonable to expect Lloyd George or any other man of middle age or more not merely to become suddenly what he has never been, but to become the opposite of what he has always been. In time of stress when decision after decision must be taken quickly, men cannot escape the dictation of their long formed instincts. Try as he may, the party politician will be the party politician still. A new prime minister must be sought outside those ranks."

Among many incidents which latterly have contributed to weakening public confidence in the Government, none has been more potent than the Trenchard affair, which not even the Government's best friends consider was well handled. With a few exceptions, the newspapers were very reserved in their comments, and, barring the incident between the prime minister and Lord Hugh Cecil, the debate in the Commons was conducted with decorum and restraint and was conspicuously free from politics until politics was introduced by the treasury bench.

IRELAND PROSPERS AS SEDITION BREWS

Country, Though Rolling in Wealth, Shows Discontent Due to Government Blunders—Chance for Home Rule

By ROBERT DONALD
Editor of the London Daily Chronicle

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger
Copyright, 1918, by the New York Times Co.

London, May 3.

NEVER was Ireland so prosperous as it is and never more dissatisfied. The farmers are rolling in money. Wages were never higher, food was never so plentiful, deposits in banks never reached such figures. The ordinary amenities of life pursue their course uninterrupted. Dances, banquets, race meetings, concerts and all kinds of pleasures are in full swing, and yet the country is seething with discontent, varying in intensity from mild hostility to the Government to frank rebellion.

Ireland is nearer revolt than at any time since Butt and Parnell began political action as the alternative to the policy of force and crime. Ireland is also more united on the policy of resistance than ever in its history, for while all classes do not want the same thing, the Government has succeeded in making them all combine against what it wants them to have.

In the long catalogue of mistakes and misdeeds which blacken the course of British policy in regard to Ireland, nothing has been so startlingly short-sighted and mischievous as the mess which the Lloyd George Government has created, one would almost think, deliberately, if we did not know that the cabinet think their policy is a wise and subtle combination to solve the political problem and meet the military emergency.

Lloyd George, in his speech introducing the new military service bill April 9, said that the Government would impose conscription on Ireland and then bring forward a home rule bill. Ten days later he staked the life of his Government on the passing of the second bill. He should have spoken in this tone first. His revised policy was too late. The mischief had been done.

He failed to conciliate the Nationalists, whom he had first offended, and he offended the Ulstermen, whom he had first tried to conciliate. He said he would impose on Ireland the obligation of military service, and then offered it as a gift, which was its right by virtue of self-government. While he said that the two were parts of the same policy, Bonar Law, leader in the House of Commons, said that one had nothing to do with the other.

Ireland had won its political freedom through several generations of strife and agitation, had seen a home rule act passed in 1914, and was not prepared to accept the unknown alternative which the Prime Minister offered. It is true that the home rule act was hung up and that pledges were made both by Asquith and Lloyd George that there would be no coercion of any part of Ireland. When the postponement took place no one dreamed that the war would last four years, and the political pledges are opportunist postulates made to be adapted and revised to changing conditions.

What is the position today in England and Ireland? A majority of Englishmen, if asked, would say, "Let Ireland have home rule and be done with it." The more thoughtful would add: "We could not hold up our heads at the peace conference with Ireland on our backs. How can we preach the gospel of self-determination for all countries and fail to apply it to Ireland?"

There are others who see in the settlement of the Irish question the beginning of a system of Federal Government for Great Britain which the congestion at Westminster is making imperative.

Home rule is being supported for one or another of these reasons by many of its most influential former opponents. Unionists are exceedingly bitter, be-

Continued on Page Six, Column Three

HAVERFORD IS SAFE IN PORT

The American Line steamship Haverford has reached an Atlantic port, although ten months ago was reported to have been sunk by a German submarine.

SUSPECTED GUNMAN TAKEN TO MOYAMENSING

Nick Ritt, believed to have been the leader of the New York gunmen responsible for the killing of Policeman George Eppley and attacked citizens in the "Bloody Fifth" Ward at the last September primary election, was brought to Philadelphia today from New York and placed in Moyamensing prison by Detective Joseph McClain. Ritt was arrested in New York.

FRENCH CAPTURE STRATEGIC HEIGHT

PARIS, May 3. The capture of an important high hill and a wood in the Amiens region was reported by the French War Office today. The height taken is Hill No. 32, between Hailles and Castel.

MORE POLICE CHANGES TO TAKE PLACE

More police changes are scheduled to take place today. Superintendent Mills declared that promotions will be made on merit alone.

KAISER'S PLEDGE ON REFORM VOID

Socialists Rage at Junkers for Defeat of Equal Franchise

CRISIS IN POLITICS

By GEORGE REYNWICK

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger
Copyright, 1918, by the New York Times Co.

Amsterdam, May 3.

Yet another attempt by the Prussian democracy to weaken the strangle grip of militarism in that Junker-ridden country has failed in the Prussian lower house. The Social Democrats' motion to restore paragraph three to the franchise reform bill—the paragraph which provided for one man one vote in Prussia, was deleted from the measure in committee—was defeated by 235 votes to 181.

It had been generally anticipated that this would happen, but even the most pessimistic supporters of the equal franchise scarcely anticipated such a large majority against carrying out the Kaiser's promise to Prussia made in July last.

With that emphatic vote Von Hertling comes face to face with the most serious crisis which has developed in German politics for many a long day—I say German politics, because though the measure is one regarding the Prussian franchise, it is bound to have a very serious repercussion in the wider realm of the empire. He once promised drastic action, but now he has evidently made up his mind to face it with wait-and-see tactics.

No Compromise Seen

For the Government it was announced yesterday that there would not be a dissolution of the House as the immediate result of the vote, but that the Government would postpone action until after the third reading, hoping in the meantime for a compromise on lines suggested by the Minister President. That, however, is likely to be as satisfying to the democratic parties as a red rag is to a bull. His compromise, as he vaguely outlined it, consists in "necessary precautionary measures to be taken in the bill to prevent the much feared ill consequences of advanced radicalism." Nor are the reactionaries likely to accept any precautions save their own supremacy.

Von Hertling, indeed, takes a weak-kneed attitude on the measure. Though recognizing that the time for equal franchise has come, he regards it as a "regrettable necessity." How one can compromise on one man one vote, how one can whittle away the unqualified solemn promise of it by the Kaiser, remains to be seen, but it is certain that delaying tactics and any attempt to tie one arm of

Continued on Page Six, Column One

AUSTRIAN REVOLT HANGS ON BATTLE

Starving Monarchy Awaits Decision, Lacking Revolutionary Leader

COWED BY PRUSSIANS

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

Annemasse, on the Franco-Swiss Frontier, May 2.—(Dispatch to the London Daily Mail.)

Austria is at present a land of dark surprises.

Today I had an interview with a man who had just got out of Austria and I obtained from him reliable facts about what was going on behind the curtain of silence.

"Austria, I can vouch from my personal contact with revolutionary societies, is at this moment seething with the spirit of revolt," he said.

"But why does the thing not come to a head?"

"For two reasons," he replied.

"First, because there are no really resolute and dauntless leaders and no means by which the hungry and angry masses can organize themselves into effective groups; and, second, because the whole people are cowed by the prospect of the punishment that might be inflicted on them by the Germans if the much-vaunted victory of Ludendorff in the West really comes off. The Ukraine peace scattered revolutionary plans to the winds for the time being, but the Ukraine peace did not, as was hoped, fill the Austrian stomachs, most of the Ukrainian supplies being filched by Germany.

"The people of Austria are still starving people, are on bread cards entitled to so many grams per day, but often in reality they get bread only once a fortnight and a composite maize bread at that. They manage to keep body and soul together on potatoes, mangel-wurzels and odds and ends. Now and again, too, in the villages a fowl or a pig is sacrificed and divided as among men on a raft. But there is bad feeding, underfeeding and

Continued on Page Six, Column Two

READ ALL THE WAR NEWS TODAY! SPECIAL CABLE SERVICE FOR YOU

Did you read Philip Gibb's exclusive cable message to the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER yesterday in which the noted war correspondent told of the fearful toll of life Germany faces in the next great drive against the armies of the Allies?

Did you read Clinton W. Gilbert's dispatches from Washington indicating the collapse of the Dual Monarchy?

Did you read the numerous and exclusive special cable service messages from the battlefields in France and the capitals of Europe inaugurated yesterday by the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER?

Is your boy "over there"?

Then watch for the daily deeds of daring of the Allied armies.

Read the war news today!

Read it EVERY DAY!

HAIG STRIKES NEAR AMIENS; FRENCH GAIN

Former's Blow in Villers Sector, Latter's Near Hangard

BOMBARDING MAY PRELUDE NEW PUSH

Believed Ludendorff Plans to Shift Drive From Flanders

MAY HIT FAR TO SOUTH

Germans Reorganizing After Breakdown at Ypres

London, May 3.

The Germans are expected to renew their offensive without much further delay. The heavy bombardments in the sectors of Villers Bretonneux (on the Picardy front) and Merris (on the Flanders front) presage an early resumption of infantry thrusts, possibly in the Arras or Amiens zones.

That is the attitude taken by correspondents at the British front. The decisive failure of the German efforts about Ypres had a depressing effect, but they are re-organizing. Enemy prisoners complain that too much is expected of them, while, at the same time, they declare there is no abundance of reserves.

With the artillery roaring along the Flanders front the British struck again in the sector of Villers-Bretonneux, on the Picardy front, gaining a local advantage, the War Office reported today.

(Villers-Bretonneux, which is in British hands, lies about nine miles east of Amiens and has been the scene of four British successes within the past ten days. The British recaptured the village from the Germans in one burst of fighting.)

The artillery on the Flanders line was especially active in the region of Givenchy, near Locre and south of Ypres, the official statement said.

The British made successful raids south of Arras and east of St. Venant (on the southern end of the Flanders front), capturing ten prisoners and five machine guns.

Haig's Report

The text of Haig's official statement follows:

Local fighting took place to our advantage last night in the neighborhood of Villers-Bretonneux.

We made successful raids south of Arras and east of St. Venant in the course of which we took ten prisoners and five machine guns.

The artillery was active on both sides during the night between Givenchy and the Nieppe forest and in the neighborhood of Locre and south of Ypres.

French troops, in bitter fighting, have gained ground on two sectors before Amiens, in Picardy.

A strong local attack was delivered against the Germans in Baune Wood, near the village of Maily-Raineval, a little more than twelve miles south of Amiens.

After fighting of the most desperate sort, at close quarters, the Germans were thrown entirely out of the wood.

A similar assault was made by the French in Hangard Wood, just north of the village of Hangard-en-Santerre, on the left side of the River Luce.

The Paris War Office announced last night that the French made an "appreciable advance."

Apparently, the German hold on the stubbornly contested and very important town of Hangard itself is growing very slender. Their positions are raked continuously by shells from British guns located in Villers-Bretonneux, which lies on the crest of a dominant hill just to the north.

The French also hold the western portion of Hangard, and are making the German position in the eastern portion exceedingly uncomfortable.

(Hangard Wood is a mile north of Hangard-en-Santerre, where American troops are officially reported brigaded with the French. Mailly-Raineval is about midway between the American positions near Hangard and those west of Montdidier.)

"It would be a grave error to believe that the Germans will be deterred by their present failure," writes Maurice Barres in the Echo de Paris. "We may rest absolutely assured that Germany is determined to end the war through military operations this year, if possible."

Artillery in Action

Meantime, Allied guns are bombarding the greater part of the German lines in both Flanders and Picardy. The increase in the intensity of the firing was mentioned by the official statement from Berlin.

Field Marshal Haig in his night dispatch says a German raid was repulsed in the morning in the neighborhood of Hebuterne, which is about midway between Albert and Arras. His day report told of renewed artillery activity [illegible]

Continued on Page Six, Column [illegible]

"STEALTHY TERROR"
A Spy Story of German Intrigue and Great Britain
By
JOHN FERGUSON
Begins in
TOMORROW'S
Evening Public Ledger