

# THE DAILY NEWS

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PRINCE RUPERT, B. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1917.

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## ALLIES ARE CLOSE TO HINDENBURG'S LINE

### ARTILLERY NOW BATTERING GERMAN POSITIONS — ENEMY FEELING PRESSURE

#### ADVANCE BY THE ALLIES CONTINUES

Cavalry and Armored Cars Capture Four More Towns Near to St. Quentin—Extreme Pressure by French.

(Special to The Daily News.)

London, March 31.—The British troops under the direction of General Haig are still advancing. Mobile forces of cavalry and armored cars have captured four more towns within the salient driven into Hindenburg's line near St. Quentin. In the driving of this steel wedge into the German front, terrific fighting has been in progress, which is becoming increasingly bitter. On the French front between St. Quentin and La Fere, the advance has been slowed up suddenly and the heavy guns have been brought into action, thus indicating a very close approach by the French forces to the main line of defence of the Germans. To make a diversion and to obtain relief from the tremendous pressure exerted against them by General Nivelle, the Germans have made several massed attacks in Champagne.

The Germans are fighting with the utmost ferocity to prevent their line at St. Quentin from being broken, as this would mean their retreat from their whole line from Cambrai to Laon, which would entail a further and much more extensive retreat than was anticipated.

About five miles to the north of Arras, raids have been carried out successfully by the Canadians and further north the town of Lens is now being threatened by the British. The operations at this point are of extreme importance, as Lens is a very important point for the Germans.

**Devastation.**  
The difficulties of further progress on the British front are emphasized here by General Maurice, who points out that the great difficulty experienced in the British sectors is the feeding of the troops in the despoiled country. Devastation and ruin on such a scale and manner have never been heretofore witnessed and hardly a blade of grass has been left.

#### RUSSIAN FRONT

(Special to The Daily News.)

Petrograd, March 31.—The Russians have attacked the enemy trenches with asphyxiating gas and chemical shells on the northern front in the region of Goldovitchi. To the rear of Marmionovka, after a violent artillery preparation, the enemy attacked and succeeded in forcing an entrance into the Russian trenches, but were later dislodged by a counter attack.

#### WESTHOLME

OPERA HOUSE TONIGHT ONLY  
FAMOUS PLAYERS—  
Gessie Haythorn and Myrtle Stodman in  
"THE SOUL OF KURA SAN"  
In Five Acts.  
TOPICAL SUBJECT  
Admission 10 and 15 cents.

#### LONDON CAFE AND GRILL

Third Avenue  
Prompt Service of the Best  
There is to eat at all hours.  
BOXES FOR LADIES



GENERAL NIVELLE, the French general, who has driven a steel pointed wedge into the Hindenburg line.

#### GERMANY AND THE UNITED STATES

(Special to The Daily News.)

Washington, March 31.—It is said here that President Wilson has now completed his first draft of his "Was Message" to Congress. The cabinet's views of the situation is outspoken and frank. Several members have expressed their belief unqualifiedly that a state of war has existed between the United States and Germany for some time.

#### BERLIN REPORTS

(Special to The Daily News.)

Berlin, March 31.—A Canadian regiment attacked the German positions to the east of Neuville St. Vaast four times during the night and were each time repulsed with heavy losses, and leaving some prisoners on our hands.

#### CAPTURED BY "MOEWE"

(Special to The Daily News.)

Copenhagen, Mar. 31.—Twenty-two neutrals who were brought to Germany on the commerce raider Moeve as prisoners arrived here today from Kiel. They were released as they had not been serving on a British armed merchantman. They tell of a scrap between the British merchantman Otaki and the Moeve, in which the British vessel scored seven hits on the Moeve.

#### GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

(Special to The Daily News.)

Allied warships off the coast of Norfolk today have sent wireless warnings broadcast against German submarines.

The Italians are expecting a great offensive to commence against them.

Berlin claims that 781,000 tons of shipping have been sunk by submarines during February.

Hon. J. D. Hazen is suffering from trench throat as a result of his recent visit to the front.

British women must be over 35 years of age before they can get the vote.

#### GERMANY AND DEMOCRACY

(Special to The Daily News.)

London, March 31.—According to information received here from an authoritative source, the debate on constitutional reform was heard in the upper house of the Prussian Diet yesterday. The Conservatives were mainly responsible for the strong opposition offered to all proposals for increasing popular rights.

General von Kleist began by denying any special urgency for reform and scoffed at the idea of the men in the trenches concerning themselves with questions regarding their parliamentary vote. Further democratisation of state institutions meant restrictions of the rights of the Federal states and the extension of parliamentary rights meant the restriction of the rights of the crown. "Everyone in Prussia," he said, "had full freedom except for stealing and murdering." "Hands off old Prussia," he concluded.

Other despatches received from Berlin states that there is widespread discontent over the Chancellor's failure to announce his long-promised electoral reforms. Hollweg now says that the time is not ripe for such reforms, because of the greater part of Germany's voting population is now in the trenches.

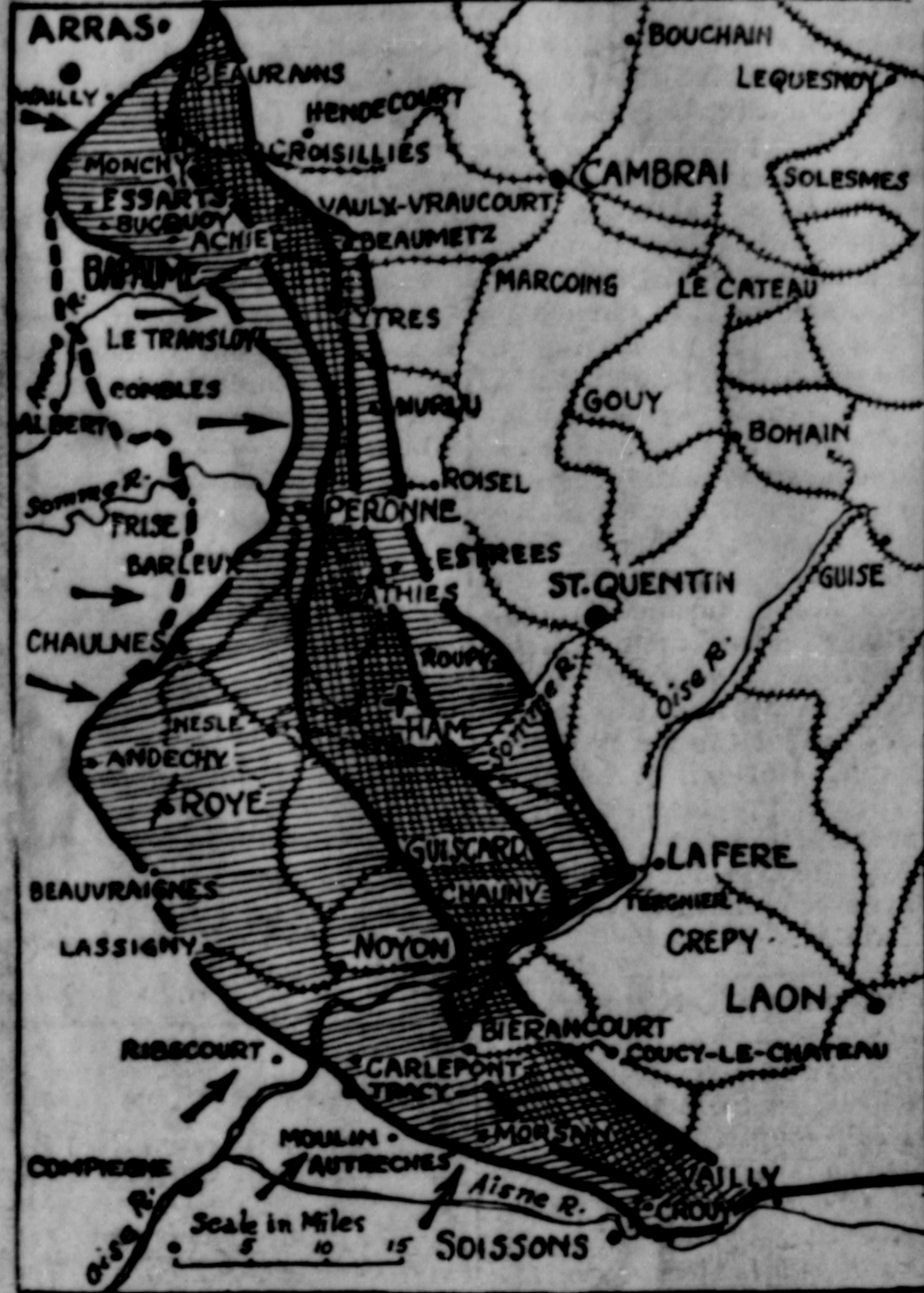
#### HOW SAM HUGHES WOULD DISPOSE OF THE MEXICANS

Rochester, N. Y., March 30.—Speaking at a dinner of the Chamber of Commerce here, Lieut.-Gen. Sir Sam Hughes said:

"Were I in the United States and if I had the power, I would be only too delighted to offer Villa a command as brigadier-general in charge of 50,000 or 60,000 Mexicans and to send him over to the trenches in Europe to fight the Teutons. The Mexicans are much like us Irish. They must fight and when they have no one else to fight with, they must fight among themselves."

Sir Sam urged universal military training as the only bulwark of democracy.

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Victorious Allies Still Push Onward on the Western Front. This map shows 1350 square miles gained by the Allies in four days, at the beginning of the German retreat.

#### MITCHELL ALBERT IS GOING BACK TO RUSSIA

"Yes Sir," said Mr. Mitchell Albert last night, "I'm going back to Russia just so soon as I can find out that the new Russian government intends to proceed with railroad construction. The lack of proper transport facilities has been hampering Russia all along in its conduct of the war and the utter breakdown of the transport service this winter hastened the revolution. Foodstuffs could not be brought to the large centres of population quickly enough and hunger created dissatisfaction among the people with the old government."

"The first necessity in Russia is railroads and more railroads. Before the revolution it had been decided to build four thousand miles of railroad annually for a number of years. That work has ceased meantime, but when it is commenced again, I will be there. The existing single lines will be double tracked where necessary. The Trans-Siberian line has been double-tracked over half its length already. New railways will be built all over the country and with better means of communication, the development of Russian resources will really begin. Russia is one of the richest countries in Europe to say nothing of Siberia. Her agricultural lands, timber and mineral areas are very productive."

"Mr. H. Waterman, the American consul to Moscow, was on board the steamer going across the Pacific. He reminded me of this ancient law that 'once a Russian' means 'always a Russian,' notwithstanding naturalization in any other country, and the Russian ambassador in Tokio confirmed this. So then I figured up what the enforcement of this law with regard to myself might mean and did not prosecute my voyage any further."

"In Japan," says Mr. Albert, "one is struck by the number of Europeans, representatives of the Allied nations, all buying munitions and war material. The hotels are full of them. Japan is one vast workshop from north to south, producing warlike supplies for the Allies. When in Yoko-

#### GERMAN SOCIALIST CENSURES MINISTER

(Special to The Daily News.)

Amsterdam, March 31.—According to information received here from Berlin, the Socialist member Noske in the Reichstag yesterday bitterly censured Foreign Minister Zimmerman's Mexican-Japanese scheme against the United States. The Socialist member also declared that the Prussian system of government, which appoints ministers who are not responsible to the Reichstag must be abolished.

#### GOOD FRIDAY CONCERT

There is something in store for the music lovers in Prince Rupert next Friday. The cantata "Christ and His Soldiers" is to be given in the Methodist Church then by an augmented choir of 36 voices, assisted by an orchestra. "Christ and His Soldiers" is a famous composition and has enjoyed great popularity. The principals are Mrs. Jarvis McLeod, soprano; Mrs. Bernhoff, contralto; Mr. C. A. G. Armstrong, tenor, and Mr. Meth Davis, bass. The organist is Mrs. Armstrong. These artists are very well known in this city and with the choir under the efficient charge of Mr. John E. Davey, the rendering of this cantata should be one of the best ever heard in Prince Rupert.

Wanted—Good, smart boy, or young man for clothing and furnishings store. Apply Martin O'Reilly.

hama, some Russian people there warned me of the imminence of revolution and against proceeding westward, but even they did not expect it to arrive quite so soon."

Mr. Albert has a brother, a doctor in Tiflis, in Caucasia, who was one of the first members of the Duma, when it was re-established some ten years ago. A republican form of government is the most likely to be adopted now, says Mr. Albert. "The Romanoffs have been cast off forever. And after the war you will see that democratic Russia will be 'some country.'"

#### GREAT SPEECH BY PREMIER ON CIVIL SERVICE

Declares Civil Service Bill Will Combat Patronage Here and Will Make for Efficiency.

In the moving of the second reading of the Civil Service Bill in the House of Parliament last week, the Premier, the Hon. H. C. Brewster made a speech of some length and covered the ground very thoroughly. In thus implementing one of the Liberal pledges which conducted very much to the success of the party at the polls last September, the Premier is at the same time fulfilling one of his own most cherished political ambitions. Still further there is little doubt that the blazing of the way to civil service reform in every department of the public service will be an inducement to the other provinces to follow and that the Dominion will round out its Civil Service Act by making it apply to all branches of its service.

The Premier gave a short review of the struggle for civil service reform in the motherland, and the principles which were laid down there as far back as 1853 and upon which the excellent service of today is based. The same principles enunciated by the commissioners appointed by Gladstone to study the reform of the service are those upon which the British Columbia bill is founded. **Patronage Evil.**

In the course of his speech Mr. Brewster said:

"I want this afternoon to deal with this matter in the spirit of this bill and not in any sense to lay the blame on any political party. (Hear, hear.) I do not think it belongs there. Very frankly I say that governments in the past have been in the habit of doing that which was, in my opinion, a great detriment to the country by measuring in terms of political attainments and value rather than by efficiency those who assisted them during the election in which they were successful. It does not need any argument that the evils of patronage in the service are obvious; we do not need to labor that point. We know there have been great evils, and are still great evils; that we would be doing a great service if we made the test for public office or service one of efficiency rather than of political value and work. (Applause.)

#### Defended by Gladstone.

The principle of open competition is found to be again defended by Gladstone, and he combatted the view that patronage contributes to the strength of the executive government. That great man declared his belief that it was "not in the wit of man to devise a plan for the promotion of education so effective and powerful as the throwing open the civil service." In other words, throwing open the service to those who could pass an educational test before entering it was, in the opinion of that great brain, going to be a greater factor than any other in raising the standard of public education and improving the service.

#### Welcome Change.

Judging from my own somewhat short experience and no doubt my hon. friend the Leader of the Opposition, from his longer and riper experience, will most heartily concur—a minister would be inclined to welcome a change which would place the civil service completely outside partisan

(Continued on page three.)