

retreating foe. This retreat at first gave rise to anxiety lest it might be a "ruse de guerre" to draw the British and French armies into a position where the gage of battle should be taken up with disadvantage by the pursuers, but what has followed on the retirement of the enemy forces has proved it to be otherwise. British gunners, our gallant infantry and cavalry, for whom they made, and are making, clear the approaches to the German trenches have compelled the homeward march of the enemy, and are forcing him to relinquish the positions which he held so stubbornly, it must be conceded, although the long years of this world war. To use a popular phrase the Germans are on the run, and the situation has been so shaped, the well laid plans of the Allied commanders so admirably conceived and so heroically fought in detail by their gallant troops, that there is strong ground for the hope of a full measure of success in the campaign which has been so ably directed, and so splendidly carried out by all ranks engaged. For a time there was an uneasy feeling at home that the German retreat might be but as a parry to an anticipated thrust of the Allied forces, a thought out design, to counter the more easily what was surmised, to concentrate on a less extended front, and so strike back with all the more effectual resistance, but the fighting which has taken place during these latter days shows the Allies to have made the retreat a necessity for the German. The result must be a disappointing one for the enemy, who has been outclassed by the troops opposing him, and whose High Command, is plainly, so far at least, entirely out-manceuvred by the generals directing the Allied movements. It is true, that the end of the fight now being waged is still in the future, is still but merely developing in that direction. But from the victory at Vimy Ridge on the Monday of last week to the coming of our troops to the threshold of the great centres of industry in Northern France, the fighting has resulted in the all but constant punishing of the German and forcing him to relax the grip he held of this country since the fateful battle of Mons, and the frustrated sweep made by Germany's soldiery to capture the capital of fair and gallant France. All that is changed now, and the tide of battle has turned in favour of those who are struggling for the liberties of Europe. We will all hope that the tide may be one of flow for the enemy, and

floating over the Protestant Church, Killarney. The flag, which was attached to a stick, was fastened in the ivy near the belfry and was taken down and given to the police.

## DEATH OF MR J. H. DE COURCY

We regret to record the death, which took place at his residence, The Crescent, yesterday, of Mr John Hare de Courcy, late Clerk of Petty Sessions for the City of Limerick. Mr de Courcy, who was a member of an old Limerick family, having been the son of the late Mr M. de Courcy, City Treasurer, was in his 69th year, and owing to failing health, retired a short time since from the position of Clerk of Petty Sessions, which he had held for a period of over 40 years. He was a high authority on Petty Sessions law, and his sound advice, so freely given, and long experience were highly appreciated by all with whom he came in contact, while his invariable courtesy, bright and genial manner, made him very popular with the Bench, the authorities, and the general public. He received a liberal education in Louvain, which helped to develop the traits of a very attractive and amiable personality. Up to some years ago he travelled extensively on the Continent, and was a highly interesting raconteur, indeed, he possessed a fund of information, which gave proof of a rare gift of observation of men and things. Mr de Courcy's death, though not unexpected, has been heard of with deep regret in the city; and sincere sympathy is extended to his widow and daughter in their bereavement. The funeral takes place at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning from St Michael's R.C. Church for Mount St Lawrence Cemetery.

## DEATH OF MR W F BAILEY, P.C.

The death occurred yesterday in Dublin of Mr William Frederick Bailey, P.C., legal member of the Estates Commissioners, Ireland. He presided over the Commission appointed to report on the operation of the Land Acts prior to the introduction of the Wyndham Act.

The eldest son of W Bailey, M.D., Royal Navy, William Frederick Bailey was born at Castle-town-Coygers, Co Limerick, in the year 1857. He was educated at Dublin University, where he had a distinguished career, graduating with honours in History and Political Science, being first senior moderator and winning a large gold medal. During his connection with the University he was auditor and gold medalist in oratory of the College Historical Society. Mr Bailey was called to the Irish Bar in 1881, and joined the Munster Circuit, soon amassing a very considerable practice. Among his successive appointments before he became Legal Assistant Commissioner (in 1887) were those of Barrington Lecturer in Political Economy, Examiner in English under the Intermediate Board; and Secretary to the Royal Commission on Irish Public Works (1886). His connection with the Land Commission dated from 1887, and when the Land Act of 1903 was passed he was appointed an Estates Commissioner under the Act. For many years Mr Bailey was Secretary of the Statistical and Social Enquiry Society of Ireland, and was elected President of the Society in 1902. He was a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, a member of the Royal Irish Academy, and a Governor of the National Gallery. In 1906 he received the order of the Bath, and in 1909 he was sworn in a member of his Majesty's Privy Council in Ireland. The late Commissioner Bailey was well-known to the public as a writer on political economy, and on Balkan problems. He travelled extensively, not only in Eastern Europe, but in North, Central, and South America, in North and South Africa, in Central India, and Palestine. Indeed he was one of the most notable travellers of his time. His interest in the fate of the Near Eastern Christian nations was intense, and a brilliant book on the subject was published by him only last year, entitled, "The Slaves of the War Zone." He was a great patron of, and constant attendant at, the Abbey Theatre.

Heavy rain has again fallen all this a.

## French Official

### 10,000 Prisoners

Monday Night.—Between St Quen Oise the artillery duel continued during this morning the German lines on a front of forty kilometres. The battle was of character all along the front, where had collected very large forces with Everywhere the bravery of our troops the vigorous resistance of the enemy Soissons and Craonne all the first German fell into our hands.

To the east of Craonne our troops second enemy positions to the south of Further to the south we carried out the western outskirts of Bermericourt as the Aisne Canal.

Between the Oise and Courcy violent attacks launched several times to Ville au Bois, were broken by our fire considerable losses for the enemy.

The number of prisoners taken by us exceeds 10,000.

We have also captured a considerable quantity of war materiel.

In Champagne the artillery fighting actively during the day in different sectors.

There was an intermittent cannon rest of the front.

## Germans and Evacuated Villages.

Amsterdam

A telegram received here from Belgium The various villages in the Arras region the British communiqué of the 14th having been captured, were really stretches of ground which the Germans voluntarily evacuated several days ago. The British Press, the message containing reports about piercing the line. The British attempt to break directed however again to the old position which we had held since 1915. local successes it has completely and It is not clear what the English Press the Hindenburg line, for all lines are lines.

## THE FRENCH ATTITUDE

(GERMAN EVENING OFFICIAL)

(Admiralty—Per Wireless) Little fighting activity near Arras Aisne a great French attempt to break with a far distant object has commenced days of massed fire, on a forty kilometre attacking front. A bitter fight around our foremost position, nothing of importance.

## Germans Depressed

Amsterdam

A Dutchman who had worked in Germany, and who has returned to his home, formed the "Het Volk" that at present no bread whatever was obtainable, only obtainable by those engaged in work. The feeling in Germany is very depressed. --Reuter.

## HOSPITAL SHIP

### Reprisal Attack

(OFFICIAL)

In consequence of attacks made by submarines on British hospital ships, a flagrant contravention of the Hague Convention, a large squadron composed