

# World War One News



## Monthly News from Home & Abroad



April 1915

**April 11<sup>th</sup>** - British troops in Mesopotamia fend off a large attack by the Turks against Basra. The British then branch out to protect their position at Basra, and proceed up the Tigris Valley toward Baghdad.

**April 22<sup>nd</sup> - May 25<sup>th</sup>** - Second Battle of Ypres

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Poison gas is used for the first time on the Western Front as the German 4th Army attacks French positions around Ypres in northern Belgium. As they attack, the Germans release chlorine gas from over 5,000 cylinders forming poisonous green clouds that drift toward two French African divisions. Lacking any protection, the French quickly retreat. Although this creates a five-mile-wide gap in the Allied lines, the Germans fail to capitalize due to a lack of reserve troops and cautious frontline troops hesitant to venture too close to the gas clouds. British and Canadians then plug the gap but are unable to regain any ground taken by the Germans. The British then withdraw to a second line of defense, leaving Ypres in Allied hands but virtually surrounded. Casualties in the Second Battle of Ypres total 58,000 Allies and 38,000 Germans.

**April 25<sup>th</sup>** - Allied troops land on the Gallipoli Peninsula in an attempt to unblock the Dardanelles Straits near Constantinople (present day Istanbul, Turkey) to reopen access to Russia through the Black Sea. The landing comes after a failed attempt by British and French warships to force their way through the narrow Straits. The 70,000 landing troops include 15,000 Australians and New Zealanders.

On 'Y' Beach, 1,200 out of a force of 1,500 men are casualties. The peninsula is heavily defended by Turkish troops, supplied and trained by Germans. Within two weeks, a stalemate develops as the Allies fail to gain any of their objectives and the Turks begin a series of costly attacks attempting to drive out the Allies.

**BORTH. Musical Success.** April 30<sup>th</sup> at an examination of the London College of Music on April 22nd at Aberystwyth, the following pupils of Miss-Jones. Pilgrim House School, 1 successful in pianoforte playing: — Primary section First Class: Miss Gesine J Hughes. Manchester House, Borth. Miss J Grace Evans, Cnweybareud. Llanrhvstydd and Miss Rona Davies. Neptune House, Borth. Senior section—First Class: Miss Buddug Roberts, Lletty, Borth. The Examiner was Mr. Roland Rogers. Mus. Doc. Oxon.