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# The Courier

## A Paper for the Western Home

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## British and Italian Troops Cross Piave, Take Many Prisoners--Bitter Fighting on Westfront, German Resistance Stiffens, But Allies Drive On--

**BRITISH.**  
LONDON, Oct. 28. -- "As a result of a local operation carried out by us this morning south of Valenciennes, we advanced our line between the Rhonelle river and the Scheldt in the face of considerable opposition and captured more than 100 prisoners.

"On the remainder of the front there was nothing of special interest."

**FRENCH.**  
PARIS, Oct. 28. -- "On the Oise front there have been stubborn engagements on the east bank in front of Grand Verly, where the enemy delivered several counter-attacks. Further south we carried our lines as far as the approaches to the Oise, capturing points of support northwest of Guise. We likewise advanced to the east of Peron in the region northeast of Boislès-Parmy.

"On the whole front between

the Oise and the Serre our troops are in fresh contact with the enemy lines. West of Chateau-Porcien we have made an advance north of Herpy.

"Eastern theatre: The Allied forces, continuing their advance to the north, have occupied the important towns of Kragujevatz and Jozovina, as well as the coal mines at Senje and Ravnaraka. Serbian cavalry have occupied Despotovac."

**BELGIAN.**  
HAVRE, Oct. 28. -- "French troops continued to exert pressure on the enemy, advancing on the right bank of the Lys river; they have reached the railroad between Pettechem and Waerghem and have gone beyond that road at several points. The enemy artillery was active throughout the day along the whole front."

**ITALIAN.**  
ROME, Oct. 28. -- "Our army, in

conjunction with allied troops, has crossed the Piave river by force of arms, engaging in bitter battles the enemy who strove desperately to bar the way.

The prisoners taken yesterday aggregated more than 9,000. Fifty-one guns were captured.

"In Albania our advance guards, having overcome the resistance of the enemy, have crossed the Mati river and are marching on Alessio."

**GERMAN.**  
BERLIN, Oct. 28. -- "Northwest of Deynze, Belgium, east of Avelghem and near Artres, south of the Scheldt, we have repulsed enemy attacks. In clearing out isolated British nests near Farniers and Englefontaine we captured prisoners.

"Enemy attempts to cross the Oise canal near Tupigny were frustrated. Between the Oise and Serre on Saturday night we withdrew our troops in the projecting salient between Origny and Le Ferte to a line west of Guise and east of Crecy to the Serre. Yesterday the enemy attacked our new line south of Guise. He was repulsed after losing numerous tanks. On the Souche sector renewed French attacks broke down early in the morning between Froidmont and Pierrepont.

"Enemy attacks against troops stationed on the south bank of the Aisne, southeast of Bethel and near Bailly (east of Rassigny), were repulsed. On the heights east of Vouziers in the evening the artillery duel increased intermittently to great strength in connection with an unsuccessful enemy attack east of Chesters.

"On the heights east of the Meuse, we repulsed attacks by the Americans at Consevoye wood and Ormont wood. The movements which have been commenced were continued according to plan.

"Southeastern theatre: South of Rudnik and Topla there were successful rearguard engagements. On both sides of the Morava there was only slight fighting contact with the enemy."

**FRENCH.**  
PARIS, Oct. 27. -- "The enemy pressed hard by our guards, continues his retreat between the Oise and Serre on a front of more than 25 kilometres (about 15 1-2 miles). Our advance at certain points exceeded eight kilometres in the course of the day.

"On our left we occupied Proix and Macquigny and pushed our ad-

## Harvest Leave Extended

OTTAWA, Oct. 27. -- Orders have been issued by militia headquarters to officers commanding depot battalions throughout Canada, instructing them to extend until November 15, the harvest leave granted to soldiers. About 14,900 men are affected.

The War is not yet over--Buy Victory Bonds.

## Exemption for Mennonites and Doukhobors Limited

OTTAWA, Oct. 27. -- Mennonites and Doukhobors exemption from military service has been strictly limited. By order in council Saturday the government confines such exemption to the original immigrant colonies with whom the agreement was made and their descendants who have continued to be members of the sect without interruption.

The regulations read: Mennonites in Canada who did not immigrate or are not descendants of those who did immigrate to Canada pursuant to the arrangement evidenced by the order-in-council of August 13, 1873, or having so immigrated or being descendants of the latter have not continued without interruption to be members of the sect or denomination of Christians called Mennonites or to reside permanently in Canada, shall not be deemed to be exempted from military service of within the seventh exception to the Military Service Act 1917, and in like manner Doukhobors who did not immigrate to Canada pursuant to the order-in-council of December 6, 1917, or are not descendants of those who did so immigrate, or who, being such immigrants or their descendants, have not continued without interruption to be members of the community of Doukhobors or to reside permanently in Canada shall not be deemed to be exempted from military service or in the United States, and are claiming the benefit of the exception.

## AUSTRIAN EMPEROR SAYS PEACE COMING NEARER

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 28. -- Emperor Charles, in an order to the army and navy, announces that the day bringing peace to the homes is coming nearer. The emperor appeals to all to maintain loyalty and obedience in these grave times full of confusion which must not spread to the army and the navy.

The War is not yet over--Buy Victory Bonds.

## Wilson Replies to German Government's Acceptance of His Terms--Refers German Note to Nations Allied With United States

The Secretary of State makes public the following:

"From the Secretary of State to the charge d'affaires in charge of German interests in the United States.

"Department of State, Oct. 23, 1918.

"Sir--I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 22nd, transmitting a communication under date of the 20th from the German government and to advise you that the president has instructed me to reply thereto as follows:

"Having received the solemn and explicit assurance of the German government that it unreservedly accepts the terms of peace laid down in his address to the Congress of the United States on the 8th of January, 1918, and the principles of settlement enunciated in his subsequent addresses, particularly the addresses of the 27th September, and that it desires to discuss the details of their application and that this wish and purpose emanated, not from those who have hitherto dictated German policy and conduct, but from the majority of the reichstag and for an overwhelming majority of the German people; and having received also the explicit promise of the present German government that the humane rules of civilized warfare will be observed, both on land and sea by the German armed forces, the president of the United States feels that he cannot decline to take up with the governments with which the government of the United States is associated the question of an armistice.

"He deems it his duty to say again, however, that the only armistice he would feel justified in submitting for consideration would be one which should leave the United States and the powers associated with her in a position to enforce any arrangements that may be entered into and to make a renewal of hostilities on the part of Germany impossible.

"The president has, therefore, transmitted his correspondence with the present German authorities to the governments with which the government of the United States is associated as a belligerent with the suggestion, that if these governments are disposed to effect peace upon the terms and principles indicated, their military advisers and the military advisers of the United States be asked to submit to the governments associated

against Germany the necessary terms of such an armistice as will fully protect the interests of the peoples involved and insure to the associated governments the unrestricted power to safeguard and enforce the details of the peace to which the German government has agreed, provided they deem such an armistice possible from the military point of view. If such terms of armistice be suggested, their acceptance by Germany will afford the best concrete evidence of her unequivocal acceptance of the terms and principles of peace from which the action proceeds.

"The president would deem himself lacking in candor did he not point out in the frankest possible terms the reason why extraordinary safeguards must be demanded. Significant and important as the constitutional changes seem to be which are spoken of by the German Foreign Secretary in his note of the 20th of October, it does not ap-

pear that the principle of a government responsible to the German people has yet been fully worked out, or that any guarantees either exist or are in contemplation that the alterations of principle and of practice now partially agreed upon will be permanent.

"Moreover, it does not appear that the heart of the present difficulty has been reached. It may be that future wars will be brought under the control of the German people, but the present war has not been; and it is with the present war that we are dealing. It is evident that the German people have no means of commanding the acquiescence of the military authorities of the empire in the popular will; that the power of the king of Prussia to control the policy of the empire is unimpaired; that the determining initiative still remains with those who have hitherto been the masters of Ger-

(Continued on page 4.)

## C. P. R. Steamer Sophia Foundered and Sunk

Every Soul on Board Perished

VICTORIA, B.C., Oct. 27. -- Foundered by mountainous waves and driven before wind of terrible severity, the Canadian Pacific steamer, Princess Sophia, sank from the comparative safety of Vanderbilt Reef, in Lynn Canal, midway between Skagway and Juneau, where it foundered a few days ago early Friday evening and carried 346 persons, passengers and crew, men, women and children, to their death in the raging northern waters. There were no survivors from the ship.

Was Thought Safe

The Sophia left Skagway Wednesday evening last for Vancouver with a passenger list made up largely of Dawson people and Alaskans from interior points eager to get "outside" for the winter. Four hours out she ran into a blinding snowstorm in which, it is supposed, she got out of her course slightly and piled up on the reef, where she rested for more than forty hours in what was thought to be a position of no danger. Lighthouse tenders and gas boats responded to the wireless call for assistance and the Princess Alice was despatched from Vancouver to take over the passengers. Even though the seas were running too high to permit of the transference of the passengers on board on Friday, no alarm was felt.

Friday morning the United States light-house tender Cedar had got within 400 yards of the Sophia, but her anchors would not hold on the rocky sea bottom and the seas forced her back. The waves were such that lifeboats could not have lived. When night shut down the Sophia was still on the reef. The

wind increased and the air was filled with snow. At 8 o'clock the Cedar picked up the last wireless from the Sophia. The Sophia was sinking. She had been driven across the reef into deep water in which her shattered bottom offered no support and she filled quickly and went down. The Cedar rushed to the vicinity but could see nothing of the Sophia. When morning broke her foremast was above the water. There was no sign of life; no wreckage, and the bodies had scattered if they had not gone down with the ship.

The passenger list was called from Skagway Saturday night and shows that 285 passengers sailed on the Sophia, of whom 230 were men, 37 women and 18 children. The crew comprised 61 persons, including one woman--Miss H. Brownling, of Vancouver, the stewardess. According to these figures there were 346 persons aboard--290 men 38 women and 18 children.

The City of Dawson was hard hit and a despatch from that city states that almost two-thirds of the passengers were Dawsonites.

The passenger list included a large number of steamship officials who had been operating for the summer on the Yukon river. The Sophia is reported from Dawson to have carried a cargo of gold worth a million dollars or more. She had some 40 horses, but otherwise little cargo on board. She was a steel screw ship of 2,320 tons gross.

150 Bodies Found

WHITE HORSE, Y. T., Oct. 27. -- A dispatch received from the Dominion Telegraph from Juneau late this evening says that 150 bodies of victims of the Princess Sophia wreck had been recovered up to tonight.

## Message of Sir Thos. White to the People of Canada--Victory Loan 1918

We are offering to the people of Canada the Second Victory Loan. Its success is of the most vital importance to our continued prosecution of the war and the maintenance of prosperity among all classes of the Canadian people.

For what purpose is the money raised by this Loan to be devoted? Firstly, for the noblest purpose to which money can be applied; namely, for the equipment, support and maintenance of Canada's Forces at the front. They are fighting today for you and for me. They must be kept supplied with food, clothing and ammunition, which can only be made available by the Canadian people furnishing the necessary money. The way for you to help is by the purchase of Victory Bonds.

For what further purpose is money required? To furnish the creditors with which Great Britain pur-

chases, in Canada, supplies for her civil population at home and her armies in the field.

What does this purchasing mean for Canada? It means that the farmer finds a market which he otherwise would not have for his wheat, cheese, livestock and other products. It means that the exportable surplus of our fisheries will be purchased. It means that Canada's shipbuilding yards will be operated to their utmost capacity. It means that our great munition and steel plants, with their tens of thousands of work-people, will be kept engaged day and night. It means, in a word, our continued prosperity in which all parts of the community--farmers, artisans, manufacturers, merchants (wholesale and retail), and all other classes will share.

The proceeds of last year's Victory Loan caused an immense dis-

tribution of money in Canada. Without that Loan our agriculture must have languished and hundreds of our work-shops would now be closed.

The money raised by our Victory Loan will all be spent in Canada and will insure to the benefit of all classes of our population. We are asking you, not to GIVE, but to LEND your money. By subscribing to this Loan you are helping Canada and benefiting yourselves also.

I earnestly appeal to all to do their full duty. We are Canadians. We are engaged in the greatest war of all time. It is the national purpose and determination to "carry on." We shall NEVER let up until Victory is ours, and the world is safe for liberty and civilization.

The War is not yet over--Buy Victory Bonds.

## Most Countries Still Seem to Suffer from Disease of Spanish Influenza

Spreads in Western Canada But on The Wane in The East.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26. -- Further subsidence of the influenza epidemic over the country was indicated in reports received today by the public health service from 44 states. The situation still is serious in many localities, however, and more particularly in the larger cities.

There was practically no change today in the army camps, 2,772 new cases being reported, a decrease of one from yesterday's total. Pneumonia cases decreased from 742 yesterday to 699 today and deaths were 307 against 327 the day before. The total of influenza cases reported now is 296,275; pneumonia cases 48,328 and 16,174 deaths.

Appeal for Grave Diggers.

NEW YORK, Oct. 26. -- An appeal was made to the mayor today by Borough-President Connelly, of Queen's, for city workers to be sent as grave diggers to inter the bodies of 2,000 persons, mostly victims of the epidemic, which remain unburied in cemeteries. The Borough president stated that sixty per cent of the cemeteries in the greater city were in Queen's, and that in some cases relatives and neighbors of those who had died have dug the graves.

More Influenza in British Isles

LONDON, Oct. 27. -- Influenza is increasing throughout Great Britain and Ireland. Two hundred and fifty-five persons have been buried in Dublin since last Monday. The authorities are sprinkling the streets with disinfectants. Two priests who attended the victims have died. One hundred and fifty-two deaths have occurred at Leicester during the week. All public functions have been cancelled and the council has requested the people to stay away from places of amusement. One thousand cases are reported at Newry. The spinning mills are short-handed and the schools have been closed.

880 Deaths In Week in Paris.

PARIS, Oct. 26. -- During the week ending Tuesday, 880 deaths were caused in Paris by the grippé epidemic. The deaths last week were 1,944 compared with 1,455 the previous week. The normal rate is 721.

45,000 Railway Workers Incapacitated in Germany.

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 28. -- Forty-five thousand railway workers in Prussia and Hesse are incapacitated with influenza and passenger traffic is much restricted in consequence, according to the Tagblatt of Berlin.

India and South Africa Hit

BOMBAY, India, Oct. 26. --Deaths from influenza on Saturday, Oct. 5, were 768, the highest in the history of Bombay. Lower caste Hindus, Mohammedans and Jews were the chief sufferers. Deaths during the week to Oct. 6 were 4,844 as compared with 3,205 the previous week. The daily migration up country continues, although the epidemic is rampant elsewhere throughout the presidency of Bombay.

CAPE TOWN, South Africa, Oct. 26. -- The influenza epidemic is diminishing here in the larger towns but there are serious local outbreaks throughout the country. The death toll in Johannesburg last week was 600 and in the Kimberly district 4,000, of which 600 were Europeans.

"Flu" Takes Heavy Toll in Winnipeg

WINNIPEG, Man., Oct. 27. -- Yesterday's toll of Spanish flu in Winnipeg was the most severe since the malady first made its appearance here. During the day 95 new cases and five deaths among civilians were reported to the local health authorities, bringing the total number of cases registered up to 835, with 20 deaths. It is a matter of some consolation, however, that of the 95 new cases, 38 are "secondary" ones in homes already under quarantine.

Newdale, Man., Playing Safe

NEWDALE, Man., Oct. 27. --Stores are only open a few hours each day in Newdale, and only two or three people are allowed in at one time, as a result of the "flu" epidemic. The churches and the schools are closed. Travellers and strangers are not allowed to enter the village either by car or train. There are no cases of "flu" in the village, but the health officer is closing the door before the horse gets out and is receiving splendid co-operation from the residents.

Twenty Deaths Within Two Days in Regina

REGINA, Sask., Oct. 28. -- (Continued on page 4.)

## Special Financial Campaign for Social Service

A strong committee of business men of provincial standing is undertaking to direct a province wide campaign for funds to support the Social Service Council. This organization is fighting for a better and cleaner Canada, which includes an effort to save some of the 30,000 children who die annually in Canada from preventable causes. It is fighting vice and disease, gambling and profiteering, patronage and political corruption. It is working for the better care of the feeble-minded, better schools, a community spirit, the development of social centres, and the general

health and happiness of the people, by means of the application to society of the proven results of science and experience.

The Council requires \$10,000 to carry out its program and a group of laymen has undertaken to secure this for them. Approval of the campaign has been given by the Lieutenant Governor, the Premier, the Officer Commanding Military District No. 12, and other public persons.

The canvas will be made during the week following the close of the Victory Loan Campaign. The Committee is finding a cordial reception to its undertaking.