

### SOME DRIVEN BACK, OTHERS CAPTURED

Guardsman Officer Tells how British Checked and Routed German Attacking Force

A n officer of the Guards, writing home to his parents, gives an account of the fighting which began on Oct. 22. He says:

"We spent a quiet night in the trenches, and on Sunday morning sniped some Germans about 500 yards away, bagging an officer. At one p.m. the bombardment began, and lasted till dark. They had the range almost exact, and blew several trenches in the air. I suppose 100 shells burst within a few yards of me, coming in groups of four as a rule, and shaking the whole ground.

#### Heard Cheering.

"At 6.30 p.m. we heard cheering on our right, and gathered that a counter-attack was taking place. Soon after a considerable body of men were seen approaching, and word was passed to us that they were our troops, so we did not fire. Three came right on the traverse of my trench, and about three yards from me I saw a German helmet. We at once opened fire. I shot the first man, the second was bayoneted, and the third taken prisoner, as he laid flat down until the first flurry was over.

We drove the whole lot back in about fifteen minutes, with the exception of about 200, who were captured, having got through where the trenches were blown in. It was awkward knowing some were behind us, as we did not like to shoot for fear of hitting our own reinforcements.

#### Kept Close Watch.

"In my trench I and one man looked out behind, the remainder watched the front. They had a machine gun in front, and one had to duck occasionally when one heard it. Our gun behind was also sweeping with shrapnel, and every shell just touched our parapet, so I had to watch for the flash and shout 'Duck.' The other companies lost some officers and men when rounding up those that had got through, which was awkward work, seeing that the darkness was only relieved by the light of burning houses.

#### Shelled Empty Trenches.

"From eight to nine a.m. on the 26th the German guns wasted some ammunition at some unoccupied trenches just in the rear of the line; but they then discovered their mistake, and literally blew our trenches to pieces.

French troops came up and I believe all is well with the situation. We are feeling a bit tired, but are quite well, and in a few days shall be ready to have another go.

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### GERMANS PAINTED MINE LAYER TO RESEMBLE A HOSPITAL SHIP

And the Masquerading Vessel Was Boarded and taken Possession of by a Torpedo Boat

BROUGHT VESSEL INTO GRAVESEND

Where a Strong Guard Had to be Provided to Protect the Prisoners From Angry Populace

THE ancient borough of Gravesend has at great liking for the nation that has shown itself so contemptibly despicable in the methods it has adopted during the present war, and one cannot expect that there should be any rejoicing in the fact that some of its naval men have just put their feet ashore here. Such, however, is the case. German navy officers and men have landed here, and Gravesenders have rejoiced at the fact!

Coming up with the tide one afternoon recently there was seen by a few who happened to be on the front at the time a British torpedo boat bringing a harmless-looking hospital ship to an anchorage. Shortly afterwards three German naval officers and a company of about thirty men were landed at the Terrace Pier, while to help them to "toe the line" was a company of British soldiers with fixed bayonets to receive them. It transpired that this harmless-

looking Red Cross vessel was captured at Yarmouth by the smart little torpedo boat that escorted her up the river. Painted as she is exactly like a British Red Cross vessel, with the exception that the cross itself is on the funnel, and not on the hull, presumably she had thought anything of her. But evidently our Navy are quite awake and were running no risks.

The caps of the men bear the lettering in English "Naval Division," but while everything is thus carried out to deceive as far as possible, an examination of the vessel, I am informed, reveals the fact that it is not fitted up inside as a hospital ship.

#### No Hospital Fittings.

What was the vessel doing at Yarmouth? Evidently one of two things. She was there for observation purposes, or engaged in the rastardly work of laying mines; although, to give her the utmost credit, be it said there were no mines found on board. But then, the sea is large and deep.

Considerable time was taken up in getting van to take away the personal belongings of the crew, and while this was being accomplished the matter was soon noised abroad, and a good crowd gathered.

Many were the exclamations of disgust at the conduct of such dastardly deceivers. The women in the crowd cried out for the Germans to be handed over to the women of Gravesend. They would settle the matter. The men invited them to be sent to Crooked-lane (a notorious part of Gravesend), where they could be fixed up, while a little Belgian boy of about 3 years of age on his father's shoulders pulled grimaces at the Germans, and cried out in broken English, raising his fist at them. "Moonkeys! Moonkeys!"

#### Ring of Steel.

To carry out their plan of deception this innocent-looking crew of a Red Cross ship were all wearing large Red Cross bands on their left arms, and one infuriated marine went up to one of the Germans and tore off the badge he was apparently so disgracing. However, an officer intervened, and the badge was restored with the customary salutes on both sides.

The luggage being disposed of, the officers and crews were carefully formed up with a line of fixey bayonets on either side, and officers and police in front and around. It was well for the Germans the steel was shining for the temper of the Gravesend people gathered there was hot, and the destination of the Germans might have been altered.

The booing and shouting as the march started was certainly enough to appal a small company, and evidently the Germans were most uncomfortable. Their faces blanched white at the outbursts of anger, and if one could judge correctly they were expecting to get the deserts they so richly merited.

#### Protected by Soldiers.

As it was, a civilian, carried away by his feelings, broke into the ranks to do damage, but was expelled. An-

### ITALY'S INTERESTS ARE WITH BRITAIN AND HER ALLIES

Italian Deputy Says His Country Cannot Now Safely Stay Out of the Great Struggle

THE Roman Nationalist deputy Federzone, at a banquet given in his honor, delivered a long speech, in which he reviewed Italy's political policy during the present crisis. He said:

"At the moment when the European war broke out, we, who were unaware of the previous diplomatic negotiations which led to Austria's ultimatum to Serbia, declared that if there existed any preventive agreements or pledges of honor binding Italy, we ought loyally to keep our word, whatever sacrifices of our personal feelings it might entail.

"Fortunately no such agreements existed. Italy's declaration of neutrality evoked no protest on the part of the Germanic empire, showing that Italy was her own mistress, free to safeguard her own interests in the future. But Italy must not remain inert in the struggle which is to change the face of Europe and of the world. It is necessary that the transformation which is taking place outside Italy should not be achieved at her expense. We are not Germanophobes, we are just Italians.

"We feel that our solidarity with all the nations of Europe which are enemies of the Austro-German bloc is necessary for the fulfilment of our historic destinies, because it is naturally Italy's interest to assert her opposition to the hegemony of any power on earth, seeing that Italian hegemony is out of the question. Our generation would be for ever an object of infamy if it let slip the opportunity which is offered to-day, and which will never occur again."

About 300 persons were present at the banquet, and received the speech with enthusiastic applause.

**NOTICE.—Trinity Bay Councils of the F.P.U. will please notice that January 16th will be observed as Union Day in Trinity District, when every Council is expected according to the Constitution to parade. By order, J. G. STONE.—dec5**

#### TALK IS CHEAP—

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other of the crowd, pointing to one of the crew, yelled out something about Tottenham-court-road which so enraged the German sailor that he was on the point of breaking out to fight the civilian when one of his comrades caught his arm and held him back. Crestfallen, and an object of scorn, this party eventually arrived at the Central Station and were entrained for Chatham.

### BADEN-POWELL'S INVASION THEORY ALMOST AMOUNTED TO PROPHECY

The famous Founder of the Boy Scouts Predicted an Attack by Germans on North Coast of England—Recent Events Prove Him Correct

Baden-Powell shares the opinion of many other military experts who believe that Germany fully expects to invade England, if possible, and will direct its activities toward the commercial cities in the north of England, rather than toward London and the resorts of the south.

In the opinion of Gen. Baden-Powell, the German Emperor will endeavor to land at least 90,000 troops in England.

"I know that the general idea," said Gen. Baden-Powell, in a recent interview, "is that the attempt to invade England will be made on the coast of Norfolk or Suffolk. Personally, I think that the Yorkshire coast is more likely, for the Germans will first desire to invade the industrial centres of the north. They appreciate what effect that would have if they succeeded.

**Attack Industrial Centres.**  
"Once let them get hold of some of the manufacturing towns, factories would be smashed up and ruined and I estimate that they could then throw 14,000,000 persons out of employment, rendering them destitute and starving."

"It is certain that even by a short, sharp raid they could do a tremendous amount of damage."

The Germans, it is pointed out by the General, have nine places from which they could embark with troops in an effort to make a landing in England. He estimates that a greater force than 10,000 would probably not be sent from each of these points, making a total of about 90,000.

#### Not Overly Optimistic.

Gen. Baden-Powell is far less optimistic about the war than many public men. The hero of Mafeking, in discussing the present crisis, said:

"There are still many persons in country districts, and even in some of our large towns, who do not realize what this great war means—that Britain's fight is one for her very existence. The right thing to do is to try to smash the Germans now, which means that every man must put his shoulder to the wheel."

The General says the 15,000 older Boy Scouts of England are doing everything in their power to assist in the present struggle.

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#### NOTICE

All Local Councils in Trinity District who haven't yet sent in their district assessment, will please do so before the end of the month to the treasurer, George Fowlow, of Philip, Trinity East. J. G. STONE, D.C. Dec. 10, 1914.

### GERMANS WORRY OVER DURATION OF HOSTILITIES

One of Their Newspapers Says People Are Continually Asking "How Long Will it Last?"—Unanswerable Question

THE growing apprehensions of the German public in regard to the progress of their armies and the disorganisation of trade finds expression in many anxious inquiries addressed to the newspapers for their opinion as to the duration of the war. Says the "Deutsche Tageszeitung" on this subject:

"How long will the war last? This is a question being asked not only in the cafes and railway carriages, but in a section of the Press. Our own readers repeatedly ask us for our opinion, but we cannot meet their wishes, simply because no one at present is in a position to answer the question with any certainty.

"It is both futile and senseless to express mere suppositions. Moreover, all such discussions are extremely harmful, for they may easily convey a totally false impression of national feeling, and that must be avoided under all circumstances. We content ourselves, therefore, with repeating that all sections of the nation are unconditionally resolved to hold on until an enduring, honourable, and certain peace has been achieved.

"This resolve has been repeatedly proclaimed with absolute clearness by all classes of the German people, and on this point the Emperor, the army, and the nation are at one. The question as to how long the war will last can, therefore, only be answered by saying that, humanly speaking, it will continue until this goal has been reached.

The chastened tone of the "Tageszeitung," which is probably the most rabidly Jingoistic organ in Germany, is significant, particularly when it is recalled that the same paper, in the early stage of the war, declared that peace was not to be thought of until each and all of the Allies had been pulverised.

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