

British Continue to Win in Flanders, Capturing the Village of Zonnebeke

CHOTIC STATE OF AFFAIRS THREATEN ENTIRE FABRIC OF RUSSIAN NATION

Impartial American Observer Gives Impartial Review of Situation.

LITTLE FIGHTING SPIRIT IS LEFT

Open Disobedience and Murder of Officers Daily Occurrence.

COUNTLESS DEEDS OF VIOLENCE

Many Substantial Citizens Oppose Government and Favor Korniloff.

Stockholm, Sept. 27.—An American, who has spent ten years in European capitals and whose position compels him to take the viewpoint of an impartial observer, reached here today after six weeks in Petrograd and gives a pessimistic report of the fighting spirit of Russia and of political and industrial conditions there. He said: "There is no fighting spirit except among the Cossacks and Caucasians, and that seems to be waning. A Cossack colonel said to me: 'There are no real fighters left in Russia except us and we are not Russians, thank God, but Caucasians and Mohammedans.'"

Open Disobedience.

The interior cities and villages are filled with Russian troops who refuse to go to the front. Young Russians of the better class are hunting the streets of Petrograd for men who are willing to become officers. Since the murder of officers by men has become a daily occurrence, only the most fervent patriots will assume the risk of taking commissions.

"The reports of open disobedience of troops at the front and of deeds of violence committed by them are countless. Railway travel in many places and particularly in Southwest Russia, is unsafe because soldiers loot trains, steal baggage and maltreat and even murder those who resist."

"I sat in the war office at Petrograd, when the report was received of the murder of nearly one hundred officers at Viborg and of the preparation of prescription lists against officers in Tammerfors."

"Newspapers in Helsinki carry daily accounts of military deeds of violence and of the murder of officers and civilians by soldiers often accompanied by robbery. The government has not dared to do more than announce that these matters will be investigated carefully."

The Bolsheviks are gaining the upper hand in Petrograd and are increasing their strength in Moscow. I venture to predict their eventual supremacy. I know this means almost the elimination of Russia as a factor in the war and places new burdens on America.

"The government's utter powerlessness was recently shown in connection with its exile of a number of 'dark forces'; the Bolsheviks took them from a train at Viborg and are now sending them back to Petrograd and the government does not dare to insist that its deportation order be carried out."

The Bolshevik demonstration of joy over the fall of Riga held in front of the war office was suffered by the government in silence.

"Such facts, together with the government's rapid changes in personnel, form and policy, demonstrate the seriousness of the situation."

When Korniloff issued his ultimatum the news was received with joy by a great proportion of substantial citizens and even men in the government departments told me they had secret hopes that he would come to Petrograd. The comments from English and American newspapers rejoiced at Korniloff's failure were registered with amusement by these people, who saw in his success the only possibility of saving Russia.

"A factory near Nishni-Novgorod, manufacturing war materials and employing fifteen thousand hands, has just closed because it has been impossible to meet the wage demands. Armed workmen terrorize the owners of factories, workmen's committees spend their whole time drafting wage schedules and nobody may be hired or discharged without their consent."

HUN SLAUGHTER RECENTLY HEAVY

London, Sept. 27.—On his return from a visit to the Italian front Major General P. B. Maurio, chief director of military operations at the war office, today discussed the situation in Flanders with the Associated Press.

"During the past month there has been a long pause, thanks to the rain and mud in Flanders," he said. "That pause made necessary more ample preparations than ordinarily after a first advance—preparations equivalent to launching an entirely new battle. But the result amply justified the preparations and while on previous occasions we won our objectives only after protracted fighting, we yesterday were in possession of the whole of our objectives before eight a. m."

"The fighting yesterday was in the most vital area, the Nexus of the ridge system dominating the plain of Flanders and the whole of a good deal more to be said about this battle than what we gained."

Officers, who have been with the British army from the beginning of the Ypres there has never been a slaughter of the Germans comparable to that they suffered in the repulsed counter-attacks of the past few days. The Germans counter-attacked in masses and dozens of these counter-attacks were swept away by our fire with terrible German losses.

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THE CITIES HAVE MORE COAL NOW

Large Centres Better Off Than Last Year.

Ottawa, Sept. 27.—"Generally speaking the cities and of cities are better supplied with anthracite than last year and better than ordinarily," said Mr. W. A. O'Connor, K.C., the cost of living commissioner, today. "But in the smaller centres throughout Canada there is a grave shortage."

Mr. O'Connor has received the reports of 2,600 coal dealers throughout Canada, and in a day or two will issue a report covering stocks in hand, trade conditions, etc.

THE GERMANS ARE TIRED OF WAR

May Make Proposals Which Allies Can Consider.

Montreal, Sept. 27.—"The Germans dread another winter campaign," said Major the Rev. Dr. James Smyth, principal of the Wesleyan Theological College, this city, who went overseas with the Irish-Canadian Rangers and returned home today. "I have spoken with some of the biggest men in England, and that is their opinion, that the Germans will, most likely, make proposals before the winter sets in, which the Allies will be able to consider."

LOSES THE RACE AGAINST DEATH

Major General MacDonnell Reaches Toronto Thirty-Six Hours After His Mother's Death.

Toronto, Ont., Sept. 27.—Just thirty-six hours too late to be present at the deathbed of his aged mother, who died Tuesday evening, Major General Archibald C. MacDonnell, arrived from the front after three years absence.

General MacDonnell was met at the station by Senator A. C. McDonald, Mayor Church and later Hon. W. J. Hanna, met him and exchanged greetings.

CALLS FOR THE EXPULSION OF LAFOLLETTE

President Butler of Columbia University Stirs Up American Bankers.

BANKERS LOUDLY APPLAUD HIM

Cowardice and Treason Have Raised Their Hands at Home.

Atlantic City, N. J., Sept. 27.—Members of the American Bankers' Association launched into vehement expressions of approval when Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia University, addressing them today on the cheering world demanded that Congress exercise its constitutional right to expel United States Senator LaFollette.

"We are repelling attacks upon American people and institutions of two kinds," Dr. Butler said. "We are fighting across the sea and we are fighting at home. Our cowardice and treason, which have raised their hands at home. Our soldiers can fight the soldiers of the enemy. You and I have got to fight sedition and treason here."

"Have the American people lost their capacity for corporate indignation?" he asked.

Speaker Applauded.

"There is a provision in the constitution, providing that Congress may expel a member by a two-thirds vote. What are they thinking of to sit there and permit themselves to be contaminated by Senator M. LaFollette?"

Cries of approval came from every side as Dr. Butler proceeded.

"Gentlemen, you might just as well put poison into the food of every boy that goes to his transport as to permit this man to make war upon the nation in the halls of Congress."

Speaking of peace, Dr. Butler said: "Do you see the significance of the coolness of peace which come from Berlin? They are intended to weaken our efforts before the new world, in which we are in search, has been discovered—a world for which the free nations have armed themselves for a contest that will not cease until this world has been found."

"Any human being who asks for peace on any other terms than unconditional surrender is asking an order and still greater war. Peace will only come when the supreme confidence the Germans have in the instrument of war and their world dominating aims are brought to defeat. That is the only road to peace."

TIENTSIN MAY BE DESTROYED

Million Chinese in Great City Forced Out by Flood.

Peking, Tuesday, Sept. 25. (Delayed).—The city of Tientsin is threatened with destruction by flood. The Chinese city and portions of all the foreign concessions are under water, which is rising rapidly and which covers the great plain to the southeast of Peking. It is estimated that 1,000,000 Chinese are homeless.

The railway embankment between Tientsin and Nanjing has been cut to permit the escape of the water.

The Hoang-Ho overflow has spread to the northward and has broken the grand canal at many places.

General MacDonnell has commanded a Canadian division in Flanders and is one of Canada's most distinguished soldiers.

MANY AMERICAN SETTLERS COME

New Movement to Western Provinces in Progress.

Ottawa, Sept. 27.—The movement of settlers from the United States to the Canadian West continues to be of considerable volume, according to the statement of officials of the Dominion immigration department. The entry of the United States into the war and adoption of the selective draft system has not affected immigration to the western provinces.

When the United States was at peace there existed a natural disinclination on the part of many people to go to a country at war. The handicaps, insofar as Canada is concerned has now been removed.

CHILEAN CABINET QUILTS

Santiago, Chile, Sept. 27.—The Chilean cabinet resigned today.

SUICIDE PACT

Returned Soldier and Wife Feared He Would Have to Serve Again—Woman Dead.

Winnipeg, Man., Sept. 27.—After lying dead on her bed for three days with a 46 bullet wound in her forehead, the body of Mrs. W. H. Mather, Vancouver, was found in her room in the Royal Alexander Hotel here today. Mortification had set in. W. H. Mather, B. A., her husband, formerly professor of literature in Simpson College, Iowa, late of Vancouver, said to be a returned soldier in the Army Service Corps, was in the room when the police arrived. Both his wrists had been slashed with the blades of a safety razor which was found in the bed under the body of his wife. He will recover.

One of the police officials stated that the tragedy gave every indication of being a suicide pact, but which one fired the shot that killed Mrs. Mather is not clear.

WHY THE PRICE OF BREAD ADVANCED

Cost of Living Commissioner States That \$8 and \$10 Long Term Bakers' Contracts Have Expired.

Ottawa, Sept. 27.—An interesting fact regarding the bread situation was made plain today by Mr. W. F. O'Connor, K.C., the cost of living commissioner, who expects to make public a comprehensive report upon the subject as the result of an investigation covering several months of the closest scrutiny. He says that the larger bakers had contracts for flour at from \$8 to \$10 a barrel when it was selling at \$15 a barrel. The smaller bakers who did not have these long contracts were forced to pay the higher price for flour and yet sell their bread at exactly the same price as the larger bakers. Some of them were losing money for they had to sell their bread below cost.

The stocks of the bakers who had contracts have now run out, he explained, and as a consequence the larger bakers are paying more for their flour than when flour was dearer in the open market. This accounts for the increase in the price of bread.

MOBILIZATION ON DECEMBER 20

Expected Many Men Will Be Called on That Date.

Toronto, Ont., Sept. 27.—Mobilization on December 20th of thirty thousand men of the militia is expected, following the proclamation on October 6th and exemption tribunals in the meantime. This is the programme arranged for to give effect to the military service act, according to one of the local officials here. It is stated that instructions have arrived from Ottawa to all provincial registrars to have their staffs completed by October 15th.

DELIVERED ULTIMATUM

The ambassador told me he did not feel he was at liberty to discuss such an important question. That conference wound up with the following ultimatum: "Tell your government that in ten days it must arbitrate the matter or I will send Dewey down there."

"I cannot send such a message, Mr. President; I do not think you realize what it means," the ambassador replied.

"You think it means war?" I asked.

"I do not want to say what I think," he replied.

"If it means war you have chosen the one spot where you cannot fight us," I replied, and then I showed by maps our commanding position.

"When he retired I sent word to Dewey to be ready to sail on an hour's notice. About a week later the ambassador called on me and admitted that he had not dared send the message."

"I then told him that I would order Dewey to sail in 48 hours. He told me it would be an awful thing for this country."

"Yes, but it will be more awful for your country," I replied.

"Inside of thirty-six hours he came back smiling and said he had received instructions from the German government that they would arbitrate."

FIRE IN KENTVILLE

Halifax, Sept. 27.—The Arena Skating Rink at Kentville has been destroyed by fire. Loss \$10,000, insurance \$5,000.

FIELD MARSHAL HAIG'S FORCES GAIN IMPORTANT POSITION AT ZONNEBEKE

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HOW ROOSEVELT PUT CHECK ON GERMAN NATION

Colonel Gives Version of Secret Conference with Ambassador in 1902.

Chicago, Sept. 27.—Colonel Roosevelt gave his version of the secret conference he held with the German ambassador in 1902 relating to the occupation of Venezuela by Germany, an incident that then threatened to bring on a war between Germany and the United States.

Colonel Roosevelt told the story for the first time, he said, in an address at a luncheon here.

"It was about a year after I took office," Colonel Roosevelt began. "Germany was engaged in striving to extend her dominion. She had in view certain chosen positions in South America. She aimed to turn South America into a German appendage. Venezuela at that time had a dictator named Castro, commonly known as the 'monkey of the Andes.'"

Sent For Ambassador.

"I was determined that Venezuela should not become a German possession. Germany said it was not to be permanent and did not define what was meant by permanency. I permitted John Hay to write a number of notes and then I sent for the German ambassador and said to him: 'This Venezuela business has been going on long enough and I cannot afford to let it get to the point where it will cause trouble for this country.'"

"At that time England was backing Germany, and while I had both against me I paid little attention to England. It was the last flicker of England's antagonism to the United States."

"I called the attention of the ambassador to the fact that Germany had a squadron of warships near Venezuela, threatening the mouth of the proposed Isthmian Canal. I demanded a statement of what Germany meant by temporary possession, saying I did not propose to have any 99 year leases."

Delivered Ultimatum.

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TEUTONS WANTED SOUTH AMERICA

Inside Story of Incident Which Almost Led to War Then.

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BRITISH IN FRESH OFFENSIVE TO BE STARTED SOON MAY SUCCEED IN CUTTING RAILWAY LINE CONNECTING GERMANY'S NAVAL BASES AT OSTEND AND ZEEBRUGGE WITH MAIN ARMY.

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ONLY AT TWO POINTS WERE HUNS ABLE TO RECAPTURE LOST GROUND—TEUTONS AFTER THE RUSSIAN FLEET—LITTLE FIGHTING IN RUSSIA AND AUSTRIA—CROWN PRINCE LOSES.

With all the objectives for which Field Marshal Haig started his men early Wednesday morning in a new offensive near Ypres securely in their hands, the English, Scotch and Australian units are now tenaciously holding them, notwithstanding fierce German thrusts that time and again have ineffectually been launched in efforts to regain the lost ground. As had been expected by reason of the contour of the country over which the battle has waged, the fighting throughout has been of a most violent character. Near the Polygon Wood, where the Australians are facing the foe, north and northeast of St. Julien and northwest of Zonnebeke the encounters have been of a sanguinary character, the Germans losing heavily in their counter-attacks.

May Cut Railway.

Of all points of vantage sought for and gained by Field Marshal Haig, the village of Zonnebeke probably was the most important for six miles farther on lies the Ostend-Lille railway, the cutting of which by the British, would seriously interfere with operations between Germany's naval bases at Ostend and Zeebrugge and the southern part of their line.

Only at two points during the fighting were the Germans able to recapture lost ground. This was east of St. Julien, where two redoubts again fell into the hands of the enemy. One of these had to be relinquished by the British and still remains in the Germans' hands, but from the others the Germans were scattered pell mell by a fresh British onslaught.

Another Offensive Soon.

Thursday was spent by the captors of the new positions in consolidating them preparatory to starting another vigorous offensive.

The German Crown Prince along the Alsian front and in the Verdun sector has made several attempts to break the front of General Petain, but as on former occasions, the attacks all were repulsed with heavy casualties. On the greater portion of the line held by the French, artillery duels are in progress.

On the front in northern Russia and in Roumania the activity of the Germans and Austro-Hungarians has almost ceased, except for small outpost operations and here and there artillery operations of slight proportions.

After the Fleet.

The Germans, however, apparently are reconnoitering in the Baltic Sea, preparing for attacks against the Russian fleet.

There has been no resumption by General Cadorna of his intensive offensive against the Austrians along the Isonzo front, where only minor engagements have taken place. On the Carso Plateau the Austrians have begun again a violent bombardment of Italian positions, but the Italians are effectively countering. Large quantities of explosives daily are being dropped by the Italians on Austrian positions behind the fighting front.

In Belgium British and French air men also are keeping up their raids against German naval bases, cantonments and other important objectives and are scoring hits which give visible indications of great damage.

ANTHRACITE COAL IN QUEENS CO?

Fredericton Hears Interesting Report Which Many Hope is True.

Fredericton, Sept. 27.—The report that anthracite coal has been discovered in Queens Co. has set all on the tip of excitement, and all are waiting for the first cartload to arrive, that they might be more sure of a realization of their fondest hope.

Some weeks ago a permit was granted to a New York gentleman to make exploration over a certain territory where he believed silver could be found in sufficient quantities so that it could be profitably mined. He made a careful and exhaustive examination of the formation of soil and rock. Being a geologist of experience he found a strata that appeared more valuable than silver and he is now convinced that he has coal of the anthracite quality. It resembles in every particular the anthracite of the Pennsylvania fields.

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TO TRY TO SOLVE STEEL PROBLEM

Important Conference to Be Held at Ottawa Today.

Ottawa, Ont., Sept. 27.—There will be a conference at the trade and commerce department tomorrow which, it is hoped, will do much to relieve the iron and steel situation. Some time ago the United States government prohibited the exportation from the United States of iron and steel products.

Among the articles so forbidden for export were some of great importance to Canada.

Tomorrow, Sir George Foster, minister of trade and commerce, will meet the larger importers and users of iron and steel in Canada and the situation will be canvassed. With full knowledge of the position in Canada, it is felt that a solution of the difficulty will be satisfactorily reached.

\$100,000 FIRE

Woodstock, Sept. 27.—Practically all of the property of the Maine Lumber Co. at Harvey's Sliding, Me., twenty miles from Woodstock, was burned yesterday. The burned property included large storage sheds and a large amount of last blocks, rough, and stock ready for shipment. The fire started in the grass near the Bangor and Aroostook Railway. The total loss is \$100,000; partially insured.

AMERICA SOLD

Boston, Sept. 27.—The schooner yacht America, which in 1851 won the Royal Yacht Squadron cup, since known as the America's Cup, was sold today to members of the East Yacht Club of Marblehead. The principal object of the purchasers was to save the famous craft from the scrap heap or from being refitted for commercial use under New Bedford and the Cape Verde Islands. It was said the America probably would be preserved as a museum.