

FIGHTING IN WEST BEHINDING PAST TWO WEEKS A SUCCESSION OF SMALL BUT IMPORTANT GAINS

Allies Beat Down Stubborn Defensive of Germans and Advance Foot by Foot — Men Literally Mud Blots and Exposed to Terrible Hardships on Account of Bad Weather, but their Unfailing Good Humor Helps Them to Bear Up — Rifles Clogged with Mud British and French Soldiers Use Butt End of Muskets or Their Fists — Men Compelled to Fight in Trenches Knee Deep with Water.

Paris, Dec. 30.—There has been given out in Paris the official report of the principal events between December 16 and December 25.

"This period of nine days resulted in consolidating the successes won by us during the ten days preceding. Our aggressive attitude has been continued with even increased energy; everywhere the enemy has been reduced to a defensive attitude.

"The violence of counter attacks has been evidence that he accepted this attitude reluctantly. The checking of every movement made by him in his endeavor to recapture the ground lost to us made our advantage the greater.

MASTERS OF STRATEGIC POINTS IN ARGONNE.

"It is proper to say that at various points along the front, particularly near Arras, on the western boundary of the Argonne district, and near Verdun, we have made ourselves the masters of important points of support.

"The operations to the north of Lys have been attended by great hardships because of bad weather. The cold liquid mud in which the men have to move has got into the breaches of their rifles. This made it impossible to shoot. The fighting consequently has been done with the butt end of muskets and even with fists.

"According to an expression used by one of their leaders our soldiers are literally blots of mud. There has been organized for them a system by which they can bathe and change their clothes when they leave the trenches. This they appreciate very much. Their unfailing good humor helps them to support in a wonderful way the very hard life that this rigorous winter is inflicting upon them.

"In considering the operations during this period of days along the whole part of the country we can divide the country into three parts; the region before Neuport, the region to the north of Ypres, and the region to the south of Ypres, in front of Neuport there is on one side the sea and on the other flooded country. Between them are the sand dunes. Here it is that we have made progress.

ADVANCE TO THE SEA.

"December 15, in the evening we moved out of Neuport as far as the western boundary of Lombertzyde. December 16 we advanced as far as the sea, occupied the lighthouse and made more than 100 prisoners. December 17, we reached the point where the Lombertzyde road crosses the dunes. This day we also made certain progress to the south in front of St. Georges. December 19 further progress; we advanced 200 yards along this entire front. December 20 we occupied a German trench, and December 21 we made a further onward rush gaining 150 yards in the direction of Westende. The enemy delivered a counter attack December 22 but was repulsed.

"All the ground gained by us remains in our possession. The German marines and the German coast artillery have not been successful in recapturing from us the positions we have taken.

"December 20 to the north of Ypres the fighting concentrated near Steenstraete and near Bixchoote, in the vicinity of the Korteker and at a point further to the southeast where there is a windmill. December 17 we captured in one engagement several trenches, four machine guns, and made 150 prisoners and advanced 500 yards. During December 18 we took one by one the houses close to our lines. The next day the Inn came under our control. We swept up the surrounding country and took possession of a fort, certain houses, and a redoubt. On December 22 we gained another 100 yards. The enemy delivered counter attacks but in vain. The operations of December 17, and 18 represented together an advance of more than 700 yards.

Forced to Fight in Water Knee-Deep.

"To the south of Ypres near Wendeke and near Zwartewoed we gained on December 16, a total of 400 yards. December 17 to the days following we continued our advance, capturing two machine guns, certain caissons and several groups of houses. December 21, 22 and 23. At the same time the ground presented great difficulties. It was necessary for our men to fight in the water; nevertheless our advances were continuous and never once did we falter.

"From the Lys to the Oise, in the region of Lens and of Arras there occurred several very brilliant actions, which in their entirety resembled the same characteristics as those that we developed to the north. To the north of Lens in the region of Bermelles we made gains not far from Notre Dame de Consolation on December 18. On the night from 900 to 300 yards. On the 19th a further rush forward won us 100 yards in one direction and 500 in another. Our total advance December 18 was 800 yards. December 20 we made further progress of 150 yards which brought us to the junction of the roads from Loos to Rutoire and from Loos to Vermelles. In this fighting our artillery was strikingly successful. In spite of his efforts at resistance the enemy was compelled to abandon his ground.

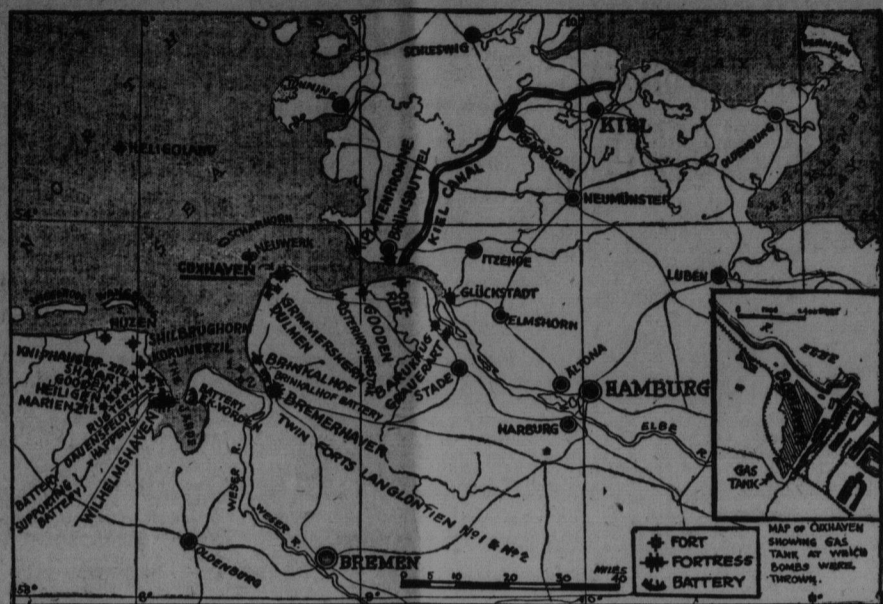
"To the south of Lens there was fighting in the region of Carency and of Notre Dame de Lorette. Here the territory, even on the heights, is clayey and filled with springs.

"The trenches became inundated as soon as they are dug. As happened in Belgium the rifles became mud-clogged and the men made use of their fists. December 17 the first German trenches at Notre Dame de Lorette came into our possession. Three days later the first line trenches were occupied by us. The following days we were stopped by the fog which made it impossible to regulate the firing of our artillery.

"The Germans endeavored to debouch from Carency, which position they still held. They were driven back with heavy losses, but still they retained possession of Carency.

"In the approaches of Arras, at St. Laurent and at Blancy we delivered attacks and were successful in winning ground. The first houses of St. Laurent have been in our possession since December 17. This position we held in spite of violent counter-attacks

WHERE GERMAN COAST WAS ATTACKED BY BRITISH WAR SHIPS



GERMANY'S COAST DEFENCES SHOWING APPROACHES TO CUXHAVEN. Above are shown the defenses of Cuxhaven and the German coast in the vicinity, where British war ships were reported to have made an unsuccessful raid. Heligoland Bay is supposed to be the rendezvous of the German fleet, and the attacking British war ships not only had to elude the fleet but the fortifications on Heligoland and Newwerk. The insert map gives an outline of Cuxhaven, with its docks and the gas tank, from which the military balloons and Zeppelins are supplied, which was one of the objectives of the British raid.

happy accomplishments of our artillery the last several days.

"Our infantry losses still diminish, which is the best criterion of the results obtained by our batteries. Each night the enemy sets off a huge amount of fireworks, in addition to their infantry fire, making it a word, a nervousness with which we are well satisfied.

"Between Rhelms and the Argonne our attacks, delivered with continuity did not permit the enemy, in spite of vigorous counter-attacks, to recapture the positions lost by him between the 15th and the 24th. These attacks developed particularly between St. Hilaire Le Grand and Beaussejour (to the east of Vile Sur Toube). We can sum up by saying that all the points of support which they proposed to seize are today in our possession.

"In the environs of Perthes we gained 200 metres on the 20th, about on the 21st, and 300 metres on the 22nd. This gain extended our front a kilometre and a half, and represents the whole line of the enemy's trenches upon this front.

"One attack resulted in the capture of several block-houses, a section of machine guns with its personnel, caissons with numerous projectiles, and a group of 400 Germans, confident of their ability to resist, have nevertheless been mastered by our troops.

"The checking of five counter-attacks which they directed upon this front has likewise affirmed our superiority. On the 24th we chased the Germans from home zigzag trenches which they had occupied since their first line.

"The operations around Perthes have been supplemented by others still more valuable. On the 18th one of our aviators shot and killed a German pilot, whose machine crashed to the earth. On another occasion, near the damage depot of Dieure the 22nd, twenty carbine shots. On another, one of our officers was pursued by an 'air batross', which succeeded in crossing our lines. The Germans' aeroplane was badly damaged by a fusilade of shells. In spite of the state of the atmosphere some of our aviators, on the 18th, successfully dropped bombs and arrows upon the enemy's trenches, upon a concentration of troops on the 19th and 20th; upon railways stations and train the 20th and 22nd; upon a captive balloon the 21st; upon the port of Strasbourg on the Rhine, and the damage depot of Dieure the 22nd.

"The Prince of Teck has expressed his warm thanks to the chief of the air squadron which has operated upon the Belgian coast with the English aviators.

This squadron has, in fact, effectively contributed toward the regulation of the fire of the battleships, and in surveying the sea for the enemy's submarines.

NEW NOTHING OF "UNDERGROUND ROAD"

By which Germans are alleged to have been aided in escaping from Canada States.

Montreal, Dec. 30.—With reference to the Cleveland despatch to the New Tribune that Herman F. Wenz, of Montreal, had expressed to the Buffalo in a trunk, the local authorities say they do not know of any person by the name of Wenz ever having been in Montreal. They say they have no official knowledge of the existence of an "underground railroad" by which Germans are alleged to escape from Canada into the United States.

EVERY WOMAN

is interested and should know of the MARVEL, except as she has seen it. It is the most interesting and valuable book ever published. It is a masterpiece of science and art. It is a book that every woman should have. It is a book that will give you the most complete and up-to-date information on the subject of women's health and beauty. It is a book that will give you the most complete and up-to-date information on the subject of women's health and beauty. It is a book that will give you the most complete and up-to-date information on the subject of women's health and beauty.

Ask your druggist for it. If he cannot supply it, write to the publisher, WINDSOR SUPPLY CO., Windsor, Ont. General Agents for Canada.

PROCLAMATIONS MADE BY GERMAN GENERALS PROVE TRUTH OF CHARGES

(Special to the Christian Science Monitor)

Wavre, France, Dec. 30.—The sixth report of the commission of inquiry on the violation of the rules of the rights of nations and of the laws and customs of war, has now been published. It is addressed to M. Carton de Wiart, Belgian minister of justice, referring to the protest, sent by twenty-two German universities to universities in other countries, against the accusations brought against the German troops, the signatories to the report state that as against this the commission of inquiry submits its reports.

There are besides, they add, documents, the authentic character of which the German universities would not think of contesting, namely, the proclamations of the generals of the invading army, the lack of conscience shown in which is not greater than their cruelty. The report then gives in detail some eleven proclamations.

The first is that distributed by General von Emmich, calling upon the Belgian nation to allow his army to pass across Belgian territory, while the second is signed by General von Bulow, commanding the second German army. Both these assert that this was not true and that the German ultimatum itself only said that the French "have the intention" of marching into Belgium, against the

The third proclamation is that posted in Hasselt on Aug. 17 by the burgo-master announcing that "in the case of civilians shooting on the German army a third of the male population will be shot." The fourth proclamation, issued, the report says, to the municipal authorities of Liege by General von Bulow, states that the inhabitants of the town of Andenne made a treacherous surprise attack on his troops after protesting their peaceful intentions. "It was with my consent," General von Bulow states, "that the general had the whole place burnt down and about 100 people shot."

The report states that the accusation made against the people of Andenne is a mere assertion which is contradicted by the inhabitants, and that 400 persons had disappeared, more than 200 being shot. Everything was destroyed. The fifth proclamation posted at Namur on Aug. 25, 1914, continues the report, threatened with hard labor for life in Germany citizens who failed to deliver up French or Belgian soldiers, or who knew of a store of arms and ammunition and failed to inform the authorities. Ten hostages also were to be taken in each street and if any rising occurred in the streets they would be shot.

The sixth document, a letter sent by Lieutenant-General von Nibber to the burgo-master of Wavre, Aug. 27, demands that the town of Wavre be made on the own of Wavre, because German troops had been fired upon, and concludes: "The town of Wavre will be set on fire and destroyed if the payment is not made when due; without distinction of persons, the innocent will suffer with the guilty."

The report denies that the inhabitants fired on the German soldiers. A proclamation posted at Grivegnee on Sept. 8 dealt with various orders issued by Commandant-Major Dieckmann regarding the delivering up of arms and other supplies, the closing of doors, lighting of windows, hostages and other matters and ordering the inhabitants to show respect to German officers, and, if in doubt, to all soldiers, by saluting or asking of their hands. The general penalty for disobedience was the shooting of those responsible.

Proclamation eight, says the report, summons Termonde to surrender, threatening to raze it to the ground in the event of refusal, while proclamation nine and ten, respectively, accuse civilians of shooting on German soldiers, and of destroying the railway line and telegraph wires. Proclamation 10, posted in Brussels Oct. 5, and signed by Baron von der Goltz, says with regard to the cutting of railways and telegraph wires that "in future, the localities nearest to the place where similar acts take place will be punished without pity; it matters little if they are accomplices or not."

In conclusion the report states that if German troops were relieved at the entrance to a village by shots fired by regular troops, civilians were accused of having fired or assisted and the locality was then given up probably by pillage and fire, and part of its inhabitants shot.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE AT FREDERICTON

Fredericton, Dec. 30.—The school inspectors of the Province of New Brunswick are in conference here today with Dr. W. S. Carter, Chief Superintendent of Education, Dr. H. V. Bridges, Principal of the Provincial Normal School, and Prof. Peacock, director of Vocational Education. Among the inspectors here for the conference are: W. M. McLean, of St. John, F. A. Dixon, of Woodstock, George W. Mesereau, of Deception Bay, Charles D. Hebert, of Moncton, A. J. Brooks, of Hampton, and R. D. Hanson, of Fredericton. Inspector Doucet is the only absentee.

Mr. R. P. Steeves, director of elementary agricultural education for New Brunswick, was also present at this morning's session. The main topic under discussion this morning was the district difficulties in each inspectorial district.

Among the topics for discussion are: The schools unvisited or not in operation during the present term in each inspectorial district; The supply of teachers; How may the professional side of Normal School training be promoted? How may we secure a larger supply of higher class teachers in the French districts? Vocational education—What can we do to promote it further? Text books—Discussion; Courses of instruction—Discussion; School sanitation—Discussion; Patriotism—The use of school flags; Moral training—Civics; Institutes—How shall we

PATRIOTIC FUND PAYS OUT \$5,000 A DAY

Between 7,000 and 8,000 families are being assisted, H. B. Ames, Honorary Secretary announces.

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—Mr. H. B. Ames, M. P., honorary secretary of the Canadian Patriotic Fund, stated that over \$5,000 per day was being paid out now and that between 7,000 and 8,000 families were being assisted. The committee, he said, was making the appeal as broad as possible so that every class and section of the people would be induced to contribute. If the war lasted for more than a year longer a second appeal for contributions would be sent out.

The provinces, cities and towns had already been pretty well organized and steps were now being taken to organize branch associations in the counties and to seek contributions from the county councils, many of which meet in January.

promote attendance thereof of school trustees and officers; What subjects are poorly taught? Do teachers use the text books too much before their classes; Teachers' salaries, and The cadet movement in our schools.

Gives Life to the Scrubbing Brush

Old Dutch Cleanser

European opinion, it is as yet too early to sound that of the Muhammadans, appears to be that Mr. Asquith has acted wisely as well as boldly. His speech amounts to a fair warning of what Turkey and her friends may anticipate at the close of the present struggle, so that they will have no cause afterwards to complain of having been dealt with more severely than they deserved.

So far as Arabia is concerned, it is fairly certain that the disappearance of Turkish rule will be received with acclamation. And there are a large number of Muhammadans in India who have been to Arabia and realize that, whatever changes the future may have in store for the holy land of Mecca, they cannot very well be set in the worse—Christian Science Monitor.

PERMANENT LIQUIDATOR FOR DOMINION TRUST CO.

Vancouver, Dec. 30.—Andred Stewart was appointed permanent liquidator of the Dominion Trust Company by Chief Justice Hunter today.

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THEATRE

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Picture Show

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The Imperial Theat

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