

FIGHTING SLACKENS ALONG YSER; GERMANS FALL BACK

General Opinion That Armies, After Ten Days and Nights, Have Fought Themselves Out and Are Resting — Evident That Germans Were Forced to Retire for Considerable Distance — Artillery Fire of Enemy Stopped and Invaders Seem to be Completely Worn Out — Both Sides Have Sustained Terrible Losses and are Bringing Up Fresh Troops to Fill the Gaps — Russians in Eastern Theatre are Advancing, and Berlin Admits Kaiser's Soldiers Giving Away Before Opponents — Austrians on Defensive.

London, Oct. 28 (9.40 p.m.)—The limit of human endurance has been reached in the battle in West Flanders, and the fighting, which slackened yesterday, came to an almost complete stop today. There may have been some infantry attacks, and these may continue, but despatches from points along the Dutch frontier state that the artillery firing has ceased. Passengers crossing the channel tonight bring the same news.

It was this, doubtless, that led to the report coming from Northern France that the Germans had retired, having given up their attempt to reach the channel ports.

The fact is that the two armies have fought themselves out temporarily, and that the Germans first effort to break through the Allies' lines has failed. Neither side could continue any longer, the men having been without sleep or rest for the ten days that the battle has been in progress, over ground which at best is a morass.

The Germans succeeded last Saturday in getting some men across the Yser Canal, and they put more men across Sunday. But the force facing them was too formidable, and now the opposing armies are taking a long-needed rest.

MAY RENEW ATTACK

There is every evidence, however, that the Germans intend to renew their attempt to force their way through to Dunkirk. They are bringing up fresh men, and more ammunition and guns, but at the same time are taking the precaution to prepare a second line of defence, should their forward movement again meet with defeat.

The new attempt, it is believed, will be made further inland, for the failure of the first one was largely due to the bombardment that the troops and artillery had to undergo from the British and French warships off the coast of Belgium.

This cessation of heavy fighting seems to have extended along the line as far as Arras, and the result of it all is that the Germans, while they have suffered heavy losses and have inflicted similar punishment on the allies, are farther away from the French coast than they were at the beginning of the battle.

NIGHT ATTACKS.

The small forces which have been left to hold the line from the Oise to the Meuse while the greater battle is proceeding have been engaged in night attacks at different points, the advantage sometimes going to the one and sometimes to the other. It is said that in one of these attacks near Craonne the Germans lost 2,000 men.

Along the Meuse the French are advancing slowly between Apremont and St. Mihiel in their effort to cut off the Germans, who are holding the latter place.

The German official report issued today says that the Germans were forced to withdraw in Poland, in the face of Russian reinforcements. This is the first mention from this source of the battle in that region since the German advance on Warsaw was frustrated by the arrival of large numbers of fresh Russian troops.

The Russians claim to be making progress against the Austrians, who advanced through Galicia and attacked their left wing, and on the East Prussian frontier they also say that they have repulsed the German offensive from that quarter. The Russians, having had plenty of time, are bringing up immense numbers of men, and therefore are able to take the defensive or the offensive on the long front reaching from the Baltic to the Carpathians.

AFRICA IN TURMOIL.

The greater part of Africa has been drawn into the conflict. It is reported that the Germans have invaded Angola one of Portugal's African possessions; that there has been fighting on the borders of the German and Belgian colonies in that continent, and that the British and Germans have been having more skirmishes.

The most serious affair, however, is the rebellion in the Union of South Africa, although Premier Botha, who withheld the news of the rising led by Generals DeWet and Beyers until he himself got into action, seems to have inflicted a severe defeat on General Beyers, completely routing his command and taking a number of prisoners.

The invasion of Angola was not unexpected, for Portugal has declared her intention of helping the allies, and in view of the possibility of a German attack on her colonies had sent reinforcements to her garrisons. Portugal, if the report of the German invasion is true the ninth nation to be drawn into the war, and there is still danger of others following.

Holland is growing uneasy in the fear that her neutrality may be violated. The mouth of the Scheldt, which the Germans, now that they have Antwerp, would find of much service to them, and the eastern border of the Netherlands, where the Germans are massing troops, are the danger points. The Dutch government declares it is prepared to guard the country's neutrality at any cost.

HOLLAND PREPARING TO DEFEND HER NEUTRALITY

Germans Moving Large Numbers of Troops on Eastern Border and Dutch Army is Placed at Strategic Points—Enemy's Spies at Work.

Roosendaal, Holland, Oct. 28, via London, 9.35 p. m.—Holland is feeling the pressure of the war almost as much as if she were engaged in it. The report that the Germans are massing large numbers of troops on the eastern border is causing great uneasiness throughout Holland.

The alleged discovery of a tennis court with cement nine feet thick on the property of a German in the neighborhood of Arnhem, and statements that German spies have been active near Arnhem and at other points close to the German border, seem to intensify the anxiety of the Hollanders.

A Dutch army of over three hundred thousand trained men is scattered at strategic points along the Belgian and German borders. Roosendaal is the principal troop centre, as it is the only railway gate to Belgium that is now open. Hundreds of military automobiles leave here daily with messages and supplies for the border troops.

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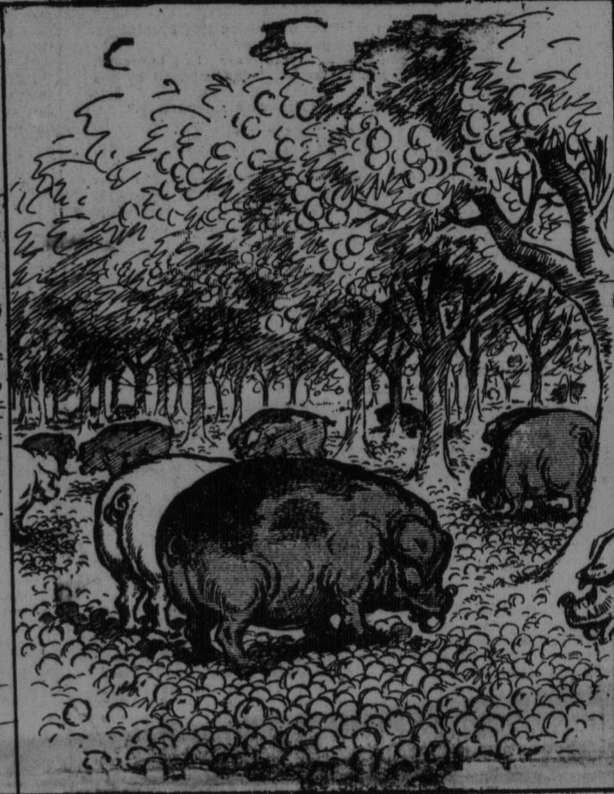
Many Farmers Willing to Donate Their Apples To Be Distributed Among the Poor of this City



GAZE UPON THIS PICTURE

Interest in the movement to gather apples from different parts of the province and distribute them among the poor people of the city has spread and already a committee of citizens has volunteered to help in the distribution of the apples, when secured. Rev. W. H. Barraclough, who has taken the matter up, has been assured of assistance from apple producers in New Brunswick and parts of the Annapolis Valley in carrying out the scheme. He hopes to be able to secure at least 1,000 barrels of apples for distribution here.

The idea is that farmers should donate the apples and the local committee would provide funds for bringing



THEN UPON THIS

would assist in keeping the people in good health during the winter and also helping to form a part of their diet. There are many poor families in St. John that usually go without apples, and it has appeared to many citizens that the present occasion was one whereby these people might be benefited. In other parts of Canada the idea has been carried out by the farmers making donations of apples. In many cases school boys and girls gave their services in harvesting the crop and packing it. This idea could hardly be carried out in this province on account of the long distances between St. John

and the apple orchards. Eventually it might be possible to take a small party of apple pickers and packers out of St. John, but at first it is the intention to find out just what the farmers will do. The Standard will be glad to receive the names of any farmers willing to donate apples for the purpose of distribution among the poor of the city. Any names forwarded to this newspaper will be handed in to the proper persons so that the proper arrangements can be made. It is to be hoped that farmers with an abundant supply of apples will be enabled to make donations and thus help their fellow men in the city to have things a little easier during the winter months.

CANADIAN SOLDIERS MAY BE SENT TO SOUTH AFRICA

Probability is Being Discussed Although No Official Steps Have Been Taken—Western Mounted Infantry Would be the Men to Send is Opinion.

Special to the Standard

Ottawa, Oct. 28.—While no official communications have passed on the subject, it is considered here not at all improbable that Canadian troops may be sent to South Africa to help put down the rebellion in which Generals De Wet and Beyers with their followers have now joined, as well as to uphold the British arms against the Germans in Southwest Africa. Canada could send a considerable force of mounted infantry such as are needed in that country. There are thousands of men in the west who are eager to go to the front and would probably be just as willing to fight for the British cause in South Africa as in Europe.

The greatest difficulty in sending early assistance to Premier Botha and his government would be that of providing the equipment. This would be rushed with all speed, however, once a decision were made, and if the present trouble were prolonged as in the former war, the Canadian force would be in time to render effective aid.

Col. Sam Steele of Winnipeg, former head of the N. W. Mounted Police, is spoken of as a good commander for such a force, if it should be sent. The possibility of New Zealand or Australian troops being diverted to South Africa is also discussed here.

MANCHESTER COMMERCE SANK IN SEVEN MINUTES

London, Oct. 28.—Additional details of the disaster to the steamship Manchester Commerce, which was sunk by a mine off the coast of Ireland yesterday, show that with a full crew of forty-four the vessel was outward bound for Montreal with a full cargo, when twenty miles by a quarter east of Tory Island she struck a mine. The ship's bottom was torn out and she sank in seven minutes. One lifeboat got clear, and 27 members of the crew jumped into it. The captain tried to float a second lifeboat, but failed, and he with thirteen men perished.

The chief officer, who leaped from the stern of the sinking ship, said that a terrific explosion tore the bottom out of the ship, and she plunged bow on into the sea. He was rescued by the lifeboat, which sailed for forty-two miles before being picked up by the trawler Fleetwood near Blackpool. It is understood the cargo was not important.

The Admiralty has instructed shipping that it should not pass within sixty miles of Tory Island, which is on the main trade route between Manchester and Canada.

ARRANGES FOR CARE OF AUSTRIANS AND GERMANS

Dominion Government Passes Order in Council Covering Conditions Under Which Citizens of Two Nations Must Live While in Canada—Will Open Registration Offices.

Ottawa, Oct. 28.—The government today made provision by order in council for relieving the distress of the Austrians and Germans in various parts of the country who are out of work and unable to support themselves and also for placing under surveillance all who may be considered otherwise likely to cause trouble. Registration offices will be opened by the Dominion police in the east and the Northwest Mounted Police in the west, where all Germans and Austrians must present themselves. Men over or under the military age, or otherwise unfit for service may be permitted to leave the country. Of the others those who can maintain themselves and are believed to be well disposed may be allowed their liberty only being required to report regularly.

Those who are destitute and who it is considered should be kept under surveillance will be held in places of detention as prisoners of war. They will be in charge of the military authorities and work will probably be provided for them. These latter plans have not been definitely worked out as yet. An effort will be made to find work which will not be unduly in competition with Canadian labor. The Austrians and Germans detained in the west, for instance, may be put at the cleaning up of the national parks.

It is strongly felt here that a restraint on the part of Canadians from the expression of hostile sentiments towards these people will greatly lessen the danger of any trouble. (Continued on page 9)

ONE AND A HALF MILLION DRILLING IN MOTHERLAND

London, Oct. 28 (10.20 p.m.)—The British army on rolls and drilling in the United Kingdom now amounts to approximately one and a half million men. Of this total about 800,000 men belong to what is termed "Kitchener's army," men who have responded to his two calls for 500,000 soldiers to serve three years, or for the duration of the war. About 600,000 belong to the territorials, while the remainder are enrolled with the special reserves, so-called, or with the regular army, and have seen service previously. The territorials are considered the flower of the force, as a great majority of them belong to the middle and upper classes, and are men accustomed to athletics pursuits. Both physically and mentally they are considered by military men to be about the finest body of its numbers ever assembled under arms.