

BRITISH HAVE REACHED RAILWAY EAST OF LENS TODAY

Maximilian of Baden is German Chancellor

4000 Prisoners Taken by Haig's Men Yesterday

OPERATION IN ALBANIA FORECAST

Destruction of Naval Base at Durazzo Significant Stroke

DRIVE ON AUSTRIA?

Enemy is Rapidly Abandoning Territory on the West Front

SITUATION TODAY

By Courier Leased Wire New York, Oct. 4.—The Associated Press this morning issued the following:

British, American and Italian warships have destroyed the Austrian naval base at Durazzo, Albania. This sensational exploit which was carried out on Wednesday seems to have reduced the Austrians to one large naval centre in the Adriatic, that at Pola, although the port of Fiume may be used for this purpose.

The attack coming at a time when the Austrians in southern Albania are in dire straits after losing their support lines eastward through Macedonia, appears to be significant. Italian troops launched an offensive there on Tuesday. It suggests that, perhaps, military operations may be begun along the northern Albanian coast in the rear of the retreating Austrians, and the situation holds large possibilities. Durazzo is within 100 miles of Brindisi, the Italian base, and is within easy striking distance of Corfu, from which are directed the operations of the Allied fleets in the Mediterranean.

German armies which have been holding the front along the sector from Lens to Armentieres are in retreat, and with the prospect of a pursuit, are hurriedly abandoning the region south of the Lys River, where they were in danger of envelopment. The retreat seems to have been a blow struck at the German line, and will probably make imperative a withdrawal all the way down the line in front of Arras.

Further success in this point would seem to shake the whole German line from Douai to Rheims. The enemy, so far as known, has no other positions in that region as formidable as those captured in the west week by the Allies. Directly behind this front are railroads which are vital to the enemy's forces fighting further to the south.

COUNTER ATTACKS MADE BY GERMANS LAST NIGHT FAILED

Enemy Thrust on Gouy and Le Catelet Were Beaten off; Haig's Forces Continue Progress, as do also French and Belgian Armies

By Courier Leased Wire.

LONDON, Oct. 4.—(Bulletin.)—British forces, pursuing the retreating Germans in the Lens region, have reached the railway east of Lens, Field Marshal Haig announced in his official statement today. To the southeast, the British have made progress between Oppy and Mericourt.

More than four thousand prisoners were taken yesterday by the British in their operations north of St. Quentin.

FRANCO-AMERICAN PROGRESS

PARIS, Oct. 4.—(Bulletin.)—French troops in the St. Quentin region have advanced east of Lesdins, says the War Office statement today.

American and French troops in Champagne have made further advances northwest of Blanc Mont and Medeah Farm.

North and northwest of Rheims the French have increased their gains somewhat, and improved their positions in the region of Betheny.

German forces last night delivered counter-attacks on Gouy and Le Catelet, midway between Cambrai and St. Quentin. Field Marshal Haig announced today that the enemy assaults had been beaten off.

The point of the British wedge in the region north of St. Quentin had been pushed at the end of yesterday's fighting to the high ground a mile northeast of Sequehart. The British are holding this ground, having repulsed a counter-attack.

"During the night we made an advance east of Lesdins in the region of St. Quentin.

"North and northwest of Rheims detail operations enabled the French to enlarge their bridgehead of the canal and to improve their positions in the region of Betheny. One hundred prisoners remained in our hands.

"In Champagne the Franco-Americans increased their gains northwest of Blanc Mont and Medeah Farm."

The text of the British statement reads: "At the end of the fighting yesterday we held the high ground one mile northeast of Sequehart and had successfully beaten off the enemy's counter-attacks at Gouy and Le Catelet. A second hostile counter-attack at Sequehart also was repulsed. "The number of prisoners captured by us in yesterday's operations north of St. Quentin exceeds four thousand."

"During the night local fighting took place to our advantage south-west of Beaurevoir and in the southern outskirts of Cambrai. "We advanced our posts slightly northeast of Epigny and repulsed a hostile attack on one of our posts south of Blaches-St. Vaast (between Lens and Arleux)."

CONSIDERABLE ADVANCE. With the American Army in France, Oct. 3.—(By the Associated Press), 8 p.m.—American troops went into action this morning on the Champagne. A report from the French army states that they had advanced considerably by noon and had taken Blanc Mont and Medeah Farm.

forced to give more ground. East of the Argonne forest, the American forces facing the Klemm line appear to be held up by the desperate defense of the enemy. This may be only temporary, however, as the nature of the country has made it difficult to move up heavy artillery for the resumption of the drive against the enemy.

COALITION GOVERNMENT IS LIKELY SOLUTION OF GERMAN CABINET CRISIS

Appointment of Prince Max of Baden as Chancellor is Confirmed, Scheidemann and Other Socialists, Become State Secretaries

By Courier Leased Wire.

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 4.—Bulletin.—Prince Maximilian of Baden has been appointed German Chancellor, says an official announcement received from Berlin.

Deputies Groeber, Centrist and Scheidemann, Majority Social-Democrats, have been appointed secretaries of state without portfolios.

The official statement adds that Prince Maximilian also has been named Prussian foreign secretary. He will announce his program at a full meeting of the Reichstag on October 5.

Official announcement of the appointment of Prince Maximilian of Baden as imperial chancellor, confirms newspaper reports to the same effect, emanating from Germany in the last few days. The prince is heir to the throne of Baden, and a cousin of the present ruler. He has been known as a moderate in German politics, and opposed to the extremist policies of the pan-Germans. His wife is related to the British royal family.

The official title of the chancellor is President of the Prussian council of ministers, Prussian minister of state, Prussian minister of foreign affairs, and imperial chancellor. The Prince succeeds Count von Hertling.

Count von Hertling, the leader of the Centrists. In the Reichstag in March, 1918, he defended Germany's methods of making peace with Russia at Brest-Litovsk. Philipp Scheidemann is vice-president. Continued on page three

MILITARY MISSION SENT BY KAISER TO SOFIA

By Courier Leased Wire.

PARIS, Oct. 4.—Emperor William sent a military mission to Sofia as soon as the situation was reported to him, according to The Neueste Nachrichten of Munich. This mission, it is said, has placed German and Austrian troops at strategic points along the principal Bulgarian railways. Bulgarian deserters reached a point within six miles of Sofia according to a Zurich despatch to The Journal, but were driven back by Bulgarian contingents.

FRESNOY TAKEN BY BRITISH YESTERDAY

By Courier Leased Wire.

With the American Army in the St. Quentin, Thursday, Oct. 3.—(By the Associated Press)—British forces broke through the entire Hindenburg defence system in the neighborhood of Fresnoy. As soon as the break had been made, cavalry forces swept through, being followed closely by "whippet" tanks and armored cars.

According to reports, which are considered reliable, the village of Fresnoy was taken soon afterward. Allied airplanes, which have been flying low over the country in the rear of the Hindenburg line, report that there are only one or two thinly held and hurriedly built trench lines in front of the advancing British. This is a perfect cavalry country, and with this force free behind the enemy's lines, the entire German positions north and south of St. Quentin are gravely menaced. After the cavalry and tanks had dashed into the open country behind the Hindenburg line, infantry and masses of machine gunners poured through the break. This force is taking positions and the Germans, who have held their lines in the defensive system are in danger of being cut off.

The enemy appears to be in full flight north of the break in the line. Allied patrols have penetrated further into Cambrai, from which the Germans seem to be withdrawing. There was fighting of the most desperate character before the last line of the system was smashed. Fresh troops, which had not been in the earlier fighting here, were poured into the battle. Prospect Hill, a strong enemy position, was taken by storm. An immense number of Germans were killed during the fight. Many trenches were turned into shambles in less time than it takes to tell it.

During the afternoon the Germans delivered a terrific counter-attack against Hony and Le Catelet. Unconfirmed reports say that they gained slightly here, but their advantage was short-lived. New British attacks were launched and desperate fighting is still in progress. Prisoners from ten German divisions and forty-one battalions were captured to-day. Regiments which came into the line from Flandra and Verdun, had been identified. Last available air reports are to the effect that the advancing British troops are six thousand yards beyond the Beaurevoir line. Machine gunners in large numbers are said to have poured through the breach in the Hindenburg system aboard motor buses. Many of these vehicles are double-deckers, which used to run on the streets of London. They are able to follow the cavalry closely.

The Germans have fought desperately along this front during the past day, resulting that a British victory would undoubtedly have disastrous results for back of the Hindenburg line cavalry and other troops would find it easy to advance in any direction.

LAST PHASE OF BATTLE FOR ST. QUENTIN MARKED BY GERMAN RESISTANCE

Germans Fight With Energy of Desperation to Halt Allied Advance

USE LAST RESERVES Withdrawal in Flanders Area Delights Allied Leaders

By Courier Leased Wire.

LONDON, Oct. 4.—News from all sectors of the western front tells of giant efforts by the enemy to stem the daily advance of the tide of battle. The Germans are putting in their best troops and fighting to all appearances are fighting with the energy of desperation. Still there is no sign of any great retreat, except the withdrawal in the Flanders sector where the British have occupied Armentieres and Lens and are closely pressing the retreating enemy. The recapture of the French coal region affords great satisfaction here.

In the Sequehart-Bony sector, the Allied breach in the Hindenburg system was extended to-day and the fighting reaches the outskirts of Mont Brehain, where Australians, with tanks are operating. The importance the Germans attach to the retention of this portion of the line is indicated by The Frankfurt Gazette, which states that in order to break a frontal break-through between Cambrai and St. Quentin General von Boehm's army has been made so strong that it is equivalent to a complete group. The Gazette declares: "There is a great danger along the whole western front."

It cannot be long before an important enemy retreat from the Hindenburg line is bound to happen, according to the universal military opinion here. In the meantime the Germans are putting forth enormous efforts. They are counter-attacking heavily and the battle is swaying back and forth in a deadly grapple.

Interesting news comes from eastern Europe. Austria has withdrawn her troops in Albania and the Italians have recaptured Berat. It is learned in official quarters that German vessels of Sofia and Constantinople, including officers and their families are leaving hastily and going through Roumania to Germany.

Greek re-occupation of eastern Europe is proceeding steadily at the rate of about eight miles daily. There has been no further news as to the attitude of Turkey. It is pointed out as a matter to some extent governing the situation that the whole Turkish fleet in the Black Sea is manned entirely by Germans, while Constantinople itself and the Bosphorus batteries are garrisoned by German and Austrian troops.

There is a report that Persia is beginning to show signs of taking sides with the Allies. In considering the question of the attitude of Austria-Hungary, the possibility of Hungary taking action separate from Austria should not be ignored.

ENEMY ALARMED. French Headquarters in France, Thursday, Oct. 3.—(Reuter's)—With the progress of the Allies along the front from the Aisne to the Meuse, the Germans are daily becoming more alarmed over their situation in central Champagne between Rheims and Moronvillers heights. All the enemy troops which have appeared in this battlefield have to good divisions and have fought with the utmost tenacity. The sole exception of this rule was the 14th Bavarian division, which was withdrawn after a single day's fighting.

None but first class troops are of any value between the Sappe River and the Argonne because the Germans cannot abandon ground there without the greatest risk. Allied forces are daily nearing the lateral railways which permit the enemies to move his reserves from point to point. During the past two days the advance of the Allies has made

Continued on page three

Days SALE... HERE!... SMITH... W. Haviland... HOUSE ST. The Market... Price... CASH ONLY... gor... the Market.

WEATHER BULLETIN Toronto, Oct. 4.—Since yesterday morning showers have occurred in the Maritime Provinces and British Columbia, elsewhere in Canada the weather has been fine. Forecast: Fine to-day. Saturday—Moderate to fresh south to south-west winds, partly fair with some showers, stationary or little higher temperature.