

NEW BRITISH ADVANCE GOES WELL

Socialist Paper Says People Won't Continue War to Please the Kaiser

GERMANS FLOOD VAST STRETCHES OF COUNTRY

In An Effort to Retard the British Advance—Haij's Men, However, Are Going Ahead

By Courier Leased Wire.

With the Allied Armies in France and Belgium, Wednesday, Oct. 23.—By the Associated Press.—British troops have reached virtually the whole canal bank northeast of Valenciennes. The Germans have broken down the banks and opened the sluice gates northeast and northwest of the city and have flooded vast stretches of the country in an effort to delay the British advance. The marshy lowlands on the east side of the canal, opposite the Raines Forest, resemble a great lake. It is not probable that the city can be approached from the southwest because of similar flooded conditions.

The British, however, have fought their way into the city from the west, and there have been sharp encounters in the streets between patrols. Fire from the German artillery has been generally weak, it being strong only on villages and towns in this vicinity. Many civilians are still in these places. Heavy shells dropped with regularity for several hours today into Denain, which is full of civilians. Without doubt, many were killed and wounded, and the same condition is probably true in other towns.

Valenciennes still contains many civilians. An officer of the Canadian detachment fighting in the city said today:

I entered the town with a platoon and saw an old woman sauntering up a street carrying a bucket. At about the same time a machine gun opened on us from a second storey window. I was wounded and several of my men were also hit. We retired for a moment, but the last we saw of the old Frenchwoman she was going right along as if nothing was happening.

OVER 6,000 PRISONERS

The British have taken more than 6,000 prisoners and many guns in their new attack, begun yesterday morning on the front below Valenciennes.

CONTINUES

LONDON, Oct. 24.—Sharp fighting continued up to a late hour yesterday evening on the battle front south of Valenciennes, where the British attacked yesterday morning, says today's official announcement.

CROSSED RIVER

The British have crossed the Ecaillon river, and have captured the villages of Neuville, Salesches and Beaudignies. A German counter-attack late yesterday was repulsed. This morning the attack was resumed all along the front between Sambre-et-Oise canal and the Scheldt.

POPE'S WARNING DECREE TO FAITHFUL ANENT FOSTERING OF DISSENSION IN CANADA RE SCHOOL QUESTION

By Courier Leased Wire.

OTTAWA, Oct. 24.—A pastoral letter from Pope Benedict XV. dealing with the bilingual question which has caused such serious dissension between the English and the French-speaking Roman Catholics, principally of Ottawa and throughout the Dominion, has been addressed to Cardinal Begin at Quebec and made public through his eminence Pietro Di Maria, the apostolic delegate here in Ottawa.

In his letter the Pope states that the appeals made by French-Canadians that inspectors for the separate schools be Roman Catholics is just, and that during the first year of tuition, French-Canadian pupils should be granted the use of their own language for certain subjects, chiefly and above all the teaching of Christian doctrine. The Pope, however, deprecates the dissension which has arisen and counsels prudence, that concord may exist among Roman Catholics.

After revising an earlier letter in which a plea for unity was embodied, the more recent pastoral letter, dealing with the bilingual controversy says:

The matter in question is the education law enacted by the Ontario government in the year of 1913 for the Anglo-French bilingual schools. Whilst on one side it was denounced as unjust and to be combated by every available means, others judge it with less severity, and did not think it should be so bitterly opposed. This divergence of opinion was followed by a dissension of sentiments.

When therefore the whole matter was brought before us for discussion, we most carefully examined the question as the gravity of the issue demanded, and we also instructed the eminent cardinals of the consistory to study the subject.

Wherefore after fully considering it under all its aspects, we have come to the conclusion and now decide as follows:

The French-Canadians may justly appeal to the government for suitable legislations of the above-mentioned law, and at the same time, crave and seek further advantages. Such are undoubtedly, that the inspectors of their separate schools should be Roman Catholics, that during the first year of tuition the use of their own language should be granted for the teaching of certain subjects, chiefly and above all of Christian doctrine, and that Roman Catholics be allowed to establish training schools for the education of teachers. But all the advantages, and others that may be useful, must be invoked and sought for by Roman Catholics without any form of rebellion and without recourse to violent or illegitimate methods; and let them employ peacefully and moderately all such means as are legally or by lawful custom permitted to citizens seeking advantages to which they consider themselves entitled. This we state with greater security and freedom in view of the fact that the chief state authority has acknowledged that the law enacted by the Ontario government is couched in somewhat obscure language, and that it is not easy to ascertain its true effect.

Hence within these limits and by such means, French Canadians are free to seek interpretation or amendments which they desire in the law of education. But in this matter, that concerns all Roman Catholics, let no one venture to appeal to the civil courts nor promote litigation without the knowledge and consent of his bishop.

And in such questions let the latter not decide anything without consulting with the other bishops immediately interested.

And now we wish to advise all our brethren, the bishops of the Dominion of Canada, and to repeat to them, with the greatest earnestness and deepest feeling, the charge made two years ago, namely, that they be one body and one spirit, avoiding all dissensions between each other by reason of either race or language.

With this object in view we wish once more to suggest again and again that which we urged in our private letter:

Let all the priests endeavor to acquire the knowledge and use of both languages, English and French, and setting aside all prejudice, let them adopt one or other, according to the needs of the faithful.

Moreover, we wish to admonish most severely all those, be they priests or laymen, who, in opposition to the gospel and to our injunctions, venture to foster and embitter the dissensions that are rife today in the Dominion of Canada. If any disobey, which God forbid, the bishops should not hesitate to report them to the Holy See, ere things become worse.

SITUATION

By Courier Leased Wire.

New York, Oct. 24.—The Associated Press this morning issued the following: Chasing into the German offensive system south of Valenciennes, the British are tearing away this barrier to the Allied pursuit of the retreating enemy. Progress made there during the 12 hours following their attack, seems to indicate that the line of the Scheldt, which, further north, has held up the British, French and Belgians, may be broken and outflanked.

Just to the south of Valenciennes there is a bend in the Scheldt which in that region is known as the Ecaillon river. The river has its source to the westward, where it is joined by the Cojeul River, which figured in the fighting early in the British offensive south of Arras. The Germans therefore, have not a natural most south of this bend, and it was along this front that the British struck a terrific blow yesterday morning.

Further north toward Ghent the French and Belgians appear to be stopping, at least for the moment.

FURTHER EVIDENCES ADDUCED of HUN VANDALISM

Mines Found Under Cellars and Mouths of Wells to be Destroyed—Supplications Unavailing

By Courier Leased Wire.

With the French Army in Champagne, Wednesday, Oct. 23.—By the Associated Press.—Detachments of engineers from General Gouraud's army, in exploring the region from which the Germans have been driven in this sector, have discovered in many villages evidence of the method by which the destruction of dwellings, church and other public buildings was organized.

The region along the Retourne abounds with indications of wilful devastation of villages that were never within range of artillery, but were found razed to the ground. In others, where houses still stood, they were mined for slow destruction, while the purely military installations, such as barracks built by the Germans for their own troops were left intact. Orders for the burning of Juniville, a large village in the valley of the Retourne, arrived on the day of the evacuation. The Germans had built comfortable quarters, with casinos, officers' clubs, moving picture theatres, hotels and rest houses, flourished in the village. The people pleaded with the officers to spare their homes, but the torch was put to every house. The village was one vast brazier when the French entered it. Mont St. Remy shared the same fate.

Chatelet, Allincourt, Bignicourt and Ville-sur-Returnne were partially saved because the French troops pressed the Germans there so closely that the sappers left behind to do the work were suppressed. Some of these men fled before they could set off the mines which had been prepared. Others were captured.

It has been necessary for French sappers and miners to explore the cellar of every house remaining intact in this region. Under most of them mines have been found. Mouths of wells were so mined that explosions would fill them with rock and earth. At Aussonce, mines were discovered labelled to indicate the class of destruction for which they were prepared. These mines were provided with glass tubes containing a corrosive liquid to eat away the wire connection with the mine and cause its explosion within a lapse of time indicated on each tube. Some were marked for one hour, others for two, twelve and twenty-four hours. Some were marked for as high as seventy-two hours.

Preparations for the destruction of these villages went on in the presence of the people and in spite of their supplications. At Neuville, where a villager implored that his home might be spared, an officer replied I know it is an ignoble task, but such are our orders.

THROUGHOUT ENTIRE NIGHT

The British Fought by the Light of Moon and Artificial Aids

Adopted Tactics Which Bewildered the Enemy

By Courier Leased Wire.

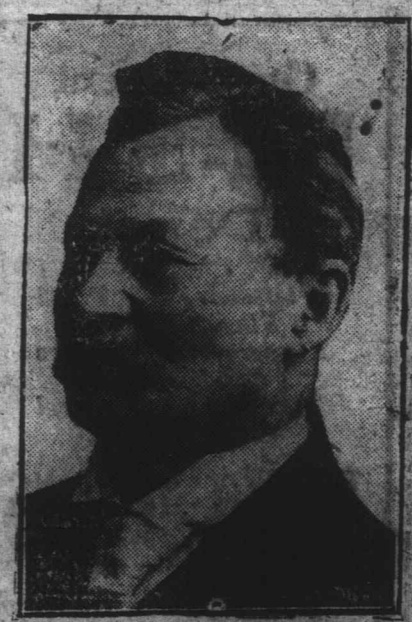
With the Allied Armies in France and Belgium, Oct. 24.—(By the Associated Press).—In brilliant moonlight, assisted by roaring flocks of night-bombing airplanes, the British fought throughout the night and made steady gains.

They are using see-saw tactics and not at any time since the new battle began has the whole line attacked all the sectors of objectives at the same time. Guns are moved up in relays so that there is constantly a heavy fire on the German front and rear. Infantry assaults are launched at different times.

First one end of the line and then another section some distance away is sent smashing into the enemy.

These tactics bewildered the Germans. No enemy unit knows where an assault is coming and all is forced to stand in readiness under torments of steel, high explosives, shrapnel and gas. A concentration at Preux for a counter-attack was observed from the air. Transports, ammunition trains and masses of men become mixed up on the roads in that vicinity. When the concentration was sufficiently large and the enemy traffic appeared to be in the greatest state of confusion the British gunners opened up their weapons and pumped in steel, as rapidly as possible. Within a few minutes the ground was strewn with dead men and horses, equipment, wagons, lorries and limbers.

Reports just received from one section of the front tell of fierce fighting at several places. They particularly mention Fomereuil, along the Somme, where there was lively fighting north of Mesbrouck.



DR. ELISHA JESSOP, M.P., Member of Ontario Legislature, critically ill of influenza.

a time by a murderous fire from a heavy concentration of German machine guns. The place was filled with the spluttering weapons. The British waited for a time until the advance has progressed north and south of them. Then they swept around the town on both sides. At the rear they found a triangular cleared space, in which the German machine gunners retired to prepared positions. The British went around them and captured Pomeroy wood at the back of the triangle, thus surrounding the enemy.

CROSSED CANAL

Paris, Oct. 24.—Southwest of Le Cateau French troops have crossed the Sambre Canal, east of Grand Verly, says the War Office statement today. The French maintained their gains east of the canal in spite of strong German counter-attacks. South of Mont Cornet, further to the east, the French have increased their gains north of Nixy-Comte. Along the Somme, there was lively fighting north of Mesbrouck.

SUBMARINE TOLL IS LESSENING

Decline Now Recorded in the Sinking of Ships

By Courier Leased Wire.

LONDON, Oct. 24.—(Canadian Press despatch from Reuters' Limited).—The British Admiralty announces that British merchant tonnage losses during September totaled 152,000 tons gross; other allies and neutrals combined 88,000, and the aggregate constitutes the lowest monthly sinkings since August, 1916, and is below that year's monthly average. The total losses of the three months ended September 30th was 892,000 tons, compared with 964,000 in the previous quarter and a million and a half tons in the corresponding quarter of last year. The sailings of steamships exceeding five hundred tons gross between the United Kingdom and overseas ports, including cross channel traffic, was seven and a half million tons in September.

G. T. R. EARNINGS

Grand Trunk Railway earnings, October 15 to 21 were: 1918, \$1,236,185; 1917, \$916,866. Increase, \$319,319.

WEATHER BULLETIN

Toronto, Oct. 24.—A shallow low area covers the Mississippi valley and showers and showers are indicated for Ontario. It is fine in Quebec and the Maritime provinces, and cool with local snow and rain in Manitoba. Forecasts: Fresh to strong easterly to southerly winds, reaching gale force on Erie, occasional rain to-day and on Friday.



"Zimmie"

KAISER HELD A POW WOW

And Talked at Great Length to Members of the Government

Socialist Paper Says People Will Not Continue War to Please Him

By Courier Leased Wire.

Paris, Oct. 24.—Emperor William conferred on Monday with all the members of the government, talking at length with each individual, and then harranged them in a body, says a despatch from Zurich to The Journal. Thus far the German newspapers have printed nothing concerning the Emperor's speech. The war cabinet held another long meeting on Tuesday. The address of the chancellor to the Reichstag is criticized sharply by a majority of the newspapers. The extracts from the speech circulated by the Wolf Bureau, the semi-official news agency, are to some extent garbled, while other passages bear so little resemblance to what Prince Maximilian said, that they appear to have been invented.

The Socialist newspapers, the Zurich despatch continues, are particularly outspoken. The Frankische Tagespost of Nuremberg, Bavaria, says the Emperor must not think the German people are going to continue the war for months to please him. "If the Emperor must go," it adds, "let him go at once." The correspondent reports that the chancellor and the anti-Germans are working actively toward the formation of a national defense government. He says a proclamation to the people exhorting them to carry on war to the utmost, has been drafted with the help of General Ludendorff, and that he understands it will be published as soon as President Wilson's reply has been received. It is expected in Berlin, the correspondent adds, that the President will not allow himself to be flouted and ridiculed by the existing German government.

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Pays

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