

# The Evening Times Star

PAGES NINE TO SIXTEEN

ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY OCTOBER 26, 1917

SIXTEEN PAGES

## French Now But Eight Miles Away From Laon

Some Details of Brilliant Victory; Orders Found on Prisoners Indicate Measure of Demoralization; Enemy Losses in Munitions Heavy

With the French Armies in France, Oct. 25.—(By the Associated Press).—The French have reached the Aisne Canal and Laon, eight miles away, in sight. Following up the victory of Tuesday, the French today took Monkey Mountain, east of Vauxaillon, the village of Pinon and the forest of the same name, as well as the village of Pargny-Filain.

Certain demoralization in the German command is shown by contradictory orders found on prisoners. It is asked if another retreat is intended.

Crossing the battlefield in the vicinity of Vauxaillon and Saint-Guilain, the correspondent obtained ample evidence of the extent of the splendid victory of the French. Hundreds of prisoners in large groups were making their way to the rear, marching without escort. Damaged German machine guns lay everywhere, while scattered around were heaps of ammunition, cannons and immense quantities of military material.

Many Germans were captured in the enormous cavern of Peuty. The approaches were battered severely and large holes had been torn in the roof, demonstrating the power and accuracy of the French artillery. Not an inch of ground hereabouts had been left unchanged. The cavern has galleries about one kilometre in length, with many exits, most of which had been damaged greatly by the French guns. When the French infantry dashed forward in the darkness they approached the entrances warily, and found them all full of Germans, waiting for the moment of attack. Rifle grenades and smoke bombs soon brought them out with their hands raised in token of surrender.

A Brave Act. Meanwhile, the tanks had advanced with the infantrymen until the second German position was reached, destroying on the way any nest of machine guns opposing the progress of the French troops. The tanks advanced several kilometres, during which they met and demolished many machine gun nests. One tank was opposed by a determined German officer with a large body of men who poured bullets upon the armored sides of the machine without effect. Finally the French officer in command descended from the tank and with his revolver forced the whole group to surrender.

Another tank found a battery of field guns facing it. So soon as the tank opened fire half of the artillerymen threw up their hands while the remainder bolted, only to fall beneath a hail of machine gun bullets from the monster. Today the French advance proceeded rapidly, and the units reached the various objectives with regularity. After taking the village of Pinon, patrols went forward and entered the forest of the same name. They found many German cannon abandoned, but with the breach blocks gone. Horses killed by the German gunners, lay beside the cannon. The Germans had found it impossible to get the weapons away over the marshes adjoining the Aisne Canal over which most of the bridges had been destroyed, making the retreat of the artillery impossible.

Hundreds of machine guns were captured by the French and many of them were turned on the Germans, who had left plenty of ammunition behind. It is reported that 150 cannon have fallen into French hands, but the number is uncertain owing to the condition of the battlefield and its width. The same uncertainty applies to the total number of prisoners, hundreds of Germans being encountered on all parts of the field marching wearily back to the French lines.

London, Oct. 26.—An official statement on aerial operations issued last night says: "Last night factories and railway communications in the vicinity of Saarbrücken were attacked by our airplanes with excellent results. More than three and one-half tons of explosives were dropped on the Burbach works just west of Saarbrücken by naval machines. The damage caused was considerable, many fires being observed."

## ST. JOHN MEN COMING HOME

Dr. C. M. Pratt And Dr. H. P. Travers In Large Party of Officers En Route From England

London, Oct. 25.—The following have sailed for Canada for disposal at Ottawa, invalided or for other reasons: Col. J. B. White; Lieut.-Col. N. H. Parsons; A. E. Hodgins, J. R. Munro, G. A. Doherty, J. L. Freeman, W. E. Fitzsimmons, G. C. Burnham, E. L. Reid, W. Warren, R. Richards, W. N. Smilie, J. F. McCracken, C. W. Anderson, W. C. Gillis, T. W. Farner, H. B. Andrews, C. McWilliam, F. B. Shaver, B. C. Biggar, G. E. Coombs, G. Harcourt, H. A. Harris, G. F. Forsley, B. E. Harek, M. E. Matthews, E. Rooney, W. E. Freeman, H. P. Travers, J. L. Potter, F. B. Cooper, W. T. Rogers, R. L. Smythe, B. A. Sandwith, E. H. Henderson, V. E. Belque, A. E. Sargison, J. Moore, V. C. Best, T. M. Creighton, D. M. Foster, A. D. Harvey, F. J. Waddington, W. Bell, A. L. Pattinson, C. M. Pratt, C. G. Cox, K. C. Dean, Hon. Capt. M. W. Langton, N. B. McKibbin, J. B. Paulin, A. B. Ranson, S. W. Burnett, A. G. Calder, A. W. Fargie, A. J. Pequegnat, A. W. Taylor, J. A. Malenfant, J. W. Day and J. O. Hastings.

Among those in the above list are the names of Capt. C. M. Pratt and Capt. H. P. Travers, two St. John officers. front to 899. This was done without reducing the number of battalions on the eastern front.

When the Russian offensive in Galicia and to check the Russian advance toward the German frontier, Germany was compelled to throw fresh troops on her eastern front, increasing the number of battalions there in September, 1915, to 780. To do this it was necessary to reduce the number of German battalions on the western front from 1,293 to 1,120.

Many divisions were transferred from the eastern to the western front when the Germans gathered their forces for the beginning of the great battle of Verdun with the result that in June, 1916, there were 1,376 German battalions on the western front and those on the eastern front were reduced from 780 to 574.

The German drive against Roumania was made possible by adding more than 300 battalions to their eastern battle line, bringing the total on the eastern

front to 899. This was done without reducing the number of battalions on the western front below 1,300. When the French and British began their great offensive operations in July, 1917, the Germans were compelled to bring fresh forces to the western front, increasing their battalions there to 1,456 but reducing the number on their eastern front only to 860. Subsequently the German battalions along the Russian battle line were increased by the addition of more than 100 battalions, bringing the total there to 965 on September 1 of this year. These were divided into 92 divisions of three regiments each. During the movement the battalions on the western front, reduced to 1,300, divided into 147 divisions and that is believed to have been the number on the German western front on September 1. These figures do not include any German troops on garrison duty in the interior of the country nor those maintaining lines of communications.

## FIGHT OR SINK



—N. Y. Evening Telegram.

## MORE GERMAN WORKS ARE POUNDED HARD FROM AIR

British Aviators Send Down Tons of Explosives—Enemy Lose Several Machines; Six of British Missing

London, Oct. 26.—An official statement on aerial operations issued last night says:

"Last night factories and railway communications in the vicinity of Saarbrücken were attacked by our airplanes with excellent results. More than three and one-half tons of explosives were dropped on the Burbach works just west of Saarbrücken by naval machines. The damage caused was considerable, many fires being observed."

Three thousand three hundred and thirty-five pounds of explosives were dropped on railway stations, junctions, goods sidings in and around Saarbrücken by another squadron. Many direct hits were obtained, resulting in numerous explosions. One train proceeding to Saarbrücken received a direct hit from a big bomb and was destroyed. A total of five tons of explosives was dropped by us.

"The enemy's anti-aircraft defences were strong. At first the weather conditions were good, but later became very bad, with rain, low clouds and a strong wind, rendering the return of our machines most difficult. On Wednesday there was a slight improvement in the weather on the British front, though drifting clouds and a very strong wind made observation and fighting over the enemy's lines difficult. One hundred and fifty-four bombs were dropped during the day on the enemy's billets, twelve heavy bombs on an airfield near Courtrai, and seventy-one others on German troops in trenches and in the open."

"At times the fighting was severe. Four biplane machines were downed by our airplanes; one was shot down by our infantry, and three other machines were brought down out of control. Six of our machines are missing."

## Danes Demand More Severe Punishment For German Spies

Copenhagen, Oct. 26.—A demand for greater punishment for the large swarm of commercial spies invading Denmark has been raised in the Danish parliament, complaints are made that, despite the loss of life from submarines among Danish seamen, the detected spies far too often have been expelled instead of being imprisoned.

Premier Zahle replied that a distinction was drawn between foreign agents of countries operating against each other, who, when detected, are expelled, and Danish subjects engaged in espionage against the interests of Denmark who would be punished with the full severity of the law.

## BRITISH HEALTH MINISTRY

London, Sept. 30.—(Correspondence).—An important plan under consideration for the establishment of a ministry of health has been approved and adopted by committees of various societies covering 12,000,000 insured persons in the country.

It is planned to combine in the new ministry, the existing public health functions of the local government board, the national health insurance commissioners, and the functions of other health and public bodies.

## McClary's KOOTENAY RANGE

LONDON TORONTO MONTREAL WINNIPEG VANCOUVER ST. JOHN, N.B. HAMILTON CALGARY SASKATOON EDMONTON

Maritime Branch Office and Warehouse, 221-223 Prince William Street.

## Ideal For Wash-Day

The Kootenay Range accommodates the wash boiler and still leaves four holes free for cooking. This allows you to serve wash-day dinners that are just as good as other days and doesn't interfere with your laundering. Ask our dealer or write for booklet.

McClary's KOOTENAY RANGE

LONDON TORONTO MONTREAL WINNIPEG VANCOUVER ST. JOHN, N.B. HAMILTON CALGARY SASKATOON EDMONTON

Maritime Branch Office and Warehouse, 221-223 Prince William Street.

## PAINLEVE MAJORITY REDUCED

Chamber Hesitates to Defeat Ministry During War Hundred Withhold Votes

Paris, Oct. 26.—Premier Painlevé's ministry obtained 346 favorable votes on October 19, and his new ministry yesterday obtained only 288 votes, slightly more than half the votes in the chamber of deputies. The opposition votes numbered 187, partly from the Socialists and partly from the Radical Socialists. The same groups supplied 100 members who abstained from voting. The vote testifies once more to the hesitation of the chamber to defeat any ministry by a direct vote during the war.

Premier Painlevé refused to be drawn into a discussion of the resignation of Foreign Minister Ribot. He said he would put aside questions of persons and would not re-open the debate on a closed subject, as events might appear obscure which it was necessary to avoid during a period of unsettlement. The premier spoke chiefly on Alsace-Lorraine.

J. Louis Barthou, the new foreign minister, said in part: "Never has France had greater reason for complete confidence in victory than when at the present moment the United States has entered the struggle and when the United States is sending us, with admirable energy, material and soldiers. The consequence of such events is incalculable."

"Premier Painlevé has referred to the allied conference, saying that decisions will be taken at it which will effect the conduct of the war and its conclusion. When I take my place at the conference as a representative of the government I need the sympathy and confidence of the chamber, for we are at the moment of the war, when as Premier Lloyd George has said, it is necessary for us to be on our guard against Germany's diplomatic offensive. Germany is now reduced to attempts to weaken the national sentiment of each of the allies and to sow seeds of discord between the allies."

M. Barthou said that it was impossible to state at present what guarantees would be exacted against the recurrence of a war like the present one. The neutralization of certain territories, he added, had been suggested. Deputy Renaudel interrupted, saying that M. Barthou referred to something that he had said during a secret sitting. But, M. Renaudel added, what he chiefly demanded was a society of nations.

## FRENCH SOCIALISTS STRONG FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE PROVINCES LOST TO HUNS

Paris, Oct. 26.—A national convention of the United Radicals and Radical Socialists, the strongest political organization in France, was opened yesterday with 1,821 delegates present.

The presiding officer declared that, despite the fact that it has 170 deputies in the chamber, the united party did not occupy the place it ought to. Louis J. Malvy, former minister of the interior, who was charged recently with having dealings with the enemy, was cheered loudly when he entered the convention hall.

A resolution demanding the restoration of Alsace-Lorraine "without compromise and without plebiscite," was adopted.

Alexandra Temple, No. 6, T. of H. officers, last night elected the following: chief templar, H. W. Brown; recorder, Gordon McLennan; assistant recorder, Fred Holman; treasurer, F. P. Gallop; usher, Murray Flowers; deputy usher, W. L. Downey; chaplain, D. Black; guard, Cecil Carlin; sentinel, R. J. Burk; past chief templar, C. T. Green.

## Another Scandal In France; Big Sum Is Mentioned

Charge of Trading With Enemy Made Against Pierre Lenoir and William Desouches—One Paper Connects Them With German Spy Chief in Switzerland

Paris, Oct. 26.—The arrest of Pierre Lenoir and William Desouches, on Wednesday, charged with trading with the enemy, has again brought scandal to the fore in the French newspapers. Lenoir, a member of the newspaper of Action Française, the newspaper of Leon Daudet, who recently obtained much prominence because of charges made in connection with the Bolo Pasha case, asserts that the case of Lenoir and Desouches is more important than that of Bolo Pasha. The newspaper connects the men with Prince Hohenlohe-Oehring, chief of the German espionage system in Switzerland.

The Matin, although it prints only two pages on Thursday, devotes five columns to the case, exclusive of some 150 lines that had been excluded by the censor. This newspaper points out that Lenoir and Desouches were not arrested here, strictly speaking, but that they were summoned to answer to charges of trading with the enemy; that Lenoir was permitted to be allowed to refute the charges at once and that he was permitted to make a statement which took up all of the afternoon. Examining Magistrate Drioux then decided not to sign a commitment warrant until both men had completed their statements. Meanwhile they were detained all night in the public prosecutor's office.

The arrest of Lenoir and Desouches, says the newspaper, was due to a statement made by Lenoir's former chauffeur, a man named Debrun, who asserted that one day in the middle of July, 1915, Lenoir and Desouches received two small trunks carefully sealed. Immediately afterward Debrun drove Lenoir to the house of a friend, Madame D'Arly, to whom Lenoir made a present of 500,000 francs. The next day and on following days, according to the statement of the chauffeur, Lenoir sent Debrun out to change some 1,000 franc notes.

These statements, says the Matin, were verified by the police and it was further found that Desouches had deposited several million francs in the Champs Elysees branch of a big bank, whereupon the arrest of Lenoir and Desouches was ordered by the public prosecutor.

According to other newspapers the money received by the men amounted to 10,000,000 francs and that it came from Switzerland and in such a manner that the customs authorities could not examine it. It was in old, well thumbed French notes. Nine million francs, it is asserted, were used to purchase the Journal from its original proprietor, Henri Leclercq, and a million francs were kept by Lenoir as his commission. The newspaper also says that Lenoir had a position in the censor's department dealing with foreign telegrams, which enabled him to communicate with Switzerland without restriction, and that he frequently went to Switzerland for work ends, sending word to his chief that he was ill and unable to report for duty.

## Italian Government Is Defeated by A Large Majority

Vote of Confidence in Boselli Cabinet Fails by 314 to 96

Rome, Oct. 25.—The government was defeated in the chamber of deputies today when a vote of confidence failed by 314 to 96.

The Italian parliament reopened its session less than two weeks ago. A dispatch from Turin on October 17 said that the position of the government was endangered because of the serious riots in Turin during the latter part of August and because of the general food crisis throughout Italy. The food controller, Giuseppe Canepa, resigned owing to the food situation. The dispatch said that the government would be called upon by parliament to justify its action.

The Rome correspondent of the Paris

## THREE SHOT, ONE SLAYED OVER CARDS

New York, Oct. 26.—A fusillade of shots rattled out at daybreak from a hallway at 82 Nostrand avenue, Williamsburg, and while two policemen hurried to the scene two men who had been wounded in the abdomen staggered out. They were James Carino and his cousin, Charles Dugan, owner of a grocery on the ground floor.

In the hallway lay James Marino of 102 Nostrand avenue badly shaken by the fact. Half an hour later Joseph Rapallo of 28 Nostrand avenue staggered into the Clymer street station with a bullet in his abdomen and the tip of his nose missing. The men were taken to Cumberland Street Hospital and Carino is not expected to live. Rapallo and Marino were made prisoners. The dispute arose over the division of money in a card game.

## COWAN'S ACTIVE SERVICE CHOCOLATE

This Chocolate is a concentrated food specially prepared for troops subject to the hardships and privations of trench life. Bread becomes stale, flour mouldy and meat deteriorates, but this Chocolate will keep indefinitely. It should prove a veritable life saver when ordinary rations are unobtainable. Send the boys at the front this Chocolate to-day. It may be obtained anywhere in 5c. and 25c. packages. The 25c. package is specially wrapped for immediate mailing.

Made by The Cowan Co'y Limited, Toronto

B-15