

FRESH BATTLE ON YPRES FRONT

British Gain on Two Fronts; French Repulse Foe Attacks

Railway Strike in Britain is Averted by Agreement

Italians Sustain Drive, Gaining Further Successes

Operation Launched by British at Dawn To-day

Italian Drive is Gaining Impetus; Selo Village Taken From the Austrians

Rome, Aug. 22.—The present Italian offensive is on a vaster scale than any previous one. New features were the shortening of the usual period of artillery preparation, which lasted 24 hours, but was so arranged that it increased steadily and rapidly until a hurricane of shells was falling. Then when it suddenly ceased a squadron of airplanes flew in advance of the assaulting troops forming the first line, using their machine guns on the Austrians at short range. Many prisoners were made deaf by the violence of the detonations. They had believed their positions quite impregnable.

Losses Admitted Vienna, Aug. 22, via London.—The new attack of the Italians has forced back the Austrian line at some points, the war office announces, and the village of Selo, on the Carso plateau, has been lost.

The statement follows: "The eleventh battle of the Isonzo is in full swing, the enemy not having succeeded in the ten preceding battles in breaking our victorious defensive strength. South of Anzusa and east of Canale (on the Isonzo south of Tolmino) the enemy succeeded in driving our front slightly. After an attack at Vrh (southeast of Canale) some of our detachments held their positions until they were surrounded completely, after which they cut their way out. Between the Deersla and the Wappach, an assault failed in the face of the heroic defense of our lines. On the Carso, the enemy, at the cost of thousands of men, obtained a local success, in the conquest of the village of Selo.

"During two days of fighting we have taken more than 5,600 prisoners and more than fifty machine guns."

French Official Paris, Aug. 22.—The Germans made a violent counter-attack last night on the Verdun front, west of the Meuse. They penetrated the French lines at points in their attempts to reverse the gains taken from them in the French offensive. The War Office announces were driven out.

German attacks east of the river were also repulsed. The number of prisoners taken has reached 6,116. The statement follows: "The Germans last night violently bombarded our first lines at various points on the Aisne front. They made several strong attacks in the region of Mennejean, east of Braye-en-Laonnais, south of Bovel, between Ailles and the Hurtelise Monument and on the California plateau. Everywhere our troops maintained their positions entirely. Prisoners were taken.

"On the left bank of the Meuse (Verdun front) late yesterday, we repulsed a violent German counter-attack between Hill 304 and Dead Man Hill. Certain enemy detachments, which succeeded in gaining a footing in our new first line trenches were ejected by a brilliant attack which gave us 60 prisoners. Our reconnaissances were pushed as far as the village of Forges.

"On the right bank of the river, the enemy also made several attempts to drive us from the positions."

AIR RAID By Courier Leased Wire. London, Aug. 22.—German airships made a raid off the Yorkshire coast last night, it is announced officially. The damage inflicted was small. The announcement follows: "Enemy airships, in numbers not definitely ascertained, appeared off the Yorkshire coast (on the North Sea) last night. One of the raiders attacked the mouth of the Humber and was fired on by anti-aircraft guns. She dropped some bombs then made off to sea.

"The damage so far reported is slight. One man was injured."

An air raid warning was issued in London this morning. About an hour later the announcement "all clear" was made, indicating the raiders had been driven off.

GERMANY STILL OBDDURATE UPON ISSUE OF PEACE

Will Not Reply to Papal Note Before Consulting Her Allies

STALLING FOR TIME Situation Auspicious On All Fronts, Declares Chancellor Michaelis

Berlin, Aug. 21.—via London.—Chancellor Michaelis informed the main committee of the Reichstag this afternoon that Germany would not reply to the papal peace note, until she had consulted her allies. Dr. Michaelis added that in view of the fact that Germany had previously repeated and positively indicated her readiness to enter peace negotiations, the Vatican's appeal, of course, is looked on with sympathetic approval. Germany, however, could not again offer peace in face of the summary rejection of previous proposals and continued declarations by the Entente that no peace is possible until the Central Powers are defeated and crushed.

The chancellor informed the committee that no steps would be undertaken toward peace without fully consulting the reichstag. He then declared that the military situation on all fronts was exceptionally auspicious and read a message received from the German headquarters, in which the U-boat campaign was given liberal credit for its effect in successfully warding off the allies' offensive in Flanders.

Dr. Richard von Kuehlmann, the new foreign secretary and other newly appointed government heads, were presented to the committee, which then took a recess. Constantin Pelt, superior from the Central party, was elected chairman of the main committee to succeed Dr. Peter Spahn.

Dr. Michaelis conferred confidentially with the reichstag leaders during the day, while party factions were also in session in the morning. The Vienna Reichsoost says it has taken note of the Pope's peace note in "in absolute harmony with the aims of the monarchy. Austria-Hungary, according to the paper is willing to evacuate occupied territories and renounce claims to territories and international arbitration and freedom of the seas are guaranteed and world peace is carried out but all the consequences deducible from the Pope's proposals must be understood to be included therein.

Namely, the disappearance of the British naval bases at Gibraltar, Malta and the Suez canal and also the Italian abandonment of Valona. New Treaty. Paris, Aug. 22.—A wireless dispatch from Zurich says a new economic convention between Switzerland and Germany was concluded and signed Monday evening at Berne. Recent dispatches from European capitals indicated that hitch in the economic relations between Germany and Switzerland had been straightened. Continued on Page Five

Langemarck Sector, Scene of Last Week's Heaviest Fighting, Once More Hotly Contested; Gains in Lens District Also Maintained

British Front in France and Belgium, Aug. 22.—(By the Associated Press)—The British began another operation northeast of Ypres at dawn today, on the battle scarred ground between Langemarck and Frezenberg. No details are yet available from this sector which was the scene of some of the heaviest fighting last Thursday in the assault by the British.

Meanwhile the conflict continued about Lens, though apparently greatly diminished in intensity, with the Canadians still holding the Germans off from the positions which they had gained in the southwestern part of the city yesterday and at the same time clinging tenaciously to the numerous new posts in the German line on the northwestern section.

Fierce hand-to-hand fighting continued late into the night, especially in the northwest portion which lies between the Germans and Hill 70. The Germans continued to fling heavy counter-attacks against the Canadians. The battle surged back and forth amid the ruined buildings and trenches.

This morning the advantage rested with the British and nowhere had the Germans been able to reach the lines from which the Canadians began their offensive yesterday morning.

GAINS MAINTAINED London, Aug. 22.—In the face of heavy German counter-attacks, the British have maintained the newly gained positions on the outskirts of Lens, the war office announces. Further progress has been made at some points.

The following is the official statement: "South and southwest of Lens, the new positions captured by us yesterday morning on the outskirts of the town have been maintained and further gain has been made at other points. Northwest and north of Lens also, as a result of heavy fighting in the course of which German counter-attacks were repulsed by our rifle and machine gun fire or broken up by our artillery, some additional ground has been secured in advanced positions captured on the 15th. There has been great artillery activity during the night on both sides east and northeast of Ypres."

ANOTHER AIR RAID London, Aug. 22.—Ten German airplanes approached the English coast in the County of Kent today, the British office announces. Two of the raiding machines were brought down. Bombs were dropped at Dover and at Margate. Three persons were killed and two injured. The statement says the raiders were unable to penetrate far inland.

RAILWAY STRIKE IN OLD LAND AVERTED; AN AGREEMENT REACHED

Government Quells Agitation Among Engineers and Firemen of Britain; Eight Hour Day Question to be Discussed After the War

London, Aug. 22.—An understanding has been reached between the government and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, who have been threatening a general strike of railwaymen. The society had demanded the adoption of an eight-hour day, but a delegation which visited Sir Albert Stanley, president of the Board of Trade, was informed on Sunday that the government would discuss the question of an eight hour day only when the war was ended. Later, however, the two sides entered into further negotiations, and it was said yesterday that a way would be found to reach an agreement.

It is officially announced that the negotiations continued at the Board of Trade office between Sir Arthur Stanley and the executive of the Associated Society until very late Tuesday night, when the understanding was arrived at. The understanding, it was added, is embodied in a letter to Sir Albert, written by the executive secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen.

That the government was pledged to return the control of the railways some time after the war, when there would be an opportunity within one month to bring forward the request for a shorter working day on the railways; that any reasonable request for them would have immediate sympathetic consideration by the government, that adequate machinery existed for dealing with the questions of excessive hours and insufficient pay arising from war conditions, had been amicably adjusted, and that he (Sir Albert) had no reason to doubt that any future demands would be met in the same spirit.

The letter concludes with an assurance that Sir Albert will use his good offices to arrange for a discussion of outstanding matters between the representatives of the two sides. Continued on Page Five

TO ACCEPT? By Courier Leased Wire. Copenhagen, Aug. 22.—A telegram from the official correspondence bureau in Vienna, seems to indicate that Austro-Hungary will accept the Pope's proposal. A summary of Austro-Hungarian press opinion circulated by the Bureau says: "The newspapers regard the Pope's proposals as a suitable basis for beginning peace negotiations but doubt whether the Entente shares this hope."

In view of the well-known practices of the Corr Bureau in producing such summaries this may undoubtedly be regarded as the government's voice. The Bureau then ingeniously suggests when the Pope referred to territorial questions between Austria and Italy he could not have Austrian soil in mind because the alienation thereof is not to be discussed.

CANADA TO CUT DOWN OUTPUT OF MUNITIONS Unnecessary To Continue Production Work on The Present Scale NEED IS LESS URGENT

Instruction By Minister of Munition May Throw Many Out of Work

Ottawa, Aug. 22.—Towards the close of 1916 the capacity for producing munitions in Great Britain had so increased that the minister of munitions advised that it was unnecessary to continue the production of munitions in the United States for British account, except for a few special lines. The production in Canada, however, was continued as before.

The minister has now been advised that it is unnecessary to continue production in Canada on the present scale. He has directed that certain lines shall be discontinued, that other lines shall be produced in lessened quantities; while some lines are to be continued as at present.

The effect of this will be to stop the production of shells and components at some places which are now producing sizes no longer required. In other plants where shells are made of sizes of which a reduced output only are required, it will mean working during the day only, thus stopping night work. In other plants, however, where sustained production is required, operations will be continued night as well as day.

These changes have been anticipated by several important firms, who have already resumed, or are planning to resume, their pre-war activities in their own lines, while others are engaged in the production or preparing for production of equipment needed for ships now under construction or to be built during 1918.

ITALIANS SWEEP ON By Courier Leased Wire. Rome, Aug. 22.—More than 18,000 Austro-Hungarian prisoners have been captured by the Italians in their offensive on the Isonzo front, the Italian war department announced to-day. The Italians also have taken 30 guns. General Cadorna reports that the Italian have gained new successes along the whole battle line. North of Gorizia, the operations are proceeding regularly. To the south the struggle is localizing especially on the Carso front.

CASUALTIES By Courier Leased Wire. Ottawa, Au. 22.—One hundred and twenty-four casualties were listed at noon to-day, including 24 killed and 5 prisoners. Continued on Page Five

Immortal Glory Will be That of Irish Forces in Latest Fight at Ypres---Story of Battle

British Front in France and Belgium, Aug. 22.—(By the Associated Press)—The story of the valiant fight waged by Irish battalions, both Ulstermen and South of Ireland men, in the latest British offensive northeast of Ypres, forms one of the most remarkable pages in the history of this sanguinary battle. As was the case with the intrepid Londoners in Polygon wood to the south, they did not achieve the success which they sought, but the struggle they made against overwhelming odds will make their names immortal in Irish annals. The mortal in Irish annals. The Irish troops fought Thursday may roughly be placed as lying between Fortuin on the north and Frezenberg on the south. Before them lay strong Bavarian positions scattered over a terrain which at first blush, made an advance seem impossible. Stretching from the Sonnekebeke-Langemarck road across the centre of the battlefield is a ridge which had dominated all surrounding ground and from which could be poured a deluge of bullets in advancing ranks. Through the southern portion of this section the swollen Sonnekebeke River poured its muddy water and scattered along both banks of the stream were many steel and concrete redoubts holding from 20 to 100 Germans, all well armed. Immediately in front of the Irish was undulating ground. Every knoll was a strong Bavarian position and the whole section was filled with concrete redoubts and shell holes lined with machine guns. Depressions in the ground were a mass of knee-deep mud caused by recent rains and the flood of the river. The Irish battalions were muddy and wet when they began the attack. The Ulster men were on the left of this battlefield and the men of the South on the right.

Shoulder to shoulder they moved out among the heart-breaking obstacles at the break of day, bogging at every step, and all that human beings could have done under such circumstances they did. As they advanced they first encountered the tomahawk thin held line of German outposts among shell craters. These Bavarians fell back and almost immediately the Irishmen found themselves facing a fire from every machine gun before them. A vicious fire, whipping out a steady stream of lead breast high across the whole battlefield.

Amidst this hail of bullets and crashing shells, the Irishmen pushed doggedly forward. The first struck a position called Pond Farm, below Fortuin. Here were many machine guns placed in concrete pits behind tumbled strong redoubts and deep dugouts. The Irishmen plunged into the gun pits and a fierce struggle followed. The Bavarians would not surrender and they fought until the last German lay crumpled beside his gun. A small sarrison was left to hold this place and the Irish pushed on. There was a constant bitter fighting at every step.

Near Pond Farm they were held up by party of overhauber wire entanglements, and as they struggled through this they were swept with bullets. Numerous redoubts were encountered beyond and in most cases it was hand-to-hand fighting to finish with a stubborn enemy. The Southern Irish at a given hour went forward with all the coolness which made them famous at Ghinchy and other places. They surged on through the mire to some of their objectives, but they had passed numerous unslung machine gun emplacements, and following waves of infantry were held up by these.

North of Frezenberg was a redoubt called Borry Farm, holding sixty to eighty Bavarians with machine guns. The position was too strong for the infantry to take, but the Irish battled on until these troops which had essayed an attack on the fortification lay dead or wounded before it. Others pushed forward to Hill 35, as this ridge which dominated the surrounding ground was known and for a time that eminence was actually held. Continued on Page Five



"Here, waiter, where's my portion of sugar?" "That must be that beastly fly again, sir—as soon as I puts down a portion of sugar, along 'comes and sneaks it." —London Opinion

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