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TRAGEDY OF BELGIUM IN ALL ITS HORRORS

The Brave Belgians Fought Until the Last in the Defence Of Antwerp—The Population Thrown Into Panic, and Tragic Scenes Marked the Attempt of the Old People, Women and Children to Escape the Rain of German Shells

LONDON, Oct. 13.—A Daily Chronicle correspondent who has arrived here from Antwerp tells the following story: "Antwerp has surrendered. This last and bitterest blow which has fallen upon Belgium is full of poignant tragedy, but the tragedy is lightened by the gallantry with which the city was defended.

to remain calm and he certainly set them an admirable example, but it was impossible to counsel the Belgians who knew what had happened to their fellow citizens in other towns which the Germans had passed through.

Devastated by Shell Fire. "It was three minutes past noon on Friday when the Germans entered the city, which was formally surrendered by the Burgomaster, J. Devos. Antwerp has been under the devastating and continuous shell fire for over 40 hours.

The Garrison Escaped. "The German guns were concealed with such cleverness that their position could not be detected by the Belgians. Against such methods and against the terrible power of the German guns the Belgian artillery seemed quite ineffective.

Some Harrowing Sight. "Those forty hours of shattering noise almost without a lull, seemed to me now a fantastic nightmare, but the harrowing sights I witnessed in many parts of the city cannot be forgotten. It was Wednesday night that the shells began to fall in the city.

Population in Panic. "Before the bombardment had begun in operation the civil population or a large part of it fell into a panic. It is impossible to blame these peaceful, quiet living burghers of Antwerp for the fears that possessed them when the merciless rain of German shells began to fall into the streets, and on the roofs of their houses and public buildings.

The Burgomaster had in his proclamation given them excellent advice

and when they realized this, I fancied I heard a low wail of anguish rise from the disappointed multitude.

A Wild Struggle. "Other means of escape were, however, available in the shape of a dozen or fifteen tug boats, whose destinations were Rotterdam and Flushing, and other ports of Holland. They were not vessels of any considerable passenger carrying capacity, and as there was no one to arrange the systematic embarkation, a wild struggle followed among the frantic people to obtain places on the tug. Men, women and children fought desperately with each other to get on board, and in that moment of supreme anguish human nature was seen in one of the worst moods, but who can blame these stricken people, shells that were destroying their homes and giving their beloved ones to flames, were screaming over their heads.

Escape was Miraculous. "There was a scarcity of gang planks to the boats and the only means of boarding them was by narrow planks sloping at a dangerous angle. Up these the fugitives struggled and the strong elbowed the weak out of their way in their haste to escape. The marvel to me as I watched the scramble was that many were not crushed to death in the struggle to get on board, or forced into the river and drowned. As it was mishaps were very few. One old lady of 80 years, slipped on one of the planks and fell against the side of the boat, fracturing her skull. Several people fell in the river, and two were drowned.

Many Died on the Way. "At the central station incidents of a similar kind were happening. There as down by the river, an immense throng of people had assembled, and they were filled with dismay at the announcement that no trains were running. In their despair they prepared to leave the city on foot by crossing the pentoon bridge and marching toward the Dutch frontier. I cannot, of course, speak positively on the subject, but I should say the exodus of refugees from the city must have totalled 20,000 persons, men, women and children of all ages, or

very nearly that vast number, and that out of a population, which in normal times is 321,821. One might estimate that fully 70 per cent. of these folk had little or no money. There were three lines of exit. They could, up to the time of the German invasion, cross the Scheldt on the pontoon bridge, they could go along the countryside toward the Dutch frontier, or they could walk up the Scheldt toward the frontier, and then by ferry to Belgian territory again. Many of the aged women among the refugees, terrorized and hunger stricken, died, I am told, on the way to the Dutch frontier.

A Scene of Ruin. "I now return to the events of Thursday. At 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon when the bombardment had already lasted over twelve hours, through the courtesy of a Belgian officer, I was glad to ascend to the roof of the Cathedral and from that point of vantage, I looked down upon the scene in the city.

All the southern portion of Antwerp appeared to be desolate ruin. Whole streets were ablaze and flames were rising in the air to a height of twenty and thirty feet. In another direction I could just discern through my glasses dimly in the distance the instruments of 'culture' of the attacking German forces, ruthlessly pounding at the city and creeping nearer to it in the dark. At that moment I should say the enemy's front line was within four miles of Antwerp.

From my elevated position I had an excellent view of the great tanks on the opposite side of the Scheldt. They had been set on fire by the bombs from a German taube and a huge thick volume of black smoke was ascending 200 feet into the air. The oil had been burning furiously for several hours, and the whole neighborhood was enveloped in a mist of smoke. "In all directions were fire and flame and oil laden smoke. It was like a bit of Gustav Dore's idea of the infernal regions."

ALLIED LINES REACH BELGIUM

Anglo-French Force Occupies Ypres 35 Miles S. Of Ostend

Paris, Oct. 14.—That the flanking movement of the Allies' left wing is making marked gains is indicated by an official statement issued here this afternoon.

It states that the Belgian town of Ypres, which is 27 miles Northwest of Lille, and 33 miles South of Ostend had been occupied by the British and French troops.

Reached to Belgium. This announcement, which is the first official statement that has mentioned British troops as operating in this section, shows that the Allies, left wing has extended its range of work from France into Belgium.

The official statement follows:—"First, on our left wing as far as the Oise operations are pursuing their normal course.

Progress at Centre. "Second, at the centre the progress of our armies in the region of Barry au Bac is confirmed.

"Third, on our right wing there is nothing new in the Belgian theatre of war. In the region of Ghent some engagements took place on the night of October 12 and October 13 and during the day of October 13 some Anglo-French troops occupied Ypres."

OSTEND NOT TAKEN YET

London, Oct. 14.—A denial of the false reports that Ostend had been captured by German troops has been made in an official statement issued here.

British Doctors Get Promotions

London, Oct. 15.—The War Office has appointed Sir John Rose Bradford, Sir Wilmot Herringhall, Sir Almoth Wright, consulting physicians with the British force in France. The physicians, who will have the rank of colonel, will leave England next week, accompanied by three expert bacteriologists.

London, Oct. 15.—The attempt of The Morning Post to discredit Churchill over despatching a naval division to Antwerp has been met by a vigorous defence from one of Churchill's political foes. The Pall Mall Gazette Unionist, objects to fixing the responsibility on one minister, declaring that as a whole the Cabinet decided on the matter.

England was further justified in sending a naval brigade on the ground that she could not see Antwerp fall without an effort and even one involving great risk to aid the brave Belgians.

The fault adds the Gazette lies on the nation which would not, in time of peace, accept the counsels of those who understood war.

MARITZ FORCE NUMBERS 500

And All the Dutch Farmers Flocking to Botha's Standard

London, Oct. 15.—General Botha has sent a force to deal with Col. Mantz and the rebels under his command, according to an official telegram from the South African Government.

The rebellion is not so serious as was feared. It is said that the men under Maritz do not exceed five hundred, including the Germans and that as the Dutch farmers are flocking to Botha's standard, Maritz is not likely to receive any large acquisitions.

MARTIAL LAW NOW IN CONGO

Significant Move in Portuguese Colony

Lisbon, Oct. 15.—According to despatches received here from Louanda martial law has been proclaimed throughout the Portuguese Congo.

Town of Roye Has Been Taken And Re-taken Twelve Times

But Main Battle Line on the West Wing Has Shifted From There to Lassigny Further South Where the Conflict Still Rages

Paris, Oct. 15.—The exact position of the bulk of the Allied armies is being kept strictly secret but it is believed the forces in France and Belgium have joined hands since the fall of Antwerp.

The German cavalry around Hazebrouck, France, which masked the movement of infantry had already suffered a rude check from the Allies before the battle of Ypres, because the Germans were unable to

operate freely in masses owing to the ground, where they were virtually at the mercy of the Allied infantry.

A portion of the line where the encounters have been severest has suddenly changed from Roye to Lassigny where the Germans had tried to make a breach through the Allies.

The battle, however, is still progressing there and Roye has been taken and retaken at least twelve times.

OSTEND NOW CENTRE OF INTEREST IN THE WESTERN THEATRE OF WAR

Now Practically No Obstacle in the Way of the German Advance on the Belgian Seaport—Inhabitants Fleeing to England in Shiploads

London, Oct. 15.—Ostend is now the centre of interest in the contest being waged in the Western theatre of war. Reports indicate that there are now virtually no obstacles in the way of the German advance on Ostend and other ports in the north-west of Belgium.

Scores of wounded soldiers are being brought into Ostend from Ghent; and it is reported that the Allies and Germans engaged in a serious battle near Ghent on Monday. The German forces are reported to have been superior in numbers and that the Allies were obliged to withdraw towards the West.

This removes the stumbling block in the way of the German progress toward Ostend.

A state of panic exists among the inhabitants of Ostend for the Germans are known to have a large force within twenty miles of the city. As fast as ships can be provided, resi-

dents are fleeing to England, escape by land having been cut off on all sides.

On the extreme right wing the German army has been forced back before the assault of the Allies and reports indicate that the invaders will encounter strong opposition in attempting to extend their right wing to northern French ports.

Only recently German cavalry had progressed as far West as Kastembrouck but now, according to the French War Office, the front of battle extends from La Bassee through Estaires to Dailul on the Belgian frontier.

Ypres has been occupied by the Allied forces. This indicates a decided gain for the Allies. Outside of this there is no modification in the situation in the Western theatre, so far as is indicated by reports couched in general terms received by the French War Office from the front.

CHURCHILL DEFENDED PORTUGAL MOBILISING

Westminster Gazette, Unionist, Replies to Morning Posts' Attack

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FRENCH BUREAU GIVES THE LIE TO THE GERMANS

Report of Destruction of French Cavalry Division Was Untrue

BUT SHOE IS ON THE OTHER FOOT

And Germans Meet Checks And Repulses in Every Direction

(Official French Bulletin.) Paris, Oct. 14.—In the region of Ghent several engagements occurred during the nights of 12th and 13th and during the day of the 13th Anglo-French troops occupied Ypres, Belgium.

To our left wing right up to the Oise operations are going on normally in the centre the progress of our troops in the region of Berry au Bac is confirmed. To our right wing there is nothing to be noted.

False News. Although usually we are not in the habit of questioning the inexactitudes of the German press it is our duty here to denounce the false news published by certain German newspapers of the supposed destruction of two French cavalry divisions. This report is completely false.

The truthful version is that French and German cavalry forces have been engaged for several days on the front at La Bassee, Estaires and Bailleul. The German cavalry managed to progress very slightly, between the canal of La Bassee and La Lys but was compelled to fall back north of La Lys. The German cavalry losses are certain by as many as ours.

Pursued by Aviators. One of the German divisions especially suffered on account of being pursued during a whole day by our aviators who continually threw bombs on them.

Also the Germans declare they are proceeding to the siege of Verdun. Here again to know the full truth of two unsuccessful attempts to try to outflank at a large distance our troops operating around Verdun.

Failed, With Loss. The first of these attempts was marked by their trying progress in the Argonne woods between Denarville and Varennes. We would recall it failed with important losses, in which we didn't even announce that two German battalions were completely annihilated.

The second German attempt with still greater numbers than the first was to try to cross the Meuse in the region of St. Mihiel. If the Germans did manage to reach the river at all their efforts to get clear have failed. The Germans found themselves outflanked by our troops who advanced from the south northward in the southern part of the heights of Meuse and in Southern Woevre.

Congratulatory Telegram. King Albert has sent the following telegram to the President of the Republic:

"I am deeply grateful for the hospitality so cordially offered by the French to the Belgian Government and by the measures taken by the Government of the Republic to insure our entire independence and our sovereignty.

We are awaiting with an unbroken confidence the hour of the victory fighting side by side for a just cause. Our courage shall never fail. Please accept, Mr. President, my great affection.

(Signed) ALBERT.

FRENCH HOLD 70,000 PRISONERS

Paris, Oct. 12.—The Government is assembling exact information regarding the identity of 70,000 German prisoners now in French hands with the object of exchanging this data for similar facts regarding French prisoners with the German authorities.

"The nature of the country in which fighting has been conducted, being a mining centre, makes rapid progress difficult."

S.S. Waltham which arrived Tuesday for repairs to her rudder sailed again at 5 yesterday afternoon.