

# SIXTEEN GERMAN ATTACKS REPULSED BY THE FRENCH

## Assault After Assault In the Somme Region Heavily Defeated.

### The Enemy Losing a Division Daily---Has 25,000,000 Men There.

**AWFUL LOSSES.**  
London Cable.—On the Somme front both sides were content to rest to day after a month of the most terrible fighting the world has ever seen. This afternoon for the first time intimations began to leak from the rival War Offices on the tremendous destruction of the conflict. All previous estimates of the toll shrank into insignificance before these figures. An official estimate made in Paris sets the German losses for the first two weeks of the Franco-British offensive on the Somme at 20,000 men a day, a total of 280,000 men in a fortnight. The losses since have also been serious. Berlin grand headquarters sets 550,000 men "as a cautious estimate" of the allied casualties.

Paris, Aug. 1.—The efforts of the Germans last night were directed mainly against the extreme right wing of the French troops operating in the Somme region. From Sunday evening to last night the Germans launched not less than sixteen regular attacks against the line between the Hem wood and the Somme.

In the Hem wood and in the region of the Monacu farm the fighting was particularly desperate. On Sunday night the enemy succeeded by an enormous effort in taking the Hem wood for the third time, but two hours later the French counter-attacked brilliantly and recovered the wood. The renewal of the German attack on Monday morning failed completely, one battalion losing a third of its effectives.

The railway station at Hem, on the outskirts of the forest, on the road to Marcourt, passed from hand to hand four times yesterday morning. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon the French lost it again, being beaten back by two Saxon regiments, but at 4 o'clock a splendid French charge recovered it.

The French are now organizing at the outskirts of Maurepas, Ginchy and Guillemont. The French losses in all this fighting were much less than those of the enemy. One regiment, which led the attack on July 30, and whose advance was the most rapid, lost about 300 men, of whom 75 per cent. were only slightly hurt. The small number of serious injuries is attributable to the precision and efficiency of the supporting artillery.

**2,500,000 GERMAN TROOPS.**  
The German army on the western front, according to authoritative sources here, consists of 122 divisions, comprising much more than half the German forces in the field. The precise strength of the divisions is unknown, some consisting of two brigades and others of three. Two brigade divisions on a war footing have 14,000 men, and three brigade divisions 21,000, hence the total strength of the force on this front is assumed to be somewhere between 1,700,000 and 2,500,000.

Numerous prisoners recently taken are of the 1917 class, that is from 19 to 20 years old. It appears that Germany transferred 23 divisions from the eastern to the western front at the conclusion of the Russian campaign in the autumn of 1915. Only four divisions were withdrawn from this front in June and sent to Galicia to help hold back the Russian invasion. The simultaneous pressure on both fronts by the Entente Allies thus prevents the transfer of troops from one frontier to another.

**NET RESULT OF BRITISH OFFENSIVE.**

The net result of the British offensive on the River Somme from the 1st to the 15th of July and stated officially to-day to be that the whole first German position between Ovillers and Montauban, and the greater part of the second German position, fell into British hands. Seven villages were retaken and 12,000 officers and men were made prisoner. The military material seized included 35 field guns, a naval gun, an anti-aircraft gun, several large howitzers and an enormous quantity of machine guns, trench cannon and munitions.

Twenty-one enemy aeroplanes were brought down beyond question. A dozen were seen falling head downwards to earth. The German losses in men, the statement says, must have been serious. The Germans have had to call numerous reserves and have brought to the Somme front within the period treated 12 divisions, which were depositing or in other sectors. The average loss is consequently estimated at about one division daily.

**GERMANY'S POWER CRUMBLING.**  
The Bulletin Des Armees, the official journal of the soldiers of the French army, publishes an order of the day issued by Gen. Joffre to the French army on the occasion of the second anniversary of the outbreak of the war. The order of Gen. Joffre follows:

"Soldiers of the Republic: Your third year of fighting has begun. For two years past you have been supporting with unflinching strength the weight of an implacable conflict. You have caused all the plans of our enemies to fail. You vanquished them on the Marne; you checked them on the Yser, and you

beat them in the Artois and in the Champagne at a time when they were vainly seeking victory on the plains of Russia. Then your victorious resistance during a battle of five months' duration broke the German effort in front of Verdun.

"Thanks to your stubborn courage the armies of our allies have been enabled to manufacture arms, the weight of which our enemies to-day are experiencing over their entire front.

"The moment is approaching when, under the strength of our mutual advance, the military power of Germany will crumble.

"Soldiers of France, you may be proud of the work you already have accomplished. You have determined to see it through to the end! Victory is certain!

(Signed) "Joffre."  
**STILL FOOLING THEIR OWN PEOPLE.**

An official statement issued by Berlin to-night says: "A month has elapsed since the great Anglo-French thrust called in England, 'the great sweep,' during which, according to the enemy's previous announcement a decision had to be obtained under all circumstances by the enemy.

"On a 28-kilometre (17 miles) front the enemy advanced four kilometers (2½ miles) in the average, but after his experiences of July 20, 22, 24 and 26, he will not affirm that the enemy line has even been shaken at any place.

"This 'success' cost the British at least 230,000 men, according to a very cautious valuation. For the French losses there are no accurate foundations, but since the French had to do the biggest part of the job and even taking into consideration their superior fighting skill, the total enemy losses will reach 350,000. The German losses cannot be compared to these figures.

"As the result of the slow progress made by the offensive, we have had time to construct new fortifications behind our actual lines identical to those lost. In order to illustrate the facts mentioned in the foregoing it is stated that in the first month of the fighting at Verdun we gained double the amount of territory while the German casualties were no larger than we could afford."

**NEW BRITISH THRUST.**

London Cable.—The British official communication issued at 10 o'clock this evening says: "Between the Ancre and the Somme the situation is unchanged. Elsewhere on the British front there has been no important incident."

An earlier report read: "There is no change in the general situation to-day. North of Bazentin-le Petit a hostile attack on our line was successfully repulsed. There was heavy artillery fire on both sides during the night. Elsewhere on the British front there is nothing to report."

**BRITISH REPORT.**

A semi-official Berlin despatch says:

"On the western front the British, according to German war correspondents, appear to be on the point of reattempting the task which they found impossible on July 1—namely, to crush the German front north of the Ancre brook in an attempt to reach Bapaume from the west. The British artillery fire on the front between Gommecourt and Beaumont-Hamel on Saturday and Sunday was apparently preliminary to a new onslaught against the heavily fortified line upon which the British divisions dashed themselves valiantly, but vainly in the first days of their storming attack. Simultaneously the British artillery was extremely active on the front eastward from Thiépval."

**FRENCH REPORT.**

Paris Cable.—Tuesday night's War Office report reads: "South of the Somme a small operation between Estrees and Belloy-en-Santerre resulted in the capture of a German trench. We captured about 60 prisoners.

"On the right bank of the Meuse, after a violent bombardment during part of the night, the Germans this morning launched an attack against our positions west and south of the Thiépval work. All their attempts to advance were broken up by our barrier and machine gun fire. Some detachments which had advanced as far as our trenches were driven back by vigorous counter-attacks. At the end of the day we made progress south of the Thiépval work by a grenade attack. The Germans, at about the same time, delivered an attack on the Vaux-Chapitre-Chenols front. At the latter point they succeeded in gaining a footing in some of our advanced trenches, but were driven out shortly afterwards. Elsewhere our fire stopped their attacks, inflicting heavy losses.

"On the rest of the front there was intermittent cannonading."

**SERBS PREPARE FOR ACTION.**

Saloniki, Aug. 2.—Crown Prince Alexander of Serbia, accompanied by the Minister of War, had a long conversation this morning with the French Commander-in-Chief, Gen. Sarraill. They discussed the military situation and operations. In the evening he talked with Admiral Sir Berkeley Milne, Commander-in-Chief of the British fleet in eastern waters.

## FREED FROM HUNS.

### International Socialists' Plans for Stricken Countries

London Cable.—The complete re-establishment of the independence of Belgium and Poland, and a democratic federal union of the Balkan states, were the points unanimously agreed upon at the opening of the International Socialist Conference at The Hague yesterday, according to a detailed account of the session received here.

Pieter Jelles Toolstra, head of the Dutch delegation, who delivered the principal address, said that national differences among the belligerent Socialists to speedily realize the tasks confronting them, and to see that the development of Socialistic tendencies produced by the war was not used for the strengthening of absolutism and bureaucracy.

The Swedish delegate Branting warned against the exaggeration of disarmament, but advocated a reduction in military burdens.

The question of Belgian independence was raised when a letter was read from Emile Vandervelde, the Belgian Minister of Munitions. Minister Vandervelde, who is one of the leaders of the Socialist party in Belgium, insisted that the conference should declare itself unreservedly for the restoration of his native land. There was no opposition to this, but it was decided not to attempt to deal with the thorny question of Alsace-Lorraine.

## HUNS ASSAULT ABOUT VERDUN

### Heavy Attacks Were All Costly Failures,

### While the French Themselves Progressed.

London Cable.—The Germans have noted their furious attacks against Verdun to-day. Throughout the day division after division was sent forward in violent assaults against the French defences northeast of the fortress. The offensive was delivered on a front of three and a half miles, extending from west of Thiépval to the district of Vaux. The French War Office to-night claims the uniform defeat of every German effort, and in addition declares that the French were able themselves to make progress south of the powerful Thiépval work.

The Germans at midnight opened a strong bombardment along almost the entire front northeast of Verdun. At dawn the Crown Prince sent forward his soldiers in the first attack. This was delivered west and south of Thiépval work, and collapsed before the French shrapnel and machine gun fire.

Throughout the forenoon the Germans continued their attacks in this sector, and suffered severe losses, without having any gains to show.

In the afternoon they diverted their attention to the other end of the front, and felt out the French lines there. Then, just before sundown, after a furious bombardment, the greatest attack of the day was delivered on a short front, comprising the Chenols and Chapitre woods, and extending into the Vaux sector. The assault carried the Germans forward into advanced sections of the Chenols defences, but failed elsewhere. And, before the conquered ground could be organized for defence, Gen. Nivelle sent his troops out in a great counter-attack. Every inch of the ground was regained.

**AIR RAID WAS FLAT FAILURE**

### Wanton and Useless Damage Its Only Result.

### Zeppelin Crews Had Lost Their Course.

London Cable.—It was officially announced this evening that there were no casualties whatever as the result of the projectiles dropped by the Zeppelins last night.

A correspondent, who explored the districts visited by the Zeppelins last night, writes:

"The damage done was wanton and indiscriminate. The whole of it was of little value, and certain of no military importance. "Directly the airships struck the coast they separated for various points of penetration. When anti-aircraft guns were drawn out the Zeppelins immediately turned tail seaward. Their pilots seemed to be mystified."

An official statement issued to-day by the German Admiralty staff announces that during Monday night several naval airship squadrons successfully attacked London and the Eastern counties of England. Abundant bombs, the statement says, were dropped on coast works, anti-aircraft batteries, and industrial establishments, important from a military viewpoint. Despite heavy firing which was begun as soon as the naval forces approached, all the airships returned undamaged.

Following the publication here of the German official statement regarding the Zeppelin raid of last night, the British Press Bureau gave out the following statement:

"From the official despatch it is clear that those on the airships had no idea of their course or else that on their return to Germany their report was falsified deliberately. In either case there need be no surprise."

## WARM DEBATE OVER IRELAND IN COMMONS

### Premier Asquith's Presentation of the Case as It Stands Now.

## REDMOND PROTESTS

### Bitterly Objects to the Continuance of the Old "Castle Rule."

London Cable.—In bringing the Irish situation to the front again in the House of Commons to-day by the introduction of his motion urging the Government to disclose its plans for the Government of Ireland during the war, John Dillon said he had entered into negotiations with David Lloyd George for a solution of the Irish question most unwillingly, knowing the enormous difficulties they had before them in getting their own supporters to agree to any terms for a compromise. Besides this there was the enormous opportunity it would give various factions in Ireland that had been assailing the power of the Nationalist leader to make the Government of Ireland hopelessly impossible if he could not secure the support of the Irish people for the settlement.

Lord Lansdowne, continued the speaker, by remaining in the Cabinet after the Unionist members of that body had declined to accept the condition that the Nationalists should remain in their full number at Westminster, gave the first impression mainly responsible for the breaking up of negotiations. Only after the Ulster Nationalists had accepted the terms had Lord Lansdowne publicly announced his views. The Premier had said there should be no coercion of Ulster. The same principle should be applied all around, and there should be no coercion of the Nationalist portion of Ireland, which was to be excluded from home rule.

Premier Asquith, taking up the subject to-day, said that he was as much a party as Mr. Lloyd George to the agreement, but that John Redmond, the Nationalist leader, had been constantly informed that they were not plenipotentiaries, and that the decisions reached were subject to revision by the Cabinet.

Reiterating his view that Ulster could not be brought in without her consent, and that home rule, being on the statute books, could not be taken off, the Premier continued that he was mostly anxious that the House should not pass away from the atmosphere engendered in the last debate. The negotiations, although they failed, had revealed an approximation of an attitude which had hardly been expected or hoped for. A milestone on the road had been passed, and it was the patriotic duty of all to do nothing to revive ancient bitterness.

**A MAKESHIFT AGREEMENT.**

The Premier admitted that the present military control in Ireland was a makeshift arrangement, but it had succeeded in maintaining peace. It was not right to say that Lord Lansdowne was responsible for the in-sistence in the reduction of representations in the Imperial Parliament, as all the Unionists in the Cabinet had adopted the same attitude. Dealing with the release of those arrested during the rebellion, Premier Asquith said that it must not be supposed there was no prima facie cause for the arrests of those liberated. In regard to the destruction in Dublin, the Premier said he hoped for a loan from the Treasury which would enable the undertaking of the arduous task of restoration.

From one viewpoint the state of Ireland is very satisfactory, the Premier said, but from another viewpoint the state of Ireland is very unsatisfactory. The country was in a very prosperous state, and there was a remarkable absence of ordinary and agrarian crime. Among the unsatisfactory things had been the recrudescence of Sinn Féin movements in most aggressive form in some districts. Moreover, there had been deplorable manifestations of sympathy with Great Britain's enemies, but the Premier asserted he had no fear of armed rebellion. He believed the vast majority of the people were loyal, but there were anarchistic forces which required vigilance. The Government would not tolerate, he declared, a repetition of the recent events.

**MARTIAL LAW NOT IN FORCE.**

Martial law, he said, never had been actually in force. All proceedings had been taken under the defence of the realm act. He hoped the form of continuance of martial law would be short, and paid a warm tribute to the tact and discretion of General Maxwell, who, he said, always leaned to the side of mercy.

Under existing circumstances, the Premier asserted, it would not be right to reduce substantially the military force in Ireland, which was put there for the protection of the population against the misguided action of irresponsible persons, but changes in its composition might become necessary owing to the exigencies of war.

Premier Asquith said it was necessary to have the civil Executive in Ireland responsible to Parliament. The scheme of a Provisional Council to advise the Chief Secretary, he asserted, was impracticable. He reminded the House that they were dealing with a period of transition, for he had not abandoned hope that in a short time, shorter than some people imagined, they would be able

to arrive at a permanent arrangement.

**KEEP LORD-LIEUTENANCY.**

The Premier thought, therefore, that during this period it would not be advisable to attempt ambitious experiment. The Lord-Lieutenancy of Ireland would be maintained, but it was not urgently necessary to nominate a Lord-Lieutenant at present. The important thing was to get an effective head of the civil Executive. It was proposed to appoint a Chief Secretary in the Cabinet who would spend the bulk of his time in Ireland. The Government sought someone who was broad-minded, with firm administrative capacity, sympathy with the Irish people and a desire for a settlement. The Premier thought those qualifications should be found in Henry E. Duke, member of Parliament for Exeter.

Murmurs of dissent were heard from the Irish benches, while John Dillon, Nationalist member for East Mayo, exclaimed:

"You ought to have Middleton as Lord-Lieutenant," this being a cynical reference to Viscount Middleton, one of the die-hard Unionists opposing home rule altogether.

Premier Asquith continued, saying he hoped Mr. Duke would start his duties with the good-will of the House. His first business would be carefully to survey the administrative system and factors which made for good and ill. Every arrangement would be of a strictly provisional character for the duration of the war, and if an agreement were reached it would be for a still shorter period.

**JOHN REDMOND PROTESTS.**

John Redmond said that if Sir Edward Carson stood by the agreement as the Nationalists stood by it they would, in effect, shake hands on the floor of the House. The Premier, he said, who only last week announced that Dublin Castle rule was dead, now stated his intentions of setting up Castle rule again. The Chief Secretary for Ireland and the Attorney-General, Mr. Redmond continued, were the real rulers of Ireland. The Government, therefore, was setting up a parallel Executive, and that was an undoubted outrage of the feelings of the Irish people. The Government, he asserted, was going to put into the Castle an Executive of the home rulers, and they refused even to set up a coalition Executive.

Mr. Redmond declared that he protested in the name of the Nationalist party against such a proposal. The Government in making the proposal was taking on itself the full responsibility, and the Nationalist leader said, it left the hands of the Nationalists free to watch, criticize and oppose, if necessary, the coalition Government's administration how and when they pleased.

**AN UNANSWERABLE CASE.**

Lord Hugh Cecil, member for Oxford University, contended that the Ulster case had not been answered and was unanswerable. He said he was most surprised, considering the difficulty of enforcing law and order in Ireland, that the Unionist members in the Cabinet, and Sir Edward Carson, the Ulster leader, went as far as they did. It was impossible to settle the Irish problem by round-table conferences. They were up against a closed door, and it was useless to knock each other. Nothing, Lord Hugh added, ought to be settled until after the war.

Andrew Bonar Law, Secretary for the Colonies, followed. He said it was Lord Lansdowne's personal opinion that although it was undesirable to put the Lloyd George proposal into force, it might be possible after the war. Ulster could be brought into the operation of the home rule bill only by convincing her or by coercion, and if the Nationalists considered coercion undesirable they were on the same ground as the Unionist members of the Cabinet. There was never any doubt that it was intended the excluded areas should remain until it was prepared to come in, and the moment he understood what the Nationalists meant he had told the Premier that he could never agree to the retention of Irish members in full strength in the House of Commons.

**DILLON'S MOTION CARRIED.**

Nobody, the Secretary continued, could foresee the distribution of the parties after the next general election. If the Nationalists would judge all questions on their merits he was not strongly opposed to a full Irish representation, but the Nationalists themselves had admitted that they would support whatever party backed them. The Unionist members of the Cabinet were willing to allow the home rule bill to come into force now, in order to get rid of the feeling of suspicion which existed in Ireland.

Mr. Bonar Law conclude by saying that he hoped from the bottom of his heart that every party in the House would remember the struggle the nation was now engaged in, and the words of Mr. Redmond and Mr. Dillon, who declared they were heart and soul in the war and would do nothing to interfere with the conduct of the war.

After a speech by John Devlin the debate lost interest, and eventually Mr. Dillon's motion was formally agreed to without division.

**TURKEY IS NEXT.**

### U. S. President to Call Sultan to Time.

Washington, Report.—It was stated in official circles to-day that President Wilson is going to call Turkey sharply to task for her mistreatment of the Christian population of Syria and for the cruelties practised upon the Armenians.

Turkey has not replied to the United States note of July 5, Turkey was warned that continued failure to meet the requests of this Government would put a severe strain on her friendly relations with the United States.

Some officials believe President Wilson in the next note to Turkey will insist that provision be made for the relief of the persecuted Christian population of the Turkish Empire or that the United States sever diplomatic intercourse with that Government.

## SHORT ITEMS OF THE NEWS OF THE DAY

### British Fleet Bombards Moulebit, On Asia Minor Minor Coast.

## FROST AT WOODSTOCK

### Sir Wilfrid is Better, but His Teeth Still Bother Him.

Serious losses were inflicted on the foe by the Italians in the Astica Valley.

The license of the Campbell House, Bradford, was suspended for sixteen days.

Arnold Cross, aged 27, was drowned near his summer home on Lake Simcoe, above LeRoy.

A British fleet has bombarded Moulebit, on the coast of Asia Minor, and landed a small detachment.

A Belleville-Prescott road is proposed, and representatives of municipalities interested are called to a meeting.

Frost was reported by a gardener at Woodstock Wednesday morning, where the thermometer on Sunday registered 95 degrees.

Japan is supplying the major part of the munitions being used in the Russian offensive, according to the Ambassador who is now visiting Toronto.

Port Colborne has been chosen by the International Nickel Co. as the site of a refinery to refine all the nickel Great Britain will require.

Four steam trawlers were sunk by German submarines in the North Sea, Lloyd's announced. They were the Braconark, Titania, Rhodesia and Helvetia.

The Norwegian freighter Athos, from Sydney, N. S., to Newfoundland, is fast ashore on the banks of Newfoundland, close to the point where the Arachne grounded some weeks ago.

Louis Gouin, aged 14, of Tecumseh, who was struck by a Grand Trunk freight train while standing near the railroad tracks at Tecumseh, died at the Hotel Dieu, Windsor, several hours later.

Gavin Wallace was charged at the Brantford Police Court with setting fire to the King's Hotel on Sunday morning last. The evidence was not complete and an adjournment was made.

While prying open a freight car at Pilkington Glass Works, St. Catharines, Thorold J. Eligara, a Roumanian, was struck on the head by the crowbar he was using. He died a few moments afterwards.

The agreement between the Government and the owners of the Quebec and Saguenay, Quebec, Montmorency and Charlevoix, and Lotbiniere and Megantic Railways for the taking over of the three roads was finally signed.

Major Hamilton Gault, of the Princess Patricia's, underwent a further operation in London, found necessary for the comfort of his amputated leg. He has been making satisfactory progress and has been going out for frequent drives.

Geo. Mason, a G. T. R. brakeman, residing in Belleville, was killed in the east G. T. R. yards here. He was engaged in assisting to make up a freight train when he stepped upon the westbound track and was struck by the international express as she was coming into the station.

## HOLLAND CALLS GERMAN BLUFF

### And Dutch Shipments to Britain Will be Safe.

### Threat to Close Eastern Border Did the Trick.

London Cable.—The German Government has given a pledge to Holland not to destroy or molest Dutch ships carrying foodstuffs to England, according to a Copenhagen despatch to the Express. This decision is the result of a visit to Berlin of Cornelius J. K. Van Aalst, president of the Overseas Trust, and another Dutch commissioner.

The Express says Van Aalst presented an ultimatum to the authorities in Berlin to the following effect: "Unless Germany agrees not to interfere with Dutch ships bound for England with food cargoes, Holland will close her eastern frontier. Otherwise the Entente may stop Dutch imports from America and the Dutch colonies."

The trip of the Dutch commissioner was the result of representations by the Entente that Holland was selling large quantities of foodstuffs in Germany, while her food trade with England had almost ceased. Holland replied that trade with England was made dangerous by German submarines. Van Aalst, fearing reprisals by the Entente, then undertook the trip to Berlin, and after a series of conferences obtained Germany's acceptance of his demands.

Wigg—At the eleventh hour she flitted the fellow she was going to marry and eloped with his best man. Wagg—Ah, that is one of the few instances where the best man wins.