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KING ALBERT'S TROOPS DRIVING BACK HUN HORDES IN BELGIUM BRITISH TAKE PRISONERS IN RAIDS NEAR LILLE

WORKING FOR GREATER AND BETTER LONDON



Advertiser Illustration
Londoners who started out today on a campaign to increase the members and efficiency of the Board of Trade and to help along the community spirit which spells progress to the city where it exists in great strength.

OSTEND BEING EVACUATED BY THE GERMANS

Report From Holland Says Torpedoboots Departed Loaded to Capacity.

London, Oct. 15.—Several of Germany's largest torpedoboots recently left Zebrugge, one of Germany's naval bases on the Belgian coast, during a stormy night, according to a Dutch frontier message forwarded from Amsterdam on Monday to the Central News Agency. The German warships were filled to their capacity with soldiers and proceeded for Germany. The Germans are reported to be evacuating Ostend also.

Spanish Influenza Germ Invisible Even Under Microscope

Paris, Oct. 14.—Dr. Charles Nicolle and his colleague, Dr. Le Bailly, who isolated the microbe causing Spanish influenza at the Pasteur Institute at Tunis, of which Dr. Nicolle is director, announce that the germ is too small to be visible even with the microscope. It has been clearly identified, however, because by its use the malady has been reproduced in a monkey and a man.

AUSTRIAN PREMIER'S RESIGNATION HAS BEEN ACCEPTED, IS REPORT

Basel, Switzerland, Oct. 15.—Vienna newspapers announce that the Austrian Emperor has accepted the resignation of Baron von Hussarek, the Austrian premier and requested Count Silva Tarouca, minister of agriculture, to form a new ministry. This news has not yet been confirmed officially.

BRITISH GOVT. IS CONSIDERING REPLY

London, Oct. 15.—The text of President Wilson's reply to the German peace offer, received through press channels, was placed in the hands of the members of the British Government early this morning. The council met shortly after 11 o'clock to consider the president's reaction.

SARAH BERNHARDT GOING HOME FOR AN OPERATION

New York, Oct. 15.—Madame Sarah Bernhardt, the actress arrived here last night from Cleveland on her way to France, where she is to undergo another operation. Mme. Bernhardt said she expects to sail this week, and that she will return in January or February to begin a new American tour, starting at Boston.

FREED FROM HUN SLAVERY

With the French Army in the Laon Area, Oct. 14.—Gen. Mangin, in driving the Germans out of Laon, freed the 6,000 inhabitants that remained there from actual slavery. They were not only despoiled of their household goods, their money and other possessions, but they were robbed of their time. The different officers commanding in the town pretended that the right of "requisition" extended to labor, and accordingly obliged men, women and children to labor for the German army in various ways. The requisitioned labor was paid for as were requisitioned products—in orders upon the mayor. The town, consequently, paid for the labor done by its citizens for the occupying forces. Men and girls were forced to serve as bearers for German officers on hunting expeditions. The girls were also obliged to go to the fields and gather nettles from which the Germans made a fabric that served as a substitute for burlap in making sand sacks, for their trench fortifications. No discrimination was made between persons of different classes and conditions. All had to bend to the will of the invader.

THEATRES, SCHOOLS, CHURCHES TO CLOSE; PUBLIC GATHERINGS SHALL BE CANCELLED, IS BOARD'S ORDER

Measures to Stop Spread of Influenza May Be Followed by Others More Drastic—Many Deaths Taking Place as Result of Epidemic Now Raging.

London today is grasping the full significance of the Spanish influenza epidemic. The "lid is on tight" so far as theatres, poolrooms, schools, and all public gatherings are concerned, following the proclamation issued yesterday by the medical officer of health, Dr. W. S. Downham, approved by the board of health. The street cars smell like a hospital, scrubbed and ventilated until they scarcely know themselves, then treated to a thorough dose of disinfectants. Health inspectors have visited restaurants and other eating places serving meals to the public, considering them in the neighborhood of infected persons. Notice that utensils, dishes and cutlery must be thoroughly scalded in order to destroy the evil germs.

In addition to the cleaning and disinfecting of street cars, orders have been issued forbidding the crowding of street cars. All these precautions are being taken in order to more effectively cope with the dread malady.

Numbers Doubtful. While only 46 new cases were reported this forenoon, these represented cases of a couple of doctors and the public health nurse. Several of these cases, it is stated, are very serious, the doctors reporting being too busy to make further comment on the number of fatalities that have occurred, the folly of neglecting even an apparently slight attack is emphasized by physicians.

While a number of inquiries have been made at the nurses' registration bureau today for nurses, no nurses have yet registered. On account of the shortage of nurses, it must be a case of all available hands on deck to fight the plague. The steps which will be taken today to organize a volunteer corps are considered, under the circumstances, most timely.

Hospital Crowded. Victoria Hospital is filled to overflowing with patients and in order to prevent any risk of life, all maternity cases are being refused admission for the present. In the neighborhood of seventy cases are being cared for today. Three cases have died at Victoria Hospital within the past 24 hours. Archibald McLarty, house surgeon, Charles Ironsides of Ilkerton, young medical student and George Freeborn of this city, all young men between the ages of 20 and 25. The number of deaths of young people is one of the heart-rending features in connection with this highly contagious disease, so

ALLIES TAKE 10,000 HUNS IN BELGIUM

King Albert Leads Attack on Wide Front.

ROULERS IS CAPTURED

British Navy and Coast Artillery Co-operated in Attack.

Paris, Oct. 14.—Roulers has been taken by the Allies. This city, which, before the war, numbered 25,000 inhabitants, is the first important Belgian town from which the Germans have been driven.

This morning, on the anniversary of the battle of Jena, which was fought October 14, 1806, the battle flamed up along the Flanders front and the first day's progress gives reason for high hope.

Under the command of King Albert of Belgium, the British, Belgian and French armies attacked at 5:30 o'clock. There was no artillery preparation, but the troops advanced under cover of a creeping curtain of fire of extreme power. Following the scales which have been blowing for several days, the weather turned fine and the troops progressed methodically and in a most satisfactory way. Machine gun nests were forced to surrender one after another. At 6 o'clock tonight the advance amounted to four miles in the direction of Courtrai for the British, four miles toward Thieit, for the French and two and a half miles in the direction of Thourout for the Belgians.

Germany Wants Peace In Order To Pursue Plans in Far East

Hon. N. W. Rowell Outlines His Opinion of the Situation.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Toronto, Oct. 15.—The reasons for Germany's present desire for peace were clearly outlined this afternoon by Hon. N. W. Rowell, in an address delivered before the Canadian Club in the St. James' Parish Hall. Mr. Rowell pointed out Germany's real purpose in waging the present war was to aggrandize territory in the far east and link her possessions by the Berlin to Bagdad railway. "After four years of war," said Mr. Rowell, "Germany is desperately anxious to conclude a peace on the west, so that she may have the opportunity to pursue her designs and plans of development and expansion in the east."

FOCH'S DRIVE IS SPLITTING FOE'S FORCES IN BELGIUM

King Albert's Attack Has Widened the Gap.

HUNS MUST RETREAT

Teutons Have Been Forced to Evacuate Large Strips of Territory.

Paris, Oct. 15.—Marshal Foch, in his new stroke in Flanders, is driving a formidable wedge between the German bases of Bruges and Ghent, in Belgium and Lille in France. The effective manner by which King Albert carried out his attack Monday has to further widen the wedge, which threatens to split the German forces. Two unless the enemy falls back speedily on a wide front. The British army of Gen. Plumer on the right wing of the allied advance is now but three miles from the important railway junction of Courtrai. Once the Allies master the line, Wervicq-Menin-Courtrai, which probably will be only a matter of a few hours, the German situation at Lille will most perilous, and that at Ghent not much better. The French capture of Roulers, the important railroad junction on the east of Ypres, is a serious loss to the Germans. Although the Belgian railroad system is good enough to provide alternative routes to a certain extent, the allied entrance into Roulers on the first day of the offensive is bound to further weaken the German communication system most unfavorably.

TORONTO VOTES \$5,000 TO FIGHT THE EPIDEMIC

Queen City Board of Control Takes Action Today.

SITUATION IS SERIOUS

Spanish Influenza Victims Have Crowded Hospitals to Limit.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Toronto, Oct. 15.—Without debate the board of control today unanimously voted \$5,000 as an interim appropriation to fight the influenza epidemic.

Secretary Harry Rowland of the health department, asked for money to be devoted and also for the use of automobiles to move patients. This, also, was speedily granted. "Fresh air is the best medicine for influenza," he said, "and instead of riding around in cars," said Controller McBride.

TWELVE DIE IN HAMILTON. Hamilton, Oct. 15.—Since Saturday afternoon twelve deaths have been reported in Hamilton from Spanish influenza, and in the same period 134 new cases have been recorded at the health department. Hospitals are overcrowded, and today arrangements were made to take over the Victoria Convalescent Home, which has been used for invalided soldiers, as a temporary influenza hospital. Dr. Roberts, M.H.O., is still opposed to closing the schools. He thinks it useless to lock the doors of schools unless all public gatherings are banned. The board of trade and medical association will discuss the situation tonight.

SHOWS NO ABATEMENT. Brantford, Oct. 15.—The Spanish influenza epidemic shows no sign of abatement. The emergency hospital opened on Sunday night being rapidly filled up. The great trouble is to secure competent nurses, there being a great dearth of help and a general appeal has been issued for all capable of nursing to respond in this grave situation.

The difficulties confronting the health authorities were not lessened this morning, when Dr. Parson, M. O. H., presented his resignation based on the fact that he could not attend to his private call, let alone look after the general epidemic. It is thought that a way out of the difficulty will be found, and a meeting of the board of health will be held this afternoon to take up the matter. The city council will also meet tonight and further action is likely.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES. Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 54; lowest, 41. The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 41; lowest, 28.

BELGIAN TROOPS ARE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF MENIN; FRENCH IN THE ARGONNE CAPTURE SEVERAL TOWNS

U. S. TRANSPORT SINKS AT PIER; TROOPS ABOARD REACH SAFETY

Between 30 and 40 of Crew Reported Drowned.

CAUSE IS UNKNOWN

Soldiers Asleep in Berths Have Narrow Escape From Death.

NONE ARE MISSING.

Washington, Oct. 15.—An official report to the navy department says a muster of the persons known to have been on the America shows none missing. There was indication of the cause of the sinking.

Steps are already under way for raising the ship.

Hoboken, Oct. 15.—The American transport America sank at her pier here this morning. She was reported to have troops on board, and all details of the sinking was unknown, but it was reported that between 30 and 40 of the crew were drowned in the boiler room. The troops were reported all to have been taken off safely. The cause of the sinking was unknown, but it was said that the ship was undergoing interior repairs that may in some way have had to do with the entrance of water into her hold.

The sinking occurred at 5 o'clock this morning, while most of the troops were still in their berths, and all details of the sinking was unknown, but it was reported that between 30 and 40 of the crew were drowned in the boiler room. The troops were reported all to have been taken off safely. The cause of the sinking was unknown, but it was said that the ship was undergoing interior repairs that may in some way have had to do with the entrance of water into her hold.

The transport was formerly the Hamburg-American Line passenger ship America. She registers 22,222 tons gross. She was taken over when the United States entered the war. The vessel was 869 feet long and was built in 1905.

With a navy crew on board, the ship has been in the service of the army as a troop transport.

AMERICANS USE TANKS TO BREAK WIRE BARRIERS

Landships Brought Into Action West of Romagne.

With the American Army Northwest of Verdun, Oct. 15.—(By the Associated Press.)—Tanks were brought into action by the Americans today to break a way through the enemy wire entanglements west of Romagne. Despite German resistance, the progress of the Americans, early reports said, was satisfactory today. The Germans apparently were ready to contest the ground as stubbornly as they did yesterday. The enemy artillery was being used freely to hold the Americans, but the Yankee gunners were doing much to break down the German resistance.

GERMAN YOUTHS OF 1920 CLASS BEING SENT TO THE FRONT

Enemy Prisoners Admit the Seriousness of Conditions.

French Headquarters in France, Oct. 15.—German youths of the class of 1920 are now being sent to the first-line formations, according to German officers taken prisoners.

King Albert's Forces Are Within Two Miles of Courtrai—Haig Captures Prisoners in Raids Southwest of Lille—The American Troops North of Verdun Advance Beyond Cunel and Romagne.

London, Oct. 15.—Belgian troops are on the outskirts of Menin and are within two miles of Courtrai. The Allies also are in effective artillery range of the railroad from Lille to Thourout by way of Courtrai. This means that the Allies dominate the connecting link between the German troops around Lille and those in the Ostend sector.

HAIG CAPTURES PRISONERS IN RAIDS SOUTHWEST OF LILLE

London, Oct. 15.—Raiding operations on several portions of the British front, notably near Sainghin-en-Weppes, southwest of Lille, are reported by Field Marshal Haig in his official statement today. Prisoners were taken by the British parties. The text of the statement reads: "Yesterday afternoon an American patrol cruised the Sella River in the neighborhood of St. Souplet and took 30 prisoners. "We carried out a successful raid last evening south of Sainghin-en-Weppes, taking 20 prisoners. A few prisoners were taken during the night by our patrols on other portions of the front."

FRENCH CAPTURE TOWNS AND PRISONERS IN THE ARGONNE

Paris, Oct. 15.—French troops have made an important advance toward the important town of Rethel and have captured the town of Nanteuil-sur-Aisne, two and one-half miles west of Rethel, says the war office statement today. In the Argonne the French have reached the Aisne west of Grand Pre and have captured the villages of Olizy and Termes. Nearly 800 prisoners were taken in this region.

South of the Serre, the French also have made a marked advance. The towns of Remies, Barenton Cele and Monceau-le-Wast have been taken.

AMERICANS ADVANCE LINES IN FIGHTING NORTH OF VERDUN

Washington, Oct. 15.—American troops north of Verdun are operating against strong enemy positions and have passed the towns of Cunel and Romagne, Gen. Pershing reported today, under date of yesterday. The dispatch follows: "This morning American troops resumed the advance. North of Verdun they are now operating against positions of greatest strategic value and natural strength."

"Today we passed beyond the towns of Cunel and Romagne. We have patrols in the Bois de Batheville and our attacking line has penetrated the positions of St. Georges and Landres-et-St. Georges. About 750 prisoners have been reported."

GERMANS APPLY THE TORCH TO TOWNS THEY ARE EVACUATING

With the British Army in Belgium, Oct. 15.—Enemy resistance in Flanders, which at first appeared to be exceedingly heavy, is reported to have been broken. After the British, French and Belgian advance today there were indications that the enemy was withdrawing the remainder of his material from the coast of Belgium. As is customary during the hours following the launching of an attack in this difficult country, reports were slow coming in, but most significant of all the features of the battle was the fact that the German coast batteries were not firing. Among the prisoners were a complete regimental staff and a battalion commander.

The enemy has begun blowing up material which he cannot remove, and the torch is being applied to the towns that are being abandoned by the Germans. There have been four explosions near Beerst.

FOE RETREATING IN BELGIUM.

New York, Oct. 15.—The Associated Press this morning issued the following: Savagely attacking the German lines, French, British and Belgian forces have captured Roulers and carried their lines far toward Courtrai and Thourout. In reports from the front, there are indications that the German lines have been pierced and that the enemy is retreating rapidly. On the other extreme of the battle line American troops have carried their lines well past the Eriemchild position west of the Meuse River. They are now holding a front that runs from north of Cunel, north of Romagne, and thence northwestwardly to the vicinity of St. Georges, at which village it turns to the southwest and meets the French lines at Grand Pre. The German youths of the class of 1920 are now being sent to the first-line formations, according to German officers taken prisoners.