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TEN PAGES—ONE CENT

PEACE OFFER FALLS FLAT IN WASHINGTON; BEATEN HUNS BURN TOWNS AS THEY RETREAT

BRITISH DRIVE THEM ALL WAY FROM LILLE SOUTHWARD

Germans Burning Towns as They Go; Jam Lens Coal Mine Mouths

Series of Explosions Heard; Douai is Set Fire to and Kaiser's Officers and Men Indulge in Wild Orgy of Looting There

With the British Army in the St. Quentin sector, Oct. 6—(By the Associated Press)—Progress is reported all along the British front from the neighborhood of Lille southward. In the northern part of this zone the German retreat is said to be virtually voluntary and that the enemy is pivoting on the front before Lille.

In the local fighting on Sunday around Aubecheul-Aux-Bois the British captured four hundred prisoners.

With the British Army in France, Oct. 6—(By the Associated Press)—Many towns have been occupied by the British today in their advance after the retreating Germans along the sector of the front from Cambria to Lens. In some cases the enemy's rear garrisons retreated in each instance. This happened at Aubecheul, where the railroad station was occupied and the entire garrison killed. More ground has been taken immediately to the northwest of Lille, east of Lens, has been recaptured and passed.

Moss Devils Work.—The Germans have been engaged in further work of destruction, for in addition to new fires which have started up along the front, many explosions have been observed in the great coal mining district northeast of Lens, and prisoners say that the coal mine pit mouths have been destroyed.

Fires have been observed today in Hainbourg, three miles west of Lille, and in the neighborhood of Le Maulde, also in the northeastern outskirts of Lille. No fires of any consequence have as yet been seen in Lille itself.

DOUAI AFIRE; ORGY OF LOOTING.—Douai is still burning and the country south of it has been flooded with the waters of the River Sene. Fresh fires are reported to the east of Douai and prisoners just captured say that before the torch was applied there the Germans, officers as well as men, engaged in a wild orgy of looting. They scrounged all over the town, stealing the property of the inhabitants, and many cart loads of loot are said to have been shipped from the city.

KAISER TO LOSE CHIEF OF HIS CIVIL CABINET

Berlin, Switzerland, Oct. 7—Herr von Berg will soon resign as chief of Emperor William's civil cabinet according to the Gazette de Voss, because he tried to prevent a deputation from reaching Emperor William and because he has observed a strict and exclusive attitude.

Phenix and Phereand WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stuart, Director of meteorological service

Synopsis—Since Saturday rain has fallen heavily from Ontario to the maritime provinces and showers have occurred in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. An other depression is situated in the western provinces.

Forecasts.—Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Moderate to fresh northwinds, fine and cool; Tuesday, fresh east to south-east winds, fair at first and then some light showers.

Ottawa Valley and Upper and Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—Moderate to fresh north to north-west winds, fine and cool today and on Tuesday.

Fair and Cool.—Maritime—Fresh northeast to northwinds, fair and cool today and on Tuesday.

Superior—Fresh east to southwinds, fair today and on Tuesday.

Manitoba—Some local showers but mostly fair today and on Tuesday.

Saskatchewan—A few local showers but mostly fair; Tuesday, fair.

Alberta—Fair today and on Tuesday.

New England—Fair, continued cool tonight and Tuesday; frost tonight in interior; fresh northwest winds on the coast.

PROMPT AND DECISIVE ANSWER FROM WILSON

THE SORT OF PEACE TABLE AT WHICH THE KAISER WOULD LIKE TO SET.



President Receives German And Austrian Offer

Washington Indications Are For Quick-Fire Turn-Down—London, Paris and Canadian Editorial Opinion All Against Listening to the Enemy Proposals

Washington, Oct. 7—Germany's peace note was delivered today to President Wilson personally by Frederick Oederlin, an attaché of the Swiss legation. This note is a "negotiation" leading to round table conferences and diplomatic quibblings, the offer will fall flat.

Official announcements of the attitude of the United States government still were being withheld but there was no doubt of the indication that if Germany makes a "negotiation" leading to round table conferences and diplomatic quibblings, the offer will fall flat.

Neater Little.—London, Oct. 7—Further progress was made by the British last night on the front between Lens and Cambrai. Field Marshal Haig announced today that the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, to Secretary Lansing at ten o'clock.

A prompt and decisive reply to Germany's latest peace proposal is indicated by developments in Washington early today. President Wilson cancelled his usual morning recreation hour and remained sequestered in his study at work.

WILL FALL FLAT.—Washington, Oct. 7—Quite irrespective of the nature of the reply, it seemed to be agreed that the German note called for a prompt reply so that the American people might not be misled into relating their efforts for the fourth Liberty Loan, so that the American troops in the field may know at once the position of their government, and so that an offer of peace may receive such diplomatic attention as it deserves.

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Germans Set Fire To Laon

Stronghold Which Was Key Point of Hun Line on Southwest

Enemy in Rapid Retreat Before French and Burning Villages as They go; Deliverance of Rheims Definitely Accomplished

Paris, Oct. 7—Laon, the stronghold to which the enemy has been clinging as the key point of his line on the southwest, apparently has been set fire to by the Germans. The town was reported ablaze yesterday and fires were still burning there today.

ACROSS THE SUPPE.—Paris, Oct. 7—French troops have crossed the Suppe River eastward of Orléville and have reached the outskirts of Bassancourt and Bond-Sur-Suppe after severe fighting. At Bassancourt, heavy losses have been inflicted upon the Germans, who retired in disorder. Today's fighting completed the deliverance of Rheims.

The battle north of St. Quentin continued all day and Demascourt, Tilley Farm and several fortified woods were captured. The enemy retreated furiously, but was unable to check the French, who captured several hundred prisoners.

GIVE WAY BEFORE FRENCH.—With the French Armies on the Champagne front, Oct. 6—(By the Associated Press)—Over a wide extent of territory, outlined by burning villages the Germans are retreating rapidly before General Gouraud's troops. They are crowded by General Berthelot's forces from the west and in danger of being cut off by the Franco-Americans who have crossed the Aisne River.

American Front.—The Meuse and the Ognon Wood, and farther west the machine gun and artillery combats have been continued heavily. There was increased artillery fire by both sides everywhere along the stubborn infantry fighting between lines.

QUEBEC APPEALS TO ST. JOHN FOR NURSES

Four Thousand Cases Of Influenza ALL NIGHT IN MORASS IN HEAVY RAIN DOWNPOUR

Epidemic is raging Montreal Has More Than 1,000 Cases—Serious in Toronto—Ninety-two Cases in Halifax

Another appeal for aid for a city sorely stricken by the ravages of Spanish influenza was received today, when the mayor received a telegram reading as follows:

Sherbrooke, P. Q. Terrible epidemic of grippé raging. Four thousand cases. Can you send nurses and how many? Answer: (Sgd.) C. D. WHITE.

The mayor is giving publicity to the appeal in order that any who may be able to do so may volunteer for service, but the lack of response to the request from Boston indicates that there are few nurses in St. John available for outside work.

In Halifax, N. S., Oct. 7—At a meeting of the board of health here today twenty-two new cases of Spanish influenza were reported since Saturday, making a total of ninety-two cases reported. Eleven of these were among citizens, and eleven military cases. Two deaths were reported locally, and one at Lawlor's Island quarantine station.

City Medical Officer Bruce Almon, who also is attached to the A. M. C. here with rank of captain, refused to devote his entire time to the city during the crisis. He receives \$1,200 a year as C. M. O.

Deaths in Hamilton.—Hamilton, Ont., Oct. 6—Eleven deaths from Spanish influenza here were reported during the last forty-eight hours. The disease has taken a firm hold on the city, although the number of deaths is comparatively small.

Ottawa, Oct. 6—It was estimated by Dr. Law, medical health officer, that there are 8,000 cases of influenza in the city. The majority, he said, were of a mild nature. The churches observed the request of the board of health that services be cancelled, aside from low masses in the Catholic and short services in the Anglican churches in the morning.

More Than 1,000 Cases.—Ottawa, Oct. 6—Twelve more deaths of soldiers from Spanish influenza were reported over the week-end and seventy-one new cases at the hospitals. This through this paper.

CHALLENGE.—The Carleton Place Lancers wishes to challenge the Carleton Ramblers to a game of ball on Queen Square Tuesday evening at 8:30 sharp. Please answer through this paper.

ST. JOHN SOLDIER MARRIED IN ENGLAND.—The wedding of Private Charles A. Stevens of this city, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stevens, 44 Hilyard street, to Miss Edith Mary Hemming, daughter of Private and Mrs. R. Hemming, 16 Croft parade, Charlton, Kings, Cheltenham, England, took place on Aug. 5 in the Charlton Kings church. Private Stevens, who was employed with the Maritime Mail Company before going overseas, enlisted with the 28th Battalion, and still is serving with that unit.

GIRLS HELP NEEDED.—There are great numbers of women and girls in St. John who have leisure time. They are wanted at the Natural History rooms to help sort the sphagnum moss for surgical dressings for the wounded. It is a patriotic duty. The rooms are open from ten in the morning till late in the evening. The appeal for help has not met with a response worthy of the women of St. John. The telephone girls and members of the Y. W. P. A. are nobly assisting, but the work is not being done half as rapidly as is urgently needed. Any woman or girl who has even an hour to spare should help. It will be a disgrace to the womanhood of St. John if this work for the wounded is not done and done as quickly as possible.

HUNS DESERTING COAST; SOME OF THE WORKS AT BRUGES SET AFIRE

Amsterdam, Oct. 5—(By the Associated Press)—Some of the wharves and docks at Bruges have been set on fire by the Germans, according to the frontier correspondent of the Telegraaf. He says the Germans have removed their guns and coast defence materials from Knocke, and have destroyed the sheds. He adds that the entire garrison at Moerkerke has been withdrawn and work at Zebrugge has been stopped, while civilian workers have removed a large number of anti-aircraft guns mounted six miles east of Bruges. At Ghent, stores are being hastily loaded by the Germans.