Summary of Events from Seat of War

Events of Interest in the Great European War as Recorded Day by Day

First Contingent Will See Service at Front

May be Sent at Any Moment to Take Place on Firing Line---All in Fine Condition.

New York, Nov. 8—Major General Sam Hughes, Canadian Minister of Militia, returned last night from England and the continent on board the steamship St. Paul, which arrived from Liverpool.

Active service at the front will be seen by the Canadian troops recently sent to England from Ottawa, according to Maj. Gen. Hughes.

The stories printed in this country to the effect that the Canadian contingent will be used to strengthen the coast defences of Great Britain were repudiated by Gen. Hughes as being without foundation. Neither will the Canadians be sent to Egypt, as also reported, said the Major General.

"There were 33,000 men in the first consignment which Canada forwarded to the help of the Mother Country," he continued. "They comprise the finest body of men that I have even seen, and are enthusiastic over the prospects of getting into the active part of the fray. Weeks of training has practically made them seasoned regiments, and I feel sure their presence on the field will prove of great advantage to the allied forces.

"More than one thousand men among the first contingent are Americans, and a large proportion of these were members of the American National Guard. From the far west we obtained a particularly fine body of men, well trained in the handling of arms, and inured to hardships, equal to any they may face on the European battlefields."

The report that there is a feeling of unrest among the Canadian troops now in England, or that their commissary department had been a source of complaint, met with a vigorous denial by Gen. Hughes, when he was asked about the matter. The Canadians received a welcome when they arrived in England that for its enthusiasm has seldom been equalled, he said, and their commissariat is of the highest order. The contingent is now encamped on the Salisbury Plain, and may be sent to the continent at any minute.

"Here is the message," Major General Hughes said, "that the Canadian troops asked me to take back for their folks at home:

"'Give our love to our dear ones and near ones in beloved Canada. We will see them again soon, when we have beaten the Germans.'"

"I spent the whole of my fifteen days at the camp," Major General Hughes said, "and had several talks with Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener, who said they were delighted with the splendid contingent from Canada, and wished me to convey to the people of Canada their appreciation of the work done for the empire."

With regard to the conditions in England, Major General Hughes said there was a spirit of optimism everywhere.

"The big struggle has yet to come," he said, "and Canada will go on training her militia, especially the officers, until the war is over."

Col. E. W. Wilson, who returned from England with the minister of militia, left tonight with him on the train for Montreal.

Japs Capture German Fortress After Most Brilliant Assault

Tokio, Nov. 7—Japan today is celebrating her first victory of the war.

Extra editions of the newspapers tell of the surrender of the strong fortified city of Tsing Tau, chief city of Kiau Chau, at seven o'clock this morning. It is expected that the occupation of the entire concession will be completed today.

While complete details of the surrender are withheld for the present, it is known that it was due to one of the most brilliant charges in Japanese army history. With General Yamada at the head of a picked column, the central fort was taken by assault. While the big siege guns kept up a continuous bombardment on the position, hammering holes in the walls the picked column made up of infantry and engineers slowly slipped up on the fort. Finally, on a signal, they dashed forward and managed to gain an entrance, taking the fort garrison of more than 200 men.

With this fort in their possession, the result was no longer in doubt. Its guns commanded the city and the other forts, and there was no surprise when at daylight a white flag appeared on the weather observation, and immediately the bombardment ended. The German garrison, made up chiefly of reservists who reported to Gov. Wahldeck when the war first began, has maintained a stubborn defence for 65 days.

Vice Minister of the Navy Suzuki, speaking today of the future of Tsing Tau, said:

"While the European war continues, Tsing Tau will be administered by Japan. At the conclusion of the war Japan will open negotiations with China."

Tokio, Nov. 7—The closing hours of the siege of Tsing Tau and the fall of the German fortress there are briefly but dramatically described in official reports sent to the Government by Vice Admiral Sadakichi Kato, the commander of the Japanese naval forces, and Lieut. General Kamio, commander of the troops operating in Kiau Chau.

After the capture of the central fort it appears from their statements the left wing of the attacking forces advanced and occupied Chanshan at 5.10 o'clock yesterday morning. Chanshan was the base of the right wing of the German line and is a triangular fortification. Then the other forces at the point of the bayonet captured the fort. Including the intricate and dangerous defence works connecting them. Other forces advanced in rushes on the main line of defence, made up of the forts of Iltis, Bismarck and Moltke.

Suddenly," says the reports, "the flag of surrender ran up in the morning breeze on the weather bureau mount towering above the sea and land."

In the last two days of the fighting, it is stated, the warships continued a terrific rain of shells on the fortress and the city from the east and south, inflicting great damage and havoc. Taisichen fort, the official account says, seemed to explode.

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Many Germans Sacrificed by Terrible Bayonet Charge

Attempted to Break Through Allies Lines Near Ypres, But Were Unsuccessful

London, Nov. 8—A despatch to the Times from Dunkirk, France, filed Saturday night, says:

"After a desperate attack lasting the whole week, the German attempt to break the Allied line at Ypres has failed.

"It may be admitted that the position at Ypres two days ago was serious. The town itself was bombarded by the Germans with extraordinary violence, and under the fierce cannonading the Allies had to withdraw from the town, which became a 'no man's land' across which the shells from both sides burst.

"The Germans made a superhuman and final effort, under cover of a fierce bombardment of the British positions. They had prepared a determined onslaught. Masses of men were launched in succession at chosen points on our front. The assault was met in a supreme way. Two regiments, one Scottish and one of the Guards, went down with bayonets to stem the advance. It was the most terrible bayonet charge of the whole war. It succeeded, the break in the line was repaired, and the German attack was once more driven back.

"That was their list effort. Today the Germans are dropping an occasional desultory shell into Ypres, but their attacks have ceased. They are now assailing the Allied line at Arras, forty miles further to the south, but not with the same fury as they exhibited in the onslaught of the past week.

"So fierce has been the fighting around Ypres that the casualties of the Germans are here believed to have reached the enormous figure of 100,000, though these figures may prove to have been exaggerated."

The correspondent of Reuter's Telegram Company at Athens, says:

"Two British destroyers bombarded the telegraph stations at Sarmoussak and Ayasmat. The Turks sank a Greek steamer that was flying the British flag at Aivali.

"The Greek inhabitants of Smyrna are fleeing, panic stricken. A British destroyer went to Aivali to embark the British consul, but the Turks refused to permit this.

"It is stated that forts Sedie Bahr and Kum Kaleh, in the Dardanelles, have been completely destroyed by the bombardment. The Turks, under the direction of German officers, are hastily fortifying Aivali."

A despatch from Copenhagen quotes the Politiken as saying that three German officers, wearing civilian dress, arrived safely at Copenhagen on the Danish steamer Esron, which sailed from Baltimore on October 4. According to the paper the officers were provided with what purported to be passports issued by the Swiss consulate general in New York. British warships in the Atlantic searched the Esrom without discovering the disguised Germans.

German Offensive Was Failure; Allies Made Decided Progress

Paris, Nov. 7, 3 p. m.—The French official announcement given out in Paris this afternoon says that the situation is relatively quiet on the Yser river below Dixmude. The text of the communication follows:

"On our left wing the situation is relatively quiet on the Yser down stream from Dixmude. The Belgian troops, who advanced along the right bank of the Yser from Nieuport in the direction of Lombaertzyde, and who had been counter-attacked by the Germans, were sustained in time. The situation has been entirely re-established in this locality.

"At Dixmude the Marine Fusiliers repulsed a fresh counter offensive movement. Further to the south the attacks of the enemy around Bixscoote also were repulsed by French troops, who subsequently advanced. To the east of Ypres the situation is without change. To the southeast of this town we have resumed the offensive in combination with the British troops operating in this region, and repulsed an attack particularly violent and pronounced by detachments belonging to the active army corps recently brought into this region by the Germans.

"Between Armentierres and the Canal of La Bassee the British army on its side repulsed a violent attack on Neu Chapelle. Between the canal of La Bassee and Arras, as well as between Arras and the Oise, several counter attacks delivered by night and by day have been checked. We even made some slight progress in the region of Vermelles and to the south of Aix Noulette.

"On the centre, in the region of Vailly, we continued during the day of yesterday to recapture ground previously lost by us. In the Argonne fresh attacks on the part of the enemy were repulsed, and at the end of the day our troops made progress at several points.

"To the northeast of Verdun we have taken possession of the villages of Haucort and of Nogeville.

"In the wooded region along the heights of the Meuse, southeast of Verdun, and in the forest of Apremont, southeast of St Mihiel, the offensive movement of the enemy failed. Some trenches in the vicinity of Saint Remi were carried by our troops.

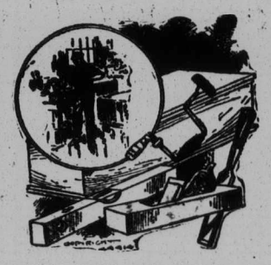
"On our right wing the attacks of the Germans on the advanced positions of the Grande Couronne of Nancy resulted in perceptible losses for the enemy. A surprise attack undertaken by the enemy against the heights which dominate Mount Saint Emarie resulted in complete failure."

Enemy Flying Before Victorious Troops of Czar at All Points

Petrograd, Nov. 7—The official statement covering the war developments in connection with the entire campaign, issued by the General Staff today, declares that after being driven from in front of Warsaw, the Germans attempted a stand on the left bank of the Vistula, but were repulsed. Details of each engagement are given, and the statement concludes:

"Enveloping a period of over ten days, our success along a front of 333 miles resulted in breaking the general resistance of the enemy everywhere. The Germans in the north and the Austrians in the south are now in full retreat, and our main armies are now in position to carry their task to completion."

FOR . THE . BUILDER



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BELGIAN RELIEF

Urgent Relief to the Inhabitants of Large Sections of Belgium is Greatly Needed at Once—Canada Will Do Her Share—New Brunswick Must Help.

The Belgian Relief Committee in St. John is prepared to receive gifts of money, food and clothing to be forwarded to Belgium for distribution by British and Belgian authorities. Cash gifts should be sent to Mayor Frink, chairman and treasurer of the fund.

The committee appeal to clergymen, churches and organizations of all kinds and to private individuals to co-operate with contributions and in organizing sales and entertainments.

A depot for receiving food and clothing has been opened in the new Pettingill warehouse, Water street. This committee will be glad to receive clothing of all description, new or old, for men, women and children, blankets of wool or cotton, and food of non-perishable nature that can be transported to Belgium.

Shipments from outside points to the Belgian Relief Committee will be handled by the railways free of charge.

Information as to the plans of the committee will gladly be furnished any desiring to assist by the secretary, G. E. Barbour, St. John N. B. Telephone Main 216.

The local Branch of the Red Cross Society will receive all contributions the Belgian Fund at the Town Hall on Tuesday evenings.

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