

# British and French Forces Retake Lost Ground

## German Communication Lines Are Harassed By the Allies

WHAT WAR MEANS TO THOSE WHO DON'T FIGHT---WOMEN AND BABIES ON BATTLE LINE

War Correspondent Phillips Everywhere Comes Upon the Hellish Destruction of Homes---Sees British Attack Germans on Marne.

GUNNER DESCRIBES A CHARGE OVER PAVEMENT OF BODIES

Harry Payne Burton, Henry J. Phillips, and other war correspondents will send to The London Advertiser regularly during the war stories written after the great battles. The first, written by Mr. Burton, appeared last night, and was widely commented on because of the graphic descriptions it contained. Mr. Phillips, who was given a pass for twenty-four hours on the battlefield, today writes his first letter.

BY HENRY J. PHILLIPS.

(Special War Correspondence of The Advertiser.)

Paris, Sept. 26.—(By Mail.)—It isn't the fighting man that my heart goes out to in this war. I've seen so many dead and wounded men and so much misery and pain that my senses are dulled to others' suffering. Anyway, it's fit for fat on the firing line. The soldier gives as much as he gets.

But it's the awful, awful destruction of homes, the wasting of poor people's all, the constant, ever recurring, sight of ruined cottages, or starving children, of ragged, hungry, weather-beaten women caught through no fault of their own in the frightful maelstrom that brings the horror of this war home to me.

I left Paris on a bicycle for the front. The trail of the retreating Teuton was the path of a cyclone. Huge trees were broken and some uprooted. Every farmhouse was roofless, some were burning. Roads and fields were dotted with clothing and arms and household goods, and the pretty landscape was pitted and slashed in long, brown lines by the trenches of fighting men.

Describes British Attack.

Dusk was gathering fast when about four miles outside La Ferté-sous-Jourarre the sound of cannon, which I had heard intently all day, became more clearly audible. The Marne runs through the little town which lies on either side of the stream in a valley. As I reached the outskirts a weird spectacle broke my gaze. It was a perfect picture of war, in all its horror, in all its majesty, in all its picturesqueness. From the hills to the right the British artillery was shelling the retreating Germans on the other side of the river. The shells were bursting with jets of flame that broke orange in the gathering darkness; a couple of houses, wreathed in flame, burned fiercely, the light reflected in the peaceful waters of the Marne which ran past two bridges blown up and shattered.

When the sounds of firing had died away I quietly slipped down into the town. Down by the river the British engineers were putting the finishing touches to a pontoon bridge—a bridge they finished, all complete, in the finishing two hours. The troops were already preparing to cross. So swiftly does the British army move that when I arose with dawn the next morning I found that troops had melted away in the night.

But I'm getting ahead of my story. Before night fell I found a place to sleep in a deserted manor house, which I saw from the street. Windows and doors were open, but the place was as silent as the grave. I walked into the courtyard and saw no one. Then I entered the house and understood. The beautiful old manor which looked so warm and peaceful had been deserted by its owners and had been ruthlessly pillaged by the German troops.

I Thought It Was Blood, But It Was Soup.

The dining-room table was heaped with the wreckage of a drunken meal. There were empty wine bottles everywhere, and across the table and in the dishes there was a great crimson splash that looked like blood, but proved to be the outpoured contents of a tureen of beetroot soup. Every drop of sideboard and cupboard lay on the floor, where its contents had been turned out in a search for food that was valuable. I passed from room to room, and everywhere found the same litter.

It seemed that not a single wardrobe or press in the house had not been rifled. The beds were overturned, the telephone instrument was smashed, and even a pile of gramophone records had been trodden under the heel.

Early in the morning as I prepared to resume my journey I found an old peasant, the first of the returning villagers who had been driven from their homes a week ago. With the pride of a professional guide, the old man led me around to places where the fighting had been fiercest, and so it happened that we were together when the rest of the villagers straggled back home in a timid group. They saw my guide and thus it was that this German, but unimpressed peasant became the multiplicity of fate, standing there by the roadside and telling the people what they had to bear.

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## RUSSIAN VICTORY WOULD HELP ALLIES IN FRANCE

Impending Great Battle On Czar's Frontier Sure To Have Important Effect On Great French Struggle, Whichever Side Wins.

[Canadian Press.]

London, Oct. 6.—(By Mail.)—So far as London is concerned, for the past twelve hours news has been contraband of war. When the embargo is lifted, the public expects tidings of great moment, and there is a distinct tendency of optimism as to the nature of the revelations.

The French ministry of war, in explaining the necessity for the official communications being so strictly controlled, states that it is useless to be more explicit if the battles in the valleys of the Aisne and the Somme are not finished. The authorities know that the conflict will be tedious and prolonged before a decisive result is obtained.

Even the small relief afforded by the news of great activity in the east, sent out yesterday, has ceased today, and the iron inclosure of censorship has spread to the region where, throughout the war, news of the military operations have been more accessible than in any other theatre of the war.

May Be Climax.

Victory for one side or the other along the Russian front is of supreme importance, and the tremendous battle impending there may mark the climax of the war.

The military experts are beginning to appreciate the fact that the attacks now being made on either flank of the west, an army are not strictly turning movements, which depend for their effectiveness on speed and surprise. Little evidence of either has been shown on

the allies' left. If, however, the Russians win a great victory in the east, it will compel the Germans to divert some of their western armies in that direction, and the flank movements will become crushing attacks, which will crumple up the depleted German lines.

The Reverse Side.

On the other hand, if the Russians are the victims of a severe reverse, some of the veteran German corps will be released for service in the west, and the Germans may pierce the numerically inferior allied line. Which ever side can extend its line furthest without weakening its front, ought, according to the experts, to win the battle of the Aisne. Hence the crucial importance of the expected battle on the Russian border.

The battle line along the Russian border is not continuous, but the intervals separating the various armies are comparatively small gaps, and the whole territory along the frontier from Tilsit on the northeast border of East Prussia, to Dukla Pass, in the Carpathians, bristles with arms.

No Front Beyond Dukla.

No battle front extends beyond Dukla Pass, but small mobile Russian forces are harrying the plains of Hungary. The longest continuous Russian line extends from Dukla Pass to a point almost on the Vistula River, a short distance from Warsaw. This is composed of the army which swept over Galicia, and is now the instrument of the projected invasion of Silesia.

WHEN THE DAILY DEATH LIST IS POSTED



Scene in front of the official bulletin board at Budapest, Hungary. Wives and mothers who daily look over the heavy death lists of the Austrian army.

## VIENNA CLAIMING RUSSIAN DEFEAT

Says They Were Beaten at Uzsok Pass and Also Forced Back Towards Vistula.

[Canadian Press.]

London, Oct. 6.—(By Mail.)—An official statement issued today at Vienna says that the situation in Russian Poland and Galicia is favorable, according to a Reuter dispatch from the Austrian capital by way of Amsterdam. "The combined German and Austrian armies," it is officially announced, "have forced the enemy from Opatow and Kilmontow toward the Vistula River. The battles with the Russians who entered Hungary have not yet been definitely concluded, but the Russians have been repulsed at a point to the northwest of Muramowskice, and at Tarzkoec. German troops participated in the fighting.

BATTLES NOT DECIDED.

London, Oct. 6.—(By Mail.)—According to a message from Budapest, says the Reuter correspondent at Amsterdam, the battles with the Russians who entered Hungary have not yet been definitely concluded, but the Russians have been repulsed at a point to the northwest of Muramowskice, and at Tarzkoec. German troops participated in the fighting.

Between Polena and Aknos, the Hungarian dispatch says, Russians again attempted to break through the allied German and Austrian lines, but were forced to retreat. The Austrian and German troops hotly pursued the Russians and captured many prisoners.

## EPWORTH LEAGUERS WANTED PRIVILEGE

But Conference Decides Ministers May Still Nominate Superintendents.

[Canadian Press.]

Ottawa, Ont., Oct. 5.—A proposal to empower the executive of an Epworth League to nominate its own superintendent provoked lengthy discussion at the Methodist General Conference today, but it was finally voted to allow the minister to retain his privilege.

Rev. Dr. Salem Bland, Winnipeg, wanted field secretaries given opportunities to take post graduate courses in pedagogy and psychology. This was voted down.

The proposal to make Rev. Dr. Carman, general superintendent emeritus, an ex-officio member of all standing committees was endorsed. Little support was given to a motion reducing the minimum age of delegates from 25 to 21 years.

Once a year probationers for the ministry are asked whether they use snuff, tobacco or intoxicating liquors. The discipline committee reported in favor of dropping this question, but a close vote resulted in the recommendation being defeated, so the question will be asked from year to year.

## NEW YORK LAWYER TAKES FATAL DROP

New York, Oct. 6.—Philip K. Walcott, junior member of the law firm of Hawkins, Delafield & Lough, jumped or fell to death today from a window of the firm's office on the fourteenth floor of a downtown skyscraper.

## The Mothers of Men!

By Joaquin Miller.

The bravest battle that ever was fought!

Shall I tell you where and when?

On the maps of the world you will find it not—

'Tis fought by the mothers of men.

Nay, not with cannon or battle shot,

With sword or nobler pen!

Nay, not with eloquent words or thought

From mouths of wonderful men,

But deep in the walled-up woman's heart—

Of woman that would not yield.

But bravely, silently, bore her part—

Lo, there is that battlefield!

No marshaling troop, no bivouac song,

No banner to gleam and wave;

But, oh! their battles, they last

From babyhood to the grave,

Yet faithful still as a bridge of stars,

She fights in her walled-up town—

Fights on and on in endless wars,

Then, silent, unseen, goes down,

Oh, ye with banners and battle shot,

And soldiers to shout and praise,

I tell you the kindest victories fought

Were fought in those silent ways,

Oh, spotless woman in a world of shame,

With splendid and silent scorn

Go back to God as white as you came—

The kindest warrior born!

## NARROW ESCAPES FROM ASPHYXIA AND CAR

A trolley pole on a Richmond car, that jumped the wire at the Tecumseh avenue, East, "Y" late yesterday afternoon, almost caused the death of Conductor William Ford.

When the pole left the wire it took the guide rope with it. Ford went to the rear of the car to secure the rope and place the pole on the wire again. No sooner had he started the trolley against the wire than the car started backward, knocking the conductor to the ground. He was thrown under the car and before it could be stopped the wheels had caught in his clothes.

The motorman, with his controller set in reverse, had neglected to shut off the power and as soon as the "juice" started through the motors again it jerked the car backward.

Ford suffered a number of minor cuts and bruises, but he was able to resume his run today.

## FRENCH IN ALSACE ABLE TO MARCH THROUGH TO RHINE

London, Oct. 6.—Telegraphing from Belfort, France, the correspondent of the Daily Mail says: "The Germans are trying to make the world believe that they still hold Alsace, but as a matter of fact the French are there in thousands and so well established that the enemy has not dared to attack them."

"There is nothing in front of the French forces of occupation. If they wish they can walk right through to the Rhine."

## ABOUT 100,000 MEN ARE NOW DRILLING IN CANADA

[Special to The Advertiser.] Ottawa, Oct. 6.—Colonel Hughes says that a Valcartier Camp on Vancouver Island, which Sir Richard McBride is said to be desirous of, would involve too much transportation of troops. The work could be done as well and at less cost in base camps.

Canada has about forty-four thousand men under arms and on the military pay roll. There are thirty-three

thousand of them on the transports, and a thousand in Bermuda, besides forces in Halifax, Sydney, St. John, Rupert, on every railway bridge, canal lock, military magazine, wireless station, and in countless other places. These guards number in the vicinity of 16,000 men. The militia regiments have been refilled, and there are now about 100,000 men in Canada drilling.

## SUCCEEDS REAUME IN ONTARIO CABINET



HON. FINLAY G. MACDONALD, Ontario's new minister of public works.

## SAYS CANADA COULD RAISE TEN CONTINGENTS

Col. Hughes Asserts Others Would Come More Quickly Than First.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, Oct. 6.—"If there were need Canada could raise ten such contingents as that now aloft," declared Col. Sam Hughes, who is leaving Ottawa for a few days in the woods. "The second expeditionary force would be more easily raised than the first, and the third would be more quickly and easily raised than either of the first two."

So far the plans for further enlistment have not been perfected. The French-Canadian brigade will be authorized for enlistment and the military officers of the Province of Quebec will be left to enlist the four thousand men.

## THE WEATHER

THE LOCAL TEMPERATURES. Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest 80.5, lowest 48.

The official temperature at 8 a.m. today: 50. The temperature continues low in the West and the weather of a more autumnal type is setting in from Ontario eastward.

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TOMORROW—COOL, SHOWERY. Today—Fresh to strong easterly winds and cooler. Wednesday—Easterly winds; cool and showery.

Temperatures. The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:

| Stations.    | High. | Low. | Weather. |
|--------------|-------|------|----------|
| Victoria     | 50    | 48   | Cloudy   |
| Calgary      | 36    | 28   | Clear    |
| Winnipeg     | 38    | 28   | Clear    |
| Port Arthur  | 50    | 46   | Cloudy   |
| Parry Sound  | 58    | 44   | Clear    |
| Toronto      | 55    | 44   | Cloudy   |
| Ottawa       | 52    | 42   | Cloudy   |
| Montreal     | 70    | 38   | Clear    |
| Quebec       | 58    | 32   | Cloudy   |
| Father Point | 54    | 34   | Clear    |

An important area of high pressure has appeared over Northern Canada, and the weather of a more autumnal type is setting in from Ontario eastward. The temperature continues low in the Western Provinces, and light snowfalls have occurred in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

## SLIGHT ADVANCE BY BRITISH AND FRENCH

Wing Which Gave Ground Is Now Progressing—Masses of German Cavalry Reported in Environs of Lille—Enemy Repulsed.

[Canadian Press.]

Paris, Oct. 6.—(By Mail.)—The following official communication was given out in Paris this afternoon: "On our left wing, the front is extending more and more widely. Very important masses of German cavalry have been reported in the environs of Lille, coming from forces of the enemy which are making a movement in the region to the north of the line between Tourcoing, in the department of Nord, seven miles northeast of Lille, and Arras, nine miles northwest of Lille."

"In the vicinity of Arras and on the right bank of the River Somme, the situation shows little change. Between

the Somme and the Oise there have been alternate advances and withdrawals. Near Lassigny the enemy undertook an important attack, which, however, failed.

"On the right bank of the Oise, north of Soissons, we have with the co-operation of the British army, made a slight advance. We have also made some progress in the vicinity of Berry-au-Bac. "There is nothing to report from the rest of the front."

"In Belgium, the Belgian forces defending Antwerp have occupied strongly the line between the River Rupel and the River Nethe; against this line the attacks of the Germans have failed."

## ALLIES RAIDING GERMAN SUPPLIES

Cut Railway and Destroy Artillery Train—German Cavalry in Dire Straits For Remounts.

[Canadian Press.]

London, Oct. 6.—(By Mail.)—Never since its start has the battle of the Aisne, which has now become virtually a siege of the German positions on the Oise and north of the Oise, shown such dearth of news as it does on this 25th day of the struggle.

The British information bureau never very diffuse, completely closed down on current events from the front several days ago, and it probably will so continue until Sir John French, the commander of the British expeditionary forces, puts his hand in motion again.

No Further Light.

The reticence of the Paris official communications last night is even more marked than customary. It furnished no inkling of what had happened after the Germans "had forced the French to yield ground at certain points," on the all-important western wing.

It is argued here that these intermittent variations are inevitable, and not necessarily important in such a

hard-fought combat, throughout which given positions are taken and retaken and taken again many times.

Raids on Communications.

That the allies, for the moment, possess greater mobility than do their foes, seems to be indicated by the news that several days ago, and it probably will so continue until Sir John French, the commander of the British expeditionary forces, puts his hand in motion again.

As the enormous wastage of forces progresses, it is claimed for the allies that their possibilities for such movements will increase, while those of their opponents decrease. German cavalrymen on bicycles already are a common sight, and the Russian advance, which is cutting Germany off from the horse-producing districts of Hungary, must, if maintained, further increase the shortage in remounts.

## GERMANS CLAIM DEFEAT OF FRENCH AND RUSSIANS

Sayville Receives "Official" Report From Berlin Alleging Victories in Prussia and On River Meuse.

[Canadian Press.]

Berlin, Oct. 6.—Via wireless to Sayville—An order of the day written by Gen. Von Hoehen, published officially today, says that Fort Camp des Romains, on the river near St. Mihiel, after a number of hard fights, has been taken by the Germans. Five French officers and more than 500 men were made prisoners. The remainder of the French force perished in the ruins

of the Casemates. It is officially stated that the Russians were completely destroyed near Suwalki and Augustowo, on the east Prussian frontier, October 1 and 2. The Germans made 2,900 prisoners and captured eighteen cannon and many machine guns.

The situation, it is announced, is most hopeful everywhere for the Germans and Austrians.

## Guard Arrests Seventh Officer

Sentry Puts Him in Guardroom Because He Knew No Counter-sign.

That the guards at the ordnance stores building are on the qui vive was demonstrated last night when a captain of the Seventh Regiment was "captured," placed in the guard room, and kept a prisoner until he was identified by a fellow officer some hours later.

The guards knew nothing of the Seventh Regiment manoeuvres on Carling's Heights. The first intimation they had of the presence of several hundred men on the camp grounds was when the signal lamps began to wink solemnly in the darkness and shadowy forms were seen sinking across the big field.

The guards' vigilance was redoubled and consequently when the captain sauntered towards the ordnance building he was challenged and ordered to throw up his hands.

"Advance and give the countersign," commanded the sentry with rifle leveled at the officer's breast.

"Why—er, I don't know the counter sign, but you can see that I am an officer of the Seventh," returned the captain.

In a trice the guards surrounded the officer, his sword was taken from him, and he was hurried to the guard room. There he remained until a fellow officer came and explained matters. Needless to say there is no hard feeling on either side over the incident.

## LEAVING VALCARTIER.

[Canadian Press.] Kingston, Oct. 6.—Word was received here this morning to the effect that the Queen's Engineering Corps and the Army Service Corps would return from Valcartier camp tonight.

## HON. FRANK COCHRANE INSPECTING N.T.R.

Portions of Road To Be Operated by Government Until Spring.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, Oct. 6.—Hon. Frank Cochrane is leaving for Quebec, where he will start on a tour of inspection of the National Transcontinental from Quebec Bridge to Superior Junction. The road has been practically completed for operation. However, it is reported that the Grand Trunk Pacific will not be called upon to take it over until next spring, but that in the meantime portions of it will be operated by the Government.

## The Kaiser Will Be Wiser When the Allies Reach Berlin

Old Emperor Bill would have the world believe he knows it all. And that he rules this universe, all creatures great and small. So he tells his German soldiers wholesale murder is not sin, But the Kaiser will be wiser when the allies reach Berlin.

He's forgotten that in olden times 'twas written in God's Word. That "he who taketh up the sword shall perish by the sword." Tho' his victims' cries are drowned just now by his own din.

But the Kaiser will be wiser when the allies reach Berlin. —Fred Young, Seventh Regiment Home Guards.