

**THE COURIER**

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Saturday, October 24, 1914

**THE SITUATION.**

It is still the same story of desperate fighting in Belgium and Northern France, with nothing which can be regarded as decisive either way. German reinforcements have arrived in large numbers, but the Allies are standing firm and working in splendid accord.

One feature of results not perhaps very big of itself, but still important, is the heavy loss which the Germans must have sustained in horses. During periods of continuous fighting experts figure the average life of such animals at a few days. By that time they are either killed or disabled. They are of great use, not alone with regard to the cavalry, but also in the matter of artillery. It takes thirty of them, for instance, to haul one of the German heavy siege guns. Motor traction has, of course, largely superseded them in modern war, but they still serve a large purpose.

The Russians seem to have recently met with quite important successes. The German cruiser Karlsruhe has been just about as active in destroying British merchant vessels as the Emden. The pair of them have up to date been responsible for millions of dollars' worth of vessels and cargoes.

**WHERE HUNDREDS ARE SUFFERING.**

Major Louis Livingston Seaman is not only a military man, and a medical man, but a traveller and journalist of international repute. His work in the Balkans and elsewhere in connection with the Red Cross movement has made his name familiar all over the United States. He went to the front some weeks ago as special correspondent of the "Independent," New York, one of the liveliest weekly journals in that great city. In view of the statements written by him concerning German atrocities in Belgium, the publication of which the pro-Germans in the United States considered as a virtual breach of neutrality, Major Seaman was requested by the authorities to explain his action, as it is contrary to regulations for an officer of a neutral country to express himself definitely as a partisan in favor of either combatant.

On the day of the Zeppelin massacre at Antwerp Major Seaman sent the following letter to President Wilson:

"My dear Mr. President.—Preferring liberty of speech to military or other service where it is denied, especially when silence would be a crime against humanity, I herewith tender my resignation as a member of the Medical Reserve Corps of the United States Army."

The following correspondence, within the limits imposed by the censorship, hints at the pitiful sufferings of which Major Seaman has been a witness, and which impelled him to take this action.

"I am writing from the Hotel de la Paix in Ghent, the city whose people for two thousand years have done so much to wring from their rulers the concessions upon which constitutional government is founded. In feudal days it was one of the first of the Free Cities of Europe, and its historic monuments bear witness to the part it played during the Reformation. I believe no city on earth has contributed more to the development of civilization than Ghent. Here, the 24th of December next, it was the purposes of representatives of Great Britain and the United States to celebrate in the old Convent des Chartreux the one hundredth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Peace between England and America. Two months ago in the Royal Casino and Palais de Fete the international exhibition of flowers was held. France sent many roses of rarest hue and variety, many of which still adorn the extensive exhibition grounds, and in the Palais de Danse, the French opera company made gay music.

But what a change, the Palais de Fete is now a Palais de Misere, transformed almost in a night. Fourteen thousand desolate peasant women and little children, refugees from the country near Louvain, Malines and Termonde, whose husbands or fathers or brothers have been butchered or driven to parts unknown, their homes pillaged and burnt, their crops destroyed, their only possessions the clothing on their backs, have been, or are now, being sheltered here. Could the reader but hear for himself the tales of suffering and horror that come from every mouth, or see the ghastly wounds of many, even among the little children, that testimony to the agonies they have undergone, his indignation would know no bounds.

I have participated as an officer or observer in eight campaigns, in almost every country in the world, but in none have I witnessed such exhibitions of atrocious barbarism as this war is furnishing.

Thank Heaven there is another side to this dark picture. In that Palais de Fete, now the Palais de Misere, the

Red Cross is doing a noble work of rescue and mercy. Refugees are carefully treated, clothed and housed. Many had not tasted food for two days preceding their arrival here. M. de Bruyne, who so ably represented the Burgomaster at the meetings of the International Peace Celebration, is in a systematic way, sending them to suburban villages where houses are open to them, shipping them to England, and so distributing them that they may eventually be repatriated. I was informed at Ostend that children under fifteen would not be received in England as refugees, but I have since learned that the government is welcoming all.

The work of the Red Cross in Ghent cannot be too highly praised. It has many hospitals (ambulances as they are called here) under its direction, and is working most efficiently and in perfect harmony with the military authorities. The most severely wounded are sent to the military hospital, while others are distributed to the hotels, schools, convents, private houses and private clinics which have been thrown open for them. At present comparatively few of the severely wounded remain, the majority having been transferred to other cities in anticipation of the coming of the enemy. Thousands of empty beds, with attendants and nurses from the most aristocratic and highly cultured families in the land are awaiting the arrival of more, ready to care for them with gentleness and skill. German and Belgian alike, in surroundings of elegance such as the majority of them never dreamed of.

Many of these shrapnel wounds are terrible, shattering bony structure and causing extensive laceration of tissue. A very large proportion of the bullet wounds are found in the legs and feet, showing that the Germans who shoot from the hip, are firing low. The Belgians shoot from the shoulder. Dr. Dulet, in Antwerp, has a dum-dum ball which he extracted from a wounded Belgian. Many of the invalids suffer from extreme exhaustion, after their three days' incessant fighting, but they soon rally and beg to return to the colors.

The three characteristics of the Belgian people that have most deeply impressed me during the past month are their patriotism, their bravery and their gentleness. In the military, civic and Red Cross hospitals of Bruges, Ostend, Ghent and Antwerp, over 40 of which I have visited, the wounded German soldier has always received as careful surgical and nursing care as the Belgian whom he came to murder, for this most unjust war was deliberately planned for conquest and extermination.

Whatever may be the outcome of this monstrous holocaust, the justice and honors and the humanities belong to Belgium. When the victorious allies make their triumphant entry into Berlin (and I believe they will) the Belgian should have the line, and royal restitution should be made for his sacrifice, in memory of Liege, Malines and Louvain. All honor to little Belgium.

**ADMITS A CRISIS**

Writer in Berlin Paper Says It Is Life or Death Now.

[By Special Wire to the Courier]

PARIS, Oct. 24.—The correspondent in Bellegard, France, of the Echo De Paris, has sent the following despatch to his paper: "Major Morath, in an article in the Berlin Tageblatt, asserts that the largest battle of the war is being fought between Lille and Dunkirk. He says it is a combat of life and death, and that on its issue depends the fate of the operations in France. On the contrary General Blume, writing for the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger, says he does not expect a rapid solution, believing that the battle in France will finish only when the forces of one side or the other are exhausted."

**Mutt and Jeff Are Still Popular as Ever**



The same old pair are making their annual visit to Brantford, Monday, October 26, at the Grand Opera House. They never fail to cause an uproar.

**PARIS IS CONFIDENT OF RESULT**

**But There is Some Impatience Over Struggle of Days Duration.**

[By Special Wire to the Courier]

PARIS, Oct. 24.—Both the allies and the Germans were prepared to resume to-day on the Plains of Flanders the terrible struggle which has been going on there for days past. Public attention continued to be fixed on the left wing and other points of the long battle line in France received secondary consideration for the time being. The public, as usual, studied the war office statement with the greatest care, and although they are impatient for a conclusion, the people apparently are as confident as ever.

Independent of the contest in the north, actions in other sections serve to strengthen the positions of the opposing sides. Some of these while appearing separate, are in reality combined, such as that between the frontier of the east and that of the Argennes. This has for its purpose the control of the vicinity of Verdun and the formation there of a base for an offensive movement. The arrival of a French force at Brabant-Sur-Meuse, near Consequoye, at the heights of Montiaucon, where the crown prince is entrenched, is a new element added to the chain of the allies' strength in this district.

The French aviators continue to give proof of great courage, at the same time adding considerably to the list of German dead. One bomb thrown during the assembly of cavalry, killed thirty of the enemy. In another case two bombs caused eight deaths and injured twenty-two other persons. Similar incidents are almost a daily occurrence, and in one instance the staff of a German division was so annoyed by aerial flights of the enemy, that it was compelled to change its headquarters.

The Germans, in opposing these attacks, have installed on automobiles, or simply on two wheels, a special cannon from which they fire vertically at aeroplanes. At each locality which the Germans occupy, a regular squad watches the horizon. At the appearance of French machines special bells are sounded, which signal the people to go to their houses so as to give the locality an impression of being uninhabited.

**GENERAL A PRISONER**

PARIS, Oct. 24.—The Reo De Paris reports that General Von Friese, the commander of the Twenty-fifth brigade of German artillery, who was captured by Moroccans during the fighting some time ago, has arrived at Marseilles with other German prisoners. When captured recently and brought to Paris, General Von Friese attempted to commit suicide by stabbing himself in the stomach. He has apparently recovered from the injuries he then inflicted.

Since the outbreak of the war 5,000 oxen are reported to have been killed in Budapest.

**FRENCH MUST RETAKE SAINT MIHIEL FORTS**

In all Other Positions on the Right Wing Progress Has Been Made.

[By Special Wire to the Courier]

LONDON, Oct. 24.—The Times to-day prints a long despatch in which its correspondent at Nancy, France, under date of October 15, gives a vivid picture of the fighting on the right wing of the French army.

"Though the French official communications continually state that the situation on the right is unchanged," he says, "they do not mean that the opposing armies are marking time. The Germans have made fierce efforts to get Verdun. These efforts were as fiercely repelled and the French field army still stands between the army of Metz and the coveted fortresses of Toul and Verdun."

"In the attempt on Saint Mihiel, the Germans were more successful. Hard fighting will be necessary to eject them, but the German objective—the junction of the army of Metz with the right wing of the crown prince's army of Argonne—has been prevented. The French are praying for a heavy fall of snow which would seriously hamper the enemy's movements of supplies and might even drive them into the open, like wolves."

"The guns of Verdun have never yet been in action and there is no prospect of the fall of Verdun unless the French field army allows the Germans to get their big guns within range."

"The whole history of this war, however, goes to prove the utter uselessness of forts under present conditions. The best type of fortifications seems to consist of

batteries from which the guns can be easily moved to a new point as soon as they are located by the enemy. The day of the fixed fort is gone. After the Germans had entrenched themselves at St. Mihiel, their big guns made short work of the French forts at Troyon and Camp Des Romains. The guns of the forts had a range of only five miles against the German siegiers range of seven miles.

"The Germans have placed a battery of Austrian 42-centimeter guns on the site of Camp Des Romains, which commands St. Mihiel and a large part of the Woivre. It is most important that the French recapture this position, but it will take them into severe fighting to do it."

**WAS MOST VIOLENT**

LONDON, Oct. 24.—A private Berlin despatch, according to the correspondent of the Central News at Copenhagen, states that the battle raging between Neuport and Dixmide is the most violent and the most important engagement of the entire war. He adds that Zeppelins are said to have given the Germans considerable support.

Emile Vanderveide, the Belgian Minister of State, delivered an address to the troops amid the roar of cannon.

THE subject of wearing apparel is a most interesting topic. "Wherewithal shall a man be clothed?" is necessarily a topic on which every man who cares about his personal appearance wishes to be informed intelligently.

We Can Inform You!

**Chris. Sutherland**  
154 COLBORNE ST.

**DUN IS ILL.**

LONDON, Oct. 24.—The Duke of Teck, brother of Queen Mary, who was invalided home from the front, suffering from gastritis, was visited by the King and Queen in a private hospital in London yesterday.

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**The Literary Digest**

FUNK & WAGNALLS COMPANY (Publishers of the Famous NEW Standard Dictionary) NEW YORK

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1914**

**LOCAL NEWS**

**CARPETBALLERS MEET**

The Liberal Club Carpet ball players meet to-night in the club room for the purpose of electing their committee.

**BUILDING PERMIT.**

Michael Keenan of Brant avenue has taken out a building permit for 134 building to be erected at a cost of \$1,500.

**WANTS SEWER CONNECTION**

David Macdonald of Abigail avenue, asks that sewer connections be made to his residence. His request has been referred to the Board of Works.

**FOREIGNERS BENEFIT.**

Dr. Barber in attending to the foreign patients of the city who required his aid has dispensed medicines to them whether there was prospect of their paid or not.

**HAS ISSUED A WRIT**

Mrs. Elizabeth Harris of Onondaga has issued a writ for unnamed damages against John Black, also of Onondaga. She alleges slander and libel and the action will be heard at the Spring court.

**PLAYING AT GUELPH.**

The Collegiate rugby team left for Guelph on the 8.55 train this morning where they will play a league match with the Royal City boys. As they were beaten by Guelph on their visit here, their only hope for the championship lies on their winning to-day's game. Coach Waterous accompanied the team and will act in the capacity of referee.

**A PRESENTATION.**

Miss Olive Graham was the guest of honor at an informal party given by Wellington St. Choir at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Simpson King St. last evening. Miss Graham, who has been a very valuable member of the choir, leaves for Chicago, in a few days to reside there permanently. The present was a beautifully hand-painted china dresser set, the work of Miss Edith Simpson. Mr. Darwin made the presentation, assisted by Mabel Limburg. A graceful acknowledgment was made by the recipient.

**FOR THE BELGIANS.**

The ladies of the House Committee of the Children's Shelter and their numerous friends, who have recently done such excellent work in making outfits for Brantford soldiers have launched a new effort for the relief of Belgian refugees. An enthusiastic meeting yesterday it was decided to hold a pound party on Wednesday next at the Shelter. Everyone will be asked to bring a pound or something or other, tea, sugar, rice, or even clothing. This will be shipped the following day along with shipments from other Canadian cities.

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OCTOBER 27

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