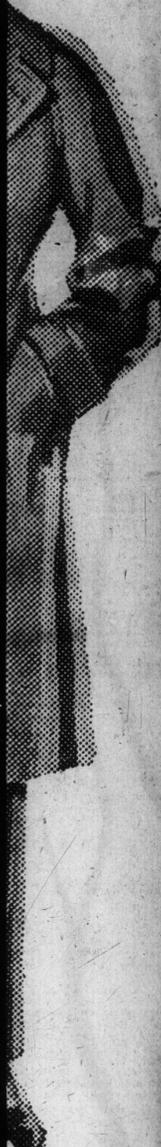


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PROBS: A few scattered showers at first, but generally fair and cool.

# The Toronto World

FRIDAY MORNING OCTOBER 18 1918

VOL. XXXVIII.—No. 13,855 TWO CENTS

## BLACK DAY FOR GERMAN ARMS

### Bruges, Douai, Ostend, Lille and a Score of Smaller Places Occupied by the Allies, Who Line Up Along the Lys for a Sweep Into Central Belgium—Zeebrugge Abandoned, and Germans Lose Hold on Entire Coast of Belgium.

#### DRIVE TO CUT GHENT CANAL BY FRANCO-BELGIAN TROOPS

**German Retreat Begun Under Irresistible Pressure of King Albert's Troops Continues From the North Sea to River Lys.**

London, Oct. 17.—The German retreat, begun Wednesday under the irresistible pressure of the group of armies under command of the King of the Belgians, continued today along the whole of the front between the North Sea and the River Lys.

By this evening the advance had been carried forward to a depth of twenty kilometres over a front of fifty kilometres.

The Belgian army had entered Ostend and their cavalry was at the gates of Bruges. Belgian cavalry occupied Ingelmunster.

In the Belgian-French zone, Pitthem, Meulbeke and Wynghem had been captured.

Further south the second British army occupied the line of the Lys north of Courtrai. South, the British have crossed the river and reached the outskirts of Tournai.

**Entire Front in Motion.**

With the Allied Armies in Belgium, Oct. 17.—The enemy has been driven back rapidly everywhere today, and the entire front from the sea southward is in motion. The British have entered Lille. The Germans have fled precipitately from Ostend and that section of the Belgian coast. British naval forces have landed at Ostend, while a number of Belgian aviators landed in the centre of the city amid the cheers of the inhabitants.

Meanwhile, the Belgian infantry and French cavalry sweeping up toward the coast at last reports were rapidly nearing the city and probably will be in it before daylight. Ostend is reported entirely free now of Germans, those left in the city as rear-guards having been accounted for.

**Germans in Full Flight.**

The Germans seem to be in full flight everywhere, especially from Belgium, for the gap thru which they must escape between the advancing allied troops and the frontier of Holland is constantly being narrowed, and unless the enemy moves rapidly large numbers may be caught.

The entire Lille salient, it seems, is being evacuated by the hard-pressed Germans. Even south of here they have had no rest.

East of St. Souplet, after crossing the river and defeating the Germans on the other side, the British and Americans stormed the continuation of the enemy Valenciennes-Le Cateau line and appear to have made great progress.

Thousands of civilians have been released. How many prisoners and guns have been captured are unknown, but the number of prisoners cannot be large, for the Germans have been going so fast that they have not had time to remove their heavy pieces.

**Drive for Ghent Canal.**

A force of Belgians, assisted by French cavalry and infantry, is reported to be driving northward to strike the bridges on the east and also cut the Ghent Canal. Wide possibilities exist in this movement.

From Le Cateau southward the British, assisted by American units, attacked this morning and by night were well on the other side of the Selle River, striking toward the Oise Canal. At one place they were less than 3000 yards from its bank.

The fighting today has been hard everywhere along the line. Strong and determined rear-guards were encountered. These were especially active north of Le Cateau.

**TO ASK COMPENSATION FOR QUITTING UKRAINE**

Stockholm, Oct. 17.—According to a Petrograd despatch, Germany has manifested the intention to begin negotiations with the Maximalist government in order to obtain compensation in exchange for evacuation of the Ukraine. This has excited Polish quarters in Kiev, as the government of Gen. Skoropadski, the Ukrainian dictator, realizes that its fall is certain if the German troops leave.

Shtolovf, president of the Petrograd Commune, declared that M. Doytchenko, the Ukrainian foreign minister, has proposed to enter into an agreement with the Maximalist government in order to prepare for all eventualities.

#### French Capture Six Towns Successful Co-operation With Anglo-Belgian Forces Results in Notable Gains.

PARIS, Oct. 17.—French troops co-operating with the Anglo-Belgian forces in Flanders captured Pitthem, Meulbeke and Wynghem, in spite of strong resistance, according to the French official statement tonight. Notable gains also were made in the Oise region with the capture of Petit Verly and Marchavenne. On the left bank of the Oise the French took Mont Origny. Twelve hundred prisoners already have been counted.

#### BELGIANS ENTER BRUGES Patrols Are in the City, and Cavalry is Operating on Both Sides, While Guns Fire From South of the City.

With the Allied Armies in Belgium, Oct. 17.—Belgian patrols have entered Bruges and cavalry is operating on both sides. Belgian guns are now firing from south of the city.

#### BIGGEST EVENTS COMING SINCE BIRTH OF CHRIST GERMANY'S REPLY NOT OF MUCH CONSEQUENCE

New York, Oct. 17.—Marcel Knecht, acting French high commissioner to the United States, in an address here today predicted that "preparations for destruction and the reconstruction of the war-torn powers" would be seen "before Christmas."

"We are going to see this week, next week, next month, bigger things, greater things than the world has ever seen since the birth of Jesus Christ," he declared. "We are going to be astounded. In two months, perhaps three months, we are going to see justice meted out."

**BRITISH ALL AROUND GERMANS IN COURTRAI**

British Headquarters in Belgium, Oct. 17.—Jesghem, southwest of Houthulst, changed hands four times before the Germans finally were expelled. The British hold about a third of the newer part of Courtrai, embracing about 5000 inhabitants. The older and larger part is still in the hands of the Germans, and it is believed some 50,000 persons, mostly women and children, are in the place. Courtrai was only slightly damaged by shell fire. The British are all around it, so that the enemy hold is precarious.

**REPLY TO PRESIDENT NOT COMPLETE REFUSAL**

Berne, Oct. 17.—Advice received from Berlin as to the effect that there is great activity in political circles in view of the German reply to President Wilson's note. It is understood the note already has been refused, and that it is not a complete refusal of Wilson's demands.

Von Hindenburg was expected in Berlin today.

**ANSWER OF GERMANY WILL NOT BE FINAL**

Berne, Oct. 17.—Germany's reply to President Wilson's latest communication was expected to be drawn up and despatched to Washington tonight, according to the latest advice received here from Berlin.

The semi-official newspapers in Germany indicate that it is certain that Germany in the note will seek to continue the conversation.

#### BLACK DAY FOR GERMAN ARMS Wonderful Crop of Successes is Garnered From Lille to the Sea.

British Headquarters in France, Oct. 17.—This was a black day for the German arms. While from Lille to the sea a wonderful crop of brilliant successes was being garnered, the British fourth army struck hard on the Le Cateau-Bohain front southeast of Cambrai, where the enemy was trying to effect his main retreat. Heavy fighting resulted, but the progress of Field Marshal Haig was satisfactory.

The British tonight were reported to be 1600 yards east of Inolant and also east of St. Benin. The heaviest resistance was encountered at Le Cateau. Up to noon, 1800 prisoners from six different divisions had been taken.

In Flanders the allied troops are marching along the Bruges-Thourout road and are within five miles of Bruges. At last reports they were meeting with only slight machine gun opposition.

#### ZEEBRUGGE LOOKS TO BE ABANDONED

Germans Now Have Only One Road by Which to Escape. IT IS BEING SHELLED

Mazes of Fleeing Enemy Face Great Danger of Capture.

With the Allied Armies in Belgium, Oct. 17.—The allied infantry made rapid progress today and pierced into the German front beyond Wynghem. The Germans are hurrying eastward thru the passage between Bruges and the Holland border, trying to escape being bottled up. Only one good road exists in this passage, this being from Bruges to Eecloo.

It contains a mad jumble of transports and fleeing men. Zeebrugge appears to have been abandoned.

Vast quantities of war material have been taken by the allied troops. These have been accumulating for years. The Bruges-Eecloo road is under fire of the Belgian guns, which also are shelling the back areas, dropping shells into the mazes of the fleeing enemy.

The passage between Bruges and Holland, which will be made narrower by the advancing troops, undoubtedly will constantly come in for treatment by the heavy artillery as more allied guns are rushed up.

**Racing Against Capture.**

The Germans in Belgium already have met with defeat, and those fleeing from the coast are faced with the great danger of capture unless they win the race they are making to escape. If the passage is closed the Germans, rather than surrender bodily, may try to escape by crossing into Holland, where it is sure they would be interned.

One thing stands out above others. The coast of Belgium, so vital to the German submarine operations, is fast being cleared of the enemy, it would appear from reports regarding the cavalry operating on both sides of the coast. The horsemen even now are endeavoring to cut off the fleeing enemy.

Having been driven from the coast, the Germans here are unable to carry out aerial operations over the North Sea, with the freedom they have had during the past four years.

#### FRENCH CAPTURE TALMA IN STUBBORN FIGHTING

Germans Resist Stubbornly Along the Oise, Countering Fiercely at Village of Choigny.

With the French Forces in France, Oct. 17.—Progress continued to be made by the allied forces today on the eastern wing of the battlefield in the face of stout opposition. The German resistance was especially determined west of Grand Pre, in the Argonne, where the Germans still hold Talma farm in a small salient.

General Gouraud's men have taken Hill 222 and the Village of Talma, a thousand yards to the north, and Little Talma, about the same distance south of the hill from where the line bends around the American positions north of Grand Pre.

The fifth French army, under Gen. Guillaumat, former military governor of Paris, met with serious opposition yesterday, but gained a footing at one point in the enemy's positions.

Along the Oise River the Germans continue to resist stubbornly, countering fiercely at the Village of Choigny.

#### What to Do to Overcome the "Flu" Epidemic.

All must do what they can to round-up the "flu" epidemic. And each can do something. Let everyone, that possibly can, confine themselves to nothing but essential work and effort. Let all the women and children and the elders rest whenever they can. Keep out of contact with others, and keep to bed when they can. Get the infection out of each house as quickly as you can. Round it up in each house, and in each locality, wherever this can be done. It's the unnecessary contact that helps to spread the trouble.

#### BRITISH TROOPS TAKE DOUAI ENCIRCLE AND CAPTURE LILLE

**KING AND QUEEN OF BELGIUM IN OSTEND AFTER FOUR YEARS**

Enter the Town Thursday Afternoon After Its Occupation by British Marines, French Cavalry and Belgian Airmen.

Paris, Oct. 17.—King Albert of Belgium and Queen Elizabeth entered Ostend this afternoon.

London, Oct. 17.—Vice-Admiral Sir Roger Keyes of the British navy, landed at Ostend this afternoon, says an official announcement from the admiralty. The admiral was preceded by members of the Royal Air Force, who landed at Ostend this morning.

French cavalry patrols, says The Evening News, reached Ostend today and returned with the report that no Germans were to be seen there.

The Germans, on evacuating the channel seaport and submarine base of Ostend, left behind them rear guards, all of whom were killed or captured. British warships landed, forces in the town and Belgian aviators alighted in the Place d'Armes.

#### Submarines Recalled German Admiralty Issues Wireless Instructions for All to Return to Their Bases.

Amsterdam, Oct. 17.—The Handelsblad publishes, with reserve, a report that the German admiralty has issued wireless instructions to all submarines to return to their bases.

**Belgian Coast to Be Free Of Germans in a Few Days**

Allied Infantry Has Re-established Contact With Fleeing Enemy and Captured Many Additional Prisoners.

With the Allied Forces in Flanders, Oct. 17.—The allied infantry in the centre of the advance against the retreating Germans on this front was reported today to have re-established contact with the fleeing enemy. It is considered that if the present rate of advance is sustained the Belgian coast should be free of the Germans within a very few days.

Many additional prisoners have been captured. The British operating in Flanders, whose principal job has been supporting the Belgian and French flank, has alone captured 4000 prisoners and 150 guns since the operations began.

The roads in the rear of the Belgian army are jammed with prisoners and captured war material.

In the Eeghem district the Belgians are driving northeast for the Ghent Canal, which is rapidly being approached.

#### DOUBLE RETIREMENT ON FLANDERS FRONT

Germans Pivot on Courtrai—Inhabitants of Lille Ordered to Meet British.

British Headquarters in Flanders, Oct. 17.—The Germans are carrying out a double retirement in Flanders, with Courtrai as the pivot. The northern retirement extends from Ostend southward, while the other affects the industrial area of northern France.

The only point on the northern front where there is any fighting today is at Courtrai.

At 4 o'clock this morning the German commandant at Lille ordered all the inhabitants of Lille to assemble as promptly as possible. As they hurried thru the gloom the streets they observed the garrison marching out. They were told to go out to the British lines and meet their friends. Then came the rhythmic tramp of infantry, which gradually died away. The Germans had departed from Lille.

At dawn a British airman flying over the city held a most amazing sight. The streets were thronged with civilians, who were frantically waving handkerchiefs and abawls. Not a soldier could be seen. The aviator quickly turned and carried the news back to the British lines. Patrols advanced immediately and entered the city.

#### THIRTY MILES FROM NISH COVERED BY SERBIANS

London, Oct. 17.—Serbian troops engaged in ousting the Germans and Austrians from Serbian territory have captured Knushevatz, according to advices received today. This town is 30 miles northwest of Nish.

The French, operating to the west, have captured Ipek, Montenegro, about 10 miles west of the Serbian border.

**NEW YORK AND TORONTO.**

Today the Dineen Co. opens up another shipment of Dunlap's celebrated hats. These hats are known all over the United States and Canada, and on account of the labor situation it is very hard to get delivery. This lot won't last long, so you better come in today or Saturday. Price \$7.00. Also new Stetson hats in stiff hats, soft felts and velours. Dineen Co. is sole agent also for Henry Heath and Co., London, England, "hatters to the King." Dineen's store is at 140 Yonge street.

#### LIENANT-GOVERNOR OF QUEBEC IN Grave Danger, Say Doctors

Quebec, Oct. 17.—The condition of Sir Evariste LeBlanc, lieutenant-governor of the Province of Quebec, is very grave. It is feared he will not pass the night.

Toronto will then have the two great thoroughfares that her municipal and business needs call for.

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