

The Evening Times Star

VOL. XV, No. 2

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1918

TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

Damascus In Hands of British; Allies in Full Sway on West Front

The British Are In Damascus

London, Oct. 2—Damascus, the capital of Syria, was occupied by General Allenby's forces on Tuesday morning, according to an official statement issued today by the British war office.

Amsterdam, Oct. 2—The Turkish cabinet, according to a telegram published by the Cologne Gazette, has decided "in all circumstances to adhere to the alliance with the Central Powers."

London, Oct. 2—The Turkish commandant at Damascus has asked for terms for the surrender of the city to General Allenby's forces, says the Manchester Guardian reports. It is expected that troops of the British army in Palestine will enter the city today.

Fight Hard As St. Quentin Lost

Germans Fail to Match French; Further Gains of Importance Near Rheims; Massif of Thiery Wholly in French Hands

Paris, Oct. 2—Heavy fighting took place in St. Quentin last night. Resistance stubbornly the German were driven back to the east bank of the canal.

Northwest of Rheims the French have taken Poillon and Thif and have reached the southern outskirts of Villers-Franqueux. North of Rheims they have pushed forward their line to the outskirts of Betheny. There was no change on the Champagne front during the night.

PAST ST. QUENTIN

Paris, Oct. 2—The French troops have now passed beyond St. Quentin. Northeast, east and southeast of the town, according to the Havas Agency, they hold a line running along the Somme from Tronquoy to Rosoy and then along the St. Quentin-La Fere road to the River Oise at Vendesil.

RETREAT MORE HURRIED

Paris, Oct. 2—The armies of Generals Gossard and Bertelot on the front east of Rheims continued to advance today against the Germans, who appeared to be falling back more hurriedly than at any time since Sept. 26.

AMERICANS HAVE HARD FIGHTING

Germans Organize Increasingly Bitter Defence

HEAVY COUNTER-ATTACK

Hours to Check it But Hundreds Paid Dearly—Some Hundreds of Americans in Tight Place Between Cambrai and Saint Quentin

With the American Army Northwest of Verdun, Oct. 1—(By the Associated Press)—The enemy is organizing an increasingly bitter defence, utilizing every available means to hold back the American troops.

These American tank crews were used in England and had been waiting behind the front for the attack. They rolled along before the infantry and directly in the rear of a creeping barrage and cleared many machine gun nests.

After the manner of the British, the Americans drove their machines right on top of the German machine gun nests.

With the American Army on the St. Quentin front, Oct. 1—(By the Associated Press)—Some hundreds of Americans in a certain far advanced position between Cambrai and St. Quentin, which they reached late on Sunday, were holding out valiantly against superior enemy numbers, according to latest reports which were received yesterday.

The Australians made heroic attempts to assist them, and so far as hard-fought character of the enemy's activity.

AUTO TRUCK STOLEN

City Fuel Company's Shed Broken Into Through Night

The shed of the City Fuel Company was broken into last night and the company's auto truck, valued at \$1,000, was stolen.

The robbery was one of the boldest perpetrated in the city for some time. The large doors of the shed were smashed in and the truck was taken out and must have been run through the city streets.

C. A. Clark, manager of the company, feels that it will be possible to locate the truck as on the sides of it is the name "City Fuel Company."

Only about two weeks ago the shed was broken into but Mr. Clark at the time could not see that anything was stolen. He believed at that time the truck was taken out but returned before morning.

The company being without their truck today have been put to much inconvenience.

RAILWAY DISASTER IN SWEDEN; 350 ARE KILLED; 50 CHILDREN

London, Oct. 2—Three hundred and fifty persons have been killed, it is feared, in a railway accident north of Malmo, Sweden. Fifty children, who were returning to Stockholm from the country are among the dead.

E. Manuel Desroche and Max Williams, both of this city, were before the police magistrate this morning, charged by the dominion police with not having their exemption papers on them when escorted. Both young men gave a satisfactory explanation and were allowed to go on suspended sentence.

James Richards was before the court on a charge of stealing two canvas coverings from carpenters working at the Dufferin Hotel. He pleaded not guilty and was remanded.

efforts, the result of which is not known. Furious fighting continues here.

With the American Army Northwest of Verdun, Oct. 1—(By the Associated Press)—German efforts to penetrate or bend the line between the Meuse and the Aisne dwindled rapidly today. One minor counter-attack, some outposts scintillating and a half-hearted bombardment characterized the enemy's activity.

LOCAL MEN IN CASUALTY LIST

Samuel Shanks, caretaker of the government bridge over the reversing falls, received a telegram from Ottawa this morning notifying him that his son Corporal George Shanks, had been wounded in the side and had been admitted to a military hospital. This is the third time that Corporal Shanks has been wounded.



CAPT. ROBERT B. LLOYD, D.C.M. St. John man, killed in action Sept. 25.

He had been back on the firing line only since August 23, and on September 24 was again wounded. He called with a western battalion very shortly after the outbreak of the war.

Mrs. Minnie Crewe, 28 Southpark street, has been advised from Ottawa that her husband, Pte. Ernest Crewe has been wounded.

Mrs. James Foster, 27 Winter street, was advised this morning from Ottawa that her son, Private Arthur Foster, a member of a Field Ambulance Corps in France, had been wounded in the knee with gunshot and admitted to a hospital at Etaples.

Robert Garnett, 84 Autumn street, was advised this morning that his son, Pte. Robert Garnett, had been wounded in the back by gunshot and admitted to a hospital in France.

Ottawa, Oct. 2—Today's casualty list includes G. L. McLeod of Albert, N. B. infantryman, wounded; G. E. Ferguson, Moncton, and L. J. Miller, Millbank, engineers, gassed; B. MacNitt, Campbellton, artillery, died of wounds; Signaller D. C. McPeters, Siles Village, artillery, gassed; H. D. Burns, Masquerie, railway corps, ill; R. T. Stevens, Andover, machine gun company, ill; G. C. Moore, Lower Queensbury, N. B., wounded; G. E. Lewis, Turtle Creek, N. B., reported missing, is safe.

VON HERTLING CALLS PARTY LEADERS TO DISCUSS SITUATION

Amsterdam, Oct. 2—At a sitting of the main committee of the German Reichstag on Monday, Vice-Chancellor Von Payer read a decree from the emperor announcing the resignation of Chancellor Von Hertling. He announced that the former chancellor had called a meeting of party leaders to discuss the situation. An indefinite adjournment was then taken by the committee.

PUBLIC UTILITIES MEETING

The adjourned hearing of the application of the Moncton Gas Company for permission to increase rates for natural gas will be continued this afternoon in the provincial government rooms.

Felix Michael of Buetsche arrived this morning and A. B. Connell, K. C., and the secretary, Fred P. Robinson, reached the city on the afternoon train. Hon. C. W. Robinson is in the city to appear before the commission.

DIED TODAY

Mrs. Annie Algic, widow of Robert Algic of this city, died early this morning at her residence, 1 Hilyard street. She was sixty-six years old and is survived by one son, Frank E., of this city, and one daughter, Mrs. M. C. Bryant, of California. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon.

FORCING GERMANS INTO A GENERAL RETREAT ON WEST

Can Ludendorff Prevent It Becoming a Disaster? That Is The Question

Fall of St. Quentin Shakes Whole German System—Crown Prince is in Bad Fix—Resounding Triumph for the Allies' Forces

Paris, Oct. 2—St. Quentin is taken and the corner stone of the Hindenburg system has fallen.

Thanks to the prodigious and unrelenting efforts of the armies of General Debeney and General Rawlingson, under the general direction of General Fayolle, that line soldier who commands the group of armies in that sector, is a most resounding triumph. But it is not the only place where victory smiled upon the Allied arms.

Belgian forces, strongly opposed, are making headway toward Roulers and Menin. The Germans are preparing to evacuate the Lille region. British armies around Cambrai are successfully fighting one of the fiercest battles of the war. General Blandin is driving the enemy back between Ypres and the Aisne and General Gossard has reached Challenge, the important railroad centre at the western opening of Grand Pre esp.

WHOLE SYSTEM SHAKEN

St. Quentin's fall shakes the whole German system. Its effect will be widespread. This will be accentuated by the strong push that is being made in the upper Oise Valley. The Allies here are across the multiple waterways upon which the enemy so largely bases his defences.

Before them lies the open country which is ideal for tanks. Under the circumstances it is one of the questions that the crown prince's armies can hold their positions on the Ailette and the Aisne. Outflanked from the north and harried by General Mangin, who is now along the Aisne as far as south of Craonne, the crown prince's armies are in a much graver position than were those of Generals Von Boehm and Von Hutier on the Marne and Avre in July. The same danger threatens the armies opposing Gossard.

The first logical result of the capture of St. Quentin must be the retreat of the enemy from the Loonnos and Champagne sectors if he wishes to escape disaster. But it will not be enough that their line breaks up under the blows of the Allies. A general German retreat becomes more and more imperative. The problem for General Ludendorff is how to prevent it from being converted into a disaster, which is the sequel of a retirement of masses closely engaged in a formidable struggle.

ADVANCE OF 75 MILES IN A FORTNIGHT

Allies Have Held on Both Banks of Dvina River

Archangel, Oct. 1—(By the Associated Press)—British, French, American and Russian troops today occupy villages on both banks of the Dvina River to a point 125 miles north of Kotlas, in the government of Volodga. They have advanced seventy-five miles in the last two weeks and they are now about 875 miles southeast of Archangel.

The river is blocked farther south by both mines and barges which have been sunk in the channel. Up the Vaga River, however, progress is unobstructed and Allied forces are occupying the important town of Shemkarsk. The aurora borealis is already flaming in the northern sky.

In their advance up the Dvina, the land forces have met with virtually no resistance since Sept. 21, when the Americans were subjected to heavy machine gun fire for five hours at Seltako.

FORMER ST. JOHN MAN DIES OF SPANISH INFLUENZA

Mrs. Geary of 512 Main street has received word that her son-in-law, Walter Craig, of Somerville, Mass., died recently of Spanish influenza. Mr. Craig was a former resident of this city. Besides his wife, he leaves two brothers and one sister.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service

Synopsis—A shallow depression which is passing to the northward of the Great Lakes is causing a few local showers in Ontario. Elsewhere in Canada the weather is fine.

Lakes and Georgian Bay—Moderate south shifting to west and northwest winds, a few local showers today, but fairly fair; Thursday fair, not much change in temperature.

Ottawa and Upper St. Lawrence Valley—Moderate to fresh south to west winds, a few local showers, but partly fair with a little higher temperature; Thursday, generally fair.

Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—Moderate to fresh south to west winds, fair today, some local showers tonight and for a part of Thursday.

Mostly Fair.

Maritime—Moderate to fresh southwest to south winds, fair and cool; Thursday, a few scattered showers but mostly fair.

Superior—Moderate to fresh west to northwest winds, fair today and on Thursday.

All west—Fine today and on Thursday, and milder on Thursday.

New England—Probably showers late tonight or on Thursday, moderate temperature; fresh southwest winds on the coast.

FUNERAL

The funeral of Ruth Mildred Dean took place yesterday afternoon from her parents' residence, 89 Rodney street. Services were conducted by Rev. S. S. Poole. Interment was made in the Methodist church burying grounds.

British Tear New Wide Gaps In The German Line

Smash Their Way Through Between St. Quentin and Lecatelet

Former Place Afire in Several Parts; Enemy Plot at Cambrai Failed; All's Well Along the Line

London, Oct. 2—Wide gaps have been torn in the German line between St. Quentin and Lecatelet by Field Marshal Haig's forces. The British commander reported today the breaking of the German line on the Fossoenne-Beaurevoir front. This was done by the 32nd division.

(Beaurevoir is two and a half miles east of Lecatelet and Fossoenne is nearly five miles northeast of St. Quentin.)

Sequehart, four and a half miles southeast of Bellcourt, has been captured, as has the hamlet of Preselles, just to the north. The Australians completed capture of the enemy's defence south of Lecatelet and Gouy.

South of Cambrai British troops, including Scottish and New Zealanders, have occupied Crevecoeur and Rumiilly.

STILL PRESSING ON

London, Oct. 2—The British are pushing farther into the German positions on the front between St. Quentin and Lecatelet. Field Marshal Haig reported today that the Australians had finished the work of clearing out the German defences south of Lecatelet and Gouy and had freed Joncourt, just to the south, of enemy troops.

NEW GAINS IN FLANDERS

London, Oct. 2—British and Belgian troops have made fresh progress in the direction of Hoogebeke and Roulers and the British have seized Ledeghem, on the Roulers-Menin railway, according to the Belgian official statement issued last night. A British detachment has crossed the Lys between Werwicq and Commines.

ST. QUENTIN AFIRE

Paris, Oct. 2—St. Quentin is burning at several points, according to Premier Clemenceau, who informed Marcel Huys of the Echo de Paris today that French aviators have great difficulty in flying over their territory because of the smoke rising from it.

FOILED ENEMY AT CAMBRAI

Paris, Oct. 2—(Havas Agency)—Cambrai has been mined, but the British forces have fought around the town and then have foiled the plans of the enemy. The Germans decided on September 1 to burn Cambrai, and forced the civilian population to leave.

ROULERS AND MENIN AFIRE

Paris, Oct. 1—(Havas Agency)—The towns of Menin and Roulers, railway junctions in Flanders, have been set on fire by the Germans in face of the advancing British, Belgian and French troops. French guns now control the railway line running from Ottend through Thourout and Roulers to Courtrai.

British mortars are co-operating actively in bombarding the German lines on and near the coast.

FURTHER WORD FROM GUNNER E. COMEAU

A letter to Mrs. Louis Comeau brings further word from her son, Gunner Edmond Comeau, who, as previously announced, was wounded on Sept. 8. The brave young soldier was more seriously wounded than first reported. Bursting shrapnel struck him in the mouth, breaking his upper teeth and cutting his palate and tongue. He was also hit below the right elbow. Gunner Comeau is now in Brighton hospital, England. Friends will hope for his speedy restoration to full health and strength and safe return from the war.

ASIATIC CHOLERA HAS BROKEN OUT IN VIENNA

Madrid, Oct. 2—(By the Associated Press)—Several cases of Asiatic cholera have been discovered in Vienna and deaths have occurred from this disease there, according to official news received here from the Austrian capital.

COTTON REPORT

Washington, Oct. 2—Cotton ginned prior to Sept. 25, amounted to 3,719,915 bales, counting round as half bales, and including 87,760 round bales and 2,934 bales of Sea Island cotton. The censusing him God speed to the far east and bureau so announced today.

GOING TO SIBERIA

Quarter Master Sergeant A. A. Leaman of the headquarters staff Military District No. 7 has received his transfer to the Canadian Siberian expeditionary force and will be attached to Lieut. Col. H. A. Powell's staff. He will leave tonight for Ottawa en route to the Pacific coast. Prior to his departure a farewell party will be held in his honor at the home of Sgt. William Brophy at Glen Falls. After supper he will be made the recipient of a beautiful silver cigarette case suitably engraved. Sergeant Leaman was one of the most popular non-commissioned officers at headquarters and his many friends will unite in wishing him God speed to the far east and a safe return home.

GERMANS GIVING UP BELGIAN COAST?

Paris, Oct. 2—The Germans are moving their heavy artillery away from the Belgian coast, according to reports here today.

The Belgian army, co-operating with the British army of General Plumer and the French army of General Begue etc, successfully removed today their heavy attacks on the Flanders front.