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The Toronto World

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SWEEPING BRITISH VICTORY IN FLANDERS

DRIVE East of Ypres, on Front of More Than Eight Miles, Achieves All Objectives, Including Positions Described By Field Marshal Haig as of "Great Importance" --- Thousands of Germans Taken Prisoner in "Completely Successful Offensive."

British Hold Crest of Famous Ridge Against Fierce Attacks LAURIER NOT TO RESIGN GUTHRIE IS IN CABINET FORMIDABLE DEFENCES FALL BEFORE HAIG'S SUDDEN BLOW

Announcement of Dissolution of Parliament Follows Swearing in of South Wellington M.P. as Solicitor-General--Sir George Foster Likely to Succeed Lougheed in Senate--Conference With Western Liberals Today.

OTTAWA, Oct. 4.—There was a crowd of newspapermen at the Central station this morning waiting for the Canadian Northern train from Toronto. Among the distinguished passengers who alighted were Lord Northcliffe, Sir William Mackenzie and Hon. Hugh Guthrie.



Hugh Guthrie, Liberal M.P. for South Wellington, who enters unionist ministry as solicitor-general.

Mr. Guthrie was non-committal about going into the cabinet, but his appearance, manner and careful toilet denoted that he had come to the capital on no common errand. He anxiously inquired about the reported resignation of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and even after receiving a summons from the prime minister, delayed at the hotel for a final conference with Frank B. Carvell.

Parliament Dissolved. No such assurance apparently was given, and Mr. Guthrie hurried to the east block, where he was sworn in by His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire, as solicitor-general. He was not sworn in as a privy councillor, and has therefore, not obtained full cabinet rank.

This is practically the official record of the day. It is, however, settled beyond question that Sir George Parley will be appointed permanent high commissioner at London, and retire from parliament. His place as overseas minister of militia will be taken by Sir James Lougheed.

Laurier's Position. Respecting the rumored resignation of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, The World is assured by his private secretary, L. E. Glanville, that there is no truth in the report.

FOE'S TACTICS DESIGNED TO COVER BIG RETREAT?

Significance of Persistent Futile Attacks Along British Front Discussed at Washington--Evidence Accumulates That German Morale is Crumbling.

Washington, Oct. 4.—American army officers have been watching with intense interest the situation on the western front, which apparently is reaching a climax in the great drive launched today by the British.

From the many reports indicating the development of some important movement, coupled with the continual futile attacks of the Germans along the British front, some military observers here have become convinced that the Teutons were covering a great withdrawal of their line.

Officers who think the German advance has covered a withdrawal to shorter and stronger lines expect to see the strain on the enemy expect behind the German divisions thru their lines today will be found new positions, fully manned and strongly

HUN RAIDERS OPERATE IN SOUTHERN PACIFIC

Famous Pirate Craft is Stranded After Destroying Three American Schooners.

Washington, Oct. 4.—Operations of German raiders in the southern Pacific were revealed tonight in a despatch to the navy department from Tutuila, Samoa Islands, telling of the arrival there in an open boat of the master of the missing American schooner C. Slade, with a story of how the famous Sea Adler had stranded on Mohav Island after destroying three American schooners, and how the crew of the raider had set out on further depredations on other captured vessels.

REVOLTING ARABS JOIN BRITISH IN PALESTINE

Junction Effectuated is of Notable Importance, as Regards Syria's Occupation.

New York, Oct. 4.—Interesting military possibilities in Palestine are forecast in advices from Mecca, as reported in Arabic newspapers reaching New York, to the effect that the Arabs in Arabia, in revolt against the Turks, have effected a junction with the British army in southern Palestine.

The Arab revolt was making increased headway when the latest British official statement regarding it, issued on August 22, reported its progress. Already a considerable section of the Hedjaz railway, running parallel with the Red Sea coast northward from Medina, had fallen under Arab control.

WASHINGTON TIGHTENS RING AROUND GERMANY

Drastic Action of Exports Board Cuts Off Enemy From Outside World and Prevents Them From Getting Food Thru Neutrals.

Washington, Oct. 4.—A final move to prevent supplies from reaching Germany from the outside world was taken today by the American government in deciding to refuse coal to neutral ships carrying supplies from Southern America to the northern European neutral countries unless their cargoes are inspected in American ports.

DEATH OF GUYNEMER OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED

Aviator Was Buried With Military Honors in Poelcapelle Cemetery.

Paris, Oct. 4.—The death of Captain George Gynemer, the famous French aviator, has now been definitely confirmed. Information received by the Red Cross states that Gynemer was shot through the head, north of Poelcapelle, on the Ypres front. He was identified by a photograph on his pilot's license found in his pocket.

THE NEW STETSONS.

A shipment of new Stetson hats has just been opened and offers new attractions in the styles for men. All the seasonable colors and a variety of styles. Dineen's, 140 Yonge street.

BRITISH CRUISER SUNK NINETEEN LIVES LOST

Drake Carrying Nine Hundred Men is Torpedoed Off North Coast of Ireland, But Reaches Harbor, Foundering in Shallow Water

London, Oct. 4.—The British cruiser Drake has been torpedoed and sunk, according to an admiralty announcement tonight. The Drake was a vessel of 14,100 tons. Her complement was 900 men. One officer and eighteen men were killed by the explosion. The remainder of the ship's company were saved.

The Drake was a vessel of 14,100 tons. She was built at Pembroke in 1901, and had a speed of 28 knots. Her complement was 900 men. A sister ship of the Drake, the Good Hope, was sunk in the battle off Coronel, Chile, in 1914, with a loss of 887 men.

FORMER FRENCH MINISTER FACES SERIOUS CHARGES

Accusations Against M. Malvy Say He Plotted With Enemy to Deliver French Plan of Attack Ratified by War Council.

Paris, Oct. 4.—The chamber of deputies assembled today and decided to take up immediately discussion of the case of Bolo Pasha, arrested on the charge of having conducted German propaganda in France.

Further south, Cameron Cove, which has been the scene of so much hard fighting, had been left well in the rear. Charge Thru Mist. Everywhere the British arms have done splendidly in the opening hours of the offensive, which is one of the most prodigious attempted along this front.

Advancing Foe Slaughtered. There was an unusual feature in the battle near Zonnebeke. Three German divisions had been ordered to retrace the line the British captured here last week. The attack was set for 6 o'clock. The Germans were caught in the British barrage as they were preparing to push forward, and lost ground before the British advance.

Succession of Thrusts. In their successive thrusts recently the British have either taken over portions of the ridge or pushed their way forward to the lower slopes as far north as Zonnebeke, which lies just under the crest. Above Zonnebeke the ridge takes a turn to the northeast, while the British line has gone well back to the northwest.

Scene of Desolation. In the days before the war the Passchendaele-Gheluvelt ridge was covered with prosperous farms and dotted here and there with picturesque bits of forest. Now it lies bare and desolate, its earth churned up by tens of thousands of great shells, which the British artillery has been hurling upon it for weeks.

Everywhere it is the same. Hardly a yard of ground remains that is not pitted with huge craters surrounded by piles of earth. Little forest have been left.

Gradual Undulations. The Passchendaele-Gheluvelt elevation at its highest point is not more than 200 feet above sea level, and the approach to the crest are gradual undulations in most places. As a matter of fact, it is really composed of a series of ridges and hills. There is a Passchendaele ridge proper, upon which stands the town of the same name. Below this is Broodseinde ridge and still lower down Gheluvelt.

From the Village of Passchendaele it stretches in a southwesterly direction towards the old salient in long curves like the letter S. At Inverness Copse it reaches its nearest approach to the stricken city of Ypres, which lies about four miles to the west of it.

The left wing of the British offensive today was heavily shelled by the Germans, and Glencorse Wood and Inverness Copse were put under an intense fire. The British casualties

Positions Along Passchendaele-Gheluvelt Ridge of Crucial Importance to Germans are Carried in Irresistible Onslaught Following Intense Barrage--British Penetrate to Depth of Mile at Some Points--Prisoners Taken More Than Three Thousand.

LONDON, Oct. 4.—Thousands of prisoners have been taken by the British in the new drive which was begun this morning east of Ypres, in Flanders. All the objectives of the British were won, including positions characterized by Field Marshal Haig's report from headquarters tonight as "of great importance."

The text of the report from British headquarters in France tonight reads: "Our attack this morning was launched on a front of over eight miles, from south of Tower Hamlets to the Ypres-Staden railway, north of Langemark, and has been completely successful. All our objectives have been gained; positions of great importance have been won, and over 3,000 German prisoners have already reached the collecting stations."

"We are now in possession of the main ridge up to a point 1,000 yards north of Broodseinde." Tonight's Associated Press report from the British front in France and Belgium says: The trial of strength among the strongholds comprising the Germans' crucially important line of defences along the Passchendaele-Gheluvelt ridge was renewed again at dawn today when the British again surged forward over a wide front to the east and northeast of Ypres.

Within a few hours great success had already been recorded through the zone involved. At some places the British had penetrated to a depth of a mile and had overrun the crest of the ridge, which the Germans had held so long. Hundreds of Germans were surrendering at an early hour.

On the northern wing the onrush of the British was accompanied with a short distance of Poelcapelle; they have got a footing on the famous Passchendaele ridge, which runs through the blood-drenched Zonnebeke-Broodseinde ridge, which formed an integral part of the Passchendaele-Gheluvelt chain.

Fierce Counter-attacks. Between the Village of Broodseinde, on the north, and Noordenhoek, a mile to the south, at an early hour they were where so many Germans have recently given their lives to swell the toll claimed by the British artillery. Further south, Cameron Cove, which has been the scene of so much hard fighting, had been left well in the rear.

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