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PREMIER OF BULGARIA ASKS FOR AN ARMISTICE
ALLIED FORCES ARE PRESSING FORWARD ON VARIOUS FRONTS

British Attack on Wide Front South of Sensee River; Lines Advanced

Wedge Between Douai and Cambrai May Be The Aim

Satisfactory Progress is Being Made, Field Marshal Haig Reports—Local Operations in Neighborhood of Arleux Also Carried Out Successfully

London, Sept. 27.—British troops attacked on a wide front south of the Sensee River this morning, according to report received here from Field Marshal Haig. First reports indicate that satisfactory progress is being made.

The Sensee River is a small stream flowing to the north and paralleling on the south the Scarpe River, which was past Arras and passes through the important city of Douai, one of the principal German bases on the Artois front in France. It is probable that the British attack is made for the purpose of driving a wedge between Douai and Cambrai, out fifteen miles to the south.

The British lines were advanced slightly north of the Sensee River in a local operation during the past night, and there were successful local attacks in Flanders. The text of the statement follows:

"At 5.30 o'clock this morning our troops attacked over a wide front south of the Sensee River. First reports indicate that satisfactory progress is being made.

"During the night successful local operations were carried out in the neighborhood of Arleux, northwest of La Bassée and southwest of Fleurbaix. Our line was advanced in these localities and prisoners captured."

Serbian Continue Their Drive, Capturing Important Towns

London, Sept. 27.—In the successful continuance of their drive northward the Serbians have entered Izbith and captured other important points, says the official statement of this morning.

A great number of additional Bulgarians and Germans have been captured in the neighborhood of Izbith and other points, says the official statement of this morning.

The Serbians now are west of the Izbith-Veles road, and have captured the village of Bogolovets, south of the road, and the village of Denirkup, in the direction of the Bulgarian border. The Serbs have captured the ridge of Kociana, twenty miles northeast of Izbith and fifteen miles from the important road southwest of the important road of Kustendil.

The statement follows: "Our troops yesterday (Wednesday) captured the very important point of Izbith, north of Denirkup. On the same day we entered Izbith. We have taken Bogolovets Hill. This morning (Thursday) our cavalry, pursuing the enemy, entered Kociana. "Our present lines run west of the Izbith-Veles road. Fighting is in progress before Veles.

"A great number of additional Bulgarian and German prisoners and enormous quantities of war material have been taken into our hands."

London, Sept. 27.—The Serbian official statement announces that Serbian cavalry have reached a point fifty-five miles from the offensive started.

All the roads are crowded with guns and war material and several divisions have been abandoned by the Bulgarians.

Paris, Sept. 26.—The Allied troops in Macedonia have captured more than 10,000 prisoners, says a statement from the chief of staff today. More than 100 guns also have been taken. The native continues successfully and the Allied troops are pushing their way over mountain ranges toward Bulgaria.

statement follows: "The Serbian official statement on September 24-25 were particularly successful. The formidable massif of Idzhitsa has been reached and the detachments of Bulgaria passed at Kertarino the British army which is marching through the heights of the Gramount range have been reached the Franco-Greek troops. Serbians have captured the town of Izbith passed beyond it and are approaching Veles."

BULGARIAN PREMIER DEFERS ARMISTICE

Reports of Counter-Movement May Indicate That Revolution is in Progress in Bulgaria; Premier Formerly Friendly to Entente; New Move Probably Result of Threatened Invasion by Entente Forces Now Sweeping Through Serbia

London, Sept. 27.—Premier Malinoff, of Bulgaria, has made an offer of an armistice to the Allies, according to a Berlin message transmitted by the Exchange Telegraph Company correspondent at Copenhagen. The message states that the premier's offer was made without the support of other members of the cabinet or of King Ferdinand.

The Berlin message says that M. Malinoff's offer has created great dissatisfaction in Bulgaria and that strong military measures have been taken to support the Bulgarian front.

According to statements from Sofia by way of Jassy, it is added, a counter-movement against the offer of the premier has already been set on foot. (This would seem to indicate that a revolution is in progress in Bulgaria.)

Widespread Discontent. The Berlin message to Copenhagen gives the first indication of any move made by Bulgaria to approach her enemies with a conciliatory proposal. The message, in its bare outlines, would seem to indicate that the premier had taken matters into his own hands and attempted to initiate a peace move for Bulgaria independent of the dynasty.

A move so made might ordinarily be regarded as a broad way, to amount to a revolutionary act, and possibly point to the execution of a coup d'etat in 1918.

The indications in the news from Bulgaria recently have been that the country was in a state of anarchy, with widespread discontent manifest over the prolongation of the war, in the further prosecution of which the Bulgarian people were able to see little advantage to them. There can be no doubt that the revolution in Bulgaria is now in progress in Macedonia has accentuated this tendency.

It is known that M. Malinoff, who took the premiership in June last, was friendly to the Entente in the earlier stages of the war before Bulgaria's entrance and there have not been wanting predictions that he might in some way be instrumental in bringing about a peace with Bulgaria from the unenviable position which she would occupy in the event of a German defeat in the war, which doubtless appears to him to be impending.

King Ferdinand himself has not been above the suspicion of entertaining a like desire, although nominally he has been loyal to his Entente allies in act and utterance. In this connection the wording of the Bulgarian reply to the Austrian peace note, with the readiness it expressed to accept President Wilson's principles for the settlement of the war, was held not to be without significance.

From German Sources. It may be noted that the news of the Bulgarian revolution comes from German sources, and while its accuracy as to the main fact of the offering of the armistice cannot be doubted, it may be questioned if it reflects accurately the state of affairs in Bulgaria, which accompanied and followed the offering. The fact that counter-measures have been found necessary would appear to indicate that the premier was supported in his act by internal forces, the participation of which would make it seem that what amounts to a revolutionary movement is in progress in the Bulgarian kingdom. Whether this would necessarily affect the dynasty may be doubtful, but the meagre advice so far received do not warrant the drawing of definite conclusions.

At any rate it seems that the disorganized state of affairs at Sofia points either to the success of the armistice move or to the weakening of the Bulgarian morale to such an extent as to make it doubtful if the Bulgarians still will be able to put up a really effective defence against the threatened invasion of their soil in force by the Entente armies now sweeping the Bulgarian troops back in Serbia.

Offer to Entente Leader. Amsterdam, Sept. 27.—The Bulgarian premier's offer of an armistice was made to the leader of the Entente troops operating against Bulgaria, according to a Berlin message received here.

The Sept. 27.—Germany intends to send a solemn protest to Bulgaria against Premier Malinoff's request for an armistice, according to Berlin reports received in Amsterdam and forwarded by the Exchange Telegraph Company.

NO LET-UP BUT WILL HEAR THEM. Paris, Sept. 27.—The French command-in-chief in Macedonia officially reports that the Bulgarians have asked for a meeting to arrange the conditions of an armistice and eventual peace.

The French commander replied, refusing to suspend the operations, but saying he would receive duly qualified delegates of the Bulgarian government.

French Continue Advance West of Argonne Forest

Meet Fresh Obstacles And Greater Resistance But General Gouraud's Men Go Forward Confidently—Cheered By Conquest of Positions Germans Have Held For Four Years and Sacrificed Thousands of Men to Retain—French Losses Remarkably Light

With the French Army on the Champagne Front, Sept. 26.—(By the Associated Press)—General Gouraud's men were continuing their advance tonight along the front west of the Argonne Forest. Greater resistance was being encountered and fresh obstacles were found to impede their progress. Ahead of them is a belt of country seven or eight miles deep over which there is a labyrinth of trenches. Many blockhouses have been built by the Germans there and the ground seems as difficult of capture as that wrested from the Germans today.

The Germans, by their retirement today, have gained a little time in which to bring up reserves, while General Gouraud is bringing up his guns. This is an advantage in which it is difficult to find sufficient compensation for the ground and men lost today. The lines they retired to are no stronger than those they abandoned.

Enemy airmen made several spectacular attacks on trench observation balloons today. Only one balloon was destroyed but the observers in these others were forced to descend by parachute. One German airmen attacked three balloons in quick succession, plunging down upon one and firing and then rising to dive at another. One of these burst into flames only an instant before the observer had jumped with his parachute. Shrapnel shells then began to burst close about the enemy machine and it turned and sped away for the German lines.

General Gouraud's soldiers, who advanced to these positions three years ago, and have been facing them ever since, are now enjoying a peculiar satisfaction in being in them.

Many Prisoners Were Boys. The number of prisoners taken by the French is increasing steadily. They are being taken by all roads in groups of from a score to several hundred. Among them there is a larger proportion of very young men than heretofore taken. Some of the captives are recruits of the 1918 contingent.

Valuable Ground Captured. With the French Army on the Champagne Front, Sept. 26.—(By the Associated Press)—Troops of the French army operating in conjunction with the Americans in a new battle along the Champagne front, have today conquered positions that the Germans have been fortifying for four years, positions that they have sacrificed thousands of men to hold. The French losses have been remarkable in view of the fact that the German resistance stiffened this afternoon.

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Plans for New Force, Reinforced and Led by Germans, Endanger Czech Army in That Region—Gaidis Can Hold With Three Allied Divisions

London, Sept. 26.—The plans for the Bolshevik army on the Volga front, which seriously endangers the Czecho army in that region of Russia, call for fifty-one divisions, or a half million men.

The army is constantly being reinforced by Germans and to a great extent it is led and instructed by Germans.

The reports indicate that while some of the Bolshevik personnel of this army have improved in value, a majority of the soldiers are comparatively worthless. Outlook improving.

Vladivostok, Sept. 24.—(By the Associated Press)—If given the support of three divisions of Allied troops, General Gaidis, commander of the Czecho-Slovak forces, said today that he could hold the Bolshevik army out approximately the present line until the Russians in Siberia can organize an efficient army whose discipline need not be questioned. General Gaidis made this statement while talking to correspondents at the Czecho-Slovak headquarters.

General Dietrichs and two other Czecho-Slovak leaders have undertaken the organization of such force and are being aided by the Omak and Samara governments.

It is declared that the political situation is clearing and that the Omak and Vladivostok groups are settling whatever differences which have existed. This move has followed the resumption of communication between the two cities. It is stated, rather significantly, that General Harvath, the former dictator, will return to his post as manager of the Chinese Eastern Railway.

SENT CORN DOWN. Chicago, Sept. 27.—Armistice proposals by Bulgaria sent the corn market sharply downward today. General selling resulted from reports of the new peace move, and there was a broad, active market. Some of the unloading was of an automatic stop loss character. Opening prices, which ranged from 1.42 3/4 to 1.43 1/4, were followed by a slight rally to 1.46, and November at 1.42 3/4 to 1.43 1/4, were followed by a decided fresh break.

Outs reflected the weakness of corn. Changes in oats, however, were comparatively slight. After opening an eighth to three-eighths lower, with October at 73 1/2 to 73 3/4, the market continued to show a tendency to sag.

Higher quotations on hogs lifted price of protons. Flaying, though, was not aggressive.

Died Suddenly. Quebec, Sept. 27.—Alfred Lord, seventy-four years of age, died suddenly yesterday evening while attending the agricultural exhibition at Lislet.

ENEMY RETIRING BEFORE ADVANCE OF U. S. TROOPS

To Prepared Lines To Which Artillery Was Withdrawn

HAD DISCOVERED PLANS

Reserves Greatly Increased But Enemy, Dazed by Suddenness and Ferocity of Attack, Could Not Recover Balance—Many Prisoners and Much Booty Taken

With the American Army on the Champagne Front, Sept. 26.—(By the Associated Press)—The assumption of the general staff that the Germans had not discovered the intention of the Americans to attack was proved by the earlier phases of the fighting. Apparently dazed by the suddenness and ferocity of the artillery preparation, the German artillery reaction was slow in being registered. It never recovered its balance.

From the minute the Americans swarmed forward the inferiority of the enemy resistance was marked. Early this morning the enemy had laid down artillery fire calculated to cover a local road. That incident was quickly forgotten in the magnitude of the operations that followed.

One division reports the capture of twenty 77-guns and plentiful supplies of ammunition. The check on the amount of booty has not yet been taken, but every report indicates that the amount of it will be large.

(Continued on page 2, fifth column)

THE INFLUENZA SITUATION GROWS MORE SERIOUS

Washington, Sept. 27.—Spanish influenza, sweeping through all but thirteen of the army camps and apparently beyond control of local authorities in many eastern communities, has caused a tremendous increase in the death rate of the army at home.

For the week ending Sept. 20 the surgeon general's office reported today, with 23 per cent of the preceding week. This increase was attributed to large measure to influenza, but the report pointed out that the figures do not show the seriousness of the situation as since last Friday there has been a further rapid spread of the epidemic, with many deaths.

While the epidemic heretofore has been prevalent chiefly near the Atlantic seaboard, the surgeon general's office said it may be expected to sweep westward with a still greater increase in mortality in the next few weeks.

Orders issued last night by Provost Marshal General Crowder calling for enlistment of 148,000 draft registrars between October 7 and 11, were due to the serious conditions in many camps, and were said by health officials to be absolutely necessary at this time.

CLOSING OF THE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Some Resolutions—J. B. Young-husband Dies Suddenly in West

Frederickton, N. B., Sept. 27.—The United Baptist Association of New Brunswick closed its annual session in Marysville last night. A resolution was passed approving of the action of the provincial government in regard to the enforcement of the prohibitory act. Another resolution which was passed called for reconsideration of a motion passed by the Maritime Association in Toronto calling for extension of Scriptural teaching in the public schools.

Officers for 1918-19 were elected as follows:—Moderator, Rev. S. S. Poole, St. John; vice-moderator, Rev. G. B. Macdonald, Sussex; secretary, Rev. J. G. A. Belyea, Cross Creek; assistant secretary, to be appointed; corresponding secretary, Rev. R. J. Colpitts; treasurer, James Patterson, St. John.

J. B. Younghusband, superintendent of the works branch, military hospitals commission, who is well known in Frederickton, because of his connection with the building of the convalescent home in this city, died on last Sunday night in Calgary. He was on his way to Kamloops, B. C., to superintend construction work and was taken ill with pneumonia on the train. Mrs. Younghusband, who was with him, also was taken ill, but will recover. Word of his death has been received with great regret by his many friends here.

DEFICIT, TWO MILLIONS. New York, Sept. 27.—The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad suffered a deficit of \$1,922,000 in 1917, but the new rate increases of twenty-five per cent, authorized by the railroad administration, should restore the former relation between the road's gross income and its operating revenues, according to the annual report made public this morning.

ARMED FORCES TO OCCUPY HUN SHIPS IN CHILEAN PORTS. Santiago, Chile, Sept. 26.—The Chilean government today ordered the naval authorities to occupy with armed forces all the interned German ships in Chilean harbors.

MACHINE GUNNERS NEEDED. Toronto, Sept. 26.—Instructions have been issued authorizing in every military district two platoons of a strength of 100 men for special instruction as machine gunners. The men are to be selected from the depot infantry bat-

QUEBEC'S CORONER ASCRIBES SPREAD OF SPANISH INFLUENZA TO LAXITY OF OFFICIALS—MORE FATAL CASES

Quebec, Sept. 27.—The inaction of the Quebec civic health department with regard to preventing the spread of Spanish influenza, which he affirmed was prevalent here, was severely condemned in an interview given last night by Coroner Jolicoeur.

The coroner said there had been many suspicious deaths, and as far as he was informed, a number of them were due to the dread disease. He said that the bodies of the nine sailors who had died from the disease in this port had been taken to the undertaking establishment to be embalmed for shipment, and no precautions had been taken by the authorities. The undertaker had notified the authorities that the men had died from influenza, and still they remained inoperative.

It was reported last night that a patient at the Hotel Dieu Hospital had died from influenza, and that the man who had nursed the patient had taken the disease and died shortly afterwards.

WILSON MAY REPLY TO VON HERTLING. New York, Sept. 27.—President Wilson's address at the Metropolitan Opera House here tonight, signaling the opening of the national campaign for the fourth Liberty Loan, was awaited with intense interest and thousands today clamored in vain for tickets of admission. The available five thousand seats have been reserved for Liberty Loan committees.

The exercises at the opera house will be simple. The popular belief is that, in addition to making a stirring appeal for the sale of bonds, the president will reply to the recent speech of Count Von Hertling, the German imperial chancellor.

AUTHOR-AVIATOR FLIES ACROSS ALPS. Paris, Sept. 27.—Gabriele D'Annunzio, the Italian author-aviator, arrived in Paris this morning in an airplane, flying from Italy across the Alps.

HOUSE MAY NOT MEET UNTIL JANUARY 15

Montreal, Sept. 27A despatch to the Gazette from Ottawa, says: From all present appearances parliament will not be summoned before January 15 next. The government has not yet discussed the date upon which the legislature should be convened, and its members seem inclined to the view that an autumn session is unnecessary.

Phetic and Pheridand

WEATHER REPORT

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

Synopsis: The disturbance is now centred near Quebec and rain is falling in the St. Lawrence Valley and maritime provinces. The weather is fine and generally warm in the western provinces.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Strong northwest winds, some scattered showers, but mostly fair; Saturday, fresh westerly winds and a little warmer.

Ottawa Valley and Upper St. Lawrence—Strong westerly winds, cool and showery today and on Saturday.

Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—Strong winds and gales east shifting to southwest with rain; Saturday, showery.

Mostly Fair. Maritime—Strong winds and gales southeast to southwest with rain; Saturday, strong westerly winds and mostly fair.

Superior—Strong winds and moderate gales from westward, mostly fair today and Saturday, a little higher temperature.

Western Provinces—Fair and moderately warm. Fair tonight; probably heavy frost; cooler in Maine and New Hampshire; Saturday, fair, fresh winds mostly southwest.