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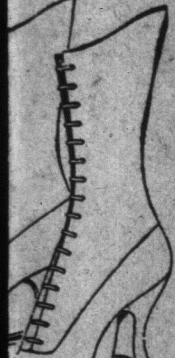
The Toronto World

SATURDAY MORNING SEPTEMBER 22 1917—SIXTEEN PAGES.

VOL. XXXVII.—No. 13,464

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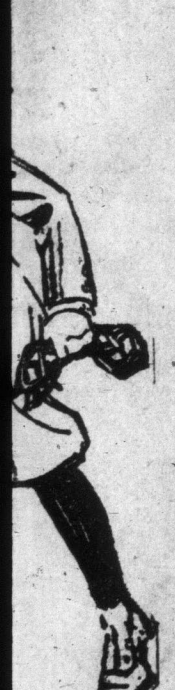
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CENTRAL POWERS EXPRESS DESIRE TO ENTER ON PEACE NEGOTIATIONS THREE THOUSAND PRISONERS TAKEN BY BRITISH IN BELGIUM Haig Completes Victory With Advances at Many Points

Field Marshal Haig Reports Additional Gains South of Tower Hamlet, East of St. Julien, as Well as at Other Points—More Than Three Thousand Prisoners Taken in Offensive.

London, Sept. 21.—The number of German prisoners taken by the British in yesterday's fighting on the Belgian front now exceeds 3,000, according to the British war office statement tonight.

The text of the statement follows: "Further evidence shows the continuation and obstinate nature of the enemy's counter-attacks yesterday, in which he suffered exceptionally heavy losses and gained no advantage."

During today's fighting of minor character has taken place on different parts of the battle front. We have advanced our line at a number of points and have beaten off further German counter-attacks.

The number of prisoners taken by us in yesterday's fighting so far reported exceeds 3,000.

As a result he now finds himself under a shattering fire which he cannot replace by returning to the old plan of holding the front line trenches strongly.

Great Carnage of Germans. The vast number of German bodies which lie in the muddy shell holes within the territory traversed by the British and the devastation wrought by the big guns give added strength to their testimony.

The whole operation was a most astonishingly successful one which was accomplished with such clocklike regularity that it left one gasping.

British Statesmen to Stay at Home Neither Premier, Lord Derby Nor Smuts Can Visit United States.

London, Sept. 21.—The visit of a leading British statesman, either Premier Lloyd George, the Earl of Derby, minister of war, or General Smuts to the United States has been under consideration for some time, but the difficulties in the way of such a journey virtually preclude it.

ARGENTINA EXPECTED TO ENTER WAR TODAY

Chamber of Deputies Will Decide on Crisis With Germany—Troops Will Be Despatched to Europe Immediately Following Declaration.

Buenos Aires, Sept. 21.—The chamber of deputies late today postponed discussion of the crisis with Germany caused by the unfriendly action of Count Von Luxburg, the dismissed German minister.

Approval of the resolution by the deputies before night was predicted in these quarters. Such action, it is considered, would virtually assure an actual rupture, as the senate has already passed the resolution favoring the break and President Frigoyan has announced that he is willing to follow the dictates of the people.

GERMANY PAID MONEY TO CONTROL CONGRESS

American Government Exposes Part of Von Bernstorff's Activity to Prepare for Beginning of Ruthless Submarine Campaign.

Washington, Sept. 21.—The American Government's publicity spotlight revealing German intrigue in neutral lands, turned today upon the expenditure of money by the Berlin foreign office in an effort to influence congress on the eve of the ruthless submarine campaign which drove the United States to war.

Secretary of State Lansing made public, without comment, the text of a message sent by Count von Bernstorff to Berlin last January, asking authority to use \$50,000 to influence congress thru an organization which the foreign office was reminded had performed similar service before.

BRITISH ADVANCE MADE WITH GREAT PRECISION

London, Sept. 21.—(Via Reuter's Ottawa agency)—Telegraphing from British headquarters in Flanders, a British correspondent says: "The more one hears about yesterday's great fight the more one admires the mastery tactics and indomitable gallantry displayed. Never has a British army had to tackle a tougher proposition, than that set by the attack on the defensive area of great depth, held so densely that it may be estimated that there was an average of over four Germans to every yard of front line."

GERMANS' NEW DEFENCE PLANS DISMALLY FAIL

British Success Brings Complete Collapse to Latest Enemy System.

Officers Admit It Dejected Lot of Prisoners Concessed to Ruin of Hindenburg Tactics.

London, Sept. 21.—(Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—Telegraphing from headquarters Reuter's correspondent tonight says: "The most triumphant feature of yesterday's splendid victory is the death blow dealt to German faith in the invulnerability of their new method of defence."

The fighting generally was of a hand-to-hand character. Therefore a large proportion of the prisoners who are wounded speak most respectfully of the terrible effect of our barrage, which for three days cut off all rations and loved a fearful toll of death.

"The official report today reads: 'More detailed accounts of yesterday's battle confirm the completeness of our success.'

"The clear light of the latter part of the day enabled our troops to obtain warning of impending attacks, and in every case the advancing lines of German infantry were destroyed by the concentrated fire from our rifles, machine guns and artillery."

RUSSIAN POLITICAL SITUATION MIXED

Keen Interest is Shown in the Coming Democratic Congress.

Keen Interest is Shown in the Coming Democratic Congress. SPLIT INTO FACTIONS

Disensions Have Impaired Voting Strength of Maximalists.

Petrograd, Sept. 21.—Russia's political situation of immediate interest is the democratic congress summoned by the central soldiers' and workmen's council, which is to meet in Petrograd on Sept. 25, and which is being proclaimed as of more importance than was the recent congress at Moscow.

It is pointed out, however, that even in the event of the defeat of the Maximalists and the formation of a coalition cabinet without the social democratic cabinet, similar attitude is assumed by a large element of the Maximalists, who stand for a continuation of the war.

DINEEN'S SELECT HATS. Every hat that is stylish for a man to wear is included in the Dineen stock, particularly the better known English make of hats.

A most acceptable assortment of made-in-Canada soft felts for \$2.50. The colors are all the new shades popular this fall, in a variety of blocks. Italian soft felt hats, the Barbisio, regular five dollar value, for \$4.50.

Replies Given Vatican Profess Willingness To Reduce Armaments

U.S. Not Surprised

Washington, Sept. 21.—Favorable replies from both Berlin and Vienna to Pope Benedict's peace proposals were not unexpected in the United States and the allied countries.

Whether or not the action of the Pope was influenced by Austria, as has been frequently suggested, the acceptance of his peace plans by the central powers falls in line with the policies of those governments in making their people feel that they are waging a purely defensive war against a group of nations bent upon their destruction.

CHINESE TROOPS TO HELP ALLIES

President and Cabinet Desire to Contribute Three Hundred Thousand.

Peking, Monday, Sept. 17.—(Delayed)—The president and the cabinet have agreed to the plan of sending a trial division of 24,000 Chinese soldiers to France if money, equipment and shipping are available.

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GERMANY AND AUSTRIA EAGER FOR MEDIATION

Emperor of Austria Ferently Desires to Reach Basis for Peace.

Willingness to Eliminate Rule of Armed Force Professed.

Amsterdam, Sept. 21.—Peace would come from the recent proposals of Pope Benedict, if the belligerent nations would enter into negotiations in the sense of the pontiff's suggestions.

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FORD TROUBLE NOT OVER

Ottawa, Sept. 21.—The malcontents of the Roman Catholic congregation of Our Lady of the Lake at Ford City have applied to Hon. C. J. Doherty, minister of justice, to hold an investigation. He has referred them to Hon. Mr. Lucas, attorney-general of Ontario, as the proper official to whom to apply.