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GERMAN FORCES RETREAT IN AISNE SECTOR
FRENCH ARTILLERY BLASTS CADORNA'S TROOPS SECURE HUNS OUT OF THEIR LINES IN TAGLIAMENTO POSITIONS
RETREAT BY THE GERMANS ON THE CHEMIN DES DAMES

Berlin Officially Announces Withdrawal in the Aisne Sector, But Gives No Details and Makes No Explanation of Move--Retirement Forced by French Bombardments--Further Enemy Withdrawal Likely.

London, Nov. 2.—The Germans have retreated from points along the historic Chemin des Dames sector, on the Aisne front in France, where for several months the French troops of General Petain had been keeping them sharply to task.

Just where the retrograde movement took place and how far it extends cannot yet be told, as the German official communication announcing it merely says that the Teutons, "unnoticed and undisturbed by the enemy," systematically withdrew their lines from the hilly front in this region.

The entire line to the north of the Aisne, where the Germans were last reported as facing the French, is undulating in character from the Soissons sector eastward to the vicinity of Craonne, and therefore it is impossible to delimit from the rather terse acknowledgement of withdrawal the terrain which has been given up.

Nevertheless it seems that the Germans, tired of the terrible ordeal they had been forced to undergo from the French artillery and violent infantry attacks, have decided to fall back upon Laon, capital of the department of the Aisne, which, with its network of railways, has been the quest of the French. It is possible, and seemingly probable, that the withdrawal of the Germans will compel also the falling back of the German forces in the turn of the battle line in this region running northward to St. Quentin, if, indeed, it does not affect the German positions as far north as Arras.

Berlin, via London, Nov. 2.—The Germans have retreated from points along the Chemin des Dames in the Aisne sector of the front in France, according to the German official communication issued this evening. The communication gives no reason for the manoeuvre, but says that it was made during Thursday night, systematically and without interference from the French troops. The statement says also that no fighting has taken place since the retreat.

"In Flanders there has been lively activity on the Yser. Unnoticed and disturbed by the enemy, we systematically withdrew our lines from the hilly front of the Chemin des Dames last night. Our airmen successfully attacked London and English coastal towns during Thursday night, systematically and without interference from the French troops. The statement says also that no fighting has taken place since the retreat.

London, Nov. 2.—The following official communication was issued this evening, concerning the operations in Arabia. It is reported that Arab troops of the King of Mecca raided the Hedjaz railway recently, killing and capturing the British garrison and destroying a considerable portion of the railway.

London, Nov. 2.—On the Italian front the Austro-Germans and Italians are in combat along the middle and lower regions of the Tagliamento River, with the Teutonic forces on the east and General Cadorna's army on the western side of the stream. As far as is known the enemy has not yet been able to cross the river, which is in freshet, but it seems apparent that from the Carnic Alps south along the battle line to the head of the Adriatic the Italians now are holding their new line of defence securely.

Meantime, with the Italians waiting for eventualities on the eastern Friuli Plains, the sentiment in Italy among all classes is seething with patriotic fervor, with even the old Garibaldi veterans and men inviolated home as a result of injuries in the present war desiring to rush to the scene of hostilities and lend their aid in repelling a further invasion of the enemy.

BRITISH FORCES NOW NORTH OF BEERSHEBA

Gen. Allenby's Troops Raid Turkish Lines and Capture Prisoners and a Machine Gun.

London, Nov. 2.—A British official communication issued this evening dealing with the operations near Jerusalem says: "General Allenby reports that he is now holding the position covering Beersheba on the north. We have successfully raided another portion of the Turkish front. A large number of Turks were killed and fifteen prisoners and a machine gun were brought back."

SEVEN ARE KILLED ON AMERICAN TRANSPORT

Casualties on Finland Total Eight—Ship Herself is But Slightly Damaged.

Washington, Nov. 2.—"Seven dead and one missing," was the toll of the German U-boat which attacked the American transport Finland, a home-bound, in foreign waters yesterday, the navy department announced today.

A report from a French Atlantic seaport says the American transport Finland is in drydock there. The vessel received such slight damages from the German torpedo, which recently struck her that it will not be long before she puts to sea again. The torpedo struck a coal bunker, which lessened the effect of the explosion. Among those on board the Finland were several survivors of the crew of the transport Antilles, which was torpedoed and sunk some time ago.

MORE DISTURBANCES FEARED IN PETROGRAD

Maximalists Persist in Plans for Demonstration and May Try to Seize the Supreme Power.

Petrograd, Nov. 2.—The Maximalists continue their preparations for a demonstration, the date of which is being kept secret, but is believed to be set for November 4. It is persistently rumored that they intend to take armed action to seize the supreme power. Even the Soviet government papers condemn the proposed demonstration, while the government is receiving offers of help from all quarters and will publish the proceedings, by force, if necessary.

EXPLOSION DAMAGES SUB. YARDS AT KIEL

Ten Persons Were Killed or Wounded, German Paper Says.

Copenhagen, Nov. 2.—The Kiel Nachrichten reports that through the explosion of a torpedo in the submarine yards at Kiel a submarine vessel was badly damaged and ten persons were killed or wounded. The newspaper says that "all other reports are without foundation," referring probably to reports of extensive mutilations in which various ships are said to have been damaged.

NEW NAVAL REVOLT REPORTED AT KIEL

Amsterdam Reports Sailors on Dreadnought Threw Admiral Into the Water.

BATTLE ON A WARSHIP

Three Officers and a Number of Sailors Are Killed in the Fight.

London, Nov. 2.—Three officers and a number of sailors of the German navy were killed in "another" mutiny at Kiel, early in September, according to a despatch from Amsterdam to The Daily Express, which claims to have authentic details. The outbreak occurred aboard the battleship Kronprinz and Schleswig-Holstein, and started when the men revolted against being drafted into the submarine service.

The sailors on the Kron Prinz threw Admiral Schmidt overboard, and stabbed and threw overboard Lieut. Raul, the admiral's aid, and another officer. A battle on the ship's deck between the officers and sailors followed. Three officers and a number of sailors were killed. Similar scenes occurred on the Schleswig-Holstein. Admiral Schmidt was rescued, but one succession of shell holes filled with stagnant water, lay before them, and to their left was a marsh. They skirted that marsh and struggled forward up the heights, paying for every yard of the advance, for the Boche fought well here, defending every fortified shell hole. Raked by machine gunfire, shelled constantly, with comrades falling around them and but a dip of occasional hollows to shelter them, they went forward to their objective. Meetheele had to be taken. It was to our advantage what Bellevue Farm was in the last advance. Our whole line depended on our success in this movement.

Nest of Machine Guns. The town was replete with concrete strongholds and was strong in machine guns. Seventy-five yards beyond was another point equally powerful. Canada's oldest battalion captured Meetheele. That capture will live in Canadian history for the daring of the battalion which made it, just as the capture of Bellevue Spur, when the full story can be written, because of the gallantry of the men who took part in it and the splendid record of one man upon whose judgment, in a critical moment, much of the success of the whole attack depended. Bellevue Farm was to our attack on October 25 what Meetheele was to our left on October 30. When the attack was launched our left centre was held up. Our barrage had passed with it our forces to the right and left. Upon the decision of the moment depended the success of the battle.

CLAMOR TO GO TO THE FRONT

Italy's Veterans, Old and Young, Anxious to Grapple With the Enemy.

Rome, Thursday, Nov. 1.—Italy is undergoing a re-birth of patriotism. Everywhere men are clamoring to go to the front. Even the Garibaldi veterans have marched in a body to offer their lives on their country's altar. Thousands of younger veterans of the present war, interned in hospitals or in invalided homes, are insisting on returning to their commands. The trouble-makers, who two weeks ago said they were tired of the war and who were willing to listen to German agents, now either are in hiding or are hastening to admit that they were misled. The new ministry is busy organizing the country on a better basis and seeing that the army's war needs are met with. The fact that King Victor Emmanuel has returned to the army shows how confident he is in the spirit of the country, since he always remains in Rome during critical political periods. The entire country today is placarded with announcements from the ministry calling upon citizens for their aid, and asking the women to help to support the morale of the soldiers.

WINTER HATS AND CAPS.

Heavy cloth caps, for driving or street wear, priced \$1 to \$2.50. Made of heavy English and Scotch materials. Winter-weight hard and soft felts, regular \$3.50 value, for \$2.65. Other great hat values brought forward for Saturday selling. Dineen's, 149 Yonge street.



A chateau which was shelled by the Boches after they were driven from the village by the Canadians. (Official photograph.)

CANADIANS CLOSE IN ON PASSCHENDAELE

Dominion Outposts Get Into the Village, While Meetheele, Strong Covering Position, is in Our Hands.

By W. A. Willison. Canadian Headquarters in France, via London, Nov. 2.—The Canadians have closed in further toward Passchendaele. Following the great battle on the left wing, when our troops on the extreme left proved their marked superiority over the enemy while our right outposts ventured into Passchendaele itself, the fighting has been intermittent all along the line. Opposite Meetheele, where the front lines are now together, the Canadians and the Boches under the Red Cross flag buried their dead and evacuated their wounded on Wednesday afternoon. Stretcher-bearers of both forces passed and repassed one another in the mud and slime. When our left moved forward Oct. 30 this battalion approached Meetheele. In a thousand yards of rising country, one succession of shell holes filled with stagnant water, lay before them, and to their left was a marsh. They skirted that marsh and struggled forward up the heights, paying for every yard of the advance, for the Boche fought well here, defending every fortified shell hole. Raked by machine gunfire, shelled constantly, with comrades falling around them and but a dip of occasional hollows to shelter them, they went forward to their objective. Meetheele had to be taken. It was to our advantage what Bellevue Farm was in the last advance. Our whole line depended on our success in this movement.

Last night there was further fighting on both the right and left flanks, our outposts gaining valuable ground. The grand total of prisoners taken now amounts to about seventeen officers and over five hundred and fifty other ranks. Information gathered from them indicates increasing unrest in Germany. Bread riots are reported in Hamburg as far back as last April, when the disturbances were of such a nature that the soldiers in training there stood to for eight days, expecting to be called out any moment. According to another prisoner there is much dissatisfaction in Germany, and in the trains and semi-public places discussions and comparisons of the political situation with the recent revolution in Russia are frequent. Another prisoner confirmed this, but did not believe the unrest would go as far as a revolution, as the disciplinary measures are so strict.

Enemy Plans Confused. Much confusion in the enemy's plan of resistance against our attacks, together with proof of his heavy losses, was the information afforded by the examination of other prisoners. Our machine gun barrage was so effective on October 30, that the reinforcements were entirely cut off from the enemy. In some instances, for example the 22nd Bavarian Infantry Reserve, in which both the front and reserve companies sustained very heavy casualties, the men in front, on seeing they could not expect any reinforcements, surrendered. The morale of the Bavarians is weakening fast, having been greatly reduced in the last few days of conflict, with the Canadians. Men are reported to have cleared out of the front line and gone into a siding before the attack, while one company in the sector deserted entirely.

BANK HAS NOTED BIRTHDAY.

Today is the hundredth anniversary of the Bank of Montreal, a proud distinction few business institutions in Canada can as yet claim. A further statement may be found on the financial page.

WON'T AFFECT WAR'S RESULT, CECIL SAYS

Struggle May Be Prolonged by Italian Reverse, But Allied Win is Sure.

ECONOMICS MUST COUNT

Allies Have the Necessary Resources, and Enemy is in Precarious Condition.

London, Nov. 2.—Lord Robert Cecil, minister of blockade, in his weekly talk with the Associated Press, declared today that there is no real reason to suppose that the Italian reverses will affect the result of the war. "That has happened may affect the duration of the war, or it may not," Sir Robert said. "Sooner or later, the economic side of the war is likely as anything else to produce the desired effect according to the extent of the resources of the allied powers and the enemy to carry on an economic offensive." In this connection, Lord Robert pointed out the great preponderance of the entente allies' resources. He added: "The central powers already are in a very precarious condition. I see nothing but greater economic ruin for them after the war, the longer it lasts." He declared that the allies were doing, and will do, all possible for Italy, and would regard the battle fought in the Italian theatres as one comprehensive front. "What has happened only means that we other governments must make stronger exertions," he said in conclusion. "We cannot afford to neglect any chance. Our information is that the spirit of Italy is untouched, and that there is no sign of disagreement or panic at the reverse, but only a strengthened determination to finish the fight."

WALL STREET'S PANIC NOT FULLY OVERCOME

New Regulations Have Effect in Driving Shorts to Cover.

PESSIMISM RETURNS

Railway Reports Are Not Encouraging—Gains by Stocks Largely Lost.

Poor Railroad Earnings. Further cause for the market's hesitation after the first hour was furnished by the additional railroad reports submitted in the course of the day. These were actually encouraging and so far as they related to such important systems as New York Central and Reading, disclosed heavy net losses. Gains of two to five points were made at the outset by United States Steel and other leaders which suffered greatest impairment in the turbulent trading of the preceding day. The rise was halted on profit-taking before the end of the first hour, but was resumed later. Recessions from best quotations were almost universal before the close, the weakness of metals and investment rails prompting fresh liquidation in other quarters. Total sales again approximated one million shares, to which United States Steel contributed considerably more than 25 per cent. at a net gain of 2 3/8 points.

ZEPPES FOR THE TRENTINO.

Geneva, Switzerland, Nov. 2.—The newspaper La Suisse's Lake Constance correspondent says a fleet of zeppelins left there Wednesday for the Trentino front of the Austro-Italian theatre.

POLITICAL NEWS IN BRIEF

A union convention will be held at Whitby for South Ontario this afternoon.

Liberals of F. F. [unclear] decide that unionist candidate must be placed in the field.

Liberals of North Wellington meet at Arthur on Tuesday to decide on a course of action.

Young Liberals of Stormont and Glenarry meet in Cornwall Tuesday to secure a straight Liberal candidate.

Col. Wm. Coles chosen in London by Great War Veterans as soldiers' representative and win-the-war candidate.

The Social-Democratic party has decided to contest several seats in Toronto. Isaac Balinbridge has been asked to be a candidate.

The Central Liberal-Conservative Association of Toronto decides to defer calling conventions in Toronto pending a conference with win-the-war Liberals.

Committees recently appointed by both political parties of both provinces to consider selection of union candidate, differ on powers, and convention is delayed.

Investigate the Sugar Famine.

Sugar is scarce, so scarce that house-keepers can get only two or three pounds at a time. And it's twice the price it was before the war! We are told that quite a lot of the raw product, instead of going into sugar, is being made into spirits. If distillation of grain for spirits is now prohibited in the States because of the scarcity of the former, why should we not keep all our raw cane juice for sugar as a food and not turned into spirits for either drinking or explosives? We've got millions of gallons of spirits now in bond that might be used for explosives, and if we used that then all our cane juice could be turned into sugar, both to increase the supply and to reduce the price. The government should make an investigation and then take action. They might find things almost as surprising as they found in the bacon inquiry!

ITALIANS ESTABLISHED IN NEW DEFENCE LINES

Cadorna's Forces Occupy Positions on West Bank of Tagliamento River--Italians and Austro-Germans Battle in Some Sectors--Italy Seething With Patriotic Fervor.

London, Nov. 2.—On the Italian front the Austro-Germans and Italians are in combat along the middle and lower regions of the Tagliamento River, with the Teutonic forces on the east and General Cadorna's army on the western side of the stream. As far as is known the enemy has not yet been able to cross the river, which is in freshet, but it seems apparent that from the Carnic Alps south along the battle line to the head of the Adriatic the Italians now are holding their new line of defence securely. Meantime, with the Italians waiting for eventualities on the eastern Friuli Plains, the sentiment in Italy among all classes is seething with patriotic fervor, with even the old Garibaldi veterans and men inviolated home as a result of injuries in the present war desiring to rush to the scene of hostilities and lend their aid in repelling a further invasion of the enemy.

STIRRING WAR SCENES.

Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, Thursday, Nov. 1, 5 p.m.—(By the Associated Press.)—The immensity of the convulsion through which the Italian army is passing makes individual impressions count for little. Yet, as an eye-witness at the extreme front up to the day of retirement and then as a participant in the retreat to the new position westward, the correspondent's experience is typical of those hundreds of persons that the army removed from the danger zone. It can be stated that we are located with General Cadorna and the general staff. His sturdy figure was often seen as he went to and from the front, where the Duke of Aoste, commander of the third army, and General Capello, commander of the second army, were in personal charge of the wall of steel that the Italians had erected inside of Austrian territory.

Nearby at that time was the official station where our despatches were rigidly scrutinized. The whole city was given up to the supreme military administration, with the streets crowded with all ranks of soldiers. This gives a glimpse of the scene which changed with such suddenness when the crisis came last Friday night. From that hour the correspondent tried to make frequent notes from which the entries should give the main sequence of events. At noon Friday, there was a succession of air raids. The alarm was sounded by triple gongs, followed by sirens and bells. The streets were cleared, the shops were closed and business was suspended. Retirement Decided On. The first definite information was thus given the Austro-Germans had crossed the Isonzo in a huge offensive. Friday night the gravity of the situation led to the consideration of a retirement of the army and the Italian territory. (Continued on Page 6, Column 4.)