

COMBLES FIGHTS AGAIN WITH BRITISH Second Zep. Raid on England Does Slight Damage

MOST SPLENDID ATTACK YET DELIVERED BY THE ALLIES DURING THE PRESENT OFFENSIVE

Such is Term Applied to Yesterday's Fighting on Somme Front—Summing up of the Victory—Combles, Hun Stronghold, is Practically Isolated—Germans are Now Compelled to Dig Their Trenches Under Fire From Allied Forces

By Courier Leased Wire. British Front in France, Sept. 25.—Via London, Sept. 26.—This has been another great day for the Anglo-French forces on the Somme. As a spectacle for the observer, it was the most splendid of all the attacks made by the allied forces since the commencement of the great offensive. What either army was trying to do and how they were doing it, the positions they held and sought to conquer in the team play of the blue French legions and the khaki-clad brigades of Britain, were comprehensible to the eye in the glorious autumn sunlight for a sweep of ten miles. The scene had the intoxication of war's grandeur—if war can be said to have any grandeur. To-night the British have taken half of Novval, all of Les'oeuf and have advanced their line on a front of 8,000 yards for an average depth of 1,000 yards. The French have stormed Bancourt, and have pushed their line to the outskirts of the little village of Friegicourt, a mile east and a little north of Combles. The German stronghold of Combles is virtually isolated.

all sizes and calibre, while he had any hearing left. Every one of them was firing at top speed. He chose a gallery which took him past many batteries which for two miles were pouring out their share of the raging tempest of gunfire. From the ruins of some old German trenches whence the battle panorama stretched before him, the correspondent had a near view of the French gunners who were feeding shells into the gun breeches as grain is fed into a threshing machine, and with the mechanical precision of automatons. Shortly after noon was the time chosen for the infantry to rush forward under the cover of a final intense chorus of hell from artillery. The ridges in front and on either hand were flecked with racing sparks of flame. Within an hour at least fifty thousand shells must have been fired within a mile of the correspondent. Far to the south was Mont St. Quentin, two miles from Peronne and commanding that town, which the allied commanders say, will fall like a ripe plum when the time comes. The hill lay hazy above the green foliage of the river valley in the midst of vast bursts of black smoke from small or enormous calibre. Directly in front was Combles, another town which has come to mean much to the imagination of the public in England and France, who seem to regard its capture as of vital significance. Combles differed from all the villages in sight in that the walls of many of its buildings were in the fact that it formed an oasis in the midst of the storm of battle. Neither artillery nor infantry paid any attention to it. The guage of battle was the high ground around it, the possession of which means the command of the town. Farther north lay the ruins of Ginchy and Guillemont.

was lost in vast clouds of smoke. The attacking infantry vanished in that grim pall, while high overhead scores of sausage balloons and hundreds of aeroplanes, their wings gleaming like silver in the brilliant sunlight, strove vainly to see what was passing beneath them. Then across the dead fields there arose a signal from Morval which told that the British infantry had reached another goal and that another village was taken. A man at a telephone in a nearby signal station called out the capture of the different strong points with the enthusiasm of one who scores a holy contested game. Presently the British wounded began to straggle back, and their bearing as they moved along bespeke their prisoners was another criterion by which the correspondent knew how the day had gone without making inquiries of the staff. The German machine guns had stopped them for a while at some points, but generally reports told of every position being taken on the minute set in the program. The British wounded said that of course they got there, as they were used to getting there. Their great gratification was that it was becoming an even fight above the ground. There were no more prepared lines but both armies were fighting in the open. According to the British officers, the Germans on the fighting front have no longer any trenches except those which are dug under fire.

The correspondent went forward yesterday over the ridge in the Devil's wood and Ginchy region, which the British had fought for over two months to gain. He walked for two miles through an area which reverberated to the blasts of the great guns, picking his way between the bursts of flame from the crashing batteries and moving around the rows of cannon as one who seeks a ford in a stream. On the other side of the ridge he saw guns where he had never seen them before—the promised land of the lower levels which the British had won by persistent siege work. The guns were close up to the British infantry who listened to their thunderous chorus as they prepared for the charge in today's attack. "The usual artillery preparation," said an artillery officer. In his return the correspondent described that he would pass through that wilderness of British guns of

torpedoed of her ships by German subs is subject of complaint. By Courier Leased Wire. Madrid, Sept. 25, via Paris, Sept. 26.—The Spanish Government has sent a note to Berlin, protesting against the demand for the torpedoing of Spanish steamers by German submarines. Recent despatches from Spain have stated that the country was growing more and more repulsed by the loss of Spanish ships through the operation of German submarines. The Spanish shipowners association recently presented a demand to the Government that some steps should be taken to protect shipping.

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BRANTFORD OFFICER Saw the Zeppelin Brought Down

A Brantford officer, during the course of a letter to friend says: I have been fortunate enough to be an eye-witness of a Zeppelin raid on old London. It was one of the things we had no hope of seeing, because in spite of the great headlines in the papers, it is a fact, that so far, the Zepp raids have not amounted to much. This time they came in numbers, unlucky numbers. Yet who can say that thirteen is unlucky. For the Germans, surely it was. For us, certainly not. I was rather late getting home on Saturday night, or rather Sunday morning, the 3rd of August. The city was in darkness. Looking over from Hampstead Heath, not the slightest ray of light was to be seen. The sky was cloudy, a perfect night for a raid. The great search-lights in and around London were suddenly turned on, shooting fantastic patterns of light across the sky, searching out hiding places behind black banks of mist, then concentrating on a spot where a Zeppelin might hide, or perhaps shining through an opening in the clear sky above. It seemed impossible to believe that any air ship could approach so well guarded a city. It reminded me of the wonderful Northern Lights gone wrong. Rays of light shooting here and there, jumping miles in a moment. It was a fantastic display wonderful and efficient. By this time all the gunners were at their posts. They were ready.

Casualties Still Heavy

The name of Pte. Arthur Gibbons of Paris appeared upon the official casualty list this morning as killed in action. Word received in the city yesterday by Mrs. W. D. Walcott, announced that her husband, Pte. W. D. Walcott, of the Princess Pats was at present suffering from a broken hip and arm. Pte. Walcott enlisted with the University Corps at Montreal, and became attached to the Princess Pats. To Mrs. Wm. Curtis, 201 Clarence street, came word on Sunday that her husband, Pte. Wm. Curtis of the 58th battalion had been admitted to the Clendon Park Hospital, Guildford, severely wounded in the thighs.

COMBLES IS ENTERED AT TWO POINTS BY BRITISH AND FRENCH

Last Hun Stronghold on Somme Front Yields to Allied Attack, and Huns Flee From Town--Drive of General Haig's Forces is Irresistible

By Courier Leased Wire. London, Sept. 26, 2 p.m.—The British have entered Combles, on the Somme front, the War Office announced to-day, and are overcoming the resistance of the Germans. Paris, Sept. 26, 12.15 p.m.—Continuing their offensive north of the Somme, the French last night captured all the village of Friegicourt and penetrated the Combles Cemetery. A French reconnoitering party reached the southern border of Combles, says to-day's official announcement. Eight hundred unwounded prisoners were taken in the fighting of yesterday on the Somme front. Violent counter-attacks were made by the Germans last night on the Verdun front, between Thiaumont work and Fleury. These assaults were checked by the French artillery and rifle fire

Combles, a town of some 2,000 population before the war, has been rendered of small strategic importance to the allies by their long continued encircling movement. It has been of notable value to the Germans however, because as long as they clung to it the Franco-British freedom of action in pushing their offensive movements towards Bapaume and Peronne on either side of it was hampered. Turned into a strongly fortified position by German defensive ingenuity, it has persistently held fast like a rock in the course of a turbulent stream that has had to be blasted loose before the channel was fully opened up. This progress has only been accomplished by long-continued and costly effort on the part of the allies.

proved by the drives of the allied Entente armies. Yesterday came the combined effort of the French and British to close the opening or at least render it so narrow that what could be extracted through it by the Germans would not be worthwhile. Only two roads remained over which the Germans could withdraw their men and guns. The single-track railroad running through the place had long since been rendered useless. Attacking from the north, General Haig's forces pushed on to and occupied Morval, cutting the northerly road, running to Le Transloy. Striking from the south, the French pushed their line to the vicinity of Friegicourt, severing communication with Combles over the southerly road—that stretching towards Sully. The ground between Morval and Friegicourt, a mile and a half in width and reaching back toward Combles, was swept from either direction by the combined fire of French and British guns. It is not thought probable that any considerable force of German reconnoitering parties held Ginchy yesterday, when it was becoming evident that the allied forces were achieving their object of closing in to the east of the town. The Germans are reported to have begun withdrawing guns from it.

Driving in from the south the French successively swept by Hardecourt, Maurepas, Le Forest and finally reached Friegicourt, a mile to the east of Combles. More slowly, but none the less surely, the British have pushed their advance on the north of the German salient. Their struggles to reach and hold Ginchy and Guillemont were expensive in time and men, but finally the ground north of Combles and some distance to the east was occupied, putting the town in a pocket which the Germans proved to be constantly being nar-

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DESCRIPTION OF THE SITUATION OF CAMP BRAMSHOTT, ENGLAND

Food Not up to Much at First But Now Much Improved—Discipline is Much More Severe

The many who have taken so much pleasure out of the letters appearing in these columns from Pte. V. Cutmore, will be interested to know that he has now been made a Corporal. In his last epistle he says: "I guess you're all wondering what we're doing over here. First of all, you ask where this place is. It's in Hampshire, 42 miles from London, 30 from Reading, 26 from Portsmouth; that's the best I can tell you, but it's the prettiest country I ever saw. Hills, lanes, hedges everywhere. Oh, it's real, but the weather spoils everything and gives one a pain. A and B Co. had their 6 days leave first then C and D, and it rained more or less the whole time. We drill more here by far than we did in Canada, and for different subjects have different Imperial instructors, and they're certainly smart and snappy; no moving around and fawning while on parade, or you're quickly spotted. Of course we're still learning the same old thing over again, and so the boys are grumbling and the weather makes them sore too. But being much stricter makes it much different and much better. You know what I mean; we're soldiering now. The physical drill is, oh, gee, hop and jump; it's drawn and muscle alright, and they don't forget to bowl you out. Most of our officers are taking classes again. At first our food was very poor and we kicked good and proper, so Capt. Bingle put a strong complaint in, and now we're being fed fine; sometimes three vegetables for dinner; that's going some, eh? The whole battalion feeds in one big hut. I explained the huts to you, didn't I? There's one canteen to buy any eatables, and another, or rather it's a

bar; it's pretty well patronized, too. The ground where our camp is, is fairly level, but just out south-west, it's a great hill, while east the ground is much lower, and there are any amount of small villages just west, three and four miles from us, which we can visit every evening after five o'clock and Saturday and Sunday at least. I'm putting in for another week-end pass next week, because now they're all back from their six days' leave, we're to start on week-end passes and only 10 per cent. are allowed each week, so I'm trying for mine early. It will come around again all the quicker. Well, I'm very glad to hear you are all as well as you are. Gee, wouldn't they all be pleased to see you over here. Too bad you could see me, so I'm trying for mine early. I'm thinking you will have a small crop of potatoes. Don't talk of living high over there; you don't know what it is. It's terrible here, and the wages very little higher. Our money goes nowhere. When in London, of course we only had four clear days. Nobody seems to worry about the war much but they're quite serious and resolute. I will write again soon, so goodbye for the present."

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BULGARS ATTACKS WERE CHECKED

Enemy Repulsed on Macedonia Front Near Florina—Russo-French Gains.

By Courier Leased Wire. Paris, Sept. 26.—On the western end of the Macedonian front, to the east of Florina, the Bulgarians last night made violent counter attacks. To-day's official announcement says these assaults were checked by the French. West of Florina the Russians and French made a combined attack and took 50 prisoners. Between the Struma and Vardar, there was artillery fighting together with some skirmishes, especially on the British front. No infantry activity developed in the sector held by the Serbs.

ATHLETIC MEET AT NIAGARA

215th Figured in Many of the Day's Contests With Some Success.

Niagara Camp enjoyed one of the best arranged, and most closely contested athletic events in its history on Saturday, when the men from the different units gathered there to do battle for the Camp Championship. This organization has, with the assistance of a good committee, largely supervised the athletic and sport life of the camp during the summer. Considering the many men on leave, the number of entries was large. The Camp Championship went to Colonel Arthur's 182nd Battalion, who of their origin in the north have termed themselves the "Timber Wolves." McClellan of the Cyclist was high point winner for the day, and proved himself a splendid all-round athlete. No small part was taken in the day's events by the 215th Battalion, which finished in fourth place, leading the 169th Battalion and the Dental Corps. Sergt. Stewart, formerly of the local police force, took second place in the half-mile race, while Lt. Ken Wood figured twice and won the running high jump. Pte. Stewart attained third place in the 449 yard dash.

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Twenty-Nine Killed in Another Zeppelin Raid

London, Sept. 26.—Another Zeppelin raid on the east coast of England occurred last night. The following official statement was issued at midnight by Sir John French: "Several hostile airships crossed the east and northeast coasts between 10.30 o'clock and midnight. Bombs were dropped in some places in the northern midland counties. One airship was reported off the south coast. Twenty Nine Killed By Courier Leased Wire. London, Sept. 26.—12.30 p.m.—Twenty nine persons were killed in last night's Zeppelin raid, it was announced officially to-day. The Zeppelin raid of last night, the second within the last week, was made by several airships between 10.30 o'clock and midnight. They crossed over the east and northeast coasts and dropped bombs in the northern counties. The official ac-

STRIKE THE IRON NOW WHILE IT IS HOT; IT IS YOUR ONLY OPPORTUNITY

Never Again Will You Get as Many Votes For a Subscription-Get Busy Now While Subscriptions are Easy to Secure

"Strike while the iron is hot," is a time-worn adage containing more than a poetry which should be observed by candidates in The Daily Courier prize contest. The interest in the contest is becoming more intense each day. Each day many readers of The Daily Courier discover they have a favorable candidate in the contest. Each day more and more friends are becoming interested in the race being made by the various contestants. The time is ripe for results now. The iron is hot. The contestants should lose no time in striking their friends and acquaintances for subscriptions and votes. Everybody help the candidates secure one of the beautiful prizes that will be given away very soon. But in order to get this assistance which is theirs for the asking, the candidates must let their friends know they want the "golden apple," and they go to the barber to get it. The "Booster Period," the great special vote offer which was announced in The Daily Courier yesterday is now on and will end at 8 p.m. Saturday, October 7. The candidates can turn in two years' subscriptions and secure 35,000 votes explained. It is not necessary to wait. Start out after subscribers to

New candidates can enter the contest to-day and with a few hours' work secure enough votes to place their names among the leaders. You stand an excellent chance of winning a prize if you enter now, as there is plenty of room and subscriptions will come easy during the "Booster Period," which means that now is the time for every reader of The Daily Courier to boost a friend in the contest by paying a subscription and giving him or her the credit of the extra votes offered now when so many votes are given to the candidates. The list of Candidates was same as five during the last of the contest. A yearly subscription during "Booster Period" counts 10,000 regular votes and 40,000 extra votes, making a total of 50,000 votes. During the last of the campaign a yearly subscription will count only 10,000 votes. A two-year subscription now counts 35,000 regular and 100,000 extra votes, making a total of 135,000 votes, whereas a new two-year subscription during the last of the contest will count only 25,000. The list of Candidates will be published every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. (Continued on Page 3.)

GRAND Opera House THREE DAYS Commencing Thursday Evening, SEPT. 28th THE BIRTH OF A NATION Comes to Brantford from Toronto, where it played to 110 performances during Exhibition. Prices: \$1, 75c, 50c, 25c

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