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Heavy Fighting But British Have Firm Grip on All Gains

Four German Counter Attacks Made in Vain—Australians Pressing Enemy Hard Today—Some Details of the Big Offensive

London, Sept. 27—The fighting yesterday afternoon and last evening along the front of the new British attack in the Ypres sector was exceedingly severe, says today's official statement. The Germans made four vain counter-attacks in great strength. The statement says:

"Later accounts show that the enemy spared no effort to regain important ground captured by us. The fighting on the battle front yesterday afternoon and evening was exceedinly severe. Between 4 p.m. and 7, four separate counter-attacks were made in great strength against our new front from Tower Hamlets to the St. Julien-Gravenstafel."

"The struggle was the most severe in the area south of Polygon Wood, where English, Scottish, Welsh and Australian troops defeated repeated attempts of the enemy to break into our positions. The enemy's attacks all were repulsed after fierce fighting, in which the German losses from our artillery and infantry fire were extremely heavy.

"Later in the evening the fighting gradually died down, leaving our troops in possession of the ground they had captured during the day."

BRITISH HOLD ALL GAINS

British Front in France and Belgium, Sept. 27—(By the Associated Press)—The British are maintaining their new hold strongly. The new battle today was in the neighborhood of Camron House, south of the eastern extremity of Polygon Wood, where the Australians are pressing the Germans hard. The situation as a whole is virtually unchanged.

Northwest of Zonnebeke heavy fighting continues in the region of elevations which dominate a considerable extent of territory.

From the British standpoint the situation resulting from the new offensive is exceedingly satisfactory.

GRAPHIC TALE OF KHAKI SUCCESS.

British Front in France and Belgium, Sept. 26—(Delayed)—By the Asociated Press—Once more the British fighting machine has crushed its way through the German trenches along the Ypres battle front with great success. The offensive begun in the grey dawn of a misty morning had by noon accomplished virtually all that had been planned for it, and this afternoon the men of Australia, England and Scotland were holding positions which represented a gain of from 1,000 to 1,800 yards over a large part of the sector involved.

They had secured the whole of the Tower Hamlets Ridge, which the Germans had fought bitterly to retain; they were clear of the famous Polygon Wood, whose eastern slopes had been filled with concrete redoubts and sniping shelters; they had battled half way through Zonnebecke village of immortal memory, and north of the Ypres-Roulers railway they were holding many German strongholds in the valley of the Hanebeke river. Hard fighting still continued this morning, especially south of the Polygon Woods, where the Germans were trying determinedly to regain the ground lost, and further counter-attacks were not unexpected.

The advance on the extreme right was not deep, but was in accord with the plan to drive the Germans from Tower Hamlets Ridge. The battle for this position really began yesterday when the Germans, in an endeavor to push back the British flank, launched a series of fierce counter-attacks on both sides of the Ypres-Menin railway. The fighting here yesterday was continuous and sanguinary, for the Germans kept throwing infantry in waves against the British position. The defenders were forced to give way slightly, but with undaunted courage they hurled themselves on the enemy with such fierceness that they were able to re-establish themselves before the hour for the new advance arrived.

Wednesday's Push.

A lot of British troops in this sector began the new push this morning under the fatigue of many hours of battling against a determined foe, but they did their work today and did it well. The fighting about Tower Hamlets was very severe, and the Germans were able to get heavy machine gun fire on the British from positions to the south.

Along the Menin road the British made the slight advance called for under a withering machine gun and artillery fire. In the Ypres-Menin road the line of advance swung out much farther into enemy territory in order to include the Polygon Wood and other important positions.

The Australians, who negotiated most of the territory between the Ypres-Roulers railway and the Ypres-Menin road, appeared to have had comparatively little trouble in getting through with the exception of a narrow stretch just south of the Polygon Wood where the Germans held on tenaciously for a time. They had to fight their way through a more or less intricate trench system to Polygon Wood and encountered a great number of blockhouses which turned a vicious machine gun and rifle fire against them. The troops opposing them were Poles.

The men made a good start in getting over the top and swept through the eastern portion of Polygon Wood. The Germans in redoubts on the eastern slopes of these woods surrendered, and within a comparatively short time the Australians were surging across the race course on the level below.

North of Polygon Wood the Australians covered the ground assigned to them in two hours and twenty minutes, the average of their advance being 1,200 yards. The entire Australian operation was accomplished with exceedingly small casualties.

A Proud Day.

It was a proud day for those British troops who forced their way into the western end of Zonnebeke village. Not since the bitter period of April 1915, when the British were compelled to withdraw from this place, had an allied soldier entered it. The wound of this defeat was healed largely today.

In the sector north of Zonnebecke the offensive proceeded systematically until the final line was rushed.

The Germans were active throughout last night and put down a heavy barrage fire before this morning's attack, but it did little damage. Much machine gun fire and sniping was encountered at many places, but for the most part the Germans did not make an attempted stand. The blockhouses gave little trouble. The British artillery preparation here had been exceedingly good, and the ground was strewn with enemy dead. Serious, but brief fighting occurred at a few of the fortified farms, and near the railway the Germans delivered an immediate counter-attack, but this was broken quickly.

Among the prisoners in this section were some Prussians, who are sturdy looking troops. Prisoners were coming in well all along the line of the offensive, but it is imposible to estimate the total further than that several hundred had been accounted for at an early hour

COMISKEY'S FIGHT WITH TICKET SPECULATORS

Chicago, Sept. 27.—President Comiskey of the Chicago Americans, started aggressive action against speculators in world's series baseball tickets. He conferred with States Attorney Herin and Mayor Thompson, as to what legal action may be taken against the brokers.

There has been some dissatisfaction expressed at the ruling which compels the purchase of seats in sets of three, it being said that an injustice was done to those who might be able to see only one game.

President Comiskey announced today that all tickets sold will be redeemed at the south side park at the price paid for them. He expressed the belief that all "square fans will turn back their surplus supply and thus give another patron an opportunity to see a game without paying toll to the scalpers."

WORDS, AND, BEING GERMAN WORDS, THEY COUNT FOR LITTLE

Amsterdam, Sept. 27.—Dr. Kaempf, president of the German Reichstag, in a speech concerning President Wilson's reply to the Pope, according to a despatch from Berlin, said:

"He who tries to drive a wedge between the Kaiser and the people bites on granite, owing to the common sense of the German people. We read in President Wilson's note to the Pope the word humanity. Are we to believe the words of a man who had the power to preserve hundreds and thousands of lives by preventing the export of munitions and war material from America to the Entente?

"Can that man boast of humanity who, apart from the munition supplies, prolonged the war by his unneutral attitude before America declared war, and who supported England's war of starvation against German women and children?"

MORE MONEY FOR MINISTERS

Baptist Proposal For Minimum of $900 a Year

TODAY AT CONVENTION

Election of Officers Deferred Until This Afternoon—Home Mission Report — Dr. Keirstead Gives Address on Food Conservation and Control — Women's Aid Meeting

Rev. Dr. DeWolfe opened this morning's session of the annual convention of the Association of United Baptists of New Brunswick in the Charlotte street church, West End. He continued his subject of yesterday, the Lord's Prayer.

W. A. Brown of Jemseg, the registration clerk, began registration, but it was found impossible to complete at the time.

The report of home missions for New Brunswick was read by R. S. Wallace, Esq., clerk of the board of education of New Brunswick. The report for the last year was a very satisfactory one.

Many changes in the pastorates through the province are reported which has hindered the work for the last year, but the indications are, nevertheless, of good progress.

The enlistment for overseas service among the theological students at Acadia has been so great, that for the first time in many years, we are having no students from old Acadia.

(Continued on page 2, sixth column)

CHURCH OF ENGLAND CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL

Ottawa, Sept. 27.-The council of social service of the Church of England at the annual meeting yesterday adopted a resolution in favor of dominion prohibition.

Another important resolution which was also adopted was based upon the recommendation of the report of the executive committee that each diocese in Canada take up rescue work of a corporate character.

R. W. Allan, editor of the Christian Guardian of Toronto, said the church was not doing its duty to the returned soldiers, but this was strongly refuted.

MONTREAL MILK DEALERS HOLD BACK ON INCREASE

Montreal, Sept. 27.—Local milk dealers decided yesterday not to raise the price of milk before October 31, as requested by Food Controller Hanna. If the producers raise the price in the meantime, however, they say they will have to follow suit.

ENVER PASHA AND KINDRED SPIRITS HOLD CONFERENCE

Amsterdam, Sept. 27—A Berlin despatch says that Enver Pasha, Turkish war minister, arrived at German headquarters on Tuesday evening, conferred with Von Hindenburg and Von Ludendorff, and left for Constantinople that evening.

MAWHINNEY-MAWHINNEY

A wedding of interest took place in Trinity church, Mace's Bay, last evening, when Rev. R. T. McKim united in marriage Miss Bessie W. Mawhinney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. T Mawhinney, and Clifford E. Mawhinney. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a becoming costume of white chiffon taffeta, with rose trimmings and carried a corsage bouquet of bridal roses. She also wore a beautiful pearl necklace, which was a gift from her father. The church was artistically decorated. Following the ceremony, a dainty wedding supper was served at the home of the bride's parents. Only immediate relatives were present. Mr. and Mrs. Mawhinney then motored to the city to their future home in Rockland road. They were the recipients of a large number of magnificent presents.

AFTER THE LAW BREAKERS

Chief Inspector Wilson is at present in St. John looking into matters relating to enforcement of the prohibitory law. A large amount of money has of late been going to Montreal for liquor shipments to individuals, who represent groups, and many devices are resorted to by violators of the law. The chief inspector and his staff are determined to make violation so expensive that it will cease. Quantities of liquor are constantly being seized.

COAL ALL SOLD

The entire consignment of 365 tons of anthracite, which was secured for the city by J. S. McGivern, has been sold by the city chamberlain. The few tons left were snapped up this morning and there were many who came too late. No advice has been received regarding the balance of the 1,000 tons contracted for, but it is expected to arrive in due time, when similar arrangements will be made for selling it to the citizens.

TWO N. B. CASUALTIES

In Wednesday night's casualty list appear the names of C. Verhills, Milltown, wounded and gassed; and D. J. Delaney, Metapedia, dead.

Going Back to Work

Norfolk, Va., Sept. 27.—After an early morning conference, union leaders announced that the 3,500 men of the Norfolk navy yard, now on strike, would return to work today. Their grievances will be arbitrated.

DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES.

—N. Y. Tribune.

Wearing Down Enemy Till Full American Force Felt

Washington, Sept. 27.—The American government's first official statement concerning military operations in Europe was issued last night by Secretary of War Baker, inaugurating a series which in time will be devoted largely to activities of the United States expedition ary forces.

It says that while ascendancy on the western front has passed definitely to the Allies, they are content merely to wear down the enemy until the force of the American army makes itself felt in the field.

MITCHELL BEHIND ON RE-COUNT IN NEW YORK

Bennett Forges 94 Votes Ahead For Republican Mayoralty Candidature

New York, Sept. 27.—William M. Bennett took the lead in the contest for the Republican mayoralty nomination from Mayor Mitchel early today by a gain of 156 votes in the 17th assembly district, which wiped out the apparent majority recorded for the mayor in the primary election last week. This put Bennett 94 votes ahead.

SINN FEINER DIES IN HOSPITAL; WAS ON HUNGER STRIKE

Dublin, Sept. 27—Thomas Ashe, a Sinn Fein leader, has died in a hospital here as the result of a hunger strike upon which he entered some time ago.

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER REPORT

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

Synopsis—A depression of some importance is centred in Saskatchewan, while pressure is still high along the United States Atlantic seaboard. Showers have occurred in Alberta and over Lake Superior; elsewhere in Canada the weather has been fine.

Forecasts

Lakes and Georgian Bay—Moderate southeast to southwest winds, partly fair and warm, showers this evening and tonight; Friday southwest to south winds, local showers at first, but partly fair.

Ottawa and Lawrence Valleys — Moderate southwest to south winds, fair and warm today, some showers on Friday.

Gulf and North Shore — Moderate southwest to south winds, fair with higher temperature today, scattered showers on Friday.

Fine and Warm

Maritime—Moderate winds, fine and warm today and on Friday.

Lake Superior—West to south winds, increasing to strong breezes or moderate gales on Friday, clearing today, showers again on Friday.

Manitoba—Strong southerly shifting to west and northwest winds, showers tonight; Friday, cool with a few showers.

Saskatchewan—Strong west to northwest winds, cool with some showers; Friday, fair and cool.

Alberta—Generally fair and cool today and on Friday.

New England—Partly cloudy tonight; Friday, showers, moderate winds, mostly southwest.

MAY NOW TALK ENGLISH OVER 'PHONE

France Revises War Rule as Americans Find it Hard to Master Vernacular

Paris, Sept. 27.—English may now be spoken over the telephone in Paris for the first time since the war began. The presence of several thousand newly arrived Americans, who have not been able to master the French vernacular, induced the authorities to modify the rule that no language but French could be used over the telephone.

SEVIGNY CANDIDATE OF THE CONSERVATIVES

Considered Likely That Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux Will Oppose Him

Quebec, Sept. 27—The Hon. Albert Sevigny was chosen Conservative candidate yesterday to run in Gaspe county. There is a strong probability of the Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux running against Mr. Sevigny in this riding.

FREE HOUSING FOR THE MILITARY TRIBUNALS ASKED OF MUNICIPALITY

A request for free accommodation for the military service tribunals has been received by Mayor Hayes. The letter, which will be dealt with by the municipal authorities, is as follows:

Ottawa, Sept. 25, 1917.

To His Worship, The Mayor of St. John:

Sir,—As you are doubtless aware, three exemption tribunals under the provisions of the military service act are to be established in your municipality and will probably be in session from three to five weeks.

The government will appreciate it very much if your municipality will, so far as is practicable and as the exigencies of your service permit, provide free accommodation for as many of these tribunals as possible in your municipal buildings.

E. L. NEWCOMBE,
Deputy Minister of Justice.

HUNDRED GERMANS AND SYMPATHIZERS ARRESTED

New York, Sept. 27.—About 100 Germans and German sympathizers, arrested in New York city, Long Island and New Jersey points last night by city detectives acting under the direction of the department of justice and officers of the navy department, spent the night in the drill hall and in cells at police headquarters. Some were arrested, it was said, at the headquarters of the I.W.W., but the majority were taken from their homes.

French Drive Huns Back and Punish Them Severely

Two Attacks Along Chemin Des Dames Repulsed--New Russian Commander--Fighting on Roumanian Front

Paris, Sept. 27.—Two German attacks along the Chemin des Dames were repulsed by the French last night. The war office so announces. The Germans sustained heavy losses.

Russian Changes

Petrograd, Sept 27.—General Tcheremissoff has been appointed commander-in-chief on the northern front. General Volestchenko succeeds Tcheremissoff as commander-in-chief on the southwestern front.

Gen. Tcheremissoff, according to a despatch from Petrograd on September 21, had been that day appointed chief of the Russian general staff in succession to General Alexieff.

Petrograd, Sept. 26.—(British Admiralty, per Wireless Press.)—The war office reports:

"Roumanian front—In the region southwest of Gory-Sereth-Onoudory the enemy opened an intense artillery fire with heavy and light guns and then undertook an offensive in dense waves, penetrating our trenches. However, he was driven out again and the position restored.

"Baltic Sea—Since Sept. 14 enemy activity has been intensified. Near the Courland coast and in the Irbe Channel our torpedo boats and submarines and aerial forces are preventing enemy vessels from entering our waters."

More Effective Bombing.

London, Sept. 27—British seaplanes again dropped many tons of bombs on German military establishments in Belgium on Tuesday night, making several direct hits, on the railroad lines at the Thourout Junction, the Lychtervelde Junction and the Cortemarck Junction. All the machines returned safely.

TO THE FLYING CORPS

Presentation of Ring to George McDonald Erb

George McDonald Erb, who has been accepted for the air service and who will leave soon for the training grounds, was the guest of honor at a gathering in the home of John Baxter, 60 High street, slat evening. On behalf of the gathering, Mr. Baxter presented to him a fine ring, accompanied by the following address:—

"As you are about to leave us for overseas service, we have assembled here tonight to pay our respects to one who has tried so many times to do his bit and who has at least succeeded in enlisting with the Royal Flying Corps. We wish you every success and trust that you may achieve your highest ambition. In recognition of our sincere friendship we wish to present this little token in evidence of our appreciation of a true friend. We also wish you a 'bon voyage' and a happy return."

Games and music, violin, and banjo solos by Charles Baxter and a duet by Charles Baxter and William Pierce helped pass the evening pleasantly.

THE PRICE OF MILK

Mayor Hayes has received from the food controller the following communication:

Educational Department,
Food Controller's Office,
Ottawa, Sept. 24, 1917.

Dear Sir,—All milk producers and all wholesale and retail dealers in Canada engaged in the supply of fresh milk for daily consumption are earnestly requested to make no advance on the prices for milk obtaining in their district on September 1, until the committee appointed to deal with milk supply and prices have reported on what action, if any, should be taken.

It is expected that the committee will begin sitting during the week of September 24 and should be in a position to report by November. Before a just basis for cost of milk production can be arrived at, the effect on prices of this year's crop of coarse grain in Canada and the United States must be obtained. Reports indicate that the total production of coarse grains will be above the average. The effect of this on the price of cattle feeds, however, cannot be properly estimated at this time, because the effect of th new crop feeds must be ascertained before any action may be determined, therefore it is deemed advisable that any change in prices by producers and dealers be delayed, at least until after October 31.

It is confidently expected that this very reasonable request will be complied with, as it will entail little hardship and will make unnecessary the adoption of drastic measures.

All mayors and reeves are requested to give this the widest possible publicity by requesting their newspapers to publish it in a prominent position and by mailing copies to all milk producers' associations and all dealers engaged in supplying milk to their city, town or village.

Copies of this request are being mailed directly to mayors and reeves of cities, towns and villages.

(Signed) W. J. HANNA,
Food Controller for Canada.

ENVOYS ON HAND BUT WITHOUT THE PAPERS

New York, Sept. 27.—An Associated Press despatch from Washington says: Sweden's new economic delegate, Dr. Hjalmar Lundbohm, has arrived here accompanied by Patrick Reutersward, first secretary of the Stockholm foreign office, without credentials, because all their papers are in one of four diplomatic mail pouches held by the British authorities at Halifax.

The United States may ask the British government to release the documents essential to the negotiations to be carried on by the Swedish envoys.

STREET REPAIRS

The civic department of public works is making repairs to the pavement in Prince William street, in front of the post office, where the street was opened to permit of the laying of a sewer. The fill has settled enough to make this possible but, in case of further settling, the top will be bridged with concrete before laying the surface. The work is being done by the city but at the expense of Rhodes, Curry & Company, the contractors for the post office.

LIKELY 500 MEN HERE IN TRAINING

Taken to England in Drafts—Local Plans Under Military Service Act

Lieutenant-Colonel J. L. McAvity was in consultation this morning with Brigadier-General H. H. McLean, with reference to the appointing of returned officers to the training staff of the depot to be established in St. John in connection with the military service act. Already several returned officers throughout the province have applied, but the officials feel that there are a few in the province and especially in St. John who have not applied, and if they were not given consideration they would feel that unjustice had been done them. These officers are to be notified today or tomorrow to the effect that if they would care to serve on the training staff they should make application.

It has been rumored that the agricultural hall in the exhibition grounds would likely be the quarters of the men drafted. This morning it was learned definitely that this building is to be so used and that the work of remodelling would commence at once.

The military officials now feel that there will always be in the vicinity of about 500 men in training there, not including officers, who will number about sixteen.

There are to be no captains with the exception of the quartermaster and paymaster. The training staff is to be composed of a commanding officer, a second in command and a major for each company, who will have as his staff five lieutenants. One lieutenant will cross overseas with each draft and it is possible that he will then return to Canada.

The N.C.O.'s will at first be chosen from among the returned soldiers, but as time goes along, those drafted will all have opportunity of qualifying for the rank, so that drafted men are to have the same opportunity of advancement as those enlisting before the military service act was passed.

VIOLATION OF ALIEN LABOR LAW CHARGED

Eight Men and a Woman Before Montreal Judge—Crothers Says G. N. W. Must Accept Award

Montreal, Sept. 27.—Charged with a violation of the alien labor law eight men and one woman appeared before Judge St. Cyr this morning in connection with the strike of the Great Northwestern Telegraph Company. They pleaded not guilty, were remanded until Wednesday next and allowed out on $100 bail. All are from the United States.

Toronto, Sept. 27.—District Chairman Pawson, of the C.P.R. Telegraph, declared today that if the report that the G.N.W. were employing American operators to replace their men at Montreal and other places proved correct, it was not improbable that the C. P. R. telegraphers would decide to strike unless the government takes prompt action.

General Manager Perry of the G.N.W., complained today that wires between Scarboro Heights and Port Union had been "wilfully twisted together so as to blur messages" and in another case he said nails had been driven into cables to spoil them.

Ottawa, Sept. 27—Hon. T. W. Crothers has notified the genral manager of the Great Northwestern Telegraph Company that he expects to be informed by telegram today that the company has accepted the award of the board of conciliation, thus ending the strike. He says it is the duty of the company to accept the award.

Montreal, Sept. 27.—The immigration department officials this morning deported twelve telegraph operators who were coming to Montreal from American points to work for the G. N.W.