

GREAT WESTERN DRIVE BY ALLIES

Twenty Thousand German Prisoners and Many Guns are Captured in Two Day's Fighting

From the Sea to Verdun British, French and Belgian Forces Assume the Offensive—Gen. French's Army Takes Five Miles of Trench Positions and Captures 2,600 Men—Gen. Joffre's Army Takes Fifteen Miles of Hun Entrenchments and Captures Over 17,000 Unwounded Troops—On Every Section of Front Enemy Lines Have Been Deeply Pierced—Crown Prince's Army in Grave Peril—Fierce Fighting Still Continues, With the Allies Gaining Ground.

A despatch from London says: The general offensive movement so long waited for on the western front was inaugurated by a series of allied victories on Saturday morning, the 25th inst., which were maintained and extended the following day. The net result of the first two days' operations was over 20,000 unwounded German taken prisoner, of whom the British took 2,600.

French troops penetrated the German lines in Champagne along a front of 15 miles and for a depth at some places of 2½ miles.

North of Arras the town and cemetery of Souchez were taken by storm, and the last trench still held by the Germans to the east of the Labyrinth was captured.

British forces captured German trenches along a front of five miles south of La Bassée Canal and east of Vermelles. In some instances the British troops penetrated the German positions for a distance of 4,000 yards (two and a quarter miles), capturing the quarries north-east of Halluch, the village of Loos and the mining works around it, and Hill No. 70. In Flanders the British carried the German trenches over a front of 600 yards near Hooge.

The Champagne Battle.

The details of the operations can be sketched out briefly by a glance at the statements issued by the War Office. After an artillery preparation, the magnitude of which has never been equalled, not even in the Austro-German campaign in Galicia, the German trenches in Champagne from a point north of Souain as far east as the Argonne forest were reduced to a mass of earth and tangled wire. Huge masses of French troops leaped forward to the assault. The German first line trenches had been obliterated, and the advancing French dashed through as far as the third line trenches. Large numbers of the Germans who endeavored to hold their positions were cut off and captured. This accounts for the unusually large numbers of prisoners taken, a number estimated by the War Office as more than 16,000.

The object of the fighting in the Champagne region is the railway line running from Neufchâteau through Gomme and north of the Argonne district to the town of Varennes. The French are now only about two miles from this railway, and once it is captured a general retreat in this region will be absolutely necessary. This railway line runs along the rear of the entire German position north of Rheims to the Argonne forest. Its capture would also necessitate a retreat on the part of the Crown Prince's men in the Argonne.

Battle North of the Arras.

The fighting north of Arras is a resumption of the French offensive which took place in that district last spring. Gen. Joffre at that time attempted to cut off or capture the important railway junction of Lens, but this result was not attained. The Germans then were driven back over a considerable front, but as now freely admitted, the lack of munitions resulted in the abandonment of this offensive movement before its conclusion.

The French were able, however, to capture the strongly fortified position near Neuville, known as the Labyrinth, and the outskirts of the village of Souchez, which, on account of its peculiar position, was extremely important strategically.

The British Victories.

In conjunction with these successful attacks, the British, under Sir John French, took the offensive east of Vermelles and Grenay, south of the La Bassée canal, and succeeded in driving back the Germans on a front of more than five miles, penetrating the enemy's lines at some places a distance of 4,000 to 5,000 yards and a quarter miles. The village of Loos was captured, while the British reached the quarries in the western outskirts of the village of Halluch, which lies a short distance to the north. The

THE VICTORY IN BRIEF

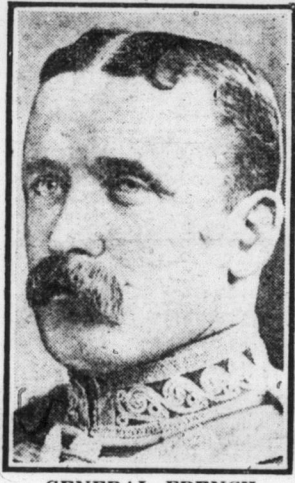
Unwounded Germans taken by British and French, 20,000.

Five miles of enemy positions taken by Gen. French, and line penetrated 4,000 yards—nearly two and one-half miles.

Fifteen miles of trenches captured by Gen. Joffre, and line penetrated two and one-half miles.

British now within twelve miles of Lille.

French imperial army of the German Crown Prince. Belgians made successful attack along the Yser Canal.



GENERAL FRENCH.

noon by the Official Press Bureau, says:

"Saturday morning we attacked the enemy south of La Bassée Canal, to the east of Grenay and Vermelles. We captured his trenches on a front of over five miles, penetrating his lines in some places for a distance of four thousand yards.

"We captured the western outskirts of Halluch, the village of Loos and the mining works around it, and Hill No. 70.

"Other attacks were made to the north of La Bassée Canal which drew a strong reserve of the enemy toward the point of the line, where hard fighting occurred throughout the day with varying success. At nightfall our troops north of the canal occupied their positions of the morning.

"We made another attack near Hooge on either side of the Menin Road.

"An attack north of the road succeeded in occupying Bellewaarde farm and ridge, but this subsequently was retaken by the enemy.

"In the attacks to the south of the road we gained six hundred yards of the enemy's trench and we consolidated the ground won.

"The reports of captures up to the present include about 1,700 prisoners and eight guns, besides several machine guns, the number of which is not yet known."

Drew Enemy's Reserves.

"There has been severe fighting today," reads the official communication, issued on Sunday evening: "On the ground won by us yesterday, the enemy making determined counter-attacks east and north-east of Loos. The result of this fighting is that, except just north of Loos, we held all the ground gained yesterday, including the whole of Loos itself.

"This evening we retook the quarries north-west of Halluch, which we re-won and lost yesterday. We have in this fighting drawn the enemy's reserves, enabling the French on our right to make further progress.

"The number of prisoners collected after yesterday's fighting amounted to 2,600. Nine guns have been taken and a considerable number of machine guns.

"Our aeroplanes to-day bombed and derailed a train near Loffres, east of Douai, and another, which was full of troops, at Rohult, near Saint Amand. The Valenciennes station was also bombed."

French Official Stories.

The following statement was issued Saturday night by the French War Office:

"On the Belgian coast our batteries have co-operated in the bombardment by the British fleet of the German positions at Westende and Middekerke. The British troops have attacked with success enemy positions to the west of Loos and Halluch. Our troops operating in conjunction with the British army delivered to the north of Arras an energetic attack which permitted them to gain a foothold at several points in the enemy's lines.

"Between the Somme and the Aisne fighting by means of torpedoes and bombs has been going on in the sector of Canny-sur-Matz. Our artillery exploded a munitions depot in a fortified house at Beuvrages.

"In Champagne after a new and very violent bombardment of the trenches, shelters, blockhouses and batteries of the enemy, our troops began an assault of the German lines between the Suippes and the Aisne.

The first adverse positions have been occupied on almost the entire front attacked. Our progress continues. Artillery actions have occurred in the Woivre, in Lorraine, and in the Vosges in the environs of Chapelotte and of Schratzmannelle."

RUSSIANS PUSH THE ENEMY BACK

Important Success Achieved by Ivanoff on the Border of Galicia.

A despatch from London says: The counter-offensive movement launched by the Russians under General Ivanoff against the Austro-Germans in Volhynia and Galicia has assumed important proportions. General Ivanoff has been so successful that the German Field Marshal, von Mackensen, who is fighting north of the Pripiet marshes eastward of Brest-Litovsk, according to the German official report, has been compelled to withdraw his line somewhat, as it was in danger of being encircled; while the Austrians have been driven back across the Styra, and have been compelled to surrender the fortress of Lutsk, in the Volhynian triangle of fortresses which they captured during the great drive.

These successes, which extend to the Roumanian frontier, in the opinion of military observers, would serve to ease the situation on the Roumanian flank should Roumania join Russia, and in addition might well prevent the Austro-Germans from sending an army, which it is estimated must consist of at least a half million men, to make an attack on Serbia.

In the centre the Russians are still falling back, while in the north Field Marshal von Hindenburg continues to make progress with his offensive against Dvinsk, although at a much slower rate than formerly, as the Russians are stiffening their resistance.

East of Vilna the Germans admit a temporary check, during which they lost guns to the Russians.

Vilna, the position seized by von Hindenburg in his effort to encircle the Russian army retreating from Vilna, again is in the hands of the Russians, having been recaptured by a bayonet charge. The number of German guns captured, according to the Russian official report, includes 40 howitzers as well as nine ammunition wagons. The captured guns were manned by the Russians and put to flight a German armored car.

4,000 Taken at Lutsk.

"The battle north of Lutsk was a great success for the Russians, who took 4,000 prisoners, and recaptured the town of Lutsk," says Reuter's Petrograd correspondent.

The correspondent of the Morning Post says in a despatch to his paper: "In quarters that know, and indeed, in rather wider circles, strong optimism during the past couple of days has been spreading rapidly. The official bulletins of the progress of the war are not sufficient to account for this feeling. The certain successful withdrawal from Vilna has strengthened the Russian front, and in every way strengthened their powers."

SAVED NANCY FROM SHELLING

A French Aviator Single-Handed Put Six Hostile Air Craft to Flight.

A despatch from Paris says: With the exception of an attack by an enemy patrol in Champagne the fighting recently has been largely in the hands of the artillery. Cannonading has broken out in Belgium, according to the French official report given out in this city. Artillery fighting has taken place also near Arras, between the Somme and Oise, between the Aisne and the Argonne region, and in Lorraine.

One French aeroplane carrying Lieut. Daum, as observer, and Sergt. Garnier, as pilot, attacked and defeated a fleet of six German battle aeroplanes, it was revealed in a general order. Both French aviators are mentioned for conspicuous gallantry. The fight took place over Nancy. The French aviators attacked the German machines one by one, preventing them from bombarding the town. When the French machine landed it was riddled with bullets.

General Joffre, the French Commander-in-Chief, and the allied commanders on this front—Field Marshal Sir John French and King Albert of Belgium—are developing a new plan of campaign that involves the almost continuous use of artillery on a vast scale along the whole line.

WELL REPRESENTED TO COUNTRY'S SERVICE

A despatch from Guelph says: Mrs. Scott, of Howitt Street, has a son and six brothers, fourteen cousins and seven nephews serving their King and country.

THREE BELGIANS TO DIE FOR SMUGGLING MAIL

A despatch from Amsterdam says: For smuggling letters into Holland, a German court-martial at Antwerp has sentenced three Belgian citizens to death and thirty-three others to hard

The Leading Markets

Breadstuffs.

Toronto, Sept. 27.—Manitoba wheat—New crop, No. 1 Northern, \$1.02; No. 2, \$1, track lake ports, immediate shipment.

American corn—No. 2 yellow, 84c, track lake ports.

Canadian corn—No. 2 yellow, 81c, track Toronto.

Ontario oats—New crop, No. 2 white, 38 to 39c; No. 3 white, 36 to 38c, according to freight outside.

Ontario wheat—New No. 2 Winter, per car lot, 90 to 92c; wheat slightly tough, 80 to 85c; sprouted or smutty, 70 to 85c, according to sample.

Peas—No. 2, per car lot, nominal, according to freight outside.

Barley—Good malting barley, 52 to 54c; feed barley, 43 to 45c, according to freight outside.

Backwheat—Car lots, nominal, according to freight outside.

Rye—No. 2, nominal, 75 to 78c, according to freight outside.

Manitoba flour—First patents, in jute bags, \$5.75; second patents, in jute bags, \$5.25; strong bakers', in jute bags, \$5.05, Toronto.

Ontario flour—New Winter, 90 per cent. patents, \$3.80, seaboard or Toronto freights in bags, prompt shipment.

Millfeed—Car lots, delivered Montreal freights—Bran, per ton, \$24; shorts, per ton, \$26; middlings, per ton, \$27; good feed flour, per bag, \$1.80.

Country Produce.

Butter—Fresh dairy, 25 to 27c; inferior, 22 to 23c; creamery prints, 29 to 30c; do., solids, 27 to 28½c.

Eggs—No. 1, 25 to 26c per dozen, in case lots; extra at 26 to 27c.

Honey—No. 1 light (wholesale), 10 to 11½c; do., retail, 12½ to 15c. Combs (wholesale), per dozen, No. 1, \$2.40; No. 2, \$1.50 to \$2.

Poultry—Spring chickens, 20c; fowl, 16 to 17c; chickens, 17 to 18c; turkeys, 22 to 24c.

Cheese—Large, 15 to 15½c; twins, 15½ to 15½c.

Potatoes—The market is quiet, with car lots quoted at 60c per bag on track.

Provisions.

Bacon, long clear, 14 to 14½c per lb. in case lots. Hams—Mediums, 18½ to 19c; do., heavy, 14½ to 15c; rolls, 15 to 16c; breakfast bacon, 20 to 22c; backs, plain, 23 to 24c; boneless backs, 25 to 25½c.

Lard—Tubs, 12½ to 12½c; do., pails, 12½ to 12½c; compound, tubs, 9½ to 10c; do., pails, 11½c.

Wholesale Hay Market.

Baled hay, new—No. 1, ton, \$15 to \$16.50; No. 2, ton, \$13 to \$14; baled straw, ton, \$6.50.

Business in Montreal.

Montreal, Sept. 27.—Corn, American No. 2 yellow, 87½ to 88c. Oats, extra No. 1 feed, 43½c; No. 2 local white, 42½c; No. 3 local white, 41½c. Flour, Man. Spring wheat patents, firsts, \$5.85; seconds, \$5.35; strong bakers', \$5.15; Winter patents, choice, \$5.50; straight rollers, \$4.80 to \$5; do., bags, \$2.25 to \$2.35. Rolled oats, barrels, \$5.25 to \$5.35; do., bags, 90 lbs., \$2.40 to \$2.45. Bran, \$2.50. Shorts, \$2.75. Middlings, \$2.75 to \$2.85. Meal, \$5.50 to \$5.75. Hay, No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$17 to \$18. Cheese, finest westerns, 15 to 15½c; finest easterns, 14½ to 14½c. Butter, choicest creamery, 30 to 30½c; seconds, 28½ to 29c. Eggs, choice, 33 to 34c; selected, 30c. No. 1 stock, 27 to 28c; No. 2 stock, 24c. Potatoes, per bag, car lots, 60c. Dressed hogs, abattoir killed, \$13.75 to \$14. Pork, heavy Canada short mess, blbs., 35 to 45 cents, \$28 to \$28.50; Canada short cut back, blbs., 45 to 55 cents, \$27 to \$27.50. Lard, compound, tierces, 37½ lbs., 10c; wood pails, 20 lbs. net, 10½c; pure, tierces, 37½ lbs., 11½ to 12c; wood pails, 20 lbs. net, 12½ to 13c.

U. S. Markets.

Minneapolis, Sept. 27.—Wheat—No. 1 hard, \$1.06½; No. 1 Northern, \$1.00½ to \$1.05½; No. 2 Northern, 97½ to \$1.02½; September, 98½c; December, 93c. Corn—No. 3 yellow, 70½ to 71½c; No. 2 white, 32½ to 33½c. Flour and bran unchanged.

Duluth, Sept. 27.—Wheat—No. 1 hard, \$1.03½; No. 1 Northern, \$1.00½; No. 2 Northern, \$1.00½; Montana No. 2, \$1.02½; September, \$1.00½; December, 93½c. Linseed—Cash, \$1.67½; September, \$1.67½; December, \$1.66½.

Live Stock Markets.

Toronto, Sept. 27.—The quotations were:—Best heavy steers, \$7.75 to \$8; butchers' cattle, choice, \$7.50 to \$7.65; do., good, \$7 to \$7.40; do.,



GENERAL JOFFRE.

medium, \$6.25 to \$6.75; do., common, \$5 to \$5.25; butchers' bulls, choice, \$6.25 to \$6.75; do., good bulls, \$5.75 to \$6; do., rough bulls, \$4.75 to \$5.25; butchers' cows, choice, \$6.45 to \$6.50; do., good, \$5.25 to \$6; do., medium, \$5 to \$5.75; do., common, \$4.50 to \$5; feeders, good, \$6.50 to \$7.25; stockers, 700 to 900 lbs., \$6.25 to \$7; canners and cutters, \$3.75 to \$5; milkers, choice, each, \$65 to \$100; do., common and medium, each, \$35 to \$50; Springers, \$50 to \$95; light ewes, \$5 to \$6; sheep, heavy, \$4.25 to \$4.75; do., bucks, \$3.50 to \$4.50; yearling lambs, cwt., \$7.75 to \$8.60; calves, medium to choice, \$7 to \$10.50; hogs, off cars, \$9.65 to \$10; do., fed and watered, \$9.50 to \$9.60; do., f.o.b., \$9.15 to \$9.25.

Montreal, Sept. 27.—Sales of good steers were made at \$7.25 to \$7.50; fair at \$6.25 to \$7; and common at \$4.75 to \$5.75. Butchers' cows, \$4.75 to \$6.75; and bulls from \$4.75 to \$6.50 per cwt. Canning stock, \$4.25 to \$4.35, and cows at \$3.25 to \$3.50 per cwt. Lambs, Ontario stock, \$7.75 to \$8, and Quebec at \$7 to \$7.25 per cwt. Sheep brought from \$4.50 to \$5.50 per cwt. Calves, \$5 to \$20 each, as to size and quality. Hogs, choice selected lots, \$9.65 to \$9.75, and rougher lots, \$9.25 to \$9.50 per cwt., weighed off cars.

ENTRANCE TO BALTIC IS MINED BY GERMANS

A despatch from Amsterdam says: A Berlin despatch received here says the German Government has announced that a new mine field will be laid south of the outlet to the Sound and that a pilot service will be established to enable neutral shipping to traverse the danger zone.

The Sound is the channel between the Danish Island of Seeland and Sweden which connects the Baltic with the Cattegat and the North Sea. The waterway formerly belonged to the Danish sovereigns, who for many years collected tolls from foreign vessels using it. In 1857, however, by a treaty with the commercial nations of Europe, the dues were abolished.

INVALID PRISONERS GO TO SWITZERLAND

A despatch from Geneva says: Consumptive prisoners to the number of 2,500 will shortly arrive from belligerent countries for asylum and treatment in Switzerland under an agreement recently reached between the Swiss Government and those of belligerent nations providing for the care of invalid prisoners under Swiss guard at the expense of the belligerents.

The British section of the sick prisoners will be sent to various places in Oberland, the French to Leysin and the German to St. Moritz.

ITALIANS SEIZE MOUNTAIN WHICH HAD LONG RESISTED

Removal of Austrian Garrison From Monte Coston Officially Admitted by Vienna

A despatch from London says: The loss of a mountain position on the Italian front is admitted in the official statement sent out from Vienna by the Austrian War Office. The garrison on Monte Coston, the communication says, evacuated the position as the result of an attack by "forces ten times their number." The mountain for some months had presented an awkward wedge in the Italian front, which now has been straightened.

Winter snows are already falling in the Alps, rendering still more perilous the work of the Italian and Austrian troops who are engaged in warfare in the mountainous region near the border.

A correspondent of the Gazette de Lausanne describes the recent battle for possession of the Austrian stronghold on top of Freikofel mountain, 9,000 feet high. The attack was made under most difficult conditions. The Austrians had prepared for an assault from the east. Two battalions of Italian Alpine troops made their way around the mountain and attacked the Austrians from the rear. To reach the summit they were compelled to scale the precipitous side of the mountain, clinging to ropes placed in position by mountaineers. The correspondent states that the Italians captured 250 Austrians and a large quantity of munitions.

NEW POSITIONS ARE FAVORABLE

Russians Have Formed Firm Front After Retreat From Vilna.

A despatch from Petrograd says: Experts with the staff say that the Russians in the course of the fighting during the successful retreat from the Vilna region inflicted terrible losses on the enemy, estimates of German casualties in this region running as high as 250,000. The new position on the front is altogether favorable. It extends from Oshmiani southward along the River Gawa and crosses the line from Molodechno-Lida near the station Gawa, 30 miles eastward of Lida, which is in the enemy's hands. Further it extends southward 15 miles and westward from Novo Grodok to Milovida and eastward to the Ozinski Canal.

The Russians are preventing the enemy from turning the Rivers Oljanka, Beresina and Dubovka, which at present are serious obstacles in the direction of Minsk. The Russian successes at Molodechno, Novo Wilek and Lebebevo show that they are entirely free to develop offensive operations between the upper Vilna and Eastern Dvina along the railway from Molodechno to Polotzk.

Russian officers admit that the new front in the Vilna region is warped and interrupted in places.

The region to the east of Lida and south of Molodechno is intersected by a multitude of rivulets. These are embarrassing the German advance, necessitating a detour northward, and consequently co-operation between the German group in the vicinity of Vilna and that near Lida will be difficult.

The Russians expect that the Germans contemplate a race for crossings of the Beresina River, particularly at Borissov, 38 miles north-east of Minsk, where Napoleon came to grief in 1812.

The Red Cross hospitals evacuated Vilna in good order. Two local hospitals, with 350 wounded, remained in the city, it being impossible to move them.

It is now clear, thanks to the skilful counter-attacks of Russian cavalry, that the Germans not only failed to envelop the Vilna troops, but have been compelled to break their line and undertake separate unconnected engagements.

At present the Russian disposition and locations between the railway from Vilna to Baranowitchi, Novo Wilek and Minsk will evidently compel the enemy to change its movement from eastward to northwestward.

MURDERED BY GERMAN.

Canadian Spared Life of Hun Who Shot Him in the Back.

A despatch from Lethbridge, Alta., says: That Captain Frank Pett, a Lethbridge officer, with the Tenth Battalion, was intentionally murdered by a wounded German on the field of battle at Ypres is now established by word from one of the soldiers with Captain Pett at the famous charge. Captain Pett, in the charge, came across a wounded enemy, who asked him to spare his life, which he did. When he turned to go the German shot him with his own rifle in the back.

CONSPIRACY TO CALL STRIKE OF AUSTRIANS

A despatch from Wheeling, W. Va., says: A movement to have all Austro-Hungarians quit the plants where they are employed making war munitions for the enemies of Austria was inaugurated here, and it was announced that a speaker representing a Cleveland society would address such workmen at Bridgeport, Ohio. Mill managers, fearing the men would walk out, arranged to have their places taken by workmen of other nationalities. Important contracts for shells are being filled by factories in the Wheeling district.

STEAMSHIP BLOWN UP AND ONE MAN KILLED

A despatch from London says: The British steamship Groningen, 983 tons gross, has been blown up. One member of the crew lost his life and several others were wounded.

The Dutch steamer Koningin Emma, of 9,000 tons, which struck a mine as she was on her way to Amsterdam from Batavia, Java, capsized and sank in the Thames. The 250 passengers had been previously taken off the Koningin Emma, which was being towed up the river when she sank.

QUEEN'S HOSPITAL BEST SENT TO EGYPT

A despatch from Kingston, Ont., says: Dean J. C. Connell has issued a statement regarding the work of Queen's Stationary Hospital at Cairo, Egypt. The opinion was expressed by the authorities in Egypt that Queen's Hospital was the best equipped that had arrived. It is the only hospital there with a laboratory and expert pathologist. The wards have been named after prominent Kingston and Queen's donors. There are 480 beds in the hospital, which is situated in the Abbassia cavalry barracks, built by Kitchener.

How the Submarines Get Victims

A despatch to the London Daily Telegraph from Copenhagen says: The Danish steamer Frode, which was sunk in the North Sea September 5, was sent to the bottom by a German submarine after a German sailor who boarded the steamer at Buenos Ayres by means of alleged false papers of Norwegian citizenship had been taken off by the submarine.

This testimony, the correspondent says, was adduced by the Danish marine court at an enquiry into the sinking of the Frode. When the steamer was halted by the submarine, according to the testimony, the sailor immediately declared himself a German and was transferred to the submarine. Later the Frode was torpedoed and two men were killed by the explosion.