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FOCH SENDS AMERICANS AND FRENCH OVER THE TOP IN THE CHAMPAGNE SECTOR

First Drive There Since Allies Took Offensive Success in New Thrust Fraught With Great Possibilities—British Continue to Gain in St. Quentin Region and in Flanders

Paris, Sept. 26.—French and American troops began a joint attack this morning on the Champagne front and in the region beyond it on the east, says today's war office statement. The statement says that the French attack was launched in the Champagne in co-operation with the American army, which is attacking farther to the east. Renewed German attacks north of the Aisne have been repulsed. At one point where the Germans gained a foothold upon the French positions, they were ejected by a counter-attack. In the region west of St. Quentin the enemy made an attempt yesterday afternoon to drive our forces from Lepine d'Alon. All his assaults were repulsed. Between the Ailette and the Aisne the day was marked by violent reactions by the enemy upon the plateau of Moisy Farm and in the region north of Allemant, where violent combats took place during the entire day. The enemy was not able to recover the ground gained by us during preceding days. He suffered heavy losses and left prisoners in our hands.

PROGRESSING FAVORABLY With the French Army in France, Sept. 26.—(By the Associated Press, 9 a.m.)—French troops today attacked in the Champagne in a thick fog after a period of artillery preparation which terminated in an hour of most intense drum-fire. The early indications were that the attack was progressing most favorably.

FURTHER BRITISH SUCCESS London, Sept. 26.—Northwest of St. Quentin English troops continued their pressure against the German defences and have captured enemy strong points in the neighborhood of Selency and Gricourt. Field Marshal Haig so reported today. In Flanders the British line has been likewise advanced, progress having been made in the sector north of La Bassée by English troops. A counter-attack here failed. North of Gricourt, on the St. Quentin sector, the British repulsed two German counter-attacks.

WHAT IT MEANS The Franco-American attack on the Champagne front is the first Allied thrust made on that sector since March 1918. The logical result in July and August has been driving the Germans back to the Hindenburg line from Arras to Laon.

A drive northward in Champagne threatens the communication lines in the rear of the Hindenburg defences system, where the Germans are struggling to keep the British and French from breaking through. While the length of the front of attack is not disclosed it is probable that it extends a good part of the distance from Rheims to Verdun and probably beyond. Military critics have pointed out that the Champagne front was the logical place where an Allied effort intended to destroy the effectiveness of the Hindenburg line could be made. For some distance east of Rheims the terrain is fairly level and open and an advance of some distance here would outflank Laon and possibly St. Quentin. More important still such an advance would sever the communication line eastward from Laon, the pivot of the German defences between Rheims and Trier. An Allied break through in the west into two groups. There has been rather lively raiding activity by the last two weeks and some military commentators have felt that these were the forerunners of greater activity.

WHAT AUGUST VISIT OF U-BOAT COST IN MATTER OF FISHERIES Ottawa, Sept. 26.—Canadian fisheries suffered a material loss through the activities of a German submarine operating off the Atlantic coast during August. The monthly statement issued from the department naval service shows that nine vessels from Lunenburg county, N. S., valued at \$264,000, and laden with fish worth \$185,000, were sunk. One Yarmouth vessel with a good catch of fish also fell prey. Notwithstanding its great loss, the quantity of cod landed by the Lunenburg fleet during August was only 4,800 cwt. less than during the same month last year.

FIRE CALL An alarm was rung in early this afternoon from box 18 for a slight fire on the roof of a building in the rear of Brussels street. The damage done was very slight.

MADE A STAND AT MOUNT CARMEL

Few Hundred Turks Then Finally Driven Out

GERMANS AMONG PRISONERS Administration at Haifa Taken Over Without Trouble—Allen by a Booby Enormous—Problem What to do With Prisoners

With the British Army Headquarters in Palestine, Sept. 24, via London, Sept. 24.—(Canadian Press despatch from Reuter's Limited)—A few hundred Turks left behind at Haifa resisted our advance, taking advantage of the configuration of the ground with a marsh on one side and Mount Carmel on the other, but were finally driven out. The population gave our men the most enthusiastic reception ever known in the country. These Germans are mostly quiet emigrants from Wurtemberg who came to Palestine on conscientious grounds. They complain bitterly of the Turkish exactions and the lack of security. Their settlement was one of the most successful in Palestine. (Continued on page 2, first column)

LARGE QUESTIONS AT METHODIST CONFERENCE

Quadrennial Session to Be Held in Hamilton Next Week

Toronto, Sept. 26.—Questions of great national, social and religious importance are on the programme for consideration at the quadrennial session of the Methodist conference, which will be held in Hamilton on October 5, at the quadrennial session of the Methodist general conference of the Dominion of Canada. In the opinion of Rev. Dr. S. D. Chown, superintendent of the Methodist church in Canada and president of the conference, the session will be one of the most important in the history of the denomination. The reports of the various committees and the after-the-war problems to be discussed, while the question of church union, insofar as the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational churches in Canada are concerned, has been practically shelved till after the war, by the action of the supreme council, Scottish rite, southern jurisdiction, in convention here. The resolution states that "German terms of peace shall not be considered by Masons, because it is an inconclusive peace. Only terms of peace insuring a lasting peace, such as the American proposals shall be given consideration." The resolution explains that the Masons have nothing of the German schemes to use the order for peace propaganda last August.

HOME FROM TORONTO Rev. Charles Armstrong, rector of Trinity, and Charles Coster of West End returned today after attending the Anglican general synod meetings in Toronto. There were six lay and six clerical delegates to the synod from St. John.

EXPECTS TO GO TO SIBERIA The Kenneth G. Shillington of Silver Falls, who has been home for six weeks on harvest leave, has returned to his station at Sussex. He expects to be transferred to the mounted Siberian force.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service. Synopsis.—The barometer remains high over Canada, except in eastern Ontario, where an area of low pressure is developing. The weather is fair throughout the Dominion, moderately warm in the western provinces, and unseasonably cool in Ontario and Quebec. Forecasts. Lakes and Georgian Bay.—Fresh to strong north to northwest winds, mostly fair, frost tonight; Friday, fair and very cool. Upper St. Lawrence and Ottawa Valley and Lower St. Lawrence.—Fresh to strong northeast winds, very cool and showery today and on Friday. Gulf and North Shore.—Fair and cool Friday, increasing northeast winds.

Martime.—Moderate winds, fine and cool today; Friday, easterly gales with rain. Superior.—Northerly winds, fair and cool today and Friday; tonight frost. Western Provinces.—Fine and moderately warm. New England.—Rain tonight, except in an extreme western portion; cooler in Connecticut and Western Massachusetts; Friday, fair, cooler, fresh shifting winds, becoming west and north-west.



British troops being made in Romania to free the country from Bolshevik rule.

British Troops Smash A Way Into Bulgaria

Invasion of Enemy Territory COMMUNICATIONS CUT

First Bulgarian Army Isolated and in Danger—Further Success of Serbians in The Macedonian Campaign

Saloniki, Sept. 26.—Bulgaria has been invaded by Allied troops, according to a British official statement issued here today. British troops entered Bulgarian territory opposite Kosturbo, about six miles south of Strumitza, the enemy base in the region. London, Sept. 26.—Reports in official quarters here indicate that the Greek-Veloz road has been cut at Larva, isolating the first Bulgarian army from its main line of communication and placing it in a precarious position. The first army is on the Allied left. It is not believed, however, that the first army would be able to advance against it from the south must pass over extremely rough country before they can get in contact with it. It is believed that the first army, which is commanded by General Geshov, will be forced to attempt a retreat westward into the mountains. The country is very rough and it would be impossible to transport supplies. The matter of food supplies would also be difficult to arrange. The reports indicated that the Serbians have made important gains in the Balkans. The Serbians are in contact with the Allied force for Uskub. Near Idritze London, Sept. 26.—Serbian troops reached the outskirts of Idritze, an important Bulgarian base on Tuesday, says a Serbian official statement dated Wednesday. Elsewhere east of the Vardar the Serbians have made important gains. The Serbians also have captured Gradsko station, southeast of Uskub. It is believed that the Serbians are pursuing the Bulgarians, who are in complete retreat, and are approaching Idritze midway between Prilep and Vele. On the right wing, French, British and Greek troops have launched strong advance guards northward along the Vardar towards Graditsa and Idritza. They have taken the Maslov Karabell north of Lake Dolina. Booby captured is being augmented incessantly. On September 25, more than thirty new cannon were captured and also a large amount of railway material.

SEIZE LIQUOR OF \$25,000 VALUE, WAS GOING AS PICKLES

North Bay, Ont., Sept. 26.—A valuable lot of liquor, valued at \$25,000, was seized by the T. & N. O. Railway, when a car consigned to a Winnipeg firm from Montreal was stopped by the railway. The liquor was found to contain instead of pickles a cargo of liquor valued at \$25,000. This is one of the largest hauls yet made.

SPANISH INFLUENZA IN MONTREAL SCHOOLS

Montreal, Sept. 26.—An outbreak of Spanish influenza has occurred among school children in Montreal. So far only a few cases have been reported and these have all been isolated. St. John, Que., Sept. 26.—In the epidemic of Spanish influenza that has broken out in the barracks here where the Canadian Engineers training depot is located, already 844 cases are reported, according to Major General E. W. Wilson, among the 2,800 men stationed here. Two deaths have occurred and other patients are in a serious condition. Yesterday 800 hospital cots were sent to St. John, C. and nurses from various sources. The whole barracks are under quarantine and special hospital arrangements have been made to care for the men attacked. Syracuse, N. Y., Sept. 25.—Nine soldiers and one nurse at the Syracuse recruit camp died today from influenza. One hundred and twelve cases were taken to hospitals.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY OF ALBERTA RESIGNS

Edmonton, Sept. 26.—Hon. Wilfrid Garfield, for some years minister of municipal affairs in the Alberta cabinet, and in the recent changes made provincial secretary, has resigned. He says his reasons are those of business. He will still retain his seat in the legislature.

A NICE GAIN

St. John bank clearings for the week ending today were \$2,222,064; corresponding week last year, \$1,907,189; corresponding week 1916, \$1,784,564.

H. COLBY SMITH ON STAND THIS MORNING

PRINCE CHARLES WILL NOT GIVE UP HIS BRIDE

Roumanian King Incessant But All To No Effect

Charles Says Thrones Are Unstable These Days Anyway and He is Not Troubled About His Chance for Succession

Amsterdam, Sept. 26.—In answer to pleas that he desert his bride of humble birth, Crown Prince Charles of Roumania has replied that thrones are so unstable nowadays that he preferred the certainty of having the wife he wanted to the chance of losing the succession. The escape of the crown prince in London, Sept. 26.—In answer to pleas that he desert his bride of humble birth, Crown Prince Charles of Roumania has replied that thrones are so unstable nowadays that he preferred the certainty of having the wife he wanted to the chance of losing the succession. The escape of the crown prince in London, Sept. 26.—In answer to pleas that he desert his bride of humble birth, Crown Prince Charles of Roumania has replied that thrones are so unstable nowadays that he preferred the certainty of having the wife he wanted to the chance of losing the succession.

FERDINAND IN FEAR OF INVASION

Bulgar King Calls on Mackensen to Take Command SUCCESS IS WONDERFUL

Paris, Sept. 26.—Fresh dispositions made by General Franchet d'Esperey, the belief that there will be an energetic exploitation of the great inter-Allied victory in Macedonia, says March Hutin, editor of the Echo de Paris. King Ferdinand of Bulgaria has asked General Mackensen, who is now in Bucharest, to take the command of his armies so as to block the advance of the Allies in old Serbia and preserve Bulgaria from invasion, according to information received here from Switzerland. Serbian Capital. Paris, Sept. 25.—(Havas Agency)—Monastir or Prilep will become the seat of the Serbian government so soon as the Allied lines north of these cities have been definitely established, according to Dr. M. R. Veschnik, Serbian minister to France. (Continued on page 2, seventh column)

ANOTHER BOOZE HUNT TODAY SUCCESSFUL

Once again Sub-Inspectors McAlish and Gillett have made a liquor haul at the train. Today when the Montreal express pulled into the depot these officers tapped two young men on the shoulder and escorted them to the baggage room where their heavily laden suitcases were inspected, and thence to the police court by taxi. When the suitcases were unpacked in the guard room an array of thirteen bottles of gin and rye whiskey were uncovered. The young men gave their names as Freeman Campbell and two young men on the train. The men were returning from the Islander had six of the bottles. Sub-Inspector McAlish laid a charge of importing liquor into this prohibited area and for having it in possession. The case is proceeding this afternoon before the magistrate.

GERMAN PAPERS BEGIN TO ADMIT IT

London, Sept. 26.—(Canadian Press despatch from Reuter's Limited)—A despatch from Amsterdam says that the German papers in Macedonia and Palestine have greatly alarmed the Frankfurter Zeitung, which cannot refrain from paying tribute to the enemy's strategic skill and says: "Especially the English show themselves again as masters of colonial warfare." The paper also admits that the point of the break through in Macedonia is the most cleverly chosen. It urges the Central Powers to tackle the problem of defense as "the enemy has caused as serious military damage."

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GOOD SIGN IN RUSSIAN NEWS

Washington, Sept. 25.—A hopeful sign from Russia came today in news reaching the state department that the government of the north in Archangel had notified the pan-Russian conference now in session at Ufa of its acceptance of its plan to set up a new constituent assembly as the general governing authority. Through this conference officials here believe a long step may be taken towards solving the internal troubles for Russia.

ST. JOHN PARENTS RECEIVE WORD WHILE VISITING IN MARYSVILLE

Fredrick, Sept. 26.—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Yeomans of St. John, formerly residents of Marysville, were notified this morning while visiting friends that their son, Gunner Lloyd Yeomans, had been admitted to hospital in France, wounded in the head, leg, arm and hand. He was with the artillery. Mrs. John Parsons of this city has word that her son, Private Edward Parsons, has been wounded a second time. The wound is slight. His brothers William and John were killed in action. Private Parsons went overseas with the 50th Battalion. He is a son of Sgt. John Parsons of the military police here.

COMPEN THEM TO TAKE SHARE IN WAR LOAN

Melbourne, Australia, Sept. 26.—(Canadian Press despatch from Reuter's Limited)—The Hon. W. A. Watt, acting premier of Australia, announced in the house of representatives yesterday that the following measures would be introduced: Housing of returned soldiers; a modified form of voting by post-co-ordination of federal and state electoral machinery; equitable contributions to war loans according to individual means; and the legalizing of agreements with men's unions in reference to piece work in government shipbuilding yards.

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