

PERONNE OPEN TO FRENCH ATTACK AFTER LATEST GAIN; RUSSIANS POUR ACROSS STOKHOD IN ADVANCE ON KOVEL

French Are Much Nearer Peronne With Capture Of Hill and Village

Paris, July 10.—In a brilliant attack the French have carried Hill 97, a height which dominates the Somme southeast of Blaches, according to the official statement issued by the French war office tonight.

The text of the statement follows: "North of the Somme, the day passed quietly. South of the river we made some progress in the region between Blaches and Barleux. In the neighborhood of Blaches we captured a field fort where a detachment of the enemy still maintained themselves. We took 113 prisoners, of which ten were officers.

"Southeast of Blaches a brilliant attack enabled us to capture Hill 97, a height which dominates the river and had been strongly held by the enemy.

"We also took La Maisonnette Farm and a little wood to the north of La Maisonnette. Some of the enemy still hold out in a redoubt at the extremity of this wood.

"On the front of Verdun the enemy artillery violently bombarded our positions in the region of Froide Terre, Fleury and the Fumin woods. Our batteries replied energetically. There was no event of importance on the rest of this front.

"Our aviators attacked a number of German machines yesterday in the region of the Somme. Four of the enemy aircraft were driven down within their own lines. Last night one of our air squadrons threw a number of shells on the railroad station at Ham and Poincourt."

The Belgian communication:

"There were lively artillery actions at different points of the front, particularly to the north of Dixmude and toward Boesinghe."

VILLAGE A FORTRESS; WON IN 90 MINUTES.

Paris, July 10.—The taking by the French of the Blaches village, on the bank of the Somme opposite Ste. Radegonde, the principal suburb of Peronne, was accomplished in about an hour and a half. A French lieutenant, who took part in the assault, described the action as follows:

"About noon word came for the divisions to keep ready and at one o'clock the front from Sormont Farm to Bellefleur-Somme."

"The first German line was passed almost without fighting, so effective had the preparatory bombardment been, but when we entered Blaches at 2.10 o'clock we found every house organized as a fort and supplied with a number of machine guns. Our artillery, however, by its accuracy and power, destroyed these defenses, though it still left cellars and caves full of enemies."

"As we entered the village, the commandant, who was at the head of a battalion with rifle in hand, ordered the trumpeters to sound the charge. All the Germans in the village were captured or killed. The commandant was wounded by a shot from a lieutenant's revolver, but he knocked down the lieutenant with a blow from his rifle."

"At 2.35 the village was completely in our possession, although a remnant German order had declared it to be 'impregnable.' We are now less than two kilometers (one and one-half miles) from Peronne."

Only Opening Phase.

The recent fighting on the French front, in the Somme sector, is only the opening phase of a plan elaborately made by General Joffre, according to the newspapers the plan which is being executed by General Joffre. It must be understood that the operations cannot be carried out in a rigid and invariable form. Napoleon himself never entertained such ideas. His plans were dominated by one chief purpose, and were in a state of continuous evolution. He modified them after observing the movements of the enemy.

"Our operations have begun and begun well, and it is unnecessary to seek to foretell what will follow. On the immense front where the French are in contact with the enemy the developments will be evolutionary. Without reviving aside his main purpose the French commander may modify his first intentions."

Kaiser's Physician Dead.

London, July 10.—An Amsterdam despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company says that Dr. Frederick W. K. Von Liebig died in Berlin Sunday. Dr. Von Liebig had the special care of the throat affection from which the German emperor has suffered for many years, and was the emperor's most intimate friend.

(Continued on page 8.)

NO CASUALTIES.

London, July 10, 8.45 p. m.—Official announcement was made today that no casualties were caused by the bombs dropped by the German aeroplanes which visited the southeastern coast of England last night.

NORTH PERTH CHANGES TORY MAJORITY OF 1117 TO LIBERAL LEAD OF 573

Stratford, Ont., July 10.—F. Wellington Hay, grain dealer, of Listowel, Liberal, won North Perth for the Liberal side of the Ontario legislature in the election today, when he defeated the Conservative candidate, John A. Makins, farmer, of North East Hope, by a majority of 573. North Perth gave a Conservative majority of 1,117 in 1914, when James Torrance, of Milverton, was elected.

The vacancy in the riding was due to the appointment of James Torrance, M. L. A., customs collector at Stratford.

Stokhod No Bar to Russian Progress



This map indicates the scene of the present great Russian drive, which is sweeping back not only the Austrians, but the Austro-German army, and the German forces as well.

Petrograd, July 10, via London.—The Russian forces advancing in Volhynia towards Kovel are crossing the River Stokhod at various points, closely pressing the Austro-German forces opposing them, says today's war office statement.

The passage of the river is being accomplished under serious difficulties. The official communication says that the crossings of the river have in most cases been destroyed by the opposing armies.

"Throughout the whole line, on both sides of the front, aviators made numerous flights. In the region of the Choubinsky Canal, east of the confluence of the Niemen and the Beresina, our artillery brought down a German aeroplane. The pilot and mechanic were made prisoner. A group of at least ten aeroplanes attacked Moldech and dropped forty bombs which set the hay on fire."

"Near the villages of Svidniki, Slary Mossor and Nory Mosen, on the left bank of the Stokhod, lively fighting is proceeding. We took German prisoners at these points. Between Kiselin and Zublin the enemy attempted a surprise attack but was put to flight."

20,000 Taken Here.

"The total number of prisoners taken by General Kaledines from July 4 to July 8 is 841 officers and 9,148 unarmoured soldiers. He also captured a number of pieces of artillery, forty-eight machine guns, sixteen bomb throwers, 7,390 rifles, sixty-two limbers and depots of engineering materials. These figures must be added to those given in the communication of July 6, which included 300 officers, 12,000 men and forty-five pieces of artillery."

"On the Galician front there was a particularly intense artillery action on both banks of the Dniester. In the Divina sector the enemy undertook an offensive southeast of Lake Swenon, but was repulsed and thrown back into his trenches."

"East of Baranovichi, in the region of the village of Odochawski, the Germans launched a counter-attack which broke down, under our artillery and infantry fire."

"According to later reports regarding the crossing of the Stokhod at Ugli, chief credit for the exploit must go to Colonel Kautersoff, commander of the Pavlovo regiment, and a cavalry of the Order of St. George. Colonel Kautersoff, rushing forward at the head of his advancing guards, led them across a burning bridge under violent artillery and rifle fire."

"After we had successfully crossed the Stokhod the enemy rallied and made desperate efforts to maintain his positions on the left bank of the river. The fighting is continuing."

Hospital Convoys Attacked.

"In the region of the village of Ivanovka, in the Divina region, enemy air squadrons dropped seventy bombs on our hospital convoys. Two sisters of charity and one Red Cross delegate were wounded."

"There were artillery duels on the Volhynia and Galician fronts. The enemy bombarded violently our positions at Glodki and Tschernova."

"In the Baltic one of our submarines, in the course of its usual cruise, sank a large German steamer loaded with iron ore in the Gulf of Bothnia."

"Caucasus fronts. We are continuing progress west of Platana. In the direction of Gumenian our scouts bayoneted a large number of Turks. South of the Taurus we successfully advanced and captured an important mountain peak and an entire line of heights which the

COALITION CABINET STANDING BEHIND HOME RULE BILL

Immediate Enactment With Exclusion of Six Counties and Three Boroughs

BEFORE PARLIAMENT EARLY NEXT WEEK

Premier Asquith Outlines Provisions as Announced and Pleads for Harmonious Action During War—Ulster Not Included Without Consent.

London, July 10.—Announcement was made in the house of commons today by Premier Asquith that the bill for the establishment of a government for Ireland on the lines agreed to by the Nationalists and Unionists would be submitted to parliament next week and that the coalition cabinet, in which there have been dissensions over the proposals, would stand sponsor for the measure and recommend its acceptance.

The bill will follow the lines which have been generally accepted, the provision for the exclusion of six Ulster counties.

Military and naval forces remain under the control of the imperial parliament and judges of the appeal court at Dublin, establishment of which becomes necessary, will be appointed by the imperial government.

Mr. Asquith stated no specific proposals had been received from the Unionists of southwest Ireland, who are supposed to be opposed to the settlement, but he said any suggestions from them would be considered carefully. He made the important admission that only the six Ulster counties, thus uniting the whole of Ireland under the home rule government, could be accomplished only by the free will and assent of those counties.

Twelve Months After War.

Premier Asquith, in explaining the Irish agreement in the house of commons this afternoon, said that it was proposed that the bill should remain in force during the war and twelve months thereafter, and if parliament had not made further provision by that time for a government of Ireland the period could be extended.

Representatives of the imperial executive, the prime minister said, would have control of the defense of the realm act. Mr. Asquith said the new bill would contain general provisions, reserving for the exclusive authority of the imperial parliament and government not only the navy and the army, but all matters arising out of the war.

He emphasized that there was no intention on the part of those who might be associated with the government of Ireland to encroach in any way in order to a successful prosecution of the war.

"We have here," the premier said, "an arrangement such as never was possible before, and he appealed to the members of the house to take advantage of the opportunity which might never recur."

There were features in the settlement plan, Mr. Asquith said, which none would have chosen voluntarily, and as a result there had been some misunderstanding in the cabinet. In view of the agreement reached in Ireland and the importance of unity, the ministers were willing to share the responsibility of submitting the proposals to parliament and recommending their acceptance.

War Forces Issue.

"The dominating factor," Mr. Asquith said, "which made us all willing to accept parties or sponsors to this measure is the war."

In a few sentences the premier referred to the part which the Ulster and other Irish regiments had taken in the fighting. And added:

"There is no patriotic Irishman but has felt these common sacrifices have created a new bond between them and us."

While not going into details, the premier indicated the main lines of the agreement, including the exclusion of six Ulster counties. He said the Irish parliament would be composed of the members at present returned to the imperial parliament, while the appeal court in Dublin would be appointed by the imperial executive. The government, Mr. Asquith said, had not received any specific proposals from the Unionists in southwest Ireland, but such proposals would receive careful and sympathetic consideration.

The premier explained that the bill was a provisional one; but he saw all sorts of possibilities in regard to that expression.

"I believe all possible doubt on that point," he continued, "let me say, speaking for those who like myself look forward and are anxious for a united Ireland, that we recognize and agree that such union can only be brought about with the free will and assent of the excluded area."

Mr. Asquith recalled his visit to Ireland, which he said was made to ascertain whether the Irish parties might not be disposed to come to an agreement. As a result of what he learned, David Lloyd George was deputed to open negotiations. Lloyd George quickly discovered (Continued on page 8.)

SIXTH ATTACK WINS TRONES WOOD BACK

Germans Do Not Spare Men in Effort to Stem Tide of British Advance

Further West British Have Gained Foothold in Mametz Wood and Advanced East of Ovillers and Laboisselle—Berlin Looks for Extension of Allied Offensive.

London, July 10.—After the sixth desperate attack this afternoon, the Germans succeeded in entering Trones Wood, according to the British official statement issued tonight. This was at the expense of very heavy casualties, the statement adds, and the fighting in the wood continues.

The text of the statement reads: "This afternoon, after the sixth desperate attack, the Germans succeeded in entering Trones Wood, at the expense of very heavy casualties. The fighting in the wood continues."

"Further west we gained lodgment in the Mametz Wood, where the enemy's defense hitherto had resisted all our efforts. We also gained ground east of Ovillers and La Boisselle."

"Yesterday the Royal Flying Corps operated several successful bombing attacks against various detaining centres, ammunition depots and aerodromes. Numerous combats occurred in the air, as a result of which one German machine was destroyed and several others were driven to the ground in a damaged condition."

Germans Claim Barleux.

Berlin, July 10, via London, 4.52 p. m.—The text of today's statement follows: "Western theatre: On both sides of the Somme fighting continues. Our troops repeatedly repulsed the enemy to his storming positions and wherever as the result of his closely following waves of attack they temporarily were forced to yield ground, we quickly ejected him by counter-attacks."

"The Bois Des Trones, for instance, which had been penetrated by the English, and the farm Lamalolette and the village of Barleux, which had been stormed by the French, were reconquered and consolidated against the enemy. At Ovillers there was uninterrupted hand-to-hand fighting."

"The French obtained a lodgment in the village of Blaches.

"Between Barleux and Bellefleur our aviators attacked continually broke down with the greatest losses. Further to the west they were prevented by our barrage fire from leaving their trenches."

"Between the sea and the Ancre and also on the line of the Champagne and east of the Meuse artillery battles were revived from time to time."

"Infantry encounters took place west of Warmonet, east of Armentieres, in the region of Tahure (Champagne) and on the western edge of the Argonne, where French detachments were repulsed. Near Hulloch, Giverny and Vauquois we caused successful mine explosions."

"There was very lively aerial activity on both sides. Our aviators shot down five enemy aeroplanes, one near Nancy, two near Cambrai, two near Champagne and two captive balloons, one on the Somme and the other on the Meuse."

"Senior Lieutenants Walz and Gerliet have put out of action their fourth opponent; Lieut. Lefter his fifth and Lieut. Panchard his eighth. The emperor has bestowed upon the last named the Order Le Merite."

Is Berlin Satisfied?

Berlin, via London, July 10.—German correspondents on the western front, telegraphing Sunday, agree in reporting that the great offensive is virtually at a standstill. They also assert that it achieved no results of practical importance in the week it lasted, and that what gains were made were quite out of proportion to the losses suffered."

The correspondent of the Lokal Anzeiger telegraphs:

"The offensive has been at a standstill for the last three days, and is shattering itself into a bitter game of cat and mouse on the wall of our second lines. Our defending forces have damned up the advance of the enemy in a basin, and they are unable to unite for sufficient time to enlarge the borders of the basin to any extent worth noting."

The correspondent of the Vossische Zeitung reports that the first week of the offensive "has not brought the enemy any nearer his goal." He intimates the possibility of an extension of the Allies' efforts, saying:

"All kinds of signs point to the possibility of an extension of the front on which the offensive is taking place. Demonstrations by the Allies continue at La Bassée, Lens, on the Alsace and in the Bois De Prete. Places far behind our front are being bombarded, and

Paris, July 10.—Artillery activity along the Macedonian front is reported in a Havas despatch today from Saloniki. An artillery duel occurred yesterday along the French lines in the region of Killindier.

French aeroplanes have raided Monastir and have thrown bombs on the military depots and camps at Petrich and on Port Dupel.

TANGA, SECOND PORT IN EAST AFRICA, CAPTURED

General Smuts Pushes Forces Along Coast to Terminus of Railroad Running Into Interior of Germany's Last Colony

London, July 10.—General Smuts, in command of the British forces in German East Africa, has occupied Tanga, according to a statement issued by the war office today. The Germans only offered slight resistance.

Tanga is the second most important port on the coast of German East Africa, and is the terminus of a railroad which the Germans were building into the interior at the outbreak of the war.

War Summary

London, July 10.—On both eastern and western fronts heavy fighting persists. This is especially the case on the western front, where the struggle is not without fluctuations of fortune, and brings to mind the warnings of the correspondents from the western front that steady, methodical pressure, rather than brilliant advances, must be expected.

The British official statement tonight says that the Germans have entered Trones Wood, but records further British progress east of Ovillers and La Boisselle, in addition to a footing secured in the Mametz Wood, where heretofore the Germans had resisted all the British efforts.

The German official communication admits French possession of Blaches, only a short distance from Peronne, which town is thus seriously exposed and threatened.

On the eastern front the Russians have crossed the Stokhod river at many points.

German war correspondents are already claiming that the allied offensive has been brought to a standstill. The correspondent of the Berlin Tageblatt, with the Austrian army, testifies to the inexhaustible supply of Russian troops, the great efficiency of the Russian artillery and cavalry, and the endless supplies of ammunition, as in great contrast to the condition of the Russian forces last year. The Germans are continuing their strong attacks along the Russian front, but the view is held here that this is only with the object of gaining time to perfect the defenses of Kovel and Vladimir-Volynski, and to remove large stocks of military material from these points to Brest-Litovsk and Ivangorod.

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