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TEN PAGES—ONE CENT

Russians and Roumanians Continue To Retreat

Petrograd, Oct. 25.—The Russian and Roumanian troops in Dobruja are continuing to retreat, so the war office announced today. They are offering stubborn resistance to Field Marshal Von Mackensen's army.

The Russian command, anticipating the German move, threw a large body of troops to this part of the front, causing, according to official accounts, a withdrawal of the Russian and Roumanian forces preventing further Russian advance to her new ally and regaining Bukovina, has apparently broken down before the counter-maneuvres of the Russians.

Paris, Oct. 25.—Desperate fighting in the bend of the Cerna on the Macedonian front has resulted favorably to the Entente forces, according to today's announcement. The Bulgarians counter-attacked in strong force but were defeated by the Serbians, who inflicted heavy losses on the attacking troops.

Roumanians Lost Fort. Berlin, Oct. 25.—The capture of the Roumanian fort of Constantza has been announced by the German press. The fort was captured by the Germans. The war office announced this today.

New German Troops. Saloniki, Oct. 25.—Serbian army headquarters gave out the following today: On October 21 there was nothing of importance on the Serbian front. We have identified fresh German units, which have appeared in the Cerna sector.

Further Gain By French. Paris, Oct. 23.—French troops in the Somme region have fought their way forward in the neighborhood of Sailly-Saillis, capturing the entire spur No. 128, northwest of the village. The War Office announced this today.

London, Oct. 23.—During the night there was considerable enemy shelling against our front between Le Sars and Guendecourt, says the official announcement today.

Our troops now occupy the line up on the two mine craters formed by the enemy yesterday at the bluff (south of Ypres) and are satisfactorily established in their positions.

AIM MEN AGAIN DO GOOD WORK. Paris, Oct. 25.—Four tons of projectiles have been dropped by a squadron of twenty-four machines on about five hundred houses in Metz and on the Metz and Thionville stations. Hits were secured on all the objectives.

Success in Egypt. London, Oct. 23.—Successful operations by British camel corps on the Egyptian western frontier have resulted in the clearing of hostile forces from large areas and the capture of some 115 prisoners, says an official statement on operations in connection with one of the camel detachments.

Paris, Oct. 25.—The Radical Party which aggregates nearly one-third of the present chamber of deputies, held yesterday its first congress in Paris. Resolutions were adopted affirming that the public entered into the conflict against its will, and that it is its duty to bring the struggle to a complete triumph over the allied armistice.

BRITISH HAVE NOT LOST SINGLE GUNMAN ALL THE SOMME FIGHTING

Have Driven Back Enemy Four to Eight Miles on 11-Mile Front

CASUALTIES REDUCED. As Push Develops German Losses Far Outnumber Those of Haig's Army—Morale of Khaki Force Excellent—The Drive Revised

Copyright, 1916, by the Associated Press. British Front in France, Oct. 23.—More than three and one-half months of battle on the Somme with the heaviest concentration of artillery, infantry and every type of war material, and the most skillful and tenacious fighting the world has ever known, has resulted in marked development of British fighting efficiency for reducing the losses of the attackers.

In a little less than 1,500 for each of the twenty-one villages captured, with an average population of about 500 souls. They have taken 125 guns, 100 trench mortars and trench guns, and 429 machine guns. They have not lost a gun.

The task of the British was made especially difficult by the fact that they were confronted at the outset with a most powerful line of trench fortifications. Moreover, every village was a fortress which had to be besieged and stormed. The British have driven back the Germans on a front of eleven miles to a depth of four to eight miles.

When spring comes peasants will plow and seed ground behind the lines, which for two years had lain fallow under the glare of shells. In Frecourt and Mamez, villages, taken on July 1, trees with their trunks torn and their foliage broken by shelling, are now again green with fresh shoots, while fresh crops of grass are hiding the shell craters in neighboring fields.

Our Losses Reduced. The offensive has consisted of intervals of preparation and siege work, each big general attack, to prepare what is called a "jumping off" place for another general attack. Through July and August, through August, when a large part of the front, the Germans were out of their second line of defense, and the British were digging and fighting in the open for two weeks, casualties were about even. As the British captured villages, their exposure necessarily was greater. Yet, from all information the correspondent can gain, both from British officers and from German prisoners, the German losses are less than those of the British.

This contraction of the previously accepted idea of a higher ratio of casualties for the British, which is usually considered as necessarily not less than two to one, is due, according to the British officers, to the superior quality of the British shell fire, the number of British aeroplanes, the increased skill of the British soldiers and the use of tanks.

The British staff did not place much reliance on these new contrivances, which aroused such world-wide interest, but regarded them as an experiment which might fail altogether. There are only one of the inventions aiding the offensive against modern fortifications, which will be used next spring when the British are fully prepared. Calculations as to the value of the tanks are hard to make, but taking the average opinion of experts at the front, these weird new motor cars have saved a loss of 20,000 men, or more than a full division, in the reduction of strong points and machine gun positions.

The offensive of every step proved that no army can have too many guns which will kill and demoralize an enemy with projectiles fired from a distance from anywhere from 2,000 to 20,000 yards. The great value has also been proved in portable machine guns manned by skilled and cunning soldiers. Men posted in shell craters with these weapons have a formidable power whether their side is being on the defensive or offensive.

The Morale. Not in ground gained or prisoners of guns taken does opinion at the front lay most emphasis after nearly four months of incessant fighting, every day bringing its lesson. Officers are always using the word morale, which means the spirit and team play an army puts into its work. It is the thing which at the end of the tenth round of a twenty round fight, when both pugilists are still standing up well to each other, indicates the winner. The British, after nearly two years of stalling, have been fighting week after week on soil taken from their foes. Thus the British morale has become the morale of attack. This offensive has been the school of war with death as tutor. An one staff officer said, "If we had July 1 to do over again, we should think things from us."



REV. M.E. FLETCHER WATER PRESSURE HAS PASSED AWAY

City Shocked by News of Death of Baptist Minister—Two Sons in Khaki in France

The community was shocked today when it became known that Rev. M.E. Fletcher, one of the best known ministers of the Baptist denomination here, had passed away after a brief illness. He had been in his usual health until a few weeks ago when trouble with his throat began. A slight operation was performed by a local physician. The operation did not afford him full relief and he was advised to travel to Boston and consult a specialist. He procured a ticket and sailed on the Eastern Steamship line, but was unable to take passage as his health became worse. His wife, Mrs. Fletcher, was in the hospital Sunday when an acute type of bronchitis set in and death resulted this morning at his apartments in Ten Eyck Hall, Union street.

Rev. Mr. Fletcher was a native of England and was ordained to the ministry in 1883. He served as a missionary for some years in Burma, India, after which he came to Canada in 1890 and was appointed pastor of the Baptist church in Harvey, Albert county. In 1893 he moved to St. George, Charlotte county, where he remained until 1907 when he came to St. John as pastor of the Charlotte street Baptist church in West St. John. After three years he resigned the pastorate and was appointed field secretary for the board of missions in Brussels to six years' imprisonment at hard labor. He is sixty years of age, and has been a member of St. Dunstan's congregation during the time he was in Fredericton as a student. Upwards of forty Catholic members of the fallen hero, who was a member of St. Dunstan's congregation during the time he was in Fredericton as a student. Upwards of forty Catholic members of the fallen hero, who was a member of St. Dunstan's congregation during the time he was in Fredericton as a student.

Prayers were offered in St. Dunstan's church yesterday morning for the late Gunner Thomas J. Gorman. Rev. F. L. Carney, the pastor, paid a glowing tribute to the worth of Gunner Gorman as a man, dwelling at some length on the sterling qualities of the fallen hero, who was a member of St. Dunstan's congregation during the time he was in Fredericton as a student. Upwards of forty Catholic members of the fallen hero, who was a member of St. Dunstan's congregation during the time he was in Fredericton as a student.

TO PRISON FOR SIX YEARS. Amsterdam, Oct. 21.—An Englishman, Dr. Bitt, has been sentenced to six years' imprisonment at hard labor. He is sixty years of age, and has been a member of St. Dunstan's congregation during the time he was in Fredericton as a student. Upwards of forty Catholic members of the fallen hero, who was a member of St. Dunstan's congregation during the time he was in Fredericton as a student.

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LOST IN LAKE ERIE WITH 20 OF CREW. Toledo, Ohio, Oct. 23.—Three bodies of sailors, wearing life-belts stamped "Stearns Merida," were brought into port early this morning on the freighter W. R. Matthews, Captain W. G. Cunningham, from Toronto. This is the first proof of the loss of the steamer Merida with a crew of about twenty men during a heavy gale on last Friday night. Captain Cunningham reports that the bodies were picked up in the middle of Lake Erie between Port Stanley, Ont., and Cleveland.

CRUISER HIT BY BRITISH TORPEDO WAS THE MUENCHEN. Berlin, Oct. 23.—It is semi-officially announced that the vessel torpedoed on Thursday was the small cruiser Muenchen, which was slightly damaged and returned to the harbor. The British Admiralty announced Saturday night that a German light cruiser of the Kolberg class had been torpedoed on Thursday morning in the North Sea, by a British submarine. The statement said that when last seen, the cruiser was steaming slowly toward German waters and was in evident distress. The Muenchen was built in 1904 and displaces 3,250 tons. The Kolberg is a vessel of 4,350 tons.

Plot Also To Murder Tisza

London Hears of It; Two Arrests Made. HUNGARIAN PREMIER

Prisoners Very Young and Sent to Prison For Five Months and Then Must go to War—London Views of Assassination of Stuergh

London, Oct. 23.—The assassination of Count Stuergh lends new interest to the details of a plot to assassinate Count Tisza, the Hungarian premier, which reached London today by mail from Budapest. Two young men who were arrested in connection with this plot were named Zoltanbro and Zaborzky. Each of them is nineteen years old. The conspirators carefully made their plans, purchased their revolvers, prepared measures for their escape from the country afterwards and had communicated with several persons from whom they expected assistance. At their trial one of the young men pleaded not guilty, but made a defiant political speech in which he denounced Count Tisza as a traitor against the nation and declared he would continue the plot against the premier's life as soon as he was freed.

London, Oct. 23.—The morning papers print long editorials on the assassination of Premier Stuergh. The general opinion expressed is that the removal of Stuergh is the work of men who wish to free the Austrian government from a clique of politicians who are largely controlled by the Hungarian premier Tisza. On this theory the assassination is held to represent the Austrians' attempt to escape from the domination of Tisza.

PURCHASES BY COLLECTOR OF BRITISH WORKS. Seven Master Paintings Added to Collection of J. H. McFadden. Said to Largest and Best in World.

London, Oct. 22.—J. H. McFadden of Philadelphia, a millionaire collector, who has devoted his attention exclusively to artists of the early British school and whose collection in this respect is said to be the largest in the world, has added to these seven more pictures of the first rank. Among them is the splendid Constable's "The Dell at Hedingham," which is the great grand-master of the present artist's style. The other six are portraits of Sir Alexander Shaw which rank in quality with the same artist's "Lord Newton." The Constable is now being mesoelated by Norman Hirt.

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DORME GETS 14TH VICTIM. Paris, Oct. 18.—Adjutant Dorme of the French Aviation Service has brought down his fourteenth German machine, the War Office announces in its report on operations of the aviators. The statement reads: "Our machines yesterday, during operations south of the Somme, attacked with machine guns enemy troops in the region of Biaches.

THE 180TH BATTALION. The 180th Battalion, under Lieut. Colonel L. H. Greer, will arrive on two special trains tomorrow night, the first train arriving at 6.40 and the second at 7.40 o'clock p. m. The battalion, it is understood, will be in the city only a few weeks and during its stay, will be quartered in the old 11th quarters in the exhibition building.

TO 10,000 ITALIAN PRISONERS; GERMANY TO SEND THEM HOME. Paris, Oct. 23.—Germany is about to expatriate 10,000 Italian civilians who are unfit for military service and who have been interned in Germany, according to news despatches from Rome. It is said that the Germans lack the means to keep these prisoners and will send them home by way of Chiasso.

Earthquakes in California. Fresno, Oct. 23.—According to reports here, two earthquake shocks that were felt throughout southern California early last night, were severe. Bakersfield and in the oil fields in that district.

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