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FRENCH TAKE TOWNS WEST OF ST. QUENTIN

Further British Gains in Region of Gouzeaucourt--Germans' Resistance Crushed Near Chemin des Dames--Allies Have Only Few Hundred Yards to Cover Before Opening Up End of Celebrated Road--Serbs Break Bulgar Front.

BRITISH TAKE 10,000 MEN FRENCH AT TOWN OF BENAY

Important Town of Contes-court is Entirely in French Hands. CASTRES IS OCCUPIED All Counter-Attacks West of Jouy Fail With Heavy Losses.

Paris, Sept. 19.—The French, continuing their attacks southeast of St. Quentin, have reached the outskirts of Benay, according to the war office announcement tonight. In the Soissons sector numerous enemy counter-attacks west of Jouy were repulsed.

The text of the statement reads: "We extended our gains, notwithstanding the enemy's stubborn resistance, and advanced beyond Contes-court, which is entirely in our hands. We also captured Castres. We have reached the outskirts of Benay."

GREAT STRIKE AVERTED ON BRITISH RAILWAYS

Five Shilling Weekly Increase Granted Adult Laborers. London, Sept. 19.—The threatened national railway strike has been averted. James Henry Thomas, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, announced tonight that a conference between the executive of the National Union of Railwaymen and the war cabinet...

ITALIANS CUT WAY INTO ENEMY LINES

Raids on Asiago Plateau Penetrate Austrian Entrenchments at Two Places. Rome, Sept. 19.—The war office communique issued today says: "In the mountain region, astride the Brenna, we carried out this morning successful surprise attacks. On the Asiago Plateau, troops of the 10th and 11th Alpine Divisions, supported by two portions of troops, penetrated two of the enemy's entrenchments north of the line of Cima di Val-Brenna-Col del Rosso. Forty prisoners were taken."

CZECH-SLOVAKS WANT MUNITIONS URGENTLY

London, Sept. 19.—The Czechoslovak forces in European Russia are being hard pressed by the enemy, largely owing to lack of munitions and stores. Within the last ten days the Bolsheviks, assisted by a considerable number of German soldiers, have succeeded in occupying Volk, Simbirsk and Kazan. The fall of Kazan appears to have been due entirely to lack of ammunition by the Czechoslovaks.

HONORED VETERAN SECRETARY

Belleville, Sept. 19.—After 20 years of service as secretary of Moira Lodge, No. 11, A.F. & A.M. of this city, John Newton, Belleville's veteran, was honored by his fellow members last evening, being the guest of honor at a pleasant affair, during which he was the recipient of an illuminated address of appreciation, a gold watch and chain, and a gold-headed cane.

BELGIUM'S RIGHTS TOTALLY IGNORED

German Peace Conditions No Basis for Discussion, Says Foreign Minister.

REPARATION IGNORED

German Would Claim Amnesty for Belgian Citizens Guilty of Treason.

London, Sept. 19.—The Belgian foreign minister, in discussing Germany's "peace approach" to Belgium, declares that the conditions cannot be taken as a basis for any serious discussion.

PEACE DEMONSTRATIONS IN MANY GERMAN CITIES

Social-Democrats Hold Meetings at Essen, Cologne and in Saxony Towns. Amsterdam, Sept. 19.—Peace demonstrations, organized by the Social-Democrats, were held today at Essen and Cologne and in a large number of towns in Saxony, according to a dispatch from Cologne to the Dutch newspapers. Thousands of persons are said to have attended the meetings.

GERMAN AIRMEN DROP AUSTRIAN PEACE TRACTS

French Receive Leaflets Containing Proposal for Negotiations. With the French Army in France, Sept. 19.—Aviators flying over the region of Epervan on the night of Sept. 16 dropped leaflets reproducing the Austrian-Hungarian peace conference proposal in French.

MINERS THREATEN A GENERAL STRIKE

Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 19.—Unless the demands of the miners in the Fernie district for a shift operators' consent to meet the men and discuss their request, a general strike involving 9000 men, and including the coal mining sections of all of eastern British Columbia, and part of Alberta, will be declared, representatives of the miners now in Vancouver stated today.

WHAT ARE YOUR EXTRAVAGANCES?

Ask yourself the question—"Am I spending today more than I need?" Go over the items of your daily expenditure. What are you spending on pleasures? You may be surprised what you can dispense with, without inconvenience to yourself and with benefit to your country.

BRITISH FINISH SUCCESS WITH ACTION ON FLANK

Hard Fighting Prevails About Holnon Village, With Storming of Positions--Dead in Field Gray Strew Battlefield--Allied Gains Vastly Exceed Original Limited Expectations.

London, Sept. 19.—The Australians have advanced beyond the Hindenburg line outposts and are right up against the main line. The Serbians have completely broken the Bulgarian front. Other prisoners were in the British cages.

With the British Army in France, Sept. 19.—Despite the serious menace which the British established yesterday over the Hindenburg line by the capture of ridges northwest of St. Quentin, the Germans this morning continued to nurse their grievances without renewing on a large scale their costly counter-attacks of last evening.

That the situation created by the British seizure of the long Hindenburg outposts line and the dominating heights in front of it could not remain unexploited, long seemed a foregone conclusion. Whether the enemy would essay further heavy counter-attacks depended entirely upon the hold and from numerous villages and hamlets which had to be surrounded and crushed into submission.

On the right flank there was especially bitter fighting about Holnon village. The British had captured part of this place the day before, but the Germans still held a section of it, with machine guns trained from every house. These had to be cleared out, and this had to be done systematically by small parties who have the hostile fire and bombed the Huns out of their hiding places.

THE NATIONAL RAILWAYS

The First Consolidation Goes Into Effect Between Toronto and Montreal and Winnipeg. D. B. Hanna, the new president of the Canadian Northern Railway Company, was busy yesterday receiving congratulations. Hundreds of telegrams were received from every part of the country.

One of the first things the directors of the new national railway ought to take up is the name for the consolidated system. The World has already suggested, and as a matter of fact is now using the term, The National Railways of Canada, for not only the Canadian Northern, but for the Transcontinental and the Intercolonial. It is desirable that the public should begin to know at the earliest moment what the national lines are, and be in a position to ask for service, freight, passenger, express or telegraph on the public-owned roads.

Another question that will come up is as to which of the two lines that have remained out, namely, the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific, is best disposed to make the freest arrangement in regard to interchange of traffic with the national lines. One place where the national system wants this interchange is in the Province of Ontario, immediately south and west of Toronto. This might be a trump card in the hands of the new public-owned lines. It is understood that the Canadian Pacific is more than willing to co-operate with the national railways in regard to the use of North Toronto station and all terminals and sidings from the Humber clean across the north portion of the city, including Leaside. It is even said that the Canadian Pacific would agree to make joint use of the new freight yards of the national system at Leaside.

Another question that will come up for early settlement is as to where the Intercolonial and Canadian Northern in Montreal will come together; for instance, the Intercolonial now runs into the Bonaventure station of the Grand Trunk, and the new Dorchester street station above referred to is a couple of blocks away. There must be direct connection between the two.

The news items and editorial deliveries of the Toronto papers yesterday on the creation of a board of directors to administer the national railways were all very tame. And yet it marked the greatest economic revolution ever effected in Canada. As far as one can make out the public will take to the change delayed as much as possible and strangled at the way.

Even though the Germans held out until after midnight, fighting hard from their dugouts and fortified buildings. The enemy delivered a counter-attack here during the evening and forced the

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