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in the "Telegram."



LaFere and Laon Reported Captured.

Germany's Readiness to Accept Wilson's Peace Terms Looked Upon With Suspicion.

"Unconditional Surrender" or None --- Allies Hammering the German Line Incessantly---British Nearing Douai.

WAR REVIEW.

The German battle line in France continues to bend under the attacks of the Entente Allies, but nowhere has it been broken. The enemy almost everywhere is in retreat towards new positions, but his retreat is orderly and the British, French and Americans are being compelled to fight their way forward slowly in the face of enemy machine gun detachments acting as rearwards. Highly important strategic positions have been wrested from the enemy by the British and French, while on their sector of the front the Americans have further advanced their lines on both sides of the Meuse, obtaining the objectives they sought. The British advance after days of hard fighting has brought them at last to the gates of Douai which long has held back the British forces from closing in upon the great bend in the line which has little as its centre and which has been considered by the military experts as the keystone to the German defense system through Northern Belgium to the sea. To the south the French have blotted out both LaFere and Laon and the greater portion of the St. Gobain massif standing in the elbow where the line runs eastward toward the Swiss frontier. Here also the Germans for weeks had stood fighting desperately, realizing that a successful advance by their foes would shatter all their military plans in the south and probably compel a swifter retreat than now is being carried out and possibly make untenable the entire Meuse line to which it is believed they are gradually making their way along the Aisne. In Champagne the French have forced their way across the Aisne at various points and are almost upon the important railway town of Reims, whence it is only a step to Metz, while north of Vouziers they are continuing to battle their way forward toward Sedan. In the bend of the Aisne more than thirty-six localities have been liberated by the French and several thousand civilians freed from bondage. Since the offensive began 21,567 Germans have been made prisoners and 600 of their guns captured. With the situation in France and Belgium highly satisfactory to the Allies, the operations in Serbia and Albania likewise daily are being carried forward successfully. Nish, the capital of the little kingdom, after the invasion by the Austro-Hungarians, has been recaptured and the enemy driven to the hills.

READY TO ACCEPT WILSON'S TERMS.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12. Germany's reply to President Wilson, inquiry intercepted as it was being sent by the great wireless towers at Nauen, and forwarded here to-night in an official despatch from France, declares Germany is ready to accept President Wilson's peace terms, evacuating the invaded territory as a prerequisite to an armistice, and that the bid for peace represents the German people as well as the government. Although on its face the text of the German note seems to be a complete acceptance of President Wilson's terms, the people of the United States and the Allied countries should be cautioned against ac-

cepting it as a compliance of the President's demands as will mean immediate cessation of hostilities. As President Wilson was in New York to-night and reserved comment on the note, his views cannot be stated now, and none of his official family here in Washington cared to speak for him. Without any attempt to discount what appeared to be at a casual reading an acceptance of the terms the President has laid down, officials here were very positive as not accepting the German note as a document, which means the end of the war. It needs to be examined and fully considered before the views of the American government can be stated. Should President Wilson finally decide that there is enough sincerity in Germany's proposal to transmit to the Allies as the German Chancellor requested, it should be borne in mind that Great Britain, France and the other Entente nations must be taken into consideration for decision as to whether an armistice should be granted or whether discussion should be undertaken to carry out the details of the application of President Wilson's peace terms. The text of the note follows: In reply to the questions of the President of the United States the German government hereby declares the German terms laid down by Pres. Wilson in his address of January the eighth and his subsequent addresses on the foundation of a permanent peace of justice. Consequently its object in entering into discussions would be only to agree upon practical details of the application of these terms. The German government believes that the governments of the Powers associated with the government of the United States also take the position taken by the German government in accordance with the Austro-Hungarian government for the purpose of bringing about an armistice declares itself ready to comply with the propositions of the President in regard to evacuation. The German government suggests that the President may occasion the meeting of a mixed commission for making the necessary arrangements concerning the evacuation. The present German government which has undertaken the responsibility for this step towards peace has been formed by conferences and agreement with the great majority of the Reichstag. The Chancellor supported in all of his actions by the will of the majority speaks in the name of the German government and of the German people.—Berlin, Oct. 12, 1918. Signed Solf, State Secretary of Foreign Office.

REACHED LONDON.

LONDON, Oct. 13. The text of the German reply to President Wilson's note reached the British Foreign Office this morning from the British Minister at the Hague, Foreign Secretary Balfour and Andrew Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, immediately left with it to confer with Premier Lloyd George who is spending the week-end in the country.

UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER.

LONDON, Oct. 13. While the London public to-day seemed generally disposed to await an

authoritative lead before forming a definite opinion on the German reply to President Wilson, expressions of suspicion of Germany's purpose were heard on all sides. "Unconditional Surrender" as the Allied response seemed to be rapidly gaining in popularity with the average citizen as the note was discussed.

ENEMY RESISTANCE STIFFENED.

WITH THE ANGLO-AMERICAN FORCES ON THE VALENCIENNES FRONT, Oct. 12.—The British again attacked southwest of Douai this morning, stormed and took Brebieres and passed through to the eastward. They are now within slightly more than a mile of Douai itself. A stiff rearguard resistance of enemy machine gunners is being overcome. The resistance of the enemy throughout the whole area north and south of Le Cateau has stiffened appreciably and this morning he put down a thin but determined barrage over the entire region. It is evident the Germans intend making a stand on the line from Valenciennes to Le Cateau and southward. It is not believed, however, that the resistance will last longer than is necessary to cover the retreat which apparently has begun west of Douai.

LA FERRE CAPTURED.

PARIS, Oct. 13. The German stronghold of La Fere, together with a great part of St. Gobain Massif of which La Fere was a northerly outpost at the Oise, has been captured by the French, to-day's official war office statement announces. The La Fere-Laon railway lines has been crossed on the high ground between Dainzy and Versigny, about two and a half miles east of La Fere. The northern and eastern sections of La Fere are burning. Notable progress has been made by the Italians and French along the line to the east where the French have reached Amfontaine, which is fifteen miles north of Rheims. The French have cleared the last nests of the German resistance in the bend of the Aisne.

WITHIN SEVEN MILES OF VALENCIENNES.

LONDON, Oct. 13. The Ridge Lieu St. Amant, three miles south of Denain, has been reached by the British in their push up the easterly bank of the Scheldt Canal southeast of Douai. They have captured in this sector the town of Montrecourt, a scant seven miles from the outskirts of Valenciennes and almost directly south of that city. The text of the statement reads: East of the Scheldt Canal we gained possession of Montrecourt village and reached the outskirts of Lieu St. Amant. In the Douai sector our troops are now within a few hundred yards of the town and have captured the Foubourg Des Querchins, the Douai prison and the greater part of Fiers. East of Amay we have progressed along the south bank of the Haute Deule Canal towards Courrieres.

NUMEROUS VILLAGES CAPTURED.

LONDON, Oct. 12. British forces east of Lens captured the villages of Montigny, Harnes and Annay, Field Marshal Haig reported in his official statement to-night. The German rear-guards suffered severe casualties. Northwest of LeCateau the villages of St. Vaast, St. Aubert, Villers, Encauchies and Avesnes Aesce have been cleared of the German rearguard while on the west bank of the Sonsee canal, Arleux and Corbehem have fallen to the British.

ITALIANS BREAKING ENEMY TRENCHES.

ROME, Oct. 12. Italian infantry parties at the confluence of the river Asa, with the Chulpec yesterday broken into the Austro-Hungarian trenches on Cima Tarpezz, says the official statement issued to-day by the War Office. The Italians inflicted heavy losses on the enemy and took several prisoners. The total number of prisoners taken by the Italians on the Asiago front

yesterday was 491, including ten officers.

GERMAN ADMISSION.

BERLIN, via London, Oct. 12. German forces west of Douai yesterday retired from their positions to lines in the rear says the statement issued to-day by the German general staff. The enemy followed slowly and in the evening occupied the line of Vondin La Veil, Harnes, Honin, Letard and to the east of the Beaumont-Brolierom railway.

ENEMY DIGGING IN.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, Oct. 11.—The enemy today began an attempt to slow up the Anglo-American advance on the main battle front. All the bridges across the river Selle from LeCateau southward were blown up and the Germans seem to have been digging in furiously along the line of the high ground some two thousand to four thousand yards east of the river.

NISH CAPTURED.

BERLIN, Oct. 13. Nish, the capital of Serbia, has been occupied by Entente forces, the war office announced to-day. The official statement follows. Southern theatre: There has been fighting in the region of Nish. In the face of strong attacks our troops retired in accordance with orders to the heights north of the town. Nish has been occupied by the enemy.

MUST WITHDRAW TROOPS.

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 13. The Finnish Government has asked Germany to withdraw her troops from Finland. The request was recently delivered to General Von Der Goltz, the German high command on Finnish territory. The republican and socialist papers of Finland have begun an agitation in favor of an approach by Finland to the Entente Allies, alleging that the recent policy of the Government in connection with Germany has been unneutral.

SPAIN TAKES OVER GERMAN SHIPS.

MADRID, Oct. 13. The Spanish government has decided to put into immediate service 62 German ships lying in Spanish ports, as equivalent in tonnage of Spanish ships torpedoed.

FEARFUL FOREST FIRES.

DULUTH, Minn., Oct. 13. More than five hundred persons are dead or missing and at least twelve thousand have been made homeless by five fearful forest fires which have spread across Northern Wisconsin and Northern Minnesota during the past thirty-six hours. The towns of Cluquet, Brookston, Breavor, Corona, Adolph, Thompson, Arnold, Moose Lake and Wright have been wiped out. According to refugees, scores of hamlets and hundreds of settlers' homes have been destroyed. The property and timber loss which will total many millions will surpass that claimed by any in the historic fires which have swept this section.

ADVANCE RESUMED.

PARIS, Oct. 13. General Mangin's army operating in the vicinity of Laon resumed its advance this morning. The French fifth army which yesterday drove in several miles on the Champagne front north of the Retourne is continuing its progress in the direction of the important railway junction of Reims. The German resistance to these advances is reported to be slackening.

GERMAN GOVERNMENT NOT YET DEFINED.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12. The official text of the German note had not been received here at a late hour to-night. It was announced there would be no official comment at least until it arrives. Conceding it possible the proposal for an armistice might be accepted and that the German acceptance of President Wilson's peace terms might be satisfactory,

the question in the opinion of the officials and diplomats here would center in who is the present German Government. If the present German Government is the Government of Hohenzollern there seems no doubt here that the German reply will be unacceptable.

NEARING DOUAI.

LONDON, Oct. 13. The British are within a few hundred yards of Douai, Field Marshal Haig reports to-day in his official statement. They have captured the Foubourg Desquerchins, the Douai prison and the greater part of Fiers close to Douai on the northwest.

CONSERVATIVES NOT YET REPENTANT.

BASEL, Switzerland, Oct. 13. A despatch received here from Berlin says the Conservative Party in the German Reichstag have published the following declaration concerning the German reply to President Wilson's terms: Our armies are still far in enemy country. Before an honorable peace and integrity of the empire's territory is guaranteed, all abandonment of German soil may be fatal and is irreconcilable with German honor. Numerous patriotic societies await with us a declaration from the German Government, saying it will not yield upon these points. The German people are resolved to defend the sacred soil of their country to the last man.

Big Steamer Sunk in Collision

A Canadian Atlantic Port, October 9.—Late last night a large steamer limped into this port with a huge hole in her bow above the water line, and reported a collision with another steamer, in which the latter had been sunk and six of her crew lost. Few details were ascertainable, but it was gathered that the steamers had jammed each other in one of the

dense fogs which hang over these coasts. The one which was sunk remained above the surface for only a short time. The other ship sent out boats and took the survivors on board. Neither the number nor the names of the lost can yet be obtained, but there were not more than six or seven. Several of the men were slightly injured in the crash. All lost their personal belongings and were obliged to borrow from the crew of the more fortunate ship. Coming from Southern waters, the frosty night air was far from welcome, and one sailor asked if the heavy Canadian winter had set in.

The ship which reached here last night was not disabled, but quite badly damaged, and she made the nearest port as rapidly as possible. An evidence of the fact that her course did not lie here was that one of her crew asked what the name of the city was, and said that he had never heard of it before.

The collision occurred about two o'clock on Monday morning during mist and a heavy rain. The steamer which went down had a cargo valued at three million dollars.

Kink in the Back

You bend over and can scarcely get straightened up again. This comes on you so suddenly you can't understand it. This is lumbago. Like backache and rheumatism, it is the result of poisons in the blood. The kidneys are deranged, but the use of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills will soon set them right. The pains and aches will disappear with the poisons when the kidneys do their work properly.

Three Deaths.

Pts. Chas. Burton, of Twillingate, died at the Military Hospital on Friday night, of bronchio-pneumonia. The remains were confined by Undertaker Oke, and forwarded to the late home of the deceased for interment by yesterday's express. No soldiers attended the funeral, as a result of the quarantine regulations now in force.

Pte. Ernest Brown, Tack's Beach, also passed away on Saturday morning at the General Hospital, of influenza. Deceased was a returned soldier, and had been in hospital upwards of twelve months, suffering from a form of tuberculosis.

Pte. M. Dobar, Marystown, died from influenza at the Military Hospital at 10 o'clock Saturday night. The body was conveyed to Oke's mortuary rooms, awaiting instructions as to its disposal.

Country and Golf Clubs

NOT ALLOWED FUEL IN WINTER.

Ottawa, Oct. 4.—Regulations to restrict the fuel consumption of private country clubs, golf, yacht and canoe clubs, have just been approved by order-in-council, at the instance of C. A. Magrath, fuel controller. During the period from December 15, 1918, to March 15, 1919, no country club, golf, yacht or canoe club is to burn or use fuel of any description or to use power derived from any such fuel for purposes of heating or cooking. There is no restriction, however, on the use of wood or peat by any such club when such wood or peat is available. A further clause states that where it is established, to the satisfaction of the fuel administration of the province within which the club is located, that any fuel can be spared and that its use is not contrary to the point, a permit may be granted by the fuel controller. Penalties are provided for contravention of the regulations.

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