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SOLID WALL OF ALLIED TROOPS BARS GERMANS WHO CROSSED YSER AND SLAUGHTER GOES ON

Whole Countryside Reeks With Blood From Arras to Sea With Germans Repulsed at All Points—Allies Advance Slightly in Centre and French Press Advantage on Alsatian Frontier—Successful Operation of British Fleet on Belgian Coast May Draw Out German Ships—Russians Report Continued Success on Vistula and Breaking Down of Austrian Defence on River San—Passenger Steamer Sunk by Mine—Millions Starving in Belgium—Italy Occupies Avlona, Albanian Seaport.

Crossing of Yser No Advantage; Germans Met by Allied Stonewall

Paris, Oct. 26, 11.36 p. m.—The smashing tactics of the Germans along the North Sea coast-line continued incessantly today, when the big guns were turned on Niueport, and the Allies had to withstand constant attacks of masses of troops. Very little progress, however, was made by the Germans, who were faced with the strongest resistance.

Yesterday's crossing of the Yser apparently had only a moral effect, as the Germans were confronted by solid lines of allied troops, and were prevented from advancing, without overwhelming efforts, further toward the channel ports. The character of the country prohibits a rapid movement, as the land is cut by canals, and two strong series of defensive works separate them from Dunkirk.

The German infantry executed a number of night attacks, not only on the extreme wing but also in the vicinity of Lille, where they encountered a most obstinate resistance.

The Allies are displaying wonderful energy in this region. The commanders are sparing their men many hardships, and are able to give constant relief to the troops on the firing line.

When they come from the front for a rest the troops are accommodated in the numerous villages scattered in the rear, where they seem to throw off all feeling engendered by the critical situation and play cards and other games in the cafes until the bugles call them together for a further spell of fighting. Then they go forward cheerily to the inferno where they must face the shrapnel and machine guns, bidding "so long" to their comrades whose places they are taking.

Sometimes villages change hands several times during the course of a day. Today in one village forty allied soldiers who had been wounded were lying in a factory which had been transformed into a hospital. A shell struck the building, which broke into flames. Ten bearers of the American ambulance volunteered to rescue the wounded men, and succeeded in saving all of them. An hour afterwards this village was captured by the Germans, who, after occupying it for a short time, were chased out again after desperate street fighting. Meanwhile the wounded Allies were removed to the base hospital in the rear.

On the line from Soissons to Craonne the Allies are said to have obtained a slight advantage in today's fighting, while on the eastern wing the French are credited with a gain which, it is claimed, places the German lines of communication in difficulty. The French here pushed well forward, and left only a narrow outlet about twelve miles wide for a possible German retirement.

The French are said to occupy every point of importance in the Vosges.

Particularly Good Dinner When General Sam Was Interviewed

London, Oct. 25.—(Special Cable)—Major-General Sam Hughes, Canadian minister for defence, said today that it would be impossible to keep Americans from joining the ranks of Canadian volunteers.

"We are prepared to furnish 300,000 men," he said. "Fully 200,000 Americans have gone to Canada in the hope of joining the Canadian forces, and how will they be prevented from doing so if it is their desire to join?"

General Hughes said the Canadians had a fine reception here and that the contingent was the object of great attraction at the camp at Salisbury. The General expects to return to Canada soon. Many members of the Canadian contingent have visited London in the last few days. Relatives of some of the officers came to England to meet the troops when they arrived.

Maritz, Boer Rebel, Beaten and Wounded, Says Official Report

Cape Town, via London, Oct. 26, 10.32 p. m.—It is officially announced that the rebel, Lieut.-Col. Maritz, and his forces have been completely defeated at Kakamas, in the Gordonia district, by the Union of South Africa troops.

Lieut.-Col. Maritz was wounded in the engagement, and fled to German territory, according to the statement.

Berlin Newspapers Give Number of Prisoners in Germany as 300,000

London, Oct. 26.—A Reuter despatch from Amsterdam says, according to Berlin newspapers received there, the number of war prisoners in Germany up to October 21 aggregated 296,869, including 5,401 officers.

Of these it is said that there are 2,472 French officers and 146,897 men; 2,164 Russian officers and 104,524 men; 547 Belgian officers and 31,378 men, and 218 British officers and 8,669 men.

OFFICIAL STATEMENTS

Two Guns Captured By British Division

London, Oct. 26, 10.41 p. m.—The official press bureau issued the following statement at 10.40 this evening:

"The situation continues to be satisfactory. The fighting is severe and continuous, but ground is being gained, and many prisoners have been taken. "One of our divisions has captured two guns."

Germans Again Repulsed Along Entire Front

Paris, Oct. 26, 11.08 p. m.—The following official communication was issued by the French war office tonight:

"In Belgium, Niueport has been violently bombarded, and the effort of the Germans has continued on the front between Niueport and Dixmude, without, according to the latest advice, any result whatever having been reached. "All the front comprised between La Bassee and the Somme has been equally the object of violent attacks at night, all of which have been repulsed. "On the remainder of the front there is nothing to report."

Positions Obstinate Defended Say Germans

Berlin, via Amsterdam and London, Oct. 26, 8.30 p. m.—A report from general headquarters dated Monday forenoon says:

"West of the Yser Canal, between Niueport and Dixmude, which is still occupied by the enemy, our troops attacked the hostile positions, which are obstinately defended. "The British fleet co-operated, but was forced back by the heavy artillery fire. Three ships were hit. During the afternoon of October 25, the fleet kept beyond the distance of eight miles. "Near Ypres the battle is stagnant. Southwest of Ypres and west and southwest of Lille our attacks are progressing. During severe street fighting the English suffered great losses, leaving about 500 prisoners. "North of Arras a heavy French attack broke down, the French losses being severe. "In the eastern theatre of the war our offensive on Augustow is progressing. The battle near Ivanogorod is favorable, but till now there has been no decision."

Russians Getting Upper Hand in Great Battle

Paris, Oct. 27, 12.40 a. m.—The Havas Agency has received from Petrograd the following official communication issued in the Russian capital:

"The combats on the routes leading to Petrokov and Radom have assumed the character of a great battle, of which the front extends over 100 versts (a verst is two-thirds of a mile), from Rawa to Nowomyslino and Bialobrzeg, as far as the mouth of the River Ilzanka. "The evening of October 24, north of Rawa, we attacked the Germans at the point of the bayonet, inflicting upon them considerable losses. In the villages of Morchillo alone we buried over 700 Germans. "In a bayonet combat near the village of Masemerle we captured two batteries of machine guns. "Our troops command the forest of Nemulovo, southeast of Rawa, where we took over 400 prisoners. In the forest between Radom and Kosenitz tenacious combats continue. "We have progressed along the routes from Nova to Alexandria, where we captured numerous prisoners and cannon. "The stubborn resistance of the Austrians in Galicia is weakening, and our troops are making vigorous progress in the region south of Sambor and Starostawka, where we took eleven cannon and many caissons. "The entire valley of the River Sprynie is covered with bodies of the enemy, estimated to aggregate at least five thousand. "All attempts by the Germans to restore a partial offensive on the Eastern Prussian front have been repelled."

London, Oct. 26—10 p. m.—The battle for the Straits of Dover, one of the most sanguinary of the war, is continuing with unabated fury, but thus far without either side gaining any decided advantage.

The Germans who, at a terrible cost in life, succeeded last Saturday in crossing the Yser Canal between Niueport and Dixmude have not been able to make any further progress as the Allies, according to a report of the general headquarters issued this morning, are obstinately defending their positions.

It is the same further south, around Armentieres, Lille, La Bassee and Arras. The opposing armies are delivering fierce attacks, gaining or losing a few miles or less of ground with sacrifices in life that are appalling. The whole countryside is fairly reeking with the blood of thousands of killed or wounded.

In the towns and villages with which the country is dotted and most of which have been laid in ruins by the artillery, most desperate fighting has occurred when the cavalry and infantry came into contact. Both sides speak of the heavy losses they have imposed on their adversaries, but say nothing of their own dead or wounded, to fill the places of whom reinforcements are being brought forward.

FLEET WITHDRAWN BUT HAS DONE WORK.

The British fleet which did such execution in bombarding the German flank as they advanced along the coast seems to have withdrawn yesterday afternoon. The Germans say this was because their artillery was beginning to reach the ships. The belief is expressed here, however, that the fleet will be able to render unexampled German occupation of any part of the Belgian or French coasts. The opinion also is expressed here that the operations of the allied vessels in the North Sea off the Belgian coast and in the vicinity of the Straits of Dover may cause the German fleet to come out and give battle.

In naval circles here it is considered that the German submarines, although they have proved deadly to ships steaming slowly, will not be so effective against ships steaming and manoeuvring at high speed and in shallow water as the British monitors and their auxiliaries have been doing. There is some talk of the Germans bringing their big 42-centimetre guns to the coast to use against the Allied warships, but the British sailors are credited with saying that their vessels can prevent these guns being put in position. They claim that even if they should be mounted they will not be so deadly as almost a fast moving target as they were against the stationary forts which they destroyed so easily.

FRENCH MORE ACTIVE IN ALSACE.

While this life and death struggle is going on in the west the French have become more active in the east along the Alsatian border, and are said to be making preparations and securing advanced positions in view of possible attacks by the Germans with their big howitzers on the Belfort fortress. It now seems to be realized that no fortress has any chance of holding out when once these big German guns are brought into action against it.

The German official report tonight again speaks of the German offensive on Augustow, Russian Poland, which it declares is progressing. It reiterates that the battle near Ivanogorod, although favorable to the Germans remains undecided.

North of this section the Russians claim to be still pursuing the Germans who attempted an advance on Warsaw and southward to have crossed the Vistula and driven the Austrians backward.

In Galicia and in the Carpathians the Russians also claim to have broken down the Austrian offensive.

As the days come and go and the promised visits of the Zeppelin airships to England do not materialize the public seemingly is beginning to believe that these monster aircraft are being held in reserve for the day that the German navy comes out and that they then will be used in force to assist the warships in an endeavor to cripple the British fleet.

The French steamer Admiral Canstanteau has been added to the list of those vessels blown up by mines to the waters off the French and Belgian coast. More than a score of persons were drowned, the others being rescued by a cross-channel steamer.

Cape Town reports that the rebel Maritz and his forces have met defeat at the hands of the Union of South Africa troops. Maritz was wounded and has fled to German territory.

ONLY TWO WEEKS' FOOD IN BELGIUM.

The people of Belgium are in dire straits, many millions of them facing starvation. The American minister to Belgium says there is less than a two weeks' supply of food in the cities, while in the country districts the situation is even worse. The American Relief Committee in London has been forced to delay until Wednesday its first shipment of food to Belgium, the British Board of Trade not having granted the necessary license in time.

With the release of the American tank steamer Brindilla, captured by the British auxiliary cruiser Caronia, and taken to Halifax, and the announcement that the Platania, held on the coast of Scotland would also be permitted to continue her voyage, all pending questions between the United States and Great Britain over the seizure of American ships have been settled.

ITALY OCCUPIES AVLONA AS RELIEF MEASURE.

Rome, Oct. 27, 2.15 a. m.—Avlona, Albania, was occupied yesterday by Italian naval forces.

The expedition was in the nature of a relief and sanitary organization, which purposed to aid the large population which has taken refuge in the city to escape the persecutions of the insurgents. These people are said to be in a deplorable state.

Everything was done to remove from the expedition anything savouring of political or territorial occupation. Pains were taken to show that Italy's step was merely for the purpose of seeing that the decision of the London Conference creating an autonomous Albania was carried out.

Italian ships have been instructed to closely watch the Albanian coast to prevent the smuggling of arms and ammunition into Albania, and also to see that the Albanians do not violate neutrality in the European war.

(Continued on page 8.)

GERMAN LOSSES IN TENS OF THOUSANDS

Futile Struggle For French Channel Ports Sees Frightful Slaughter in Kaiser's Ranks

Officers, Crazed With Mortification, Seek to Drive Disheartened Men to Attack—Belgians on Defensive Suffer Tortures of Hunger and Thirst in Trenches But Are Holding Fast—Surgeon Finds Germans Use Explosive Bullets.

(Special Cable to Daily Telegraph and Montreal Gazette.)

Pas de Calais, France, Oct. 25.—(Delayed)—The losses of the Germans all along the line of the great battle in the north, a victory in which would give them an open road to Dunkirk and perhaps Calais, Boulogne and Abbeville, have been frightful. They have lost tens of thousands killed and wounded in the last week in that section alone of the battle front, and while the officers appear crazed with mortification, the rank and file, of which a large portion are now men over fifty and boys under eighteen, appear disheartened.

The German troops, as a whole, including the subordinate officers, have been deceived by Berlin. For weeks those in Belgium have been told they would be in Paris in three days or less than even that, Paris was only thirty or forty miles away. Midway between Lille and Niueport the Allies have pushed far forward, routing the Germans opposed to them with great losses. German prisoners admit that they are near starvation and on the verge of collapse from exhaustion.

Foremost in the attack upon the Germans is the Belgian monarch. The little Belgian army with the heroic young king at the head is still fighting in the last corner of Belgium left to its sons. Within constant sound of the German cannon and daily in the fire, the king is inspiring his troops with the courage of patriots to the last ditch. Belgian soldiers who were wounded at Dixmude on Friday have described to me their own privations in simple uncomplaining language. "At last we know that the Germans are coming no further," said one of them.

"But last week in the trenches was terrible for us. Our food has been sardines and biscuits, and during the retreat we got none sometimes for two days together and had to subsist on raw turnips. Often we could get nothing to drink at all, for there was not even water. After a battle you get so thirsty you could drink the blood from your own veins.

"I have been fighting continuously ever since Liege and to be thirsty after holding the trenches for twenty-four hours against incessant attack, is the worst thing I know, worse than any German shell fire.

"Another thing we all suffer from is the scarcity of tobacco. If we have any cigarettes we are only allowed to smoke them in the day time. It means court martial and death to smoke at night, for even a glimmer might give away our position to the Germans."

Eight Times Did German Schoolboys Charge, Leaving Dead-Like Leaves

North Belgium, Saturday.—(By Philip Gibbs)—Before Niueport the German trenches were only fifty metres away from those of the Belgians, and on the night before last they charged eight times with the bayonet in order to force their way through the line.

Fortunately the Belgian infantry was well protected by mitrailleses and they mowed down the German troops with such deadly fire that as each of those eight times the enemy's attack was broken and destroyed.

They fell like the leaves which are now being scattered and strewn between the trenches. Most of them were the bodies of very young men, poor boys of 16 and 17 from the German high schools and universities who were recently mobilized and sent with the last reserves to Belgium.

Not One Stone Left on Another in Arras; Hospitals Shelled With Rest

Paris, Oct. 26.—Eighty-three prisoners from around Ypres arrived today utterly worn out and obviously had been through hard times. Some from Lille were literally at the point of starvation. There were a couple of officers who, when asked why the Germans were so cruel to inoffensive populations, said: "It is not for us to discuss our Kaiser's orders."

Arras has been bombarded again and now there is scarcely a stone standing there. The hospitals seem to be singled out for special battering and numbers of sick and wounded together with the sisters nursing them were killed. It is impossible to get anywhere near the cemetery owing to its exposed position, so the dead had to be cremated in little heaps in the streets.

A surgeon from one of the field hospitals writes testifying that the Germans habitually use explosive bullets, which are worse than dum dums.

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the station
and most
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the flames.

"The fire raged most fiercely along the Rues De Paris, Du Molinel, De Bethune and Du Plat. Among the buildings destroyed were the Grand Hotel, the Lycee and the Grand Pharmacie De France.

When the Germans entered they organized a fire brigade and sent for aid to Tournai. The local firemen earlier had been discouraged from fighting the flames by reason of the danger from German shells which killed the fire captain and three firemen. Several of the historic monuments of the city were hit by flames. Among the many damaged churches, that of St. Maurice suffered most, both naves being destroyed.

"Few of the inhabitants of the city had much idea of what the situation was for most of them kept closely to the cellars.

"A party of German Uhlans rode into Lille unopposed last Saturday, but while demanding hostages of the mayor, they were attacked by French cavalry. The Germans retired after several had been killed. About sunset a German shell burst over the town hall, penetrating the roof and starting a panic in all parts of the city. The streets were full of frightened men and women. A few minutes later a second shell killed a boy and injured his mother in a street near the prefecture.

"By 7 o'clock in the evening the bombardment was violent and large numbers of the population fled from the city. The museum of Fine Arts and Hotel de Belleville fell victims to the flames. On Monday the city presented a pitiful sight, several streets of houses being in flames. The streets in the centre of the city were a mass of ruins, and all the suburban roads were badly damaged."

POINT IN CAMPAIGN

ed from page 1.)
k this terrible grunting with unabated were not the last in the attack. The on for this feat of endurance as these credited with courage of a purely passive and bold, rather than enduring. The ally invaluable for the development of never yielded an inch notwithstanding mans, who had heavy artillery and all

Army Corps are known to have sufficient will come later. The prisoners, have the appearance of men absolutely are said to talk of nothing but when

Austrians under the German command than the Germans on the Western front. Brusiloff is in command, which less. Here also the Austrian corps is regiments being split up among various either by distrust of the mixed see of the enormous loss and suffered an fight.

200 miles the Russians are now adards are being driven out of forests into.

cannot advance. Large numbers of their wounded arrived in Ypres and Ostend Wednesday, and a body of Germans came from Ghent to assist in their removal. A further contingent of new guns for the shelling of British warships have arrived at Ostend. Zeppelins are still occupied by German marines."

TURNING POINT IN HOSTILITIES.

London, Oct. 25, 2.06 a. m.—Telegraphing from Petrograd the Daily Telegraph's correspondent says:

"The latest Russian success cannot be described as a decisive blow, but it may easily prove to be the turning point in the hostilities. It is clear that the German advance toward the Vistula coincided with the virtual completion of the Russian preparations for carrying the war definitely into the enemy's country. "By pursuing the retreating Germans the Russians will not be merely following up a local success but taking the first step in the execution of a pre-arranged plan for the fulfilment of which the necessary degree of preparedness has only recently been attained."

The participation of Siberian troops in the operations shows that Russia has concentrated at the front her best forces from the most distant portions of the empire and it may now be expected that the operations will take the form of a steady Russian advance right along the line."

Von Moltke Dying of Liver Disease

London, Oct. 28, 12.10 a. m.—A private letter received in Amsterdam from a high official in Berlin, says Lieut.-Gen. Helmuth Von Moltke, chief of the German general staff, is dying, according to the Exchange Telegraph Company's Amsterdam correspondent.

"Everything," the correspondent adds, "is being done to keep the news secret. Gen. Von Moltke is suffering from an affection of the liver. The cure he was undergoing was interrupted in July by the German mobilization."

"He has now had to leave Emperor William's headquarters, Gen. Von Falkenhayn, the Prussian minister of war, being left in charge."

"Many German officers ascribe the check to the German advance to the forced retirement of Gen. Von Moltke."

First Girl—"I don't care what kind of a husband I get." "Gracious!"—First Girl—"So long as he's rich, handsome, kind and generous."