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WEDNESDAY MORNING OCTOBER 25 1916—FOURTEEN PAGES

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VOL XXXVI—No 13,132

FRENCH WIN GREAT VICTORY

Joffre's Troops Make 1 Mile Advance at Verdun and Capture at One Blow All Ground Taken by Crown Prince in Two Months' Fighting—Germans Taken Completely by Surprise, Surrender in Doves—3500 Prisoners Already Taken and More Are Pouring in—New Offensive May Cut Off Germans in France and Will Relieve Pressure on Roumania.

BY ARTHUR S. DRAPER.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
LONDON, Oct. 24.—Verdun, where the German Crown Prince sacrificed half a million men in vain, is now the scene of a powerful French offensive.

Smashing thru a front of four miles, Joffre's troops have captured positions on the right bank of the Meuse for a depth of two miles. The Village and Fort of Douaumont, which have changed hands many times since the German drive began in February; the Thiaumont work and farm, strongholds of the Teuton advance line; and the Haumont quarries, north of Thiaumont, have fallen before the French onslaught. More than 3500 prisoners have already been passed back by the French troops, and the action is still in progress. Large quantities of supplies were captured in the charge, for the suddenness with which it was carried thru gave the

Germans little time to withdraw their guns and material to the rear.

The French victory, won on terrain that has seen some of the bloodiest fighting of the war, and won despite the maze of fortifications that covers the Verdun front, is a welcome antidote to the Teuton victories against the Roumanians. It is evidence that Mackensen and Falkenhayn can not draw troops from other fronts to battle for Bucharest. It is an omen of renewed allied pressure against the Kaiser's lines in the west.

With daybreak the French guns began to bathe the German trenches with shell. Recent visitors to French headquarters have reported that the French artillery on this front was firing fifty shots to one for the Germans. The execution of the bombardment did in the enemy's line tends to prove that statement.

Shortly before noon the Polish sprang to the attack. Then began a series of assaults that swept thru the first German line and beyond into the Fort of Douaumont and into the village. Meanwhile the right wing was moving

toward Vaux, a position as much disputed as Douaumont. Here they reached the outskirts of the village.

On the left wing, nearer the river, the rush was irresistible. It swept thru Thiaumont work and farm, lying in low land dominated by ridges to the north, into and beyond the Haumont quarries, which have been converted into a veritable fortress, and astride the road from Douaumont to Bras.

Thus in a few hours the French have regained positions that it took the Germans months to wrest from them. The resistance they met was comparatively weak. This may have been due to the fact that the Kaiser's generals have withdrawn troops to the Somme front, or it may have been due to the efficiency of the artillery preparation. At any rate, the last fragment of the crown prince's dream has been crumbled.

The purpose of the Verdun offensive serves a two-fold. It puts increased pressure on the German forces and so makes the task on other fronts easier. Another end it may ultimately serve is in preparing the way for a new drive for Metz.

The German line is in this sector,

it must be remembered, a very sharp salient, with its tip at St. Mihiel. Until this wedge is wiped out a French push eastward is almost impossible. By breaking thru the German line north of Verdun the French can flank the enemy's position at St. Mihiel and so force its evacuation.

But the immediate effect of the attack on the Meuse will be on the Somme operations. With the Balkan movement in full swing it seems hardly likely that the Kaiser's generals can muster enough men to withstand two great offensives on the western front. When the thrusts for Peronne and Bapaume are resumed, this pressure will be at a maximum.

The resumption of the Somme offensive cannot long be delayed, it is believed here. To offset this the Germans are shelling the enemy's lines steadily between the Ancre and the Somme. A formidable counter-offensive was planned, military observers here assert, but the new Verdun attack may interfere seriously with this plan.

The lull on the Somme cannot continue, observers say. Only by pressure against the Teuton at all possible points can the Roumanian situation be relieved. The Verdun offensive is the first move in that direction.

BLOW IS VIOLENT

Germans Lose in One Day What They Sacrificed Half Million Men to Win.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
LONDON, Oct. 24.—Opening the most violent and intensive artillery bombardment that this war has yet experienced, the French yesterday stormed German positions north of Verdun to a depth of two miles on a front of four and a third miles. This blow was so violent and so well arranged that it regained in a single afternoon's fighting virtually all the ground lost when the crown prince launched his hosts against this point in February and March. What the Germans achieved in two months the French achieved in about half a day. Thus the Germans lost yesterday what they sacrificed half a million men to win. The Germans were resting quietly in their dugout this morning, prepared to spend an easy winter before Verdun when the French cannonade began. It was conducted by hundreds

of heavy guns, and the bursting shells wrecked all the German trenches and buried their occupants in their dugouts.

Promptly at 11.40 o'clock the signal for an advance sounded along the French lines. The French infantry then leaped out of their trenches in extended formation, without their haversacks and other impediments to a rapid advance, and they rushed forward, surprising the Germans before they could emerge from their dugouts.

Complete co-ordination existed between the French artillery and the infantry, and as they moved forward the curtain of fire was thrown farther ahead.

Before nightfall the French had passed many of their old fighting grounds, made famous by weeks of struggle.

They first made for the fort and Village of Douaumont, which were taken by the Germans in the fourth day of their assault last February. Passing beyond to the left they stormed the Thiaumont work and farm, where they fought during March, April and May, and they took the Haumont quarries with a rush. When they reached the road from Bras to Douaumont they dug themselves in

to wait for further artillery action.

On the right of Fort Douaumont the French success was equally as great as on the left. They speedily cleared the Germans out of their trenches and wooded ground and established their lines to the north of La Caillette wood, along the western outskirts of Vaux Village, lost to them for five months, along the eastern border of the Fumville wood, and to the north of Chenols wood and the Damloup battery.

During the day the Germans came into French headquarters in droves, and by night 3500 had been counted. Great quantities of supplies and many guns were also taken, but sufficient time has not elapsed to count these yet.

The French, it is said, are now in good position for the making of a breach in the German front and to move northward and cut off the German armies from their base at Metz. The French advance also threatens the Lorraine mining region.

It is believed that Von Hindenburg will be forced to recall troops from the Roumanian front to attempt to save the situation. The bulk of the forces of the enemy in France is now concentrated on the Somme.

FOE GAINS PREDEAL IN HEAVY FIGHTING

Roumanians Still Hold Outskirts of Town in Important Pass.

RUSSIANS TO RESCUE

Czar's Troops Take Over Sectors on Transylvanian Front.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
LONDON, Oct. 24.—According to latest news from Roumania, the situation continues serious, but not desperate. The Germans have succeeded in advancing down Predeal Pass on the railway south of Kronstadt, and they have taken the Town of Predeal. The battle continues in the outskirts of this place and it is extremely violent. The Germans took 600 prisoners at Predeal.

The battle is also proceeding with the Germans making heavy attacks in the region of Dragoslave, where the Roumanians are maintaining their positions, and in the Jiu Valley where the enemy has made slight progress.

The Roumanian counter-offensive is driving the enemy westward in the Ural Valley, but the fighting is still violent there. They have also attacked the Germans along the whole front at Otus, and they have taken 312 prisoners and ten machine guns in their offensive.

In the Dobruja, the Russo-Roumanian line has not been broken, but the right wing of the allies has retired to Tzara Murat, 12 miles north of the railway. The left wing is still covering Cernavoda, with its bridgehead. The Germans claim that they have taken 7500 prisoners in this region. The Turks also claim a share in this fighting, and they say that Field Marshal Von Mackensen has sent a message of congratulations to the sultan concerning their successes. It is also claimed that a Turkish submarine sank a 3000 ton transport, and some sailing ships off the Roumanian coast. Medjidia, 15 miles east of Cernavoda, has also been evacuated by the allies and occupied by Von Mackensen.

Number of Torontonians Leave England for Home

Canadian Associated Press Cable.
LONDON, Oct. 24.—The Canadians who have sailed for home are: Ward J. Belcher, Miss Black, W. H. Deakin, Miss Lindsay, Miss M. Ross, Miss D. E. Watson and W. Weir, Toronto; Misses M. Brown, J. French, C. O. Mann, Mrs. Hassell, Montreal; Mrs. Cheval, Vancouver; J. McLean and family, Hamilton; Mrs. Metel and family, Winnipeg; and Mrs. Watson and family, Regina.

PUBLIC MEMORIAL SERVICE.

Special to The Toronto World.
BROOKVILLE, Ont., Oct. 24.—A public memorial service for the late Lieut. R. Hamilton, son of Rev. R. M. Hamilton, who was killed in France, was conducted by Capt. L. Bradley Hyde, chaplain of the Artillery Brigade, Toronto, and Rev. Dr. Haddow, also of Toronto. Both made strong recruiting appeals to large audiences.

U. S. SOLDIERS FIGHT IN SANTO DOMINGO

Several Americans, Including Two Officers, Are Reported Killed.

Santo Domingo, Oct. 24.—In an engagement between American troops and rebel forces today, Gen. Ramon Batista was killed. Several Americans are also reported killed, including two officers, and one American officer, Lieut. Morrison was wounded. The American commander attempted to arrest Gen. Batista, who resisted and ordered an attack on the American forces. Fighting continued for a considerable time, but the rebels eventually were defeated.

FINANCE WAR ORDERS BY PEOPLE'S SAVINGS

Hon. W. T. White Says Huge Expenditure Presents Big Problem.

EVERY MAN CAN HELP

Finance Minister Deals With Economic Side in Halifax Address.

Halifax, Oct. 24.—"There is need of men and munitions, and there is need of keeping the nation strong financially and economically, and in this last everyone can help. This war will only be won by exertion, by patience and by sacrifice; and these are faculties in which the men of our race have never been found wanting in a time of national crisis."

In these words Sir Thomas White, minister of finance, summed up an address on "The Business Affairs of the Nation" at the quarterly meeting of the board of trade this afternoon.

"What is the important question from a financial standpoint with relation to the war?" asked the minister of finance. And he replied by pointing out that with the Dominion Government spending \$730,000, and the imperial munitions board spending over \$1,000,000 a day in this country the important point is how is this huge expenditure to be financed? The imperial government cannot pay for munitions made in Canada by drawing cheques on the Bank of England. It can do so only by establishing dollar credits in Canada. And this can be accomplished only by the people of this country placing large sums to the credit of the imperial government.

"If we can give them the money we can get all the orders we want and more," said Sir Thomas, "but we must save."

SERB FIRST ARMY MAKES ADVANCE

Carries Bulgarian Trenches on Entire Front in Macedonia.

FOE'S ATTACKS FAIL

British Discover Presence of Germans in Dorjan Sector.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
LONDON, Oct. 24.—Another important success has been won by the Serbians when they advanced their first army on its entire front in Macedonia, and stormed the first system of Bulgarian trenches. While this was being done the Serbians bent off fierce attacks on the Serbian Vardar division. Then this Vardar division met the Bulgarians in fierce fighting north of Veljevo Village and repulsed them.

The first army then followed up its first success and took 60 prisoners. Floods in the Struma valley continue to hold up the British. The river is two feet above its normal level.

The British raided the trenches of the foe on the Doljan front, after a bombardment. Stubborn resistance was encountered from the enemy, and he was beaten back with loss. Eighteen Germans were taken prisoner and 40 dead Germans were found in the trenches.

HUNS BUSY TORPEDOING NORWEGIAN STEAMERS

Two Sunk, Another Seized and a Barque is Burned.

London, Oct. 24.—The Norwegian steamers Secundo and Gronhaug have been sunk, says a Reuters despatch from Christiania. The Gronhaug's crew was rescued. The Norwegian steamer Edam, the despatch adds, has been seized and taken to Emden, Germany.

Lloyd's shipping agency reports that the Norwegian barque Gunn has been burned by the Germans and the crew landed.

The Edam was last reported as passing Tromsø, Aug. 29. The barque Gunn, was owned in Porsgrund, Norway.

GERMAN PRIESTS ARE GIVEN THEIR RELEASE

Thirteen Arrive at San Francisco After Internment in Ceylon.

San Francisco, Oct. 24.—Thirteen German priests of the Roman Catholic Church arrived here today from Australia, on the steamer Ventura, after an internment in British concentration camp since October, 1914. It is planned to send them on to Germany.

HUN SUBS CONTINUING THEIR WAR ON SHIPS

British Steamer Barbara and Norwegian Steamer Snesstad Sunk.

London, Oct. 24.—Lloyd's announces that the British steamer Barbara and the Norwegian steamer Snesstad have been sunk. Their crews were saved.

The British steamer Barbara was a vessel of 740 tons and was employed by the West Hartlepool Steam Navigation Co. She was last reported as having sailed from Philadelphia, Sept. 23, for Quebec.

The Snesstad registered 2349 tons and was owned in Christiania.

HEAVY RAIN STOPS ACTION ON SOMME

Ground Becomes Slippery and Mired by Surplus of Moisture.

FIERCE FIGHT RAGES

Soldiers Struggle in Mud in Region of Fighting Near Le Transloy.

BY FREDERICK PALMER.

British Front in France, Oct. 25. **L**ONDON.—The British are saying that if the Germans had ordered the weather it would have suited their purposes better than during these past two days of persistent rain which has turned shell craters into bowls of porridge, made trench sides fall in, kept every stitch of clothing of the men in the front line saturated, and made the field across which charges have to be made as slippery as glass where there are no mines.

Sunday and part of Monday, with clear cold weather, which let the gunners see their targets, the soldiers were swinging their arms to keep warm. Now the gunners stare out the walls of mist and the soldiers who have been in the trenches look like balls of mud. Artillery preparation necessary for attack is impossible without visibility, and as one gunner said, the visibility is so low that the "tanks" will have to use foghorns to prevent a collision if they go wandering across the uncharted shell craters. The Germans in their machine gun positions need only enough visibility to see a few hundred yards.

Fierce Fight Proceeds.
But about Le Transloy, where the British attacked Monday over a narrow front and took about 1000 yards of trenches, the bloodiest and fiercest kind of fighting has been proceeding all day (Tuesday). The utter desolation and the mud and the wet seem only to make both sides more bitter.

Against the British here are the veteran German regiments which took forts Vaux and Douaumont at Verdun—now as savage in defense as they were in attack last spring. The trenches in this region have names appropriate for the weather and the season, such as "Misty trench," "Hay trench," "Stormy," "Cloudy," "Windy," "Spectrum," and "Orion" trench.

HEAVY SHELLING SOUTH OF ANCRE

British Engage in Artillery Duel With Foe About Armentieres.

SUFFER LIGHT LOSSES

Only Twelve Hundred Casualties Occur in Recent Action.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
LONDON, Oct. 24.—On the British front south of the Ancre today the feature was intermittent shelling of the British positions by the Germans. In local fighting they took 80 prisoners yesterday and today.

Sir Douglas Haig reports as follows: "In answer to the enemy's claim that the gains of Saturday between Schwabedou and Le Sara were only at the expense of heavy losses on our part, it may be noted that the troops engaged, which took over 1,000 prisoners, had only about 1,200 casualties."

Further to the north round Armentieres the British and the Germans engaged in considerable shelling of each other. Probably to destroy some British mine shafts a party of Germans raided the British trenches east of Loos and was immediately ejected.

Pte. Charles Webster, Paris, Reported Dead of Wounds

Brantford, Oct. 24.—Pte. Charles Webster, for a number of years engaged in the Canada mills, Paris, who enlisted at Brantford, Man., with the 9th Regiment, is reported dead from wounds.

Mrs. Milton Postill, of Paris, has received news that her son, Snapper Frank Vernon Postill, is officially reported wounded.

Sergeant George Patta, wounded, was hit by shrapnel twice in the thigh. Private Lynn and Corporal James Durand, Brantford, are on their way home. Lynn was a former star soccer player, and Durand a British reservist.

Major Frank Hicks, expected home this week, is too feeble to travel.

STILL IN CONFERENCE.

Winnipeg, Oct. 24.—The conference between the C. P. R. and employees was still proceeding at 11.40 p.m., with no indication of agreement so far as could be learned.

DINEEN'S FALL AND WINTER COATS.

Dineen's overcoats have been most carefully selected, and there is not a coat among them all that belongs to the common run of coats. Nothing else in the price either. You must see the goods to appreciate their proper place and value. Imported fall coats bearing the names of English makers who have never been known to cater to other than a restricted and exclusive trade. Excellent wool material and most impressive style—\$17.50 to \$40. Dineen's, 140 Yonge street.

HUGHES HITS "HYPHENS" IN NEW YORK SPEECH

He Disdains Support of Men Swerved by Alien Machinations.

New York, Oct. 24.—Charles E. Hughes told an audience that he did not want the support of anyone who has any interest superior to that of the U. S. who would not instantly champion the right and interest of America against any country whatever, who wants immunity for foreign aggression or who would have the power of this nation held captive to any foreign influence or swayed by alien machinations.

This is the first public utterance of the Republican nominee indicating repudiation of pro-German support.

ROOSEVELT WOULD USE BIG STICK ON TEUTONS

He Would Have Forced Issue After Sinking of the Lusitania.

READY TO FACE WAR

Colonel Recalls How He Made Germany Submit in Venezuela.

Denver, Colo., Oct. 24.—Colonel Theodore Roosevelt told an audience here today that if he had been president and had sent President Wilson's "strict accountability" message to Germany "there would have been no more ships sunk—unless there was a fight afterward. The Lusitania was sunk with its 1394 deaths as a consequence because other nations believed we'd welcome being kept out of war. If I had been president, then I'd have seized every interned German ship and then I'd have said to Germany, 'Now, we'll see what you are going to give us as compensation for this, but what we are going to give you.'"

"I abhor a needless, wanton war. But if it were necessary to protect our women and children I'd have gone to war as the ontente powers did. When I was president and Germany wanted to assume control of part of Venezuela 'temporarily' I got Dewey and had every ship in the fleet ready down south off Porto Rico. And I got the arbitration I asked for because Germany knew I meant what I said. 'If it had been otherwise we would have had a German stronghold in Venezuela, and most of the present war would have been fought right here at our front door.'"

Two Danish Craft Victims

One is Sunk, Another Burned

London, Oct. 24.—Lloyd's announces that the Danish steamer Guldberg has been torpedoed and that the Danish schooner Libra has been set afire by a German submarine. The crews of both vessels were landed.

C.P.R. CONCESSIONS TO AVERT A TIE-UP

"There Will Be No Strike Today," Says Company Official.

NO FORMAL DECISION

Officials and Men's Representatives Confer Early This Morning.

Winnipeg, Wednesday, Oct. 25.—At 1 o'clock this morning the conference between the C. P. R. officials and the representatives of the men was still in session. At this hour D. C. Coleman, assistant to the general manager of western lines, advised the newspapermen that "there would be no strike today."

Grant Hall, vice-president and general manager, and Dr. C. Coleman are representing the company at the conference, and James Murdoch and S. E. Berry the men. Deliberations will likely continue until two o'clock before an adjournment is taken.

Last night G. D. Robertson, vice-president of the order of railway telegraphers, who is here as a special envoy of Frontier Borden, made a similar statement to that of Mr. Coleman, declaring that there would be no strike.

Interesting Relics Found in Indian Burial Ground

Brantford, Oct. 24.—Richard Sanderson, curator of the Aryan Society, accompanied by John Douglas, ex-warden of Brant, visited a recently discovered Indian burial ground in Ancaster Township. In one grave was found rings and bracelets supposed to have been given by early English and French settlers in exchange for land. A bird amulet, very rare specimens, was also found. Wampum and fine pottery of various kinds were discovered, and the whole find has been added to collection of Aryan Society. Mr. Sanderson himself has one of the best private collections of Indian relics in Ontario.

Brewery Concerns Charged Selling Liquor for Resale

Brantford, Oct. 24.—Hamilton Brewing Association and Grant Spring Brewing Company, both of Hamilton, and Carling Brewing Company, London, were in police court this morning charged with violation of Ontario Temperance Act, by selling liquor for re-sale. Complaint was made by License Inspector R. J. Eacrett, who claimed that liquor sold contained more than two and one half per cent. alcohol. Defendants made claim that it was not over strength when it left their factories, and that if it were over strength it must have been due to fermentation, which had taken place since that time. The three cases were adjourned one week.