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Fight Round Verdun Has Now Ceased For the Moment

North and East of Fortress Has Seen no Big Engagement Since Saturday—On Both Sides of the Meuse Artillery of Both Sides Continue Their Tremendous Shelling—Germans Claim to Have Captured Large Number of French Prisoners and Guns—Russians Make Further Gains in Dniester Region—Italians Again Pepper Gorizia

LONDON, Mar. 13.—Except for artillery actions, the fighting in the Verdun region has ceased for the moment. To the north and east of the fortress there has been no infantry engagement since Saturday afternoon, when the Germans succeeded in entering a small French trench north of Eix. On both sides of the Meuse, from the north-west of Verdun along the entire front, around to the south-west of the fortress, artillery of both sides are continuing the tremendous shelling that has been in progress for some days. The Germans claim to have captured in the fighting around Verdun, thus far, 26,472 unrounded French soldiers, 189 guns and 232 machine guns. To the south of the Somme River, in the Argonne Forest and in the Ban de Supt sector of the Vosges, French guns have heavily bombarded German entrenchments.

The Russians have captured trenches from the Germans in the Dniester region of East Galicia, and have made further progress against the Turks in Persia, by taking the town of Kirind. The Russians admit the sinking of a Russian torpedo boat destroyer by a submarine of the Central Powers in the Black Sea, off the Bulgarian port of Varna. Part of the crew of the destroyer were rescued.

Despite the unfavorable weather conditions in the mountains, the Italians are keeping up their operations against the Austro-Hungarians. They are also intensely bombarding the Isonzo front. The town of Gorizia has had to sustain another hail of Italian shells.

Scandinavian Powers Hold Conference

Deliberations Have Strengthened the Good Relations Between the Three States and Give Fresh Expression of Loyal and Impartial Neutrality

COPENHAGEN, Mar. 13.—An official statement regarding the Conference of the Scandinavian Ministry of States, which concluded on Saturday, says:

"The deliberations opened by a general conversation on questions which have occupied the Scandinavian Governments since the outbreak of war. Particularly interesting was the re-arrangement reached providing for a continuation of the common measures already taken and new measures to be taken in the interest of the three countries.

"The deliberations have strengthened the good relations between the three States and gave fresh expression of the desire to maintain a loyal and impartial neutrality and of the desire to continue the co-operation hitherto pursued was expressed by all those in attendance. It was also urged that a conference of members of the governments or other representatives be held for to further co-operation as often as circumstances may render them desirable."

Queen of Sweden Suffers from Bronchitis

STOCKHOLM, Mar. 13.—Queen Victoria is suffering from an attack of bronchitis.

Killed in Air Fight

LONDON, Mar. 13.—Captain Nicholson, only son of Charles Nicholson, Member of Parliament, was killed while making a flight in England. Captain Nicholson has seen several months service at the front.

Churchill Decides His Place is at the Front

LONDON, Mar. 13.—Col. Winston Churchill, who had an interview with Premier Asquith on Saturday, has finally decided that his place is with his regiment, according to "Reynold's Weekly."

Russian Torpedo Boat Destroyer Sunk

BERLIN, Mar. 13.—The Russian torpedo boat destroyer "Leitenu Pushchin" has been sunk by a mine according to a report from Sofia, Bulgaria, by the Overseas News Agency. Four officers and eleven sailors of the crew of the destroyer were rescued by the Bulgarians.

Ireland Wants Share War Orders

Deputation Led by Redmond Calls Upon Lloyd George and Urges Greater Facilities be Afforded Ireland For Munition Making

LONDON, Mar. 13.—A deputation of Irish merchants, led by John Redmond, leader of the Irish Nationalists in Parliament, yesterday waited on David Lloyd George, Munition Minister, and urged that greater facilities be afforded Ireland for munition making, such as equipment of shell fuses factories, which Trades Unions were anxious to give aid.

Lloyd George replied that while he was anxious to utilize the resources of Ireland to their utmost, it could not be denied that Ireland was not an industrial country. He pointed out incidentally that he was not sanguine that the war would be ended before July, and that, therefore, he could not make plans for the delivery of machinery. Such an assumption, he said, was no reason why Ireland should not prosper industrially, if an opportunity offered for the manufacture of munitions.

The deputation decided to form a Permanent Committee and make definite suggestions to Lloyd George.

A Record Hard to Beat

Every Eligible Member of Church in Brantford, Ont., Has Enlisted—Rector Included, Who Goes as a Private

BRANTFORD, Ont., Mar. 13.—75 enlistments out of a congregation of 100 families is the record of the Holy Trinity Anglican Church in this city. Every eligible member of the church has enlisted, including the rector, Rev. S. E. McKegney, who has joined as a private, as well as two church wardens and the choir leader.

HOUSE OPENS

The Fourth Session of the Twenty-third General Assembly will be opened on Thursday evening next.

Huns Beaten By Brilliant Counter Attack

Story Given by German Prisoners Say Careful Plans of Germans Were Defeated by French Chasseurs—Praise For French Militaireuse

PARIS, Mar. 12.—A brilliant counter-attack by the French Chasseurs is responsible for the check which upset the carefully laid plans of the Germans, according to an account of the battle. The "Journal" claims to have obtained it from seven Prussian officers, taken prisoners on some special patrol duty. All these officers were brought back to France from the Serbian front, two of them belonging to the artillery, and were wounded. They declared that in order to reach the German front they had to pass through concentrated lines of artillery several miles deep.

One of them declared the number of guns used in the Galician campaign was not to be compared with the great batteries assembled for the assault upon Verdun. The tremendous French mitrailleuses far surpassed anything he ever saw.

He is quoted as saying that the French artillery at Douaumont was equal in strength at that point to the German, but that it was the gallant charge of the French Chasseurs that finally drove them back.

The patrols described their progress to the front, in its east stage, as having been made over heaps of dead comrades. The Germans explained that their higher command had taken measures in advance to provide that all their artillery, comprising hundreds of heavy guns, should advance in a compact mass as though it were a single battery. Orders were to fire without stopping until exhausted. Shells were used in enormous quantities. When the French guns found their range the Germans said the batteries, which had been concentrated, had to be dispersed or they would have been put out of action.

Grief And Desolation Hang As A Pall Over German Cities

Weeping Women Everywhere Mourn For Husbands, Brothers and Sons Sacrificed at Verdun—Nothing in War Losses Can Approach Slaughter of Germans in Their Mad Drive For Verdun—For Every Man the French have Lost Five Are Missing From the Kaiser's Army

LONDON, March 13.—A Paris correspondent of The Daily Mail telegraphing Sunday says:

Germany has had many black Sundays since she went to war, but none so sombre as to-day when grief and desolation are like a pall over her empire, whose cities, towns and villages are filled with weeping women who sorrow for their husbands, fathers and sons sacrificed at Verdun.

However frightful the German losses may have been at Hautmont, Herbeois and Douaumont in the first passes of the battle they pale into insignificance when compared with the awful fighting of last week; it is hardly an exaggeration to say that for every three Germans in Corbeau Wood there was a German corpse, and that the slopes of Bethencourt even more than those of Vaux are now covered with grim shapes of massacred humanity.

It would be idle to deny that the French in past three sanguinary weeks have suffered but when known beyond a question that for every man that General Petain has lost, five are missing from the Kaiser's army. One cannot but have confidence in the final result. "I am ready to sacrifice 200,000 men, but I will get Verdun," said the Kaiser on February 20th.

India Will Stand by Empire

People Give Every Assistance to Government—Events in France and Russia Are Closely Followed—No Falling off in War Gifts

LONDON, March 13 (via Reuter's Ottawa Agency).—A special despatch from Delhi says:

"The Legislative Council of India has been discussing with much animation the question of taxation. The keynote of all speeches being the remarkable manner in which the people of India have approved of general fresh taxation imposed, reiterating the whole-hearted support being given the Government in all its schemes for a successful carrying on of the war. Thus India is exporting large quantities of raw materials to the Allies, especially jute, salt, petre, while Burma is supplying tungsten ore. The shell output of Indian workshops is rapidly increasing."

The recent great successes of the Russians over the Turks in Armenia, the splendid fighting of the French in the defence of Verdun have given the keenest pleasure to people of India. The whole country continues to watch events in Europe, Mesopotamia and East Africa with acute interest.

"There is not a falling off evident in the support which India is giving the Empire. Gifts of aeroplanes, hospital equipment, motor ambulances, ambulance launches continue to be presented by princes and people. Money still pours in also for the various war funds and for comforts for troops in all theatres of war."

Uncle Sam Gets After Villa Band

Expedition Under General Funston Will be Sent in Pursuit—Carranza's Forces to Co-operate in Punishing Villa For Recent Raid

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11.—Instructions conveying full authority to General Funston to despatch an expedition into Mexico in pursuit of Villa and his bandits are to-day in General Funston's hand.

Secretary of War, Baker, has announced that full discretion as to the number of men to be used and the route to be followed, has been left with General Funston.

General Carranza, through Consul Silliman, has asked the American Government for permission to send Mexican troops across the border and into the United States in pursuit of the bandits.

MEXICO CITY, Mar. 12.—Carranza's reply to the Note from Washington, asking permission to send troops through Mexican territory in order to punish Villa and his bandits for his raid on Columbus, New Mexico, was made public by the Mexican Government officials late last night. The reply, which says that Mexico will co-operate with the States' troops by sending General Gutierrez with 2,500 men, bears the signature Jesus Acuna, Provisional President, Carranza's Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Roumania To Adhere to Allies Cause

London Hears That an Agreement Has Been Effectuated Between Russia and Roumania—Latter Country to Get Part of Bessarabia

LONDON, Mar. 13.—An agreement has been reached between Roumania and Russia which is believed to indicate the definite decision of Roumania to adhere to the cause of the Entente Allies, according to a Bucharest despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company. The agreement permits Roumania to purchase war materials from Russia and the transporting through Russia of war materials purchased elsewhere.

It is reported that Russia has agreed further to give Roumania a part of Bessarabia.

Carranza Gets Even With Uncle Sam

Refuses Permission to United States Troops to Violate Mexican Territory Unless Similar Privileges Are Given Mexican Troops

MEXICO CITY, Mar. 13.—General Carranza to-night issued a manifesto to the nation declaring under no circumstances would the Mexican Government grant the right to the United States to violate Mexican territory by sending an armed force in pursuit of Villa without consent and reciprocal privileges being first obtained and admitted. Word was sent to a confidential agent of the Mexican Government in Washington to make immediate representations to this effect.

British Official Of Flanders Fighting

LONDON, March 11.—An official report from British headquarters reads:—"We exploded three mines east of Mermelles with satisfactory results. The artillery on both sides has been active about Albert, Hulluch and Ypres."

The Allied Defensive Wall is Stretched Right Across France

Earthquake Shocks

ROME, Mar. 13.—Earthquake shocks, lasting from ten to twenty seconds, were felt in various parts of Italy yesterday.

Buffalo Has Another Big Fire

Buffalo, N.Y., March 13.—A fire said to have been caused by dust explosion virtually destroyed the fertilizer plant of the International Agricultural Corporation here to-day. The loss is estimated at \$500,000. No loss of life is reported.

Dutch Think German Offensive Near Its End

London, March 13.—An Amsterdam despatch says that on account of the German offensive at Verdun, the Dutch-Belgian frontier had been closed for several weeks. That part of it south of Maastrecht has now been reopened and this fact is being commented on in Holland as probably indicating that the Germans consider their offensive near an end. The despatch adds that 81 more hospital trains with wounded Germans from Verdun have passed through

Will Use Big Tugs for Life Saving

The Holland-American Line Makes Arrangements For Big Sea Going Tugs to Accompany Steamers—Tugs to Carry Large Quantity of Salving Material

Rotterdam, March 13.—The Holland-American Line has arranged for a big sea going tug capable of carrying a large quantity of life-saving salving material to escort each steamer of that line across the North Sea and from Kentish Knock lightship on the English coast. This arrangement began last night with the sailing of the steamer Veendyk. The tug will wait near Kentish Knock for the "Nieuw Amsterdam" which sailed from New York on February 29.

Roumanians and Bulgars Get busy

Engagement Said to Have Taken Place Near Ranovo—Bulgars Fired on Roumanian Ship—Many Are Killed on Both Sides

LONDON, Mar. 13.—An engagement is reported to have taken place on the Danube between the Roumanians and Bulgarians, near the town of Ranovo, says the Daily Mail's Odessa correspondent. A Bulgarian frontier guard is said to have fired on a Roumanian vessel, which was loading another vessel in Roumanian waters. The Bulgarians signalled to an Austrian gunboat, the correspondent adds, which ordered the Roumanian vessels to the Bulgarian shore. They refused to comply, whereupon the gunboat opened fire with machine guns and rifles. Roumanian troops replied to the fire. There were many casualties on both sides.

Lord Northcliffe Gives His Impressions on Great Fight at Verdun—Says Germans Have No Guns Equal to French "75"—Germans Taken Prisoners are Poor Lot and All are Eager For Peace—Northcliffe Says Germany is Striking Out Blindly by Land at Verdun and he is Convinced She Will Presently Strike Out by Sea

LONDON, Mar. 13.—Lord Northcliffe, who has just visited the Verdun battlefield, in a message to the "Weekly Despatch" declares that the Verdun battlefield is a great deal more interesting than important. The newspaper publisher continues: "It does not need a personal visit to the battlefield to realize this. If the Germans really think an attack on the unarmed and dismantled forts of Verdun opens the road to Paris, they have very faint notions of French preparations and French power of resistance."

Comparing the present German troops with those who fought early in the war, Lord Northcliffe says: "Last week I saw German prisoners who had escaped the hellish fire of the French '75's' at Verdun. There were none of the splendid stalwarts such as were captured at the Battle of the Marne. Much of the rank and file of the Germans were underdressed, badly dressed, with faces that bear a look of fright that seems as if it would last a life time. Their appearance is such as to move a heart of stone. With two exceptions, among those with whom I spoke, all were utterly weary of warfare and begged to be told when peace could be expected. The fact is that Germany is in the position of a besieged city. She is striking out blindly by land at Verdun, and she will presently, I am convinced, strike out by sea."

Turning to the actual fighting at Verdun, Lord Northcliffe says: "Not a word is hinted in anything sent out from Germany of the horrible slaughter to which German troops have been subjected this week. Thursday was a black day for the Germans. When drugged with ether, men came on in mass formation, to be mowed down by the French '75's' and machine guns as usual. Reports published in British newspapers from Paris are, to my personal knowledge, on the whole, most accurate. They show that for one of many reasons the Crown Prince is gambling with human life to an extent unprecedented even in this war."

Lord Northcliffe asserts that if the Germans possess a number of guns of greater calibre than those used by the British and French, they have no weapons in their army equal to the French '75's' or gunners at all comparable to the Frenchmen."

Jap Premier Condemns Kickers

Tokio, Japan, March 13.—Recent criticism in press of Anglo-Japanese alliance induced Premier Count Okuma to-day to give an interview in which he condemned what he characterized as petty efforts to create an agitation against Britain. The Premier declared unequivocally there could be no wavering Japan's faculty to the alliance.

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