

FOE'S POSITION STRENGTHENED

Has Been Able To Reinforce
Armies in Western
Theatre.

DEFENSES CONTINUOUS

Germans Discarding Helmets
and Using Variety of
Clothing.

[Canadian Press.]
LONDON, Dec. 20.—8.30 p.m.—The great difficulties under which military operations in France and Belgium are being conducted are described in a narrative of recent developments, written by an official observer attached to the British headquarters and made public today by the official information bureau. The recital brings the story of the war, as covered in these eyewitness reports, up to December 17.

"The opposition now being encountered resembles to some extent that met with by us in the beginning of October, when first a rushed the Franco-Belgian frontier, and before the Germans brought up their full force and assumed the offensive," says the report. "It has been a very difficult, however, and that it is the enemy is in much greater force and his positions are much stronger and better organized than they were two months ago."

Germans Well Fortified.

"At that time an advance on the eastern end of the line implied a movement across a very difficult country, as it does still, and for us it meant an attack on solidly fortified positions, strong points or villages, held to a large extent by cavalry and jaggers. With the large proportion of machine guns that we have in front of us today, it is no longer a question of isolated points. There are still such points, and some are the same, but they are stronger and form part of a practically continuous defensive zone, consisting in some places of several lines of cunningly sited and carefully constructed works."

Every known form of obstacle is used. Entanglements to select the most common—vary from loose coils of wire, and the like, to networks of from eighteen inches to nearly six feet in height and of different widths.

Advance is Slow.

"These measures of defense are only such as are to be expected from troops which are well trained and have ample resources and time at their disposal of course ways in which they can be overcome. But where these methods are applied, the rate of advance is necessarily slow. When it is a question of taking a certain point, topographically the enemy may amount to only a few yards. Tactically, on the other hand, the progress implied by even such a small step forward may be important. For a trench, a cluster of trenches, the edge of a wood, a building, a village, or a knoll may have been reached, possession of which will facilitate further operations."

"Siege approaches, such as saps, help the attackers to advance under cover and so to minimize the losses, but they do not and cannot remove the liability of a surprise. The only known method of preventing this is by a prolonged bombardment with high explosive shells, until trenches, mines and machine guns are reduced to scrap heaps, or to mine under them and blow them into the air."

Germans Headquarters Hit.

"The report of the actual fighting is a repetition of what has appeared in the daily French official statements, telling of the capture of German trenches, of sapping and mining operations, and heavy artillery duels. Concerning the latter, the observer says that the British artillery on December 17 obtained several hits on what appeared to be the German headquarters. The narrative continues:

"From a prisoner captured on December 14 it has been ascertained that both the Twenty-Fifth Regiment and the Jaggers suffered enormous losses on November 4. The same man described the fifth of November as a terrible day, saying that he had never before seen such mud as that in which the Germans were operating and that the troops were suffering very much from the presence of water in the trenches. The shelling which he went through on the fifth of this month exceeded anything which he had experienced previously."

"We have reason to believe that many of the landwehr are heartily sick of war, and resent the harsh treatment of their officers. They have been persuaded that the British ill-treated their prisoners, and but for this many would be willing to surrender."

"The Germans are to be discarded their helmets, the pickelhauben, with which they have for fifty years been associated in the eyes of the world. Many variations in their uniforms are now to be seen. Some of the troops are wearing their peace clothing, which is of brighter color than the gray service dress. There is evidence that certain of the units facing us are much under strength."

Pressing Forward.

Concerning the offensive movement of the Allies, the observer says:

"In conjunction with the French, who also are pressing forward, a movement has been started, which has resulted in a small gain of ground."

ITALIANS BITTER AGAINST AUSTRIA

Demonstrations On Anniversary
of Oberdank's Death
Show This.

GARIBALDI CAUSES STIR

Son of Patriot Brings Climax
To Meeting Held In
Rome.

ROME, Dec. 20.—The police at various places in Italy had some difficulty today in keeping down riotous demonstrations at the anniversary of the death of the irredentist leader, Oberdank, who organized the unsuccessful plot to assassinate Emperor Francis Joseph in Trieste in 1882, and was put to death for it.

During the night of Saturday, although they had been forbidden by the authorities to do so, parties to the movement placarded the streets with posters referring to Oberdank and also distributed leaflets, some of them with mourning borders, bearing the inscription, "Remember the Sacrifice of Oberdank."

The Republican deputy, Cola Amintore, delivered an address to a sympathetic audience, which frequently broke into applause as the speaker recited the story of the "Treacherous Martyr" and his ideals, and declared it was necessary soon to realize them.

"Garibaldi" Brings Climax.

The demonstration reached its climax when Riccardo Garibaldi, son of the Italian patriot Garibaldi, leaning on his crutches, arose and said:

"A voice is still ringing from Caprera Island where my father lies buried. It asks for facts, not words from the committee promoting the enlistment of volunteers."

As Garibaldi ceased there was a tremendous outburst of applause and cries of "Long live Italy," "Long live Trent," and "Long live Trieste." Several crowds of demonstrators attempted to invade the centre of the city, but were prevented from doing so by the police and troops.

This afternoon the Republican Association had a procession and later unveiled the marble tablet in the Republican Club in honor of Oberdank.

Police Stop Meetings.

ANCONA (Via Rome), Dec. 20.—The Club Mazzini and other associations made preparations for the holding of a memorial service today in honor of Oberdank. The authorities, however, would not permit the demonstrations, and even put a ban on the public carrying of flags. The town was strongly occupied by troops and police in order to prevent possible disorders.

GENOA (Via Rome), Dec. 20.—The police today displayed great energy in frustrating attempts to hold meetings to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Oberdank, in the fear that they would assume an anti-Austrian character.

Clamor for War.

FLORENCE (Via Rome), Dec. 20.—8.55 p.m.—A memorial meeting for Oberdank today was transformed into a manifestation in favor of Italy's intervention in the war. The police repeatedly tried to disperse the demonstrators, but they reached the cathedral square in the centre of the town before this could be done. Several persons were arrested.

Bologna's Demonstration.

BOLOGNA (Via Rome), Dec. 20.—8.55 p.m.—Following an Oberdank memorial meeting today, a group of about four hundred persons paraded the streets and laid a wreath on the Garibaldi monument. There were cries of "Long live Trent and Trieste," and shouts that the people should be allowed to participate in the war.

Anti-Austrian Scenes.

MILAN (Via Rome), Dec. 20.—8.55 p.m.—The Austrian consulate and the centre of the city were occupied by the military today in order to prevent anti-Austrian manifestations on the occasion of the death of Oberdank. The speech was greeted with enthusiastic applause. The enthusiasm was kept in readiness throughout the day, but no untoward incident occurred.

Venice Threatens Trouble.

VENICE (Via Rome), Dec. 20.—8.55 p.m.—Security measures today directed an inflammatory oration at the memorial service held in honor of Oberdank. The speech was greeted with enthusiastic applause. The enthusiasm was kept in readiness throughout the day, but no untoward incident occurred.

Parisian Ivory and Ebony

We have a fine stock to choose from.

Geo. A. McLachlan
DRUGGIST.
390 Richmond Street.

Flowers and Plants as Christmas Gifts

Will be highly appreciated because of the beautiful sentiment they reflect. Through them a true spirit of gift-giving is expressed.

We are showing a special assortment of

Azaleas, Cyclamen, Begonias,
Skimia, Jerusalem Chimes

And a large assortment of Ferns, Palms, Crotons
and choice basket arrangements.

Also all the season's choicest Cut Flowers,
Violets, Roses, Carnations, Daffodils, Narcissus,
Lily of the Valley, and Mignonette.

F. Dicks & Son

The Quality Flower Shop.
235 DUNDAS STREET. PHONE 1297.

PERSONAL GREETING CARDS.
Have You Ordered Your New Year's
Greeting Cards? Stationery Counter.

SMALLMAN'S

CORTESE ORCHESTRA.
Balcony, 8 p.m. Restaurant, 9 p.m.

THIS IS CHRISTMAS WEEK TIME IS MONEY

And we offer the suggestion that much will be saved in both money and time by doing your Christmas shopping at this store which, from a Christmas shopping point of view, offers the best, most comfortable and safest shopping facilities that can be found anywhere. Notwithstanding the large volume of business since the first of the month, there is no noticeable depletion of stocks in assortments or variety. From baby to grandma and grandpa your gift lists may be filled here (all under one roof) with many fine things not to be had in any other store and others which we have added for Christmas presents as moderately priced as possible for goodness of quality. Come in the morning and shop with a transfer.



Silk Hosiery Prettily Boxed, For Gifts

Ladies' Extra Heavy Black Silk Hose, with inside lisle splicing top and sole. Warranted for their good wearing qualities. Sizes 8½ to 10. \$2 and \$3 pair

Ladies' Novelty Silk Hose, black with white or pink tops; navy with old gold tops. Double feet and garter top. Sizes 8½ to 10. \$1.75 pair

Ladies' Silk Hose in black, white, tan, grey, navy, copenhagen, purple, pink, rose, lavender, yellow, gold, Nile, cerise, peacock, sky, tango and green. Double lisle top and sole. Sizes 8½ to 10. \$1.50 pair

Also black, white or tan Silk Hose at 50c, \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50 pair.

Children's Fine Ribbed Silk Hose in black or white, neat. Sizes 6½ to 9, at 75c, or 3 pairs for \$2

Children's Overstockings in scarlet or cardinal, also black. Best hose to keep the feet warm. Sizes 6½ to 10½ at 35c to 55c pair, according to size.

Umbrellas For Gifts ENGRAVED FREE

On all Umbrellas, \$3.00 or over, we will have initial or monogram engraved free of charge. Order yours now that this may be done for Christmas.

Ladies' or Gentlemen's Gift Umbrellas.
\$1.00, \$1.50, \$1.95, \$2.45, \$3.00, \$4.00; \$5.00, \$6.00 to \$12.00.

Children's from 50c to \$1.00

MEN'S WALKING STICKS

25c, 50c, 75c up to \$12.00. All sticks from \$1.50 up engraved free of charge.

22 Walking Sticks, \$1.50 to \$2, to clear at 75c

All this season's sticks, light ash and partridge wood crooks, sterling silver trimmed. \$1.50 to \$2.00 sticks, to clear at 75c each

Sale Tuesday.

Ladies' Embroidered Handkerchiefs

Ladies' Pure Irish Linen Handkerchiefs, hemstitched, lace edges, embroidered designs in one corner 25c, 35c, 50c

A very fine linen, embroidered all around, assorted patterns. 75c each

A much finer linen, daintily embroidered, hemstitched and scalloped edges \$1.25, \$1.50 to \$2.50 each

Maltese Lace Handkerchiefs, pure linen centres 50c, 75c and \$1.00 each

Pure linen centres, deep lace corners \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75 each

An Etz Lace Handkerchief, pure linen centre. .85c and \$1.00 each

A finer centre, wider lace, very dainty pattern, \$1.25, \$1.50 each



SANTA CLAUS SAYS HE HAS
FOUND MORE USEFUL AND
PRACTICAL GIFTS AT THIS
STORE.

Ladies' Robes, Sacks, Underskirts, Etc. PRETTILY BOXED.

Negligee Gown of Maize Silk Crepe de Chine. Price \$16.50

Handsome Padded Japanese Silk Robes, from \$5.00 to \$13.50

Velour Lounging Robes \$3.75 to \$8.50

Beautiful Flowered Silk Negligee Gowns \$7.00 and \$8.50

Dainty Crepe Kimonos. A splendid assortment to choose from. 98c to \$3.50

Flannelette Kimonos from 98c to \$3.00

Children's Padded Robes \$4.25

Bed Jackets of Silk Crepe de Chine, beautifully embroidered. \$7.75 to \$9.50

Short Padded Silk Jackets, from \$2.95 to \$4.50

French Hand-Embroidered Sacks. Price \$2.50

Flannelette Sacks from 49c to \$1.25

Children's Velour Robes. Price \$1.98

Children's Wool Eiderdown Robes. Price \$3.00

House Dresses. Prices 79c, 98c, \$1.25 to \$2.75

Messaline Underskirts, from \$2.95 to \$6.00

Moreen Underskirts from \$2.50 to \$5.00

Dressy Sateen Underskirts, \$1.29

Cosy Knitted Underskirts, \$1.50

Pretty Brocade Sateen Underskirts 89c

Second Floor.

Pretty Ornaments for the Hair, 15c to \$1.00

Special line of Smart-Hair Ornaments direct from Paris. These are dainty, gauzy ornaments, with sequin and pearl trimming in butterfly and leaf designs, with white aigrettes and colored sequin and pearls to match your gowns. Neatly boxed. Special at Notion Counter \$1.00

Gift suggestions in Fancy Hair Pins, Fancy Combs and Hair Ornaments, etc. The new style of hair-dressing has made an increased demand for the fancy hair pin or the high-back fancy comb. We have an exceptionally good assortment of these in plain or with brilliant settings. Smart new styles. Special line of pins in shell or amber, with one row of brilliants 15c pair

Smart Shell Pin, with two rows brilliants, extra value, 50c pair

Splendid assortment of better pins 50c and \$1.00 each

Extra large plain Shell Pin. Special 25c each

Smart Plain Back Comb, one row brilliants. Special 75c each

SPECIALS AT SILK DEPARTMENT FOR TUESDAY FOR MOTHER AND WIFE.—THE FAMOUS C. J. BONNET & CO.'S YARD-WIDE BLACK SATIN DUCHESS. TUESDAY, \$1.29 YARD.

This is one of the best dress satins to buy. When you buy a C. J. Bonnet fabric you have a dependable material. Tuesday 200 yards only of this high-grade maker's Satin Duchesse, stamped with the maker's name on the selvage, will go on sale at \$1.29 yard

FOR SISTER AND DAUGHTER—THREE SPECIALS IN WHITE HABUTAI (WASH SILKS) FOR WAISTS AND DRESSES.

27-Inch Extra Heavy White Habutai Silk, Tuesday 48c yard

36-Inch White Habutai, a perfect washing silk, soft, beautiful finish. Tuesday 73c yard

36-Inch White Mome Silk, extra heavy quality. Our best quality in yard-wide wash silk, and unsurpassed for serviceable wear. Tuesday 98c yard

EXTRA SPECIAL.—37-Inch Stripe Habutai (Wash Silk). Same weight as the above 36-Inch Mome Silk. Shown in four colors of neat hair-line stripes about one-quarter-inch apart. Guaranteed yarn-dye and absolutely fast colors. Stripes are in pale blue, pink, navy, black. Tuesday 98c yard



Full Course Supper in Restaurant, 5 to 7:30. Special 35c. Lunches from 3 to 5:30 p.m., 10c up.

"ERECTOR" The Building Game For Boys



Another supply just received for last days' selling. This game is both interesting and educational, and more models can be built from "Erector" than any other kind. The best set will make 1,000 different structures. Prices \$1.25 to \$6.50

Ask the boys.
Toy Town.

Cream Dress Goods

40-Inch Cream Veiling, pure wool 40c yard

44-Inch Cream Cashmere, pure wool 50c yard

44-Inch Cream Serge, ladies' skirts 50c yard

44-Inch Cream Llama, for babies' dresses 75c yard

48-Inch Cream Bedford Cord, babies' coating, \$1.25, \$1.50 yard

44-Inch Cream Lustre, 50c yard

44-Inch Cream Wool Crepes 75c and \$1.00 yard

44-Inch Cream Silk and Wool Poplin \$1.25 yard

44-Inch Cream Silk and Wool Poplin de Soffe \$1.50 yard

48-Inch Cream Whipcord \$1.25 yard

52-Inch Cream Heavy Serge \$1.50 yard

44-Inch Cream Cashmere Serge (fine twill) 85c yard

50-Inch Cream Polo Coating, thick and soft \$1.50 yard

50-Inch Cream Teddy Bear Coating for babies' coats \$2.50 yard

Ladies' and Children's Boxed Handkerchiefs

Ladies' Pure Irish Linen Handkerchiefs, dainty embroidered initial and wreath in one corner, prettily boxed \$1.00 for box of 6

Ladies' Embroidered Handkerchiefs, pure Irish linen, hemstitched and lace edges, assorted patterns, in box of 3 for \$1.00

A finer hemstitched, dainty embroidered corner, assorted patterns in box. Box of 3 for \$1.25

Children's Pure Irish Linen Handkerchiefs, hemstitched, dainty embroidered initial in one corner. Box of 3 for 35c