THE ATHENS REPORTER, OCTOBER 3 1917

BRITISH TROOPS IMPROVED POSITIONS NEWLY CAPTURED

London cable says: The report from Field marshal rigit to hight release only briefly to the operations of to-day in Flanders. On the previous day even powerful hostie counter-settacks, it says, were repulsed with heavy losses, and 1,614 Germans were taken prisoner. During Wednesday's fighting large

numbers of British aeroplanes aided the infantrymen, attacking the Germans from low altitudes with great effect. The German airmen put up strong opposition, and as a result the casualties among the flyers were high. Fifteen German machines were accounted for, but thirteen of the Brit-ish planes failed to return to their The text of the report reads:

"After all our objectives had been gained yesterday seven powerful hos tile counter-attacks were made during the afternoon and evening. All were repulsed with heavy loss to the enemy.

"The total number of prisoners aptured in yesterday's offensive captured operation was 1,614, including 48 offi cers. Our casualties were again light "On the battlefront to-day we im-proved our positions slightly south of Polygon Wood. There has been corsiderable artillery activity on both sides at intervals throughout the day.' both

"The weather was misty Wednesday morning and later the day was over-cast, with a strong west wind. In spite of this our aeroplanes were extremely active in co-operation with the artillery.

"The enemy's troops on the fighting hine and his reserves in the rear were harassed with machine gun fire throughout the day. Some thirty thousand rounds were fired from altitudes of one hundred feet and up wards, and many parties of German infantry were dispersed with casual ties. On one occasion three of the enemy's guns were fired on while moving. The teams of two of the guns bolted and the third gun was overturned.

"Strong opposition was encountered from the enemy's fighting machines, and a very large number of combats occurred at low altitudes. Heavy casualties on both sides resulted, owing to the difficulty of regaining control of damaged machines when flying near the ground.

"The weather prevented any exten aive bombing operations during the daytime, but at night over two tons of bombs were dropped on the enemy' reserves near the battle front.

"Seven hostile machines were ought down at air fighting, three brought were driven down out of control and five others were brought down by in-fantry fire. Thirteen of our machines are maising."

LYING GERMAN COMMUNIQUES. A British official statement was issued to-night with reference to state ments contained in the German communication. It says: "To-day's German official commun-

ique states that the British troops gained less territory on the 26th than on the 20th. This is perfectly true The attacking troops gained all their objectives on both days, but the obfectives set for the operations of yesterday were smaller than those for the

"In sentences which are purposely misleading, von Ludendorff describes the fighting near Zonnebeke and Gheluvelt. He omits to state that Zonne beke was lost by the Germans, but emphasizes the retention of Ghelu-velt, which was not one of the British objectives."

GERMAN REPORT. Berlin cable says: Thursday's War

Office rport said: "Western front: "Army of Crown Prince Rupprecht - The battle in Flanders yesterday raged uninterruptedly from early morning until far into the night. and continued until morning in finor en-gagements. The battle-tried fourth army again withstood the British assault. Troops belonging to every German province shared in the success of the day, which brought the enemy

even less gain of territory than the battle of Sept. 20th. "Drumfire of unprecedented inten-

sity preceded the attacks. Behind a wall of dust and smoke the English infantry broke forward between Mangelaares and Hollebeke, often accom panied by tanks. The enemy, assault-ing repeatedly on both sides of Langemarck, was repulsed every time by our fire and in hand-to-hand fighting.

'From the region to the east of St Julien to the Menin-Ypres road the English succeeded in treaking into our defensive zone to a depth of one kilometre, where afterwards bitter and varying battle took place throughout the day. "By shifting his massed artillery effect the enemy attempted to check the advance and interference of our reserver. The iron will of our regi-

reserves. The iron will of our regi-ments broke through the violence of the enemy's fire and the enemy was driven back at many points in fresh assaults. "Especially stubborn fighting took

"Especially stubborn lighting took place at the roads radiating from Zonnebeke westward yesterday and iast evening for the possession of Gheluvelt. The village remained in our possession. Further south of the Comines-Ypres Canal repeated as-saults by the English broke down without results and with heavy losses. The enemy has not renewed his at-tack up to the present. At least 12 English divisions have been employed at the front. They have not shaken the firmness of our defence.

"On other sectors of the Flanders front and in Artois the artillery acti-vity increased only temporarily. "The bombardment of Ostend Tues-

day night, apart from the damage done to buildings, demanded sacri-fices from the population, 14 Belgiane having been killed and 25 seriously wounded.

wounded. "Army of the German Crown Prince: Northeast of Soissons, in the centre of the sectors of the Chemin des Dames, and on the effect ern bank of the Meuse, the artille.y activity has been lively. Only local forefield engagements developed. "Seventeen enery agroulances were

"Seventeen enemy aeroplanes were "Estern theatre: Near Dunaberg. on Lake Narocz, to the southeast of Lutsk, on parts of the Carpathian front, on the Roumanian plain. and along the Lower Danube, the artillery

activity has been revived. "Macedonian front: There is noth-ing important to port."

HEAVY BRITISH GAINS UPON 6-MILE FRONT IN FLANDERS

The British forces | uing at certain points. penetrated German positions to the depth of about two-thirds of a mile at several places, according to the Ger-the Tower Hamlets spur and gained

mans delivered a second counter attack with large forces and succeeded in pressing back our line a short distance on a narrow front. Our troops, counter-attacking in turn, at once recaptured the greater part of the lost ground.

"Over one thousand prisoners have been taken in these operations. A very large number of German dead have been found on the ground cap tured, and the enemy's losses, both on our attacks and in his subsequent country-attacks. have been very heavy.

"A successful raid was carried out during the night east of Gouzeaucourd (northeast of Peronne) by Suffolk troops in the face of strong opposition. Two occupied dugouts were destroyed and many Germans were killed with the bayonet. We captured a few prisoners and a machine gun." OPENING OF BATTLE

(By R. T. Small, Staff Correspondent

of the Associated Press of the Associated Press.) British Front in France and Bel-gium cable: Another heavy attack was denvered by the British at day-break to-day against the German posi-tions east of Ypres, and early reports showed that the associations had showed that the assaulting troops had pushed the energy out of many im-portant positions. The offensive was started along the major portion of the line that the British reached in last Thursday's battle, extending from east of St. Julien to southwest of Gheluvelt.

The Germans are resisting desperately, and along a front of about a thousand yards astride the Yijres-Menin road a terrific struggle has been proceeding.

The most important points involved in the new offensive, as was the case six days ago, lay directly east of the city of Ypres, between the Ypres-Roulers railway and the Ypres-Menin highway. Here are situated those strongly-held elevations that still re-main to the Germans out of the numerous ridges and forests which formed a vital part of their defence in this section of Belgium. which

Last Thursday they suffered a crushing blow in the loss of such strongholds as Anzac. Nun's Wood, Glencorse Wood and Inverness Copse, and now an ever-rising tide is reaching out for still more. Australian, Scotch and English troops this morning were pushing out into a difficult country, over ground still sodden from rains and floods, among con-crete and steel redoubts heavily armed with machine guns, over eleva-tions and through bits of woods choked with rapid-firers. They might

choked with rabid-firers. They might fail in their objective and still have covered themselves with glory. The Germans undoubtedly knew that the attack was pending and it is probable that their heavy counterattacks yesterday and last night against the British positions on the ridge east of Ypres, between Polygon Wood and Tower Hamlets were carled out in an attempt to frus-trate the British plan. The battle inaugurated here yesterday continued with great fury all night and it was along this front that the bitterest work was being done this morning. POUNDED FOR DAYS.

The British artillery had been pounding the whole front of the new offensive for days, but last night a concentrated fire was turned on that section where the counter-attacks were made and the entire ground was torn and smashed, together with the men, who, hidden under sparse shelter, were endeavoring to hold this point of vantage. Guns of all calibres came to the assistance of the in-fanjry here, and the bombardment for long periods was maintained with

drumfire intensity. The Australians, north of Polygon Wood, and the Scotch and the Eng-lish to the north of the Anzacs, ap-pear to have met with nothing like the opposition encountered in the south. The Germans replied very weakly to the British bombardment prior to the attack north of the

Ypres-Roulers railway. The enemy's main offense early to-



Stern Battle Against Enormous Odds by Squad of Scots.

(By R. T. Small, Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press.)

tingham Broke Uut. London, Cable.—One of the most dar-ing escapes from internment camps was effected yesterday at Kegworth, Notting-ham. Twenty-two German prisoners, in-cluding Capt. Muller, who commanded the cruiser Eimden, and Lieut. Otto The-lan, disappeared through a tunnef extend-ing from a hut in the camp to a point outside the barder wire fence. How the tunnel was dug is a mystery. Nine of the prisoners were recaptured, including Capt. Muller and Lieut. The-lan. The latter made three previous es-copes. With Lleut. Emil Tehnann, an-other of the recoursed at Chelm-ford last May. British Front in France and Belgium, cable says: Hard fighting accuried during the night at Values points along the Ypres battle-front as a result of heavy German counterattacks on positions wrested from the enemy yesterday, but this morning found the situation virtually unchanged. Furious enemy assaults, which continued throughout yesterday and last night, were dealt with successfuly, and the British to-day were m. **KNEW BEFORE**

taining their new lines. The main battle this morning was in the neighborhood of a position known as Cameron House, which lies just south of the eastern extremity of Polygon Wood. A severe and continuous struggle has been proceeding here, and wen last heard from the Australians were pressing the dogged Germans hard. Counter-attacks against the Austral-

ian front east of Polygon Wood dur-ing the night were hurled back after hard fighting.

Yesterday afternoon the Germans launched a pretentious counter-drive against the British line between Washington despatch: Further evi-dence that Count von Bernstorff, for-mer German Ambassador to Washing-Tower Hamlets and Polygon Wood A sanguinary struggle ensued especially north of Menin road, but Germans were gradually forced the ton, knew of his Government's inten tion to inaugurate a campaign of un to withdraw after suffering heavy losses.

restricted submarine warfare prior to his request for money with which to influence Congress, is in possession FIGHT FOR HILL 40. Northwest of Zonnebeke heavy fighting still continues in the region of an elevation known as Hill 40, of the State Department. Lansing said to-day that as early as January 19 Count von Bernstorff knew which dominates a considerable amount of the surorunding ground. East and a little northeast of St. of the plan. Answering enquiries the Secretary made this statement:

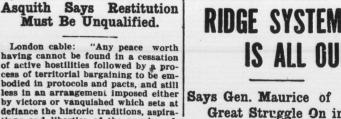
Julien, the Germans made two heavy "In view of enquiries which have been made as to whether Count von Bernstorff knew of the purpose of his St.HB counter-attacks against redoubt posiwhich the British had captured tions

Government to renew relentless subyesterday morning A very determin-ed assault in the neighborhood of marine warfare when he sent his mes-sage of January 22, 1917, asking auth-orization to expend \$50,000, I can state that the Department of State ed assault in the heightofridou of Boetleer Farm, east of St. Julien, was driven off North of this place the Germans succeeded in regaining two redoubts. Subsequently the British countered in turn and forced them possesses conclusive evidence that on or before January 19 Count von Bernstorff had received and read the Zimfrom one of these, leaving the other merman telegram to Minister von Eckhardt _ mexico, which contained the following: 'We intend to begin on

still in enemy hands. From the British standpoint the situation resulting from the new of-tensive is exceedingly satisfactory. weather conditions were ideal to day and consolidations were proceeding rapidly. In a number of places the British improved their line somewhat during the night by establishing posts still further forward.

INTREPID SCOTS. The two companies of Argyll and

Sutherland Highlanders, who made such a remarkable stand Tuesday and Tuesday night in the face of overwhoming odds against German attacks in the neighborhood of the mentioned in the official report for their great gallantry, are the heroes of the hour along the front. They were finally relieved by the advanc-



Says Gen. Maurice of the Great Struggle On in Flanders.

HUN WASTAGE

Is Haig's Plan-High Praise for the Work of the Italians.

London cable says: On his return from a visit to the Italian front, Major-Gen. F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the War Office, to-day discussed the situation in Flanders with the Associated Press.

"During the past month there has been a long pause, thanks to the rain and mud in Flanders," he said. "The pause made necessary more ample preparations than ordinarily after a tirst advance-preparations equivalent to launching an entirely new battle. But the result amply justified the preparations, and while on previous occa-sions we won our objectives only after protracted fighting we yesterday, were in possession of the whole of our objectives before 8 a.m.

MOST VITAL AREA.

"The fighting yesterday was .n the most vital area, the nexus of the muge system dominating the plain ofl-ders, and the key to the whole scries of ridges. There is a good deal more to be said about this builte than what we gained.

"Officers who have been with the British army from the beginning all agree that since the first bottle of Ypres there has never been a claughter of the Germans comparance that they suffered in the repuised counter attacks of the past few days. The Germans counter-attacked masses, and dozens of these counterattacks were swept away by our fire with terrible German losses. "The most important aspect of the

Flanders battle is summed up in the words 'wastage of reserves.' Germans have done their best The to keep us off the series of ridges. When we finish getting these ridges we shall claim a victory.

A QUESTION OF RESERVES.

"The question then is whether we can exploit that victory, and exploiting it depends on whether we have got more reserves than the enemy. Thus far German wastage has been much greater than ours, and they have used 75 per cent. more divisions than us since July 31. "Regarding the east front situation,

it is chiefly remarkable for the little advantage the Germans have taken of the notorious situation in Russia," Gen. Maurice continued. "The question is have they done so little because they have been unable to do more, or have they withheld their hand for political or other reasone? It is too early to reach a decision on that question, but in my own mind I have little doubt that the strain on the west front is the chief reason for the small Ger man progress in the east.'

TOUR OF ITALIAN FRONT.

Gen. Maurice, discussing the impres-sions received on his tour of the halian front, said:

"The visit has given me a greatly increased respect for what the Italians have done. From the beginning of the campaign the Italians have been dominated by the enemy ing troops from their isolated posi-tion, where they had been cut off by Guynemer Ambushed by heen dominated by the enemy-righting a real up-hill battle, with all' in full view of the enemy. Even when they reached the plateaux the situation was still difficult, for they found themselves in a country where everything, even water must be brought up with great physical exertion. "The Italians now for the first time have gained a position where they dominate the Austrians. But the advance is still difficult, and, confi dent as I am that the Italians will continue to show supremacy over the enemy, the country is too difficult to expect a sudden dramatic success. Progress will be slow, but success will

fore, fully advised of the intentions of the Imperial Government at the time when he asked for authority of Berlin to employ funds for an organization to influence Congressional tion against the continued neutrality of this country."



the first of February undestricted sub-marine warfare. We shall endeavor in spite of this to keep the United States of America neutral.' "Count von Bernstorff was, there-

of Hun Plans.

Bernstorff Never in Doubt

OF U-BOAT WAR

tions and liberties of the peoples af

Ex-Premier Herbert H. Asquith, who

has recently returned from a visit to the western front, made this declara-tion in addressing a mass meeting at Leeds to-night under the auspices of the War Arms Committee. He de-

scribed the German reply to the Papal

HUNS ESCAPED.

22 German Prisoners in Not-

tingham Broke Out.

fected.

Wanted Funds to Keep U.S. Neutral.

Secretary

VICTORY WHEN HUN REPLY NO GOOD. **RIDGE SYSTEM IS ALL OURS**

man official communication issued to-night. The fighting, which is of a desperate character, is continuing. The munication follows:

Berlin cable:

"The battle in Flanders between Langemarck and Hollebeke—a front of 15 kilometres - still continues. The enemy has succeeded at places in pen The etrating as far as one kilometre deep into our fighting zone, where desperate fighting is proceeding."

London cable says: In an attack along a six-mile tront to-day the Brit ish troops captured an important posi-tion around Tower Hamlets and strong German field works, according to the official report from Field Marshal Powerful resistance Haig to-night. Powerful resistance was offered by the Germans through out the day and they delivered many strong counter-attacks. "But," says the British commander, "our opera-tions were entirely successful." More than 1,000 prisoners were taken and large numbers of German dead were found on the captured ground.

Probably the most significant gain of the British was near Zonnebeke, to within a few hundred yards of the western outskirts of which village they penetrated, placing them about miles distant from the railway running from Ostend through Roulers and Rou-baix to Lille. The cutting of this line, which seems to be the objective of Field Marshal Haig, would seriously affect the transport of the Germans from their naval base at Ostend and Zeebrugge to the south. Prior to the land attack British naval forces heav Prior to the ilv shelled Ostend, and again day afternoon they repeated the bom-bardment. Meanwhile naval aero-planes dropped bombs on towns in orthern Belgium, with visibly affective results.

The text of Field Marshal Haig's report reads:

"An attack this morning was delivered on a total front of nearly six from south of Tower Hamlets of St. Julien. Our operations to east of St. Julien. were entirely successful.

were entirely successful. "Later in the day the enemy deliv-ered a series of heavy counter-attacks number of fortified farms and con-along our new front, resulting in crete redoubts. and fighting which is still contin-"Early in the afternoon the Ger-

possession of strong German field works on its eastern slopes, which formed our objectives. powerful counter-attack in the

direction of Gheluvelt was repulsed. AN ALL-DAY STRUGGLE.

"On the right of our main attack north of the Ypres-Menin road, our troops met obstinate resistance and neavy fighting took place in the area across which the enemy counterattacked yesterday. After a severe struggle lasting throughout the greater part of the day, English and Scottish battalions drove the enemy from his positions and accomplished the task allotted to them of securing the flank of our principal attack. "In their advance our troops re

lieved two companies of Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who had held out with great gallantry during the night in a forward position, in which they had been isolated by the they had been isolated by enemy's attack yesterday morning. "In the afternoon the enemy delivered another counter-attack in great

strength in this sector, where fierce fighting is still continuing.

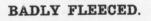
"Further north Australian troops cleared the remainder of Polygon Wood and captured a German trench system to the east of it, which formed their objectives for the day. "On the left, English, Scottish and

Welsh battalions penetrated the en-emy's defence to a depth of nearly a mile, stormed Zonnebeke and gained the line of their objectives.

the afternoon a counter-"During attack directed against our new post tions es repulsed. east of Polygon Wood was

THOUSAND PRISONERS TAKEN. "On the left of our attack. North Midland and London Territorials, attacking on both sides of the Wieltje Gravenstafel and St. Julien-Graven-stafel roads, also captured their objectives and beat off a counter-attack. In this area our line has been advanced to a depth of half a mile

continued as a protection against a possible attack on Zandvoorde Ridge to the south. For days the Germans have been bringing up reinforce-ments in anticipation of to-day's attack, and unless all signs fail, much sanguinary fighting is to follow. The attack was to-day started at 5.50 the morning and again the infantry was preceded by great barrags.



Swedish Leading People Robbed of Millions.

Stockholm, Cable.-Losces aggregat-ing twenty million, and possibly thirty million, crowns have been suffered by many of Sweden's best known people as a result of the operations of a Goth-chourg speulator, Einar Lundstroem, whose body was found a few days ago m the water near the Bothenburg Yacht Club with a bullet in the head. Among the victims is Lieut. Erik Ewartz, son of the Swedish Prime Min-lister, whose losses are estimated at a million crowns. The investigation that has geen going on discloses that ten others have lost from one to five mil-lion crowns. The investigation that has been going on discloses that ten they loss from one to five mil-ing officers, doctors, aritist, bank em-ployees, and even hotel porters and wait-ers, whose losses range from trifting amounts up to thirty thousand crowns. Lundstroem, despite the extent of his operations, kept no books, hence, it is affifuit to discover what, if any, assets remain. It is said, however, that there will be little for the creditors.

THREE DROWN AT MONTREAL

Montreal, Report.-Two men and a woman were drowned last night at the C.P.R. No. 7 wharf through the sinking of the tub Emma as the result of the breaking of one of the ropes which served it warp into port an ocean liner. The drowned men, Wm. Blette, aged 38, of Sorel, engineer of the tug; A. St. Michal, 24, of Sorel, fireman, and Mrs. N.E., cook.

Sponge-I think that a street can has just passed. Blotter-How know? Sponge-I can see its tracks. -Chaparral.

Their unit was involved in furious German counter-attacks, which were begun Tuesday morning, probably in an effort to disrupt the expected British offensive. They were attacked about dawn by elements of four German divisions. So bitter was the enemy assault that the British troops were bent back, but the two com-panies of Highlandes refused to to give ground and clung stubbornly their posts in the face of terrific blows from the enemy.

The battle raged all morning. About two o'clock in the afternoon the British counter-attacked and fought their way forward until they had re-established themselves in practically all the ground lost. But they were still some distance short of the two companies, who valiantly held their own. All afternoon throughout the night the Highlanders

stuck to their positions, although the enemy continued to rush forward infantry in an attempt to dislodge And here this handful of inthem. trepid Scots were found and rescued when the British advance swept forward at daybreak Wednesday morn-

ing. The ridge over which the fighting is now in progress is virtually that separates the allies from plains of Flanders. Although 211 the official German communications lately have been claiming British defeats or discounting the advances made, the desperate resistance of the Germans is an indication of the vital significance of the recent allied gains. the German officers taken prisoner ad-mit the seriousness of the situation for their country.

RUSSIA'S WAR COSTS.

retrograd, Cable.—The Finance Min-leter has issued a statemen of the finan-cial position of Russia, showing that the expenses of the war up to Sept. 14th, have amounted to 41.000,000,0000 rubles. The war costs are still further increasing, ow-ing to the demand for higher wages and the increased price of necessaries. The Minister urges the people to postpone their wage demands until the end of the war. ar

You never can tell. Many a man is flushed with victory when his color should be due to the blush of shame,

Cloud of Enemies

While Attacking Four at One Time.

Paris cable says: The last fight of Capi. Guynemer, France's premier air-man, who was credited in the army aviation record with having shot down 53 German aeroplanes, and with hav-ing destroyed at least 25 that were uncounted, is described by a comrade, who is quoted by the Excelsior as iollows

"Guynemer sighted five machines of the Albatross type D-3. Without hesitating, he bore down on them. At that moment enemy patrolling ma-chines, soaring at a great height, appeared suddenly and tell upon Guynemer.

"There were forty enemy machines in the air at this time, including Count von Richtofen and his circus division of machines, painted in diag onal blue and white stripes. To- C. wards Guynemer's right some Belgian machines hove in sight, but it too late.

"Guynemer must have been hit. His machine dropped gently towards the earth and I lost track of it. All that earth and I lost track of it. All that lished that we are unconquerable in I can say is that the machine was not a military and economic way and that on fire.

Captain Guynemer's greatest day's work was on May 17. of this year, nerve,' said Admiral von Tirpitz, in when he brought down four German his speech before the first open meetmachines, two of which he accounted ing of the new German Fatheriand for in the space of two minutes. hav- party ing attack of a group of four. With only three carridges left, while on his homeward flight, he encountered the the money it invested in this wsr. fourth German, and shot him down Admiral yon Tirpitz continued: fourth German, and shot him down with one of the three remaining cartridges. One of the two victims shot down on Aug. 4th last was Lieut. Hohendorf, a German aviator who flew for a French aeroplane company before the war and who had shot down twelve French machines.

The fifty-three German machines officially credited to Capt. Guyne mer's record were worth something more than 1,500,000 francs. Some of them were manned by two or three men, and it is estimated that he ac counted for more than eighty pilots, observers and gunners.

"I regard the Italian crossing of the Isonzo, which led to the occupation of the Bainsizza Platcau, as a feat which will forever rank as one of the great feats in the history of wariare."

VON TIRPITZ

ermany Will Win If She Holds Nerve.

Berlin cable says: "Wehave estabwe will continue to remain the strong

er party, provided we do not lose our

Charging that "Anglo-American capital was making every effort to

'We have not overlooked opportun he lities to gain President Wilson's ship, but invariably have achieved the opposite result.

"He used to yow he loved, the ground she walked on." "The ances-tral domain, eh?" "Yes, Pretended he loved the ground she walked on and now he's trying to mortgage a lot of it."--Kansas City Journal.

By and by there must be styles in wrapping paper if women are to carry home the bundles.-Portland Oregonian.