

# ARMIES IN DEATH GRIPS IN WAR'S GREATEST BATTLE

and around La Bassée had some success. The allies, keeping their line unbroken everywhere, managed to press forward east of Nieuport and between Armentières and Lille. The report was as follows:

On our left wing the battle continues. The enemy has advanced at the north of Dixmude and around La Bassée. We have made very appreciable advances east of Nieuport, in the region of Lange-marck and in the district between Armentières and Lille.

The German report regarding fighting in this district is to the effect that the German successes on the Yser Canal and German troops have advanced south of Dixmude, while their attacks west of Lille were successful and they took several villages.

These are the inevitable fluctuations of the battle line, the general formation of which is maintained. On the rest of the front several attacks made by the Germans by night and day have been repulsed. We have made slight progress at several points.

In the Woëvre our advance has continued in the direction of the Montmarais forest, south of Thiaucourt, and in Le Pretre forest, north of Pont-a-Mousson.

Russia—The Germans are in full retreat to the south of Warsaw as well as west of Ivanogorod and Novoe Alexandria. Fierce fighting continues in Galicia on the Sandomir-Przemysl front. The Russians have taken 2,000 Austrian prisoners.

The following verbal announcement accompanied the afternoon communiqué:

"The German claim that the French attack on the heights of Thiaucourt had been repulsed with heavy losses to the French is not true.

"The fact is that the Germans in this region sent a representative asking for an armistice for the purpose of burying their dead and collecting their wounded. The French refused, resuming the offensive and preventing the Germans from winning the advantage which was sought in the armistice."

## HEAR OF AWFUL LOSSES.

Both Sides Said to Have Enormous Casualties in Battle.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Oct. 24.—Reports from various sources concerning the severity of the losses on both sides in the battle in Belgium. The allies' losses are said to be terrible and the German losses far worse. It is stated that numerous long trains are arriving at bridges in quick succession loaded with wounded. The doctors are overwhelmed and the accommodations and medical supplies are insufficient.

One report said 30,000 Germans have been killed and 20,000 to the southeast of Dunkirk, that 5,000 were drowned when the Yser dikes were cut, and that 1,500 more were buried in the fields near Breda. Observers at La Bassée said German wounded and 700 unaccounted prisoners arrived at the French port on October 23.

The Germans made a bridge of the Yser at one point on the Yser to enable them to retreat.

## FIGHT IN AIR AND SEA.

Zepplins and Submarines in Action Near Belgian Coast.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Oct. 24.—The news that submarines and Zepplins are being used by the Germans against the British and French warships off the coast of Belgium is contained in the latest despatches from Copenhagen and Dundirk. It is officially stated that the warships have beaten off German submarines, while the Copenhagen correspondent of the Central News asserts that Zepplins are cooperating in attacks against the fleet.

There can be no doubt that the Germans are employing every resource to prevent their extreme right wing from being driven from the Belgian coast. Their sudden dash from Ostend, designed to capture Dunkirk and Calais, has come to nothing, and they are now in actual danger of being outflanked at the coast. In order to forestall the allies they are collecting troops from all possible quarters and making them ready for a terrible drive at a point between the Belgian army and the Anglo-French force operating in northern France.

Since October 19 the British fleet, made up presumably of big gun ships operating along the coast and monitors in the canals, have bombarded the German lines, compelling the evacuation of some towns and preventing the Germans from mounting siege guns on the coast. Daily Mail correspondent telegraphs that the Germans have lost heavily in killed and wounded under the fire of the naval guns. He hears that they have brought reinforcements from the centre of the old battle line near Rheims to reinforce their battered right wing.

No alarm is felt here over the situation in Belgium and northern France. The news of the last week indicates that Gen. Joffre, no matter how hard pressed, is able to meet new problems as they come up. The Germans appear to be wasting their strength by incessant and fruitless onslaughts against the allied left wing.

The fighting in the west occupies so much of public attention that the fighting in eastern France are sometimes lost sight of, although these have been and are of tremendous importance. From a correspondent at Nancy the Times has received interesting details of the French success in protecting the barrier fortresses.

"The French field army," says the correspondent, "will annihilate the army of Metz and the coveted fortresses of Tou and Verdun."

"In the attempt on St. Mihiel the Germans were more successful. Hard fighting will be necessary to check them, but the German objective, the junction of the army of Metz with the right wing of the Crown Prince's army in the Argonne, has been prevented. The French are praying for a heavy fall of snow, which would seriously hamper the enemy's movements of supplies and might even drive them out into the open."

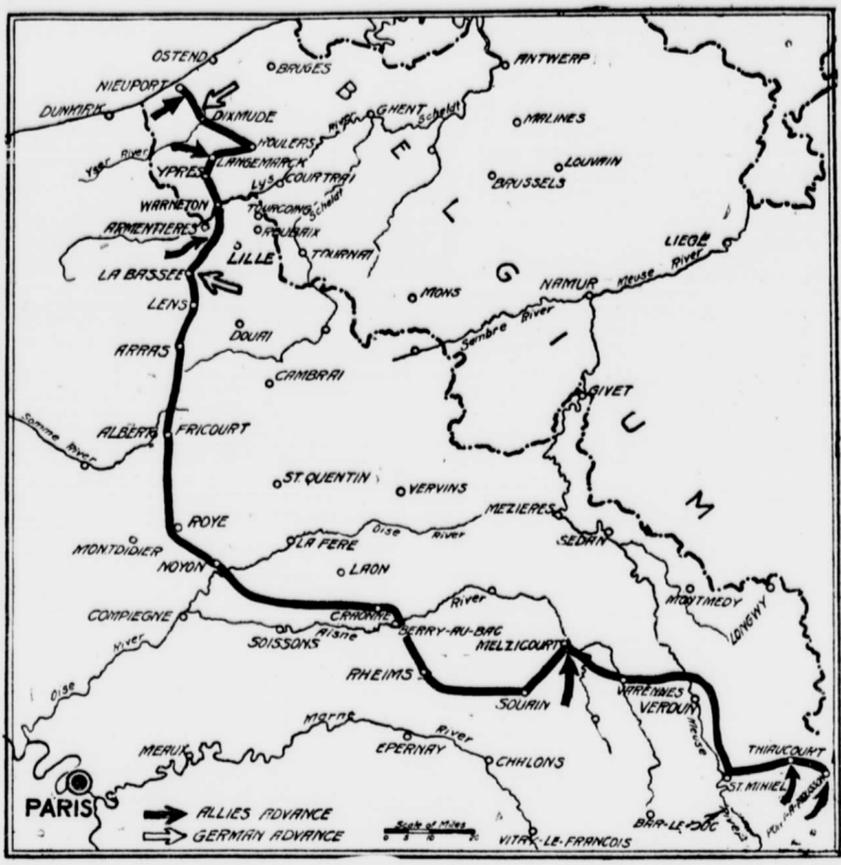
"The game of Verdun had not yet been brought into action and there is no prospect of the fall of that fortress unless the French field army allows the Germans to get their big guns within range. After the Germans had intruded themselves at St. Mihiel their big guns made short work of the French forts at Troyon and Camp des Romains. The guns of the forts had a range of only five miles against the German siegeworks of seven miles. The Germans have placed a battery of Austrian 42 centimetre guns on the site of Camp des Romains, which commands St. Mihiel and a large part of the Woëvre. It is most important that the French recapture this position, but it will take the most severe kind of fighting."

From Geneva it is reported that no German heavy artillery has arrived near Belfort and that the fortress is so well protected and armed that it would take 300,000 men with heavy artillery a long time to oust the French.

## FLEET HELPING ARMY.

LONDON, Oct. 24.—The official press bureau made an announcement to-night telling of the cooperation of the British fleet with the Belgian army.

"All of yesterday's monitors and other vessels of the fleet searched the Ger-



In the above map the points of attack and advance are indicated by arrows. The advance of the allies, indicated by black arrows, is reported in the official communiqué as eastward along the coast from Nieuport, along the line from Armentières to Lille, in the Woëvre region in the forest south of Thiaucourt and in Le Pretre wood north of Pont-a-Mousson. The German points of advance, indicated by white arrows, are to the north of Dixmude in Belgium and in the vicinity of La Bassée, France.

## The Week in the War

SUNDAY, October 18.—The western battle line now extends from the North Sea to the Swiss frontier, a distance of about 350 miles. The Belgians have concentrated along a line reaching from Nieuport to the French border, and have driven back German attacks and advanced as far as Roulers. The Duke of the Abruzzi announces that the Italian navy has been reorganized.

MONDAY, October 19.—Fighting on battle line in the east, extending along the Vistula about 200 miles from Warsaw southward into Galicia. British warships give effective aid to Belgians between Nieuport and Dixmude. Rumania seizes trainload of war supplies sent from Germany to Turkey. Japanese cruiser Takachiho sunk in Kiaochow Bay.

TUESDAY, October 20.—Germans make severe attacks upon French and Belgians which are repulsed. Austrians claim victory at Chyrow in Galicia. New British submarine E-3 sunk by German warship in North Sea. Sunday. Italy sends warships to Avlona for purpose of guarding her interests.

WEDNESDAY, October 21.—Russians report that German attack on Warsaw failed. Relations between Turkey and Russia reported at breaking point and opinion is expressed that Turkey may soon enter war. Italy and Austria agree to refer dispute about mines to the Hague Tribunal after the war.

THURSDAY, October 22.—Special war session of the Reichstag called for December. Between the North Sea and La Bassée, France, the fighting continues with great violence. Russian report that general forward movement has begun from Warsaw to Przemysl. Lille reported burned by the Germans.

FRIDAY, October 23.—Russian report says that battle of Vistula, begun on October 7 and continued to October 18 and in which 200,000 Germans and 1,000,000 Russians were engaged, resulted in victory for the Russians and disastrous retreat for the Germans. Japanese begin bombardment of Tsing-tao.

SATURDAY, October 24.—German submarines make attacks on British light draught monitors operating along Belgian coast. French report progress east of Nieuport and in region between Armentières and Lille and Germans claim to have advanced north of Dixmude and around La Bassée. Germans reported falling back from Russian Poland to line of fortification on the river Warthe.

(To be continued next Sunday.)

man fight thoroughly and effectively in concert with the operations of the Belgian army. All German attacks on Nieuport were repulsed and much damage was done to the enemy by the naval fire. Fire was also opened in the afternoon on the German batteries near Ostend. Admiral Hood has now a fine flotilla of vessels very suitable for this work. During the day our vessels were presently attacked by submarines, but their torpedoes failed to do any damage. Naval aeroplanes are helping us.

"Torpedoes were fired without success at the Wildfire and the destroyer Myrtilon."

"Other British vessels again attacked the submarine. Naval aeroplanes and balloons aided in directing the fire. The weather conditions were fine and favorable. No loss was sustained by the flotilla yesterday."

## BATTLE MOMENTOUS.

Nieuport-Dixmude Fight Called Biggest of War.

COPENHAGEN, Oct. 24.—A private despatch received here from Berlin says: "The battle between Nieuport and Dixmude is the most violent and most important of the entire war. It is the first engagement where land, sea and air forces have combined in action. Zepplins are said to be giving the Germans considerable support."

"The Germans in the east and north of France are reported to have received 60,000 reinforcements lately, evidently with the intention of putting all their available forces in action now, in order to make a breach in the line of the allies."

The Cologne Gazette says the German ring around Verdun grows tighter every day and that all French sorties against the German trenches have been made in vain. An English aeroplane, with Col. Grey in it, has been captured and taken to Frankfurt. Col. Grey was taken as a prisoner to the camp at Darmstadt.

## FEAR ZEEBRUGGE DASH.

Germans Prepare to Resist Landing of Allies.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Oct. 24.—A despatch received in Amsterdam from Sluis to-night says that the battle along the Belgian coast continues fiercely but indecisively between

## FRENCH ACADEMICIANS STILL OPPOSE GERMANS

Foreign Members Show "Lack of Duty to Honor," They Say.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. PARIS, Oct. 24.—Despite the collective action of the Institute yesterday the Academie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres at yesterday's meeting passed a resolution declaring that the German members must protect our race, and should write to Strauss, addressing him as 'Dear Master,' and Strauss replying 'Illustrious Conferré,' because Germany then had an ideal at stake—the only one. Now she has none.

Excelsior suggests in connection with the proposal to elect Maurice Maeterlinck to the Academy that the numbers of the body be largely increased so as to be representative of all writers in France.

"They signed," the resolution continues, "without personal investigation of the facts of the atrocities and despised the culture. They signed our faith, perhaps on the order of a government which has professed openly not to attach any value to honor and loyalty."

The Academie des Sciences Morales et Politiques and the Academie des Beaux-Arts are holding sessions today to consider the question of adopting similar resolutions.

Alfred Carpe, the academicien, writing in the Figaro, urges the Institute to act collectively.

"We have not only to defend ourselves against the armed enemy," he says, "we must protect our race, menaced with total destruction, and save its place in the sun. The hesitating members of the Institute fail to realize the exceptional character of this war. In 1870 Renan could write to Strauss, addressing him as 'Dear Master,' and Strauss replying 'Illustrious Conferré,' because Germany then had an ideal at stake—the only one. Now she has none."

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## KAISER AT MEZIERES?

Entourage of 1,500 Reported at Headquarters Near Rheims.

BERLIN, Oct. 24.—A report has reached here that the Kaiser and an immense entourage has established headquarters at Mezieres, forty-seven miles north of Rheims. The Kaiser's entourage consists of the Kaiser's personal staff, including Prince von Plessen, von Gontard and von Helldorf. The Kaiser's entourage is reported to be with the Kaiser. The rumor has it that 1,500 persons are in the Kaiser's entourage.

Large staffs are attached to the Prince of Plessen and the Prince of Schoenberg, quartered near the Kaiser, and other houses are occupied by foreign attaches and representatives of the German Union and of Austria-Hungary. Chancellor von Bethmann is reported to be with the Kaiser. The rumor has it that 1,500 persons are in the Kaiser's entourage.

## BOER REBELS ARE REPULSED.

Col. Maritz Makes Conditional Offer of Surrender, Is Report.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. CAPE TOWN, Oct. 24.—Col. Maritz attacked Keim Oes on the north bank of the Orange River, Thursday, and was repulsed. Four of his officers were captured, including Count von Schieren.

It is reported that Col Maritz recently offered to surrender if his followers were pardoned and the Germans among them were allowed to return to German territory. The offer was not answered.

The Cape Times has received from its correspondent at Carnarvon, Cape Colony, further details of the revolt of Col. Maritz. The correspondent says:

"When Maritz came to Kakama, in the Cape province, in the capacity of commandant of the defense force, he took away all the rifles of the local garrison on the plea that he needed them to arm a force against the Germans. Maritz went away and was returning with a force of 700 Germans and traitors when the garrison luckily heard of his approach."

"A party of thirty-eight daring men from the garrison went to his camp at night and succeeded in getting a supply of rifles, ammunition and horses. Maritz caught up with them thirty miles away. There was a three hours fight before the men from the garrison took to the bush, where they played hide and seek for six days before they escaped with the loss of only one man."

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## Allies Drive Back Foe On Ypres to Arras Line

Anglo-French Forces Reported Close to Armentieres and Lille—Germans Retire in Face of Naval Guns in Yser Fighting.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Oct. 25.—The Times correspondent in northern France, telegraphing under yesterday's date, says:

"The Germans have brought seasoned soldiers to strengthen the recruits and veterans, with whom they began the battle in northern France. Heavy guns are again shelling our trenches. The allies are holding the enemy in check and from Ypres to Arras are driving him slowly back, inflicting enormous losses. But for the superior range of their big guns the enemy would have no chance. They advance in bodies of 200 and 300 men and are moved down by shrapnel and machine gun fire. Shell and shrapnel also do deadly work on our lines. Nevertheless, we have driven the enemy back and penetrated his lines."

"If the Germans are still at La Bassée we are close to Armentieres, at Laventie and Herles, nearly halfway between La Bassée and Lille. This is one of the points where we have made sensible progress."

The same correspondent, under date of October 23, says, referring to the fight for the possession of the Yser:

"The most critical stage of the battle is past. Though the enemy is not retreating, nor even preparing to retreat, what he has done is to withdraw a mile or two to escape the British naval fire, from which he suffered severely."

The correspondent bestows the highest praise on the valor of the Belgians,

who faced odds of 2 to 1 and held with French support two German army corps for several days, repulsing repeated attacks and making gallant counter attacks.

"They have borne severe losses with quiet heroism," he continues. "The Belgian army retreating from Antwerp escaped what might well have amounted to annihilation by a magnificent feat of arms. A few thousand men held up the pursuing army at Mellein, a little village south of Ghent, a sufficient time to cover the retreat of the main army, which hugged the Dutch frontier on its seaward march. The battle of Mellein eventually resulted in cutting up as gallant a body of men as one could wish to meet, but it meant the salvation of the Belgian army, and perhaps something more than that."

"The fighting on our side is conducted with a self-control, feeling of conscience and gentleness to which universal history has hitherto no parallel. Nowhere have we destroyed peaceful villages or towns, martyring the inhabitants or sacking them without cause. When the inevitable conduct of a population obliged to stray by their government rendered it dispensable the destruction of private property or the execution of sharpshooters our chiefs considered it their painful duty to make the innocent suffer to preserve our wounded, our doctors and our men from dastardly attacks. This is why we cannot sign your declaration."

"We Germans are the most peace-loving people in the universe. Up to the last moment, when the tentacles of a sanguinary coalition were tightening their grip, the Emperor and the Imperial Chancellor pressed their efforts to keep peace to the last imaginable limits. We Germans resemble a peaceful man attacked by three hyenas thirsting for blood. If England hypocritically accuses us of brutal violation of Belgian neutrality this transparent piece of humbug is answered by the argument that when you are struggling for your life you cannot stop to consider your neighbor's pocket."

"For England we have nothing but hatred and contempt."

Hamburg Limer Taken to Gibraltar. GIBRALTAR, Oct. 24.—A British cruiser brought the Hamburg-American liner Greconia to Gibraltar to-day. The German is laden with coal. She was captured off the Azores.

## CRUELTY NECESSARY, GERMANS DECLARE

Had to Make Innocent Suffer to Preserve Wounded From Attacks.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. BONNAUX, Oct. 24.—Dr. Ernst Frey, chief pastor of the Kaiser's church in Berlin, and two other church dignitaries, Dr. Lahusen and Pastor Axenfeld, in reply to the appeal from the French press, for the assistance of his fellow-countrymen in mitigating the horrors of the war.

Pastor Bahut in his appeal asked that the Christians of Germany, Austria, France, England, Russia, Belgium and Serbia bind themselves to banish as far as possible, hatred of the enemy and to employ their influence to combat the desire to the military, to spare the struggle, to avoid pillage and pray to the Almighty for an early termination of hostilities.

After M. Bahut waited and seeing no reply it has appeared in the Norddeutsche Zeitung, the official German organ. Along the signatures of the Kaiser's chief chaplain and his colleagues appears the phrase "United in Jesus Christ." The document is accompanied by the authority of M. Bahut. "Make what use you like of it."

The reply says:

"Dear Sir and Brother: We will not assent to the general propositions of your appeal, but must decline adherence to premises resulting from your method of reasoning. We reject your proposition because in our opinion there is no possible faintest indication that Germany is any warning or exhortation that there be conducted on Christian principles, it goes without saying as regards particularly the entire population, but also the military staff that the struggle can be carried on between soldiers, while the fully sparing the weak and defenseless and causing for the sick and wounded, the distinction of nationality. We can speak with full knowledge and conscience that this is the rule of our own army."

"The fighting on our side is conducted with a self-control, feeling of conscience and gentleness to which universal history has hitherto no parallel. Nowhere have we destroyed peaceful villages or towns, martyring the inhabitants or sacking them without cause. When the inevitable conduct of a population obliged to stray by their government rendered it dispensable the destruction of private property or the execution of sharpshooters our chiefs considered it their painful duty to make the innocent suffer to preserve our wounded, our doctors and our men from dastardly attacks. This is why we cannot sign your declaration."

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