

GERMANS ADMIT DEFEAT ON SOMME

Loss Salient South of River, French Troops Taking Gemont Hamlet.

BIG GUNS BUSY AGAIN

Artillery Activity Regarded as Prelude to Attacks on Grand Scale.

LONDON, Oct. 11.—Finding themselves unable to two violent counter attacks to recapture from the French a single yard of the ground lost yesterday south of the Somme, the Germans today admit their defeat. The Germans also tell of the loss of the hamlet of Gemont in yesterday's attack, the capture of which the French had not reported.

Paris announces more of the extensive air raiding of German communications that usually precedes attacks on a vast scale, and all the official statements mention very heavy bombardments. Particularly about Verdun the artillery was busy, indicating that the Crown Prince may again intend to take the offensive.

To-night's French statement says: In the Somme region there were reciprocal bombardments along the whole of the front from Merval to Chauvaux.

Two Attacks Repulsed.

The enemy launched two violent attacks on our new positions in Chauvaux Wood. Both were repulsed after a sharp hand to hand struggle.

The total number of prisoners taken in yesterday's operations south of the Somme reached 1,702, including two battalion commanders and twenty-five officers.

The usual cannonading took place at the rest of the front.

The afternoon statement says: In the Vosges, after violent artillery preparation, the Germans launched a strong attack on Johnson's position. Some enemy troops reached our trenches, but were driven out with severe losses by our grenade throwers.

Caught by Barrage Fire.

North of Courcellette the enemy attempted an attack but was caught on his parapets by our barrage and stopped. Our guns also dealt effectively with batteries of hostile infantry assembling in the rear of the enemy lines.

Yesterday our aeroplanes destroyed the bombing two enemy battery positions and damaged many others. They penetrated well behind the enemy's front and bombed railway stations, tanks and billets with good effect.

The German announcement says: On the battlefield north of the Somme during the evening and night, after strong enemy artillery preparation, numerous local attacks were made extending far beyond the Ancre to the north. These attacks were repulsed several times, especially from the Mormal-Bouchavesnes line. Here the enemy succeeded in establishing himself on a narrow front in our first line southwest of Sully. Elsewhere he was repulsed by our artillery or in hand to hand fighting.

Northeast of Thiepval fighting for possession of a small point of support has not yet come to a conclusion.

South of the Somme the French succeeded in penetrating into our position at the salient projecting toward Vermandevillers and in forcing back our troops into the previously prepared lines, cutting off this salient. Gemont and Bovent Farms are situated in the abandoned position.

Our aeroplanes brought down four aeroplanes behind the enemy lines and four behind our own lines.

Ends Life on Return to Cornell.

YONKERS, N. Y., Oct. 11.—A few hours after he had registered to-day as a sophomore in the College of Agriculture at Cornell University, Edison C. Hicks of Yonkers, N. Y., committed suicide by hanging himself to a tree near the college grounds. He left a letter addressed to his brother in which he outlined his plans to kill himself and said he could not help it.

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AUSTRIAN LINE ON CARSONS SMASHED

Italians Take 5,000 Prisoners in Opening Battle of New Drive for Trieste.

Rome, Oct. 11.—Italian troops, fighting in the Carso region southwest of Gorizia, have assumed their march toward Trieste, capturing several lines of Austrian trenches and more than 5,000 prisoners.

Advances were also made on Monte Pasubio, in the Trentino. In the advance on the Carso plateau the Austrian line south of Gorizia was broken.

The Italian statement says: On Mount Pasubio heavy fighting which continued throughout yesterday ended most successfully for us. During the previous night the enemy made strong counter attacks, which we repulsed, and at dawn in unfavorable atmospheric conditions our artillery and trench batteries resumed their heavy bombardment of the enemy's lines. The infantry then took the whole close network of entrenchments which the enemy had constructed on Cosmagno, going as far as the crest of Mount Menerle and the lower southern slopes of Mount Rotte. So far 530 prisoners, including ten officers, have been reported.

South of Gorizia our infantry made a determined attack east of the Verbotizza River, and broke the enemy's line between Tobar and Verbotizza, capturing 40 prisoners, including twenty-five officers, and also three machine guns.

In the Carso, after the intricate defenses of the enemy had been destroyed by artillery and trench mortar fire, our infantry captured almost the whole of the line, composed of several successive entrenchments between the Vipacco (Wipachy) River and Hill 204, and advanced beyond it, Novavilla and the adjoining strong position around the northern part of Hill 205 also fell into our hands after brisk fighting. Prisoners to the number of 5,024, including 144 officers, have been reported, and also a large quantity of arms and ammunition.

Battle Lasted All Day.

VIENNA, via London, Oct. 11.—The official communication from general headquarters issued to-day says: Italian front: The battle on the southern wing of the coast front lasted throughout the day and night and extended as far as the San Pietro. On the whole front between this place and the sea, very strong Italian forces attacked the German positions, succeeded in penetrating our first line trenches at several points. South of Novarva the enemy gained ground at first toward Jamiana. Our counter attacks drove the Italians back to our original position. The battle of Mount Pasubio is not yet concluded.

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BRITISH ISOLATE BULGAR LEFT WING

Cut Railroad From Demir Hisar to Sere, Stronghold of the Invaders.

MOVE NORTH ON VARDAR

Success of Flanking Operations Gives Sarrail Chance to Send Centre Forward.

Paris, Oct. 11.—A heavy blow was dealt to the Bulgarian left wing in eastern Macedonia to-day when British troops cut the railroad between Demir Hisar and Sere, the main artery of this part of the Balkan line. British cavalry forces are only two miles from Sere.

In the centre of the 100 mile battle line the French infantry cut through the Bulgarian first line, taking by storm the trenches on the heights west of Devedjill. The French here are on the Serbian border.

The Serbian army is meeting desperate resistance from the Bulgars. Reinforcements have been sent to the Bulgarian line.

The British are firmly established on both sides of the Demir Hisar railroad. They have occupied Topalova, between the railroad and the Struma, and Proenik, east of the railroad.

Bulgars Are Digging In.

At the northern end of their front on the east bank of the Struma, the British are able to observe the Bulgarian troops six miles from Demir Hisar. To-day's British statement announces that Bulgarian working parties are busy there, evidently digging new trenches in an attempt to stop the British advance. The new Bulgarian line is being dug between Barakli and Barakli Juma, east and west, respectively, of the railroad.

Having cut the railroad, thus menacing the communications of the whole Bulgarian left wing, which is composed of the seventh, ninth and tenth divisions, the British are pushing out north and south toward Demir Hisar and Sere.

The Bulgarian positions in eastern Macedonia depend mainly upon the railroad from Demir Hisar, which curves down through Sere to Drama, and finally east to Adrianople. It is the only railroad in the occupied territory, which is mountainous and has poor roads.

The French Report.

To-night's statement of the French War Office says: On the right wing the British have crossed the railway and occupied Proenik.

In the centre we captured the enemy's first line on the heights west of Devedjill (on the border southwest of Dolran).

At the left the Bulgarian army has received reinforcements and is offering desperate resistance to the Serbians.

The allied army took 2,516 prisoners from October 1 to October 10.

To-day's German statement says: In addition to local lively artillery duels fruitless enemy advances developed on the Cerna River, on the Nidje Flanina and in the region of Ljumnica (to the west of the Vardar River).

The advance in the centre, at Devedjill, southwest of Dolran, is taken here as evidence that the flanking movements of the British on the east and the Serbs, French and Russians on the west have progressed sufficiently to enable them to order the attack in the centre. Here, near Dolran and the Vardar Valley, is where the main movement northward is expected to start.

REICHSTAG SILENT ON U-BOAT WARFARE

Socialist Attempt to Bring Submarine Raids Before House Fails.

Berlin, via London, Oct. 11.—The session of the Reichstag to-day was barren of sensational developments with regard to the submarine issue. The subject was introduced by the announcement that the Conservatives and Radical Socialists insisted on a discussion of it, but Count Friedrich von Westarp, one of the Conservative leaders, merely affirmed the Conservative belief that "the use of unrestricted submarine warfare is absolutely called for in order to attain our political and victorious peace against England."

He refrained in the public interest from discussing his motives and reasons for desiring submarine warfare.

In the circumstances, the amendment of the Radical Socialist Hugo Haase against ruthless submarine methods was fired in the air. The other speakers avoided almost entirely the delicate ground the debate brought out, but there were oft heard charges that the Chancellor's opponents were wasting war against Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg for shady, selfish motives, and counter assertions that they were inspired by no hostility to Von Bethmann-Hollweg but by a desire to see the end of the Fatherland and the fact that virtually all the parties consider England the great and important enemy against which the sharpest war should be waged.

In general, the forthright deliberations in committee and to-day's debate in the Reichstag seem to have left the submarine issue virtually where it was before the Reichstag convened. Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg seems still to be in control of the situation.

Russians Lose Village.

LONDON, Oct. 11.—German troops fighting beside the Austrians in Galicia stormed the village of Herbutov on the Narayuvka River, southeast of Lemberg, to-day, according to an Austrian statement. The statement also says that Russian attacks in the Ludova sector were repulsed.

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SAY WILSON ANGLED FOR GERMAN VOTE

Continued from First Page.

self, but also to bring influential German Americans with me. Embarrassing as my position was, I could not decline the invitation of one who was not only the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, but who was also the spokesman of the Administration on the floor of the Senate.

Luncheon to Stone a Fiasco.

"I learned that a luncheon had been arranged at the Hotel Astor on the seventh night, and I should not have heard what Senator Stone had to say and so a number of us gathered together at Terrace garden for dinner at 8 o'clock on September 16, as the guests of Mr. Ablett."

The men present at this conference, as given by Mr. Ridder, were Otto Van Schenk, Henry Ablett, Joseph Prevost, president of the German American Catholic Societies; President Colmeyer of the United German Turners; George Sylvester Viereck, editor of the Forerunner; Senator Stone, one of two friends whose names he said he did not recall, and himself.

"This conference," said Mr. Ridder, "lasted from 8 o'clock at night till three on Sunday morning. Senator Stone used all his well known powers of persuasion and I am ready to concede him the part as an able advocate of the Administration's policy. Senator Stone had in the apparent anti-German American policies of the Wilson Administration were only for public consumption and that privately the German American leaders, the whole object of this conference so far as Senator Stone was concerned was to find out what action was necessary on the part of the Administration in order to secure the support of German Americans at the coming election."

Gamboling in a Beer Garden.

"Can anything be more humiliating than the spectacle of the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, gamboling in a small room of a Third Avenue beer garden and bartending for the votes which the President from the platform of Shadow Lawn and in his speech of acceptance had repudiated?"

"The conference broke up a 3 o'clock in the morning and matters were left in a state of watchful waiting. Hardly ten days had passed since the ambassador of President Wilson appeared in New York city to accomplish what Senator Stone had failed to accomplish. The conference appeared to be the person of a Cabinet Minister—no less a personage than Albert Burleson, Postmaster-General, who divides the honors with Senator Stone as our ambassador in the intimate advisement of the President."

Mr. Burleson arranged through Mr. Viereck for a conference at the offices of the Democratic national headquarters in the Forty-second Street Building for the hour of 12 o'clock on Tuesday, September 25. The invited guests included the following: Bernard H. Ridder, owner of the Hearst German paper; Rudolph Paenstetecher and many others. The conference was held in Mr. Paenstetecher's office, which was conveniently located in the same building as the Democratic national headquarters. He said to the credit of the gentlemen invited that they declined to have any dealings in the subterranean political diplomacy which was being engineered by the Wilson group.

"Mr. Viereck was the only one to welcome Mr. Burleson and Mr. Viereck may safely be left to the imagination until such times as either one of the gentlemen is willing to take the public into his confidence. Senator Stone, campaigner of Keller, Stone, Burleson and Wilson. What they have done in New York they have done in the West. They have been hypocritical to the limit and we have been in the best position to observe their hypocrisy."

"I should like to be present at the next interview between Mr. Burleson, Stone, Viereck and Wilson. Perhaps I shall not be invited."

"Have I or any representative of this committee or any other committee any promise to you in relation to this campaign?" asked Mr. Wilcox of Bernard Ridder in his office in the presence of the reporters.

"None whatever," replied Mr. Ridder. "Have you conveyed to Mr. Hughes, directly or indirectly, any statement as to what you would like to have him say in this campaign?"

"We have not," said Mr. Ridder. "From the Fairview Club Hangout issued last evening and the statement in which he said he could not speak for Senator Stone or Secretary Burleson, but that Mr. Burleson had not answered a single charge of Senator Keller."

"What we maintain," said Hapgood, "is that the pressure on Mr. Hughes has been exactly as reported by Senator Keller and others. We take every opportunity to meet German agents and try to put the American Government attitude as clearly as possible. Senator Keller is constantly engaged in that work. I am engaged in it a good deal, but hold every supporter of the Administration engaged in it."

DENY RIDDER'S STORY.

Burleson and Stone Say They Never Sought Conference.

At Democratic headquarters last night the following was made public: "When Mr. Victor Ridder's statement was read over the telephone to Postmaster-General Burleson in Washington, he said: "I was asked by a mutual friend if I would see Mr. Viereck. I said 'certainly,' and he called at the office of the Democratic National Committee. There were several other newspaper men who were the office when Mr. Viereck came in. There was no secrecy about the meeting, for people were coming in and going out during the entire time. No one came with Mr. Viereck and I never heard of any invitations having been sent out for other persons to be present. Mr. Viereck criticized the Administration's foreign policy along the lines of his writings in the Forerunner. I listened to him and asked him what he wanted to say. He continued to express his opinions and nothing further came of the interview, which lasted only a few minutes."

"I did not come as an emissary of the President. The President knew about it either before or after the interview. It was my understanding that I never in Mr. Paenstetecher's office. I never heard of Mr. Paenstetecher, in whose office Mr. Ridder says the conference occurred, unless Mr. Viereck had mentioned his name to me. I never heard of several other Germans during the course of his conversation. I do not, however, recall any of them. I was never in Mr. Paenstetecher's office. Mr. Viereck is at perfect liberty to repeat every word during our conversation. I shall be delighted to have him do so."

Stone Makes Explicit Denial.

St. Louis, Oct. 11.—When seen to-night at the Planters Hotel Senator Stone flatly denied the charges made in Victor Ridder's affidavit. His dictated statement follows: "I was in New York about the middle of September. I was invited to meet a number of gentlemen at Terrace garden. Victor Ridder was present. During the afternoon, before the night meeting mentioned, I was called at this meeting by Mr. Ridder and he told me he would come to the hotel in his machine and drive me to the meeting. I had known his father, Herman Ridder, somewhat intimately for years. I was personally glad to meet Mr. Ridder and the others I had been invited to meet. This talk I made at this meeting. I did undoubtedly speak strongly in favor of the President, but it is utterly untrue that I said the President's apparent policy was a continuation of the policy for public consumption only and that privately the Administration was ready to work hand and glove with the German American leaders. I was somewhat indignant at the charges made in Victor Ridder's affidavit. He dictated the following statement: "I was in New York about the middle of September. I was invited to meet a number of gentlemen at Terrace garden. Victor Ridder was present. During the afternoon, before the night meeting mentioned, I was called at this meeting by Mr. Ridder and he told me he would come to the hotel in his machine and drive me to the meeting. I had known his father, Herman Ridder, somewhat intimately for years. I was personally glad to meet Mr. Ridder and the others I had been invited to meet. This talk I made at this meeting. I did undoubtedly speak strongly in favor of the President, but it is utterly untrue that I said the President's apparent policy was a continuation of the policy for public consumption only and that privately the Administration was ready to work hand and glove with the German American leaders. I was somewhat indignant at the charges made in Victor Ridder's affidavit. 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