

FRENCH LINES HOLD IN FIERCE FIGHTING

Germans Take Offensive in Great Force on Both Sides of Somme.

BRITISH GAIN SLIGHTLY

Further Advance North of Ancre Reported; Prisoners Now Total 5,678.

LONDON, Nov. 15.—Despite the heavy effort at the hands of the British on the Ancre the Germans were able to-day to take the offensive in great strength against the French on both sides of the Somme. Heavy attacks preceded by heavy bombardments succeeded at some points, but in the main the French lines held firm.

At the close of the attacks, the French staff, German troops clung to some of the French advanced positions on the edge of the St. Pierre Vaast wood and other German troops had forced their way back into the outskirts of Pressoirs, which the Germans lost a week ago.

These results were possible only after the most intense fighting, in which the French attacked to the last every German attack. North of the Somme the Germans attacked on a front of eight miles in the vital Le Transloy-Bouchavesnes sector. South of the Somme the front was two miles long, in the Allaincourt region, where the fighting always has been exceptionally bitter.

Under Fire Three Days.

South of the Somme the French position had been under terrific fire from German guns for nearly three days. Their own guns had answered, but the French positions had been badly mauled by the intense bombardment. Then when the attack came it was preceded by storms of German tear-producing shells which half blinded the defenders. The French more than held their own against the German infantry advance, screened by this bombardment, and preceded by detachments bearing flame throwers, which the Germans used against the French more than against the British. The French riflemen and machine guns picked off the Germans carrying the "flammenwerfer."

German Statements.

To-night there was issued at Berlin the German night statement in a long time, dealing with the situation on the Somme. It follows:

Western Theatre—British attacks have been carried out on both sides of the Somme. On the southern bank the British are already shattered. Fighting is proceeding near Sully-Sallies and Pressoirs.

To-day's German statement says:

The battle north of the Somme continues. The struggle which went on from morning till night marked November 14 as another day of a great battle. The British hoped they could capture the village of Warlencourt at the beginning and therefore attacked again with strong masses north of the Ancre and several times between the Ancre and the Somme. They succeeded in capturing the village of Beaucourt, but on all other portions of the extensive front of the attack the violence of their assaults was met with heavy losses before our positions.

In the repulse of the hostile attacks Magdeburg Infantry Regiment No. 66 Bavarian Infantry Regiment No. 163 and regiments of the Fourth Guards Infantry division especially distinguished themselves.

The French employed strong forces in an effort to capture St. Pierre Vaast wood, but their attacks were entirely unsuccessful, ending in a sanguinary defeat.

Tentative Losses Heavy.

The French statement to-night says: On the Somme front the battle continued with violence the whole day. The enemy made a strenuous effort with considerable effectives at the same time north and south of the river. The resistance of our troops held back the assaults of their adversaries, who were able to obtain only limited advances at the price of very heavy losses.

North of the Somme an attack was launched, after an intense bombardment, against our positions from Les Boulets to the south of Bouchavesnes. The enemy succeeded in gaining a foothold in our advanced elements in the direction of the eastern part of the village of Pressoirs, where they were able to make progress.

There was an intermittent cannonade on the rest of the front. Belgian Communication—After a raid on the German trenches at Dixmude, prisoners were brought back to our lines. In the course of the day there was considerable artillery activity on the whole front of the Belgian army.

5,674 Prisoners Taken.

The British statement of to-night follows:

During the day we further advanced our front north of the Ancre. The prisoners taken since Monday morning have reached a total of 5,674.

The troops employed have shown conspicuous skill, dash and fortitude. Our success was not won without a hard struggle, as the enemy resisted strongly and as conditions of the ground greatly increased the difficulty of attack. Our losses, considering the extent of our gains, have been high. Our aviation squad won a mile and took over 1,000 prisoners at the expense of 450 casualties.

South of the Ancre we established the positions which we yesterday captured at Hulle de Warlencourt. The enemy, massing at one point for a counter attack, was dispersed by our artillery.

Yesterday our airplanes did much useful work. Last night they made successful bombing attacks on an enemy aerodrome, railway lines, stations and rolling stock.

Greek Chamber Meets Adjourns.

ATHENS, Nov. 13 (via London, Nov. 15).—The Chamber of Deputies assembled this morning in accordance with the constitution. The Premier read the royal decree invoking the assembly and adjournment was then taken sine die.

ENGLAND AROUSED BY U-BOAT MENACE

Baron Sydenham Urges Government to Declare "Ton for Ton" Reprisal.

BERESFORD SEES CRISIS

Lord Crewe Asserts Only Solution Lies in Complete Victory on Fronts.

LONDON, Nov. 15.—Destruction of British shipping by German submarines was the main topic of discussion in the House of Lords this afternoon. Baron Sydenham invited the Government to make a declaration in the nature of a "ton for ton" policy in behalf of Great Britain and her allies as a reply to "the monstrous proceedings" of the German submarine.

He declared that there was an uneasy feeling in the country that the submarine menace was more serious than the authorities were willing to admit.

Admiral Lord Beresford, said that Great Britain had arrived at a serious crisis, calling for energy and foresight. It was time for plain speaking, because the situation was not what it seemed. The newspapers had been misled by the most autocratic Government since the time of the Pharaohs.

"Had the blockade been properly enforced from the first," he asserted, "we should not have been faced by this submarine menace."

The Only Influential Voices.

The Marquis of Crewe, Lord President of the Council, replying for the Government, said it was useless to make such declarations as Lord Sydenham and Beresford demanded without the power to enforce them. The only voices which could speak with influence now were the voices of the cannon on the various fronts.

"I do not think," said the Marquis of Crewe, "to threaten to exact particular reparations in the terms of peace unless we are able to impose those terms by obtaining complete victory."

The Admiralty, continued the Lord President, had been singularly successful in the destruction of enemy submarines, but the difficulties in dealing with this menace had increased.

The Earl of Lytton, Civil Lord of the Admiralty, denied that the fleet had departed from its traditional policy of seeking out and destroying the enemy.

33 Sunk Without Warning.

Thirty-three vessels have been sunk without warning by submarines from May 5 to November 8, according to an Admiralty announcement, which adds that as a result of this 140 lives were lost. Of the total twenty-six were British ships.

Of the total British tonnage of steam merchant shipping, 1,000 tons and over at the beginning of the war, the net loss to September 30, 1916, was slightly more than 2 1/2 per cent. Thomas J. Macnamara, Financial Secretary of the Admiralty, told a questioner to-day in the House of Commons. This, he said, included losses from all causes, whether war or marine risks.

The sinking of the Swedish steamship Astrid, formerly the pleasure steamer Suez, by a German submarine is reported in a Reuter despatch from Stockholm. The Astrid was on her way from Stockholm to Raumo, Finland. Her crew was saved.

Lloyd's reports the sinking of the Danish steamship Hagbar, 2,123 tons gross, and the British steamship Polpen, 1,000 tons gross, by a German submarine. The British steamer Sarah Radcliffe, of 3,333 tons gross, has been sunk by a submarine, which torpedoed and bombarded her, according to a semi-official announcement made in Paris today.

The steamer sank after twelve shots had been fired at her, according to this account, her crew of twenty-eight men being rescued by the Norwegian steamer Hudin.

The sloop St. Nicholas of Granville was sunk on Monday by a submarine, the announcement made in Paris today. Lloyd's announces this evening that the Spanish steamer Oia Mendi, a vessel of 2,082 tons, has been sunk, twenty-four members of her crew were landed.

LINER FIRED ON U-BOAT.

Steamer Mississippi's Action Reported From French Sources.

BERLIN (by wireless), Nov. 15.—The report that the steamer Mississippi of the French line was fired upon by a German submarine which neither bore nor after the attack attempted to molest the liner is considered here as furnishing contradiction to the affirmation of the Entente Governments that the armaments of merchantmen are for defensive purposes only.

The Paris and other French papers, according to information reaching here, published on November 12 the report of Capt. Coubeaux of the Mississippi, which cleared from the American port of New Orleans October 15 for Havre. When in

the English Channel on November 8 a big submarine was sighted at a distance of 3,000 meters, heading westward at full speed.

"Capt. Coubeaux," says the report, "immediately maneuvered his steamer so that the stern of the vessel was in line with the enemy and ordered the crew to battle stations. When he judged the favorable moment had arrived he ordered a shell fired, which unfortunately missed. The fire was discontinued, for the submarine pursued her course without evincing any intention to engage in combat."

The Paris adds: "Capt. Coubeaux has presented a report of this incident to the naval authorities."

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SERBIANS PUSH ON TOWARD MONASTIR

Berlin Admits German and Bulgarian Forces Have Been Outflanked.

THREATEN FLANK OF VON MACKENSEN

Count Sees Significance in Speeches of Statesmen in Opposing Camps.

BERLIN, via London, Nov. 15.—The opening of peace negotiations may perhaps be expected with fair prospects of success during the coming winter, according to Count Albert Apponyi, veteran Hungarian leader and former Hungarian Premier. Count Apponyi, who is visiting Germany to deliver two addresses on Hungarian history, expressed his views in an interview in which he discussed the general European situation.

"We cannot expect," he said, "to see peace negotiations opened within the next few weeks while the Rumanian campaign is still undecided. However, I regard the chances for our cause as excellent, and once Rumania is crushed I think both sides will be willing to consider the question of peace. Rumania has the advantage of being in a proving a losing one. We are massing a big army against the Rumanians, and I think the end will come shortly."

"Our course on the Transylvanian front is a bit slow, owing to the great difficulties of the country, and particularly to the deficiency in rearward communications. These communications are far poorer than in the west or even in Galicia and Russia. However, the army of Rumania into the war has many respects been really advantageous to us."

To illustrate what he regards as the improving chances for peace negotiations, Count Apponyi referred to recent speeches of statesmen in the opposing camps. "Not Lloyd George, of course," he interjected parenthetically, "but such as Viscount Grey and Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, for example." He suggested a comparison between the utterances of these leaders a year ago and at present. "Then," he said, "their respective standpoints were as far apart as the poles, but now, although there are still wide differences between them, they have most appreciably drawn nearer. The Rumanian question, which Germany has been eliminated from the Hungarian pronouncements and the agitation for annexation is dwindling in Germany."

Count Apponyi was asked if he thought the impulse to start peace discussions could come from within the ranks of the warring Powers or whether an outside impetus, in the form of a tender of good offices from a neutral personage or Power, would be necessary. He replied that he saw no reason why neutral mediation should not be welcomed when the opportune moment to which he had referred should arrive, and added that he knew no reason why President Wilson should not be acceptable as an intermediary.

"We feel, of course," he said, "that President Wilson has not treated us fairly and that he has departed from the way of strict neutrality. But even though one does not like a person, that is no reason for rejecting his services when these may be useful."

"Once this war is finished," he continued, "Europe will probably have at least twenty-five or thirty years of peace, until the generation which has passed through this conflict has departed from the stage of life."

Count Apponyi said his views were shared by all leading Hungarians and with the possible exception of certain Slavonic elements in Austria, by the leaders in that country.

RUSSIANS BEAT BACK TURKS.

Petrograd Reports Attacks Repulsed on Caucasian Front.

PETROGRAD, via London, Nov. 15.—An official statement issued to-day by the Russian War office regarding the Caucasian military operations says:

Caucasian Front.—In the region of Delalich-Surguly, to the south of Kishi, the Turks attempted a series of local attacks with small forces against the villages of Charafkhan and Mushkum from the direction of Tornika, northwest of Bamskhan, and were all beaten back by our fire.

The marriage was witnessed by King George, Queen Mary, Queen Mother Alexandra and other members of the royal family. The ceremony was celebrated in Russian and English churches.

PRUSSIAN DIET SALARIES.

Bill Proposes to Give \$200 a Year to Every Member.

LONDON, Nov. 15.—The Prussian Diet is about to take up a bill providing for an increase in the salaries of its members, according to an Amsterdam despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company.

The bill provides a yearly salary of 2,000 marks (\$500) to be paid in two instalments of 500 and one of 1,000. Instalments will be made on the final payment for non-attendance. The bill also grants the privilege of free travel on all Prussian railroads during the session instead of before and after the member's residence and Berlin as at present.

'Times' Red Cross Fund \$25,000,000.

LONDON, Nov. 15.—The Times announces that its collections on behalf of the Red Cross to-day passed \$25,000,000.

APPONYI LOOKS FOR PEACE MOVES SOON

Thinks Both Sides Will Be Willing to Negotiate if Rumania Is Crushed.

WOULD ACCEPT WILSON

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THREATEN FLANK OF VON MACKENSEN. Continued from First Page. tack has been continued with violence, and in spite of counter attacks our troops have been obliged to fall back toward their second line trenches.

CZAR WINS IN GALICIA.

Trenches on the Narayuvka, Lost Recently, Are Retaken.

LONDON, Nov. 15.—The strength of the Czar's armies in Galicia, despite the large Russian forces that have been sent to Rumania, was shown to-day by the retaking of trenches on the Narayuvka that the Russians lost recently.

Strong and repeated German attacks and Russian counter attacks have disrupted these trenches for weeks, for their possession by the Russians is always dangerous to Lemberg and Halicz. The Russian account of the recapture of some of them says:

On the River Narayuvka, in the region of the heights east of the village of Lipniadolina, we assumed the offensive and drove out the enemy from those of our trenches which he had occupied on both sides of the road leading to the village of Slavutin. We took prisoners and two machine guns. The enemy's counter attack was unsuccessful.

The German statement disputes the Russian claim, saying "furious attacks" were repulsed. It follows:

Front of Prince Leopold: On the east bank of the Narayuvka furious attacks by the Russians against the positions west of Foly-Krasnolenski, recently captured by us, were all repulsed, at one point by a counter attack.

CHINESE FIGHT FOR ENGLAND.

Labor Corps Organized as Part of British Army.

LONDON, Nov. 15.—The official London Gazette announces that Lieut.-col. R. C. Fairfax of the Liverpool regiment has been appointed to the command of the Chinese labor corps. This is the first appointment of the organization of such a corps in the British army.

For several months a large number of Chinese and Indian-Burmese laborers have been employed in France. Reports have placed the number of these coolies at 100,000.

GERMANS RAID AERO STATION.

Naval Machine Drops Bombs Near Dunkirk.

BERLIN (by wireless), Nov. 15.—A German naval airplane raided on Monday night the airplane station at Saint Pol, near Dunkirk, northern France, the Overseas News Agency says.

Several buildings are reported to have been struck by bombs. The airplane returned unharmed.

CZAR INSISTS ON A RUSSIAN POLAND

Germany Charged With Creating Independent State for Military Purposes.

GERMAN PRISONERS TELL OF SURPRISE

Say British Appeared Suddenly Out of Gloom and Began Throwing Bombs.

PETROGRAD, Nov. 15.—Russia's intention to create a Poland which shall embrace all Polish territory and to maintain it on the basis of autonomy under Russian sovereignty remains unaltered, says an official announcement issued to-day denouncing the Austro-German proclamation of an independent Polish State as an effort to swell the ranks of the Teutonic armies. The statement reads:

"The German and Austro-Hungarian Governments, taking advantage of the temporary occupation by their armies of a portion of Russian territory, have proclaimed the separation of Polish districts from the Russian empire and their constitution as an independent State. The object of their enemies evidently is to obtain an addition to their armies. The imperial Government regards this action as an act of aggression."

"Russia, since the beginning of the war, has twice previously expressed her intention to create a complete Poland, embracing all Polish territories, which will enjoy the right, when the war is over, of freely regarding the national, intellectual and economic life on the basis of autonomy under the sovereignty of Russia and maintaining the principle of a united State. This decision by his gracious Majesty remains unshakable."

The diplomatic representatives of Russia have been instructed to hand to the governments to which they are accredited the following protest against the Austro-German proclamation establishing the Polish kingdom:

"The principle of the laws of nations, the German and Austro-Hungarian military authorities at Warsaw and at Lublin have proclaimed the Russian provinces of Poland henceforth to form a separate State."

The imperial Russian Government protests against this act as a fresh violation of an international convention solemnly sworn to by Austria-Hungary and Germany and declares it null and void. It reaffirms that the provinces of the kingdom of Poland have not ceased to form an integral part of the Russian empire, and that their inhabitants will be bound by the oath of fidelity which they took to the Emperor, my august master."

At the opening session of the Duma, M. Garszewski, leader of the Polish parliamentary party, delivered the reply of the Russian Poles to Germany's proclamation.

"In the very midst of the war," he said, "the German Powers have had the audacity to anticipate the destiny not only of Poland but of all central Europe. The Polish kingdom founded by the Germans will depend in many respects on the German Powers, and will certainly become a weapon of German imperialism."

"The German action evidently is intended to create conflict between Poland and Russia and her allies and to justify in the eyes of the world her revolting method of recruiting. We are sure the Polish people will not be abandoned in this tragic plight and that Russia and her allies will declare to the world that the Polish question will be solved in its entirety."

The semi-official Russian news agency has issued denials of rumors circulating to the effect that subsidies to Polish refugees in Russia have been discontinued.

AIR RAID ON TURKISH CAMP.

British Drop 400 Pounds of Explosives on Storehouses.

LONDON, Nov. 15.—British airplanes have made another raid on the Turkish camp at Maghdaba, in Egypt, according to an official statement issued to-day by the British War office. The raiders last night surprised the enemy. Our machines, descending low, dropped 400 pounds of explosives on the camp and storehouses, doing considerable damage. Our airplanes returned safely.

THE NEW SAKS "BRIGADIER" ULSTERETTE \$20 to \$38

"The Brigadier" is an Ulster that has been disciplined and whipped into shape, rounded, toned down, and venerated till it's an Ulsterette, and worthy to be called "The Brigadier." Cut in knee length, double-breasted models, mainly in fancy colored cloths, the back plain pleated or inversely pleated, and finished with a half belt. Designed with slash pockets, and convertible collar, skeletonized in the blades, cut on lively, military lines and adapted to any occasion that comes under the head of business or a good time. SEE IT—IT'S A CORKER.

GERMAN PRISONERS TELL OF SURPRISE

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GERMAN IDLE RICH TO WORK.

Finishing Touches Are Being Given to Man-Power Bill.

BERLIN, via wireless, Nov. 15.—The finishing touches are now being given to the "man-power bill," providing for universal labor for all able-bodied Germans behind the front. The exact details of the measure have not been given out, but the newspapers indicate it will apply to all classes, rich and poor alike, affecting particularly the idle classes living on private incomes and those engaged in activities not connected with prosecuting the war, which may be discontinued without injury to the body politic.

This form of compulsory service, it is understood, will not apply directly or specifically to women, but a consistent campaign will be made to utilize to the utmost this reservoir of labor power.

The measure will be submitted by the Government to the Bundesrath within a few days. The Reichstag, which adjourned only last week until February, will be reconvened to act upon the bill as soon as the Bundesrath shall have approved it. All indications point to its speedy passage.

Newfoundland Fish to Greece. ST. JOHN'S, N. F., Nov. 15.—The chartering of American vessels to carry Newfoundland fish to Mediterranean markets is the latest movement in the effort of commercial interests in this colony to overcome the handicap imposed by the war. Three such vessels already have been loaded with cargoes for Greek ports.

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