

FRENCH RETAKE FORTS LOST ON VERDUN FRONT

Make Surprise Smash Against Germans, Recapturing Ft. Douaumont.

TEUTONS FORCED BACK FOR MILES

General Nivelle Carries Out Plan to Smash German Army, Reduced at Verdun to Reinforce Commands on Other Fronts—Victory Creates Great Enthusiasm in Paris—French Losses Said to Be Slight.

The French have maintained the important ground they won yesterday in their coup north of Verdun, the war office announced today. Last night parts of the regained territory, which includes Fort Douaumont and stretches along a front of more than four miles, at points nearly two miles inside the former German lines, were subjected to a German counter attack. The French held their ground, according to Paris, repelling the German assaults delivered in efforts to recapture the Haumont quarries, west of Douaumont, and the Damloup battery, southeast of Vaux. The commander at Fort Douaumont is among the prisoners taken by the French, which a preliminary report placed at 3,500 men. Fort Vaux is still in German hands, but the French lines run beyond it on both sides.

Rain is interfering with operations on the Somme front. Only artillery actions are reported in that area.

Paris, Oct. 25.—Verdun long lost sight of, sprang suddenly and unexpectedly today into the forefront of the public mind, which exclusively had been directed toward the battle on the Somme front. The German front on the right bank of the Meuse literally was swept away for a distance of four and one-half miles.

General Nivelle for weeks past, had been watching the German movements like a lynx, carefully calculating the effect of every withdrawal of troops for transfer to the Somme and eastern fronts. At the same time, he quietly made his preparations, and when he judged the Germans had thinned their defenses to the danger point, he struck like lightning. The result was one of the most brilliant successes of the campaign.

Germans Taken by Surprise. The Germans, who yesterday were pressing close upon the inner line of defenses at Forts Souville and Tavannes, have been driven beyond the outer defenses of the Fort Douaumont-Vaux line. Vaux fort remains in the possession of the Germans but the French line extends beyond it to the north at Vaux village and Fumin wood, and also on the south of Damloup battery and Chenois wood, from both of which positions it can readily be attacked.

The French artillery preparation was brief but intense, and was over before the German commanders could bring up reinforcements even if they were available. The assaulting French forces caught them before the Germans recovered from their surprise, sending prisoners in all lines to the rear. French losses are light, it is believed.

Enthusiasm in Paris. News of the success has caused tremendous public enthusiasm here and this is the greater because of the general impression that Verdun was over and done with and that both sides were contenting themselves with holding what they had won. Today's operation, proving that the French could strike a smashing blow at Verdun, while carrying on an extensive offensive on the Somme, has greatly increased public confidence and gone far to lessen the depression caused by the loss of Constance.

The Germans made a counter attack north of Verdun last night in an effort to regain the ground taken by the French in yesterday's assault. They endeavored to capture the Haumont quarries and the Damloup battery. The war office announces that in both cases they were repulsed.

Loss Decried Bought Ground. The French attack at Verdun apparently took the Germans completely by surprise, and not at one point did they succeed in stopping the impetuous rush. In three hours the French captured ground to gain which required months of patient effort by the Germans, including such positions as Douaumont fort and the Thiamont works, which in the past were won and lost repeatedly.

The official French account of the battle does not say the German line was forced back, but that it was "burst." Later details of the French victory show that its extent was as much of a surprise to the French as it must have been to the Germans. General Petain regarded the front east of the Meuse as too cramped, and suggested to General Nivelle, the commander of Verdun, that he give himself more elbow room.

Plans Well Laid. With that end in view infantry was sent up to reinforce the French and artillery was ordered for the establishment of new batteries. The aviation department was commissioned to make an exhaustive survey of the German batteries. This work was carried out and the secret kept so well that all appearances the Germans had no inkling of what was in prospect. Furthermore, they believed the energies of

The French were being bent in the battle of the Somme. Thus it came about that what was intended for a small maneuver became a brilliant practical success.

The attack was planned for ten days ago. Artillery began preliminary work; but rather rainy weather set in and grand headquarters ordered a postponement.

Colonials Play Important Part. When the time came the attack was delivered by four columns of front divisions each. The first was on the west of Pepper hill. This met with little difficulty. The attackers carried the Thiamont works and farm and the Haumont quarries, set as the objective, and gained the Bras-Douaumont road beyond. There the attack stopped, having advanced about a mile.

The second column was a colonial division under General Manhin, from the corps which retook Douaumont fort last May. The task assigned to it was to take hill 320, northeast of Fleury and on the edge of Callette wood. The offensive there was even more rapid than on the left wing. General Manhin immediately saw he could advance farther and the commanding officer was therefore informed that preparations had been made to continue the attack. Hill 320 was rushed by troops from Fleury, which approached thru the ravine of death, Callette. They then crossed the wood and reached the approaches to Douaumont fort.

Everywhere the Germans gave way before them. However, the garrison of the fort hurriedly prepared to defend the important point, confided to it. French troops surrounded the fort and extended their gains everywhere without an instant's delay. Fierce parties set to work turning the defenses so as to be ready to resist counter attacks west of the fort. The village of Douaumont had been carried at a run and the troops passed beyond.

Deadly Struggle at Fort. Meanwhile a stiff struggle went on between the French and the defenders of the fort. The Germans refused to surrender and the French killed nearly half of them before they forced themselves into the ruins.

On the right things went equally well. The third column reached the edge of Vaux point and carried a part of the Vaux-Chatre wood still held by the enemy, as well as Fumin wood. The column stopped north of these woods on the outskirts of the village of Vaux.

The fourth column, ordered to operate near Vaux wood, followed out its program. It drove the Germans from Chenois wood, captured the Damloup battery and pushed ahead, encircled Vaux fort on the east, south and west, so that the defenders have no way of issue except to the north.

Germans Admit Loss of Ground. Berlin, Oct. 25.—The war office announced today that an attack made on the Verdun front by the French yesterday gained ground that the French assaults on the Somme front were without success.

JOHN J. McNAMARA SEEKING PAROLE

One of Los Angeles Dynamite Plotters to Make Application For Release From Prison—Now Serving Fifteen Year Sentence in San Quentin.

San Francisco, Oct. 25.—Parole for John J. McNamara, who was involved in the dynamiting of the Los Angeles Times building in 1910, probably will be asked Saturday of the state board of prison directors. It was reported here today, McNamara, also indicted and put on trial for murder in connection with the Times dynamiting, eventually pleaded guilty of dynamiting the Lewellyn iron works in Los Angeles, and was sentenced to fifteen years in prison, with allowances for good behavior. His time is now half up.

James Johnston, warden of San Quentin prison, said today McNamara had inquired as to his eligibility to parole and had been directed to file his petition with the board. The International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers and local 23, its Indianapolis body, has sent to California labor unions a request that McNamara's application be endorsed. He is still in good standing in his union, and the Indianapolis letter says "it is felt to be the duty of California organizations to aid him."

McNamara's brother, James B., pleaded guilty to a charge of murder in connection with the Times dynamiting, in which a score of lives were lost, and is serving a life sentence in San Quentin.

BATTLESHIPS COME HIGH

Government Bids Indicate Soaring Prices of Structural Material. Washington, Oct. 25.—When bids for four new battleships and twenty destroyers—the largest single order ever placed by the navy—were opened today, it was disclosed that the government faces the soaring prices of structural material in perfecting the naval building program. Although the department had allowed \$1,000,000 for each battleship than it did a year ago, and placed a limit of \$1,500,000 for hull and machinery alone, the bids ran with a close margin.

The lowest figure quoted by any bidder was \$10,040,000 by the Fore River Company for two ships to be delivered in forty-two and forty-eight months respectively.

CAR WRECKED; SIX DEAD

Interurban Car Strikes Loaded Automobile Near South Bend. South Bend, Ind., Oct. 25.—Six persons were killed today when an interurban car of the Southern Michigan Railway Company struck an automobile near here. Only one body has been identified, that of Frank Brown, of Linwood, Ind.

ALLIED LINES JOIN ITALIAN

Important Military Move by Entente and Italian Forces in Balkans.

JUNCTION EFFECTED IN MACEDONIA

Gives Entente Front of 250 Miles Extending From Adriatic to Aegean Seas—Italians Make Important Advance to Accomplish Junction—Germans Sink Five More Norwegian Vessels.

Today's French report announced an important military move in the Balkans, where Italian cavalry from southern Albania have formed a junction with the cavalry and artillery of the entente in Macedonia. This gives the entente a front of 250 miles from Avlona, Albania, on the Adriatic, to the mouth of the Struma river, east of Saloniki, on the Aegean coast.

Paris, Oct. 25.—The Italian cavalry from southern Albania formed a junction yesterday with cavalry and artillery of entente forces on the Macedonian front yesterday, the war office announced today.

The Italian forces occupied the Albanian seaport of Avlona before Italy entered the war against Austria. No further operations of consequence were undertaken by the Italians for some time but in the last few months there have been occasional reports that reinforcements were being sent to Albania and that Italian detachments were pushing their way eastward. Southern Albania is regarded by Greece as within its sphere of influence and towns in this region have been under control of Greek officers. The Greek representatives were required to withdraw from towns taken over by the Italians.

There has been no accurate information heretofore as to the extent of the Italian advances, but there is now evidence that this movement has been carried forward more rapidly than previous advances had indicated. The entente allies now have an unbroken front across the Balkan peninsula from the Aegean sea, at the mouth of the Struma river, to the Adriatic at Avlona, a distance of 250 miles.

GERMANY INCENSES NORWAY

Submarine Sink Many Ships as Result of Attitude of Christiansia. London, Oct. 25.—The sinking by German submarines of five more Norwegian steamships, valued at 5,000,000 kroner, is reported in an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Christiansia, which says that reports from Copenhagen on the Christiania exchange today that the steamers Alis and Rising and the schooner Theodore, together with the Swedish schooners Antoinette and Henriette, are among the latest submarine victims, the dispatch adds.

The Tidens Brev, a Christiania, states that one boat with six men from the Norwegian steamer Rav, reported sunk by a German submarine at Arctic on Oct. 2, has been lost, while another boat with eleven men on board reached a lonely part of the Russian coast after drifting thirteen hours.

News agency reports from Copenhagen that rumors were current regarding relations between Norway and Germany. German submarines were reported working in Norwegian shipping and it was stated five German submarines had established a blockade of the German coast. The reply to the German protest against Norway's stand regarding submarine travel in Norwegian waters was still under discussion, and it was said the Norwegian government's organ declared it might be assumed that the German protest was so couched as not to bear the character of an ultimatum.

GREECE'S TROUBLES MULTIPLY

Athens, via London, Oct. 25.—The Greek government today issued a communication to clear up misunderstandings due to exaggerated reports of King Constantine's interview with the French military attaché on Friday. The communication explains that the French government made no demands but merely submitted a memorandum and that the king never declared he was prepared to break off relations with the entente.

YIELDS IN TOBACCO CASE

England Permits Shipments Valued at Millions to Go Forward. Washington, Oct. 25.—The British government yesterday notified the state department, thru the British embassy, that it had agreed to remove the restrictions imposed by the tobacco embargo to the extent of permitting to go forward all tobacco for which bona fide contracts were entered into before July 15, last, and which had been started in rail shipment under thru bill of lading before Aug. 31.

Under this concession, it is estimated, between \$2,000,000 and \$5,000,000 worth of tobacco in Copenhagen and Rotterdam will become subject to release, and that a somewhat smaller amount shipped by rail before Aug. 31, but detained for various reasons at the Atlantic seaboard, will be permitted to go forward to Scandinavia and the Netherlands without restrictions.

Tobacco shipped under this concession may be reshipped from Holland and Scandinavia into the territory of the central powers.

Under the terms of the concession it is not necessary that the tobacco covered by the removal of restrictions must be "paid for" before July 15, but only that it must have been "bought" under bona fide contracts before that

date and that it must have been shipped by rail prior to Aug. 31.

At the state department gratification was expressed over the partial concession.

The state department last evening issued the announcement, in which it quotes the British note as saying: "The British authorities regard as most important the provision that the goods must have been shipped on a thru bill of lading for land and sea carriage, or under direct ocean bill, before Aug. 31, and they must insist upon its fulfillment."

"It was at first announced as a concession to American tobacco interests that tobacco bought and paid for prior to Aug. 1 and shipped on or to Aug. 31 would be allowed to go forward free of restrictions referred to," the announcement says. "It was found at once that this concession was inadequate to relieve the hardships brought upon the tobacco interests by the sudden imposition of the restrictions named, and the department of state took up the question with the British government and has since made every effort possible to secure a more favorable rule."

WEDS ITALIAN PRINCE

Margaret Preston Draper Becomes Wife of Prince Andrea Boncompagni. Washington, Oct. 25.—Margaret Preston Draper, daughter of the late Gen. William F. Draper, ambassador to Italy in President McKinley's administration, was married here today to Prince Andrea Boncompagni, of Rome. Cardinal Gibbons officiated in a chapel, which had been converted from the ball room of the Draper home, in accordance with a privilege granted to the Boncompagni family, which has given two popes to the Roman Catholic church.

WHEAT JUMPS 5 CENTS DURING DAY

Giant Upward Swing in Prices Attributed to Drought Damage in Argentina—Buying on Immense Scale Forces Prices Higher. Chicago, Oct. 25.—Giant upward swings in the wheat market today carried prices more than 5 cents per bushel above yesterday's closing figures. The May delivery touched \$1.84 1/2 today, as against \$1.79 3/4 yesterday, which was on an immense scale, received its chief impetus from reports that the drought damage in Argentina had assumed proportions of a disaster and was continuing to grow worse.

Prices, based on a world's shortage due to the European war and to extraordinary crop damage in Argentina, Canada and the United States, the wheat market today capped the climax with a jump of about 7 cents a bushel. Foreigners, however, retailed by a swing to the selling side and a greater part of the gains vanished. The close was at a net advance of 3/4 to 2 cents over the December option at 1.80 1/2.

IN DOUBT AS TO ADAMSON LAW

Chief of Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers Warns as to Effects. New York, Oct. 25.—William Stone, grand chief engineer of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and one of the four men chiefly responsible for driving the Adamson law thru congress under threat of a nation wide tie-up of the railroads, has made for the brotherhood members, and to members of the Adamson law "because we do not know yet just what the law means."

He made this admission in a circular reproduced herewith addressed to "the officers and members of all divisions, and to the chairman and secretary-treasurers of all general committees of adjustment." The circular was dated at Cleveland, O., Oct. 10, 1916. It was signed by Mr. Stone as grand chief engineer, and by assistant grand chiefs Cadie, Willis, Burgess, Kennedy, Corrigan, Griffing and Montgomery.

"We are receiving a number of letters requesting details of information regarding the application of the Adamson eight-hour law," says the circular, "but we are not in position to give any definite information on this subject, because we do not know yet just what the law means. We are, however, from time to time furnishing the general chairman with such information as is obtainable in the matter."

The day before Mr. Stone and his colleagues signed this circular, Charles E. Hughes discussed the Adamson law in a speech at Newark, N. J. "Hasty legislation is likely to carry with it welcome surprises," he said. "It might have been better if the law had been the result of a study for the purpose of reconing the compensation to be paid, how are those men left who complete the prescribed number of miles in less than eight hours? Have they any assurance, if they are to be paid under this bill on a basis of hours, that they will be paid on a basis of miles when they work less than eight hours? And will they have a rigid eight-hour basis of payment present guarantees? There is much food for thought in this legislation, not only on the part of those for whom it does not provide but also on the part of those to whom it expressly refers."

It is apparent from the statement of the circular sent out by Mr. Stone and his colleagues that they are beginning to do some of the thinking about the Adamson law which Mr. Hughes suggested that they do in his Newark speech. And they are finding that the law is not as clear as it might be. They are beginning to pay one of the penalties for haste.

FLOUR ADVANCES TO \$10

Prices Today Establish Record For Last Half Century. Chicago, Oct. 25.—The wholesale price of high grade family flour was advanced to \$10 a barrel today, the highest price since the civil war. This is an increase of 30 cents in two days.

Test Cases Are Postponed

Washington, Oct. 25.—The supreme court today granted motions to postpone argument for the West Virginia case testing the Federal Income Tax law, an illegal organization and that involving an Iowa statute fixing the butter fat standard for ice cream.

PERSHING PLANS TO TAKE FIELD

Shipment of Tools to Field Headquarters Looks Significant.

INDICATIONS ARE FIGHTING IS AHEAD

Entrenching Tools, Sandbags and Other Material For Field Campaign Ready For Shipment—Carranza Troops in New Move in Effort to Drive Villa Bandits From Northern Mexico—Civilians Warned.

Columbus, N. M., Oct. 25.—Heavy shipments of entrenching tools, picks, shovels, crowbars and sand bags have arrived here. It is said they are for the use of the punitive expedition in Mexico. Officers take the shipments as an indication of a possible renewal of activity in the field.

Officers say the tools would not be needed at field headquarters if the troops are to remain there. Recently the bands of the Fifth, Seventh and Thirteenth cavalry, left at the border when these regiments went south, were ordered to rejoin their commands.

Adobe houses are being built at field headquarters in Mexico, it is reported here, and army overcoats are being issued to the soldiers of the expeditionary forces.

CARRANZA IN NEW MOVE

Washington, Oct. 25.—General Carranza has started a new military campaign against the Villa bandits in northern Chihuahua. The war department gave out today the following summary of General Pershing's report: "General Pershing reports that Carranza officials state that a column of de facto troops is moving north from Parral against Villa. Nothing definite as regards the recent action between de facto troops and Villalistas at Santa Ysabel is known."

CIVILIANS WARNED TO LEAVE CHIHUAHUA

San Antonio, Tex., Oct. 25.—Gen. Jacinto Trevino, commandant of the Chihuahua garrison, has issued warning to residents to leave the city, according to a report that reached army headquarters today from Gen. George Bell, at El Paso. General Bell said Mrs. Trevino was among the many refugees to arrive at El Paso.

CARRANZA PLANS FLIGHT?

Washington, Oct. 25.—Charges that General Carranza was preparing to leave Mexico are being freely made by his political opponents in Mexico City. They are based upon his decision to leave his capital for Queretaro and the fact that Mrs. Carranza already has crossed the border into the United States, accompanied by the wife of her husband's war minister and chief supporter, General Obregon.

Information to this effect is reaching officials here from various reliable sources. So far nothing tangible tending to support the story has come thru official channels.

Trip Taken as Weakness. It is known, however, that many officials here believe General Carranza has committed a political blunder at least, if he is not in fact preparing for flight, by permitting his family to leave Mexico just at this time. The trip, they say, was certain to be construed by his followers as a confession of weakness.

The purpose of the visit of Mrs. Carranza and Mrs. Obregon, as explained at the Mexican embassy, is for a tour of the United States.

Word of the arrival at the border also of Mrs. Jacinto Trevino, wife of the military commandant of Chihuahua State, was received last night.

GOING TO CONVENTION

The state department has not received word that Generals Carranza and Obregon had left Mexico City for Queretaro. Previous advice, however, said that the first chief would go to that place in connection with the meeting of the constitutional convention for which delegates were elected last week. This is the only explanation obtainable here for Carranza's departure from his capital.

ARRESTED FOR OLD CRIME

Thomas Metzler Taken to Chester, Ill., For Alleged Crime Six Years Ago. St. Louis, Oct. 25.—Thomas Metzler, a watchman, was taken to Chester, Ill., yesterday to answer a charge of murdering a family of five. According to Sheriff Weaver of Randolph county, Illinois, Metzler was indicted on the charge of killing the family on May 5, 1910.

NEWS OF THE DAY

T-R BULLETIN.

The Weather. Sun rises Oct. 26 at 6:23, sets at 5:58. Iowa—Fair tonight and Thursday; colder in east and central portions tonight, with rising temperature Thursday.

PAGE ONE.

Telegraphic News: French Smash German Lines at Verdun. Regain Fort Douaumont. Entente Allies Joined by Italians. Important Junction Effected. Germans Tighten Grip on Roumania. Pershing's Army to Take Field. John McNamara Wants Parole. PAGES TWO, THREE AND FIVE.

PAGE FOUR.

Iowa News: To Punish Dr. Allen. Evidence of Harding's Insurance Entanglements. Iowa's Model Dirt Roads. Iowa Girls Aid on Con Game. Democrats Shy on Candidates. Iowa Secludes Schlermann. PAGES SIX, SEVEN, EIGHT, NINE.

PAGE TEN.

Editorial: Doing For Iowa and Undoing Iowa. When a Woman Seeks Work. Until After Election. Topics of the Times. Iowa Opinion and Notes. PAGES SIX, SEVEN, EIGHT, NINE. City News: Thanksgiving Dinner For Needy Boys. Rotary Club Planning Big Affair. Meredith Addresses Another Large Crowd. Tomorrow First Registry Day. Nelson Farm at Sheriff's Sale. General and Brief City News.

MARKETS AND GENERAL.

Bullish News Holds Wheat. Corn Advances in Sympathy. Cattle Market Easy. Hogs Advance Despite Heavy Receipts.

URGE ELECTION OF DRY CANDIDATES

Temperance Forces Issue Pamphlet Classifying Office Seekers as Favorable or Unfavorable to Temperance Cause in Iowa.

Des Moines, Oct. 25.—In a pamphlet issued today and to be sent broadcast to voters of the state, candidates for office to be elected Nov. 7, today were separated into wet and dry candidates and voters were urged to support the dries.

The pamphlet was issued by the Iowa Constitutional Amendment Association, the Business Men's Temperance Association of Iowa, and the Iowa Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Lieutenant Governor Harding, republican candidate for governor, is labeled wet, but the candidates for lieutenant governor and the supreme court are classed as dries.

Of candidates for the state legislature, both senate and house, the republicans are listed as follows: Dry, 95; wet, 2; non-committal, 15. Democrats: Dry, 56; wet, 8; non-committal, 51.

EASTERN STAR CONVENTION.

Two Thousand Members Attend Annual Meeting at Cedar Rapids. Cedar Rapids, Oct. 25.—A beautiful setting of Eastern Star emblems and flowers the grand chapter, Order Eastern Star of Iowa, was opened at 9 o'clock today in the city auditorium. Two thousand members of the order were present when the guests in the hall of the worthy patron, J. A. Henderson, was rapped for order. Mrs. Flora Laird, worthy matron of Cedar chapter, welcomed the delegates to Cedar Rapids.

Mrs. Maud Keyser, worthy grand matron of Iowa, in her annual report this morning, said that six chapters had been installed, making 414 chapters in Iowa. A gain of 2,345 members was reported by Mrs. Clara E. Hughes, of Grinnell, grand secretary. During the year 374 members had died, including two past grand officers. The total membership of the order in Iowa is reported as 42,970. Mrs. Ida A. Webster, Waukegan, reported \$17,757.30 in the general fund located at Boone and in this fund was reported \$8,891.80.

The election of officers will take place tomorrow morning and Iowa City probably will obtain the next convention as it is the only contender.

SCANDAL IN McDANIEL CASE.

Attorney Said to Have Remarkable State Was "Jobbed" in Jury Selection. St. Joseph, Mo., Oct. 25.—Development which may result, according to Judge Thomas F. Ryan, the trial judge, in a dismissal of the venetian selected for the trial of Oscar D. McDaniell, prosecuting attorney of Buchanan county, who is charged with the murder of his wife, followed the publication of a news story here yesterday purporting to quote John T. Barker, attorney general of Missouri, as having said: "I can't get over the idea that the state has been 'jobbed' in this jury."

TEUTON GRIP ON ROUMANIA IS TIGHTENED

Forces of Central Powers in Position to Move onto Roumanian Plains.

DEFENDERS LOSE NEURAL DEFENSES

Forced to Relinquish Mountain Positions on Transylvanian Frontier—Von Mackensen Pushes Toward Tchernavoda, Gateway to Interior Roumania From the Southeast—Defending Forces Evacuate Town.

Berlin military critics point to the capture of Predael, reported yesterday, as marking the loss by the Roumanians of the natural mountainous defense of their Transylvanian frontier. This success of the Teutonic forces, it is argued, puts them in a position to move down on the Roumanian plains toward Bucharest, while Field Marshal von Mackensen in Dobruja is pushing toward Tchernavoda on the Danube, the gateway to interior Roumania from the southeast.

Berlin, via London, Oct. 25.—The iron grip of the central powers upon Roumania has tightened in two important notches with the capture of Medjidie and Hushova, in Dobruja, and of Predael, on the Transylvanian border. The conquests of these important places have been achieved with surprising speed. Military men as usual refuse to prophesy as to other developments of the campaign against Roumania, but appear confident.

With the fall of Constanza, the Roumanians lost their principal seaport, while the taking of Medjidie and Hushova now places Tchernavoda in a critical position and, in military opinion here, threatens Roumania more than ever.

The capture of Predael comes as a climax to the recent forcing of a number of important mountain passes from Transylvania into Roumania so that the central powers appear to be nearly in a position to swoop down on the Roumanian plains.

Loss of Natural Fortifications. Predael across the passes beyond it spell the loss to Roumania of its natural western fortifications formed by the mountains of Transylvania, Medjidie and Hushova, if they lead to the capture of Tchernavoda, denote with Turkul and Silestria the removal of the artificial barriers to the access into Roumania across its other natural fortifications, the Danube river.

Vulcan pass, on the Transylvanian front, has been captured by General von Falkenhayn's army, the war office announced today.

In Dobruja pursuit of the Russians and Roumanians continues. Tchernavoda was captured this morning, depriving the Roumanians and Roumanians of their last railroad communication in Dobruja.

[With Tchernavoda in their hands, the Germans and their allies in Dobruja now have possession of the railroad between the Black sea and the Danube. Near Tchernavoda the river is spanned by a bridge which would offer the Teutonic allies the best means of invading old Roumania and striking at Bucharest, providing the Roumanians were unable to destroy it before evacuation. Vulcan pass is one of the important passages thru the Transylvanian Alps between Hungary and Roumania. It is midway between the iron gate of the Danube and the Rothenthurm pass, south of Hermannstadt.]

Evacuate Town of Tchernavoda. Petrograd, via London, Oct. 25.—The Roumanians and Russians have evacuated the Danube town of Tchernavoda in Dobruja, the war office announced today. The statement says Field Marshal von Mackensen's army is continuing its attack along the Dobruja front. The Russo-Roumanian positions at Tachaulner, on the Black Sea coast, about twelve miles north of Constanza, also has been evacuated.

Further Retirement of Roumanians. Bucharest, via London, Oct. 25.—A further retirement by Roumanian forces on the Transylvanian front is announced by the war office today. The Roumanians near Predael and Kimpulung, the statement says, were forced to fall back a little.

Roumanians North of Tchernavoda. Bucharest, Oct. 25.—Roumanian forces operating in the Black Sea province of Dobruja have retired to the north of the Danube town of Tchernavoda, according to the Roumanian official statement today.

Russian Losses Are Severe. Berlin, Oct. 25.—There have been 1,977,532 casualties in the Russian army since June 1, according to the latest reports made public by the central identification office at Kiev, says an Overseas News Agency statement today. Included in this number, continues the statement, are 35,951 officers. Among officers who have recently fallen are two generals, six colonels in command of brigades and eight colonels and lieutenant colonels in command of regiments. The largest number of casualties was among the Siberian corps.

Wilson Leaves for Cincinnati. Long Branch, N. J., Oct. 25.—President Wilson left here at noon today for Cincinnati, where he will make three addresses tomorrow.