

GERMAN SOUTHERN LINES COLLAPSED: FRENCH ARE SENDING Foe INTO ROUT; VILLAGES BLAZING FAR IN THE REAR

French Within Five Miles of Neufchatel, One of the German Bases Back of the Champagne Front—Vouzieres, Railroad Junction, Has Been Penetrated

CHEMIN DES DAMES IS NEARLY CLEARED OF Foe

British Are Within Striking Distance of Douai and Lille—After Breaking Kriemhild Line, Americans Are Widening Gap Near Grand Pre

(By the Associated Press.) The German lines along the Suipe river, in the Champagne sector in France, have collapsed. Progress made by the French yesterday apparently indicates the enemy's retreat northward is more of a flight than an orderly retirement.

French forces are reported to have eached the Retourne river between Houdicourt and Sault-St. Remy. Houdicourt is less than four miles east of Neufchatel, one of the principal German bases back of the Champagne front. This advance brings the French up to within two and one-half miles of the Aisne river and threatens the railroad line that parallels that stream. Farther east the French have made good progress.

Near the Argonne forest, General Gouraud's men are officially reported to have penetrated Vouziers, an important railroad junction.

French and Italians have moved rapidly along the Chemin des Dames and northward from the Aisne. They have reached the vicinity of Ailles, which is on the east of the ridge between the Ailette and the Aisne, southeast of Laon.

Blazing villages in the valley of the Oise are reported in last night's French war office statement. This refers to the section near LaFere, where the first German retirement was reported yesterday. These fires are regarded as evidence that the enemy is preparing to abandon that region, and the high, wooded massif of St. Gobain, to the south.

East of St. Quentin and Cambrai, the French, British and Americans still are moving eastward but their advance is being retarded by German rear guards. The allied progress, however, threatens serious results to the German armies to the south, which also are menaced by the collapse of the enemy lines in the Champagne sector.

Between Lens and Douai, the British are sweeping forward over a wide front and have moved up to within striking distance of Douai and Lille.

From the Argonne forest eastward to the high ground east of the Meuse, the American army that has broken the Kriemhild line is continuing its blows. New progress has been made near Grand Pre. Farther east the village of Romagne now is close to the American line. German resistance here and east of the Meuse has been desperate. Allied troops have been attacking the Austrian positions in the mountain sector of the Italian front.

FRENCH PENETRATE TOWN OF VOUZIERES

After Continued Progress Made During the Night Along the Entire Champagne Front.

Paris, Oct. 12.—Continued progress was made last night by the French troops along the entire Champagne front, the war office announced today. The French have penetrated the important railway town of Vouziers.

This morning the French were holding the general line of the Retourne and the road from Pavres to Vouziers.

FRENCH SWARMING ACROSS SUIPE

Have Moved Over Everywhere on 20-Mile Front Except at Boul-sur-Suipe, Where Germans Hold Bridgehead.

With the French Army in France, Friday, Oct. 11 (Reuters).—General Gouraud's troops have crossed the Suipe river almost everywhere along the 20-mile front between Bertrécourt and Betheniville. The Germans still hold the bridgehead at Boul-sur-Suipe.

The enemy is retiring to his next zone of resistance on the Retourne, but there are unmistakable evidences that he is preparing for a still further retreat.

REICHSTAG TO MEET. German Parliamentary Body to Assemble on Wednesday.

Copenhagen, Friday, Oct. 11.—The German Reichstag will meet on Wednesday, 4,602 cases have been reported in Jersey Oct. 16, according to advices from Berlin.

A QUALIFIED ACCEPTANCE

Is the Way Germany Is Said to Have Treated Pres. Wilson's Query

REPLY WAS SENT FRIDAY NIGHT

Other Reports Say "Far-Reaching Advances" Were Made

Berne, Oct. 12.—The Wolff bureau, the semi-official German news agency, has circulated a Frankfurter Zeitung dispatch from Berlin, stating that the German reply to President Wilson's note was sent last night and that it is in a sense an acceptance.

"FAR-REACHING ADVANCES" Said to Have Been Made in Hope to Open Discussion.

Copenhagen, Oct. 12.—The Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung says the German answer to President Wilson's note of inquiry is ready and believes it was handed to the Swiss government today.

The newspaper understands that "the answer will make far-reaching advances and it is hoped that the discussion between Germany and President Wilson will bring forth a durable peace for the whole world."

It is stated by the newspaper that the note was carefully considered by the war cabinet, consisting of the chancellor, the vice-chancellor and secretaries without portfolios, and that an answer in principle was agreed upon after a conference with the supreme military command. There could be no definite formulation of the answer, however, it adds, until the official text of the president's note was received, which it understands occurred late Thursday night.

ALLIES PLAN ACTION. Great Britain, France and Italy Agree on Course to Pursue.

London, Oct. 12.—The ministers of the allied governments, says the Express, have discussed the German peace overtures and agreed upon a line of common action. The British, French and Italian ministers first conferred and reached a decision, after which the British and French cabinets confirmed the conclusions.

ANSWER SENT FRIDAY NIGHT. Frankfort Gazette Says It "Expresses Adhesion" to Wilson Demands.

Basel, Oct. 12.—(Havas).—The Frankfort Gazette announces that the answer to President Wilson, which has been completed in principle, probably was forwarded on Friday night. The Gazette says it has reason to believe the answer expresses adhesion of Germany to the demands of President Wilson.

AMERICAN "ACES" DEVELOPING FAST

Speeding Up of American Offensive Has Given Them a Chance to Get in Some Effective Work.

With the American Army Northwest of Verdun, Friday, Oct. 11 (By the Associated Press).—Several aviators have become aces during the fighting since the Americans struck the German lines in this sector. There also has been an increase in victories credited to old aces attached to the squadrons in this area.

Eddie Rickenbacker, former automobile racer, has won 15 aerial victories and probably will be credited with 18 in a few days. Lieutenant Frank Luke of Phoenix, Ariz., is next with 14. Lieutenant Hamilton Goddard of Boston and J. C. Vasconcelles of Denver are new aces, with seven and five, respectively.

Yesterday's performance by the "strafing raiders," which caused consternation among German airmen, was the duplicate of another raid on Oct. 3, when Lieutenants Rickenbacker, Coolidge and Edward Curtis of Rochester, N. Y., got one between them, and Lieutenant Coolidge got two more independently. Lieutenants Rickenbacker and Vasconcelles got one each, and Lieutenants Willey Sparks of Uniontown, Pa., Thorne Taylor of Chicago and William Palmer of Bennettsville, S. C., downed one between them.

BLOWING UP BRIDGES. And Germans Are Digging in Furiously on Selle River.

With the British Army in France, Friday, Oct. 11.—(By the Associated Press). The enemy today began an attempt to slow up the Anglo-American advance on the main battle front. All the bridges across the river Selle from LeCateau southward were blown up and the Germans seem to have been digging in furiously along the line of the high ground some 2,000 to 4,000 yards east of the river.

POSTPONE B. & M. STOCK SALE. Until Oct. 1, 1919, at Request of the Trustees.

New York, Oct. 12.—The time of the sale of the stock of the Boston & Maine railroad and the Boston Railroad Holding company was extended from Feb. 1, 1919, to Oct. 1, 1919, by United States Judge Mayer here yesterday, the postponement being granted at the request of the trustees.

The sale is to be made under the decree of dissolution obtained by the government in 1914 against the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Co.

MANY BUILDINGS DESTROYED BY 'QUAKE

Widespread Damage Said to Have Been Done in Porto Rico—No Loss of Life Is Mentioned.

Havana, Oct. 12.—Widespread damage has been caused by an earthquake in Porto Rico, according to an unconfirmed report received here from Santiago. Many buildings are said to have been destroyed. The report fixes no definite locality, and no loss of life is mentioned. Cable communication between Cuba and Porto Rico is badly damped.

An extraordinary heavy earthquake was registered by the seismographs at Georgetown university in Washington yesterday. The maximum shocks occurred at 10:30 a. m., with the greatest disturbance east and west. It was estimated that the quake was centered about 1,600 miles from Washington. The tremors began at 10:20 o'clock in the morning and continued for several hours.

"TERRIBLE EARTHQUAKE"

Private Message Came to New York Man from Son in Porto Rico.

New York, Oct. 12.—A message reading "Terrible earthquake and tidal wave at San Juan, Porto Rico, at 11 o'clock this morning," was received here late last night by a New York business man from his son, who is an officer in a military camp in Porto Rico.

FEW U-BOATS OPERATING. Only Eight or Nine Are Engaged Against Transports.

London, Oct. 11.—Vice Admiral Sims, speaking yesterday at Lord Northcliffe's luncheon for visiting American editors, said the average number of enemy submarines operating against merchant ships and transports across the Atlantic was about eight or nine, but that sometimes it ran up to 12 or 15. That was all of the submarines the enemy could keep at a time, he declared.

Around the British Isles, Vice Admiral Sims said there were about 3,000 anti-submarine craft in operation day and night. Of American craft there were 100, or 3 per cent of the total, and it was about the same in the Mediterranean. The British grand fleet, he said, continues to come out of port whenever it wants to and goes wherever it pleases around the North seas. The grand fleet is enabled to do so simply because it is surrounded by an area carefully patrolled by screens of destroyers, which which it would be suicidal for a submarine to show its nose.

The convoy system, Vice Admiral Sims explained, is nothing else than a grand fleet of merchant vessels surrounded by a screen which makes it very dangerous for a submarine to make an attack. There are about 5,000 anti-submarine craft in the open sea to-day, cutting out mines, escorting troop ships and merchant vessels and making it possible for the allies to win the war.

INFLUENZA VICTIM. Judge Wurtum A. Breed Died at Stonington, Conn.

Stonington, Conn., Oct. 12.—One of Stonington's most prominent citizens, Judge Wurtum A. Breed, died of pneumonia following Spanish influenza, late Friday. He had been showing signs of his illness. He came to Stonington from Painesville, O., about ten years ago, and had been judge of the town court for two terms, and a prominent Republican.

CHAMPION WOMAN RIVETER. She Drove 254 Copper Rivets in Two Hours.

Portsmouth, N. H., Oct. 12.—Miss Annie Tobey, an operator in the Electric shop at the Portsmouth navy yard, won a contest for women riveters here yesterday, when she drove 254 copper rivets into battery boxes in two hours. Machinists claimed that this was a record for women.

JERRY SULLIVAN WON THE D. S. C. Barre Soldier, Killed in Battle, Led His Platoon to Capture of Battery of German Guns—Government Especially Commends the Act.

That Sergeant Jerry Sullivan, deceased, of Barre, did not give his life in vain on the field of battle is shown by the official citation given him along with the award of a distinguished service cross, for "exceptional courage and initiative" in leading his platoon to the capture of a battery of German 77-millimeter guns at Soissons on July 18, 1918.

Sergeant Sullivan's name appears in the list given out officially in Washington today, and the particular citation following his name is as follows: "Sergeant Jerry Sullivan, deceased, Company F, 104th infantry, for extraordinary heroism in action south of Soissons, France, July 18, 1918. Sergeant Sullivan displayed exceptional courage and initiative by leading his platoon to the attack and capture of a battery of 77-millimeter guns. After the successful accomplishment of this unusual and heroic duty Sergeant Sullivan was killed in action."

INSTANTLY KILLED. Ernest Russell of St. Albans Bay Pinned Beneath Auto.

Burlington, Oct. 12.—Ernest Russell of St. Albans Bay, 32, was instantly killed Thursday afternoon when his automobile overturned on a hill in the town of Colchester. With him was Ernest Rich of St. Albans Bay and the latter stated that the steering gear broke and the car turned over, pinning Russell beneath it. Rich was also hurt, but not seriously. Russell leaves a wife and two children, a mother and three sisters, all of St. Albans Bay.

360 U. S. TROOPS WERE DROWNED IN SHIPWRECK

Transport Otranto Collided with Transport Kashmir and Drifted to Shore—The Latter Was Able to Make Port and Landed Troops Without Casualties

300 U. S. SOLDIERS AMONG THE RESCUED

It Is Believed That 85 Members of Crew, Some with Mercantile Marine Ratings, Were Lost—About 200 Bodies Have Been Recovered and Identified

London, Oct. 12.—More than 360 American soldiers were lost on the transport Otranto, sunk in collision with the steamer Kashmir off the south Scottish coast. This developed from checking the Otranto's list at American army headquarters, where it was found the death roll of soldiers stood at 364 or 366.

More than 200 bodies had been recovered up to this morning. Many of these were given burial by a party sent from Liverpool.

The discrepancy between the figures now arrived at and those previously given is due, it was explained, to the mixing up of two identification lists.

London, Oct. 12.—A British admiralty statement on the sinking of the transport Otranto follows: "At 11 o'clock on Sunday the armed mercantile cruiser Otranto, Acting Captain Ernest Davidson in command, was in collision with the steamship Kashmir. Both vessels were carrying United States troops. The weather was very bad and the ships drifted apart and soon lost sight of each other. The torpedo boat destroyer Mounsey was called by wireless and by skillful handling succeeded in taking 27 officers and 230 men of the crew and 300 United States soldiers and 30 French sailors. They were landed at a north Irish port.

"The Otranto drifted ashore on the Island of Islay. She became a total wreck. Sixteen survivors have been picked up at Islay. There are missing and it is feared drowned 335 United States soldiers, 11 officers and 85 men of the crew, including men with mercantile marine ratings.

"The Kashmir reached a Scottish port and landed its troops without casualties."

ORDERED TO PROCEED. That Was Why Kashmir Did Not Want to Rescue Otranto's People.

Belfast, Oct. 12.—The Telegram states that it was in obedience to orders from the Otranto, which was the flag ship of the convoy, that the steamer Kashmir after the collision proceeded without attempting to rescue anyone from the Otranto.

PETER VISCONTI. Well Known Member of Italian Colony Died Last Evening.

Peter Visconti, a well known member of the Italian colony, died at his home, 34 Granite street, Friday evening, the end following an illness of ten days. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Joanna Visconti, for whom much sympathy is expressed, and by his brother, Nevio, aged seven. The deceased was born in Italy in 1887, and came to Barre at the age of 13. He was employed in late years as a driver for the L. Passerini bakery.

BRUNO CIARDI. Employee of Co-operative Store Died Last Night.

The death of Bruno Ciardi of 1 Zanloni place occurred at his home last night, after an illness of a week. He was 24 years old and a native of Sesta Frenitino, Italy, although for some years he had resided in Barre. The deceased is survived by his mother, Mrs. Adèle Ciardi, by two sisters, Mrs. Bianchi Caporinetti of Williamsport, Pa., and Miss Brunetta Ciardi of Barre, and by his brother, Brunetto, who is employed in the Barre Drug store. For the past years Mr. Ciardi had been employed at the Co-operative grocery store in Granite street.

PETER SHADRAOUI. Seven-Year-Old Son of Brook Street Grocer.

Peter Shadraoui, son of Beracka P. Shadraoui, the Brook street grocer, died at his home, 50 Brook street, this morning around 7:30 o'clock. He had been ill a week. The child is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. P. Shadraoui, and by several brothers and sisters. He was born in this city seven years ago.

EPIDEMIC WANES; SIX DEATHS TO-DAY

There Are Still Some Who Are Very Sick But No New Cases Were Reported To-day.

Hope that the last days of the epidemic are approaching buoyed doctors, nurses and other relief workers in Barre today. The situation has cleared perceptibly in the past 24 hours, and while the authorities are plainly alive to the folly of relaxing precautions, they are of one mind when it comes to the belief that the worst is over. Today six deaths were reported, the smallest number since the plague settled down over the city. No new cases were reported at city hall this forenoon, and only a few sporadic cases were reported last night. By reason of the fact that many are now on the high road to recovery, the doctors find that the demand for their services is tapering off somewhat, albeit they still find plenty to do.

Two weeks ago to-day when the shadow of pestilence was first discerned only two deaths were recorded as the toll taken by influenza and pneumonia. Throughout last week many names were added to the list and during the week end and early in the week the epidemic seems to have been at its height. All told 154 lives have been claimed by influenza and pneumonia here in the city. This total does not include deaths in Barre town or the soldiers and sailors of Barre who have succumbed in camps and training stations.

Relief workers will find plenty of work at hand during the week end. The doctors expect that occasional cases will break out, and there remain many people who are desperately sick. Hence it follows that the present is one of the most critical periods of the epidemic, and the call for volunteers is sounded as loudly as ever. Men and women who have been doing relief work steadily for a fortnight need and deserve relief themselves. Others who have been able to continue in their normal employments will find that an opportunity for service awaits them at city hall, and it is hoped that the responses will be numerous. There is grave need of nursing and other kinds of care in many quarters and much depends on the willing service given by volunteers.

Stores, banks and offices were closed today in observance of Columbus day and it followed that a considerable number were released for duty among the sick. It is hoped that the toll of volunteers will not be confined to those who offered their services this morning.

Deaths reported since yesterday are: Peter Visconti of 34 Granite street; Bruno Ciardi of 1 Zanloni place; Peter Shadraoui, aged 7, 50 Brook street; John Brozicevic, 18 Willey street; Matti Makkanen of 25 Warren street; 19-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Amedeo Calcagni of the A. Tomasi block.

DIED AT NORWICH. Cadet Louis F. Tomasi, Son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Tomasi of Barre.

Cadet Louis F. Tomasi, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Tomasi of 12 Merchant street, died at Norwich university Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. He had been ill nearly two weeks, although his condition was not serious until last Sunday, when he was summoned to his bedside. The body was brought to Barre from Northfield last evening.

The deceased was born Louis Frank Tomasi in St. Albans July 13, 1898. He accompanied his parents to Barre as a child and after attending the graded schools he enrolled in Spaulding high school, where he graduated last June. He was a young man who was an athlete of more than ordinary ability and was a manly participant in many spirited football encounters at Spaulding. Early in September he enrolled as a student at Norwich.

Besides his parents, the young man leaves four sisters, Misses Annie and Mary Tomasi, Adeline and Mildred Tomasi, and four brothers, Private John Tomasi, who is stationed at Camp Devens, Ernest, Lawrence and Francis Tomasi of this city. The deceased was highly regarded in Barre and his death is mourned by many.

JOHN BROZICEVIC. Native of Austria and Resident of Barre Six Years.

John Brozicevic of 18 Willey street passed away at the City hospital this morning, after an illness of a week. He was born in Ciockenied, Austria, in 1888, and came to Barre in 1912. Mr. Brozicevic is survived by his wife, who lies critically ill at the hospital, and by three children, Martin, aged 5, Anna, aged 3, and Rosa, aged 1. His brother, Michael, who is also ill, lives at 20 Willey street. A second brother lives in West Virginia and the deceased's parents, two sisters and two brothers are in Austria. With his brother, Mr. Brozicevic has conducted a granite manufacturing establishment in the plant of Carroll Bros.

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WILSON SAW ALLIES MARCH

Fighting Men of 22 Nations in Line in New York To-day

TROPHIES OF WAR DRAWN ON PARADE

Joint Celebration of Liberty Day and Columbus Day

New York, Oct. 12.—New York's patriotic fervor was quickened to-day, when the fighting men of 22 nations marched down flag-bedecked Fifth avenue in review before President Wilson, in joint celebration of Liberty day and Columbus day.

Scores of airplanes, flying in battle formation, preceded the marchers. Guns, tanks and other trophies captured from the Germans by American soldiers at Chateau Thierry and other battlefields were towed by military tractors.

The total number of all troops in line was estimated at 25,000. Women had a prominent part in the parade. Some of America's new field artillery pieces and naval guns, turned out by the War Department, were escorted by members of the Italian mission and by Italian soldiers to the Altar of Liberty in Madison Square garden, to participate in the Italian day Liberty day ceremonies. The Italian ambassador, Count di Celleri, after raising the flag of his nation, delivered an address in the president's presence.

President Wilson and Mrs. Wilson will attend the Liberty day concert at the Metropolitan opera house to-night for the benefit of Queen Margherita's fund for blinded soldiers of Italy.

IN ITALIAN CEREMONIES. President Wilson Participated in Flag-Raising in New York.

New York, Oct. 12.—President Wilson, after a late breakfast in his rooms at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel, was escorted by members of the Italian mission and by Italian soldiers to the Altar of Liberty in Madison Square garden, to participate in the Italian day Liberty day ceremonies. The Italian ambassador, Count di Celleri, after raising the flag of his nation, delivered an address in the president's presence.

On his way to the Altar of Liberty the president visited the home of Colonel Edward M. House.

BARN FIRE MADE BRILLIANT COLORING. Property of Mrs. George B. Milne on Edge of Spaulding Street Hill Was Damaged to Extent of \$700.

A troublesome barn fire called out the fire department at 10:15 o'clock last night when a blaze was discovered in the combination barn and garage owned by Mrs. George B. Milne on Spaulding street. The fire was confined to the roof and the second story of the building, and the loss probably will not exceed \$700, which is covered by insurance.

People in the home of Mrs. Milne, across the street from the barn, discovered the blaze, but almost at the same moment some of the relief workers, emerging from city hall, saw smoke and fire over Spaulding street. The fire station was notified by telephone and then a general alarm was sounded from box 32, near the Mount street corner of Washington street. Both horse-drawn trucks and the motor vehicle were manned for the fire and within a few moments two streams of water were playing on the barn. Previously two valuable automobiles on the ground floor had been removed. It took the firemen but a few moments to get the blaze under control, but the presence of fire in the hay loft and the fact that a quantity of grain was stored upstairs kept the flames and smoke going skyward for some little time. The engine was destroyed and thereafter the fire raged in the hay, although at one time the roof was quite generally aflame. On the west side of the barn only a platform breaks a sheer drop of many feet along the bank which skirts Spaulding street, and so the firemen were compelled to direct their attack from the front and east sides. A garden hose supplemented the stream of water used inside.

Only one theory plausibly accounts for the origin of the fire. It is supposed that the blaze started from defective wiring.

DON'T BURN LEAVES. Because Smoke Penetrates the Houses of the Sick.

The people of Barre are asked to refrain from burning leaves on the open until the sick people have recovered. The dense smoke from the moist leaves penetrates the houses and causes very unsatisfactory conditions for the patients, making it almost impossible for them to breathe. The burning of leaves can wait until after this epidemic is over.

MATTI MAKKANEN. Had Been a Resident of Barre Five Years—Native of Finland.

Matti Makkanen passed away at his home, 25 Warren street, this forenoon at 9:30 o'clock, the end following a week's illness of influenza and pneumonia. The deceased was born in Finland around 40 years ago and came to America in 1913, settling in Barre, where he was employed as a graniticor. His wife is the only relative in America, although his brothers and sisters reside in Finland.

DEATH OF INFANT. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Amedeo Calcagni in A. Tomasi Block.

The death of the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Amedeo Calcagni of the A. Tomasi block occurred early this morning, after an illness of less than a week. The child was born in January, 1917. Mr. and Mrs. Calcagni have one other child, a daughter.