

GERMANS RESISTING DESPERATELY BRITISH ADVANCE ON CAMBRAI

Reinforcements Have Been Brought Up From Other Sectors of Western Front—Strenuous Fighting Has Occurred Around Fontaine Notre Dame and Burlonwood

BRITISH ESTABLISHED IN NEW POSITIONS

Main Attack on Opening of Offensive Was Along the Western Bank of Canal Du Nord—Resume of Fighting on Tuesday and Wednesday Shows Great Work Done by British Tanks, Cavalry and Infantry

Reinforced by divisions from other sectors of the western front, the Germans are resisting desperately the British advance on Cambrai. Around Fontaine Notre Dame, less than three miles west of Cambrai and the Burlonwood, close by, the most strenuous fighting has occurred with the British making progress. General Byng is combining his attacks with consolidation work and the British are firmly established in their new positions which give opportunities to destroy the usefulness of Cambrai as a supply center as well as a starting place for a drive either north behind the Drocourt-Queant line or west against Cambrai. Heavy fighting is taking place at Moeuvres, three miles west-southwest of Fontaine Notre Dame, and at Crevecoeur, about three miles south of Cambrai, at the other end of the wedge driven across the Hindenburg line Tuesday and Wednesday.

British Captives. The Burlon wood is the dominating hill to the west of Cambrai and the Germans have put up a strong resistance here as well as at Fontaine Notre Dame, which flanks the wood to the west. The British have made advances at the southern and southwest edges of the wood. Near Moeuvres, General Byng's men have taken Tadpole Copse which dominates the village part of which the Germans still hold. In addition to nearly 2,000 prisoners the British have captured large quantities of war material and several scores of guns.

Ulsterites Did Some Strenuous Fighting

British Army Headquarters in France, Nov. 23 (Delayed).—(By the Associated Press).—The main attack on the opening of the offensive Tuesday was along the western bank of the Canal Du Nord, which runs almost due north and south from a point a little west of Havrincourt. The main Hindenburg line trenches were built along this waterway and the British had to fight their way up the big ditch. There was intense hard work almost from the state as the Ulsterites who undertook this task got in among the German defenses. It was necessary for the Irishmen to charge the barbed wire entanglements and bomb them to pieces in order to force their way through. It was a big undertaking but they drove an entering wedge into the trench system near Havrincourt. Northwest of the town is a high bank on the west of the canal which was strongly fortified with dugouts and there was a great concentration of machine guns. The British had no alternative but to charge and thus they did. The crest was gained in the face of a heavy fire and desperate bayonet fighting followed.

Good Work By Ulsterites. The Ulsterites hurled themselves on the Germans with such fury that the latter were compelled to desert their machine guns and abandon the hill and many of them were shot down as they fled. This fight occurred at 8 o'clock Tuesday morning. Meanwhile German machine guns on the eastern side of the canal were given much trouble and as soon as the high bank was captured British engineers began building bridges over the waterway in order to give a crossing to the infantry. They undertook to have these bridges completed by 3 o'clock and the task was accomplished. Previously they had prepared a causeway in the same vicinity and the troops were able to give over the canal to the eastern bank.

Hand-to-Hand Fighting. During the afternoon the Irish were held up temporarily because of the shortage of ammunition near a sunken road, southwest of Graincourt, where the Germans were established in considerable force. The ammunition came up and the British charged forward again. They overcame the resistance south of the Cambrai-Bapaume highway. The Germans then were firing with machine guns down across the Cambrai road. Hand-to-hand fighting occurred at positions below the road but the Germans finally

guns, held out the whole of Tuesday in the face of strong attacks. Atacked Wednesday Morning. Wednesday morning the British again attacked and this time forced the Germans from the village after taking their guns. Wednesday the advance was rapid. Strong resistance was encountered, but the British battled their way forward with rifles and bayonets and by noon had forced an entrance into Cambrai. Wednesday night the advance continued and an assault was made on Fontaine Notre Dame. The British finally drove the enemy out. The British remained in possession of Fontaine until shortly after noon yesterday when the Germans made a heavy counter thrust and again occupied the town. However, the British were forced to withdraw only a short distance and still hold the ground from Cambrai to the south of Burlon wood. This completes the summary of the operations before Cambrai, since Tuesday morning.

Fighting to the North. There was, however, heavy fighting to the north in the region of Billecourt. The main objective here was the famous tunnel trench, an underground fortification of great strength, about 2,000 yards long. The entire trench was mined as the British well knew, and behind it the Germans had dug 1,000 yards of support trench. Many concrete pill boxes also reinforced the trench positions. For a month the British had been keeping the Germans nervous putting down smoke bombs and releasing gas. The enemy has become so accustomed to this that when the British started a flurry of gunfire at dawn Tuesday, the Germans thought it was more of the same thing and they were caught unawares. The greatest danger which the attackers faced was the possibility of the mines being blown up and they knew this must be avoided. Accordingly they took along a body of expert tunnel men. By good fortune they mastered the secrets of the mines and cut the lead wires. This prevented the enemy from setting off the explosives.

Hot Fight in Tunnel. A hot fight took place in the tunnel and 400 enemy bodies were counted after the conflict. In addition, more than 700 prisoners were taken. Further evidence of the German unpreparedness for an offensive in the Cambrai sector was obtained today in the capture of an order drawn up by a German battalion commander the day before the attack. It was his summary of events for a week and he drew this conclusion: "The attitude of the enemy clearly is one of defensiveness."

A Big Surprise. This commander was stationed in the forward area and it is quite apparent he did not know what was going on. It is also evident that the higher commander had no information or it would have informed him. The German's relied upon every possible source to get troops to withstand the British attack. By raking many places in their lines they apparently were able in the first 48 hours of fighting to bring in only two new divisions and some five or six battalions. Today another division was brought up from Aisne front and the 119th division from Flanders.

Owing to the British artillery work there is little doubt that the Germans will be forced to abandon Cambrai as a rail head for bringing up troops. A latter report from Burlon wood just as this dispatch is being filed said that the British attack there was progressing well. They were forced to withdraw. By 6:10 o'clock in the evening the Irish troops had crossed the Cambrai-Bapaume highway on both sides of the canal and taken a stand south of Moeuvres. This was the situation here at the end of the first day's fighting. Wednesday morning the British pushed forward, this time having the support of a certain amount of artillery. Moeuvres was strongly held but the Irish stormed the defenses with bombs and forced their way half through the village. Here they came up against a heavy barricade which they took with the bayonet and for a time drove the Germans out of the place. In the afternoon the Germans approached from the east side of the canal for a counter-attack, but this was smashed by machine gun and rifle fire.

Later in the afternoon the German artillery opened up and heavily shelled the trenches held by the British south of Moeuvres. Thursday morning the Irish were holding most of Moeuvres and the east bank of the canal. In the afternoon the Germans delivered a sudden counter-attack and forced the British to withdraw to the southern outskirts. This morning the town and at an early hour had worked Irish again surged forward against the trench way around toward the north.

Remarkable Work By Cavalry. In the Graincourt section on the right of the Irish remarkable work was done by cavalry on the first day. The horsemen had swept forward and captured Annex by Tuesday evening. This represented an advance of about 7,000 yards, which is said to be a record for one day. During Tuesday night the Germans counter-attacked Annex with troops which had just been brought from the Russian front and the British withdrew. Wednesday morning the British again attacked Annex and recaptured it. Proceeding northward, the British drove the enemy from the trenches near the edge of Burlon wood. Later the British were forced to withdraw slightly because of heavy machine gun resistance at the former place the first day of the offensive. Tanks led the infantry in the attack, but the Germans, with the assistance of heavy

Submarine, Damaged With a Depth Bomb, Sunk With All on Board

ADMIRAL SIMS CABLES REPORT Destroyer Tried To Keep Submarine From Sinking But Without Avail

Washington, Nov. 24.—Definite news of destruction of another German submarine by American destroyers reached the navy department today in a cabled report from Vice-Admiral Sims. The submarine, damaged by a depth bomb, went down with all on board after a destroyer had attached a line and was attempting to take her in tow. Two destroyers took part in the action. One, sighting a periscope at 400 yards, headed for it and dropped a depth bomb. Soon afterward the submarine came to the surface with no sign of life aboard. The second destroyer steamed up and attached a line, but the U-boat, apparently shattered by the bomb went to the bottom. Secretary Daniels announced the report in this statement: "Dispatches received from Admiral Sims state that a German U-boat has been accounted for by American destroyers operating in European waters. While on patrol duty a destroyer sighted a periscope 400 yards off. Immediately ringing full speed ahead the commanding officer headed his craft to pass a few yards ahead of the submarine. As the destroyer passed over the U-boat's course a depth bomb was dropped. This evidently caused damage to the U-boat which shortly afterward broached about 500 yards away. "Fire was immediately opened on the submarine by two of our destroyers which circled about their target. The submarine did not return the fire and was evidently disabled. One of the destroyers got a line to her intending to tow her, but the boat soon sank."

Italian Attacks Fall. Berlin, Nov. 24.—Italian attacks against the Austro-German positions west of the Brenta river and between the Brenta and Piave rivers yesterday failed, the German war office announced today.

Many Firms Have Not Applied For License Steps Will Be Taken To Suspend Trading Operations of All Such Concerns

Special to THE TIMES. Raleigh, Nov. 24.—Steps will be initiated immediately to suspend the trading operations of firms or persons who are subject to license under the president's proclamation of October 8, unless applications for license are made at once. Federal Food Administrator Hoover has wired State Administrator Page that many firms and individuals have failed so far to make application, notwithstanding the fact that they should have done so before November 1. Mr. Hoover's telegram was in effect an announcement to those that "time's up."

Firms which have licenses are expressly forbidden to buy food commodities from, sell them to, or to handle them for any person or firm who is required to have a license but who has not secured the license and complied with the provision which requires the licensee to place on every contract, order, acceptance of order, invoice, quotation and price list his license number. Any infringement of this rule should be reported to State Food Administrator Page.

Gompers Re-Elected. Buffalo, Nov. 24.—Samuel Gompers was re-elected president of the American Federation of Labor at the closing session of its 37th annual convention here today.

ANOTHER U-BOAT HAS BEEN SUNK BY U. S. DESTROYERS

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RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR REFUSES TO RECOGNIZE THE BOLSHEVIKI RULE

The Bolsheviki Do Not Represent True Will of Russian People, Ambassador Bahkmetieff Writes Secretary Lansing—Three of Chief Officers of Embassy Resign To Avoid Having Relations With Extremists

Washington, Nov. 24.—Ambassador Bahkmetieff of Russia, formally notified the state department today that the embassy does not recognize the authority of the extremists now in control of the foreign office at Petrograd. In a letter to Secretary Lansing, following the resignation of three of the chief officers of the embassy to avoid having relations with the Bolsheviki, the ambassador said the Bolsheviki government was not representative of the true will of the Russian people and that he would not recognize that or any similar government which would lead the country into non-participation in the war. Those who resigned are C. Onou, counselor; John Sookine, first secretary, and F. De Mohrenschildt, second secretary. Mr. Sookine came to Washington with Ambassador Boris Bahkmetieff, after the overthrow of the monarchy and has been the ambassador's chief assistant.

Mr. Mohrenschildt married Miss Nona Haselhurst McAdoo, daughter of the secretary of the treasury, last May. Both he and Mr. Onou were attached to the embassy before the arrival of the new ambassador. Teutons Offer Peace. The bait of a separate peace offered by the Bolsheviki government in Petrograd apparently has attracted the central powers. According to a report from Stockholm an emissary has gone to Petrograd with an offer of peace from Germany and its allies. It is reported also that General von Ludendorff, Field Marshal von Hindenburg's principal aide and the reputed strong man of the German staff, has gone to the eastern frontier in connection with the Bolsheviki offer of an armistice. American government officials regard the Bolsheviki offer as an act that would place Russia in the list of unfriendly nations. The British government, through its minister of blockade, declares that the making of a separate peace by the people of Russia would put them virtually outside the pale of civilized Europe.

REORGANIZATION OF ENTIRE ITALIAN ARMY

Senator Marconi Confident That Teuton Advance Will Be Stopped

Rome, Nov. 23.—(Delayed).—The re-organization of the entire Italian army is proceeding apace," said Senator William Marconi, inventor of the wireless, in an interview with the Associated Press. "I am confident that the onward march of the enemy will be definitely stopped."

Senator Marconi has just returned from a tour of the front from the mouth of the Piave to Monte Grappa during which he inspected the wireless line for four or five days longer. "I found everywhere that the spirit of the troops was very high," he continued. "The men are desirous of taking revenge for the reverses suffered and are furious at the thought that any Italians had been charged into believing Austria and Germany lies when the enemy announced the intention to lay down arms if the Italians did the same."

Furious Fighting. Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, Nov. 23.—(Delayed).—(By the Associated Press).—A succession of attacks and counter attacks followed rapidly throughout the day on the hills between the Piave and Brenta valleys, where the Italians and Austro-Germans are engaged in furious combat.

Mountain batteries had been secured in mountain embayments as the fight ebbed and flowed over these positions the Italians not only brought back the guns, but even the wheels and the limbers. The first morning of the day came at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The enemy had struck his greatest blow earlier in the day and the fierce attack lasted three-quarters of an hour. The whole field was swept by artillery fire and the ground was strewn with dead. It was amid this welter of bodies and debris that the Italian lines were reformed and from it they moved forward steadily and irresistibly until the slivatski ground was retaken except at one point where the struggle still goes on. The enemy losses must be very heavy, but he is bringing forward a steady stream of reserves. The first army also is sustaining a heavy fight west of Brenta river where the enemy rush has been repulsed by the splendid resistance of the Italians. But the enemy's greatest blow was aimed at the strategic key of Monte Tomba and Monte Pertica. Here the full force of two divisions—one German, the other Austrian—was hurled in a furious attack on the Italian right wing in an effort to turn the wing and cut off the army from its line of communication along the Piave. Now came one of the bloodiest struggles of the war, which went on all last night and today with a steady succession of attack and counter attack. What the outcome will be cannot be forecast but the Italian armies have snatched back victory when it was hanging in the balance. Even the enemy yields tribute to its valor for prisoners may etc. force are surging at the resistance met and disconcerted by the bravery of the Italian troops.

FIRST SHIP LAUNCHED OF THE MERCHANT FLEET

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—With the sliding of an 8,800-ton steel ship down the ways of a Pacific coast shipyard today the shipping board recorded the launching of the first of the merchant fleet it is building. Other accessions to the fleet will be launched in a steady program from now on, including three 26,400-ton steel ships and three 10,500-ton wooden ships during December.

FAIR AND COLDER WEATHER FORECAST

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—Fair and cold weather Sunday morning with freezing temperatures and frost as far south as central Florida is indicated in the weather bureau's weekly outlook for the south Atlantic and east gulf states during the week beginning Sunday. There will be slowly rising temperatures after Tuesday with generally fair weather. Fair weather Sunday with rain or snow Monday night and Tuesday and with slowly rising temperature is indicated for Tennessee. The weather thereafter will be generally fair with nearly normal temperature.



SERG. ARTHUR GUY EMPEY Author of "Over the Top"

ITALIANS HOLDING TEUTONS IN CHECK BY HARD FIGHTING

Gen. Diaz's Troops Have Retaken Monte Tomba and Marte Pertica

ONE OF BLOODIEST STRUGGLES OF WAR

Teutons Delivered Massed Attack Without Making Dent in Defenses

Battle Of Mountains Is On. Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, Nov. 23.—(Delayed).—(By the Associated Press).—The battle of the mountains is raging with unexampled violence. The Italians again held the Monte Tomba and Monte Pertica positions which they lost last night. The losses have been very great but the enemy's far exceed those of the Italians.

On the outcome of the mountain battle depends the result of the enemy's greatest effort to break through the Italian lines to the Venetian plain. The recapture of the Italian positions on Monte Tomba was accomplished by a succession of brilliant charges. Monte Pertica was lost and won four times, the enemy finally being thrown back.

Although the losses have been terrible, those of the enemy are by far the greater. The battle which had been gradually gathering force in the last few days broke in full fury early yesterday and raged throughout the day, the night and today. The first blow was struck at Monte Pertica.

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WATCH ADS FOR CHRISTMAS BARGAINS

