

FIELD MARSHAL FRENCH TELLS OF GREAT BATTLE

How After Nearly Six Weeks of Terrible Fighting the English and Their Allies Brought to a Dead Stop the Furious Onslaught of Superior German Forces, Told in Detail.

(By the Associated Press.) London, Nov. 29.—(4:00 p. m.)—Field Marshal Sir John French, commander-in-chief of the British forces in the field, speaks optimistically of the position of the allies in a report made public here today. It covers in a general way activities from October 11 to November 20.

Summing up, Field Marshal French says: "As I close this dispatch, signs are in evidence that we are possibly in the last stages of the battle from Ypres to Arrmentieres. For several days the artillery fire of the enemy has slackened considerably and his infantry attacks practically have ceased. "In remarking upon the general military situation of the allies it does not seem to be clearly understood that the operations in which we have engaged embrace nearly all of the central part of Europe, from the east to the west. The combined French, Belgian and British armies in the west and the Russian army in the east approach to the united forces of Germany and Austria.

Our enemies elected at the commencement of the war to throw the weight of their forces against our armies in the west and to detach only a comparatively weak force, composed of a very few of the best troops and several corps of second and third line troops, to stem the Russian advance until the western forces could be completely overwhelmed. Their strength enabled them from the outset to meet the greatly superior forces against us in the west. This precludes the possibility of our taking vigorous offensive action except when miscalculations are made by our commanders, opening up special opportunities for successful attacks and retreats.

Allies On Defensive. The battle of the Marne was an example. As was our advance from the River Iser to the combatant of this battle, the tactics which our armies consequently have been called upon to fulfill has been to occupy strong defensive positions, holding ground gained and inviting the enemy's attack, and to throw back these attacks, causing the enemy heavy losses in his retreat and following him up with powerful and successful counter-attacks to complete his discomfiture.

The cost and sacrifice of operations of this nature since the commencement of hostilities lies in the fact that at the moment when the Eastern provinces of Germany are in imminent danger of being overrun by the numerous and powerful armies of Russia nearly the whole active army of Germany is tied down to a line of fortresses extending from Verdun on the Atlantic frontier to the sea at Newport, east of Dunkirk at a distance of 260 miles, where they are held with much reduced numbers and impaired morale by the successful action of our troops.

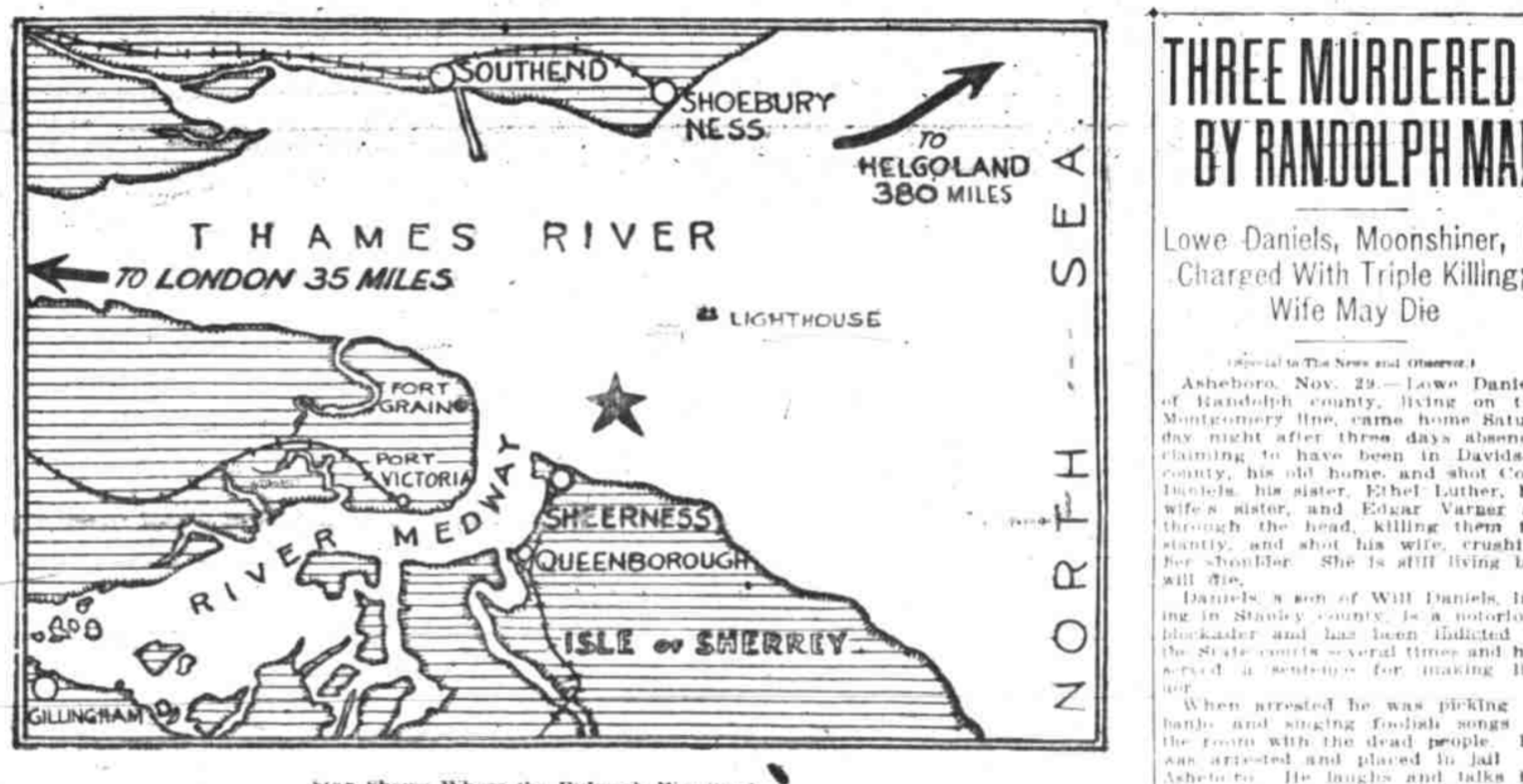
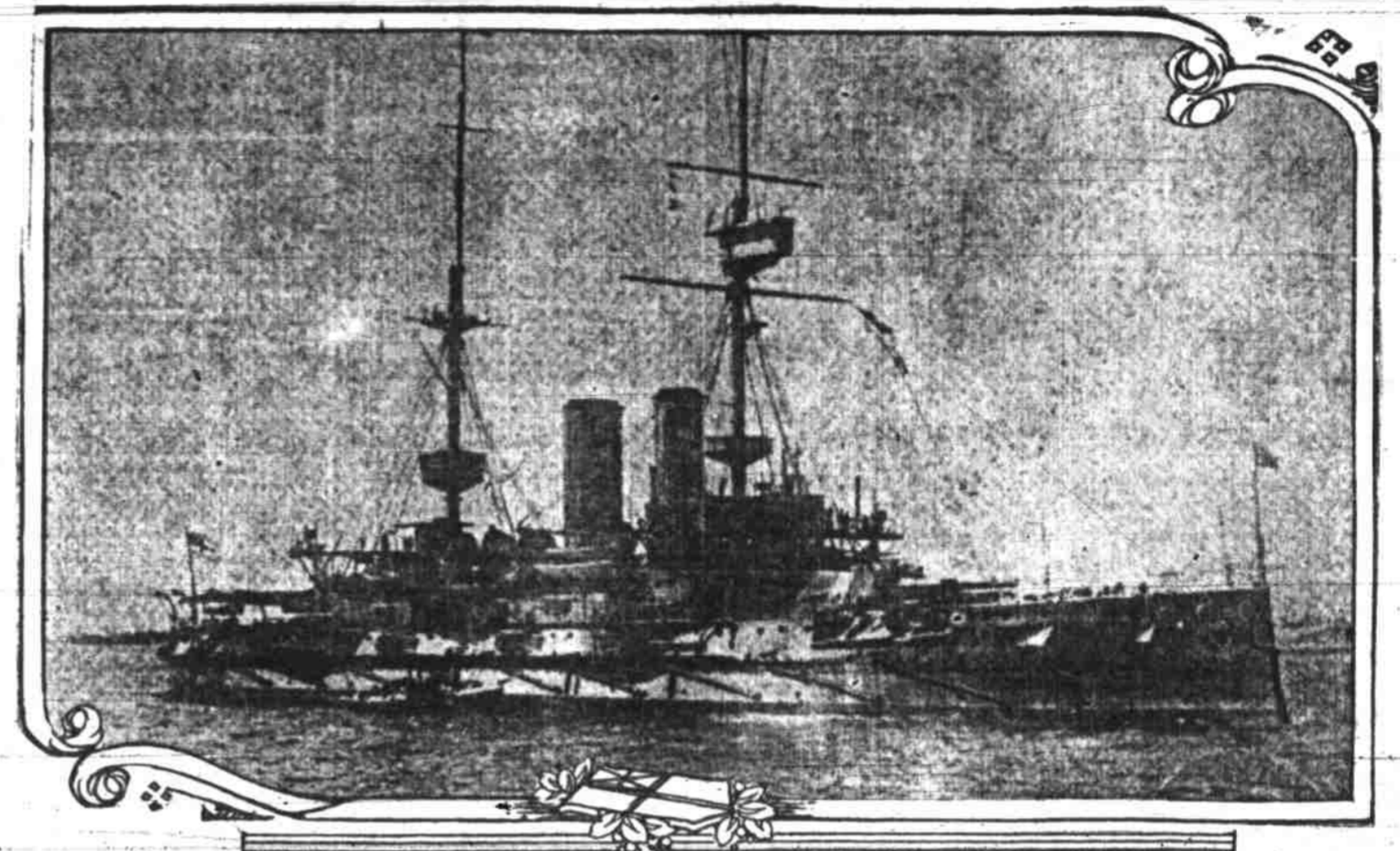
It cannot be too highly stressed, however, that the Royal Artillery throughout the battle. In spite of the fact that the enemy brought up guns of great range and shell power, our men have succeeded throughout in preventing the enemy from establishing anything in the nature of a superiority in artillery. "Fighting Has Been Desperate. "I deeply regret the heavy casualties which have been suffered, but the fighting has been very desperate and we have been assisted by vastly superior numbers. I have every reason to know that throughout the course of the battle we have placed at least three times as many of the enemy hors de combat in dead, wounded and prisoners.

Throughout these operations, General French has been most anxious to the utmost to afford me all the support he could. An expression of my warm gratitude also is due to Gen. Dubail, commanding the eighth French army corps on my left, to General De Maudey, commanding the tenth army corps on my right." FIELD 3

Discussing details of the engagement from Ypres to Arrmentieres, Gen. French explains that he was impressed early in October with the necessity of giving the greatest possible support to the northern flank in the effort to outflank the enemy. He made the English cavalry, which had been agreed with it. The French general staff therefore arranged for the withdrawal of the British from the Aisne, which began on October 3 and was completed on October 11.

Planning Plan Outlined. The general plan was that the English should pivot on the French at Bethune attacking the Germans on their flank and forcing their way north. If the Germans were forced out of their position the French and British were to reach east, with Lille as the dividing line between the two armies, the English right being directed on Lille.

British Battleship Was Blown Up Right in Mouth of the Thames



Star Shows Where the Bulwark Was Sunk. The suspicion of the British people that a German submarine blew up the battleship Bulwark proves correct was the most daring exploit of the war. For the ship was supposed to be safe in a British harbor only thirty-five miles below London. The mouth of the Thames is said to have been mined at the beginning of the war, and the channel left was said to be known only to the admiralty. A submarine would have found it necessary to travel only 400 miles from her base at Helgoland or Flushing to have reached the mouth of the Thames in order to explode the mine.

GERMANS STUBBORNLY RESIST ADVANCE OF RUSSIAN ARMIES

Kaiser Goes to the Front to Advise Von Hindenburg and Encourage His Troops and Great Battle That Will Be Decisive—Expected Renewal of Attack in West Does Not Materialize In Force Expected.

(By the Associated Press.) London, Nov. 29.—(8:25 p. m.)—Latest official Russian announcements still claim advantage in the fighting in Northern Poland, but depressed reports of their successes. Germany declares officially that the Russian attacks have been repulsed and that German counter attacks have been successful.

The German Emperor has joined Field Marshal Von Hindenburg in the east to offer his advice and to encourage his troops. Enormous losses have been inflicted on the Germans, according to the Russian statement, but no mention is made of the capture of German divisions, so freely claimed by the Petrograd correspondents of London and Paris papers. Some days must elapse before this battle, which promises to prove the most decisive of the war, is concluded. So far, all that is definitely known is that the German advance has been stopped.

THE GERMAN NAVY READY FOR BATTLE

Great Precautions Taken to Prevent Attack on Naval Base at Kiel. SAILORS ARE IMPATIENT They Do Not Hate the British But Want to Match Prowess; Many Submarines and Torpedo Boats and Several Larger Ships Have Been Built Since the War Began

(By the Associated Press.) Kiel, Germany, Nov. 29.—(via Berlin, The Hague and London)—A pair of grey submarines lie at the dock where the American battleship yachts were moored during their last visit to Kiel. Warships anchored in the Fjord wear paint and have their torpedo nets rigged. A Red Cross flag flies from the Imperial Yacht Club.

Skylights in the ship yard buildings have been blackened. Placards in hotel rooms request that the window shutters be closed at night. Machine guns are posted on high rooms and occasionally sentinels may be seen on the tops of tall structures. A broad expanse of fortifications and barbed wire entanglements surround the city.

These precautions have been taken to prevent an attack on the all important Kiel Canal by air or lan. Otherwise the Kiel of war appears little different from the Kiel of ordinary times. In the harbor steamers and tugs with long tows go about their customary work. In town, although there is more activity, the people seem to be pursuing their ordinary course of life.

The Navy Was Ready. The visit convinced the correspondent that war for the German navy differs from peace only in the existence of an actual instead of a prospective enemy. The navy's normal state of preparedness was so high that virtually nothing remained to be done to the war vessels after the outbreak of war except to peel off the paint from the interior walls to obviate the danger of fire, and to apply a thinner coat of varnish to the steel. For similar reason the battle practice is carried out with little more snap and enthusiasm than in ordinary times.

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ARMY CADETS CELEBRATE. Joyous Scenes On The Campus at West Point. West Point, N. Y., Nov. 29.—The victorious Army football team returned from Philadelphia this afternoon and was met at a rousing welcome. The entire cadet battalion, augmented by a crowd of the civilian residents and headed by the military band, escorted the returning heroes to their quarters. The ancient stone coach in which the squad rode and which has done duty for many years in the same capacity, was drawn by willing cadet hands up the long hill.

THREE MURDERED BY RANDOLPH MAN

Low Daniels, Moonshiner, Is Charged With Triple Killing; Wife May Die

(Special to The News and Observer.) Asheboro, Nov. 29.—Low Daniels of Randolph county, living on the Montgomery line, came home Saturday night after three days absence, claiming to have been in Davidson county, his old home, and shot Cora Daniels, his sister, Ethel Varner, his wife's sister, and Edgar Varner, his wife's brother, killing them instantly, and shot his wife, crushing her shoulder. She is still living but will die.

Daniels, a son of Will Daniels, living in Stanley county, is a notorious bootlegger and has been indicted in the State court several times and has served a sentence for making liquor.

When arrested he was picking a bath and singing foolish songs in the front yard. He had a pistol on him and was armed with a knife. He was arrested and placed in jail at Asheboro. He laughs and talks incoherently. He appeared to be sober and said he only had drunk "killed beer."

Today Daniels was carried back to the Fishback section, the scene of the wholesale murders, to be given a preliminary hearing.

FEWER NAVAL PRISONS IS RECOMMENDATION OF NAVY JUDGE ADVOCATE

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, D. C., Nov. 29.—Abolition of all but two of the naval prisons in continental United States, those at Portsmouth, N. H., and Mare Island, Cal., and retention of the British prisoners' quarters aboard ship were recommended in the annual report of Captain Dudley McLean, Judge Advocate General of the Navy, made public today.

During the past year prisoners have been maintained at Mare Island and Portsmouth, Boston, Norfolk, Cavite and on ship board.

In recommending the transfer of disciplinary functions from ships to shore, Captain McLean proposed to close the Port Royal, S. C., detention barracks, and transfer the detainees from that station to the gunboat Philadelphia, which would be moored in the Portsmouth harbor. The cruiser Philadelphia would serve a similar purpose at the Mare Island yard.

Small Artillery Duel

(By the Associated Press.) Paris, Nov. 29.—(8:35 p. m.)—The official communications were issued by the war office tonight. "Quiet prevails along the whole front except in the Artois region, where the German attacks have not been more successful than preceding attacks."

The official statement issued this afternoon said: "On November 29, a Sunday, the enemy's counter-attacks were repulsed, but several of our divisions were slightly pushed back. Our artillery has made itself felt very little. Under these conditions the artillery struggle has turned particularly to our advantage."