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THE DISPATCH OFFICE

Murderous Work In Somme Region

With the British armies in France. Aug. 24, via London, Aug. 25.—There has been murderous work on both flanks in the Somme region where, with every change of the British progress, the fighting seems to become more bitter and the artillery fire hotter. On the left the Germans hold to Thiepval and on the right still cling to Guillemont, which of all the ruined villages, now is most completely pestle-mixed by shell fire.

The repulse last night of a German attempt to drive the British out of the edge of the Guillemont and the neighboring stone quarry, was one of the most sanguinary since the war began. Tonight the British have been making further progress east of Delville Wood and further tightening the pincers on Ginchy and Guillemont.

This afternoon they pressed forward another lap towards Thiepval, and observers witness another artillery curtain of fire which utterly silenced the German machine guns as the British charge picked its way among shell craters for four hundred yards up a hillside, entered the German trench and sent back the usual bunches of German prisoners.

All was seen clearly as if on a stage and viewed from a gallery even to the detail of men standing on the edge of the trench and throwing bombs as they might toss biscuits into a basket. Clearing out the sappers, plodding ahead with their supplies of bombs, and carrying their light machine guns, that persistent line of infantry, under the cover of the continuous blasts from their own guns and in the midst of bursting shells of the enemy, never faltering, reached the very top of the ridge at one point for a front of one thousand yards.

They were within only five hundred yards of the pulverized remains of what was once the village of Thiepval, which has become the most redoubtable of names to hundreds of thousands of men.

Meanwhile, the British kept on sending 15-inch shells into the Thiepval area and into the German dugouts which lie deep under the wreckage of houses. Spouts of smoke and dust rose to the height of 200 feet, and what looked like the bodies of men, or sections of timbers, were tossed about.

Rotterdam, Aug. 25 [via London].—Carl Wegner, in the Kolnische Zeitung, describing the horrors to which the German troops are subjected, on the Somme front by the French and British artillery fire, says that the Germans having been forced by the first sweep of the Somme offensive to give up their girdle of strongly built forts are now holding to a line of positions consisting only of a chain of shell holes.

"What is to be seen now," he writes, "is only that which we have been able to create in haste, under the fearful bombardment of both British and French. The men crouch immovable in these shell holes, with no cover from sun and rain and not the slightest protection against the shells, dropping like a torrent from straight above."

"The men lie in these pits in the most fearful confusion with the wounded, who cannot be taken away until the approach of night, and with the dead, who cannot be buried at all. In the August heat the bodies began to decay quickly. Unceasingly the enemy strews the country with shrapnel and blows it up with heavy shells. When the attack begins the terrors of these pits are beyond description."

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Victory to Allies Is Assured

(Correspondence of the Globe.)

Paris, Aug. 4.—It is with smiling faces that the Allies welcomed the advent of the third year of the war. And why should not this be so? Have they not given positive proof of winning the war? "Miracles" have been performed, and no one, not even Germany and her allies, deny this. Today, "victory" is assured to the Allies as their reward for their noble sacrifices and endless efforts. They have won for themselves a most glorious reputation for their humanity, not once imitating the barbarous Huns, who are being so severely punished for all their abominable, unpardonable crimes. If the end of the war is not yet in sight, we have the satisfaction of knowing that nothing can now snatch victory from the Allies. The latter have been exceedingly forbearing, calmly waiting their opportunity; the Big Push has been most fruitful up to now, and as one of Russia's ablest commanders observed a few days ago, "the one vital necessity for the success of the Allies now is continuous pressure at a number of points, so that enemy's forces may be divided." That, as we have already seen, is the open secret of the Allies' strategy; so long as this pressure is maintained, the Allies will prove the conquerors who have now to deal with an exhausted and very low spirited and disunited foe, for to say the least Germany and her allies are not the friends they were. One cannot help smiling at Turkey coming to the aid of Austria—one cripple helping another.

Of course Germany can no longer assist anybody, her hands being too full, while she at least recognizes that the task of fighting for existence is anything but an easy one, especially now that the superiority of the Allies over Germany is definitely established, and certain to remain so to the end. The Kaiser is acting the part of "Job's comforter" with but little success, as the German people now know the truth and refuse to be fed with lies any longer. The last two years have aged the "mad monarch" considerably, and he and his subjects have every reason to dread the future. The Kaiser devotes his time to travelling East and West in the hope of hearing good news—which he never received. This will explain why he has resorted to his old foolish tactics of "inventing victories," forgetful of the fact that his subjects have become a changed people. By way of convincing the Germans that they stand no chance of winning the war, German prisoners are amply provided with French, British and Russian papers—in them they read of continued big successes East, West and South—but not by their countrymen. These startling revelations are quite new to them, and fully confirm their own bitter experiences on land, sea and air. That Germany should return to Zeppelin and submarine raids is quite natural; she can do nothing else. Infuriated by the amazing progress of her enemies, and her own inability, as well as that of her Allies, to stem such progress, she is still keen on "frightfulness," and strongly believes in that policy—regardless of consequences. Her friends are becoming beautifully less, while the thought that her enemies are enlisting fresh support daily is absolute maddening to her. Greece, on whom she once depended, has turned her back on her; Britain and France would not have lent Greece £800,000, if they thought that she was still pro-German.

THE REVOLTING MURDER

of Captain Fryatt, for whom the assassin Kaiser is solely responsible, has done Germany no good. By committing such an atrocious crime, she has lost all sympathy. Neutral countries are absolutely disgusted. But what does the Kaiser care whether he is once more condemned by the world? He still considers himself above such trifles; nevertheless, the All-Highest by signing the death warrant of Captain Fryatt has done himself no good as time will prove. New infamies on the part of Germans are to be expected, as they have fallen to the lowest degree of barbarity and cruelty. The world only hopes that Britain will not allow such a crime to go unpunished; she has been too lenient up to now afraid of advancing from protests to deeds. The Germans know very well that had it been a French or Russian instead of a Britisher, instant retaliation would have followed. It is for Britain to act likewise and resort to reprisals. Germans only understand brute force.

The Germans still hold in west and east an entrenched line of about 850 miles. The line which the Austrians have failed to hold is nearly as long as the extent of the front on which they face the Italians is added to the length of their deployment against the Russians.

THE GERMANS HAVE WASTED

their reserves in the onslaught on Verdun—where the French are just now making such notable gains—by which they intended to eliminate France from the war, and it is becoming daily more difficult to conceal from the German public the fact that the Kaiser's armies can neither continue to hold their eastern and western lines in sufficient strength to prevent them from being broken, nor retreat in safety to shorter lines under the stress of such ferocious attacks as their enemies now deliver. Under such circumstances the German government will play more keenly for peace—of a sort. And the historical precedent by which they will be encouraged and their policy will be governed in this situation is tersely summarized in last week's issue of the London Spectator.

"There is a special and peculiar circumstance which is very likely to protract the present war by weeks, and even by months. That is the fact, which is known to every German who knows anything, namely, that Frederick the Great, though apparently hopelessly beaten, refused to yield or to accept the terms of peace offered him by his enemies, since those terms meant for him and his system, total ruin. His armies were shrinking, his people starving. The lands in many places lay waste since there were none to till them. The enemy had twice entered its capital; the civil administration had broken down, there was no one to collect the taxes, to try cases in the courts or even to keep order. Prussia seemed beaten to the ground. Yet Frederick fought on, and finally tried out his assailants. They grew war-weary at the very moment when Prussia seemed, to use Bismarck's phrase, bled 'white as veal,' and so in the end the war was finished by a compromise which left the King of Prussia with Silesia, the province that he had seized like a thief in the night, still in his hands."

In playing for a peace which would give them the substance of victory as a reward for refusing to acknowledge failure, the ruling classes of Germany will count upon the assistance of pro-German organizations in the hostile belligerent countries and among the neutral nations. The most arduous efforts to enable the Kaiser and his counsellors to snatch a German peace in the hour of a German defeat will be made through German agencies and their pro-German instruments in Britain and elsewhere. As the German cause goes down in wreckage, every possible appeal will be made, to the instinctive magnanimity of the British and other people to a foe sinking to earth. The prolongation of the war will be the occasion for invoking in belligerent and neutral countries strong sentiments of humanity to create repugnance to the continuation of the terrible conditions which the contest imposes, and this force will be added to the persuasions of pity for a tenacious foe in the advocacy of a peace that will grant a marked success to the Berlin scheme. In view of this grave danger it is well that the public should carefully note the extent to which pro-German organization has already been carried in our midst and the resources by which it is supported. Whence are the funds for numerous, continuous and costly pro-German operations derived? The question concerns the Allied nations closely at present and will concern them still more closely in the future.