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BIG BATTLE CONTINUES ON NORTHERN FRONT

Greatest Struggle of the War Now Going on in Belgium and Northern France---Shell Fire From Warships Inflicts Great Damage on the German Forces

Germans Throw all Their Available Troops Against the Allies Line on Yser River, But to no Purpose---Russian Troops Said to Have Won a Great Victory Near Warsaw and Cleared the Way for an Advance---The City of Lille Reported to Have Been Destroyed by the Germans---German General Killed by the Fire From a Warship.

London, Oct. 22.—The secretary of the admiralty issued tonight the following statement on the operations of the British warships in co-operation with the allied army on the Belgian coast:

"On October 18 requests for naval assistance were made to the admiralty by the allied commanders. In consequence a naval flotilla, amounting to a large number of powerful long-range guns, came into action at daybreak on the 19th, off the Belgian coast, supporting the left of the Belgian army, and firing against the right of the German attack, which they were, by their position, able to enfilade.

"The Germans replied by shells from their heavy guns, but, owing to the superior range of the British marine artillery, practically no damage has been done.

"Three monitors, which were building in British ports for Brazil, and were acquired on the outbreak of the war, have proved to be well suited to this class of operation. A heavy bombardment on the German flank has been maintained without intermission since the morning of the 19th and is being continued today.

"Observation is arranged from shore by means of naval balloons, and all reports indicate that substantial losses have been inflicted upon the enemy, and that the fire is well directed and effective against his batteries and heavy guns.

"Yesterday a considerable explosion, probably of an ammunition wagon, followed upon a naval shot. The naval losses have so far been very small, considering the damage and the important assistance rendered to the Belgian left flank.

"All reports received by the admiralty show the courage and determination with which the Belgians, animated by the King in person, are defending the last few miles of Belgian soil.

"The naval operations are under the command of Rear Admiral the Hon. Horace L. A. Hood.

GENERAL AMONG KILLED.

"Wednesday night and today the Germans made a violent attack on the environs of Ostend, which was repulsed by an energetic counter-attack by the Belgians.

"Eleven British warships fired on the Germans this morning. General Von Trip and his staff, who were together in Leffinghe, near Middelkerke were killed by the fire of British naval guns."

NAVAL GUNS' TERRIBLE HAVOC.

Amsterdam, Oct. 22, via London.—The Telegram's Sluis correspondent reports that the bombardment of Ostend and Nieuport is becoming still heavier.

"The shells of the Allies," the correspondent says, "are raining down upon the Germans and causing terrible destruction. The battlefields are covered with bodies, but fresh German troops continue to arrive. Since morning the Germans have retreated slightly.

"A French squadron is supporting the English warships, which can only be reached with difficulty by the Ger-

man gunners.

"The German cavalry is useless, and the men and horses alike are being mowed down.

"The Allies' positions are strongly fortified by inundations of territory and entrenchments. The Allies, in addition to Ostend and Nieuport, are also firing in the direction of Jabbeke, about seven miles southwest of Bruges, in order to destroy the railway line between Pstend and Bruges.

"All the Ostend hotels are filled with wounded."

TORPEDO BOAT ASHORE.

London, Oct. 23.—It is reported that the British torpedo boat Dryad is ashore at Kirkwall, in the Orkney Islands, off the coast of Scotland. Her crew is said to have been saved. The Dryad, which was built in 1893, is 239 feet long and has a speed of 18.5 knots. She had been attached to the navigation school at Portsmouth.

CLAIM PROBABLY WELL FOUNDED

London, Oct. 23.—The secretary of the admiralty announces that the submarine boat E-3, commanded by Lieut. Commander George P. Cholmley, is now considerably overdue and that it is feared she has been sunk in the North Sea.

A wireless despatch received here from Berlin Tuesday said the E-3 had been sunk Sunday, October 18, by German warships. Her complement consisted of sixteen men.

GERMAN SUBMARINE BASE.

London, Oct. 22.—British war vessels discovered, raided and destroyed a German submarine base in one of the uninhabited rocks of the Shetland Islands in the North Sea, according to a report from Shetland. It is said that there was a large stock of oil, battery plates and extra torpedoes stored there for the use of submarines striking at the North Sea fleet.

Another report concerns a German wireless station near Loch Lomond. It is said to be a sending station, which is as difficult to discover as a receiving station, with its poles and wire antennae, is east to locate. Messages have been interrupted constantly, but all efforts to find the apparatus have failed, so the rumor runs.

Some shipping men believe a story that the Oceanic was struck by a torpedo from a submarine, and ran upon the rocks of the Scottish coast to save the crew.

Such reports as these spread always during war times, but the suppression of news by the British censors leads to more than the customary crop of rumors.

FLEETS AWAITING BATTLE

Tokio, Oct. 22.—A Japanese squadron, it is officially announced is seeking the German fleet in the neighborhood of Hawaii.

London, Oct. 22.—The Copenhagen correspondent of the Daily Telegraph reports a German fleet of Falsterborg, Sweden, in the Baltic Sea.

Paris, Oct. 22.—The official an-

nouncement issued this afternoon by the French War Office says the position occupied by the Allies in Belgium and Northern France, have been maintained in spite of the violent attacks of the enemy.

The text of the announcement follows:

"On our left wing German forces in strength have continued their violent attacks, particularly in the vicinity of Dixmude, Warneton, Armentieres, Radinghem and Labasse, but the positions occupied by the allies have been maintained.

"On the rest of the front the enemy has delivered only partial attacks. These all have been repulsed, particularly at Fricourt, to the east of Albert; on the plateau to the west of Craonne; in the region of Soussain, in the Argonne district, at Floude Paris, southwest of Varennes; in the region of Molancourt, in the Woivre district, in the direction of Champlon and a point southeast at St. Mihiel, in the forest of Ailly.

The forward movement of the Russian forces has been positively announced. An important success in the region of Warsaw has driven back the enemy more than thirteen kilometres, eight miles. The advance of the Russians at Ivanrood and to the south of Przmyśl, is equally perceptible.

LILLE IN RUINS

London, Oct. 23.—An Amsterdam despatch to the Central News quotes a telegram from Burgomaster of Wenden, Belgium, as follows:

"Victory is with the Allies. Seventy thousand men have been taken prisoners between Chalons and Longwy. Three guns and thirty-one flags have been captured.

LILLE DEVASTATED

London, Oct. 23.—The Daily Telegraph's Boulogne correspondent, who left Lille Wednesday morning says: "Lille is a mass of ruins and ashes. On Monday evening members of German entered the town. The bombardment ceased, but the distant firing still was heard south of the town until one o'clock in the morning.

"About midnight the news was given out that the white flag had been hoisted on the town hall, but at two o'clock the firing recommenced and continued for over three hours. Evidently the French were making a last attempt on the border town, unfortunately without success.

"Later military music was heard. The Germans entered the town to the tune of the life and drums. The troops were singing hymns; most of them were very gay and smoked big black cigars as they marched along.

"Meanwhile aeroplanes flying the German flag flew ahead of the columns, announcing to the city its occupation by the Germans.

"Whoever now holds Lille, it is a wrecked city. Flames have completed the work of the bombardment. The city's biggest quarter, including the station, and most important business houses, was prey to the flames.

"The fire raged most fiercely along the Rues de Paris, Du Molinel, De Bethune and Du Plat. Among the

buildings destroyed were the Grand Hotel, the Lycee and the Grand Pharmacie De France.

When the Germans entered they organized a fire brigade and sent for aid to Tourcoing. The local firemen earlier had been discouraged from fighting the flames by reason of the danger from German shells which killed the fire captain and three firemen.

Several of the historic monuments of the city were hit by shells and others were destroyed by the flames. Among the many damaged churches, that of St. Maurice suffered most, both naves being destroyed.

"Few of the inhabitants of the city had much idea of what the situation was for most of them kept closely to the cellars.

"A party of German Uhlans rode into Lille unopposed last Saturday, but while demanding hostages of the mayor, they were attacked by French cavalry. The Germans retired after several had been killed. About sunset a German shell burst over the town hall, penetrating the roof and starting a panic in all parts of the city. The streets well full of frightened men and women. A few minutes later a second shell killed a boy and injured his mother in a street near the prefecture.

OFFICIAL REPORTS.

Paris, Oct. 22.—The official communication issued by the French (Continued on page five.)

MEN'S BANQUET WAS GREAT SUCCESS

Annual Gathering at St. Paul's Church ---Program of Patriotic Selections

The annual banquet of the men of St. Paul's church, under the auspices of the Men's Bible Class, took place last evening in the Old Kirk. Upwards of one hundred men attended the banquet. Owing to the war, there were no invited guests or outside speakers. E. A. McKay, president of the Men's Bible Class, presided. Speeches were made by Rev. Dr. Smith, Professor Stiles, E. A. McKay, Mayor Mitchell, W. M. Burns, W. L. McFarlane and were of a patriotic nature.

Mr. G. W. Brown sang "Home and Glory," and as an encore sang, "It's a Long Way to Tipperary," assisted by the entire audience. Miss McKee sang "Soldiers of the Queen." Mrs. Lowell sang, "The Absent Minded Beggar," the words of which had been made up to date by Wm. Kesson. Miss Kelly sang "Angus McDonald," and a quartette composed of Mayor Mitchell, F. L. Cooper, C. H. Holder and John Edney sang "The Boys of the Old Brigade," and had to respond with several encores.

Mr. McCandless delivered a fine recitation of a patriotic nature. A feature of the evening was the fine playing of the Boys' Orchestra of St. Paul's church.

ADMIRAL'S REPORT ON HELIGOLAND FIGHT

British Ships Tried Hard to Draw Out the German Fleet---Submarines Took Part But Were Unable to get Within Torpedo Range---Three German Cruisers Were Sent to the Bottom---Invasion of England A Fairy Tale From the Hague.

London, Oct. 22.—The reports of Vice-Admiral Sir David Beatty, Rear Admiral Arthur Henry Christian and other officers of the British navy who took part in the battle off Heligoland on August 28th, issued tonight, show that while the Germans did not succeed in destroying any British ships, they fought with great determination and that before the arrival of the cruisers the situation, in the words of Vice-Admiral Beatty, "appeared critical."

It was in this battle that three German cruisers, the Mainz, the Koeln and the Adriadne, and two German destroyers were sunk.

The British fleet, when it sent into action, was only twenty-five miles from two German naval bases, and the ships were manoeuvred in the hope of bringing the main German fleet out, but without success. The British were, however, attacked by submarines, destroyers and light cruisers, and one British cruiser, the Arethusa, which had only been out of the builder's hands forty-eight hours, was rather severely handled, and after the action was over had to be taken in tow.

Vice-Admiral Beatty commanded the first battle cruiser squadron and first light cruiser squadron, while Rear-Admiral Christian commanded the destroyers and the Arethusa.

A special report was also issued tonight on the work of the submarines since the commencement of the war. It says that three hours after war broke out, two submarines, unaccompanied, carried out a reconnaissance in Heligoland, and "returned with useful information."

Submarines also stood guard night and day while the expeditionary force was being transported to the continent, and have been incessantly employed on the enemy's coast, in Heligoland Bight and elsewhere, and says the report, "have obtained much valuable information regarding the composition and movements of his patrols. They have occupied his waters and reconnoitered his anchorages and while so engaged have been subjected to skilful and well executed anti-submarine tactics, hunted for hours at a time by torpedo craft, and attacked by gun fire and torpedoes."

Submarines took part in the Heligoland battle, but conditions were not favorable, the visibility being low, and the seas calm, and no opportunity offered at closing with the German cruisers within torpedo range.

Reference is made to the E-9's sinking of the German cruiser Hela and destroyer S-126. Dealing generally with the use of these craft, the report says:

"Against an enemy whose capital ships have never, and whose light cruisers have seldom, emerged from their fortified harbors, the opportunities of delivering submarine attacks have necessarily been few, and on one occasion only—prior to September 13—has one of our submarines been within torpedo range of a cruiser during daylight hours."

A large number of officers are recommended for orders and promotion. Commander Max Horton of the E-9, for both.

A FAIRY TALE.

The Hague, Wednesday—Germany, according to information received

here from Berlin, is preparing to deal Great Britain a decisive blow. The scheme is to disembark several army corps somewhere in the south of England while the grand fleet is occupied with fighting the German fleet in the North Sea.

German experts believe the plan will be entirely successful.

According to this fairy tale, as soon as the last resistance of the Belgian army is disposed of, there will be a great movement of Landstrum troops from Central Germany to Ostend and Zeebrugge, where they will await an opportunity of crossing to the English shore and marching on London, where Zeppelins and Taubes will have caused havoc and demoralized the population.

While this is taking place, Admiral von Ingenohl's fleet, now confined at Wilhelmshaven, will steam out into the North Sea for the great fight. These German calculations rest on the hypothesis that the south coast of England will be absolutely without protection, all of Admiral Sir John Jellicoe's ships being engaged in the great North Sea battle.

The German newspapers, by way of preparing public opinion for this great stroke, publish extravagant despatches dilating on British nervousness and the fear of unavoidable destruction by Germany. The German fleet is described as awaiting with passionate impatience the moment when it can make a dash at the enemy. Prince Henry of Prussia is actively engaged, it is announced, in the work of inspecting the fleet, and he is continually keeping the men on the run by surprise calls. The Prince is reported to be in Belgium this week to take over command of the general operations against England.

On these operations, by means of which the war will be speedily brought to an end, the public opinion of Germany is now focussed. Should they fail, the disappointment engendered may have incalculable consequences.

A despatch from Rotterdam declares that the German marines are leaving Antwerp to rejoin the German fleet, and the German ships at Kiel are being extensively provisioned.

TWO DEATHS IN CANADIAN CAMP

London, Oct. 22.—The number of deaths among the members of the Canadian troops since they were quartered at Salisbury Plain has risen to three, two having occurred last night.

The Record Office reports today that one of these deaths was that of a soldier who was thrown from his horse. His foot caught in a stirrup, and the horse dragged him a considerable distance before being caught. When released the soldier was dead.

The other case was that of a man who was found dead, the cause of death being as yet unknown. The Record Office promises to furnish the names of the victims and other details as soon as possible.

Mr. John Kilburn will leave shortly for Quebec to look after his lumbering operations.