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In order to ensure changes being made in advertisements copy must reach office not later than nine a.m. on the day of publication.

The Daily Mail

THE WEATHER.
Maritime — Moderate winds, fair, stationary or a little higher temperature.

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HUNS MENACING RAILWAY CONNECTION WITH THE RUSSIAN CAPITAL; TURKS MAY BE PREPARING TO ABANDON STRAITS

FIERCE FIGHTING ON EASTERN FRONT

Austro-German Army Has Forced Its Way Through to the Rovno-Petrograd Railway—Russian Forces Are Contesting Every Inch of the Ground—Artillery Battle Raging From Belgium to the Argonne—German Attacks Repulsed.

London, Sept. 13—By one of those battering offensives, which, although costly in men and munitions, have invariably been successful, Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's army has at last set foot on the Rovno-Petrograd railway, between Vilna and Dvinsk. The whole Austro-German forces have been striving to gain this railway since the fall of the Polish fortresses.

The offensive which began toward the end of last week was carried on from three directions, upon Dvinsk and the railway on either side of the town, while further south the invaders advanced towards Vilna. The Russians, before superior forces, supplied with the usual mass of artillery, were yesterday forced back to the lake district, which the railway penetrates, and are now making a stand there.

Simultaneously, the Germans pushed their way eastward towards Slinim and Pinsk, both of which are on roads which join the main railway line, while the Austrians, with whom there are many German units, are fighting hard to reach Rovno, the southern terminus of the line.

With this railway partly in the hands of the Germans it is probable that the Russians will be compelled to make further retirement, although their offensive in Galicia, which continues, might save them by compelling the Germans to send reinforcements to this region.

There is now doubt of Russian successes in this district, as, following the Austrian admission of their retirement, the Germans tonight announce that after repulsing Russian attacks they occupied "a favorable position, situated some kilometres west of our former position."

COUNTRY UNDER WATER.

The conditions under which the troops are fighting in the marshy country in the centre and on the southern end of the line are described by German correspondents as most terrible. The country is practically all under water, through which the Austro-Germans have to advance against well prepared Russian positions. The eastern bank of the Sereth, from which the Russians are delivering their counter attacks, is a veritable fortress from which the Russians emerge every time their opponents approach, taking a heavy toll of them in killed, wounded and prisoners. According to the Russian accounts, nearly thirty thousand prisoners have been taken in the fighting along this river.

IN THE WESTERN THEATRE.

The operations in the west are marked by the continuance of the great artillery battle from Belgium to the Argonne. A duel between guns of all calibres along the entire front has now been going on for nearly three weeks and during the week-end has been particularly violent around Arras, in the Argonne and Champagne.

At several points the German infantry, after a heavy bombardment, attempted to storm the advanced trenches of the Allies, but the French reports say that these attacks all failed. Fighting of somewhat similar character is proceeding along the Austro-Italian front. The session of the British parliament, which opens Tuesday, will be chiefly occupied with arrangements to finance the war. This will include the levy of new

TO SPEED UP OUTPUT OF MUNITIONS

Ottawa, Sept. 12—Steps were taken by the government today to organize effective and energetic coalition of the representatives of industry and finance with the militia department towards the production in Canadian factories of war munitions in the largest possible quantities and with the greatest possible expedition.

The captains and the kings of finance and industry, to the number of one hundred or more, were summoned to the capital by Sir Robert Borden and Sir Sam Hughes for a conference as to how best to finance and produce the ammunition, ordnance and supplies of all kinds of war munitions which Canada can furnish to meet the pressing needs of Great Britain and her allies.

The prime minister and the minister of militia came back to Canada from London strongly impressed both with the opportunity and the need for speeding up in Canada the manufacture of war munitions. The British war office is prepared to take all the war munitions Canada can furnish, especially in regard to ammunition and ordnance.

Today's preference was with a view to taking counsel together as to the possibilities of manufacture, the methods of financing, etc. The conference was, of course, of a confidential character, but the discussion emphasized the fact that through adequate co-operation and organization, Canada can and will do much towards meeting the most urgent need of the Allies at the present time, namely, the furnishing of the engines of war including the manufacture of field guns.

A sub-committee of those attending the conference this morning was appointed, under the chairmanship of Sir John Gibson, and this committee met for three hours this afternoon and carefully considered the whole situation. As a result, a report will be presented a little later to the minister of militia, embodying some suggestions as to organization and methods of distributing and filling orders and in regard to proposals for the manufacture of ordnance of various kinds. The sub-committee adjourned to meet again at the call of the chairman and it will constitute a permanent advisory body to the government.

The conference, which was held in the room of the militia council, was presided over by Sir Sam Hughes, who gave to those present a full and frank statement of the needs and opportunities of the situation. Sir Robert Borden also spoke at some length, giving the conclusions reached from his conference with the war office and munitions department in London.

This afternoon it was announced that the sub-committee appointed to report on an increase in munitions, and particularly to inquire into the feasibility of Canada, in addition to making shells, going into the manufacture of heavy guns and ordnance, was as follows:

Sir John Gibson, the members of the shell committee, and Frederick Nichols, Toronto; John Robb of the Grand Trunk, Hector McInnis, Halifax; F. L. Wanklyn, C.P.R.; Sir Lyman Jones, Sir William MacKenzie, Senator Edwards, Mr. Blackwell, Montreal; James Young, Dundas; G. H. Duggan, Montreal; George Burn, Ottawa; J. Chaplin, St. Catharines, and Mr. Miller of the Canadian Vickers Company.

ON THE TOBIQUE.

Victoria Observer:—On Wednesday Geo. Armstrong, met a party of tourists at Fort Fairfield and carried them by auto to the Forks. On the trip a short stop was made at Perth where dinner was had at Donna's hotel. This party, made up of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Phipps and F. Phipps, New York, Hon. and Mrs. T. E. Guest, England, and F. E. Kohan, New York, proposes to remain on the Tobique for a part of the hunting season.

London, Sept. 14—Field Marshal Von Hindenberg's offensive near Dvinsk where the railroad leading from Vilna to Petrograd has been reached again menaces railway connections with the Russian capital. In their latest attack in Eastern Galicia the Russians are reported to have penetrated the Austro-German trenches in the face of an exceptionally heavy artillery fire. To the north the Russians are retiring steadily from the dangerous Niemen Salient and opposing the German advance merely by stubborn rear guard actions.

MAY ABANDON STRAITS

(SPECIAL CABLE TO THE MAIL.)

London, Sept. 14—From the near east come reports that Turks are firing villages on the Asiatic shore of the Dardanelles, and it is suggested that they are preparing to abandon the straits. It is also reported that Turkish shore batteries on the Asiatic side of the straits have been almost reduced to silence.

SUBMARINE REPORTED SUNK

(SPECIAL CABLE TO THE MAIL.)

Paris, Sept. 14—A French torpedo boat has sunk a German submarine off the entrance to the Dardanelles, according to an Athens despatch. The ministry of marine has not confirmed the reports.

ARTILLERY DUELS

(SPECIAL CABLE TO THE MAIL.)

London, Sept. 14—A tremendous duel with big guns still marks the operations along the Franco-Belgian and Italian fronts. Except for occasional attempts to rush the advanced trenches there is little infantry activity on either side.

ANOTHER AIR RAID

London, Sept. 13—An official statement issued by the press bureau says: "A hostile aeroplane visited the Kentish coast this afternoon and dropped some bombs, which resulted in a house being seriously damaged and four persons being injured. The aeroplane was chased off by two naval aeroplanes."

It is officially announced that Admiral Sir Percy M. Scott, former director of naval gunnery practice, has been appointed to take charge of the gunnery practice, has been appointed to take charge of the gunnery defences of London against attacks by enemy aircraft.

TORPEDO BOAT DAMAGED

Rome, Sept. 14—A battle between Italian and Austrian naval forces, the former assisted by a French submarine, occurred on Thursday last in the Adriatic Sea. The ministry of marine announced today that one Austrian torpedo boat had been damaged seriously.