

SIEGE OF ANTWERP AFFAIRS OF SYSTEM

City Is Damaged in Spots, to Prove Vulnerability With Minimum Loss.

MARINES FIGURE LARGELY

Effect of Great Guns, as Seen at Fortifications, Even More Striking Than at Liege—Fall Sooner Than Expected.

HEADQUARTERS GERMAN MARINE DIVISION, Antwerp, Oct. 12.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—Roads to the south of Antwerp by which the correspondent of the Associated Press came into Antwerp today are jammed with unbroken columns of siege artillery, mortar batteries and baggage trains trekking away from the just captured fortress. The infantry and field artillery of General von Beseler's besieging army are well on their way south to turn the scale, if possible, like Nogli's army at Mukden, in the great battle of the Aisne.

The bluejackets and marine infantry from Kiel, Cuxhaven and Wilhelmshaven, smelling salt water again after a campaign of more than a month through Belgium, remain at Antwerp for further disposition, but whether to engage in a naval campaign from their new base or merely to garrison this quarter of Belgium's cables will have to be decided before this letter reaches America. It may be significant that detachments of sailors recruited from the German mercantile marine and armed only with cutlars and revolver have lain for several weeks behind the army, taking no part in the fighting and evidently destined for sea duty after the capture of the port.

Marines Figure in Siege.
The story of the siege of Antwerp, from the German side, is related to the correspondent of the Associated Press by an officer attached to the staff, largely the story of the marine division, of the pioneers and of the artillery, which formed the backbone of the heterogeneous army of landwehr, landsturm and reserve formations entrusted to General von Beseler to attack one of the strongest fortresses in Europe. It is a story of a counter attack after hard fighting was expected and of desperate resistance in a formidable position where little trouble was looked for, of volunteers crossing rivers with hand grenades to attack the entrenched Belgians, of assaults twice abandoned in the face of infantry and machine gunners swimming flooded rivers by night to lay bridges for the storming infantry, and always a story of the terrible effect of the German heavy artillery.

Siege Unexpectedly Brief.
Antwerp fell, it is learned, eight days earlier than General von Beseler had expected. This unexpected quick termination to the siege was due in part to the discouragement of the Belgian forces, disheartened by nine weeks of defeat and with little hope of prolonging the resistance until relief could arrive and partly to the fact, discovered by the Germans when they took possession of the city, that the fortress lines had been practically penetrated when the fortified positions behind the Nethe River were captured October 6 and 7. The Belgian engineers, apparently realizing that the inner circle of forts was too close to the city, set up a second line of defense behind the flood barrier of the Nethe, dammed up to inundate a belt of land a quarter of a mile wide and had lobbed the inner forts with their heavy guns to arm this improvised but exceedingly strong position.

Since this line was considered the inner forts could offer comparatively little resistance and the city itself lay open to bombardment.

Destruction Systematically Scattered.
Antwerp, as a result of the bombardment through miles of city streets, suffered less from the bombardment than might have been expected. Signs of the German shells are, elsewhere in the city, usually confined to individual houses or groups of houses at widely scattered intervals, the great mass of intervening buildings being untouched.

At German headquarters it was said that this was due to a definite plan of bombardment designed to convince Antwerp, with a minimum damage, that all parts of the city were at the mercy of the German guns and that the resistance was useless. The heavy 12 and 16-inch guns were not used against the city, but shells from the smaller mortars were dropped into sections after section of the town, one or two shells to each section, until every quarter had been systematically visited. The artillerymen, working with maps of the city, were instructed to pay particular attention to the vicinity of the harbor works and of the monumental public buildings, such as the palace, the City Hall and the Church of Our Lady, placing their shells as close as possible to the buildings without actually hitting them.

Plan Accurately Carried Out.
How accurately this was done in the case of the City Hall is shown by a shell hole in the pavement at the entrance to the building and in a demolished house across the street. Some miscalculations were evidently made with the Church of Our Lady, which has a shell hole eight or ten feet in diameter in one of the transept windows and the adjoining wall about 20 feet above the floor. Otherwise this church, the pride of Antwerp, is undamaged.

The artillery park with which the fortress was reduced was far stronger than was publicly known, containing in addition to the widely heralded 18½-inch mortars a large number of 12-inch Krupp siege guns, the existence of which had hitherto not been mentioned, and which were in efficiency only slightly inferior to their sisters. The Austrian automobile batteries of 12-inch guns also were attached to General von Beseler's army, making the victory in a way an Austro-German one.

The effect of these great guns, seen in the forts of Waelhem, Wavre, St. Catherine and the so-called railroad redoubt, protecting the line of the railroad from Brussels to Antwerp, is even more striking than on the forts at Liege and south of Verdun. Two of the big armored turrets at St. Catherine were struck fairly and put out of action with single shots. In one the heavy steel beds for the guns are broken in two and the heavy masses of metal hurled bodily five or six yards from their original position. In another the concrete embankment thought capable of resisting any shell, like cheese and the steel turret uprooted.

a heavy engine, for the electric light plant, was blown 20 yards from its base. The whole top of the fort here is blown off. Sixty men of the garrison are said to be buried beneath the ruins. Other turrets were put out of action by shells striking the concrete embankment of the earth in front of them and cracking or displacing the cement walls so that the turrets could no longer be turned.

The line of attack against the fortress, as already described in headquarters bulletins, was directed against the southeast section of the fort girdles, between Malines and Liege. The marine division under Admiral Schroeder conducted the attack against the middle of this line, the land troops being placed on either flank of the sailors and marines. Behind them lay the heavy artillery so far back as to be out of reach of shells from the forts.

Fire was opened on September 28, and by midnight of September 30 Fort Waelhem was considered ripe for storming. A night attack was ordered. Volunteers were called for. Pioneers and marines competed for the dangerous honor. A forlorn hope storming party was selected for the advance, given life preservers and hand grenades and sent forward to cross the moat, cut the wire entanglements and cover the advance of the main storming column. When within 150 yards of the fort, however, the Germans were received with such a murderous fire, particularly from Belgian casemates, that further advance was impossible.

"I never dug myself in so quick a life," interjected at this point a lieutenant of pioneers, who had been listening to the staff officers' description of the attack.

WHERE ALLIES AND GERMANS ARE FIGHTING FIERCEST.

MAP SHOWING BELGIAN COAST DISTRICT AND POSITIONS OF CONTENDING ARMIES.

The German lines fell back 500 yards to give the artillery a free field, and at daybreak the bombardment was resumed. At 3:30 P. M. the white flag appeared on the fort. The commander, Major Witte, said that his guns were all out of action and that he could no longer hold his men to their work. They had even followed the retired Germans beyond the fort in a counter attack after the unsuccessful attempt to storm, but after seeing their comrades torn to pieces by the exploding shells, or buried under the upturn walls, refused to man the works longer, even though, as was said, the commander had offered them the honor of the garrison, about 230 men, were allowed in consideration of their brave defense, to march out with the honors of war.

Remnant of Garrison Honored.
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Working like beavers since the outbreak of the war, the Belgians had converted the fortress into a veritable labyrinth of trenches, shelter pits and bomb-proof dugouts. The trenches were scattered everywhere; wire entanglements had been laid even in the flooded portions of the river valley, the works also having deep trenches, dug at irregular intervals in all directions; and everywhere, before the lines were dug "wolf holes," deep conical pits filled to the brim with mud which hid sharp steel spikes to impale anyone stepping into them.

Fifty-four heavy guns from the forts were brought to this line and mounted behind earthworks.

The Belgian machine guns, with steel shields pierced only with narrow slits for aiming, gave particular trouble, the Belgians spraying the rims of the German trenches with these to keep down the infantry fire. The dead in these trenches were all, according to the German officers, killed by head shots.

The position was found to be so formidable that the German lines were retired from the river bank, and the German artillery took up positions of retreating the Belgian lines sufficiently to permit the infantry to resume the attack with some hope of success. The infantry fire was finally beaten down and a crossing was forced near the town of Lierre, which lay in the middle of the river district. German pioneers swimming across under cover of darkness and laying bridges over which the infantry and field artillery dashed under heavy artillery fire. This success turned the flank of the Belgian position, the passages were forced at the same point, and by October 7 the German troops were everywhere across the Nethe.

With this success the Belgian defense practically collapsed. The Belgian troops fell back rapidly from their river lines, abandoning their heavy artillery and a number of machine guns, and the Germans, who had hastily entrenched themselves to repulse the expected counter attack, were able to bring forward their heavy artillery for the attack on the interior of the forts and the bombardment of the city.

FOE LEARNS FRENCH MOVES BY WIRELESS

German Station Secreted in Enemy's Lines Shows Thoroughness of Plans.

LATE ATTACK PARIS TOPIC

Power of Offensive Against Allies Is Admitted and Remarkable Soldiery of Teutons in Close Fighting Is Appreciated.

PARIS, Nov. 1.—A wireless station, the situation of which has not been discovered, is being used by the Germans to report all movements of the French troops, according to statements made to General Pierre Cherfils by

wounded soldiers who had been brought back from the front. Every effort has been made to find the mysterious station, but without result. General Cherfils mentions this in illustrating the thoroughness of the German system of making war. Their absolute knowledge of all parts of the country has permitted them to make advance arrangements which are serving them well. At Lasigny a mushroom pasture was found to have been converted into an ammunition depot, while a spot near Dixmude had been prepared for some time before to receive the German wounded.

Precision Aids Resistance.
"It is this scientific precision and perfect method," says Cherfils, "which has permitted the Germans to choose so well the line from the Aisne and in front of Rheims, there to fasten a sufficiently easy resistance, which still lasts."

The latest attempt at an offensive movement on the part of the Germans and the probable result is the particular topic of the war news today. It is admitted that the German army in the north is showing remarkable solidarity in hand-to-hand contests. It is not denied that they are offering a powerful offensive, but the French are of the opinion that it will be unsuccessful. The fact that they have attempted other offensive movements similar to the most recent ones, which have been without result, was one reason for this belief.

Foe's Equilibrium Not Upset.
It was also declared that the violent attacks at many places simultaneously indicated a lack of a general plan and explained the alternate advances and withdrawals referred to in the official communications.

TURKS IGNORE ULTIMATUM
(Continued From First Page.)
mine layer Prut, which was carrying several hundred mines, and the torpedo destroyer Kubanets captured a collier and severely damaged a coast defense ship.

The Official Bureau tonight gave out the following on the Turkish situation: "Russia, by threats, is now attempting to incite Bulgaria to make war on Turkey. Bulgaria is firmly resisting this coercion."

TURKS HOLD RUSSIAN CONSULS
Assurances of Safe Conduct of Ottoman Agents Demanded of Czar.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—Turkey has announced that Russian Consuls in the Ottoman Empire will not be permitted to leave until assurances of safe conduct are given by the Turkish Government, according to a cablegram from Ambassador Morgenthau to the United States Government, received today.

The Turkish Minister, Mr. Morgenthau that Turkish warships within the last three days had bombarded Sebastopol.

Embassy yesterday. The presumption of officials was that the American Ambassador had filed a similar message to the department, which had been delayed in transit, as has been the case with many messages from Constantinople.

It was taken for granted by officials generally, however, that even though no declarations of war have been made, a state of war between Turkey and the powers of the triple entente shortly will be recognized to exist.

RUSSIA DENIES INITIATIVE
Report Fleet Opened Hostilities Called "Common Invention."

PETROGRAD, Nov. 1.—The following official statement was given out here tonight: "The communications from Berlin and Vienna agencies saying that the Russian fleet opened hostilities against the Turkish squadron are common inventions. They are trying manifestly to lead into error public opinion in Constantinople, which is purposely being kept in ignorance concerning the perfidious attack on our coast by Turkish warships under the command of German officers."

The same proceedings were employed when Germany declared war on us, it being said that Russian soldiers invaded German territory, while, as a matter of fact, not a single Russian soldier crossed the frontier before war was declared.

MOVE EXPECTED BY RUSSIA
Ambassador Says Special Army Is Ready to Meet Turks.

ROME, Oct. 31.—M. Krupenski, the Russian Ambassador to Italy, after receiving a long communication from his own government, appearing in Constantinople regarding what he called "Turkish brigandage."

MOHAMMEDANS FAVOR ALLIES
Mosques Prayerfully Urge Turkey to Change Position.

SIMLA, British India (via London), Nov. 1.—The announcement of the unfriendly attitude of Turkey toward the allies was made throughout today in an official communication, wherein the Viceroy of India deplored "the endeavor of a Chauvinistic element in hand-to-hand contests. It is not denied that they are offering a powerful offensive, but the French are of the opinion that it will be unsuccessful. The fact that they have attempted other offensive movements similar to the most recent ones, which have been without result, was one reason for this belief."

KHEDIVE WANTS EXPLANATION
Sultan Tells Turks His Sovereignty Will Have Been Thwarted.

LONDON, Nov. 1.—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent sends a telegram received in Amsterdam from Berlin which says that during the last few days British, French and Russian subjects have left Constantinople. "The Russian Ambassador," the dispatch from Berlin says, "advised all Russian subjects to depart immediately from Constantinople and the British Ambassador sent his family home. Many enthusiastic demonstrations have taken place in the streets of Constantinople tonight. The French Ambassador has notified all the powers that the British attitude toward Egypt prevented the execution of his treaty rights and that the Khedive will demand of Great Britain explanation of her actions."

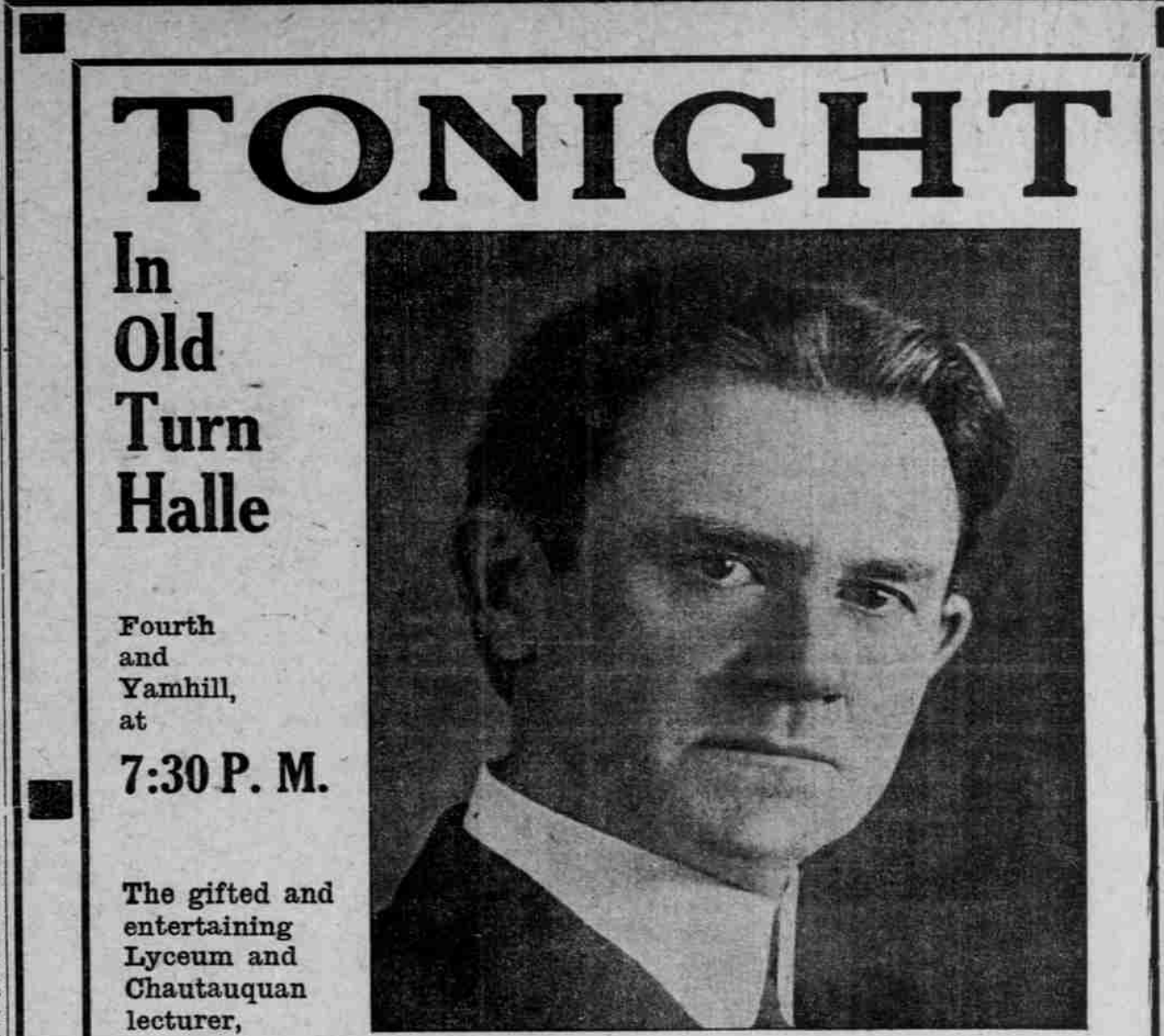
AMBASSADORS LEAVE TURKEY
Passports Given Russian, British and French Representatives.

CONSTANTINOPLE (via London), Oct. 31.—The Ambassadors of Russia, Great Britain and France have received their passports. The Russian and British Ambassadors will leave Constantinople tonight. The French Ambassador will leave tomorrow.

PRINCE'S DEATH INDICATED
Private Letter Describes Funeral of German Emperor's Son.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—A private letter of the German Emperor's son in Washington from a Lieutenant in the German army refers to "the funeral of the Crown Prince."

No mention was made in Mr. Morgenthau's dispatches of any declarations of war. Communication with Constantinople was interrupted last night and the last message, which was dated at 11 P. M. October 31, referred only to fiscal matters of the embassy, mentioning incidentally that conditions in the capital were quiet.



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COPPER IN PRIZE COURT

KROONLAND IS DISCHARGING HER CARGO

Unloading May Mean British Purchase, Teutons Aboard May Be Held as Prisoners of War.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—Acting Secretary Lansing announced today the receipt of a message from American Consul Sprague at Gibraltar, saying that prize court proceedings had begun in the case of the American steamship Kroonland, detained by British authorities.

No reply had as yet been received from London to the formal protest made through Ambassador Page and the request for the release of the vessel. In the recent case of the steamer Brindilla, however, prize court proceedings actually had begun when the British government ordered the release of the vessel.

Consul Sprague reported that the Kroonland was discharging her cargo of 1400 tons of copper and 300 barrels of lubricating oil. The reason for this was not given. State Department officials will await a formal reply from London before making further representations on the subject, inasmuch as copper and oil were placed on the contraband list after the Kroonland sailed, the American Government probably will contend that the vessel has a right to deliver her cargo. It is thought in some quarters, however, that the Kroonland may have discharged the copper and oil as a result of the offer of the British government to buy it.

GENERAL CHAFFEE IS DEAD
Former Chief of Staff, Once Private, Passes in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 1.—Lieutenant-General Adna R. Chaffee, former chief of staff of the United States Army, died at his home here today. He had been ill almost a month and passed away at 1:45 P. M. after a period of unconsciousness. His body will be taken to Washington, leaving Tuesday, for interment in Arlington National Cemetery.

General Chaffee's condition became grave a few days ago. Late yesterday he sank into unconsciousness and this morning, in a brief period of lucidity, he told Mrs. Chaffee his end was near. He then expressed a wish to be laid to rest at Arlington.

Mrs. Chaffee and her daughter, Mrs. John Hastings Howard, wife of an Army officer, were at the bedside when the end came. Two other children, Mrs. George French Hamilton, wife of an Army Captain, and Adna R. Chaffee, Jr., a Lieutenant in the Army, are in the Philippines.

General Chaffee rose from the rank of private to that of Lieutenant-General in the United States Army. He was wounded three times.

Avalanche Overwhelms Swiss.
BERNE, Switzerland, Nov. 1, via Paris.—A huge avalanche today overwhelmed a detachment of Swiss soldiers in the mountains near St. Maurice. Four of the men were instantly killed and two were gravely injured. Eleven others were dug out alive.

The "Personal" Touch in Fashions

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