

## FIGHTING CENTERS ABOUT VITAL AREAS

Germans Desperate in Defense of Ridges Which Dominate Flanders.

SLAUGHTER IS TERRIFIC

Advances East of Ypres Maintained in Face of Seven Tremendous Counter-Attacks; Australians Press Germans Hard.

LONDON, Sept. 27.—The report from Field Marshal Haig tonight refers only briefly to the operations of today in Flanders.

On his return from a visit to the Italian front, Major-General F. E. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the War Office today discussed the situation in Flanders with the Associated Press.

"During the past month there has been a long pause, thanks to the rain and mud in Flanders," he said. "The pause made necessary more ample preparations than they have used to. A first advance—preparations equivalent to launching an entirely new battle."

"The fighting yesterday was in the most vital areas, the ridge system dominating the plain of Flanders, and the key to the whole series of ridges. The Germans have done their best to keep us off the series of ridges. When we finish getting these ridges we shall claim a victory."

"The question then is whether we can exploit that victory and exploiting it depends on whether we have got more reserves than the enemy. Thus far the German advance has been much greater than ours and they have used 75 per cent more divisions than we have since July 31."

Officers who have been with the British Army from the beginning all agree that since the first battle of Ypres there has never been a slaughter of Germans comparable to that which suffered in the recent series of attacks of the past few days. The Germans counter-attacked in masses and dozens of these counter-attacks were swept away with our fire and with terrible German losses.

British aeroplanes again dropped many tons of bombs on German military establishments in Belgium on Tuesday night. It was announced today.

(By the Associated Press.)

**BRITISH FRONT IN FRANCE AND BELGIUM, Sept. 27.**—Hard fighting occurred during the night at various points along the Ypres battlefield as a result of heavy German counter-attacks on positions wrested from the enemy yesterday, but this morning found the situation virtually unchanged. Furious enemy assaults, which continued throughout yesterday and last night, were dealt with successfully and the British today were maintaining their new lines.

**Fighting in Near Cameron House.** The main battle this morning was in the neighborhood of a position known as Cameron House, which lies just south of the eastern extremity of Polygon Wood. A severe and continuous struggle has been proceeding here, and when last heard from the Australians were pressing the Germans hard.

Counter-attacks against the Australian front east of Polygon Wood during the night were hurried back after hard fighting in several places.

Yesterday afternoon the Germans launched a pretentious counter drive against the British line between Tower Hamlets and Polygon Wood. A sanguinary struggle ensued, especially north of Menin road, but the Germans were gradually forced to withdraw after suffering heavy losses.

Northwest of Zonnebeke heavy fighting still continues in the region of an elevation known as Hill 60, which dominates a considerable amount of the surrounding ground. East and a little northeast of St. Julien the Germans made two heavy counter-attacks against redbut positions which the British had captured yesterday morning.

**Determined Assault Stopped.** A very determined assault in the neighborhood of Boeleer farm, east of St. Julien, was driven off. North of this place the Germans succeeded in regaining two redoubts. Subsequently the British countered in turn and forced them from one of these, leaving the other still in the hands of the enemy.

From the British standpoint the situation resulting from the new offensive is exceedingly satisfactory. Weather conditions were ideal today and consolidations were proceeding in a number of places the British improved their line somewhat during the night by establishing posts still further forward.

The two companies of Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders who made such a remarkable stand Tuesday and Tuesday night in the face of overwhelming odds, against German attacks in the neighborhood of the Ypres-Menin road, and who were mentioned in the official report for their gallantry, are the heroes of the hour along the front. They were finally relieved by advancing troops from their isolated position, where they had been cut off by the Germans in the early operations.

**Highlanders Cut Off for Time.** Their unit was involved in furious German counter-attacks which were begun Tuesday morning, probably in an effort to disrupt the expected British offensive. They were attacked at dawn by elements of four German divisions. So bitter were the fighting that the British troops were bent back, but the two companies of Highlanders refused to give ground and clung stubbornly to their position in the face of terrific blows from the enemy.

The battle raged all morning. About 2 o'clock in the afternoon British counter-attacks and fought their way forward until they had re-established themselves in virtually all the ground lost. But the British were now short of the two companies, who valiantly held their own. All afternoon and throughout the night the Highlanders stood their ground, and rescued when the British advanced forward at daybreak Wednesday morning.

**FLOUR PRICE IS LOWERED**

(Continued From First Page.)

Considerable in excess of home requirements. In past years the surplus of milled in the Northwest has been marketed in California, but this season, California millers say, they will manu-

facture their own milled. It will not be possible to bring Eastern flour to California in quantities, as heretofore, since the government has fixed wheat prices for all sections, and the millers of San Francisco and Los Angeles will therefore buy their needed supply of wheat in the Northwest and make their own flour and feed.

Cutting off of the California outlet for bran and shorts will consequently, in the opinion of grain men here, leave a large surplus of feed on the Northwest markets; and that should mean lower prices for the dairy and stockmen. This is what they have been demanding.

## BAKERS TO CONFER WITH CITY

Effort Will Be Made to Standardize Bread Prices.

In a conference with Special Investigator Humason, held yesterday by the National Bakers' Association of Portland agreed to name a committee which will take up with city authorities the matter of standardizing the weight of bread loaves.

In the meantime, Mr. Humason announced, an investigation will be made, under the direction of T. E. Wilcox, representing the milling board for the Northwest, of the Federal Food Administration, for the purpose of perfecting some plan to standardize bread prices.

Both matters will be taken up at the conference between the bakers and the Special Investigator Humason and E. T. Jones, scaler of weights and measures, which will be held Monday morning at 9 o'clock in the City Hall.

## HOLLAND IS CLEARED

VON IGEL'S ALLUSION TO POWDER DEAL EXPLAINED.

Munitions Offered by Germany to the Netherlands Government Not Purchased.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—The Netherlands Minister, Chevalier Van Rapard, today gave an explanation, which the State Department accepted as satisfactory, of the references in the recently disclosed Von Igel papers to an offer of ammunition by Germany to Holland.

The Von Igel papers contained a dispatch signed by Prince Fitzfield, formerly Dutch ambassador to the German Embassy here, transmitting authorization of sale of cartridges and gunpowder.

The Netherlands Minister's explanation, presented in the form of a statement, declared the ammunition was part of that bought up in the United States by Germany at the beginning of the war in order to keep it from the allies, but that the Netherlands government had finally decided not to buy any of the munitions were later offered for sale and some were sold to other governments.

## Progress of the War.

WITH all the objectives of their new offensive near Ypres secured in their hands, the English, Scotch and Australian units now are tenaciously holding their ground, notwithstanding fierce German thrusts that have been launched in efforts to regain the lost ground.

As had been expected, by reason of the contour of the territory over which the battle has raged, the fighting throughout has been of a most violent character.

Near the Polygon wood, north and northeast of St. Julien, and northwest of Zonnebeke, the encounter has been of a sanguinary character, the Germans losing heavily in their counter-attacks.

Of all the points of vantage gained by Field Marshal Haig, the village of Zonnebeke probably was the most important, for six miles farther on lies the Ouden-Lille Railway, the cutting of which by the British would seriously interfere with operations between Germany's naval bases at Ostend and Zeebruge.

Only at two points during the fighting were the Germans able to recapture lost ground. This was east of St. Julien, where two redoubts again fell into the hands of the enemy. One of these had to be relinquished by the British and still remains in German hands, but from the other the Germans were scattered pell-mell by a fresh British onslaught.

The German Crown Prince along the Aisne front and in the Verdun sector has made severe attempts to break the front of General Petain, but as on former occasions, the attacks all were repulsed with heavy casualties. On the greater portion of the line held by the French artillery duels are in progress.

On the front in Northern Russia and in Rumania the activity of the Germans and Austro-Hungarians has a most unusual, except for small outpost operations and here and there artillery duels of slight proportions. The Germans, however, apparently are reconnoitering in the Baltic Sea, preparing for attacks against the Russian fleet.

There has been no resumption by General Cadorna of his intensive offensive against the Austrians along the Isonzo front, where only minor engagements have taken place. On the Carso Plateau the Austrians have begun again a violent bombardment of Italian positions, but the Italians are actively countering. Large quantities of explosives daily are being dropped by the Italians on Austrian positions behind the fighting front.

In Belgium the British and the French army also are keeping up their raids against German naval bases, countermine and other important objectives and are scoring hits which give visible indications of great damage.

## CONFEREES RAISE LEVIES

(Continued From First Page.)

man accommodation taxes. Amusement admissions also bear considerable increase with Senate exemptions of outdoor parks and their attractions rejected.

The Senate provision exempting moving picture theaters charging 25 cents for less than a general 10 per cent levy, estimated to raise \$200,000,000, and consumption taxes on gas, electric and local telephone service, estimated to bring in \$30,000,000.

Another important action understood to have been taken was restoration of the special tax of 16 per cent on munitions manufacturers, estimated to raise \$23,000,000. The Senate provision for its repeal was stricken out.

Official announcement of the principal features of the conferees' work probably will be made tomorrow by Senator Simmons and Representative Kitchin.

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## NATION TO TAKE ALL SHIPS OF 2500 TONS

Capacity of Merchant Vessels Available for Ocean Service 2,000,000 Tons.

PRESENT RATES TO SHRINK

Except Where Required for Actual Government Service, Boats Will Be Turned Back to Owners to Operate Under Orders.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—Every American merchant vessel of more than 2500 tons dead weight capacity available for ocean service will be requisitioned by the Government October 15, the Shipping Board announced today in a statement giving the charter rates at which the vessels will be taken over.

American ships available for ocean traffic total slightly more than 2,000,000 tons, but some of them already have been taken over by the Army and Navy. In most instances, except where required for actual Government service, the ships, it was said, will be turned back to their owners to operate on Government account, subject at all times to any disposition the Shipping Board may direct.

The rates announced will cut sharply the present charter rates charged by American vessels for carrying Government cargoes, it is understood, if it is understood, to apply them later to any foreign ships chartered by the United States. The chartering will be in the hands of the Shipping Board's chartering commission.

**Rate Schedules Figured.**  
For freight vessels the rate a ton a month, figured on a tonnage basis, are as follows:

More than 10,000 tons, \$5.75; 8001 to 10,000 tons, \$5.40; 6001 to 8000 tons, \$5.25; 4001 to 6000 tons, \$4.50; 3001 to 4000 tons, \$6.75; 2500 to 3000 tons, \$7.

Vessels of a speed in excess of 11 knots will be allowed 50 cents a ton additional for each knot or fraction better than 11.

For passenger vessels the board adopted a two-fold basis of classification. Class A comprising steamers with a capacity of more than 150 passengers and class B comprising steamers from 75 to 150 passengers. Steamers in both ratings are further classified according to speed. Passenger steamer rates, based on time chart rates, are as follows:

Class A, 10 to 11 knots, \$9 a ton; 12 knots, \$9.50; 13 knots, 10; 14 knots, \$10.50; 15 knots, 11; more than 15 knots, \$11.50.

Class B, 10 to 11 knots, \$8 a ton; 12 knots, \$8.50; 13 knots, \$9; 14 knots, \$9.50; 15 knots, \$10; more than 15 knots, \$10.50.

**Government to Man Some.**  
Some of the vessels to be requisitioned, which will be used exclusively for Army and Navy service, will be taken over on a bare ship basis. These vessels will be manned and operated by the Army and Navy instead of by the owners, and the rates fixed for their use are \$4.15 for cargo boats and \$5.75 a ton gross for passenger steamers of 11 knots and over, and \$4.50 for each knot in excess of 11 and up to 16 knots.

All the rates are tentative. The Board, it was announced, will examine carefully the results of operation under the rates and will determine on any revision that appears to be necessary.

The government will assume the war risk on the ships requisitioned and in some instances the marine risk as well. Where the marine risk is assumed the usual rate for this insurance will be deducted from the charter price.

Within less than six months virtually every one of the merchant vessels now available for ocean service will be either in the service of supplying American troops and warships abroad or in trades considered necessary to the conduct of the war. The intention of the Government is to replace ships drawn from regular trade routes with neutral tonnage for military operations, are now pending. Foreign ships will be admitted into the coastwise service by suspension of the coastwise shipping laws. A bill to amend this suspension possible is before Congress.

## MILLIONS OF CROWNS LOST

Swedish Speculator Found Dead Without Clue to Transactions.

## MARINES FORCE SPLIT

DETACHMENTS ARE SENT TO MANY TOWNS ON POLICE DUTY.

Announcement News to Washington, But Is Not Taken to Mean the Marines See No Fighting.

(By the Associated Press.)

**AMERICAN TRAINING CAMP IN FRANCE, Sept. 27.**—The American Marines who have been with Major-General Sierb's command have now all been withdrawn from it and placed in provost guards in dozens of villages and cities of France, some of them also going to England. They still hope, however, for active service in the trenches for they were among the most forward troops in grasping every detail of modern warfare.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—No report on the separation of the marine regiment from Major-General Sierb's command had been received by the War or Navy departments today, and officials regarded it with some surprise. It was not interpreted, however, as meaning that the Marines are not to see active service at the front, but rather that the need for their services in provost guard work, in which they are most proficient, is at this time more pressing.

## BOCKSTAFF GOAT.

The Bockstaff Goat has come to Portland, much to the interest of Portlanders. For the Bockstaff Goat, he is known, introduces an entirely new beverage that is deliciously reminiscent of the good old-fashioned Bock brew of other days.

Bockstaff is one of the family of products already made known to Portlanders, others being Lifestaff and Applestaff, made by the Hemrich's Staff Products Company.

"All good things come at harvest-time," Bockstaff is the product of the harvest season's finest grains—rich, nourishing, wholesome," said A. L. Roth, at the Imperial Hotel, representing the Hemrich's Company. He is conferring with the Staff Products Agency, at 312 Gilliam street.—Adv.

## Irish National Forester Dead.

BOSTON, Sept. 27.—Martin E. Joyce, official announcer of the manager of the Irish National Foresters, died today of injuries caused by a fall.

## Today We Are Pleased to Announce

To Our Patrons the Arrival of *New Paris Styles and Sketches*

And We Are Happy to Say That Our Stocks of *New Imported Fabrics*

are large and complete. Choice materials from London and Paris are now to be found in our *Custom Tailoring Department*

—Mr. Lipschutz is glad to confer with you about your costumes at any time. We would suggest that you make your selections early that they may receive his prompt attention.

Custom Tailoring Department, Seventh Floor—Lipman, Wolfe & Co.

**Lipman Wolfe & Co.**  
"Merchandise of Merit Only"

## SINN FEIN MYSTERIOUS

ONE AND SUBSTANCE OF PRO-NOUNCEMENTS VARY.

Military Authorities Acting on Assumption That Extremists Mean What They Say.

DUBLIN, Sept. 17.—(By Mail.)—The Sinn Fein party in Ireland is extending its activities and is forming local clubs everywhere throughout the country. It still remains, however, rather a pervasive sentiment rather than a definite organization. It is impossible to say which particular evils are the authorized exponents of its purpose and there is a good deal of divergence both of tone and substance between the various pronouncements made from its platforms. Some speakers continue to preach revolution by the armed forces, while others appear to aim at a programme much nearer the limits of practical politics.

The Associated Press correspondent has talked with some who are influential in the movement to whom a free Ireland under the crown is quite a welcome idea, provided it does not mean submission to the British Cabinet. This is not so far from the home rule that Canada enjoys.

Meanwhile the military authorities are treating the situation on the assumption that the extremists mean what they say.

CORK, Sept. 25.—"We are getting on all we want is a fair opportunity to perform the work for which we were appointed," said Sir Horace Plunkett, chairman of the Irish convention at the luncheon given the members of the convention today.

"The convention," said Sir Horace, "has made me hope as I never hoped before that I shall live to see a change of heart out of which a new Ireland will be born. I hope to hear all Irishmen say: 'My country is thy country' and in the larger patriotism, 'My God is thy God.'"

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MEN WANTED FOR THE US ARMY



### Can You Pass?

**B**AD teeth not only impair the marching and fighting efficiency of a soldier, but make him much more subject to infectious diseases.

Don't wait for a toothache to drive you to the dentist for by then the damage is already done. Give your dentist a chance to prevent tooth decay. That is the chief part of his work.

Take your dentist's advice too, about the home care of the teeth. S.S. White Tooth Paste is made by the world's best know manufacturing company and embodies the latest findings of dental science.

Your druggist has S.S. White Tooth Paste. Sign and mail the coupon below for a copy of our booklet, "Good Teeth; How They Grow And How To Keep Them."

THE S. S. WHITE DENTAL MFG. CO.  
SOUTH AND TOILET PREPARATIONS  
211 SOUTH 12th ST. PHILADELPHIA

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**S.S. WHITE TOOTH PASTE**

Please send me a copy of "Good Teeth; How They Grow and How to Keep Them," also a sample tube of S.S. White Tooth Paste.

**COUPON** Please send me a copy of "Good Teeth; How They Grow and How to Keep Them," also a sample tube of S.S. White Tooth Paste.

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### Now is the Time to Buy Your Christmas Presents



while there are plenty of beautiful and up-to-date goods.

**NOW is the time to look my stock over—and make your selections.**

## STAPLES, THE JEWELER

266 Morrison St., Between 3d and 4th.

## Minerva Yarns

—The Aristocrats of the Yarn Family

are to be found in Portland at Lipman, Wolfe & Co. only, and we are glad to announce that

We Have the Largest Assortment of Yarns in the City—Possibly the Largest West of Chicago

## Minerva Yarns

are used by women who are most particular for many reasons—chiefly, the wool is so fine and soft, yet durable; the colorings are so beautiful, for you have every possible shade to choose from, both soft, subdued tones and bright, singing colors, and all the shades you'll want for soldiers and sailors; and—


Minerva Yarns are really wound scientifically—they come not only in the form of balls, but the yarn is so wound that it comes off absolutely smooth. See these Minerva Yarns yourself—you will appreciate their superiority.

### FREE KNITTING INSTRUCTIONS DAILY

From 9 to 12 and 1 to 5:30

—Instructions for the making of articles for soldiers and sailors given according to United States Government specifications.

Fifth Floor—Lipman, Wolfe & Co.



**Lipman Wolfe & Co.**  
"Merchandise of Merit Only"