



BRITISH DRIVE SIX MILES FROM LILLE

Lens and Armentieres Far Inside Haig's Lines.

HUN RETREAT 6 MILES DEEP

British and French Forces Continue Advance to North of St. Quentin.

HARD FIGHTING REPORTED

Germans Make Hurried Effort to Construct Defense Line at Valenciennes.

LONDON, Oct. 4.—The British have driven their lines within six miles of Lille at Wavrin and Equinghem, according to Field Marshal Haig's communication, issued tonight.

Some further ground has been taken by the British between Cambrai and St. Quentin, where there has been hard fighting.

Foe's Retreat Continues. The text of the communication follows:

"Fighting of a local character has taken place today in the neighborhood of Beaurvoir, north of Gouy and south of Cambrai. Our troops progressed on the Lens-Armentieres sector. The enemy's withdrawal continues. Our troops have reached Wavrin and Equinghem."

WITH THE BRITISH FORCES IN FRANCE, Oct. 4.—(By the Associated Press.)—In the Armentieres sector the retreat of the Germans continues. The British are now well to the east of Lens. Mericourt, southeast of Lens, has been captured by Haig's men.

City of Lille Nearing. The retreat of the Germans in the region between Armentieres and Lens has reached a depth of six miles. The allies are now within six miles of Lille.

LONDON, Oct. 4.—4:30 P. M.—(By the Associated Press.)—British and French forces continued to advance today north of St. Quentin. They reached the outskirts of Montbrechain after severe fighting.

Last night and this morning they made progress in the neighborhood of Fresnoy-Le-Grand, northeast of St. Quentin.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, Oct. 4.—5 P. M.—(By the Associated Press.)—There has been fighting of the most furious nature along the British front today. This has been true especially along the Beaurvoir line, in the region east of Le Catclat.

British Forced Back. The Germans have launched six powerful counter attacks during the past 24 hours. As a result of one of them the British withdrew for a moment from Beaurvoir itself and from Montbrechain to the western outskirts of the village.

For these attacks the Germans used two divisions which had been released from the line through the capture by the French of St. Quentin. All the other counter offensives failed utterly. At the end of them the bodies of German dead were piled high as a result of rifle, machine-gun and shell fire and the British were in possession of vital lines of the German defense.

The breach that has been made in the system of defense here is a narrow one as yet. For that reason the armored cars which went out to it last night reconnoitered deeply around new positions and then returned.

Wider Breach Feared. The Germans now seem to be most active on either side of the breach. Apparently they fear that efforts will be made to widen it. Meanwhile the roads and railways everywhere in the rear are crowded with east-bound traffic. The civilians are being evacuated from many towns.

Before the counter attack on Montbrechain 120 French civilians, who had been in German hands since 1914 and who hid in cellars during the British bombardment, were rescued and brought back to freedom. On many other parts of the front being ad-

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HOSPITAL SITE IS OFFERED TO NATION

S. BENSON WOULD GIVE TRACT FOR RECONSTRUCTION WORK.

Land Contains About 70 Acres and Is Ideally Situated on Scenic Willamette Boulevard.

S. Benson, Portland capitalist, yesterday offered to donate for use as the site for a Government reconstruction hospital a large tract of land on Willamette boulevard, in the northern part of the city. The tract contains approximately 70 acres and Mr. Benson offers as a gift the entire area or as much of it as may be needed.

The offer was made in a letter to Mayor Baker and it is understood that it will be referred by him to the Council today. The land is known as the Mock tract and is the site of the home of the late John Mock, Portland pioneer, from whom Mr. Benson bought it several years ago, paying, it is reported, \$500,000 for the property, which is estimated now to have a value somewhat in excess of that amount. Mr. Benson offers to convey the title to as much property as may be needed either to the city or the Government, with the sole stipulation that it be used as a hospital for soldiers.

It is expected that Mr. Benson's offer will be submitted by the Council to the Federal committee that is soon to visit Portland on a tour of the Pacific Coast in search of suitable hospital sites. The land offered lies high above the river, and Willamette boulevard, on which it fronts, is considered one of the city's scenic drives.

CZECHS MAKE THEIR WILL

Patriots Ready to Die for Independence of Bohemia.

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 4.—The proclamation of independence of Bohemia will be issued shortly, according to the Budapest newspaper Aszet.

The members of the Czech national committee, neither prison nor death," says the newspaper. "They have all made their wills and settled their material affairs, and the independence of Bohemia is virtually assured.

"All preparations have been made for the proclamation of the independence of Bohemia. Every portfolio has been distributed and the state programme is ready, while new Czech money is circulating privately."

TIME TAKEN BY FORELOCK

Central Labor Council Lays Plans for Next Loan Drive.

Central Labor Council of Portland takes the palm for being foremost in preparations for the fifth liberty loan. At the regular meeting Thursday evening, at which announcement was made that the fourth liberty loan has gone over the top, it was decided to create a committee of five to formulate plans for the next drive. This action was dictated by the experience of executives and workers in the drive just concluded.

The committee will be formed immediately and will evolve a practical method of dealing with the part that organizations shall take in future drives for loans and other funds that must be raised.

FARMS OPEN TO PRISONERS

North Dakota Representatives Would Use Huns on Ranches.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.—Representative Young, of North Dakota, today presented to Food Administrator Hoover a plan proposing employment of German prisoners of war on farms at \$1 a day for the prisoners and 23 1-2 cents a day for government expenses in operating the programme.

He said farm labor in his state now costs \$7 a day and that many farm horses are in pasture for the want of drivers.

FEMINE FRAUD PUNISHED

Woman Swindler Gets Jail Term for Misuse of Mails.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 4.—For writing letters to Frank B. Hartzel, of Hartzel Springs, Colo., representing herself to be a lonely widow and soliciting money for traveling expenses to Colorado to marry him, Mrs. Alice Nellis, alias Franzer, whose husband is said to reside here, was sentenced by Judge M. T. Doelling, of the United States District Court, here today to serve three months in the county jail.

PLANE CRASH KILLS TWO

Lieutenant Belzer Fatally Injured in Ellington Field Flight.

PENSACOLA, Fla., Oct. 4.—Ensign Carl Oliver Peterson, of Carnegie, Pa., and D. O. McKinney, of St. Louis, were killed, and Carl Reichell, whose address was not known, was seriously hurt in the fall of a hydroplane today in Pensacola Bay. The bodies of Peterson and McKinney have not been recovered.

MICROBE PASSES UP HUNS

Spanish Influenza Bug Refuses to Be Contaminated.

CAMP GRANT, Rockford, Ill., Oct. 4.—There is said to be a bit of self-respect in even the influenza microbe. He has attacked all ranks of the 40,000 men in this camp, but has declined to enter the barbed-wire enclosure where the German prisoners are herded.

SCORES PERISH AT MUNITIONS PLANT

Explosions Start Fire at Morgan, N. J.

PANIC SEIZES SOUTH AMBOY

Recurring Crashes Induce Residents to Flee.

WOMEN WORKERS SAFE

Medical Assistance and Fire-Fighting Apparatus Rushed to Scene of Catastrophe From Many Cities.

PERTH AMBOY, N. J., Oct. 5.—A warehouse containing large quantities of dynamite, one of the few remaining buildings of the T. A. Gillespie & Company's shell-loading plant at Morgan, five miles from here, which was destroyed by explosions and fire last night, blew up at 4 A. M. today.

The explosion shook every house in Perth Amboy, South Amboy and scores of other towns, wrecking light buildings and shattering thousands of window panes. The flash of the explosion could be seen for miles and resulted in a hasty exodus of people from South Amboy and the throwing of a military guard around Perth Amboy to protect homes from which occupants have fled.

PERTH AMBOY, N. J., Oct. 4.—Many men were killed and scores injured in a tremendous explosion early tonight at the plant of the T. A. Gillespie Shell Loading Company, at Morgan, near here.

The first explosion, which shook the countryside for miles and caused citizens of South Amboy to flee from their homes, was followed by a series of less severe explosions and by a fire which for hours defied the efforts of fire departments summoned from all nearby cities and towns.

The number of dead and injured cannot be determined until employees of the plant answer a rollcall in the morning. Estimates late tonight, however, place the number of killed and hurt at from 50 to more than 100.

Many Ambulances Sent. Ambulances sent from here and carrying 25 doctors returned with many of the injured. For fear that the city hospital would not accommodate all the victims, a hotel was prepared to receive the overflow.

Ambulances dispatched from Elizabeth and other cities were reported to be taking other victims to those cities. United States Base Hospital No. 3, at Colonia, sent ambulances and doctors to aid in the rescue work.

Eight bodies were placed tonight in the morgue at South Amboy and others were being removed from the plant shortly before midnight. It is believed that several more men were in the building where the original explosion (Continued on Page 2, Column 2.)

OREGON LEADS ALL STATES OF COAST

FIRST PLACE IN SUBSCRIBING LOAN ANNOUNCED.

Official Recognition of Portland's Record Accorded Manager Weeks.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 4.—Subscriptions to the fourth liberty loan in the Twelfth Federal Reserve District actually in bank amounted to \$2,050,000 tonight, according to George K. Weeks, campaign manager. The district's quota is \$402,000,000.

Both the state of Oregon and city of Portland are well "over the top," their state quota being \$2,708,358.

The standing of states in the Twelfth District, according to subscriptions actually in bank, was announced tonight by headquarters to be as follows: Oregon, Utah, Idaho, Arizona, Nevada, Northern California, Washington, Southern California.

Nevada is conducting an intensive campaign which is expected to produce slower, but larger, subscriptions. Utah is making the greatest showing in number of subscriptions.

The counties of Northern California, exclusive of San Francisco, have purchased to the amount of \$35,239,900. This is 45.4 per cent of a quota of \$77,163,450.

The first week of the San Francisco campaign has resulted in a total of \$26,293,490, according to Manager Weeks.

RECEIVER FOR DELMONICO'S

Famous Restaurant Fails in Face of Economic.

NEW YORK, Oct. 4.—War time economies practiced by wealthy New Yorkers resulted today in the appointment by the Federal court of two receivers to take over Delmonico's famous restaurant, which has been operated under the same name and family management for approximately 100 years.

The restaurant will continue operations under the same management, but directed by the receivers, until a contemplated reorganization is effected, according to Maurice P. Davidson, one of the receivers.

VANDAL FOES TO SUFFER

France Serves Warning on Germany and Accessories.

PARIS, Oct. 4.—The French Government has issued a solemn warning to Germany and her allies that the devastation of territory from which they retreat will be punished inexorably. The warning says the German people who share in the crimes will bear the consequences with the authors and that those who order the devastation will be held responsible morally, penally and pecuniarily.

It was added that France is now discussing with her allies the steps to be taken.

PORTUGUESE PORT TARGET

Two U-Boats Shell Cezimbra, but Are Forced to Flee.

LISBON, Oct. 4.—Two enemy submarines today shelled the port of Cezimbra, 18 miles south of Lisbon. The shore guns immediately replied, whereupon the submarines fled.

HUN FLIGHT FROM FLANDERS IMPENDS

Big Guns and Material Hurriedly Removed.

ENTIRE COUNTRY SET AFIRE

British Officer Says Rout of Enemy Seems Probable.

GERMAN TROOPS MUTINOUS

Riots Take Place Among Soldiers in Which Officers Join—Boches Force Civilians to Leave Coast Towns as Allies Advance.

LONDON, Oct. 4, 5:30 P. M.—(By the Associated Press.)—There is every indication, according to authoritative naval sources, of the early abandonment by the Germans of the Flanders coast. The Germans already are removing their guns. The Belgian coast has been under a heavy bombardment for the last two days.

WITH THE BRITISH FORCES IN FRANCE, Oct. 4.—(By the Associated Press.)—The country behind the German lines in Flanders is ablaze virtually everywhere. From prisoners comes the information that the Germans are making hurried preparations to evacuate the dune country of Belgium along the seacoast. Dugouts are being blown up there.

Civilians Are Removed. The Belgians, together with French troops, have reached a point 2000 yards south of Hoogebe and 1000 yards southeast of the Chapelle-Roulers road. Civilians are being moved in a hurry from Courtrai, 15 miles east of Ypres.

There are no signs of fresh German reserves anywhere. There is every indication of disorganization, not only in the enemy infantry, but in the artillery. Riots are reported to have occurred among certain German units, in which even their officers participated. A British officer familiar with the entire German situation in Flanders said:

"Nothing would surprise us. This may turn into a rout now." It is now definitely established that the Belgian troops did not actually hold Roulers, but because it was at the peak of the wedge which they have driven into the German lines here, the advanced troops were drawn in a little in view of the possibility that the Germans had a slight opportunity of cutting them off. Meanwhile the wedges in this region has been widened so that it seems that at the proper time the Belgians will take up their Roulers positions again. Apparently they can do this at any time they desire.

From civilians freed from the Germans in Flanders it was learned today that the Kings of Wurtemberg and Saxony both narrowly missed having something happen to them at Dadizeelle, northwest of Menin, a few (Continued on Page 6, Column 1.)

SNEEZERS MUSTN'T STAY IN THEATERS

HEALTH OFFICER ORDERS THE EJECTION OF COUGHERS ALSO.

Measure Taken as Precaution to Stay Possible Spread of Spanish Influenza in Portland.

Farewell to the sneezer who insists on interrupting the performance just at the critical moment. Orders issued yesterday by City Health Officer Parrish are designed to prevent the spread of grip, Spanish influenza and other readily communicable diseases.

In a letter to every theater manager in Portland, Mr. Parrish suggests that a close watch be kept on all audiences and that any person found coughing or sneezing be turned out and his money refunded. Legal action is threatened in case of failure to obey this mandate.

Although Dr. Parrish suggests in his letter that the step is taken as a means to check the spread of Spanish influenza, he declared that there is not a case of the malady in the city. "Several persons have told me of possible cases and several doctors have been reported as having treated cases of Spanish influenza, but inquiry proves that none of the cases was the real thing," said the doctor. "However, we are taking every possible step to prevent the spread of the disease in case it should appear."

INFLUENZA HITS SALOONS

Most of Pennsylvania Made Dry to Fight Epidemic.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 4.—As one of the drastic measures to combat the spread of influenza in Pennsylvania the greater part of the state tonight was "bone dry." All places where liquors are sold, even private clubs, have been prohibited from dispensing intoxicants until further notice. Amusement places, even closed liberty loan meetings, were suspended. Seven hundred and eighty-eight new cases were reported today and 171 deaths.

ACCIDENTAL SHOT FATAL

William B. Bennett, of Independence, Reported Killed.

ALBANY, Or., Oct. 4.—(Special.)—William B. Bennett, of Independence, was killed yesterday at the Quartzville mines, according to word received by Coroner Fortmiller today. He shot himself accidentally, the report says. Details of the accident are lacking. A coroner's inquest will be held at Gates tomorrow.

MAIL LATE; MAN EXECUTED

Stay of Execution Arrives Shortly After Electrocution.

COLUMBUS, O., Oct. 4.—Pasquall Biondi, of Akron, O., convicted of the murder of an Akron policeman, was electrocuted in the Ohio penitentiary here today just a few hours before papers granting a stay of execution reached the prison. Slowness of mails was blamed for the incident.

FERDINAND REPORTED OUT

Crown Prince Boris Said to Have Become Bulgar King.

PARIS, Oct. 4.—King Ferdinand of Bulgaria is reported to have abdicated in favor of Crown Prince Boris, who has assumed power, according to a Basel dispatch to the Havas Agency, quoting advices from Vienna.

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The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 67 degrees; minimum, 50 degrees. TODAY'S—Rain; moderate southeast winds.

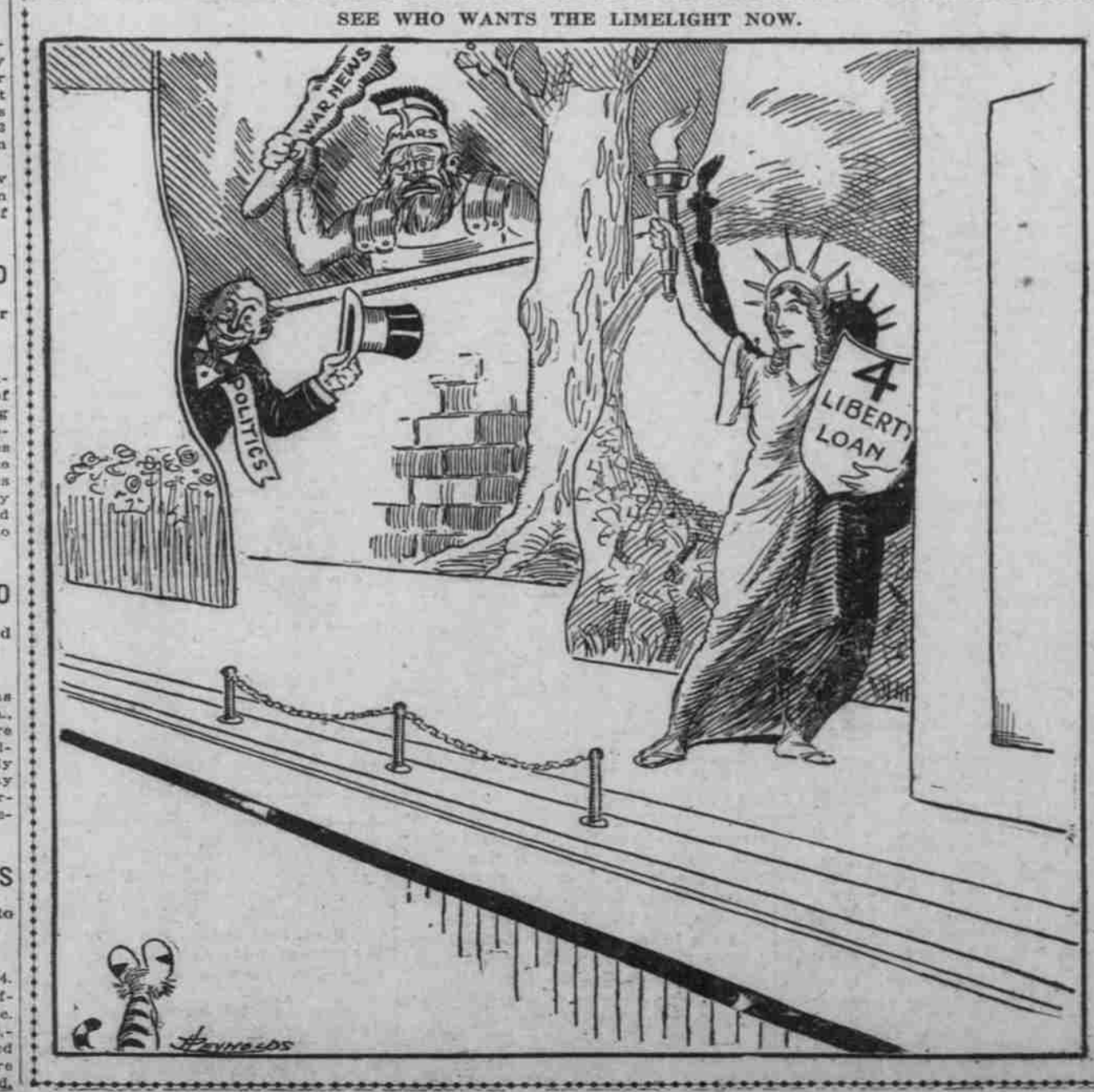
War. Americans gain it, two new offensives. Page 1. Huns prepare to evacuate Flanders. Page 1. British six miles from Lille. Page 1. American troops pour into France, 10,500 every day. Page 2. Berlin asserts allies checked. Page 4. American fleet to destroy submarines. Page 5. Official casualty list. Page 12. Americans may lead new attack. Page 2.

Foreign. Lansing says U. S. not invited to Austria's new peace conference. Page 5. Civilians freed from condemning Bolsheviks. Page 5. Turks to be driven from Europe. Page 2. German political trick barred. Page 4.

Domestic. Oregon leads coast in loan subscription. Page 1. Fifty sailors missing in collision at sea. Page 2. Senator King, of Utah, stricken with influenza. Page 5. Scores die in munitions plant disaster. Page 1.

Sports. Lincoln trounces James John, 35 to 7. Page 12. McCarthy wins in hard-fought bout. Page 12. Commercial and Marine. Winter wheat crop makes good progress in Chicago. Page 17. Chicago corn traders await war developments. Page 17. Specialization score wide gains in Wall street. Page 17. Liberty loan pledges race between yard forces lively one. Page 17.

Portland and Vicinity. Dr. David Starr Jordan gives his opinion of the Kaiser and his country. Page 10. Oregon exceeds loan quota by more than \$207,000. Page 10. Hoosiers ordered barred from public assemblies. Page 1. Merger of Portland Maritime boards in prospect. Page 6. James H. Kerr explains housing plan. Page 10. Merchants go on record against closing order. Page 12. Mayor Baker asks all citizens to co-operate in proposed housing survey. Page 11. Interest in vacancy on supreme bench grows. Page 10. Hospital site is offered to Nation. Page 1. Weather report, data and forecast. Page 17.



YANKS RUSH AHEAD IN 2 BIG SMASHES

Champagne and Argonne See New Offensives.

3-MILE ADVANCE IS MADE

Franco-Americans Take 3000 Prisoners in Blow Along Crest of Mont Blanc.

U.S. BOYS' WORK BRILLIANT

Foe Positions East of Rheims Endangered by Doughboys' Seizure of Heights.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY NORTHWEST OF VERDUN, Oct. 4.—(By the Associated Press, 10 P. M.)—The Americans resumed the attack this morning west of the Meuse and advanced their lines from two to five kilometers. They captured Hill 240, north of Exermont, and the villages of Gesmes, Fleville, Chehery and La-forges.

In the face of heavy artillery and machine-gun fire, Illinois, Wisconsin, Western Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia troops have forced the enemy back to the Kriemhilde position, south of Foret Wood.

Objectives Quickly Taken. After artillery preparation the Americans went over the top at 5:30 and before mid-afternoon had attained all their objectives.

The fighting was of the bitterest sort, continuing at last accounts, at nearly every point. The Germans apparently were surprised by the attack, which had been expected by them two nights ago. They retreated slightly at first without any great artillery action or resistance, but then stiffened and fought like desperate men throughout the remainder of the day.

Aviators Risk Lives. The American aviators again covered themselves with glory and performed almost the impossible in today's drive. Dawn broke with mists heavy over the trenches and the country across which the Americans were to go, and it was hours before the weather cleared sufficiently to permit of any observation to speak of.

The splendid liaison that marked the day's operations and which was nearly ideal under the circumstances was due in great part to the work of aviators, who countless times risked their lives in reconnoitering, attacking the retreating Germans and bringing back reports. To this was added the fact that the German flyers seemed for once inspired by dare-devilry and bravery equal to the American aviators and during the entire morning, particularly in the center of the action, they swooped over the heads of the American infantry only a few hundred meters above the earth, using machine guns with telling effect until driven off.

Hun Planes Lose Heavily. Chiefly because of this during the German losses were unusually heavy and even the American anti-aircraft batteries accounted for seven machines, which they brought down without trouble at the short ranges they could use. One more German plane fell to the prowess of an infantryman who was carrying an anti-tank gun captured a few moments before and which he turned on an aviator just overhead, bringing him down instantly.

PARIS, Oct. 4.—In the fighting in Champagne the French and Americans have advanced about 2 1/2 miles north of Auberville and about 5 miles northeast of Somme-Py, taking a number of villages, according to the French official communication issued tonight.

Challenger No Man's Land. The railroad town of Challenger has been evacuated, but has not been occupied by the enemy. Both artillery are firing upon it.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN CHAMPAGNE, Oct. 4.—2 P. M.—(By the Associated Press.)—The American and French troops gained more ground today north of the important height positions of Blanc Mont and Medeah farm, giving them secure hold on the important positions won yesterday. French tanks (Continued on Page 6, Column 2.)