GERMAN TRENCH LINE SO BROKEN CAVALRY CALLED INTO ACTION

Mine Operations Preceding Flanders Assault Furnished New Hell Pictures.

SHOCK IS FELT FOR MILES

Prisoners Say Whole German Army in Fighting Sector Thought Judgment Day Had Come.

By William Philip Simms

With the British Armies in the Field, June 8.—(U. P.)—Six thousand prisoners so far counted is the score to date in the great Flanders offensive.

So complete is the success with which the drive was still progressing today that British cavalry is in action.

Nothing could be cited as indicating in more remarkable degree the complete breaking of the tremendously strong German trench lines than this calling into the offensive of these quick moving forces—only available in open fighting.

Every Destructive Agent Used

Great torn fields, huge furrows, plowed as by some Brobdignagian farmer, tons of loam turned and churned into blackened dust—that was the mark across Belgium's fields today where yesterday the British turned loose every man-contrived engine of destruction to sweep forward in victory.

Dante would have found new hell pictures in the cataclysm which rent the earth along this 12 mile front from Ypres to Armentieres yesterday morning. A vast upheaval of 600 tons of explosives was the beginning. Scattered over miles of front and touched off simultaneously, this vast force tore up the earth like a volcano. The country trembled as though in an earthquake shock.

Effect Felt for Miles

I was standing on the massive top of a dougout when this shock came. For several seconds it felt as though the whole earth had caved in. A minute before the explosions the air was stagnant. The concussion produced a breeze that twisted the branches of trees for miles away. Great jagged forks of flame shot toward the sky like tongues of lighting. Then began the artillery roar, a roar such as never before was heard on this or any other front. The barrage pattered ahead of the British troops like a hail of great steel stones. A storm of red rockets arose from the darkness ahead as the Germans madly signalled for help. A moment later white rockets told that the British had swept over the trench—and were going on.

German Position Critical

At the time this is cabled the British are attacking locally "Oxygen Trench," where pockets of Bavarian troops are holding out in strength.

No details of the fighting at this point have yet been received at headquarters.

Successes of yesterday and today make the Germans' position to the east of the Messines-Wytschaete ridge critical. The river Lys and the Commines canal converge there, meeting at Commines. If the Germans succeed in crossing these waterways they will have to undertake the operation under shellfire and must necessarily lose heavily.

Irish Animosities Forgotten

The full advance registered by the British is over three miles deep, marking the complete breakage of the famous ring around Ypres.

This was the "Ypres salient" of 1914, where thousands of Britain's best died in the successful stoppage of the German encroaching wave, or else in unavailing attempts to advance.

It was the recollection of these other days when conditions were different that inspired the Tommies to their task and led them to unbounded rejoicing today. I saw Ulsterites and Irish Nationalists go into battle side by side and storm the ridge positions shoulder to shoulder. The animosities of Ireland were submerged in the animosities against "Fritz." And today when we came upon a group of two fighting Irish units, each was eager to praise the other as deserving of the credit.

Explosions Terrified Germans

The other side of the story came from the hordes of German prisoners today as they were being assorted and herded for transportation to the rear. All were frank in expressing their amazement and terror at the tremendous series of mine explosions following which Haig sent his men forward. Many declared that the whole German army in the fighting sector thought the Judgment day had arrived, so terrific was the shock and so strong the shuddering of the ground. That terror was plainly manifest, British Tommies said, when the time for the German counter attack arrived.

Counter Attacks Feeble

The Prussians' attempts were feeble—more like dying kicks from a prostrate enemy than blows struck back in earnest. All were easily repulsed by the Australians.

Near Messines village the British mines under the strong German positions on Hill 60 were crammed with more than 50 tons of explosives. This was the record volcano of all the countless scores that spouted their rain of earth, stones, steel and debris along the front. In the midst of this hailing mass, shrapnel from British guns exploded with deadly accuracy. The German prisoners declared they had never seen anything like it.

Every Objective Attained

No small part in the British success was due to the perfection of the British air service. Nothing daunted the M. R. F. C. men. They swung low over the German lines, ferreting out position after position and locating gun after gun—ignoring the hail of shells which the enemy anti-aircraft guns poured into the sky. It was the heaviest air barrage the Prussians had ever attempted.

Every objective planned by the army chiefs had been attained today—in 24 hours after the Tommies first leaped out of their trenches. And with the fervor of their fighting whetted rather than tired by the strife, the troops were still pushing on.

BRITISH TROOPS FORGE AHEAD IN BELGIAN DRIVE

(Continued From Page One.)

fenses, lying like a chord arc, the base of which was the salient formed by the ridge."

Across a blunt wedge five miles broad at its apex, the British troops were still forging ahead today, smashing Germany's steel grip on Belgium. Early front dispatches today told of another night of intense fighting.

The German line was bent far back in the initial shock of vast mine explosions, of a hellfire of artillery and of the dashing blows of the infantry. Up to today the enemy's elasticity had not been evidenced in any snapping back into line of that fracture. Apprised now of the tremendous strength of the drive, the Germans were massing reserves and fiercely opposing every step of the British advance.

Objectives Sought in France

The great city of Lille and the important industrial towns of Tourcoing and Roubaix are directly menaced by the newest—and probably the most powerful—of the British drives. The three cities are the centers of France's industrial section of the north. The fighting is over Belgian soil—but the objectives sought are in France.

In this locality the Franco-Belgian line twists in a sharp dip, forming a triangle, the point of which is just above Armentieres. Memin, Wervick and Warneton are along one side of the triangle, being the Belgian border cities—the hypothenuse of a triangle whose upright line runs from Ypres and Messines to near Armentieres.

Lille is six miles distant from Armentieres. It is 10 miles from Messines, farther up on the triangle line.

The capture of the low lying ridge from Messines to Wytschaete, however, makes the Messines victory important, even if it is farther distant from Lille and Armentieres. This promontory dominates the flat Belgian-French fields in this sector. It offers an ideal observation base. Moreover, it gives an advantageous strategic position from which to turn the flank of the enemy army just above Armentieres.

Germans Start Drive

Paris, June 8.—(U. P.)—Germany has apparently started a counter offensive along a great section of the French front.

Today's official report detailed a violent enemy bombardment around St. Quentin and La Fere, preliminary to an attack which the French killed at its inception; more violent artillery fire centered on French positions north of Moulin Laffaux and south of Filain, as well as in the Cerny sector, and "enemy attacks at various points." All attacks failed.

Southeast of St. Quentin a violent enemy bombardment on the line from St. Quentin to La Fere was countered by our own artillery, which stopped a prepared attack.

"The night was most agitated on the entire front. North of Moulin Laffaux, south of Filain and in the Cerny sector the artillery fire was of the most violent character. Enemy attacks at various points failed under our fire.

"We penetrated the enemy's lines toward Souain Hill, in the region east of Belfort, and took prisoners."

"Attacks Repulsed," Says Berlin

Berlin, Via London, June 8.—(U. P.) "English attacks around Ypres and Ploegsteert wood, following days of destructive fire were repulsed," declared the war office today. "Southeast of Ypres we were also successful on the southern wing of the battlefield."

German Woman Accused

Los Angeles, June 8.—(P. N. S.)—The police today are searching for a wealthy German woman who was reported to have assisted 30 young men to leave Los Angeles in automobiles Tuesday that they might evade registration for military service.

Gen. McIntyre to Be Unofficial Censor

Washington, June 8.—(I. N. S.)—Brigadier General Frank McIntyre was today appointed "unofficial war department censor", succeeding Major Douglas MacArthur, who has held the post since the American troops crossed the border into Mexico March 15, 1916. Major MacArthur shortly will be assigned a command in the American expeditionary force that soon will be on its way to France.

Brigadier General McIntyre will follow Major MacArthur's example in working independently of the committee on public information of which George Creel is the head. His policy will be a very liberal one, he said today. He believes the war in which the United States is now involved is a "people's war"—one in which "the people who pay the bill should be given all possible information." Since the outbreak of the war with Germany, Brigadier General McIntyre has been in charge of the censorship of telegraph, telephone and cable communication to Mexico.

CONFERENCE IS PROPOSED BY AUSTRIA

(Continued From Page One.)

speeches and interviews have, within the past week, sounded a note of pessimism.

Dictator's Hand Is Needed

A meeting of bankers and businessmen today crystallized the first reaction against mob rule. Five hundred conservative men, unallied with the autocratic regime, were there. Admittance was by card only. The meeting was held in the offices of a bank. Several of those there were titled. The sense of the meeting was voiced by a speaker in the declaration, "We were formerly mastered by czarism, now it is mobism that masters us."

None but a dictator can now restore discipline and stir the Russian troops into a renewed offensive. No man has yet dared assume the power. The workmen's and soldier's council absolutely dominates the situation.

War Called "Imperialistic"

President Tscheidze with his colleagues are the collective masters of Russia. They openly declare the present war "is imperialistic." All attempts to convert them to the idea that Russia must fight German autocracy to retain the new democracy here have failed.

They will oppose Russia's fighting participation until what they term the "allies' imperialistic aims" are abandoned. They insist that publication of allied peace aims free from imperialistic demands should bring immediate peace. They furnish no explanation for their belief that Germany will abandon her own imperialistic aims.

Kerensky's Health Is Bad

Minister of War Kerensky's health is very bad. The magnitude of his task is plainly wearing down his fighting force. A recent speech before the workmen's and soldiers' council on his return from the front betrayed this fact.

"It is very difficult to make the army strong," he said, "because it is tired and sinister elements are working there. Some regiments have actually made peace with Germany. I hope the soldiers and sailors will prove that democracy can sacrifice itself to iron discipline.

"I regret that at some places where I addressed the soldiers dark forces began their work immediately after my departure."

Interview Shows Pessimism

Russian newspapers today printed an interview with the war minister, granted on a dining car in the northwest, which also indicated his pessimism.

"The people are talking unpleasantly about Russia not a little," he said. "We must remember the weakness of the army is an inheritance of the old regime. I now see some ray of hope in that there is no more fraternization. Reconstruction is progressing. One of the best things in this line is the formation of volunteer regiments among the soldiers called 'battalions of death,' who asked to be sent to the front lines in the event of an advance. But agitators are trying to join these units to spread discontent.

"The Russian public has apparently forgotten the front. It is time now not only to show interest, but love for the men."

Kerensky's Strength Growing

Copenhagen, June 8.—(I. N. S.)—War Minister Karensky's strength is growing in Russia, and the signs for the continuance of Russia in the war are brighter, said a dispatch from Petrograd today.

There were well defined reports current in Petrograd that Field Marshal von Hindenburg, the German chief of staff, has sent a wireless message to the council of workmen's and soldiers' delegates, saying that Germany was sympathetic with the dictum of "peace without annexation or indemnity," and was ready to enter into peace negotiations.

RED CROSS CHAIRMAN LEAVES FOR BOISE TO AID GEM STATE WORK

(Continued From Page One.)

Umatilla county. James H. Sturgis is campaign manager and J. H. Gwinn publicity director for this committee.

Grants Pass reports that Sam H. Baker, A. E. Vorhies and A. S. Blanchard are handling the Josephine county campaign, with organization well under way. Yamhill county is being orgnized under S. S. Dow, from Newberg as a central point. Oscar B. Gingrich, campaign manager at Salem, reports organization complete there and that from Salem his committee will cover all of Marion and Polk counties.

Whole State Being Organized

John T. Dougall of Portland will leave tonight for Tillamook and will assume responsibility for the organization of Tillamook county.

Barclay Achison of Portland will go to Astoria to organize that section, and will double back by way of St. Helens and Rainier, covering those points. State Campaign Manager Nichols will go to Marshfield and organize Coos, Curry and part of Douglas counties.

George H. Kelly of Portland has assumed responsibility for the thorough covering of Lane county, and will work with the Eugene committee, of which Alfred Powers is chairman, with F. L. Chambers and Earl Kilpatrick as the other members.

Ashland is today being organized by Robert E. Smith, the Roseburg banker, who will also "set up" organizations in Medford, Grants Pass, Klamath Falls and other points. The Ashland committee is organized under the leadership of E. V. Carter, with Mrs. Alice Pell as publicity director and J. E. Vining as campaign manager.

E. B. MacNaughton of Portland will leave tomorrow to organize Linn and Benton counties.

Forest Grove Organizes

Forest Grove, Or., June 8.—Forest Grove organized yesterday to do its part in the $100,000,000 drive of the American Red Cross for the relief of wounded soldiers. Heading the local workers are Judge W. H. Hollis, president; B. J. Simpson and Professor H. L. Bates.

The story of beneficent work of the Red Cross will be carried to every home in Forest Grove; it will be preached from the church pulpits and the platform of the Star theatre, and speakers will invade the country.

Forest Grove contributed over $600 to the $60,000 Y. M. C. A. fund, and the people came through with the coin without kicking. Professor Bates reports that he believed that it was easier to raise the $600 than it had been to raise $75 in previous years for state work.

Red Cross women of the town, under the direction of Mrs. A. B. Todd, have made handkerchiefs, napkins, shoulder wraps and bed socks for the soldiers. They meet once a week for sewing.

H. J. Goff has prepared a list of the boys that have enlisted from Forest Grove and vicinity—75 in number—and people of the home town are planning to write letters and send stuff that will cheer the boys.

Umatilla Gets Action

Pendleton, Or., June 8.—Pendleton last evening began her campaign to raise the $16,000 which is to be her share of the $30,000 allotted to Umatilla county in the state-wide drive for $600,000 of the national $100,000,000 Red Cross fund. A mass meeting was held at the Arcade theatre at which an executive committee was chosen to lead the local campaign. James H. Sturgis, G. M. Rice, J. F. Robinson, Rev. J. E. Snyder, Leon Cohen and Harry M. Chambers were named as the committee in charge.

Addresses emphasizing the seriousness of the war situation and the necessity of Red Cross funds were made by Messrs. Cohen, Chambers and Snyder who attended the recent conference in Portland.

The committee has appointed eight team captains and it will be the work of each to raise $2000 when the drive starts on June 18.

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With the certainty that practically our full citizenship will spend the Summer in civilian clothes,

—with warm days upon us, and still warmer days right ahead,

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BILL RUSSELL
in
"HIGH PLAY"
"Beach Nuts" Two Reels of Riotous Fun
The Latest Happenings Everywhere on the Globe -in Pictures.
A Program With a Punch
"The Easiest Way" NEXT SUNDAY

Columbia
Playing Big Houses
BILL HART
in the Western Masterpiece—
WOLF LOWRY
Hart's "Wolf Lowry" is laid in those western domains, fenced by the far horizon and rising and setting sun. The story concerns "Wolf" Lowry, past master with the shooting-irons (incidentally cattle king) and little Mary Davis (squatter), whose capital consisted of brown eyes, black curls and a boundless courage. It will rank, we believe, with Hart's greatest westerns.
"Her Torpedoed Love,"
Two Reels of Keystone Glee and Comedy, With Louise Fazenda.

Only Tonight and Tomorrow!
Come Very Early!
"WITHIN THE LAW"
Is playing to bigger crowds today. It's the first time in history that a big nine-act spectacle, which played everywhere else at 25c to 50c, is shown in Portland at 15c.
It's a photographic marvel—a dramatic phenomenon—a triumph of the silent art.
Of course it's at the
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TONIGHT
CHORUS GIRLS' CONTEST
15c and 25c
CLARA KIMBALL YOUNG
"The Easiest Way"
PEOPLES NEXT SUNDAY

STAR
Closing Saturday Night
Robert Warwick
in
"THE MAN WHO FORGOT"
"TELL MORGAN'S GIRL"
MOLLY KING in
THE MYSTERY OF THE DOUBLE CROSS
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THEDA BARA
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"HEART AND SOUL"
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"FLORA BELLA"
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with another John Cort cast of Broadway Favorites, including
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Most fascinating chorus coaxed from the "Great White Way" in years
Seats now selling at Baker Theatre box office. Prices—Nights, lower floor, $2.00 and $1.50. Balcony, $1.50, $1.00. Gallery, reserved 50c and 25c. Wednesday matinee—Best seats, $1.00. Saturday matinee, 25c to $1.50.

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