

ALLIES FORCING GERMANS BACK SOMME FRONT

Forward Push by French and British Continues—New Thrust by French at Chaumes Isolates Denicourt—German Losses Enormous—British Advance on Left Bank.

LONDON, Sept. 18.—The new thrust by the French south of the River Somme in northern France, where the important railway town of Chaumes is their objective, has resulted in the complete encircling of the village of Denicourt, the Paris war office announced today.

Denicourt formed the center of the wedge the French are driving into the German lines north of Chaumes, its resistance holding up their advance between Berny and Vermadvillers, complete occupation of which villages by the French was announced last night.

German Losses Heavy
Further progress has been made by the French in this region and heavy counter attacks by the Germans on the new French positions both north and south of the Somme have been repulsed according to today's report, which announces that the Germans sustained enormous losses, two battalions being nearly wiped out.

The French have taken 1200 prisoners and ten machine guns.
The British are keeping up their forward push north of the Somme, scoring their advances, at isolated points, apparently in operations to straighten their line and secure their hold on captured ground.

London today reports an appreciable advance on the left bank where the British line has been driven further toward Le Sara, along the Pozieres-Bapaume road north of Maripouch and east of Courcellette.

In the Balkans
On the Macedonian front an entente attack in the Struma valley northeast of Saloniki was repulsed by the Bulgarians, the Sofia war office announces, a counter attack forcing the entente troops back to the west bank of the river.

The forces under Field Marshal Von Mackensen are continuing to progress in their campaign in the Rumanian province of Dobrudja, Sofia reports. Some indication of stronger resistance by the Rumanians and Russians, is furnished by the official statement which reports heavy counter attacks.

The presence of a division of Serbian troops in Rumania, alluded to in recent press dispatches, has not been officially accounted for. The probabilities are that some Serbian troops were forced into Rumanian territory during the Teutonic drive through Serbia last fall, being interned there and liberated for services with the entente forces when Rumania entered the war, or else that the division is composed of Serbian residents of Rumania.

British forces have occupied the greater part of German East Africa, the last remaining German colonial possession, London today announces the junction of two British forces to the south of the central mountain range. The British have dislodged a strong German force from the Uluguru hills in the south central portion of the colony and are driving the Germans southward. All ports of the colony have now been occupied by the British.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Sept. 18.—Governor Hiram W. Johnson in a statement issued today recognized the possibilities of a fight tomorrow in the republican state convention, not only for the control of the convention itself, but also for control of the republican party machinery in California for the next two years. The governor paid his respects to "certain self-constituted leaders" of the republican party, who, he said, are "unwilling to accept the decree of a majority of the party and wish to fight it out again with the legislative nominees in tomorrow's convention.

GREEK POLICY OF NEUTRALITY IS CONTINUED

New Premier Announces a Very Benevolent Neutrality Towards Entente Allies—Attitude in Other Matters to Be Decided Later—Denies Suggestion He Is Pro-German.

ATHENS, Sept. 18.—Nikolas Kalogeropoulos, the new premier, made the following declaration today: "The new ministry will follow a benevolent, very benevolent neutrality toward the entente. It will decide its attitude in other respects after examining the situation and studying the diplomatic documents."

Premier Kalogeropoulos indignantly repudiated any suggestion that he is pro-German in his sympathies. The cabinet was sworn in at noon.

ATHENS, Sept. 18.—Premier Kalogeropoulos announced today that the new ministry had assumed full responsibility before the country for its acts. The cabinet evidently accepts the note prepared by the entente powers last June in the same spirit as the previous cabinet.

The note referred to said that the entente powers did not require Greece to abandon neutrality but demanded the demobilization of the army, the formation of a non-political government and the holding of general elections after demobilization had restored the electoral body to normal conditions.

ATHENS, Sept. 18.—The first boat load of Greek soldiers from Kavala arrived here today. The men marched through the streets crying "Down with the Bulgars."
The demand for war is growing rapidly among the people. Even the anti-Venizelos press plans an active pro-war campaign which will be opened tomorrow.

ALLIES FORM NEW LINE IN DOBRUDJA

BERLIN, Sept. 18.—The allied forces in eastern Rumania have received reinforcements, the war office announced today. They have taken up a line across Dobrudja, a few miles south of the railroad running from Constantza to the Danube.

Abandonment by the Germans of the village of Berny and Denicourt, together with positions between Barleux and Varmadvillers, south of the River Somme, is reported in today's official statement. North of the river, the statement says, the fighting developed favorably to the Germans.

A German attack against the Russians who are attempting to capture the Galician town of Halicz resulted in the defeat of the Russians, who lost the greater portion of the territory gained on Saturday, the war office announced today. In addition to inflicting heavy casualties on the Russians, the Germans took 3500 prisoners and sixteen machine guns.

MEXICAN BANDITS SECURE \$62,000

LAREDO, Tex., Sept. 18.—Bandits held up a passenger train September 12 near Tamosopo, rifled the express car of \$62,000 in gold, robbed the passengers and then pushed the train down the mountainside into a deep canyon, according to an apparently reliable report reaching here today. The passengers were permitted to detain, thus preventing loss of life, the report said.
On the following day, according to the report, a constitutionalist troop train sent out to apprehend the bandits was blown up at the same spot the holdup occurred, forty soldiers being killed.

OH, YOU PUSSYFOOTER



GENERAL STRIKE IN NEW YORK ON THURSDAY NEXT

NEW YORK, Sept. 18.—There will be no sympathetic strike of labor unions to aid the striking street railway employees until Thursday at least, and one may be averted altogether if renewed efforts of Mayor Mitchell to settle the present street-car strike in the meantime are successful. This was announced today after a conference between the mayor and five labor leaders, representing the street railway employees, the longshoremen's union, the stationary engineers and firemen's union and the state federation of labor, the latter appearing for a number of labor organizations, whose trades connect with the operation of the traction system.

The leaders told the mayor that the various organizations they represented were determined to strike unless the municipal authorities took some action to compel the traction heads to observe their recent agreements with the railway employees and that they had come to him as the last resort.
The mayor promised to make another effort to adjust the difficulties and said he hoped to give the men an answer by Thursday. The labor leaders promised that meantime no general strike would be called. The mayor announced that he would ask Public Service Commissioner Strauss to join him in his final effort to effect a settlement.

GOVERNMENT PROBE OF CONGRESS FIRE

SEATTLE, Wash., Sept. 18.—A private hearing on the cause of the fire on the steamship Congress off Coos Bay last Thursday was begun before United States Inspector of Boilers Lord and Inspector of Hulls Whitney in the federal building. Officers, members of the crew and passengers were questioned. If the testimony shows that no one was guilty of negligence or violation of federal regulations, the hearing will be final, the inspectors say.

GENERAL ALBERT L. MILLS CHIEF OF MILITIA, DEAD

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Major General Albert L. Mills, chief of the division of militia affairs, died at his home today after fifteen hours' illness from pneumonia.

RUSSIANS RENEW OFFENSIVE AGAINST GALICIAN CAPITAL

PETROGRAD, Sept. 18.—News of a series of new battles in the general neighborhood of Halicz, in Galicia, ends an almost unprecedented period of quiet extending on all the Russian fronts except that in Asia Minor, where the Turks without marked success are steadily repeating their efforts to launch an offensive against the left flank of the Russian Caucasian army.

Thus, after weeks of suspended activity, General Brusiloff has energetically resumed his campaign against Lemberg. Halicz, which obstructs the way to that city from the southeast, is again being subjected to the most violent pressure by the Russians, who are throwing the greatest weight of their attack north of Halicz on the Narayavka to Podvysseke.

It is believed by Russian officials here that the left flank of the army of the German general, Count Von Bothmer, will soon be obliged to give way before the fierceness of the Russian onslaught, leaving them a way to Halicz open from the north.

It is here that in the first important series of battles, in which the number of German prisoners taken argues defeat for the entire German division, all three arms of the Russian forces contributing almost equally to the result. The Russian cavalry particularly distinguished itself by executing a brilliant charge reminiscent of old-time warfare.

VILLISTAS' ATTACK ON GUERRERO FAILS

EL PASO, Tex., Sept. 18.—A small band of Villistas made a "hidalgos" attack on Guerrero, eighty miles west of Chihuahua City, but were repulsed and fell back across the line of the Mexico-Northwestern railway toward the foothills of the continental divide, pillaging isolated ranches as they went, according to private advices here today.
Recent reports received here have asserted that American cavalry scouting patrols have been operating between Guerrero and Namiquipa in search of Villa.
It was not considered probable that American patrols would encounter the bandits, who probably are making for secret lairs in the hills of the district.

GERMANS LOSE LAST STRONGHOLDS IN EAST AFRICA

LONDON, Sept. 18.—An official statement issued by the British war office today regarding operations in German East Africa says:
"The enemy has been dislodged from the Uluguru hills with the loss of many men, quantities of stores and most, if not all of his artillery and gun ammunition depots, which constantly are being discovered and destroyed."

"On Friday British forces which had fought their way since August 28 through and to the east and west of the central mountain area, effected a junction near Kisaki, at the southern end of the hills, the remnants of the enemy's troops having retired to the southeast."

"West of the Uluguru hills, Lieutenant Colonel Vandevanter's columns are approaching the great Uvuaha river on the road to Malenge, driving a strong enemy detachment southward before them."
"Lindi and Mikindani, the last remaining ports in the German colony have been occupied by naval forces. Small German forces retired inland in each case."

BULGAR DRIVE IN DOBRUDJA CONTINUES

SOPIA, Sept. 18.—"Our advance in Dobrudja continues," says an official announcement issued here today. "The enemy occupied a fortified advance position near Koshadin. Our troops are in immediate contact with him. Our cavalry occupied the railroad station at Adjenlar. Sixteen wagon loads of food were captured."

"A brigade of the enemy yesterday attempted a counter attack against our column on the extreme left toward the village of Pulutche, but was repulsed with great losses and left in our hands several dozen prisoners, as well as eight caissons, one gun, four machine guns and other material."
"From the number killed and wounded and the large quantity of war material lying about it appears the enemy sustained enormous losses during the fighting on September 12, 13 and 14."

"On the Danube toward Bekla there was weak artillery firing on both sides. We sank a barge in port at Turn-Severin."
"On the Black sea coast the day was calm."

MILLION LOOT SECURED IN YEAR BY SWINDLERS

Alleged Syndicate of Blackmailers Under Arrest—Confession Made by Two—Sixty in Band, including Pretty Young Women—Operations From Coast to Coast.

CHICAGO, Sept. 18.—Confession has been made by two members of the alleged syndicate of blackmailing, eight of whom are under arrest here, that operations of the swindlers has netted them \$1,000,000 within the last year, federal officials announced today.

The confessions, it was declared, disclosed that the alleged band numbers at least sixty—a third of whom are said to be women—young, pretty and crafty. A dispute over the division of spoils, it was said, led to the confessions. Arrest of a score or more members of the syndicate are expected within a week.

Two Make Confessions
The men who confessed are "Dick" Barrett and Edward J. Thompson, according to Hinton G. Clabaugh, head of the Chicago bureau of the federal department of justice. Both are at liberty, he said. They will become witnesses for the government, however, when the eight members of the alleged syndicate, arrested in a raid on a fashionable apartment hotel Saturday night, are brought to trial.
Fears that they would receive long prison sentences caused Thompson and Barrett to confess, Clabaugh said. He declined to say, however, when they gave him the information that led to the raid.

The operations of the band are declared to have extended from coast to coast. Men and women alike have been victims. Persons of wealth were the objects in every case. Five wealthy and socially prominent members of Chicago's society are declared to have been blackmailed out of \$20,000. Their names were withheld.

Bail Totals \$100,000
Bail aggregating \$100,000 has been fixed by the members of the alleged band now under arrest. They are to be given a hearing tomorrow. Those under arrest and the bail they will be required to give are:
Edward Donahue, alias "Doc" Donahue, \$25,000.
Mrs. Helen Evers, alias Mrs. George W. Brown, \$25,000.
Henry Russell, alias H. J. Russell, \$25,000.
Mrs. Edward Donahue, \$25,000.
James Christian, alias James Roberts, \$5000.
George Bland, alias Joseph Pearl, \$5000.
Frank Crocker, \$5000.
Mrs. Frances Allen, alias Mrs. Frances Chapman, \$5000.

International Operations
They fled a multimillionaire of New York out of \$40,000 by threatening him with arrest for alleged violation of the Mann act, two of the members of the syndicate impersonating secret service agents for that purpose.

They frightened a wealthy Philadelphia woman who had been too friendly with a stranger in a cafe into giving them \$35,000. They took \$10,000 from each of five Chicagoans, two of whom are women. They brought about their own arrest, it is alleged, by taking \$3500 from Mrs. Regina Clipper of Philadelphia, and afterward kidnaping her.

ITALIANS ENGAGE IN BLOODIEST BATTLE

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 18.—A telegram printed by the Cologne Gazette today says the Italian attacks against the Austro-Hungarian positions near Gorizia on the plateau of Komani, which have been proceeding for two days, are not to be compared with any battle, however bloody of the Italian war up to the present, but only with the great fighting in the west or the last Russian offensive. The correspondent says the Italians are adopting the tactics employed by General Brusiloff and adds that they are subjecting the short front between Wicprach and the sea to continuous assaults by thick infantry masses.

FRENCHWOMEN DROP GAY GARB DURING CONFLICT

Money Saved Given to Aid Republic—Gallant Nation Has No After-War Labor Problem Like Other Nations, for It Is a Country of Little Farms Owned by the Farmers.

By CHAS. EDWARD RUSSELL.
PARIS, France, Sept. 5.—(Special correspondence.)—What do you think of a Paris of plainly dressed women, without style and without distinction?

You don't think of it; it isn't thinkable. You might as well try to think of hot ice, boiling snow, walking on the sky, breathing a vacuum.

"The poorest shop girl in Paris," runs the old saying, "dresses with art and style."
Plainly dressed French women would be like an intelligent congress or an unselfish politician. Nature, you say, produces no such things. Yet I have looked upon that marvel of marvels—exactly that.

Women Abandon Fashion
The men of this extraordinary nation have astonished the world on the battlefield and in the managing of their government. Its women have been just as wonderful in their household and personal affairs. For the average French woman to sacrifice her artistic sense in dress is like asking her to give up her soul immortal—but she has done it now.

To such an extent that on a Sunday you can drive all day in the avenues and parks and see scarcely a Frenchwoman not dressed with extreme simplicity and pinching economy. They wear their old dresses, and old styles. In the department stores they raid the bargain counters for such cheap stuff as formerly they would not look at.

What is more, they did all this on their own motion. No government had to lecture, to exhort or even to ask them to save. They seem to have felt, all of them, that when the life of France hung in the balance was no time to be thinking of dress, and they put the clamps down hard on every expenditure, big and little.

Thrift Practiced
The whole nation is doing it. Thrift was always a pre-eminent French virtue, but since the war began these people have found new wrinkles in it that make their old-time thrift look like extravagance. M. Ribot, their financial genius, says they are fighting the war on their stockings, meaning their savings. But the amazing thing is that as fast as they empty the stocking at one end they put something into it at the other.

To beat a people like that is some job.
For this reason (with some others) France is far and away better off than any other country in the war. High prices and all, she is in the best condition, and the least likely to get hurt.

Increased Cost of Living
A few staples have been cruelly high-priced, and there has been no corresponding increase of wages, but you can't find here the usual results of that sort of thing. The people accept it stoically. To them it is a part of the invasion, to end when the invader is kicked out.

Nearly all the French coal mines are at present in the enemy's hands; as, therefore, coal must be imported, it has reached unprecedented figures, \$25 a ton or more. Potatoes, too, for some mysterious reason, have risen almost 100 per cent. But many other

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MARTIAL LAW IN CHIHUAHUA

EL PASO, Tex., Sept. 18.—General Jacinto Trevino, commandant in Chihuahua City, has ordered martial law proclaimed throughout the state of Chihuahua. General Francisco Gonzales announced in Juarez. He also announced the receipt of dispatches saying that two-thirds of Villa's force had been killed, wounded or captured, but asserted that he had no complete estimate of the casualties on either side.