



# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE



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NO. 181

## ALLIES NEARING GHENT IN BELGIAN DRIVE

### RESISTANCE OF GERMANS INCREASING

Boche Makin Stand Along Line of Scheldt—French Attack in Center Opposite Ghent While British Strike From Tournai to Valenciennes—Pressure Maintained South to Le Cateau—French Advance North of Serre—Americans Meet Resistance.

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN BELGIUM, Oct. 22.—(Reuter's.)—Strong French forces attacked this morning on the center of the allied front in Belgium and are reported to be making excellent progress in the direction of Ghent.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS, Oct. 22.—Allied troops on the northern end of the front in France and Belgium today are driving into the German line from west of Ghent past Tournai to Valenciennes. This is the line of the scheldt and two of the important points on it—Tournai and Valenciennes—are almost within the grasp of the British.

German resistance is stiffening between Tournai and Valenciennes, the southern end of the eighty-mile line from Valenciennes to the Dutch frontier. The British armies, however, continue to progress. Ourra, within less than a mile of Tournai on the west, has been captured and the British hold La Sentinelle, one mile west of Valenciennes.

British Along Scheldt North of Tournai the British are along the Scheldt on a front of five miles and north and south of this sector rapidly are gaining the western bank of the river. Between Valenciennes and Le Cateau the British maintain their pressure and have reached the Escallion river at Thiant southwest of Valenciennes.

French Make Progress PARIS, Oct. 22.—Further progress was made last night by the French on the Serre front, the war office announces. The French reached the railway northeast of Assin-sur-Serre and also the St. Jacques farm, northwest of Chalandry.

Metz as Hinge Development of the plan being followed by the German high command in conducting its retreat from Northern France and Belgium makes it apparent that Metz is being used as a pivot for the movement.

It seems certain, however, that the Hunding line had been outflanked in Belgium, where the Scheldt river has been crossed and east of Le Cateau where the British and Americans appear to have fought their way through all obstructions. This line, therefore, may be rendered untenable for the Germans, who may be forced to fall back to the line of the Meuse before attempting to stand.

To Disorganize Retreat In the meantime attacks by the allies in Belgium, east of the Selle river and in the Oise region threaten to disorganize the German retreat.

BRITISH CASUALTIES FOR WEEK 35,710 LONDON, Monday, Oct. 21.—British casualties reported for the week ending today numbered 35,710 compared with 35,710 for the previous week. They are divided as follows:

Killed or died of wounds: Officers, 517; men, 4,971. Wounded or missing: Officers, 1,464; men, 30,188.

### ARMIES REACH PERIOD OF REST IN HUN DRIVE

Armies Rest While Big Guns Catch Up—Fighting in Progress in Spots to Straighten Line—British Reach Thiant South of Valenciennes and Are at Tournai.

WITH THE ALLIED ARMIES IN BELGIUM, Oct. 22.—(By Associated Press.) The general situation in Belgium this morning seemed to be that on most of the front the allied armies had reached a period of pause which is inevitable when rapid advances have been made. German resistance stiffened appreciably during the night, especially along the Scheldt river.

On the front of the British Fourth army, with which the Americans are fighting the night was quiet and the situation is unchanged in the Valenciennes-LeCateau area. Straightening the Line Fighting is progressing here and there along the allied line north of Valenciennes for the purpose of straightening out the front and consolidating positions. Between Tournai and Valenciennes the British continue their progress toward the Scheldt.

On the front of both the Third and Fourth armies high velocity guns and other artillery are active. German machine guns on the eastern bank of the Harpies river which had been causing considerable trouble have been put out of action.

British Take Thiant LONDON, Oct. 22.—The British have advanced to the left bank of the Escallion river and have captured the western part of the village of Thiant, five miles south of Valenciennes, it is announced officially. The British after sharp fighting have advanced to within less than a mile of Tournai.

French Make Progress PARIS, Oct. 22.—Further progress was made last night by the French on the Serre front, the war office announces. The French reached the railway northeast of Assin-sur-Serre and also the St. Jacques farm, northwest of Chalandry.

North of the Oise the night was characterized by great activity on the part of the German artillery. On the plateau east of Vouziers the battle diminished in intensity last night. It is confirmed that the attacks made yesterday by the Germans were very violent. We have identified elements belonging to 16 divisions.

This morning a German attack against La Pardonne farm was repulsed completely. In the Vosges French patrols took prisoners in the region of Col Bonhomme.

Towns in Flames WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY NORTHWEST OF VERDUN, Oct. 21.—(By Associated Press.)—The town of Brilleles and Clercy-le-Petit, along the western bank of the Meuse, and north of the American line, were reported to be burning today.

There was little fighting activity during the forenoon. The Germans bombarding the American left with mustard and other gas shells.

### PERSHING THANKS FARMERS FOR AID

NEW YORK, Oct. 22.—General Pershing has sent a letter of appreciation to the farmers of America who he says have not only supplied their quota of fighting men and fought largely of the Liberty bonds, but have increased crops both last year and this more than one thousand bushels above normal production. The letter, addressed to Carl Vrooman, assistant secretary of agriculture, and made public here by the committee on public information, says:

"Food is of vital necessity, and from the day of our entry into the war America's army of food producers have rendered invaluable service to the allied cause by supporting the soldiers at the front through their devoted and splendid work in the fields and farmhouses at home."

### OFFICIAL TEXT OF LATEST HUN NOTE RECEIVED

President Not Expected to Reply Before Tomorrow if He Does Then—No Official Comment Until Wilson Speaks—Immediate Peace Not at Hand—No Armistice Likely.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—The official text of the German reply to President Wilson will not be delivered by the Swiss legation until tomorrow. This was announced late today at the state department.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—The official text of Germany's latest note to President Wilson was received by cable today at the Swiss legation, Frederick Cederlin, the Swiss charge, arranged to deliver it to Secretary Lansing as soon as it could be decoded.

Indications were that no announcement of a decision by the president could be expected before tomorrow. Secretary Lansing was with him until nearly midnight discussing the wireless version, but there now must be further conferences and it is assumed there will be exchanges with the allied capitals.

Comment Withheld Official comment continued to be withheld, awaiting an indication of the president's views. Every one expected him to decide very quickly whether the note creates a new situation.

Opinion as to the probable attitude of the president did not differ on the great point that immediate peace is not at hand and that however sincere the German overtures may be no armistice will be agreed to except upon conditions of surrender that will destroy forever the power of the kaiser's war machine.

Some observers thought no answer would be made and the German armies left to complete their enforced evacuation of occupied territory as best they might with the allied armies at their heels. Others believed the next step would be a suggestion that the German military commanders, if ready to accept dictated terms, should approach General Foch on the subject of an armistice.

Difference of Opinion Those who are convinced that the enemy is beaten into submission and that efforts at bargaining now are merely a ruse to complete surrender are guided by confidential diplomatic advisers purporting to show that there has been a real political revolution in Germany and that the people in power are ready to throw out the kaiser and all his war lords.

It was learned today that a private despatch from Germany has been published in a Copenhagen newspaper stating that troops on leave are receiving orders not to return to the front and that to this extent demobilization has begun.

Military men here, however, regard it as inconceivable that such orders would be given.

### U-BOAT VICTIM ESCAPES PRISON

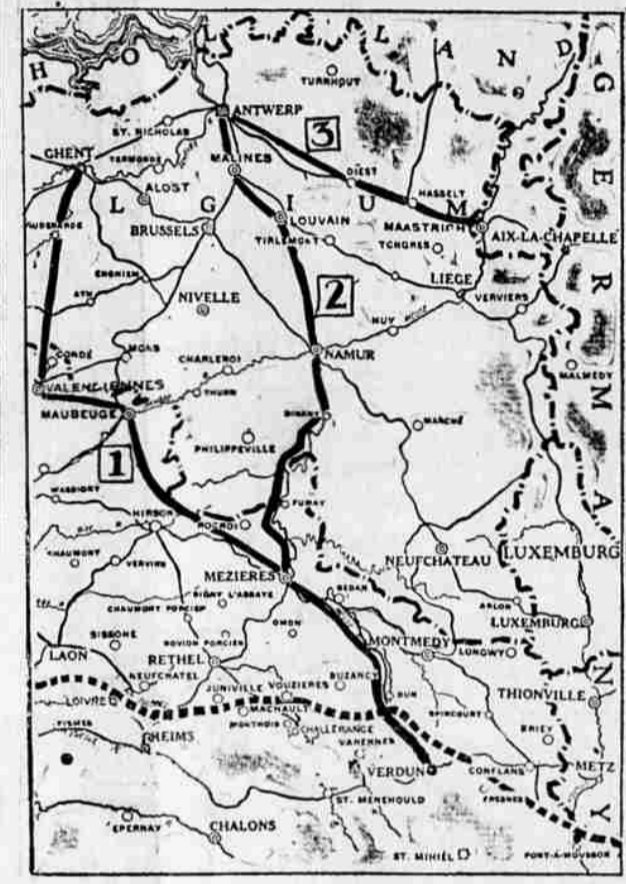
WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—Safe arrival at Paris of Lieut. Edward V. M. Isaacs, who escaped from the German prison camp at Villershenen after being taken prisoner by the submarine which sank the transport President Lincoln on May 31, was announced today by the navy department. Lieut. Isaacs was captured when the submarine went among the boats and rafts from the Lincoln searching for officers. Details of his escape were not given.

Lieut. Isaacs' wife lives at Douglas, Ariz., and is the daughter of Major General Derosy C. Cabell, U. S. A.

### ANYTHING PLUNDER FOR HUN SOLDIERS

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY, Oct. 22.—Hun soldiers surprised into flight leave curious collections of loot behind. On one battlefield barrels done up and addressed for mailing home contained in one case only "priests' robes, in another harrier beans. Door handles, clocks, telegraph wire and metal ornaments were collected for shipment.

### Hun Prepares Three Lines for Winter's Stand in Belgium



Three lines are established by the Germans in Belgium on which to make a stand if driven out of France and hold the allies back from an invasion of Germany this winter. The second line runs into the first at Mezieres, and if this line fails to hold the third from Antwerp to Aix-la-Chapelle will be the final stand in Belgium, for the latter point is on the German border. The first line has already been broken between Ghent and Valenciennes.

### TANKS REPLACE TROOPS IN DRIVES AGAINST BOCHE

LONDON, Oct. 14.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—Thirty-six tanks—one battalion—have at least a thousand casualties every day they are in action.

The British war expert who made this statement while discussing the present allied offensive continued: "We have used in the fighting to date only a fraction of the men the enemy have been accustomed to employ for similar offensives and we have made up the difference largely with tanks. Since the ultimate victory will fall to the side with the biggest reserves, the more tanks we have the more assured our victory."

"It has been commonly thought that a direct hit by a shell means destruction for the tank. Not always. A fortnight ago a tank received seven direct hits from a German 'seventy-seven' gun, but the tank finished the job and trundled back to its lines."

"Another in the Cambrai region went over a rise directly in front of a German howitzer. The howitzer fired from 50 yards away and a shell tore off part of the tank's side. But the tank went right on, driving right over the howitzer and putting it out of action."

### HUNS REMOVING WAR SUPPLIES IN BRUSSELS

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 22.—German forces at Brussels are working incessantly to remove war material from that city, according to the Rotterdam correspondent of the Handelsblad. He says that many regiments of German troops are leaving the city and that there is much excitement among the people. On the other hand Antwerp is very calm and has not been affected by recent events.

### PRINCE MAX TO ADDRESS REICHTAG UPON PEACE

BERNE, Switzerland, Oct. 22.—(Havas)—Prince Maximilian, the German imperial chancery, will speak at a plenary meeting of the reichstag on Tuesday according to Berlin advices. Debate on general politics will follow.

### U-BOAT SHELLED LIFE-BOATS OF TICONDEROGA

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—Two officers and ninety-nine enlisted men of the army lost their lives in the sinking of the American steamer Ticonderoga in the war zone September 30. This announcement today by the war department brought the total loss of life to 213, the navy having previously reported 19 officers and 192 men of the crew dead and 2 officers carried off as prisoners by the enemy submarine that sent the vessel down.

More than half of the soldiers lost on the Ticonderoga were from Ohio. The list also gave the names of fourteen privates saved. The officers lost were Lieutenants Joseph W. Freeman of Wetumka, Ala., and Cleveland C. Frost, Berea, Ky.

The Ticonderoga formerly the German steamer Camilla Helckmers, was torpedoed 17.9 miles from shore. The only known survivors were three officers and five men of the crew, in addition to the fourteen soldiers saved. The submarine is reported to have shelled the lifeboats, killing many.

Every possible step was taken to intercept them, he said, but he added that, seeing that passage could be made at night and that Dutch territorial waters could be used, there was no certainty that the measures taken would be efficacious.

### 2 OFFICERS, 99 MEN LOST ON TICONDEROGA

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—Two officers and 99 enlisted men were lost in the sinking of the U. S. S. Ticonderoga by a German submarine on Sunday evening September 30, the navy department announced today. The officers were Lieut. Joseph W. Freeman, Wetumka, Ala., and Cleveland C. Frost, Berea, Ky.

### KEEP PACIFIC ISLES FROM GERMANY. PLEA

SYDNEY, Oct. 22.—Australians have no desire to see Pacific islands handed back to Germany. The getting of the people in this when he said in a recent speech, "Whether these go into possession of a neutral or allied or friendly power I do not care, but if we pass them back to Germany we shall lay in a legacy of trouble for our children and their children for many years to come."

### LODGE BRANDS GERMAN NOTE AS CLUMSY TRAP

Huns Endeavoring to Involve Us in Diplomatic Discussions—If Answered at All, Should be by Demand for Unconditional Surrender—Reforms Pure Camouflage.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, republican leader, in a statement today branded Germany's latest note as a "clumsy trap, awkwardly set, to involve us in diplomatic discussions," and said if it is answered at all, it should be with demands only for unconditional surrender.

"It seems to be unbelievable," said Senator Lodge, "that anyone should be taken in by the last German note. It is varnished over with a little false flattery, directed to the president and the people of the United States, which can deceive no one. It will not bear the slightest analysis."

Pure Camouflage "They desire to discuss details. What they call details are the vital issues of the war. No attention need be given to their denial of illegal and inhuman actions. Only a day or two ago they took 15,000 women and girls out of Lille when they abandoned that city. Is that a military act, is it international law? They wish to refer the destruction of our women and children on the Lusitania to a neutral commission. The American people do not intend to have the decision of any commission on such a question as that. The American people have not forgotten the direction of the German minister at Buenos Aires to 'sink and leave no trace.'"

"Of reparation—and it must be very large—there is not a word. 'Of course all they say about reparation this government is very sympathetic. There has been no election in Germany. It is the same old mistake'—covered by the same forces and interests."

No Reply Necessary "The president's reply to the American note was complete and universally approved. I do not think there should be any reply to this German note, but if there is, let it be simply that we demand the same terms which the allies forced upon Bulgaria—an unconditional surrender. 'Unconditional surrender' is easily said and will be understood by all the world."

"There is something repulsive in having the invaders of Belgium and the makers of the villainous peace they forced on Russia and Roumania talking about justice and honor."

Piece of Shuffling LONDON, Oct. 22.—The German reply to President Wilson is regarded here as "mere argument and protestation." In government, diplomatic and political circles the view is that it is not a reply but simply a resort to verbiage designed to cover the absence of reply. One highly placed official described it as "badly placed official insincerity." The government has not considered the reply in detail, although Premier Lloyd George and his colleagues held protracted deliberations today.

Henry M. Hyndman, leader of the British socialists, said: "The reply is simply another piece of shuffling. I hope President Wilson will answer it very abruptly and briefly."

If President Wilson were to accept this reply as a basis for negotiation he would simply be sacrificing the dignity of the position which he has worthily gained."

Press Impatient News-papers almost without exception view the German reply to President Wilson with impatience and distrust. "Germany still impudent," is the caption on the editorial of the Chronicle, which dismisses the reply as obviously insincere. The Graphic is more optimistic and says "verballen, the Germans are getting slightly closer to the point of view on which all the allies mean to insist."

"The bigger in the wood pile" in the German reply, according to the Express, is the desire "for an armistice based on an elaborate estimate of the rival forces as they are today." This, the newspaper says, is a "disingenuous twist of the Wilson conditions," and continues: "We dare not consent to a suspension of hostilities unless we can obtain in October the terms we shall"

### DRAFT CALLS AGAIN SUMMONING MEN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—Draft calls, suspended three weeks ago because of the influenza epidemic, now are going out again in certain zones where the surgeon general's office has decided it is safe to send the men to encampments. The tentacles and the exact number of men will not be announced for the present.

### ALLIES REGARD GERMAN NOTE AS INSINCERE

Max's Reply Held Equivocal and Placidly Phrased to Permit Quibbling—Attempts Division of Allies—High Command Considers Situation Grave, Not Yet Desperate.

PARIS, Oct. 22.—The German reply to President Wilson was received here too late for the afternoon papers, but was eagerly discussed in official circles and in parliament. Among denunciations of all shades of opinion the impression was, first of all, that the reply betrayed more than previous communications the state of depression and the demoralization of the German people.

As a whole the note is found to be so equivocal and placidly phrased as to leave the door open for quibbling. Nowhere is there evidence in the reply of a genuine desire to accept the only way in which peace can be concluded. All that is apparent is the urgent desire of the German general staff to get an armistice at any price in order to reorganize its reserves of men and material.

Typical Document "The German note is a typical document," says the Matin. "In it are expressed the sentiments of a barbarous people who failed in a foray. There is not a word in the note which reveals that stoical strength of which France and other nations have so often given proof in misfortune."

The Journal says the note seeks to divide the allies and seeks also to draw from President Wilson a formal declaration that "nothing will be asked contrary to the honor of the German people."

Colonel de Thomassin in the Petit Journal says: "The note is proof that the German high command considers the situation of its armies most grave but not yet desperate."

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Shell Turns Torpedo From Doomed Craft LONDON, Oct. 22.—Officers of a British vessel report the narrow escape of their ship from being torpedoed by the quick work of their gunners in deflecting the course of the torpedo by shell fire. The gunners had noticed the approach of the torpedo before the officers, when it was 357 700 yards from the boat. Two well placed shots and the torpedo went spinning helplessly by the boat.

### HUN GOLD HOARDERS ARE EXPOSED BY AD

LONDON, Oct. 22.—Advertisements in Berlin papers of the fact that their houses had been searched of \$10,000 worth of gold trunks brought down the wrath of the public upon the heads of residents of Berlin's Park Lane. Letters applauding the thieves who by their acts exposed the hoarders are published in the papers.