

TAKE TOWNS IN CHAMPAGNE AS FOE RETREATS

(Continued from First Page.)
 sprig of the Kriemhilde trench system near Gemme.
 Franco-American troops, driving northward against Vouliers, are within less than five miles of that important German base.
 Enemy long-range guns covering Vouliers, which had been installed near Sugny and between St. Etienne and Semide, are being hastily withdrawn.
 The Germans are reported to be evacuating the entire Moronvilliers zone.
 General Deboney is tightening his grip on the Oise region, south of St. Quentin, and is increasing his pressure against the northern defenses of Laon and the St. Gobain massif.

AMERICANS PIERCE KRIEMHILDE LINE

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY NORTHWEST OF VERDUN, Oct. 6.—American forces have penetrated the famous Kriemhilde line, entering a spur trench.
 Enemy divisions totaling a million men, are massed between the Argonne forest and the Meuse, opposing the advance of the Americans up the river, which threatens the most vital German lines of communication.
 In the Aire valley, where the Americans are menacing the Grand Pre region, the crown prince has been unsparring of his troops in furious counter attacks.
 The line was pierced in the Gemme region, and the American advance seriously threatens the hold of the Germans in that sector.
 (Germans in about five miles north-west of Montaucon, where the Americans have engaged in heavy fighting, meeting with the most stubborn resistance.)

BRITISH ADVANCE 7 MILES IN NORTH

LONDON, Oct. 6.—The British line in the Flanders fighting now runs along the railway from Armentieres south to Marquilles, and thence to the Haute Dens canal. British troops have advanced almost seven miles at some points in their drive in the Armentieres-Lens sector.
 Many messages received here indicate that the Germans are preparing for the immediate evacuation of Laon, La Fere, Ribemont, and the districts behind St. Quentin and Cambrai. Towns in this district are being stripped of everything usable.
 The Germans are expected to make a determined stand behind the Haute Dens canal to protect Lille and the manufacturing area.
 North of St. Quentin the British are gradually widening the breach in the German lines. The enemy is retreating desperately in this sector.



ARMISTICE OFFER NOT BIG SURPRISE

Prince Maximilian took office as imperial chancellor of Germany on Thursday, succeeding Count von Hertling. At the same time it was announced that he would address the Reichstag Saturday, setting forth the aims of the German government and the future international policy.
 It is possible that the offer of an armistice was contained in this speech.
 Count Maximilian was known as a German with liberal tendencies, although French statesmen hailed his appointment as further evidence that the militarists were still in control at Berlin. This view was offset to some extent by news from Amsterdam that two Socialists had been taken into the German ministry as secretaries without portfolio.
 The report that Germany had asked for an armistice, thus following the action of Bulgaria, did not come as a complete surprise, as it had been announced on Friday that the new German chancellor was in conference with the Kaiser and the Austrian ambassador in Berlin and that the city was buzzing with rumors and "peace talk."
 Germany and her allies have suffered an unbroken chain of defeats on all of the battle fronts since the middle of July. While the Allies were beating the Germans back on the western battle front, the British were forging ahead in Turkey and the British, French, Italian, Servian and Greeks were putting Bulgaria out of business in the Balkans.

AUSTRIAN BORDER REACHED BY ALLIES

LONDON, Oct. 6.—The allies on the Balkan front have reached the frontier of Austria-Hungary, according to information received here tonight.
 It was reported the Serbs had reached the old frontier of Serbia and Turkey by way of Vrania. The allies advanced by way of Novibazar to the border of Bosnia, a former Turkish province that was taken by the Austrians from Turkey to form part of the southern frontier of Austria.

GERMANY DENIES AMERICAN GAINS

ROME, Oct. 6.—Continuing their pursuit of the retreating Austrians in Albania, Italian troops have reached the Ljunska-Kavaja-Poloven road in their advance on Elbasan, the Italian war office reports.
 Surrender of Bulgarians on the Italian portion of the Balkan front has begun. More than 7,400 have laid down their arms.
 Local operations were reported in various sectors of the Italian front.
 "In Albania we are continuing our pursuit of the enemy," the communiqué said. "Beyond the Ljunska-Kavaja-Poloven road, on the way to Elbasan, we came in touch with the enemy's rear guard."
 Thursday the surrender of Bulgarians facing our positions on the Monastir-Kioevo road began. One hundred and ninety-one officers, 7,218 men, 8 guns, 70 machine guns, and 5 bomb throwers were taken.
 "In the Tonalie area, southeast of Pantearcaville, a detachment surprised and destroyed a small enemy post. The few survivors were captured. At Dossocassina a hostile assault patrol, approaching our position, was driven back with hand bombs."
 "On the Aslago plateau, British troops, after an artillery bombardment, broke into the enemy's defensive positions and took 150 prisoners, including four officers. They captured three machine guns."
 "North of Grappa, the enemy, under protection of an intense bombardment, attacked at the head of the Stizson valley and at Mont Sulorolo. They were repulsed everywhere, except at Magravalpet, where they gained a foothold in an advance post. They suffered heavy losses."
 Back the Fighting Men with the Fighting Loan.

SERBS TURN BOCHE ATTACK INTO ROUT

LONDON, Oct. 6.—Fighting has again broken out in the Balkans. German and Austro-Hungarian troops attacked the Serbs, but were repulsed and pursued toward the old Turco-Serbian boundary, the Serbian war office announced today.
 One hundred prisoners were captured.

HUNS SEND PEOPLE OUT OF LORRAINE

GENEVA, Oct. 6.—Forty villages in Alsace-Lorraine are being evacuated, according to the Democrat. Inhabitants of Mulhausen, Colmar, Altkirch and Ferrette have been ordered to be ready to leave on a moment's notice.

ENGLAND TO HEED ONLY DIRECT PLEA

LONDON, Oct. 6.—Great Britain has communicated to the Turkish government that no overtures will be accepted from them except direct and official proposals, it was learned from an official source.
 The decision of Great Britain was reached, it was stated, after many semi-official peace feelers from the Ottoman empire had been communicated to the British and other allied governments.
 The British government made it plain to Turkey, it is said, that official overtures which don't contain definite proposals will be as unwelcome as the semi-official "feelers."
 Secret steps are being taken by pro-ally elements in Turkey to overthrow the Young Turks and end the war, according to well-informed diplomats here.
 Unofficial feelers reaching London are the first visible result of this activity. It is said. Direct appeals for peace will follow the overthrow of the Pro-German Enver Bey and his pro-German colleagues, diplomats believe.

PRINCE MAX OFFERS ARMISTICE AT ONCE

(Continued from First Page.)
 pointment of Prince Max, an opponent of the Pan-German.
 That Germany is trying to make the best bargain possible before complete military defeat comes, is the interpretation placed upon this latest step in the German peace offensive.

GERMANY DENIES AMERICAN GAINS

BERLIN, via London, Oct. 6.—Strong American assaults between the Argonne and the Meuse failed, the German war office states.
 Allies' attacks in the Champagne and north of St. Quentin were repulsed.
 "Between the Argonne and the Meuse continued American assaults with strong forces failed," the statement said. "North of St. Quentin and in the Champagne enemy attacks were repulsed."
 The day statement reported further retirement in Flanders, a slight French success north of St. Quentin, and repulse of a Franco-Italian attack in the Chemin-des-Dames region.
 "Against our new lines the enemy has followed by way of Bois Grenier, Fournes, and Wingles, and has crossed the railway east of Lens," said the statement.
 "North of St. Quentin the French gained a footing in Lessins and Morcourt. We recaptured Lessins."
 "Between the Ailette and the Aisne a united Franco-Italian attack against the ridges and declivities of the Chemin-des-Dames collapsed."

KING OF BELGIANS WINNING VICTORY

The greatest battle fought on Belgian soil since the beginning of the war is now developing under the supreme command of King Albert, declare French official cables received here.
 Supported on the right by General Plummer's second British army, and on his left by the French, King Albert has met with success from the first attack. German lines were broken on a front running from Dixmude to Ypres, and the attack then spread northward and southward.
 The importance of the Belgian advance lies in its threat on Lille and the bringing under fire of the important rail line between Roulers and Ostend. The line from Thouron to Ghent also is seriously threatened, and should the Germans lose control of it they will have to evacuate the Belgian seacoast as far north as Ostend. If they are forced to fall back they must make a considerable retirement to find positions of any great defensive value.

TEACHERS KEEP BUSY

Even though the Spanish influenza has closed the public schools, the 17,000 teachers have found plenty of war work to do.
 Today 2,000 have signed at the Liberty loan headquarters on H street and are engaged as Liberty bond saleswomen, solicitors, and canvassers for the big Sunday house-to-house canvass.

LUENDORFF WILL QUIT, IS REPORT

LONDON, Oct. 6.—Reports that General Ludendorff, known as the "brains of the German army," is to resign and that the Germans are to evacuate their great bastion at Laon and other important points in France have been received here.
 The rumor that Ludendorff is to resign came from Budapest.
 A Central News dispatch from Amsterdam said:
 "Many messages are being received indicating that the Germans plan the immediate evacuation of Laon, La Fere, and Ribemont and immediately behind the St. Quentin-Cambrai front."

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