

ALLIES ADVANCING ON BELGIAN COAST

Three Groups of Entente Troops are Making Rapid Progress Toward Ghent

BRITISH CLOSING IN ON DOUAL

WITH THE ALLIED ARMIES IN FLANDERS, Oct. 14, 10:30 a. m., by The Associated Press.—British, Belgian and American forces attacked at dawn this morning on a wide front in Flanders. The Allied troops are driving in the general direction of Ghent and Courtrai.

The attack seems to be generally from Comines to the northward. The troops of the three nations went over the top after a "crash" bombardment only. There was no preliminary bombardment. It undoubtedly tactically surprised the enemy.

WITH THE ALLIED ARMIES IN FLANDERS, Oct. 14, by The Associated Press.—Reports from the advanced positions this morning indicated that the three groups of Allied troops were making excellent progress in the Belgian salient from which the Germans have been precipitately removing war material for two weeks.

PARIS, Oct. 14.—French troops last night continued to keep in contact with the retiring Germans, the French War office announced today. The French repulsed the remaining enemy troops showing resistance on the north bank of the Oise canal south of Chateau Porcien.

PARIS, Oct. 14.—Premier Clemenceau has been at the front for the last 48 hours.

LISBON, Portugal, Oct. 14.—The Portuguese government has declared a state of siege for all Portuguese territory. The president, as commander-in-chief of the military and naval units, has taken direct command of the forces. Tranquility reigns in the country.

LONDON, Oct. 14.—After capturing Nish on Saturday, Serbian forces took possession of the enemy positions north of the town, according to the Serbian official announcement issued today. French cavalry have occupied the Bela Palanda.

LONDON, Oct. 14.—The British are pressing in on both sides of Douai. Field Marshal Haig's official statement today reports gains of ground both north and south of the city.

PARIS, Oct. 13.—Sixty-five hundred civilians were liberated when the French troops entered the city of Laon.

The statement issued at the war office says that the French have passed far beyond the town on the whole front between the Oise and the Ailette river.

Germans Open Bombardment
LONDON, Oct. 14.—The text of the Haig war statement reads:
"Yesterday afternoon the enemy opened a heavy bombardment on a wide front north of Le Cateau. Under cover of this artillery fire, strong infantry attacks were launched against our positions east of the Selle river in the neighborhood of Solesmes. These attacks were repulsed after stiff fighting."

"Other attacks in which tanks were employed to support infantry assaults were delivered by the enemy yesterday without success against our positions opposite the village of Haspres (southwest of Valenciennes).
"Our patrols pushed forward in the course of the night at a number of points south and north of Douai. We gained ground and took prisoners."

German Retreat Forced.
PARIS, Oct. 14.—Newspapers here believe that, as a result of the continuous advance of the allies, the Germans will be forced to retreat to the Lille-Metz line.

The German retreat is being carried out with difficulty owing to the bombardment of railroads by airplanes. British troops are reported to have outflanked Douai and to be advancing on Bernin, from which town they are only three miles distant.

American forces are advancing in the direction of Dun-sur-Meuse in the Argonne sector, according to the intelligence.

Pershing Reports German Repulse
WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Repulse of strong and repeated enemy counterattacks upon the newly won American positions on both sides of the Meuse and continued participation by American divisions in successful operations by the British south of Le Cateau and the French in Champagne is reported by General Pershing in his communiqué for Sunday.

GREAT SECTION RUINED

Northeastern Minnesota a Smouldering Ruin With Hundreds Dead.

DEATH LIST GROWS
Thousands Destitute and Homeless—Property Loss Millions.

DULUTH, Minn., Oct. 14.—A large section of northeastern Minnesota—three days ago a busy and prosperous business and farming country—today was a smouldering ruin with hundreds of bodies of men, women and children, many of them burned beyond recognition, strewn about the countryside as the result of the disastrous forest fires which swept this territory Saturday and Sunday.

Latest estimates place the death list at close to 1,000 although no official figures are available. Hundreds of persons are more or less seriously burned, thousands are destitute and homeless and the property loss will run into many millions of dollars. At least a dozen towns and cities were destroyed. The worst blazes were at Moose Lake, Settle River and Cloquet.

Relief work under direction of Adjutant-General W. F. Rhinow and Governor Burquist is progressing rapidly.

It developed that Counsellor Polk of the state department was at the British embassy in consultation with Colville Barclay, counsellor and charge in the absence of Lord Reading and other officials of the embassy.

Allies Agree On Common Action.
Counsellor Polk's visit was considered to be significantly connected with the word from London that the British government is inclined to oppose the granting of an armistice until complete guarantees of both a military and naval nature come from Germany. This development, reported in an Associated Press dispatch from London, probably has some relation to the announcement Saturday that Great Britain, France and Italy were agreeing upon a common line of action.

Charred Ruins Mark Path of Fire
DULUTH, Minn., Oct. 14.—Charred ruins mark the path of the fire which swept into Duluth destroying homes within the city limits. Back of Duluth the villages of Adolph, Munger, Five Corners, Barney, Grand Lake, Maple Grove and Twigg which were thriving communities Saturday morning, are almost obliterated. Further west Carlton, Cloquet, Brookston and Brevator can be recognized only by sign posts. Pike Lake and Pine Hill are no more, while to the south the Moose Lake district is a smouldering ruin.

Thousands of homeless persons have been brought here, hundreds taken to points further south while many of those seriously burned have been removed to hospitals in St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Refugees here seemingly have no desire to learn the truth regarding their losses. Most of them believe that everything they had in the world has been destroyed and city health officers of the city have thrown open every available house to care for them.

Persons who have visited the burned districts declare there is no way to place a monetary estimate of the loss. Red Cross headquarters devoted almost the entire day in the effort to re-unite families.

Greatest difficulty has been encountered in supplying suitable clothing. The fire loss in Duluth alone is placed at \$750,000, nearly 100 buildings having been destroyed.

He is a strong man who can overcome his smallest weakness.

LONDON, Oct. 14.—It is learned in authoritative quarters says Reuter's, limited, that there is no prospect of an early armistice as the result of Germany's overtures.

GERMAN MESSAGE ARRIVES

President Calls Lansing and Baker for Conference.
WILL ACT QUICKLY
Will Be No End of Hostilities Without Unconditional Surrender.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—An official dispatch from Rome today says that while the Italian public knows the allied governments adhere in principle to President Wilson's expressed program of peace they "have opinions of their own clearing up Wilson's principles on special points of national interest."

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Turkey's long delayed note, asking, like Germany and Austria-Hungary, that President Wilson take in hand the restoration of peace, was received today at the state department.

The note, differing only slightly in phraseology from those of the greater Central Powers, was delivered by the Spanish ambassador.

The communication as it reached the state department is unsigned. It was transmitted by Ambassador Riano as "the text of a communication received by the minister of foreign affairs of Spain from the charge d'affaires of Turkey in Madrid on October 12."

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Germany's reply to President Wilson arrived in official form by cable this morning. It was in German text, a translation of which was identical with that received by wireless Saturday night.

The Swiss charge appeared at the state department shortly after the appointed time and delivered the note without comment. Colonel House was in Secretary Lansing's office at the time.

Instead of taking the note directly to the White House as he did Prince Maximilian's peace plea, Frederick Oederlin, Swiss charge, communicated with the state department. He was asked to present it to Secretary Lansing at 11:15 o'clock.

Wilson Calls Lansing and Baker.
In the meantime President Wilson had called Secretaries Lansing and Baker to the White House for a conference. The president and Mr. Lansing had been considering the German communication since Saturday night when the unofficial text reached them, and Secretary Baker, just back from France, was prepared to give first hand information about the situation at the battle front which has brought about the German eagerness for peace.

Colonel E. M. House joined in the conference.

Wilson To Act Quickly
The only official intimation that has come regarding the probable course of the president is that he is sure to act quickly and positively. The confident belief prevailed that, whatever might be the form of that action, it would not contemplate a cessation of hostilities nor negotiation for peace with the German government except upon conditions amounting to unconditional surrender.

Last night the government asked the American people to suspend judgment on the German note until the president could consider it. If the opinion of the man in the street is reflected by editorial comment coming from every corner of the country, the people already have made up their minds that there should be no temporizing.

PRESIDENT IS TO BE FIRM

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Senator Ashurst of Arizona after conferring with President Wilson today said:
"The president will take no action that will weaken in the smallest degree the successes of the American and Allied armies in the field."
"On the contrary," Senator Ashurst added, "what he will do will rather strengthen the military situation."
This was the first statement by anybody who has talked with the president.

The senator said that the country should not be worried; that of course the president knew the views of Clemenceau and Lloyd-George and was prepared to take the proper step in accord with the Allies.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Captain Angus Mackintosh, honorary attaché of the British embassy here and son-in-law of the Duke of Devonshire, Governor General of Canada, died at his home here today of pneumonia, following influenza.

Captain Mackintosh was taken to a hospital here last Monday but his condition was not considered serious until a few days ago. His mother-in-law, the Duchess of Devonshire, was at his bedside at the time of his death. Captain Mackintosh was married about a year ago to Lady Maude Cavendish, who is in Ottawa with their infant daughter.

Prior to his assignment to the embassy here Captain Mackintosh saw service with the British army in France, where he received several decorations for bravery. He was wounded in action and also gassed, the latter in the opinion of his physician probably having weakened his power to resist the disease which caused his death.

It is assumed that since Saturday night at least informal exchanges have taken place between Washington and the capitals of the co-belligerents. Informed, the views of the Allied premiers, the president may determine his action before the day is over.

It was stated that the president might ask for a joint session of the senate and house to communicate his decision and the reasons for it to congress, the country and the world.

Secretary Daniels Joins Conference
Secretary Daniels joined the White House conference. The president and his advisers were together for nearly two hours, then the cabinet officers and Colonel House walked over to the state, war and navy building, leaving the president alone in his study where nearly all of his notes and utterances have been drafted.

Ukraine Appeals to President
BERNE, Switzerland, Oct. 14.—It is stated in Ukrainian circles that the governor of the Ukraine is about to send a telegram to President Wilson drawing his attention to the consequences of his program with regard to the evacuation of occupied territories. The Ukrainian cabinet, it is said, considers the Ukraine to be occupied territory and it holds that the article of the president's program regarding this question would risk the infringing of its sovereign rights.

People Throng Streets in Berlin
LONDON, Oct. 14.—Thousands of men and women in Berlin thronged to the center of the city Saturday night and waited for hours for the German reply to President Wilson, according to a Copenhagen dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company. They were waiting when the text was issued at ten o'clock.

The Vorwaerts warns the Pan-Germans, who are preparing counterattacks, to secure the continuance of the old system that they are pursuing a dangerous course and should beware of exhausting the people's patience.

SENATE DEBATES PEACE

Unconditional Surrender Is Dominant Note of Senators.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Discussion of Germany's latest note which he said was more a suggestion of negotiations than a promise to surrender.

"I approved of the president's note to Germany," he said, "because I felt that it was a diplomatic demand for an unconditional surrender. Whether Germany's reply amounts to a promise of unconditional surrender or not, I am in doubt. There should be no doubt in an armistice."

In the third of President Wilson's fourteen principles which Germany has accepted, Senator New said he saw a plan to write into the peace treaty a free trade agreement.

"I do not believe," he said, "that the American people will willingly or complacently submit to having themselves placed at a permanent and irreparable commercial disadvantage through the form of the peace agreement whenever or wherever they may be submitted."

Many resolutions and telegrams received by senators from their home states opposing any temporizing with Germany and urging unconditional surrender alone as the basis for peace were read into the record.

Among the senators presenting them were Minority Leader Lodge and Senators Townsend of Michigan and Brandegee of Connecticut.

Republican Leader Lodge today introduced a resolution to declare it the sense of the senate that no further communication be handed the German government of the subject of an armistice and that no communication with that government, except on the question of unconditional surrender.

Senator Lodge made no comment on the resolution at the time of its introduction.

Americans Will Subscribe Three Billions in 6 Days

LONDON, Oct. 14.—King George, Queen Mary and Queen Mother Alexandra yesterday received a party of twenty-five American editors at Sandringham, the estate of the royal family in Norfolk.

PEACE NOT IN SIGHT

No Armistice Without Unconditional Surrender Is Dominant Word.

LONDON, Oct. 14.—No armistice, unless accompanied by Germany's unconditional surrender, is the dominant note in the comment on the peace situation in this morning's newspapers.

"The allies will take nothing less than unconditional surrender in the field," says the Post. "Otherwise the war has been fought in vain."

"The paper sees in Germany's endeavor to open peace negotiations merely an attempt to avoid disaster, and adds:
"It is not the first time the Germans have erroneously assumed that President Wilson does not understand the people with whom he is dealing. But President Wilson knows the enemy as well as do the allies. Germany's design is to first create dissension between the United States and the allies. If Dr. Self can get the allies and America to talking he will have achieved the purpose for which he and Prince Max were appointed."

"The Chronicle contends that no peace discussion is possible without a final cessation of fighting. Under the caption 'temporary armistice inadmissible,' the paper says:
"We must insist upon such terms as will virtually disarm the Central powers. We cannot contemplate Germany withdrawing her armies intact, reconstituting them on shorter lines and then rattling the sword again at the peace conference."

"The German reply is not an acceptance of President Wilson's terms," says the Mail. "The statement that they have been accepted is not the only untruth in the German reply."
The present German peace note was formed by the same powers and minions as those who have directed every foul act that has disgraced the nation of Germany from tearing up a 'scrap of paper' to sinking of the Lusitania.

The Daily News says the German note implies that Germany accepts defeat as the verdict of the war, but expresses some doubt as to Dr. Self's representation of Germany's people instead of Germany's military rulers. The newspaper continues:
"May Provoke Jealousies."
"Germany may hope that by approaching President Wilson she was able to see the launching of jealousy among the allies. This is of great importance. We must be careful that no shadow of distrust or jealousy comes between the allies at this critical time."

"The paper shows anxiety over the question whether the allies are really in accord with President Wilson's peace principles and whether they agree with the terms he fixed for an armistice."
It continues:
"We wish a formal declaration as to an armistice by Great Britain, France and Italy, existed to place this matter beyond doubt."

It believes, however, there cannot be any practical doubt on this point and thinks that there seems to be no room for the possibility of a hitch between the allies.

Foch Must Settle Armistice.
The Telegraph points out that the