

HINDENBURG LINE IS SMASHED BY BRITISH

WELFARE WORKER REFERS TO NIGHT LIFE OF OMAHA YOUNG FOLKS AS APPALLING

Declares Too Little Attention is Paid to Curfew; No Reports Made by Volunteer Committee of Women, Which Was to Patrol the Streets to Watch Young Girls.

Mrs. Rose M. Ohaus, superintendent of the Board of Public Welfare, refers to the night life of Omaha's young people as "appalling." "Some time ago we heard of a new organization which was styled 'Society for the Betterment of Boys and Girls,' but up to date I have failed to note any betterment," was one of her comments on the situation.

"Only this week," she continued, "four girls were in police court for the first time on charges of delinquency."

CURFEW LAW IGNORED Mrs. Ohaus believes that this work should be in charge of the welfare board and regular salaried workers detailed to improve conditions. She contends that the recent 8 o'clock curfew law is not being observed to any appreciable degree.

"When this society for the betterment of boys and girls was formed we were told that the women were to be designated as special officers and would investigate chop suey parlors, hotels and other places and would at least to some extent make it harder for boys and girls to be at large at all hours of the night without proper guidance," the welfare board superintendent added.

Could Improve Conditions. Mrs. Ohaus says she is not looking for any millennium to appear out of the blue sky, but she does insist that conditions of which she speaks could and should be improved. She would like to know what the Society for the Betterment of Boys and Girls has been doing along the lines for which it was organized.

Lack Practical Work. Mrs. Ohaus believes that parents should be more watchful of the movements of their young daughters and sons after nightfall. "Guard the young people during their leisure hours and you will have to a certain extent struck a blow at the divorce evil. Start them out with higher ideals of life and warn them of the pitfalls," is her advice to parents.

Falling Scaffold Wrecks The St. Cecilia Church During the high wind yesterday, scaffolding around the aCatholic cathedral, Fortieth and Burt streets, was blown loose, falling on St. Cecilia's church, just to the south, crushing in the roof and almost completely wrecking the building.

DANISH STEAMER SUNK. London, Nov. 21.—The sinking by a German submarine of the Danish steamship Adolph Andersen, 981 tons, is reported in an Exchange Telegram.

The Weather For Nebraska—Fair.

Table with weather data for Nebraska, including temperatures at Omaha and various locations, and comparative local records.

PUSHED BACK FIVE MILES; CAPTURE 8,000 PRISONERS

HALLER TELLS OF HIS CALL BEFORE DEFENSE COUNCIL

Secrecy Maintained at Lincoln as to Result of Conference With Chairman of Board of Regents of University of Nebraska Growing Out of Statements Attributed to Him.

Mr. Haller returned to Omaha Tuesday night and was found at his office yesterday. "You want to know whether I was in conference with the Council of Defense in Lincoln yesterday? Why, of course, I was, just as your dispatch says."

"Do you feel free to say why you were called before the council?" "I know of no reason why I should not tell, as I was not enjoined to secrecy. The council wished to interview me in regard to an alleged conversation with David Cole and others who sat with me at the Young Men's Christian association dinner at the Commercial club October 25 for the purpose of inaugurating its war fund campaign, to which I pledged \$250 then and there. The information alleged that I expressed doubts as to the altruism that prompted Japan to enter the war, and that I was skeptical as to the sincerity of the friendship Japan expressed for the United States. I could not recall the exact words I had used in that table conversation—some of what was reported was doubtless correct, but part of it was incorrect, and misleading as to my sentiments. After the interrogation none of the members of the council made any comment whatever. All their questions asked merely for my version of the facts and I answered to the best of my recollection. I also told them, among other things, that I counted among my most valued acquaintances that of Baron Shibusawa, the leading statesman of Japan, who had given me a most pressing invitation to be his guest when I visit that country, as I hope and expect to do."

LATE WAR BULLETINS

GERMANS ADMIT LOSS. Berlin, Nov. 21.—(Via London.)—German reserves checked the British in the rear positions after ground had been gained by the attackers, says today's official communication. The loss is announced of Marcoing, Graincourt and portions of the permanently established works.

FRENCH ATTACK, TOO. Paris, Nov. 21.—"During the night we made several successful incursions into the German lines north and south of St. Quentin and brought back prisoners," says today's official statement. "Toward the end of the night the artillery duel became very violent in the region of Chaume wood."

TO SPARE VENICE. Paris, Nov. 21.—The Matin says that the Austrians have agreed to spare Venice, in response to an appeal from the Vatican, but that all authority must be left in the hands of the patriarch. It is certain, the newspaper adds, that Venice will not be defended in the event that a further retreat of the Italian forces becomes necessary.

Huge Tanks Lead Haig's Fighters Over Every Obstacle in Advance

British Army Headquarters in France, Tuesday, Nov. 20.—Up to the actual hour of the British attack on the Hindenburg line there were moments when great stillness reigned over the battle front and it seemed impossible that within a short time the line would be a seething caldron. At 6:20 o'clock a long line of tanks, distributed over a wide front, started forward at the same time, the British infantry on either side of the land monitors making threats at the German line. Within a few seconds the entire enemy front for a distance of many miles was flaming with variegated signals, which called frantically for help from the German gunners in the rear. Red, green, white and blue lights shot up in every direction and the rockets showered a myriad of stars down through the gloom like a mammoth display of fireworks. The dismay of the Germans was blazed across the sky as clearly in this unforgettable whirlwind of pyrotechnics as though their higher command had announced it officially. Their guns came into action—first one,

GERMAN LINE IS BROKEN AT MANY POINTS BY TANKS

Infantry Surges Behind Them and Surprises Enemy in His Dugouts, Smashing Counter Attacks.

British Army Headquarters in France, Nov. 20.—The redoubtable Hindenburg line in the Cambrai sector was broken in many places today by the great force of the British tanks, and this afternoon the infantry which followed through the gaps are still battling their way forward. The surprise attack was launched at dawn over a wide front. In the first few hours its progress was marked with evident success and up to the latest reports received at this time (4 p. m.) had been moving along regularly, according to schedule. The resistance offered by the dazed Germans this morning was negligible and by noon British pioneers already were at work laying roads across the old front line trenches, while prisoners in considerable numbers had begun to come back from various directions.

No Artillery Preparation. The casualties of the attacking forces thus far have been light. Great numbers of German dead lie before the main Hindenburg trench, where the bewildered enemy, taken unawares, made a half-hearted attempt to stem the onrushing Britons. The battle was an innovation for the western front, for it was begun without any preliminary artillery work. Upon the army tanks rested the responsibility for victory or defeat and they fulfilled all expectations. The iron giants went through the tremendous line of barbed wire entanglements in front of the main Hindenburg positions and on over the trenches as though they were on parade. The tanks started forward at 6:20 o'clock and by 11:40 the British infantry, which had swarmed into the holes made by the mighty engines, was engaging the enemy in open fighting along the Hindenburg support line back of the main defenses at many points. Up to noon today there had been no hard fighting and the German artillery fighting had been very weak. The Germans surrendered freely in numerous places and several hundred were brought in during the first few hours of fighting. Counter Attacks Checked. Two attempted counter attacks were smashed by the British infantry in the early hours, one in a tunnel trench near Bullecourt, the other at Havrincourt park, where one company of Germans essayed an advance. The tanks this afternoon, followed by infantry, were continuing their journey into enemy territory. Prisoners admit ruefully that the attack was a surprise to them and (Continued on Page Two, Column One.)

BRITONS ASSERT U.S. IN THIS WAR TO PROTECT SELF

Comment in London Regarding Motive of Entrance of American Fighting Men; Germans Take Another View.

London, Nov. 21.—The Anglo-American war conference yesterday in Downing street is featured by the morning newspapers and is commented upon as an event of the highest importance. While Premier Lloyd George's statement on the needs of the allies receives attention, the point also is made that it is necessary for the allies to remember that the United States is not in the war solely or mainly for their benefit. Thus, the Post says: "Americans are business men. Americans know as well as we that they are in the war to protect themselves from a danger which seriously menaced them. They are business men over here strictly on business."

"The United States did not join the belligerents to save France or help Great Britain," says the Daily Express. "She is fighting the Germany of Kaiser William for exactly the same reason that she fought the England of Lord North. Her individual and national freedom is at stake."

Bulwark of Confidence. The Daily News, on the other hand, dwells on the advent of the United States as a "bulwark of confidence" for the allies and says it has changed the character of the war and placed the issue beyond doubt. Following out this review, it says that "if in the closing phases of the war she is the commanding figure, we shall have no envy and no regrets."

Amsterdam, Nov. 21.—Commenting on President Wilson's dispatch to Colonel House regarding unity of plan and control among the nations at war with Germany, the socialist organ, Vorwarts, of Berlin, says it is odd that "America, which supposedly is crusading against autocracy, should put the thumb-screw on the democratic states of western Europe by insisting on a joint war council."

The Vorwarts, like other German newspapers, gloats over what it calls England's growing political dependence on America.

German Subs Sink 17 British Merchantmen

London, Nov. 21.—Seventeen British merchantmen were sunk by mines or submarines last week, according to the weekly admiralty issued by the British admiralty. Of these 10 were vessels of 1,600 tons and over and seven of less than 1,600 tons.

BRITISH SPRING SURPRISE, BREAK HINDENBURG LINE; TAKE PERMANENT DEFENSES

Third Army Makes Sudden Advance, and Drives Germans Back Five Miles on a Front Extending 32 Miles, Taking Many Prisoners; Tanks Precede Infantry.

British Army Headquarters in France, Nov. 20.—The redoubtable Hindenburg line in the Cambrai sector was broken in many places today by the great force of the British tanks, and this afternoon the infantry which followed through the gaps are still battling their way forward. The surprise attack was launched at dawn over a wide front. In the first few hours its progress was marked with evident success and up to the latest reports received at this time (4 p. m.) had been moving along regularly, according to schedule. The resistance offered by the dazed Germans this morning was negligible and by noon British pioneers already were at work laying roads across the old front line trenches, while prisoners in considerable numbers had begun to come back from various directions.

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AUTO BANDITS ROB TWIN CITY JEWELRY STORE; GET \$50,000

Minneapolis, Minn., Nov. 21.—Three automobile bandits stepped into a jewelry store on the principal downtown street here today, drove three clerks into a back room, forced another clerk to open the safe, and escaped with diamonds and other gems valued at between \$45,000 and \$50,000, according to the estimate of the proprietor, H. H. Green.

More Rioting in Moscow; Cossacks Moving on City

Washington, Nov. 21.—Swedish press reports on the situation in Russia received today said General Kaledines with an army of Cossacks was moving against Moscow, where 8,000 persons were reported to have been killed in riots. The State department has no official information to confirm the reports.

Hungary's War Bill Is Now \$3,200,000,000

Budapest, Hungary, Nov. 21.—Introducing in the Hungarian lower house the budget for 1917-1918, Premier Wekerle said the war expenditure up to the present was 16,000,000,000 kroner (\$3,200,000,000 in United States money), of which amount 12,000,000,000 kroner was covered by loans. Interest on the whole state debt, he said, was 1,030,000,000 kroner yearly. The premier said he estimated the receipts at 3,468,000,000 kroner and the expenditures at 3,442,670,000, thus leaving a surplus of 26,230,000 kroner.

The premier expressed confidence that the resources of the country would secure the soundness of the budget.

BULLETINS

British Army Headquarters in France, Nov. 21.—The Germans are fighting on their last line of defense at one point of the British attack.

EIGHT THOUSAND PRISONERS TAKEN. London, Nov. 21.—Andrew Bonar Law, announced this evening in the House of Commons that 8,000 prisoners, including 180 officers have been taken by the British in their present operations. At one point the British penetrated five miles behind the German lines and several villages in addition to those already announced have been taken, Mr. Bonar Law said. MANY GUNS REPORTED CAPTURED. (By Associated Press.) Field Marshal Haig has sprung a surprise on the Germans in northern France, attacking suddenly on a front of more than 30 miles and breaking the famous Hindenburg line to a maximum depth of nearly five miles. British troops are still fighting their way forward in the most spectacular offensive of the war on the western front since the trench lines were established. Nearly a score of guns are reported to have been captured. The British are pushing on toward Cantaing, three miles southwest of Cambrai. Northwest of Marcoing the high ground known as Premy Chappelle has been fought over and the Germans have been forced to withdraw.

HINDENBURG LINE IS BROKEN. The Hindenburg line has been broken to a depth of four to five miles, the war office announces. The British troops stormed the first system of the Hindenburg line defenses on the whole front between St. Quentin and the Scarpe river. From St. Quentin to the Scarpe is 32 miles. The British infantry and tanks pressed on and captured the second system of defenses, over a mile beyond. The attack was begun yesterday by the Third army. There was no artillery preparation and the Germans were taken completely by surprise. The second system of German defenses captured by the British is known as the Hindenburg support line. The British captured Benavils, Lambeau wood, La Vaquerie, the defenses known as Welsh ridge and Ribecourt village. Their operations are continuing. The British also fought their way through Couillet wood. Lieutenant General Sir Julian Byng is in command of the attacking army. WHOLE GERMAN LINE CAPTURED. The whole German line west of the Canal Du Nord to the Bapaume-Cambrai road has been captured. The towns of Havrincourt, Marcoing, Graincourt and Anneux and Neuf wood have been captured by the British. A large number of tanks moved forward in advance of the infantry when the attack was opened and broke through successive belts of German wire defenses, which were of great depth and strength. Haig's troops pressed on until at Marcoing and at Anneux, on the Bapaume-Cambrai road, they were only three and three-quarter miles from Cambrai, the important German base and important railway junction, which apparently is the British objective. Several thousand prisoners have been taken by the British, as well as large quantities of war materiel. The attack was carried out in unfavorable atmospheric conditions and the weather has since grown stormy. 8,000 PRISONERS TAKEN. The number of prisoners taken thus far by the British is given at about 8,000 in a Reuter dispatch filed today at British headquarters. Details of the continuation of the storm on the British battle front, the British troops and tanks were still pushing forward today, Reuter's correspondent at headquarters reports. BRITISH OFFICIAL STATEMENT. London, Nov. 21.—The announcement follows: "Yesterday morning the Third army, under command of General Hon. Sir Julian Byng, delivered a number of attacks between St. Quentin and the river Scarpe. These attacks were carried out without previous artillery preparation and in each case the enemy was completely surprised. "Our troops have broken into the enemy's positions to a depth of between four and five miles on a wide front and have captured several thousand prisoners, with a number of guns. Our operations are continuing. "At the hour of assault on the principal front of attack a large number of tanks moved forward in advance of the infantry and broke through successive belts of German wire, which were of great depth and strength. "Following through the gaps made by the tanks English, Scottish and Irish regiments swept over the enemy's outposts and stormed the first defensive system of the Hindenburg line on the whole front. "Our infantry and tanks then swept on in accordance with the program and captured the German second system of defense, more than a mile beyond. This latter is known as the Hindenburg support line. "In the course of this advance East county troops took the hamlet of Benavils and Latau wood after stiff fighting. "Formidable rifle regiments and light infantry captured La Vaquerie and the formidable defense on the spur known as Welsh ridge. Other English county troops stormed the village of Ribecourt and fought their way through Couillet wood. "Highland territorial battalions crossed the Grand ravine and entered Fleusquieres, where fierce fighting took place. The West Riding territorials captured Havrincourt and the German trench systems north of the village, while the Ulster battalions, covering the latter's left flank, moved northward up the west bank of the Canal Du Nord. "Later in the morning our advance was continued and rapid progress was made at all points. English, Scottish, Irish and Welsh battalions secured the crossings on the canal at Masnieres and captured Marcoing and Neuf wood. "The West Riding troops, who had taken Havrincourt, made remarkable progress east of the Canal Du Nord, storming the villages of Graincourt and Anneux, and, with the Ulster troops operating to the west of the canal, carried the whole German line northward to the Bapaume-Cambrai road. "West Lancashire territorials broke into the enemy's positions east of Epehy and Irish troops have captured important sections of the Hindenburg line between Bullecourt and Fontaine les Croisilles. "The number of prisoners, guns and materiel captured cannot yet be estimated. "The spell of fine, dull weather which favored our preparations for our attacks broke early yesterday, a heavy rain fell during the night and the weather is now stormy."