



HUNS' BIG BLOW FAILS; ALLIES TURN WAR TIDE

FOCH POISES FOR OFFENSIVE STRIKE WITH FRESH ARMY

Supreme Commander May Throw Vast Numbers Into Fray Against Germany While Enemy Pauses From Fatigue and to Bury Its Dead Soldiers Who Cover Ground.

By Associated Press.

Again there has come a pause in the battle of Flanders, where the ground everywhere is covered with the gray-clad bodies of German dead, and the British and French are holding securely to all their positions.

While the present halt in the battle possibly may indicate the near approach of the throwing into the fray of the great reserve army which General Foch has gathered, that such is the intention of the supreme commander of the allied forces has not become apparent.

DRIVEN FROM LOCRE.

From Saturday until well into Monday night General Von Arnim's forces continued their efforts to break the British lines on the Ypres salient and to press back the British and French from the high ground to the southwest, but everywhere their efforts were fruitless.

Omaha Climbs to \$6,502,250, Which Is 127.9 Per Cent in Campaign Quota; Other Cities Oversubscribed.

GERMANS LOSE SNAP.

Much of the snap of the German attacking forces has been absent from the maneuvers they have been carrying out in Flanders under the stiffened line of the entente troops which has been apparent since last Sunday.

Allied Guns Active.

The Germans on various sectors of the line are still hurling tons of steel against the British and French positions, but the allied guns are everywhere answering them in kind.

Irish Home Rule Bill Is Held Up by Committee

London, April 30.—The introduction of the home rule bill in the House of Commons, which had been postponed by the drafting committee not having completed its task.

The Weather

For Nebraska and South Dakota—Fair Wednesday, warmer in east portion; Thursday fair and cooler.

Table with weather data: Comparative Local Record, Highest temperature, Lowest temperature, etc.

Table with weather data: Reports from stations at 7 P. M., Wind, Clouds, etc.

NATION NOW LEARNS WAR, SAYS SOMERS

Commander-in-Chief Grand Army of Republic Says Country Must Stand United in Hour of Peril.

General O. A. Somers, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, scored pacifism and endorsed American militarism in a speech before the Omaha posts of war veterans in the court house last night.

For 50 years we have been fed on pacifism. We have heard 16-to-1-tongued orators win over this country.



ORLANDO A. SOMERS

I'm not so sure but at the last election we voted pacifism in the slogan, 'He kept us out of war!'

"Then came a time when we had to fight or see our flag insulted and dragged in the dirt. And we entered the war. And we are not ready for it. We are just now preparing. It will cost thousands of American lives to repay for our orgy of pacifism.

Learning War Now.

"If we had been prepared, we would be ready to go to it. What does the president, or the secretary of war or any of his cabinet know about war? They have to learn it. They realize this now and are making rapid progress as a result.

Must Stand Together.

"We are waking up. For years the grand army was the only spark of patriotism left in this country. When war was declared we remembered England's many intrigues against us and we didn't care very much whether Germany took a slap at her or not. But we are allies now, and we must fight hard and fight together."

Reverting to grand army affairs, General Somers said that while in Washington, he had obtained a one cent rate on the railroads to national grand army encampments from Secretary McAdoo.

The general urged recruiting the ranks of the Grand Army, saying that two of every three veterans still were outside the order. John C. Cowin presided.

Wanted--5,000 More Doctors for Immediate Enlistment in Army

Chicago, April 30.—Fifty physicians, representing the state medical societies of the nation, with an enrollment of 150,000 practicing physicians and surgeons, met today at the headquarters of the American Medical society to plan to meet the call of the army and navy for the immediate enrollment of 5,000 doctors in the medical reserve corps.

A survey of the medical men of the country is planned and a questionnaire will be sent to all members of the association, which will give the officers the data necessary for arranging for a voluntary enlistment.

Dr. Thomas McDavitt of St. Paul, Minn., president of the trustees of the American Medical association, presided.

LUDEENDORFF'S MASTER DASH TO REACH ENGLISH CHANNEL COMES TO DISASTROUS HALT

By ARTHUR S. DRAPER.

London, April 30.—Ludendorff's campaign to gain the channel ports and crush the British army has come to a sudden halt on the front at Ypres. After a long series of successes the Germans have suffered a heavy reverse just when it seemed that they were about to grab the big prize of Ypres, with its sentimental associations and tactical advantages.

The French and General Plummer's battle-trying veterans fell back, but rallied, and for a moment at least they form a barrier which Ludendorff cannot surmount.

GERMANY'S DISMAL FAILURE.

The enemy's gigantic effort to take Ypres and to pierce Mount Rouge and Scherpenberg, the eastern buttresses of the Flanders heights, failed dismally, and if the kaiser from Wyttschaete looked down on the later stage of his battle he saw his hosts cut up and thrown out of the positions they had reached in their first great onrush.

With the exception of the reverse on the front at Arras in the first phase of the battle of Picardy, Ludendorff has met no failure comparable to that which he suffered on Monday south of Ypres. From the allied point of view, the situation is highly encouraging, because it is known that the enemy employed big forces and that his howitzers and machine guns were working in perfect unison.

GERMAN LOSSES RUN HIGH.

The enemy's blow proved to be abortive because the allied defense worked better than it has done hitherto in the northern campaign.

The German losses ran exceedingly high and today the fighting slowed down materially.

The village of Loere, at the foot of Mount Rouge, changed hands four times, but now the French hold it entirely. At one moment Von Quast's troops swarmed through Loere and up the southern slopes of Mount Rouge, but the French veterans came back with a rebound that swept the enemy back to his former position.

The situation seemed decidedly gloomy in the morning, but as the day advanced it improved and the enemy could not hold the wedge he had driven in south of Zillebeke lake. However, it would be unwise to build hopes too high on the developments of a single day. The Germans are deeply involved in the Ypres campaign and the check is hardly likely to discourage them.

MICHIGAN BOARDS WATER WAGON FOR AN EXTENDED TRIP

Detroit, April 30.—Michigan joined the ranks of the "dry" states at midnight tonight. At that hour the constitutional amendment adopted by the voters 18 months ago, became operative and affected 3,285 saloons in the state.

The prohibition law is regarded as one of the most rigid ever drafted, its terms permitting the manufacture, sale or importation of alcohol beverages only for medicinal, mechanical and sacramental purposes and even limiting to a very small quantity the amount that may be purchased on a physician's prescription.

Concord, N. H., April 30.—More than 500 bars went out of business tonight and the state became "dry" for the first time in fifteen years.

Dakota Banker Taken; Said to Be Wanted Here

Ogden, Utah, April 30.—H. C. Hookstra, said to be a former bank cashier of Herrick, S. D., and wanted in Omaha on a charge of defrauding a bank there of \$1,000, was arrested here today by operatives of a detective agency. The detectives said they have trailed Hookstra from South Dakota, north and south from Canada to Mexico, and inland from the Pacific coast to this city. He will be taken to Omaha to face the charge. Hookstra claims he is a victim of wrong identity.

Local police last night said they had no information of any charge against Hookstra in Omaha.

Teacher Held as Enemy Alien.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., April 30.—Miss Agathe Wilhelmina Richrath, instructor of German at Vassar college, was tonight taken into custody by federal agents charged with circulating pro-German propaganda.

"SHELLPROOF MACK'S" Gripping Story of Trench Fighting is continued on Page Seven of The Bee Today.

FRENCH HURL BACK ENEMY IN SMASH AGAINST FLANDERS

Germany Throws Thirty Fresh Battalions of Reserves Into Battle Without Avail In Most Critical Moment On Western Front; Lost Ground Is Retaken By Allies.

By Associated Press.

British Headquarters in France, April 30.—French forces this morning held the whole of the town of Loere, west of Kemmel, including the hotly contested hospice. The allied line also made some progress, slightly improving the position around Villiers-Bretonneux.

Yesterdays' attack was the biggest effort the Germans have yet made in the Flanders offensive, the enemy employing about 30 fresh battalions of reserves, in addition to the large number of divisions in position at the beginning of the battle.

SMALL FORCES WIN.

A satisfactory feature of the struggle is that the British and French employed relatively small forces to defeat the enemy.

At one point the French were forced to yield a little ground, but supports promptly arrived and drove back the Germans.

By 11:30 o'clock in the morning the Germans had forced their way through near Loere as far as Hyde Park corner, between Scherpenberg and Mont Douge. This was one of the critical moments of the day, but the French counter attacked fiercely and an hour later had pressed back the enemy on the flank and held him in the center.

RETAKE LOST GROUND.

By 3 o'clock the French were holding the ground east of Kenderick farm and Loere chateau, and also part of Loere village on the southern slope of Scherpenberg.

Thenceforth, the position became steadily more satisfactory and by 5:30 the French had retaken all the lost ground except a narrow strip at Hyde Park corner.

Further desperate smashes by von Arnim's army against the allied lines on the Flanders battle field yesterday afternoon and evening met with no more success than the enemy's futile and costly attempts earlier in the day to break through and capture the hill positions west of Kemmel.

Allies Hold Firm.

Not only did the British and French maintain their positions at virtually all parts in the face of furious onslaughts; but during the night they reclaimed several bits of territory on which the enemy had succeeded in getting a hold.

Loere had again fallen into German hands late yesterday, but the French once more made a dashing counter drive, and thrust the enemy out of this important place.

The allies lines in Flanders this morning were to all intents the same as when the Germans surged forward yesterday and in front of the defending positions gray uniformed men lay in great numbers, representing the awful price paid by the Germans.

German Wedge Falls.

North of Kemmel, the British and French, countering in conjunction, also pushed forward somewhat during the night and bettered their positions. At one time yesterday the Germans actually had some men on the lower slopes of both Mont Rouge and the Scherpenberg, after they succeeded in driving a small wedge into the French line between these two elevations.

Fierce fighting continued about Loere all day, and the enemy sacrificed great numbers of men in an attempt to push through here.

In the meantime the flanks were holding brilliantly against successive shocks. A particularly bitter battle was waged astride the Kemmel-La Cloytte highway, near the junction of the French and British. Here the enemy tried his favorite trick of trying to divide the two forces.

Germans Lose Heavily.

At Ridgewood, west of Voormezele, heavy fighting also continued throughout the day, the Germans losing great numbers of men, both killed and wounded. It is impossible to say how many attacks the enemy made at this point during the course of the day; they came forward in waves throughout long hours.

There was no cessation of the terrible battle. The wonder is that the allied troops were able to hold in the face of such onslaughts by superior numbers.

The German artillery which had been greatly augmented for this attack pounded the back areas incessantly, and the duel between the opposing guns of all calibers from Saturday evening until last night was appalling.

The British improved their position slightly before Villiers-Bretonneux. The enemy artillery was very active in this region and the enemy guns were increasingly busy from Vimy northward.

Thus far the German capture of Kemmel has done them little good, for the allied artillery has kept the crest of the hill so smothered with shell fire that it has been impossible for the enemy to occupy it in force.

OMAHA BECOMES HEADQUARTERS OF W. U. DIVISION

Seven States and Hundreds of Cities Now Under Jurisdiction of Office in This City.

Omaha today becomes headquarters for the new central division of the Western Union Telegraph company.

The new division, which embraces three districts, makes Omaha headquarters of seven states, Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota.

Cities like St. Louis, Kansas City, St. Paul and Minneapolis will be under the jurisdiction of the Omaha Western Union offices.

Enlarge Present Headquarters.

Two more floors and probably three will be added to the big Western Union headquarters in the Woodmen of the World building.

Among the new officials with offices in Omaha division headquarters are a general auditor, superintendent of traffic, superintendent of plants and commercial superintendent.

A. D. Bradley has been appointed general manager of the central division, with headquarters in Omaha, which makes him ranking official of the Western Union in the seven states and the hundreds of cities in this part of the country.

Former District Headquarters.

Heretofore Omaha was a district headquarters, taking its orders from the western division, of which Chicago was headquarters.

Effective today Chicago becomes headquarters of the Lake division, which comprises the states of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. A. C. Cronkrite has been appointed general manager of the Lake division, with headquarters at Chicago.

The central division has been districted as follows: First District—Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota; J. C. Nelson, superintendent, Minneapolis.

Second District—Iowa and Nebraska; W. T. Davis, superintendent, Omaha.

Third District—Missouri and Kansas—C. W. Mitchell, superintendent, St. Louis.

C. H. Gaunt Resigns.

The resignation of C. H. Gaunt as general manager of the former western division takes effect today.

The announcement of the new division plan of the Western Union comes from J. C. Willever, vice president in charge of the commercial department, and is approved by Newcomb Carlton, president.

One Year Since Nebraska Hung Crepe on Old John Barleycorn

'Tis a quiet night, Sarg," a veteran taxi driver greeted a passing police sergeant.

"Nothing like a year ago," mused the sergeant, halting from his nightly vigil.

"Seltzer and chocolate sundae cannot put the pep into night life that we had when the gin mills were in operation," he continued. "One year ago tonight we had 10 patrols and three doctors on hand to take care of drunks and fighters and tonight it is quiet as a graveyard. And we had an extremely quiet night, due to the saloons selling out early."

The two veterans of Omaha in its olden days chatted on, relating incidents of revelry that passed when crepe was hung on the door of John Barleycorn. An old bartender en route home stopped, and after joining in the conversation for a short time in a choked voice said:

"Come on in boys, and have a drink on me."

With an ice cream soda in hand the old timers solemnly drank to "The first birthday of prohibition, and may we have many more of them."