TEUTONS ATTACK FRENCH POSITIONS IN ALSACE AND LORRAINE

Enemy Sustained Severe Losses and Failed to Gain Territory in Either Lorraine or in Upper Alsace.

A despatch from London says:—The long-expected attacks by the Germans against the French lines in Alsace-Lorraine were delivered on Thursday. Although they did not reach the dimensions of a general offensive, the French War Office describes them as "serious" and "powerful." In the Lorraine attack, which was direct d against the trenches north of Reillions, and which completely failed, the Germans left numerous dead on the ground. In Upper Alsace positions south-west of Altkirch were attacked, but met with no success.

GERMANS GAIN UNDER COVER OF FOG

Succeed in Taking Advance Post East of Messines.

A despatch from London says:—The official report from Field-Marshal Haig's headquarters Thursday night, reads:

"The enemy raided one of our posts early Thursday morning, north-east of Hargicourt, and Thursday afternoon, under cover of fog, succeeded in capturing one of our advanced posts east of Messines. Other hostile raiding parties attempted to approach our lines during the day north-east of Armentieres and north of the Menin Road, but were driven off by our fire. We captured a few prisoners and a machine gun. A few prisoners were taken and many casualties inflicted on the enemy in the course of patrol encounters Wednesday night south-east of Cambrai. Our own and the enemy's artillery was active on Thursday.

"A raid attempted by the enemy last night south-east of Lavontie (north of Arras) was repulsed by Portuguese troops. Except for hostile artillery activity in the neighborhood of Passchendaele, there is nothing further to report."

SILK WORM OF THE SEA.

Spins a Thread To Fasten Itself To a Rock.

Plenty of worms live in the sea, and some of them are very beautiful creatures. Which latter fact ought to be consoling to ourselves, inasmuch as there are naturalists who contend that the earliest ancestor of the human race was a marine worm.

But the so-called "silkworm of the sea," the designation, being purely figurative and poetical—is a bivalve mollusk properly known as the "pinna" and native to the Mediterranean. It spins a silk so beautiful that in ancient days the fibre was reserved exclusively for the weaving of royal garments.

This silk is spun by the mollusk to furnish an anchor-line by which it fastens itself to a convenient rock. It is extremely fine and very strong. Cleaned, dried and passed through combs, it is reduced to delicate threads of a lustrous brownish-yellow hue, which are woven into gloves, stockings and other articles. A pair of stockings of this material to-day costs $6.

FULFILMENT OF PROPHECY CONCERNING JERUSALEM.

A despatch from Jerusalem says: The capture of Jerusalem has led to the discussion of a remarkable prophecy uttered when the Kaiser made his theatrical entry into the city on a white charger, dressed to look as much like a crusader as possible. It was said then, according to an ancient prophecy, that the liberator of Jerusalem would enter it, not on horseback, but afoot, and would represent Allah and God.

Now that Gen. Allenby has entered Jerusalem afoot, his name with very little straining, combines those of Allah and "Nebby," which means God in the Islamic tongue. The discovery has given the necessary touch of fatalism to his victory to make it more impressive than ever to Eastern minds.

GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS AT HEAD OF A GREAT ARMY

A despatch from London says:—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Hapazanda reports that Kerensky with an army is now marching against Moscow, while Grand Duke Nicholas has gathered a great army of Royalists in the Caucasus.

HOLY CITY SACKED BY TURKS

Famous Treasure of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre Stolen.

A despatch from Washington, D.C., says: An official despatch received here from France says that the Turks before surrendering Jerusalem to the British brutally mistreated Christian priests, carried off the famous treasure of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, valued at millions of dollars, and sent to Berlin the church's celebrated ostensory of brilliants.

Monsignor Camassei, the Patriarch of Jerusalem, is said to have been deposed from his office, and Father Piccardo, an Italian priest, to have died from the effects of Turkish brutalities.

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre had remained unmolested heretofore during all the centuries of Moslem occupation of Jerusalem.

The same despatch told of indignation among Mussulmans of Asia Minor over the action of a German general in establishing staff headquarters in the great mosque of the City of Aleppo, near the Syrian border.

$50,000 FOR HALIFAX SENT BY HONG KONG.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Further evidences of practical sympathy with the Halifax sufferers are to hand. The Governor-General has received a cablegram from Walter Long, Secretary for the Colonies, stating that Hong Kong had given ten thousand pounds "with expressions of deep sympathy of the colony in the terrible disaster which has befallen them."

The Governor-General has also received a cablegram from the Governor of British Guiana that the combined court there has voted five thousand dollars in aid of the sufferers. The cablegram adds: "The people of British Guiana have heard with greatest concern of disaster which has befallen Halifax and desire to convey their sympathy."

A despatch from Kingston, Jamaica, says: The Island Council has voted £19,000 for the relief of the sufferers from the recent hurricane in Jamaica and £1,000 for that of the survivors of the Halifax disaster.

Their Excellencies, the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire have left on a special train for Halifax, where they will visit the hospitals and take steps to help the sufferers in the city of the great disaster.

ALLIES TO TAKE SURPLUS CANADIAN FLOUR AND MEAL

A despatch from Calgary says: It is learned that the purchasing representatives of the allied Governments have arranged to take all the surplus flour and oatmeal manufactured by the mills of Canada, and that already every mill in the Dominion is working to capacity and will continue to do so until the war is over.

The Calgary mills are grinding night and day, and the surplus, above Canada's requirements apportioned to those plants is being turned over to the purchasing agents for the allied Governments by the managements in the East.

American Potash.

The production of potash in the United States is rapidly increasing, according to figures given out by the United States Geological Survey. The production of 1917, it is stated, will probably be in excess of 25,000 tons, or two and a half times that of 1916. But this is only 10 per cent. of the average normal yearly consumption of the country. Before the war potash could be bought for $40 a ton, but since its importation from Germany ceased it has risen to $450 a ton.

Incident in the Halifax Tragedy.

Two sailors digging for bodies, the one on the left looking for the remains of his wife and two children which he finally found.

LEADING MARKETS

Breadstuffs

Toronto, Dec. 24—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, $2.23½; No. 2, do., $2.20½; No. 3, do., $2.17½; No. 4 wheat, $2.10½, in store Fort William, including 2½c tax.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 80c; No. 3 C.W., 76½c; No. 1 extra feed, 76½c; No. 1 feed, 73½c, in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, nominal.

Ontario oats—No. 2, white, 77 to 78c, nominal; No. 3, do., 76 to 77c, nominal, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—New, No. 2 Winter, $2.22, basis, in store Montreal.

Peas—No. 2, $3.70 to $3.80, according to freights outside.

Barley—Malting, $1.29 to $1.30, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—$1.50 to $1.55, according to freights outside.

Rye—No. 2, $1.78, according to freights outside.

Manitoba flour—First patents, in jute bags, $11.50; 2nd, do., $11; strong bakers', do., $10.60, Toronto.

Ontario flour—Winter, according to sample, $9.35, in bags, Montreal; $9.75, Toronto; $9.70 bulk, seaboard, prompt shipment.

Millfeed—Car lots, delivered Montreal freights, bags included—Bran, per ton, $35; shorts, do., $40; middlings, do., $45 to $46; good feed flour, per bag, $2.25.

Hay—No. 1, new, per ton, $15.50 to $16.50; mixed, do., $13 to $15, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, per ton, $8 to $9.50.

Country Produce—Wholesale

Butter—Creamery, solids, per lb., 42½ to 43c; prints, per lb., 43 to 43½c; dairy, per lb., 34 to 36c.

Eggs—Fresh gathered eggs, 48 to 50c.

Poultry—Turkeys, dressed, lb., 28 to 30c; geese, dressed, lb., 19 to 21c.

Potatoes—Wholesalers are paying growers and country shippers $1.75 for first-class stock, f.o.b., outside points.

Wholesalers are selling to the retail trade at the following prices:—

Cheese—New, large, 23 to 23½c; twins, 23½ to 23¾c; early cheese, 25½ to 26c; large twin, 26 to 26½c.

Butter—Fresh dairy, choice, 40 to 41c; creamery prints, 45 to 46c; solids, 44 to 45c.

Margarine—32c lb.

Eggs—New laid, in cartons, 60 to 65c; No. 1 storage, 43 to 44c; select storage, 47 to 48c.

Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 27 to 28c; milk-fed chickens, lb., 30c; fowl, 22 to 25c; squabs, per doz., $4 to $4.50; turkeys, 35c; ducks, Spring, 25 to 27c; geese, 24c.

Live poultry—Turkeys, 25c; Spring chickens, lb., 29c; hens, 16 to 20c; ducks, Spring, 20 to 22c; geese, 18c.

Honey—Comb—Extra fancy, 16 oz., $3.50; 12 oz., $3; No. 2, $2.40 to $2.50. Strained—Tins, 2's and 5's, 19 to 19½c per lb; 10's, 18½ to 19c; 60's, 18 to 18½c.

Beans—Canadian, hand-picked, bush., $7 to $8; imported hand-picked, $6.50 to $7; Limas, 17 to 17½c.

Provisions—Wholesale

Smoked meats—Hams, medium, 30 to 31c; do., heavy, 26 to 27c; cooked, 41 to 42c; rolls, 27 to 28c; breakfast bacon, 38 to 42c; backs, plain, 40, to 41c; boneless, 43 to 44c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 27½ to 28c lb; clear bellies, 26½ to 27c.

Lard—Pure lard, tierces, 29½ to 29½c; tubs, 29½ to 29¾c; pails, 30 to 30½c; compound, tierces, 24½ to 25c; tubs, 24½ to 25½c; pails, 25 to 25½c.

Montreal Markets

Montreal, Dec. 24—Oats—Canadian Western, No. 3, 81½c; extra No. 1 feed, 80½c; No. 2 local white, 84c; No. 3, do., 82c. Flour—Manitoba Spring wheat patents, firsts, $11.60; seconds, $11.10; strong bakers', $10.90; straight rollers, bags, $5.20 to $5.35. Rolled oats—Bag of 90 lbs., $5.30. Millfeed—Bran, $35; shorts, $40 to $42; middlings, $48 to $50; moullie, $56 to $58. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, $15.50. Cheese—Finest westerns, 21½c; do., easterns, 21½c. Butter—Choicest creamery, 42½ to 43c; seconds, 41½ to 42c. Eggs—Fresh, 54 to 55c; selected, 45c; No. 1 stock, 41c; No. 2, do., 37 to 38c. Potatoes—Per bag, car lots, $1.90 to $2.

Winnipeg Grain

Winnipeg, Dec. 24—Cash quotations—Oats—No. 2 C.W., 80c; No. 3 C.W., 76½c; extra No. 1 feed, 76½c; No. 1 feed, 73½c; No. 2 feed, 70½c. Barley—No. 3, C.W., $1.34; No. 4 C.W., $1.29; rejected and feed, $1.16. Flax—No. 1 N.W.C., $3.11½; No. 2 C.W., $3.06½; No. 3 C.W., $2.89½.

United States Markets

Minneapolis, Dec. 24—Corn—No. 3 yellow, $1.60 to $1.65. Oats—No. 3 white, 75½ to 76½c. Flour unchanged. Bran, $40 to $40.50.

Live Stock Markets

Toronto, Dec. 24—Extra choice heavy steers, $11.25 to $12; do., good heavy, $10.75 to $11; butchers' cattle, choice, $10.50 to $10.75; do., good, $9.60 to $10; do., medium, $9 to $9.25; do., common, $8.25 to $8.50; butchers' bulls, choice, $9 to $10; do., good bulls, $8 to $8.25; do., medium bulls, $7.10 to $7.35; do., rough bulls, $5.25 to $6.25; butchers' cows, choice, $9.50 to $10; do., good $8.50 to $9; do., medium, $7.75 to $8; stockers, $7.25 to $8.75; feeders, $9.25 to $10; canners and cutters, $5.15 to $6.50; milkers, good to choice, $95 to $140; do., com. and med., $75 to $90; springers, $90 to $130; light ewes, $12 to $14; sheep, heavy, $8 to $7.75; yearlings, $12.25 to $13.25; lambs, $17.25 to $18.25; calves, good to choice, $13.50 to $16.25; hogs, fed and watered, $18; do., weighed off cars, $18.25; do., f.o.b., $17.

To Women.

I wish I could say something to you to make you realize your worth, and the high price you ought to set on yourself. Do you know you are the one thing in the world the man wants most of all? He may give his time and labor and money for other things, but for you he will give his soul.

$5,000,000 FOR HALIFAX RELIEF

Dominion Government Appropriation For Sufferers From Explosion.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The Government has decided to vote $5,000,000 for relief of the Halifax sufferers. This includes the appropriation of $1,000,000 already made. Announcement of the Government's intention was contained in a statement issued by Sir Robert Borden on Thursday night, which reads:

"Including the million dollars already appropriated for immediate aid to those who have suffered from the recent appalling disaster at Halifax, the Government intend to make a total contribution of five million dollars. As the calamity was the result of conditions arising out of the war, it is felt that a special duty rests upon the Government to afford immediate aid in this large measure."

Brazilian Government has decided to send the six best units of the Brazilian Navy to European waters.

Hold Them Italy!—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

VAIN ATTACK BY TEUTONS

Enemy Forces Repulsed by the Allies on Italian Front.

A despatch from Rome says: Complete repulse of Wednesday's attack by the Austro-German forces, which was delivered on the Tasson-el Del Orso front, between the Brenta and the Piave, was announced by the War Office on Thursday. The enemy suffered heavy losses.

New attempts by the enemy to cross the Piave Vecchia were frustrated.

The place where the enemy gained a foothold, on the west bank of the old Piave, and was driven back to the water's edge, is the nearest point he has approached to Venice, but this is not regarded as a serious menace to the city, as the remaining stretch is a marsh of lagoons, and the occupied point is within range of the warships off the mouth of the river.

TO CROSS ATLANTIC IN 1918

Famous French Aviator Perfecting Plans for Contemplated Flight.

A despatch from London says: The Daily Sketch of Paris says that Jean Navarre, the famous French airman, now out of the army, is busy perfecting plans for a flight across the Atlantic. The announcement is made that Navarre will most probably set out to conquer the ocean next summer.

All the preliminary arrangements for the flight have been completed. Navarre will use one of the machines which the American expert, Glenn Curtiss, has been working on for some time. Navarre says he will succeed or lose his life in the attempt.

FOOD CRISIS IN GREAT BRITAIN

Both Rich and Poor Obliged to Stand in Line For Necessities.

A despatch from London says: The food question in Britain is rapidly approaching a crisis. The fourth winter of the war finds the public rich and poor alike, driven to stand for long hours to secure daily necessities such as tea, butter, margarine and sugar, of which the minutest portion is doled out to each customer, regardless of the size of the family or actual needs.

This condition exists in nearly every large city of the country and it is worse in London, where the situation is so serious and public opinion has risen to such a pitch that prompt official action to relieve the situation has been promised and it will soon be forthcoming.

To Youth After Pain.

What if this year has given
Grief that some year must bring?
What if it hurt your joyous youth,
Crippled your laughter's wing?
You always knew it was coming,
Coming to all, to you,
They always said there was suffering—
Now it is borne, come through.

Even if you have blundered,
Even if you have sinned,
Still is the steadfast arch of the sky
And the healing veil of the wind.
And after only a little,
A little of shame and pain,
You shall have the veil of your own old dreams
Wrapping your heart again.

Only, your heart can pity
Now where it laughed and passed.
Now you can bend to comfort men,
One with them all at last;
You shall have back your laughter,
You shall have back your song;
Only, the world is your brother now;
Only, your soul is strong.

—Margaret Widdemer.

Carrot Soup.

Heat one cup of milk, or milk and white stock, add three-fourths of a cup of finely chopped carrots, one tablespoonful of butter, one-fourth of a teaspoonful of salt and one-eighth of a teaspoonful of pepper. Cook in a double boiler.

The Doings of the Duffs.