

GALLANT ITALIAN TROOPS CHECK AUSTRO-GERMAN INVADERS

Frustrate Desperate Efforts of Teutons to Cross Piave River and Inflict Serious Losses on Enemy.

London, Nov. 18.—Further attempts by the enemy to force crossings of the Piave River were frustrated by the Italian forces yesterday, and in a brilliant counter-attack the Austro-German forces which previously had gained a footing on the west bank of the Fagare zone were completely swept out of this area, the War Office announced to-day. The Italian line on the Asiago Plateau is also, withstanding extremely violent attacks. The total of prisoners taken by the Italians on Friday and Saturday is 1,263 men, and 27 machine guns were captured.

The Teutons report that the Italians are counter-attacking heavily in the hill district northeast of Asiago. Teuton Army Headquarters announced to-day that the Italian attacks,

launched against heights which had been taken from the Italians, were fruitless, and costly to the attacking forces.

Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, Nov. 17.—The battle of the Piave River, as it will be known, has now developed to a stage where the enemy's first attempts to make a breach in the Italian lines have failed. This defensive result has not only been accomplished by the Italian army, but time has been secured to effect that recovery which will permit the army to resume its offensive power as well as its defensive.

The enemy was taking full advantage of the delicate period after the retreat; every day counted for the restoration of solidity of the Italian offensive.

JAFFA CAPTURED BY BRITISH

Seaport of Jerusalem Occupied by Anzac Mounted Troops.

London, Nov. 18.—The city of Jaffa, on the Mediterranean coast, was taken possession of by the British army in Palestine yesterday. The Turks, who apparently are continuing their withdrawal northward, offered no opposition. The text of the official statement making this announcement reads:

"Yesterday Jaffa was occupied by Australian and New Zealand mounted troops without opposition. The enemy appears to be continuing his retirement to the north.

"General Allenby reports that yesterday there were minor advances in certain sectors of our front. Our yeomanry, who on Thursday took Abu Schusche Ridge, five miles southeast of Er Ramle, captured 360 prisoners and one gun. They carried the Turkish position at a gallop and 431 Turks were counted on the ground. The Australians, in taking El Tine, captured large numbers of prisoners, one gun, three airplanes and considerable quantities of ammunition and stores. On Thursday one hostile airplane was brought down.

"The Turks are reported to be endeavoring to prepare an entrenched position north of Jaffa, roughly parallel to the River Aujer (Nahr-el-Aujer)."

COUNTER-ATTACK OF FOE FAILS

Could Not Dislodge Canadians From Passchendaele Ridge.

With the British Army in Belgium.—The forces of Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria have made their first pretentious effort to regain Passchendaele village in accordance with the edict of Field Marshal von Hindenburg that the place should be recaptured, and have failed.

The enemy's attack, made late Wednesday afternoon, against positions on the crest of the ridge north of the hamlet, was essayed with large forces and was a most determined attempt to retake this gem of their defences; but the assaulting troops were hurled back again after a grim struggle, leaving the British line before Passchendaele intact.

The greater part of the enemy infantry was stopped by the tremendous British artillery barrage, which ploughed through their ranks as they began the advance; but some of them, answering to that famous discipline ingrained by Prussian military rule, pushed through this rain of death and reached the British front line.

HAIG PREPARES FOR NEW ADVANCE

Guns Paving Way for Fresh Thrust in Flanders.

A despatch from London says: Sir Douglas Haig's despatch from headquarters on Friday indicates that preparations are under way for a new offensive in the Passchendaele region. The official communication regarding aerial operations also points to renewed activity. It reads:

"During the early part of Thursday a heavy ground mist considerably hampered aerial observation. Later in the day the mist partly cleared, and considerable activity ensued in the air. Many targets were successfully engaged by our artillery with the aid of aerial observation, and a number of reconnaissances carried out by our aeroplanes.

"On the battle front our low flying machines engaged several ground targets with machine gun fire. Hostile aeroplanes dropped a few bombs on our side of the line.

"In air fighting, five hostile aeroplanes were downed and one was driven down out of control. Another German machine was shot down by our anti-aircraft guns. Four of our machines failed to return."

BRITISH SUCCESS ON THE SERBIAN FRONT.

London, Nov. 18.—Raiding operations by the British in Macedonia are announced in an official statement from Saloniki to-day, which reads:

"Yesterday morning our troops carried out a successful raid on a wood southwest of Akindzali, northeast of Lake Doiran. Several prisoners were brought back and casualties inflicted upon the enemy. No other events are reported. Bad weather has hampered operations during the last week."

DENMARK TO EXPEL ALL FOREIGN SPIES.

A despatch from Copenhagen says: The Government has submitted a bill to the Danish Parliament authorizing the expulsion from Denmark of any undesirable foreigner, even those residing in the country for more than two years.

The law is aimed at spies and other objectionable persons, but may also be invoked, following the Norwegian precedent, to reduce alien consumers of Denmark's food supplies.

SECURE JUNCTION OF JERUSALEM RY.

British Make Important Progress in Palestine Campaign.

A despatch from London says:—The junction of the Beersheba-Damascus Railway, with the line to Jerusalem, is now in the possession of the British army.

The following official statement of operations in Palestine was issued on Thursday.

"Our infantry and mounted troops continued their advance, Gen. Allenby reported yesterday, and we now hold the railway line in the vicinity of El-Mansurah and Na'Aneh, including the junction of the Damascus-Beersheba railway with the line to Jerusalem.

"The losses inflicted on the Turks on Tuesday were heavy, including 400 buried at Katrah alone. Our captures on Tuesday amounted to more than 1,500 prisoners, 20 machine guns, and four guns."

NO JAPANESE TROOPS TO GO TO EUROPE.

A despatch from Tokio says: Lieutenant-General Oshima, the Japanese minister of War, informs Japanese newspapers that the despatch of troops to Europe is an absolute impossibility owing to the tremendous cost and the lack of tonnage. Baron Takahashi, former Minister of Finance, and one of the leaders of the Soiyukai party, in a lengthy article in the newspapers, declares the Japanese army is deficient in ordnance and airplane equipment.

GREAT BRITAIN'S TRADE SHOWS AN INCREASE.

A despatch from London says: The Board of Trade returns for October show the following: Imports, £94,260,964, an increase of £13,101,090 over the previous month, and exports, £50,757,054, an increase of £6,041,806. The chief increases were in imports of cotton, amounting to £5,020,948, and in exports of cotton of £2,931,323.



THE MILK COMMITTEE

In the above picture are shown the members of the milk committee, appointed by the food controller, which has made a careful study of the milk situation in this country, considering such questions as supply, costs of production, utilization, etc.

P. B. Tustin of Winnipeg, the chairman of the committee, is one of the foremost experts on dairy and farm matters in Canada. He is honorary secretary for Western Canada of the Royal Sanitary Institute. He is also a member of the Institute's examining board for Western Canada. Mr. Tustin is chief of the food and dairy division of the city of Winnipeg, and manager of the child welfare bureau of that city.

W. A. Wilson, of Regina, is dairy commissioner of Saskatchewan, and has done much for the dairy industry in the prairie provinces. Dr. Boucher and Dr. MacKay are medical health officers of Montreal and Halifax, respectively. Commissioner Wigmore of St. John, N.B., and Ald. Hamilton, of Vancouver, have both given much time to a study of the milk problem. E. H. Stonehouse, of Toronto, and John Bingham, manager of the Ottawa Dairy, represent the milk producers and the milk distributors respectively.

Markets of the World

Breadstuffs

Toronto, Nov. 20—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, \$2.23 1/2; No. 2 do., \$2.20 1/2; No. 3 do., \$2.17 1/2; No. 4 wheat, \$2.10 1/2. In store Fort William, including 2 1/2 c tax. Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 72c; No. 1 extra feed, 69c; No. 1 feed, 68c. In store Fort William. American corn—No. 3 yellow, nominal. Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 70 to 71c, nominal; No. 3 do., 69 to 70c, nominal, according to freights outside. Ontario wheat—New, No. 2 Winter, \$2.22; basis, in store, Montreal. Peas—No. 2, \$3.30 to \$3.90, according to freights outside. Barley—Malting, \$1.21 to \$1.22, according to freights outside. Rye—No. 2, \$1.75, according to freights outside. Manitoba flour—First patents, in jute bags, \$11.50; 2nd, do., \$11.00; strong bakers', do., \$10.60. Toronto. Ontario flour—Winter, according to sample, \$9.90, in bags; Montreal, \$9.70; Toronto, \$9.70, bulk, seaboard, prompt shipment. Millfeed—Car lots, delivered Montreal freights, bags included—Bran, per ton, \$35; shorts, do., \$42; middlings, do., \$45 to \$46; good feed flour, per bag, \$3.25. Hay—No. 1, new, per ton, \$15 to \$16; mixed, do., \$12 to \$14. Truck Toronto. Straw—Car lots, per ton, \$8 to \$8.50, truck Toronto.

Country Produce—Wholesale

Butter—Creamery, solids, per lb., 42 1/2 to 43c; prints, per lb., 43 to 43 1/2c; dairy, per lb., 36 to 38c. Eggs—Fresh gathered eggs, 44 to 45c. Potatoes—Firm; wholesalers are paying growers and country shippers \$1.75 for first-class stock, f.o.b. Toronto. Wholesalers are selling to the retail trade at the following prices: Cheese—New, large, 23 to 23 1/2c; twins, 23 1/2 to 23c; early cheese, 25 1/2 to 26c; large twin, 26 to 28c. Butter—Fresh dairy, choice, 40 to 41c; creamery prints, 45 to 46c; solids, 44 to 45c. Eggs—New laid, in cartons, 58 to 60c; No. 1 storage, 43 to 44c; select storage, 47 to 48c. Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 24 to 26c; fowl, 20 to 22c; squabs, per doz., \$4 to \$5; turkeys, 28 to 32c; ducks, Spring, 20 to 23c; geese, 18 to 20c. Live poultry—Turkeys, 25c; Spring chickens, lb., 18 to 18c; hens, 17 to 18c; ducks, Spring, 18 to 19c; geese, 12 to 14c. Honey—Comb—Extra fine, 16 oz., \$3.50; 12 oz., \$3; No. 2, \$2.40 to \$2.50. Strained—Tins, 2 1/2 and 5's, 19 to 19 1/2c per lb.; 10's, 18 1/2 to 19c; 60's, 18 to 18 1/2c. Beans—Canadian, nominal; imported hand-picked, \$6.50 to \$6.75 per bush; Lima, per lb., 17 to 17 1/2c. Potatoes, on track—Ontario, bag, \$2.10 to \$2.15.

Provisions—Wholesale

Smoked meats—Hams, medium, 30 to 31c; do., heavy, 26 to 27c; cooked, 41 to 43c; rolls, 27 to 28c; breakfast bacon, 38 to 42c. Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 27 1/2 to 28c lb.; clear bellies, 26 1/2 to 27c. Lard—Pure, hard, Hercules, 27 to 27 1/2c; tubs, 27 1/2 to 27c; palis, 27 1/2 to 28c; compound, terecs, 23 to 23 1/2c; tubs, 23 1/2 to 23c; palis, 23 1/2 to 24c.

Montreal Markets

Montreal, Nov. 20—Oats—Canadian western, No. 2, 82c; do., No. 3, 80c; extra No. 1 feed, 80c; No. 2 local white, 76c. Flour—Man. Spring wheat patents,

Winnipeg Grain

Winnipeg, Nov. 20—Cash prices:—Oats—No. 2, C.W., 72c; No. 3, do., 69c; extra No. 1 feed, 69c; No. 1 feed, 68c; No. 2, do., 68c. Barley—No. 3, \$1.21 1/2; No. 4, \$1.15; rejected and feed, \$1.08. Flax—No. 1 N.W.C., \$3.18; No. 2 C.W., \$3.13; No. 3, do., \$3.02.

United States Markets

Minneapolis, Nov. 20—Corn—No. 3 yellow, \$2.20 to \$2.25. Oats—No. 3 white, 62 1/2 to 63c. Flour—Unchanged. Bran—\$32.50 to \$33.50. Duluth, Nov. 20—Linseed—\$3.27 to \$3.34; arrive, \$3.14; arrive in November, \$3.27 to \$3.28; November, \$3.27 asked; December, \$3.14 bid; May, \$3.10.

Live Stock Markets

Toronto, Nov. 20—Extra choice heavy steers, \$11.50 to \$12; do., good heavy, \$10.75 to \$11.25; butchers' cattle, choice, \$10 to \$10.25; do., good, \$9.35 to \$9.65; do., medium, \$8.50 to \$8.75; do., common, \$7.50 to \$8; butchers' bulls, choice, \$8.30 to \$8.75; do., good bulls, \$7.40 to \$7.85; do., medium bulls, \$6.85 to \$7.10; do., rough bulls, \$5 to \$6; butchers' cows, choice, \$8.25 to \$8.75; do., good, \$7.60 to \$8; do., medium, \$6.60 to \$6.75; stockers, \$7 to \$8.25; feeders, \$9 to \$9.75; canners and cutters, \$5 to \$5.85; milkers, good to choice, \$9.50 to \$15; do., com. and med., \$7.50 to \$8.5; springers, \$9.50 to \$15; light ewes, \$11.50 to \$13.50; bucks and culls, \$9 to \$10.50; sheep, heavy, \$5.75 to \$7.50; yearlings, \$12 to \$13; calves, good to choice, \$14 to \$15; Spring lambs, \$15.50 to \$16.35; hogs, fed and watered, \$17.50 to \$17.75; do., weighed off cars, \$17.50 to \$18; do., f.o.b., \$16.50 to \$16.75. Montreal, Nov. 20—Choice steers, \$10 to \$10.25; good, \$9.50 to \$9.75; fair, \$8.50 to \$9; common, \$7.50 to \$8; butchers' cows, \$6.25 to \$8; bulls, \$6.50 to \$8.25 per 100 lbs.; canner bulls, \$6.25 to \$6.50; cows, \$5.25 per 100 lbs.; Ontario lambs, \$15 to \$15.50; Quebec, \$14 to \$14.50 per 100 lbs.; sheep, \$9.50 to \$11; choice milk-fed calves, \$13 to \$14; good, \$11 to \$12; grass-fed calves, \$6.50 to \$10.00 per 100 lbs.; hogs, \$17 to \$17.50.

ITALIANS HOLD LINE AT PIAVE

Teuton Forces Which Crossed River Have Made No Progress.

A despatch from London says: Everywhere along the battle-front, from Lake Garda eastward, and thence southward along the Piave River to the Adriatic Sea, the Italians are holding the enemy in check, except in the hilly regions in the vicinity of the Asiago Plateau, where additional gains have been made by the invaders. The new advances by the Teutonic allies, as observed on the war maps, do not indicate that points of extremely great strategic value have been won, but rather that the Italians on various sectors have given ground before superior numbers and at the same time have straightened out and lessened the length of their front.

In the hills north of the Venetian Plains General Diaz, the new commander-in-chief of the Italians, has withdrawn his advanced posts south of Montetomatico. On the Asiago Plateau, and thence eastward to where the battle-front meets the upper reaches of the Piave River the German and Austro-Hungarian forces are adding strength to their attacks, doubtless hoping to drive through the highland country to the plains of Venetia before the expected arrival of British and French reinforcements becomes a fact.

BRITISH HAVE 166,000 PRISONERS.

A despatch from London says: In the House of Commons recently, during a speech, Henry William Forster, Financial Secretary of War, said that since July 1, 1916, the British had captured from the Turks 30,197 prisoners and 186 guns; and from the Germans on the western front 101,534 prisoners and 519 guns.

The approximate square milage in territory conquered or reconquered by the British in the same time, said Mr. Forster, was 128,000. The total number of prisoners captured on all fronts since the beginning of the war was 166,000, while the captured guns numbered 800.

NO ABLE-BODIED MEN EXEMPT IN BRITAIN.

A despatch from London says: A general review of the present attitude of the British Tribunals towards applicants for exemption will doubtless be of interest to Canada. Speaking broadly, any man under thirty, whether married or single, in any medical category, has little chance of securing exemption on personal grounds. Men passed for general service, even those with several children or who are the sole remaining sons, have practically no chance of exemption unless engaged in work of national importance.