

GERMANS BATTLE FURIOUSLY TO HOLD BACK FOE AT YPRES

French Continue to Gain in Drive Upon Lines in Flanders—British Fleet Shells Middlekerke.

PARIS, Dec. 19. The French are continuing their advance in the region south of Ypres. It is officially announced in a statement issued here this afternoon. The operations in that district are over swampy ground, which makes troop movements very difficult. South of La Basse, the French have advanced more than half a mile and have also made progress at other points, reaching the second line of German defenses at Albert.

The repetition of announcements as to short gains made by French troops shows that the Germans are making desperate resistance against the continued offensive of the Allies. It is said that the fighting in Flanders and northern France is the fiercest that has taken place during the campaign.

Moving northeast from Arras in force the French and British troops today hold ground representing the most important gain they have made since Arras was occupied following the battle of the Aisne. For the first time in two months the positions east of Arras are in possession of the Allies. Fighting is reported in progress today in the outlying districts of St. Laurent and Blangy. This represents an advance of two and one-half miles for the Allied troops. Important advances also are reported from Arras.

British warships have bombarded Middlekerke, on the North Sea, inflicting severe damage upon the German position there. A successful aerial reconnaissance has been made over Ostend by the Allies' aerial scouts, who report the arrival of fresh German forces at that point. The Germans are working night and day to strengthen their positions around Middlekerke and Ostend to stem the advance of the Franco-Belgian forces, which pushed to Lombardy early this week. The invaders have mounted some of their 6-centimeter howitzers at Ostend.

Middlekerke lies four miles west of Ostend and two and a half miles east of Westende, which was bombarded several days ago by English men-o'-war. It is reported from West Flanders that the Germans have transported 70,000 fresh troops to Antwerp and have strengthened their lines along the Belgian coast with 20,000 reinforcements.

Roulers is again unofficially reported to have been occupied by the Allies, but this is not borne out by official dispatches.

CZAR HURLS NEW FORCES AT FOE

Continued from Page One. Important city of Piotrkow and made marked advances, while their arms are reported as victorious in the Carpathians.

Further ground has been gained by the French in the desperate fighting south of Ypres, according to this afternoon's communique issued by the Paris War Office, the advance at La Basse amounting to more than half a mile. At Arras the Allies' advance now amounts to 2 1/2 miles.

British warships are again bombarding the coast, the German positions at Middlekerke having suffered severely.

GERMANY CALLS MEN UP TO 45 ROTTERDAM, Dec. 19.—Germany has called up the untrained men of the land-sturm born between 1899 and 1878. Failure to obey, says the Handelsblad, is punishable with from six months to five years' imprisonment.



DEPOSED KHEDIVES OF EGYPT

The British Government announces the appointment of Prince Hussein Kemal to succeed Abbas Hilmi, who is held to be too friendly with Turkey.

BRITAIN NAMES NEW KHEDIVES

Uncle Succeeds Abbas Hilmi as Sultan of Province. LONDON, Dec. 19.—Prince Hussein Kemal has been appointed to succeed the Khedive of Egypt, Abbas Hilmi, and will take the title of Sultan. The new Sultan

FRESH RUSSIAN LEGIONS HALT DRIVE ON WARSAW

Heavy Losses Compel Cessation of German Advance. PETROGRAD, Dec. 18. Heavy reinforcements rushed to the Polish front have strengthened the Russian lines there, and every attempt made by the Germans to pierce the line of defense established west of Warsaw has been repulsed. The heavy losses suffered by the Germans have compelled them to abandon the advance which they attempted along the 26-mile line from Kasunpolski to Skiernewice, but they maintain their assaults at Terasin on the Sochaczew-Warsaw railroad line. Fighting with the aid of searchlights, the Germans made five attacks Thursday night at Terasin. Pierce hand to hand conflicts developed there, but after they had lasted for seven hours the Germans were finally repulsed. It is estimated that in these five attacks the Germans lost 6000 men.

RHEIMS SHELLED TO AVENGE WOUNDING OF KAISER'S SON

Prince August Wilhelm Reported Hit by French Shell. PARIS, Dec. 19. Rheims is being bombarded again because the Germans are angered at a French coup by which Prince August Wilhelm, fourth son of the Kaiser, was wounded. Such is the story which reached here today.

A French army observer recently noted a vast amount of preparation for some sort of a ceremony behind the German lines, and was convinced that the Prince was to inspect the troops. The observer gave the range to a French battery and the guns were served so cleverly that an automobile which carried the Prince was struck by a shell.

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CORNWALLIS-WEST BUSY RECRUITING IN ENGLAND

Report of Husband's Execution False, Mrs. "Pat" Campbell Hears. DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 18.—The information was received here today by Mrs. Patrick Campbell, the actress, that her husband, George Cornwallis West, is actively engaged in recruiting work in England, and that there is no foundation to the report that he had been shot for treason. Some days ago a letter was received by a Salt Lake City man from his wife in London that West had been detected in the act of rifling private papers of Earl Kitchener, tried for treason and executed.

New Sultan of Egypt Installed

CAIRO, Dec. 19.—Prince Hussein, a cousin of the deposed Khedive, was officially installed today as Sultan of Egypt, the new British protectorate.

RUSSIAN LINES RETREATING. STATEMENT FROM VIENNA

Csar Forced to Withdraw Along Entire Battlefront. VIENNA, Dec. 19. The beaten Russian forces are in flight along the entire battlefront of 200 miles, extending from Kroano, in Galicia, to the mouth of the Bura River, in Poland, west of Warsaw. Piotrkow and Przedborg, in southern Poland, have been stormed and severe fighting continues in this region.

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