

ALLIES BATTER FOE'S LINES ON 435-MILE FRONT IN WEST

Continued from Page One Front and in the neighborhood of the St. Quentin Canal. A number of prisoners were taken.

FRENCH PRESS MIGHTY OFFENSIVE ON BLOODY GROUND NORTH OF VERDUN

By HENRY WOOD WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES IN THE FIELD, Aug. 21.

The greatest battle of the world war is being fought today. From the sea coast to the Swiss frontier—more than 435 miles—the Allies are fighting a virtually continuous offensive.

The great battle started with the Anglo-French offensive in Flanders, extended to the British offensive at Lens, thence to the French attacks around St. Quentin, then to the French offensive at Chemin-des-Dames, Moronvillers and Verdun and concluded with heavy artillery fighting in Lorraine and Alsace down to Switzerland.

The western front has never seen an extensive battle. Nor has the Allies' superiority everywhere been so asserted. With three more months of fighting weather this year Germany's hold on the western front may become precarious before winter.

Perfect and co-ordinated strategy underlies the English and French attacks. They have been so timed as to convert all the fighting into one great battle.

Today the French are attacking the southern pivot, where the German lines hinge, on their famous Meuse retreat position. The drive comes exactly two weeks after the English attack in Flanders threatened the German northern hold on the coast.

While these two huge offensives developed today the battles around Lens, Arras, St. Quentin, along the Aisne and at Moronvillers continued with unabated intensity.

Germany made her supreme effort in concentration of men and of artillery in the 1916 assault on Verdun. No offensive had ever reached the intensity of that one. But the French assault of today, in the identical sector, has surpassed it.

GREAT CONCENTRATION OF GUNS The combined French and German artillery brought into the play of death is probably the greatest concentration of weapons for a single attack the world has yet seen.

High in the air they exploded with a great outburst of flame and their brilliance outside even the flaming red of the countless other flashes. After each one of these dazzling bursts the whole air seemed filled with long, dragon-shaped tails, puncturing the blackest sort of smoke—the exploding shrapnel bits.

Not only was there the greatest concentration of artillery in the war's history at Verdun, but an unprecedented use of gas by the Germans in their efforts to stem the French attack.

The enemy even attempted a sort of gas barrage and special gas fields in efforts to wither the advancing wave of the French troops.

They also rushed up fresh divisions from far to the rear and flung these prodigally into the battle.

The German concentration of artillery, massed to combat the enormous number of French field pieces, was estimated by German prisoners today to equal the maximum artillery concentration for Germany's assault on Verdun in 1916.

FIRST LINES QUICKLY TAKEN The French had taken the German first lines in an amazingly short time after leaping over the parapets. The Germans sent up hurly calls and massed great reserves, but in vain.

In all the hell of war in the air one picture stood out vividly. It was an attack made by a German airplane on a French observation "sausage" balloon. The French observer leaped out of his basket, but his parachute caught on the edge, leaving him suspended hundreds of feet over the earth.

ITALIANS TAKE 10,000 PRISONERS IN DRIVE; AUSTRIANS LOSE HEAVILY

ROME, Aug. 21.—The Italians in their offensive on the Isonzo front have effected a crossing of the Isonzo above Piava and have taken 7,500 prisoners. An official statement issued today.

Alps front. Yesterday morning, after a bombardment of twenty-two hours, during which our artillery shelled the enemy positions with ever-increasing intensity, masses of our infantry commenced the advance toward their objectives.

From Piava to the sea, after having crossed the first line of the enemy, which had been destroyed completely, our troops brought pressure to bear upon him, being supported by considerable artillery and a large number of machine guns.

General Cadorna's great offensive started, peculiarly enough at the very moment when Austrian armies were carrying out a vigorous campaign for peace. They were dropping thousands of messages urging Italian "comrades" not to fight.

GERMANS REPULSED IN DESPERATE ASSAULTS ON AISNE AND MEUSE

PARIS, Aug. 21.—German picked troops were flung violently but vainly against four points of the French fighting line last night. At three places on the Chemin-des-Dames (Aisne sector) special sturmpetters battled desperately to loosen the French grip, and around Verdun General Petain's fighters repulsed assaults of the most violent nature.

On the front north of Verdun the Germans carried out another heavy attack. There were attacks of the most violent nature, notably at Avocourt and Courcieres Wood, which were all broken up by the fire of the French troops. We kept all our gains, which we are now organizing. The Germans lost heavily.

On August 20 French pilots brought down twenty-one German machines, nearly all of which were utterly destroyed. Semiofficial dispatches today laid emphasis on the ferocity of the German counter-blasts. They were delivered apparently with every resource of guns and of men that the German war effort could muster.

British Pledge Pope to Weigh Peace Terms

Continued from Page One soldiers. He must demand guarantees that will not be regarded a "scraps of paper," and these he believes impossible except from a democracy.

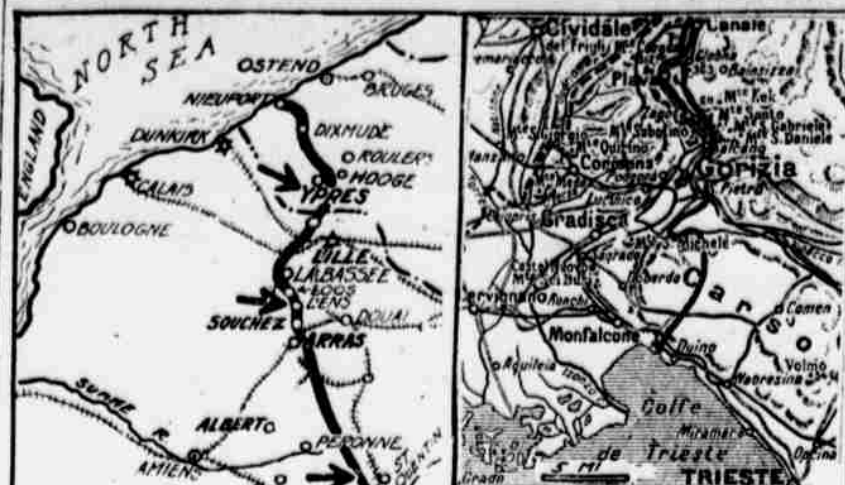
That peace is ahead is the conviction here. The Pope has laid the groundwork for peace negotiations. President Wilson will give momentum to the building. Another year will see the end of the struggle, experts here now believe.

MICHAELIS TO SUPPORT VATICAN'S PROPOSALS

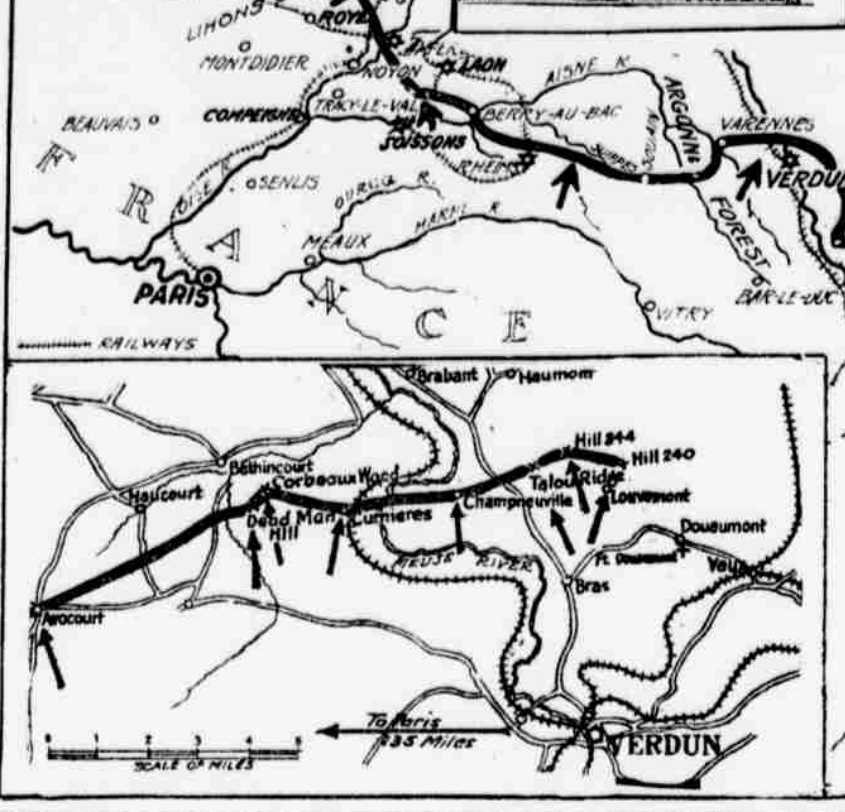
AMSTERDAM, Aug. 21.—On the eve of the meeting of the Reichstag main committee there was every indication in Berlin that Dr. Georg Michaelis, the German Chancellor, would speak in support of the peace proposal of Pope Benedict XV, according to dispatches from the German Capital today.

Information had already been conveyed to the German Government that the Reichstag majority, which was responsible for the passage of a peace resolution on July 19, favors the terms laid down by the pope in his note to the warring powers.

WHERE BATTLE WAGES FROM NORTH SEA TO SWISS ALPS



A vast offensive movement, both on the western and Italian fronts and involving the battle line from the North Sea to the Swiss Alps and the Isonzo region, has been launched by the Allies. Reports indicate that the struggle is raging with titanic fury.



The upper diagram similarly indicates the Italian theatre of war. The scene of the latest French successes in the Verdun sector is pointed out in the lower map. More than 400 miles are embraced in the territory over which the conflict wages.

of the majority line in the Reichstag on Monday afternoon, which was marked by a tense debate on the peace situation.

It was stated in one telegram from Berlin that, while the Liberals were invited to attend Monday's meeting, they decided to hold a separate conference among themselves this morning before the meeting of the main committee.

ITALIANS FORCE ISONZO; CAPTURE 7500 AUSTRIANS

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FORMER GUARDSMEN TO BE IN SEPT. 1 PARADE

Mayor Obtains Permission for Soldiers and Sailors to Take Part

Soldiers and sailors whose homes are in Philadelphia will march side by side with the 14,000 or more drafted men in the patriotic demonstration which will take place September 1.

Mayor Smith announced this afternoon that he has obtained the consent of the military authorities to permit soldiers of the Twenty-eighth Division (formerly the Pennsylvania National Guard), who are now encamped near this city, to participate in the parade.

The Home Defense League will also be in the parade. The members will be in uniform. The various branches of the Home Defense League in Philadelphia and other parts of the city will also take part.

Invitations to participate in the parade are being sent to civic organizations and also to business men's associations. The present plans are to have the parade begin at about 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

HELD IN AUTO THEFT

Four Men Accused of Removing Tires From Disabled Car

Four men accused of stealing tires from the automobile of Sigmund Meyer, of 322 South Eleventh streets, were each held in \$500 bail for court at the Central Station this afternoon by Magistrate Collins.

The prisoners gave their names as Edward and William Firth, Edward Donnelly and Thomas McHugh, of Forty-first and Chestnut streets.

Meyer's automobile became temporarily disabled and the prisoners, according to Lieutenant Fritz, of the motorcycle squad were removing the tires when he discovered them.

Plot Hinted in Powder Explosion

CINCINNATI, Aug. 21.—A rigid investigation was being made today into the explosion at King's Mills powder plant yesterday in which four men were killed. The plant has been carefully guarded and officials believe the blasts were the result of an inside plot.

\$2,000,000 COLLIERY COMPANY CHARTERED

BALTIMORE, Aug. 21.—The Tristate Collieries Company, capital stock \$2,000,000, today filed incorporation papers with the State Tax Commission here.

The incorporators named in the papers are William A. Morgart and Joseph E. Gunther, of Baltimore, and C. Yeager, of Patton, Pa. Among the directors are Edwin E. Marshall and J. H. Blackwell, of Trenton, N. J.; H. C. Yeager, of Patton, Pa., and H. L. Kirby, of New York city.

The company is to take over and consolidate the Margot coal property of West Virginia, the Roebing property in Allegheny County, Maryland, and the Yeager coal property in Somerset County Pennsylvania.

A Necessity in Every Home

Made of aluminum and with washable sides, this "Hotpoint" Safety Comfo is ideal for applying heat to the body.

Gives any temperature between 100 and 200 degrees. Automatic control prevents overheating. Should be in every home for relieving sudden pain.

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EUROPE FACES GAUNT STARVATION SPECTER

Allies' Safety Rests in What U. S. Saves, Declares Food Administrator Hoover

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—Europe faces "the grim specter of starvation" unless America brings relief, Herbert Hoover warned today.

In the food administration bulletin today he says safety for Europe rests in what this country saves from her abundance and waste.

In addition to the wheat shortage and the threatened meat famine already announced by Hoover, the bulletin says the world's dairy supplies are decreasing rapidly.

"Swine," "most efficient machine for production of animal fat"—are dwindling fast in Europe while consumption demand grows.

The sugar supply, he says, "has been tremendously reduced" and "there must be economy in consumption everywhere."

He urges the American people to eat fish and vegetables of which there is a great abundance.

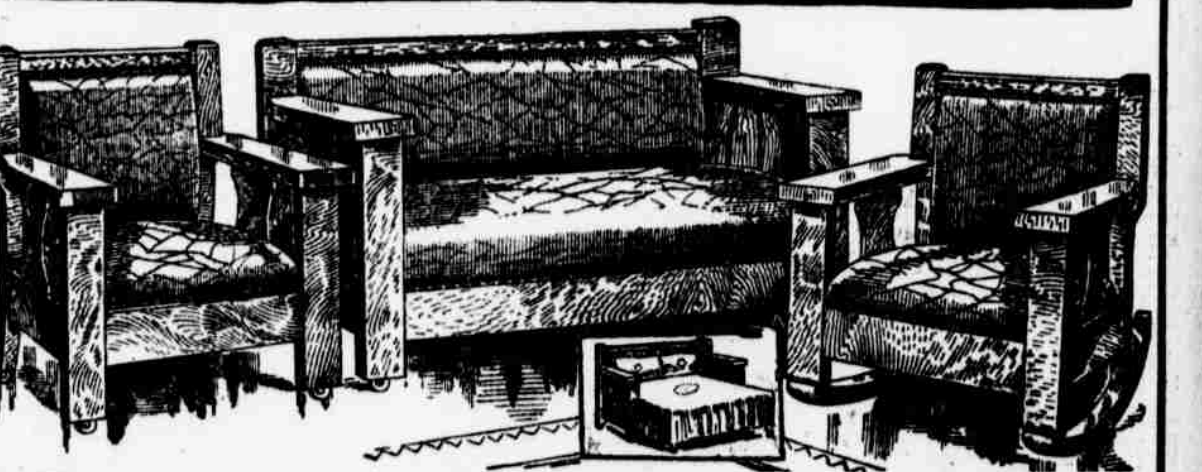
He promises no reduction in prices. "We are today in an era of high prices," he says. "We must maintain prices at such a level as will stimulate production for we are faced by a starving world and the value of the commodity to the hungry is greater than its price."

But he adds: "The reverberations of Europe's increasing shortage would have hounded twice as loudly during the coming year and it can now only be mitigated if we can exert a strong control and this in many directions."

Continental Hotel ROOF GARDEN 9th & Chestnut COOLEST PLACE IN TOWN Business 60c Men's Lunch 60c 11:30 to 2:30 DINNER \$1 Chicken, Lobster or Roast \$1 Dancing 8 to 10-10 to 1

Douglas Fairbanks has done all his friends a good turn by writing "LAUGH and LIVE" Boston Globe says: "Any book that can make monthly bills a laughing matter is a valuable contribution to present life and literature." All Bookstores \$1.00 Net BENTON PUBLISHING CO., New York

STERN & CO. August Sale



3-Piece Duofold Davenette Suite, \$59.75 Where could you possibly get a 3-Piece Duofold Davenette Suite at this unusually low price, except at our great August furniture sale? Massive, comfortable and beautifully Jacobean finished. Union Spanish leather upholstery. Davenette quickly changed to full-sized bed by raising seat.

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RUG SALE 9x12 ft. Brussels \$16.75 9x12 ft. Velvets \$26.75 9x12 ft. Axmins. \$29.75

Choice of Quartered Oak, Mahogany or Bird's-eye Maple 6-Piece Bedroom Outfit \$69.75

Our Talking Machine Dept. is as complete as a comprehensive line of music cabinets, records and gramophones. You will find in the city.

STERN & CO. 712-714 Market Street

Chestnut St. Business Men Rap Lease 'Grab'

Continued from Page One ing is held on the proposed agreement in City Hall on September 7, two weeks before the first regular meeting of Council.

The former Director announced the call to arms himself in his initial statement of attack in which he said:

"Organizations should immediately assemble and pass strong resolutions and send the same to the newspapers for publication.

"We must win the fight. Will you help?" A number of business organizations already have called for a meeting.

Nothing was heard from the Band Transit Company. It was said that the Stodolny management does not care to be drawn into the controversy of "war" at present. The company's stock fell a little yesterday and not much changed hands.

Directors of the company met and approved the July statement of earnings. Compared with the same month of last year, the statement disclosed an increase in gross earnings of \$222,465. Operating expenses increased \$208,000, while the net earnings advanced \$14,465. The company's surplus was \$18,462 greater than for July, 1916.

Further delay in the work of completing the Frankford "deal" was made certain today when Director Twining "opened bids" for

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"Thomas Carlin's Sons Company" Manufacturers of the Famous Carlin Alligator Shears, Pulverizing Pans, Hoisting Engines and Stone Crushers.

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