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ALLIES ARE ADVANCING

Big Victory Has Been Won on Western Front.

Battle of the Somme Extending Over a Front of Twenty-five Miles Has Resulted So Far in the Capture of 50 Square Miles of Territory, 10,000 Prisoners, and Twelve Towns and Villages.

LONDON, July 3.—A great Allied offensive was inaugurated Saturday morning on both sides of the River Somme. British and French launched their assaults simultaneously on a front of about 25 miles and captured the first line of German positions on the entire front attacked.

The net result is as follows:
Prisoners captured..... 10,000
Villages captured..... 12
Terrain captured, sq. miles... 50

The Battle of the Somme marks the opening of the Franco-British offensive, long expected as a critical if not the decisive stage of the war.

The Entente allied forces are sweeping forward along a 25-mile front. The French already have taken about 8,000 prisoners, and the British over 4,000, while the allied lines have enveloped within the last 24 hours nine villages and 50 square miles of French territory held until now by the Germans.

The intense bombardment of the last four days was the signal for an advance over these level fields, beginning at 7.30 o'clock yesterday morning. The Allied artillery then lengthened the range so as to shut off all communication between the first German line and the German reserves in the rear. This made it impossible for the Germans to utilize their perfect organization for the shifting of troops and for the bringing up of reinforcements. It is thought by French military observers that the German miscalculated the intentions of the Entente Allies and expected the attacks further to the north.

The villages which the French captured in the first sweep include Dompreux, Becquincourt, Busus, and Fay, and these and towns taken by the British—Fricourt, Montauban, and Mametz—were all found to have been strongly fortified by the Germans.

The Allies, profiting from their experience in the war, quickly threw up strong earthworks around the villages thus taken in order to protect them against counter-attacks. It was not before night, however, that the Germans were able to deliver any counter-attack. This was centred against the French position on the outskirts of Hardecourt, and it was repulsed with heavy losses.

South of the Somme the French have forced their way into the second line of German entrenchments at a number of places and have captured the village of Frise and the Mereau-court wood, according to an official statement issued by the French War Office Sunday night.

The War Office gave out the following statement Saturday night:

"An attack was launched north of the River Somme Saturday morning at 7.30 o'clock in conjunction with the French. British troops have broken into the German forward system of defences on a front of 16 miles.

"The French attack on our immediate right is proceeding equally satisfactorily.

"Heavy fighting continued all day between the Rivers Somme and Ancre, and north of Ancre to Gommecourt, inclusive. The fight on the whole of this front still continued with intensity.

"On the right of our attack we have captured a German labyrinth of trenches on a front of seven miles to a depth of 1,000 yards, and have stormed and occupied the strongly-fortified villages of Montauban and Mametz.

"In the centre of our attack on a front of four miles we have gained many strong points, while at others the enemy is still holding out, and the struggle on this front is still severe.

"North of the Ancre valley to Bommecourt, inclusive, the battle is equally violent, and in this area we have been unable to retain portions of the ground gained in our first attacks, while other portions remain in our possession.

"Up to the present over two thousand German prisoners have passed through our collecting stations, including two regimental commanders and the whole of one regimental staff.

"Yesterday, in spite of a high wind, a large amount of successful work was done in the air. An important railway depot was attacked with powerful bombs. A large number of other bombs were dropped on depots, railway junctions, batteries, trenches, and other points of military importance in the enemy's lines.

"Considerable aerial activity occurred to-day during the battle, but full details have not yet been collected. Our machines attacked a railway train on the line between Douai and Cambrai. One of our airmen descended to below 900 feet, and succeeded in dropping a bomb on trucks, which exploded. Other pilots saw the whole train in flames, and heard further explosions."

Sunday night's report reads: "Heavy fighting has taken place to-day in the area between the Ancre and the Somme, especially about Fricourt and La Boisselle."

"Fricourt was captured by our troops about 2 p.m., and remains in our hands, and some progress has been made east of the village."

"In the neighborhood of La Boisselle the enemy is offering stubborn resistance, but our troops are making satisfactory progress. A considerable quantity of war material has fallen into our hands, but details are not available."

"On either side of the valley of the Ancre the situation is unchanged."

Local and District News

Gerald Danby, of Brockville, is visiting friends in this district.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Ackland spent the week-end in Ottawa guests of the latter's mother Mrs. H. Taplin.

Mr. R. C. Lattimer is ill at his home, Mr. George Robinson taking his mail and freight route.

Mrs. Jas. Ross, Mr. Campbell Ross, Miss Roberta Ross, of Toronto, and Miss Chlovers Halliday, Toronto, are camping in one of the Green cottages, Charleston Lake. They will spend three weeks at the lake.

Elmer Burns, of Lansdowne, a former well known young resident of Brockville, recently had a narrow escape at the railway crossing in that village. He was driving an automobile and did not notice the approach of an express train until he was within a few feet of the crossing when he managed to stop the car in time to avoid a collision.

Death of Gideon Barkley

The death occurred Monday night at Inkerman of a most highly esteemed resident of that place in the person of Mr. Gideon Barkley. He had been ill for some months. The deceased was 61 years of age. He had spent all of his life in that vicinity, following farming successfully as an occupation. He is survived by his wife and a grown up family. They are George W. Winchester, Walter C. Brookville; Mrs. Johnston, Winchester; William G. in the States; Lancelot, Winnipeg; Mrs. G. Robinson, Easton's Corners; Mrs. Hackett, Easton's Corners; Mrs. J. S. of Easton's Corners; Frank, Inkerman; Mrs. D. Straiter, Winchester; Miss Nellie Barkley, Ottawa, and Roy Inkerman.

His son, Mr. W. C. Barkley, was with his father when he died.

Beekeepers in Convention

The annual midsummer field day and demonstration of the Leeds and Grenville Beekeepers' Association took place as announced on Saturday, July 1st with ideal weather. The backwardness of farming operations combined with what beekeepers call excessive swarming, no doubt kept some away, but the attendance was fair and a most enjoyable and profitable day was spent. Professor Staden arrived on the morning train and had opportunity of observing how swarms of bees were handled at the Holmes Apairy. His demonstration work with colonies of bees was very elaborate, and his lecture following, dealing as he did, with the topic of humidity in winter repositories and diseases of bees was very lucid. The time passed all too rapidly, and the professor was obliged to catch the out-going train at 3.50, as he had engagements at a western point on Monday. The convention closed at about 6.30 with the usual votes of thanks, following a very pleasant gathering.

Normal School Results

In the final examinations at the Ottawa Normal school, Nellie M. Brown, Athens; Sadie E. Burns, New Bover, and Winnifred Cusick, Merrickville, received permanent second class certificates. Interim second class certificates were received by Electa Burchill, Merrickville; Helen M. Bush, Cardinal; A. Louise Curry, Kemptonville; Peta P. Dool, Bishop's Mills; Alma A. Duffield, Lombardy; Constance L. Haraey, Lyndhurst; Mary Hutchison, Malloytown; Frances M. Higgins, Oxford Mills; L. H. Leggett, Newboro; Evelyn M. Purvis, Lvn; Marguerite Seymore, Toledo; Alice M. Smith, Seeley's Bay; E. Lemoine Sturgeon, Brockville; Eva J. Lobping, Elgin. Limited third class certificates were granted M. Lila Coughi, New Bliss, Evelyn M. Earle, Kanesdowne; Mabel J. Porter, Oxford Station.

Vesuvius in Eruption

Mount Vesuvius is again active, according to despatches from Naples. Heavy clouds of smoke have been seen rising from several new craters. The inhabitants of towns and around the base of the mountain are alarmed at the activity, and fearing an eruption, have fled from their homes. Large streams of lava are flowing from the crater of Stromboli, also despatches say.

Honest.

"Why did you give up your last position?"
"I didn't give it up, sir. I was fired."
"Oh, in that case take off your hat and coat and go to work. We can use a man as honest as you."

Frank Explanation.

"I tell you, young man, we need brains in this business."
"Your business shows it, sir. That's why I'm offering you mine."

Her Color Scheme.

"But you can't draw on that."
"Why? She paints on it."—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

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AUDIENCES ARE FICKLE

It Doesn't Take Much to Spoil a Fine Scene or a Speech.

One of my favorite fancies is of an audience composed of the elect of the ages, with Socrates, Homer, Sophocles, Demosthenes, Fraxiteles, Cicero, Horace, Dante, Moliere, Milton, Goethe, Washington Irving, Ben Jonson; Coleridge, Thackeray and Bernard Shaw in the front row and back of them an assemblage of personages of like degrees listening to William Shakespeare lecturing on "The Sanity of Hamlet."

I can imagine him holding that crowd with a fascinated interest, working upward through increasingly palpitating stages to a volcanic climax. And then in the midst of it I can fancy a tortoise shell cat prowling forth from the wings and as she crosses the stage stealing every eye and intelligence in that crowd away from the speaker, including the attention of Homer, who detects from the rustle that something is happening and who finds himself suddenly possessed with a demoniac desire to get away from the speech.

No audience can resist a cat, a dog, a bat, a bird or any simple diversion. The more commonplace the interruption the more splendidly the audience concentrates upon it.—Victor Murdock in Collier's Weekly.

Passing of the Musk Ox.

The musk ox is fast following the buffalo to commercial extinction, and its fur will be in a few years as hard to find as a first class buffalo robe is today. The animal is found on the shores of the Arctic ocean in the Mackenzie district, the farther north the better the fur. Eskimos hunt the musk ox, which is very gentle and easily taken. The pelts are shipped by dog team and canoe down to the fur trading posts of the Canadian west. Owing to the distance of the musk ox habitat from civilization, very few skins can be brought down at a time, and the number of robes on the market each season is necessarily limited. Because of the northerly latitudes in which the animal lives, the musk ox has very thick fur. At the base of the long, flowing hair, sometimes forty inches in length, which is the distinguishing mark of the musk ox, there is a thick growth of wool, so that a robe made up from one of these pelts is capable of withstanding any cold.—Consular Report.

A Continuous Performance.

Once upon a time there was a poor and friendless young man, who one day received from an older man a short letter of encouragement and confidence. The young man, not knowing how to express himself, did not answer the letter, but at a critical moment it had such an influence upon him that he took new life and eventually made a remarkable success. Years later he met the older man and said, "If it had not been for the letter you once wrote me I would not now be where I am, but it has always troubled me to think that I never acknowledged it."

"But you have been acknowledging it every day since," said the older man.

Sentiment and Grouch.

Upson—There is no sadder moment in a mother's life than that when she is putting a patch on her boy's pants. She needs must think that the day will come when some other woman will be doing the job.

Downs—Yes, and the other woman will also be filled with a sense of grief to think that she can't wear 'em.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Good Advice.

"Now, gentlemen," said the dean of the law college, "let each of you make a resolve not to descend to pettifoggery or to put himself upon a level with the criminal classes."

Here he looked around the classroom. "In other words, be a legal light, not a legal dark lantern."

Wisdom of Willie.

Mother (angrily)—Why didn't you come when I called you the first time?
Willie—Cause I didn't hear you till you called the third time. Mother—Now, how could you know it was the third call unless you heard the other two?
Willie—Easy enough, ma. I knew it was the third time 'cause you sounded so mad.

Color Harmony.

The key to all color harmony is simply this—that kindred or related colors harmonize, go well together, while unrelated colors are antagonistic to each other. Those colors are kindred which are side by side on the spectrum band or the color circuit. Red is kindred to orange because orange is an admixture of red and yellow; orange is kindred to yellow because of the yellow in the orange; yellow is akin to green because green is an admixture of yellow and blue.

Courtship in South America.
A very curious method of courting is adapted by the Zaparos, a tribe of South America. The love-stricken young man goes out hunting and on his return throws his game at the feet of the woman on whom he has set his affections. If she takes up the game, lights the fire and commences to cook, he knows his suit is accepted. If not he knows he is rejected.

Yes, How 'Bout 'Em?
The man who whistles at his work is full of joy, perhaps. But how about those near him, eh? What of the other chaps?
—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

FIFTIETH SESSION
SYNOD OF ONTARIO

Forty-five clerical and eighteen lay delegates attended the fiftieth session of the Synod of Ontario at Kingston last week.

Bishop Mills was accorded a hearty welcome on his return from England where he spent the past seven months. He scored the English labor interests for the opposition they are offering to Government's plan to make provisions for carrying on the war. He condemned the British politicians for putting their party before their country. The country was a good deal dissatisfied at the way the war had been managed, and the people were grumbling, but matters would be settled all right in time. His lordship gave an interesting description of England as he saw it in war time.

Following him, the Bishop of Kingston addressed the Synod mentioning, in the course of his remarks, the number of Anglicans in khaki. The figures issued recently by the Militia Department, which are correct up to the end of February, were of the deepest interest and he therefore transcribed them. The enlistments of the various religious bodies are as follows:

Anglicans.....	124,688
Methodist.....	18,418
Presbyterians.....	68,146
Roman Catholics.....	32,886
Baptists and Congregationalists.....	10,525
Jews.....	343
Other denominations.....	13,155

263,111

The proportion of Anglicans to the whole is therefore a little more than 47 per cent. And though, according to the latest census, Anglicans rank only fourth in numbers of the religious bodies in the Dominion, yet up to Feb. 29th they had contributed 10,288 more recruits than the three other religious bodies larger than themselves had mustered altogether.

The speaker urged the Synod to do their best to make the Temperance Act a success. He spoke to some length on the conditions of the diocese and mentioned the seemingly untimely death of Rev. M. Gooding of Frankville.

It was announced that Rev. W. G. Swayne, L. H., rector of Athens, had been appointed Rural Dean of Leeds, in succession to Rev. Cannon Woodcock, resigned.

Among the delegates who answered to the roll-call Tuesday morning were: Canon F. D. Woodcock, Canon H. B. Bedford-Jones, L. E. Davis, Brockville; John Lyne, Burritt's Rapids; J. de P. Wright, Elizabethtown; W. Cox, Gananoque; W. G. Swayne, Lansdowne; Rear W. H. Smith, Leeds; Rear T. H. Hall, Newboro; E. Leaky, Westport.

The lay delegates from this section were: G. F. Deane, Lansdowne; E. Quinn, W. W. Russell, Westport.

The following were declared elected members of the executive committee: Clergy—Rev. Dr. Blagrove, Belleville; Canon Bedford-Jones, Brockville; Dean Starr, Kingston; Rural Dean Jones, Tamworth; Canon Woodcock, Brockville; Canon Fitzgerald, Kingston; J. H. H. Coleman, Napanee; Rural Dean Crisp, Portmouth; Rural Dean Patton, Prescott.

Lay—R. J. Dargavey, M. P. P., Elgin; Judge Reynolds, Brockville; T. A. Kidd, Burritt's Rapids; B. S. O'Loughlin, Yarker; F. T. Miller, Napanee; John Elliott, Belleville; Dr. R. H. Preston, Newboro; E. F. Rutton, K. C. Napanee; R. G. Wright, Napanee; W. B. Carroll, K. C., Gananoque.

The following members of the executive committee, were appointed by the bishops:

Clergy—Rural Dean Swayne, Athens; Rural Dean C. M. Harris, Mar-mora; Rev. A. L. McTea, Bath; Rev. J. de P. Wright, Elizabethtown; Rev. R. J. Dunville, Kemptonville.
Lay—W. B. Dalton, Kingston; H. F. Ketcheson, Belleville; Lieut. Col. Gardiner, Kingston; T. B. Wallace, Napanee.

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