

# The Evening Times

VOL. X No. 228

ST. JOHN N. B., MONDAY, JULY 3, 1916

## Allies Hold Positions Won And Gain More, The Germans Rush Up Reinforcements And Fight Is Desperate; More Local

### French And British Continue The Fight With Complete Success

#### Habercourt Captured; Fricourt Also and All Goes Well

#### French on Road to Perrone and British Make Steady Progress Toward Bapaume—Strategic Importance of Both Places

July 3.—The French offensive south of the Somme, in conjunction with the British drive, continued last night with complete success, the French have advanced to a position on a front of five kilometers, (three miles). The French have captured the village of Habercourt.

At the Meuse, on the Verdun front, the Germans captured Dambloup. But the French soon after regained possession of it.

#### GERMANS RUSH UP RESERVES

#### ALL TO CHECK ADVANCE

The reserves which the Germans reared up to the Somme to check the Franco-British offensive began to make themselves felt after afternoon and last night, according to latest reports received here, fighting reached a pitch of exceptional desperation but nevertheless the efforts to check the allied advance failed. The Franco-British allies, reports say, retained the initiative unimpaired and, as the result of the fighting, have materially advanced their line and strengthened their hold at it they had previously won.

The capture of Habercourt represents a great step forward, for the village has been a key point where the River Somme can be passed. The troops have now before them on their road to Perrone, their goal, a series of hummocks each of which is crowned by a village, ending in a narrow valley which is an important centre on account of the intersection, there, of the highways, which apparently are their objective.

#### Progress

July 3.—The trenches of the German position captured by the British extend from Marcourt Wood, in possession of the French as the edge of Assevillers. The village of Habercourt, taken by the French, extends from these two points. Further the French made progress towards Fricourt and Estrees. North of the Somme, the Germans made no attack on positions previously taken by the British.

French captured heavy artillery and more prisoners. The statistics show that thirty-nine German battalions participated in the fighting and thirty-one of these battalions sustained losses. During the night preceding the fighting, the British captured thirty-one German balloons were burned.

#### NOT EXPECT MUCH SAY

July 3.—Reuter's correspondent at the British headquarters in France says that the comparative feebleness of the German artillery response to the British bombardment arose from the shortage of food in the trenches, namely, the deadly lack of the almost ceaseless British fire, which in the last week impeded the transport service. He says that the British people that, although the situation looks promising, too much should not be expected, and adds: "The fighting is a determined, successful one, and though he has now unflinching harder than ever before."

British army, it would be unwise to estimate his powers of resistance in the face of a highly menacing position."

### THE IDEA OF THE TERRIFIC FIRE OF THE BRITISH GUNS DURING THE BIG FIGHT

London, July 3.—(New York Times cable)—A despatch to the London from a correspondent at the British Headquarters, describing the bombardment of German positions on the Somme says: "There were positions were like the mouths of furnaces, a permanent glow flicked and illumined sever ending streams of white sparks. The ordinary measure of the weight of a bombardment by the number of shells burst in a minute. As counting was hopeless, fixing my eyes on one shell to wink as fast as the lightning of the flicker, and the shells beat like a rain of fire. I then tried chattering my teeth and I think that in that way I asplendidly held my own. Testing hitherward in the light, where I could catch a face, I found that I could click my teeth some five or six times in a minute. You can try it for yourself and clicking your own teeth will get some idea of the rate at which the shells were bursting on a single spot. There were always three or four points within the field of vision at which they were bursting at that speed and always in between, over the whole of the field, there were bursting with great, if lesser, rapidity. What the expenditure of ammunition is in such a bombardment it is impossible to conjecture, when along the front of ninety miles there are always positions at which shells are bursting at the rate of some hundreds to the minute this has already gone on for four days and four nights."

### BRITISH GUNS NOW OUTCLASS GERMANS' BEST

Munitions in Plenty and Gas Proves More Deadly Than That Enemy Uses

London, July 3.—(New York Times cable)—The correspondent of the Daily Telegraph in Paris says: "I am credibly informed that the British heavy guns now absolutely outclass the German or Austrian famous 42-centimetres guns which the German command sprang as a surprise at the outbreak of the war. The supplies of munitions are so great that in the present offensive the question of economy in a general sense does not enter into account. The French people have heard with pardonable satisfaction that the British exploding gas has proved deadlier than any the Germans have invented."

### VON BUELOW ON CONDITIONS WHEN WAR IS ENDED

Berlin, July 3.—Prince Von Buelow, former German chancellor, asserts that Germany must have something more than pre-war conditions when peace is declared. This he says in a preface to his book, "German Policies," which has just been issued.

Declaring that Germany will have to reckon after the war with the bitter hatred of France, England and Russia he says this fact must dictate the form which peace shall assume. The position which Germany will find against a renewed and new list for revenge in the west and east and across the channel can only be in its own increased power.

"Our enemies, too, will strengthen armaments on land and water and we for our part must meet this condition. We must make ourselves strong and harder to be attacked on our borders and coasts than we were at the beginning of this war, not for the sake of striving for world supremacy—but in order to maintain ourselves against our foes. The result of the war must not be negative but positive."

Prince Von Buelow maintains that it is important "to retain, restore and strengthen connections with those states with which Germany did not cross swords, irrespective of whether the propaganda of the enemy press and enemy agents influenced the feelings of the people against us during this war. Here political necessities must disregard national ill-will and dislikes even though they are justified."

On Saturday morning at the prescribed hour of 7.30 the Germans surged out of the trenches and over ground torn by shells, into the first line of German trenches, or rather, into the shallow ditches that were left of the trenches.

The Germans were unable to stand against the clan of the French, who pushed rapidly forward until they penetrated three miles into the German lines.

In their advance the French are taking the deep curves of the Somme river and the low-lying marshy ground along the river. The greatest obstacle they met was the marshes of Frise, which they overcame by pushing around on both sides and taking the position in the rear. The advance so far achieved puts the whole German line south of Soissons in danger as the French are now well behind that part of the German lines and a little farther advance will leave the Soissons position a sharp salient in their line.

Meanwhile the allies' pressure continues along the whole front from the sea to Verdun. The extent of the British attack is steadily extending while the French pressure is particularly strong between Soissons and Rheims, and is putting the Germans at Soissons in greater danger from hour to hour.

### GERMANS LOSE A SEAPLANE IN BALTIC

Copenhagen, July 3.—A Danish steamer, according to the Politiken, has rescued the crew, consisting of two officers, of a German seaplane, which was wrecked in the Baltic. The rescued men were transferred to a German warship. The seaplane was taken to a Danish port.

### SAVINGS BANK

The deposits in the Dominion Savings Bank for June were \$70,212.12, the withdrawals, \$84,802.93. For June last year the deposits were \$57,576.30, the withdrawals \$74,576.99.

### CANADIAN OFFICER'S STORY

Speaks of Start of the Great Drive

PREPARATIONS WELL KEPT FROM ENEMY

At Prescribed Hours, After the Fearful Work of Big Guns, Soldiers Sprang From Trenches and the Terrific Onslaught Began

(Special Times Cable)

Paris, July 3.—I had the good fortune to meet this morning a friend who is a Canadian officer in the ranks of the attack and who was in Paris on a brief mission from the front.

In the half hour he had to spare before the train he set on a safe terrace and he described to me the ground over which the offensive was taking place.

The centre of operations in the Somme, the Somme, which the ground slopes upward on both the north and the south. To the south the slope leads to the plateau of the lake de Fricourt and to positions along the Aisne from Soissons to Rheims. The northern slopes lead to the low Aisne plain and north of that are the plains of Ploisy, mounting slowly to the rough Artois Hills, which begin immediately after the last city in the plains, is passed.

In general, the ground is low-lying and flat, and in some places, notably around Frise, it is marshy. It rolls like the western prairies and is cut by numerous minor streams of which one of the most important is the Aisne, flowing into the Somme. The country is strictly agricultural and the villages are small. Those mentioned in the war office communication of Sunday average but 500 inhabitants each.

At the beginning of the great German offensive against Verdun, French troops were withdrawn from all but this sector. Shells were gathered in incredible quantities; this, be it remembered while shells running into the millions a week were being used at Verdun.

All the while troops continued to pour into the sector, among them the best and the fittest of all in the French army. A week ago the armies of the French had crossed first the Somme Canal, then the Somme river and held a line approximately to Albert.

It was then, with lines prepared, that the British bombardment began. The French, meanwhile, were bombarding the German lines with equal intensity, but as the shelling had been steady for nine months, it was not so noticeable and did not attract attention. The French were thus able to prepare their part in the offensive in secret.

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### ONE ST. JOHN MAN HOME ON GRAMPIAN

Quebec, July 3.—Sixty-six Canadian soldiers, invalided home, reached Quebec on Sunday on the Allan Liner Gramplan. Among the number were A. E. Rogers of Yarmouth, N. S.; J. Wiggins of Amherst, N. S.; W. Coughlan of St. John, and C. G. Foster of Halifax.

### Two Have Given Lives; One Is



Arthur Lemon, Missing.



Lieut. Frank J. Corr, Killed.



Corp. Wm. F. Peacock, Killed.

### Corp. Wm. F. Peacock Of The City Of Wounds; Geo. N.

THE BEAR'S PAW REACHES OUT FOR KOLOMEA

Russians Capture Austrian Position in Galicia

THE FIGHTING INTENSE

Enemy Advance a Little on One Part of Line But Russian Hold Them While Letchitzky Sweeps Bukovina

Petrograd, July 3.—Gen. Letchitzky's army, after intense fighting has captured by storm the Austrian positions in the region west of Kolomea, in Galicia, says the Russian official statement last night. The statement adds that up to the present 2,000 prisoners have been taken in this sector.

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Military authorities, the correspondent adds, are confident that the Russians are firmly holding the enemy on this front, pending the development of General Letchitzky's sweep through Bukovina, notwithstanding that strong German reinforcements are entering the field.

Meanwhile the Austrians there are hard pressed to cover their retreat to the Carpathian Mountains.

A LARGE GAIN

Customs receipts here for June amounted to \$259,076.90, showing an increase of \$88,186.84 over the corresponding month in 1915.

### WEATHER BULLETIN

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, E. P. Stewart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis—A moderate disturbance now centered over the New England states, has caused showers in nearly all localities from the Great Lakes to the maritime provinces. Showers have also occurred in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Unsettled.

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