

CITY OF SOISSONS TAKEN BY ALLIES!

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UNSETTLED.

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FOE IN FULL RETREAT!

ARMY OF GERMANY RETIRING RAPIDLY, BURNING VILLAGES

Harrassed By Constant Pressure of Allied Forces Enemy Is In Full Retreat Towards Vast Plateau Southeast of Soissons — French, British and Americans Advance Ten Miles or More Through Villages Mercilessly Set on Fire.

Long Before Daylight Entire Sky Lighted Up By Reflection of the Flames, While Allies Continued in Active Pursuit of Fleeing Foe — Allies Capture Numerous Important Points.

Special cable to New York Tribune and St. John Standard. (By Wilbur S. Forrest).

General Field Headquarters With the French Armies, Aug. 2.—Harrassed by the constant pressure of the Allied forces, the enemy today is again retreating towards the vast plateau southeast of Soissons, which with the communication centre, Braisne, on the heights, and Fismes in the valley at the foot of the plateau will give him a more advantageous position.

With the American troops on both wings and the Franco-British troops in the centre, the Allied soldiers advanced today through the villages which the enemy is mercilessly leaving in flames in his wake.

Long before daylight the entire sky was lighted by the reflection of the flames, while the Allies continued in active pursuit of the fleeing foe.

Important Conquest. The conquest by the Allies of the wooded ridge north of the village of Grand Ronoy, having an average altitude of from 100 to 200 yards, was the turning point of the battle.

On Wednesday the enemy fought desperately to retain these heights which were defended by massed artillery in the rear and thousands of machine guns. These he lost and today's retreat is the result.

Just under these heights on Tuesday, experienced the enemy's raking artillery which was active over the entire lower country, indicating his ardent desire to retain the heights.

This afternoon, the Allies occupied Braisne, Tass and the woods to the southward, the village of Coueremont and after a short clash, North Happonay and Miday.

South of Oureq the Allied lines pressed apart the thickets north of Goussancourt, on the Coulanges road, and the Vexilly Woods. Here the enemy's resistance was feeble. On the eastern side of the battlefield the Germans finally took refuge in the wooded heights southwest of Rheims.

This afternoon the French captured Soissons and Ville-en-Tardenois, and the infantry is within 500 yards of Villers-Agron. The woods, 1,500 yards east of Romigny, are occupied by the Allies and is the village of Forcy. The Allies advance was general until nightfall.

Whimpering William Issues Proclamation

Blasphemously Refers To "The Divine Hand" and "Task Before Which Providence Has Placed Us"—Germany Sorely in Need of Peace Will Continue To Fight.

Amsterdam, Aug. 2.—In a proclamation issued to the German people, Emperor William says:

"Four years of hard struggle have passed, full of eternally memorable deeds. An example has been given for all time of what a people can do that stands in the field for a most just cause and for the maintenance of its existence."

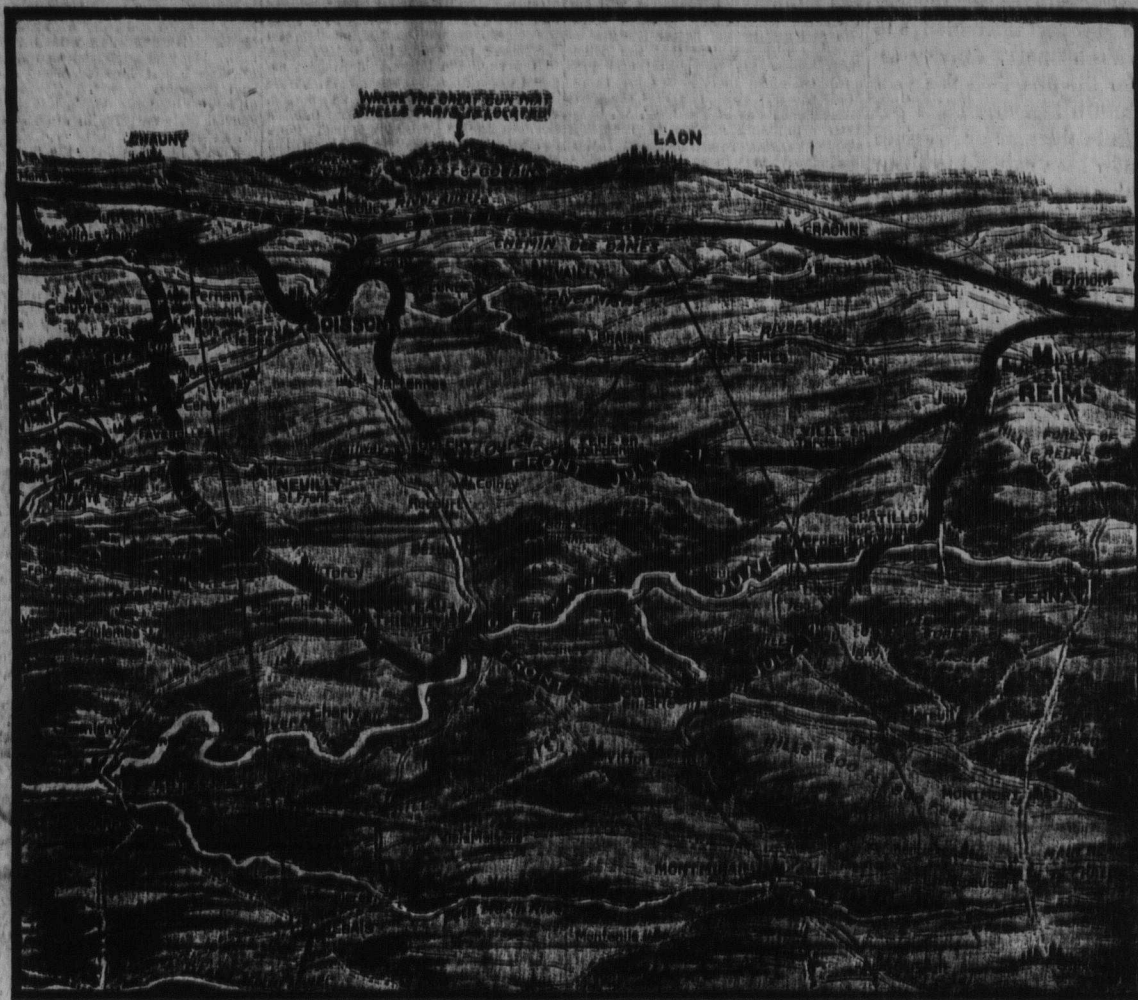
"Graciously revering the Divine Hand which has been graciously extended over Germany, we may proudly say we were not found unworthy in the tremendous task before which Providence placed us."

"If in the struggle our nation was given leaders capable of the highest achievements, it has been given by God that it has deserved to have such leaders. How could the army front have performed its tremendous deeds if the entire labor at home had not been carried to the highest measure of personal performance?"

Spared No Home.

"Wide gaps have been torn in our families, and the suffering of this terrible war has opened no German home. Those who, as boys in their first enthusiasm, saw the first troops depart, stand, themselves, today beside their fathers and brothers as warriors at the front."

"Sacred duty commands that everything be done that this precious blood does not flow in vain. Nothing has been neglected by us to restore peace to the devastated world. The voice of



THE BATTLEFRONT BEFORE THE LATEST GERMAN RETREAT.

GERMANS ABANDON ALL OF VALUABLE CHADUN HEIGHTS

With the French Army in France, Aug. 2.—(By The Associated Press.)—The Germans are in retreat on all sides of the salient between the Aisne and the Marne. On the west the French and British troops, continuing their push of Thursday, have reached the valley of the Crise, a little river which joins the Aisne at Soissons.

The Germans therefore have abandoned the whole of the Chadun Plateau, between the Couvere and Crise valleys.

WANTS NEXT VICTORY

LOAN BONDS TAXED

President Dickinson of Financial Times, Montreal, Opposes Tax-Free Issue.

Montreal, Aug. 2.—In an editorial under the caption "Patriotism via tax exemption," T. Kelly Dickinson, president of the Financial Times, will tomorrow voice a strong protest against the issuing of tax-exempt bonds by the Dominion of Canada, in connection with the forthcoming Victory loan.

DOWLING MUST DIE

London, Aug. 2.—Lance Corporal Joseph Dowling of the Connaught Rangers, who was landed on the coast of Ireland from a German submarine three months ago, was pronounced guilty today and sentenced to death.

Over the battle front the Allies by quick and forcible methods of onslaught have deeply indented the German defence line for splendid gains, which seemingly foreshadow the necessity of the eventual retirement of the forces of the German Crown Prince to more tenable grounds in the north.

Allied Guns Dominate.

The plains behind the northwestern portion of the battle front now are entirely dominated by the Allied big guns; in the south the French and Americans have negotiated almost all of the hill and forest country and are encroaching precipitantly toward the Finney railway, while on the east the British and French are almost astride the Rheims-Soissons railway and have their guns now so placed that the enemy is sure to be sorely tried as he endeavors to press back and gain a

The battle on the north front of the Marne resolved itself during the night and this morning into almost a general retirement of the enemy north of the Crise, with the Allies pursuing the Germans with the greatest zeal and success.

Hortennes Captured

The town of Hortennes-St-Max was occupied by the Allies, who also seized the wood lying to the south of this most important place. The French and

British in this section took Contremains and then crossed the Chateau-Thierry-Soissons road.

The Germans are burning villages as they retire and destroying everything they come across. The entire battlefield is dotted with conflagrations some of them of large proportions.

Germans Less Fecundious.

Along the centre of the front as well as on the western side the German resistance seemed greatly diminished.

Many Towns Captured

Numerous towns and hamlets have been captured by the Allied troops during the heaviest fighting, and at some points they have advanced from two to three miles. South of Soissons the entire Crise river has been forded by the Allied troops.

Northeast of Fere-en-Tardenois the Allied line has been pushed well to the west of the region of Grand Ronoy and the town of Suponay has been taken. In the center the Nesles Wood is being swept clean of Germans by the French cavalry and American and French troops are pressing the Germans hard north of Sergy and the hamlet of Nesles.

Near Gates of Rheims

Farther eastward almost to the gates of Rheims, combined forces of British and French everywhere are sorely harassing the enemy. In this latter region's addition to Thillois, the village of Ville-en-Tardenois is in Allied

hands and the French now are on the heels of the Germans two and a half miles north of the Dormans-Rheims high road over a front of nearly four miles.

Altogether, viewed from the war map, the situation for the Allied troops at present is a most promising one for complete success in rigging the Soissons-Rheims salient entirely of the enemy.

Huns Lack Stamina.

Throughout the later phases of the battle the Germans have not shown their stamina of previous days, and at some points the Allied troops, particularly the Americans, were able to make their way into German positions with virtually no opposition being imposed.

SOLDIERS MAKE UNION

MAN KISS THE FLAG

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 2.—Upward of 200 returned soldiers paid an announced visit to the labor temple this afternoon, broke down some inside doors, secured entrance to the offices and threw books and records in the street. V. R. Midgley, a prominent laborman, was taken into the street and secured his freedom after he had kissed the Union Jack. The soldiers protesting against the 24 hour strike called on account of the killing of Goodwin, alleged draft evader.

NORWEGIAN BRIG SUNK

London, Aug. 2.—The Norwegian brig Althea of Arendal was sunk off the coast of Norway on Wednesday by a German submarine. The crew was saved.

FRENCH ARMY ENTERS CITY OF SOISSONS

Germans Compelled To Retreat Along the Entire Soissons-Rheims Line.

IMPORTANT POSITIONS ARE RELINQUISHED

The French Cross the Crise River Along the Whole of Its Front.

VILLE-EN-TARDENOIS IN HANDS OF ALLIES

French Army in Centre Is Progressing Widely North of Oureq.

Paris, Aug. 2.—French troops have entered Soissons, according to the French official communication issued this evening.

Over the entire line between Soissons and the vicinity of Rheims the Germans have been compelled to give up important positions and retreat precipitantly, the communication adds. The Crise river has been crossed along the whole of its front, further progress has been made in the center of the fighting line and on the east the Allied line has been pushed more than three miles north of the Dormans-Rheims Road.

The text of the communication follows:

"Attacks conducted during the past two days by our troops, and Allied units on the front north of the Marne have obtained full success, the Germans having been pushed back over all the line and forced to abandon the positions of resistance they had chosen between Fere-en-Tardenois and Ville-en-Tardenois and to retreat precipitantly."

Troops Enter City.

"On our left our troops have entered Soissons. More to the south they have crossed the Crise along the whole of the river front."

"On our centre we are progressing widely north of the Crise. We have passed Arey-Sainte-Hestine and penetrated the Bois De Dole."

"More to the east, Coulanges, four kilometres north of the Bois Meniere is in our possession."

Villages Taken.

"On our right Goussancourt, Villers-Agron and Ville-en-Tardenois are in our hands."

"On this part of the front we carried our line about five kilometres north of the Dormans-Rheims Road on the general line of Vexilly and Lheroy."

"Between the Ardre and the Vesle we have occupied Guency and Thilliers. Aviation.—On the 31st seven German airplanes were downed during the day. Twenty-two tons of explosives were dropped on aviation grounds between the Aisne and the Vesle and on barracks and encampments of the enemy in the valleys of the Ardre and Vesle."

N. S. MAN KILLED

Relatives at River Hobart have received word of the death in Bridge-water, Mass., of Clifford M. Greenfield, formerly of the Nova Scotia village. Greenfield was instantly killed while testing a new gasoline engine in a factory. A long duster he was wearing became entangled in the fly wheel and he was badly mangled. He leaves a wife, daughter and a mother. Mrs. John Greenfield, of River Hobart.

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