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The Toronto World

THURSDAY MORNING AUGUST 8 1918

VOL. XXXVIII.—No. 13,784 TWO CENTS

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BRITISH ADVANCE ON FIVE-MILE FRONT NEAR LA BASSEE FRENCH ESTABLISH ANOTHER BRIDGEHEAD ACROSS VESLE RIVER NEAR FISMES BRITISH ADVANCE 1000 YARDS FRENCH TROOPS CROSS VESLE

Over Front of Nearly Five Miles, Between Lawe and Clarence Rivers, British Line Has Been Advanced and German Counter-Attacks Repulsed.

East of Braisne Enemy is Driven Over the River and Positions Held, While Germans Are Pushed Back 400 Yards North of Rheims.

London, Aug. 7.—British troops over a front of nearly five miles have pushed their line forward to a depth of a thousand yards between the Lawe and Clarence rivers, according to the British official communication issued tonight. Counter-attacks by the Germans along the Bray-Corbie road have been repulsed. The text of the communication follows: "This morning and again this afternoon the enemy made further local attacks upon our positions astride the Bray-Corbie road and was repulsed after sharp fighting. "Raids attempted by the enemy during the day south of Hamel and southwest of La Bassee were driven off by our fire. "The progress of our patrols in the sector east of Robecq has been continued, and our line between the Lawe and Clarence rivers has now been pushed forward to a depth of about a thousand yards on a front of nearly five miles. "Further north our patrols entered the enemy's trenches today east of the Nieppe Forest and captured thirty prisoners and a few machine guns. A few prisoners have been secured on other parts of the front."

Paris, Aug. 7.—American and French troops have crossed the Vesle River east of Braisne and held their positions, notwithstanding furious counter-attacks by the Germans, says the French official communication issued tonight. North of Rheims the French have pushed back the German line more than 400 yards. The text of the communication follows: "Between the Oise and the Aisne, after a violent bombardment, the enemy attempted two surprise attacks near Bally and Tracy-le-Val. He was repulsed. "To the east of Braisne (on the Vesle) a few of our elements, acting in conjunction with American troops, crossed the Vesle and established themselves on the northern bank, where they maintained themselves in spite of two violent German counter-attacks. "To the north of Rheims we have pushed our line four hundred metres between the railway running to Rethel and Laon."

GERMAN OFFENSIVE DEFEATED THE ENEMY MAY TRY AGAIN

Lloyd George Declares Height of Kaiser's Military Power Has Passed —British Have Achieved Two Great Victories—Foch's Leadership Is Most Brilliant in Annals of War.

Points in Lloyd George's Speech

He would be a sanguine man on the German general staff who would now predict that Germany could obtain a military decision this year. Marshal Foch's counter-offensive is the most brilliant in the annals of the war. Until all the allies are defeated at sea, Germany can never triumph. Since the war began 150 German submarines have been accounted for, more than half in the past year. When the war began the British navy had a tonnage of 2,500,000. Now with its auxiliary fleet the British navy has a tonnage of 8,000,000. In a month's time after the Germans began their offensive, Britain had thrown 355,000 men across the channel. At that moment there were more guns and machine guns with the British army than ever before. The Germans hit in the centre, in the north, in the south, where they thought they were destroying the British army with nothing behind it. In six weeks they were hurled back and forced to a standstill by the British army. They were defeated in two of the most sanguinary battles of the war and left with unhealthy salients under the fire of the British guns. It was one of the finest things in the tenacious valor of the whole history of the British Empire. From the moment Gen. Foch achieved strategic command, the fortunes of the allied armies were restored. It is too early to say that the German effort is exhausted; they still have powerful forces in reserve. It is not too early to say that their chances of March 21 will never come again. Germany can never again maintain the same number of divisions that she had. She is now begging for Austrian support. Militarily, the Germans have passed the height of their power. Russia has become a clog to the feet of Germany.

London, Aug. 7.—David Lloyd George, the British prime minister, today in a speech before the house of commons, reviewed extensively the war situation. He referred particularly to what had been accomplished in the recent drive by the allied forces on the Soissons-Rheims salient, to the destruction of German submarines, of which 150 had been accounted for since the war began—more than half of these in the last year—and the part the Americans now were playing and would play later in the fighting for the cause of democracy. "He would be a sanguine man on the German general staff who would now predict that Germany could obtain a military decision this year," the premier declared, as he characterized Marshal Foch's counter-offensive as "the most brilliant in the annals of the war." Reverting to peace, Lloyd George said the people who had made the war still were in evidence, and that they could have no peace so long as they were predominant in the councils of the enemy.

TORONTO WARMEST PLACE IN CANADA

Thermometer Went Higher Than in Any Day in Six Years. Lowest 66; Highest 101. Cooler Temperature Promised by Weather Man for Today.

Toronto was the warmest spot in Canada yesterday, in fact the thermometer managed to reach a higher mark than it has done for the last six years. Added to the hot rays which swept over the city was a very great amount of humidity which made the heat all the more difficult to bear. The temperature yesterday rose to 101 in Toronto, beating this city's closest competitor, Ottawa, by nine degrees. People who left their homes with the hope of getting a breath of fresh air out of doors, were met as soon as they stepped from their doorsteps by a blast of hot air, like that which comes from the open doors of a furnace or the mouth of a volcano. Ice cream parlors and similar places of refreshment were well patronized by the population and loads of drinks were poured down parched throats in a vain attempt to combat the scorching heat.

Costs Are Discarded. Collars hung limp round the necks of the unfortunate victims of fashion and conventions, had encircled their throats with the uncomfortable white circles of stiffened linen. Coats were discarded and hats carried in the wearers' hands while foreheads were perspired with little rivulets of perspiration. A number of people had to receive first aid in drug stores suffering from heat prostration while women and girls fainted in the stores and had to be taken to the rest rooms and given restoratives. In spite of the tropical temperature all places of amusement, theatres and movies, were well patronized and in fact most of them were more comfortable than the asphalt heat-radiating streets and cement sidewalks. The weather man promises a little relief for today as the forecast reads: "Moderate winds, generally fair and cooler."

BORDEN VISITS FLEET.

Premier and Colleague Spent Bank Holiday on North Sea.

London, Aug. 7.—Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues, who spent the bank holiday on the grand fleet, returned to London today. They were welcomed on the flagship of the American squadron by Admiral Rodman.

TWO SHIPS LAUNCHED.

St. John, N.B., Aug. 7.—Launching of two fine wooden vessels took place here today. The new vessels are the Colma K. Goldman, 477 tons, built at St. Martins, and the Vincent A. White, 460 tons, launched at Alma. A second schooner is to be launched at the latter place tomorrow and at St. Martins work begins at once on a second and larger craft than the two launched today.

EPIDEMIC SUBSIDES.

Berne, Switzerland, Aug. 7.—The grippe epidemic in Switzerland is subsiding. The latest bulletin announces a considerable decrease, amounting to 2000 cases.

HIGHEST TEMPERATURE REACHED IN NEW YORK

New York, Aug. 7.—All official heat records for New York were shattered at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon, when the temperature mounted to 101 degrees, and another degree was added for good measure a half-hour later. The highest previous mark was 100 degrees, which was reached on Sept. 7, 1881. At six o'clock the temperature had dropped to 99, but the indications were that it would not go much below 90 during the night. A half-dozen deaths already have been reported. The total daily mortalities, which mounted well toward 100, climbed to their highest as the night wore on. Tens of thousands slept in night in the city parks and at nearby beach resorts.

GERMANS TO RETREAT TO LINES OF AISNE

With the American Army on the Aisne-Marne front, Aug. 7.—Under an inferno of shrapnel and machine gun fire and waves of gas the Americans forced their way over the Vesle River late in the afternoon, to the hot river train varying at times from a drizzle to a downpour drenched the battlefield. French troops already had gained positions on the American left, and the joint movement has straightened out the line from a point west of Basoches to Fismes. The Germans lost considerably in casualties and also in prisoners, whose stories tended to corroborate the expressed opinion of those previously taken that the Germans expect to continue their retreat until the bank of the Aisne is reached.

BERTHELOT WORSTS FIFTEEN DIVISIONS

Attacks of French Army Compelled Germans to Beat Hasty Retreat.

London, Aug. 7.—Reuter's correspondent at French headquarters this morning says, describing the part that General Berthelot's army took in the second victory of the Marne, that the general never had less than 15 enemy divisions opposed to his forces, and had perhaps the hardest fighting of all. When Gen. Mangin's counter-offensive transformed the position, General Berthelot's object was gained, and he endeavored to exploit the situation to the utmost disadvantage of the enemy. Accordingly he decided to throw the whole weight of the attack upon the eastern edge of the pocket in the direction of Fismes, so that the enemy was constantly threatened with having his rear turned along the Ardre valley. The latter was consequently forced to accelerate his retreat, and these tactics of General Berthelot thus achieved their object. This morning the Germans had to abandon everything but their guns, and even a good many of these were captured in a wood north of the river. Two hundred thousand heavy shells were discovered nearby, hidden from air observation, and it is not yet possible to count the material captured. Thousands of machine guns, hundreds of mines, rifles and mountain of ammunition for both arms, make up the allied booty. The army of General Berthelot now has two complete field gun batteries which the French are utilizing against the Germans, firing the latter's own ammunition at them. Machine guns were so plentiful that the Germans seem to have used them at the rate of one machine gun for every two infantrymen.

BIG BRITISH GAINS UPON LYS FRONT

Field Marshal Haig's Men Move Forward Thousand Yards.

STILL CROSSING VESLE

Franco-Americans Force Another Passage Near Braisne.

The allied armies have obtained further successes over the Germans in fighting in the Soissons-Rheims sector and to the north in the Montdidier region, and still further north in Flanders between the Lawe and Clarence rivers. East of the town of Braisne, on the Vesle River, midway between Soissons and Rheims, French and American troops, after the stiffest kind of fighting, have crossed the river and hold all the positions gained. The French, to the north of Rheims, have penetrated the German positions further advanced their line on this important sector, which represents the junction point of the armies of the German Crown Prince and of Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria, an British Advance. It remained for the British, however, to deliver the hardest blow against the Germans Wednesday. Following up a previous advance in the famous Lys sector, northwest of La Bassee, Field Marshal Haig's men pushed forward their line over a front of nearly five miles to a depth of 1000 yards between the Lawe and Clarence rivers. The details of this advance are not yet to hand, but the manoeuvre doubtless will go a far way toward lessening the point of the nasty salient.

SMALLEST LOSSES YET.

July Figures of Shipping Destruction Fall Below June's.

London, Aug. 7.—The losses of British merchant shipping in July were lower than during June, Sir Leo G. Chiozza Money, parliamentary secretary to the ministry of shipping, announced in the house of commons today.

TWO U-BOATS AT WORK.

St. John, Aug. 7.—According to survivors of the fishing schooner, Annie Perry, in port today on their way to Boston, two submarines are working together in depredations along the fishing fleet off the Atlantic coast.

TO MOVE TO ARCHANGEL.

Kandalaska, Russian Lapland, Aug. 6.—The United States ambassador to Russia, David R. Francis, returned here today from the Murmansk region and will remain at Kandalaska pending developments. The allied diplomatic corps expect to move to Archangel shortly.

NEW SHIPPING OUTPUT LARGELY PASSES LOSS

London, Aug. 7.—The secretary of the Admiralty in announcing the amount of the merchant ships constructed for the three months ending June 30, says the output of the United Kingdom and allied and neutral countries exceeded the losses from all causes by 296,898 gross tons. The total output was 1,543,274 tons, as against 870,377 tons for the first quarter of the year. The United Kingdom built 442,968 tons as compared with 329,250. The United Kingdom's total output for the first seven months of the year was 985,194 tons. For the year ending July 31, the output was 1,490,023, compared with the same period of the previous year, 868,147 tons. The secretary of the Admiralty says that July figures were not as high as usual, owing to the holidays.

MOUNTED SOLDIERS PARADED STREETS

Downtown Section Resumed Its Normal Appearance Last Night.

CENTRE IN EARLS COURT

Indications of Trouble Soon Dispelled, and Quiet Ensues.

There was no trouble at any point in Toronto last night. Rumors were rife, however. The presence of a hundred mounted soldiers on the principal streets is said to have had a quieting effect upon the crowds. During the evening a group of about 25 young men, said to have been returned from overseas because of being undisciplined, were reported to have filled their pockets with staves from the car tracks and to have made off to cause disturbances. A crowd quickly gathered, and for an hour 2000 people were around the corner of Dufferin and St. Clair anticipating a raid on a restaurant. The police and several patrol wagons were summoned, and a staff officer from military headquarters headquarters visited the place. The police entered Belmont Hall where the Earls Court War Veterans were having a euchre and dance, and demanded to know why a meeting was being held. The nature of the meeting was explained and the officers of the branch emphatically stated their disapproval of any rioting. At midnight the "fall-in" was sounded on a bugle, and whatever soldiers were present went off and the crowd quickly dispersed. Only at 10:45 there was a trace of trouble, and this was when two returned men were stopped by the police from trading at a Greek store near the corner of Yonge and Carlton. No crowds were to be seen anywhere, and the streets were orderly everywhere. It was rumored that a carload of returned men had made their way east with ill intent, but no word of any trouble was received from that quarter. Some returned soldiers stated that Mayor Church would address a gathering at Queen's Park this afternoon. The mayor was called up, and not only denied that he would address a gathering, but also stated emphatically that no gathering would be allowed in the park.

BULGARIANS ENGAGE IN PEACE OFFENSIVE

Athens, Aug. 7.—Bulgaria is engaged in a peace offensive synchronizing with the German movement in the same direction, according to Alexander Carapanos, former minister of foreign affairs. He is playing particularly upon the friendly sentiment existing at the present in Great Britain and the United States, he asserts. "The rumors of a possible about-face on the part of Bulgaria have been confirmed by M. Michalakopoulos, our minister of agriculture, who has returned from London, whither he went on a special mission," declares M. Carapanos, in an interview printed in "The Messenger" of this city.

FRENCH REPEL RAID TRIED BY BULGARIANS

Paris, Aug. 7.—A French official communication says: "To the army of the East, Aug. 6.—To the west of the Ypres the enemy artillery has bombarded vigorously our positions on Srika di Legem. "In Albania Bulgarian detachments which attempted to penetrate our lines in the region of Gramat were repulsed and left prisoners in our hands. "French aviators have bombarded enemy depots to the south of Topolcani and British airmen have bombarded depots in the region of Sereq."

BRITISH DISCHARGE TON OF BOMBS EACH HOUR

London, Aug. 7.—The following official communication on aerial operations was issued tonight: "Four German machines were shot down during the day of Aug. 6, and one was brought down in flames in the following night. During the 24 hours 24 tons of bombs were dropped by us on railways, airfields and billets of the enemy and several direct hits were observed. All our machines returned safely."

RESTAURANT CLOSED.

Montreal Man Sells Beef in Prohibited Hours.

Ottawa, Aug. 7.—For selling beef during prohibited hours, and for serving bread in excess of the quantities allowed by the regulations of the Canada Food Board, Dominique Hallock, 1244 Beville street, Montreal, has been ordered by the food board to close his restaurant for seven days from midnight on Thursday, Aug. 8.

DOMINION STEEL.

Montreal, Aug. 7.—Dominion Steel Corporation, regular quarterly dividend of 1-1/4 per cent, payable Oct. 1 to holders of record Sept. 3.

MAYOR MUST HAVE PROPERTY GUARDED

His Refusal to Read Riot Act, if Necessary, Renders Him Liable.

SUSPEND POLICEMEN

He Says Conduct of Six Constables May Lead to This.

Two years imprisonment is the penalty faced by Mayor Church if, on a continuation of the rioting in Toronto, he refuses to have the Riot Act read so that the soldiers can be utilized to quell it. This is the statement made yesterday afternoon by Lt.-Col. J. A. Macdonald, assistant judge advocate-general for Toronto military district. He declared that one of the duties of the Mayor of Toronto was to see that the property of its citizens was protected, and if, through rioting, damage was caused because of the mayor refusing to read the Riot Act, and thereby summoning aid to restore order, he would be falling in his duty as chief magistrate, and under the law, liable to two years' imprisonment. This announcement by an officer of Toronto military headquarters is of more than special interest in view of Mayor Church's change of mind yesterday, after announcing that he would read the Riot Act, and his further announcement yesterday afternoon that even the requisition for military aid to quell prospective disturbances would be withdrawn.

MAY Suspend Policemen.

Six members of the Toronto police force will likely be suspended by a board of police commissioners as a result of too free use of the baton on Saturday night. This information was given out by Mayor Church last night at 11:30. "Those six men completely lost their heads," he said, "and from specific evidence we have relative to their use of the baton, their suspension will be recommended." Mayor Church announced last evening that the request for troops to stop any possible riots had been withdrawn. "Col. Bickford, however," the mayor added "will keep pickets on the streets."

Part of British Navy.

Lloyd George referred to the part the British navy had played in the war, and said that until all the allies were defeated at sea Germany could never triumph. When Great Britain decided to throw her whole weight into the war four years ago, he continued, she did so because of an outrage on international rights. Had she not taken this decision the whole course of the war would have been different. He pictured the part the navy had played in the war, in the vast wildernesses of the sea, with no one to witness or to describe their operations, and said he did not think that many persons realized that if the allies were defeated on the water the war would be over. "When the war began," said Lloyd George, "the British navy, then the largest in the world, represented a tonnage of two and one-half million tons. Now, including the auxiliary fleet, it is eight million. Were it not for this increase the seas might be barred for the commerce of the world. Every trade route of the world is patrolled by its ships." The premier then referred to the other activities of the navy, such as conveying, patrolling, mine-laying, mine-sweeping and the chasing of submarines. It was here that he said 150 German submarines had been destroyed, more than half of them in the last year.

8,000,000 Miles of Steaming.

"During June alone," the premier continued, "British naval ships steamed eight million miles. To this must be added the efforts of the mercantile marine which is now a branch of the British navy and whose men face the same dangers, carrying for the allies as well as for themselves, and most of the American troops, and have so valiantly acquitted themselves in recent combats.

Attempts at Decision.

"I wish to point the necessity of not impairing in the slightest degree the efficiency, strength and growth of the British navy and mercantile marine. During the past two years Germany has made two distinct attempts to force a decision—one on the land and one on the sea. The land offensive might have been disastrous, but the sea offensive if it had succeeded would have been final. If the submarines had succeeded our armies in France would have withered away. No Americans could have come over to assist us and the French troops, ammunition could not have been shipped and we could not have sent the necessary coal and materials to enable France and Italy to manufacture munitions. "If France, Italy and Great Britain were threatened with starvation the war would have been over before this stage had been reached. I do not wish to minimize in the least the great assistance rendered by the American, French, Italian and Japanese fleets, but the British fleet is so incomparably greater and its operations are on a scale of such greater magnitude that I must direct especially upon this point, its importance and the immensity of its efforts in the war should be realized."

Part of British Navy.

"The American naval mission which came over recently saw a great deal of the effort of the British navy and was immensely struck with the vastness of the work which is being done. It was especially anxious that steps be taken to make known, not only here,

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