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The Toronto World

WEDNESDAY MORNING JULY 24 1918

VOL. XXXVIII—No. 13,769 TWO CENTS

ALLIED ADVANCE AT THE LINE FOR THE BANK OF THE MARNE

Germans Pushed Back on Both Sides of the Ourcq River---Armentieres-Coincy Railway Cut---Heights Dominating River Avre Captured---Further British Advance.

ALLIES BATTLE WAY FORWARD ALONG OURCQ

Increasing Resistance of Germans Fails to Stem Advance.

STRONG POINTS FALL

Blow Aimed at Montdidier Useful Diversion Against Enemy.

The entente allied troops on the Soissons-Rheims salient continue to gain ground, both on the western side of the Marne and toward Rheims, notwithstanding the increasing resistance of the Germans and the bad weather that is prevailing on the southern part of the line.

While the latest gains recorded are not as great, as the whole, as those of previous days, they nevertheless have added positions of strategic value to the allied line for the further prosecution of the efforts to clear the territory of the enemy. In the fighting more prisoners, guns and war stores have fallen into the hands of the French, British and American troops.

As a diversion, the French to the northwest, midway between Soissons and Amiens, have delivered a blow against the German line which has been productive of excellent results. Striking on a front of several miles, the enemy lines for a distance of about two miles and gained the heights dominating the valley of the Avre River and the plains beyond. Fifteen hundred Germans were captured by the French. The official communication issued by the French war office refers to this fighting as a local operation.

South of Soissons the drive of the Franco-American forces toward Fere-en-Tardenois has pushed further back the Germans on both sides of the Ourcq River. South of the river, notwithstanding the fierce resistance, the led French units have been capturing the Armentieres and Coincy, running southward to Chateau Thierry, and pressed on beyond it. This advance brings the French and American troops relatively to within seven miles of Fere-en-Tardenois, and also gives them a dominating position for big gun play over the eastern section of the railway line running from Armentieres to Fere-en-Tardenois.

Jaulgonne Recaptured. On the north bank of the Marne to the east of Chateau Thierry the Town of Jaulgonne, from which the Germans retreated during the German offensive, has been recaptured and left in the rear by the advancing troops. East of Jaulgonne the French likewise have advanced their line on the north bank of the Marne and clung to their newly-won positions, notwithstanding the viciousness of the German counter moves and the statement of the German war office that they were driven out.

JAP PRIVY COUNCIL FOR SIBERIAN POLICY

London, July 23.—A Reuter despatch from Tokyo dated July 19 says that a special session of the privy council, presided over by the emperor, met that day to consider the Siberian question and passed the government's measure in the premises.

IRISH NATIONALISTS RETURN TO HOUSE

Dillonites Decide to Force Discussion in Parliament on Erin's Affairs.

London, July 23.—The Irish Nationalists returned to parliament today after a three months' absence, which was due to the government's decision to introduce conscription in Ireland. At a meeting previous to the assembling of commons, the Nationalists decided to put down a motion regarding the principles laid down by President Wilson in his great speech at the grave of George Washington, when the French war office refers to this fighting as a local operation.

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WANT ASSURANCE FROM DELEGATES

Letter Carriers Decide to Await Word From Men at Ottawa.

BRITISH MAIL ARRIVES

Could Not Be Dealt With for Want of Sorters.

The last word in connection with the postoffice employees' walk-out last night was that every chauffeur but two had gone out in sympathy with the carriers. The carriers had decided to send a delegation to Ottawa to confer with a sub-committee of the Dominion Cabinet, and has also decided to remain out until assured by this delegation that the government would either appoint a crown commission or a board of conciliation to take up the grievances, and to grant the men a straight wage of not less than \$1000 a year.

On August 15 the provincial government will take over the Ottawa- Prescott road, a distance of 56 miles, but the exact entrance to Ottawa has not yet been decided upon. On the same date the 25 miles of road between Napanee and Kingston and the Hamilton-Queenston road will also be taken over by the government. Repair work will be undertaken and all necessary regrading and resurfacing of the roads to be started as soon as the roads have been taken over. Wherever possible the roads will be widened and made ready to convert into provincial highways.

On the night of July 22-23 repeated attacks, attended with good results, were carried out against the enemy's airbases. Fires and explosions were observed. Other targets were engaged with bombs and machine gun fire.

London, July 23.—The official statement on aerial operations issued by the air ministry tonight says: "In a raid carried out on the afternoon of the 22nd instant, the main station of Offenbourg (Baden), was hit and bursts were seen on the sidings. One hostile machine was destroyed. All our machines returned."

London, July 23.—At a Mansion House luncheon today to H. H. Hoover, American food controller, the first speaker was J. Austen Chamberlain, who expressed in warm terms on behalf of the government appreciation to Mr. Hoover and the people of the United States for the help rendered the common cause, particularly through the self-sacrifice of a people in a land of plenty.

FOUR GERMAN TANKS CAPTURED BY ALLIES

With the American Army on the Aisne-Marne Front, July 23.—The French and American troops fighting south of Soissons have captured four German tanks, which were operating against them in conjunction with the building, built partially underground, one mile east of Tondern, and that, from the communications justified the reports that only two zeppelin sheds, with the altships inside, were destroyed.

CONVERT HIGHWAY INTO FINE SYSTEM

Ottawa to Prescott and Other Roads to Become Provincial.

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EIGHT VILLAGES TAKEN IN ADVANCE OF ALLIES

Eighteen Hundred Prisoners Made in Progress at Montdidier and Along the Ourcq --- British Troops Gain Over Thousand Yards in Attacks Between Ardre and Vignay.

FRENCH PRESS ON IN ALBANIA DRIVE

Allies Clear Austrians From Southern Bank of Holtz River.

OFFENBURG STATION BOMBED BY BRITISH

Afternoon Raid Carried Out Against Baden Town---Bursts Seen on Railway Sidings.

GERMAN COMMAND UNDER DECEPTION

Kaiser's Generals Err About British Army---Food Difficulty Has Passed.

RUSSIANS REQUEST MILITARY SUPPORT

Propaganda Continues Active Among Vast Numbers of War Prisoners.

London, July 23.—An undated despatch from Vladivostok received here today says the provisional government submitted to the allies July 15 a request for joint military action.

Paris, July 23.—A French official statement says: "Eastern theatre, July 22.—There was reciprocal artillery activity in the region of Doiran and west of the Vardar. Patrol engagements took place in the region of Nonte. "In Albania our troops continued their attacks yesterday and after heavy hand-to-hand fighting drove the Austrians from all their positions south of the Kofia River. In the course of two days we captured six hundred prisoners, including six officers and twelve machine guns. On our left, on the west bank of the Devoli, Italian troops captured Hill 900."

London, July 23.—Immediately south of the River Ourcq, on the Aisne-Marne battlefield, the advancing French forces are reported to have had very heavy fighting today. Nevertheless they have succeeded in reaching several points on the railroad between Armentieres and Coincy. This part of the railroad is more than six miles to the east of Neuilly-St. Front.

London, July 23.—The French attack on Montdidier has progressed to the western edge of the wood north of Sauville-Mongival, which means a total advance of two miles. The point is about two thousand yards east of Mully-Raineval and gives the French control of the heights dominating the entire area. Two hundred Germans were made prisoner.

Well Executed. Montdidier today was a very well executed and successful minor operation, and, according to despatches received this afternoon from the battlefield, was presumably designed as a diversion, aiming at keeping the enemy's mind occupied and preventing him from sending large reinforcements to the southward.

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