

SERBS LAUNCH OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE BULGARIANS

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VAILLY IS CAPTURED BY FRENCH; MAISSEMY IN HANDS OF BRITISH

BRITISH TROOPS ADVANCE ALONG ARRAS-CAMBRAI ROAD

ST. MIHIEL VICTORY IS A MAGNIFICENT EXAMPLE OF THE RESULTS OF A UNIFIED COMMAND AND GENERALSHIP

Great Allied Leader Has Demonstrated What Co-operation of Entente Armies Can Do—Next Offensive Likely To Be Launched in the Direction of Briey.

By FRANK H. SIMONDS.
(Copyright, 1918, New York Tribune, Inc.)

Despite natural and justified pride in American achievement on a single sector of the great western front, it is essential that we should now appreciate the larger meaning of the victory at St. Mihiel. It is viewed from this angle, a magnificent example of the advantages of unified command, a revelation of the military genius of our Allied commander-in-chief, and a hopeful evidence that there is to be no let-up in the general Allied offensive and no repetition of the costly obstinacy which has made earlier Allied offensives costly failures.

Foch is following the larger strategy of Grant in 1864. He is attacking all along the line; he is attacking in Lorraine; he has attacked in Champagne, in Alsace, in Flanders, in Artois, and he will certainly attack in Flanders. He is attacking behind the Hindenburg line with the expectation that Foch would follow him and wear out his resources in a repetition of the Somme and Flanders campaigns of 1916 and 1917. But Foch has shifted his field of operations and inflicted a new defeat, local but costly.

As a result of our American victory, the only break in the permanent line of French defenses on the eastern frontier has been repaired. The Toul-Verdun Railroad is reopened, giving the French an invaluable lateral communication behind

the Verdun-Toul front. In the same way the Paris-Nancy Railroad has been freed from the surveillance of German guns about St. Mihiel and a forty-mile detour eliminated.

Foch's Next Attack.

Two major profits for the future have also been realized. Foch is free now to launch an offensive in the direction of Briey and his great iron mines without danger on his southern flank. He is equally at liberty to strike eastward from Nancy between Metz and Strassburg without anxiety for his rearward communications with Paris.

An advance to Briey would be a local operation with a purely limited objective—the iron mines. But an advance from Nancy would be the beginning of the real invasion of Germany, an invasion certain to come next year, and, when it comes, sure to compel the Germans to sell out of Northern France and Western Belgium. In a word, the American success in establishing the St. Mihiel salient solidly lays the foundation for a great American offensive into Alsace-Lorraine, which is bound to be the decisive feature of the campaign of 1919.

Looked at as a single operation, Pershing's attack is wholly commendable to that of Mangin against the Marne salient and Bawlinson against the Montdidier pocket. In both cases the attack was mainly on one side of a deep salient or pocket, designed to throw the mouth

ORDNANCE STORES MEN CHOSEN FOR SIBERIA



Advertisement illustration. Capt. E. M. Cartner and seven men are leaving for Ottawa, where they will be in training for some time before leaving with the Siberian Expeditionary Force. Top row, from left to right—C. M. Taylor, C. Egerton, S. Dean, F. Jones and A. Bennett. Bottom row—Sergeant R. Carter, Capt. E. M. Cartner and Corp. R. D. Johnston.

ANOTHER GERMAN TRICK, IS OPINION OF LONDON PRESS

Austrian Peace Note Proposals Should Not Be Considered.

AUSTRIA A CATSPA W

Kaiser's Object, It Is Believed, Is To Save Tattered Empire.

London, Sept. 16.—Austria's invitation to the belligerents to meet in informal peace discussions is given a warm reception by the London morning newspapers. The warmth, however, is not that of cordiality, but of indignant repudiation. The note is seen by commentators as a German trick by which Austria is made the scapegoat in the endeavor to gain time to enable the German high command to reorganize its shattered troops. The offer of peace to Belgium is regarded as a shameless insult.

"The Austrian note does not bring real peace any nearer," says the Express. "Preliminary conditions to peace have been stated over and over again by the Allies, and there is not the faintest suggestion that the central powers will agree to any one of these conditions. They who draw the Austrian note to gain time to enable the German high command to reorganize its shattered troops. The offer of peace to Belgium is regarded as a shameless insult."

Relative to the offer of peace to Belgium, the Express says: "This is another Brest-Litovsk scheme, and part of the same plan for preserving the power of the Hohenzollerns."

After referring to the sinking of the liner Galway Castle as a coincidence to the offer of peace, the newspaper says: "The allied peoples will not shake hands. They will not be friends, nor will they agree to any hole-in-the-corner negotiations. Democracy is now at the helm of the world's affairs. Militarism is tottering, and if the German people desire to save themselves from falling with it, they must insist on preliminary conditions which alone make useful talk possible."

"Our peace terms have been made clear," says the Post. "When Germany and her dependents are ready to accept them, they can let us know. There will be no abatement to them. Germany must be beaten, and must recognize she is beaten. Until then her suggestions for peace conferences are not to be regarded any more than the cackling of thorns under a pot."

PARIS BOMBED BY HUN PLANES EARLY TODAY

Divisions Just Out of Conflict Are Thrown In Again.

STRAIN IS EVIDENT

Canadians in Canal du Nord District Continue To "Strafe the Hun."

CALLS ON CHRISTIAN WORLD TO SUPPORT AIMS OF WILSON

Bishop of Oxford Favors Great League of Nations.

New York, Sept. 16.—Calling upon the Christian church of America to back President Wilson to the limit in his demand for a great league of nations to preserve the peace of the world, Right Rev. Charles Gore, Bishop of Oxford, preached his first sermon in America here yesterday. He came to this country at the invitation of the national committee on churches and the moral aims of the war to promote fellowship between the two great English-speaking nations.

SECRETARY BAKER IN LONDON.

London, Sept. 16.—Newton Baker, U. S. secretary of war, arrived in London today from Paris.

CONDITION OF LLOYD GEORGE IMPROVED

Symptoms of Exhaustion Are Disappearing, Says the Latest Bulletin.

London, Sept. 16.—Premier Lloyd George had a distinctly better night last night, and had several hours of continuous sleep, says the official bulletin issued by the attending physicians today.

"The symptoms of exhaustion," the bulletin adds, "which were manifest yesterday afternoon are passing. The premier's temperature has fallen and his pulse is better. The state of his throat shows satisfactory improvement."

HAG'S FORCES TAKE MAISSEMY; VAILLY IS CAPTURED BY FRENCH

GERMAN RUSE TO SAVE THE PIECES

Washington, Sept. 16.—Receipt of the official text of the Austrian peace proposal was awaited today by officials here, but unfortunately the communication is couched in terms so radically different from the version contained in press dispatches, it was felt that the entire plea could be characterized as a German ruse to obtain the best possible terms before an Allied victory could impose the most severe punishment upon her.

The proposal as viewed by officials, it was reiterated, does not contain a single basis upon which the entente powers and the United States would be willing to meet the authors of the plea. In most circles it was held that the putting forth of the proposal at this time was but an admission of the growing weakness of the central powers. Evidence that such a proposal was made soon have been frequent recently, and the announcement of it here was no surprise to officials here. There was doubt today whether a reply would be sent. If a reply is made, it was considered likely that the Allies would make a joint answer after an exchange of views.

German Stronghold Near St. Quentin Falls to British While Poilus Force the Teutons From Town East of Soissons — Serbs Open Offensive Against Bulgarians.

Paris, Sept. 16.—The town of Vailly, on the north bank of the Aisne, east of Soissons, has been captured by the French, the war office announced today. The French have continued their progress between the Oise and the Aisne, and captured Mont-des-Singes.

ADVANCE OF 1,000 YARDS MADE BY BRITISH IN HAVRINCOURT ZONE

With the British Forces in France, Sept. 16.—(By the Associated Press).—Field Marshal Haig's Forces continued their steady improvement of the British line at numerous points yesterday and last night. The most important gains recorded were in the Ypres-Comines Canal sector, where an advance of about 1,000 yards was achieved in the neighborhood of the canal, and in the Havrincourt zone, where posts were established along the Canal du Nord, to the east of Denicourt, thereby giving the aggressors a better position for future operations should they be undertaken. The German artillery has maintained a steady bombardment at Havrincourt and in the surrounding territory.

SERBS LAUNCH OFFENSIVE ALONG THE SALONICA FRONT

Washington, Sept. 16.—Launching of an offensive against the Bulgarians on the Salonica front by the reorganized Serbian army, in co-operation with French forces, and the capture of three strongly-fortified Bulgarian positions, is announced in an official Serbian communique received here today from Salonica.

The positions taken are Teak Vetrenik, Dobro Polje and the Mountain Sokol, which the Bulgars held for 18 months, and were regarded as the strongest places.

BRITISH TROOPS ADVANCE LINES NORTH OF ARRAS-CAMBRAI ROAD

London, Sept. 16.—British troops last night advanced their line north of the Arras-Cambrai road, establishing posts in the vicinity of Sauchy-Cauchy and Oppy, according to today's report from Field Marshal Haig.

On the Flanders front the British pushed ahead in a successful minor operations astride the Ypres-Comines Canal on a front of more than two miles.

The text of the statement reads:

"During the night we carried out a successful minor operation astride the Ypres-Comines Canal on a front of over two miles, capturing a number of prisoners and machine guns."

"On the battlefront, encounters with hostile raiding parties and patrols have taken place in the neighborhood of Moeuvres and near Gaville. We have established new posts in the vicinity of Sauchy-Cauchy and Oppy."

MAISSEMY VILLAGE 5 MILES FROM ST. QUENTIN IS TAKEN BY BRITISH

With the British Army in France, Sept. 15.—(By the Associated Press).—Maissemy, a village five miles northwest of St. Quentin, has been captured by the British. The place was taken during a local attack directed against the high ground on which this hamlet is situated. This adds another important position to those recently taken along the ridges west of St. Quentin.

FIGHTING NEAR LA BASSEE.

A little below this place and to the southeast of Holnon Wood, the British also improved their lines slightly. Fighting of a local nature continues on the northern battlefield near La Bassee, where the enemy has been forced to give ground steadily. Beyond this, no important infantry action has been reported, but heavy artillery duels have been fought at numerous points.

HINDENBURG LINE BOMBED

British gunners bombarded the Hindenburg line fiercely for hours yesterday, and heavy enemy losses were inflicted. The German gunners have been maintaining an intense fire in the Gouzeaucourt sector and deluged Havrincourt with explosives yesterday.

Today brought the first fair weather the British front has seen for a week. The sun came out bright and warm this morning and has been rapidly drying out the waterlogged ground over which it was becoming increasingly difficult for troops to operate.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES

Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 69; lowest, 53. The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 61; lowest, 50.

GOVT. CRITICIZED FOR INACTION ON PENSIONS QUESTION

Representatives at Trades and Labor Council Regret Delay.

MEMBERSHIP INCREASED

Executive's Report Submitted at Annual Meeting Shows Flourishing Condition.

Quebec, Sept. 15.—The thirty-fourth annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada was opened this morning in the Columbus Hall, with 418 delegates from all parts of the Dominion in attendance. According to a statement of P. M. Draper, secretary-treasurer of the congress, the principal subjects to be discussed will be a question of co-operation in Canada, a question which is causing real concern to labor men, particularly in the Maritime Provinces. Resolutions were also submitted asking for the repeal of the military service act and urging the federation of labor in Canada as a means of meeting capitalism.

Another question around which much interest centers is a fight on the presidency. The strongest opponent of that office is James Simpson, who is supported by the Toronto Typographical Union. Mr. Simpson is at present in New Zealand, where he is conducting a temperance campaign.

The report announces that viewing the situation from both the industrial and political aspects the organized labor movement has every reason to be proud since the last convention. The report points out that the somewhat astonishing decline in the membership of trades and labor organizations during 1915 and 1916 afforded cause for anxiety, but the turning of the tide during 1917 and 1918 had more than compensated for the strenuous efforts to prevent a further slump in membership. At the close of 1917 the membership for all classes of trades unions was 294,630, comprised in 1,974 branch unions, a total increase for the year of 41,213 in membership and 132 in local unions. During the year 1917 there were 4,829 trades unionists enlisted for active service. With the enforcement of conscription the total unionists with the army rose to 32,000. The report also touches on govern-

Thousands of Gallons of "Gas" Saved On Sunday

Toronto, Sept. 16.—Reports received here show that the fuel controller's appeal for elimination of all unnecessary Sunday motoring was generally observed throughout Canada yesterday.

In Vancouver the observance of anti-jogging riding request was general. It applied also to motorboats.

Ninety per cent of Winnipeg's passenger autos were idle in garages on Sunday, with an estimated saving of 10,000 gallons.

Secretary McNamee of the Montreal Automobile Club of Canada wired that out of 13,000 cars in Montreal he believed less than 1,000 were out on Sunday.

In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick the response to the fuel controller's request was practically general.

BAPTIST REFUSED TO DON KING'S UNIFORM

Niagara Camp, Sept. 16.—George Henry Van Loon, a young farmer whose home is near Brantford, was tried by a general court-martial here today for having refused to put on a uniform. He had been born into the family of God, he refused to take any part whatsoever in the war.

Van Loon admitted having received notice on May 3 to report, but he had not done so, and was apprehended by the Dominion police on September 6.

LLOYD GEORGE SENDS CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CZECHO-SLOVAKS

Washington, D. C., Sept. 16.—Premier Lloyd George, on behalf of the British war cabinet, has sent a cablegram to Professor Thomas G. Masaryk, president of the Czecho-Slovak National Council, congratulating him on the work being done by the Czecho-Slovak forces in Siberia against the Germans and Austrians.

THE WEATHER

TOMORROW—SHOWERY.

Toronto, Sept. 16—8 a.m. Forecast: Moderate northerly winds; cloudy and occasional rains tonight and part of Tuesday.

Temperatures.			
The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:			
Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	64	48	Fair
Port Arthur	55	34	Fair
Port Huron	55	34	Fair
Winnipeg	56	36	Clear
Regina	56	36	Fair
Edmonton	56	36	Fair
Calgary	56	36	Fair
Montreal	66	52	Cloudy
Ottawa	66	52	Cloudy
Quebec	72	60	Fair
Halifax	72	60	Fair
St. John's	72	60	Fair

Advertiser Ad. Brings Order To Merchant From State of Texas

The wisdom of the circulation of "The Advertiser" was brought forcibly to the attention of Alfred Arthur, the well-known end merchant, today when he received an order for wool from Fort Worth, Texas. A woman residing in that city wrote Mr. Arthur to the effect that she had read in "The London Advertiser" his advertisement offering white, grey and khaki wool for sale. She wished to secure some and sent him an order. It is being promptly filled.

PEACE NOTE WAS DISPATCHED BY BURIAN

Amsterdam, Sept. 16.—The note in which Austria-Hungary invites the belligerents to a conference for discussion of the possibilities of peace was dispatched to Baron Burian, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, on the order of Emperor Charles. The Cologne Volks Zeitung declares.

TWO KILLED WHEN PLANE FALLS

New York, Sept. 16.—Lieut. Charles Kenney, Jr., of Covington, Ky., and E. H. Austin of Boston, were killed when an army airplane from the Mineola aviation camp, crashed within the Flatbush section of Brooklyn today.