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TUESDAY MORNING JULY 4 1916 —TWELVE PAGES

VOL. XXXVI.—No. 13,019

ALLIES MAKE MORE GAINS

Continued Progress is Reported in Official Statements From Headquarters, Including the Capture by the British of La Boisselle and by the French of Herbecourt, Assevillers, Feuilleres, Buscourt, Flaucourt and Chapitre Wood—British Advance From Fricourt and Make Substantial Gains, While French Gain Ground Beyond the Second German Line and Only Three Miles From Peronne, Which is Now Open to Attack.

PARIS, July 3.—The French, advancing to the east of the Mereaucourt Wood have captured the Chapitre wood and the Village of Feuilleres. Further to the south Assevillers has been taken by an infantry assault, according to an official statement issued by the war office tonight.

South of Assevillers the French have taken the second line of German entrenchments as far as the outskirts of Estrees and have advanced beyond the second German line, where they have captured the villages of Buscourt and Flaucourt. The total advance at this section was five kilometers.

The text of the French statement follows: "North of the Somme the situation remains unchanged and no infantry action has taken place during the day. "South of the Somme our troops, pursuing their success east of the Mereaucourt wood took possession this morning of the Chapitre wood and the Village of Feuilleres. Further to the south Assevillers, the centre of a powerful defensive German organization has been attacked and carried by our infantry after a brilliant assault."

"South of Assevillers we have conquered the second German line as far as the outskirts of Estrees. In the course of the afternoon we advanced beyond the German second line and took possession of Buscourt, east of Feuilleres, and Flaucourt. At this point the ground conquered by us reaches a depth of five kilometers. Enemy reinforcements, which were observed in the region of Belloy-en-Santerre, and others east of Flaucourt, were caught under the fire of our artillery and dispersed."

"Among the material which has fallen into our hands up to the present are seven batteries, of which three are of large calibre, a quantity of machine-guns and trench cannon. Other batteries sheltered in casemates and several in Herbecourt have not yet been counted. The number of unwounded prisoners taken by the French troops amounts, by actual count, 8,000."

"One of the two banks of the Meuse there has been no infantry action. The artillery activity on the left bank of the river has moderated. On the right bank a violent bombardment took place in the region of Poivre Hill and in the sector of Thiaumont and Damploup, but there has been no further attack by the enemy at this point."

Belgian Communication.
"Violent and destructive artillery actions have been carried on with success on the German position at Drei Grachten and east of Steenstraete. A violent struggle with bombs took place in the southern sector of the Belgian line."

More Villages Taken.
The third day of the battle of the Somme shows that the Franco-British lines have been further advanced, with the French right sweeping eastward south of the Somme. A group of strategic villages, a large number of German prisoners and heavy guns have been taken."

The advanced French lines are now only three miles from the important railway junction of Peronne. The defense of which has been greatly weakened by the capture by the French on Sunday of Mereaucourt wood, south of the Somme and between Feuilleres and Fricourt. This was the strongest fortified position of the German second line of defense on the entire front of the attack, but the French division which took Fricourt continued to advance with such impetus that the Germans were unable to resist, even under the protection of this formidable work."

One of the fiercest struggles was for the stone quarry, also fortified, three-quarters of a mile east of Curtin. Here the Germans tried to stem the tide of a desperate counter-attack, but the French-African colonials, with one of the most celebrated corps of the French army, rushed the position with

such energy that the Germans broke before the bayonet.

The French success at Fricourt was brilliant, as it straightened their line south of the elbow of the Somme, thus avoiding exposure to cross fire. The French announcement today of the capture of the Village of Herbecourt and the outskirts of Estrees and Assevillers carried the advance about six miles beyond the point of departure Saturday.

The impetuosity of the French advance is shown in the taking of these villages, which were strongly fortified with barbed wire entanglements across the streets. The stone houses were transformed into batteries of machine-guns and the entire villages were enveloped in a dense network of barbed wire entanglements. Military observers say that these villages had a resisting power compared with that of Douaumont.

Summing up the French advance south of the Somme, two main features are disclosed: First—The occupation for a length of 2 kilometers of first line German trenches from the Somme to the Village of Fay, and including five villages.

Second—A double line of German trenches extending from Haraucourt woods to Assevillers.

The struggle continues with intensity. Observers declare that the first three days' successes, while great, are only initial episodes in the increasing pressure of a vast offensive.

Enemy's Trenches Concrete.
The desperateness of the struggle along the front of the allied offensive is shown in the progress made thru what the official bulletins describe as the "line." This designation does not refer to a single line, but to the important first position defences from a half-mile to a mile deep, composed an intricate system of trenches called a labyrinth, connected with advanced posts heavily armored with concrete, in which machine-guns are installed; while in the trenches themselves are armored turrets protecting other machine-guns.

The second and third line of the general defensive works of the Germans on the western front are equally important and similarly intricate. All three lines must be pierced by the allies before their desire to force the Germans to battle in the open can be realized. In the battles of Arras and the Champagne, the French attacked the second line without sufficient artillery preparation. The error was not repeated in the present case.

The accumulation of munitions behind the allied front is prodigious, while the Germans' stock is apparently less plentiful, as their reply is in the proportion of one shot for five. This leads to the impression among observers that their extended front is not as well equipped or manned as in previous battles.

The fighting about Verdun centres chiefly upon the Damploup works, which have changed hands twice within the past 24 hours, the Germans first taking them and the French recapturing them as a result of a desperate counter-attack.

Giving Hearst and Borden a Jolt
A strong feeling of dissatisfaction with the Conservative governments at Ottawa and Toronto prevails among the rank and file, and even among their private supporters in both the legislature and commons; in fact, so much so that surprises may develop in the approaching by-elections in Perth, Toronto and Hamilton.

"The governments seem to listen to anyone but their own supporters; it may be time to give them a rude jolt," seems to be the common view. A labor candidate for the commons in Hamilton and an independent pro-hydro-electric policy candidate in Southwest Toronto (held by the late Hon. J. J. Foy) are freely spoken of.

LONDON, July 3.—Today's news is again a tale of the continued progress of the Anglo-French offensive. Heavy fighting is proceeding all along the line. The British maintain all their positions south of the Ancro River, where the battle still rages. They have captured LaBoisselle, the garrison of which surrendered, and are fighting successfully around Ouilvers and north of Fricourt.

The British people learned for the first time tonight that the famous French general, Foch, who has won a great reputation during the course of the war, is directing the operations south of the Somme River. This has given increased confidence in the result of the allied offensive.

The French have captured Herbecourt and Assevillers and have made other substantial gains, taking additional prisoners and heavy guns. They are thus making great progress in the direction of the important German junction of Peronne, which is only a little over three miles distant from their advance at Herbecourt.

The non-committal character of the German official statement issued today is considered in London as a virtual confession of the success of the Anglo-French operations. The Germans admit that the division of their forces about both banks of the Somme, which was partially withdrawn Saturday, has now been brought back to the second line. No data are yet forthcoming from either side as to the casualties suffered. According to the German communication, the Anglo-French losses were "extraordinarily heavy." According to the unofficial British reports, however, the British casualties were less than had been expected.

All reports emphasize the tremendous nature of the British bombardments. The gunners worked so incessantly as almost to fall asleep at their guns, and when there was a slight recess in the firing, they slept easily amid the thunders of the battle.

Great importance is attached to a newly-invented mortar, which plays havoc in the German trenches. Aircraft are taking an important role in the operations.

Thus far the new offensive appears to have had little influence on the battle around Verdun. The Germans are still showing undiminished vigor in the Meuse region, and the French are as steadily resisting.

Progress Reported.
Substantial progress at some points is reported in the latest official communication issued from British headquarters in France. The Germans succeeded in driving some of the British troops from positions which they had captured in the morning, but elsewhere the German attacks were repulsed.

Describing the fluctuations in the battle around LaBoisselle and south of Thiepval, the statement declares that the advantage on the whole remained with the British.

The text reads: "The fight fluctuated this afternoon about LaBoisselle and south of Thiepval, the advantage on the whole remaining with us."

"South of Thiepval, the counter-attacks drove some of our troops from a portion of the positions which they had captured early this morning (Monday). Elsewhere many hostile attacks were repulsed with heavy losses."

"In some places we have continued to make substantial progress. "The amount of captured armament and warlike stores is very considerable."

BRITISH FLYER CAUSED DEATH OF IMMELMANN
Noted German Airman's Fokker Crashed to Earth When Attacked.

LONDON, July 3.—The death of Lt. Immelmann, the famous German aviator, who was killed in a combat with British fliers, is described briefly in a statement given out today by the British aerial board.

According to this account, Lt. Immelmann, in a Fokker, was attempting with another Fokker to attack a British aeroplane approaching Ansay from Lens, when another British flier appeared and dived on the two Fokkers, causing Lt. Immelmann to plunge perpendicularly, the wings of his machine breaking off.

UNITED IRISH LEAGUE TO ACCEPT PROPOSALS
Only Two Members of the Governing Body Voted in Opposition.

DUBLIN, July 3.—The National Directory of the United Irish League met today, with John Redmond presiding, and agreed to accept the proposals by David Lloyd George for a solution of the Irish question.

As the directory is representative of all Ireland, it is not considered necessary to hold a convention of the United Irish League. There were only two dissenting members in the largest meeting of the directory ever held.

INTERMENT OF CIVILIANS
Twenty-Six Thousand Germans Held in England.

LONDON, July 3.—There are 26,000 German civilians interned in England and 4,000 British civilians interned in Germany, it was announced in the commons today by Lord Robert Cecil of the foreign office.

Since December, 676 Germans unfit for military service have been repatriated and 394 British.

ITALIANS PUSH ON GAINING GROUND
Big Offensive Against Austrians Continues With Several Advances.

LONDON, July 3.—In their big offensive the Italians are pushing steadily forward the Trentino, and continue to record substantial gains by the exertion of steady pressure against the Austrians. Advances are reported today as having been registered in several sectors.

In the Posina valley the Italians have occupied a spur northwest of Monte Prucho and Monte Molino in the Kara valley, and they have captured Monte Scatolari in the Rio Fresso. They have developed progress in their operations against Corno del Coston, Monte Helugio and Monte Cimona.

These points are the main centres of resistance for the enemy. They have pushed beyond the northern edge of the Asse valley in the upper But, but the fighting slackened in the rest of this sector while preparations were being made for further attacks on difficult ground.

The Italians took some prisoners and inflicted considerable loss on the enemy in small combats on the slopes of Monte Civaron. The artillery took part in active engagements in the upper But and Fella valleys.

The Italians defeated Austrian attacks on their new positions east of Seis on the Carso plateau, after the fighting had become hand to hand. Raids were carried out by Italian aircraft in the upper Asse valley.

WIN IN POSINA VALLEY
Austrians Suffer Heavy Pressure Against Main Mountain Positions.

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THOUGHTLESSNESS.
Thoughtless persons are the occasion of many annoyances that might be avoided. These little discomforts are generally inflicted on others. However, the man who thoughtlessly wears a heavy hat in the summer time is the victim of his own want of thought. Seasonable thinkers on the hat problem: consult Diners', 140 Yonge street, Toronto; in Hamilton, 20-22 West King street.

PRESS HEADQUARTERS, on the French front, Sunday, July 2, via London, July 3, 6.30 p.m.—Machine-guns played an important part in the German defence against the British attacks, and also in the British repulse of German counter-attacks when organising positions taken. Both Germans and British have them in amazing numbers.

During the bombardment before an infantry attack the Germans remain in dugouts so deep that they can be crushed in only by a direct hit with a 15-inch shell. Instantly the bombardment ceases they rush out and man any remaining machine-guns, or even bring up machine-guns from the dugouts.

The British carry mobile machine-guns forward, and the moment a position is occupied they employ them. All reports from those engaged in the fighting agree that barbed-wire entanglements, however strong, have been invariably well cut, and there is universal praise for the new mortar, the invention of a government civil engineer, which the British have manufactured in large numbers. But frequently the deep German dugouts, instead of being rallying points, become traps, with the occupants either surrendering or being blown up by bombs thrown into the entrance when they refuse to surrender.

The gunners, after their week's bombardment, know no cessation in their toil. Where the British advance they must move their guns forward to new positions for the next stage in the attack. When they have a recess in the firing they fall asleep amidst the thunders of the neighboring batteries, unless they have work on new dugouts.

Aviators Did Great Work.
The aviator's part has never been so daring, so thrilling as during this battle. One of them, in a small fast single-man machine, the usual altitude kept over the enemy lines these days is from 10,000 to 12,000 feet, descended as low as five hundred feet during the battle, and was able to identify the khaki of the British and the grey of the Germans as they struggled for the possession of a trench. He sent a wireless message back to army headquarters of the exact situation, the promptness of such information being invaluable. He returned with forty bullet holes in his plane, but he himself and his engine were uninjured.

The percentage of dead to wounded is smaller than is usual in trench fighting. Many light wounds have been received from shrapnel, and rifle and machine-gun fire, but the good weather and excellent physical condition of the men mean quick recovery.

There are plenty of examples of the British phlegmatic temperament. One gunner lifted into the air by the concussion of a shell, said after he came down: "I wish they had provided cushions."

A corps commander, after all plans were complete for the attack at 7.30 o'clock in the morning, said before lying down to sleep: "Wake me at 7.45; the first reports will be in by then."

At army headquarters of the different commanders everything seems to be going on as usual, in quiet businesslike fashion amidst the battle.

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