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Only a Few Enemy Troops Remain South of Vesle

French Patrols Have Crossed The River at Two Places

Allied Troops Hold Entire Southern Bank Between Fismes and Rheims — Prussian and Bavarian Guards Forced Back With Heavy Losses in Spite of Stubborn Resistance — May Not be Able To Halt Before Aisne is Reached — Enemy Passes Definitely From Offensive to Defensive

Paris, Aug. 5.—The Allied pursuit of the Germans continues and latest reports are that only a few enemy troops remain south of the Vesle River, says the Havas Agency today in reviewing the situation.

French patrols have crossed the Vesle at Baroches and Jonchery, west and east of Fismes respectively.

Allied troops held the entire southern bank of the Vesle between Fismes and Rheims. Stubborn resistance was made by Prussian and Bavarian guards between Muizon and Champigny, but they were forced back, suffering heavy losses. Both banks of the Vesle now are under heavy artillery fire from the opposing armies.

The Germans, it is believed, will try to stop at an intermediate position between the Vesle and the Aisne, but probably they will not attempt a definite halt before the Aisne is reached.

The enemy has suffered serious losses in men and material. Enemy dead are scattered along all the roads leading north. A large number of platforms for 300 millimeter guns have been found in the old Marne pocket, further indicating that the Germans intended to stay there.

The question is being asked in Paris whether the German withdrawal north and south of the Somme after that from the Marne does not indicate a change in German tactics in order to obtain effective for a new offensive elsewhere. It is also asked if the retrograde movement will not result in an extensive withdrawal similar to that from the Somme in March, 1917.

THE WITHDRAWAL ACROSS THE ANCRE

London, Aug. 4.—The following despatch has been received by Reuters from its correspondent at British headquarters:

"The importance of the German withdrawal across the Ancre should not be exaggerated. It has been forced by our ceaseless pressure, coupled with the extraordinary difficulty of maintaining communications across the swampy river valley. The Huns either had to get forward or retire before the wet season arrived, and presumably the torrential rains of recent days precipitated the decision. The real significance of their step is that in this sector Crown Prince Rupprecht's army definitely has passed from offensive to defensive tactics. The threat against Amiens and astride the great Albert road and to the northwards of the road is practically gone.

"The main withdrawal was carried out Thursday night, and must have proved a costly business to the enemy. The Ancre was swollen and we kept the bridges under a continuous fire, so that they were almost destroyed and most precarious to attempt. The Germans filled trees across the stream and possibly improvised some pontoon bridges under cover of the darkness, but it is known that many were drowned in the operation.

"Our patrols worked their way yesterday into Hamel. On the west bank of the Ancre no Germans were encountered, but considerable bodies of them were visible on the opposite bank. The Ancre was extended southward along the line of the river to Dernancourt, which is cleared of the enemy. Our patrols have been clearing up the situation in Albert, but the ruin of the town is now little more than a great gas and shell trap.

"Latest information available in London leaves the situation at Albert doubtful, but it is believed the Germans still hold a portion of the town.

"Today has been a fittingly commemorated. The biggest and most impressive ceremony was a special service of remembrance and intercession held at army headquarters. Chaplains of various denominations participated. About 5,000 troops paraded, including Canadians and Americans. After the service an artillery commander delivered a patriotic homily and the march-past of the Allied units followed."

GERMANS RESISTING

Paris, Aug. 5.—French detachments which crossed the Vesle are meeting with resistance from the Germans, says the official statement from the war office today.

"There is nothing of importance to report from the battlefield. Small French detachments which crossed the Vesle are meeting with German resistance everywhere," the statement says.

"The number of German troops in the immediate vicinity of the Vesle is estimated at 1,500,000.

Paris, Aug. 5.—(Havas Agency)—General Mangin's army captured 600 cannon and 600 trench mortars during the fighting along the River Crise last Sunday, says the Petit Parisien.

French Wheat to Germany

With the American Army on the Soissons-Rheims front, Aug. 4.—(By the Associated Press)—Thousands of bushels of French wheat have been shipped home by German soldiers.

Paris, Aug. 4.—(Havas Agency)—General Bissou, former chief of the Roumanian general staff, has been assigned to the command of a Transylvanian legion on the French front. He has been in France since last November as a Roumanian representative in the inter-allied conference.

Paris, Aug. 5.—(Havas Agency)—Premier Clemenceau visited Soissons and the villages in the region of Peronne-Tardenois on Sunday.

The premier personally congratulated the battalion of Chasseurs which captured Soissons.

Admits End of Offensive. Bernes, Aug. 5.—The German offensive has been stopped and present operations cannot be publicly discussed, declared General Hellingrath, Bavarian minister of war, speaking in the first chamber Saturday.

"The fourth year of the war ends by what amounts to a stoppage of our offensive," he said, "but it is not possible to judge the situation apart from the operations now in progress, which cannot be discussed in public. Besides, our people are sufficiently steady and patient to accept the events which delay a final result."

Paris, Aug. 5.—The long range bombardment of the Paris region was resumed this morning.

GERMANS REJOICE AS THEY RETREAT

With the American Army on the Aisne, Aug. 4.—From various French villages come reports that thousands of Germans are marching northward in the great retreat, shouting as they marched "back, back to Germany."

RESUMING WORK ON DRY DOCK AT COURTENAY BAY

Heads of Company Here For The Send-Off

PREPARATORY FIRST

When Plant is Ready, Active Operations Will Commence—Will Employ Something Like One Thousand Men

Within a few days a steady stream of laborers will enter the city to go on government work at Courtenay Bay. Now that officials of the St. John Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Company say that operations are to commence forthwith it is expected that the quietness of the eastern harbor will be gradually changed to a whirl of activity. The preparatory work for a while will consist of overhauling the old plant now on the job and installing new. This will be the task of engineers and mechanics. When the machinery is ready the bodies of laboring men will arrive. It is estimated fully 1,000 eventually will be engaged.

The prominent contractors now identified with the Courtenay Bay job will double their men from their other big works. No difficulty in this direction is anticipated.

Colonel Thomas A. Duff of Toronto, secretary-treasurer of the St. John Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Company, arrived in the city on Saturday, accompanied by D. S. Pratt of Midland, who is president and managing director, and A. R. Dufresne, their chief engineer, who formerly was assistant chief engineer of the department of public works at Ottawa.

"We have sub-let the rock work to the Bedford Construction Company of Halifax," said Colonel Duff in talking to a reporter, "and the first work will begin Monday."

"Already we have purchased large quantities of machinery," he continued, "and paid for it, and we intend to push the work ahead as rapidly as possible."

Colonel Duff said that the company would complete the dredging of Courtenay Bay and the dry dock and put in a first-class ship repairing plant.

"We are not pressing the matter of concessions from the province and city just now, but when the province and city are ready and willing to talk concessions and want a modern steel shipbuilding plant we will be happy to talk business," said Colonel Duff in discussing this aspect of the work.

The officials of the company are James Playfair, president, Midland, Ont.; D. S. Pratt, vice-president and managing director, Midland, Ont.; Colonel Thomas A. Duff, secretary-treasurer, Toronto, Ont.; directors: D. L. White, Jr., Midland, Ont.; W. J. Sheppard, Wabash, Ont.; W. E. Finn, Hamilton, Ont.; R. T. Kenner, K. C., Montreal, P. Q.

Paris, Aug. 5.—There was a hill in the battle along the Soissons-Rheims front last night and the breathing spell extended into this morning. The Germans are being favored by the weather conditions, which have transformed the Vesle river banks into swamps and morasses and they are making a stiffer stand here than was anticipated.

Paris, Aug. 4.—(Havas Agency)—Three Russian grand dukes, one of whom seems to be Nicholas Nicholavitch, former commander-in-chief of the Russian armies, have been executed by the Bolsheviks according to Moscow advices to the Baiserische Zeitung, of Munich.

AGAIN BOMBARD PARIS. Paris, Aug. 5.—The long range bombardment of the Paris region was resumed this morning.



Brooklyn Eagle

CANADIAN FORCES WILL BE REPRESENTED IN RUSSIA

Announcement Made By Hon. F. B. Carvell At Woodstock Anniversary Service

Enthusiastic Gathering Hears Stirring Statement of War Conditions by Minister of Public Works—St. John People Assist

(Special to Times.)

Woodstock, N. B., Aug. 5.—The largest audience that ever assembled in the big Hayden-Gibson Theatre was present last night when the exercises commemorating the anniversary of the war were carried out. An especially pleasing patriotic programme had been arranged, in which Miss Gailivan, Mrs. Wilson and Mr. Mayes of St. John were prominent.

The boy scouts were on the stage with their bugle band, adding to the impressive nature of the occasion.

Hon. F. B. Carvell, in moving the customary anniversary resolution expressing determination to carry on to a successful determination, referred to the encouraging conditions under which the meeting was held. It was in striking contrast to an occasion about four months ago when the speaker in the same building here, and when the outlook was extremely grave. Now, it appeared, the Allies were forcing the Germans back rapidly on land, and the dangerous menace of the submarine warfare was over.

"Of course there was a long and hard struggle still ahead," Germany was still strong and as yet unbeaten, but there was no doubt of the ultimate result. He referred to the condition of the Canadian army, which had not been very seriously engaged in the fighting of the war four years ago, he referred to the fact of the immense sums of money loaned by the people of Canada to the government, amounting to more than \$700,000,000, and this coming fall the people would again be asked to loan the government a large sum of money for the purpose of carrying on the war to a successful determination.

As a Canadian he was proud of the name the Canadian army had made for itself and for Canada. It was the aim of the American troops, which had gone to the front in such large numbers, to live up to the record made by their neighbors, the Canadians, and they were certainly doing it from the reports that came to hand of their military activities.

A tribute was paid to the splendid work done by the British navy, which had been mainly instrumental in keeping the seas clear of the enemy shipping and had made it possible for the immense armies of the Allies to concentrate on the French front.

During the course of his address, Mr. Carvell was handed a telegram containing the latest from the battlefield, and

London, Aug. 4.—(Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—A feature in the London Gazette which contains notice of a large number of awards is the conferring of the distinguished flying cross on Major W. A. Bishop, the Canadian flyer, "the most successful and most fearless fighter of the air whose acts of outstanding bravery have already been recognized by awards of the Victoria Cross, the Distinguished Service Order, bar to Distinguished Service Order and Military Cross."

The distinguished flying cross is conferred for "signally valuable services in personally destroying twenty-five enemy machines in twelve days, of which five were destroyed on the last day of his service at the front. The total number of machines destroyed by this distinguished officer is seventy-two and his value as a moral factor to the royal air force cannot be over-estimated."

Dealing with the Russian outlook, he said that an Allied force would soon be in a position to take a hand which would prevent the Germanization of that unhappy country, and that Canada would be represented in the forefront of the Allied forces operating at that point.

Speaking of the great changes that had taken place since the beginning of the war four years ago, he referred to the fact of the immense sums of money loaned by the people of Canada to the government, amounting to more than \$700,000,000, and this coming fall the people would again be asked to loan the government a large sum of money for the purpose of carrying on the war to a successful determination.

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The smaller number of troops needed on a front held defensively than on one held for offense, may partially explain the apparent change of attitude of the enemy opposite the British.

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SUBMARINE ADDS TO ITS STRING OF VICTIMS

Sinking of Fourth Fishing Vessel Announced

Craft Which Destroyed the Dornfontein Continued Its Valiant War Against Small Unarmed Craft—Another Off The Virginian Coast

A Canadian Atlantic Port, Aug. 5.—Four fishing vessels, one of Nova Scotia, and the others owned in the United States, are known to have been sunk off the Atlantic coast on Saturday and Sunday by a German submarine, previously reported operating in Nova Scotia waters.

The first news of the appearance of a U-boat on this coast came on Saturday, when it was announced that the St. John four-masted schooner Dornfontein, on her maiden voyage, had been torpedoed on Friday morning.

The crews of the American fishing schooners, Muriel and Rob Roy, were landed at Yarmouth and reported their vessels to have been sunk by an enemy submarine. The crew of the American schooner Annie M. Perry, landed at Wood's Harbor, near Yarmouth, and reported a similar happening to their vessel.

The fishing schooner Nelson A., seventy-two tons, Captain John Simms, owned by H. Amiro, of Yarmouth, was sunk at night on Sunday by a German submarine. A vessel arriving at a port on this coast reported that she saw a submarine yesterday proceeding slowly in an easterly direction.

Captain Simms' Story. A Canadian Atlantic Port, Aug. 5.—Captain John Simms and his crew of seventeen of the Yarmouth schooner, Nelson A., have arrived at an Atlantic port, reporting that their vessel was blown up by an enemy submarine twenty-five miles south of west of this port at noon yesterday. They said that they were bound for Lockport at the time with a good fare of fish, when they sighted a submarine about seven miles away. The U-boat did not fire at them, but came up at full speed, reaching half distance in about fifteen minutes, and ordered the crew to take to their dories immediately. After sinking the Nelson A., the enemy submarine disappeared.

To the Canadian Press today Captain Simms said that he sailed from Lockport a week ago for the La Have fishing banks. The weather was favorable, and on Saturday the schooner set sail for Lockport with seven thousand pounds of halibut and seventy thousand pounds of mixed fresh fish on board.

"At twenty minutes after eleven yesterday morning," said Captain Simms, "we sighted a submarine about seven miles away coming toward us from a southerly direction at full speed. In about fifteen minutes she stopped a short distance away from our stern, and the order came to us to take to our boats as soon as possible. This we did, launching four dories. Acting under the instruction of the commander of the Nelson A., I took one dory with two men alongside the U-boat and we rowed the commander and two men over to the Nelson A. They had with them several bags, containing bombs, I suppose. The Germans went aboard and ordered me to come with them. They took our log line and hauled one end of it under the ship's stern, making it fast to the main rigging. They then proceeded to 'heave haul' one of their bombs. It was evidently timed, as the Germans seemed in no hurry to leave the ship.

"The German skipper demanded my papers and flag, which I gave. He then demanded some halibut, which he took and put in the dory. Then he took me into the forecastle and took the provisions there that he considered worth taking.

"After he had removed about everything that was movable he ordered us to leave and take him back to the submarine. I asked him if he would allow me first to get a pair of boots and he granted permission. We then rowed off from the Nelson A. The other dories had proceeded a half a mile or so and they waited for us. When we gathered together we rested on our oars to see the

read it to the audience amid much applause. The resolution was seconded by L. C. L. Ketchum, who made reference to the wonderful morale of the returned soldiers, who had always been confident of the result even when the stay-at-homes were a bit down-hearted. The arrangements and preparation of the big meeting were under the direction of S. C. Hurley.

The Victims. Enemy submarine activities continue the chief topic of public concern, and indeed is the one big topic throughout New England, looming in the news horizon of both Canada and the United States in the national sense. Since the sinking of the recently-launched St. John schooner Dornfontein, other sailing craft have fallen victims of the ruthless Hun, of which the following is a list to date:

The American fishing schooner Muriel, Capt. Eldridge, which left her home port on Friday for the fishing banks. Torpedoed Saturday noon. The submarine took the crew aboard, placed a bomb under the Muriel's keel and made splinters of her. The crew reached a Canadian port in their own boats.

That same afternoon the Germans got another schooner, the Annie M. Perry, Capt. Jas. Goodman. The crew reached a Canadian port in their own dories.

Then the Rob Roy, Capt. Freeman Crowell, came along and the sub got her, too. The crew were hustled into their boats and the vessel blown up. After spending the night on a small island, the men reached a Canadian harbor.

All survivors of these sinkings agree that the U-boat is about 200 feet long, is manned by about fifty to seventy-five men, is brightly lit at night, and that commander and men are in a boastful, almost jocular, mood.

SHOWS SHORTAGE OF MAN-POWER IN HUN ARMY

With the British forces in France, Aug. 4.—(By the Associated Press)—The latest indication of a shortage in the German man-power is found in the fact that certain Prussian divisions opposite the British have recently received drafts of Saxons, which is a most unusual proceeding. It is obvious that the battle between Rheims and Soissons continues, more fit divisions must be obtained by the Crown Prince, and these must be withdrawn from other parts of the front.

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