

# BRITISH TAKE ALBERT AND STILL PRESS ONWARD

### New Offensive is Gaining Rapidly — French Driving Wedge Between Two Hun Armies — Prisoners Taken Total Over 15,000.

London, Aug. 22.—The town of Albert, eighteen miles north-east of Amiens, on the Ancre River, has been recaptured by the British, who also have obtained all their objectives in the fighting to-day, following a new attack at dawn, between Bray-sur-Somme and Albert, according to the official communication from Field Marshal Haig to-night. Over the six-mile front the British advanced to a depth of two miles, capturing all their objectives.

**THE "LEANING VIRGIN."**

The capture of Albert is particularly gratifying news, it is situated on the Ancre River, and is a rail road centre. Before the war it had a population of more than seven thousand.

It was at Albert that for more than three years the famous "Leaning Virgin," hung from the top of the cathedral. The base of the statue of the Virgin, which was surmounted by the spire, was hit by a German shell while the town was under a heavy bombardment in August, 1914, and the monument tipped over. It did not fall from its pedestal, however, but hung in a horizontal position until April of the present year, when a German shell again struck the statue and sent it crashing to the ground. There has been a legend in France that when the statue fell the war would end.

**FOR RETREATING IN DISORDER.**

To the south the French armies continue to make rapid progress. One report from French Headquarters to-day reads: "The retreat of the Germans before the Third and Tenth French Armies continues to-day with increasing speed, over a large part of the battlefield, and in some cases in disorder."

French Forces Press Onward.

Numerous villages running northwest of Soissons have been taken by the French whose drive along the whole front continues, according to the War Office announcement to-night. The most important of the places captured is Pommiers. The Germans are abandoning great quantities of material. Since Tuesday the French have captured 200 guns. Unofficial reports say the French have taken 15,000 prisoners in two days.

General Humbert's army made a great advance between the Matz and the Oise and has reached the Divette River, on the Lassigny sector. General Mangin has crossed the Allette

and is headed for the lower Forest of Courcy, with the manifest purpose of turning the line of the Allette River and thrusting a wedge between the armies of the Crown Prince on the Aisne and those of General von Boehm north of La Fere.

**COMPLETELY SUCCESSFUL, SAYS HAIG.**

Sir Douglas Haig's official report to-night reads:

"In our attack between Bray-sur-Somme and Albert we have been completely successful, capturing the whole of our objectives at an early hour, and advancing two miles on a front of more than six miles.

"We have retaken Albert.

"There was considerable resistance at certain points, especially on the slope north of Bray, the town itself not forming a part of our objective.

"We have captured over five thousand prisoners in two days.

"We captured in Albert, 1,400 prisoners and a few guns.

"In counter-attacks in the Miraumont sector the enemy entered our positions, but was driven out again. The same thing happened northeast of Achiet-le-Grand. Hostile attacks east of Courcelles and east of Moyenneville were also repulsed."

**HELD THEIR POSITIONS.**

"North of the Ancre River our positions gained yesterday were maintained against strong hostile counter-attacks delivered during the afternoon and evening on the Miraumont and Achiet-le-Grand front.

"The hostile artillery has been very active throughout the night on the battlefield, and this morning fresh hostile counter-attacks are reported to have developed opposite Miraumont and Irlis.

"Between two thousand and three thousand prisoners and a few guns were captured by us in our operations yesterday.

**PROGRESS IN THE NORTH.**

"Further progress has been made by us to east and northeast of Meriville. Our troops are on the out-

skirts of Neur Berquin. Last night we attacked and captured a hostile strong-point north of Baillat.

"A strong local counter-attack was delivered by the enemy yesterday morning against Locrehol Farm, northwest of Droncourt. It was repulsed after sharp fighting. Further fighting took place during the night in this sector.

**NO STOPPING THE FRENCH.**

Paris, Aug. 22.—The official statement to-night reads:

"Our troops continue to advance along the whole front. We have reached the Divette River from its mouth as far as Evricourt. We have carried our lines to the outskirts of Quierzy.

"We have captured St. Aubin, Sels, Bagneux, Epagny, Bleux, Vauxreuz and Pommiers. The material abandoned by the enemy between the Aisne and the Oise is considerable. More than two hundred cannon have been counted since August 20."

**Closing Around Noyon**

The afternoon statement follows: "During the course of the night French troops have maintained contact with the enemy, who is retreating between the Matz and the Oise and east of the Oise.

"We have occupied Le Plémont, Thiesscourt, Canteleu, and the Divette River, and have reached the Oise to the east of Noyon, from Sempiigny to Breigny.

"Further to the east we have taken Bourguignon and St. Paul-aux-Bois. Passing to the north of the village we have reached the Allette of La Quincy-Basse.

"Between the Allette and the Aisne there is no change in the situation, except in the region of Pommiers, where we have taken the western outskirts of the village."

**Berlin, the Unbeatable?**

Berlin, Aug. 22.—The evening communication from general headquarters says:

"Partial attacks occurred near Baillat and south of Lys. There has been vigorous fighting on the Ancre and the Somme.

"On the field where the fighting occurred yesterday, in northwest of Bapaume, and on the front between Albert and the Somme, we reduced to failure attacks planned on a large scale by the British.

"There have been attacks by the French between the Avre and the Aisne before our new positions."

**Claims Republic British**

The day report says:

"In the Kemmel region partial attacks on both sides of the Locrehol-Droncourt road were conducted."

"South of Arras the British began great fresh attacks. A British army corps and New Zealanders were brought into action in decisive formation between Moyenneville and the Ancre in the direction of Bapaume. A British cavalry corps were held in readiness behind the British line."

"Supported by the strongest artillery fire and several hundred tanks, the enemy's infantry advanced to the attack on a front of twenty kilometres. Their first onslaught broke down before our battle positions."

"In local counter attacks we recaptured portions of strips of territory which had been ceded to the enemy according to plan."

"The enemy renewed his violent assaults throughout the day. The main weight was on the wings of the attacking area; these attacks collapsed completely and with heavy loss to the enemy."

"Attempts of the enemy to cross the Aisne at Hamel were frustrated. A great number of tanks were seen shot to pieces, are lying before our front."

**Admit Some Retreats**

"Between the Somme and the Oise the day was quiet. South of Noyon, during the night of August 20-21, we retired a short distance without fighting. Throughout the day the enemy's fire was directed against our old lines; in the evening his reconnoitering detachments hesitatingly filed their way forward toward the valley of the Divette."

"Unnoticed by the enemy we withdrew behind the Oise—troops who were fighting in the Bois de Carlepont; consequently the enemy's attacks, which were prepared here yesterday morning by the strongest artillery fire, did not materialize."

"Between Elercourt and the Aisne the enemy kept up his attacks throughout the day; he was only able to gain ground at Elercourt. An attack directed against the rest of the front, and carried out in the evening with special force on both sides of the Ancre, was a failure."

## Music and Drama

**THE REX.**

Rugged Harry Morey, the Vitagraph star, who will be best remembered in his role of Joe Garson, the intense human crook in the film version of "Within the Law", is seen at the Rex the first of this week in his latest Blue Ribbon feature, "A Bachelor's Children," a powerful modern drama in which the virtue star appears at the height of his ability and is supported by a powerful cast of Vitagraph players. Ritter and Reid have a talking and dancing offering which is interspersed with plenty of clean, clever comedy, an act without a dull minute from beginning to end. William Duncan Edith Johnson and Joe Ryan are featured in the stirring western serial "A Fight for Millions," in which one thrill climaxes another. Toto, the famous clown of the New York Hippodrome, is seen in one of his recent Pathe comedies.

**THE BRANT.**

A smile, a furtive tear, the presence of youth and spring and sunshine. That's "How Could You Jean?", with Mary Pickford in the leading role, showing at the Brant the last half of this week. Perhaps never before has this wonderful star lent such a wealth of expression of sympathy and of personality to a role as she does to the part of Jean, the debutante suddenly thrown on the mercies of the world to fight her own battles. This she does in the inimitable manner that is hers. Casson Ferguson, Larry Peyton, Herbert Standing, Spottiswoode Allen, Zazu Pitts, are but a few of the supporting players in this truly delightful little romance. Ainsley and O'Brien's singing offering is one spotted with both variety and originality, and includes the singing of some splendid Irish and patriotic airs, while Miss Ainsley does some marvellous pastel sketching in full view of the audience. The latest episode of "The House of Hate,"

## Rippling Rhymes

**LYNCHING BEES.**

Our good, wise President beseeched that we shant hang 'em, or elms, or beeches such gents as may offend; to show the world we're law abiding, all forms of frightfulness deriding should be our aim and end. We chide the Huns for being brutal, but protestations seem quite futile, and we're thrown out of court, if we take ruses, some victim clinging, and show him with the lawless lynching is still our outdoor sport. We're standing up for all things moral; we've taken part in Europe's quarrel to set this planet straight; we need clean hands, and these we're lacking if to the elm tree we go packing; the hemp for some poor skate. The time spent at a lynching function, where many men, in vain conjunction, throw golden hours away, might balk the Kaisers Bill and Charley, if it were spent in reaping barley, or baling clover hay. It is a waste of men to hang them; far better round them up and smother them, and send them to the front; there they may scrap with weapons staple, but dead guys swinging from a maple can do no useful stunt. This same, to which we've been addicted should be abolished, or restricted until the war is done; till this is done the world will sass us, and view with scorn, and doubtless class us with Vaisigoth and Hun.

**SEA FIRED ON DUTCH SHIP.**

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, Aug. 22.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Copenhagen says that the Dutch steamer Gasconier, operated by the Belgian relief commission, reported a having struck a mine was fired upon by a German submarine which also bombarded her lifeboats, one of which was destroyed. Several of the seamen were wounded. The dispatch adds that Dutch

sailors made heroic attempts to save their comrades but that the first mate and five seamen who were wounded were drowned. The steamer sank in 20 minutes.

**OTTAWA CLEARINGS**  
By Courier Leased Wire  
Ottawa, Aug. 23.—Clearings \$5,916,354.

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