

OFFENSIVE PROMISES TO RESULT IN GREATEST STRUGGLE OF THE WAR

Anglo-French Forces Strike Hard Between River Lys and Boesinghe, British Occupying Enemy's First Three Lines, While French Cross Marshes Between Dixmude and Point Near Boesinghe—Allies' Casualties are Surprisingly Light, Though Germans' Resistance is Desperate at Nearly all Points.

British front in France and Belgium, July 31.—An epoch-making offensive launched by the British and French against the German lines between the River Lys and Boesinghe at day-break has, with few exceptions, accomplished all that had been planned for the first day of this battle, which, in its early stages, give promise of being the greatest conflict of the war.

Roughly speaking, the British penetrated positions held by Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria between Boesinghe and Warneton, and at the time of the filing of this despatch were in possession of the first three lines of the German trenches at most points throughout this front.

Reports received from the French troops which are attacking on the difficult territory between Dixmude and a point near Boesinghe say that they have forced their way across this marsh-studded and partly inundated ground and captured the first two lines of enemy trenches.

The casualties of the Entente allies have been surprisingly light and the morale of the men continues at the highest pitch. The contrast between the British and French armies has been constant and excellent.

Late today it was reported that the Germans had begun a heavy counter-attack at the point where the allied forces join. The German front line trenches, which had been torn to pieces by the preliminary bombardment, offered little resistance, but once the allied forces had penetrated beyond them, they met with fierce resistance at many points. Directly east of Zillebeke and again a little to the north, the British were temporarily held up by a heavy machine gun fire, but only temporarily, for the troops charged through the rain of lead and forced the Germans from their positions in hand-to-hand fighting.

Again at a redoubt which was strongly held in the German line and defended by concrete fortifications, the British were brought to a stand by machine gun fire. But they charged with bayonets and dislodged the Germans.

One of the most striking and spectacular events of the day's fighting occurred at the so-called Menin Tunnel, an underground fortification constructed by the Germans on the Menin Road opposite Hooge. The British preliminary bombardment had forced the Germans to hold the French line thinly here, and the British division which was to attack at dawn lay out all night in shell holes within twenty-five yards of the German line, waiting for the signal to advance. When the time arrived for the charge, and the British gunners had dropped a protecting barrage on the German front trench ahead of the British troops, it was seen that the Germans had taken to their heels and were fleeing. The British, seeing their prey escaping, went mad and charged directly through their own barrage, fortunately without heavy casualties. The Menin Tunnel, which was expected to be occupied by several hundred Germans, was found to be held by only 41, the rest having retreated.

It was only at the second line that the British met resistance, and here, after sharp hand-to-hand fighting, they forced the Germans to withdraw.

No check has yet been made on the number of German prisoners captured, but they are flowing in in a steady stream back of the British lines. Many of those captured at the Menin Tunnel and other points are mere boys.

The tanks again played a prominent part in the opening of the battle, and reports from all sections of the British front say that their work has been most satisfactory. Large numbers of these monsters were employed, and in many cases pursued their destructive and unchecked way to a distance far within the German lines.

Further information obtained from German prisoners concerning the effects of the British preliminary bombardment indicates that the effects of this unparalleled expenditure of ammunition were disastrous in the extreme, both in damage and to the morale of the German troops. Within the past few days six Bavarian divisions were withdrawn from the line and replaced by fresh troops, because they were so thoroughly demoralized by the inferno of fire which they had undergone. Photographs taken by aviators back of the German lines show that there was scarcely a square yard of territory along their front which was not devastated by the high explosives. It is small wonder, then, that the Germans were holding their front line thinly, and were swept back when nally the time arrived for the allied infantry to do its work.

An earlies despatch from R. T. Small said: A vast British force augmented by French troops, at dawn today launched against the army of Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria between Dixmude on the north and Gapaard, near Warneton on the south a terrific offensive, which, according to the early reports had carried the onrushing allies well beyond the shell shattered front line trenches of the Germans throughout this approximately 20-mile front, and in many places have reached the second line defences.

ROYAL YEAST CAKES
HAS BEEN CANADA'S FAVORITE YEAST FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS
MAKE PERFECT BREAD
MADE IN CANADA

STRANGE COINCIDENCE

Two Belleville Baseball Pitchers Meet in Hospital Grounds

A unique coincidence in which two Belleville baseball players featured occurred on Dominion Day in the hospital grounds at Haples, Capt. Harry L. Wallace has received a letter from his brother Charles, now in France with the Army Service Corps in which he stated that Arthur Ferguson, another Belleville boy, was witness of a baseball match between two hospital teams. When one pitcher came up to bat, his opponent in the box thought he recognized the batter. Then he found that the batter was the well-known Belleville player, William Mills, and Mills was surprised to find in the other, another Belleville player, Harvey Smith. Neither had met before in France.

BOYS' DAY AT OAK LAKE CAMP MEETING, AUGUST 3RD.

Taylor Statton, National Secretary of Y.M.C.A. from Toronto, will address the boys from this section of Ontario at Oak Lake Camp, on Friday next. A great day is expected. Arrangements have been made by Mr. Brockel, of the Belleville Y.M.C.A. for autos to convey the boys of the Belleville district. It is understood that every boy 13 years of age and over will be welcome.

Sunday school classes are taking their lunches, also bathing suits. This promises to be one of the biggest days of the whole series of the camp meetings.

Mr. D. R. Poole will speak in the morning, Mr. Statton in the afternoon and Evangelist Sharpe at night.

The evening meeting will be open to all young and old alike. Many of the boys' parents are expected to be present.

Boys working on farms who have not yet received their "Farm Service Corps Badges" will receive them on Friday.

PTE. CLAPP SERIOUSLY WOUND.

Mr. Charles S. Clapp has received word that his nephew, Pte. Don Clapp has been very seriously wounded while on active service in France. Pte. Clapp is a son of Mr. W. B. Clapp of Winnipeg, formerly of Motra. Advice state that he has been badly wounded in four places with shrapnel.

Pte. Clapp had only recently recovered from a previous serious wound and had been returned to the front only a few days before. He enlisted with a western Canadian regiment.

KNOCKED OFF SIDEWALK BY CYCLIST

A young woman aged 20 years, was last evening knocked off the sidewalk on Bridge street by a boy riding on a bicycle. The police are inquiring for the offender.

AMERICANS WANT THE NAME "AMEXES"

Paris, July 31.—The American troops in France have chosen their own soubriquet, according to The Matin today, adopting the name "Amexes." This was formed by piecing together the first two letters of the words "American expedition," in a manner similar to that adopted in forming the word "Anzac," by which the Australian and New Zealand troops in the British forces are known.

The indication of worms are restlessness, grinding of the picking of the nose, extreme peevishness, often convulsions. Under these conditions he best remedy that can be got is Miller's Worm Powders. They will rid them to atoms that pass away in the evacuations. The little sufferer will be immediately eased and a return of the attack will not be likely.

PRIZE OPEN TO CANADIANS

New York Man Widens Offer for Bombing Berlin

One thousand dollars awaits the first Canadian aviator who will drop bombs on Berlin. Mr. Sigmond Saxe of New York City, who has recently announced that he will present a Liberty Bond of \$1,000 denomination, to the first "American" aviator to bombard the German capital from the air, has agreed to extend his offer to include Canadians in the Royal Flying Corps.

Upon publication of Mr. Saxe's letter in the United States newspapers, The Toronto News telegraphed him asking whether his offer was open to Canadian aviators in the Royal Flying Corps. The reply reads:

"Only too happy to include in my thousand dollar Liberty Bond offer aviators in the Royal Flying Corps."

TOO WARM FOR LIQUOR CASES.

So They were Enlarged—Act Requires Evidence in Full

As the law requires that evidence in liquor prosecutions be taken down fully and as no shorthand reporter was available this morning, the duty would have devolved upon Magistrate Masson to take down the evidence in such fulness that a trial would be lengthened for a day or two.

The heat was so intense that the magistrate declared he was not ready to go on with two cases until a shorthand reporter could be secured or until the weather became cooler. The trial was accordingly enlarged for eight days. The charges were of having liquor in a place other than their dwellings, namely in Thurlow.

Court then went on to the investigation of the charge against William Patrick McKenna, curio dealer, who is accused under a section of the Charlton Act with a very serious offence. The trial was held in camera. Crown Attorney Carnew is prosecuting and Col. W. N. Ponton, K. C., is defending the accused.

MAY PEOPLE SHOW REAL WAR FARE

The interesting suggestion is made that exhibitions of food prepared so as to meet the demands of war economy shall be given a prominent place at the various fall fairs held throughout the country this year. In this way, it is held, thousands of Canadian women might receive suggestions as to the best way to do effective war service in their particular spheres.

The farmer's wife seldom gets the credit due her for her war service, yet in official circles where estimates are made from time to time as to the reserve strength of the country, great confidence is placed on her efforts. The women of the rural districts are none the less helpful because they do their part without ostentation, far removed from the spotlight of the press.

A demonstration of how food containing satisfying and strengthening substances can be prepared fast, fully and cheaply would fill a great need of the times, and it is felt that many thousands of people could be reached and influenced at the fall fairs, where the crowds are usually in a receptive mood. One woman's club is seriously considering the establishment of a lunch-room at the local fair in order to offer regular meals of "war food." To many in Canada, no doubt, it would be a novel experience to eat what is the regular fare in more than one European country.

SHOE FACTORY FOR PETERBORO

The decline of the harness and saddlery business as an effect of the automobile displacement of the horse, has moved the E. F. Ackerman Son & Co., Ltd., Peterboro, to consider the establishment of a boot and shoe factory.

COUNCIL FOR INDIAN TRIBES

At the opening of the House Monday afternoon, E. Guss Porter, of West Hastings, introduced a bill to incorporate a council for the Indian Tribes of Canada. Mr. Porter stated that the bill was the result of a widely circulated petition. The object of the council was to facilitate the operations of lands, the investment of money, etc.

BOWLERS OFF TO KINGSTON

Four clubs of Belleville bowlers went to Kingston at noon today to play teams of the Kingston Club. The Belleville clubs are skipped by Rev. C. G. Smith, C. N. Sulman, C. H. Vermilyea and Mr. Wray.

WORK OF YEARS—MATTER OF HOURS

Wonderful Machine Perfected by Canadian for Making Oriental Rugs

It sometimes requires years of work on the part of an entire family in the Far East to produce one of the beautiful Oriental Rugs so much prized throughout the world. It has remained for Canadian inventors to perfect machinery to produce in a few hours a rug that would defy an expert to distinguish it from the genuine hand-made article. The first of these machines has just been completed, and will be shown in full operation in the Process Building at the Canadian National Exhibition. Other process operations, to be carried on there will be the manufacture of blankets and khaki cloth for the Canadian Army, while in contrast will be shown an old spinning wheel turning out rugs as grandmother did a hundred years ago. There will also be shown also the blowing of delicate glass surgical and medical instruments and other equally interesting branches of manufacture.

CARMEL

Mr. H. Honeywell occupied the pulpit on Sunday. Next Sunday, the service will be held in the evening.

Miss Wanda Reid is spending a few days with her friend, Miss Olive Honeywell, Cananifton.

Mrs. Rosenfield of Buffalo and Mrs. Pape of Toronto, are visiting at Mr. J. H. Derbyshire's.

Mrs. Charles Brintnell has been spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bronson.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Pitman spent the week-end with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Symons, Sidney.

Mr. and Mrs. Paterson, Stirling, and Mrs. C. Pitman, Foxboro, were Sunday visitors at Mr. J. B. Paterson's.

Mr. Alex. Bradshaw and daughter of Chatham were renewing old acquaintances in the vicinity last week.

CENTENARY

Everybody is very busy these days hustling in the hay. A start is also made at the wheat and barley harvest.

Miss Edith Goldsmith, who recently graduated as a trained nurse at Utica, N.Y., is spending her holidays at her home.

Messrs. D. A. Thrasher and R. S. Hart have taken a trip north for huckleberries.

A number from this locality attended the tent meetings at Oak Lake on Sunday.

An old resident of this section in the person of Mrs. Bowen, passed away last night at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. P. D. Atkins.

THE KIND OF PAVING

Editor Ontario: I confess to know very little about the rival merits of tarras and asphaltic concrete, and I have not the slightest desire to in any way interfere in the controversy.

As a large property owner, I would simply point out that asphaltic concrete seems to me to be the very best pavement which could be adopted.

First cost is greater, I admit, but with asphaltic concrete you have something lasting and durable, beautiful in appearance and high-class in every respect.

J. J. B. Flint.

LATE MRS. L. LYMAN.

Mrs. Lydia Lyman, a native of Deseronto, aged 88 years, died this morning in Thurlow. She was a widow. Death was due to senile decay. The interment takes place at Deseronto.

It is a liver pill—Many of the ailments that man has to contend with have their origin in a disordered liver, which is a delicate organ, peculiarly susceptible to the disturbance that come from irregular habits or lack of care in eating and drinking. This accounts for the great many liver regulators now pressed on the attention of sufferers. Of these there is none superior to Parmelee's Vegetable Pills. Their operation though gentle is effective and the most delicate one is them.

MISSION CHILDREN ON OUTING.

The City Mission children were this morning taken by autobus to Zwick's Island where they spent the day enjoying that pleasant spot. They were the guests of Mr. C. S. Clapp.

Read "The Ontario" and get all the latest news.

OFFICIAL BULLETINS OF GREAT OFFENSIVE

BRITISH

The official report from British headquarters in France, issued late last evening reads:

"The operations of the allied troops, begun this morning in the neighborhood of Ypres, have been continued with success during the day, despite unfavorable weather. The enemy's positions have been entered and our line has been advanced on a front of over 15 miles, from La Basseville, on the River Lys, to Steenstraete, on the River Yser. Both of these villages are now in the hands of the allies.

"On the extreme left the French troops, acting in close cooperation with and protecting the left flank of the British forces captured the village of Steenstraete and rapidly penetrated the German defences to a depth of nearly two miles. Having gained their objectives for the day at an early hour, they continued their attack with the greatest gallantry beyond their original objectives and captured Bixchoote and the enemy's positions to the southeast and west of the village on a front of nearly two and a half miles, including the Kortekerr Inn.

"During the afternoon a hostile counter-attack was successfully repulsed.

"In the center and on the left center British divisions penetrated the enemy's positions to a depth of two miles and secured crossings on the River Steenbeek, which constituted their final objectives.

"In the course of their attack, our troops stormed two powerful defensive systems and carried the Villages of Verlorenhoek, Frezenberg, Saint Julien and Pilkem and many strongly-defended farms, woods and organized localities.

"Further south, in the right center of our attack, after gaining the whole of their first objectives, which included the Village of Hooge and Sanctuary Wood, our troops fought their way forward against very obstinate resistance from the enemy in a difficult country in the neighborhood of the Ypres-Menin open road and carried the Village of Westhoek. In this neighborhood where heavy fighting has taken place throughout the day and still continues, we have penetrated the enemy's defences to a depth of about a mile. A number of powerful counter-attacks have been successfully repulsed.

"In addition to heavy casualties inflicted on the enemy, over 3,500 prisoners have already been brought in, but no accurate estimate of our captures can yet be made."

FRENCH

The French official report last night reads:

"Having crossed the Yser Canal during the night our troops attacked, at 4 o'clock this morning, in conjunction with the British armies on their right. The formidable artillery preparation had completely leveled the German organizations and inflicted heavy losses on the defenders.

"At the end of the morning, our troops had carried two enemy positions and in their dash had spontaneously gone beyond the objective which had been assigned to them. They advanced on the road between Lizerne and Dixmude, and captured the village of Bixchoote and Kortekerr Inn.

"Our losses were exceedingly small. We captured important material and took prisoners, not yet counted. The battlefield is covered with German dead, showing the magnitude of the enemy losses.

"On the Aisne front, the artillery fighting was particularly violent. Reports up to the present concerning the operation carried out south of La Royere emphasize the splendid attitude of our troops. On the entire front of the attacks the objectives assigned have been exceeded, we have been able to clear out the advance trenches, which we found filled with enemy dead. The number of prisoners taken exceeds, up to the present 210. Our losses were slight.

"About 11 o'clock in the morning the enemy made a counter-attack against our trenches west of L'Epine de Chevregny, which was repulsed.

"The Germans, after an intense bombardment of our lines at Cerny and Hurtbise, attacked our positions east of Cerny on a front of about 1500 metres with three regiments. Our counter-attacks, immediately carried out, drove them back and permitted us to advance along the whole front.

"The day was relatively calm on both sides of the Meuse."

GERMAN

Last night's official Berlin report read: "The first assault of the English army, delivered in Flanders on a 25-kilometre front on both sides of Ypres, has been repulsed.

"After changeable, bitter fighting on a large scale, the enemy, who attacked with superior forces many ranks deep, had to content himself with the possession of a crater position in our defensive zone.

"On the Chemin-des-Dames (Aisne) front, an energetic attack put us in possession of important height positions near Cerny and resulted in the capture of more than 1500 French."

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