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The Allies Launch Big Offensive from Florina To the River Struma

Operations in This Theatre Have Been Long Expected as Part of Co-ordinated Offensive of Allies on all Fronts—General Serrail is Directing United Operations

SERBIAN TROOPS AGAIN IN ACTION

Town and Station of Florina Were Occupied by Bulgarians After the Serbians Who Acting Under Orders to Retire if Attacked Slowly Withdrew—General Out Look Bright For Allied Forces Along the Whole Line

PARIS, Aug. 21.—Reports received here from Saloniki show the general engagement which began on Friday was continuing in intensity over an extended front running from Florina near Monastir to the River Struma. This represents an irregular line measuring upwards of 150 miles.

General Serrail is directing the united operations of the Allies with General Gordonnier commanding the French troops.

These operations have been long expected as a part of the co-ordinated offensive of the Allies on all fronts. Its opening follows the arrival of General Gordonnier after an extended conference with officials here.

Advices received at Paris indicate that Germans and Bulgars were seeking to anticipate the movement by taking the offensive on the left where the Serbs have moved up to within 25 miles of Monastir holding Florina as an observation, the orders were not to attempt to retain Florina if they were attacked.

The Serbian War Office says the Bulgars were repulsed and thrown back to their old positions but later the Serbians following their instructions evacuated Florina, whereupon the town and station of Florina were occupied by the Bulgarians. The Serbians retired slowly and later delivered a heavy counter attack against a large Bulgarian force which was debouching from Florina toward Panica. Fighting continues in this region.

In the centre the French and British forces, near Lake Dorian, followed an intense bombardment with infantry attacks in which the British occupied the strategic point of Dolzelli. Further east the French rushed a series of small villages much the same manner as the French carried several villages on the Somme front.

The report shows a condition of affairs along the whole line which is regarded here as satisfactory for the Allies.

Big Gathering Ecclesiastics In New York City

NEW YORK, Aug. 21.—The Roman Catholic Church Apostolic Delegate, of the United States, and Pappal Muncio to Brazil, and scores of Bishops and several hundred priests and thousands of laymen, participated here to-day in the celebration of a solemn Pontifical High Mass, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, on the occasion of the formal opening of the fifteenth annual Convention of American Federation of Catholic societies and the sixty-first annual Convention of the National Federation of German Catholics. Seldom has the historic church seen so memorable a gathering of Ecclesiastics outside of Rome. It is estimated that more than 8,000 crowded into the Cathedral, while twice as many more congregated in the streets to view the procession which proceeded the Mass.

\$20,000 Damage To Powder Plant

DRUMMONDVILLE, Que., Aug. 21.—This morning a fire started, caused by an electric spark from the conveyor belt igniting the powder. The material loss is estimated at \$20,000. The fire will not effect the output of the factory.

OFFICIAL

ITALIAN. ROME, Aug. 20.—The battle of the Isonzo has decreased in violence temporarily, and no important developments are reported in the War Office communication to-day.

SERBIAN. SALONIKI, Aug. 19.—Bulgarian troops which attacked the positions of Entente Allies along the Serbian frontier on August 17 were repulsed and driven back upon their original positions after sustaining enormous losses says the Serbian official statement.

BRITISH. LONDON, Aug. 20.—Following is today's official:—At some points on our front between the Somme and the Ancre, local bombing encounters occurred last night, but the enemy made no serious attempt to recover the ground we captured on Friday. On other parts of the line we carried out successful raids, making some captures including a machine gun, and inflicting a considerable number of casualties on the enemy.

LONDON, Aug. 20.—The British troops on the Saloniki front have advanced their line and repulsed counter-attacks by the Bulgarians, according to an official statement issued by the War Office. The text of the statement follows:—Our troops established a line west and north of Bekeri and Caidemil, and south of Dolzelli, where they repulsed counter-attacks with loss to the enemy. Artillery bombardment by both sides continues. On the Struma front our cavalry was in touch with the enemy in Kijpri-Barakli-Bzu area. On Sunday enemy aircraft bombarded Jentkoi, Gavaneli and Gugunci, with small success.

FRENCH. PARIS, Aug. 20.—The French carried a strongly organized work between Guillemont and Mourepas, taking a large quantity of war material, according to an official statement issued by the War Office to-night.

PARIS, Aug. 20.—The French official report to-day states that the French have driven the Huns out of the trenches north of Maurepas and are actively pressing forward the work of consolidation on the conquered front. Artillery actions are taking place on the Verdun front, but the Germans have made no infantry attacks. The Germans overnight made repeated efforts to retake Fleury, but the attacks were repulsed. The Austrians admit retreat before the Russians on the Kilomea front, and their troops have been withdrawn, after fierce fighting, toward Chornabena Ridge, thirty-five miles southwest of Kilomea.

Major General Sir Fredk. Benson Dead

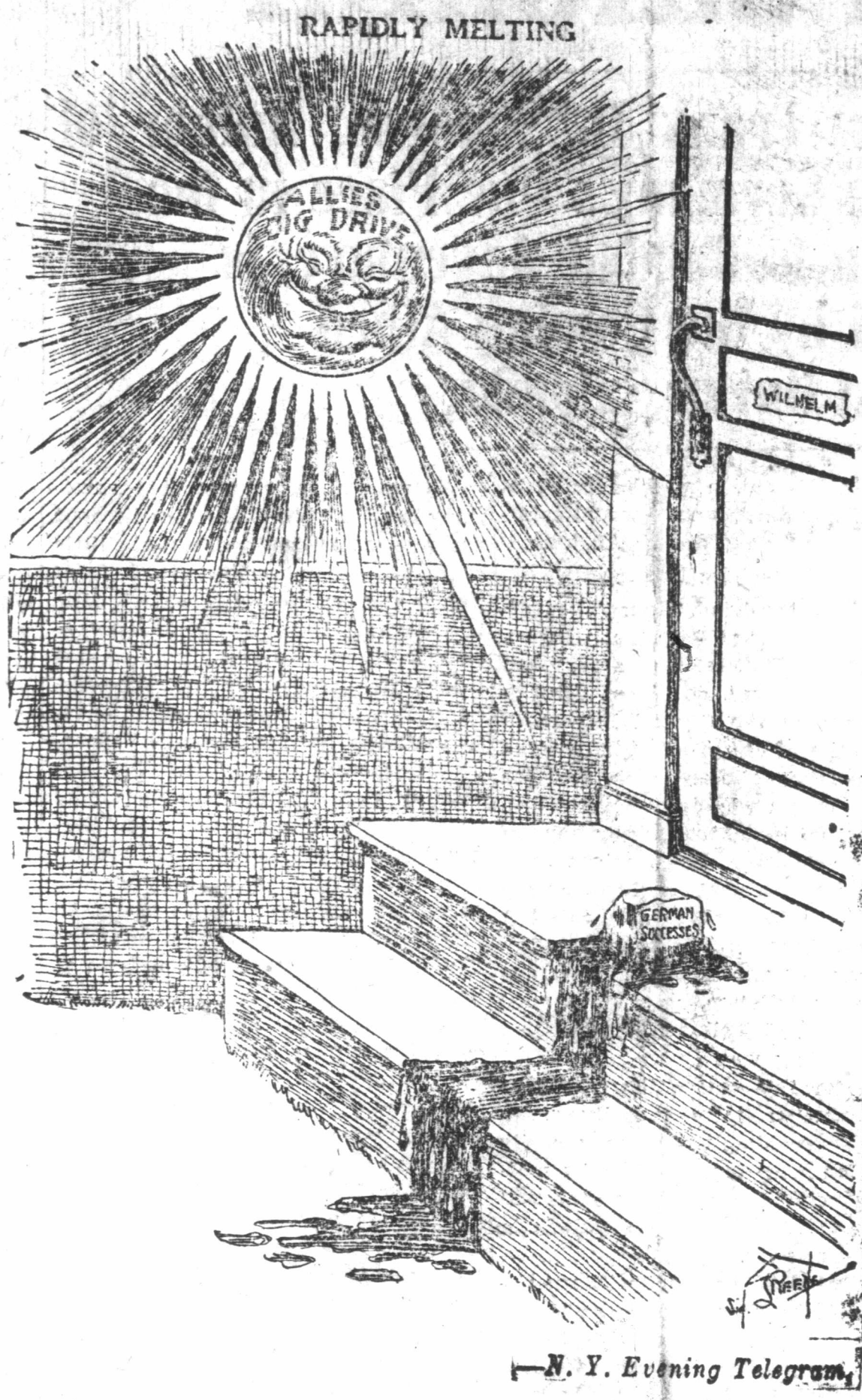
MONTREAL, Aug. 21.—Major Genl. Sir Fredk. William Benson, head of the British Commission for the purchase of horses and mules, on this side of the water for war service, and whose headquarters were at Montreal, died to-day after an illness of two months from heart trouble.

Five Dead and Six In Critical Condition

MONTREAL, Aug. 21.—Five men are dead and six in a critical condition, while eight are in the Montreal General Hospital more or less seriously injured, and several others are suffering from minor burns, as a result of fire in the plant of the Actna Chemical Co. and Powder Factory.

Matters Quiet On Russian Front

PETROGRAD, Aug. 20.—An official issued by the War Office to-night says nothing of importance occurred on our front.



—N. Y. Evening Telegram

Important Advances By British

In Week-End Fighting on Western Front the British Make More Gains and Capture Over a Thousand Prisoners—All Enemy Counter Attacks Repulsed With

LONDON, Aug. 20.—A despatch from Reuter's correspondent on the British front in France says:—The week-end fighting developed into one of the most important and successful battles of the western offensive. Not only is our progress toward the complete mastery of the ridge highly satisfactory, but we have captured about a thousand officers and men, many machine guns and a good deal of material. Several strong points have been destroyed, and the way has been prepared for further progress. Near Lepic Redoubt, Houquet farm and Martiniquich we met with much success. The enemy organized several strong counter-attacks, which, with one exception, were dispersed with heavy losses.

LONDON, Aug. 20.—A great advance has been made by the British army following an attack over an eleven mile front, bringing important gains for the Allied arms. The ridge at Thiepval, the high ground north of Pozieres, and half a mile of trenches west of the high wood has been taken together with 789 prisoners. This week-end battle is one of the most important yet fought and the progress made highly satisfactory. Several strong German positions have been destroyed, and the way prepared for further progress, says a despatch from the British front to-day.

Will Give Evidence in Mesopotamian Enquiry

LONDON, Aug. 21.—The War Office to-night announced that General Sir Beauchamp Duff, in chief, in chief commander in India, has been summoned home to give evidence before the Mesopotamian Commission and will vacate his office of Commander in Chief, being succeeded by Lieut. Genl. Sir Charles Carmichael Munroe.

Aviator Killed

PARIS, Aug. 21.—Second Lieut. Brindejonc des Moulinais, a well-known aviator, has been killed in an accidental fall of his aeroplane in the Verdun region.

Successful Operations Carried Out

British Operations at Points Along Front From Thiepval to South of Guillemont Were Very Successful and Result in the Capture of Important Points North of Poziers

LONDON, Aug. 20.—The text of the British statement given out to-day is as follows:—Operations were carried out yesterday at various points along the front from Thiepval to our extreme right south of Guillemont, about eleven miles, and were very successful. As a result we captured the ridge to the south-east and overlooking Thiepval, and the northern slopes of the high ground north of Pozieres from which we get an extensive view east and north-east. We are holding the western edge of the high wood and the trenches made by the enemy extending some half mile west of the wood. We have advanced our line half way to Gincay and to the edge of Guillemont, where we hold the outskirts of the village, including the railway station and quarters, which is of considerable military importance. The number of prisoners passed back up to four o'clock in the afternoon as a result of these operations was 16 officers and 780 other ranks. To-day to the north-east of Pozieres we made further advance on both sides of the Pocieres-Bapaume road north-east of the windmill. The enemy's artillery bombarded our positions, but there has been no hostile infantry attacks. On our other front enemy guns shelled our lines from the east of Vierstraat to the Ypres and Comines Canal, also in the vicinity of Hill 60.

No More War in Our Day Says Lloyd George

CRICCIETH, Wales, Aug. 20.—Speaking last night to his fellow-townsmen, David Lloyd said: "I am satisfied with the way things are going. I feel for the first time in two years that the nippers are gripping and that ere long we will hear the crack; then we will be able to extract the kernel. I say as once that we shall see that there will not be another war in our day. The British people have made greater sacrifices than we ever thought possible. Three years ago nobody dreamed that Britain would pour millions of her young manhood into the battlefield."

GREEKS RETIRE TO AVOID CLASH WITH BULGARIA

This Policy is Pursued Generally Wherever Military Operations Are Taking Place on Greek Territory—Central Powers Guarantee Return of all Territory Occupied by Them to Greece

PARIS, Aug. 21.—Telegraphing from Athens a correspondent of the Havas Agency says: "Greek troops in the region of Florina retired when the Bulgarians advanced. The same policy is pursued generally wherever military operations are taking place on Greek territory. Both the German and Bulgarian Ministers have declared that the civilian population in all territory occupied by the Bulgarians will be respected and that such territory will be restored to Greece at the end of the war."

Another Storm Brewing in Greece

ATHENS, Aug. 21.—The Royalist party in Greece is taking extraordinary precautions preparatory to the coming election. King Constantine is guarded and visits the capital only on rare occasions.

Take Pattern From the Germans

ATHENS, Aug. 21.—Turkish authorities in the Black Sea region are acting towards the Greeks in the same fashion as the Germans have done.

Regarded As Political Manoeuvre

Occupation of Florina by Bulgarians Has Caused Consternation in Greek Capital—Advance of Bulgars on Kavala Also Causing Disquiet—Impressing Roumania Thought to be the Reason Heavy Losses

ATHENS, Aug. 21.—The Bulgarian occupation of Florina has caused consternation in the capital and many conferences between King Constantine and his General Staff and members of the Cabinet have resulted. The advance of the German and Bulgarian forces in the direction of Kavala is also causing some disquiet although the impression is generally that this movement is a mere political manoeuvre calculated to influence Roumania and effect the Greek elections.

Another Munition Plant is Wrecked

DRUMMONDVILLE, Que., Aug. 20.—Seven persons were killed and thirty injured as the result of a mysterious explosion which blew up a section of a shell factory here. No explanation is forthcoming as yet as to the cause of the disaster. There are rumours of incendiarism, but no reliable facts are yet available. The injured have been brought to Montreal hospitals. Those at the general hospital are Charles Raffel, J. E. Crothers, E. Couillard, C. Antonio and Levin.

French Retake Trenches North of Maurepas

PARIS, Aug. 20.—The French have driven the Germans out of a portion of a trench north of Maurepas into which they penetrated in their counter-attack last night, according to an official statement issued by the War Office to-night.

Hun Attempts To Take Fleury Fail

PARIS, Aug. 20.—The Germans made several violent attacks on the Verdun front last night, in an effort to recapture the village of Fleury, which was taken last week by the French, the War Office announcement says, but the attacks were repulsed.

German Fleet Avoids An Engagement and Runs Back to Port

"War is Hell" On Saturday the German Fleet Again Ventured Out in the North Sea but on Learning of the Presence of British Ships Ran Back to Port Again

TWO ENEMY SUBS ARE REPORTED SUNK

Two British Protected 2nd Class Cruisers Are Sunk in Chase of Enemy Subs—Thirty-Eight of One Ship's Crew Are Missing—All Officers and Men, Save One Stoker, Are Saved From Second Cruiser

LONDON, Aug. 21.—According to an Admiralty statement which follows the reports from our lookout squadron and other units showed there was considerable activity on the part of the enemy in the North Sea on Saturday. The German high seas fleet came out but learning from their scouts that the British forces were in considerable strength the enemy avoided an engagement and returned to port.

Allied Forces Active Along Saloniki Front

PARIS, Aug. 20.—The Allied forces are in contact with the Germans and Bulgarians along the entire Saloniki front, according to an official issued by the War Office to-night, and the Allies have taken five villages.

Greeks Withdraw Troops From Near Frontier

SALONIKI, Aug. 20 (Delayed).—The Greek military authorities have agreed to withdraw from eighteen villages near the frontier.

French Aviator's Splendid Work

PARIS, Aug. 19.—German counter attacks were repulsed after violent fighting, leaving 50 prisoners in the hands of the French. Sub. Lieut. Geo. Guymener of the French Flying Corps, whose exploits have won him reputation as one of the most daring of French aviators, is again mentioned by the War Office in to-day's statement. On August 18th he shot down his fourteenth adversary.

British Line Advanced On the Somme Front

LONDON, Aug. 19.—The British line on the Somme front has been advanced over a section two miles long and 200 to 600 yards deep from high wood to the junction point with the French forces, the War Office announces.

Russian Success On The Stokhold River

PETROGRAD, Aug. 19.—The Russians have broken through the Austro-German lines on the Stokhold River in Volhynia, and have made a considerable advance, it was announced officially here to-day.

British Aeroplanes Raid Hun Stations

LONDON, Aug. 19.—British naval aeroplanes raided German ammunition stations at Lichterveld, in Belgium, 13 miles south-east of Bruges yesterday, causing large fires.

Renewal of Fighting In Mesopotamia

LONDON, Aug. 19.—A renewal of the fighting in Mesopotamia in which the British were engaged with Turkish irregulars is reported in an official statement given out here to-day.

French Win Their Way Foot by Foot

PARIS, Aug. 19.—The remainder of the ruins on the edge of the village of Fleury on the Verdun front was captured last night by the French, the War Office announced to-day. The battle continued violently all night long and the French won their way forward foot by foot.

Why is it the girls like to have their picture taken in warm weather? PHILIP J. JENSEN.