GERMAN ARMY IN THE MARNE VALLEY ENDANGERED

FRENCH AND AMERICANS GAIN FIVE MILES IN BIGGEST ALLIED OFFENSIVE OF YEAR

General Foch Launches Powerful Thrust on Front of Twenty-Five Miles Against the Invading Teuton Hosts Who Are Utterly Routed At Many Points and Thrown Into Confusion.

French Forces Capture Thousands of Prisoners and Many Great Guns--Soissons May Be Taken From Enemy, — Australians Advance more Than Third of Mile East of Amiens.

London, July 18—The French have gained from two to five miles everywhere on the twenty-five mile front of their offensive today between the Aisne and the Marne.

Reports received in London showed the situation all along the line of attack to be excellent. The attack is the biggest offensive move made this year by the Allies.

British Headquarters in France, July 18—A surprise attack early last night advanced the Australian line east of Amiens more than a third of a mile on a front in excess of a mile. The German trenches thus captured are southeast of Villers-Bretonneux.

With the American Army in France, July 18—American troops went over the top with a cheer this morning in the launching of the allied surprise attack on the front northwest of Chateau Thierry.

With the American Army in France, July 18—American storm troops in large numbers launched, in co-operation with the French, a powerful offensive on the line to the north of Chateau Thierry this morning. The Americans passed beyond nearly all their objectives, including the Paris-Soissons road.

The town of Soissons is now well within the range of the American guns. The enemy was taken completely by surprise all along the line. The American troops were brought up in the night, together with their French comrades of crack units, and lay in their positions until 5 o'clock this morning. At that hour the American and French artillery opened fire. The Americans advanced behind a terrific barrage to their objectives in less than half an hour. While they were digging in, more Americans, in most cases passed over the first objectives and then advanced behind the resumed barrage to the second objectives which were speedily taken, especially at the north end of the attack opposite the Paris-Soissons road.

Numerous Tanks

Numerous tanks participated in the offensive. The American infantry went into the attack without previous artillery preparations. In their advance behind the rolling barrage they captured many guns, machine guns, prisoners, equipment and material. The Germans in most places offered feeble resistance, but here and there they put up a stubborn fight which the American shock units quickly overcame at the point of the bayonet and at the muzzles of their weapons.

The entire offensive operations begun this morning on the front between the Aisne and the Marne is going at this hour (2 p. m.) for the most part even better than had been expected. The enemy so far have been unable to withstand the shocks the Allies have delivered and are still delivering.

A General Attack

London, July 28—News received in London indicates that an attack started by the French this morning, on the front between Chateau Thierry and Soissons is on a considerable scale. The attack was believed to be making good progress.

Advices this afternoon stated that the Germans had made no further attacks east of Rheims and that the French at various points of the front had regained ground.

The French, the reports state, have recaptured Montvoisin, south of the Marne, at the point where the Germans had advanced farthest toward Epernay and Chene La Beine, to the west, and took as well, the heights west of these villages, overlooking the Marne.

The French move this morning appeared to have been a surprise to the Germans. The manner in which this surprise was accomplished may best be judged from the map, which shows a great area of forest covering the ground behind the French lines. Under cover of these forests, General Foch has been preparing for some time for the present move.

All the way from Belleau to the Aisne the French attack was launched at daybreak today. It was what the British call a "full dress show" with every department, every weapon available in play, including the new French mosquito tanks. These tanks did some excellent work at the most difficult points.

Of Great Importance

Military men attach great importance to the lateral railway lines around Soissons and say that if General Foch can get his artillery into position to keep these lines out of action he will make the movement of the German supplies in the whole sector between Rheims and Chateau Thierry impossible.

On the extreme east of the German offensive, the French have re-occupied their old lines for a distance of three or four miles.

North of the Marne the French have regained the whole of the Bois road and the village of Venteuil.

This is the moment Foch has been looking for, said a military authority here today, "and if all goes well his splendidly executed counter-attack should bring the whole German offensive on the Rheims sector to a halt immediately."

The French have reached a point menacing the most important German railway centres which feeds the entire front west of Rheims. The French artillery is now within easy shelling distance of these railways and should be able to make life miserable for a large section of the German army.

A Pivotal Region

It is along the line now under attack that the notable series of operations which immediately preceded the start of the present German offensive was carried out by the French and Americans, according to an apparently well conceived plan of co-operation between the two forces. Marked gains were made by the French day after day in the region southwest of Soissons and further south along the front edging the forest of Villers-Cotterets.

The Americans for their part took possession of the entire Belleau Wood, capturing the village of Vaux, close to Chateau Thierry and advanced their lines notably to positions where their guns commanded the villages of Bourasches, Belleau and Torcy, along the Clingnon River.

It was quite generally assumed at the time that these attacks were merely for defensive purposes, to fortify the line against a possible renewal of the German assault in this direction.

More Important Plans

There were hints, however, that there might be more important plans behind the persistent aggressive of the Allies.

This front has been pointed to as the logical one for an offensive stroke by General Foch when he considered the time opportune to take the aggressive as its success would pinch off the entire Marne salient and if carried through rapidly would inevitably result in the capture of large number of the enemy and quantities of his guns and material.

"It cannot be told as yet whether such a broad objective has been determined upon by the generalissimo. The possibility that it is merely a diversion to draw off German reserves from the Marne and Rheims fronts may be pointed to, and further details of the operation and progress of the fighting will have to be awaited before the definite purpose of the attack is developed.

Battling for Rheims

Paris, July 18—In its review of the situation on the front, the Havas Agency notes the agreement in the comment of the entire press that after the third day of the battle the situation remains as favorable to the Allies as could be expected.

"The battle for Paris has become a battle for Rheims," the Petit Parisian says. "The German manoeuvre was frustrated by the insufficient effect of the first shock. It can be considered as a failure, and we are able to look to the future without apprehension."

The Echo de Paris also declares the situation at present is decidedly favorable, and the prospects for the future "entirely reassuring."

"It appears now," says Premier Clemenceau's paper, L'Homme Libre, "that the enemy's efforts will not even result in the capture of Rheims and still less that of Epernay." Thus the great "peace offensive" will be a fiasco after three notable failures, at Compiegne, in Italy and in the Champagne.

UNITED STATES SENT A BILLION FOOD FOR ALLIES

During Fiscal Year Total Value Sent Across $1,400,000,000.

GRAIN FORWARDED 340,800,000 BUSHELS

In Addition Ten Million Bushels of Wheat Sent To Neutrals.

Washington, July 18.—Food valued at approximately $1,400,000,000 was sent to the Allied countries fro mthe United States during the fiscal year which ended June 30, Food Administrator Hoover wrote President Wilson in a letter made public today reviewing the work of the food administration.

The shipments of meat and fats to allied destinations were for the fiscal year of 1916-17, 2,166,500,000 pounds and for the fiscal year of 1917-18, 3,011,100,000 pounds, an increase of 844,800,000 pounds.

Cereals and cereal products in terms of cereal bushels were shipped as follows:

In fiscal year of 1916-17, 259,900,000 bushels, and in fiscal year of 1917-18 340,800,000 bushels, which represents an increase of 80,900,000 bushels.

Of these amounts for the last fiscal year, 131,000,000 bushels of wheat were sent, and 13,900,000 bushels of rye. Ten million bushels of wheat, it is estimated, are now in port destined for Europe or en route, making the total of 1917 wheat shipped about 141,000,000 bushels, or 154,900,000 bushels of "prime breadstuffs." In addition 10,000,000 bushels of wheat were sent to neutrals.

SLENDER CLUE TO RIVER MYSTERY

Dismembered Body of Young Woman May Be That of Reading, Pa., Girl.

Fall River, Mass., July 18—Clues almost without number have been hunted down by state, city and town police in an effort to solve the mystery surrounding the finding of portions of a woman's body on the Somerset shore of the Taunton river, and each one, no matter how vague, has been investigated, but the local authorities are forced to admit that they as yet have nothing tangible.

The police officials have sent broadcast descriptions of the victim, missing girls have been traced and found, except one, who was last seen alive here on June 28, and who may be the victim.

This young woman hailed from Reading, Penn., and her description tallies to a great extent with that of the murdered person. She has dropped out of sight, after forwarding a letter from Newport to her boarding mistress here.

The upper part of the torso is still missing and a search of the river front and the shores of Mount Hope Bay has failed in its purpose.

In Old Age

Health and comfort in old age depends largely on keeping the liver and kidneys in healthful action.

Pains and aches, stiffness of the joints, lumbago and rheumatism tell of poisons left in the blood by sluggishness of the liver and kidneys.

People in advanced years hold Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills in high esteem because of the promptness and certainty with which they awaken the action of kidneys, liver and bowels.

NATIONAL DIVISION SONS OF TEMPERANCE AT ST. CATHERINES

Mr. Hohenthal of South Manchester, Conn., Re-Elected M. W. P.

HALIFAX MAN IS M. W. CHAPLAIN

Former Most Worthy Associate E. S. Hennigar of St. John a Delegate.

St. Catherines, Ont., July 18.—For the second time in the history of the National Division, Sons of Temperance of America, a most worthy patriarch was today elected for a second term at the 74th annual convention, the honor again being conferred on C. E. L. G. Hohenthal of South Manchester, Conn.

Other officers elected were: Most worthy associate, T. N. Willimott, Orillia, Ont.; M. W. Scribe, Ross Slack, Philadelphia; M. W. Treasurer, W. C. Acken, New Jersey; M. W. Conductor, J. H. Brodie, Prince Edward Island; M. W. Sentinel, Mrs. J. O. McCarthy, Toronto; M. W. Chap., G. E. Hills, Halifax. The National Division decided to meet at Philadelphia on June 18 next year.

Mr. E. S. Hennigar, of St. John, formerly Most Worthy Associate of the order, is a delegate to the National Division.

THOUSANDS ARE OUT ON STRIKE IN NEW ENGLAND

Former Residents of Maritime Provinces Thrown Out of Work Temporarily—Many Are Visiting Their Old Homes.

Quite a number of former residents of the maritime provinces who have been thrown out of work temporarily by strikes in New England industrial centres, are visiting their old homes, while others have obtained employment elsewhere. A large number of French-speaking people in Manchester N. H., where the great Amoskeag cotton mills, eighteen in number, with as many thousand persons on the pay roll, and the Stark Corporation have been shut down, have returned to their former homes in Quebec and the lower provinces for a short trip. The Amoskeag Company is the largest cotton plant in the world.

I. J. MacQuarrie, of Haverhill, Mass. formerly of Digby county, was in the city yesterday on his way to visit his old home. Mr. MacQuarrie who is a prosperous business man of Haverhill, stated that the industrial situation there is very bad, and that a long shut down in the many shoe factories, the principal industry in the city, is probable unless the striking cutters and manufacturers settle their grievances. The cutters want $37.50 a week, an advance of $6. The manufacturers refuse to recognize a new union, which has been introduced into the city from Lynn, the world's largest shoe centre. They have announced that they will shut down their factories until the strikers decided to go to work, if the latter insist on recognition of the Lynn union. There are many New Brunswick people in all the shoe centres of Massachusetts.

Mr. MacQuarrie said that times were never better in New England, that wages were abnormally high and help very scarce. He predicted that after the war a pronounced slump would occur. The absence of war orders, he thought would send wages down with a bang and work would be far less plentiful.

In many mill towns the operatives and not the mill managers are the bosses. As an instance the weavers of Lawrence, the largest woollen mill centre in the world, compelled the American Woollen Co., otherwise known as the Woollen good trust, and which operates forty plants, to grant a fifty per cent. increase in wages when they struck with enormous amount of government cloth orders unfilled. The mills are running night and day, and the manufacturers dare not allow the men and women to strike, or at least to remain out long as the government invariably takes a hand in the wage game. Weavers who twenty years ago were lucky to make $12 a week now earn as high as $33.

Mr. MacQuarrie stated that in some of the shoe factories of Haverhill before the strike girls earned as high as $50 a week at times stitching regularly and overtime. They are paid by the dozen pairs. He said that girl stitchers did not think they were getting a respectable week's wages if they earned less than $25 a week. Men on machines in shoe factories of Haverhill have been known to earn as high as $50 and even $75 in one week. The striking cutters, formerly the highest paid class of help in a shoe factory, earn about $31, but their work is done by hand and they have less opportunity of adding extras than the machine operators, operators, such as the Goodyear welt men, pullers over, heelers, etc. Haverhill produces largely women's shoes and slippers.

Brockton, the largest men's shoe centre in the world, is also threatened with a shut down of many factories, but the government is endeavoring to settle the trouble, as many thousands of army shoes are under contract there.

The cutters of Abington, Holbrook and other towns are also out, as are 7,000 rubber shoe operatives in Woonsocket and Bristol, R. I. They demand more wages.

The fifty jewelry factories in Attleboro and North Attleboro, are also threatened with a tie up, the employes having voted to strike unless more wages are paid. Many of the Rhode Island and Blackstone Valley cotton mills are affected by strikes. The textile mills of New England, which employ about 300,000 operatives have advanced wages 75 per cent. within two years, and in some cases 100 per cent., and higher.

In West Lynn about ten thousand General Electrical employes are idle because of a strike of machinists for more money.

COUNTESS ARRESTED AS GERMAN WORKER

Former Actress, Born At Posen, Prussia, in the Toils.

New York, July 18—Suspected of having been associated with Dr. Friedrich R. A. von Strensch in German propaganda in America, Countess Alexandra Viggfa von Scheele is under arrest as a dangerous enemy alien by agents of the department of justice.

Owing to illness she was taken to Bellevue Hospital. She claims a Hungarian title and was born in Posen, Prussia, about fifty years ago. She is said to have been an actress and to have come to the United States in the fall of 1914, immediately communicating with the German embassy.

Von Strensch was arrested Monday.

OBITUARY

L. DeVeber Lyon.

L. DeVeber Lyon, an old and respected resident of Kingston, passed away last Saturday at the advanced age of ninety years. He was born at Long Reach and was of Loyalist descent. He is survived by two daughters, one son, a sister and two grandsons.

Samuel S. Taylor.

Samuel S. Taylor died at his home in Shediac last Monday and was buried at Mount Eagle, Salisbury, on Wednesday afternoon. He was eighty-five years of age and is survived by two daughters and seven sons, one of whom is County Secretary Taylor, of Dorchester.

Mrs. (Rev.) Thomas F. MacWilliams.

Word has been received of the sudden death of Mrs. MacWilliams wife of Rev. Thomas F. MacWilliams formerly manager of Woolworth's store, Moncton, and of late a Baptist minister at Cherryfield, Westmorland Co. Before their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. MacWilliams were Salvation Army officers in St. John, Sussex, St. Stephen, Sydney and other places.

Why They Giggle.

"Why do the girls always smile at Jim, and giggle at Joe?"

"Jim's wife got a divorce for cruelty; Joes a widower. The girls are fascinated by the idea of taming the lion and uninterested by the lamb."

Wonderful Opportunity For Footwear Savings

Our Big Mid-Summer Shoe Clearance Sale

If you are economically inclined, you'll anticipate your future as well as your present Footwear needs, now, during this great sale. Shoes for men, women and children are reduced, including many new styles for the Fall, which are arriving daily.

WIEZEL'S CASH STORE

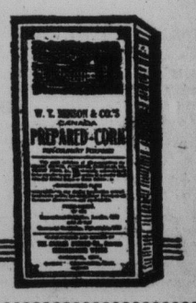
It's an Honour to be a Good Cook

TO BE ABLE TO FEED THE FAMILY WELL AND ECONOMICALLY IS REAL WAR WORK

BENSON'S CORN STARCH

is of vital importance to the good cook. It is the foundation of dozens of every-day desserts—gives lightness and flavour to homemade "war bread"—makes far smoother gravies and sauces than flour.

Be sure to get BENSON'S—famous for quality for more than half a century.



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"The National Smoke"

WILSON'S BACHELOR

The fragrant aroma of clear Havana leaf—the uniform quality that comes of careful selection—therein lies the superiority of the Bachelor cigar.

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Let Cuticura Soothe Your Itching Skin

Nothing purer, sweeter or more effective for rashes, itchings and irritations. The Soap to cleanse and purify, the Ointment to soothe and heal. They prevent skin troubles if used for every-day toilet purposes. For free samples address: "Cuticura, Dept. N, Boston, U. S. A." Sold by dealers throughout the world.