## POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1918

#### Allied Forces Send Germans Reeling Backwards From The Line In Precipitate Retreat

The crisis in the Allied offensive on the Soissons-Rheims salient apparently has been reached French troops have entered the town of Soissons, the western anchor point of what remains of the famous salient, and all along the thirty-six miles of curving battle line from Soissons to Thillois, which lies about three miles west of Rheims, French, American and British troops have pushed in the entire enemy front and sent the Germans reeling

backwards everywhere in precipitate retreat.

Over the battle front the Allies by quick and forcible methods of onslaught have deeply indented the German defence line for splendid gains, which seemingly foreshadow the necessity of eventual retirement of the forces of the German Crown Prince to more tenable grounds in the north.

The plains behind the northwestern portion of the battle front now are entirely dominated by the Allied big guns; in the south the French and Americans have negotiated almost all the hill and forest country and are encroaching perceptibly toward the Fismes railway, while on the east the British and French are almost astride the Rheimsons railway and have their guns now s oplaced that the enemy is sure to be sorely tried as he endeavors to press back and gain a haven of refuge along the Vesle River. RETIREMENT MAY GO NORTH TO AISNE

Just how far the retreat of the Germans will go cannot at present be forecast, but with the southern line swingthward in conjunction with that on the east toward the Vesle, and with the French dominating the Aisne eastward from Soissons, it is not improbable that the Germans may be compelled to take refuge north of the Aisne.

they have advanced from two to three miles. South of Soissons the entire Crise River has been forded by the Allied troops. Northeast of Fere-En-Tardenois the Allied line has been pushed well to the west of the region of Grand Rozoy and the town of Saponay has been taken. In the centre the Nesles Wood is being swept clean of Germans by the French cavalry and American and French troops are pressing the Germans hard north of Sergy and the hamlet of Farther eastward, almost to the gates of Rheims, combined forces of British and French everywhere are sorely harassing the enemy. In this latter region, in addition to Thillois, the village of Ville-En-Tardenois is in Allied hands and the French now are on the heels of the Germans two and a half miles north of the Dormans-Rheims high road over

Altogether, viewed from the war maps, the situation for the Allied troops at present is a most promising one for plete success in ridding the Soissons-Rheims salient entirely of the enemy.

GERMANS NOT SHOWING SAME STAMINA

Throughout the latter phases of the battles the Germans have not shown their stamina of previous days, and at

virtually no opposition being imposed.

All behind the battle line the smoke of burning towns is visible, which seemingly would give weight to the prevailing belief in the Allied capitals that the Germans at present are nowhere near the end of their retreat. Aside from the Soissons-Rheims salient there has been little fighting in any of the war theatres. The British are continuing their raids on the Germans in France and Flanders, and the Germans at last accounts were heavily b ing the British south of the Somme and near Ypres.

A federal graduated excise tax on the of the year of manufacture. use of automobiles, running from \$10 a year on cars originally retailed at \$500, to a \$60 tax on \$3,000 cars, and \$20 additional for each \$500 above \$3,000, was agreed to Wednesday by the ways and means committee at Washington. The

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#### Death Sentence For Dowling

London, Aug. 2—Lance-Corporal Joseph Dowling, of the Connaught Rangers, who was landed on the coast of Ireland from a German submarine three months ago, was pronounced guilty today and sentenced to death.

LABOR UNION MATTERS.

Trades & Labor Council a resolution of sympathy was passed to the wife of the late Captain Bart McLean, former vice-president of that organization. The question of Chinese labor was also taken



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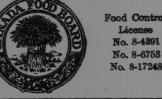
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