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FAIR AND WARM.

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THE ALLIES HAVE GAINED OVER TEN MILES IN ABOUT ONE WEEK

Extreme Gravity of the Situation Menaces German Army in Most Dangerous Pocket

Violent Enemy Counter-Attacks and Rear-Guard Actions in Great Strength Fail To Serve the German High Command As Barriers To the Advance of the Allied Troops on the Soissons-Rheims Salient—Advance Slows Down Somewhat, But Position of Boches Most Perilous.

(Undated War Lead By The Associated Press).

Violent German counter-attacks and rear-guard actions in great strength still fail to serve the German high command as barriers to the advance of the allied troops on the Soissons-Rheims salient.

True, they have aided somewhat in slowing down the fast pace set by the Allies at the commencement of the offensive, but nevertheless on the three sides of the new U-shaped battle front further important gains have been made.

Driving slowly, but surely, south of Soissons the French and American troops have pushed their fronts farther eastward toward that part of Soissons-Chateau Thierry railway line that is still in the hands of the enemy and farther south, along both sides of the Ourcq river and the road leading to Fere-En-Tardenois, Germany's great storehouse for the supply of her troops to the south, important penetrations into enemy-held territory have been made until the maximum point where the Allies are fighting near Coigny is about ten and a half miles from their point of departure last Thursday.

Fierce Resistance.

In the Marne region north of Chateau Thierry the French and Americans have met with the fiercest kind of resistance, for here the German machine gunners and infantrymen are striving hard to stay their progress in an endeavor to extricate large numbers of the German forces who are in danger of capture, and also to save part of the enormous numbers of guns and war material which it is impossible to get out except by the high-roads over the undulating and wooded country.

The advantage in the fighting, however, has rested with the amalgamated Allied troops, who have pushed on northward past the village of Epieds and ousted the Germans from the greater part of the Chateau Forest. In this region the Allies now hold the villages of Epieds and Trugny-Epieds, which were captured by the Germans and were recaptured Wednesday in a counter-attack by the Americans. Pressing on northward the Allies have driven their front beyond Courpail, which lies about 5 1/2 miles northeast of Chateau Thierry.

Progressing Northward.

Along the Marne at several points, notably in the region of Charleville and Jaulgonne and farther east at Trepout the Allies have put the northern bank of the Marne farther behind them in advances and captured a large number of cannon and machine guns and considerable war materials.

LETTER CARRIERS STRIKE IS OVER

Ottawa, July 24—A sub-committee of the cabinet will confer with the representatives of the letter-carriers. Further, temporary employees of the postoffice department are to participate in the war bonus.

This is the net result of three hours conference between the letter-carriers delegation and members of the cabinet this afternoon. It is considered by the men's representatives as acceptable under the circumstances, and they advise the men to return to work tomorrow.

"We find this is the best that can be obtained," states a telegram which Alex McMorris, secretary of the Letter-Carriers Federation sent to the various locals from the conference, "and under the circumstances consider it acceptable and recommend that the men accept it and return to work in the morning."

(Signed) Alex McMorris.

STEAMER DAMAGED

Port Arthur, Ont., July 24.—The passenger steamer Huroic of the Northern Navigation Company, bound up the lakes, encountered difficulties near Passage Island last night by the blowing out of a cylinder-head. The passengers were transferred to an Iphigene Canadian Pacific steamer which will arrive here tonight. The Huroic is being towed into port.

the men's returning at once to their duty, to accede to the proposal that a sub-committee of the cabinet be appointed which will confer with representatives of the men, hear, look into and discuss with them their representations relative to the matter of wages or salary, and report to the cabinet which will then consider and decide upon that report.

"We find this is the best that can be obtained, and under the circumstances consider it acceptable and recommend that the men accept it and return to work in the morning."

(Signed) Alex McMorris.

MASSED GERMAN RESERVES HOLD OPEN JAWS OF TRAP IN AISNE-MARNE REGION

Desperate Teutons Attempting To Stabilize Lines Without Crushing of the Forces Now Withdrawing From the Chateau Thierry and the Marne Salients—Enemy Has Single Railway Line From Pocket.

Washington, July 24—Massed German reserves are holding open the jaws of the trap General Foch has sprung in the Aisne-Marne region, in a desperate effort to stabilize their lines without the crushing of the forces withdrawing from the Chateau Thierry and Marne salients. Official reports to the war department, however, show that the enemy has but a single railway line remaining in his hands over which to get his heavy material out of the pocket into which he has been forced by allied and American advances.

The situation was graphically explained today by General March, chief of staff, in a mid-week conference with newspaper correspondents. For the last two days, General March said, the employment of probably fifteen divisions of fresh German reserves on the Soissons jaw of the trap has practically steadied the line there.

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IMPORTANT GAINS BY THE ENTENTE

French and American Forces on Aisne-Marne Front Advance Two Miles in Centre of the Line—Epieds and Trugny-Epieds Taken After Desperate Engagements—Success in East.

Paris, July 24.—Highly important gains by the French and American forces on the Aisne-Marne front are reported in the official statement of the war office tonight. In the centre of the line an advance of nearly two miles was made. Desperate engagements were fought in the direction of Epieds and Trugny-Epieds, which villages the Americans again recaptured from the Germans. To the north of Epieds, the Franco-American line is now beyond Courpail.

The statement reads:

"Between the Ourcq and the Marne our attacks, resumed this morning, were continued successfully throughout the day.

"On our left, we hold Armentieres and Chatelet Wood, beyond which we advanced as far as Brecy, which we occupy.

Franco-Americans.

"In the centre Franco-American troops made an advance at certain points of more than three kilometres.

"Desperate fighting has been in progress in the region of Epieds and Trugny-Epieds, which, retaken by the Germans yesterday at the end of the day, were reconquered again in a counter-attack by the Americans.

"North of these two villages we have carried our line beyond Courpail.

"On our right we made progress in the Forest of Pere, north of Charleville and Jaulgonne. Further to the east we extended our bridgehead at Trepout and occupied the southern corner of Ris Forest.

"In this sector we captured five cannon of 150 and about fifty machine guns, as well as considerable material.

Bois de Rheims Taken.

"Between the Marne and Rheims there were intermittent artillery actions.

"In yesterday's fighting, in the

Eastern Front.

"Eastern theatre—On the west bank of the Cerna, a Serbian assault detachment penetrated the enemy trenches inflicting heavy losses.

"In Albania our operations terminated in the occupation of the entire mountainous region, dominating the right side of the Devoll Valley above the confluence of the Hollax River.

"On the left we occupied the villages of Iszyuba and Kokoshovo. We repulsed several counter-attacks. The number of prisoners taken by our troops on July 21-22 has reached 642, including six officers.

"On the other hand our losses have been insignificant. Our operations which have been completely successful in Albania for two months were conducted with effective very inferior to those of the enemy. Our attacks have succeeded by reason of perfect preparation and the bravery of our troops, who, in the course of engagements, carried out sometimes in snowstorms and sometimes under an unbearable sun in a very difficult country, have by their skill and resolution taken indisputable ascendancy over their adversary."

YOUNG BOY DROWNED

Sherbrooke, Que., July 24.—Alfred Cormier, 11 years old, was drowned at Costlock last night. The body has not yet been recovered.

INTERNATIONAL PAPER MEN GO OUT ON STRIKE

Washington, July 24—A telegram from the International Paper Company, announcing the strike of employees in paper mills in New York and Massachusetts received late today by the war labor board, but no formal action was taken, as the board was engaged in another hearing.

It was expected that the paper mill controversy will be referred to C. A. Crocker and T. M. Guerin, who settled the original controversy between the mill companies and their men by awarding higher wages. The understanding here is that the strike grew out of misunderstandings between committees of employers and employees who were charged with putting the award into effect.

Glenfalls, N. Y., July 24.—More than 3,500 paper mill workers of Northern New York went on strike last night affecting the International Paper Company's mills at Glenfalls, Fort Edward, Corinth and Ticonderoga, and the Finch, Frye and Company's Glenfalls mill. General dissatisfaction on the part of the men with the wage findings of the war labor board is given as the cause of the strike.

NATIONALIZATION OF GRAND TRUNK SEEMS PROBABLE

Hon. Arthur Meighen, Minister of Interior, Says Government Not Inclined To Recede From Its Position.

Montreal, July 24.—Hon. Arthur Meighen, Minister of the Interior, and Hon. J. A. Calder, Minister of Colonization, arrived from England and passed through Montreal tonight.

Asked as to the affairs of the Grand Trunk Railway in which Mr. Meighen has been active on the other side, the minister of the interior was reticent, but after the frequent conferences that were held, he is of the opinion that whatever the present position was, each party now more clearly understands the other not only as to what was granted, but as to how far each was prepared to go. He intimated that the government was not inclined to recede from the position taken during the recent parliamentary debates in favor of nationalization of the whole system.

Hon. J. A. Calder, when asked about immigration pointed out that until Great Britain decided both in parliament and in the imperial conference what was going to be done in regard to emigration, he could not formulate any plans for Canada.

BOY DROWNED IN ST. CHARLES BATHING

William Sunderland, Aged Fourteen, Loses His Life.

Quebec, July 24.—While bathing in the St. Charles River this afternoon, William Sunderland, aged 14 years, son of John Sunderland, 127 Richelleu street, ventured beyond his depth and was drowned. The body was recovered some time later.

LIGHTNING BURNS A RAILROAD STATION

D. A. R. Building At Round Hill, N. S., Destroyed.

Annapolis, N. S., July 24.—The Dominion Atlantic Railway station at Roundhill was struck by lightning today and set on fire. The building and all the contents was destroyed.

FR. McDONALD DEAD

Antigonish, N. S., July 24.—Rev. William Bernard McDonald, parish priest of Lourdes, Pictou County, died here today after a brief illness. He was born at Merigomish, Pictou County, in 1849, and ordained at Quebec in 1876 by Cardinal Taschereau. Following his ordination he became pastor of Lourdes, where he remained until his death. He was one of the best known priests in Nova Scotia.

PRINCE ARTHUR'S TRIP

Quebec, July 24.—Prince Arthur of Connaught will be in Quebec City on August 16th. He will be tendered an official reception on his coming here.

WEIRD SCENES AS THE TEUTON ARMY RETREATS

Stiffened Corpses, Carrion Horseflesh, Debris of Wagons, Abandoned Cannon and Mass of Soldiers' Equipment and Munitions Scattered Over Miles of Surface Torn By Powerful Explosives.

Special cable to New York Tribune and St. John Standard. (By Wilbur Forrest).

With the French Armies, July 24—There is a scene south of the River Marne today which, once photographed on the human mind, can never be driven from it. It is a battle field, from which more than 50,000 Germans, finding their safety menaced by Foch's strategy and the victorious allied advance above them, retreated swiftly two days ago to the north bank of the river.

Stiffened corpses still lying there, carrion horseflesh, debris of wagons and cannon and a mass of soldiers' equipment, munitions scattered over miles of surface, torn and tortured by powerful explosives, give a picture of war in terrible reality. But the scene is not uniformly like this. The terrain is punctuated occasionally by yellow wheatfields, which seem to heal somewhat the wounded countryside, though close inspection reveals in them blackened patches of shell holes or something worse.

Occasionally red-roofed villages appear, nestling in the valleys of this country, just south of the famous river. Close inspection shows that they are now but empty shells, having been systematically looted by the advancing Germans and torn by both allied and enemy explosives.

Restoring Order.

The correspondent passing over this country today found Franco-American soldiers beginning their first attempts to put it in order. The burial of horses and men is proceeding here and there, but the task is colossal. Already white crosses are being erected over the mortal remains of the few who fell, to take their places beside weatherbeaten graves of some of Joffre's immortals of 1914, for the war has now passed over this ground for the second time in four years. But most of the losses are German, because the Germans were doing the advancing.

In many places I saw the extreme southern limit of the German line, where the Franco-Americans stopped them. Bodies lay around in shallow trenches they had dug. These trenches were blasted from the ground occasionally by Allied shells. Once, nearer the river, several American graves, over which metal helmets were hanging atop the crosses told a little story of their own. A small party of them were surrounded and refused to surrender. Turning their faces southward they fought their way out. The few survivors arriving reported the incident to the French colonel.

Swaying Battle.

The swaying battle had drifted the main force of Americans where the survivors were unable to find them. It was apparent today that the Germans brought more guns and transport material across the Marne than was first believed. Horses were slain by the hundreds and conveyances remain either destroyed or intact, including one brand new automobile with pneumatic rubber tires.

Many guns were destroyed by the enemy themselves before the retreat, but Allied "clean-up" forces so far have picked up more than 2,000 German rifles and found great stores of unexploded shells and other munitions. Cartridge boxes, knapsacks, gas masks and other paraphernalia make great piles when gathered. Unexploded hand grenades on the ground make the clean-up work not without an element of danger. A Pittsburgh doughboy, found in the village of St. Anna, which is the extreme limit of the enemy advance south of Doullens, told this story simply today.

"We came to France in May. We marched thirty miles from the training camp without a stop, as reinforcements. We found our line on top of the hill over there above the village and the German line on top of the hill on the other side. Nobody held the village because the shellfire was too hot, but there was a German machine gunner in the church tower who made things nasty until we got him. You bet we got him."

Literally Hell.

The doughboy, whose part had been getting the machine gunner and re-mounting the story, today, said the remainder of the historic battle in this sector did not particularly interest him. He admitted, however, that the shell fire was literally hell, and said that last Saturday morning, the Germans who tried to advance on Friday but were thrown back, seemed to disappear, leaving only a few machine guns. Then the Franco-Americans together, began to advance, but the bulk of the enemy recrossed bridges and established themselves on the north bank.

The Germans left small detachments on the south bank armed with machine guns even after 50,000 survivors who had originally crossed had recrossed and fourteen bridges spanning the stream had been blown up. Of these the French-American (Continued on page 3)

LOCAL OPERATION VERY IMPORTANT

Special cable to New York Tribune and St. John Standard. (By Hilaire Belloc).

London, July 24.—The local operation undertaken by the French north of Montdidier was exactly along the same lines as all those which have succeeded each other without interruption since June 17. The value of these comparatively small operations has been often described. This particular advance gives full observation over the plateau of the Avre river and completes the work begun three weeks ago a little to the north. But if we wish to consider the full

meaning of such blows we cannot do better than to consider the great counter offensive launched last Saturday. This movement, which restored initiative to the Allies and destroyed all chance of German victory, was only rendered possible by the capture in one of these local operations a month ago of the high land beyond Lavernette Ridge and notably the village of Cutry.

It was this that proved the jumping off point for General Mangin in the blow which led to the domination of the railway junction at Soissons. Every one of these local operations has some future development in view.