

# GREAT COUNTER-OFFENSIVE BY FRENCH AND AMERICAN TROOPS

Advance to Gates of Soissons, Capturing Thousands of Prisoners and Scores of Cannon—One of the Most Brilliant Pieces of Work in the War.

A despatch from London says:—With wonderful vitality and with spirits still high, notwithstanding the big battle of the last two days, Franco-American troops dashed forward at dawn on Thursday along the western side of the salient formed by the German advance in May, and drove back the enemy pell-mell everywhere or made them prisoners. The depth of the advance certainly is several miles on the average. Many thousand prisoners were taken, 20 villages occupied and several score guns captured. The allied commander-in-chief had permitted the enemy to exhaust a large portion of his forces in striking the blows on both sides of Rheims which were intended to be heavy enough to weaken the French army. The blow was successfully parried, and before the Germans recovered sufficient-

ly to fill the great gap in their ranks and make another effort, the allies bounded back and staggered them with a lightning-like diversion from the Marne to the Aisne.

Thousands of prisoners, scores of cannon, hundreds of machine guns and much other material fell into the hands of the allied troops. Besides gaining possession of the heights dominating Soissons from the south a couple dozen villages were reconquered by the allies, who on Thursday were engaged in severe fighting which disconcerted the enemy along the whole line from Chateau Thierry to Soissons.

The French counter-attack is regarded here as one of the most brilliant pieces of work in the war, and it is believed that the results will prove extremely valuable, as the French have obtained most important strategic positions.

## EXPECT A STRONG COUNTER-ATTACK

London Critics Think That Germans Are Not Yet Beaten Nor Ready to Give Up.

A despatch from London says:—There is a strong note of relief and of gratitude in the newspaper comment on Friday morning on Gen. Foch's successful counter-stroke between Soissons and Chateau Thierry, which is hailed as the most cheering news for a 12-month—news which it is admitted seemed at first too good to be true.

Hearty tributes are paid to Gen. Foch's fine strategy and leadership, while in several of the newspapers emphasis is laid on the view that his success has been due to the reorganization which placed the allied command under one head.

The courage and dash of the Franco-American troops also are warmly praised.

The rejoicings over Thursday's events, however, are tempered by the belief expressed by the newspapers that the Germans have not yet been beaten, and that they by no means have exhausted their forces.

The opinion is put forward that the Germans thus far have engaged only 30 of their total strategic reserves of between 70 and 80 divisions. What will happen when these are brought into action is awaited with keen interest by the military writers.

## VAST SHIPYARDS OPPOSITE QUEBEC

Big Concern Begins Work on New Plant at Point Levis.

A despatch from Quebec says:—With a capital of five million dollars, a new shipbuilding concern has been formed, and will operate one of the largest shipyards in America on the shores of the St. Lawrence, opposite Quebec city. The new concern will take in a number of actually existing firms, among which are some Ontario companies.

The new syndicate will comprise the Federal Shipbuilding Co. of Sarnia, the Dominion Shipbuilding Co. of Collingwood, and Dussault & Hutchison of Levis and a number of old country French capitalists. The firm will build steel vessels for the French Government, and the building of the docks and yards has been started.

The Federal and Dominion Shipbuilding Companies will cease building ships in Ontario.

Production and self-denial are the guns that will get the Huns.

## ENEMY TAKEN BY SURPRISE

Officers Captured While Asleep and Men Engaged in Rice Harvesting.

A despatch from the French front in France says:—The French-American attack along the broad front north of the Marne was an absolute surprise. Many German officers were captured while asleep and numbers of the men were taken while harvesting rice. The greatest stupefaction was created among all the enemy troops holding the lines at the suddenness of the attack.

Some of the prisoners declare they had been told that it was impossible for the allies to carry out any operation in the way of an offensive for some time. Many tanks participated in the attack, having been able to take up their positions during the terrific storm which prevailed. The American troops, co-operating with their French comrades in the assault, did brilliant work.

Around Courchamp, north-west of Chateau Thierry, the German resistance was more obstinate than on any other part of the Paris line.

## ANZACS DELIVER SURPRISE ATTACK

Made Easy Capture of Trenches and 33 Prisoners.

A despatch from the British Armies in the Field says:—Further advances have been made by the Australian forces east of Amiens. On Wednesday night they quietly annexed a strip of German defenses a third of a mile deep on a front of more than a mile south-east of Villers-Bretonneux, south of the Somme. Two field guns were captured by them, in addition to 33 prisoners, one of whom was an officer.

The guns apparently had been abandoned by the enemy when they were left exposed near the front line by the last Australian attack, and the Germans were unable to remove them. This has been the only movement on the British front in the last 24 hours.

## 50 PER CENT. CARRIED IN BRITISH SHIPS

A despatch from London says:—Of the 637,929 American troops brought to Europe in the months of April, May and June, 350,956 were carried in British ships, according to a statement made in the House of Commons by Sir Leo Money, parliamentary secretary to the Ministry of Shipping. He added: "Arrangements are being made whereby we hope to carry larger numbers in the future."

## NEW YORK BELL RINGS VICTORY

A despatch from New York says:—The bell in the City Hall tower was ordered rung by Mayor Hylan for fifteen minutes on Thursday afternoon in celebration of the victorious American advance on the French front.



Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, has found that women make good street car conductors. Here is one of the conductorettes snapped on duty.

## WAR PRISONERS EXCHANGE ACT

Covers Civilians Interned as Well as Military Captives.

A despatch from The Hague says:—The text of the exchange of prisoners agreement between the British and German delegations, which was signed on July 14, contains provisions for the exchange of officers, non-commissioned officers and men—British and German prisoners of war—and those interned in Holland, as well as civilians interned in Holland and Switzerland. The latter will leave the country where they are interned.

The new arrangement provides that non-commissioned officers will be exchanged direct, instead of being interned. German and British prisoners of war and civilians interned in Holland will leave that country, while their places will be taken by officers who have been prisoners for more than eighteen months, and other prisoners in poor health.

The number of persons to be interned, in accordance with the agreement of 1917, amounts to 7,500 sick or wounded British officers and about 2,500 German officers.

"Miss-Rule" in Russia. That horrible female, "Ann R. Kay," still reigns supreme. Many excellent judges believe that Russia would be better governed under that stern, no-nonsense-about-him fellow, known as "Dick Tator."

## COST OF LIVING CONTINUES UPWARD TENDENCY

A despatch from Ottawa says:—A continuous of the upward tendency in the cost of living is shown in the Labor Department's report on food prices for the month of June. The average cost of a family budget of staple foods in some sixty cities at the middle of June was \$12.77, as compared with \$12.66 for May, \$11.89 for June, 1917, and \$7.35 for June, 1914.

In retail prices the advance in meats, coal, wood, coal oil and eggs continued, but there were declines in butter, milk and potatoes.

In wholesale prices the departmental index number was up to 280.6, as compared with 275.8 in May. The chief increases for the month were in fruits and vegetables, and in fuel, the last due to a rise of freight rates, it is noted.

## FRENCH REGAIN TERRITORY ON THE BANKS OF THE MARNE

A despatch from London says:—News from the other sections of the front was good on Thursday. The Germans have now made no progress, and several of their attacks have been broken up with heavy losses. West of Rheims the French have regained an important bit of territory on the bank of the Marne River. This gives them an observation point down the Marne Valley, and enabled their artillery to enfilade a long stretch of the German lines.

"Vision is the art of seeing things invisible."—Jonathan Swift. Wise wives will not waste.



The Prince of Wales on the Italian Front. His Royal Highness won high praise by his easy democratic manners with all ranks. Incidentally it may be stated that the Prince told a French aviator, that he had no intention of marrying anybody but a girl within the limits of the British Empire.

## From The Middle West Markets of the World

BETWEEN ONTARIO AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Items From Provinces Where Many Ontario Boys and Girls Are Living.

Lieut. J. E. Robertson, Calgary, was recently reported wounded. John Lavin, Norwood Hotel, Winnipeg, was fined \$200 on a liquor charge. Hon. W. E. Knowles has been elected Provincial Secretary of Saskatchewan. Moose Jaw has collected \$37,650, which is approximately 88 per cent. of her business levy.

Four thousand three hundred and ninety-six Alberta men were drafted during the month of May. W. A. Shepard has been elected business manager of the Army and Navy Veterans in Winnipeg.

Sergt. W. A. Still, of Winnipeg, after three years overseas, had a leave of only sixty hours in Winnipeg before returning to France. The United Farmers of Alberta, to increase their membership, held about eighty meetings throughout the province in one week.

Mary E. Bowles won a claim of \$12,000 damages against the city of Winnipeg in connection with the death of her husband in a police wagon collision in 1915.

Manitoba sheep breeders are sending their wool crop at the rate of about 5,000 pounds a day. Over 40,000 pounds has already been sent in to the Manitoba Co-operative Wool Clearing depot.

James Taylor, chief engineer at the Oddfellows' temple, Winnipeg, after three years of work, has perfected an electrical device by which houses may be heated as cheap or cheaper, than with hot water or steam.

During the fiscal year of 1917-1918, there has been more than fifty per cent. increase in the immigration from the U.S. coming through at Coutts, the principal port of entry in Alberta, over the previous fiscal year.

Recent rains have greatly helped the Saskatchewan crops. Swimming places are likely to be provided in Moose Jaw in the near future.

Hay buyers at Meath Park, Sask., were recently offering \$8 to \$12 in the stack.

A big programme is being lined up for the fall fair and "stampede" in Lethbridge.

Polson placed for wolves at Paddling Lake, Sask., has killed more dogs than wolves.

Lako Isle, Alberta, farmers are complaining of poor roads and broken and rotten bridges.

Practically \$400,000 was received for the Red Cross in Saskatchewan in the recent big drive.

Cattle ranchers around Lethbridge report that the animals are in exceedingly good condition.

Slaughter of caribou by timber wolves is said to have been heavy in the northwest provinces last winter.

Winnipeg is asking its citizens for \$1,000,000 for the water project. The city will pay 6 1/2 per cent. for the money.

Grade teachers of the Lethbridge Public Schools' staff will hereafter join the staff at a salary of \$800 a year, advancing \$50 each year till the maximum of \$1,100 is reached.

One hundred and fifty local war veterans sang "Pack Up Your Troubles" during an all-night concert at Moose Jaw, while they waited the opening of the Dominion Lands office to file land claims early in the morning.

A wonderful war worker is Mrs. Pollard of Rose Ridge, Alberta, who, though blind, does her own housework, raises chickens, knits sweaters and socks, and has lately completed a Red Cross hand-knitted quilt, which has upon it all the flags of the allies upon a background of khaki.

## Front of Gen. Mangin Attack Measures About 28 Miles

A despatch from Paris says:—"The front upon which Gen. Mangin attacked on Thursday morning measures about 28 miles," says the Temps. "The enemy was totally surprised. The attack was made virtually without artillery preparation. Our infantry, supported by many tanks, advanced rapidly under the protection of a barrage fire, which was extended before the advancing infantry."

## Breadstuffs

Toronto, July 23.—Manitoba wheat No. 1 Northern, \$2.22 1/2; No. 2 Northern, \$2.20 1/2; No. 3 Northern, \$2.17 1/2; No. 4 wheat, \$2.10 1/2, in store Fort William, including 2 1/2 c. tax.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 92 1/2 c; No. 3 C.W., 89c; extra No. 1 feed, 89c; No. 1 feed, 86c, in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, kiln dried, nominal; No. 4 yellow, kiln dried, nominal.

Ontario oats—No. 1 white, 86 to 87c, nominal; No. 3 white, 85 to 86c, nominal, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—No. 2, Winter, per car lot, \$2.25, basis in store Montreal. Peas—No. 2, nominal, according to freights outside.

Barley—Malting, \$1.35 to \$1.37, nominal. Buckwheat—\$1.80, nominal. Rye—No. 1, 90c, nominal.

Manitoba flour—War quality, \$10.95, Toronto. Ontario flour—War quality, \$10.65, in bags, Montreal and Toronto, prompt shipment.

Millfeed—Car lots, delivered Montreal—\$35 per ton; shorts, \$40 per ton. Hay—No. 1, \$13 to \$14 per ton, track Toronto; mixed, \$11 to \$12 per ton, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, \$8 to \$8.50 per ton, track Toronto. Country Produce—Wholesale

Butter—Creamery, solids, per lb., 42 to 42 1/2 c; prints, per lb., 42 1/2 to 43c; dairy, per lb., 36 to 37c.

Eggs—New laid, 42 to 44c. Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 48c; roosters, 22c; fowls, 23 to 28c; ducklings, 33c; turkeys, 29 to 32c.

Live poultry—Roosters, 18c; fowl, 21 to 26c; ducklings, 15 to 30c; turkeys, 27 to 30c. Spring chickens 40 to 42c.

Wholesalers are selling to the retail trade at the following prices:—Cheese—New, large, 23 1/2 to 24c; twins, 23 1/2 to 24 1/2 c; old, large, 25 1/2 to 26c; twin, 26 to 26 1/2 c.

Butter—Fresh, dairy, choice, 40 to 42c; creamery prints, fresh made, 45 to 47c; solids, 44 to 45c. Margarine—28 to 32c.

Eggs—No. 1's, 48 to 49c; in cartons, 52 to 54c. Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 55c; roosters, 25c; fowl, 34 to 35c; turkeys, 40 to 45c.

Live poultry—Spring chickens, 50c; roosters, 22 to 25c; turkeys, 30c; hens, 30 to 32c.

Beans—Canadian, hand-picked, bushel, \$8.00; imp., hand-picked, Burma or Indian, \$6.75; Japan, \$8.50 to \$8.75; Lima, \$6.75.

Honey-comb—Choice, 16 oz., \$3.50 per dozen; 12 oz., \$3 per dozen; seconds and dark comb, \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Maple syrup—8 1/2 lb. tins, 10 to a case, \$14.50; imperial gallon tins, per can, \$2.25; imperial five-gallon cans, per can, \$10.50; 15-gallon kegs, per gal., \$2.00; maple sugar, 1-lb. box, pure, per lb., 24 to 25c.

Provisions—Wholesale Smoked meats—Hams, medium, 36 to 38c; do, heavy, 30 to 32c; cooked, 50 to 51c; rolls, 32 to 33c; breakfast bacon, 41 to 44c; backs, plain, 44 to 45c; boneless, 48 to 49c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 30 to 31c; clear bellies, 29 to 30c. Lard—Pure, tierces, 30 to 30 1/2 c; tubs, 30 1/2 to 31c; pails, 30 1/2 to 31 1/2 c; prints, 32 1/2 to 33 1/2 c. Compound tierces, 26 to 26 1/2 c; tubs, 26 1/2 to 26 3/4 c; pails, 26 3/4 to 27c; prints, 28 to 28 1/2 c.

Montreal Markets Montreal, July 23.—Oats—Canadian Western, No. 2, \$1.02; extra No. 1 feed, 90c. Flour—New standard grade, \$10.95 to \$11.05. Rolled oats—Bags, 90 lbs., \$5.25 to \$5.30. Bran, \$35.00. Shorts, \$40.00. Mouillie, \$67.00. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$14.50 to \$15.00.

Live Stock Markets Toronto, July 23.—Choice heavy steers, \$13.75 to \$14.50; butchers' cattle, choice, \$13.25 to \$13.50; do, good, \$12.75 to \$13.00; do, medium, \$11.75 to \$12.25; do, common, \$9.25 to \$10.00; butchers' bulls, choice, \$11.25 to \$11.50; do, good, \$10.75 to \$11.00; do, medium, \$10.25 to \$10.50; do, rough, \$7.50 to \$8.50; do, good, \$10.75 to \$11.00; do, medium, \$8.50 to \$9.25; do, common, \$7.00 to \$8.50; stockers, \$8.00 to \$10.50; feeders, \$10.50 to \$11.00; canners and cutters, \$5.50 to \$6.50; milkers, good to choice, \$9.00 to \$125.00; do, com. and med., \$65.00 to \$75.00; springers, \$90.00 to \$125.00; light ewes, \$13.00 to \$16.00; yearlings, \$15.50 to \$17.00; spring lambs, 20 1/2 to 21 1/2 c; calves, \$13.50 to \$16.75; Hogs, fed and watered, \$18.00; do, weighed off cars, \$18.75.

Raise a freight-saving, year-around, cellar-and-pit garden. "Necessity, my friend, is the mother of courage, as of invention."—Sir Walter Scott.

## The Doings of the Duffs.

