

SOME OF SEVEREST FIGHTING OF WAR IN PROGRESS

GERMANS CROSS THE MARNE IN SEVERAL PLACES IN MOST STUPENDOUS DRIVE YET, BUT ENCOUNTER STUBBORN OPPOSITION

After Wait of Thirty-Three Days Enemy Launches New Phase of Mighty Offensive Towards Paris—By Attacking From Chateau Thierry To Maison de Champagne, North of Massiges, and Far East of Rheims Over Front of Slightly Over Sixty-Five Miles—French and Americans Give Excellent Account of Themselves, Latter's Gunners Remaining Until Killed At Their Posts—Fearful Gunfire Preceded German Attack.

(Early war lead by The Associated Press.)

After a wait of thirty-three days since they were halted in their plunge toward Compeigne, along the west bank of the Oise, the Germans at dawn today launched a new phase of their mighty offensive by attacking from Chateau Thierry to Maison de Champagne, north of Massiges, and far east of Rheims, over a front of about sixty-five miles in length.

Latest reports from the battlefield state that the Germans have crossed the Marne at several places. This probably refers to the reaches of the Marne between Chateau Thierry and Dormans. American troops are engaged in the battle in this particular region, and reports say they broke up the German drive in the Vaux region, west of Chateau Thierry, by a dashing counter-attack.

Reports show that, so far as the length of line is concerned, the present drive is the greatest of the year. At first, it was believed from the French war office statement that the line was about fifty miles in extent, but apparently the report from Paris told simply of the length of the French held lines under attack.

Terrible Artillery Fire.

Measurements of the line where fighting is known to be going on, however, shows that it is 105 kilometers, or 65.1 miles long. The attack against the Cambrai front on March 21 was over a front of 65 miles.

Last night a terrible artillery fire was looked against the Allied lines from Chateau Thierry, on the west,

to Maison de Champagne, north of Massiges, on the east. For hours the Entente Allied lines were under a tempest of the most tremendous character. Not only was the actual battle area under bombardment, but towns and cities far behind the lines were made targets for great ten and twelve inch projectiles fired from what appears to be naval siege guns brought up behind the German positions.

Surprise Attempt.

The day world had expected the German main effort to be focused against the line from the Marne to the Aisne, north of Chateau Thierry, in the Pigeard sector, towards Abbeville, or further north in the Lys sector, against the channel ports. Along this line the Allies have been daily improving their lines and preparing for the new drive.

But the Germans chose a sector which, except for a surprise attack around Rheims, late in June, has been quiet since the offensive launched on the Aisne on May 27 came to a standstill. East of Rheims and north of Chateau Thierry there had been little fighting of significance for a long time.

British Take Ground.

This line of which Rheims may be considered the keystone, was chosen for the reason that information might have been received by the Germans that it was less strongly held than sectors along the front nearer Paris. Thus it might be reasonable to expect that a greater territory could be overrun here at a smaller expense of men and materials than on the lines where the Allies are known to be very strong.

On the Villers-Bretonneux sector, in front of Amiens, the British have improved their positions.

Rheims a Pivot.

German assaulting troops this might expect to encounter less violent resistance in the sector east of Chateau Thierry, and the Germans possibly hoped for gains which even would compel an allied retirement from the Verdun and St. Michel sectors.

The north bank of the Marne is held by the Germans for a distance of some twenty miles east from Chateau Thierry. A successful attack in the Rheims area might force the Allies back on the Marne still farther east and give the Germans command of the communication system by which the French and American troops at Verdun and St. Michel are supplied with food and munitions.

In this district is the city of Chalons which is reputed to be an important supply centre. It is approximately eighteen miles back of the line where mighty armies are locked in a death struggle.

Americans are engaged in the battle at Chateau Thierry and eastward along the Marne for some distance. Their positions extend northwest of Chateau Thierry to the village of Torcy, on the Clignon River, and eastward along the Marne to Jaulgonne, where they have been engaged in local fighting recently.

General Liggett has about 220,000

QUEEN WILHELMINA CALLS ON NOLENS TO FORM CABINET

He Will Undertake To Replace Administration of Count Von der Linden, Which Recently Resigned.



QUEEN WILHELMINA.

London, July 15.—Queen Wilhelmina, of the Netherlands, according to a dispatch from The Hague to the Central News Agency, has charged Deputy Nolens, leader of the Catholic party, with the formation of a cabinet in succession to the ministry of Count Von Der Linden, which resigned recently.

A violent army corps, in this sector.

A Violent Attack.

With the American Army on the Marne, July 14.—The Germans at daylight today launched a violent attack against the American positions west of Chateau Thierry, especially near Vaux. The attack came after a most violent bombardment of high explosives and gas shells throughout the night. When the enemy infantry appeared, the Americans, armed out and met the attackers with a rain of machine-gun bullets. The Americans wore their gas masks as they fought the attack.

An enemy bombardment of towns in the rear of the lines began soon after 6 a. m.

The latest reports say that the Americans are holding their own in the fighting, maintaining their positions.

Heavy shells from German naval guns are falling in regions far behind the actual battle area. Many of these projectiles have fallen in the city of Maux, twenty-five miles from Chateau Thierry. In many of these towns the German shell is constant, the projectiles being from ten and twelve inch naval guns.

Handling Enemy Well.

Reports from American advance positions state that the American troops were "handling the enemy well," in the desperate fighting which is continuing. In this locality it was not known whether the Germans in this attack had begun another offensive, but the intensity of the fighting indicated to those near the scene that the operation was a renewal of the general attack that had been expected.

The whole line in both directions from Vaux was dense with smoke and gas fumes. The roar of the cannonade was punctuated in the few intermissions with a terrific din of machine-gun and rifle fire which seemed of the hottest character in Vaux itself.

U. S. Counter Attack.

The American forces delivered a counter attack upon the Germans in the Vaux region this morning and drove off the enemy.

It is reported that the Americans have advanced their own lines a distance of several hundred yards, but this has not been confirmed.

Word received here shows that the enemy also launched an attack east of Rheims, but on the sectors on that front on which French and American forces are fighting side by side, the positions are reported intact. The American machine gunners have let the enemy come close to their positions and then opened a deadly fire into the advancing close formation of Germans.

It is clear that the German attack in the Vaux region completely broke down under the American counter-attack, but further sharp fighting is likely to develop in this area at any time.

In their attack on the Marne front the Germans threw many bridges across the river. Over these the Germans are passing under a withering fire from the artillery. German progress is being stayed by the machine gunners. The Americans and their French comrades have resisted the enemy to the utmost and are continuing this character of resistance.

After 11 o'clock one of the American infantry regiments launched a counter-attack in the region of Compeigne, where they were gallantly opposed by more of the American troops and the French. The crossing was made at the peak of the big river bend. The American machine gunners and infantrymen fought and died where they stood here. Others of the American troops withdrew strategically as the enemy attacked from east of Chateau Thierry to along the Marne, east of Dormans, making additional crossings.

Americans Advanced.

Reports from Vaux this afternoon indicate that the Americans had advanced their line in this region in the face of the determined enemy attack.

The advance extended a distance of approximately 700 yards, but the Americans subsequently withdrew to their original line for strategic reasons. Twenty-eight Germans were taken prisoner in this sector.

The American barrage here broke

POSTMASTER-GEN. TO HANDLE WIRES IN UNITED STATES

Post Office Department Will Not Curtail Service Immediately or Make Hasty Change, Says Burleson.

Washington, July 15.—Preparations for taking over the telegraph lines immediately were under way today at the post office department. The belief in official circles is that Postmaster General Burleson will be assigned to execute such powers as the president uses under a measure and the taking over of telegraph trunk lines will come in the very near future.

Mr. Burleson said he had nothing to add to current reports upon the situation, though representatives of large wire using interests were assured that the control, if assumed, would not result in any immediate curtailment or hasty change of service.

up the enemy waves and drove them back in confusion.

Paris, July 15.—The inhabitants of Paris and the suburbs heard violent artillery firing in the early hours today. The sky toward the east was constantly lit up as if by a great electrical storm.

Those who were on the boulevards after midnight listened to the cannonade, while small groups gathered on the high points of the city to watch the distant heavens. The noise of the firing was particularly loud in the southern part of the city.

The sector of the battle line nearest Paris is that west of Chateau Thierry, about forty-five miles east northeast of the French capital. French and American troops are barring the German pathway there.

Our army in the Champagne, commanded by General G—, is sustaining the attack with the valor it already has shown so often in the same region. The Champagne attack was accompanied by a diversion on the Ourcq front which our artillery in reply repelled by its violence and rapidity.

Washington, July 15.—Cotton consumed during June amounted to 527,464 running bales and for the eleven months ending June 30, it was 6,049,544 bales, the census bureau announced today.

CERTAIN COMMODITY RATES ON FREIGHT UP

Ottawa, July 15.—The order of the Railway War Board increasing by twenty-five per cent. certain commodity rates from Eastern Canadian to Pacific coast points will, it is expected, go into effect on August 1.

CANADIAN TRADE

Ottawa, July 15.—A decrease of \$115,443,212 in the trade of the Dominion for the three months of the fiscal year ending June 30th last as compared with the same period in 1917, is shown by the monthly statement issued through the customs department.

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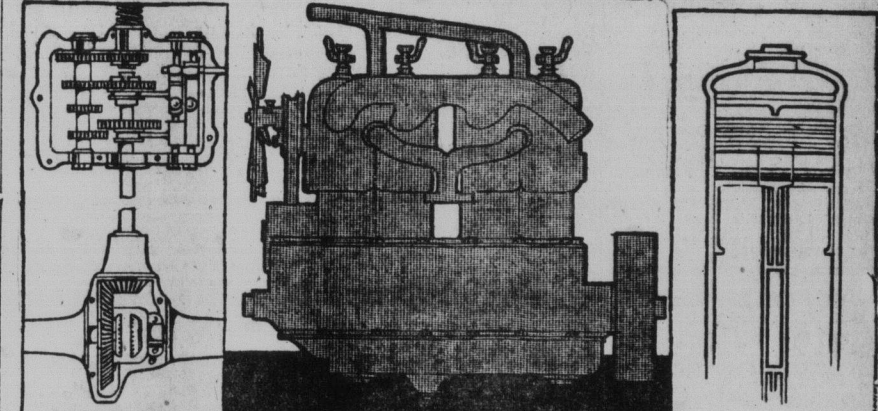


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Pemberton-Billings, the political upstart, attacked leaders of all classes of society, defaming persons of prominence in his worthless paper. Action brought by Maude Allen, the dancer, reported in full in many English newspapers, created a sensation in legal circles.

Presiding judge, affected by old age, admitted much unnecessary evidence.

Read review of this trial in the STANDARD of Saturday, July 20th. Do not fail to procure a copy. If your newsdealer does not keep it, ask him to get the paper for you, or, better still, subscribe direct. The Saturday STANDARD alone is worth \$5.00 a year of any person's money. By mail only \$3.00 a year

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