

The St. John Standard

VOL. X., NO. 122.

TEN PAGES.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 21, 1918.

FAIR AND WARM

PRICE TWO CENTS

BIG ADVANCE CONTINUES!

The German Army Compelled To Fall Back All Along The Line

In New Offensive Launched By General Manchin Over Front of Approximately Fifteen Miles and a Half From Oise To Aisne French in Bitter Fighting Carry Forward Their Line To Depth of Two and a Half Miles.

French Take Eight Thousand Prisoners and Capture Eight or Ten Villages — British Compel Enemy To Fall Back on Scarpe—Enemy Likely To Retreat Across the Aisne.

(By The Associated Press).

From Soissons to the Belgian border the German armies on various important sectors are being put to the test by the French and British. And it is a test that seemingly bodes ill for the Teutonic arms, for nowhere have they been able to sustain the shocks.

Northwest of Soissons, from the Aisne to the Oise, north of the Oise to the region around Roye, in the Arras sector and northward on the famous Lys salient the Germans everywhere have been compelled to fall back under the pressure of the French and British troops.

In a new offensive launched by the French General Manchin over a front approximately fifteen and a half miles, from Bailly on the Oise to the Aisne near Soissons the French in bitter fighting have carried forward their line to an average depth of two and a half miles and in the first phases of the battle had returned to French possession numerous enemy-held villages. In addition more than 8,000 Germans had been herded behind the line, prisoners.

British Also Advance.

At last report Mangin's men were still hard after the enemy, and unofficial accounts placed the French on various sectors well in advance of positions outlined in the French official communication.

Along the Scarpe River east of Arras Field Marshal Haig's forces also have kept up their harassing tactics against the enemy, who has been compelled to fall back eastward along the Scarpe River. The Germans resisted vigorously, but all to no purpose, and the British advanced their lines to the east of the village of Fampoux. Although Haig claims only a slight forward movement here, particular significance attaches to it by reason of the fact that the Germans have been driven back until they are virtually upon the old battle line as it stood in December, 1917.

Villages Captured.

Northward the Lys salient again has been narrowed down by the operations of the British, who, north of Merville, have taken the villages of Vierhoek and La Couronne and also reached the hamlet of L'Epinette. This gain represents a forward movement of about a mile and a half and places the British astride the road southeastward to Estaires.

Taken in all the new victories of the Allied troops are highly important ones. The advance of the French northwest of Soissons, taken in conjunction with the successful manoeuvres on the Lassigny sector and south of Roye, where Bourragne has been captured, seemingly means that the enemy forces from the Somme to the Oise soon must give up their positions and retreat eastward. Indeed it seems not improbable, now, that Noyon is well outflanked on the south and southeast and the German line is none too secure north of Soissons, that the enemy will be under the necessity of moving his troops northward from the Vesle toward, if not across the Aisne.

Enemy Fights Hard.

The Germans are still stubbornly contesting with the British points of vantage on the line south of the Somme near Chaulnes and north of Roye, which are still in German hands and which are the keystones to the enemy

defence line. With the capture of Beauvraignes by the French, however, Roye apparently is on the eve of falling, and with its fall doubtless the entire line northward to the Somme will give way.

The Germans in the Morville sector of the Lys salient everywhere are being closely followed by the British as they give up positions under attack and at last accounts they are showing no indication that an immediate halt is in their mind. On the Lys front, although the Germans are showing some resistance, they are not putting their wonted heart into their work. There has been little fighting along the Vesle River, where the Americans and French are facing the enemy.

LIEUT. FONK, FRENCH AIRMAN, GETS RECORD

Shoots Down Three German Airplanes in Twenty Seconds—Brings Down Sixty Airplanes.

Paris, Aug. 20.—Lieut. Rene Fonk, the famous French aviator who shot down three German airplanes on August 14, as announced officially Sunday, accounted for all three of them in the record-breaking time of twenty seconds.

Lieut. Rene Fonk, recognized as the greatest French air fighter since Captain Guynemer, is credited with bringing down sixty enemy airplanes. Of these he downed six in a day in the course of two patrols.

CARIBOU RACES

Special to The Standard. Caribou, Me., Aug. 20.—Zom Q. won the 2.16 mixed race today in three straight heats. Jennie Frisco of Sydney, N. S., was second and Jimmy Hicks, third. Best time, 2.16 1/4. Ruth W. won the named race, Garry A. second. Best time, 2.16 1/4. Peggy Hat and Todd Moore each won two heats, were second three times and third once in the 2.35 mixed race. It will be run off tomorrow. Best time, 2.19 1/4.

THE CANADIANS HAVE CAPTURED 10,000 TEUTONS

Hon. Martin Burrell Tells of Great and Valiant Work Army Has Done.

HOST OF SLACKERS BECOME OUTLAWS

Believes Many Miled By Others—Law Will Be Enforced After August 24.

Ottawa, Aug. 20.—The Hon. Martin Burrell, acting minister of militia, in a statement to The Canadian Press tonight, referred to the recent Canadian offensive and expressed in no uncertain tones the government's view in regard to the amnesty for deserters, which expires at the end of this week. "Since the first of August," said the minister, "the Canadians have marked their entry into the fifth year of the war by achievements which have confirmed the reputation of the Canadian Corps as the most formidable fighting force of its size on the western battle front. The recent advance made by our men has been important in its results and brilliance in its progress. In the past three weeks they have captured ten thousand prisoners, one hundred and fifty guns and thousands of machine guns. During this same brief period they have suffered 10,433 casualties in killed, wounded and missing; 130 officers and 1,474 men having been killed in action.

Their Own Story.

"No comment can be so strong as this simple statement of facts. The figures carry their own story, both of valor and grief. They are at once an evidence of the unshaken resolve of our countrymen to crush the foe of our common liberties and a challenge to ourselves. We dare not, and we will not fail to support them in their great task. Across the sea we have much cause for gratitude and pride. Within Canada itself we have reason also for praise. The call for an expeditionary force for Siberia, to assist Russia in the fight against her German foes, has evoked a keen response throughout the country. "Thousands of our young men have been enrolled during the last few months, most of whom, it is hoped, will become reinforcements for their fellow countrymen overseas. They have answered their country's call for duty, though such an answer in thousands of cases has meant heavy sacrifices for them and their friends.

Others Have Failed.

"I have to say with profound regret that there are thousands of others who have failed their country in their country's need; thousands of men who, having been notified to report for duty, have refused to obey the law and have thereby become criminals in the eyes of the law, dishonoring both themselves and their country. "During the past two months nothing has given me greater anxiety than this condition of affairs, a condition the continuation of which would be intolerable. Many of these men, resistant to all sense of manhood, honor, or duty, have deliberately constituted themselves outlaws. I am convinced, however, that thousands of them have been misled by people who have encouraged and persuaded them to disobey the law and who, through their fuller knowledge, are more guilty than those who are now deserters and who may not have realized the gravity of their offence.

Amnesty Until Saturday.

"This whole matter was thoroughly discussed by my colleagues and myself and the decision was reached by the government to grant an amnesty until August 24.

French Forces Advance Two and a Half Miles On Fifteen Mile Line

Paris, Aug. 20.—The French forces fighting east of the Oise on a front of about fifteen and a half miles have advanced to an average depth of about two and a half miles and captured numerous villages, according to the French official communication issued this evening. More than eight thousand prisoners have been taken.

South of Roye the town of Beauvraignes has been occupied by the French after bitter fighting.

The text of the communication follows:

"South of the Avre, we have captured Beauvraignes after a bitter struggle. In the course of our advance yesterday between the Matz and the Oise we took five hundred prisoners.

"East of the Oise our troops this morning attacked the German lines on a front of about twenty-five kilometres, from the region of Bailly as far as the Aisne.

"On our left we have reached the southern outskirts of the Ourscamp Forest and also the outskirts of Carlepont and Caignes.

"In the centre we captured Lombray and Blerancourde and gained a footing on the plateau north of Vassens.

"On our right the villages of Vezaponin, Tartiers, Cuisy-En-Almont, Oslly and Courtil have fallen into our hands.

"On all the fronts of attack we have advanced on an average to a depth of four kilometres. We have taken more than 8,000 prisoners.

"The number of prisoners taken since the 18th between the Oise and the Aisne is more than 10,000.

"Eastern Theatre—The artillery has been active and the accustomed reconnoitering has taken place. British aviators have bombed trains and convoys in the region of Serre."

Rapid Advance Is Made By Gen. Mangin's Men

Tenth Army Captures Nearly Three Thousand Prisoners Between Seven a.m. and Three p.m., Making Progress of Three Miles on Wide Front

With the French Army in France, Aug. 20.—(By The Associated Press.)

The operation begun this morning by General Mangin's troops between the Aisne and the Oise, southeast of Noyon and northwest of Soissons, looks this evening to be a splendid success. General Mangin has taken from the Germans at Cuts and Mont De Choisy, the last heights remaining south of the Oise in that region. London, Aug. 20.—The French Tenth Army, commanded by General Mangin, today captured 2,800 Germans between seven o'clock this morning and three p. m., according to the latest reports reaching London from the battlefield. General Mangin's forces advanced today three miles at the greatest depth of the front. The French troops captured the town of Cuts, two and a half miles northwest of Blerancourde.

FOUR HUN PRISONERS ESCAPE AT SACKVILLE

Three Are Recaptured At Amherst, But One Was Still At Liberty Last Night.

Special to The Standard. Sackville, Aug. 20.—Four German prisoners who have been working on the C. G. R. around at Sackville escaped from the barracks yesterday, but the dominion police who started in pursuit recaptured three near Amherst. One of the prisoners, the dominion police stated tonight, is still at large.

Maine Minister Held For Murder of Wife Was Preacher in N.B.

Rev. Henry H. Hall, Under Arrest in Wells, Me., Did His First Ministerial Work in Province, Later Holding Pastorate of Church At Princes-ton, Near Calais—Belongs in Washington Co., Adjoining Charlotte Co.

York Co., Me., Prosecutor Claims Minister Paid Attention To Pretty Young Canadian Girl and Also Her Sister—Hall Expected Arrest and Planned To Leave For Canada — Friends Declare He Is Innocent.

Wells Depot, Me., Aug. 20.—Rev. Henry H. Hall, since Jan. 1 pastor of the Union Baptist Church here, was arrested by Sheriff Haven A. Roberts yesterday on the charge of the murder of his wife, Mrs. Minnie Stevens Hall, on the night of June 11, at a bridge about three-quarters of a mile from the railroad station.

He was taken to the county jail at Alfred and was arraigned in court at Kennebunk today.

Mrs. Hall died in the Trull Hospital at Biddeford in the early morning of June 12, without regaining consciousness, from a fracture of the skull, which her husband said at the time she received when she fell from the bridge onto a pile of rocks in the stream below.

Looking at Fishes. Rev. Mr. Hall said at the time that he had been walking with his wife and they stopped on the bridge to look at some fishes in the water. She was taken with a fainting spell, fell in and received the injury which caused her death.

Suspicion has been directed at Rev. Mr. Hall since shortly after the funeral of his wife, which was held in Harrington her old home. When he returned to Wells Depot, he did not go in mourning and sported, among other gay clothes, a red vest.

Hall formerly preached in New Brunswick.

County Prosecutor Franklin L. Chesley says that investigations made by the authorities had gleaned the information that Ernest Matthews, a railroad man, who was passing on the Eastern Division tracks of the Boston & Maine Railroad nearby on the night Mrs. Hall met her death, had seen her lying in a patch of mud on the banks of the stream with Rev. Mr. Hall leaning over her. He said that Mrs. Hall was lying face down in the mud at the time.

(Continued on page 2)

THE BRITISH TAKE 2 MORE VILLAGES

In Sharp Fighting East of Arras, Along Scarpe River Haig's Men Advance Line Slightly To East of Fampoux—Vierhoek and La Couronne Captured.

London, Aug. 20.—East of Arras along the Scarpe River the British in sharp fighting have advanced their line slightly to the east of the village of Fampoux, while farther north, astride the Lys River, the British reached L'Epinette and north of Merville have captured the villages of Vierhoek and La Couronne according to Field Marshal Haig's communication to night.

The text of the statement follows: Local fighting has taken place today on both banks of the Scarpe River. South of the river, hostile attacks upon certain posts which our troops have succeeded in establishing east of the enemy's former front lines were repulsed. North of the Scarpe our line has been pressed forward a short distance east of Fampoux, after sharp fighting in which we secured a few prisoners.

In course of the day further ground has been gained by us astride the Lys. Our troops have gained L'Epinette and La Couronne. A raid attempted by the enemy early this morning north-east of Loere was repulsed.

Haig Advancing. With the British Army in France, Aug. 20.—(By The Associated Press.) Field Marshal Haig's forces continued to advance throughout the day in the Merville sector of the Lys salient. They are closely following the retiring Germans who, this afternoon, seem to have gone to an extreme depth of between three and four miles, and are still showing no inclination to come to a halt. Especially to the south of this sector the Germans have left behind them numerous lines of retarding wire entanglements. The German guns appear to be far behind the infantry in the movement

(Continued on page 2)