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Preparations For Continuation Of German Retirement Northward

Aerial Observers See Signs Behind Battle Front

Enemy is Destroying Much Materiel on Marne Salient; American Troops Maintain Position at Apex of Allied Front; German Counter-Attack Desperately at Several Points but are Repulsed

Paris, July 31.—(Havas Agency)—French aerial observers, says the Matin, report that there are signs behind the present German battle front of preparations for a continuation of the retirement northward. The enemy is destroying much materiel and big fires have been seen.

The newspapers generally point out that the fighting Tuesday was marked by little but with enemy reactions. They believe that the German line of resistance has been reached, although the Allies were able to make additional gains.

Several military experts do not believe that the Germans have yet reached the end of their retreating movement.

Paris, July 31.—American troops maintain their position in the region of Sermaise-Bo-Nesles which they carried after violent fighting, according to an official statement from the war office today.

The Germans made four attacks against the new French positions east of Oulchy-La-Chateau. They were repulsed and the French line was held intact.

Both the French and the Germans carried out raids at a number of other points on sections east and west of the Marne salient, but there was no change in the general situation at these points. The statement follows:—

"After a heavy bombardment the Germans attacked the new French positions east of Oulchy-La-Chateau. Our troops repulsed four enemy assaults and maintained their lines intact."

"On the right bank of the Ouse, there were three combats northeast of Ferre-Bon-Troisvilles. The village of Sermaise-Bo-Nesles passed from hand to hand but was finally taken by American troops in a counter-attack."

"A number of raids were made by the Germans near Mezières-Georges, west of Mont Dore, in La Pêtre. Wood on the right bank of the Ouse and in the Volage. They were without result. Our troops made successful counter-raids into the German positions of Plesles-La-Hirsin (in Champagne), and brought back prisoners. The night was quiet on the remainder of the front."

Prisoners Fighting.—London, July 31.—The Reuters correspondent with the American army on the Alsace-Marne front says the following under Tuesday's date:—

"The fighting was very hard and progress could be made. The enemy offered up fresh troops, but although he delayed for a day, my conviction is unaltered that the Germans have no intention of standing this side of the front."

"Prisoners report severe losses. Two stretcher-bearers say their company and that this morning the commanding lieutenant told them that only thirty men were left, while during thirty were killed. Almost all their casualties, the prisoners say, were from rifle and machine gun fire."

"The enemy is still retreating, but it is very plain that we have slow work before us."

At the Apex.—With the American Army on the Alsace-Marne front, July 30.—(By the Associated Press)—Through a barrage as deadly as any the Germans have laid down on any sector for months, the American soldiers comprising the middle west and eastern states, pushed their line forward a little more today, and tonight it forms the apex of the line.

Allied front.—Their progress was considerable, though less than two miles, but it is regarded as a brilliant operation, in view of the determined counteracting by the Germans.

NEWSPAPER MEN BACK TO LONDON

Representatives of Canadian Journals Have Seen Everything There is to See at the Front

London, July 30.—(Via Reuters Ottawa Agency)—The party of Canadian newspaper reporters and editors which has been visiting France has returned to London.

The press correspondent who was with the Canadian corps commander, since July 24, says the visit has been a splendid success, far beyond their own enthusiastic expectations, and will have results in Canada which even the minister of information and the imperial military authorities, who so ably planned the trip, could not have anticipated.

The editors shook the hand of every one, from Field Marshal Haig down to Bill Smith, or Bill Jones, from their own particular home town. They lunched or dined pleasantly with Sir Arthur Currie, the Canadian corps commander, or with the heads of the Canadian railway and forestry corps, and on the next day they would share the simpler fare of the men actually in the front line. They were allowed to see everything, and go everywhere, and even gas, did not stop them.

As the guests of the imperial government, the party was allowed to travel in a military ship. They landed at a channel port, and immediately had a taste of war, when they were taken to an instruction camp and given a lesson in the use of gas masks and made to march through chambers filled with German poison gases. There were no casualties, but later incidents up the line proved how necessary was the experience.

HOW FORMER CZAR OF RUSSIA MET HIS DEATH

Fate Announced Two Hours Before He Was Executed

PREPARATIONS BRIEF

Received Sentence With Calmness But Collapsed Later—Too Weak to Stand, He Was Propped Against Post and Shot

Amsterdam, July 31.—Given two hours in which to prepare for the end, Nicholas Romanoff, former Russian Emperor, was taken out by his executioners in a state of such collapse that it was necessary to propped him against a post, says the Lokal Anzeiger, of Berlin, which claims to have received from a high Russian personage an account of the Emperor's last hours.

Nicholas was awakened at five o'clock on the morning of the day of his execution by a patrol of a non-commissioned officer and six men. He was told to dress and was then taken to a room where the decision of the Soviet council was communicated to him. He was informed the execution would be carried out in two hours.

The former Emperor, it is added, received the announcement of the sentence of death with great calmness. He accepted his fate and collapsed in a chair. After a few minutes he asked for a priest with whom he was allowed to remain unattended. Subsequently he wrote several letters.

When the escort arrived to take him to the place of execution, Nicholas attempted to rise from his chair, but was not able. The priest and a soldier were obliged to help him to get to his feet. The condemned man descended the stairs with difficulty and once he fell down.

As he was unable to stand without support when the place of execution was reached, he was propped against a post. He raised his hands and seemed to be trying to speak, but the rifles spoke first and he fell dead.



HUN COMMANDER IN UKRAINE KILLED BY BOMB IN KIEV

Amsterdam, July 31.—Field Marshal Von Eichenhorn, the German commander-in-chief in the Ukraine, and his adjutant were seriously wounded by a bomb in Kiev on Tuesday, says an official announcement received here from the Ukrainian capital. The bomb which wounded the field marshal and the adjutant was thrown from a cab which drove close to their carriage as they were approaching the field marshal's residence. The assassin and the cab driver have been arrested.

Amsterdam, July 31.—A later message from Kiev announces that Field Marshal Von Eichenhorn and Captain Von Dressler died last night. It has been established, the telegram declares, that the crime originated with the Social Revolutionists in Moscow.

The assassin, Field Marshal Von Eichenhorn was a lad of 23. He declared at the hearing held after the crime, the adjutant states, that he came from the province of Pskov, adjacent to Moscow, on orders from a communist committee, to kill the field marshal. He reached Kiev during the day.

POLITICIANS TESTIFY IN THE PAINEVE TRIAL

COMPANY TO CONSIDER AT NEXT MEETING

That the employees of the street railway will accept an increase of twenty per cent in their salaries was a decision reached at an early hour this morning at a meeting of the Street Railwaymen's Union.

Although the official notification regarding the recommendation for the increase, the members of the union on Ottawa, the representative of the union on the board of conciliation informed the members that it had been made. During the meeting feeling ran high and for a time there was an indication that the members would go out on strike sooner than take anything less than their demands, namely, seven cents an hour increase. Finally a ballot was cast and a majority present favored accepting the award and remaining at work.

F. R. Taylor, a member of the N. B. Power Company, when interviewed by a representative of the Times this morning regarding the situation said that a meeting of the directors had been held on Monday, but as they had not received any official notification of the majority decision of the board of conciliation from Ottawa they could not take any action. He said they expected to have an official notice in time for a meeting next Monday.

INTERNATIONAL WAR IN BRUNSWICK STREET

Out of an incident in Brunswick street yesterday afternoon, has grown five assault charges. The first case is Sordie Stevens vs. Annie Stevens; second, Mrs. Josephine Zed vs. Thomas Stevens; third, Sadie French vs. Thomas Stevens; fourth, Annie Stevens vs. Michael Mitchell, and fifth, Sadie French vs. Michael Mitchell. There were representatives in the court of many nationalities and when some of the witnesses were put on the stand the court found it very difficult at times to shut off the evidence. Some evidence in the first cases was taken, but as the lawyers for the prosecution and the lawyer for the defence, and also the court officials found the noon hour had passed and but very little headway was being made, the case was postponed until this afternoon at two o'clock, when the magistrate will endeavor to have the whole affair thrashed out.

From the evidence that was taken this morning, it seems that Thomas Stevens struck a Mrs. Josephine Zed in the face in Brussels street. It is said that his reason for doing so, was that Mrs. Josephine Zed assaulted his mother. Mrs. Stevens struck Mrs. Zed, a Mrs. Sadie French who happened to be coming down the street, started to reprimand Stevens for striking Mrs. Zed. Mrs. French claims that while she was talking to him he struck her in the face and she fainting. Stevens then made a threat that he would return in the evening and beat both her husband and herself.

Beavers vs. Carlew Tonight. The Beavers Baseball team will play the Carlew's this evening in the North End League. Last evening the game between the Beavers and Carlew was postponed on account of the weather.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service

Synopsis—A few scattered thunder showers occurred in the western provinces and a few local showers in eastern Quebec and the maritime provinces. Otherwise the weather in Canada has been very fine.

Local Rain. Maritime—Moderate to fresh north-west to northeast winds, fair today and followed by local rains.

New England—Cloudy tonight and Thursday, probably rain; north winds, increasing on the coast.

BOLSHEVIK REGIME AT END OF ITS TETHER; PEOPLE WILL RISE

Ready To Throw Off Tyranny Of Their Betrayers, Says Stockholm Report—Widespread District Now Under Control of General Alexieff, Former Commander-in-Chief of Russian Armies

WRITS SERVED ON W. B. TENNANT AND THOS. NAGLE

Wrists served this morning on W. T. Tennant and Thomas Nagle in the action taken by the provincial government to recover from the former \$188,000 and latter \$80,000, received by them in connection with Valley Railway contracts.

ENEMY ACTIVE ON FLANDERS FRONT

London, July 31.—The German artillery displayed considerable activity last night in the region of Merris, on the Flanders front, taken yesterday by the Australians, and in the Kemmel sector, the war office announced today. It was also active on both sides of the Somme. Prisoners were taken in raids and patrol encounters in the Lens region and north of Belgium.

The statement follows:—"Several prisoners were captured by us during the night in successful raids and patrol encounters in the neighborhood of Lens, north of Belgium and on the northern sector of our front. A hostile raiding party was driven off by our fire south-west of La Bassée."

The enemy artillery has been active on both sides of the Somme and has shown considerable activity about Merris and in the Kemmel sector."

British Casualties.—London, July 31.—British casualties reported during July totalled 67,391. This compares with total casualties reported in June of 141,147. The losses for July are divided as follows: Killed—1,637; men, 56,759.

WAR SUMMARY

(Undated War Lead, By the Associated Press.)

In spite of the tremendous efforts put forth by the Germans to check the relentless pressure of the Allies north of the Ouse River, today finds the German positions there in grave danger. French, British and American troops, fighting their way forward to the east of Perre-En-Tardenois, have driven a wedge into the enemy's line and seem to be in a position to compel a hurried retreat from Roncheval and St. Gomme, at the extreme bottom of the pocket between Soissons and Rheims.

CONDENSED NEWS

A despatch from Madrid says that the Spanish newspapers assert that the torpedoing of the Spanish steamer Razon de Larrazola, is the gravest incident that has occurred between Germany and Spain since the beginning of the war. Eight Spaniards perished in the disaster. The port of Montevideo, Uruguay, is completely paralyzed by a strike of 3,000 laborers connected with shipping.

The workshops of the Quebec Railway & P. Company at St. Anne de Beaupre were practically destroyed by fire last night.

Captain Sarré, a French aviator, has carried out the first experiment on record of falling from a moving airplane with a parachute. He dropped 800 yards with an umbrella twelve yards in diameter and landed safely.

A despatch from Capetown says that the forthcoming mission of five cabinet ministers in the Orange Free State is regarded as one of the union's greatest political events for many years. The campaign is to be carried on in the athletic interests and will be devoid of party manoeuvres.

The Paris chamber of deputies today adopted the measure providing for the renewal of the privileges of the charter of the Bank of France for twenty-five years. The vote was 281 to 72.

Auguste Henri Ponsot, chief of the Secretariat Department of the Political and Commercial Affairs in the French ministry, has been appointed consul general of France at Montreal in succession to C. E. Bonin, who has been named to head the French legation at Bangkok, Siam.

TWO DAYS FOR DISCOUNT. While it was impossible to estimate the amount taken in for taxes at city hall this morning it was considered large as a steady stream of citizens were forming in line, all eager to avail themselves of the opportunity offered to secure five per cent discount. Only two days remain in which the discount will be allowed.

BANK CLEARINGS. St. John bank clearings for July, 1918, were \$10,753,281; for July, 1917, \$8,862,474; and for July, 1916, \$7,807,181.

LIGHTNING GOT THE BIRD. At Golden Grove on Monday at noon during the electrical storm John F. Willis was standing in his door watching the storm when he saw a large fish hawk circling over the nearby mill dam. Mr. Willis, who is a keen sportsman, stepped into the doorway and got his shotgun and, while in the act of taking aim at the hawk the lightning did the trick for him. It struck the bird, which dropped almost at his feet, having been killed instantly. Mr. Willis is a noted wing shot but he gives the lightning the credit for bringing the hawk to ground. The hawk had a spread of sixty-six inches. Mr. Willis prizes the bird and intends to have it mounted.

BURIED TODAY. The funeral of Oscar Wilson, who died at Woodman's Point and whose body was brought here for burial, took place this afternoon from Chamberlain's undertaking rooms. Services were conducted by Rev. F. E. Boothroyd. Interment was made in Fernhill cemetery.

THE BAND WILL PLAY. At the great war anniversary service in the Imperial on Sunday afternoon the City Cornet Band will furnish music and between 8.30 and 4 o'clock will play the old familiar hymns so much appreciated at a former service of this kind.

NO PEACE OVERTURES. London, July 31.—Speaking in the House of Commons today, Arthur J. Balfour, the British foreign secretary, said that no enemy government had approached the Entente Allies regarding negotiations for peace.