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French Repel Four Tremendous Assaults and Hold Lines Intact

Americans Also Regain Seringeset Nesle After Fierce Fighting—Battle Rages Furiously Still With Odds Favoring Entente Allies—Field Marshal Eichhorn, German Commander in the Ukraine and His Adjutant Slain by an Assassin—British Munition Strikers Return to Work—Foe Artillery Active Along British Front.

FRENCH REPEL FOUR TERRIFIC ENEMY ASSAULTS

PARIS, July 31.—After heavy bombardment the Germans attacked the new French positions east of Oulchy le Chateau. Our troops repulsed four enemy assaults and maintained their lines intact on the right bank of Ourcq. There were lively combats before Fere-en-Tardenois. The village of Seringeset Nesle passed from hand to hand but was finally taken by American troops in counter attacks. A number of raids were made by the Germans near Mesill St. Serge west of Montdidier, in Laprete Wood, on the right bank of the Meuse and in the Vosges. They were without results. Our troops made successful incursion into the German lines northeast of Perthesles in the Champagne and brought back prisoners. The night was quiet on the remainder of the front.

FIELD MARSHAL VON EICHHORN AND HIS ADJUTANT ASSASSINATED IN UKRAINE

AMSTERDAM, July 31.—Field Marshal von Eichhorn, German commander in the Ukraine and Captain von Dressler, his adjutant were wounded by a bomb thrown in Kiev yesterday and both died last night. The bomb was thrown from a car which drove close to the Marshal's carriage near his residence. The assassin and car driver were arrested. It has been established that the crime originated with Social Revolutionists in Moscow.

MUNITION STRIKE ENDED; MEN RETURN TO WORK

LONDON, July 31.—The munitions strike is definitely ended. The returned men are hurrying operations to make up for the time lost by the strike.

GERMAN ARTILLERY ACTIVE ALONG BRITISH FRONT

LONDON, July 31.—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 Bethune.

ITALIAN TROOPS SURPRISED THE HUNS

ROME, July 31.—An official statement says: In the Baone valley our troops have surprised the enemy advanced host and captured its occupants. In Brenta valley the enemy launched attack in forces against our line in Gornone. After brisk hand to hand fighting the enemy was forced to retire, losing machine guns and flame projectors. A few prisoners remained in our hands. Hostile airplanes were brought down.

HAVE NOT APPROACHED ENTENTE RE PEACE

LONDON, July 31.—In the Commons today Balfour stated no enemy government had approached Entente regarding peace negotiations.

BRITISH CASUALTIES FOR JULY

LONDON, July 31.—British casualties reported during July totalled 87,291. Killed or died of wounds 8,995, wounded or missing 59,296. This compares with total casualties reported in June of 141,147.

HOW BRITAIN BEAT GERMAN SUBMARINES

LONDON, July 30.—Sir Eric Geddes, first lord of the British admiralty, gave the house of commons today a review of the naval situation, and particularly defended the policy of starting national shipbuilding yards, in discussing the shipbuilding program in connection with the navy estimates.

The first lord compared the situation today, regarding tonnage, with that of a year ago. Then the net loss in tonnage, he said, was 550,000 gross tons monthly. Submarines then were not being destroyed as fast as the Germans were building them, while the merchant shipyards were short of men and material. Four hundred thousand tons net loss monthly was the British deficit. Every yard that could take naval work had been put on naval building.

Gradually during the year Sir Eric continued, the position had changed in many directions. Instead of losing tonnage the world's net result in the last quarter had been a gain roughly

of 100,000 tons a month. The allied and neutral world was as well off on June 30 as on January 1, 1918. This result, he declared, had been obtained by reduced sinkings and increased buildings. The reduced sinkings had been arrived at, said the first lord of the admiralty, by a greater productive effort devoted to warships and small craft of anti-submarine character. Nothing was included of commandeered or acquired tonnage in this result.

"The problem of a year ago was considered by many almost inconceivable and insoluble," Sir Eric continued. "Merchant-carrying power was being sunk at a rate which soon would have meant an inability to continue the war, and there was no tried, recognized means of combating the campaign. It was necessary to provide a building program of anti-submarine craft, mines, other appliances and merchant ships on a greatly increased scale.

"The total increase in labor last year in shipbuilding yards and marine engineering works was 35,000. The original demand of a year ago was for 80,000 additional, part of them skilled. Owing to events on the western front and the great demands for technical men for the air force and the army, it was impossible to obtain the proper quota of skilled men by their withdrawal from the army. Unskilled men were offered freely but they could not be absorbed because of the lack of skilled men."

The first lord declared that skilled men could not be obtained in sufficient numbers to man the existing yards. This situation had been feared, although the shipbuilding advisory committee had just adopted a standard ship, which should be built the old way, with the proportion of one skilled to four unskilled men in its construction.

The government had decided to go ahead at once with a scheme for building a simple ship which could be constructed with a minimum of skilled labor. That ship was designed and originated in the admiralty.

"It is interesting," added the first lord, "that the very same problem confronted America, and America met it in practically the same way—the same class of yard and the same type of construction—with excellent results."

Merchant ship repairs, said Sir Eric are today engaging nearly two-thirds as many workmen as are engaged on new construction of merchantmen.

"But," he continued, "the submarines have found it too dangerous to work inshore and are going far out. The number of ships damaged as well as sunk, is decreasing, and the transference of men from repairs to new construction is possible. The number of men employed on new construction of warships and auxiliaries is, roughly, 150,000 and on merchantmen 120,000."

OTTAWA, July 31.—Steps will be taken at once to put into effect a new draft treaty between Great Britain and the United States. The law will affect one hundred thousand Canadians residing in the United States.

With the British Army in France, July 31.—The Australians in capturing Merris took 169 prisoners.

LONDON, July 31.—Seventy-one divisions, with a total of 994,000 men have been used by the Germans in the Marne-Aisne salient battle.

LONDON, July 31.—British aircraft bombed five cities on the Rhine yesterday with good results.

With the American Army, July 31.—Sergy changed hands nine times within 24 hours but is now in the hands of the Americans.

The Americans gained two miles at one point yesterday but the fighting has been terrific.

TODAY'S CASUALTIES

Gassed—

S. J. S. Lowe, Port Hope
Wounded—
G. W. Wilson, Wicklow.

Died of Wounds—

E. J. Townsend, Belleville
P. R. Garrison, Deseronto

Died—

T. Mauser, Port Hope

A new Arctic meteorological station equipped with a wireless outfit has been established at the mouth of the Yenesel, and is sending out daily reports to stations to the south of it.

Enemy Turns to Give Allies Battle Again

Germans are Apparently on Eve of Offering Frontal Attack—Bitterest Fighting—French Make Progress with Americans in Centre of Salient

American troops fighting north of the Ourcq River in the Soissons-Rheims salient have enlarged their victory of Monday at Sergy, where they defeated divisions of German's picked troops and took and held the village against counter attacks.

Notwithstanding continued heavy opposition by guns, machine guns and large numbers of the enemy, soldiers from the middle western and eastern states drove their line northward from Sergy, Tuesday, for a distance of about two miles, and were resting at night on the slopes approaching the woods beyond the town of Nesle. Where they stood at last accounts, the Americans formed the apex of the long line running across the salient.

While the bitter fighting was in progress between the Americans and Germans, French troops on both sides of the fighting front also moved forward for goodly gains northeast of Fere-en-Tardenois and east of Sergy.

In the Nesles forest the Germans are holding strong positions, from which they are shelling, but thus far ineffectively, the menacing allied line before them.

Prussian Guards and Bavarians were in the thick of the fighting throughout Tuesday, but again they were out-manoeuvred and outfought and again suffered heavy casualties.

The Germans, apparently are on the eve of attempting to end their retreat from the Soissons-Rheims salient and turning and offering a frontal attack on the allied armies.

The day of rear-guard actions seems drawing to a close. Violent counter-offensive measures against their antagonists already are in progress by the Germans over most of the battle front, and the allied advance has been materially slowed down.

Further gains have been made by the allies, but only after the bitterest kind of fighting. And these gains have been considerably less in extent than those of the previous days, before the Germans stiffened their retreating armies by rushing numerous fresh divisions to their aid and adding greatly to the aggregate strength of their fighting force within the fast disappearing pocket between Soissons and Rheims.

As a result of violent counter-attacks, delivered with huge effectiveness, the Germans have been able to force the falling back by the French and Americans on several positions, but nowhere were they able to find a spot weak enough through which they could penetrate the allied line. Standing firmly, and giving ground only under absolute necessity, the allied troops everywhere have exacted a huge toll in men killed, wounded or made prisoners from the Germans in their every effort partly to retrieve their losses of ground.

Particularly heavy has been the fighting in the centre of the salient and on the right and left anchor points of the salient resting respectively southwest of Rheims and south of Soissons. It is still on the two anchor points that the Germans are keeping a most watchful eye, fearful that the allied troops may yet press back the line and threaten the armies of the German crown prince with the pincer manoeuvre, for the Germans are not yet far enough out of the pocket to have passed the danger of such a contingency.

In that centre of the pocket, north of the Ourcq River, the Germans in a counter-attack drove the Americans out of Clerges, but this slight gain was more than overcome later by the penetration of the Americans northward from Sergy. Regneux, lying on the west side of the pocket northwest of Fere-en-Tardenois, also was taken by the Germans, but later the French and Americans recaptured it, and with Grand Boxy in their possession, they still hold vantage points for a small turning movement toward Fere, which, if successful, would give them a goodly number of prisoners.

RITCHIE'S

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are being used more in the homes of today, not alone for those reasons, but they are so inexpensive that it costs little money to make the floors of your home look well. Our new showing embraces plain centres with Trellis, and preggy flower borders in the delectable color tones, imaginable. Priced from \$2.75 to \$25.00.

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Basement

Timely Store News For Women

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Priced 25c to 75c yard

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Germans Bayoneted American Wounded

LONDON, July 31.—The Daily Mail's correspondent with the American army on the Aisne-Marne front, telegraphing Monday night, emphasizes the severity of the fighting in the Sergy-Seringeset section. He says the Americans found their wounded in Sergy had been bayoneted. The Germans placed machine guns in the church and also in the Red Cross buildings.

DIED

ELLIOTT—At Venice, California on the 22nd July, 1918 Meribeth Elliott, widow of the late Robert Elliott, aged 81. Funeral service at St. Andrews Church, Belleville on Friday the 2nd August at 3 p.m.

DEATH OF MRS. ROSINA TURNER

Mrs. Rosina Turner, widow of the late Chas Turner, passed away this afternoon at her home, Park St. Further particulars tomorrow.