

# Backbone of German Resistance Is Fast Being Broken By Allies

## British and French Armies Press on Over 75 Mile Front, Eating Into Vitals of Enemy's Defence and Taking Village After Village, Prisoners and Guns in Thousands.

Frenzied counter-attacks by a foe who realizes that the vital of his defence are fast being eaten into have failed to hold back the British and French armies, who have now after the Germans on the seventy-five-mile battlefront from the north of Arras to the region of Soissons.

All along the front the German line has given way before the pressure of the British and French troops at points where the falling back of the enemy or the capture of towns and roads running eastwards adds greatly to his already serious predicament from the standpoint of strategy.

Numerous towns, villages and hamlets have fallen into the hands of the British and French in the continuation of the fighting, and scarcely anywhere along the battlefront have the Germans been able to do more than delay the allies when they knock for admittance to the German line. Rear-guard actions in which innumerable machine guns are used also are serving more to keep the allied advance slowed down as far as possible while the main German bodies make their way eastward in the retreat toward new positions.

**Astride Douai Road.**  
In the region around Arras the British are now well astride the road leading to Douai and Cambrai, and farther south along the Somme they have pressed forward until they are

almost at the gates of Peronne. Between the Somme and the Oise the French have broken the backbone of German resistance at Roye, capturing this pivotal point of an invasion eastward of the plains of Picardy, and advancing their lines north and south of the town over a front of about 12 1/2 miles to a depth of more than 2 1/2 miles at certain points.

North of Soissons the French, who the Germans are fighting them bitterly, again have advanced slightly their line in the outflanking movement both against the Chemin des Dames and the Noyon sector.

Everywhere the Germans have lost heavily in men made prisoners, and in addition the allied troops again have captured numerous guns, machine guns and war stores. The prisoners taken by the British from last Wednesday to Monday of the present week aggregated 21,000. In the fighting Tuesday around St. Mary west of Roye, the French secured 1100 captives.

**Canadians Carry On.**  
The Canadian troops are fighting in lively fashion between the Senece and Scarpe Rivers, and to them have fallen numerous German-held villages and many prisoners.

Bapaume, one of the strategic points over which there has been much heavy fighting, is still held by the Germans, but the British are now so nearly

around it that possibly few of the enemy remain inside the shell-torn town. The British on the west are in the outskirts of the place, and doubtless it soon will be ripped out of the battle line in the pincer movement that is being employed against it.

In the north the British already are across the upper end of the old Hindenburg line, and if their progress continues they soon will be able to operate to the east of the line on a secured ground in which tanks and cavalry can be brought into the fray with good results.

Behind the lines everywhere, French and British armies are harassing the Germans' retreat, but in this work they are being met with large forces of enemy airmen, who are fighting hard in an endeavor to make secure the retrograde movement of their foot soldiers.

On the Vesle front the Americans and Germans are in a rather bitter fight in the towns of Fismette and Bazoches. The Americans started the German retreat, and the Germans reciprocated with an attack on Fismette. At last accounts the Americans had the upper hand at both places.

In eastern Siberia the entire Russian military force has gone over to support of the anti-Bolshevik leader.

**And Now the Threshing Machines**  
The season is opening when the man who drives the steam engine of the thrasher salutes the morn with his shrill whistle, again at noon, a farewell note is blown. And when they all get going they like to pass the call from one concession to the other across the township. But it takes two days to get the machine keyed up to turning out a bushel a minute, and after that the thrasher needs fresh loads, and the driver and the driven wheels have to be in line, the nice adjustment arranged that keeps a rather unkept belt from slipping off; the water feed is plenty; and the boys who are distributed in the motor so to pass the sheaves into the traveler. The important man is he who handles the output either in bags or boxes and never forgets to tally one each time he makes a shift. And the man who runs the whole outfit counts for something at the bank.

Paris, Aug. 27.—The French war office issued the following official statement tonight: "Eastern Theatre, Aug. 26.—By reason of the fact that the field ambulances—Lieut. C. F. Elliott, finger.

In London—Lieut.-Col. C. N. Nelson, 1st Can. Div., British Columbia, body; Lieut. S. M. Webb, Manitoba, leg; R. M. Levers, Quebec, leg; A. W. Stafford, Quebec, leg; A. C. McFarlan, Ontario, arm, all slight.

At Birmingham—Lieut. F. M. Scott, Manitoba, chest, slight.

At Oxford—H. A. McBurney, gassed; Lieut. H. A. Desjardins, Quebec, leg; S. K. Donald, New Brunswick, leg and hand, all slight.

At Bath—Lieut. J. C. Ross, Saskatchewan, multiple; L. G. Harratt, hand; S.

### CANADIAN WOUNDED

Canadian Associated Press Cable.  
London, Aug. 27.—The following Canadian wounded are reported:

At Rouen—Capt. L. A. Masterman, Manitoba, leg and back; W. Waldrum, arm; P. D. Raymond, G. L. Edmunds, Lieut. W. C. Bennett, G. L. Edmunds, J. R. Smith, all gassed; slight; V. E. Rosten, back; P. Venu, foot, both slight; J. E. Taylor, gassed; J. Baxter, thigh; L. C. Drummond, gassed; Kerry, back and arm, slight; A. F. Hitchen, British Columbia, forehead, slight; W. C. McFarlan, arm, slight.

At Bourlogne—Lieut. J. D. Clark, artery, severe.

At clearing station—Lt. J. H. Barnes, Manitoba, groin, dangerous.

In London—Lieut. J. H. Barnes, Manitoba, groin, dangerous.

At Oxford—H. A. McBurney, gassed; Lieut. H. A. Desjardins, Quebec, leg; S. K. Donald, New Brunswick, leg and hand, all slight.

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### FURTHER WITHDRAWAL

French Swing Back Left Wing to Maintain Contact in Albania.  
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### U. S. MAN-POWER BILL

Washington, Aug. 27.—The man-power bill, bringing within the army purview all men from 18 to 65 years of age, was passed last night by the senate, with a modified work or fight clause.

### WAR SUMMARY

**THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED**

In Arras and Picardy yesterday the battlefront extended to 45 miles, where the British engaged the Germans, and a short distance further south fighting again broke out. In the morning of twelve and a half miles, where the French engaged the enemy before and past Roye. The British continued yesterday to make their chief advance on the wings. South of the Scarpe River, where the Canadians are in action on the British left, these troops stormed forward another two miles and more, capturing Cherley and Vieux-Artois and a wood, the Bois du Vert, and obtaining command of some heights. These positions look over a wide stretch of German territory.

North of the Scarpe, Scottish and English battalions carried across the Ardennes, Arieux-en-Gohelle, and stretches of the old German line. South of the Canadian front, Scotch troops crossed the Senece River, seized Fontaine-lez-Croisilles and got on the slopes south of that village. On the front between Bapaume and Arras the English and New Zealand troops defeated counter-attacks, carried the Village of Beugnatte and advanced at several points on the line of Beugnatte-Croisilles.

### MANY GERMAN BODIES ON SHORE OF JUTLAND

Copenhagen, Aug. 27.—It is reported by the authorities in Jutland that during the past few days the bodies of 180 German marines, which were washed ashore on the western coast of Jutland, have been known to have been buried.

### MUCH TERRITORY WON IN ALLIED ADVANCES

London, Aug. 27.—Comparisons between the British and the German and French front in the Somme area with those of the first military operation made by the British in four months, from July 1 to October 31, 1918, the British won forty-four square miles of land. In four days, between Aug. 21 and Aug. 25, the British won 116 square miles, with casualties amounting to only 23,000.

### SITUATION MUDDLES GERMAN WAR CRITICS

Amsterdam, Aug. 27.—German war experts are hopelessly at odds in trying to explain the present situation on the western front. Twice each day General Ludendorff's communications announce "victorious repulses," but a glance at the maps shows each successive locality mentioned as the scene of fighting lies a few miles further eastward.

### GERMAN DECIMATED.

Amsterdam, Aug. 27.—There are persistent rumors from a German source, says the frontier correspondent of the Telegraph, that a German battalion being ordered to the front, unannouncedly refused to go, whereupon every tenth man was shot. The others then gave up their resistance.

### BRITISH COMPEL FURTHER RETREAT

German Headquaters in France, via London, Aug. 27.—It is becoming increasingly clear that our pressure is forcing the enemy to expedite his retirement far beyond his original intentions. Talk of prisoners suggests that the Germans began rearguard fighting on the night of Aug. 18, (Saturday), and that all the enemy's attacks since then have been in the nature of delaying actions, to cover withdrawal.

### GERMAN RETURN FIRE COMPARATIVELY WEAK

London, Aug. 27.—Reuter's Tuesday evening report from British headquarters in France reports that the enemy's artillery resistance has been comparatively weak. Croisilles remains German, and the sunken roads north and west of the strongly held village of Fontaine-lez-Croisilles are held by the British.

### WAIVE THE REBATE.

Brantford, Aug. 27.—A number of men employed with machinery valued above a fixed amount are allowed by bylaw, stated exemption from taxes for a term of years. This is the city approached the management of Philadelphia, was misadvised that they waived their right to fixed assessment bill after the war. The city's taxes will benefit materially in the golden future, "after the war," the term of exemption will be increased.

### WORKER MADE GENERAL.

London, Aug. 27.—Godfrey Jones of Wales is the first British workman to attain the rank of general. He enlisted in the ranks, and during the war has been steadily promoted until he was named colonel a short time ago. He now has been nominated a brigadier-general.

### CONSIDERABLE FEAT BY FRENCH TROOPS

London, Aug. 27.—Reuter's correspondent at French headquarters, describing the fighting in the vicinity of Roye, says the capture of Fresnoy Croisette wood and St. Mary constitute a considerable achievement, because the fighting occurred on old fortified lines which the enemy had reorganized. The Germans were surprised at Fresnoy, whose 400 were captured, including a battalion commander.

Bridges over the Avre have, during the last few days, been seized by the French, whose infantry, fighting for hours waist deep in the water, have captured the bridges and themselves secured 600 prisoners.

### YOUNG GIRL DROWNS IN TORONTO BAY

Mary Simmons, and Friends Were Bathing at Olympic Island at Night.

When she got beyond her depth while in bathing at 9.45 last night on Olympic Island, just off Centre Island, Mary Simmons, (22), 138 East Germain street, was drowned before she could reach the shore. The life-saving station crew were immediately on the scene, and after they recovered the body within four minutes and worked over it for an hour and a half, Dr. Hurley, 855 Victoria street, who rushed to the scene, pronounced life extinct.

The girl, in company with L. M. McMann, 123 Wellesley street, was swimming when she went outside of the pines and chain that are there for the purpose, and slipped into the seven feet of water. McMann stated to the life-saving crew that he was unable to help the girl. The party was composed of four people: the dead girl, McMann, Gladys Arnold, 123 East Germain street, and William Brophy, whose address is given as Delaware avenue. The four had sailed over from the Toronto Canoe Club and were in swimming when the drowning occurred.

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### GERMANS HAVE TO FALL BACK MORE THAN THEY INTENDED.

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### EASTWARD FROM ARRAS FIGHTING IS INTENSE

British Headquarters in France, Aug. 27, via London.—Eastward from Arras, the battle which began yesterday morning has continued steadily to the west at night, when the enemy determinedly attempted to out us from the Wancourt position. We were able to hold our ground, and we have steadily held our ground. We gained the strongly held village of Fontaine-lez-Croisilles and we have captured the Bois du Vert. At any rate, we were able to hold our ground during the long and bitter fighting last night, and this morning our troops had worked towards Tloisvin.

### ALL EVIDENCE IN GINGRAS CASE

Montreal, Aug. 27.—The general court-martial proceedings at military headquarters here in the case of Lieut.-Col. Daily Gingras, D.S.O., concerning accusations which chiefly include the handling of funds in connection with the sale of copies of battalion standing orders and a dishonestly obtained order, were practically concluded this afternoon after Col. Gingras had taken the stand and undergone cross-examination. Counsel's address will probably be made tomorrow morning, when the court-martial will adjourn to secret session to consider the evidence.

### WAS RECAPTURED.

Vienna, Aug. 27.—In Albania, Austrian troops have recaptured Berat and the town of Fieri, near the mouth of the Senni, says the official statement from Austro-Hungarian headquarters today. The Italians lost heavily in men and material.

### GERMANS THROW IN LARGE SUPPORTS

Enemy Makes Desperate Attempt to Hold Bapaume Line.

### BANDSMEN FIGHTING

British Line Fluctuates Slightly Before Counter-Attacks.

With the British Army in France, Aug. 27.—Large reinforcements are being thrown in by the Germans near Bapaume, especially at the town itself, and in the area immediately south of it. Although there is much confusion in the enemy ranks, his resistance stiffened appreciably tonight.

The Germans have gone to the greatest lengths to hold their line here and even have armed and thrown into the line bandmen and men from the transport service. There has been heavy fighting in the vicinity of Thillois, south of Bapaume.

**Determined Stand.**  
It is believed the enemy is going to make a determined stand along their newly established line. It driven back it will be along the Canal du Nord. In the south the Germans have made preparations for strong resistance on the east bank of this canal.

South of the Somme the Germans also are in some force at Ponnancourt, which sticks forward in a salient that has gradually become most dangerous for the enemy.

There were vicious counter-attacks early this evening and in some places, as must be expected, the British had to give ground slightly. On the north the British fought the battle of Trones wood. The British also gave up their foothold on Maltrois near Guillemont, east of Albert. South of the Somme the British, at last reports, had gained possession of Fontaine-lez-Croisilles.

### BIANCA PROBABLY SUNK

Crew of Canadian Schooner Reported As Picked Up at Sea.  
A Canadian Atlantic Port, Aug. 27.—Word has just reached here that the crew of the schooner "Bianca" were picked up at sea late this afternoon and will be landed tonight. No further details are available, but it is believed that it is another submarine outrage. The only "Bianca" on the shipping list is of 180 tons, registered at Windsor, N.S.

### GERMAN LED BOLSHIEVIKI.

Archangel, Russia, Aug. 27.—An official communication says that a German officer was among the Bolsheviki found after the battle of Aug. 18, in which patrols of the new "Russified" army defeated a greatly superior force of the Bolsheviki.

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### "PEACEFUL PENETRATION" BY AUSTRALIAN UNITS

British Headquarters in France, Aug. 27.—Heavy and continuous aircraft fire is reported about Marcourt, thus indicating co-operation of the air forces with infantry movements.

Australian units carrying out what they call "peaceful penetration," consisting of patrol stalking, which is most demoralizing to the harassed enemy. Yesterday the Australians advanced to Fontaine-lez-Croisilles, which, only a few days ago, was a German divisional headquarters. This morning some Australians were reported six miles from Peronne.

### DEEP BRITISH RAID.

Over Two Hundred Prisoners Taken in Operation on Asiago Front.

London, Aug. 27.—An official communication dealing with the British operation on the Italian front says that Monday night the British penetrated deep into Austrian positions, on the Asiago front, effected heavy casualties on the enemy and took 205 prisoners. The statement adds that enemy positions in the neighborhood of Canove also were raided, and that there 65 prisoners were taken.

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