

BRITISH AND FRENCH CONTINUE TO CUT INTO THE GERMAN LINE

(Late War Summary.)

New York, Sept. 8.—The Associated Press tonight issued the following: The British and French armies continue to cut their way into the German line on various sections of the lower part of the battle line in France.

Notwithstanding the bad weather which has caused somewhat of a slackening in the operations, Field Marshal Haig's forces have materially encroached upon Cambrai and St. Quentin, while farther south the French armies are pressing eastward on the old Noyon sector towards La Fere and Laon and northward from Soissons in an auxiliary manoeuvre with the same objectives in view. Between the Vesle and the Aisne rivers, where the American troops are fighting with the French additional ground has been gained by the Allied forces.

The British now are standing at Villers-Plouffe, six miles from St. Quentin, having carried out an advance over a ten-mile front on the general line of Epéhy-Resbecourt and Vermand. To the north the greater part of the Havrincourt Wood, one of the German strong points barring the way to Cambrai has been captured.

So rapid has been the British advance along this portion of the front that they now are in the positions they held before the big German drive of last March. In the positions the Germans are offering stout resistance to further progress by the British.

Gradually the French are working their way around the St. Gobain forest north of Soissons in the movement that aims at the outflanking of La Fere and Laon, and all the German positions east of this region. They have reached the outskirts of the villages of Serris on the north edge of the forest and two and a half miles from La Fere, while a short distance to the north they have taken the village of Manneville on the St. Quentin canal. This latter gain brings the French within little more than eight miles of St. Quentin.

North of the Aisne near Soissons the Germans are fighting hard to keep the French in check, realizing that the gain by them of much more territory in this region, in conjunction with the manoeuvre that is in progress around the St. Gobain forest will place the entire German defence line eastward towards Rheims in a critical position. Near Laffaux and to the north of Celles-sur-Aisne, the Germans have delivered strong counter-attacks, but the French everywhere have maintained their ground.

The Germans also are reacting somewhat south of Ypres, especially in the region of Ploegsteert, where the British are threatening the occupants of Arras. Counter-offensive manoeuvres here and east of Wulverghem were broken up by the British.

During the first week of September Field Marshal Haig's forces have taken more than 19,000 prisoners and large numbers of machine guns and quantities of stores.

That further big events are on the programme of the Entente Allies in the prosecution of the war is indicated by the fact that Newton D. Baker, the American secretary of war, again is in France for a war conference.

THE BRITISH LINE ON SATURDAY.

London, Sept. 7.—The British line starting at Havrincourt Wood, of which the British occupy practically one half, runs through Metz-en-Couture and Fins, then by Lillers, Longueval, Tincourt-Boucy, Hancourt and Tarray to Leclercq where it joins the French line.

LAST NIGHT OF FAIR

The Great War Veterans' fair, which has proved such a splendid success, closes tonight, when special attractions have been arranged to mark the occasion. Most important of these is a tug-of-war, for which contest Lieutenant Governor William Pugsley has presented a handsome silver cup. In the absence of the lieutenant-governor presentation of the cup will be made by General Macdonell. The grand drawings are also to take place. The door prize for the evening will be a pair of men's rubber boots.

On Saturday evening 2,000 people attended and the many attractions were generously patronized. This was a bumper crowd for Saturday and those managing the fair were highly pleased. The door prize for the evening, a handsome mirror donated by Emerson & Fisher, was won by ticket No. 8806, the holder of which may obtain the prize by calling upon C. F. Bishop at the fair.

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The Canadians As Shock Troops

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Moved Around the Country To Beguile the Enemy, and Then Sudden Action With Success Which Won World Praise

One of the editors of the Journal Newspapers who has just returned from overseas with the Canadian press party writes:

Six weeks ago I spent three days and three nights with the Canadian armies in France. They were then on the Arras front from Vimy Ridge to a point just south of the ruined city. There were three divisions in the line and one in reserve. They had been out of the lines all summer. While the great German drive was progressing on the Somme and Lys fronts, no mention was made of the Canadians in despatches. What were they doing? They were carrying a "rest" in other words they were undergoing a course of the severest post-graduate training. By their past deeds they had placed upon themselves the seal of efficiency that marked them out as ideal troops for certain work, and for that work they were put into special training.

While the British and French armies were on the defensive, falling back steadily dangerous distances before the terrible onslaught of overwhelming numbers, the Canadians were held in local training, training, training, morning, noon and night. They were to be shock troops. They were to be the last part in a great counter-offensive when the time should be ripe.

Bored in the Trenches.

Shortly before the Canadian press party arrived in France the Canadians had been put back into the lines. But it was evident that plain, ordinary trench work did not suit the temperaments. They had been turned up to a high pitch. The bonds of the trenches galloped, their energies and their nerves were taut for action. The dead inactivity of the defence lines bored them to extinction. They were all dressed up and no place to go.

Two Winnipeg regiments occupied the particular front and support line trenches on Telegraph Hill, which I visited. It was a quiet day, which means that for the most part the guns were busy only on counter-battery work, gun against gun, with an occasional German shell dropping near a communication trench on off-chance of reaching some human objective. The shells from the British batteries in the rear whistled overhead so plainly that the eye could easily follow the sound, and it seemed strange that nothing could be seen. The Hun shells traveling in the opposite direction formed a sort of harmony "Give Us Something to Do."

In the very front trenches, lightly held, a portion of the men were on the qui vive, standing on the fire steps. The others were sleeping in the "funk" holes. The German trenches were a few hundred yards away. In the support trenches the boys, a Highland regiment, were only their shirts and knickers. It was a warm day. They lay full length in their holes, reading newspapers and smoking. When the German shells came, they were not the dirty, mud-covered, hot and perspiring soldiers one pictures in the trenches. There had been no heavy rain. The trenches were dry, and a system of bath parties has been devised so that men even in the front lines get regular ablutions at brigade headquarters further back.

But how bored these lads were! In the pink of condition, trained and fit, every one of them; fresh from a long period of daily exercise.

"Why heaven's name don't they give us something worth while to do?" said one beautiful youth to me. "We go out in working parties at night and occasionally we have luck enough to join in a raid, but we want some real action."

And Then the Action.

Two weeks later that youth must have got all the action he desired, because on our return to London we learned that the Canadians had been moved from the Arras front down to their old camping ground on the Somme front of Arras, and had been distinguished in a most difficult advance across a river in a drive that was the beginning of great happenings. The Canadian training of months as shock troops was at once put to the test, and it fulfilled more than the most sanguine expectations. The Canadians were the forward point of a wedge that set the pace—and those of us who saw them and got something of their spirit and dash are not without sympathy for the possibly has alert troops on their flanks who were expected to follow the pace that set.

Feeding the Hun.

But the Canadians, as is well known, were pulled out of the Arras front rapidly and secretly. I fancy they were put in there only to deceive, because British commanders have at last learned that the wily enemy must be fought with wiles. Known as shock troops, and anticipating an attack, the Germans promptly faced the Canadians with picked divisions of their own, and the Hun got himself ready for an attack in force. But the Canadians bored themselves lying quiet, and General Morrison, that splendid artillery officer, found amusement perfecting his counter-battery work.

Suddenly the Canadians were withdrawn. The big job for them was ripe—and it was not on the Arras front. It cannot make any difference now to tell of one of the tricks by which the German intelligence department was fooled, for such tricks can be played only once with success.

The Canadians were moved south, but one battalion was moved north. It went on a tour of one-night stands.

"We thought our headquarters staff had gone crazy," said one officer of this battalion to me afterwards in London. "We were shot all over the country without rhyme or reason. Here tonight, here tomorrow night. It was the devil's job supplying them with food. We put on a raid every night at some new spot. Sometimes we lost a real man or two prisoner. At other times a tank or a residential badge was dropped 'accident-

Build up the Mighty National Force

FOR fifty years the Teuton peoples have been trained, disciplined, whipped, into servile cogs of an implacable military machine, by which is maintained the Prussian doctrine of might, and the Kaiser's autocracy. The Teutons deny themselves, they make sacrifices, because they are trained or forced to do so, but they do it.

The peoples of the Allied nations must make great sacrifices and tremendous efforts in order to defeat the enemies of freedom, but because they are free peoples it is left largely to the individual to say what or how much self-denial each will practice.

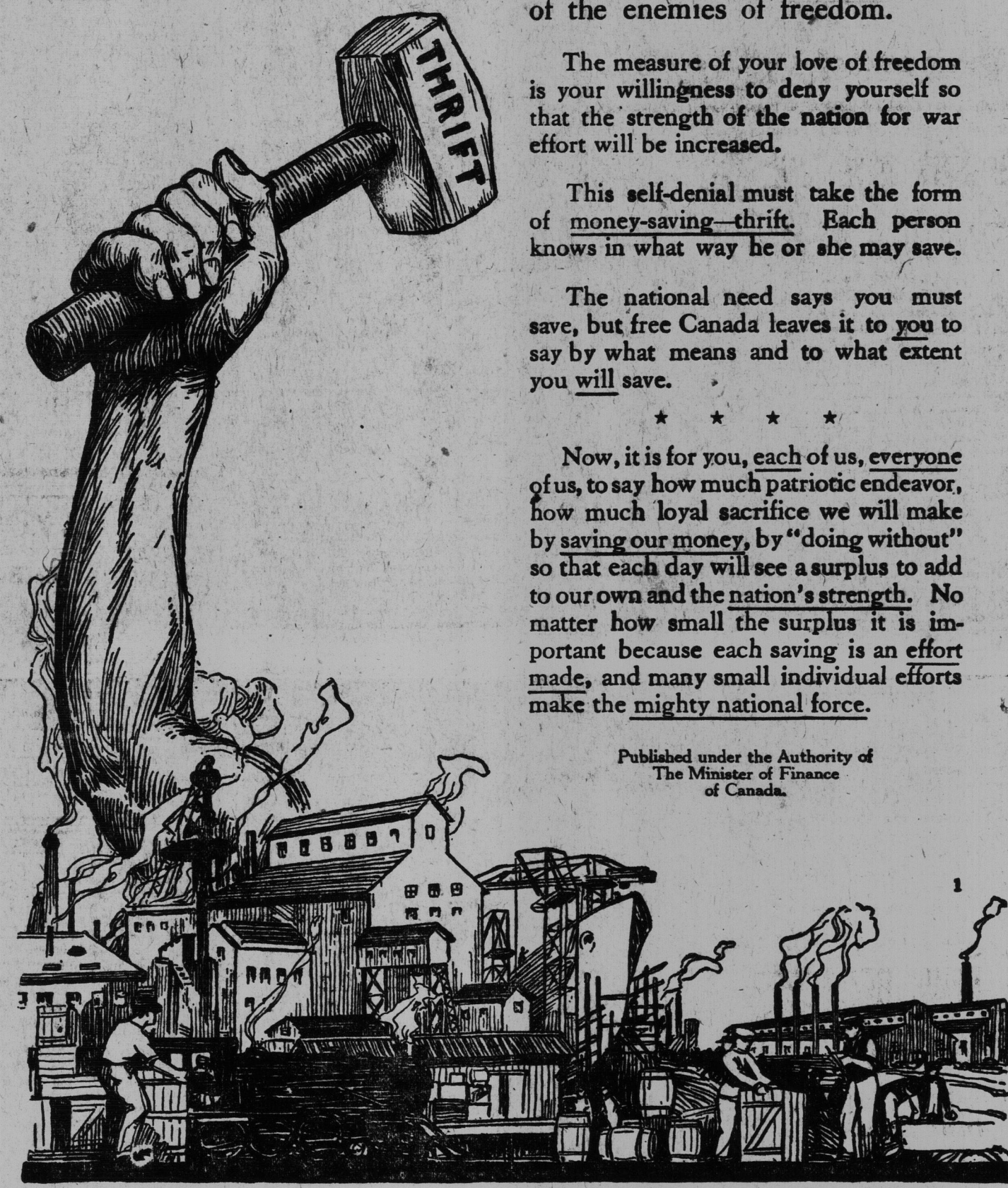
So if freedom is to prevail individuals must make voluntary sacrifices which in the aggregate will be greater than the forced sacrifices of the enemies of freedom.

The measure of your love of freedom is your willingness to deny yourself so that the strength of the nation for war effort will be increased.

This self-denial must take the form of money-saving-thrift. Each person knows in what way he or she may save.

The national need says you must save, but free Canada leaves it to you to say by what means and to what extent you will save.

Now, it is for you, each of us, everyone of us, to say how much patriotic endeavor, how much loyal sacrifice we will make by saving our money, by "doing without" so that each day will see a surplus to add to our own and the nation's strength. No matter how small the surplus it is important because each saving is an effort made, and many small individual efforts make the mighty national force.



Published under the Authority of The Minister of Finance of Canada.

ally! And those badges didn't all bear the same number. We went right up into Flanders."

Meanwhile, the other Canadian divisions at great speed, and mostly at night, were moved thirty miles south, and before their presence was known to the Hun they pushed into the great drive for which full preparation had been made beforehand.

Did One Job Back for Another.

The Canadians did their job on the Somme, and with the same secrecy and swiftness were suddenly moved back again to positions just south of their old lines on the Arras front, there to put on that other drive which the latest despatches reveal has resulted in the breaking down of the famous Hindenburg switch, and indirectly the capture of Lens.

Always Looking for Pointers.

We left the Canadian front on a Sunday morning. General Sir Arthur Currie came over to bid us good-bye. He told me he was going to spend the day with the Australians. "I hear they have been trying out some new stunts the last few days, and I want to see how they worked out," he said. That is the corps commander; that is every general, every officer under him. The Canadian officers know no such thing as military precedent.

CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL EUROPE

(London Chronicle.)

Among the visitors to England is Dr. Ehrenberger, a Zurich banker, who is here at the invitation of the British government to discuss certain after-war problems connected with finance and also the position as to food in this and in neutral countries.

"I came to see how much you were starving," he said to a representative of the Daily Chronicle yesterday, "and I find you in the midst of plenty. I suppose you have some grumblers in this country; they ought to have a taste of

what the Central Powers—and to a certain extent the neutrals—have to undergo."

"In Austria the conditions are terrible; I am able to speak of what I learn from clients of mine who have lately come from that country. In Vienna the bread is absolutely unobtainable."

"Of what is it made?" "Of everything—except cereals. There is no leather to be had, and I know of people who cannot leave their houses because they do not care to go barefooted. Boots and shoes cannot be got at any price, nor can tea or coffee and other tropical products."

"In Hungary the conditions are better; the Hungarians hold on to what food they have very tenaciously. At the frontier, everybody is searched, and if

he has any food in his luggage it is confiscated."

"Conditions in Germany are not quite so bad as they are in Austria. They are worse in the great industrial towns; the workpeople have been living almost entirely on beets and potatoes for the last six months."

"Clothing is strictly rationed. You cannot buy a suit of clothes without a permit, and that is only given you after your wardrobe has been strictly examined. Cotton goods are unobtainable, and sewing cotton is 4d. a yard. I have bought shirts today at 8s. 6d. each which would cost 14s. in Zurich; in Berlin or Cologne you could not get them at any price."

"As to your position in this country,

after four years of war, all I can say is that it calculated to fill a neutral with amazement. You seem to have plenty of everything, and, save that there is some khaki about the streets, London looks very much as usual."

"And what about the morale of the people in the Central Empires?"

"Austria is kept going by the pressure of German influence. The Germans still believe the war will not last much longer. You must remember that the whole of the press of that country is in the hands of the government, and the only news given is that which the government wishes to appear. They are told every day that victory is near; when the real truth dawns upon them there will be a terrible reaction."

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