

GERMAN OFFENSIVE BEING CHECKED AT ALL POINTS IN NOYON AREA

Advancing Hordes of Enemy Repulsed With Heavy Loss—Foe Made Some Gains in Aisne Sector But Failed To Improve Them.

A despatch from Paris says: A concentrated fire from the French guns caught powerful German forces attempting a counter-attack between Courcelles and Mery, in the Montdidier sector, and not only drove back the advancing waves, but inflicted very heavy losses, according to the War Office announcement on Thursday night.

During Wednesday night the French a splendid counter-attack, drove enemy back to the north bank of Matz River, farther to the east. An important height of Croix Ricard and the village of Melacocq were also taken by the French.

On the Aisne front the Germans continued their thrust between the river and the important forest position of Villers-Cotterets and gained a little ground, but all their attempts to improve the position have failed. Elsewhere other German attacks have been defeated, the Americans breaking up a particularly violent attempt between Boursches and Belleau Wood.

The French during the course of the various engagements took many prisoners and consolidated all their gains. A despatch from the front, dealing with the Aisne fighting, says:

"Probably for the purpose of making the Allies move their reserves to-

ward the right flank, the Germans started a big diversion in the vicinity of the Forest of Villers-Cotterets. The enemy progressed slightly, obtaining a foothold in Coeuvres, but this does not improve his position. Five German divisions participated, two of which had just reached the battlefield.

"The attack extended along a front of about four miles, but met such opposition from the French, who fought with stern determination, that the Germans apparently renounced their efforts."

The sole result of the enemy's attack on the Montdidier-Noyon line up to the present is that he has, by the violence of his attacks east of the Oise and the forced retreat of the French from the region west of the stream, blotted out the nasty Noyon salient and brought the battle front more into direct alignment with that beginning at the Aisne. And a terrible price has been paid for this rectification of the line.

Whether the Germans are prepared again to offer huge sacrifices in attempting to bend back the other salient from the Aisne to Villers-Cotterets, and bring the Picardy and Aisne battlefields into a more continuous front, remains to be seen.

There are signs that for the moment the German efforts are waning.



The Empire Conference of Premiers now in Session in London.

Left to right: Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes, Australia; Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George, Great Britain; Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Borden, Canada; Rt. Hon. W. F. Massey, New Zealand; Rt. Hon. Gen. Christian Smuts, South Africa (representing Premier Botha), and Rt. Hon. W. F. Lloyd, Newfoundland.

ATTACK U-BOATS 70 TIMES A WEEK

Allies Are Sinking More Submarines Than Germany Can Build.

A despatch from London says:—In an interview with the London correspondent of the Petit Parisien, Sir Eric Geddes, First Lord of the Admiralty, had the following to say with regard to submarines:

"The allied navies continue to sink more German submarines than the enemy can build. It is certainly a fact that since January we have sunk more submarines than they have built. We attack their submarines 70 times a week on the average.

"We base our returns of submarines destroyed only on those we are sure of from having seen wrecks or secured the crews; but most of the other submarines hit are in urgent need of repairs, and it is evident that the results of many of our attacks are unknown. If you have moles in your garden you may put down a thousand traps without catching all of them, and it is the same way with submarines."

TROOPS IN RUSSIA RUSHED TO FRANCE

Movement of Forces to Occupy Seven Days.

A despatch from London says:—Germany is about to withdraw the bulk of her troops now in Russia for service on the western front, according to a statement from Maxim Gorky's newspaper, the Petrograd Novaya Zhizn, quoted by the Daily News correspondent at Stockholm.

The Novaya Zhizn claims to give the text of a despatch sent by General Falkenhayn, former chief of the German General Staff, which, it says, was intercepted, in which General Falkenhayn declares that the battles on the western front are critical and decisive, but that in order to ensure definite victory and the end of the war the concentration of enormous forces will be necessary.

It is planned to accomplish the movement of the troops in seven days.

Two Enemy Mines Destroyed Off the New Zealand Coast.

A despatch from Wellington, New Zealand, says:—Two enemy mines have been destroyed off North Cape, the northern extremity of New Zealand, according to an announcement made here.

It is most likely the mines found floating off the north coast of New Zealand were laid by a German commerce raider. They probably were sowed by the raider Seadler, formerly the American ship Pass, of Balmain, which, after roaming the Pacific coast for seven months, preying on American and allied shipping, was stranded on one of the Society Islands.

BRITAIN PURCHASES AUSTRALIAN WOOL

A despatch from London says:—"It is announced that the Imperial Government has purchased the whole of the Australian wool clip for the period of the war and for one year afterward," says a despatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Melbourne. "The first two clips involve the sum of £100,000,000. It is the largest wool transaction in the history of the world and insures the commercial and financial stability of Australia."

ENEMY AVIATORS MAY BE DESERTING.

A despatch from the British Army in France says: The British Air Service has been improving steadily in recent days. This has been due perhaps to an increase in men and equipment. One famous airman recently destroyed three German machines within a few hours. There have been more German planes flying over British territory lately than in any other similar period, but very high in the day time for observation work and photographing. A majority of flights have been taking place back of the German line.

There is an increasing number of German aviators being captured unharmed along this front.

CANADA IS PAYING 34,879 PENSIONS

A despatch from Ottawa says:—The total number of pensions awarded from the beginning of the war up to May 31 was 34,879 and the total number of gratuities was 3,013, according to the figures made public by the Board of Pension Commissioners.

to 31c; clear bellies, 29 to 30c. Lard—Pure, tierces, 31½ to 32c; tubs, 31½c; pails, 32 to 32½c; prints, 33 to 33½c. Compound tierces, 26 to 26½c; tubs, 26½ to 26¾c; pails, 26½ to 27c; prints, 27½ to 28c.

Montreal Markets
Montreal, June 18.—Oats—Canadian Western, No. 2, 96½c; extra No. 1 feed, 94½c. Flour—New standard Spring wheat grade, \$10.95 to \$11.05. Rolled oats—Bags, 90 lbs. \$5.10 to \$5.15. Bran, \$35.00. Shorts, \$40.00. Mouillie, \$72.00. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$15.50.

Live Stock Markets
Toronto, June 18.—Extra choice heavy steers, \$15.50 to \$16.75; choice heavy steers, \$14.50 to \$14.75; butchers' cattle, choice, \$14.50 to \$15.00; do., good, \$13.75 to \$14.00; do., medium, \$12.50 to \$13.00; do., common, \$11.50 to \$11.75; butchers' bulls, choice, \$12.50 to \$13.25; do., good, \$11.50 to \$11.75; do., medium, \$10.75 to \$11.00; do., rough, \$9.75 to \$10.00; butchers' cows, choice, \$12.50 to \$13.25; do., good, \$11.75 to \$12.00; do., medium, \$10.75 to \$11.25; stockers, \$9.50 to \$11.25; feeders, \$11.25 to \$12.00; canners and cutters, \$6.00 to \$7.25; milkers, good, \$90.00 to \$140.00; do., com. and med., \$65.00 to \$80.00; springers, \$90.00 to \$140.00; light ewes, \$17.50 to \$20.00; yearlings, \$19.00 to \$20.00; spring lambs, 23c. to 25c; hogs, fed and watered, \$18.00; do. weighed off cars, \$18.25; do. f.o.b., \$17.00.

Montreal, June 18.—Choice steers, \$13.50 to \$13.25; inferior, \$10.50; butchers' bulls, \$12.50 to \$12.00; butchers' cows, \$13.00 to \$7.50; choice calves, \$15.50 to \$8.50; good, \$8.50; sheep, \$15.50; spring lambs, 21 to 23 cents per pound on hoof. Select hogs, \$19.50 to \$19.75.

WILL NOT CALL 19-YEAR-OLDS BEFORE AUTUMN.

A despatch from Ottawa says Call to the colors of 19-year-old men is delayed. When the proclamation requiring these men to register was published, it was intimated that they would not be required actually to report for duty before July. It is now considered improbable that many, if any, of the men will be summoned before September or October. Up to the present 51,883 men of 19 years of age have registered for military service. Of these it is estimated 75 per cent. would probably rank in medical category A, that is men fit for general service overseas.

RECORD PRODUCTION OF SAWN LUMBER.

A despatch from Ottawa says: A report on the operations of the Canadian Forestry Corps overseas received by the Militia Department states that one company in France has made a record production of sawn lumber. In ten hours' sawing they turned out a total of 156,000 feet, board measure, or 372 tons of one-inch, two-inch and three-inch square-edged butted lumber. Logs sawn numbered 342.

Markets of the World

Breadstuffs
Toronto, June 18.—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, \$2.23½; No. 2 do., \$2.20½; No. 3 do., \$2.17½; No. 4 wheat, \$2.10½; in store Fort William, including 2½c tax.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 85½c; No. 3 C.W., 82½c; extra No. 1 feed, 82½c; No. 1 feed, 79½c, in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, kiln dried, nominal; No. 4 yellow, kiln dried, nominal.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 80 to 81c; No. 3 white, 79 to 80c, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—No. 2 Winter, per car lot, \$2.22; basis in store Montreal.

Peas—Nominal.

Barley—Malt, \$1.31 to \$1.33, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—\$1.80, according to freights outside.

Rye—No. 2, \$2.00, according to freights outside.

Manitoba flour—War quality, \$10.95; new bags, Toronto and Montreal freights, prompt shipment.

Ontario flour—War quality, \$10.65, in bags, Toronto and Montreal, prompt shipment.

Milled feed—Car lots—Delivered Montreal freights, bags included: Bran, per ton, \$35.00; shorts, per ton, \$40.00.

Hay—No. 1 per ton, \$15.50 to \$16.50; mixed, \$11.30 to \$14.00, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, per ton, \$8.00 to \$8.50, track Toronto.

Country Produce—Wholesale

Butter—Creamery, solids, per lb., 41 to 42c; prints, per lb., 41½ to 42½c; dairy, per lb., 35 to 36c.

Eggs—New laid, 34 to 35c.

Poultry—Roosters, 23 to 25c; fowl, 23 to 30c; ducks, 25 to 30c; turkeys, 27 to 30c.

Wholesalers are selling to the retail trade at the following prices:—

Cheese—New, large, 23½ to 24c; twins, 23½ to 24½c; old, large, 25½ to 26c; twin 26 to 26½c.

Butter—Fresh, dairy, choice, 40 to 45c; creamery prints, fresh made, 45 to 47c; solids, 44 to 45c.

Margarine—28 to 33c. lb.

Eggs—New laid, 39 to 40c; new laid, in cartons, 43 to 44c.

Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 65c; roosters, 28c; fowl, 38 to 40c; turkeys, 40 to 45c.

Live poultry—Spring chickens, 55c; roosters, 26c; turkeys, 30c; hens, 33 to 37c.

Beans—Canadian, hand-picked, bushel, \$8.75; imp., hand-picked, Burma or Indian, \$6.75; Japan, \$8.50 to \$8.75; Limas, 19 to 20c.

Maple syrup—¾-lb. tins, 10 to a case, \$14.50; imperial gallon tins, per case, \$2.25; imperial five-gallon cans, per can, \$10.50; 15-gallon kegs, per keg, \$2.00; maple sugar, 1-lb. box, per lb., 24 to 25c.

Provisions—Wholesale

Smoked meats—Hams, medium 36 to 38c; do., heavy, 30 to 32c; cooked, 50 to 51c; rolls, 32 to 33c; breakfast bacon, 41 to 44c; backs, plain, 44 to

BRITISH BOMB GERMAN CITIES

Successful Raids Carried Out Against Metz—Sablons Station and Other Points.

A despatch from London says: The official statement on aerial operations issued on Thursday night says:

"Our flying squadrons on the French battle front Wednesday were chiefly engaged in offensive patrol work, seeking German machines and fighting them wherever found. They destroyed 15 enemy airplanes, some of which went down in flames, others broke in the air. One of our machines on this sector is missing.

"On the British front a good deal of aerial reconnaissance, photography and aerial observation was carried out. We lost two machines and destroyed five German machines. Two other hostile machines were driven down out of control, while a German observation balloon was brought down in flames.

"Twenty-two tons of bombs were dropped by us during the day, the principal targets attacked being the Don junction, railways at Courtral, Armentieres and Chaulnes, a dump at Bapaume and the Bruges docks. The weather at night was unsuitable for flying.

"On Wednesday two successful raids were carried out by our squadrons against the Metz-Sablons railway station and sidings. Many heavy bombs were dropped. On Thursday one squadron of our airplanes attacked the station at Treves, another dropped a ton of bombs on factories and the station at Dillingen. At the same time factories and the station at Hagendangen were subjected to an attack. At Dillingen direct hits were observed on two furnaces. Successful long-distance photographic reconnaissances were carried out by other machines.

"In the course of attacks made by the enemy on our bombing machines one hostile airplane was destroyed and two others were driven down. One of our machines is missing."

FINLAND WILL BE INDEPENDENT KINGDOM.
A despatch from Helsingfors, Finland, says: The Government proposal for the establishment of a new form of government has been delivered to the Langtag. It provides that Finland shall be an independent kingdom with a kingship hereditary in the male line. The king may not simultaneously be the ruler of any other State. He shall have an absolute veto in matters affecting the constitution and land and sea traffic. In other matters his veto may be overruled by a two-thirds majority of the Langtag elected at a new election.

SANK A SUBMARINE ON 74th BIRTHDAY.
A despatch from Newcastle-on-Tyne says: The captain of a Tyne steamer recently completed his 74th birthday by fighting and sinking a German submarine.

It was just before dawn when the submarine rose and started firing at the steamer. The skipper manoeuvred and placed his steamer so that he took advantage of the eastern light and brought the enemy astern. After a brisk fight of about five minutes the submarine went down and did not reappear. The skipper got in three direct hits on the U-boat.

MANY LOST VESSELS MAY BE REFLOATED.
A despatch from Washington says: Unofficial estimates by naval experts show that in excess of 500,000 tons of shipping sunk by submarines may be refloated, as a result of salvage operations conducted by Great Britain and the other allied Governments. American naval engineers are to be sent to assist in this work, carrying with them a fleet of powerful sea-going tugs, scows and other equipment.

AMERICANS INFLECT HEAVY LOSSES ON ENEMY
A despatch from Washington says: Complete repulse of enemy attacks north-west of Chateau Thierry with heavy losses for the Germans was reported on Thursday night in Gen. Pershing's communique.

The American lines advanced on Wednesday by taking the last of the German positions in the Belleau Wood.



Home From the Huns' Hell.

A repatriated man, assisted by bluejacket, helps a blinded comrade to a seat on the tender ship.

The Doings of the Duffs.

