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The Toronto World

TUESDAY MORNING JULY 23 1918

VOL. XXXVIII.—No. 13,768 TWO CENTS

ALLIED BLOW STILL CONTINUES

French Throw Strong Reinforcements Across the Marne--Allied Advances From Soissons to Rheims--Germans Fail to Check Drive.

U.S. WIPES OUT FOE CONTROL OF METALS

Alien Property Custodian Has Taken Over Concerns With Many Millions Capital.

A THIN DISGUISE

Companies Had Endeavored to Cover Up Their German Ownership.

Washington, July 22.—German control of the metal industry in America has been wiped out by Alien Property Custodian Palmer in the seizure of several of the largest metal concerns in the United States with ramifications into South America, Mexico and Canada.

Mr. Palmer announced today that he had taken over the business of L. Vogelstein and Company, Inc., of New York City, with assets of more than \$9,000,000, and Beer, Sondheimer and Co., Inc. also of New York, with assets of upward of \$5,000,000.

In addition the custodian has seized the enemy owned interest in the American Metals Company, controlling some sixteen companies in this country and South America, and Stahl and Company, of New York, dealers in silver bullion, with capitalization of \$1,000,000. F. Stallforth, principal stockholder in the latter company, is now interned at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.

Seizure of these companies resulted from investigation into the general metal situation now being made by P. T. P. Garvan, director of the bureau of investigation in the alien property custodian's office.

It was revealed that the Beer, Sondheimer and Vogelstein companies were closely affiliated with the German Metal Gesellschaft, which for some years has dominated the entire metal market of the world, and that the American branch was controlled by the German Metal Gesellschaft, which controlled most of the principal metal and smelting companies of this country, either by complete ownership of stock or by representation in the directorates.

Mr. Palmer's announcement said the Vogelstein and Beer, Sondheimer companies had endeavored to cover up the German ownership of their assets by an Americanizing process undertaken after the war began, but that their ownership was only "thinly disguised."

These two companies are believed by Mr. Garvan to have supplied Germany with vast quantities of copper, zinc and other necessary war materials after the war began and their activity in this respect did not cease until after the United States entered the war.

Still held by Germans.

The business of Beer, Sondheimer and Company was founded in America by the German firm of the same name, but the American branch was incorporated in August, 1915, by Bruno Elkan and Otto Frohneke, who had operated the branch for the German firm, and who did not make application for naturalization papers until early in last year and Frohneke admitted they had bought out the interest of the German firm, but Mr. Garvan unearthed wireless messages passing between the American branch and German company indicating that the latter had planned the incorporation of the firm here and that it had not sold its interests.

Ludwig Vogelstein, head of Vogelstein and Company, is an American citizen but for many years he had represented in this country the firm of Aaron Hirsch and Sohn of Halberstadt, Germany, which did an average business of about \$70,000,000 a year in the United States, Canada and Mexico. In December, 1916, Vogelstein formed a New York corporation, but the alien property custodian did not accept his statement that his agreements with the German firm ended in April, 1916.

PRESIDENT WILSON GOES AFTER THE GERMAN METAL TRUST

Our despatches this morning show that the United States has started in after the German Metal Trust and its representatives in that country.

From the very beginning of the war, four years ago, the American Government began collecting information, and when the Lusitania was sent to the bottom by a German submarine with so many Americans aboard, special officers were directed to follow up the ramifications of the German Metal Trust, and over two years ago the United States Commerce Commission traced the absolute mastery of the metals of the world, especially war ones like zinc, lead, copper, nickel, to the great German Metal Trust that had its headquarters at Frankfurt, and its subsidiary companies and agents in every metal centre outside of Germany. They were in the States everywhere.

The British metal trade was honours-combated with it. So was Australia. So was Canada.

The report of the United States Commerce Commission linked up the International Nickel Co. (owners of the Sudbury mines in this province) to this great German metal trust at Frankfurt. It published a most graphic chart, showing how the metal trade interlocked, how nearly all the mines in the world finally centred in Germany.

The World published that diagram and asked the Canadian Government to investigate it as far as nickel was concerned. Nothing was done.

Australia was dissatisfied with the way Britain allowed the German Metal Trust to do business in London after the war was on; and at last, as a protest, Australia passed legislation taking away the German control of her zinc and lead, and drove "Merton & Co." out of the Commonwealth. She seized the mines.

England was satisfied to compel them to change their directors, to force some of them to take out British names and citizenship. "Merton & Co." it was pointed out by The World, were the selling agents of all the nickel output of the International Nickel Co., owners of the Canadian Copper Co.'s nickel mines at Sudbury. But no action was taken at Ottawa.

At this writing The World is unable to say that the last seizures made by the Alien Enemy Property Custodian go as far as to include the manipulators of Canada's nickel output, but they ought to, and no doubt will later on.

And The World said the other day that no matter how distinguished the representative of the German metal trust at Washington might be, it would be impossible to deter President Wilson and his cabinet and officials from exposing the intrigue of Germany in the control of war metals.

But the Americans never stopped and now that they have the evidence in hand the Alien Enemy Property Custodian is seizing property and companies worth millions and millions of dollars, tearing away the American disguises that they had assumed. And the exposure is only beginning.

Only last week Mr. Bonar Law had to admit in the house of commons that England was not in a position to follow the same drastic methods as other parts of the empire (Australia) in exposing German intrigue in regard to metal.

The German intrigue was so pervasive and went so near to England, that it was not so in the States. Nor will it be any longer in Britain. The mother country will be forced to follow the same line of action now developing at Washington.

STRIKE SITUATION REMAINS THE SAME

No Reply From Ottawa Received Up to a Late Hour.

CARRIERS RESOLUTE

Men Will Meet Again This Morning to Further Discuss Position.

The mass meeting held by the letter carriers last night in the Labor Temple produced no results, and they adjourned until nine o'clock this morning, when they will continue their consideration of the motion placed before them last night. This motion was to the effect that the men accept the proposition of the mayor and the chairman of the board of trade, C. A. Bogert, that the government at Ottawa form a sub-committee of the cabinet to immediately deal with the demands of the letter carriers for a straight wage of a minimum of \$1000 a year and a maximum of \$1400 a year, and the committee comprises at least one representative of labor.

If a telegram is received from Ottawa accepting these conditions, and promising to deal definitely with the matter within the next two weeks, the letter carriers at this morning's meeting may decide to immediately return to work.

Another motion before the carriers, to enforce the walk-out of the transfer men who are not now out, was also considered, but not decided. It was stated at the meeting that while most of the transfer men were out, one man had refused to follow suit. One man at station D was also singled out for special criticism because he had signed the letter carriers' petition, but had not when the men did take their holiday.

The chauffeurs of the postoffice department met last night at a meeting to consider what action should be taken with respect to the situation at the postoffice, and may go out in sympathy with the carriers.

Clerks to Stay.

The postoffice clerks at a mass meeting held at the S.O.E. Hall last night decided to remain at their present posts, but also to resolutely refuse to take on any work formerly carried out by the carriers. Their meeting was addressed by both Mayor Church and W. E. Lemon, postmaster in Toronto. Mayor Church stated that he expected a telegram from the government accepting the proposal he and C. A. Bogert, chairman of the board of trade, had offered.

Mr. Lemon explained the action of the letter carriers, and stated that he hoped the differences between the men and the government would be cleared up by midnight. If not it might be necessary to consider means of forcing the carriers to return to work. He also passed a resolution on which he was on record as supporting the stand of the carriers. They themselves had asked for an increase of \$200 and had as yet received nothing from the government but promises.

Up to a late hour last night there was no reply from the government and the situation at midnight was said to remain unchanged.

FURTHER ALLIED GAINS DOWN OURcq VALLEY

STATIONS FILLED WITH GERMANS BOMBARDED BY FRENCH AVIATORS

Big Fire, Followed by Several Explosions, Results From Aerial Attacks on Enemy--Hostile Batteries Silenced.

Paris, July 22.—An official communication on aviation says: "The activity of our bombing machines was maintained at a high pitch on July 21. During night and day expeditions fifty tons of projectiles were dropped on enemy railroad communications, cantonnements and bivouacs in the valley of the Vesle and the Ardre.

"The stations at Leon, Flammes, Berry-au-Bac and Fere-en-Tardenois, crowded with troops and convoys, were the objects of very violent bombardments. A great fire, followed by several explosions, was observed. Another fire broke out in the Flammes station.

"Tens of thousands of cartridges were fired at German troops and batteries, which were silenced in the region of Courmont, Ronchères and Villeneuve the same day. Our aviators brought down nine enemy machines."

British Troops Make Another Advance From Direction of Rheims--French and Americans Break German Counter-Attacks North of Marne.

Paris, July 22.—Heavy German counter-attacks launched for the purpose of checking the progress of the allies between the Marne and the Ourcq today were without avail, according to the war office announcement; tonight, and the French and British made further advances in the region of La Croix and Grisolles, as well as northeast of Mont St. Pere. The statement says:

"During the course of the day the Germans attempted by powerful counter-attacks to check our progress between the Marne and the Ourcq. The Franco-American troops resisted all these assaults and increased their gains, advancing beyond the heights east of La Croix and Grisolles, taking the village of Epieds and gaining ground northeast of Mont St. Pere.

"Between the Marne and Rheims there was stiff fighting which gained no result for the enemy. We maintained our lines in the Courton Wood and the Bois du Rol.

"Further north British troops made an advance, capturing 200 prisoners and 40 machine guns.

"North of the Ourcq and on the Champagne front great artillery activity is reported, but there was no infantry action."

A CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE TO ADVISE ON EMIGRATION

Settlement of Ex-Service Men One Among Several Matters Discussed at Imperial War Conference.

Ottawa, July 22.—An official resume of the deliberations of the imperial war conference, now being held in London, and attended by Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues, has been cabled to the director of public information here, by the British ministry of information. The cable reads as follows:

The imperial war conference, during the past week, has dealt with the question of the settlement of ex-service men, reaffirming the principle laid down at the last conference in favor of arrangements by which intending emigrants from the United Kingdom may be induced to settle in countries under the British flag. It expressed the opinion that representatives of the Dominions should keep in closest touch with any new body established by his majesty's government to supervise emigration from the United Kingdom, and that the appointment of a consultative committee, not exceeding ten members, on which representatives of the dominions should sit to advise any such body, would afford the best means of co-operation.

"On the motion of Sir Jos. Ward, who brought up the question at last conference, a resolution was also passed on the subject of cable communications, emphasizing the need, in the highest interests of the empire, for telegraphic rates being further materially reduced.

"A resolution was passed in connection with the imperial mineral resources bureau, establishment of which was determined at the last conference, dealing with the number of representatives on the governing body and the allocation of expenditure.

"The conference also discussed the question of giving preference in government contracts to the empire's raw materials.

"Remonstrations to Dominion troops in this country were also discussed and the opinions indicated by means of last year's resolution as to the need for action were repeated.

"A motion by Hon. W. M. Hughes, in favor of the establishment of one supreme tribunal for all appellants in all parts of the empire was discussed.

"Other proceedings of the conference are confidential at present."

THREE RHINE CITIES RAIDED BY BRITISH

Factories at Mannheim, Zweibrücken, Rottweil Become Targets for Aerial Bombs.

London, July 22.—A supplementary statement issued by the air ministry tonight says:

"On the night of July 21-22, many successful bomb attacks were carried out by our squadrons. Over a ton of bombs was dropped on the extensive railway sidings at Lanes, southeast of Metzlar.

"The Badische aniline and soda factory (at Mannheim) was again subjected to attack, and many good bursts were observed in the factory. In a factory southeast of Zweibrücken (Saarland), a large explosion was caused. Bombs were dropped on three hostile aerodromes and hangars were seen to be hit.

"Our low-flying airplanes attacked and hit five trains, bringing them to a standstill. Searchlights and anti-aircraft guns were attacked with bomb-rocket machine gun fire. All our machines returned.

"On the 22nd instant the important powder factory at Rottweil (Württemberg) was attacked. A direct hit was obtained on one of the big sheds, and as a result several other sheds in the vicinity blew up. A fire broke out which could be seen from a distance of 60 miles. All our machines returned safely."

DESERTING CZECHS RESIST AUSTRIANS

Fighting Proceeds With Germanes in Moravia and Dalmatia—Revolution Spreads.

London, July 22.—Reuter's, Limited, says it learns from a reliable Czech source that many Czech-Slovaks and Jugos-Slavs are deserting from the Austrian army and forming armed bands in the interior called "Green Guards."

A considerable number of Czechoslovak deserters have concentrated in the Beskid Mountains in eastern Moravia. They are well-armed and are offering stubborn resistance to the gendarmes.

"Obviously," says the Reuter agency, "they receive support from the Russian prisoners. The authorities already have issued a public order threatening punishment to all persons lending support to the movement.

"Similar revolts are taking place in Dalmatia, where the military authorities have been unable to suppress a revolt of armed bands of deserters and escaped Russian prisoners. The official organ Bosnische Post, makes allusions suggesting that similar bands are springing up in Bosnia."

BRITISH SHIP MARINE DESTROYS SUBMARINE

London, July 22.—The British destroyer Marne has sunk a German submarine, says an official statement issued today by the British admiralty.

The admiralty statement follows: "The same day that the German troops were driven back across the Marne by the allied armies, a German submarine was sunk by the British torpedo boat destroyer Marne."

STRIKE SPREADS IN UKRAINE. Two Hundred Men Go Out, Tying up Railway System.

London, July 22.—A Russian wireless despatch received here reports that the Ukrainian Railway strike is extending. The despatch says 200,000 men are out and that all efforts of the German to keep traffic moving have failed. A German service train from Kiev has been held up and the cars turned over.

THREE TOWNS FALL TO ALLIED ATTACK

Franco-American Troops Cross Chateau Thierry Road Between Ourcq and Clignon.

Washington, July 22.—Franco-American troops continuing their advance south of the Ourcq River, crossed the Soissons-Chateau Thierry road between the Ourcq and the Clignon Sunday night, General Pershing reported in today's communique.

The towns of Bezu, Epieds and Chateaux have been occupied by the allied troops. American troops also have crossed the Marne and occupied towns on the north bank, which the communique says had been hastily evacuated by the Germans.

RHINE TRAFFIC CONFUSED. Large Number of Wounded Arriving in Germany Disorganizes Railway Traffic.

Geneva, July 22.—Railway traffic between the Rhine towns is greatly disorganized, owing to the number of wounded arriving daily from the French front in hospital trains. Trains from Germany are arriving at the Swiss frontier many hours late. The German express returned to Berlin yesterday in mourning.

DIRECT HIT OBTAINED ON AMMUNITION TRAIN

London, July 22.—The aviation announcement tonight by the British air ministry says:

"On July 21 the very strong west wind and low clouds almost entirely prevented flying except in a small part of the front. The machines in this section dropped bombs on various targets, including railway stations, where a direct hit was obtained on an ammunition train.

"In combats five hostile machines were brought down. Four of our machines are missing.

"After dark the sky cleared and the wind dropped considerably, enabling our night bombing machines to carry out raids on the greater part of the front. Thirteen tons of bombs were dropped on the railways at Eclin, Mentin, Lalle and Cambrai. One machine has not returned."

AUSTRIAN POINTS TAKEN. Positions on Motta River in Albania Fall to Allies.

Paris, July 22.—A French official communication says: "Eastern theatre. July 19.—There was reciprocal artillery activity on the lower Sturma, west of the Vardar to Ska di Legen and in the Serbian sector. On the entering the civil service in future.

Mr. Balfour stated that the appointment of Lord Robert Cecil as assistant foreign secretary meant an increase in his status and authority but not an increase in his salary. Subject to his (Mr. Balfour's) supervision Lord Robert would now be the final authority in some matters previously controlled by Mr. Balfour."

GERMANS PREPARE TO RETREAT AGAIN

Enemy Destroys Munitions in Pocket North of Marne for Withdrawal.

With the French Army on the Aisne, July 22.—There were signs everywhere today that the Germans were destroying the material and munitions in the pocket north of the River Marne and preparatory to the entire evacuation of that area.

The Germans are having the greatest difficulty in maintaining their communications in the salient. They are unable to utilize most of the railways leading northward, owing to the incessant harrying from allied aviators and artillery.

The night was comparatively calm, but several local counter-attacks were executed by the Germans in an endeavor to cover the retreat of their main body. These attacks in every instance were unsuccessful.

CLING DESPERATELY TO SOISSONS LINE

Germans Make Effort to Protect Flank—Chateau Thierry Railway Cut.

With the American Army on the Aisne-Marne Front, July 22.—The Germans are clinging desperately to the line south of Soissons in an effort to protect their flank.

The Americans fighting on this front have completed the cutting of the narrow-gauge railway to Chateau Thierry.

The pounding process is being continued by the Americans and their allies in this sector, keeping the Germans uncertain from moment to moment regarding the allied intentions.

Prisoners taken by the Americans say that the strenuous offensive of the allies continues the Germans will withdraw much further north, where they will fight for their lives. The allied heavy artillery is hammering military objectives in the Soissons area.

In connection with the heavy machine gun fire which has been encountered by the Americans, prisoners say that machine gunners from a divisional school are being brought up to check the allied offensive.

GERMAN FORCE RUSHED TO CURB RUMANIANS

Washington, July 22.—Germany has rushed 300,000 troops into Rumania to put down uprisings in the conquered Balkan country, according to official Rome cables today. Clashes between the Rumanian people and German troops have become so widespread and violent that the Austro-Germans have been compelled to draw upon their reserves in the west to send aid.

GERMANS PREPARE TO RETREAT AGAIN

With the district south of the Marne cleared of Germans, the allies are busy constructing bridges and getting large bodies of troops and supplies across for pursuit. The Germans will undoubtedly continue to fight in the most stubborn manner for the salient, but if things continue to go well with the allies in their attack, the enemy is likely to be forced back to the line of the River Vesle, which offers great defences and has good communications.

The Germans made several heavy counter-attacks on the western side of the salient and the fighting appears to be growing in intensity all along this western lip. A German counter-attack near Grisolles won for the Germans a slight advantage, but all these moves are only in the nature of an attempt to hold up the allies temporarily. All these counter-attacks are costing the Germans heavily, as they must be launched without adequate preparation, and on ground ill adapted for the German purpose.

Gen. Hell at Work.

One of the German high command actively engaged in endeavoring to find some way of holding up the American forces at the bottom of the pocket is Major-Gen. Hell, formerly the liaison officer of Mackensen's chief of staff, who was recently sent to the west front from Ukraine. The Americans captured several documents bearing Gen. Hell's signature.

Many compliments have been showered on the Americans by British liaison officers, and reports reaching London from their two sectors praise their fighting ability, discipline and adaptability. One staff officer reported:

"The Americans have already earned a great reputation for the thoroughness with which they clean up the territory they move across. They are just as good as the Australians in this open offensive warfare, and that is a very high compliment."

The French report the capture of a thousand more prisoners in the past twenty-four hours. The British also

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