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Hindenburg Line Weakening Under Sledge-Hammer Blows Of The Allies

French Cut Two Lines of Railway Feeding St. Quentin; Dominate Third

Capture Another Village and Northern Part of Coucy Forest—Reports From British End of Line Not Definite But Haig Has Made Some Progress—Five Armies Converge on Turks

Driving forward north and south of St. Quentin, heart of the Hindenburg line, the allies have cut two of the four main railroads which feed the city, while a third is well within reach of the French guns.

With La Fere inundated by the retreating Germans, and two of its dominating forts in the hands of the French, the chief interest in the tremendous battle which has been raging for a week on an eighty mile front shifted to historic St. Quentin. The Germans are making desperate attempts to wrest from the French the Escaut-Benay plateau from which General Nivelle's guns command the southern approaches to the city and render its position, in the opinion of military critics, one of grave peril.

ANOTHER DENT IN LINE. Further to the south the French have forged well to the west of St. Quentin, hammering a great dent in the German line between that town and La Fere. The advance of this salient three miles farther would give the French possession of the last direct railroad line between the two towns.

South of La Fere, the French troops have swung in a great curve around the Forest of Coucy and St. Gobain, a formidable natural barrier which lies between them and the southern-most fortress on the Hindenburg line. In the center of the curve, General Nivelle has wedged into the forest, but about ten square miles of heavily timbered country must yet be conquered before he reaches his goal.

THE BRITISH END. On the northern section of the great battle line the situation is somewhat obscure. Neither British nor German official communications should light on the operations here. Some progress has been made in the direction of Cambrai by General Haig, but apparently the determined resistance of the Germans has checked the British advance along the whole Arras sector.

DEATH BLOW TO TURKS. While the issue of the titanic struggle in France remains in doubt the stage is set for sensational possibilities in far off Mesopotamia. In the plain of the Tigris the allies are converging on the Turks in the hope of dealing a death-blow to Ottoman power in its eastern empire. The Russians are advancing from Persia in three divisions, driving the Turks before them and have already crossed the Turkish frontier at two places. To the south, General Maude, conqueror of Bagdad, is pressing forward up the Tigris and the Diala rivers. Outside of the possibility of a decisive victory over their encircling foes, apparently the only road of retreat open to the Turks is to the west. Here they are confronted with the desolate wastes of the great desert of El Jezirah, scarcely a friendly word of retreat open to the Turks is to the west. Here they are confronted with the desolate wastes of the great desert of El Jezirah, scarcely a friendly word of retreat open to the Turks is to the west.

FRENCH THREATEN TO TURN THE LINE. War correspondent headquarters, Monday, March 26.—Apart from outposts of infantry, with machine guns and cavalry patrols, the enemy is now back on his new line of defense, popularly called the Hindenburg line which, as everyone knows, now swings back from Arras past Cambrai, St. Quentin and Laon. Along the whole of this line the French are fighting heavily against the strong German defenses and are endeavoring to turn his line at that section.

It is northwards round the village of Beaumont-les-Cambrai, east of Belgium, that the British and German formations have been fighting more important actions than mere skirmishes and where the guns on both sides are most active. In this neighborhood there is high ground giving a good and clear view to the position which the enemy wishes to hold while he is consolidating his main defenses, and for this reason the French are making a counter-attack in order to drive us back from this observation ground.

On last Tuesday afternoon small bodies of our troops advanced through the village of Berthoucourt and surrounded Beaumont. The enemy immediately launched a counter-attack near a little place called Permettes and this was easily repulsed under our machine gun fire. The next day, curious as it seems, Beaumont village was seen to be unoccupied and our men went in among its ruins and stayed there.

COUCY LE CHATEAU CAPTURED; GAIN IN COUCY FOREST. Paris, March 27.—The French statement says: "South of the Oise we continued to make progress in the lower part of the forest of Coucy, all of the northern part of which we occupied. The enemy was driven beyond the Barish-Servais line. South of the forest our troops made a bright night attack and captured the village of Coucy Le Chateau, which was defended energetically by the Germans. "In the region north of Soissons we captured a farm northeast of Margival and a point of support held in strength by the enemy.

"In the Argonne we made a successful surprise attack in the sector of Four enemy attacks on small French posts in the region of Letrouvert were repulsed completely. "Elsewhere the night passed in quiet."

THE WHEAT MARKET. Chicago, March 27.—Opening wheat prices, which ranged from the same as yesterday's finish to 1 1/2 cents higher, with May at 191 to 191 1/2, and July at 168 1/2 to 169 1/2, were followed by substantial further gains all around.

MRS. PANKHURST MAKES DEMAND FOR VOTE AT ONCE

Writes Premier That Offer Was Implied in His Speech on Home Rule

London, March 27.—A new demand for the immediate grant of the franchise to women has been made on Premier Lloyd George by Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, militant leader. In a letter to the premier, Mrs. Pankhurst recalls his speech in the House of Commons on March 7, in which he expressed the readiness of the government to grant self-government to Ireland without waiting for the end of the war. She adds: "We take it for granted that you are prepared, during the war, and without delay, to give us self-government in the shape of the parliamentary vote which you declare our whole-hearted acceptance of the offer, which is so very obviously implied in the offer to Ireland, if a government measure of woman suffrage to be carried into law immediately."

MACHINE GUNS FOUND HIDDEN IN PETROGRAD

Special Commission Investigating Illegal Acts of Former Officials in Russia

London, March 27.—A Reuter's Petrograd despatch says that a special commission has been an investigation of illegal acts committed by former ministers, heads of departments, and other officials of the old regime. About 600 machine guns have been found hidden in various parts of Petrograd. At the first performance in the Mark Opera House since the revolution, two members of the Duma executive committee addressed the audience from what was formerly the imperial box. Delegates of the workmen and soldiers delivered speeches from another box. According to the Bourne Gazette, Rasputin's body has been buried near Petrograd.

MORE ARRESTS IN WAR PLOTS IN UNITED STATES

Chicago, March 27.—Kurt Benesch and Paul Zell said to have been traced from San Francisco to Chicago in connection with an investigation of war plots, and they were taken into custody on their arrival at the union depot last night.

HUNGRY GERMAN SOLDIERS; 4,000 OF THEM CROSS INTO HOLLAND AND GIVE UP FIGHTING

New York, March 27.—A new agency despatch from the Hague today says: "Four thousand German soldiers have crossed the line into Holland seeking food, according to frontier reports received here today. They have been interned at Zwolle."

RESIGNATION OF GOVERNMENT THIS EVENING IS REPORTED

Fredrickton, N. B., March 27.—Premier Murray is here today and has been looking after departmental matters at his office. Governor Wood is also here and it is reported will receive the resignations of his ministers this evening.

GRAND DUKES AND PRINCES TURN OVER HOLDINGS TO STATE

Petrograd, March 27.—The grand dukes and the imperial princes, in a joint telegram addressed to the provisional government today, not only formally associate themselves with the abdication of Grand Duke Michael, but also turn over to the new government their official lands, namely, their holdings of crown lands and other state grants heretofore attaching to their station.

MOSHER BALL NOT FORFEITED

Montreal, March 27.—It was learned today that the case against A. R. Mosher of Halifax, charged with writing a libellous letter concerning H. P. Neil of the International Brotherhood of Railway Employees, will come up for trial on Thursday.

ARGENTINA PROHIBITS FURTHER EXPORT OF HER FLOUR AND GRAIN

Buenos Aires, March 26.—A presidential decree just issued, forbids the exportation of grain and flour from Argentina. The object of the measure is to assure stocks necessary for the country.

BODY OF PRIEST LAID IN GRAVE

Impressive Scene At Funeral Of Father Maloney

BISHOP OFFICIATES

Many Priests Assist in St. Peter's—Eloquent Tribute by Rev. Stephen Connolly—Father Maloney's Life and Work—A Great Irishman—A Charity and Sympathy for Suffering of Others His Outstanding Qualities

As the sun reached its height in the heavens today the body of the late Rev. Martin Maloney, C. S. R., was slowly lowered into the grave in the little cemetery in the rear of St. Peter's church, where his Lordship Bishop LeBlanc and clergymen from the diocese bowed their heads and murmured a silent prayer for the repose of the soul of their departed friend and co-religionist, and hundreds of people stood near with tear dimmed eyes and watched the impressive ceremony.

At ten o'clock solemn requiem high mass was celebrated in St. Peter's church by His Lordship, who was assisted by Rev. Simon Grogan, C. S. R., of Toronto, and Rev. J. J. O'Donovan, of the Church of the Assumption, West St. John, as sub-deacon. Rev. N. J. Hogan, of Bath, Me., officiated as high priest, and Rev. William M. Duke of the Cathedral, and Rev. F. Cokillan, C. S. R., of Bath, Me., acted as deacon.

Other priests in the sanctuary were Very Rev. J. J. Walsh, V. G. R., Rev. A. J. O'Neill of St. John's, Rev. F. J. Murray, Rev. Charles Collins, Rev. Francis Walker, Rev. W. Holland, C. S. R., Rev. George M. Holland, C. S. R., Rev. D. Coletton of Peterville, Rev. D. Coletton of Moncton, Rev. Benjamin LeComier, C. S. R., Rev. Peter Costello, C. S. R., Rev. Stephen Connolly, C. S. R., Rev. A. Stoebe, and Rev. F. Gallagher, C. S. R.

At the conclusion of mass, solemn litany was sung, with His Lordship officiating. The congregation were then given an opportunity to pray for the late priest, and the procession proceeded to the cemetery.

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WET AND STORMY WHERE THE CANADIANS FIGHT; AIRMEN KEPT DOWN; GUNS NOT SO ACTIVE

(By Stewart Lyons, special correspondent for the Canadian Press.) Canadian Army Headquarters in France, March 27.—Wet, stormy weather and a general observation of the front along the Canadian front and the result has been a lessening of artillery fire.

POLICE COURT

Detective Thomas Barrett took into custody this morning Ada Diamond on complaint of Margaret Sullivan, who charged her with theft of a satchel, \$15 in cash, and a pair of gloves, the total value about \$30. In the police court the complainant, Detective Barrett and Turnkey Frank Bows gave evidence. The defendant was committed to await trial. She was let out of jail some time ago with the understanding that she live on the West side for the next few days and stay away from the city. She was arrested this morning in Union Alley. Clara Stewart, a 17-year-old girl, was charged with theft of a coat from Jacob Tenzman in Brunels street, and also with assaulting Miss Tenzman by striking her in the face. The woman was ordered sent to the Provincial Hospital. One prisoner arrested yesterday left a deposit of \$8 for creating a disturbance in the street. The case will come up this afternoon. Another prisoner, a woman, was fined \$8 for a similar offence.

TWO KILLED IN PISTOL FIGHT IN STREETS; QUARREL OVER GAMBLING

Cleveland, Ohio, March 22.—Two men were killed and a third was wounded in a revolver battle in the street at Woodland avenue and East Twentieth street this morning. Eight or nine men participated in the battle, and about twenty shots were fired. Police believe the fight resulted from a gambling quarrel. One of the dead men is believed to be J. Gucciato. The other has not been identified. Both men were shot through the head and revolvers were found near each body.

GERM-FILLED CANDY CAST FOR GERMAN AEROPLANES FOR FRENCH TO PICK UP; NEW EXHIBITION OF FRIGHTFULNESS

Paris, March 27.—(New York Tribune)—The newspapers of Besancon say that in appearance, but which are a reality of the utmost deadliness. The newspapers declare that candy containing germs of epidemic diseases, and handbags and pocketbooks filled with dangerous explosives, which detonate on contact, have been cast down by German airmen.

FATHER AND DAUGHTER SUFFER BURNS IN GARLETON BLAZE

Daniel Fullerton Had Used Kerosene to Hurry Slowly - Burning Kitchen Fire—Little Dog Burned to Death

That the use of kerosene as an impetus to a backward fire is very dangerous, was demonstrated early this morning in the home of Daniel Fullerton, 86 Window street, West St. John, when he and his daughter Lottie were burned in a fire which followed an explosion from the kitchen stove. That they escaped with their lives is fortunate.

For a time the daughter was locked in the pantry of the kitchen and escaped through a small window not, however, before she was burned about the head and shoulders. At present Mr. Fullerton is in the General Public Hospital. Although not in serious condition yet he is severely burned in many parts of his body and is suffering greatly.

A Times reporter visited the premises from Fred Fullerton, a member of the family, who was in the house at the time of the accident. He said that about 6:30 o'clock his sister lit the fire in the kitchen stove. His father, he said, had before she was burned about the head and shoulders. At present Mr. Fullerton is in the General Public Hospital. Although not in serious condition yet he is severely burned in many parts of his body and is suffering greatly.

At the hospital this afternoon it was said that Mr. Fullerton was burned about the hands, feet, and nearly every other part of the body. The burns, however, are not deep and his condition is not regarded as serious. Mr. Fullerton is a ship caulker. He at one time conducted a livery stable in Garleton previous to the running of the street cars to West St. John. He was also a policeman some five years ago on the local force.

The house is wooden, self contained, and of two stories. There were electric lights in the house, but the can of kerosene was kept for use in an emergency.

FINLAND GETS NEW GOVERNMENT UNDER REVOLUTION REGIME

First Citizen and Greatest Lawyer Recalled From Exile to Post of Honor

Helsingfors, Finland, March 27.—The leaders of the Finnish party, after prolonged negotiations, have agreed on the composition of a new senate, which is Finland's supreme executive. A senate of twelve members has been chosen approximately according to party division in parliament, six being Social Democrats and six representing the old Finnish party, the young Finnish party and the most popular party—all Finns enjoying the nation's confidence. The head of the government is a Social Democrat, who once was a minister in the United States.

The new government has also organized a judicial department, excluding reactionary officials with Russian associations and appointing, instead, the country's best jurists, a majority of whom were dismissed under the reactionary regime in the late Governor-General Bobrikoff and his successor, Major General Seyn.

The great attorney general will be offered to Judge Srinhuvald, former speaker of parliament, Finland's greatest lawyer and most popular citizen, who retired to Siberia in 1915 by Governor-General Seyn created intense bitterness. Judge Srinhuvald is now on his way home from Siberia.

GERMAN GAS MAKES RUSSIANS FALL BACK

Petrograd, March 27.—Attacks by German troops on the Russian line along the Shara, in the Baranovitchi region, southeast of Vilna, were at first unsuccessful, the war office announced today. A discharge of gas accompanying the second attack, however, compelled the Russians to fall back.

INSURANCE RATES ON VESSELS LOWER

New York, March 27.—Marine insurance rates on trans-Atlantic vessels have declined one or two points here since the government announced its stand for the protection of American shipping. Rates today were quoted from 7 1/2 to 8 per cent, week.

Inquiry has arisen for group insurance on the lives of crews for the benefit of their families. The risks are for round trip and average from \$200 for able seamen up to several hundred dollars each on the lives of officers.

GRIM DEVOTION AND BRAVERY THAT WON HIM THE CROSS

Story Of Posthumous Honor For British Naval Officer

A TALE OF THE JUTLAND FIGHT

Commander Jones of the Battered Shark Fought Ship Most Gallantly Even When Leg Torn Off by Shell—Heroic Story of the Sea

London, March 17.—Correspondence of the Associated Press.—For "most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty" in the battle of Jutland, a posthumous Victoria Cross has just been awarded Commander Loftus William Jones. The London Gazette in making the announcement states that "the full facts have only now been ascertained" which accounts for the long delay in bestowing the distinction.

The official report states that on the afternoon of May 31, 1916, Commander Jones, in the torpedo boat destroyer Shark, led a division of destroyers to attack the enemy battle cruiser squadron. In the course of this attack a shell hit the Shark's bridge, putting the steering gear out of order and very soon afterwards another shell disabled the main engine, leaving the vessel helpless. The commanding officer of another destroyer, seeing the Shark's plight, came between her and the enemy and offered assistance but was warned by Commander Jones not to run the risk. Commander Jones not to run the risk. Commander Jones not to run the risk.

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LABOR MINISTER EXPECTS DISPUTE SOON ENDED

Calgary, Alth, March 27.—Hon. T. W. Crothers, minister of labor, said here yesterday that he expected a settlement in the miners' dispute before the end of the week.