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The Toronto World

TUESDAY MORNING AUGUST 6 1918

VOL. XXXVIII.—No. 13,782 TWO CENTS

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ALLIES THROU... HOSPITAL SHIP TORPEDOED AND SCORES LOSE THEIR LIVES

ALLIES THROU... FRESH FORCES ACROSS VESLE

The Germans Make Stronger Stand Passage of River Proceeds. COUNTER-MOVES FAIL Particularly Fierce Fighting Continues in Region Northwest of Rheims.

The Germans now are offering strong opposition to the further advance of the allied troops along the Vesle River from the east of Soissons to the region west of Rheims. Meanwhile, however, the main bodies of the enemy army continue to make their way toward the Aisne, to the north of which stream they hope somewhere to reach a haven of safety from the persistent onslaught of the British, French, American and Italian troops, who in less than three weeks have all but blotted out the Soissons-Rheims salient.

Notwithstanding the bringing into play by the enemy of large numbers of heavier calibre and artillery of machine guns and the employment of large numbers of picked troops, including the well-tried Prussian Guards and the Bavarians, and despite the fact that the rains have swept the lowlands into quagmires, the allied troops have forced crossings of the river at a number of new points, and on the north side of the stream are engaging the enemy.

Further Ground Won. The latest French official communication, which recently has been extremely modest in its tone, gains made by the allies, says that Monday saw only local engagements and that the situation in the battlefield is without change. Correspondents with the allied headquarters, however, assert that the battle front between Soissons and Fismes, and between Fismes and Metz, has been further ground across the Vesle and French and American troops have taken the town of Ypres, and have taken the Bavarians again to the rear.

German Retrogrades. It is not beyond the realm of possibility that the greater portion of the western battle front will shortly be under geographical change in position. From the southeast of Amiens, near Montdidier, northward to the region around Ypres, the German front seems all a-tremble with expectancy. In addition to a retreat near Montdidier to the west bank of the Aisne River, retrograde movements in the face of attacks around Albert and an evacuation of territory over a front of half a mile north of La Bassée Canal, the Germans are nervously bombarding British and French positions at various points, possibly with the intent of ascertaining their strength. The Be-thune, La Bassée, Hazebrouck and Ypres sectors are being particularly heavily shelled for the benefit of the German artillerymen.

HOSPITAL SHIP TORPEDOED AND SCORES LOSE THEIR LIVES

Steamer Warilda, Bringing Six Hundred Wounded and Sick From France, the Victim—Perfect Discipline and Splendid Morale Shown.

A British Port. Saturday, Aug. 5.—The torpedoing early Saturday morning of the British hospital ship Warilda was one of the most harrowing disasters in the history of submarine warfare. The number of dead is variously estimated from 105 to 120 and upward and includes several women nurses.

Women Went First. The less seriously disabled assisted their more unfortunate mates to go first. Women were placed in the first boats lowered, notwithstanding their protests that they should not precede the patients. One boat, containing six women, was thrown against another just before touching the water and upset. Three women from the capsized craft were picked up by another small boat, along with five wounded British soldiers, all of whom had managed to keep afloat altho each had an arm in a sling.

Men in Hospitals Opposed to Riots. Col. H. C. Bickford Issues Statement Regarding Recent Disturbances. ALIEN ENEMIES' WORK May Be Responsible for Inciting Others to Do the Harm.

GERMANS EVACUATE LA BASSEE SECTOR

British Occupy Abandoned Line North of Canal—Enemy Destroys Air Bridges.

With the British Army in France, Aug. 5.—Advanced lines on a sector nearly half a mile long north of La Bassée Canal have been evacuated by the Germans and the British have pushed forward and occupied this ground.

Following the withdrawal of the Germans in the region of Albert, all the bridges across the Ancre River in the region covered by the retirement have been destroyed. The Germans are still holding the river crossing in the Village of Albert. South of the town the line now runs from Dernaucourt to Meaulte, about two miles to the northeast, and thence to Albert. This new line is under heavy artillery fire from the enemy guns.

MEN IN HOSPITALS OPPOSED TO RIOTS

Col. H. C. Bickford Issues Statement Regarding Recent Disturbances.

In a statement in regard to the riots, issued yesterday by Col. H. C. Bickford, Toronto district commandant, he said he was convinced it was not the returning patients who were doing the rioting. He had called the commanding officers of the various hospitals together yesterday, and reports by these showed that on Friday night only 17 men from the hospitals were out on pass, and that on Saturday night only 48 were out. As hundreds of persons took part in the disturbances, it was evident that the crowds must have been composed of either returned men or civilians. Enquiries also showed also that the returned soldiers in hospital were opposed to the rioting.

GERMAN STAND STIFFER THAN ALLIES THOUGHT

Paris, Aug. 5.—There was a hull in the battle along the Soissons-Rheims front last night and the breathing spell extended into this morning. The Germans are being favored by the weather conditions, which have transferred the Vesle River banks into swamps and morasses, and they are making a stiffer stand here than was anticipated.

BRITISH PUSH FORWARD AT THE PACAUT WOOD

London, Aug. 5.—"We have pushed forward our posts slightly during the day at the Pacaut Wood, east of Robecq," says the British official communication issued tonight. "Hostile artillery was active in the sector south of Ypres."

CROWN PRINCE THREW IN ENORMOUS FORCE

Paris, Aug. 5.—The German crown prince has engaged forty of his divisions (94,000 men) in the Champagne region within a few days, according to an Exchange telegraph from Copenhagen. The Omak (Siberia) government, it is added, has informed all neutral and allied powers of the establishment of an independent Siberian Government.

MONTREAL DEATH TOLL HUNDRED AND FIFTY CHILDREN UNDER FIVE IN ONE WEEK

Montreal, Aug. 5.—Montreal's death toll for the week ending last Saturday included 150 children under five years of age, being no fewer than 50 per cent of the total mortality of the week. For the previous week, infantile deaths were 127, despite the intense heat, but it is pointed out that the effects of heat waves are cumulative, while changes of temperature are also fatal. For the corresponding week last year, the total of deaths of children under five years of age were 142.

CANADIAN CHAMPIONS. TWO SUNK BY MINES.

London, Aug. 5.—In the championship contests of the Canadians in the Canada Cup, H. M. Williams won the half mile in 2 minutes 14.1 seconds, and the mile in 5 minutes 11 seconds. The three mile in 17 minutes 34 seconds. Capt. E. S. Archibald, holder of the Canadian record pole jump, won at 11 feet, also winning the shot putting and hammer throwing.

NEW YORK SWELTERS. PARIS AGAIN SHELLED.

New York, Aug. 5.—New York sweltered today in the hottest August since 1899, with a high temperature of 90.7 degrees registered at 5 p.m. At 10 p.m. the mercury registered 88 degrees, as hot as it was in mid-afternoon. New York's high record is 91.

FRENCH CROSS RIVER VESLE AT POINTS EAST OF FISMES

Attempted Air Raid Does Not Penetrate Much Into Interior—Attack Begins Early in Night.

London, Tuesday morning, Aug. 6.—Hostile airships approached the east coast of England about 9.30 Monday night, the admiralty announced early this morning. The enemy aircraft did not penetrate far inland.

TANKER SUNK BY SUBMARINE GERMANS RETREAT FOR TWENTY MILES

Went Down Off Canadian Coast After a Fight of Three Hours. Forty Thousand Prisoners Are Lost by Crown Prince in Big Battle.

A Canadian Port. Aug. 5.—After a three hour battle with a German submarine about 60 miles west of here today the oil tanker Lux Bianca was torpedoed and sunk and two of her crew killed. The oil tanker left port at eight o'clock this morning and three hours later the battle opened and the shells kept up for over two hours. The U-boat had the longest range guns, and her shots had a more telling effect. Falling to sink the tanker by gunfire, the submarine launched a torpedo which ripped open the stern of the steamer and she soon disappeared into the depths. The captain and crew took to the boats, two of which have been brought in here, and the occupants of the third have been rescued and are on their way here. Another steamer which was about 5 miles distant when the fight opened, returned to port.

SIBERIANS TO DECLARE WAR ON BOLSHEVIKI

London, Aug. 5.—The semi-official Russian newspapers, Pravda and Izvestia, declare that the provisional government of Siberia intends formally to declare war on the Soviet government within a few days, according to an Exchange telegraph from Copenhagen. The Omak (Siberia) government, it is added, has informed all neutral and allied powers of the establishment of an independent Siberian Government.

GEN. FOCH PREFERRED OWN MAP TO GERMAN'S

Paris, Aug. 5.—The Echo de Paris recalls a conversation between Premier Lloyd George and General Foch soon after the general was appointed to the supreme allied command, and says it has an important connection with the present victory. The British premier asked General Foch if he knew the choice between his maps (the allied position) and Von Hindenburg's, which would be taken. General Foch replied unhesitatingly: "My own."

KING CONGRATULATES FRENCH ARMY LEADERS

Paris, Aug. 5.—King George has sent a telegram to President Poincaré saying that he has followed with the deepest interest and admiration the splendid counter-attacks of General Foch which are forcing the Germans to abandon a series of strong positions and to recross the Vesle River.

LOCAL FIGHTING IN ITALY. ALLIES Frustrate Attempts on Monte Corvo and Rio Freddo.

Rome, Aug. 5.—The official statement from the war office tonight says: "On Domo Alto two enemy officers and a few men were captured. Enemy detachments attempted attacks on Monte Corvo and Rio Freddo, which failed and we took some prisoners. An attack of hostile parties was repulsed at Coroneo."

ONE ARMY'S CAPTURES.

Paris, Aug. 5.—More than 500 guns have been captured by one French army alone, that of Gen. Mangin, since the beginning of the allied offensive on July 18. This army also took an equal number of trench mortars in the same period.

Paris, Aug. 5.—The long-range bombardment of the Paris region was resumed this morning.

GERMANS Offer Desperate Resistance, But Allies Continue to Make Steady Progress From Region Northwest of Rheims—Fierce Battle for Vautes Farm.

London, Aug. 5.—Reuter's correspondent at French headquarters in France, in a despatch, says: "The enemy's artillery fire is very heavy along the whole line of the Vesle and the Germans are opposing very vigorous resistance to the allies. Nevertheless French patrols have succeeded in crossing the river at several points between Hermoise, east of Soissons, and Fismes, where the Americans crossed, and between Fismes and Mulzon."

"The Germans on the north bank are abundantly supplied with machine guns and bomb throwers. Their aviators are busy using machine guns against our troops and the enemy resistance everywhere is very stiff."

"Between Mulzon and Rheims, where we are firmly established on the south bank, there has been very hard fighting."

"There was a hot encounter on the Vautes Farm, close to Mulzon, for the passage of the river. After its capture the Germans sent across two detachments in an attempt to retake the farm. Both detachments were repulsed after a severe fight."

"The artillery is active on both sides of this region."

"West of Hermoise the enemy stubbornly resisted our passage of the river opposite the La Grange Farm, on the north bank of the stream."

"On the Aisne River, in the Montdidier section, the French have occupied the whole of the line of wooded hills overlooking the steep river valley from Braches to Mesnil-St. Georges. It is reported that there is fighting in Hargicourt, on the left bank of the river, where the Germans hold the railway station. The enemy is still in Mesnil."

Slower and Steadier. London, Aug. 5.—The correspondent of Reuter's at American headquarters in France, in a despatch, says: "The rapid advance of the last two days has become slower and steadier, not only on the fresh show of enemy resistance, but from the necessity of getting the implements of battle again into their proper places."

"The Americans were just as keen at chasing the enemy as they were at fighting, but the cavalry screen of the old days, which was used as a guard against surprise, was absent, and the infantry, which has to rely on its own precautions, must go somewhat slowly."

"Also, the roads are bad and are becoming worse. The heavy rainstorm of the last week fell while the German retreat was in progress, and the guns and lorries have churned these limestone hills until they are nearly impassable. Moreover, the French roads, thickly bordered by trees that often are of great size, are very easily dislocated by shellfire."

"Only those who have tried with make-shifts to clear such an encumbrance as a fallen tree can have any conception of the delay involved. One French column had its points in readiness, but in other instances the infantry had to fall to and hack away with anything at hand to clear the road."

"Notwithstanding all the difficulties, the enemy nowhere managed to get so far away as to feel free from precautions. However, we continued to see only a dwindling proportion of his rear-guard which, as far as was observable, was getting no assistance either from mounted men or cyclists."

Falling of Enemy Plan. "The most interesting fact of the pursuit was the discovery of defensive positions, indicating the intention of the Germans to hold an intermediate line south of the Vesle. These trenches were in newly turned earth and had not been occupied. The gun emplacements and sandbag revetments had just been finished and the block-houses were of concrete only recently set. The freshness of these preparations preclude any theory but that they had been constructed to hold up our recent advance. Therefore it is regarded as affecting the statement of General Ludendorff that the German retreat was according to a plan, and suggests that at least one

Advertisement for a furniture store, listing various items like dressers, wardrobes, and beds with prices. Includes the name 'N Company Limited' at the bottom.