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TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

Fourteen Thousand Prisoners and Guns Too Numerous To Mention Have Been Taken In The British Drive New Allied Advance Has Reached a Maximum Depth of Eleven Miles FRANCO-BRITISH FORCES REACH THEIR SELECTED OBJECTIVES New Battle Regarded as Turning Point of Year's Campaign, Perhaps Even Crisis of The Whole War EFFECTS OF OFFENSIVE MAY BE FAR REACHING

Fighting Continues Fiercely Along Entire Front

Allies Capture More Than 10,000 Prisoners and Enormous Booty in Guns and Materiel—Attack Was Overwhelming Surprise to Enemy and Allied Advance Went With Astonishing Speed All Along the Line—Feature of the Day Was Extinguishing of German Artillery

London, Aug. 9.—Fourteen thousand prisoners and guns too numerous to mention have been taken in the British drive on the front south of the Somme, says today's war office report. The cavalry is still pursuing the enemy. The Allied progress is continuing. The French have taken Fresnoy En Chaussee, while the British have reached a point east of Lequesnel and Caix.

The Franco-British advance on the battle front south of the Somme has reached a maximum depth of eleven miles, according to news received here shortly after noon today.

Advices from the battle front report British cavalry, armored cars and tanks in advance of the infantry to have reached within a mile of the Chauines railway junction. The cavalry, tanks and armored cars, it is indicated, have gone ahead of the line running from Framerville to Lihons. From Lihons the line runs southward to Mcharcourt, southeast of Rozieres. This represents a total maximum advance of eleven miles.

It will be impossible for the Germans to hold their Montdidier positions, it is believed here. It is also believed that the advance on the Picardy front makes Amiens secure against an enemy attack, and has removed the threat against Paris.

Paris, Aug. 9.—The battle on the front south of the Somme was resumed early this morning and the Franco-British forces made favorable progress from the start, reaching various selected objectives. Powerful cavalry forces are in action.

Paris, Aug. 9.—Latest reports received by the Havas Agency from the battle front are that the fighting continues fiercely along the entire Anglo-French attack front.

Paris, Aug. 9 (4.40 a. m.)—The number of prisoners taken by the French and British in Picardy now exceeds 10,000, according to the latest news from the battle front. The Allies also have an enormous booty in guns and material, says Marcel Hutin, in the Echo de Paris.

THE HARDEST FIGHTING

London, Aug. 9.—The Daily Mail's correspondent at British headquarters says the hardest fighting occurred on the northern and southern wings of the British advance, the passage of the river Luce and the capture of the southern woods particularly proving very tough operations, which checked the advance a while.

"But, notwithstanding these checks," says the correspondent, "the advance went with astonishing speed all along the line. The tanks, which did magnificent work, helped the speed, but the prime credit belongs to the dash and training of the infantry. They smothered the German infantry as our gunners smothered the German gunners. Their movement was quick and concerted. The enemy had little time to remove their guns."

"The feature of the day was the extinction of the German artillery. Its answer to our barrage was rather slow and patchy. It was up to the standard at some places, but it lasted a very short time in the first degree of excellence. "One isolated shot deserves mention. It hit one of our ammunition lorries' engines, but it did not explode a single shell or hurt the driver."

"Such partial successes were few, and as soon as the infantry was well on the move the enemy's gunners began to pack up. Many of them must have had little chance of saving their batteries."

"As the sun conquered the mist our airmen saw scenes of complicated confusion much further afield. Batteries and strings of vans scampered off, and in the middle of the hurry our airmen with machine gun and bomb took all advantage possible."

"All the prisoners agree that the attack was an overwhelming surprise and that full advantage was taken of it by the assaulting troops."

"The German defenses at any rate behind the front line were for the most part very inadequate. The old zeal of digging in and going to the ground seems to have been lost. Nor did most of the Germans fight well in the center."

"The prisoners were very numerous, though an extremely few were taken on the front lines owing to the devastating effect of the four minute barrage on the indifferent defenses. The proportion of men killed was large, and at its place the numbers were quite unusual."

MORLACOURT IS CAPTURED BY BRITISH

London, Aug. 9.—The British have captured Morlacourt, on the northern end of the Somme battlefield, and the infantry line now runs from that point southward to a point southeast of Moreuil. This represents an infantry advance to the maximum depth of seven miles in the center along the Amiens-Chaunies-La Fere railway.

Along the whole front the average advance of the infantry is from five to six miles.

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"SUPERMAN, SAVE MY CHILD!" —Brooklyn Eagle

tured. The advance was carried out with extreme light losses. The French front runs from the Avre north to a point just south of the Amiens-Roye road where it joins up with the British.

The attention of the Germans was fixed on the Vesle attack when the new offensive was opened. There was no reply to the French artillery preparation which lasted 45 minutes.

German soldiers were captured while harvesting grain in the fields, so complete was the surprise. Moreuil and Moriel were carried by assault. The difficulties of crossing the Avre were overcome rapidly, the French using hastily constructed foot bridges. After taking Braches the French captured La Neuville and the series of hills dominating the plain beyond.

May Force Big Retirement.

Paris, Aug. 8.—The Franco-British offensive southwest of Amiens had been expected for some time in well-informed quarters. The recent advances in Picardy and Flanders suggested that such a step was in order.

The axis of the manoeuvre in the present attack seems to be the railway from Amiens to Ham, Tergnier and Laon. The battle may develop great effect upon the struggle going on between the Vesle and the Aisne. Failure to obtain reinforcements to combat the Franco-British armies, it is believed here, may force the German Crown Prince to retreat before the Aisne, possibly to the Chemin Des Dames.

If the offensive from Montdidier to Albert is successful and the army of von Marwitz is forced to retreat the armies of Von Hutner and Von Eben, which are located between Montdidier and Soissons, will be in danger of a compulsory retirement.

Paris, Aug. 9.—The situation on the battlefield south of the Somme is unchanged, today's war office statement announces. The text of the statement follows:

"There is no change on the battlefield south of the Somme."

"During the night, there was a good deal of activity on the part of the German artillery forces in the Champagne. The Germans undertook several raids, in the regions of Frenoy, the Mountain Without a Name and Souain. They were repulsed."

"Our artillery preparation was short, lasting less than an hour. The enemy artillery had made no counter-preparations at the beginning of the action, merely replying feebly."

"The original front of the attack was only four kilometers, situated south of

the Amiens-Roye road, where our infantry went over the top at 5.05 o'clock, but gradually the offensive developed all along the right bank of the Avre in the region of Hargicourt."

LLOYD GEORGE SATISFIED

London, Aug. 9.—As he was leaving London last night for Neath to attend the Welsh National Eisteddfod, Premier Lloyd George expressed great satisfaction with the news from the front, remarking: "We are smashing through."

NO IMPROPER USE OF LLANDOVERY CASTLE AS ENEMY ALLEGES

London, Aug. 8.—Right Hon. T. J. MacNamara, secretary of state for the admiralty, when questioned in the House of Commons by Donald MacMaster, emphatically denied the enemy allegation that improper use had been made of the Canadian hospital ship Llandovery Castle, which was torpedoed.

SPAIN ADDRESSES NEW NOTE TO GERMANY AFTER SPECIAL CABINET SESSION

Madrid, Aug. 8.—(By the Associated Press)—Spain has addressed a new note to Germany concerning the torpedoing of Spanish ships. Foreign Minister Delgado made this announcement late today after the cabinet had held an extraordinary session.

FROM GOVERNMENT MEETING

Hon. Messrs. E. A. Smith, minister of lands and mines; C. W. Robinson, minister without portfolio; P. J. Veniot, minister of public works, and J. P. Byrne, attorney general, passed through the city on noon trains en route to their homes after attending a meeting of the government at Fredericton.

Phenix and Pledford WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis—Showers and thunder storms have been almost general in Ontario and showers have occurred locally elsewhere, except in Manitoba and the eastern parts of Quebec and the maritime provinces.

Thunder Storms.

Maritime—Moderate winds, showers and local thunder storms today and on Saturday.

New England—Showers tonight; Saturday partly cloudy, moderate north to west winds.

General Feeling Expressed in London

ALLIED PRESS COMMENT

Great Importance Attached to Fact That Initiative Has Been Taken From Enemy and That Victory Was Gained on Ground Dearly Purchased by the Germans

London, Aug. 9.—The general feeling here is that the importance of the successful new battle cannot be over-estimated. It is regarded as the turning point of the year's campaign, and perhaps even the turning point of the whole war. "It was only a month ago that all the talk of the British military critics was whether the Allies could hold on in the face of the great German offensive which the German people had been told was to finish the war. The initiative has now been taken from the enemy, and within the month the Allies have engaged in two important battles with conspicuous success."

London, Aug. 9.—While recognizing that the real test of success in the new battle on the Amiens front is yet to come, the newspaper comment this morning dwells upon the importance of the operation as showing that the Allies still retain the initiative and such blows as yesterday's have reduced the likelihood of its recovery by the enemy. "That Field Marshal Haig is an even more remarkable confession of the German command is regarded as noteworthy."

A Remarkable Victory.

"It was a victory of a very remarkable character," says the Times. "If the enemy, as Mr. Bonar Law suggested, intended to evacuate this country it is an even more remarkable confession of defeat than the retreat to the Vesle, for nowhere has he fought harder than he did this spring for the possession of the spot which the Allies would choose for an attack which was the logical sequence of recent events is a measure of the completeness with which the initiative has passed from his hands."

The Daily News thinks the fact that Lutendorf should have been ignorant of the spot which the Allies would choose for an attack which was the logical sequence of recent events is a measure of the completeness with which the initiative has passed from his hands."

The Daily Express declares that the German hope that the attacks of the Allies had spent themselves and that the enemy would gain time to stabilize his new positions beyond the Vesle have been destroyed.

Paris, Aug. 9.—(Havas Agency)—The Allies success Thursday in forcing the Germans to retire on the defensive on a new and important sector is welcomed here by the press. They attribute the success in great part to the fact that the Allied command is centered in one man.

The Matin says that an enormous amount of material has been captured. It has not yet been listed, but it is known to include a great number of guns of every calibre.

Von Hutner Outflanked.

The army of General Von Hutner may be considered outflanked on its rear and right flank, declares the military expert of the Matin. The bulk of his forces are spread out in an arc of a circle from the Avre to the Oise. He has no other road of retreat than through Neale and Ham, which are thirty kilometers away, and the Allied armies are marching towards his essential lines of communication.

Marshal Foch and General Petain, says Marcel Hutin, in the Echo de Paris, are entirely satisfied with the progress made. The Germans, he adds, sustained enormous losses Thursday and left thousands of bodies on the field of battle.

Premier Clemenceau on Thursday went to the scene of "important military operations." He returned at midnight.

French Pay Tribute to Manner in Which Blow Has Been Delivered—Amiens Released From German Menace—Barrier Placed in Way of Prince Rupprecht's Efforts to Reach Channel Ports

THAT WOULD BE THE FIRST AND IMMEDIATE CONSEQUENCE.

Quite apart from the ultimate effects, the first day's fighting relieved Amiens from the German menace. Montdidier has been surrounded and it will be possible to re-establish the great northern railway through Amiens, the lack of which has seriously handicapped the Allies during the past four months.

As to the more remote effects, without seeming to be premature, it is held here that the new offensive is likely to paralyze the armies of Crown Prince Rupprecht, which would be obliged to bolster up Von Hutner. Consequently Rupprecht may have to abandon the operation he had apparently prepared in Flanders.

In addition the mere announcement that the new battle is due to the initiative of Allies will be a sad blow to both the German army and the German public.

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REAL ESTATE NEWS

Transfers of real estate have been recorded as follows:

St. John County.
A. J. Armstrong to J. T. Mullaly, property in Carmarthen street.
Catherine J. Campbell to A. F. Nugent, property in St. John and St. Martin.

W. H. Thorne to Thompson Mfg. Company, real and personal property.
Assignment of Thompson Mfg. Company to W. H. Thorne, real and personal property.

Kings County.
M. L. Bonnell to E. M. Daye, property in Greenwich.
James Campbell and Esther to Edgar Daye, property in Bethersy.

C. A. Clark to Pearl B. Clark, property in Rothessay.
Margaret A. Corbett to W. E. Corbett, property in Westfield.

Augusta A. Goodfite to W. H. Holman, property in Sussex.
Extra of H. Hamington to Phyllis W. Fowler, property in Bethersy.

C. M. Lawson to Wellington and Harry Northrup, property in Kars.
R. C. Parker to P. B. and A. G. Parker, property in Westfield.

Mary J. Rainnie to F. B. McLeod, property in Cardwell.

THE AUSTRALIANS AND CANADIANS ARE BEARING THE BRUNT

(By the Associated Press.)

Australian and Canadian troops are bearing the brunt of the British Picardy drive.

German lines on the Picardy front south of the Somme have been badly broken by the savage thrust of the British and French armies.

A wedge has been driven into enemy territory to a depth of eleven miles along the Amiens-Chaunies-La Fere railway, which runs southward of supplies for the German troops fighting in the Montdidier sector of the front.

London announces that fourteen thousand prisoners and guns "too numerous to mention" have been taken in the first twenty-four hours of the drive.

The results of this attack, loosed against the Germans on the Amiens front Thursday morning, appears to have eclipsed those obtained by the Germans on the first day of any of their terrific offensives of the past spring and summer. So far as reports show the progress, the Allies are going forward almost without serious opposition. On the north bank of the stream, the Germans have held their lines strongly, but have lost Morlacourt, their stronghold there, after hard fighting. The French, further to the south, have had their advance retarded at numerous points, but the towns officially reported to have been reached are evidence that the momentum of the Allied drive has not nearly spent itself.

From despatches from the battlefield it now appears that the Allies attacked the Germans with little artillery preparation, the method pursued resembling on a grand scale that adopted by General Byng before Cambrai last November. Armored tanks in great numbers tore through the German first line positions, infantry masses followed and then through the gaps in the enemy line the cavalry and armored motor cars swept into the back areas, surprising German detachments and throwing the whole defensive organization of the enemy into chaos.

Hadly had the German reverse along the Somme been reported than despatches began to tell of a German retirement in the Flanders sector on the extreme western tip of the Lys salient, which is now occupied by the British.

In its larger aspects, the success of the Allies south of the Somme constitutes a very serious threat to the German line, especially to the southward. The advance has not so far weakened the German position, as reported on August 7, seventh column.

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