

IMPORTANT NEWS THE WORLD OVER

IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS OF THIS
AND OTHER NATIONS FOR
SEVEN DAYS GIVEN

THE NEWS OF THE SOUTH

What is Taking Place in The South-
land Will Be Found in
Brief Paragraphs

Domestic.

The fact that there is now a shortage in war work of one million unskilled laborers and that the reserve of skilled laborers is exhausted developed at a conference of field agents of the federal employment service. The conference was held in Washington, D. C.

Gratitude of congress to men in the army and navy for their efforts in the war is expressed in a resolution just adopted by the United States senate. The senators remained standing for one minute as a special tribute to the men in the army and navy.

Further curtailment of non-essential production is planned to release men for war work.

Buying of Liberty three and a half per cent bonds is the feature of the New York stock market.

It is stated by competent authority that the labor shortage is so serious that completion of a number of important war projects for the army and navy is being delayed.

Between thirty and thirty-five persons were killed and more than 100 injured by the tornado which struck Tyler, Minn., and tore the town to pieces in a twinkling.

Existing freight rates on cotton shipped in any quantities will be continued this year, the railroad administration announces.

A plan is under consideration by the railroad administration for the establishment of carload rates on cotton next summer with a minimum of 100 standard bales to the car, with less than carload rates on a higher basis.

A petition that the trial court be directed to grant Thomas J. Mooney a new trial on the ground that his conviction was brought about through malfeasance practiced by the district attorney, was denied by the California supreme court.

All former employees of the Western Union Telegraph company who were discharged because of their affiliations with the Commercial Telegraphers' union of America during the recent difficulties between the company and the union before the government, will have the privilege of reinstatement, it is announced by the company.

Washington.

Allied successes on the Marne, in Picardy and in Flanders in recent operations have resulted in a contraction of the western battle front by more than 50 miles, General March, chief of staff, announces.

At the beginning of the German offensive in March the battle front in France measured 250 miles; now it is less than 200 miles in length.

The steam trawler Triumph, fitted with two guns and wireless, and manned by sixteen Germans from the U-boat which captured her, is raiding the fishing banks off the Nova Scotia coast.

The United States will share with the allies their sacrifice of food as well as blood in the cause of world democracy, declares Federal Food Administrator Hoover, who has just returned from a visit to England and France.

Federal Food Administrator Hoover issues the following statement: "By the great effort of our farmers our United States harvests are better this year, but in order that we may build up a surplus of wheat this year, as against crop failures, such as we had last year, we have decided to mix 20 per cent of other grains with wheat flour in all the countries fighting Germany. We cannot ask for better bread than France, and we propose the American people should maintain a common standard of bread with them."

Explosion of a depth charge on board the United States Steamship Orizaba on August 17 killed one officer and three enlisted men and wounded one officer and eighteen men.

Road building and street improvement throughout the country has virtually passed under federal control for the duration of the war. This becomes effective September 10.

Sinking of three United States vessels—Lako Edon, Westbridge and Cubore—in foreign waters by German submarines is announced by the navy department.

The big British freighter Diomed as reported to have been sunk, with the loss of two of her crew and the wounding of many others, 125 miles east of New York.

A Swedish freight steamship arriving at an American Atlantic port was stopped by a German submarine, but was allowed to proceed because the vessel was engaged in carrying foodstuffs to Sweden.

The Flanders salient has been flattened out by the enemy retiring from one to two miles on a fourteen-mile front; on the plains of Roye the line has been put back of the old 1916-17 line and between the Aisne and the Oise the French have carried the line forward four miles to the pains surrounding the city of Noyon, which is four miles beyond.

Strictures upon failures, disappointments and delays in the American aircraft program are coupled with praise for what now has been accomplished, and a statement that quantity production soon may be expected in a long report submitted by the senate-military committee on its aircraft investigation. While commenting favorably upon reorganization already affected, the committee strongly urges one-man control through the creation of a new department of aviation headed by a cabinet member. Waste of millions of dollars is charged.

Definite abandonment of the rule of seniority in favor of the policy of selection in the appointment and commissioning of officers in the army is announced in a general order by the war department.

It is announced that future army and navy officer material will come from the ranks, enlisted men showing exceptional ability being sent to training schools maintained for that purpose at which commissions for the grade of second lieutenant will be issued to successful candidates.

European.

Over the fifty-mile battle front to the north of Soissons, the German armies are meeting with defeats which apparently spell disaster.

Numerous towns have fallen and enemy territory has been penetrated to a depth of several miles by the British southeast of Arras.

Additional good gains have been made by the French in the envelopment of Noyon.

The entire Arras-Albert road has been crossed by the British.

On all fronts on the west the strongly fortified positions where the Germans saw disaster facing them if they fell, were stormed and captured, and the Germans retreated precipitately without burning any bridges behind them.

Interesting statistics issued from London show that Great Britain leads all the allies in the number of ships in the naval service—on patrol duty and in actual conflict. The figures show 50 per cent for the British, 14 per cent for the American and 6 per cent for France.

At last the German press has given up struggling against the truth. In a short notice, which appears in virtually all the papers, the identical nature of which suggests official inspiration, the reluctant admission is made, says an Amsterdam dispatch, that Secretary Baker's figures regarding the strength of the American forces in France are about correct.

The Berlin Taegische Rundschau says that not more than 150,000 Americans have up to the present been noticed on the western front.

The allied armies have taken more than one hundred thousand prisoners since July 18, says Marcel Hutin, in the Echo de Paris.

The allies have damaged six German armies since July 15, and the British are now eating into the seventh with the spread of the battle northward and over a front of more than seventy miles.

At the request of Ira Nelson Morris, American minister to Stockholm, M. Boevgren, Swedish minister of justice, has ordered that action be taken against the newspaper, Aftonbladet, of Stockholm, for having injured a foreign power and making an attempt to interfere with the amicable relations existing between Sweden and the United States.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the navy, who says "we have passed the summit of the mountain as regards the war," told the French press in Paris that there is absolute necessity that all government ministers and heads of departments see the war with their own eyes in order to understand its greatness. "As to the submarines off the coast the danger points can now be said to have been made safe," he opined.

The violence of the Japanese food riots and the rapidity with which they enveloped the country have astonished the Japanese and have convinced them, though far removed from the center of the war, that they cannot escape its consequences, nor remain untouched by the world movements which the war has set in motion.

Anti-wealth demonstrations are developing in Japan. The property of the rich especially is being attacked. Residences of a number of millionaires have been burned to the ground and immense damage done to property of merchants dealing with people and, in particular, those suspected of excessive profiteering.

German military leaders now have become distinctly worried over the prospect of a revolution in Germany. General Ludendorff, in a captured secret order, has taken steps to employ the assistance of his commanding officers and various governmental agencies to help him stamp out the glowing spark which has been seen.

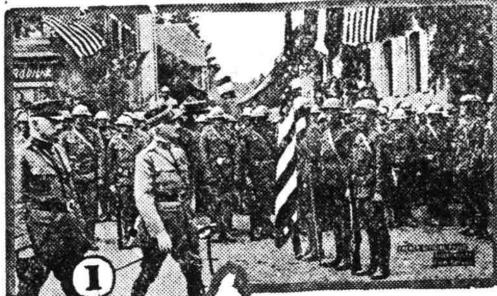
From Soissons to the Belgian border the German armies in various important sectors are being put to the test by the French and British—a test that bodes ill for the Teutonic arms. Nowhere have the Germans been able to sustain the shocks.

The Germans have been compelled to fall back northwest of Soissons, around Roye, in the Arras sector and on the famous Lys salient.

The French, in bitter fighting, have carried forward their line to an average depth of two and a half miles in a new offensive over a front of fifteen and a half miles from Bally, on the Oise, to the Aisne, near Soissons.

Field Marshal Haig's forces are keeping up harassing tactics along the Scarpe, east of Arras.

The British in the Arras sector have advanced their lines to the east of the village of Frenoy.



1—Old Glory implanted on German soil for the first time, at a review of American troops in Massevaux, Alsace. 2—Wounded Arab soldiers of the army of Hedjaz being removed from an American torpedo boat bearing the star that is awarded each of these vessels that has met and destroyed a submarine.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE GREAT WAR

Allies Continue Their Advance in
Picardy Steadily but
More Slowly.

ROYE AND NOYON IN DANGER

First American Field Army Is Formed
—Situation in Austria and Russia
Improved—Man-Power Bill In-
troduced in the Senate.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Moving more slowly but steadily and with determination, the allies last week pushed the Germans further back in Picardy. General von Boehm, the Hun "retreat specialist," having been placed in command on the Somme front, put up an increasingly strong resistance to protect his withdrawal, and the fighting became rather localized. The fiercest struggle was toward the south end of the battle line, where the French were forcing their way toward Noyon. Overcoming tremendous resistance, they drove the Germans from most of the massif or heights of Lassigny early in the week, and also moved forward in the Oise valley. Then they gained a secure footing on the Thiescourt plateau and thus dominated most of the country northeast of them for miles. This movement and the unceasing pressure of the British from the northward imperiled the enemy's position in Roye, although he clung with desperation to that city and to Chaulnes further north. Along much of the line he was holding he had the advantage of the old trenches and wire entanglements built by him prior to July, 1916.

Whether Von Boehm would elect to try to make a prolonged stand there, or fall back on the much stronger Peronne-Noyon line was not revealed, but observers believed he would choose the latter course, and the fact that he was withdrawing his troops north of Albert strengthened this view. He evacuated the towns of Beaumont, Hamel, Serre, Puisieux au Mont and Bucquoy, taking up positions on heights more easily defended. Along the Somme, on both banks, the British, with the able assistance of some American troops have been advancing slowly, taking Bray and Etinehem.

In the advance on Roye and Noyon from the southwest the French have been fighting over extremely difficult ground with numerous ravines that furnish cover for the innumerable machine guns the Germans have been using. But the French kept bringing up their artillery and cleaning out these nests, and long before the end of the week they had taken Ribecourt, on the Oise, and had Noyon under continual fire, rendering it almost untenable.

On the Soissons-Reims front the fighting was mostly confined to repeated but futile attacks on the Americans at Fismes, Fismette and the neighboring region. Artillery of both sides was very active along the Vesle river.

Although the Picardy offensive was slowed up somewhat, army officers see no indication of a letting down on the part of Marshal Foch. On the contrary, they predict that another great drive will come soon, either in Flanders or between the Oise and Soissons, and expect movements of far greater scope in the near future. The German high command seems to have accepted defeat and to be trying to get out of its difficulties as best it may. The effect of this on the morale of the soldiers is quite evident in the prisoners taken, and its effect in Germany is reflected in the press, which admits failure on the west front, as elsewhere.

Early in the week it was announced that the First American field army, of five corps, had been constituted with General Pershing as commander. It is understood that this army will by itself hold the eastern part of the line, to Alsace, and some officers believe an all-American drive east of Verdun may come soon.

Geneva dispatches said the Austria-Swiss frontier was closed for some days and all trains were full of Austrian troops going to the Italian front, which was taken to mean another coming offensive there. However, the Italians were ready for it and daily improved their positions, especially in the mountains.

In Albania the Austrians evacuated all points held by them south of the Semeri river.

An amazing development is the seizure of Baku, center of the Caspian sea oil district, by a British force which made its way up through Mesopotamia and Persia.

The parlous condition of the central powers resulted in a "kaiser conference" at German main headquarters which was attended by the rulers of Germany and Austria and their chief advisers and by representatives of the Turks, Bulgarians and Russian bolsheviks. The internal situation in Austria-Hungary especially is growing worse—or rather better—daily; an explosion there almost any day would not greatly surprise anyone. Bulgaria shows signs of breaking away from its confederates, and as for Turkey, the general public knows nothing of what is going on there or what is expected.

The situation in Russia, including Siberia, also is improving, for the forces opposed to the bolsheviks and the Germans are growing stronger and amalgamating. The possibility of establishing an eastern front that will seriously worry the Huns is being considered, especially since the "supreme government of the northern territory," embracing half a dozen districts, has declared itself opposed to the Germans and ready to fight them. Possession of the port of Archangel and the Murman coast gives the allies an inlet for troops to help this movement. That Germany recognizes the menace is evident from the facts that she is sending more soldiers from the west front to Russia, and has ordered Finland to prepare to make war on the people of Murmansk and the allies there. Dispatches from Helsinki declared the Germans intend to occupy Petrograd, though what they would gain by possession of that hunger-stricken city is not apparent. Lenin and Trotsky and their soviet government were reported to have fled from Moscow to Kronstadt, the great fortress near Petrograd, and to have placed the execution of power in the hands of a triumvirate composed of Lenin, Trotsky and Zinovieff. Lenin also issued a manifesto urging the pitiless annihilation of all counter-revolutionaries.

Moscow being admittedly in the control of the counter-revolutionaries, the German embassy also fled from that city to Pskov, which greatly perturbed the German press.

The diplomats of all the allied powers, now living on warships at Archangel, have demanded of Trotsky an explanation of his threat that Russia would declare war "against Anglo-French imperialism."

The first American regiment sent to Siberia, the Twenty-seventh regular infantry from Manila, landed at Vladivostok Thursday, and other Yankees are on the way.

The Czecho-Slovaks in eastern Siberia now have the assistance of British and French forces which landed at Vladivostok and joined them in the Ussuri river valley. Those in western Siberia were last reported as engaged in a desperate battle with a large bolshevik army.

A long step forward in the moral support of these fighting Czechs and of their fellow nationals who are in rebellion against Austria-Hungary was the formal recognition by Great Britain of the Czecho-Slovaks as an allied nation and of their armies as an allied force regularly waging warfare against the central powers. It is hoped and believed America and other allied nations will follow the example of Great Britain.

Last week's dispatches told of furious and bloody riots against the Germans in several Russian cities, caused by the attempts of the Huns to seize foodstuffs.

The activities of German U-boats off the Atlantic coast have grown so annoying that the cabinet is said to have devoted a long meeting to discussing

them and the ways of combating them. The submarines, in addition to sinking a number of steamers and attacking others, in some cases only a few miles from the harbor of New York, also destroyed a considerable number of fishing vessels off New England. Several fights with these U-boats were reported and it was believed that at least one of them was sunk. What was believed to be a gas attack on the coast guard station and lighthouse on Smith's Island, South Carolina, in which several men were overcome, has not yet been explained though the theory that the poison gas came from a submarine was discarded. Presumably the fact that our naval vessels are pretty busy on convoy duty accounts for the comparative immunity of these U-boats along the Atlantic coast.

The steady decline of the German submarine campaign is emphasized by the official reports on sinkings and shipbuilding for July. The allied and neutral shipping sunk during the month amounted to 270,000 tons, compared with 534,839 tons sunk in July, 1917. During the month the allied nations constructed a tonnage in excess of 280,000 to that destroyed by enemy operations.

The administration's man-power bill extending the draft age to eighteen and forty-five years was reported to the senate Thursday and that body prepared to take it up and act on it speedily. Chairman Chamberlain in reporting the measure said General March told the military affairs committee that he believed 4,000,000 Americans under one commander could go through the German lines whenever they pleased and that if the ages are fixed as asked, the voluntary enlistment system automatically ends. He also said all the men called for active service under the amended act would be in France by next June. The new American war program, it was revealed, calls for 80 divisions, or about 3,000,000 men, in France and 18 more divisions in training in America, by June 30, 1919.

Mr. Chamberlain told the senate that President Wilson's program called for concentration of American forces on the western front, including Italy, and that the theory of the fighting in the future is that we must force the issue and win on the western front.

The bill as reported contains a work or fight provision to which organized labor, through Samuel Gompers, has filed emphatic objection.

The immediate need for more fighting men induced the president to issue on Wednesday a proclamation calling for the registration, on August 24, of all young men who shall have become twenty-one years of age between June 5 last and that day. This extra enrollment, it is believed, will include about 150,000 men, one-half of whom are fit for military duty.

Chairman Kitchin and other members of the house ways and means committee being wedded to the idea that the best way to raise more revenue is to increase the excess profits tax, rather than to impose a war profits tax, Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo was compelled to go before the committee with a mass of figures to sustain his contention that the war profits tax method is the best and only fair one. In reply to Kitchin's assertion that a war profits tax was "only camouflage to let out the big fellows" the secretary produced figures to show that in a great majority of cases the war profits tax would fall more heavily on the large concerns than would the excess profits tax, which, if fixed at 80 per cent as the committee proposed, he said would touch not more than one of the large corporations. He favors the continuance of the existing excess profits tax, with corrections but without increase. He also urged heavier levies on unearned incomes than on earned incomes, and the imposition of a tax upon servants as luxuries.

The secretary impressed on the committee the necessity of passing the new revenue bill before September 28, the date set for launching the fourth Liberty loan campaign, saying that further delay would jeopardize the ability of the treasury to sell sufficient treasury certificates to finance it in the intervals between the Liberty loans. In Washington most of the delay in passing the measure is expected to develop in the senate.

SURPRISE BLOW IS STRUCK BY HAIG

IN NEW OFFENSIVE BRITISH PEN-
ETRATE ENEMY LINES TO
TWO MILE DEPTH.

FRENCH THREATENING ROYE

More Than Six Hundred Prisoners
Taken in Enveloping Movement
Along Somme-Oise Front.

While the Germans were busily engaged in defending themselves against the attacks of the British and French armies from the Arras area to the region of Soissons, Field Marshal Haig struck another surprise blow over a new front.

The new offensive was launched from the east of Arras on the Scarpe river and southward to the Oise. All along the front the British pressed forward, at some places to a depth of more than two miles.

Across the Cojeul, the new British attacks on the old battle front brought them to the villages of Mory and St. Leger, and farther south the small town of Favreuil, one and a half miles northeast of Bapaume, from which the British pressed on eastward about a mile. Farther south the British are reported unofficially to have reached the western outskirts of Thillois in the nipper movement they are carrying out against Bapaume.

The French again are hammering away at the environs of Roye, one of the strong points of the Somme-Oise front, the capture of which doubtless would cause the giving up by the enemy of the entire salient from the Somme in the north, to Noyon, Fresnoy-Les-Roye, to the north, and St. Mard to the south of Roye, both of which have been captured by the French, despite the desperate resistance of the Germans, and Roye, like Bapaume in the north, apparently is in danger of being pinched out of the line in an enveloping movement. More than 600 prisoners were taken by the French in the operation.

BRITISH LOSE SEVEN AIR PLANES IN BOMBING RAID

London.—The British independent air force operating on the west front lost seven airplanes in the bombing of Mannheim. The frank report of this loss has caught the public imagination.

It is pointed out that the Germans were in largely superior numbers and had only to think of fighting, whereas the British had both fighting and bombing to attend to. The odds were all on the German side, but the British aviators reached Mannheim and did their job.

Commenting on the raid, a British air officer said:

"We suffered losses, but we won a splendid victory. We set out to bomb Mannheim and no German efforts could frustrate our intention."

AMMUNITION DUMPS BLOWN UP BY AMERICAN CANNON FIRE

With the American Army on the Vesle front.—Several German ammunition dumps north of the Vesle river were blown up by high explosives from the American guns. This was the only notable incident in the operations between Soissons and Rheims, although the usual exchange between the artilleries continued.

The destruction of the dumps was made possible by aerial observation by American aviators. They were located near Revillon and early in the day a battery of long range guns began dropping shells at points indicated. The observation posts soon after reported great clouds of smoke from the targets.

20,000 PRISONERS TAKEN BY BRITISH IN FIVE DAYS

Paris.—The number of prisoners taken by the British since August 21 has reached 20,000. The Petit Journal declares.

SUBURB OF THE TOWN OF BAPAUME CAPTURED

London.—Suzanne and Cappy, towns north and south of the Somme, respectively, were captured by Field Marshal Haig's forces, according to reports received here from the British battle front. The British also took Avesnes Les Bapaume, a suburb of the town of Bapaume.

British troops also reached the western outskirts of Thillois, south of Bapaume.

CONFLANS AGAIN RAIDED BY AMERICAN AIRMEN

With the American Army in France.—American bombing machines again raided Conflans, dropping 40 bombs on the railroad yards, despite heavy anti-aircraft fire. All the bursts were together at the east end of the yards, one causing a big explosion. German planes appeared as the Americans completed their mission and followed the Americans back to their lines but failed to engage them in battle.