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GERMANS HARRASSED BY ARTILLERY FIRE

THE AMERICANS GAINED MORE GROUND SUNDAY IN THE FRAPELLE REGION.

With the American Army in Lorraine, Aug. 18.—The Americans gained more ground at Frapelle early today, despite a total of 2,500 shells dropped by the enemy on the village and a raid of 45 Germans, which was repulsed by the American artillery and automatic rifle fire. In the Woivre an American patrol had a lively engagement. One American wounded in nine places heroically carried a wounded comrade to safety.

Gradually the famous Lys salient in the region west of Armentieres is giving way under the pressure of the British. Again Field Marshal Haig's forces have compelled the enemy to seek ground to the eastward where he will be more secure from the shells of the big guns that for several weeks have been firing cross-over the entire salient, working havoc among the defenders of the insecure line.

Likewise the Germans are being given no rest by the Franco-British forces north and south of the Somme, and the French and Americans along the Vesle and the Americans in Lorraine also are harassing them by artillery fire and local attacks. Nowhere has the enemy had the better of any encounter.

Over a front of four miles between Bailleul and Vieux Berquin, on the Lys sector, the British have forced back the Germans to a depth ranging from 1,000 to 2,000 yards, taking in the maneuver the village of Outtersteen and 400 prisoners. A little to the south along the Lys river, near Merville, the British also have advanced their line, and still farther south, between Arras and Albert, the Germans have been relieved, under pressure, of further terrain near Bucquoy.

Along the Vesle river front, where the Americans and French are holding the line against the Germans, there has been considerable reciprocal artillery shelling but with the weight of gunpower and of shells resting with the allied troops. They gave the enemy two shells for one. An indication that the German line immediately in front of the French and Americans is thinly held is the fact that American patrols at various points have penetrated sectors to the enemy's barbed wire and trenches without encountering infantrymen.

In Lorraine where the Americans captured the village of Frapelle, near St. Die, Saturday morning, they have pressed on and gained more ground notwithstanding a heavy bombardment by the enemy.

ACCIDENTAL EXPLOSION PUZZLES NAVY OFFICERS.

Washington, Aug. 16.—Two men were killed and one seriously injured in an explosion today at the St. James's Creek magazine, near Norfolk. They were loading a six-inch shell with "explosive D." Ordnance officers are puzzled by the accident, as all prescribed precautions were being taken and no accident of the kind has occurred with this explosive before in the six or seven years that it has been used. An investigation was ordered.

Those killed were R. P. Nichols, ordnance man, first class, and E. E. Holland, ordnance man, third class. C. C. Holcomb, ordnance man, third class, who was injured, will recover, a later report to the navy department said.

American Proposal Accepted by Germany.

Washington, Aug. 16.—Formal acceptance by Germany of the American proposal for a conference on treatment and exchange of prisoners at Berne, Switzerland, "the middle of September," was transmitted to the state department through the Spanish foreign office. The German government already has accepted the proposal in principle, and though no time has been fixed, the United States appointed delegates, headed by Minister Garrett, at The Hague, to attend the conference. Questions relating to interned civilians also will be discussed.

AMERICAN TROOPS CAPTURE FRAPELLE

THE ALLIES MAKE FURTHER PROGRESS NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE AVRE.

With the American Army in Lorraine, Aug. 17.—The Americans early this morning captured the village of Frapelle and eradicated a considerable German salient in the allied lines. Prisoners were taken by the Americans, and the Germans evidently suffered heavy casualties in killed and wounded.

This sector has been regarded as a quiet one and today's action began merely as a raid into the enemy's positions. The raid was preceded by a straight bombardment for a few minutes, followed by a box barrage that penned the Germans off from escape.

When the Americans went over the top to attack at 4.30 o'clock they succeeded in pushing all enemy resistance before them and the raid became an organized attack. The Germans replied heavily to the American artillery fire and they also shelled the entire neighborhood throughout the day.

The enemy fire, which included a barrage, was ineffective. The Americans have occupied the former German trenches and consolidated them against counter attacks.

Paris, Aug. 17.—The French made further progress today north and south of the Avre, having taken 1,000 prisoners and numerous guns since yesterday, according to the war office statement tonight. They captured the village of Canny-Sur-Matz, and in addition, took enemy positions on a front of nearly two miles to a depth of more than a mile in the region of Autrechtes, in the Soisson sector.

Germans Admit "Strong Attacks" on Roye.

Berlin, Aug. 17, via London.—The allies yesterday made strong attacks against the Germans on both sides of Roye, the war office statement issued today says. These attacks widened until they included the territory from the neighborhood of Chaumes to the vicinity of Lasigny, but were repulsed by the Germans.

Austria Classes Czecho-Slovaks as Traitors.

Vienna, Aug. 17, via London.—British recognition of the Czecho-Slovaks as a nation was denounced in an official statement issued here today. The statement declares that the members of the Czecho-Slovak army will be regarded and treated as traitors by Austria-Hungary.

YOUNG CATAWBA MAN DROWNED IN CREEK.

Newton, Aug. 15.—Robert W. Franklin, aged 24 years, was drowned in a small stream while in bathing late yesterday evening about three-quarters of a mile east of Sonover. It is thought he stepped in a hole which had been washed out by the recent rains and being unable to swim was drowned. Several persons were with him at the time but were unable to save him.

Dr. Shipp, of this city, was summoned immediately, but Franklin was dead when the doctor reached him. It was a clear case of accidental drowning, and an inquest was decided unnecessary. Mr. Franklin's home is about eight miles from Gien Mine, Burke county, and after he had laid his crop by came to this place and accepted a position in the Young cotton mills between here and Conover. He leaves a wife and several children.

Gen. Foch Grateful to America.

Paris, Aug. 16.—Marshal Foch has asked Rev. Charles A. MacFarland, secretary of the Federal Councils of Churches of Christ in America, to convey to the American people his deep appreciation of their moral and spiritual support. Mr. MacFarland visited Marshal Foch at his headquarters and during their conversation the allied generalissimo was enthusiastic in his praise of American generals, officers and men. He said their moral and material help had been of tremendous importance.

RICE RIOTS IN JAPAN ARE PROVING SERIOUS

UPRISINGS SPREADING OVER THE ENTIRE COUNTRY—TROOPS CALLED OUT.

London, Aug. 18.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Tientsin dated Friday says: "The Japanese rice riots are proving the worst outbreak against the constituted authority witnessed in many years. The rioters are resorting to acts of extreme violence such as the use of dynamite and incendiaries."

Tokio, Aug. 15.—There was serious rioting in Tokio last night. Mobs attacked and damaged property in the business and theater districts.

The rioters also entered and pillaged houses in Asakusa, the great recreation resort of the middle and lower classes. A number of the disturbers were wounded by the police.

Osaka, Aug. 14.—Mobs today pillaged grocery and dry goods stores and food depots and set fire to theaters and other buildings. The military forces called out to maintain order were attacked.

The street railways have suspended operations at night owing to the confusion in the city and the governor has forbidden the people to go out upon the streets after dark.

It is stated that at Matsura where 2,000 workmen for the naval arsenal joined the populace in sacking the rice stores, many persons were injured in collision with the police.

Troops Called Out in All Important Cities.

Tokio, Aug. 14.—Troops have been called out in nearly every important city in Japan. Even the naval station at Matsura is affected by the unrest. Two thousand workmen there are rioting in conjunction with the populace.

At Nagoya, noted for its manufacture of porcelain, a mob estimated to aggregate 30,000 persons rioted. At several places the soldiers fired on the disturbers.

At Kobe the soldiers and police also were obliged to use sabres and bayonets against the rioters.

ALLIES MAKE PROGRESS OVER THREE-MILE FRONT.

London, Aug. 16.—The British Thursday evening repulsed a strong German counter attack at Damerly, and today in co-operation with the French made substantial progress in the direction of Frenoy-Lee-Roye and Fransart, according to the official report from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters in France issued tonight.

Allied Troops Advance Over Three-Mile Front.

Paris, Aug. 16.—French and Canadian troops have made progress against the Germans over a front of more than three miles between Goyencourt and Laucourt, west of Roye, according to the French official communication issued this evening. The Bois des Loges, five miles south of Roye, also has been penetrated deeply by the French.

German Official Communication.

Berlin, Aug. 16, (Via London).—"On both sides of the Avre strong enemy attacks failed with heavy losses," says the official communication issued from general headquarters today.

Official Austrian Statement.

Vienna, Aug. 16 (Via London).—"The official communication from headquarters today says: "Italian attacks against the Morozzo positions failed. Otherwise the day was quiet on the Tonale sector."

Oil Tank Steamer Afire.

Beaufort, Aug. 16.—A large oil tank steamer is afire about 25 miles off Cape Hatteras, according to reports brought here tonight. A submarine is being close by. The members of the crew have been taken off by the guards. It is presumed the submarine is a German and the tanker was set on fire by shell fire.

MILLION AND A HALF AMERICANS OVERSEAS

CHIEF OF STAFF GEN. MARCH REVEALS INTERESTING FACTS TO COMMITTEE.

The Americans in Lorraine have entered an ordinary quiet sector by taking from the Germans the village of Frapelle, five miles east of St. Die. The action, which started with the proportions of a raid in the early hours Saturday morning, developed into an organized attack under the dash of the American troops immediately after they left their trenches. The German losses evidently were heavy in killed and wounded and prisoners also were taken by the Americans.

Washington, Aug. 17.—Of more than 3,000,000 men now under arms the American army has sent nearly one-half or more than 1,450,000 overseas for service against the enemy in France, Italy and Siberia.

These figures were revealed today by General March, chief of staff, in his Saturday talks with newspaper men and members of the senate military committee. The senators were told that some transports are making the trip to Europe and back in 15 days, and that the average has been reduced to 28 days, which with additional shipping becoming available makes the great job of getting 80 divisions of American troops to France by June 30, 1919, certain of success.

The chief of staff paid only brief attention to the progress of the fighting in France where the situation is developing slowly. He characterized the battle, however as "the German retreat" and otherwise indicated that further retirement was expected.

Explaining his announcement as to embarkation, General March said: "The figures hereafter of troops embarked from the United States, the totals will embrace the troops in Siberia, in Italy, France and Russia proper."

More Than 1,450,000 Have Embarked.

"The figures will mean the entire expeditionary force in all parts of the world. We have now embarked on all the expeditions more than 1,450,000 men."

Discussing the work of Americans abroad he said:

"The American troops in France are beginning to receive official French commendations of various sorts and here is one that came in this morning. This refers to the second artillery brigade which was with the second division in the fighting around Chateau Thierry. After the infantry was withdrawn our field artillery stayed there and helped the French at that point. This commendation is from the French commander of the division to which it was attached. It is in the form of an official order and the translation is something like this:

Admiration of Allies For U. S. Troops.

"On the eve of the relief of the second artillery brigade of the United States infantry division from the 12th (French) infantry division, the general commanding this infantry division takes the opportunity to express to the brigade commander, General Gowley, to all his officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers, his thanks for the services rendered their French comrades and his admiration for the splendid American bravery."

"After having vigorously fought with the second United States infantry division and with the 58th (French) infantry division, the second American artillery brigade has come to show, during two days of severe fighting at the side of the 12th infantry division, the finest qualities of energy, endurance and devotion."

"The fortunes of war separate us from these brave and loyal fighting comrades—I trust that the fortunes of war will re-unite us again upon the field of battle."

"The 12th French infantry division will faithfully treasure the memory of the 2nd artillery brigade of the 2nd United States infantry division."

MAXIMUM EFFORT MUST BE PUT FORWARD NOW

AMERICA MUST CONCENTRATE HER FORCES AND END THE WAR.

Washington, Aug. 15.—Important facts concerning the nation's effort in the war as given to the senate military committee by Gen. March, Secretary Baker and Provost Marshal General Crowder, were revealed today by Chairman Chamberlain in presenting to the senate the administration man-power bill extending the draft ages to include all men between the ages of 18 and 45 years.

President Wilson is determined to bring the war to a conclusion by concentrating all forces on the western front, including Italy, Secretary Baker told the committee and Gen. March supplemented this by stating that it was the purpose to end the great world struggle quickly and decisively. For the nation not to put forth its maximum effort at once the chief of staff declared would be but "playing Germany's game."

Thirty-one American divisions or approximately 1,300,000 men now are in France with as many more in camps in this country as a reservoir. Secretary Baker said today that the accelerated program of troop movements overseas which has enabled General Pershing to organize his first field army of some 1,250,000 men, will be continued because of the generous action of the British government in supplying shipping.

To carry out the present program of eighty divisions overseas by June 30, nearly 2,000,000 men must be sent to France in the next eleven months. Mr. Baker would not be drawn into any discussion of the country's ability to transport men, but it is known that many more than that number could be landed in the war zone at the present rate of shipment.

General March Wants the Boys.

General March told the committee according to the report to the senate that he was in favor of young men for the army and that the youths of 18 registered under the new draft law would be in France by June 30. He estimated that some 2,300,000 men qualified for full military service would be secured from the new registrants and he outlined the calls for the next year or more as follows:

August 250,000, September 200,000, October 155,000, November 150,000, December 150,000, January 100,000, February 200,000 and 300,000 monthly thereafter until the end of the next year.

These calls would aggregate 4,206,000 against the estimate of 2,300,000 to be had from the new registration but no explanation was made of this and other discrepancies in the draft figures. General Crowder has said that the present reserve in class 1 will be exhausted by next October 1, but Secretary Baker made it plain today that the reservoir of men now in camp in this country is sufficient to keep up the present troop movement overseas.

DEHAVILAND PLANE3 HAVE MADE GOOD.

Washington, Aug. 16.—General Pershing today advised the war department that early in August a complete squadron of 18 Dehaviland—our airplanes, built in the United States, and equipped with Liberty motors, successfully carried out the first reconnaissance flight of American built machines behind German lines. They returned without loss.

In making this announcement Secretary Baker said that Brig. Gen. Foulis, of the American air service, led the expedition. This was the first report from Gen. Pershing on the performance of American built Dehaviland's to be made public.

Secretary Baker said his advice contained no other information regarding the flight except that Lieut. Blair Thaw also was on the trip. The time and place of the flight, Mr. Baker considered it advisable to withhold.

The announcement was considered by officers as setting at rest rumors that the Dehaviland machines were not a success and also showing that the Liberty motors have now proven themselves in actual war conditions.

THIRTEEN MILLION MEN WILL BE REGISTERED

FROM THIS NUMBER 2,000,000 ARE EXPECTED TO QUALIFY FOR MILITARY SERVICE.

Washington, Aug. 15.—Four million German soldiers can defeat the Americans, is the belief of Gen. March, chief of staff, and present plans of the war department call for more than that number under arms next summer with some 3,200,000 of them, or eighty divisions, in France by June 30.

Gen. Crowder's Estimate.

Washington, Aug. 15.—Provost Marshal General Crowder announced today that plans already have been made for registering the 13,000,000 additional men which he estimates will be brought under the selective service law when Congress enacts the pending bill extending the age limits to include men between 18 and 45 years. From this number approximately 2,000,000 qualified for full military service are expected to be secured.

So urgent is the need for additional man-power, Gen. Crowder said, that the draft machinery is being put into shape for the great task ahead without waiting for final action by Congress. Men of the new draft will be needed by October 1 and in order to get them, registration day will have to be held not later than September 15 and if possible September 5, will be fixed as the day.

Twenty-five Million Registrants.

When the 13,000,000 men are enrolled, nearly 25,000,000 will have been registered since the United States entered the war. There were some 10,000,000 enrolled on the first registration day, June 5, 1917, another 6,000,000 last June 5, and several hundred thousand more are expected to be enrolled August 24.

TOTAL CASUALTIES

Washington, Aug. 18.—Casualties in the United States overseas forces, announced by the war and navy departments during the week ending today, numbered 1,355 compared with 4,916 for the previous week. Total casualties announced to date number 21,461, including 376 in today's army list. Total army casualties number 18,707; the marine corps lists only 2,760.

Total deaths, including the killed in action, deaths from wounds, disease, accident and other causes since the United States forces landed in France, number 8,133, including 291 soldiers lost at sea. Of that number 7,296 were of the army and 837 of the marine corps.

The wounded to date numbers 11,615, of which 9,758 are of the army and 1,830 of the marine corps.

Men missing in action and prisoners in the hands of the enemy number 1,719, of which 1,626 are of the army and 93 of the marine corps.

The summary of the army casualty list to date, including today's, follows:

Killed in action, 3,869; died of disease, 1,189; died of accident and other causes, 682; wounded in action, 9,785; missing in action (including prisoners) 1,626. Total to date, 18,707.

The summary of the marine corps lists follow:

Deaths, 837; wounded, 1,830; missing in action, 88; in hands of enemy, 5. Total to date, 2,760.

Germany's Loss Six Million.

Paris, Aug. 17.—The total of German losses from the beginning of the war to the end of July, 1918, are understood to be 6,000,000, according to the morning newspapers. The figures include 1,400,000 killed up to the beginning of the German offensive last March. From March 27 to June 17, the Germans are said to have lost 120,000 killed alone.

Additional Honor For Haig.

Paris, Aug. 18.—Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig was decorated by Premier Clemenceau with the French military medal at headquarters in the field today. The award was made on the recommendation of Marshal Foch.