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AMERICANS CAPTURE TWELVE TOWNS AND 5,000 PRISONERS

Maj.-Gen. Liggett's Corps Advances an Average of Seven Miles on 20-Mile Front-Fighting With the French on New 40-Mile Sector.

(By The Associated Press.)

Twelve towns and more than 5,000 German prisoners have been taken by American troops, fighting in conjunction with the French, in a new offensive begun with the break of day Thursday in the region extending from the northwest of Verdun to within 15 miles of the cathedral city of Rheims.

The Americans advanced to a depth of seven miles, overcoming the stubborn resistance of the enemy. Pennsylvania, Kansas and Missouri troops, under Major General Liggett, were among the fighting forces which in less than a day won territory of great importance to the enemy and further depleted his army through men capt ured or killed or wounded

AMERICANS TAKE NEW SECTOR Americans troops have taken over new sector in France and in conjunction with the French have forced the Germans on the defensive on still another battle front.

The gage of battle has been thrown down on a forty-mile front extending from the Suippe river to Champagne 15 miles east of Rheims, eastward through the Argonne forest to the Meuse northwest of Verdun.

In the first stages of the battle the allied lines were pushed forward for material gains-that portion immediately northwest of Verdun held by the Americans to a depth of from five to six miles and that of the French to the west nearly four miles at certain

Under the terrific bombardment preceding the commencement of the battle the Germans hurrledly quit numerous positions and into these the Americans and French went unimpeded. At last accounts the allied attack was progressing favorably. Many French villages and German strong points had been captured.

British troops have invaded Bulgaria from the north of Lake Doiran in Macedonia, making another epoch in the history of the war. Aside from the moral effect of the penetration of the mountainous country of King Ferdinand the maneuver is likely to prove of great strategic value once the

Scrumitza river valley leading toward the Sofia Seres railway is reached. Meanwhile days of adversity con-tinue with the Teutonic allies in southern Serbia and Palestine and the British and French are keeping up their maneuvers which are gradually bringing the important town of St. Quentin into their hands. In Serbia, the Serbs, Italian, Greeks and British are still threatening the enemy forces with disaster by reason of their rapid advance and the state of confusion into which the Bulgarians and Germans have been thrown by the shock of the offensive.

Likewise the Turks in Palestine are being sadly harassed by the forces of the British, General Allenby and the tribesmen of the king of the Hedias. Almost surrounded east of the Jor-

don, the Turks are franticaly deavoring to extricate themselves from the converging allied forces. From the east and south the Britsh are driving the Ottomans northward, and coming south to meet the enemy and to crush him between the two allied lines are the Arabs. Seemingly with all the crossing of the Jordan now in allied hands the Turkish fourth army has little chance to es-

IMPORTANT FRUIT IN PROSPECT Taken in conjunction with the allied offensive, which has materially bent back the German front in Flanders, Artois and Picardy and along the Aisne, the new drive of Marshall Foch in the south will bear important fruit if it meets with success. Driving northward the entire western batfront would be shaken and of necessity be compelled to readjust itself. Lateral railway lines of great importance to the German positions between Laon and Verdun lie directly in the path of the advancing Franco-Ameri-

The Americans through the capture of Gericourt, northwest of Verdun, are in the Meuse valley which leads northward to Sedan, and a little farther west of Varennes, have won the Aire valley, which winds in a northsuccessful advance along these two valleys for any apreciable distance would be disastrous to the German lines from the North Sea to the Swiss

Northwest of Verdun Montfaucon. a German strong point of great resist-ing power, is aid to be in American hands, as likewise are several other villages between the Meuse and the

Around St. Quentin both the British and French armies have made further advances against the Germans and repulsed heavy counter-attacks. In Flanders and also near Arras the British have advanced their fronts.

The second secon
Local Market.
Good white cotton 32.50
Cotton seed 1.03 1/2
Eggs 43
Country hams 37 1/2
Sweet potatoes 1.75
Irish potatoes 1.25
Hens 50 to 75
Butter 30 to 35

Buy Liberty Bonds to bulld boats.

Rumor Reaches Here That Bulgaria Makes Peace Offers

A message was received here this afternoon stating that itt went over the private wires to the large business houses over the country this morning that Bulgaria, an ally of Germany. had asked for a 48-hour armis-This was all that the message contained. The Bulgarian armies have been hard pressed by the allies for the past few days and this sorely tried country probably will make the first * real peace offer.

MILITARY VIEW OF NEW

FRANCO-AMERICAN DRIVE

Offensive Regarded as One of Wide Strategic Possibilities-No Big Surprise Caused-Allies Have Man Power to Hammer Enemy Unceas-

Washington, Sept. 26 .- The keystone of the great German defensive arch in France is under assault in the Franco - American offensive launched this morning in the Champagne over a front of 40 miles. Because of the place of attack selected by Marshal Foch, military officials here regarded the new blow as one of wide strategic possibilities.

It was not until General Pershing's official statement arrived late tonight that a definite idea was given of the extent and success of the initial rush. The Americans advanced on a front of 20 miles to an average depth of seven miles, taking more than 5,000 prisoners and 12 towns. The French war office previously had reported that the French troops further west had advanced four miles at certain points.

The point of attack selected by Marshal Foch caused no great surprise here. As far back as 1915 the French strategists saw that the Champagne front offered the greatest possibilities in repelling the invaders with the least expenditure of men. There was fierce fighting that year on this sector, but the French lacked the reserve power to press forward in accordance with their strategic designs and were forced to settle back to tactical operations and defensive

UNCHANGED THREE YEARS Since then the line between Rheims and Verdun has been relatively unchanged, the last offensive effort of the enemy against Rheims in July having falled to break it. On that occasion, American troops aided in repelling the eastern jaw of the enemy pincer attack on the eathedral city, ber the Forty-second (Rainbow) division his troops on this front, where it won high commendation from the French

leaders. As the French plan of 1915 has been discussed, it contemplated the driving of a great wedge through to the line of the Meuse, where it skirts the forest of Ardennes, near the Belgian border.

The battle lines today are relatively as they were in 1915 and the same strategic factors hold good. For this reason alone, many officers have believed that Marshal Foch, sooner or later, would strike at the enemy from the Champagne front and when word of the new attack today was received their first impression was that the hour for the great allied effort had

come.

JUST WEST OF VERDUN. Later advices, however, indicated ceived them by this time. that the new battle zone was east of the more level region around Rheims where it had been anticipated the road to the Belgian border would more probably be sought. Apparently Marshal Foch has struck first in the region immediately west of Verdun and until the scope and direction of his attack develops, officials withhold judgment as to the grand objectives

at which the new drive may be aimed. Several factors of unusual significance and of peculiar interest to the people of the United States are sharply disclosed by the new offensive. For can forces. Vouziers, an initial allied forces continue name allied forces continue na one thing, the power and will of the allied forces continue hammering at St. Mihiel salient hardly cleared away and with a 50-mfle stretch of the line to the north and south of St. Mihiel in a continual flame of attack, it was possible to organize and deliver a new blow on a 40-mile front and drive it forward many miles with its initial

enemy's waning manpower.

Need More Homes for Delegates Reports of committees canvassing for the entertainment of delegates to the annual Western N. C. Conference convening here in Central Methodist church, Nov. 5-11, show a shortage of over two hundred homes. Surely our people do not realize the great advantage and spiritual uplift a meeting like munity, or they could not but clamor for the opportunity of helping in so great a cause. We admit these are strenuous times, but the business of the church must not suffer and it is it less than 35 cents a pound it will Monroe's time to entertain the Conference, so come across, please, with 200 more homes. Other denominations wishing to assist, notify Mrs. Atha Stevens or Mrs. Frank Laney .-

The conservation of food demands evening prayer and sermon at 8; ev-of each individual enlightened fidelity joined to genuine patriotism.

UNION TO RAISE \$400,000 IN LIBERTY LOAN DRIVE

Chairman Love Says all Arrange- Plans Formulated For Immediate ments Completed and Campaign to Raise Union's Part Will be Launched Saturday Morning - Women to Do Their Part.

Preparations are now ready for the drive, announced Mr. W. B. Love, which appeared in The Journal sometime ago, and the chairmen in turn have appointed canvassers.

Subscription blanks were received by Mr. Love yesterday and mailed to the township chairmen who will distribute them among the canvassers. These canvassers will be out bright and early at the launching of the drive Saturday, the 28th, to get a good start that will carry Union county over the top with flying colors in the raising of her quota.

The county has not yet been officially assigned a quota but Chairman Love stated yesterday morning that it would be around \$400,000. Union county is able to raise this amount with ease and is going to do it. With the announcement that Secretary of there, he said. He explained that al-Agriculture Houston is not in favor of fixing the price of cotton at 25 cents and did not express himself thus the farmer, confident that the France when the war is over, government, if it fixes the price of The Union county delegation cotton at all will fix it at a just price, will probably subscribe for a large attending the convention. Mr. F. G. amount of Union's quota. Henderson was elected a member of

Mr. T. L. Riddle, publicity manager of the loan drive, yesterday morning received a large shipment of government posters prepared by the best artists to be used in advertising the drive. These posters will be distribut- resolutions and Mr. T. L. Riddle a ed throughout the county. One of the posters which will not fail to attract attention shows the blood stainhand of the Hun-stained with the blood of innocent women and children—and under it are the words "Blot it out with Liberty Bonds." Mrs. W. C. Sanders, chairman of

the woman's committee, has almost completed the organization of the Messis. A. M. Secrest, T. L. Riddle,

No Member of Bickett Battery Killed or Wounded.

Not a member of the Bickett Battery had been killed, wounded or captured on Friday, Sept. 3, so states Mr. William Pemberton Hinson, a member of the organization, in a letter to sister, Miss Fannie Hinson, Mr. having been brigaded with French Hinson in his letter states that conditions seem very favorable, and adds that the boys sleep by day and do their work by night. The letter reads as follows:

"Somewhere in France, Sept. 3 .-Dear Fannie:-Will attempt to auswer your letter which I received a few days ago. Was real glad to hear from you. Everything goes well with me at present. We are on the front now. Some interesting happenings occur over here-we do our work after night, and sleep during the day, Getting plenty to eat. Sleeping in the woods under shelter halls.

"I had a letter from father saying that he hadn't received a letter from me since I left New York. I have written home at least fifteen times; don't understand. So much mail to be censored; perhaps they have re-

"Had a five days ride on the train a few days ago. I have seen some great things for the past while. The situation looks very good at the present. Haven't lost a man in our organization; not even one has been wounded. Wish I could give you the history of the front, but you see the censor will not permit. There are some pretty girls over here and they think there is nothing like "Americans." There are some American girls at the front. They are connected with the Y. M. C. A.—Your brother, William Pemberton Hinson."

CONGRESSMAN ROBINSON SAYS COTTON PRICE MUST BE 35c.

In Message Sent to President Wilson Says If Price is Fixed at less Than laid aside for that use. 35 Cents it Will be Difficult to pay For Bonds Already Purchased.

Wadesboro, Sept. 25 .- The follow ng telegram was sent to President westernly direction to Vouziers. A thrust. Moreover, the indicated Ger-successful advance along these two man withdrawal is added proof of the D. Robinson of this district: D. Robinson of this district: September 23, 1918.

Hon. Woodrow Wilson. President United States.

Washington, D. C. Arrived home today and find busiess paralyzed on account of the unestainty of the price you will fix on cotton. The crop is the shortest we have made in years and cost us more 6 7. M. C. A. and Red Cons., and and kindly remembrance. anks in many instances to pay for tiem. If the price of cotton is fixed se difficult to pay for sonds already purchased and we will be unable to

St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Services Sunday, the 18th after Trinity: Sunday school at 10 a. m.; morning service and sermon, at 11;

sel- but fer if the more bonds.

ROAD CONVENTION AT ROCK-INGHAM A GREAT SUCCESS.

a Memorial Highway-Union Had Third to Largest Delegation.

Union county delegates who attendaunching of the Fourth Liberty Loan ed the convention in the interest of the Charlotte-Winnington Military county chairman, yesterday morning. Highway in Rockingham Tuesday The organization of the entire county state that if enthusiasm for a project has been completed. Every township counts for anything that the highway has its township chairman, a list c will become an established fact in the will become an established fact in the near future.

Every county between Charlotte ingham. A permanent organization of the money received therefrom was formed and resolutions heartily your pledge, commending the highway and calling upon the State Highway Commission to make a survey of the route at once were adopted.

Lt. F. H. Ball, known to many of the citizens of Monroe, in speaking of highway suggested that it be made a memorial highway for the sons of the counties along the route it would follow who make the supreme sacrifice "over there." A tree might be planted in honor of each one who falls over ready in France there was a plan on foot to build a memorial highway highway along the western front in

The Union county delegation the third largest visiting delegation Henderson was elected a member of the organization committee, which is composed of one member from each county along the route of the propos-ed highway. Mr. W. S. Blakeney was member of the nominating committee,

The following were elected members of the county directors of the permanent organization for this county: Messrs. F. G. Henderson, W. S. Blakeney, J. C. M. Vann, T. J. W. Broom, C. B. Covington, J. Z. Green, H. K. Helms, R. L. McWhirter, W. D.

womans committee throughout the county. The women will be found in the front line of the faithful canvassers and will play an important part in carrying Union county over the top in the drive, as did they in the This Liberty Loan drive.

Messis, A. M. Secrest, T. L. Riddle, T. L. Crowell, N. C. English, R. L. McWhirter, E. C. Griffin, J. Z. Green, W. O. Harrell, J. R. Webb, J. E. Thomas, E. C. Phifer, J. S. James, in carrying Union county over the top in the drive, as did they in the This Liberty Loan drive.

Helms, J. E. McCain, and W. S. Blake-pay attended the convention ney attended the convention.

> Holiday Goods and Buying. (The Springfield Republican.)

The council of national defense is employment of capital, labor and efmas goods shall not detract from war |sold. efficiency. This does not mean, of upon the sale of goods already manedness in preparing for the holiday and gas mask. to disclose.

scatter their purchases over a long were driven back some distance.

period. When they discover during There was practically no market the year something suitable for Christmas giving it is purchased and has been paying a little more than

This method so far helps to lessen always to be reckoned with. This is here on the market just about the something to be dreaded more than time the word came that the Presiever this year, when the shortage of dent was almost sure to fix a price on help is so keenly felt, and those who the staple, and that Secretary Housspread their buying over all the ton had recommended 25 cents weeks from now to Christmas will While we remain intent on doing everything possible to aid in winning demoralization was only temporary the war, it is within our power to contribute much to preserve an atmosphere as nearly normal as the cir- tary Houston came in for a good share cumstances will permit. The last to make it. Our people have gone thing to be forgotten or sacrificed over the top in subscriptions for should be the spirit of Christmas, and this will mean to our town and com- tonds, saving stamps, contributions all that goes with it of family joy fair price.

Teachers' Institute, Monday Sept. 30.

roe, beginning Monday, Sept. 30th, than a year.
and continuing for two weeks.

Mrs. Black was 51 years old. She

All public school, high school, and graded school teachers who have not and lived a consistent Christian life. met the requirements of the law for institute attendance, are required to attend unless providentially hindered. Respectfully, R. N. NISBET,

County Supernitendent.

Begin Redeeming Your War Savings TEUTONIC FORCES FLEE

Do you realize that you have only three months in which to fulfill-if you have not already fulfilled it -Survey of Proposed Highway-Lt. your War Savings pledge which you made during last June? Those of you F. H. Ball Suggests That it Be Made who have not made a payment on your pledges should begin at once to make arrangements to meet these obligations in full within the next remaining three months of this year. I advise you not to wait until the last moment to buy your stamps. Divide the amount that you are still due to buy into three equal installments and purchase each month the amount of that installment until January 1, 1919. In that way you can meet your pledge much easier than to wait unand Wilmington with the exception of til the last of the year and pay it in one was represented at the convention a lump sum. You are beginning to which met in the opera house at Rock. sell some of your cotton; apply a part

> I hope that you attended the raising of the War Savings Honor Flag at Monroe last Saturday, the 21st inst, and heard the able speech of our ex-Congressman Robert N. Page. If so, you will remember that he urged us not to rest on the honors that we had won so far, but that we should persevere in our work until we reach one hundred per cent efficiency in our pledges. Our government needs our money. Remember that every time you make a payment on your pledge you put more ambition into the belts of our Fighters and "pep" into the Front Line.

The keeping of your War Savings pledge will make you a better American. When you signed the pledge, you promised your government that it could depend on you for a definite loan at a definite time. Don't disap-point it. Your pledge is a sacred, solemn obligation—it was a promise to the men who are fighting and dying ed highway. Mr. W. S. Blakeney was elected a member of the committee on that you would back them up. Don't resolutions and Mr. T. L. Riddle a fail them.—T. L. Riddle, Publicity

> MRS PLYLER RECEIVES GER-MAN HELMET AND GAS MASK

Captured by Her Son, Corp. Fred Ply-Held at Waxhaw Methodist church Very Little Cotton on Waxhaw Market-Death of Mrs. Z. V. Black.

(Waxhaw Enterprise.)

A protracted meeting started at the Methodist church Sunday night. Rev. John W. Moore, pastor of Trin-ity church, Charlotte, is doing the preaching and Rev. Mr. Elliott, pas-tor of the Pineville circuit, is in charge of the music and song service. The meeting will continue through-

tial articles when they might be bet- market during October and November ter engaged in war or vital civilian is the best part of the crop, but exare enlarged the necessity for such are agreed that this year, owing to discouragement must become still the drought cutting off the middle more apparent. Normal conditions no and top crops, the cotton from the longer prevail, and the disordering bottom of the stalk or the first marof former conditions is bound to in- keted will be the best of the crop. If crease. In this situation it is desir- this is true, the best part of the coted that the manufacturers of Christ- ton has been sold and is now being delayed.

Mrs. J. S. Plyler yesterday received course, that there is to be any ban from her son, Corporal Fred Plyler, who is with the fighting forces ufactured. There is much forehand- France, a captured German helmet The helmet is of beattrade, and the stocks in hand or on en metal lined with a leather pad. It the way to merchants will insure the has two holes for ventilation and in usual opportunities for Christmas shape is just like it looks in the war shopping. What may be the case pext pictures. The gas mask is somewhat year in this respect is for the future complicated. It is a face muzzle of Less money will be invested in eyes and harness by which it is fasof people, but this need not imply metal and consists of a metal can, any loss of the Christmas spirit or any about one pint in size, screwed into serious impairment of trade. Last the mask proper. This metal can is winter the small purchases made a filled with a porous substance treated mighty volume. Surely there will be with chemicals. Through this porous abundant remembering of our men of substance the air which the wearer the Army and Navy-all indeed that breathes is filtered. Corporal Plyler the necessary regulation of trans- is with the motor trucks company and portation will permit. It is clearly his duties frequently take him up desirable that things fashioned for right to the front lines where the the holiday trade should be sold, as heavy fighting is. He picked up this the process will release capital for helmet from the battle fields of Chamore essential uses in the future. In | teau Thiery, where it will be remenithis connection as early suggestion is bered the Americans gave good acin order. The wisest holiday givers count of themselves and the Germans

There was practically no market for cotton here last Saturday. Waxhaw the neighboring markets all fall and this has attracted some cotton here the heavy rush of the week or ten that usually goes elsewhere. Saturdays preceding December 25 that is day morning there were several bales pound as a fair price. Then the mardo a good thing for all concerned. ket busted all to pieces and the buyers quit bidding on it. Of course thi While it lasted there was no little comment on the situation and Secre of cussing for a fool of all grades, be cause he had named such a ridiculous ly low price as 25 cents as being

Mrs. Z. V. Black died at her home church cemetery on the 14th. A Teachers' Institute will be held Black died of cancer from which she and Wednesday for white teachers and at the graded school building, Mon- had been a patient sufferer for more Thursday for colored teachers. Work

was a member of the Baptist church She leaves a husband, three sons and four daughters to mourn her loss. "but they sorrow not as those who have no hope," for soon she will awake to a life that will know no sorrows or pain.

BEFORE ALLIED ARMIES

In Flight in Macedonia, and Turks in Dire Straits, British and French Draw Pincers Closer to St. Quentin -More than 40,000 Prisoners Taken in Palestine.

The Teutonic allied forces in Macedonia and Turkey are still in flight before the armies of the entente, while on the highly important St. Quentin sector in France the British and French armies, after hard fighting, have drawn more closely their lines in the investment of the town. on the northwest, west and south. The stubborn resistance of the Germans, in defense and in counter-attacks, has been unavailing except to impede the progress of the men of the armies of Field Marshal Haig and General Debeny.

In Macedonia the Bulgarian and German troops are still faced with disaster; in Palestine the remaining Turks seem to have scarcely a chance for escape from the British forces and friendly tribesman who are closing in upon them east of the River Jordan. More than 40,000 prisoners and 265 guns have been taken by the British and yet General Allenby's appetite for further emoluments for his hard campaign has not been satisfied.

TO OVERWHELM TURKS

Judging by the swiftness of the blows General Allenby is delivering it is his purpose to overwhelm the The Turks, however, claim Turks. that their retreat in Palestine is still being carried out in conformity with prepared plans. The text of the communication which came through the war office is as follows:

"Our movement continued yesterday in conformity with plans. The English followed us only step by step. There have been no important events."

ACTIVITIES IN MACEDONIAN THEATRE

In no less critical situation are the Germans and Bulgarians in the Macedonia theatre. Here, except immodiler - Protracted Meeting Being ately on the Bulgarian frontier, where the mountainous country gives them ground for strong resistance to the invasion of Bulgarian territory through the passes, the Bulgarians and Bermans everywhere arc in rapid retreat before the Italians, Serbians, Greeks and British. Rent in twain at several points, the enemy forces are bewildered and operating as separate units.

Respectively on the western and eastern flanks the Italians and the Greeks and British are fast throwing forward their lines in endeavor to envelop the enemy, while in the center, properly disposed to discourage the out this week. Services are being where the Serbs have driven their sharp wedge toward Ishtip, there is no lagging, notwithsanding the difficult territory that is being encountered. Rear guards of the enemy, armwork. As the boundaries of the draft perienced cotton buyers and farmers ed with machine guns, are but little delaying the men whose task it is to reclaim their kingdom.

As yet there is no news of great activity in Albania, but resumption of operations there in conjunction with those in the east apaprently cannot be

NEARING ST. QUENTIN

On the French front the British have taken the village of Selency, a scant two miles from the western environs of St. Quentin, and both the British and French troops north and south of this line have driven further wedges into the German front. More than a thousand prisoners and many machine guns have been taken by heavy cloth with wire protected glass the British in these operations. Numerous strong counter-attacks were de-Christmas goods this year by the mass | tened on the head. The nose is of livered by the enemy, both at Selency and at Gricourt, but Haig's men put all of them down, with heavy losses to the Germans.

> COMPARATIVE QUIET ON THE AMERICAN SECTOR

Good weather has returned to the American sector on the Lorraine front but nothing has occurred there except the usual reciprocal bombardments and a resumption of aerial activity on a great scale. Advices from Berlin are to the effect that there is much perturbation in Germany over the long distance guns of the Americans, which are shelling the areas behind the German line.

From Amsterdam comes a Berlin dispatch announcing "that owing to the long range bombardment of Metz and other places, preparations are making for the expeditious evacuation of civilians and movable property from places within range of such guns when the evacuation becomes necessary."

GERMAN POPULACE DISCONTEN-TED

Official Washington noticed the admission of deep discontent existing among great masses of the German people. Through neutral countries have come reports of disorganization, mutiny, rioting, desperation in Germany, but it remained for the German chancellor himself to add the official confirmation which was wanting.

Teacher's Examination

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursnear Old Waxhaw Baptist church the day, October 8th, 9th and 10th there 13th inst, and was buried in the old will be a public examination of pub-Mrs. lie and high school teacers. Tuesday to begin at 9 o'clock.

Teachers are asked to provide pen, ink and either fools cap or legal cap paper. Examination will be ield at county superintendent's office R. N. NISBET.

County Superintendent. Knights Templar Meeting.

Buy Liberty Bonds to arm Armies