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THE FRENCH FORCES CAPTURE LASSIGNY

Tide Of Victory Slowly But Surely Sweeping Onward

From Soissons to the Belgian border the German armies in various important sectors are being put to the test by the French and British. And it is a test that seemingly bodes ill for the Teutonic arms, and nowhere that seemingly bodes ill for the Teutonic arms, for nowhere have they been able to sustain the shocks.

Northwest of Soissons, from the Aisne to the Oise, north of the Oise to the region around Roye, in the Arras sector and northward on the famous Lys salient the Germans everywhere have been compelled to fall back under the pressure of the French and British troops.

Gen. Mangin's New Offensive
In a new offensive launched by the French General Manager over a front of approximately fifteen and a half miles from Bailli on the Oise to the Aisne near Soissons, the French in bitter fighting have carried forward their line to an average depth of two and a half miles and in the first phases of the battle had returned to French possession numerous enemy held villages and farms. In addition more than 8,000 Germans had been herded behind the line, prisoner.

At last reports Mangin's men were still hard after the enemy, and unofficial accounts placed the French on various sectors well in advance of the positions outlined in the French official communication.

Along the scarpe river east of Arras Field Marshal Haig's forces also have kept up their harassing tactics against the enemy, who has been compelled to fall back eastward along the Scarpe river. The Germans resisted vigorously but all to no purpose and the British brought up their lines to the east of the village of Eampou. Although Haig claimed only a slight forward movement here, particular significance attaches to it by reason of the fact that the Germans have been driven back until they are virtually upon the old battle line as it stood in December, 1917.

Lys Salient Narrowed Down
Northward the Lys salient again has been narrowed down by the operations of the British who, north of Merville, have taken the villages of Vierhook and La Couronne and also reached the hamlet of L'Epinette. This gain represents a forward movement of about a mile and a half and places the British astride the road running southeastward to Estaires.

New Victories All Important Ones.
Taken all in all the new victories of the Allied troops are highly important ones. The advance of the French northwest of Soissons, taken in conjunction with the successful maneuvers on the Lassigny sector and south of the Roye, where Beuvraignes has been captured, seemingly means that the enemy forces from the Somme to the Oise soon must give up their positions and retreat eastward. Indeed it seems not improbable now that Noyon is well outflanked on the south and southeast and the German line is none too secure north of Soissons, that the enemy will be under the necessity of moving his troops northward from the Vesle toward, if not across, the Aisne.

Germanus Fall Back
The Germans still are stubbornly contesting with the British, points of vantage on the line south of the Somme near Chaules and north of Roye, which are still in German hands and which are the keystones to the enemy defense line. With the capture of Beuvraignes by the French, however, Roye apparently is on the eve of falling and with its fall doubtless the entire line northward to the Somme will also give away.

The Germans in the Merville sector of the Lys salient everywhere are being closely followed by the British as they give up positions under attack and at last accounts they were showing no indication that an immediate halt is in mind. On the Lys front although the Germans are showing some resistance, they are not putting their wonted hearts into their work. There has been little along the Vesle

river where American and French are facing the Hun.

With the Allied Armies in France Aug. 21—The defeat tide surges heavily against the German armies in France and Flanders. On four important sectors French and British arms again have been served, and the entire German front from Ypres in Belgium to Soissons, on the Aisne, now is more seriously menaced than before.

French troops of Gen. Mangin, operating from the region two miles northwest of Soissons to the Oise river and those of Gen. Humbert, fighting between the Oise and the Matz, have materially pushed forward their fronts, bringing them to positions which threaten the immediate evacuation of the entire Somme-Oise salient from Bray to Noyon.

Between Albert and Arras

Farther to the north, between Albert and Arras, Field Marshal Haig has followed up his successes of previous days by a new offensive over a front of about ten miles and driven forward his troops for splendid gains over the entire line, capturing a number of villages, taking prisoners and guns and inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy.

Advance of Over Four Miles

Still farther north, in the famous Lys sector, a general eastward advance on a front of more than four miles has been made by the British, who have brought their positions appreciably nearer the old 1916 battle line, running east of Armentieres.

Numerous additional villages have been liberated by the French north-east of Soissons and positions have been captured on both sides of the Oise river, which seemingly make untenable for occupation by the enemy the important town of Noyon, which is now outflanked on the southeast and dominated by the French guns from the south and west. On the south the French are standing in Sempiigny, a mile and a half distant, while on the west they have captured the important pivotal town of Lassigny, the key position to Noyon and the plains to the north.

Drive Along 120-Mile Front

What is to be the effect of the allied drives along the 120 mile battle line from Ypres to Soissons cannot be foretold at present but it seems highly probable that this entire front soon must be realigned. This particular menace to the Germans, aside from that in the territory between the Semme and the Oise, appears to be on the sector along the Vesle river from Soissons to Rheims, which from the war maps looks to be untenable. Even the Aisne and the Chemin des Dames do not appear to be any too safe for a defense line if Gen. Mangin presses much further northwest of Soissons.

President Wilson Again At It

Washington, August 20—President Wilson put in a busy day after returning here this morning from Manchester, Mass., where he spent a brief vacation near the summer home of Col. E. M. House. The President remained in his study during the morning and in the afternoon presided at a lengthy Cabinet meeting.

Later he received a committee on aliens and followed this with a walk to the State, War and Navy Building, where he conferred for more than a half hour with Secretary Baker. The matters discussed at the Cabinet meeting and with the War Secretary were not discussed.

Canteen To Serve Sandwiches

Just a word to tell all the folks who come here Saturday to bring their appetites along. The Canteen Service of the County will sell sandwiches, ice cream, and other good things to eat. Be sure and be here, don't forget your appetite, nor fail to bring your purse for it is for the soldier boys when one patronizes the Canteen.

W. E. THOMPSON



Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Thompson, of Franklin county. He volunteered July 26, 1917. He is now with Company Co., 120 Infantry, "somewhere in France." He is 24 years old and a brave soldier doing his duty for his country. He hails from the Sandy Creek section and has many friends in that section of Warren, where he was raised.

Governor Bickett With Us Tomorrow

People in large numbers from all over Warren are expected here tomorrow to greet Governor Bickett in his presentation of individual duty in time of war.

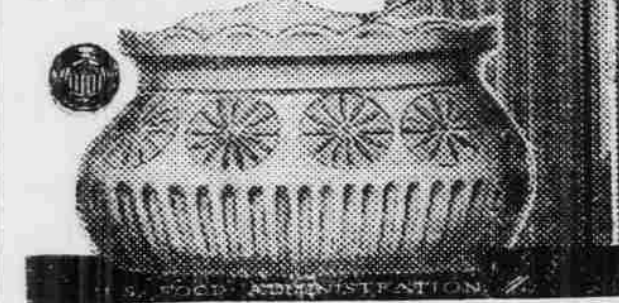
Governor Bickett is an orator. He knows his subject, he is conversant with the State's problems and its duty in time of War, and he clothes the fine common sense of his remarks in eloquence. Every citizen is assured a forceful talk.

The Governor's first address will be made at 11 o'clock in the Court House to the white citizens of the County. His second will be made at 8:30 in the Court House to the colored citizens of the County and if the crowd is such that all cannot hear him in these two talks a third will be made.

—W.S.S.—

SUGAR MUST BE SAVED!

A teaspoonful means nothing. You say. Yet a heaping teaspoonful saved each meal for 120 days for each of the 100,000,000 persons in the United States makes a pile as big as the Woolworth building enough to supply the entire armed forces of the nation.



—W.S.S.—

Items Of Interest From Buffalo Section

Watermelons, curing tobacco, hot weather, good seasons and going to Protracted meeting seems to be in full sway. It is real August.

Mr. R. P. Davis and daughter Miss Mable, who have been spending some time in and around Buffalo has returned to their home in Newport News accompanied by little Miss Agnes Cheek who will spend some time with relatives in the city.

Mr. Willis Neal and wife spent the night with J. A. Cheek's family Sunday was called to the House recently.

Miss Frank Newell and wife made a short call in Buffalo Monday.

Miss Pattie Cullom seems to be having a happy time visiting Miss Fannie Fern Davis.

Mr. A. S. Bugg took his wife to Henderson Sunday to the Hospital. Her friends rejoice to know that she is steadily improving.

Mrs. Welda Powell, of Spencer, with her two bright little children also her sister Miss Virgie Duke were pleasant callers at J. A. Cheek's Sunday afternoon.

FARMER.

THE KAISER'S SYMPATHY LETTER

GIVES INSIGHT INTO GERMAN NATIONAL LIFE

Contrast Vivid Between His and President Lincoln's Letter of Sympathy; Every Citizen of America Should Read:

The following from the Literary Digest we take pleasure in publishing for it clearly show the two types struggling for mastery in the world of tomorrow:

One word in the Kaiser's letter to Frau Meter after she had lost nine sons in the war strikes the majority of non-Germans with amazement. It has been often asserted by our enemies that the world outside their borders does not think as do the Germans, and the rebuke is accepted as praise, but when the Kaiser writes the bereaved mother that he is "gratified" by the extent of her sacrifice there is seen to be a depth yet unplumbed in the Emperor's psychology. Americans instinctively place alongside this strange message of sympathy the letter that Lincoln wrote to Mrs. Bixby, and the two men seem to stand out in a clearer light:

The Kaiser's Letter

"His Majesty the Kaiser hears that you have sacrificed nine sons in defense of the Fatherland in the present war. His Majesty is immensely gratified at the fact, and in recognition is pleased to send you his photograph, with frame and autograph signature."

Lincoln's Letter

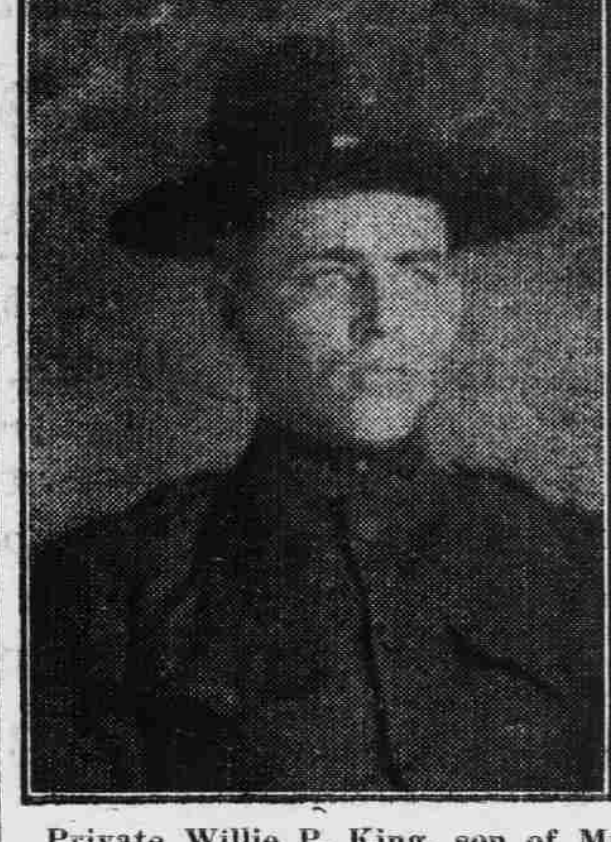
"Dear Madam—I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant-General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any words of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I can not refrain from tendering to you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom."

It will be recalled that the Kaiser in one of his recent speeches spoke of the war as a struggle between two world ideals, and his letter, together with the act that it signalizes, must be taken as tribute to the ideal that possesses the soul of William. As editorial writers East and West view the contrasting letters, "the spirit of autocracy and the spirit of democracy are here contrasted beyond the power of any commentary to it." The Kansas City Star observes:

"Only a humane man, a man of the loftiest as well as the tenderest of feelings, could have written the letter to Mrs. Bixby. Only a supreme egotist could have written the letter to Frau Meter. Yet it would be a mistake to assume that Lincoln, because he felt his heart melt at the grief of an American mother, had not the sternness of purpose to persevere in his task of saving democracy on this continent. The other word for German efficiency is cruelty. To be thorough, in the German theory, is to be unfeeling. The Kaiser, therefore, was 'gratified' that nine sons of a German mother had died to preserve his autocracy. To him it was merely evidence that his system was still working, and he congratulated himself. That is the meaning of his letter. It could not convey any other and be German.

"Lincoln could lay the balm of a noble sympathy on a mother's aching heart, but he would not have restored her sons to her even if he could have done so at the sacrifice of the cause in which they died. He was a man of the gentlest nature, but he was not a sentimentalist. He knew that the war must go on and that mother's sons must die before it could end in the establishment of the right. He did not assume that he could square the account with them by sending them his pictured autograph or by expressing gratification. Mrs. Bixby's consolation must be in the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom."

WILLIE P. KING



Private Willie P. King, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. King, of Arcola, volunteered and enlisted in H. Company May 24, 1917 being among the first who volunteered from Warren county Willie is a cabinet of good qualities and is well liked by all. He is now doing his bit with the men of Warren in France.

"There was a purpose here as firm as the Kaiser's is cruel. He was gentle, but not weak. It was the purpose of the Gettysburg address again expressed that these dead shall not have died in vain. There could be no going back from the righteous goal because men had perished. Rather there must be renewed determination to press on.

These are things to be remembered when the letter to Mrs. Bixby is brought up to illustrate Lincoln's gentleness and sympathy. He had these attributes, but they did not constitute weakness in the structure of his devotion to a human cause."

One commentary is supplied by the New York Times in warning us that the report has it that "Frau Meter has now joined the street-beggars in Delmenhorst-Oldenburg to get a living," before viewing the Kaiser's letter "with laughter and scorn, it is well to remember that the recipient may have viewed it exactly as did the giver." For—

"If she believed, as she presumably does, in the divine right of kings, it may be that she was appreciably comforted in her bereavement, and, at any rate, it can be assumed that the Kaiser honestly thought she would be. "Lincoln, naturally, did not send his photograph to the mother who had lost five sons, and he admitted that no words of his could mitigate her sorrow. All he felt that he could do was to thank her in behalf of the Republic her sons had died to save, and to remind her of the pride she had a right to feel who had 'laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.'"

"So speaks the representative of autocracy, and so the exponent of democracy! Each of the letters is a characteristic product of the country in which it originated, as of the man who wrote it. Today the two exemplify the causes for which so many men are dying on both sides of the line between the Central Powers and their confederated opponents."

Celebrates Her Seventy-Eighth Birthday

On Friday, August 16th, the old Colonial home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Palmer, of Six Pound, was the scene of much pleasure, the occasion being the seventy-eighth birthday of Mrs. Sarah F. Twitty.

The spacious parlor and halls were beautifully decorated with golden rod, ferns and flags. The color scheme of red, white and blue was carried out in the dining room, where a large number of children and grand children gathered around the board. The birthday cake, decorated with white icing and tiny red candles, stood on a large glass salon around which eight circles of red, white and blue candles were arranged. While the candles burned, velvet cream and nabiscos were served. As the last of the candles burned out, the cake was cut by the grandmother, assisted by her little grand daughter Lalla Pitts Palmer.

The singing of old fashioned songs was an enjoyable feature of the afternoon.

As the evening came to a close Miss Fern Scott, of Knoxville, Tenn., and Miss Sue Palmer accompanied by Mr. Russell Palmer, sweetly sang Mother Macree. Wishing the grandmother many joyful and happy returns of the day, the party dispersed.

A CALL TO THE YOUNG WOMEN

WARREN COUNTY ASKED TO FURNISH FIVE NURSES

To Work In American Hospitals Releasing Trained Nurses For Overseas Duty Where They Are Much Needed.

To the Young Women of America.

Across the sea, from France, with every closing day of the heroic struggle of our fighting men, there comes a more imperative call to the women of America to assume their full share of responsibility in winning this world war for the right of men, women, and nations to live their own lives and determine their own fortunes.

There exists now an extreme need for at least 25,000 women of character, intelligence, and education to fill the gaps in our hospital staffs caused by the calling of many thousands of skilled nurses to the fighting front.

There is only one way to fill these gaps: By keeping our hospital training schools supplied with students, who are not only preparing for service abroad and at home at the end of their course and at the same time are equipping themselves to earn their living in one of the noblest of professions, but from the very outset of their course are serving their country as well as learning.

The service which we are asking calls for the best that the womanhood of America can offer in courage, devotion, and resourcefulness. We can not go forward to victory overseas if the wives and families of our fighters are not sustained in health and strength, if we can not protect our workers against the hazards of war industries, if we can not defeat accident and disease, our enemies at home. Upon the health of the American people will depend the spirit of their forces in the field.

Acting on the urgency of the need the undersigned have asked the State divisions of the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense, through their local units, to enroll the 25,000 women needed. We ask the women of America to support us in our further effort not to lower American hospital standards, and to give us the practical assurance of their support by going to the nearest recruiting station established by the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense and enrolling in the United States Student Nurse Reserve.

ANNA HOWARD SHAW, Chairman, Woman's Committee, Council of National Defense.

W. C. GORGAS, Surgeon General, U. S. Army.

RUPERT BLUE, Surgeon General, United States Public Health Service.

H. P. DAVISSON, Chairman, War Council, American Red Cross.

DR. FRANKLIN MARTIN, Chairman, General Medical Board, Council of National Defense.

This appeal is designed to be direct to the young womanhood of America and to the young womanhood of North Carolina in particular. This appeal is made on the basis that every day of a student nurse's training represents a double patriotic service, in that while she is preparing for military or civil duty later if needed, she immediately releases a graduate nurse for military duty and herself cares for the civilian population.

Warren county is asked for five nurses. Applicants must be between 19 and 35 years of age. Application should be made to or information received from Mrs. Kate P. Arrington, chairman, Woman's Division, Council of National Defense for Warren.

—W.S.S.—

Bob Wanted Copper-toed Teeth

The admiration which Bob felt for his Aunt Margaret included all her "I don't care much for plain teeth like mine, aunt Margaret," said Bob, one day, after a long silence, during which he had watched her in laughing conversation with his mother. "I wish I had some copper-toed ones like yours."—Biblical Recorder.

—W.S.S.—

We raised a good crop in Warren this year, now let us invest heavily in War Stamps and help our boys in the task of "raising H-I-I for Germany"