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ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.

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Save Fertilizer Bills, increase crop productivity, and make the best of summer forage crops.

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36,000 PRISONERS TAKEN IN PICARDY

IN ESTIMATES OF CAPTURED ARE 1,000 OFFICERS FROM GENERAL TO CORPORAL.

OVER 500 CANNON IN SPOIL

Enemy Resistance is Stiffening Against Advance of Allies; Desperate Stand Expected.

The number of prisoners taken so far in the allied offensive in Picardy is now estimated at 36,000, including more than 1,000 officers. More than 500 guns have been captured, according to the latest advices.

The pivot of the German resistance at this stage of the battle, it now appears, is the town of Noyon, about midway between Montdidier and Soissons. The enemy is throwing in reserves from this base in an effort to prevent, regardless of cost, the allies from gaining control of the Noyon-Ham road, which is choked with material, guns and troops.

The Germans are expected to make a desperate stand on the Roye-Noyon to permit the columns which are retreating in the direction of Nesle and Ham to reach safety.

The resistance of the Germans is stiffening against the fourth British army under General Rawlinson. They are reacting violently in the region of Libons, which changed hands twice during the night but which was firmly held by the British.

All the bridges across the Somme between Peronne and Ham, a stretch of about 15 miles, have been destroyed by allied aviators. The Germans have been attempting to throw temporary bridges across the stream and the allied airmen are now systematically bombing these improvised structures.

All morning reports show extreme confusion among the enemy forces in their precipitate retreat.

Among the prisoners taken are generals, colonels and officers of all other grades. Eleven divisions of Generals von Hutier and von Marwitz have been identified by prisoners taken.

GERMANS DIGGING IN ALONG THE VESLE RIVER

With the American Army on the Vesle—Allied aviators have reported that the Germans are digging in opposite the Franco-American line along the Vesle. The observers also have reported that the enemy is stringing barbed wire along the hills northwest of France.

Allied officers express the belief that the Germans will not give ground here unless they are deliberately pushed off the plateau.

The Americans learned from German prisoners that the enemy was using an old rock quarry cave in the region of Longueil, large enough to conceal two regiments. He employed it as a refuge for troops to rest. The Franco-American heavy artillery shelled the cave all day and the Germans were finally compelled to abandon it as a hiding place.

The guns of the Franco-Americans got the range of the entrance to the cave and kept up a continuous fire all day. Observers reported that the cave had been considerably damaged and was rendered very untenable. The Germans are digging trenches along the line west and east of Longueil and also in the valley of the Perle.

COAL SHORTAGE IS SOURCE OF DANGER

Washington.—Coal miners and operators were called upon in a proclamation by President Wilson to give their maximum effort to the production of coal to the end that the threatened shortage next winter may be averted. The president asked miners particularly to work full time and urged those who are essential to the industry to accept deferred classification in the draft.

MISS MARION DAVIES



Miss Marion L. Davies, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, is one of the first women to be appointed examiner under the federal trade commission. She is doing research work in the congressional library, investigating facts about the manufacture of various articles.

GERMAN LOSSES ARE HEAVY

ALONG BATTLE FRONT CONDITIONS UNCHANGED BUT ANTICIPATION RUNS RIOT.

Thirty-Five Thousand Prisoners In Addition to Supplies and 700 Cannon Fall to Allies.

Conditions on the battlefield along the Vesle river between Soissons and Rheims remain unchanged, and, relatively speaking, there have been no developments of outstanding importance on the line running from the region of Montdidier toward the English channel. In both regions, however, there is a tension which seems to forecast the approaching dawn of big events.

The Germans have been shelling heavily the American and French soldiers who have made their way across to the northern bank of the Vesle or delivering heavy counter-attacks against them, but everywhere they have met with a stonewall of resistance that has not permitted them to counter-balance their losses of ground.

But the Germans have not been permitted by the allies to have a monopoly of the initiative. Where they have thrown shells against the Americans in the Fismes sector, American missiles have been returned with added interest. This particular sector has been a veritable inferno. Gas against the Americans, who, with their gas masks adjusted, were virtually unharmed by the noxious fumes. A kindly switch in the wind at one time even turned back the gas against the enemy. The French also have answered the Germans in kind.

Thirty-five thousand prisoners and 700 cannon have been captured, said the premier, who added that Paris no longer was in danger, that Soissons and Chateau-Thierry have been reconquered and that 200 villages had been delivered through the formidable thrust of Foch's men through the Soissons-Rheims salient.

FINE RECORD IS MADE BY AMERICAN SHIP BUILDERS

Washington.—With the launching of 128 vessels, totaling 631,944 deadweight tons, and the delivery of 41 others of 235,025 deadweight tons, new world shipbuilding records were established in July by American shipyards, the shipping board announced. The July launchings alone were greater than those of any single year in the past.

The launchings included 67 steel vessels of 43,244 deadweight tons; 53 wood ships of 187,70 deadweight tons, and three composite ships of 11,000 tons.

GERMAN ARMIES STILL SWEEP BACK

TANKS, CARS, CAVALRY AND INFANTRY ALL COMBINE TO OVERWHELM FOE.

GREAT NUMBER OF PRISONERS

Allies Capture 17,000 Prisoners, More Than Two Hundred Cannon and Other War Munitions.

Over a curving front of more than 20 miles the British and French troops are continuing to sweep back the Germans eastward across the north of the Somme east of Morlancourt to the eastern bank of the Avre northwest of Montdidier.

As on the first day of the offensive, material progress was made over the entire battle front. Many additional villages were captured; the bag of prisoners was largely increased; numerous guns and great quantities of war stores were taken, and heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy by tanks, armored motor cars, the cavalrymen and the infantry. The losses sustained by the Anglo-French forces are declared to be relatively small.

To the allied forces there have fallen 17,000 German prisoners and between 200 and 300 guns, many of them of heavy caliber and numerous machine guns, trench mortars and kindred small weapons.

Already having penetrated the Picardy salient to a depth of nearly 13 miles in the center toward the vicinity of the important railroad junction of Chaules, and at other points along the arc, pushed forward between five and seven miles, the northern and southern flanks of the battle front where the Germans had been resisting desperately, gave way before the pressure respectively of the British and French.

A CORRESPONDENT SAYS GERMANY IS SCARED WHITE

London, England.—Germany is scared white.

She's scared, first of all, over the turn of things on the west front; over the thousands of Americans regularly outfighting her; over the hundreds of thousands of Americans willing to get into line; over the millions of other Americans "on the way."

This information comes from an allied source whose business it is to know conditions in the enemy countries.

She's frightened about Austria. She doesn't know what moment Austria may blow up. She knows what is known and conceded in official allied sources—that the Austrian economic situation is worse now than it has been since the opening of the war and the people are bolder.

She's frightened about Russia. Allied warships and American troops up north have puffed out her hope of getting her hands on the hundreds of thousands of tons of military stores at Archangel, there since the revolution; she can't take a step toward Petrograd or the northern railway lost these allies force swoop south; and for all she knows they may be going to swoop south without waiting for that menace; she can't spare men from the west front.

GOVERNMENT, NOT DRAFT, WILL DO THE SELECTING

Washington.—New draft regulations under which the government would do the selecting rather than leaving it to the registrant, are under consideration by the war department.

The war secretary made it plain that he is not satisfied with the present system under which the registrant must claim deferred classification, as many men with dependents hesitate for patriotic reasons to make such a claim. In this connection, Mr. Baker said, he was inclined to the opinion that the marriage relation will in itself constitute deferred classification.

ALONZO E. TAYLOR



A new photograph of Dr. Alonzo E. Taylor, a member of the war trade board and also of the House mission to Europe. He was in charge of the feeding of French and English in Germany before the United States entered the war. In private life he ranks as one of the leading food chemists and biologists in the world.

IS PRAISED BY LLOYD-GEORGE

ALL POSITIONS PREVIOUSLY GAINED STEADILY HELD BY STIFF FIGHTING.

British Premier Praises Part Taken in Present Offensive by the American Troops.

The allied armies have obtained further successes over the Germans in fighting in the Soissons-Rheims sector and to the north in the Montdidier region and still further north in Flanders between the Lawe and Clarence rivers.

East of the town of Braisne on the Vesle River, midway between Soissons and Rheims, American and French troops after the stiffest kind of fighting have crossed the river and held all the positions previously gained by the allied troops through-out the entire Rheims-Soissons salient. In addition, the heavy artillery fire of the French and British gives promise of seriously menacing the entire German front from near the sea to Rheims. If the drive should proceed eastward to any great depth it cannot but affect the armies of the German crown prince now fighting between the Aisne and the Vesle and possibly make impracticable a stand by them even north of the Aisne.

Under the pressure of the offensive the menace to the channel ports also seems for the moment at least to vanish. Already there have been signs to the northward from the positions where Crown Prince Rupprecht had formed his men for a drive toward the channel that a retrograde movement by the Germans was not improbable. It is apparent that Rupprecht will have to defer his campaign to cut off the cross-channel service.

GOVERNMENT TO TAKE OVER COLD STORAGE PLANTS, ETC.

Washington.—Investigation of the packing industry of the country by the federal trade commission culminated in an announcement that the commission had recommended to President Wilson that the government commandeer and operate for the public benefit stockyards, cold storage plants, warehouses and refrigerator and cattle cars.

Monopolistic control of the essential food supply not only of the United States and its army and navy, but also of the entente countries was charged by the commission against the five great packing companies—Swift, Armour, Morris, Cudahy and Wilson. The last named company, the committee's report said, is controlled by three of the strongest banking groups in the United States—Kuhn, Loeb & Co., Guaranty Trust Co. and Chase National bank.

TO HURL ENTIRE STRENGTH AMERICAN ARMY ON GERMANS

Washington.—Backed by a reservoir of 5,000,000 American troops, Field Marshal Foch, supreme commander of the American and allied armies, is preparing to hurl the entire united military strength of France, Great Britain and the United States against the Germans on the western front in time to bring the war to a victorious conclusion in the shortest possible time. Next spring will see the terrific conflict, already in progress on the Aisne-Marne line, in full swing.

SURPRISE ATTACK RENEWS RETREAT

FOCH'S NEW OFFENSIVE GIVES PROMISE OF SERIOUS MENACE TO GERMAN FRONT.

CHANNEL PORTS NOW SAFE

Evident That Rupprecht Must Defer Campaign to Cut Off the Cross-Channel Service.

The historic battle ground between Amiens and Montdidier again is the scene of a mighty contest. This time the British and French are the aggressors and under their fierce onslaughts in the first day's battle they have penetrated deeply into the German positions over a front of more than 20 miles, reaching from the region of Braches to the neighborhood of Morlancourt.

Following short but intensive artillery preparation and aided by misty weather, the allied attack took the Germans completely by surprise and they fled almost everywhere pell mell before the tanks, motor machine gun batteries, cavalry and infantry sent against them. At the objectives set for the Australians, Canadians, Englishmen and Frenchmen were attained in remarkably quick time, and at last accounts the allied forces were still making progress. Wherever the enemy turned to give battle he was decisively defeated.

Thousands of Germans were made prisoner. Large numbers of guns were captured, great quantities of war materials were taken and a score or more of villages and hamlets were re-occupied. In addition, heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

At its deepest point the penetration of the German line was about seven and a half miles eastward from Villers-Bretonneux to Framerville, while from two to five miles were gained all along the front from northwest of Montdidier to the region around Morlancourt. The fighting extended north of Morlancourt to the Albert sector, but no official details concerning it have been received.

Well out on the plains and pressing forward, seemingly with great rapidity, the present offensive of the French and British gives promise of seriously menacing the entire German front from near the sea to Rheims. If the drive should proceed eastward to any great depth it cannot but affect the armies of the German crown prince now fighting between the Aisne and the Vesle and possibly make impracticable a stand by them even north of the Aisne.

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FIGHTING IN EUROPE

SELF PRESERVATION as well as patriotism demands that our farmers shall plentifully feed our fighters.

When Germany proclaimed the sea closed to American merchant vessels and entered upon her program of wholesale ocean tonnage destruction, she was aiming a blow directly at the American Farmer.

For lack of proper marketing and shipping facilities Australia today has three crops unsold and millions of tons of grain spoiled or destroyed either by weather or rodents.

Upon our success in this war depends not only life and liberty but livelihood.

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Rocky Mount, N. C.

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Office in Grand Jury Building

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Nashville Office at Residence Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of each week.

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Start With Fenner! Sell With Fenner! Stick To Fenner!