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BRITISH WITHSTOOD TERRIFIC ASSAULT

Line Bent Back at Points in Friday's Fighting.

KAISER SAW THE ATTACK THAT HIS BIG ARMY MADE

Purpose of German Assault Was to Regain Old Hindenburg Line Lost Last Fall.

The big offensive of the Germans on the Western Front continued all day Friday in its terrible fury. The following summary by the Associated Press in Saturday's daily papers tells the story of the day:

In a battle that has rivaled in ferocity any that has preceded it during three and a half years of warfare the British, on a 50-mile front, have withstood a great German offensive in its initial stages. At some points the British line has been bent back, but not as much as had been expected by military experts acquainted with the forces the Germans had brought up and the power of the guns they had upon and behind the line.

As a result of the struggle on that part of the front just west of Cambrai, where the fighting was apparently hottest, the British line has nowhere been broken and Field Marshal Haig's men have inflicted frightful casualties on the enemy.

As an indication of the sanguinary nature of the fighting the Berlin foreign offices states that 16,000 men and 200 guns have been captured. This may be compared to the British losses in the German counter-offensive on December 4, 1917, when 6,000 men and 100 guns were captured.

The first reports of infantry fighting were indicative of an attempt on the part of the Germans to drive wedges into both sides of the Cambrai salient, isolate the British troops farther east and regain the Hindenburg line, from which they were driven on November 22, 1917, by General Byng's sudden blow. Subsequent dispatches, the plan of the German general staff. The fighting on the rest of the 20-mile front was but a side issue to the terrific onslaught aimed at Gauche wood and Lagnicourt, the south and north bases of the salient.

Bent Back Two and Half Miles.
There is no data upon which it is possible to estimate the success attained by the Germans to the south, but names of towns where the armies were battling on Friday show that on the northern side of the salient the Germans bent the British line back about two and a half miles. It was reported that St. Leger was the scene of a hard struggle and that Diognies had been retaken by the British.

The concentration of men and artillery on the British front, as shown in official reports, demonstrates that the Germans are making a determined effort to smash the British front. Forty divisions, or about 400,000 Teutonic troops, are in the fight. The total number of cannon the Germans are employing cannot be estimated, but unofficial reports say that there were 1,000 guns on one small sector. Austrian and Bulgarian troops have made their appearance on the British front.

Kaiser Saw the Attack.
The attack was launched under the eyes of Emperor William, Field Marshal Von Hindenburg and General Ludendorff, the three guiding spirits of the German war machine. The French report fighting in various sectors, especially in the Champagne and in Lorraine.

Hostilities are not limited to the front in France, but the Italian battle line is beginning to show signs of activity beyond the ordinary. An Austrian attack in the Frenzela valley was checked by the Italians after an advanced post had been taken. The Frenzela river is a tributary of the Brenta and a drive there would be for the purpose of gaining a foothold on a road to the plains of northern Italy.

American cannon have continued the terrific pounding of the German lines in the Luneville sector and raiding parties have found that the German trenches there have been demolished. So complete is the evacuation of the German first lines that an American patrol crossed No Man's Land without artillery assistance and without being fired on by the enemy.

THE MATTER EXPLAINED.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BONDS AND WAR STAMPS.

Mr. Gilbert T. Stephenson Explains Difference. Says People Want to Know in Order to Invest.

Winston - Salem, March 23.—To show the exact difference between Liberty Bonds and War Savings Stamps, also the similarities, advantages and purposes of each, Mr. Gilbert T. Stephenson, director of service for State Headquarters for War Savings, has prepared a short and concise article in which he explicitly sets forth the characteristics and merits of each. Mr. Stephenson says that he found this article necessary for the reason that on his trips through the State he finds men who have money to invest who want to know just the points of difference between the stamps and the bonds.

Mr. Stephenson points out first wherein the bonds and stamps are similar. He says that each was issued to help finance the war and is a promissory note of the Government, that the payment of each is secured by the taxing power of the Government, that each bears the same rate of interest, are non-taxable to the same extent and that each may be protected against loss or destruction by registration.

Their main differences lie, he says, in that the unit of the bond is \$50 while the unit of the certificate is \$4 plus a few cents; that the bond matures in an indefinite number of years while the stamp matures January 1, 1923; that the bond is not redeemable before maturity, except at option of the Government, while the stamp certificate is redeemable at any time, upon ten days' notice, that the bond is negotiable while the certificate is not.

As to the advantages of the two, he says bonds enable one to make large investments in Government securities while the certificates give this privilege to the small investor; the bonds enable long-time investments while the stamps provide for one to get his money back at once if necessary. The bond provides the best collateral security obtainable. The stamp enables one to make small investments at convenient intervals.

The purpose of the Government in issuing the bonds was to secure large amounts of money immediately for war purposes and to allow itself plenty of time to pay back the loan. In issuing the War Stamps the Government's purpose was to increase the number of Government bondholders, to make it possible for small investors to buy Government bonds, to get money into circulation, to provide against the financial depression after the war, and to encourage economy and thrift by making and investing in a patriotic enterprise.

A Little Child Led Them.

It was a moment when every nerve was tense. Captain David Fallon, a returned British officer from France, wounded fifteen times in battle, had just finished his thrilling address, and pledges of \$1,000 to the War-Savings Stamp Campaign had been called for it. Little Donald C. Warlick, bright and attractive, about five years old, had apparently heard every word the speaker had said. He had just squared himself on the top of the altar railing, a second or a third time, when the request for \$1,000 pledges was greatly emphasized. His hand shot up instantly. The audience was silent. At first it was thought a mistake,—that the boy did not understand. Before an exclamation could be made, his father, Mr. Jesse Warlick, of Hickory, said: "Take his name. I'll stand by him. I'll see that every cent of it is paid." After this pledges were easily taken. Before the meeting closed \$30,000 in pledges had been signed. Meanwhile, an aged minister in the audience arose and said: "Brethren, 'And a little child shall lead them.'—Ex.

The Germans, continuing their advance in southern Russia, have captured the city of Ochakov, 41-miles northeast of Odessa. The Germans are also continuing their invasion further north. Chaotic conditions are reported in northern Russia, where the people are fleeing as best they may from the invading Teutons.

BRITISH WITHDRAW TO NEW BATTLE FRONT

British Swept Back West of St. Quentin.

THE ASSAULTS CONTINUE WITH GREAT FIERCENESS

British Taking Up New Prepared Positions As The Enemy Pushes Them Back.

The battle on the Western front continued Saturday, the story of which is told in the Associated Press War Summary as follows:

Assaulting the British lines on the south the Germans have forced their way forward over a frontage approximately 21 miles in length, have penetrated to a depth of four or five miles west of Cambrai and have reached Ham, west of St. Quentin, a distance of about nine miles west of the British lines, as they stood before the inception of the Teutonic offensive on Thursday.

The German claim that the forces of the central empires are fighting on a line northeast of Bapaume, Peronne and Ham has not been substantiated by British official dispatches, but the British reports show that there has been a retirement at various points, especially at St. Quentin, where Field Marshal Haig says his forces have taken up their new positions and are heavily engaged with the enemy.

According to a Berlin official dispatch "a considerable part of the British army has been beaten", but this is not borne out by any facts so far known. That 25,000 men have possibly been captured by the Teutons may be considered as a natural result of the slow British withdrawal on various parts of the line. This number, however, is very small in comparison to the forces Haig has thrown into the fray.

The great offensive has developed as its salient features an apparent desperate effort to break into the southwest of St. Quentin, drive a wedge between the British and the French and push on across the Somme canal in the general direction of Compiègne and Paris.

Simultaneously Paris has been bombarded at quarter-hour intervals, beginning Saturday forenoon, with shells of about nine inch calibre. The source of the bombardment has not been revealed. The nearest point on the front is 62 miles distant, more than twice as far as artillery fire has ever reached previously. One theory suggested is that the Germans have developed an aerial torpedo which can be fired from a long distance.

Compel British Retreat.
There was an admitted break in the British line in the St. Quentin region late Saturday the Germans forcing their way through the defensive system and compelling a British retreat to prepared position within the area devastated by the Germans in their retreat in the spring of 1917.

This new line also is now being attacked by the Germans and news dispatches filed from the front late in the day indicated that the fighting already was heavy in the vicinity of Ham, which report this a penetration of some nine miles for the Germans. Ham is approximately 11 miles southwest of St. Quentin.

A supreme effort by the Germans to cut the line in this region is forecast in the dispatches. They have put cavalry in the field to follow up the infantry and evidently intend to throw the Uhlans into the fray when the infantry columns open the breach the German high command is counting upon.

Further north the British lines, while they have drawn back, are holding well in their new positions. The maximum British retrogression there seems to have been about four miles, at Morey, which has changed hands several times.

Reports that the French have become involved in the struggle seem credible, as the recession of the British right flank, which was resting approximately upon LeFere, at the river Oise, would inevitably carry with it the French left, which has retsed upon the Oise.

The advance is being accompanied by a terrible slaughter of the Germans, who in their massed formations are being cut to pieces by British guns of all calibres. The British casualties,

GERMAN KAISER IN COMMAND OF FORCES

Masterly Retirement of General Haig's Main Army.

MORE THAN A MILLION HUNS IN FIGHTING LINE

Allies Are Optimistic. Germany Claims Large Gains in Prisoners and Guns.

All day Sunday the battle raged with German army pushing back British troops. The story of the day is thus summarized by the Associated Press:

The withdrawal of the British forces along the battle front in France was long ago planned in the event of the Germans attacking in great force. This announcement comes from the British front through the Associated Press correspondent, who describes the operation of the British army as a masterly withdrawal, made possible by gallant shock troops in the front lines, who checked the advance of the Germans, while artillery, machine gun and rifle fire worked appalling slaughter among the masses of German infantry as they were sent forward, thus enabling the main body of the British to fall back deliberately and without confusion.

This army, it is declared, has been conserved and up to the present very few counter-attacks have been made against the Germans. Where the British have stormed the Germans' newly acquired positions they have driven them back. But each mile of advance makes the bringing up of supplies to the German artillery and infantry more and more difficult, and unquestionably the British strategy, as demonstrated since the beginning of the great attack, is to let the enemy, so far as he may, wear himself out against a powerful defense.

Both British and French forces, where their lines meet south of St. Quentin, are watching events with optimistic eyes.

On the battle line in France the sanguinary struggle still is going on, with the British troops on most of the sectors apparently holding their own, but with the Germans at salient points still pressing forward.

The town of Chauny, southeast of St. Quentin, situated on the road to Compiègne, the gateway to Paris, has been occupied by the Germans and according to the Berlin official communications, everywhere between the Somme and the Oise rivers the Germans are pressing their advantage.

Throughout Sunday along the entire 50-mile battle front the fighting never ceased for a moment, and where too, have been heavy, and Berlin claims the taking of 25,000 prisoners and 400 guns.

Kaiser in Command.
Emperor William himself is in command of the German armies fighting this battle which he has previously declared would be the decisive one of the war, and London commentators credit him with assuming this post with the aim of going down in history as the victor in the greatest conflict in the world's history should the Germans win, as their leaders have boasted they would.

Despite the advances made by the Germans no less of confidence on the allied side in the ultimate outcome is apparent. "Serious, but not alarming" is the view London takes of the situation. Attention is largely centered now on the St. Quentin thrust and the next big developments are looked for to come from that sector.

River Jordan Crossed.
The great battle in the west has caused all other news to become of minor importance by comparison, but considerable interest attaches to the announcement of a further British success in Palestine, where General Allenby's troops forced a crossing of the river Jordan and are fighting their way eastward after successfully bridging the stream.

Besides the mysterious bombardment of Paris, the city was subjected to its first daylight raid, carried out shortly after 8 o'clock Saturday morning. Bombs were dropped at several points by the few machines, flying at an extremely high altitude, which succeeded in penetrating over the city. A number of casualties resulted.

ELEVATION CITIZEN DEAD.

Mr. William Henry Lassiter Died Sunday in His 73rd Year. Was Confederate Soldier. Member of Primitive Baptist Church for More Than Forty-Five Years.

Mr. William Henry Lassiter died quite suddenly at his home in Elevation township, Sunday morning about 5:30 o'clock, of acute indigestion. He was taken ill Saturday night and lived only a few hours. He had been in rather feeble health for the past few years.

He was buried at the family graveyard at his home yesterday afternoon in the presence of a large crowd of relatives and friends who gathered to pay a last tribute of respect to their loved one and friend. He leaves behind a widow and two daughters, Mrs. John King and Mrs. J. W. Langdon, and one son, Sir William Lassiter, to mourn his death. He also leaves two brothers, Mr. John W. Lassiter and Mr. W. A. Lassiter, and one sister, Mrs. W. B. Hobbs.

William Henry Lassiter was the son of the late Alfred Lassiter and a grandson of old "Uncle Billie" Lassiter who died about 1875 at an advanced age. He was born on Christmas Day in 1845 and was in his 73rd year. He had been a faithful member of Clement Primitive Baptist church for more than forty-five years, being a deacon of the church most of that time.

He was a brave Confederate soldier and served through the entire war, surrendering with Gen. Robert E. Lee at Appomattox. He was a good citizen, friend and neighbor and his passing will be greatly missed. He was kind to those about him and was always found at the homes in the community where there was sickness ministering to the needs of those who were suffering. He was of an honest and sturdy race of men whose word was their bond and whose uprightness of character was proverbial. He was faithful to his church, always being found in his accustomed place when he was able to be there. A good man has gone to his reward.

Field Marshal Haig's men were unable to withstand the terrific onslaughts delivered by greatly superior forces, ground was given, but always in orderly fashion.

More Than Million Germans.
It now has been definitely ascertained that considerably more than a million Germans have been brought to the western front in an endeavor to crush the British army holding the line from the region of Arras to the south of St. Quentin, but it daily becomes increasingly evident that the enemy in his drive has met with opposition not counted upon and been unable to realize to the full his objectives.

In addition to Chauny, the Germans are claiming the capture of both Peronne and Ham, and to have increased the number of prisoners taken to more than 30,000 in addition to 600 guns and large stores of war materials.

In their retirement, according to Berlin, the British are burning towns and villages behind them. This statement, however, seemingly is capable of being received with reserve, as the Germans themselves in their famous "strategic" retirement left little standing in the territory they evacuated, even denuding the country of trees.

Long Distance Gun Mystery.
One of the mysteries of the offensive which now has been solved is that the shelling of Paris is being done by a long-range German gun. This statement is contained in the Berlin official communication and a Paris dispatch says that one of the guns has been located near Laon, about 76 miles from the center of Paris. Throughout Sunday morning and into the mid-afternoon shells were dropped in Paris at intervals of from 12 to 20 minutes.

Already the spirit of boastfulness which pervades the German army in times of success is being strongly manifested. Field Marshal Von Hindenburg has complimented the German emperor on the "initial success" and the latest German official communication is loud in its plaudits of the German troops, declaring that "the attacking spirit of the infantry could not have been exceeded."

BRITISH FORCES ARE FIGHTING FIERCELY

Heavy Fighting Kept Up All Day Long Monday.

ALLIED FORCES FALLING BACK IN FINE ORDER

Germans Sustain Heavy Losses While They Claim They Have Taken Many Prisoners.

The assault of the Germans on the British forces on the Western front was kept up through the day yesterday. The story is briefly told from the Associated Press Summary in this morning's News and Observer:

Battling for every point of vantage, giving ground only when overwhelmed by numbers and exacting a frightful toll of lives for every foot of ground abandoned, the British line in Picardy is still intact. While the German onslaught gained ground at a number of points on Monday there was no sign of disintegration in the British forces, which at many points, especially on the northern end of the long line of battle, are standing firm.

The largest gains made by the Germans have been west of St. Quentin, where they have captured Nesle and Guiscard. These points which are at the tip of the Teutonic attack, are more than ten miles from the front as it stood March 21.

The French positions joined the British to the south of St. Quentin but there have been no reports showing that the French have fallen back from their advanced positions. On the other hand reports would indicate that the original French lines now virtually outflank the advancing Germans along the Oise river.

In the meantime the British strategy seems to be devoted to the task of meeting the attack so that it is directed no longer straight at the line, but is diverted toward the Oise, where the German advance has been most rapid.

French troops have taken over sectors of the front and have released British units for work farther north.

The fall of Bapaume, in the early hours of Monday was a blow to the British, but it was the result of a determination to fall back slowly all along the line that is being attacked. Official reports state that repeated heavy attacks on Bapaume were beaten off by the British, who also forced the Germans back across the Somme at a number of points, only to fall back when the safe retreat of the main body of the army had been assured.

While the German wedge is still moving, its progress is not alarmingly rapid as it was in the first rush of the Teutonic hordes. The yielding line it is asserted, has absorbed the impetus of the shock and has weathered the storm remarkably well. Berlin claims that 45,000 prisoners have been taken. These were probably units which were left to hold the easier defended points while the main portion of Field Marshal Haig's army fell back.

The British losses have been heavy, but it is officially announced that considering the magnitude of the struggle, they are not undue. On the other hand, the Germans have suffered terribly, even Berlin admitting that the Teutonic casualties before Peronne were "comparatively heavy."

Brought Cars From Toledo.

Mr. Ruffin Coats, of Four Oaks, was in town yesterday, having just returned from a trip to Toledo, Ohio. Mr. Coats with two other gentlemen went to Toledo to buy cars and bring them home through the country, not being able to get them shipped. They succeeded in getting the cars and left Toledo last Monday afternoon. They came by Cleveland, Youngstown, and other Ohio cities, Pittsburg, Pa., and Washington, D. C. From Washington they came by Richmond and Henderson, reaching Four Oaks Sunday evening, making the trip in six days. Mr. Coats says they found the roads in fine condition with the exception of a stretch this side of Alexandria, Va. Up in the mountains of western Pennsylvania and in Ohio they found the roads, great stretches of them, as good as the paved streets of Smithfield.

About \$500,000,000 a year is being spent on education in the United States.