

# FURTHER GAINS OF HIGH IMPORTANCE

STEADY GAINS OF GREAT STRATEGIC VALUE ARE MADE BY ALLIED FORCES.

## GERMAN COUNTER ATTACKS

Violent Counter Attacks by Foe Are as Usual Repulsed With Heavy Losses.

Although the Germans are employing fresh forces of reserves in efforts to hold back the allied troops who are pressing them from the region of the Somme to the Oise, the American, British and French armies continue to make progress. Monday witnessed gains of ground at various points along the battle front of high importance for the further prosecution of the endeavors of the allies to drive out the Germans from the old Amiens-Montdidier sector.

After an extremely bitter contest the Americans and British have gained a foothold in the important little town of Bray Sur Somme, on the northern bank of the Somme. A short distance across the river to the south the British have taken Proyart and midway of the line have pressed on to the east of Fonquecourt in a further outflanking of Chaulnes from the south and of Roye from the north.

On their part, the French in the rolling country immediately north of the Oise river have captured Gury, a position of great strategic value, lying southwest of Lassigny, and at several other points southward to the region of the Oise, have advanced their line further toward Noyon.

In Monday's fighting hundreds of additional Germans were made prisoner and the enemy also lost heavily in men killed or wounded. Unofficial reports give the number of Germans captured during the present offensive as in the neighborhood of 40,000.

The Germans at last accounts were still throwing reinforcements to the east of the road running through Chaulnes, Roye and Noyon, the passage of which by the allies would seriously menace all the German forces inside the pocket formed by the allied airplanes continue to bomb German positions on the south. Not alone are the allies endeavoring to press their advantage by frontal attacks, but they have drawn up to their back lines guns of medium and heavy calibers and with these they are heavily shelling the areas held by the Germans, even as far back as Bethencourt, which lies on the Somme, seven and a half miles east of Chaulnes. Meantime allied airplanes continue to bomb German positions.

## GAS ATTACK BY SUBMARINE OVERCOMES COAST GUARDS

Washington.—Gas from oil discharged on the water by the German submarine operating off the middle Atlantic coast, overcame six men in the coast guard station and lighthouse on Smith's island, North Carolina, the navy department was advised by the commandant of the sixth naval district.

If the gas attack was deliberate and most officials believed that it was—it constitutes a new and ingenious form of "frightfulness" and, so far as has been reported, was the first direct effort of the German raiders to harp persons or property on American shores.

## TWELVE MORE RAINCOAT INDICTMENTS RETURNED

New York.—Twelve indictments, charging 19 individuals and two firms operating factories here with furnishing defective army raincoats for the government, were returned in the federal court. Several of the persons accused are under previous indictments alleging payments of commissions to federal officials who are said to have aided them in obtaining contracts.

## PRISONERS CAPTURED VS. ALLIED CASUALTIES

With the British Army in France.—The contract between the number of prisoners taken and the allied casualties is regarded as remarkable. For instance the casualties of the entire allied forces were considerably less than the total prisoners taken. When it is understood that this battle has not been waged for the purpose of taking prisoners, the casualties inflicted on the Germans must have reached a large figure.

### 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.

## CHANNEL PORTS NOW SAFE

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

Evident That Rupprecht Must Defeat 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 force 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. All 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 reoccupied. 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.

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.

## ICE FAMINE BLAMED ON NORFOLK MANUFACTURERS

Norfolk, Va.—Rear Admiral Harris, chairman of the war industries committee of the fifth naval district, notified the Norfolk & Portsmouth Traction Company that he would take over and direct the distribution of all electric current, in order to conserve and utilize the supply for the more important lines of industry and transportation. The step was decided upon in order to relieve the present acute traction situation.

# 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 Lihons, 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 Fismes. 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 Perles.

## 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.

## SEVERAL VILLAGES TAKEN BY THE FRENCH TROOPS

Paris.—Notwithstanding resistance of Germans, French troops gained further ground between the Aisne and the Oise rivers, taking several villages from the west and south of Roye to the Oise. Further south on the line, the French have penetrated the wooded area between the Rivers Matz and Oise, reaching in this region the environs of LaBerliere and Gury. Moreuil LaMotte has been captured.

### 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 gained. In addition all the positions previously gained by the allied troops throughout the entire Rheims-Soissons salient have been solidly held, notwithstanding counter-attacks and the heavy artillery fire the enemy has poured down from the heights north of the Vesle upon their antagonists. Near where the Vesle enters the Aisne east of Soissons the French have overcome the resistance of the enemy and taken the village of Ciry-Saleogne.

In the Montdidier sector the French south and southeast of the town have further advanced their line on this important sector which represents the junction point of the armies of the German crown prince and of Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria.

It remained for the British, however to deliver the hardest blow against the Germans. Following up a previous advance in the famous Lys sector northwest of LaBasse, Field Marshal Haig's men pushed forward their line over a front of nearly five miles to a depth of a thousand yards.

David Lloyd-George, the British prime minister, addressing the house of commons, spoke optimistically of the status of the war from the allied standpoint. He characterized the present offensive on the Aisne-Marne front as the most brilliant in the annals of the war and praised the part taken in it by the American troops.

## 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 with Foch's armies striking with all their power.

This was the impression gained by members of the senate military committee who heard General March, chief of staff, explain in executive session the war department's reasons for asking extension of draft age limits to include all men between 18 and 45 years of age. They learned also that the definite decision to enlarge the American military program to an army of five million men was reached about July 30 and is in accordance with an agreement reached in Paris shortly before that time.

# 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 Aisne 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 innumerable 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 Chaulnes, and at other points along the arc, pushed forward between five and seven miles, the northern and southern banks 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 thousands of Americans regularly outfitting her; over the hundreds of thousands of Americans waiting 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 holder.

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 lest these allies forces 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 DRAFTEE, 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.

## VILLAGE AND PRISONERS CAPTURED BY AMERICANS

Paris (Havas Agency).—American troops have captured the village of Fismet, on the north bank of the Vesle river, a short distance northwest of Fismes.

The official communication says the British and French troops continued their advance and won new victories. French troops took 4,000 prisoners besides a large quantity of war materials.

# TENTATIVE PLANS COVERING STATE

TO PROMOTE AGRICULTURE AS A PURELY BUSINESS PROPOSITION.

## STATE BANKERS TO ASSIST

Movement Expected Soon to Cover the Entire State of North Carolina.

Resulting from the speech by Carl J. Baer, of Chicago, before a gathering of Charlotte men at a luncheon at the chamber of commerce may be a campaign for the promotion of agriculture from a business standpoint to be inaugurated here and broadened to include the entire state.

Tentative plans for such a campaign have been made. The Charlotte chamber of commerce, which will foster the local efforts and the state campaign, with the co-operation of the North Carolina Bankers' Association and the state commercial secretaries, will endeavor to get Mr. Baer to return here probably in September or October to direct the activities.

It is considered that the time is ripe for a state-wide campaign. The state bankers have expressed an earnest desire for such a campaign and the commercial organizations throughout North Carolina would be glad to join in such a movement.

James A. Gray, of Winston-Salem, president of the North Carolina Bankers' Association, has received communications from 131 bankers in the state, in reply to letters he wrote asking if they would aid in a state-wide agricultural campaign, and each of the 131 bankers expressed hearty approval of the proposed movement.

At the annual meeting here last spring of the state commercial secretaries a resolution was adopted urging that a campaign such as is now planned be waged, and it was recommended that the Bankers' Association support the campaign.

Mr. Baer, in his address made a stirring appeal for greater agricultural development, that diversified farming be undertaken.

New Ideas on Concrete Road. Charlotte.—The suggestion that the Charlotte to Wilmington highway be extended into the "great rich, rapidly developing mountain section" of southwest Virginia and western North Carolina extending from Roanoke, Va., to Asheville, which is now traversed by a single grade road, was made by H. W. Horton, secretary of the Wilkesboro Good Roads Commission, Wilkesboro, in a letter received by Col. T. L. Kirkpatrick, director of the highways bureau of the chamber of commerce.

Mr. Horton said the idea occurred to him that the highway, after reaching Charlotte, should be extended. That section of the country has no railroad except one from Marion to Johnson, Tenn., the letter stated. "So, as a military enterprise, a cross connection between these mountains would be, in my opinion, of vital importance. Traffic from a large territory embracing east Tennessee, southwest Virginia, most of Kentucky and beyond, in order to travel into central North Carolina or reach a port at Wilmington would have to go either around by Roanoke, Va., or Morris-town, Tenn., and thence by Asheville. A direct route would cut out several hundred miles of distance and besides three counties of North Carolina west of the Blue Ridge have contributed their wealth to the people of Virginia and Tennessee because of the fact that they could not come across the Blue Ridge.

Fayetteville Camp Site. Southern Pines.—Surveys indicate that the new camp in Cumberland and Hoke counties will include an area of about 100,000 acres, and cover the country from Lakewood, near Fayetteville, to the Moore county line about three miles west of Southern Pines.

For Norfolk Bridge. Halifax.—The business men of Scotland Neck, went to Halifax in force and induced the county commissioners to appropriate \$40,000 and the county's share of the national highway fund (\$21,000), to build a bridge over the Roanoke river near Norfolk. The route via Norfolk is said to be the shortest route from Scotland Neck to Norfolk and also from Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Tarboro and Wilson. It is also proposed to build a bridge over the Roanoke at Williamston.