

SURPRISE BLOW IS STRUCK BY HAIG

IN NEW OFFENSIVE BRITISH PENETRATE ENEMY LINES TO TWO MILE DEPTH.

FRENCH THREATENING ROYE

More Than Six Hundred Prisoners Taken in Enveloping Movement Along Somme-Oise Front.

While the Germans were busily engaged in defending themselves against the attacks of the British and French armies from the Ancre river to the region of Soissons, Field Marshal Haig struck another surprise blow over a new front.

The new offensive was launched from the east of Arras on the Scarpe river and southward to the Cojeul. All along the front the British pressed forward, at some places to a depth of more than two miles.

Across the Cojeul, the new British attacks on the old battle front brought them to the villages of Mory and St. Leger, and farther south the small town of Favreuil, one and a half miles northeast of Bapaume, from which the British pressed on eastward about a mile. Farther south the British are reported unofficially to have reached the western outskirts of Thillois in the nipper movement they are carrying out against Bapaume.

The French again are hammering away at the environs of Roye, one of the strong points of the Somme-Oise front, the capture of which doubtless would cause the giving up by the enemy of the entire salient from the Somme in the north, to Noyon, Fresnoy-Les-Roye, to the north, and St. Mard to the south of Roye, both of which have been captured by the French, despite the desperate resistance of the Germans. The capture of Bapaume in the north, apparently is in danger of being plucked out of the line in an enveloping movement. More than 600 prisoners were taken by the French in the operation.

BRITISH LOSE SEVEN AIR PLANES IN BOMBING RAID

London.—The British independent air force operating on the west front lost seven airplanes in the bombing of Mannheim. The frank report of this loss has caught the public imagination.

It is pointed out that the Germans were in largely superior numbers and had only to think of fighting, whereas the British had both fighting and bombing to attend to. The odds were all on the German side, but the British aviators reached Mannheim and did their job.

Commenting on the raid, a British air officer said: "We suffered losses, but we won a splendid victory. We set out to bomb Mannheim and no German efforts could frustrate our intention."

AMMUNITION DUMPS BLOWN UP BY AMERICAN CANNON FIRE

With the American Army on the Vesle front.—Several German ammunition dumps north of the Vesle river were blown up by high explosives from the American guns. This was the only notable incident in the operations between Soissons and Rheims, although the usual exchange between the artillery continued.

The destruction of the dumps was made possible by aerial observation by American aviators. They were located near Revillon and early in the day a battery of long range guns began dropping shells at points indicated. The observation posts soon after reported great clouds of smoke from the targets.

20,000 PRISONERS TAKEN BY BRITISH IN FIVE DAYS

Paris.—The number of prisoners taken by the British since August 21 has reached 20,000; The Petit Journal declares.

SUBURB OF THE TOWN OF BAPAUME CAPTURED

London.—Suzanne and Cappy, towns north and south of the Somme, respectively, were captured by Field Marshal Haig's forces, according to reports received here from the British battle front. The British also took Avesnes Les Bapaume, a suburb of the town of Bapaume.

British troops also reached the western outskirts of Thillois, south of Bapaume.

CONFLANS AGAIN RAIDED BY AMERICAN AIRMEN

With the American Army in France.—American bombing machines again raided Conflans, dropping 40 bombs on the railroad yards, despite heavy anti-aircraft fire. All the bursts were together at the east end of the yards, one causing a big explosion.

German planes appeared as the Americans completed their mission and followed the Americans back to their lines but failed to engage them in battle.



Maj. B. H. Gitchell of the National Army has been appointed chairman of the industrial relations section of the aircraft production board.

GERMANS COUNTER-ATTACK

ALBERT, AN IMPORTANT TOWN AND A RAILROAD CENTER HAS BEEN TAKEN.

Threatened With Pocketing Germans Seem to Be Making Haste in Their Retreat.

London.—The town of Albert, eighteen miles northeast of Amiens, on the Ancre river, has been recaptured by the British, who also have obtained all their objectives in the fighting between Bray Sur Some and Albert, according to the official communication from Field Marshal Haig. Over the six mile front the British advanced two miles.

The British were steadily driving into the German positions on the high ground between Bray-Sur-Somme and Albert. One thousand Germans were taken prisoner.

A vicious German counter-attack directed against the British positions in the outskirts of Miraumont were driven off.

On the ground between the two points where the British armies are hammering them and where they are threatened with being left in a pocket the Germans seem to have started retreating.

GERMANS RETREAT BEFORE PURSUING FRENCH ARMIES

With the French Army in France.—The retreat of the Germans before both the third and tenth French armies continued with increased speed over a large part of the battle front and in some cases in disorder.

General Mangin's men are approaching the Concy forest and are nearly on the line held in April along the River Ailette. They have also widened their hold on the Oise to Breigny, midway between Noyon and Chauny.

The French advance towards the roads leading to Chauny adds another menace to their line of retreat and explains the acceleration of the enemy's retreat. Bourgnigon, St. Paul-Aux-Bois and Quincy fell into the hands of the French giving them command of the valley of the Ailette from the region of Coucy-le-Chateau to the Oise.

General Humbert's troops also are pressing the enemy vigorously. Having occupied the height of Plemont, just south of Lassigny, they have captured Thiescourt, which completes the conquest of the group of hills known as the Thiescourt massif. The enemy now has but a precarious hold on the valley of the Divette river, in which French cavalry is now operating.

Several thousand prisoners have been taken and trophies of such great quantities that it has been impossible thus far to count them also have been captured.

General Mangin's troops advanced seven miles during the night.

ALBERT THE CITY OF THE "LEANING VIRGIN"

Albert is a town in the department of Somme. It is situated on the Ancre river and is a railroad center. Before the war it had a population of more than 7,000. Albert has been the scene of some desperate fighting and in the recent British drive the town was surrounded on three sides by the armies of Field Marshal Haig, the village of Aveluy on the north and Meaultee on the south having been reached by them.

DEBATE CENTERS ON YOUTH OF 18 AND WORK OR FIGHT.

Discussion in both senate and house, centered upon opposition from some members to calling youths of 18 to the colors. The bill was plotted in the senate and house by chairman of the respective military committees, Senator Chamberlain, of Oregon, and Representative Dent, of Alabama. The former declared traditional the policy of subjecting boys as young as 18 to military service and also championed the "work or fight" amendment.

GERMANY'S FUTILE REINFORCEMENTS

MANY ADDITIONAL TOWNS ARE TAKEN BY FIELD MARSHAL HAIG'S MEN IN NORTH.

BAPAUME IS IN GREAT PERIL

More Than 17,000 Prisoners, Large Number of Guns, and Immense Amount of Supplies Captured.

Notwithstanding the fact that the Germans have brought up strong reinforcements on both wings of the battle front, the British and French forces everywhere have beaten off the enemy and continued their victorious progress.

Many additional towns have been captured by Field Marshal Haig's men in the north, while the French have successfully overcome obstacles placed in their way and reached territory north of Soissons which adds further to the danger of the Germans in the Noyon sector and to their line running eastward from Soissons to Rheims.

All along the front from Arras to the Somme, the Germans are gradually being driven back to the old Hindenburg line by the British. Along the Somme the enemy is being harassed well to the east of Bray, while farther north strong counter-attacks have been repulsed and the towns of Mametz, the Mametz wood, Martin Puich, Le Sars and Le Barque have been captured.

It is around Bapaume that the Germans are keeping up their strongest efforts to hold back the tide that is surging against them but the British are continuing to make slight gains daily in the process of surrounding the town, which seemingly soon must be evacuated.

Since August 21st the British have taken more than 17,000 prisoners and large numbers of guns and great quantities of supplies have fallen into their hands.

18,000 KILOS EXPLOSIVES DROPPED ON ENEMY LINES

Paris.—The French have continued their progress east of Bagnoux, between the Ailette and the Aisne, according to the war office announcement. They repulsed counter-attacks west of Crecy-au-Mont. Four hundred additional prisoners have been taken. The text of the statement says: "Both armies were active in the neighborhood of Lassigny.

"Between the Ailette and the Aisne we made new progress east of Bagnoux and repulsed enemy counter-attacks west of Crecy-au-Mont. We captured 400 prisoners.

"Aviation: It was impossible to carry out any bombing operations during the day. During the night the weather improved and our bombing machines immediately took the air. Eighteen thousand, four hundred kilos of explosives were dropped behind the battle front and on stations, which were damaged.

AMERICAN BOMBING AIRPLANES DROPPING BOMBS ON CONFLANS

American Forces on the Lorraine front.—American bombing airplanes dropped 38 bombs on Conflans, a town on the Verdun-Metz railroad. Ten direct hits were obtained.

Three aerial combats were reported in the Woivre region. Lieutenant Jones attacked and apparently destroyed an Albatross biplane over Marre northwest of Verdun. Lieut. Hugh Bridgman, while on a reconnaissance patrol, attacked two Fokkers which disappeared.

BRITISH PATROLS SAID TO BE ENTERING BAPAUME

London.—Reconnoitering patrols of British troops are entering Bapaume. It is reported that British outposts have reached the fringe of Bullecourt, which lies seven miles northeast of Bapaume, and captured High Wood, east of Albert.

RECENT VICTORIES DEFINITELY SETTLE FORTUNE OF WAR

Paris.—Premier Clemenceau telegraphed the presidents of the general councils that they could rely upon the government and Marshal Foch and his magnificent staff and the allied military commanders to turn the present success of the allied arms into a complete and decisive collapse of the enemy.

"The splendid victories of recent weeks," said M. Clemenceau, "has definitely settled the fortune of war."

LEGION OF HONOR IS AWARDED 55 AMERICANS

With the American Army in France, Fifty-five officers non-commissioned officers and men of a certain American division were awarded the legion of honor, the military medal, the war cross or distinguished service cross at the most brilliant decoration ceremony the American army has held in France.

Similar decorations have been awarded 72 others who were unable to be present.



One of England's most beautiful women, Viscountess Curzon, is giving up all her time to look after and care for the wounded soldiers in the London hospitals. This prominent British noblewoman is very popular with invalid troops because of her kindly and helpful acts.

TWENTY VILLAGES CAPTURED

PIVOTAL TOWN OF LASSIGNY NOW IN HANDS OF ALLIES; ADVANCE CONTINUES.

Armies Advance About Five Miles At Certain Points Despite Foe's Stout Resistance.

Paris.—Lassigny has been captured by the French forces, whose lines have now reached the outskirts of Chiry-Ourscamps, southeast of Noyon.

The official statement making this announcement also says that 20 villages have been liberated and that the French have advanced about five miles at certain points.

The text of the statement reads: "Between the Matz and the Oise the enemy, despite his resistance, gave way under the energetic thrust of our troops and Lassigny fell into our hands.

AMERICAN STEAMER TORPEDOED AND SUNK

Washington.—The American steamer Montanan, of 6,553 tons gross, was torpedoed and sunk in foreign waters August 16 with the probable loss of three members of the civilian crew and two members of the naval armed guard, the navy department announced. Eighty-one survivors were landed.

The Montanan was in the service of the quartermaster's department of the army and was used as a supply ship.

The members of the naval guard reported as missing are David W. Johnson, coxswain, and Chester C. Eldridge, seaman.

BRITISH MAKING SMASHING DRIVE INTO BELOW'S ARMY

With the British Army in France.—Having smashed into General von Below's seventeenth army during a heavy fog at dawn on a front of more than 10 miles, extending from the Ancre river to Moyenneville, the British have throughout the day made steady progress forward, capturing villages, taking prisoners and guns and inflicting heavy casualties on the surprised enemy.

GERMANS CONVERT TRAWLER INTO ARMED SEA RAIDER

Washington.—Navy department officials confidently awaited a wireless dispatch telling of the capture or destruction of the trawler Triumph, which was seized by a German submarine, a German crew put aboard, the vessel armed and started on a raiding expedition against the defenseless fleet of fishing smacks operating on the Grand banks. Every precaution has been taken. It was said, to prevent the raider slipping through the line stretched around the fishing region.

SERIES OF RAPID BLOWS ARE BEING STRUCK BY FOCH.

Foch seems to be striking a series of rapid blows, relying upon a local effect produced now near Arras, now near the Oise and the Somme, to produce in the aggregate a general dislocation of the German line. In each of these blows he uses comparatively few men, and the victorious troops are ready for a thrust after a short interval. The German gets no rest, no time to re-organize.

CHARLOTTE CONCERN LANDS CAMP SHERIDAN CONTRACTS

Washington.—Floyd M. Simmons, of Charlotte, has secured for his contracting firm, Simmons, Hartenstein & Whitton, a contract for about \$200,000 concrete road work at Camp Sheridan, Montgomery, Ala.

E. L. Travis is here to confer with friends about the charges lodged against him. Representative Webb is presiding over the house during the consideration of the administration waterpower bill.

GERMANS MEETING HEAVY REVERSES

OVER FIFTY MILES FRONT THE ENEMY IS MEETING WITH DISASTROUS DEFEATS.

FRENCH ALSO MAKE GAINS

American Troops Are Not Mentioned in Battle; Probably Reserved for Later and Heavier Blow.

Over the 50-mile front from the region of Arras to the north of Soissons the German armies are meeting with defeats which apparently spell disaster. Everywhere the British and French forces have continued on the attack, the enemy has been sanguinarily worsted. And the end of his trials is not yet in sight.

To the British over the 30 miles of the fighting zone from the Cojeul river southeast of Arras to Lihons, south of the Somme, numerous towns have fallen, and the enemy territory has been penetrated to a depth of several miles. Where the French are fighting between the Matz river and the territory north of Soissons additional goodly gains have been made in the enveloping of Noyon and the general maneuver which seeks to crush or drive out the Germans from the salient between the Somme and the Ailette, and to pit into jeopardy the entire German line running to Rheims.

Notwithstanding the fact that the Germans brought up large numbers of fresh reinforcements in an endeavor to stay the progress of Haig's armies their efforts were without avail. Where they were able momentarily to hold back their oncoming foes, the Germans finally were forced to cede the ground demanded. And they paid a terrible price in men killed, wounded or made prisoners.

The entire Arras-Albert road has been crossed by the British. The strongly held positions where the Germans saw disaster facing them if they fell were stormed and captured, and the British pushed them going eastward.

Although the Americans at the commencement of the Somme offensive were brigaded with the British along the northern bank of the Somme, no mention of their having taken part in the fight is made. It is probable that they have been moved to some other portion of the battlefield from which Marshal Foch contemplates another smash at the enemy.

HAPPY VALLEY AN UNHAPPY VALLEY

Happy valley truly is a shambles. Its name belies it.

South of the Somme the Australians were most successful in the part they played in the battle. They easily attained all their objectives and apparently hold Chaignolles, Chaignes and Herleville and are pushing eastward of those villages a little distance to make sure of holding them.

In this region 33 German officers and 1,500 men of other ranks were made prisoner. Eleven of the captured officers were from one regiment.

The Germans offered heavy resistance at Chaignolles, but with the assistance of tanks the Australians hammered through the enemy and swept on, leaving the town and its environs filled with dead Germans.

On the ridge south of this town there also was fierce fighting which almost reached the hand to hand stage before the Australians made it clear to the Germans that they were not to be stopped and shoved over the ridge and onward.

Just now large numbers of guns are roaring away all along the line.

All day long streams of wounded, principally Germans as well as great numbers of enemy prisoners, were flowing towards the rear. The day was cooler and the British soldiers were refreshed by it. It was slightly cloudy but the air was full of British airplanes. A number of German planes were shot down over the battlefield during the day, each fall bringing a cheer from the British.

BRITISH TROOPS SHOW FINE SPIRIT IN FIGHT

Paris.—The newspaper correspondents at the front lay stress on the magnificent enthusiasm with which the British are attacking and overcoming the enemy. They point out that the British opposed stout resistance when the Germans counter-attacked, and when they saw that the enemy was staggering under the shower of blows increased the punishment without giving him time to look around.

ALMOST UNVARYING SUCCESS RAISES STRONGEST HOPES

Washington.—Almost unvarying success of the great allied offensive on the 50-mile front stretching from Soissons northward to the environs of Arras raised hopes in military circles here for the most decisive defeat yet administered to the Germans. Observers were of the opinion that General Foch's whittling tactics of the past six weeks have been so effective that opportunity has come for a glorious harvest.

OVERSUBSCRIPTION TO JEWISH RELIEF

NUMBER OF CITIES AND TOWNS GOING "OVER THE TOP" IN RIGHT ROYAL MANNER.

ONE SUBSCRIPTION OF \$500

Goldboro Contributes \$1 Per Capita; Asheville Oversubscribes; Fairmont \$200 More Than Asked.

The continued liberal response of the citizens of Raleigh to the Jewish War Relief Fund assures oversubscription of Raleigh's quota of \$5,000. The ladies of the city have thoroughly organized themselves into canvassing committees, and will cover the entire city.

Reports from over the state indicate that some of the towns went "over the top", notably Goldboro with subscriptions nearly double its allotment. Asheville oversubscribed and Fairmont, a little town in Robeson county gave \$200 above what it was asked for.

The contributions from Goldboro represent \$1.00 per capita for the city. Among the individual contributors, the subscription of George W. Wats, of Durham, of \$500, is the largest single subscription so far recorded in the drive.

Jersey Breeding County. Charlotte.—Enough pure bred Jersey cattle have been brought into Mecklenburg county this summer to give basis for the declaration that the county in reality has entered upon the business of Jersey breeding, said C. E. Miller, county demonstration agent.

Just last week 34 head of pure-bred Jersey cattle, purchased at a Grassy Creek, N. C., farm by the members of the Mecklenburg County Jersey Breeders' Association were distributed. One of these cows was sold for \$270 and \$250 was paid for a nine-months' old bull calf. Eight head averaged \$180, and thirteen were sold for prices averaging \$160.

A new block of the association has been formed, said Mr. Miller. The \$250 bull will head this block, which is formed around the herd of W. E. Baker. Four blocks were formed last spring, and are headed by bulls purchased from a Pennsylvania farm.

The herd brought into the county last week includes two registers of merit cows, one with a three-year-old record of 516 pounds of butter fat, and one with a four-year-old record of 584 pounds of butter fat. At the present price of "country butter," these cows are capable of producing annually butter valued at \$258 and \$292 respectively. These are the only cows of the herd which have been placed on text. Ten of the heifers were sired by a bull whose dam made 1,031 pounds of butter in one year, said Mr. Miller.

Under City Manager Plan

Greensboro.—Since the directors of the chamber of commerce have endorsed the city manager plan of government for Greensboro, considerable discussion of the matter has been provoked. Sentiment is believed to incline in favor of the chamber's recommendation. An amendment to the city charter will probably be suggested soon after the holidays and be voted upon. If the new plan of government is adopted the officers to be elected next May will be those of the manager plan.

Station Matter Dropped.

Kinston.—The chamber of commerce here has formally dropped the Kinston union passenger station matter until the railroad administration makes an appropriation for building purposes. The station's erection was held up for years by the inability of the chamber of commerce and railroads to "get together." The site for the depot was cleared many months ago. Business interests of the city hope to have the station provided for among the earliest improvements for which the administration appropriates.

Will Not Open on Schedule.

Elon College.—Definite word has been received from Adjutant General McCain with reference to the establishment of a students' army training corps here this fall. In view of this fact, and because of the young men of the college and three faculty members are at Plattsburg Barracks now, and will be there until September 16, the opening of the college has been postponed until September 19. This is the first time in Elon's history when the doors will not open on the day announced.

Automobile Victim Buried.

Gastonia.—Accompanied by three of the seven children injured in an automobile accident at Grover in which the father, Charles C. Holler, was killed, the body of the dead man was shipped to Conover, Catawba county, for burial. The other four children are still confined to the City hospital but all improving. The two most seriously injured, Miss Katie Holler, aged 13, and Charline, aged four, are not yet out of danger but it is believed that their chances for recovery are improving.