

ALLIES ADVANCE; TAKE 50 TOWNS

With the American Army on the Aisne-Marne front, August 3, 10 p. m.—American troops entered the southern part of Fismes today, while other forces of the Allies hold the southern banks of the Aisne and Vesle rivers from Soissons to Fismes.

Eastward it is almost a straight line through Corville, Braucourt, Courcelles and Champigny.

The advance of the whole army was along a front of almost forty five miles.

To the east of Soissons the extension of this line northward along the Aisne, as well as the extension of the general line, makes it probable, in the opinion of military experts, that the Germans will hesitate before concentrating themselves for a stand along the plateau to the east between the Aisne and the Vesle, as the branch railroad from Sennois to the north, now is dominated by the Allied guns.

The broad field covered by the advance today includes at least fifty small towns and villages.

7 p. m.—Information reaching the American army commanders indicates that the Germans are engaged in removing as large a part of their supplies from Fismes as possible. Smoke clouds and detonations confirm information, that large quantities of ammunition are being destroyed. At different places behind the German lines the effects of the destruction of ammunition could be seen today.

It is not expected that the Germans will give up the advantageous terrain along the Vesle with out a renewal of the struggle. It is believed probable that the Germans, realizing the difficulty of maintaining Fismes as a supply point, in view of the ease with which the guns of the Allies can bombard it, have decided to establish a new base far to the rear but not to yield the line of which Fismes is an integral part.

It is believed possible, the German strategists may have assumed that the French and Americans, over exhilarated by British triumphs might plunge forward into Fismes, where they could be terribly punished by the German guns.

Before evacuating Saponay the Germans desperately endeavored to remove several locomotive and railway cars, which, finally, they were compelled to leave behind. The French and American heavy guns previously had severed the railway running north from Saponay and the Germans were unable to make repairs owing to the continued shelling.

Saponay and the district extending to Fere-en-Tardenois forms an important railway center, of which the Germans made much use until the Allied guns cut the line. When the French entered Saponay on Friday they found two locomotives which the Germans had attempted to destroy when they discovered that the railroad had been severed, and the railway yards also had been damaged by German explosives.

Friday was the first day Fere-en-Tardenois was not under German artillery since the Germans evacuated the village. The Americans and French already have started to restore the shell-swept village. A group of American engineers under a lieutenant from North Carolina today worked side by side with French engineers, repairing the roads and streets, and other detachments were busy burying the German dead.

Previous to evacuating Fere-en-Tardenois the Germans destroyed virtually everything that could be made use of, including mirrors, beds and furniture. There was not a single house which had not been shelled or dynamited. Most of the stone

Newsom is Sentenced to Thirty Years in Prison

Winston Salem, Aug. 4.—Thirty years in the state prison was the sentence imposed upon Ben U. Newsom by Judge Lane at 8:30 this morning, after the jury had returned a verdict of murder in the second degree for the killing of C. G. Ingram in this city last March. In accepting the verdict Judge Lane told the jury that they would have been justified had they made their verdict first degree.

The case was given the jury at 12:30 o'clock this morning, but a decision was not reached until 8 o'clock. Counsel for Newsom gave notice of appeal to the supreme court.

After Judge Lane finished his charge to the jury in the Newsom case last night he imposed a sentence of 15 years in the state prison upon George Atwood, convicted last week of murder in the second degree, for killing Edward Hoge a few weeks ago just south of the city. Notice of appeal to the supreme court was also given in this case.

houses are mere shells, with gaping holes in the roofs and side. Some houses were totally demolished and the church now stands with many large holes in the roof and side. Virtually the only things in Fere-en-Tardenois that are nearly intact are the weathercock on the church steeple and the cobblestones of the streets.

The trees in the village square were twisted as if by a cyclone by the farewell shells of the Germans.

A large sign in German at the entrance of the church reads: "Remove your hats upon entering." Down the street a German sign, stretched across the roadway, reads: "Captured arms and loot must be stored here." The sign bears a hand pointing to where a house once stood. The building now is a mass of ruins, the result of dynamite or some other explosive used by the retreating Germans.

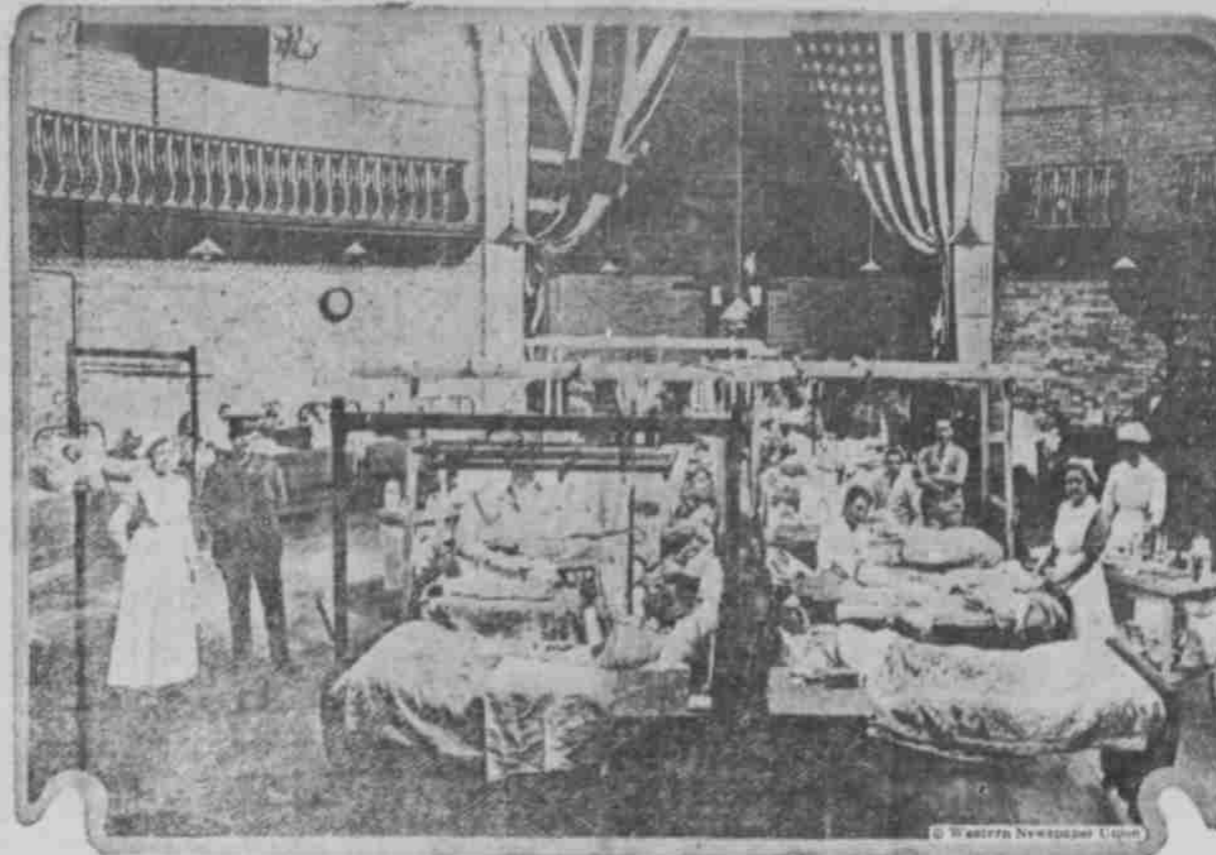
From Fere-en-Tardenois a valley stretches northwest to Saponay and beyond, and the valley on Friday was a great battle field. At one place near Saponay, at a cross roads, lay five saddled horses, apparently killed by the same shell. Beside two of the horses lay dead Germans just as they fell from their saddles.

The roadways are littered with ammunition, wagons and dead horses, some of them with their drivers, as they fell when struck by the big shells of the Franco-American allies. Many of the wheat fields are partly harvested with the wheat stacked, the Germans having reaped what the French peasants had planted. Here and there dots can be seen from the roadway, indicating where some German dropped. At one place a German killed by shrapnel had fallen head first into a shell hole filled by a down pour of rain.

It was into this valley of death that the French infantry came Friday morning, as the Germans withdrew through the valley north of Saponay. The French and American shells followed the Germans as they went. From the hill to the west of northwest of Saponay the French came from woods in a rainstorm from clouds so low that the tree tops and clouds seemed to meet, and under their barrage the French marched into Saponay.

To the northeast the Americans are advancing virtually under the same conditions, to the woods east of the forest of Neules and to the valley running north of Saponay. It was here that the French and Americans met, and side by side, continued their progress northward.

IN THE RED CROSS HOSPITAL AT PAIGNTON



A view showing St. George's ward in the American Red Cross hospital in Paignton, England, a fully equipped hospital with beautiful, attractive rooms and charming surroundings.

FIX DRAFT AGES FROM 18 TO 45

Washington, August 3.—Draft ages of from 18 to 45 years will be recommended to Congress in the bill embodying the war department's new man power program which will be introduced in both houses of Congress Monday and expedited by committees with a view to prompt consideration when regular sessions of the senate and house are resumed late this month.

After formally announcing the new draft ages today, Secretary Baker said all the possible combinations of age limits were carefully studied and it was found that in order to get the men into class one for the program proposed, 18 to 45 was necessary. He said, however, that the bill as recommended to Congress will contain a provision authorizing the President to call men out of class one by classes according to ages, so that if it is found possible the men between 18 and 19 will be called out later than the older men who are found eligible to class one.

The war department program, the war secretary said, is purely a military one and cannot be called a conscription of labor, although it naturally will have the effect of putting at useful labor or in the army all able bodied men within the age limits as they finally will be fixed by Congress.

In recommending this extension of the age limits, Mr. Baker continued, the department had in mind simply to get for the army the number of men which it believed necessary to defeat Germany. The secretary was not prepared to say how many that would be nor to give any estimate as to the proportion of males between the ages of 18 to 45, inclusive, which would be found eligible.

In making up the list and classes, the same rule will be followed that has governed in the first draft, with the same exceptions from the first call of married men with dependents and those engaged in essential industries.

Mr. Baker gave it as his opinion that so far about 1,600,000 have been drafted out of class one from the existing list.

There has been considerable opposition in Congress to lowering the minimum age, many members being reluctant to draft youths before they attain their majority and come into full citizenship. Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the senate military committee, said today that he expected opposition on that score, but expressed the opinion that there would not be unusual delay in passing the bill.

Some members of Congress believe that the man power bill will be taken up immediately after Congress resumes regular sessions and disposed of before the new war revenue legislation is considered.

GENEROUS TO HIS FOE



A British officer's act of courtesy. He is seen handing his water bottle to a thirsty German prisoner.

"Hindu Haircut"

You have noticed men with that new style haircut which looks as though the barber had placed a crock over the subject's head and then cut off everything in sight? The Coffeyville Journal says very few barbers like to give that kind of a haircut, but some patrons insist upon it, and so they get it. The Journal asked a barber the other day what the men of the "pre-fish" thought of that style of shearing, and he replied: "Well, just confidentially, we barbers call that the Hindu haircut."—Kansas City Star.

Former Owner Gets Famous Dog

Auburn Happp, who is probably the most famous dog in Burlington, Vt., has returned to the ownership of Charles H. Mower after an absence of a couple of years. Mr. Mower sold the dog for \$3,000 to Mrs. George E. Dreyer of Thompson, Conn., with the understanding that if anything should happen to Mrs. Dreyer's husband Happp was to be returned to Mr. Mower. Mrs. Dreyer is now in ill health and has returned the dog to its first owner.

American War Tractors Help

In connection with the increased food production in the United Kingdom shown by official reports, it is interesting to know that a very great part of this increase has been made possible by the importation of American motor tractors since the beginning of the food campaign in November, 1915.

Little American Outwits German

London, Aug. 2.—A little American, "a shrimp of a man,"—outwitted a huge German in a deadly grapple on the Marne battlefield, says Reuter's correspondent at American headquarters.

The German was about to finish the American with his bayonet. The American grabbed a grenade from his belt, fumbled with his fingers till he loosened the safety catch and then thrust the grenade into the German's pocket. With sudden terror the German realized the American's intention but before he could counter it was too late.

There was not enough left of his equipment, the correspondent adds, to provide the quick thinking little American with a souvenir.

TO SURRY CITIZENS

Mr. Editor:—

I wish through your columns to explain to your readers and all the people of Surry county some of the doings of our township primary and County Convention.

I would not write this letter, but for the hypocrisy and duplicity of two men in the County. A. L. Norman, our "Ganitor" of our new court house, was the ring's ring-master of our primary which was held here on the 20th of July. It was charged that he used liquor freely on that day to debauch and influence the voters, and I have not seen as much drinking on any one day in Dobson since the Primary of 1908, during the good old times when liquor was plentiful. This man Norman has been taken with proceedings in arrest and bail for the alleged debauching of John Coe's seventeen-year old daughter. It is freely reported that he spirited her away in the night time to some secluded place, unknown to her parents, and their hearts are now bleeding for the fate of their little daughter. He is also charged with having been a blockader. I heard a county officer say that Norman and another man kept their liquor in the basement of the new court house. It is a shame on the county and a disgrace to the Republican party to have such a man janitor for our magnificent temple of justice.

As to the other matter I wish to mention will say that last spring I had decided to file application and make the race for the State Senate, and had so expressed myself, but before the time for entry expired, Andrew Jackson came to me one morning and stated to me that the leaders in Mount Airy had held a conference and decided to run me for the house. I told him that if that was the wish of the Leaders I had just as soon run for the House as for the Senate, and that the arrangement was satisfactory to me. A few days later U. G. Belton came to me and told me the same story. I informed Mr. Belton that Mr. Jackson had told me of this and that it was satisfactory to me. Some three or four weeks later, several prominent men came to me and told me the ring was against me. I could not believe it, but I had another conference with Mr. Jackson, and told him what I had heard. He looked innocent and claimed that he did not know anything about it. A few days later Mr. Belton came to Dobson, took me to one side and assured me again that he was for me, but the Convention and Primary showed plainly where each of these men stood. I want to warn our county officers that in the future the Republicans will expect them to discharge the duties of their office honestly and faithfully and not use the prestige and power of their offices to form a ring for

the purpose of controlling and selecting their successors in office. If that is allowed, the ring will become an endless chain to control the party machinery and no man, however capable and worthy, need apply for office unless he has the O. K. of the ring.

The next matter for consideration is little Warren Davis. Mr. Belton's chief deputy, whom I have stood by loyally for twenty-two years, and never swerved in the least from being his most faithful friend. Six years ago, I did more to mould sentiment in his favor and secure his nomination for sheriff than any fifty leaders in Surry County, and yet, I understand that under the direction of his "boss," he did more to defeat my nomination than anybody in Surry County. Such treachery and base ingratitude is to be condemned by all honest people. In two years after Wesley York and C. N. Bodenheimer did all they could to nominate Davis for Sheriff, he, by his treachery, defeated them for clerk, and in four years thereafter, on account of his treachery to Vestal Taylor, Taylor withdrew from the race for Sheriff against U. G. Belton.

In 1908, out of the 115 men in Dobson township who supported Warren Davis for sheriff in the primary, at least 80 voted against J. M. Davis for sheriff at the election and thus defeated him, and Guy Carter said late in the evening of election day that all of Warren Davis' friends were voting for C. H. Haynes, and that Warren Davis had done nothing all day to prevent it, and that he believed Warren Davis endorsed what they were doing. Yet Vestal Taylor and I were charged with disloyalty to the ticket that year.

Thirty-two years ago this county was apparently hopelessly Democratic, but in 1894, the Republicans elected one county official, that was myself, and I have been trying all these years to build up a strong, healthy party, and I do not wish at this late day to destroy what I have helped to erect. I shall continue to do in my feeble way what I can to keep the party strong. I have no complaint to make against Mr. Maguire because the ring supported him. So far as I know he is a gentleman and I should like to see every Republican in Surry County vote for him, but what I do object to, is ring perpetuities and deception practised by those who try to boss the party. It would have been more manly and more honorable for these men to have told me that they were for the other candidate or to have said nothing. It looks now like their main object was to keep me out of the senatorial race.

I am proud of the Republicans who supported me in the primary. I love every one of you from the very depths of my heart. I hope the Lord will prosper you while you live in this troublesome world, and when He calls you to cross over the river of death, I hope every one of you will be admitted up higher, and enter through the pearly gates where there will be no more pain, sorrow cannot come, death can never enter, and political rascality is unknown.

With much and abiding love to all my friends, I am,

Very truly yours,
W. W. HAMPTON.
Dobson, N. C., Aug. 2, 1918.
Adv.

Experts' Perilous Task

One of the thrilling and hazardous duties which sometimes falls to the lot of game experts and wardens in mountainous regions of the West is to search out eagles' nests, rob them of their eggs, and perhaps take the young captive, says Popular Mechanics Magazine. The peril of the task is not all passed when, with a rope ladder or by other precarious means, he has ascended or descended to the nest, for then the intruder must face the powerful grown birds at close range, and often when he cannot defend himself to advantage. The searcher for the lofty nests also runs the risk of being attacked by the young fifty or sixty days old, can become disagreeably aggressive.

GERMAN RETREAT CONTINUES UNABATED; PURSUED

(By the Associated Press.)—The German retreat continues unabated, with the allies everywhere in hot pursuit.

Apparently the situation now has resolved itself into a race for the northern bank of the Aisne river by the Germans, who have been evicted from strategic positions along the Vesle river, in the center of the line and directly east of Rheims, which seemingly renders necessary that they put the Aisne between themselves and their pursuers as quickly as possible in order to escape further large losses of men made prisoners.

Just how large this bag of captives is at present cannot be reckoned, but unofficial advices from Paris assert that when the figures are made public they will thrill the allied world. General Pershing in his communique says the Americans alone have taken 8,400 prisoners and, in addition, 235 guns.

After hard fighting the Americans and French have succeeded in taking from the Germans the important town of Fismes, once Germany's great ammunition and supply depot, midway of the railway between Soissons and Rheims, while to the east at a number of places along the Vesle river the French have crossed the stream, driving the enemy northeastward. East of Soissons allied troops have negotiated the passage of the Aisne to the northern bank of the stream, where they are in a position to harass the enemy as he endeavors to straighten out his line in conformity with that running northwestward.

So fast has been the retreat of the Germans in the center that already some elements of their forces have succeeded in reaching the northern bank of the Aisne and getting numbers of their big guns across with them. All through the salient towns are still ablaze behind the retreating Germans, and even corn fields have been set afire in order to prevent the allied troops from gathering the ripest crop.

The fighting along the Vesle river was of a sanguinary character as long as it lasted. With the river at freshest and the Germans unable to ford it, they stood with their backs to it and gave battle for their lives. A majority of them were killed and the remainder were made prisoners. One of the most important maneuvers north of the Vesle was the penetration by the French to the village of LaNeuville which releases the German hold on the northern outskirts of Rheims and seemingly delivers the cathedral city from the German menace.

With the Germans now thoroughly vanquished thus far on the Soissons-Rheims salient, eyes are being turned to the regions in the northwest on both sides of Amiens. Here the French and British are keeping up their hard pressure against the armies of Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria and have forced them on two highly important sectors to retreat.

Southeast of Amiens on the old Montdidier sector, the Germans have fallen back across the Aisne river over a wide front, while northeast of Amiens, in the region of Albert, a similar retrograde movement has been made across the Ancre. The German official communication in admitting the withdrawal near Albert declares the maneuver was carried out without interference by the British.

Just what bearing these new offensives will have on the fighting front to which the Germans ultimately retreat for a stand in the Aisne region cannot yet be forecast, but should the allied troops be able to press back the line for any material gains eastward it is not improbable that it would dislocate the entire German line in the south.

There again has been considerable activity on the Italian mountain front, where at several points the Italians have attacked and defeated the Austrians.