

Kings Mountain Herald

A Clean Local Newspaper For All The Family

VOL. 16. NO. 47.

KINGS MOUNTAIN, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1918

\$1.50 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

STRONG DEFENSE ON VESLE RIVER

AMERICAN AND ALLIED FORCES ABOUT BLUPT OUT SOISSONS-RHEIMS SALIENT.

WHAT HAS FOE IN MIND?

Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria is Much Worried on Diminution of Strength.

The Germans now are imposing strong opposition to the further advance of the allied troops along the Vesle river from the east of Soissons to the region west of Rheims.

Meantime, however, the main bodies of the enemy army continue to make their way toward the Aisne, to the north of which stream they hope somewhere to reach a haven of safety from the persistent onslaught of the American, French, British and Italian troops who in less than three weeks have all but blotted out the Soissons-Rheims salient.

Notwithstanding the bringing into play by the enemy of large numbers of machine guns and artillery of heavier caliber and the employment of large numbers of picked troops, including the well-tried Prussian guard and the Bavarians; and in spite of the fact that the rains have seen the Vesle out of bounds and turned the lowlands into quagmires, the Americans and the other allied troops have forced crossings of the river at a number of new points and on the north side of the stream are engaging the enemy.

Just what the Germans have in mind cannot be fortold. It is known however, that Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria during the early stages of the allied offensive on the Soissons-Rheims sector detached large numbers of his men and sent them to the aid of his sorely-tried imperial cousin, the German crown prince, thereby weakening his line while Field Marshal Haig's front was not materially touched by withdrawals. It is not improbable, therefore, that Rupprecht is worrying somewhat over this diminution in strength and already has placed barriers between himself and the forces fronting him to ward off possible attacks and is endeavoring to ascertain what chances he has to hold other positions which he had intended ultimately to launch a drive toward the channel ports.

ONE OF MOST HARROWING DISASTERS RECORDED

A British Port.—The ship torpedoed as she was near home from France was struck in the after part of the engine room. Three members of the staff were killed here and the dynamos were destroyed, plunging the vessel into darkness.

Just over the dynamo was the ward room, containing more than 100 patients. Most of these were killed outright by the explosion. The others, injured by the explosion, were trapped and perished except for a few who jumped overboard and were picked up.

A majority of the survivors had only slight protection of their night clothing and suffered severely from exposure. All the Americans were sick cases, and the two officers were suffering with pneumonia. The Americans have been sent to a hospital.

SURTAXES ON INCOMES ABOVE \$200,000 RAISED

Washington.—Surtaxes on all incomes above \$200,000 were increased with a maximum of 75 per cent on all above \$4,000,000 by the house ways and means committee in its consideration of the \$8,000,000,000 revenue bill. Incomes between \$200,000 and \$300,000 will pay 55 per cent surtax, instead of the 52 per cent heretofore planned; incomes of \$300,000 to \$500,000, 60 per cent, instead of 58; \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, 65 per cent instead of 63; \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000, 70 per cent and all above \$5,000,000, 75 per cent instead of 64 per cent as at present.

INFLUX OF AMERICANS DISCOURAGES GERMANS

London.—The ebbing of the German morale resulting from recent events has been noticeably hastened by the great influx of American troops. In this particular regard, the German high command is paying the penalty of concealment and misrepresentation. The appearance in the battle line of powerful American forces and the striking proof of their splendid fighting quality gives the lie direct to all German official bombast.

FRANK L. BAYLIES



Frank L. Baylies of New Bedford, Mass., who has distinguished himself as an aviator with the French flying forces was reported missing recently.

SORRY PLIGHT OF GERMANS

NOTABLE GAINS OF GROUND AND TREMENDOUS LOSSES BY ENEMY MARK FIGHTING.

Foe is Fighting Stubbornly But to No Avail; Allies Have Taken More Than 34,000 Prisoners.

After a short period of relative calm on the Soissons-Rheims salient the central and western sections of the battle front again have been the scenes of mighty struggles.

On both sectors the allied forces have achieved notable gains of ground which, observed on the war maps, seemingly place the German armies in front of them in precarious positions.

In battles extending from the region immediately south of Soissons to the northwest of Fere En Tardenois and southwest of the last named town over the upper portion of the left branch of the "V" salient running ten miles eastward from Nesles to Ville En Tardenois and with St. Gomme as its southern base, American, French and British troops have pushed back the armies of the German crown prince.

Northwest of Fere the entire elbow of the line where it turned eastward along the northern bank of the Ourcq has been blotted out, making the line a straight one from Fere to Hartennes and giving the allies much better ground over which to work in further outflanking Soissons on the southeast and for pressing on toward Fismes.

SECOND BATTLE OF MARNE SEEMS PRACTICALLY AT END

New York.—Despite minor fluctuations in the immediate future, such as remains possible after every similar conflict has reached its real term, the second battle of the Marne has ended. It was practically over last Sunday when the Germans began to take root in the hills north of the Ourcq and south of the valley of the Cerise about Soissons and of the Andre west of Rheims. Boehm's army has found at least a temporary halting place on this front, as did Kluck's a little further to the north after the retreat from the Marne four years ago.

The largest number of divisions which have been reported as fighting in the defeated army is 71, and there have been other estimates smaller, but not materially smaller. Three quarters of a million men is perhaps a fair appraisal of the fighting strength of the Germans at the Marne, at least a quarter less than were used in the first battle of the Marne, and comparing with 80 divisions used in the battle of Picardy in March. Of their forces engaged the Germans have lost between a quarter and a third, from 200,000 to 250,000, upwards of 500 guns and a mass of war material, which has not yet been tabulated, but is known to be enormous.

LARGE BODIES OF GERMANS ARE FLEEING NORTHWARD

With the French Army in France.—With the fall of darkness fighting continued between the allies and the Germans on the western side of the Soissons-Rheims salient. Allied observers reported that bodies of Germans were fleeing precipitately northward along the road leading from Launois, which lies about midway between Soissons and Fere-En-Tardenois, for the first time allied reserves are said to outnumber those of enemy.

HUNS RACING FOR BANKS OF AISNE

GERMANS FLEEING FOR SAFETY ARE HOTLY PRESSED ALONG TEN MILE FRONT.

TOWN OF FISMES IS TAKEN

Former Great German Supply Base Between Soissons and Rheims Taken by Allies.

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, 233 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 on 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 that stream, where they are in a position to harass the enemy as he endeavors to straighten out his line in conformity with that running northeastward.

So fast as has been the retreat of the Germans in the center that already some element 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 German, and even corn fields have been set afire in order to prevent the allied troops from garnering the ripened crop.

With the river at freshet 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 LaNeuvillette which releases the German hold on the northern outskirts of Rheims and seemingly delivers the cathedral city from the German menace.

SPEEDY ENACTMENT OF DRAFT EXTENSION MEASURE

Washington.—Legislation to extend the selective service act to all men between the ages of 18 and 45, as recommended by the war department, will be introduced in both houses of Congress at the semi-weekly recess sessions. According to plans of congressional leaders, spending their vacation here, the bill, which will be identical as introduced in each house, will be referred to the senate and house military affairs committees, of which Senator Chamberlain and Representative Dent are the respective chairmen.

Though the house does not reassemble until August 19 and the senate on August 24, it is expected that the draft extension bills will be enacted speedily. Chairman Dent, of the house military affairs committee, said he would call his committee together as soon as the house reassembles and hearings are held.

GERMAN U-BOAT MAKES FORAY IN NOVA SCOTIAN WATERS

Halifax, N. S.—Three American schooners were sunk by German submarines off Seal Island, Yarmouth county, on the Nova Scotia coast. The crews landed on the Nova Scotia coast. The commander of the submarine told an American skipper that he had sunk more American schooners hailing from Boston and Gloucester recently. He did not give the names of the vessels.

ELIAS J. JACOBY



Elias J. Jacoby of Indianapolis, for many years associated in law practice with the late Charles W. Fairbanks, former vice president of the United States, and who is now vice president of the Railroadmen's Building and Savings association, was advanced to the highest office of the Order of the Mystic Shrine for North America at the meeting of the Imperial Council, Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, at Atlantic City, being made imperial potentate.

THE ONE GREAT OBJECT

PRESENT LULL IS INDICATION OF FIERCE STRUGGLE—MAY BEGIN AT ANY MOMENT.

To Kill as Many of the Other is Prime Object of Opposing Forces. Field Marshal Assassinated.

Washington.—An odd calm fell over the Aisne-Marne battle area with only the thunder of the guns to tell of new and more terrible guits of the war storm to come. Paris and Berlin both noted it. The infantry had paused for breath, while the artillery pounded new roads of advance for General Foch's victorious armies.

The victory was given new significance by General March, chief of staff. Putting aside the reserve with which he hitherto has commented on the wider aspects of the battle, General March told the newspaper men at his mid-week conference that each army was now bent on the destruction of the other; all lesser strategy objectives had been swept away on both sides. The mission of each is to destroy the fighting power of the other. It is the ultimate military objective that both are now seeking and there can be no halting short of the goal.

"The objective of each army is the other army, each one of them wants to kill as many of the other as possible.

The chief of staff had prefaced this new concept of the great struggle with a careful outline of the battle positions, showing that since last Saturday another ten miles had been cut out of the length of the battle line by allied successes. It is now barely 54 miles around the flattened salient in which the enemy has massed virtually a million men as against 74 miles when the counter-assault was set in motion. From Chateau-Thierry, the Americans have made the maximum advance, covering 14 miles to reach the positions where they rested.

CONTROL OF TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE LINES TAKEN OVER

Washington.—Control of telephone and telegraph lines were taken over by the postoffice department and their operation placed under the general supervision of a special committee created for the purpose by Postmaster General Burleson.

Mr. Burleson announced that until further notice the companies will continue operation in the ordinary course through the regular channels and that all officers and employees will continue in the performance of their present duties of the same terms of employment. The plan is, however, to co-ordinate the facilities of the various companies.

BIG LOCOMOTIVE ORDER FOR MILITARY RAILROADS

Washington.—The war department has ordered 510 locomotives for military railroads in France from the Baldwin Locomotive Works at a total cost of about \$25,000,000. It was announced. About 10,000 freight cars for service in France, costing about \$18,000,000 will be ordered within a few days. The locomotives will be of the American mogul consolidation type weighing 270,000 pounds and will cost about \$50,000 each.

CRISIS IN ALLIED OFFENSIVE NEAR

ALL ALONG FRONT OF 36 MILES ALLIED FORCES HAVE STEADILY PRESSED ENEMY.

SOISSONS HAS BEEN RETAKEN

Americans Now Control Almost All Hill and Forest Country in Southern Area.

The crisis in the allied offensive on the Soissons-Rheims salient which only has been averted for a few days have entered the town of Soissons the western anchor point of what is called the famous salient and all along the 36 miles of square battle front from Soissons to Thillois, which lies about three miles west of Rheims. French, American and British troops have pushed in the entire enemy front and sent the Germans backward everywhere in precipitate retreat. Over the battle front the allies, by quick and forcible methods of onslaught, have deeply indented the German defense line for splendid gains, which seemingly foreshadow the necessity of the eventual retirement of the forces of the German crown prince to more tenable ground in the north.

The plains behind the northwestern portion of the battle front now are entirely dominated by the allied big guns in the south the French and Americans have negotiated almost all of the hill and forest country and are encroaching precipitately toward the Fismes railway, while on the east the British and French are almost astride the Rheims-Soissons railway and have their guns now so placed that the enemy is sure to be sorely tried as he endeavors to press back and gain a haven of refuge along the Vesle river.

Just how far the retreat of the Germans will go cannot at present be forecast, but with the southern line swinging northward in conjunction with that on the east toward the Vesle, and with the French dominating the Aisne eastward from Soissons, it is not improbable that the Germans may be compelled to take refuge north of the Aisne.

Numerous towns and hamlets have been captured by the allied troops during the latest fighting and at some points they have advanced from two to three miles. South of Soissons the entire Crise river has been forded by the allied troops, northeast of Fere-en-Tardenois the allied line has been pushed well to the east of the region of Grand Rozoy and the town of Saponay has been taken. In the center the Nesles wood is being swept clean of Germans by the French cavalry and American and French troops are pressing the Germans hard north of Sergy and the hamlet of Nesles.

Further eastward almost to the gates of Rheims, combined forces of British and French everywhere are sorely harassing the enemy. In this latter region, in addition to Thillois the village of Ville-en-Hardenois is in allied hands and the French now are on the heels of the Germans two and a half miles north of the Dormans-Rheims high road over a front of nearly four miles.

Altogether, viewed from the war maps, the situation for the allied troops at present is a most promising one for complete success in ridding the Soissons-Rheims salient entirely of the enemy.

250,000 CHRISTIAN GREEKS ARE DEPORTED BY TURKS

New York.—More than 250,000 Christian Greeks have been deported by the Turks from their homes in the flourishing regions of Turkey bordering on the coast, notably from Samsoun, Aivalik, Trebizond and Smyrna, according to a report from the Greek foreign office of the relief committee for Greeks of Asia Minor, given out here.

"They have been taxed out of business, their homes and property confiscated and themselves driven into the deserts to die of starvation."

DR WILLIS HEADS NAVAL BASE HOSPITAL UNIT

Richmond, Va.—Announcement was made of the organization of a naval base hospital unit headed by Dr. A. Murat Willis, of the Johnston-Willis hospital. The unit will be comprised of 60 nurses and 10 doctors who are specialists in various branches of medicine and surgery.

Word was received a few days ago announcing the arrival of the Doctor McGuire unit in France.

OVER THE LAND OF THE LONG LEAF PINE

SHORT NOTES OF INTEREST TO CAROLINIANS.

Raleigh.—The Vanguard class of the First Presbyterian Sunday school has started the Raleigh canvass for the Peace Institute fund by pledging \$1000.

Hamlet.—A fatal accident occurred on the Seaboard Air Line railroad about two miles east of Lenoirville, when an automobile occupied by four negroes and driven by a negro had run into the engine of No. 12 two engines being instantly killed and two badly hurt.

St. Louis.—Heavy rains have been falling throughout the country for several days. All streams are swollen and many of the fields washed away. Farmers have been advised to wet weather will have a tendency to check the damage which has already appeared in some sections.

Raleigh.—With 158 enlistments to its credit, the Raleigh Navy Recruiting Station last week ranked first in enlistments in the Fifth Naval District which is composed of North Carolina and Virginia. The station also stood fourth in the entire Eastern District.

Winston-Salem.—In response to a call issued by Mayor Gortel the aldermen and hundreds of citizens gathered at the courthouse here as a tribute of respect to the late J. J. Reynolds. Prominent citizens gave brief expressions of appreciation of Mr. Reynolds. Prominent citizens gave brief expressions of appreciation of Mr. Reynolds as a business man, citizen and community leader.

Raleigh.—Deputy Sheriff T. J. Wall, of Wake county, 1500 man C. A. Smith of Ap-Y and others, owners of the common by Sunday afternoon destroyed what is said to be the largest still ever found in this county. Its capacity was 150 gallons. Six thousand gallons of beer was destroyed. Nobody was injured.

Charlotte.—Between 12,000 and 15,000 people in Charlotte have no city water connections and use open, shallow wells and springs which are easily contaminated, according to a statement issued by Dr. C. C. Hudson, city health officer, on the typhoid fever situation in the city.

Raleigh.—Dr. H. H. Bonner, Raleigh specialist, has been recommended to succeed Dr. A. W. Knox as a member of the Wake county exemption board. His appointment is expected at an early date.

Kinston.—While L. D. Bland cured tobacco on the plantation of R. E. Bland some miles from here a five-foot rattler paid him a visit. The reptile made itself quite busy around the place, presumably courting the heat within the burning barn. Bland also got busy and killed the snake. It was a healthy specimen, having 12 rattles and a button, indicating the snake to be 12 years old and unlucky.

Elizabeth City.—The most successful session of the Elizabeth City State Colored Normal Summer School closed July 26. A very large number of teachers were in attendance. The summer schools of today are entirely different from what they were in the past, today we are considering the industrial, agricultural, and horticultural subjects, and in addition poultry and hog raising are emphasized.

Fayetteville.—H. V. D. King, secretary of the Fayetteville chamber of commerce, accompanied by Messrs. F. H. Siedman and T. G. McAllister left for Washington to present Fayetteville's brief to the inland waterways.

Wilmington.—The death of Lieutenant James Loder, a native of this city, who was reported in press dispatches as having been killed by machine gun fire on the Aisne-Marne front, was confirmed in a telegram from the adjutant general to the family.

Winston-Salem.—A community cannery will be put in operation here at once. The enterprise is the work of the local women's committee of the Council of National Defense and was made possible through the Rotary club.

Morganton.—Joe Allen, a farmer living near Euola in Burke county, was found dead at his home, where he lived alone. His head had been crushed with some blunt instrument. No clue has been found indicating the identity of the assailant.