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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 Coteul All along the front the British pressed forward, at some places to a depth of more than two miles.

Across the Coteul, the new British attacks on the old battle front brought them to the villages of Mory and St. Legar, 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 rippier 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. Mart to the south of Roye, both of which have been captured by the French, despite the desperate resistance of the Germans, and Roye, like Bapaume in the north, apparently is in danger of being pinched 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 artilleries 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.

SUBURBS 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.

MAJ. B. H. GITCHELL



Maj. B. H. Gitcheill 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 counterattack 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 Coucy forest and are nearly on the line held in April along the River Ailette. They have also widened their hold on the Oise to Bretigny, midway between Noyon and Chauny.

The French advance towards the roads leading to Chauny adds another menace to their line of retirement and explains the acceleration of the enemy's retreat. Bourignon, 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 Piemont, 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 Divre river, in which French cavalry is now operating.

Several thousand prisoners have been taken and trophies in 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.

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.

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 Puchi, Le Sara 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 artilleries 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 Woerë 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."

VISCOUNTESS CURZON



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-Ourscamp, 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 6,659 tons gross, was torpedooed 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 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 reorganize.

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 unacceptably 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 Coteul river southeast of Arras to Ithons, 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 Metz river and the territory north of Soissons, additional steady gains have been made in the enveloping of Noyon and the general manner which seeks to crush or drive out the Germans from the salient between the Somme and the Ailette, and to put 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 held Chaignolles, Chugnes and Herleville and are pushing eastward of those villages a little distance to make sure of holding them.

In the 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 their punishment without giving him time to look around.

OVER THE LAND OF THE LONG LEAF PINE

SHORT NOTES OF INTEREST TO CAROLINIANS.

Chapel Hill.—The Stephen H. Webb collection of North Carolina literature and history, including a number of volumes and pamphlets of North Carolina history, literature, laws, public documents, newspapers, maps, and other publications relating to the state, was purchased by the University library.

Sandford.—The delegates of the Low Country Agricultural Society, located at Sandford, will hold a convention at the University of North Carolina.

Forestville.—Merrill, a son of Forestville, who died in the battle of the Marston, was killed in action. The information came to Forestville in a letter from an officer in France.

Greenboro.—Ward has been received here on the death of his father, Lieutenant Paul Venable, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Venable of this city. The information came to Forestville in a letter from an officer in France.

Special from Washington.—No general exemption of married men simply because of their married status is contemplated by the War Department in preparing for the proposed extension of draft ages. Secretary Baker declares.

Spencer.—A D. House of Mount Taibor, near Spencer, thought to have a man in the shape of a pig with eight legs, but only one head. The animal had two fairly well developed bodies connected at the neck with a normal head.

Middlesex.—News has been received here that R. H. Morgan, of Headquarters Company, 324th Infantry, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Morgan of Middlesex, has arrived safely over seas.

Charlotte.—A memorandum received by the Charlotte army recruiting station from Joseph W. Hain, captain, Philippine scouts, retired, recruiting officer, and made public statements men between the ages of 46 and 56 years may be accepted for enlistment in the quartermaster corps and medical department.

Raleigh.—Col. Joseph E. Pogue, secretary of the Great State Fair, is issuing the premium lists of the fifty-eighth Great State Fair. Four thousand of these premium lists, enclosed in pamphlets of 175 pages, are being sent out by Col. Pogue, who is planning for a greater industrial and agricultural exhibition than ever before.

Raleigh.—Returning from Watauga Beach, where he held the third annual institute for North Carolina Firemen and Electricians for Fire Prevention, State Insurance Commissioner James R. Young expresses much gratification at the success of the work.

Chapel Hill.—Through the generosity of John Sprunt Hill, of Durham, the work of making available to the state at large all North Carolina publications has been greatly facilitated. The university library under the direction of Dr. Louis R. Wilson is daily adding to its list of publications.

Morganton.—The three negroes who, it is alleged, planned to kill the family of H. Ballenger, of Bridge-water, and rob his store, were arrested, and all sentenced to the roads. The fact that they were discovered before they made entry no doubt saved them from the chair.

Governor Bickett has gone to New York with Mrs. Bickett, who sails soon for France for first hand investigation of the service of the Y. M. C. A. to the soldiers at the front and in the training camps abroad. After about a month abroad Mrs. Bickett returns for a tour of North Carolina in connection with a campaign for funds to maintain the Y. M. C. A. work. Governor Bickett will be away about a week.

Raleigh.—Don Ryan Harris of Atton, N. C., the American airman who made an involuntary descent in a potato field near Koudlekirk, Zeeand, after his machine had been disabled by German anti-aircraft gun fire, has arrived at the Hague from Flushing to be interviewed.

Burgaw.—The death of A. D. Bordeaux which occurred at his home six miles west of Burgaw, probably removed the oldest citizen of Pendleton county, as he would have been 83 years old September 5.