



1—One lone American acting as guard of a long line of Hun prisoners. 2—Scene in the ruins of Peronne, which the British have recaptured. 3—General Humbert, commander of the French army northwest of Noyon, in conversation with a colonel.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE GREAT WAR

British Smash the Wotan Line and French and Yankees Drive Huns North.

GERMANS QUIT VESLE RIVER

Continue Their Retreat From Lys Sector, Where Americans Fight on Belgian Soil—Bolsheviki Are Defeated in Siberia and Northern Russia.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The whole western front, from Ypres to Reims, was ablaze all the week, and throughout all the long stretch the Germans continued their retreat. The armies of the allies followed closely on their heels, hammering at them day and night and giving them not a moment's pause for reorganization of their wearied forces. It was another week of uninterrupted allied success, and the withdrawal of the Huns was extended to include the Vesle river sector, between Soissons and Reims. Until Wednesday there had been little activity there, except continuous artillery work and some sharp fighting between the Americans and the Germans in the region of Fismes and Fismette. But in the first days of the week airplane observers reported evidences of a coming retreat by the enemy, and this developed on Wednesday. The American and French patrols pursued the Huns promptly and by Thursday had reached the crest dominating the Aisne, across which river the Germans seemed likely to take the main bodies of their troops.

This retrograde movement was made necessary by the successful advance of General Mangin's army north and northwest of Soissons between the Ailette and the Aisne, threatening the Chemin des Dames and flanking the enemy line toward Fismes. With the aid of Americans, Mangin was moving steadily down the Aisne plateau and in the direction of Laon, and it appeared doubtful that the Huns would be able to remain long south of the Hindenburg line through Anizy and Craonne. They were driven out of Clemency, Bray, Missy-sur-Aisne and many other towns in this region, and the French as early as Wednesday night were in the outskirts of Coucy, one of the important German bases on the edge of the St. Gobain forest. Between there and Chauny the enemy was forced from a series of dominating heights that he has relied on to protect La Fere. To the northwest of Chauny equally important victories gave General Humbert possession of Gulescard and Maucourt after he had forced the retirement of the enemy from Mont St. Simeon and the Canal du Nord. This latter action was a desperate fight, for the German positions were protected by a wilderness of wire entanglements and by innumerable machine-gun nests. Captured officers said they had orders to retreat to the region of Bethancourt, northwest of Chauny. There were indications that the Huns planned to make a stand on a line through Ham, but the French advance was so swift that their ability to do this was doubtful. The French First army was moving irresistibly on Ham from Vesle and the Canal du Nord.

At Fresnes the French and American advance reached the old Hindenburg line, had Ham practically flanked and was rapidly approaching Laon. The last named city has been one of the most important of the German bases in Picardy and the heart of the present Hun operations. It is a great center of railways and highways and its capture by the allies, it was said, must mean the further retirement of the enemy.

The British in Picardy opened the week by occupying Peronne after an Australian force had captured Mont St. Quentin in a brilliant operation. A little to the north Halg's men then took Comblies, Morval, Courcellette and Le Transloy, and straightened out their

new line by advancing it to Molsians and to the east of Neuville. Then, on Monday, came a grand British smash which wrecked the much-vaunted Wotan switch line of the Hindenburg line, from Droocourt to Queant. Despite the resistance of great masses of infantry and artillery, the British rushed forward on a ten-mile front and speedily made a gain of some five miles, the German losses being frightful. In the succeeding days they kept up the drive remorselessly, putting much of the Canal du Nord behind their lines and approaching within a few miles of Douai and Cambrai. These two cities were so important to the German defensive system that large numbers of troops were rushed to their rescue and the British drive was slowed down perceptibly by the end of the week, though it was by no means stopped.

All through the week there were reports that many towns and villages back of the German lines in Picardy were in flames and it was certain that the foe were destroying great quantities of supplies which they were not given time to remove.

In the Lys sector, the salient west of Armentieres, the German retreat, under compulsion, continued steadily and the British advanced as far as Neuve Chapelle and Laventie, taking a number of villages. The northern part of this sector became of especial interest to Americans because the Yankees were there engaged in their first battle on Belgian soil. These troops, later identified by General March as the Thirtieth division of Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina men, captured Voormezele and other towns in the vicinity, and next day pushed on further eastward. Thursday the British, presumably aided by these same Americans, took Ploegsteert village and Hill 63, dominating points on the Messines ridge. By that time the British, from Neuve Chapelle south to Givenchy, had reached the line they held before the German drive of April 9 last, and east of Givenchy they had occupied parts of the old German positions.

Altogether it was a highly satisfactory week on the west front. The German military critics have given up trying to conceal wholly the truth of the Hun reverses, but some of them still insist that the retreat will not go much farther. The German crown prince broke into print with an interview in which he declared the German idea of victory now is "to hold our own and not allow ourselves to be vanquished." He said only the allies were waging a war of extermination; that the Germans wished to annihilate none of their enemies. The Hun peace offensive seems to have petered out entirely for the time being.

The British government, aroused by the sinking of its embassy in Petrograd and the murder of Captain Cromle, the British attaché, has sent an ultimatum to the soviet government at Moscow, demanding reparation and prompt punishment of the guilty and threatening to hold the members of the bolshevik government individually responsible and to have them treated as outlaws by all civilized nations. Meanwhile the British are holding Litvinoff, bolshevik representative in London, and his staff under arrest pending the release of British officials who were arrested in Russia.

Belated dispatches from Siberia tell of the destruction of the bolshevik army east of Lake Balkal by the Czecho-Slovaks and say the Cossacks are co-operating with the Czechs. It appears that uninterrupted connection has been established between the allied forces across Siberia all the way from the Volga to Vindivostok and that the vanguard of the Czechs has joined hands with General Semenov's troops on the Onon river. In northern European Russia the allies and loyal Russians have gained further successes south of Archangel and inflicted severe losses on the bolsheviks.

On the Ussuri front in eastern Siberia the allied forces have been driving the bolsheviks northward, defeating them in every engagement and inflicting heavy casualties. The Americans under General Graves joined in these operations. The suppression of the Social Rev-

olutionists in Moscow is being carried out with a heavy hand. About five thousand of them have been arrested and sentenced to death, and it is said they will be executed if their party shows any further opposition to the soviet government. The streets of Moscow are under the strictest military guard.

Details of the supplementary Russo-German agreements have been made public. Germany promises to evacuate all occupied territory east of Livonia and Estonia as soon as boundaries are established, and to get out of all other territory east of Germany when Russia has fulfilled her financial obligations, which must be within four months. Russia is pledged to fight against the entente forces in northern Russia, and Germany promises that Finland shall not attack. Russia renounces its sovereignty over Estonia and Livonia, but is to have free transit to Reval, Riga and Windau.

An attempt to assassinate Nicolai Lenin, soviet premier, was made by a girl in Moscow, but at last reports he was still alive though in a serious condition. Very likely his death would be a godsend to Russia.

There is not much to say of the war on the Italian, Albanian and Greek fronts. Small engagements are numerous, but no decisive operations have been started lately. In Albania the retirement of the allied line for a short distance is explained by the necessity of preparing for winter by occupying certain dominating heights. Austria has not attempted anything important in Italy, possibly because she is too busy trying to settle her internal troubles, or because of the call on her for troops to help out the sorely-pressed Germans in France. Several Austrian divisions have been identified on the west front. Meanwhile the Italian airmen, aided by American flyers, have been doing a lot of bombing of Austrian towns, railways and naval stations.

According to dispatches from Munich by way of Geneva, Count von Hertling, the Imperial chancellor, resigned Thursday, giving poor health as the cause of his action.

From Cologne came the news that the commandant of the Brandenburg province had placed the province, including the city of Berlin, under martial law in order to stop the "invention and circulation of untrue rumors calculated to disquiet the populace."

General March said last week that more than 250,000 American troops were landed in France during August, and that up to the first of September more than 1,000,000 had embarked for the various fronts, including those sent to France, England, Italy and Siberia. There has been no official mention of late of the First American Field army, and observers in France and in England believe it is being prepared for a great drive, of which the present big offensive is but the preliminary.

All preparations have been completed for the registration of men between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one and thirty-one and forty-five, under the new draft law. General Crowder has called on the people to aid in making the registration a complete success, and, so far as the older men are concerned, has given assurance that a very large proportion of them will not be required to go to the front. The young men, he and most others believe, will be only too glad to get into this greatest and most righteous of all wars.

Spain has not yet come to the breaking point with Germany, but another Spanish vessel having been torpedoed, has decided to seize German interned ships without further parley. The tone of the press there, and also in other neutral countries, is becoming distinctly proally.

American shipyards set a record during August, turning out 66 ships aggregating 340,145 dead weight tons. Forty-four were of steel. The total tonnage built for the shipping board has now passed the two million mark. British merchant vessels completed during August amounted to 124,675 gross tons. The new construction in the allied countries is now well ahead of the destruction by submarines.

An Hour a Day With Jesus

By REV. HOWARD W. POPE
Moody Bible Institute,
Chicago

TEXT—What! Could ye not watch with me one hour?—Matt. 26:40.

Never was the Master's rebuke to the disciples more pertinent than today. We are living at a rapid rate. Every one seems to be in a mad rush to get there, and multitudes of business men are consciously violating the speed laws of health and safety. It is becoming harder all the while to secure time for private or family worship, while meditation on the Word is, we fear, almost a lost art. Men and women too, are using up seven days' strength in six days' time, so that Sunday usually finds them completely exhausted.

Let me suggest as a remedy an hour a day with Jesus, emphasizing not so much the amount of time as the fact of a generous period set apart each day for fellowship with the living and written Word.

Our souls need it. How much they need it we shall never know until we adopt the habit. We need it both for our information and inspiration. We need to know God better that we may love him more. We need to know ourselves better that we may take and keep our proper attitude toward him. And when we know his will we need the constant and constraining influence of the Holy Spirit to incite us to do it.

A slumbering church needs it, for if it is ever awakened and set on fire for God it must be through the instrumentality of those who are already on fire, and whose earnest intercession gives God no rest until he establishes and makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

A perishing world needs it—for never will it realize that it is dead until it comes in contact with those who are alive in Christ Jesus. Formal preaching and feeble testimony will never disturb the sleep of the dead, but "the people that do know their God shall be strong, and shall do exploits." When people hear about the victorious life and see it in their midst they will realize their own need.

And Jesus craves it. We are not simply the servants of Jesus who go to him for orders, but he says, "I have called you friends," and "all things that I have heard of my Father, I have made known unto you." A business man may employ hundreds of women, and daily assign them their work and pay them their wages, but there is one woman whose relation to him is entirely different. He is not her employer but her husband. He did not select her for the work that she could do, but to be his wife and companion.

Even so the church is the bride of Christ, and far more than the service that we can render, he prizes our fellowship and love.

An hour a day with Jesus gives deep, abounding joy. "Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the Scriptures?"

It makes our testimony more effective. Some years ago I came in close touch with a group of young people. I soon saw that one of the number was far superior to all the rest in the weight of her testimony and in her knowledge of the Bible. Then I found the secret. She was giving an hour a day to the study of the Bible and prayer. Her life was beautiful and her influence unique, though her natural gifts were only ordinary. That hour a day with Jesus seemed to cast a halo over all that she said and did.

It gives greater power in prayer. In Acts 4:31 we read that when the apostles had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost. "And with great power gave they witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus; and great grace was upon them all."

And so we come back to our starting point, and leave with you the question, "Could we not manage our households, and carry on our business and accomplish more study, and make more money if we would spend an hour a day with Jesus and the Bible?"

A little talk with Jesus, how it smooths the rugged road,
How it seems to help me onward, when I faint beneath my load;
When my heart is crushed with sorrow,
and my eyes with tears are dim,
There is naught can give me comfort like a little talk with him.

I cannot live without him, nor would I if I could;
He is my daily portion, my medicine and food,
He's altogether lovely, none with him can compare,
The chief among ten thousand, the fairest of the fair.

Bible for Every Cottage.
Give to the people who toil and suffer, for whom this world is hard and bad, the belief that there is a better made for them. Scatter gospels among the villages, a Bible for every cottage.—Victor Hugo.

Perishing Paid for Pig.
The French papers delight in anecdotes of the good relations between the American soldiers and the peasants. One of these stories, with which General Pershing's name is coupled, is printed this week.
"A big American automobile tore through a French village on its way to an American camp," says a Lyons paper. "Unfortunately a pig belonging to an old peasant woman strayed into the path of the car and was killed. The old lady was heartbroken. But a few days later a letter came for her, inclosing a check for 100 francs, and saying how sorry the writer was for the death of her pig."
"The signature was that of General Pershing."

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County—
I, Frank J. Cheney, make oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE.
FRANK J. CHENEY.
Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1918.
(Seal) A. W. Gleason, Notary Public.
HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE is taken internally and acts through the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System. Druggists, 74c. Testimonials free.
F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio.

Speaking of Strange Words.
And, speaking of strange words one has been appearing lately which always gives us pause because it looks so queer. We have to stop and pronounce it aloud ere we can proceed with the news of the day.
The word is, "pre-war."
Does one say "pre-er"? Or how?
Of course it means "pre-war," or "before de war," but it's a mean looking, foreign word, when printed without the hyphen.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Americans are touring New Zealand in increased numbers.

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—Mrs. FRANK HENSON, 1316 S. Orchard St., Urbana, Ill.

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The Branch House is the place in the packing organization where what the packing plant does for you is put where you can use it.

Both are the natural result of growth and development in the living thing they belong to.

Swift & Company Branch Houses are located in distributing centers all over the country. They are fitted out with refrigerating equipment to keep meat cool, sweet and fresh.

Each one is in personal charge of a man who believes in what Swift & Company is doing for people and wants to help do it.

They are directed by men who have spent years learning how to get better meat cheaper to the places where it is needed.

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So you need the branch house in order to live well; and the branch house and the packing plant need each other, in order to be useful to you.

Swift & Company, U. S. A.

