

SUDDEN BLOW BOLLS BACK FRENCH LEFT

Attacks South of Soissons Appear to Have Been Held In Check, as Have Those Directed at Rheims, Though Latter Place Is Surrounded on Three Sides and Early Capture Is Now Probable.

HUNS ATTACK TOWNS ON BANKS OF THE MARNE

Crown Prince Hurling His Masses Against Sides of New Salient to Widen Wedge and Connect Up Operations With Those In Picardy and Prevent Being Caught In Counter Blow By General Foch.

By Associated Press.

Keeping the tide of their advance in the center flowing strongly, although seemingly less swiftly, toward the Marne, the Germans simultaneously have executed a stroke on the allied left flank that has extended the battle line westward and virtually linked up the present battlefield with that of the Somme.

The attack was delivered along the Ailette river northwest of Soissons. Sweeping forward in the salient that projected between the Somme and the Aisne battlefields, the Germans drove the allied line back so that it now runs northwestward from the vicinity of Soissons, through Epagny and Blérancourt to the Oise river, apparently at its point of junction with the Oise canal, about eight miles east of Noyon.

The Noyon area was included within the field of the German offensive in March when the French established new lines along the Oise and the Oise canal to the east and southwest of that town, after being driven back below St. Quentin. The German drive down the Oise valley toward Paris was then checked. The present offensive movement here suggests the possibility of its resumption.

Hold Further South.

The French war office announces the breaking down of enemy attacks in the Soissons area and to the south, while on the allied right the line is extending northeastward toward Rheims in the neighborhood of Vezilly appears virtually unchanged, the Germans failing in all their efforts to win ground.

The energetic defense on the right wing is exemplified by the fighting at Thillois three miles east of Rheims, where the Germans entered the town, only to be driven out by a French counter attack.

By such resistance the safety of Rheims is momentarily safeguarded, but observers of the operations view its ultimate fall as apparently inevitable.

The probability of German penetration right up to the banks of the Marne in the center of the advance is likewise indicated in the news dispatches, which mention the near approach of the Germans to Chateau-Thierry and Dormans, both of which

towns are on the Marne river. The civilian population has left Chateau-Thierry and some of the refugees from it have already passed through Paris for the interior.

Shell British Front.

On the British front the Germans are active with their artillery east of Amiens and the Albert region to the north, as well as on portions of the Flanders front, but no infantry movements of note are reported.

Paris, June 1.—The Germans, by an attack in the Ailette river region between Coucy-Le-Chateau and the Oise river, have definitely consolidated the Aisne and Picardy battle fronts, according to the French war office announcement today.

(Seemingly this is an effort to drive toward the Oise, to the westward in an effort to flank allied forces below Noyon, on the southern portion of the Picardy front.)

Before this attack the French have withdrawn from Blérancourt and Epagny, fighting stubbornly.

(Epagny is six miles northwest of Soissons. Blérancourt is five miles northwest of Epagny and eight miles southeast of Noyon.)

In the center the Germans have advanced toward the Marne.

On the left the French are still holding the western outskirts of Soissons.

On the right a French counter attack recaptured Thillois, two miles and a half west of Rheims.

French Insist Situation At Front Is Not Serious

Paris, June 1.—Baffled by the valor of the allied soldiers, the Germans yesterday failed to enlarge greatly the pocket in the allied line. Even in the center, the enemy appears to have been held and the advance there is slackening.

In accordance with their favorite maneuver, the Germans apparently are swinging their columns eastward with the object of getting around Rheims through Ville-En-Tardenois and the valley of the Ardre. The bastion constituted by the ruined city and the high ground as the mountain of Crimes is a menace to the German flank. It is too strong to be attacked from in front with any chance of success, so the enemy is trying to turn it from the southwest.

While any progress by the Germans or French soil, with the inevitable trail of ruin and desolation, strikes French hearts sorely, the unswerving confidence with which the general public views the situation is most remarkable. No doubt is felt as to the outcome and there is no weakening in the resolve to fight on to the end.

The Havas correspondent at the front, who is considered to reflect the official view, thus summarizes the situation: "The rapid advance of the enemy is due to the temporary numerical inferiority of the allies, which has completely changed the aspect of the

struggle. It is necessary to go back to the beginning of the war for an analogous situation. This is a war of movement, where two armies maneuver under the open sky.

"Under these conditions the momentary advance of an army and the capture of a town may mean nothing. The problem is more vast. For its own reasons, our command did not find it advisable to give battle either on the Somme or in Flanders at the March offensive. It confined itself to stopping the enemy.

"Shall we accept battle this time as we formerly accepted it on the Marne? That is the secret of the command. The Germans have no illusions as to the value of the success they have gained. They know we have several million picked troops forming in maneuvering mass, which they will have to encounter somewhere.

"If the enemy had the choice of ground for the offensive we have, the much more important choice of the field of battle on which Germany's destinies will be decided.

"It will be seen, therefore, that there is no ground for alarm. We probably are witnessing the preliminaries to a great battle, which both sides wish to be decisive. Consequently it is comprehensible that our commanders do not act hurriedly, but strictly in accordance with plans agreed upon."

Allies Must Quit Rheims; French Fight to Last Man

London, June 1 (via Ottawa)—The abandonment of Rheims—seems inevitable. The Germans are nearing the Marne and the Paris-Chalons railway, which is the main communication between Paris and Verdun.

Although the pace of the German advance has slackened owing to the arrival of the allied reserves, it is recognized that the allies have a difficult task to prevent further development of the menacing enemy success.

Correspondents say the retreat over the Aisne was a most difficult feat of warfare, both as regards calm generalship and the courage of the troops. The ground was repeatedly defended to the last man. Officers were seen holding the bridges to the last moment and were then killed when they blew them up.

Paris, May 31 (5:45 a. m.)—The Germans continued to push forward south of Fere-En-Tardenois, according to the latest advices reaching Paris, but neither Chateau-Thierry nor Dormans has yet fallen into their hands. There is reason to hope that Chateau-Thierry, the population of which has fled, will be saved.

Chateau-Thierry is 10 miles south of Fere-En-Tardenois, while Dormans is six miles south of Vezilly. Both towns are on the river Marne.

The extreme point of the German advance is Le Chamel, about two miles north of the river Marne, according to an outline of the battle front as marked out by a newspaper correspondent, the Havas agency says.

The Berlin communique claimed a total of 35,000 prisoners taken in the present phase of the offensive, together with a large amount of material, including ammunition, provisions, railway trains and an aerodrome full of airplanes.

Rheims Is Encircled.

On the right flank the Germans now occupy La Neuville and Etheny,

AMERICAN ARTILLERY IS DESTROYING HUNS

Enemy Efforts to Recapture Cantigny Are Futile and Costly In Lives.

With the Americans in Picardy, June 1.—The Germans are paying a heavy penalty in the fruitless attempts to recapture Cantigny. Air observers report that the American artillery is inflicting terrible losses on the boches to the eastward of the new American positions.

In only one of six counter attacks have the boches been able to reach the American lines. A few infantry meting before our counter batteries. On the one occasion they did reach the line, the few Germans who penetrated the trenches were killed or captured.

many tons of bombs on enemy targets in addition to bringing down 19 German machines.

SAFE WHILE FLANKS HOLD.

Paris, May 31.—The newspapers do not attempt to minimize the importance of the German advance. Gabriele Hanotaux, in the *Figaro*, compares the strategic situation with that on the eve of the battle of the Marne. Although the commentators, however, express confidence that the high command will so dispose the allied troops as to restore the situation.

The *Petit Parisien* says the government officials who saw the army chiefs yesterday, returned in the evening still confident, which it regards as a good sign.

It is the resistance of the two wings of the allied force which inspires the confidence of all the military critics. To take victorious advantage of the success they have so far gained, the Germans must succeed in bending the two hinges and all their efforts to do this up to this time have been vain.

Another reason for confidence is the arrival of additional reserves. The *Echo de Paris* reports that reserves arriving at the battle ground with artillery and auxiliary services. Their entrance into action was effected methodically and without any display of nervousness. General Foch and General Pétain are working together intimately, the report adds.

NORTH FRONT QUIET.

London, May 31.—Minor operations by the British on the northern battle front were announced by Field Marshal Haig in his official statement today.

"Southeast of Arras one of our parties rushed a German post during the night and took a few prisoners," said the statement.

"Northeast of Ypres there were patrol encounters in which we took a few prisoners and machine guns.

"Northeast of Rebecq we raided an enemy post. A few of our men are missing. In the vicinity of Villers-Bretonneux and Albert and also between Festubert and the Clarence river there was hostile artillerying."

280,000 DRAFT MEN CALLED THIS MONTH

Washington, D. C., June 1.—Official announcement was made today that 280,000 men will be called to the colors during June. They will be ordered to report June 24, but it has not yet been determined to what camps they can be assigned so the list of appointments is for the moment being withheld.

The men will entrain beginning June 24, and although no official figures of quotas are available, it is known that every state in the union is affected.

Indicating the rapidity with which troops are now being moved overseas, it was stated that practically all of the camps in the country will be ready to receive the large quotas due them by the call of the draft. The calls to the men are now in the mails.

HIGH BRITONS FEAR EXPOSURE BY HUNS?

Witnesses Say Germans Have List of 47,000 Who Are Addicted to Vice.

London, June 1.—Noel K. Pemberton-Billing, a member of parliament, for East Hertfordshire and publisher of the newspaper *Vigilant*, opened his defense in his trial in the Bow street police court today on the charge of libeling E. Maude Allan, dancer, and J. T. Grein, manager of the Independent theater. Mrs. Villiers Stewart, was called to testify to the existence of a book which Pemberton-Billing said had been prepared by German secret agents, containing the names of 47,000 British persons alleged to be addicted to vice and held in bondage to Germany through fear of exposure.

Mrs. Stewart, under examination by Mr. Pemberton-Billing, said the book which she had seen, but was not produced contained the names of Ex-Premier Asquith and Mrs. Asquith, Viscount Haldane, former secretary of war and Justice Darling, who is trying the case against the member of parliament.

Another witness, Captain Harold Spencer, said he was shown the book by Prince William of Wied in Albania. He said he did not remember seeing Mr. Asquith's name in it, but declared the names of Mrs. Asquith and Viscount Haldane were there.

Both Captain Spencer and Mrs. Stewart said they had been threatened, the former after he had communicated the fact to the authorities, and Mr. Pemberton-Billing asked the judge for protection for himself and his witnesses. The judge referred him to the chief commissioner of police.

DIES OF SUNSTROKE.

St. Louis, Mo., May 31.—The first casualty of the annual sun raid on St. Louis, is John Matlach, 45 years old, who died late yesterday. The mercury hovered around 90 during the attack.

CALLS FOR LOCAL AID. Washington, D. C., May 31.—Provost Marshal General Crowder today called on all federal, state, county and municipal police officers throughout the country to cooperate with the government on June 5 to insure "complete and orderly" registration of American youths who will have reached 21 years of age since June 5, 1917.

GENERAL TREAT WILL LEAD ARMY IN ITALY

Commander of Western Department Detailed to Duty at the Front.

Washington, May 31.—Orders detailing Brig. Gen. Charles C. Treat to duty in Italy, were issued by the war department today. It was said that the orders might be revoked as they are contingent to some extent on the final assignment of Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, who though assigned to command the western department, probably will be transferred at his own request to a division at camp.

General Treat is now in command of the western department, with headquarters at San Francisco.

GRACE LUSK GROWS VIOLENT IN JAIL

Her Actions May Cause Appointment of Commission to Investigate Her Sanity.

Waukesha, Wis., May 31.—Miss Grace Lusk, once brilliant minded school teacher, gave way to fits of violence in her jail cell here today. The jury's verdict of second degree murder for shooting Mrs. Mary Newman Roberts followed by Miss Lusk's tigers-like assault on Prosecutor D. S. Tuller, Wednesday night, has completely unstrung the former Waukesha club leader.

A deputy overpowered her when she fought to escape her nurse's holds today and battered the cell bars. It was necessary to hold Miss Lusk on the prison cot. These fits of violence accompanied by piercing screams which frightened the feathered tree dwellers outside her cell window occurred very frequently, according to her attendants.

At other times she lies in a coma, from the effects of opiates administered by a physician and talks incoherently. Attendants deny that she ever calls for Dr. David Roberts whose relations with Miss Lusk cost his wife's life. "Miss Lusk's attorneys fear she may not recover her sanity. If she does not rally soon they will ask for a commission to investigate the advisability of placing her in an asylum."

MARKSMANSHIP OF AMERICANS IS GOOD

German Dead on Battlefield Either Shot Through Head or Heart.

BY FRANK J. TAYLOR. United Press Staff Correspondent. With the American Army in Lorraine, May 31.—American officers reported today that practically every German body found after Wednesday night's fighting in the Luneville sector was shot through the head or heart, showing the quality of the American marksmanship.

German prisoners said they were told that the attacks in that sector were for the purpose of taking prisoners so as to get information regarding movements and also to harass the Americans there so that reinforcements would be sent by the Americans in Picardy.

No Americans were taken prisoner. Probably 70 Germans were killed and wounded.

SOUTH DAKOTA MAN KILLED IN ACTION

Frank Colon, of Aberdeen, Is Reported to Have Been Slain.

Washington, D. C., May 31.—The army casualty list today contained 60 names divided as follows: Killed in action, 15; died of wounds, 5; died of disease, 11; died of accidents, 4; wounded severely, 15; wounded slightly, 8; missing in action, 1.

The following officers were named: Lieutenants Richard Anderson, St. Louis, Mo.; Robert J. Griffith, Athens, Ga.; William S. Stearns, Jamaica Plain, Mass.; Frank P. McGreey, Fort Washington, N. Y.; died of accident.

Lieutenants Clark H. Apled, Grand Rapids, Mich., and Thomas D. Amory, Wilmington, Del., severely wounded.

Two South Dakota soldiers are included in the list today, but there were no names of Nebraska Iowa soldiers. The South Dakotas are as follows:

Killed in action—Frank Colon, 107 North Main street, Aberdeen, S. D. Severely wounded—Henry Musilek, Lake Andes, S. D.

FORMER I. W. W. TELLS OF ORDER'S DOINGS

Chicago, May 31.—"It was the policy of the I. W. W.'s to ruin the man who employed them whether he treated them fairly or not," Frank Wormke, a private in the American army testified at the trial today of 112 members of the organization charged with conspiracy to hamper the nation's war program.

Wormke said that so far as he knew the organization did not distribute secret hand bills against enlistment, but added that as a paid representative of the I. W. W., he understood they were opposed to war.

HORSE GAS MASK SUPPLY SUFFICIENT

Washington, D. C., May 31.—Quantity production of horse gas masks has now been attained in this country, it was announced here today. Within a short time every horse connected with the overseas forces will be equipped with a mask.

1,800 ON STRIKE.

Moline, Ill., May 31.—Eighteen hundred men at Silvio shops of the Rock Island railroad here walked out today.

Thousands of French Refugees Fleeing From Advance of Huns Choke Roads Near Battle Zone

BY HENRY WOOD.

United Press Staff Correspondent. With the French Armies in the Field, June 1.—From every point of the 60-mile battle front between Rheims and Soissons streams of refugees today poured down roads leading to central France—fleeing from the Hun invasion.

Late last night when I returned from the fighting line, where the homes of these people are being engulfed, the highways were bordered with the bivouacs of fugitives. For miles upon miles the rolling countryside was all a-flicker with tiny campfires of the refugees. On their weary march to God knows where they tarried for rest wherever night found them, sleeping beneath vehicles, the lucky ones who had thought to bring a little food cooking and eating it under the stars.

Pitiful Spectacle. The streams of fleeing humanity made a pitiful spectacle. Each road seemed to have its own particular caravan, and the whole scene resembled the exodus of the children of Israel from Egypt, as it is described in the bible.

Every conceivable vehicle was in use, from huge two-wheeled French farm wagons hauled by oxen, to baby carriages. These ox carts are capable of transporting the effects of an entire household.

On top of the piles of goods on some of these wagons I saw groups of old women sitting with babies among them, some of the children clutching pet goats and chickens.

In line with these farm lorries we saw buggies, smart traps and dog carts, even automobiles, and between them and flanking them placed the less fortunate families, who had to march on foot, carrying their sole possessions in wheelbarrows and baby carriages and hand carts.

Sick Babies on Backs. And there were some folks still poorer, whose only possessions were what they were able to carry on their backs. Sometimes the buggies which these wanderers bore on their shoulders was topped off by a sick baby, tied firmly to the bundle of household effects.

Intermingled with the human caravan were herds of oxen, horses, sheep, goats and cattle. Here and there little girls drove flocks of geese before them. Others herded chickens and pigs, poking them with long sticks to hustle them along, sometimes stopping a moment to glance back at the familiar scenes that were felt behind, when hurrying on to give the family live stock another urge on its way.

The peasants walked behind their single cow; those who had once been fairly well to do rode behind dozens of cows, but all were homeless and few had any particular goal in sight.

No Young Men There. As mile after mile of the endless column trudged past, we scanned their faces and saw that there were no young men among them. All the faces were those of women, girls, children and very old men, showing that every Frenchman who can fight is at the front.

Where all these who were forced from their homes at a few moments notice are going God alone knows. Few of the refugees had any particular haven in view. With them it was simply a case of keeping going—keep going.

SITUATION MORE PERILOUS FOR GERMANS THAN ALLIES

BY J. W. T. MASON. United Press War Expert. New York, N. Y., June 1.—General Foch is holding the German advance on both flanks, while Von Hindenburg continues to move forward in the center. There is salient that will compel the Germans to protect their newly lengthened lines by an unduly large number of troops, which they can ill afford.

Re-establishment of the French front protecting Rheims and the continued holding of the outlets from Soissons by French units are the most important developments of the past 24 hours. The Germans must secure full possession of Soissons and especially Rheims, with their immediate environs, if Von Hindenburg is to find any reasonable degree of security for his new lines. As long as General Foch can hold his present positions on these wings the Germans must rest very anxiously.

Von Hindenburg's advance northwest of Soissons is not in immediate relationship with the Marne offensive. It is a new local drive, along a front of not more than five miles and is 25 miles north of the German wedge moving toward the Marne. A German success northwest of Soissons, beyond Blérancourt and Epagny would carry Von Hindenburg in the direction of Compeigne. At Compeigne the Aisne flows into the Oise river, which latter runs southward to the Seine and to Paris. If Von Hindenburg can reach Compeigne he will be in a favorable position to secure control of the Aisne west of Soissons for a new defensive line. This is probably the ultimate strategic purpose of the Blérancourt-Epagny movement.

The situation now facing General Foch in his essential strategy, is the same as that which he met during the Picardy-Flanders offensive. He can stop the German advance any time he desires, by throwing in the major part of his reserves and the American troops now in France. But, to do this would be to play Von Hindenburg's game. It would mean accepting an offensive battle on Von Hindenburg's terms. This is what General Foch is trying to avoid. The loss of ground is unimportant, compared with avoiding submission to Von Hindenburg's own plans of campaign. In this respect, which is the most important from the standpoint of democracy's ultimate victory, events are progressing satisfactorily.

HUNS USE GAS ON UKRAINIAN REBELS

Villages Near Kiev Drenched With Poison Just to Teach Peasants to Obey Boche Kultur.

BY FRANK J. TAYLOR. United Press Staff Correspondent. With the American Army in Lorraine, June 1.—An American raid in force penetrated the German third line northwest of Toul this morning.

Following an hour's terrific bombardment the Yankees crossed No Man's Land behind a perfect barrage and swept over the enemy trenches, the Huns who had survived the artillery fire fleeing before them.

The Americans explored German positions at their leisure, without any opposition and returned to their lines. Our losses were extremely light.

AMERICANS BREAK UP GERMAN TANK ATTACK

U. S. Gunners Smother Hun Artillery and Troops at Every Movement.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS. With the American Army in France, June 1.—In one of the counter attacks launched against the Americans in Cantigny, the Germans tried to use tanks. The enemy infantry had no more than shown itself than the American artillery opened a heavy fire. Both the foot soldiers and the tanks were driven back in disorder.

The new American positions in Cantigny are being improved constantly. The Americans have not budged an inch since they gave the town. Every time the enemy artillery starts a bombardment the American gunners retaliate and smother the opposition fire.

German airmen, flying at a great height, penetrated many miles to the rear of the American line today. They were driven off by anti-aircraft guns and were unable to drop any bombs.

PARENTS HEARTBROKEN BY DEATH OF SON

Aberdeen S. D., May 31.—Frank Colon who was killed in action in France, May 24, joined Company L, Fourth South Dakota infantry April, 1917. He was transferred to a machine gun company and sent to France several months ago. He was 20 years old and a carpenter by trade. His parents are Poles, unable to read English, and were heart broken when a neighbor translated the message from the department for them.

FALSE AIR RAID ALARM STARTS PANIC; 18 DEAD

Geneva, June 1.—Eighteen men and women were trampled to death and many other persons were injured yesterday in Munnheim as the result of a false alarm that an air raid was imminent, according to reports received here today.

SHELL SPANISH SHIP.

Washington, May 31.—The news of the shelling of the Spanish steamer *Maria Pia*, which caused the death of her captain and several passengers, reached here today in diplomatic dispatches. The vessel reached a Spanish port after the encounter.

AGED PUBLISHER DIES.

Toronto, Ont., May 31.—John Ross Robertson, proprietor of the *Toronto Telegram* and Canada's oldest publisher, died this morning.