

APPROACH TO HAM BY ALLIES TAKES HUN BY SURPRISE

Noyon in Sack From Which Germans Cannot Escape Unless They Have Retreated Hurriedly.

Paris, Aug. 29.—News of the French approach to Ham came rather unexpectedly and it seems probable that a new and powerful attack launched by the French along the Nesle-Noyon line, broke in the enemy's resistance and caused his precipitate retreat.

The advance on Ham seems to have been from the west, as the report tells of the capture of German munition trains at Breuil. It is probable that the French have progressed along the higher ground just south of the Somme river and have not crossed that stream.

It would appear that the Germans who were in Noyon until this morning will be trapped there, if they have not hurriedly retreated from the sack in which the Noyon region seems to be caught.

If the French have reached Ham, they have outflanked the German line to the north, across the Somme. They also threatened to drive a wedge between the enemy forces north of the Somme and those still in Chauny, on the Oise.

Actual possession of the village of Ham probably will be delayed, as the retreating Germans leave all ruins saturated with poisonous gas.

The town of Breuil, where the German munition trains were captured, is on the Canal Du Nord.

At Champenouard, Ercheu and other points in the line south of Nesle, where the enemy sought to bar the French advance eastward, says Liberte, the German rear guards fought to the last man and refused to be captured.

Police Have No Clew To Con Man Who Made His Escape From Jail

With no tangible clew to work on, the police have been unable to get a line on Carl E. Billings, the notorious confidence man who made his escape from the jail at 10 o'clock Wednesday night. Billings had been permitted to talk to his attorney, Charles Kubat, and while talking evidently removed a screw from the lock and walked out to freedom.

The attorney expressed great surprise when he learned that Billings had escaped. He was summoned to the station and closely questioned by Captain Heitfeld, but could throw no light on the mystery.

The gate is a rickety affair, and once outside the avenue of escape was open, and all Billings had to do was to walk out of the station, turn south, and go one block to Douglas street and catch a street car for Council Bluffs. After looking over the ground the police are convinced that Billings had a confederate who slipped him a screw driver. The fidd gate is not strong and a man of ordinary strength could put his shoulder against it and break the cast iron trap.

There is one hole in the wire mesh that is big enough to throw a cat through, and nothing could prevent a confederate from passing even a large screwdriver through the meshes.

At the time of Billings' daring escape the desk sergeant was busy booking prisoners that had just been brought in, and during the confusion Billings had plenty of time to remove the screw, open the gate and slip out. Although the police have combed the city and telegraphed an accurate description to nearby cities, no trace of Billings has been found.

Army Appointments. Washington, D. C., Aug. 29.—(Special Telegram)—The following appointments have been made in the army: Captain Joseph A. Carter, Julius C. Clippert, George H. Gilmore, Jesse S. Little, John L. Manning, Everett P. Power, Robert A. Smith, Frances A. Sparks, William L. Stephenson, First Lieutenant Rubler Goldstone, Arthur S. Jackson, Elia A. Lasham, James T. McConaughey, Henry C. Metcalf, Ernest V. Neuman, George Parke, Laurence W. Ponce, August H. Ringen, Marcus R. Sathe, Karl E. Wolf.

New Letter Carriers. Washington, D. C., Aug. 29.—(Special Telegram)—Rural letter carriers appointed: Nebraska—Bainbridge, Arnold J. Pika; Chad Orchard, Daniel Platt; Garrison, Alex Schaumburg; Rising City, John J. Foster. Iowa—Akron, J. Roy DeLo; Albert City, Carl A. O. Johansen; Mount Airy, Mary E. Hudson; Gravit, Elmer L. Wheeler.

Appointment of sergeant, Francis E. Gaynor, Medical department; second lieutenant of sanitary corps, United States army is announced. He will proceed to Des Moines.

The Weather

Table with columns for Station, Weather, High, Low, Precip. and reports from various stations.

Italian Young Women Ask to Be Trained As Aviators in Diaz Army

Rome, Aug. 29.—A number of Italian young women and girls have petitioned the military authorities to establish schools where they can take training in aviation. Their leaders declare that women on many occasions have proved that they possess sufficient physical stamina to become fliers. They propose that there be separate schools in aerodromes for women.

AMERICANS PLAY BASE BALL IN GAS MASKS OVERSEA

Foot Ball Revives Exhausted Yanks Back From Front Trenches; Y Physical Directors Sought.

American soldiers overseas are playing base ball in gas masks, according to Young Men's Christian Association Secretaries Degrotte and Martin, who are in Omaha on a tour of the country to recruit men for "Y" service as physical directors. So enthusiastic are the Yankies in their efforts to keep in the best of physical condition they often indulge in the national pastime close behind the lines, under screaming shells, and in areas drenched with poison fumes.

The visiting secretaries spoke at the Young Women's Christian association Thursday noon before state representatives of the Young Men's Christian association recruiting committees.

An instance of the wholesome effect of athletic upon Uncle Sam's fighting men is shown in the story of a unit of exhausted soldiers told by Mr. Martin.

Foot Ball Revives Men. "The men had just come from the front line trenches," said Mr. Martin. "They were dazed almost to the extent of shell shock. They stood around stupidly, unable to concentrate their thoughts. Then someone threw a football into the crowd and almost at once they began to kick it about and became the same intelligent, animated American soldiers they had been before entering the battle."

Mr. Degrotte believes that from now on the warfare will be largely in the open, although Fritz may attempt to "dig in" from time to time. The allied soldiers here have the advantage, according to Mr. Degrotte, in spite of boasted German supremacy, but this advantage is due entirely to athletic work which gives the fighting man balance and aggressiveness.

Big Athletic Goods Order. Mr. Degrotte has a \$1,400,000 order for athletic goods, which he believes is the largest order of its kind ever placed.

The two secretaries hope to recruit 400 men for "immediate need," as physical directors. The recruits will be sent to Young Men's Christian association training schools at Chicago and Springfield, Mass. "Athletic faddists" are not desired, but good men of adaptability prove the best material for the months of training at these schools.

There are ten athletic directors to each division, a divisional superintendent and nine regimental directors.

SENATE VOTES BAN ON BEER AND WINE EFFECTIVE JULY 1

(Continued From Page One.) exercise his present authority to stop manufacture of beer and wines, (an amendment adopted by the house when it passed the bill May 23, last) and for the original senate agriculture committee provision to stop sales of all intoxicating beverages Jan. 1, next.

When the agricultural bill came before the senate tomorrow a sharp fight on its appropriations, alleged to be extravagant and unnecessary is planned by several senators, but general opinion was that the measure would be passed before adjournment without further action on the prohibition clause.

Speaking in support of the amendment, Senator Norris of Nebraska, denied contentions that because of immense loans made by banks on whisky held in bond, national prohibition would bring about financial disaster.

PEACE AND ORDER ARE RESTORED ON MEXICAN BORDER

General Calles Takes Arms Away From Civilians in Nogales, Sonora; City Under Martial Law.

Nogales, Ariz., Aug. 29.—Gen. Plutarco Elias Calles, military governor of Sonora, issued a manifesto tonight ordering all civilians in Nogales, Sonora, to deliver their firearms and ammunition to the general military headquarters at once to prevent further sniping across the border.

The manifesto, distributed in the form of a handbill, resulted in many rifles, pistols and much ammunition being surrendered to the military authorities. General Calles now has complete control of the situation on the international line tonight and no further trouble is anticipated. The Mexican town is under martial law.

No Further Trouble Expected. Washington, Aug. 29.—Official reports to the War and State departments today emphasized that the border trouble at Nogales, Ariz., will soon end if it has not already ceased. Reports from Major General Holbrook, in command on the border, said quiet had been restored. State department dispatches told of satisfactory results from the conference between Brigadier General Cabell and Governor Calles. At the Mexican embassy here it was stated that Governor Calles could be counted on to stamp out the activities of the German propagandists in Sonora.

Such information as the State department received on the forcible entry of armed Mexicans into the American consulate at Nogales, Sonora, and the wounding of American Consul Tooley indicated that the incident was the act of irresponsible persons and not the Mexican military authorities.

The violation of the consulate is now under investigation but there is every disposition on the part of the officials to treat the Nogales affair as a purely local incident which should not be elevated to an international issue.

Uncle Sam Will Give Aid To Essential Industries

Washington, Aug. 28.—Government aid is available under certain conditions to industries in the process of conversion from less-essential production to manufacture of materials contributing to the war, officials of the war finance corporation today explained. This was prompted by reports that many manufacturing concerns are threatened with bankruptcy.

The principal conditions for obtaining aid from the government half-billion-dollar fund are that the concerns must be engaged in industry of business essential during the war period and that its credit must be of a nature to provide collateral.

Chairman Baruch, of the war industries board, explained that the new industrial preference list under preparation by the war industries board will carry in 65 groups the prime essential industries, rated according to their needs.

Nebraska Postmasters Reappointed by Wilson

Washington, D. C., Aug. 29.—(Special Telegram)—President Wilson sent to the senate today the following nominations for postmasters in Nebraska whom he reappointed: Thomas T. Osterman, Blair; George W. Gilliland, Bradshaw; Lyman H. Eastman, Campbell; William C. Treadway, Cedar Rapids; Elizabeth McLean, Clarke; Gaston A. Kosa, Clarkson; Gilbert R. Eno, Colfax; Patrick H. Green, Creighton; Harrison D. West, Crofton; Samuel E. Parsons, Decatur; John O. Blausser, Dillon; Stephen C. Lynde, Hartington; Raymond B. Wankel, Hastings; Hiram B. Cameron, Herman; Sadie E. Fishery, Hyannis; John Cain, Kenosha; Edward W. Roche Kimball, Morris K. Jones, Lexington; Claud J. Brown, Lynch; Charles H. Roberts, Lyons; F. H. Davis, Madison; William McMichael, Maywood; William E. Corder, Morrill; Thomas A. Davis, Neligh; I. A. Manchester, North Loup; Robert Dunlay, Orleans; James B. McDonald, Pilger; David C. Morgan, Plattsmouth; Thomas A. Kelly, Republican City; J. C. Dullaugh, Rushville; Arthur C. Schoenock, Scribner; William D. Bradstreet, Spencer; Henry G. Burnett, Shelby; Thomas A. Sharp, Stanton; B. S. Keck, Thomasburg; Edgar D. Wright, Tecumseh; John Canfield, Tekamah; C. L. McCord, Tilden; Bryce Budy, Wakefield; Andrew J. Caldwell, Walthill; Charles A. Berry, Wayne; I. J. Corley, Weeping Water; Merton T. Kilmer, Western; Clinton Fry, Winfield; George W. Campbell, Wynora.

Church Banquet

Missouri Valley, Ia., Aug. 29.—The Rev. Dr. Cable of Council Bluffs, the Rev. L. E. Ripley of Logan and the Rev. A. C. Bonham of Missouri Valley were among the speakers here last evening following a banquet of the Methodist Episcopal church planning for observance of one hundredth anniversary of Missionary society.

YANKS SWEEP HUNS BACK ALONG JUVIGY

(Continued From Page One.) the scene of a dramatic tank drive. Under the cover of artillery the light French tanks flirled along both sides of the path up to the little place, smashing down one machine gun nest after another, in spite of the employment by the Germans of their new tank gun, a sort of super-Mausser. This gun is virtually identical with the Mauser, except that it fires a bullet a little more than half an inch in diameter. This, it is calculated, can pierce the tank and possibly injure some vital part of the engine. But in the path of the advancing machines there now lie broken or smashed into the earth scores of these guns.

Allies Hold Mastery of Air. There is unquestioned mastery of the air by the allies along this front. It has been misty this morning and there was little effective aerial work and practically none by the Germans. Only a few prisoners are reported as yet, the Germans seeing to it that only machine gun crews should be sacrificed.

Huns Resist Desperately. All the skill of General von Schwerin, commanding the seventh guard division, is being exercised to hold back the Americans at their point in the line north of Soissons and save the Germans from the menace that a break at a strong artillery duel in a desperate effort to check the movement. Equally determined efforts were made by those organizations in front of French divisions on the right and left of the Americans.

Bitter Contest Expected. Reports from points on the line where the attack is in progress indicate the Americans are confronted by what is believed by many to be one of the most determined stands yet taken by the Germans, who remain settled into a strong artillery duel in a desperate effort to check the movement. Equally determined efforts were made by those organizations in front of French divisions on the right and left of the Americans.

The opinion seems to be that every yard of territory gained will be bitterly contested and that it is not probable that villages and other objectives will be subjected to the fate of capture and recapture many times before their possession is undisputed.

The rapidity with which the gains were made by the Americans and French early in the day was not duplicated in the afternoon, when the battle settled into a strong artillery duel in which the guns of both sides fired often at direct targets and at unusually close range.

Facing Many Guns. The country which has been the battlefield for almost four years again is the scene of a conflict which has started out with the promise of being most stubbornly fought. Tonight the sky is dotted with flashes of exploding shells, while the roar of the barrage and counter barrage must be audible almost to Paris. In the back areas shells are falling behind the lines, but not so frequently as many times previously. The Germans apparently are using all their guns and energy in attempting to tear down the determined lines of their advancing army.

How many hundreds or thousands of guns the Germans have immediately in front of the Americans is not known. Every hill side, ravine and wood crackles with their fire, whenever approached. And it has been in the face of their destructive offense that the Americans and the French, as well, have been moving.

Comparatively little gas has been employed by the enemy. There have arrived at the dressing stations a few cases of men suffering from mustard gas, but most of them encountered it in shell holes, hollows and depressions where it was old, but still effective.

As the day passed the visibility improved and the aviators of both sides became more active. Those of the allies rendered valuable assistance in observation work.

The Germans today concentrated much of their efforts on the destruction of tanks.

GERMANS FORCED BACK ON WHOLE OF BRITISH FRONT

(Continued From Page One.) they soon were driven out. The only result was to carpet the ground in front of the British with German dead.

There has been extraordinarily heavy fighting for Greenland hill. The position was reached once by the British, but was relinquished during a counter-attack yesterday. It is now entirely British once more. The British captured many prisoners.

Just north of the Somme, the Germans are offering stiff resistance from Ham, on the north bank of the river west of Peronne.

Except in the extreme north, the fighting is through villages which have changed hands many times since the war began. The ruins in some cases became overgrown with weeds,

grass and poppies more than once, only to be churned up again. Villages reported from time to time to have been captured are not villages at all. They are simply mounds of debris.

In the distance now and then there is a cloud of dust and smoke arising from a "village" showing where a high explosive shell just landed. There is a body of khaki-clad troops swinging up a road and battered Germans passing it on the way to the rear toward the prison cages.

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