

HUNS LAUNCH VIOLENT ATTACK AGAINST AMERICAN POSITIONS AFTER HAIL OF HIGH EXPLOSIVES

IT IS BELIEF IN LONDON THAT BLOW STRUCK BY FOE OVER FRONT OF 65 MILE IS TO DETACH RHEIMS.

London, July 15—The immediate objective of the Germans. It is thought here, probably is to detach Rheims by attacking on both sides of it and capturing the hills which would protect their right flank on a further advance southward.

Washington, July 15—The Germans have selected the road to Paris for renewal of their drive, officers here believed today, judging from early reports on the violent movement.

It is regarded as possible that the purpose of the attack is to widen still further the Aisne salient by the reduction of Rheims and the forcing back of the whole southern extremity of the 1918 battle area.

Extensive employment of naval guns for long range bombardment of the Allied rear positions suggests that it was the time required to bring up and emplace these weapons that held up the German drive.

(By the Associated Press)

After a wait of 33 days since they were halted in their plunge toward Compeigne, along the western bank of the Oise, the Germans at dawn today launched a new phase of their mighty offensive by attacking from Chateau Thierry to Maison de Champagne, north of Massignes and far east of Rheims, over a front about 65 miles in length.

Latest reports say the Germans have crossed the Marne at several places. This probably refers to the reaches of the Marne between Chateau Thierry and Dormans.

American troops are engaged in the battle in this particular region and reports say they are "handling the enemy well." They broke up the German drive in the Vaux region west of Chateau Thierry by a dashing counter attack.

Reports show that, so far as the length of line is concerned, the present drive is the greatest of the year. At first it was believed from the French war office statement that the line was about 50 miles in extent, but apparently the report from Paris told simply of the length of the French lines under attack. Measurements of the line where fighting is known to be going on, however, show that it is 105 kilometers, or 65 miles long. The attack against the Cambrai front on March 21 was over a front of 55 miles.

Last night a terrible artillery fire was loosed against the Allied lines from Chateau Thierry on the west to Maison de Champagne, north of Massignes, on the east.

For hours the Entente allied lines were under a tempest of the most tremendous character. Not only was the actual battle area under bombardment, but towns and cities far behind the lines were made targets for great 10 and 12 inch projectiles from what appears to be naval siege guns brought up behind the German positions.

During the last few weeks it has been rumored that the resumption of the German offensive would witness a long range bombardment of places that had heretofore been regarded as a safe distance from the front. These rumors proved to be true.

The lay world had expected the German main effort to be loosed against the line from the Marne to the Aisne, north of Chateau Thierry; in the Picardy sector, toward Abbeville; or farther north, in the Lys sector, against the channels ports. Along this line the Allies have been daily improving their lines and preparing for the new drive.

But the Germans chose a sector that, except for a surprise attack around Rheims, late in June, has been quiet since the offensive launched on the Aisne on May 27 came to a standstill. East of Rheims and north of Chalons there has been but little fighting of significance for a long time.

This line, of which Rheims may be regarded as the keystone, was chosen for the reason that information might have been received by the Germans that it was less strongly held than sectors along the front nearer Paris. This it might be reasonable to expect that a greater territory could be overrun there at a smaller expense of men and materials than on the lines where the Allies are known to be very strong.

The Germans hold the northern bank of the Marne for a distance of 20 miles east of Chateau Thierry. Their line leaves the Marne near the village of Dormans and runs off to the northeast of Rheims, where it turns abruptly to the southeast and runs down the valley of the Gesle river to the village of La Pompele, where it turns eastward and runs in a relatively straight line to Verdun. Maison de Champagne, the eastern limit of the present battle, is 31 miles west of Verdun.

Located back of the Allied line east of Rheims is the railroad which supplies the French forces in Verdun and the Americans in St. Mihiel with food and supplies. In this sector, too, are the important cities of Chalons, Epernay and Bar le Duc, all three of which are important supply centers for the Allied forces. The railroad was interrupted to some extent by the German advance to the Marne between Rheims and Chateau Thierry, but it is still a very important artery for the Allied forces.

The only other fighting of moment reported from the front has occurred on the Villers-Bretonneux sector, in front of Amiens, where the British have improved their positions.

ON TRIAL FOR SEDITION.

Hartford, July 15—The trial of the Rev. Theodore Huesell, pastor of the German Lutheran church in Bristol, accused of seditious utterances, began in the United States District Court today before Judge H. B. Howe of New York and a jury. The prisoner pleaded not guilty and waived the reading of the indictment. Marie C. Kerr of Searsport Me., the first witness, testified to living in Bristol since February 2, boarding in the same house with the accused. She is a government agent.

U. S. ENVOY BURIED.

La Paz, Bolivia, July 15—Funeral services were held here yesterday for John Davis O'Neil, of Missouri, American minister to Bolivia since 1912. He died Saturday. The French legation, as a mark of respect, postponed the reception it was to have given on the occasion of Bastille day.

MANY DIE FROM CHOLERA.

London, July 15—Several hundred persons are dying daily in Petrograd from cholera, according to travelers who have arrived in Stockholm, says an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen. The disease, they add, now is prevalent in many parts of Russia.

CONTROL CUTLERY CO.

Meriden, July 15—The control of the Meriden Cutlery Co., in South Meriden, was secured today by Landers, Frary & Clark, of New Britain. This plant was the first in this country to make table cutlery. At present several hundred persons are employed there and the plant will output with additional articles of output.

STUDENT AVIATOR KILLED.

Buffalo, July 15—F. S. Hale of Quincey, Ill., an aviator, was killed by the fall of an aeroplane at Curtis field today. He was seriously injured.

U. S. FIGHTERS DELIVER COUNTER-ASSAULT ON GERMANS IN VAUX REGION, AND DRIVE IS REPORTED TO HAVE BROKEN DOWN COMPLETELY.

With the American Army on the Marne, July 15—(By the Associated Press)—The American forces on this front delivered a counter attack on the Germans in the Vaux region this morning and drove off the enemy.

It is reported that the Americans have advanced their own lines a distance of several hundred yards, but this has not been confirmed.

Word received here shows that the enemy also launched an attack east of Rheims, but on the sectors on that front on which French and Americans are fighting side by side the positions are reported intact.

The American machine gunners here let the enemy come close to their positions and then opened a deadly fire into the advancing close formations.

In their attack on the Marne front held by the Americans the Germans threw many bridges across the river. Over these the Germans are passing under a withering fire from the artillery. German progress is stayed by the machine gunners.

The Americans and their French comrades have resisted the enemy to the utmost and are continuing this character of resistance.

It is clear that the German attack in the Vaux region completely broke down under the American counter attack. Further sharp fighting is likely to develop in this area at any time, however.

The Germans at daylight today launched a violent attack against the American positions west of Chateau Thierry, especially near Vaux.

The attack came after a most violent bombardment of high explosives and gas shells throughout the night. The American troops sought shelter wherever it was available. When the enemy infantry appeared the Americans swarmed out and met the attack with a rain of machine gun bullets.

The Americans wore their gas masks as they fought the attacking Germans.

An enemy bombardment of towns in the rear of the lines began shortly after 6 o'clock a. m.

In this locality it was not known whether the Germans in this attack had begun another offensive, but the intensity of the fighting indicated to those near the scene that the operation was a renewal of the general attack that had been expected.

The operation at Vaux appeared to be a feint, for soon after it began the Germans attacked all along the Marne, where they were gallantly opposed by more of the American troops and the French.

The first crossing was made at the peak of the big river bend. The American machine gunners and infantrymen fought and died where they stood.

Others of the American troops withdrew strategically as the enemy attacked from east of Chateau Thierry to along the Marne, east of Dormans, making additional crossings.

Shortly after 11 o'clock one of the American infantry regiments launched a counter attack in the region of Conde.

Reports received here shortly after 11 a. m. on the fighting to the east of Rheims said that the enemy, up to about an hour previously, had made no progress whatever there.

In the Conde region, however, before the American counter attack, the German advance appeared to have eliminated the river salient.

At 11:20 a. m. the long range bombardment was becoming more intense.

The day opened sunny but low clouds are now scurrying over the battle field, threatening rain.

London, July 15—Advices received here regarding the German offensive say that the attack began on a front of 30 miles between Chateau Thierry and Bligny, southwest of Rheims. The Germans also attacked east of Rheims, between Prunay and Maison de Champagne, on a front of 25 miles.

Paris, July 15—A new offensive by the Germans was begun last night in the region between Rheims and the Argonne.

On the front between Chateau Thierry and the Main de Massignes the Germans attacked this morning, the war office announces. The French are meeting the shock of the enemy attack with energy and the battle continues.

Heavy shells from German naval guns are falling in regions far behind the actual battle area. Many of these projectiles have fallen in the city of Meaux, 25 miles from Chateau Thierry. In many of these towns the German shell fire is constant, the projectiles being from 10 and 12 inch naval guns.

Reports from American advanced positions said the American troops were "handling the enemy well" in the desperate fighting which is continuing.

The inhabitants of Paris and the suburbs, says the Matin, heard violent artillery firing in the early hours today. The sky toward the east constantly was lit up as if by a great electrical storm.

Those who were on the boulevards after midnight listened to the cannonade, while small groups gathered on the high points of the city to watch the distant heavens. The noise of the firing was particularly loud in the southern part of the city.

HAITI DECLARES WAR ON GERMANY

Port au Prince, Hayti, July 15—The council of state acting in accordance with the legislative powers given it under the new Haitian constitution has unanimously voted the declaration of war upon Germany demanded by the president of the republic.

President Wilson vetoed the annual agricultural appropriation bill containing an amendment to raise the price of wheat to \$2.40.

MILFORD MAN IS DROWNED IN RIVER

H. Herbert Sherbourne, 24, of Reedfield, Me., was drowned yesterday afternoon, while swimming in the Housatonic river. It is thought that he was seized with cramps. Sherbourne sank only once and could not be rescued by the people who were in a boat about twenty feet from him. His body was recovered at 4:20 by A. V. Barber and P. E. Burr, Medical Examiner Dr. W. J. H. Fischer, declared the drowning was accidental.

Sherbourne lived on the motor boat, Carrie, which is anchored near the Washington bridge. He worked at the plant of the Housatonic Shipbuilding company.

CZECHS CAPTURE KAZAN

GERMAN PRESS STILL DECRIES AMERICAN FORCE

Disbelief Expressed in Statement That 1,000,000 Men Are In France.

BELITTLE AID FOR THE ALLIES

At Same Time Asserted America's Action Should Not be Underrated.

Amsterdam, July 15—The German press continues its campaign of belittling the American military effort on the western front.

The military correspondent of the Lokal Anzeiger keeps step with the other writers and expresses disbelief in the statement that more than 1,000,000 American soldiers are in France. However, he confesses to great admiration for the personal qualities of the American soldier, although he feels that they lack discipline, saying:

"They are smart fellows but only when they like to be." "It is gratified," he adds, "that American human material equals the English, yet the American army will be inferior because the Americans will not have leaders possessing the requisite experience for handling big armies."

Gen. Kolbe, the military critic of the Germania, says that at the most there are 200,000 Americans, including working squads, at the front, and proceeds:

"The significance of America's action should in no way be underrated nor does our chief command underestimate it, but we should guard against overrating it for no other reason but that transportation must be made increasingly difficult by the U-boats, also in view of the problems of equipment and commissariat which are easily solvable on paper but not in reality. Therefore the Americans can bring about no change in favor of our opponents in the immediate future."

BRITISH VESSEL BEATS U-BOAT

Big Freighter Puts to Flight German Submarine After Gun Duel.

New York, July 15—A big and swift British freight steamer that arrived at an Atlantic port yesterday had a duel with a German submarine that emerged from a tranquil sea about two miles astern on July 6 and began shelling. The steamship replied with a stern gun whose range was quite equal to that of the six inch piece of the U-boat. Several shells were exchanged, some of the shells of the freighter seemingly dropping very close to the U-boat, which, under full steam, began drawing away from her pursuer.

The scene of the attack was about 30 miles southeast of Cape Race, close to the spot where the Norwegian bark Max King was held up by British 5 by U-boat. The British freighter had received wireless warning of the probable activity of submarines in this zone and was on the alert when the after lookouts sighted the periscope of the skulker.

The Briton was quite content with the result of the fight. She promptly sent out warnings to other vessels that might be in the danger zone. Official wireless bulletins issued on Monday last cautioned navigators of the appearance of U-boats in the transatlantic lanes between the 35th and 41st parallels, about 1,640 miles east of Sandy Hook. It was in this zone that the Norwegian steamship Augaid, bound from a French port to Baltimore, was sunk by a submarine on June 23.

SAILOR IS HELD AS SLAYER OF CHURCH ORGANIST

New York, July 15—Walter Hughes, a sailor, said by the police to have been one of the crew U. S. C. President Lincoln when she was torpedoed, was held by Magistrate Mancuso in the Harlem court yesterday on a charge of homicide. He is charged with causing the death of August A. Kimmel, of No. 68 East 87th street, who was found early yesterday morning lying on the sidewalk in front of No. 1155 Park avenue, his skull fractured. Kimmel was removed to Bellevue Hospital, where he died.

Kimmel was thirty-nine years old. He was the organist for fifteen years of the Church of the Incarnation, at 31st Street and Second Avenue. Detective Somers of the East 88th street police station, who made the complaint against Hughes, declares that the sailor had a quarrel with Kimmel at Third Avenue and 91st street. Hughes is said to have complained that Kimmel followed him from a car and made some insulting remarks.

So far the police have not produced any one who saw any blows struck, but they say that Hughes finally knocked Kimmel down when they reached Park Avenue. Kimmel's skull was fractured by the fall to the pavement, according to the police.

Kimmel was found lying on the sidewalk about ten minutes after the two were seen quarrelling. When the police arrived in response to a telephone call from some unknown person, no one was in sight.

Hughes was arrested near his home at No. 116 East 92d Street. After being held for the magistrate without bail for further examination next Tuesday, Hughes said that he had not caused Kimmel's death.

TEODORSEN HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR WAKELEE DEATH

Failure to Finish Work When Whistle Blew Cause of Accident.

STAGING AS LEFT WAS INSECURE

Negligent Workman Discharged After Blunder Now Missing.

Monday, July 15

Dropping his tools when the whistle blew for quitting time at the Housatonic Shipbuilding Company's yard in Stratford and neglecting to finish a piece of work that could have been done while the sound of the whistle was still echoing in the air, Lers Teodorsen was held by C. R. John J. Phelan as criminally responsible for the death of Ephraim N. Wakelee, a well known resident of Stratford. Wakelee was fatally injured on June 24 by a fall from a scaffolding in the shipyard and died on the seventh of July in the Bridgeport hospital.

On the afternoon of June 24, according to the finding of the coroner as brought out by the testimony of witnesses Teodorsen and two helpers were erecting a staging around the hull of the ship "Isto." Holes had been bored into the upright and "spall" saws had been completed, so that only the iron bolt or pin remained to be pushed through the holes to make the spall secure, in order that it would be safe to lay planks across it to bear the operatives. At this moment the quitting whistle blew and Teodorsen immediately dropped his tools and stopped work.

This spall which played such an important part in the accident is a 2 x 9 plank set on edge across from the upright to the hull of the ship and is securely fastened to bear the weight of the operatives, planking and needed materials. It had been kept in place in the slot of the upright during the boring of the holes by Teodorsen by a wedge driven between the slot and the spall.

The next morning Wakelee and four other workers mounted this staging, not having been warned that it was not completed and safe, to place a "ribbon" of wood on the ship's frame. They worked about an hour before it was necessary to get in a group in order to raise the "ribbon" into position. As soon as their joint weight was concentrated over the spall it caused this wedge, which was all that there was to hold the spall, to give way, precipitating the five men to the ground. The other four escaped with minor injuries but Wakelee sustained a fractured skull.

Furthermore the evidence also showed that on the morning of the accident Teodorsen worked in another part of the shipyard, but he failed to give notice of the work that he had left unaccomplished. Coroner Phelan found that the danger was involved in the failure of Teodorsen to spend that extra moment to secure the spall and he marks his neglect as inexcusably careless and disregardful of human hazard. His neglect on the matter is to the credit of Ephraim Wakelee came to his death through the criminal act of Lers Teodorsen.

At the present time the whereabouts of Teodorsen are unknown. He was discharged the day the accident happened, and it is said that he told some one in the yard that he had told him he was discharged because the accident at the shipyard was his fault.

The finding of Coroner Phelan has been forwarded to Prosecuting Attorney A. L. DeLaney for action.

TO SET MINIMUM WAGE FOR WOMEN BY LEGISLATION

Washington, July 15—Federal legislation toward establishing a method by which a minimum wage for women workers may be fixed, is now receiving the attention of Congress. The bill, drawn by Representative Keating of Colorado, applies only to women employed in industries of the District of Columbia, but is designed as a model from which state legislatures may draw similar legislation.

The bill would create a permanent wage board, which would name subordinate boards for each occupation or industry in which women are employed. Such boards would consist of representatives of employers, employees and the public.

Testimony before the House committee which considered the measure showed in the first industry regulated under a minimum wage commission of Massachusetts it was found there was an increase in the actual earnings of women as the result of the work of the boards. It was also found, the committee reports, that the number of women employed at wages higher than the prescribed minimum had doubled.

Mrs. Newtown D. Baker, wife of the secretary of war, has interested herself in the proposed legislation, and was one of several who testified before the committee. Apparently she was no less interested in the bill than was the president of the telephone operators' union of Massachusetts, and a girl who told how she lived in Washington on a salary of \$7 a week.

Representatives of employers and employees have testified in support of the measure.

Ten large electric locomotives costing \$110,000 each are being completed for the St. Paul road.

Ten to twelve drops of tincture of camphor in a glass of water makes a good wash for the teeth.

City Taken After Bolsheviks Put Up a Strong Fight.

TOWN IMPORTANT TRADE CENTER

Is Entrepot of Commerce Between Serbia and European Russia.

London, July 15—Czechoslovak troops have captured the city of Kazan, 430 miles east of Moscow, an Exchange Telegraph Co. dispatch from Copenhagen says. The city was taken after the Bolsheviks had put up violent resistance.

Kazan is on the Kazanka river near where it joins the Volga. It is a manufacturing and commercial center and is the entrepot of the commerce between Siberia and European Russia. Kazan is about 100 miles north of Simbirsk, where the Bolshevik government troops were reported to have defeated the Czechs last week.

MURMAN COAST NOW HELD PARTLY BY AMERICANS

Allied Troops Continue Advance in Albania, Says Austro-Hungarian Statement.

BRITISH IMPROVE AMIENS POSITIONS

Attack Is Surprise to Enemy, All of Objectives Being Gained.

London, July 15—American and British troops have occupied the whole of the Murman coast, in northern Russia, says a dispatch from Moscow to the Central News agency.

Vienna, July 14, via London July 15—Allied troops in Albania continue to advance, says an official statement from Austro-Hungarian headquarters today. The statement adds: "This morning Italian battalions fruitlessly attacked southwest of Astano and north of Monte di Val Bella. An engagement on the western slopes of the Brenta valley also ended in our favor. "In the Devoli valley a French squadron has been repulsed."

London, July 15—In an operation carried out last night the British positions south of Villers Bretonneux in the region of Amiens were improved, the war office announced today. A few prisoners were taken. The enemy artillery displayed activity in the region south of Arras and on the Flanders front, north of Bethune and in the Loire and Dikebusch sectors.

The British attack in Flanders yesterday, the statement shows, was launched on a front of 2,000 yards in the neighborhood of the Brides wood, in the Dikebusch sector. The attack took the enemy by surprise and was successful, all the objectives being gained. Not all of the material captured has yet been collected.

After capturing Kem, a railroad station on the White Sea coast, the dispatch adds, the American and British forces advanced toward Torok. The Russian Bolshevik authorities having withdrawn to Nirok. The commanders of the Entente allied forces have issued an appeal to the population on the Murman coast requesting help against Germany and Finland. It is declared that the Murman coast is Russian territory under the protection of the Entente powers.

NURSE RESERVE ENROLLS JULY 29 FOR WAR WORK

Washington July 15—Enrollment for the United States student nurse reserve will begin July 29, according to an announcement by the women's committee of the council of national defense. The student nurses will be used to fill the vacancies in American hospitals created by the great number of American nurses now in overseas service.

States' quotas include: Connecticut, 450; Delaware, 105; Maryland, 510; Massachusetts, 2,000; New Hampshire, 320; New Jersey, 1,750; Pennsylvania, 2,370; Rhode Island, 250; Vermont, 185.

EXPLORER STEFANSSON TO TAKE LONG TRIP

New York, July 15—Vilhjalmur Stefansson, the Arctic explorer, stricken with fever last April at Herschel Island and taken to Fort Yukon on a dog sledge, will pass the summer there in order to recover his strength, according to a letter received here yesterday by the Explorers' Club. "I am able now to walk a mile," the letter said, "but only at the cost of becoming more tired than walking 40 at this time last year. The physician says it will take from three to six months of rest to get me in trim again."

United States soldiers held in German prison camps under 25.