

BRILLIANT COUP OF ALLIES A COMPLETE SURPRISE TO HUNS

Prisoners Captured Behind Lines Harvesting Grain—Brief Artillery Preparation Followed By Sharp Advance—Paris Reports Taking of 14,000 Prisoners and Too Many Guns to Count—Germans Evacuating Positions in Lys Valley on Flanders Front.

Paris, Aug. 9.—Reports received by the Havas Agency from the battle front are that the fighting continues fiercely along the entire Anglo-French attacking front.

The French front runs from the Avre north to a point just south of the Amiens-Roye road where it joins up with the British.

The attention of the Germans was fixed on the Vesle attack when the new offensive was opened. There was no reply to the French artillery preparation which lasted 45 minutes.

German soldiers were captured while harvesting grain in the fields. So complete was the surprise. Moreuil and Morisel were carried by assault. The difficulties of crossing the Avre were overcome rapidly, the French using hastily constructed footbridges. After taking Braches, the French captured La Neuville and the series of hills dominating the plain beyond.

Paris, Aug. 9.—Battlefront:—The battle on the front south of the Somme was resumed early this morning and the Franco-British forces made favorable progress from the start, reaching various selected objectives.

Powerful cavalry forces are in action. The reports received up to 11:30 o'clock show the attack developing victoriously on a great scale.

The number of prisoners taken by the French and British in Picardy now exceeds 10,000, according to the latest news from the battle front. The Allies also have taken an enormous booty in guns and material, says the Echo de Paris.

Paris, Aug. 9.—The French War Ministry at 12:30 o'clock today issued the following statement:

"The brilliant operation which we, in concert with their troops, executed yesterday, have been a surprise for the enemy. As occurred in the offensive of July 18, the soldiers of General Debeney have captured enemy soldiers engaged in the peaceful task of harvesting grain in the German lines.

"Our artillery preparation was short, lasting less than an hour. The enemy artillery had made no counter preparation at the beginning of the action, merely replying feebly.

"The original front of the attack was only four kilometres, situated south of the Amiens-Roye road, where our infantry went over the top at 5:05 o'clock, but gradually the offensive developed all along the right bank of the Avre in the region of Hargicourt."

London, Aug. 9.—The Franco-British advance on the battle front south of the Somme today report British cavalry, armored cars and tanks, in advance of the infantry, to have reached within a mile of the Chaumes railway junction.

The cavalry, tanks and armored cars, it is indicated, have gone ahead to the line running from Framerville to Lihons.

The total of prisoners captured is reported to have reached ten thousand. From Lihons the line runs southward to Mehains, east of the Somme. This represents a total maximum advance of 11 miles.

It will be impossible for the Germans to hold their Montdidier positions, it is believed here. It also is believed the advance on the front south of the Somme is secure against a heavy attack and has removed the threat against Paris.

London, Aug. 9.—Fourteen thousand prisoners and guns too numerous to mention have been taken in the British drive on the front south of the Somme, says today's War Office report. The cavalry still is pursuing the enemy. The Allied progress is continuing.

The French have taken Fresnoy-en-Chaussée, while the British have reached a point east of Lequesnals and Calz.

The Germans are evacuating their positions in the Lys valley on the Flanders front.

Along the whole front the average advance of the infantry is from five to six miles.

The British have captured Morlan-court on the northern end of the Somme battle front, and the infantry line now runs from that point southward to a point southeast of Moreuil. This represents an infantry advance to the maximum depth of seven miles in the center along the Amiens-Chaumes-la-Fere railway.

On the Lys front the British now hold Locon, Lecornet-malo, Quentin, Le Petit Pacaut and Lesart.

Above Lys region, on the front north of Kemmel, the British carried out a local operation last night in which their line was advanced somewhat on a front of more than 1,000 yards.

The Germans put up a vigorous resistance north of the Somme, the statement shows, and there was heavy fighting between Chippily and Morlan-court.

Pressing the advantage already gained in Picardy, the British and French troops in smashing attacks are forcing the Germans back toward the important Peronne-Roye road. The advance Thursday was probably the greatest territorial extent by the Allies in one day since 1916.

Amiens as a result of the fighting up to the present, has been almost entirely of the German menace and even the German artillery will have trouble in reaching it. The important railway running north from Paris through Amiens and paralleling the Allied battle front can now be used again after being under the fire of German guns for four months.

Ten thousand prisoners have been taken, according to unofficial reports reaching Paris. The Allied losses thus far have been slight and the men by Germans have been slow and weak in counter attacking. The greatest enemy defensive asset—machine guns—appears to have been very

WAR INDUSTRIES BOARD ISSUES LABOR RECRUITING REGULATIONS

Regulations of the War Industries Board containing prohibitions against the recruiting of unskilled labor for war work plants except through the United States Employment Service have been received by Leo A. Korper, the state director. The regulations governing employment are announced as follows:

1. Employers may continue to hire workers who apply at the plant without solicitation, direct or indirect.

2. The Federal Director of Employment in each state is authorized to grant permission to employers to use their own field agents for recruiting unskilled workers under his direction and control for war industries located within the state.

3. Permission to recruit unskilled laborers in states other than the one in which the work is located may be secured from the Director General of the United States Employment Service upon the recommendation of the Federal Director of Employment for the state in which the men are needed. Such permission will be communicated by the Director General to the Federal Directors for the states in which the labor is needed and from which it is to be recruited.

4. No unskilled labor may be transported from one state to another without authorization from the Director General, to be secured by application through the Federal Director of Employment for the state in which the labor is recruited. No laborers may be moved from one employment district to another within a state without authorization from the Federal Director of Employment for the state.

5. Employers who receive permission to transfer workers from one state to another or from one district

to another within any state must file a statement with the nearest employment service office, of the number of men transferred, the wages offered and other terms and conditions of employment promised to the men.

6. Employers who are permitted to use their own field agents for recruiting labor must in no case use any fee-charging agency, or use any agents or labor scouts who are paid for their work on a commission basis.

7. All advertising for unskilled labor, whether by card, poster, newspaper, handbill, or any other medium is prohibited after August 1, 1918. This applies to all employers engaged wholly or partly in war work, whose maximum force, including skilled and unskilled laborers, exceeds 100.

The government labor program will be extended to skilled labor as soon as the machinery of the Employment Service is in adequate running order. So far there have been restrictions on the recruiting of skilled labor except the unspoken law against causing restlessness among men already engaged in war work or other essential industries to divert them to other undertakings. The federal employment bureaus will offer for every possible assistance to those who are seeking skilled labor.

Employers of workers for non-war industries should not offer superior inducements or in any other way try to compete with government undertakings to interrupt the flow of war essentials.

Information concerning the violation of these regulations should be addressed to the local employment bureau where they are already established, or to Leo A. Korper, Federal Director for Connecticut, at his office at the State Capitol.

ISSUES ORDER TO STOP ALL VOLUNTEERING

Recruiting Closed At All Stations of Army and Navy Pending New Draft Bill.

Hartford, Aug. 9.—Volunteer enlistment for service in any branch of the U. S. Army or Navy was closed at the recruiting stations in this city today, pursuant to orders from the Adjutant General of the army and the central naval recruiting station at New Haven. Men already accepted for enlistment in the army are to be forwarded for completion of their enlistment without delay. Men passed by the navy station physician including Thursday, Aug. 8, must present themselves for forwarding to the Central Station not later than Tuesday, August 13.

ALLIES REGAIN 200 VILLAGES IN BIG OFFENSIVE

With the American Army on the Vesle, Thursday, Aug. 8.—(By the Associated Press)—In their offensive since July 18 the Allies have regained approximately 1,500 square kilometers. More than 200 villages and towns, including Soissons, Chateau Thierry and Fismes are again in the hands of the Allies. The front has been shortened by 52 kilometers (about 33 miles).

According to information contained in documents in possession of the French and Americans, the Germans in the rear guard fighting during the retreat used four more divisions than they had contemplated using to break the French line when the German offensive began. The enemy plans called for 13 divisions to shatter the French and to cross the Marne between Dormans and Chateau Thierry.

Information gathered by the Allies is to the effect that in falling back the Germans brought into action at least 17 divisions before reaching the Vesle. Additional reinforcements have been brought up since the Vesle was crossed. A division which was resting in Flanders is known to have reached the region north of Fismes Tuesday.

PETAINE LAUDS AMERICANS.

Paris, Aug. 9.—Gen. Petain, Commander in Chief of the French armies, has issued the following Order of the Day to the French troops:

"Four years of effort with our staunch allies; four years of trials, of hardships, of blood, of sweat, of tears; your fifth attempt in 1918 smashed the invader's retreats, his man power decreased and his morale wavers while at your side your American brothers have no sooner landed than they have made a baffled enemy feel the weight of their blows.

"Incessantly placed in the advanced guard of the allied peoples, you have prepared the triumphs of tomorrow.

"Not long ago I said to you: 'Abandon patience; your comrades are arriving.' Today I say: 'Tenacity, audacity; you shall force victory.'"

"Soldiers of France, I salute your banners illuminated with new glory."

Aug. 9.—(By the Associated Press)—British cavalry and some infantry were signalled in the neighborhood of Chaumes this morning. When last heard from directly they, together with armored cars, were operating back of Framerville, and now have progressed many kilometers beyond continuing the cleaning up of the country and capturing villages.

London, Aug. 9, Battle Front.—(By the Associated Press)—More than 17,000 prisoners had been captured by the Allies in the Somme drive up to noon today, according to advices this afternoon. More than 200 guns also have been taken.

It is reported that a German division general has been captured in the drive.

JUDGE L. F. BURPEE DENIES MICHAELS' INJUNCTION PLEA

Wanted Information About Certain Affairs of Lake Company.

TO SHOW AMOUNT OF INSURANCE

Only Feature of Michaels' Demand Granted By the Court.

Judge Lucien F. Burpee of the Superior Court, in chambers at the county building, in Hartford, yesterday, heard the application of Henry Michaels of New York for a mandatory injunction to run against the Lake Torpedo Boat Co., a Maine corporation, which has its place of business in Bridgeport, and which at the present time has contracts with the United States government for the manufacture of submarines and other craft. Mr. Michaels is a stockholder of the company and the purpose of his proceedings was to get information regarding the affairs of the company which officers of the company had refused to give. He was represented by Spottwood D. Bowers and Judge Carl Foster of Bridgeport appeared for the Lake Co. Judge Foster agreed to furnish certain information that related to the personnel, but nothing that related to the materiality of the company. Judge Burpee directed that the company disclose to Mr. Michaels the amount of insurance it carries, but with the exception of this feature and what Judge Foster said he was willing to disclose, all of the other demands of Mr. Michaels were denied.

Mr. Bowers on the opening, said his client has \$20,000 invested in the company. The capital of the company is \$5,000,000. The par value of the stock is \$10, and some of the holdings of Mr. Michaels, Mr. Bowers said, had cost him greater than \$100,000. The stock he owned above \$50 and had seen it drop to 2 7/8 a share. He had understood from newspaper publication that the company was engaged in building submarines as well as other craft for the government under a contract at 10 per cent above cost. The preferred dividend had been passed and Mr. Bowers said in his opinion the information which his client asked would not embarrass the company, neither would it give aid or comfort to the enemy. The demand which his client made on the company was outlined by him to Judge Burpee as follows:

An inspection of the books and papers of the corporation, a general financial statement, liabilities of the company, grossed up salaries, payments made during the fiscal year, names and addresses and stockholdings of officers and directors, how long officers and directors have held offices, payments made by company to officers and directors, how often does executive committee meet and what payments are made to its members, do officers and directors receive any bonus in addition to salaries, amount of real estate, amount of cash on hand, amount of cash on hand, cash in bank, accounts receivable, notes and other negotiable paper, securities raw materials, completed work in process, accounts payable, notes payable, other obligations, sinking fund, replacement fund all other items on books of company, amount of insurance, present and contingent value of property and assets, names of employees receiving \$7,500 salary and upwards, amount of working capital of company, unfilled orders now on hand, percentage of profits upon common stock earned during the last twelve months. In addition to what has been outlined Mr. Bowers said he understood there has been a \$2,000,000 bond issue and the company and his client wanted to know about that.

Judge Foster said he regarded it as an outrage for any man who claimed to be an American to bring the company into court and ask it to reveal openly what Mr. Michaels wanted. Mr. Bowers recited that in his opinion what was asked would not be an embarrassment to the company and he did not think the information would give aid or comfort to the enemy. His client believed he had a right to the information and he did not think the company should use the cloak of war and patriotism to take his client's \$20,000 and not to tell him what it was doing with it. Judge Foster said that a few months ago Mr. Bowers's client, when he had other counsel, was provided with an address of these officers and the address and the company stood ready to give Mr. Michaels all the information he asked for as to the personnel, but nothing as to the material of the company. He would tell him the officers and directors how long they have held office, the payments made to them, how often the executive committee meets and what they receive for service and what payments they would give in addition to salary. He would give the names of employees who receive a salary of \$7,500 and upwards.

As to the other revelations asked for, said Judge Foster, these would tend to injure the government and the company and he said he was before the judge with witnesses prepared to show the truth of what he contended. In view of Judge Foster expressing a willingness to disclose as to certain matters, Judge Burpee had Mr. Bowers read the demands which Judge Foster had not agreed to. Judge Burpee asked the purpose of Mr. Michaels in making the application. Mr. Bowers said that he wished to have a knowledge as to the value of his holdings in the company. As to the real estate holdings of the company Judge Foster said he was not willing to give that information, because to give it would likely tend to locating submarines that are now not known of. Judge Burpee said that application did not appeal to him because he could not see what the information was desired for at this time, and it seemed to him that the offer of Judge Foster was a fair one.

All of the demands that Judge Foster said when he made a disclosure as to the officers it would be found

GERMAN LINE ON PICARDY FRONT IS BROKEN BY THRUST

Savage Onslaught of British and French Armies Has Driven Wedge Into Enemy Territory to Depth of Eleven Miles—British Now Only Mile From Chaumes-Roye Railway—Is Main Line of German Supply—Results of Drive Eclipse First Day Performance of Any of Hun Offensives—Successes South of Somme Serious Menace to the German Lines.

(By The Associated Press) German lines on the Picardy front south of the Somme have been badly broken by the savage thrust of the British and French armies.

A wedge has been driven into enemy territory to a depth of eleven miles along the Amiens-Chaumes-LaFere railway and early today the British were only a mile away from the Chaumes-Roye railway, which runs southward from Chaumes and forms the chief artery of supplies for the German troops fighting in the Montdidier sector of the front.

London announces that 14,000 prisoners and guns "too numerous to mention," have been taken in the first 24 hours of the drive.

The results of this attack, loosed against the Amiens front Thursday morning, appears to have eclipsed those obtained by the Germans on the first day of any of their terrific offensives of the past spring and summer. So far as reports show the progress of the fighting south of the Somme, the Allies are going forward almost without serious opposition. On the north bank of the stream, the Germans have held their lines strongly, but have lost Morlan-court, their stronghold there, after hard fighting. The French, further to the south, have had their advance retarded at numerous points, but the towns officially reported to have been reached are evidence that the momentum of the Allied drive has not nearly spent itself.

From despatches from the battlefield it now appears that the Allies attacked the Germans with little artillery preparation the method pursued resembling on a grand scale that adopted by General Byng before Cambrai last November. Armored tanks in great numbers tore through the German forest line positions, infantry masses followed and then through the gaps in the enemy line the cavalry and armored motor cars swept in to the back area, surprising German detachments and throwing the whole defensive organization of the enemy into chaos.

Hardly had the German reverse along the Somme been reported than despatches began to tell of a German retirement in the Flanders section. Locon, Leconne, Quintan, LePetit Pacaut and Lesart little villages on the extreme western tip of the Lys salient have been abandoned by the Germans and are now held by the British. This is looked upon as the carrying out of a German withdrawal from the Lys salient, which has been forecast in recent despatches. The ground held by the Germans in Flanders is very low and is dominated by the Allied artillery and a retirement there has been expected.

In its larger aspects, the success of the Allies south of the Somme constitutes a very serious threat to the German line, especially to the southward. The advance has not so far weakened the German positions northward toward Arras, but the enemy finds himself in an embarrassing position around Montdidier, and from that town southward at least as far as the Oise river. A further advance of the Allies in Picardy would outflank the whole German line as far as the Oise and probably cause an immediate retreat to positions which can be linked up with the Aisne line.

NAVY HAS MORE RECRUITS THAN ARE NECESSARY

Sec. Daniels Explains Order to Stop Enlistments to the Correspondents.

Washington, Aug. 9.—Secretary Daniels discussed with correspondents the order stopping enlistments. With 100,000 now at recruiting stations and training camps and another 25,000 at home awaiting call, he said the navy has an abundance of material. Men enrolled up to yesterday will be called to the colors when there is room for them in the training camps and stations.

All recruiting stations may not be closed, Mr. Daniels added, but their number probably would be greatly reduced and most of the men sent back to active duty.

Since the man power bill was proposed to congress there has been a heavy rush to naval and marine corps recruiting stations of men who do not wish to be drafted. In many cases it is understood men of families and with large and important business interests, have sought to enlist on the theory that eventually they would be drafted into the army.

That some of the officers had remitted all of their salaries to the company and that there was but one man connected with the company who received a salary of more than \$7,500 a year. The officers, he said, are lending themselves to the company in every way. The one question that Judge Burpee thought could be answered without embarrassment to the company and which Judge Foster had not agreed to answer, was as to the amount of insurance carried by the company. The form of order to be signed by Judge Burpee will be prepared by the lawyers in Bridgeport and then sent to Judge Burpee for signature, as Judge Foster said he wanted what was done as a result of the hearing of yesterday disclosed on the records in case the question comes up again.

The only garden work done by some people is on dark nights with a bag.

New Draft Will Strip Washington of Many Clerks

Washington, Aug. 9.—The application of the work or fight rule in connection with the new draft ages submitted to Congress is expected to strip Washington of its great army of men clerks between the ages of 18 to 45. Only old men, cripples and women will be left at the desks of all departments and branches of the government.

Manpower to be rebased under this rule which will apply to all industries as well as to government departments is expected to go into essential industries and thereby relieve for actual military service in the line the men of the first draft age, 21 to 31, who have been given deferred classification by virtue of being employed in essential work.

The course which whole object of all laws and regulations relating to the draft from this time on will be to get men with guns in France, or ready to sail for the fighting front. The men for the army of 3,000,000 abroad and 700,000 at home as reserves will be taken so far as possible from men in the first draft and it is expected that thousands will be dismissed from essential occupations to join the colors, and their places taken by older men.

All young officers, too are ticketed through to France, and will begin their journey within the next sixty days. It is expected that there will be a clean sweep in every department of the government, and every able bodied young officer sent on active duty to France and the desk jobs that they have occupied will be filled by older officers by older or disabled civilians and by women.

FIFTIETH ANNUAL DANBURY FAIR

The Danbury Agricultural Society is to celebrate its 50th anniversary and fair this year from October 7 to 12. There will be all the usual features of this time honored event, for the first time there will be canning, home economics and food saving projects will be exhibited under the Fairfield. The fair will be filled by older indications the fair this year will be bigger, better and more interesting than usual. There will be special train accommodations from this city.

An American aviator found the grave of Quentin Roosevelt at Chermery.