

Americans Drive Off German Attacks in The Vosges Sector

Germans Make Great Efforts to Maintain Positions North of Somme—Throw Fresh Troops Against French and Americans—Dispute Ground Foot By Foot—Humbert Fast Approaching Somme—German Counter Attacks Driven Off Between Ailette and Aisne.

Paris, Aug. 30—The British line north of the Somme has been carried beyond the points indicated in last night's statement from Field Marshal Haig, and the British now are several kilometers east of Combles, according to reports to the newspapers here. The advance continues and the fall of Peronne is predicted.

Correspondents of Paris newspapers at the front agree that the Allied losses in the present operations have been comparatively light. They say the Allies never have taken so many prisoners and guns and so much material and territory as so slight a cost.

Paris, Aug. 30—German counter attacks between the Ailette and the Aisne were repulsed last night by the French, says today's war office statement. The French maintained their gains east of Pasly, north of Soissons.

South of the Somme and along the Canal du Nord there was no change in the situation during the night. German raids along the Vesle, where Americans troops are stationed, and in Champagne failed. The statement reads:

"Along the Somme and in the region of the Canal du Nord there was no change during the night.

"Between the Ailette and the Aisne French troops repulsed several German counter attacks. East of Pasly we maintained our gains.

"Along the Vesle and in Champagne German raids were without result. The night was quiet on the rest of the front."

With the French Army in France, Thursday, Aug. 29—By the Associated Press—The Germans are making a supreme effort to maintain their positions on the plateau north of Soissons. They are throwing fresh troops against both the French and the Americans and are disputing the ground foot by foot.

After the unsuccessful enemy attempts a few days ago to retake the heights west of the Soissons-Coucy-Le-Chateau road, known as the Orme de Montecouve prisoners taken by one French division included men from three different divisions of infantry and two battalions of crack mountain troops.

The loss of this height and a further advance made it all the more necessary for the Germans to prevent the Allies from gaining ground on the plateau in the region of Juvisy, where are the last heights defending the valley of the Ailette, where it runs eastward before turning southward again toward the Chemin des Dames. The enemy has reinforced his line there with some of his best divisions of shock troops.

The French Third army met with greater resistance today along the line of the Somme and the Canal du Nord. The German opposition was particularly stout in the region of Nesles, where it was necessary to have artillery to reduce some positions.

Tonight the villages of Rouy le Grand and Rouy le Petit, east of Nesles, are in the hands of the French, while south along the Canal du Nord they have Brouilly, Noyoncourt, North of Nesles, where Gen. Humbert's troops also are approaching the Somme, the Germans launched a counter attack against Morchain without success. The Germans appear to be strongly reinforced by artillery along the Canal du Nord, where their resistance is stiffening.

After the capture of Noyon, French troops advanced eastward to the southern slopes of Mont St. Simeon.

With the American Army in France, Thursday, Aug. 29—(By the Associated Press)—In three different patrol encounters in the Vosges last night the Germans were driven off when the American fire became too hot for them.

The German artillery fire in the Vosges increased materially last night.

(By The Associated Press.) Germany's hard pressed armies still waver before the attacks of the Allies. In central Picardy from the Somme north to Bapaume the enemy is retreating eastward toward St. Quentin. Large numbers of prisoners, many guns and much material are falling into the hands of the British.

Elsewhere the apparently untiring British, French and American forces are maintaining their pressure against the enemy, who now has lost all his important bases west of the Hindenburg line except Peronne, Ham and Tergnier. The British now are within two miles of Peronne on the southeast and the French are five miles west of Ham. The important railroad junction of Tergnier is not threatened very seriously, but the French crossing the Ailette holds it.

As the fall of Roye compelled the Germans to retire to the line of the Somme south of Peronne, the capture of Bapaume by the British made it necessary for the enemy to retrace north of the Somme. Where the enemy will attempt to make a stand here is problematical, but his best line would seem to be that of the Canal du Nord, which runs northeast from Peronne. The canal curves eastward five miles east of Bapaume and crosses the old Hindenburg line near Habrinocourt, seven miles east of Bapaume.

The Canal du Nord extends across the Picardy battle field in a general north and south direction and the fact that the Germans are offering stout resistance to the French south of Peronne, where the canal parallels the Somme would indicate the probability that they may attempt to stand on the line of the canal. Noyon, the southern outlet of the canal, was carried after heavy fighting and the Germans are contesting bitterly the possession of the heights north and east of Noyon. The French are on

BAPAUME, NOYON HAVE FALLEN AND NESLE REPORTED CAPTURED; MILLION OF ENEMY IN FLIGHT

Thousands of Prisoners and Vast Stores Taken by British Who Gain Positions Valuable in Attack Upon Cambrai—Resistance Broken—Panic of Enemy Shown—Combles, Important Railroad Town, Encircled by British—Germans, in Flight, Described As Out of Officers' Control at Certain Points—North of Soissons French and Americans Drive Wedge in Crown Prince's Right 1,200 Yards Deeper—Prussians Again Give Way Before Pershing's Forces.

London, Aug. 29—"We have reached the west bank of the Somme opposite Brie and Peronne, and captured Ham," says tonight's report from Field Marshal Haig.

The British, the statement says, are advancing on the general line of Combles—Morval—Beattincourt—Fremicourt.

New lines, runs east of Bapaume, through Peronne, to the east of Noyon," says the Berlin War Office, substantially admitting the British claim.

The French tonight stand on the west bank of the Canal-du-Nord along a wide front, the War Office announced tonight.

The cities of Bapaume, Noyon and Juvisy, the main bastions in the 55-mile German stop-gap line, have fallen to the Allies.

Combles and Nesle are reported taken, and the French stand before Ham, while the British have dashed four miles beyond Bapaume to Happincourt. The west bank of the Somme is reported to have been reached along a wide stretch. Peronne is doomed. It may have fallen by this time.

The whole German line from the Scarpe down to the Soissons region has been torn, and fully 1,000,000 field-grey men are fleeing eastward toward the Belgian border and the Rhine.

From the ancient Cathedral of Noyon, erected on the site of a church built by Pepin the Short, a special mass of gratitude was celebrated. From the top of the town hall the tri-color fluttered, proclaiming deliverance of the city where Charlemagne was crowned, and where this summer the Kaiser's generals, over French champagne, were fixing the day for Paris.

Thirty-six miles to the northwest, in the shambles that was once the flourishing city of Bapaume, French women and children and old men, who for nearly half a year have been cowed by the invader, kissed the hands of husky "Tommys" and gave thanks for the liberation of the town where France in 1871 suffered one of her worst defeats.

British troops are now within 2,000 yards of the Drocourt-Queant line. The Germans in many places are blowing up supplies. Combles, the important railway town northwest of Peronne, has been outflanked by the British, according to reports received here this evening. The town is practically encircled.

Noyon was occupied this morning by the troops of General Humbert. General Mangin's men crossed the Oise River and took Morlincourt (east of Noyon on the Oise) took Quennoy Wood, just to the west of the Canal-du-Nord. The wood was a strongly fortified position, and from it the Germans endeavored to check the French pursuit.

The rapidly succeeding military events not only confirm that the Germans have lost control of their operations in the regions of the Somme, Avre and Oise Rivers, but they indicate that the enemy's own retreat is getting out of hand.

The effort to stem the French pursuit by fighting rearguard actions with machine-gun sections, leaving a section of about 400 yards, was only locally successful. On ground especially favorable for that sort of resistance, such as the terrain around Roye, it gained some time for the enemy, enabling him to move a great many guns and a considerable part of his material behind the Canal-du-Nord and opposite Noyon.

Participation by the American troops in General Mangin's operations in the Juvisy sector was a complete surprise to the enemy. The units intended to be placed in the line to reinforce the French were brought up during the evening of the previous day and passed the night in the thick forest from which they started at dawn.

Suddenly, at seven o'clock, they attacked on a two-kilometer front. The Prussian Seventh Infantry Regiment, which was in front of them, suffered severe losses and was forced to give way.

A German captured in the area of the First Army's operations told the British today that when his men heard the Canadians were attacking they refused to fight. He said he had to shoot two men and even then the others lacked the initiative.

At Happincourt, four miles east of Bapaume, where the British are reported late today, they are only 1-2 miles southwest of Cambrai. Byng's left wing, southeast of Arras, is only 14 miles north west of Cambrai.

The French, before Ham, are 13 miles southwest of St. Quentin. The British army, which links up with the French east of Chaules, is a little more distant.

The French, at Juvisy, are 14-12 miles both from La Fere and Leon. Americans are believed to have participated again in today's attacks that resulted in Juvisy's capture. From Noyon northward to Chauny and La Fere the French are expected to have comparatively easy sailing. More difficult is an advance on Leon, since the route to that bastion, the southern pivot of the old rear Hindenburg line, is barred by three great fortresses.

Four great key-points in the rear Hindenburg line—Cambrai, St. Quentin, La Fere and Leon—are gravely menaced by the last 24 hours' developments.

With the French Army in France, Aug. 30—The Third French Army, continuing its operations around Noyon, advanced along the road leading to Gusecard yesterday and occupied Happincourt and the field of maneuvers opposite Noyon.

The operations of the last two days have put the Germans into another pocket between the Canal du Nord and the River Aisne. They will have to evacuate it promptly or run a big risk of having their positions there turned from the north by the French along the valley of the Somme.

Since the fall of Noyon, which was the apex of this salient, until the morning, Mont St. Simeon, a mile and a quarter to the east, is its advance defence. This height dominates the valley of the Aisne eastward and the valley of the River Meve and the Canal du Nord to the north. These valleys were lines in the salient last night.

The taking of Quennoy Wood this morning has tightened the pocket from the western side, bringing the French within shelling distance of the main road leading out of it in the direction of Ham. The road from Noyon to Chauny, which skirts the salient on the south, has been under the fire of Gen. Mangin's artillery for several days.

Between the roads to Ham and Chauny a succession of heights extends from Mont St. Simeon to Chauny, forming a position of great strength. The Germans are violently shelling the French lines from there today, but the imminence of danger threatening their communications to the north suggests that they are merely using up their immense ammunition supply in the vain hope of a measure, which had become so strong as to require them to abandon ammunition all over the field of the Avre.

The French troops having gained a foothold in the valley of the Somme northeast of Nesle may naturally be expected to advance toward Ham, which will render the stronghold of St. Simeon and the ridge leading east useless to the enemy while enormously increasing the difficulty of getting the rearguard out of the salient.

The rapidly succeeding military events not only confirm that the Germans have lost all control of their operations in the regions of the Somme, Avre and Oise Rivers, but they indicate that the enemy's own retreat is getting out of hand.

Germans in Picardy Retreating Toward Saint Quentin

Capture Combles and Chery Sur Somme, Now in District East of Combles—Allied Losses Very Light in Recent Engagements—Australian Troops Now Two Miles From Peronne—English and Scotch Troops Advance Astride River Scarpe.

Moving forward with sustained power, British armies east and southeast of Arras appear to have crashed clear through the Hindenburg line. Despatches received today seem to indicate that now they have begun to "roll up" the German forces on the front to which the enemy is retreating along the whole Picardy front.

Bullecourt, which was on the Hindenburg line, was taken this morning. Hendecourt-lez-Cagnicourt, to the northeast of Bullecourt, has also fallen before Field Marshal Haig's men. South of Hendecourt and slightly to the east Riencourt has been captured by the advancing British. East of Arras astride the Scarpe, further gains are reported.

The Drocourt-Queant "switch line" now is within striking distance. Farther south the British have taken the village of Combles, where there was terrific fighting during the German retirement a year ago last March.

West of Peronne, the British have captured the town of Clerly and they also have crossed the Somme south of Peronne.

Along the line farther south, which is held by the British, the night passed without change. There were counter attacks by the Germans against General Mangin's army between the Ailette and the Aisne, but they were repulsed by the French, who hold positions east of Pasly, which is less than two miles northwest of Soissons.

Along the front from the Somme south to the Noyon region and thence east to the Ailette a sector which is of vital importance at present, the enemy appears to have checked the French until he can extricate his forces from the perilous position in the salient between the Somme and the Oise.

Progress southeast of Arras would seem to be the most important feature of the news from the great battle. Canadians, it appears, slowly are advancing along the Arras-Cambrai road and are widening the gap in the famous line to which the Germans retired eighteen months ago.

It seems that any great additional British success in this region may shatter Germany's hopes of conducting a defensive campaign along this front, to which, it is probable, the Germans now are hastily withdrawing.

London, Aug. 30—British troops have captured Combles, between Bapaume and the river Somme, the British war office announced today.

Advanced British troops have crossed the river Somme south and west of Peronne.

Between Hendecourt and the Arras-Cambrai road the Canadians attacked the German line and made favorable progress.

East of the Sensee the forces of Field Marshal Haig made progress, capturing Bullecourt and Hendecourt in Cagnicourt.

The British also captured Clerly sur Somme, on the Somme river between Combles and Peronne.

The text reads: "In spite of the destruction of river bridges our advancing troops crossed the Somme both south and west of Peronne."

"We have taken Clerly sur Somme and Combles. In this area alone we took over 200 prisoners and a few guns yesterday."

"London and West Lancashire troops made important progress yesterday afternoon near the Sensee river capturing Bullecourt and Hendecourt lez Cagnicourt after hard fighting together with the powerful German trench systems protecting these villages."

"Between Hendecourt and the Arras-Cambrai road an attack delivered by Canadian troops early this morning captured this morning."

The Germans have destroyed all the bridges across the Somme, including the railroad bridge and the regular bridge at Peronne.

At noon fires indicating the withdrawal of the Germans on the northern end of the British front and especially in the Lyse salient, are burning. Many explosions have been observed behind the enemy lines.

With the British Armies in France, Aug. 29—The Germans have been driven behind the river Somme everywhere along the British front. The whole western bank now is in the possession of Field Marshal Haig and at one place just south of La Chapelle a British force has crossed to the eastern bank.

In the operations concluded this morning 300 prisoners fell into the hands of the British on this side of the river.

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REVENUE AGENTS ARREST ILLICIT WHISKEY MAKERS

Washington, Aug. 30—The biggest intensive roundup of illicit whiskey distillers ever undertaken by the government has just been completed in southern mountain districts by revenue agents under direction of Internal Revenue Commissioner Daniel C. Roper.

The activities of the agents resulted in the seizure of 486 stills, arrest of 200 moonshiners, killing of five outlaws and two sheriffs, and the wounding of several other government men and liquor makers. This systematic campaign of raids has been under way for eight weeks, mainly in mountains of Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina and South Carolina—all dry states—but arrests were withheld until today to avoid giving advance information to moonshiners of the activities of a flying squadron of 14 experienced revenue agents.

More than 30,000 gallons of pale moonshine whiskey was seized and poured down mountain streams. More than \$100,000 worth of illicit copper stills of all sizes and other paraphernalia, automobiles, horses, mules and wagons belonging to the distillers was taken by the flying squadron.

About 21,000 pounds of sugar found on distillery premises was confiscated and the most of it was given to the Red Cross.

Recommendations for 321 prosecutions have been sent to the Department of Justice.

Two Killed in Texas Airplane Accident

Wichita Falls, Texas, Aug. 29.—Lieut. F. R. McGiffin, of Fresno, Cal., and Cadet Ellis Bernard Babcock of Washington, D. C., were killed instantly at Call Field this morning when their plane fell 2,000 feet. Their plane fell from the top of a loop.

Cadet Babcock, who was a son of Brig. Gen. Babcock, who now is in France, was taking his first lesson in acrobatic flying. He was 21 years old.

Lieut. McGiffin was 28 years old and was married. His wife being at Call Field at the time of the accident. Babcock's mother is in Washington.

Booze Hoisters Held Responsible

Nogales, Ariz., Aug. 30.—Drunken civilians on the Mexican side of the border were held responsible today for the shooting which occurred Tuesday night which resulted in the wounding slightly of an American soldier.

Brig. Gen. Cabell announced today that everything was quiet throughout the night and no further trouble was expected. Reinforcements have arrived here and are going into camp near the border. Rumors that Mexican federal reinforcements were arriving in Nogales, Sonora, and encircling were denied here today.

"I KNOW YOU SAM GOMPERS" CRIED 80 YEAR OLD LADY

American Labor Leader Visits Boyhood Home in England; Calls at American Army Headquarters.

London, Thursday, Aug. 29.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, visited his boyhood home today, where he was born 68 years ago. It was an event of great importance in the little section of London known as Spittlegate.

Mr. Gompers has only visited England once before since he left as a boy to seek his fortune in America. His previous visit was nine years ago.

Mr. Gompers was accompanied today on the journey to Fort street by several members of the American labor mission. They went down in two American army automobiles and got out at the street corner.

Mr. Gompers stopped when he alighted and standing in the middle of the street, recalled many scenes of his boyhood.

"The old street has not changed much," he said, as he stood in front of the house which had been his home for many years. "That old public house on the corner looks exactly as it did when I used to listen to the crowd of old sign-makers discussing politics there in the evening when I was a mere slip of a boy."

While Mr. Gompers was talking an old woman of more than 80 years wearing a long gray shawl, hobbled up, looked at the stranger a moment and then broke in:

"I know you, Sam Gompers," she said. "Many's the time I gave you a piece of my mind when you used to live there," pointing to the house where Mr. Gompers was born. The old woman had not seen him since he left London as a youthful apprentice cigar maker.

Mr. Gompers spent some time talking over old times with her, asking about various boyhood playmates.

The little group of labor men were surrounded by a great throng of Spittlegate people, many of them children, grandchildren and even great grandchildren of persons whom Gompers remembered as neighbors of his father and mother.

Spittlegate is deep in the interior of London's East End, which is not so different from New York's East Side except that it is greater in extent and much older. Never before had American army automobiles been seen in remote Fort street.

In the afternoon Mr. Gompers called at American army headquarters to see Maj. Gen. Eddle and Surgeon Gen. Winter. Afterward he paid a surprise visit on Maj. Endicott, the American Red Cross commissioner, at Red Cross headquarters. Arrangements were made to visit America's Red Cross hospitals tomorrow to distribute cigars to 700 Americans, sick or wounded, who recently have arrived in London from the western front.

SUFFRAGE IS NOT NECESSARY NOW

While a group of young women were being decorated at the State Capitol, in honor of the services they have rendered the state and the nation as members of the Land Army, they were told by Gov. Holcomb that "it is a beautiful thing for the women to take hold of work to increase the food supply so that the soldiers may be adequately fed and our population adequately fed too," and that "nothing can be accomplished without women."

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SPY SUSPECT IS SHOT AND KILLED BY RESERVE MAN

Ocean City, N. J., Aug. 30.—A man believed to be Thomas Ellis of Trenton, N. J., was shot and killed last night by Joseph Meehan of the United States naval reserve. The authorities suspect Ellis of having been a spy engaged in signalling to German submarines off the coast. While resisting arrest for acting suspiciously on the beach of this resort Ellis was shot through the heart.

Officers of the United States coast guard say two men have been seen on the lonely beach at night manipulating high powered lights and apparently signalling to a boat at sea. The government secret service was informed and men were sent here from Atlantic City and Philadelphia for guard duty. Meehan came from the former station.

After Meehan told his story at the coroner's inquest today he was exonerated from blame for the killing. No visitors are allowed on the beach at night.

Meehan testified that last night he was stationed near the water's edge with instructions to arrest any person who approached. When he saw Ellis he arrested him after Ellis had failed to give a satisfactory explanation of his reason for being on the beach. Ellis, Meehan testified, sprang on him and took his rifle away from him. Meehan regained the weapon and when Ellis sprang at him again he fired.

STRIKES IN GERMANY.

Amsterdam, Aug. 30—Great strikes have broken out in Mannheim, according to dispatches received here today from Munich. Three thousand strikers have been sent to the front, and 8,000 have been deported from the region under armed guard. Troops are guarding the city. It is reported, as riots are feared.

BAN ON GASOLINE WAR DOES NOT APPLIES ONLY TO PLEASURE RIDING

There Will Be No Restriction for Present on Public Service Vehicles.

Washington, Aug. 30.—The ban on the use of gas was on Sundays for motor vehicles and boats will apply only to pleasure riding, Fuel Administrator Garfield announced today. He said reasonable use of gasoline-driven vehicles for necessary purposes was not intended to be prohibited.

While taxicabs were not mentioned in the statement, it was said informally that the restrictions would not prevent taxi service for necessary purposes, though there should be no hiring of cabs for pleasure riding.

The use of pleasure automobiles on Labor day and other holidays does not come under the restrictions, inquiries disclosed.

AVIATORS KILLED AT PENSACOLA, FLA.

Pensacola, Fla., Aug. 30—Two naval aviators were killed and a third, after minor injuries when their machine made a nose dive into the bay here last night. The dead were Jay Lloyd Churchill, Syracuse, N. Y., and DeWitt Gifford Wilcox, Newton Center, Mass.

GARAGES TO CLOSE SUNDAY.

Torrington, Aug. 30—According to an agreement made today all garages and gasoline stations in Torrington will be closed on Sundays until the fuel administration's request is rescinded.

\$400,000,000 LENT TO BRITAIN

Washington, Aug. 30.—An additional credit of \$400,000,000 for Great Britain was established yesterday by the Treasury Department. This brings the total of credits to Great Britain to \$2,725,000,000. Credits to all the Allies total \$7,692,000,000.