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Official Bulletins Of Battle on Somme

London, July 3.—The statement issued by the French War Office this afternoon says:

North of the River Somme the enemy last night made no attack upon the positions conquered by us and which we are now organizing.

South of the River Somme the fight has been continued with complete success for our arms. Yesterday evening and last night we entirely occupied, along a front of more than five kilometers (three miles) the two lines of trenches of the second German position, from the Meraucourt Wood, which is in our possession, as far as the edge of Assevillers.

Between these two points we took possession, as a result of a brilliant engagement, of the village of Herbecourt, which had been defensively organized by the enemy.

Further to the south we have made progress in the direction of Assevillers, the northern and western boundaries of which are in our hands.

To the north of the village of Estrees, and between Estrees and Assevillers, our troops have made perceptible progress.

More prisoners and more pieces of heavy artillery, the counting of which has not yet been completed, were captured by us during these recent actions.

Germans Suffer Very Heavy Losses. According to information at hand, it has been established that more than thirty-nine German battalions participated in the attack along the French front on July 1. According to the statements of prisoners, thirty-one of these battalions suffered very heavy losses and are at present completely disorganized.

During the preparatory offensive fire of our artillery French aviators set fire to thirteen captive German balloons. Two others were set on fire last July. During the attack our aeroplane scouts were masters of the front.

South of the River Avre, in the region of Dancourt and in the vicinity of the Wood des Loges, French reconnoitering parties penetrated the German trenches and cleaned them out with hand grenades. In the region of Lassigny a surprise attack against a trench of the enemy was successful at Verlot Wood, near Canny-sur-Matz. Another French patrol made some prisoners in the region of Moulin-sous-Toutvent. In the Champagne district one of our patrols took some prisoners not far from Prunay, and brought back a rapid fire gun.

French Take More Villages. The French statement issued to-night says: North of the Somme the situation remains unchanged, and no infantry action has taken place during the day.

South of the Somme our troops, pursuing their success east of the Meraucourt Woods, took possession this morning of the Chapiteau Wood and the village of Feulleres. Further to the south Assevillers, the centre of a powerful defensive German organization, has been attacked and carried by our infantry after a brilliant assault.

South of Assevillers we have conquered the second German line as far as the outskirts of Estrees. In the course of the afternoon we advanced beyond the German second line and took possession of Bascourt (east of Feulleres) and Claucourt. At this point the ground conquered by us reached a depth of five kilometers. Enemy reinforcements which were observed in the region of Belloy-en-Santerre and others east of Flaucourt were caught under the fire of our artillery and dispersed.

Among the material which has fallen into our hands up to the present are seven batteries, of which three are of large calibre, a quantity of mitrailleuses and trench cannon. Other batteries sheltered in casemates and several in Herbecourt have not yet been counted. The number of unwounded prisoners taken by the French troops passes, by actual count, 8,000.

British Retain All Gains. The British official statement issued this afternoon follows: The battle south of the Ancre continues to be hotly contested. All positions gained by us yesterday have been maintained.

The fighting about La Boisselle and Ovillers was particularly severe. Yesterday evening we penetrated the village of La Boisselle, in which fighting is still going on. About Ovillers the fighting met with varying success. One attack early this morning secured a portion of the hostile defences.

Four hundred more prisoners passed through our collecting stations. A later afternoon statement says: Heavy fighting continues, but it is proceeding satisfactorily for us, especially in the vicinity of La Boisselle, where the remnants of the garrison have now surrendered.

On other parts of the battlefield some further progress has been made and some additional hostile defences have been captured.

A very large amount of work was done by our aircraft yesterday. In the early part of the day several attempts at offensive action on our side of the line were made by hostile aircraft in large parties. All were driven back, and subsequently the enemy's aircraft were held far behind the German lines. As a result our artillery machines were able to work without interruption from hostile aircraft.

During the day a very large number of aerial combats took place over the enemy's lines. Six hostile machines are known to have been brought down and five others were driven down severely damaged. Seven of our machines are missing.

Fighting About La Boisselle. The British statement issued to-night says: The fight fluctuated this afternoon about La Boisselle and south of Thiepval, the advantage on the whole remaining with us.

South of Thiepval hostile counter attacks drove some of our troops from a portion of the positions which they had captured early this morning (Monday). Elsewhere many hostile attacks were repulsed with heavy loss.

In some places we have continued to make substantial progress. The amount of captured armament and warlike stores is very considerable, but no accurate details are as yet available. The number of prisoners now reaches over 4,300.

Yesterday there was a vast increase in the number of hostile aeroplanes on the southern sectors of our front, but, despite this, our airman carried out in a most gallant manner all the duties assigned to them.

To-day one hostile kite balloon, destroyed by us, fell in flames. Since the commencement of the battle we have lost a total of fifteen machines along the whole British front.

Berlin Admits Falling Back. The communication issued by Berlin says: The continuation of the British and French attacks on both sides of the Somme did not win any advantage, generally speaking, north of the river. The enemy suffered extraordinarily heavy losses in this region.

South of the river we withdrew into the second line positions during the night the division which we recalled yesterday from the first line to the intermediate defensive positions.

There was the same degree of activity on the fronts which have not been attacked.

HUGE GUNS PAVE WAY FOR ALLIES. posts heavily armored with concrete, in which machine guns are installed; while in the trenches themselves are armored turrets protecting other machine guns.

The second and third lines of the general defensive works of the Germans on the Western front are equally important and similarly intricate. All three lines must be pierced by the Allies before their desire to force the Germans to battle in the open can be realized.

In the battles of Arras and the Champagne the French attacked the second line without sufficient artillery preparation. The error was not repeated in the present case.

GERMANS ADMIT MENACE IN DRIVE

Newspaper Says British Army Is Strong, but Questions Fitness.

PREPARATION OF FOE DECLARED THOROUGH

Confidence Expressed, Although Probable Decisiveness of Effort Is Conceded.

Amsterdam, July 3.—The beginning of the Anglo-French offensive is announced by the German press under heavy headlines.

"From the great Champagne battle of last autumn," says the "Cologne Gazette," "we know the imposing preparations with which the French General Staff introduces such enterprises, and we can be certain that on the enemy's side nothing will be lacking as regards technical means for piercing our lines.

For seven days artillery fire was poured over our trenches, and our brave troops must have greeted it as a deliverance when at last the enemy storming columns came on.

"We should not be deceived by the fact that the enemy reports already speak of great successes. Only within the next few days will it be possible to ascertain how far the general attack has brought the enemy."

The "Cologne Volkszeitung" refers to the difficulty of holding the foremost German trenches in the face of the enormous energy of the attack, but notes that the attacking forces have not yet succeeded in piercing the German front.

"Although Germany confronts the coming battle with confidence," says this newspaper, "nevertheless the moment is without doubt fraught with significance and is perhaps decisive."

England, it adds, now for the first time has to bear the main burden.

"The English army in France," it continues, "is strong and well equipped. England's industry, after it was organized for the war, has scored great achievements in the manufacture of guns and shells, and, thus prepared, it believes it can now take a just part in the war dance on the soil of Northern France. As regards the military fitness of the English troops, it has now an opportunity to show what it is."

DAMLLOUP LOST, THEN REGAINED

French Win Back Redoubt in Fierce Battle at Verdun.

Paris, July 3.—The Allied offensive on the Somme appears to have had but little effect thus far on the Verdun operations. The Germans continue to lead attack after attack against the French citadel, in the hope of beating down the French wall, which remains as solid as ever.

Early yesterday morning the Germans, after a heavy preparatory bombardment, succeeded in gaining momentarily the important position of Damloup, but were soon driven out by a vigorous counter attack.

The official statement issued by the French War Office this afternoon follows:

"On the left bank of the River Meuse the night passed in relative quiet, with the exception of the bombardment of our positions to the west of Hill 304. On the right bank of the river this morning, at about 8:30 o'clock, after a violent bombardment, the Germans delivered a strong attack upon the Damloup works. They took possession of it, but our counter-attack, delivered shortly after, resulted in driving them completely out, and recapturing the work, which is now in our possession.

To-night's statement says: "On the two banks of the Meuse there has been no infantry action. The artillery activity on the left bank of the river has moderated. On the right bank a violent bombardment took place in the region of Poivre Hill and in the sector of Thiaucourt and Damloup, but there has been no further attack by the enemy at this point."

Belgians Report Artillery Actions. The Belgian official communication issued to-day says: "Violent and destructive artillery actions have been carried on with success on the German positions at Dreeghien and east of Steenstraete. A violent struggle with bombs took place in the southern sector of the Belgian line."

The German statement says: "West of the Meuse attempts of the French to retake captured trench sections of Hill 304 led to minor infantry engagements. East of the Meuse the enemy again exhausted himself in fruitless attacks on the village of Thiaucourt and on Froite Terre ridge. In one of these attacks the enemy temporarily penetrated our foremost trench, about 600 metres southwest of the village, but he was driven out again immediately."

"The hill battery of Damloup, southeast of Vaux Fort, has been in our possession since Sunday night. We took 100 prisoners and several machine guns."

"French detachments advancing against German positions in the wood of Le Pretre, to the northwest of Pont-a-Mousson, were repulsed easily. Numerous aerial engagements were fought yesterday, and six enemy aeroplanes were brought down. Four fell within our lines. Lieutenant Mulzer put out of action his seventh opponent, and Lieutenant Parschau his eighth. An enemy biplane was brought down over Douai, and another on Saturday, east of Perwez, by our anti-aircraft guns. Two French captive balloons were brought to earth in the neighborhood of Verdun by our aviators."

Medal Pupil Dies Suddenly. Miss Jennie A. McLaughlin, of Orange, N. J., who became ill on the day she was to have received a medal as the honor girl of her class in the school of the Church of Our Lady of the Valley, died yesterday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. McLaughlin, of 41 Morris Avenue, Jersey City. She was seventeen years old. Miss McLaughlin was to have been graduated June 24.

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But progress would be much faster. But the best opinion holds that a slower gain will bring the final result earlier.

Reports seem to indicate that the British are depending upon medium calibre rapid-fire guns rather than upon the big and slow-firing cannon. They are using shells of a new inventory, while the smaller guns give the advantage of greater mobility in a country where rapidity of action counts heavily in any success.

"So far, so good," was the comment on the offensive, of the foremost military critics to me. "The next few days will show whether we have reached the last stage of the war. I am of the opinion that we have. It will probably be slow and costly for a time, but the advance will continue steadily."

The breaking point will come suddenly when the point is least expected. In men and guns we are just a little stronger than the enemy. He is stubborn, but where can you find any one more stubborn than the Englishman? I believe we have finally got the edge on the enemy. He won't quit until he sees the inevitable, and then it will be over quickly. I think we will see this fall."

New Mortars Play Part. All reports emphasize the tremendous nature of the British bombardment. The gunners worked so incessantly that shells fell as often as their guns, and when there was a slight recess in the firing they slept easily amid the thunders of the battle.

Great importance is attached to a newly invented mortar which plays havoc in the German trenches. Aircraft are taking an important role in the operations.

The French success at Frise was especially brilliant as it straightened the line south of the elbow of the Somme, thus avoiding exposure to cross fire. The French announcement today of the capture of the village of Herbecourt and the outskirts of Assevillers carries the advance about six miles beyond the point of departure Saturday.

Germans Unable to Move Troop. Troops on the northern end of the Western front are not inactive. Off the Belgian coast British monitors are throwing shells across the sand dunes to keep the Germans in their trenches. The Belgians, who recently took over a stretch of the front, keep up a bombardment with equal vigour.

What with the heavy British guns, and the gas of infantry detachments, the Germans are kept busy from one end of the line to the other, and threatened attacks at every point keep them against sending reinforcements to the Somme region.

The number of prisoners—less than 15,000—which has thus far passed through the Allied clearing stations is small considering the length of the line

German Fire Increased As Charge Grew Fiercer

Wounded French Observer Says Foe Has Plenty of Munitions—Attacking Troops Find Teuton Trenches Twisted Mass of Earth, Bodies and Guns.

By FRED B. PITNEY.

Paris, July 3.—I talked to-day to an artilleryman who was wounded in the first day's fighting on the Somme.

"I was in an observation post during the preliminary bombardment," he said, "and for five days the spectacle was prodigious and the effects were terrifying. It was impossible for the most solid defensive works to resist such an avalanche of steel and fire as we poured on the Germans. Neither works nor men could live."

"But the return fire of the Germans was no child's play, you understand. We will meet the stubborn kind of resistance before this affair is ended. The enemy seems short of men at present, but they are not short of munitions."

"Nevertheless, at the beginning of the bombardment, the Germans fired on an average only one shell to ten from the French or English. Maybe they wanted to conceal gun positions. I don't know. But as we continued the German fire increased in intensity when they saw we meant business. There is no doubt they are going to put up a hard fight."

"An infantry captain in the next cot told me of a steady bombardment: the artillery suddenly ceased at 7:30 Saturday morning, and the infantry, under orders to attack, launched themselves at the German trenches."

"The attack was a chaotic mass of pulverized earth in which were mixed dead bodies and broken and twisted machine guns and trench artillery."

"When we passed their first line they tried to send reinforcements forward to intermediary points, but our artillery had lifted to the German second line and the reinforcements were caught under our fire and slaughtered or compelled to fall back. Every German line between the first and second lines was killed or captured."

"The battle went on furiously Sunday. On our right wing we went up against the German second line in some places and had to take parts of it in order to straighten out our own line. Our big guns tore the German trenches to pieces and we swarmed in them, and by the end of the morning our front ran in a practically a straight line."

"One of the most brilliant pieces of work was the capture of Frise. We were held up there on Saturday chiefly because of the marshy ground between the second and the river, which makes the bog as deep as that point. But Saturday night our troops on the north bank of the Somme took Curia, and on Sunday morning a division assaulted Frise, carrying the trenches in the face of a machine gun fire, and pushed the charge two kilometers further on to Feulleres, where they established themselves

right in the face of the German second line.

"To reach Feulleres they had to seize the wood of Meraucourt, of which the Germans had made a veritable labyrinth of trenches. A division surrounded the wood, and bombing parties went in and cleaned out the trenches, where we took a large part of the prisoners captured in the second day's fighting."

Highlanders Take Town, Despite Hail of Lead. London, July 4.—Several special trains loaded with wounded from the battlefield in France arrived at the three principal London stations last evening. Great crowds assembled and the approaches to the stations and cheered the men, most of whom had been wounded Saturday.

In a few cases the men were still so dazed that they were unable to tell what day it was, but in a majority of the cases their condition was not very serious. It is remarkable how few men were suffering from shell or bullet wounds. Most of them were victims of the bayonet, testifying to the hand-to-hand nature of the fighting.

The soldiers had vivid stories of the battle to relate. A Gordon Highlander declared that the famous regiment had added a glorious new chapter to its history at Mametz.

"The kilts led the charge," he said. "They swept over the ground and carried the first line of battered trenches without a single man falling. In the outskirts of the village, however, the Germans had concealed a number of machine guns, and a hurricane of lead was poured into those in advance."

But the Gordons never hesitated. They leaped into the trenches, clearing line after line at the bayonet point; then pushed into the village, although it was still being shelled by artillery. As soon as they gained a foothold, the elevation of the guns was altered and a curtain of fire poured on the ground behind, where the enemy supports were massing.

"Every yard of the village streets was contested, but reinforcements pushed up, and by nightfall the Highlanders had secured possession."

Find More U. S. Troops Wounded at Carrizal. Mexico City, July 3.—General Trevino reported to-night to the War Department that several wounded American soldiers, who belong to detachments engaged in the fight at Carrizal have been found in Chihuahua.

He said that they were being returned to the American side as soon as encountered.

Allies Rush Heavily Armored Gun Turrets. Paris, July 3.—The desperation of the struggle along the front of the Allied offensive in northern France is shown in the progress made through what the official bulletins describe as the "line." This designation does not refer to a single line, but to the important first position defences from a half mile to a mile deep, comprising an intricate system of trenches called a labyrinth, connected with advanced

17 GUNS, 600 SOLDIERS ARRIVE IN JUAREZ. Detachment from Chihuahua Garrison to Aid Town's Defence.

El Paso, Tex., July 3.—Five cannon and twelve machine guns were received in Juarez this afternoon from Chihuahua to strengthen the defences of the town.

Accompanying the guns were six hundred soldiers of the Chihuahua garrison.

AIRMEN KEPT FOE IN DOUBT ON DRIVE

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hour the hunt was finished. Next day in the adjacent section occupied by the British army, eleven balloons were destroyed, and under what conditions? The first young pilot dashed at the balloon assigned to him and attacked it at sixty yards. But the German observer did not wait for the shock of earth at the same moment as the burning debris of his balloon, while a French aviator was cutting circles in the clouds.

"Another pilot was unsuccessful with his special projectiles, but did not give up on that account. He came back at the German and brought the balloon down with his machine gun. By evening there was not an enemy balloon in the air, and no German pilot dared venture beyond his lines."

PAIR WHO HAD 12 CATS GET 30 DAYS IN JAIL

"Just Eleven Too Many." Says Recorder, Passing Sentence.

Like the old woman who lived in a shoe, Fred Dennis and his wife, Mary, had so many inmates in their house that something had to be done. In their home at Haystone there were cats instead of children, and the County Recorder, instead of the mother, was distracted.

"Twelve cats in a house are eleven too many," said Recorder William J. Carr yesterday, as he sentenced the owners to thirty days each in jail.

The Dennis family was in court on complaint of Health Officer Boylan, who charged them with violation of the sanitary code.

FAIR AND COOLER, PROMISE FOR 4TH

July 3, a Degree Hotter than the Average, Fells Eight in City.

Yesterday's average temperature, 73 degrees, was the same as that of one year ago. This was one degree higher than the average for the last thirty-three years. In the afternoon the mercury registered 81 and prostration calls kept ambulances busy. To-day there are moderate northerly winds promised and clear weather for the holiday celebrations.

Yesterday's prostrations from the heat numbered seven.

Patrolman Edward Brosnan, of the Oak Street station, collapsed in the station house as he was going to reserve. William Sterb, of 109 Bowers, fell in front of 58 Avenue B. Another Bowers prostration later was Herman Israel. Larry McCarthy, of 413 East Eighty-first Street, was overcome while at work at 350 East 133d Street. Miss Ida De Angelo, of 50 Carmine Street, was overcome at 59 East Eleventh Street. Miss Beatrice Carney and Miss Mary Daly, both of 560 West 134d Street, were taken from 116th Street and Third Avenue to Harlem Hospital suffering from the heat.

Abraham Greenberg, fifteen, of 7 De Bevoise Street, Brooklyn, was stricken. Thunderstorms took the place of relief for many of the schoolboys at Fort Hamilton yesterday morning. Two tents were torn down by the wind and twenty boys were soaked before they could reach the mess hall to complete their night's rest.

The day's work proved too strenuous for four, two of whom went to the physicians and the others to bed. In the afternoon the camp was visited by a commission appointed by Governor Whitman. With the visitors was James E. West, chief scout executive of the Boy Scouts of America.

RHODES SCHOLAR HERE FROM VERDUN FRONT

Ambulance Driver Says Shell Holes Imperil Rescue Work.

F. H. Gailor, Rhodes scholar from this city, who left Oxford University six months ago to drive an ambulance at the front, returned for a vacation yesterday on the Cunard liner Orinda. For the last two months he has seen strenuous service near Verdun.

"The ambulances have to keep going day and night," he said. "Even in pitch darkness we have to drive along the roads scoured with shell holes that wreck the strongest machines."

"One ambulance was blown to pieces and its driver and carrier killed in the district where we were working. The ambulances used near Verdun carry five men swung in slings and eight more sitting up."

Gailor expects to return in the fall. Lord Brabourne, a former lieutenant in the Grenadier Guards, came on a government mission. His wife is the daughter of H. Van Fleesch Imperial, a member of the Austrian Imperial Council, at Vienna.

Among the other passengers were Dr. Herbert H. White and Dr. George Bennet, of the Royal British Medical Corps, who have been attached to the base hospitals near Boulogne.

THE KING OF TABLE WATERS