

WEATHER FORECAST.
Fair and continued warm to-day and probably to-morrow; moderate winds. Highest temperature yesterday, 93; lowest, 78. Detailed weather reports on last page.

ENEMY STILL RESISTS ALLES, BUT RETREAT CONTINUES; ARTILLERY REACHES THE VESLE AND HAMMERS REAR GUARD; FRENCH GAIN MORE ON THE AVRE; ALBERT SECTOR STIFFENS

U. S. PLAN READY FOR NEW DRAFT OF 13,000,000

Registration Date for 18 to 45 Men Probably Between September 5 and 15.

BAKER'S ERROR BARED

First Call Will Be Made on Classes of 20-21 and 32-40 Years of Age.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—Plans for the drawing of the names of the almost 13,000,000 new registrants which are the result of the proposed amendment to the existing law would necessitate already are complete. The Provost Marshal General's office will adhere to the plan of the original draft. At that time the districting of the United States for the draft created a vast number of districts of average population, but one district stood out supreme beyond all others with 10,000 prospective registrants. It is anticipated that in arranging for this even larger draft the largest district will have approximately 12,500 registrants, but no change in the modus operandi will be necessary. Col. Charles B. Warren, who devised the scheme used last year, is satisfied that the entire drawing can be completed in a single day.

Plan to Rush Draft.

When the new draft bill receives its final approval not more than nine or ten days of necessity must elapse before the actual registration is held. There has been no arbitrary date fixed and the assumption by the press throughout the country to-day that September 5 had been definitely decided upon has embarrassed the Provost Marshal General's office not a little. It is hoped to fix the registration day between September 5 and 15. Also it will be necessary in fixing a date for registration throughout the Union to avoid any day upon which State or primary elections are held in any State of the Union. For example Maine election on September 10 is an impossible date and likewise there are primary elections in various parts of the United States early in September. All of these must be avoided for the reason that the election machinery of the various States and municipalities is the mechanism upon which the War Department depends.

The provision in the proposed amendment that "the President may draft such persons liable to military service in such sequence as he may deem proper" was pointed out at the office of the Provost Marshal General to-day, gives the President complete power to exercise his own judgment as to the ages of the men actually to be called to the colors. Nevertheless it is the anticipation of the War Department that following upon the registration and the new draft the President will call first the men between the ages of 32 and 40, together with those between 20 and 21. Should this draft increment become exhausted in the course of the war the extension to the junior and extreme senior classifications, namely, those between 14 and 20 and those between 40 and 45, would follow.

Queer Phase of New Law.

Particularly with regard to the 18 and 19 year old registrants will there be an interesting development in the working out of the new law. Day by day the men in these classes approach and move into the higher classifications, so that the containing mistake of men reaching their eighteenth birthday provides a vast and growing group of men in the junior classifications. Great interest attaches as to the intentions of the President with regard to the men of the three junior years, but from neither the White House nor the War Department has there yet been a single word released with regard to what are the Administration's intentions.

Baker Must Explain.

The first meeting of the Senate Military Committee to-day to consider the new plan was marked by the recent manifestation of the way Secretary Baker had handled the matter. It was decided to ask the Secretary of War to explain to the committee his abrupt change of front on the question of man power legislation, this determination being reached before the committee had heard the testimony of Provost Marshal General Crowder. The committee members wanted to have Secretary Baker appear before them at once, but found that he was out of Washington on a speaking tour.

Then they decided to send for Gen. March, Chief of the General Staff, with a view to eliciting from him a similar explanation, although no matter what Gen. March may have to relate they still want to cross-examine Mr. Baker. They asserted the War Secretary developed them less than two months ago with regard to the needs of the army in man power increments only to send them yesterday the War Department's demand for action so speedy as to be almost open to the characterization of precipitate.

There is no question on the necessity

20,000 Cholera Cases in Petrograd; 1,100 Dead

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 6.—There are more than 20,000 cases of cholera in Petrograd, according to the *Fremdenblatt* of Hamburg, which reports that up to last Saturday 1,100 deaths had occurred. The authorities, it declares, are helpless, and the disease is spreading unchecked.

19 MEN GASSED IN BLAZING SHIP

Benzol Explosions on Huttonwood Scorch Workers and Injure Firemen.

1 DEAD; LOSS \$1,000,000

Tugboats Drag Giant Torch From Pier—Cause Found to Have Been Accidental.

The big British Government freight transport Huttonwood rode like a giant torch in the upper bay, off Thirty-first street, Brooklyn, last night, her hold afire from a series of explosions that ignited the contents of 2,000 fifty pound drums of benzol, of which the Huttonwood was making ready to carry to the Allies overseas.

One man was killed, twelve badly burned, five firemen were carried off to hospitals and a dozen other firemen were overcome by the fumes of the burning benzol before a fleet of puffing fireboats succeeded in dragging the big ship out from her pier to the free waters of the bay.

There the flames leaped high through the open second hatchway on the Huttonwood's main deck, providing spectacular display for thousands of persons clustered along the Brooklyn, Staten Island, New Jersey and lower Manhattan waterfronts.

Explosion Shakes Vessel.

About 100 Italian laborers were at work aboard the Huttonwood at half past 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when the ropes attached to a drum of benzol slipped. The drum fell into the hold and exploded with a roar that shook the ship and rolled her half over on her side, so that she crashed against the pier.

Instantly the benzol caught fire, the liquid flowing in a stream of flame about the feet of the twelve laborers who stood in the hold at the foot of the hatch. Before they were able to move the clothing of the twelve men was afire, and the blazing liquid oozed past them and set off other drums of benzol stowed in the hold.

All of the laborers except those who worked in the hold beneath No. 2 hatch were on deck and the swift explosions and the rocking of the ship so frightened them that they either jumped or ran panic stricken to the pier. Quickly a fire alarm was turned in, but for the time being apparently the twelve laborers in the hold were forgotten. They were still down there calling faintly for help through the fumes that belowed upward through the open hatch when about the engine 228 and Truck 119 clambered aboard.

Rescuers Severely Burned.

A rigging of rope was obtained and one by one the firemen were lowered down through the flame filled hatchway. Their rubber boots and coats for a time proved a barrier to the liquid fire into which they dropped, and quickly they were rescued in addition to burns of the face and body. A. S. Stillwell, Engine 228, burns on the face, head and body, removed to Brooklyn Hospital; Charles Kelly, Truck 119, to Brooklyn Hospital; John McBride, Truck 119, who was taken out of the hold unconscious and sent to Long Island College Hospital, and Charles Lynch, Truck 119, burned on the face, hands and body, and removed to Brooklyn Hospital.

In addition to the burns they received it was said at the Norwegian Hospital that all of the injured laborers had inhaled so much of the gas thrown off by the burning benzol that they had been taken to the hospital in a very bad condition. Vincent Demario, of 291 Union street, Brooklyn, died in the hospital two hours after arriving there.

The firemen were being hurried away from the pier the flames shooting through the open hatch blew close to 70 additional drums of the benzol stored on the pier. Fearing another explosion the fireboats towed the steamship out into the bay.

The firemen said the benzol would be completely consumed and estimated the damage not less than \$1,000,000.

LENINE PLANS WAR ON JAPAN, LONDON HEARS

Washington Believes Bolshevik Leader Is Preparing to Espouse Germans.

HIS REGIME TOTTERING

Diplomats Left Because He Cut Off Their Wire Communications.

965 CASUALTIES IN NINE LISTS

Names Piling Up So Fast New Method of Distribution Is Being Planned.

STILL POUR OFF CABLE

Small Number of Prisoners Indicate Fighting Grit of Americans.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—There are indications among official circles that Nikolai Lenine, the Bolshevik leader, is seeking now to throw in his lot with the Germans and save himself from the influence of the allied and American Governments and the Russian people alike by openly appealing for German support.

Admittedly this may mean an effort on the part of Lenine and his Bolshevik followers to place Russia on the side of the Central Powers in the war. But this possibility, it is said, has been discounted by the United States and allied Governments, which are now ready to follow out their prearranged plans regardless of any threats Lenine or his followers may make.

Envoy's Departure Explained.

The following developments reported to the State Department indicate the increasing spirit of open hostility of Lenine and his followers to the United States and the Entente:

The Bolsheviks deliberately ordered all telegraphic communication cut off from the American and Entente embassies before the Ambassadors left Volodga, which explains why they left.

The Bolsheviks virtually ordered these Ambassadors out of Russia when Mr. Francis and his conferees arrived at Archangel.

Lenine, threatened with assassination by Russians in Moscow, has appealed to the German Ambassador for protection. When he called on the American and Entente Ambassadors with German troops protecting him from the Russians.

The report that German troops in Moscow were protecting Lenine reached the State Department in unofficial advice from Sweden. Diplomats here do not believe the fact that Lenine is now showing himself a tool of the Kaiser. Whether or not he was a secret agent of Germany before has never been positively established, but his action now seems based on the idea of attempting to save his own power through German help.

Lenine Regime Nearing End.

It is regarded here as practically certain that Lenine would go to any extremes, even to the extreme of advocating a Russian-German alliance against the United States and the Entente, to save his own power and insure himself protection from the steadily growing wrath and indignation of the Russians.

But it is not believed that Lenine can exercise any real power toward making his plans for German assistance against the United States and the Entente effective. All the latest advices received here show that the so-called Lenine regime is tottering. With people starving and anarchy and distress rampant as a result of his efforts at leadership it will, according to diplomatic observers, take more than the German bayonets now available to save him. Admittedly the United States and the Allies have now made it clear that he can never expect recognition.

Meanwhile the American-Japanese plans, which affect also Entente military forces, are progressing smoothly. British troops already have landed at Vladivostok, it is said, and French troops are either there or on their way.

BELGIUM'S TOLL ENORMOUS.

German Exactions \$482,500,000, Says Lord Robert Cecil.

LONDON, Aug. 6.—Speaking in the House of Commons to-day Lord Robert Cecil, Assistant Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, stated that the Germans had levied war contributions to a total of \$482,500,000 on the Belgians, besides enormous fines upon localities, firms and individuals.

"These monstrous exactions," he said, must certainly be taken into account when peace terms were being arranged.

DEAD GERMAN SAILORS SEEN

Large Number With Lifebelts on Along Danish Coast.

LONDON, Aug. 6.—Fishermen arriving at harbors on the west coast of Denmark report having seen a large number of dead bodies of German seamen along this coast, says an Exchange Telegraph despatch from Copenhagen to-day. All the bodies had lifebelts on.

Poincare Pins Grand Cross on Pershing

PARIS, Aug. 6.—President Poincare visited American headquarters this afternoon and presented to Gen. John J. Pershing, commander in chief of the American Expeditionary Forces, the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor.

The ceremony took place in the presence of Gen. Pershing's staff and detachments of French and American troops.

During the presentation President Poincare expressed his compliments to Gen. Pershing for what he termed the grand success of the Americans in the recent fighting.

MANGIN TELLS HOW FOCH TRAP WON VICTORY

Details of Battle Which Turned Peace Offensive Into Great Retreat.

GERMANS TOO ARROGANT

Gouraud's Firm Stand in the Champagne Made Triumph of Allies Possible.

By GERALD CAMPBELL.

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With THE FRENCH ARMY, AUG. 6.—The battle which began with attacks by Gens. Mangin and De Goutte against the German right flank may now be regarded as ended. With the capture of Flammes and the advance of the French and Americans to various points along the north side of the Vesle it becomes more than ever probable that the enemy, though he may put up a stiff fight at first, will eventually retire behind the Aisne.

But in any event the pocket which stretched below the Marne has been obliterated and the victory of the Allies so complete it is well worth while to review the operations from the beginning. Here, then, is the story of the battle which began July 18, as told to-day by Gen. Mangin:

To begin with it was only part of the battle which Ludendorff started while he still had the initiative. On July 15 the Crown Prince's army was hurled forward on a sixty mile front in what was believed by the whole of Germany as well as by the German armies would be the final peace offensive.

Gouraud's Stand Key to Success.

It was the stand of Gen. Gouraud's army in the Champagne which made the attack by Gen. Mangin and Gen. De Goutte possible. If the first named General had fallen back not only would Chalons and Epervy almost certainly have fallen into the enemy's hands but the French and British would have been enveloped so far to the south that their evacuation would have followed of necessity.

But Gen. Gouraud held fast, and that was the beginning of the enemy's downfall. But even before that the Germans, under their arrogant belief in their own strength and their contempt for the French, had themselves taken a fatal step which led to their undoing.

It is fairly certain that the objective in the German advance of May 27 was the Aisne in order to leave the left bank of that river for a waterway defence which would have been invulnerable. Their offensive, however, proved so far more successful than they had hoped, in consequence of the French being taken by surprise, that they determined off-hand to exploit their original advance and to push on toward the Marne.

It is known that some of their own military authorities pointed out the danger of a flank attack, but the German high command was so convinced of the feebleness of the French armies that they ignored the risk and pushed on. From that instant dated the opportunity for which Gen. Foch had been waiting.

Suspensions Disregarded.

Little by little this series of small advances raised the suspicion in the minds of some of the German commanders that the French intended to make a grand flank attack, but these suspicions were disregarded by the German high command, which proceeded with plans for the Marne drive.

On July 18, three days after the enemy had crossed the Marne, Mangin and

Continued on Second Page.

Foch Made Marshal for Great Victory; Petain Receives Coveted Military Medal

PARIS, Aug. 6.—The Council of Ministers has elevated Gen. Ferdinand Foch, commander in chief of the allied forces on the western front, to a Marshal of France.

The Ministers also have conferred the Military Medal on Gen. Petain, commander in chief of the French armies on the western front. President Poincare presided at the meeting of the council. In presenting the name of Gen. Foch Premier Clemenceau said:

"At the hour when the enemy, by a formidable offensive on a front of 100 kilometers, counted on snatching the decision and imposing a German peace upon us Gen. Foch and his admirable troops vanquished him.

"Paris is not in danger, Soissons and Chateau Thierry have been reconquered and more than two hundred villages have been delivered. Thirty-five thousand prisoners and seven hundred cannon have been crushed, and the enemy's high hopes before the attack have been crushed. The glorious allied armies have thrown him from the banks of the Marne to the Aisne.

"Such are the results of the high command's strategy, superbly executed by incomparable commanders. The confidence placed by the republic and by all the Allies in the conqueror of St. Gond, the Yser and the Somme has been fully justified."

The awarding of the "Medaille Militaire" to Gen. Petain is a distinction rarely given to officers, the decoration generally being reserved for enlisted men. Marshal Joffre is one of the few officers who have received this honor.

YANKEES HOLD FAST IN FISMES

Americans Resist Desperate Efforts to Dislodge Them There.

FOOD SENT IN BY NIGHT

Their Wounded Sent Out Under Heavy Barrage—Town Filled With Gas.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE VESLE, AUG. 6.—With their backs to the Aisne the Germans continued preparations to-day for what may be either a further withdrawal or for a definite stand. Minor actions along the American portion of the front and in the adjoining French sectors marked the day.

The little force of Americans who were sent into Fismes still maintain their foothold, although they are not yet across the river, which flows through the extreme northern portion of the town.

Under a heavy barrage all their wounded have been taken out, and during the night food was taken to them.

Efforts to Dislodge Fail.

The Germans have been unremitting in their efforts to dislodge the Americans from the town with shells and deluging it with gas.

Numerous efforts have been made to retake the position, but in every instance the accuracy of the American fire, both of the supporting artillery and the small arms of the infantry within it, drove back the enemy.

To the east and west of Flammes the Americans have continued their reconnaissance work, patrols crossing the river at different places. The detachments, however, never exceeded more than twenty men.

Near ——— (deleted) a few men have remained, and another force is on the hill over the river near Flammes.

Reports received from the French sectors indicate virtually the same situation from Soissons to Rheims.

Whole Battalion Wiped Out.

American machine gunners, protecting a location on the Vesle, west of Flammes, wiped out an entire battalion of German infantrymen and machine gunners to-day. The Germans at the time were getting into position to attack a group of American bridge builders, who were approaching the location.

Some bridge material already had been moved near the south bank of the Vesle, and the Germans, apparently discovering this fact, had sent a battalion to a hill position to prevent the Americans from carrying out their plan. A detachment of crack American machine gunners, however, previously had taken an elevated position commanding the location and opened fire when the Germans appeared.

Observers reported that they did not see a single German get away from the head of the river, and according to the best accounts not even enemy stretcher bearers approached the scene. The Germans replied so feebly with their fire, because of the surprise, that there were no American casualties.

Atmen Again Active.

Clearer weather resulted in more aerial activity for a few hours, but the clouds reappeared and the rain again began to fall and the aircraft were forced to suspend operations.

The Germans immediately seized the opportunity of the few hours of good weather to send over planes for photographic purposes and incidentally to shoot up the allied transport. These planes in every case were quickly forced back by anti-aircraft guns. Franco-American planes also did some observation work north of the Vesle.

The engineers have mobilized equipment for their part of the advance, and reports from the front indicate that all elements of the allied forces will be immediately available.

From the German side observers have reported wagon trains in large numbers

Continued on Second Page.

GERMANS DIG IN NORTH OF VESLE

Americans Cross River in Face of Heavy Fire and Make Stand.

SNIPERS LEFT IN FISMES

Sharpshooters Routed Out of Houses After Enemy Had Been Driven Back.

By HERBERT BAILEY.

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WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, AUG. 6 (deleted).—The Germans have fortified a number of positions north of the Vesle, close to Flammes. At this point two of their divisions are in line, one of which is believed to be one of Rupprecht's strong reserve divisions.

Early this morning parties of American snipers were sent under machine gun fire from the slopes on the opposite side and artillery fire from the back area. They pushed on, however, and soon established themselves on the north bank of the river.

During the battle in the streets of Flammes yesterday the Germans fought desperately for a time, but finally broke and ran. As they fled down the slopes toward the river our machine gunners punished them heavily. German snipers remained in Flammes twenty-four hours after the Americans entered the town from the States finally cleaned them out.

As we approach the enemy's line of defence an increasing resistance is to be expected. It may be that he is again in need of time to remove supplies. The wet weather has handicapped the Allies, and the enemy has been troubled, too, although the light railways constructed by the Germans facilitated their retreat.

DEMAND FOR PEACE GROWS IN GERMANY

Many Petitions Being Signed in the Rhine District.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun from the London Times.

THE HAGUE, Aug. 6.—Peace is almost the sole topic of discussion in Cologne, especially in Catholic circles. The population of Cologne has recently grown very pessimistic and the reports of the big German retreat from the Marne have had a most depressing effect.

Large bets, amounting to many thousands of marks, have been made that the war will end in January. Many secret meetings are being held in Cologne and other cities, while purposely organized disturbances in the Rhine towns keep the police constantly busy.

Peace petitions are being extensively circulated and signed by men, women and children belonging to all political parties, with a view to presenting them to the Reichstag.

It is said the Reichstag peace advocates now find themselves in a much stronger position owing to recent developments. There is a growing disposition to regard Von Kuehlmann's position as correct.

123 SHIPS LAUNCHED IN JULY.

American Yards Establish New World's Record.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—American shipyards are building ships faster than the German submarines can sink them. July launches totalled 123 vessels of 631,944 deadweight tons, a new world's record for shipbuilding. July production was more than twice that for June and considerably greater than the production of American yards for the entire first quarter of the present calendar year.

Of the total July launches sixty-seven were steel vessels of 432,244 tons. Fifty-three were wood of 187,700 tons and three were composite of 1,000 tons displacement.

Completed vessels turned over to the Shipping Board in July totalled forty-one with an aggregate tonnage of 205,025; thirty-six were steel vessels of 217,025 tons and five wood of 18,000 tons.

Retreat in North a Mystery.

Allied commanders are much concerned over the retrograde movement of German troops on the front from Montdidier to Ypres. Many Americans are believed to have been in action, but British operating in this section. The French are now on the west side of the Avre River, between Braches and Morcel, and have consolidated their new positions.

If the French are able to progress much further in this region they will seriously menace the junction point of the armies under Crown Prince Rupprecht and those of the German Crown Prince. That the Germans are alive to this danger is evidenced by the fact that they are keeping up the heaviest possible artillery fire against the French to prevent further inroads if possible.

On the whole front from Ypres to east of Rheims the Allies are maintaining the initiative, keeping the Germans "on the jump" everywhere. This seems to indicate that Gen. Foch has no present idea of relinquishing the offensive he assumed against the Crown Prince's flank after the latter had bitten off more than he could chew in the Marne salient.

GERMANS TURN BELOW ALBERT.

The Germans, however, are resisting along the line, and at some points they have made strong local counter attacks. The British had to give up certain positions of their advanced positions along the Bray-Corbis road to-day under the pressure exerted by the enemy in one of these local attacks. The British did not yield, however, until they had taken a considerable number of prisoners.

FRENCH (NIGHT)—Aside from

artillery activity east of Soissons and on the Vesle River there is nothing to report from the whole of the front.

FRENCH (DAY)—North of Mont-

didier our troops have made progress toward the Avre, which they have reached between Braches and Morcel. A German surprise attack southeast of Montdidier was checked completely. Prisoners remained in our hands.

On the Vesle front the French maintained their positions at many points north of the river despite repeated attempts by the Germans to drive them out. There is nothing of importance

GERMANS USE LIQUID FIRE AND GAS ON AMERICANS WEST OF FISMES.

COUNTER BLOWS FAIL

Airmen Report Great Masses of Enemy Hurrying to Get Across the Aisne.

FRENCH GAIN IN PICARDY

British Attacked Below Albert in Lines They Had Taken From the Teutons.

LONDON, Aug. 6.—Although the fighting along the Vesle River has become stabilized, with no important developments on either side, there are indications that this situation is only temporary and that important events are impending.

The heavy rains of the last few days made quagmires of the lowlands adjacent to the river, and as a result the allied commanders have been unable to bring up guns, ammunition and supplies. In the allied capitals it is felt that this circumstance has had more to do with halting the French, British and American advance than enemy resistance. The belief still prevails that the German Crown Prince will not elect to make a real stand until he is safely behind the Aisne.

American and French soldiers who pushed across the Vesle are being subjected to heavy fire from machine guns and artillery. In spite of this, and in the face of hostile counter attacks the allied patrols remain in contact with the enemy on the north bank of the river.

Artillery Reaches River.

Some units of American artillery have made their way through the mud covered roads and they are busily shelling the Germans across the river. Hand fighting continues at many points along the river, with both sides using large quantities of gas shells. Some German flame throwers were also used, but their efforts have gone for naught. At one time an abrupt change of wind carried the German gas back of the enemy lines.

Allied airmen report that large masses of German troops continue to move northward toward the Aisne. In action, but which strengthens the belief of allied commanders that the next big scale fighting will take place in the vicinity of the lines as they existed before the last German offensive was started. Given a plentiful supply of light artillery and machine guns, and even heavy artillery, the Allies will be able to outflank the German positions north of the Vesle.

At a session of the Ministerial Council, at which Gen. Foch was made a Marshal of France, Premier Clemenceau announced that 55,000 German prisoners had been taken in the Soissons-Rheims salient. He also announced that 700 cannon had been taken, 200 towns and villages reconquered, the danger to Paris removed and the enemy's spirit reduced to a low level by the formidable thrust of Gen. Foch's men.

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