

to-day that total British casualties between August 21 and 26 were 23,000. In this same period the British took nearly 20,000 German prisoners.

MANGIN REPULSES PRUSSIAN GUARD Kaiser's Best Troops Lose 400 Prisoners Near Ailette.

By the Associated Press. WITH THE FRENCH ARMY ON THE OISE FRONT, Aug. 26 (Noon).—Violent counter attacks launched by the Germans this morning between the River Ailette, at Mont Saint-Mard, and Juvigny, north of Soissons, were completely repulsed by the French.

The French troops are stoutly holding the positions they have won in this sector, and further gains on the plateau to the eastward in the direction of the Chemin-des-Dames put the enemy in another dangerous pocket.

The French at Juvigny are within four miles of the railroad running toward Laon, and also are within seven miles of the highroad going in the same direction. This highroad joins the Chemin-des-Dames eight miles away near Malmont, the western terminus of the celebrated Chemin-des-Dames position.

GERMANS DESPAIR OF WINNING WAR Captured Letters Reveal Hopelessness of Soldiers.

By the Associated Press. WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE VOSGES, Aug. 25 (delayed).—German soldiers believe that Germany is not planning any more offensive because of the man power shortage, according to one of a party of seven of a German patrol captured by the Americans early Sunday east of Fismes.

The prisoner had been fighting three years and said he was thoroughly tired of it. He said he was a former bank employee and the owner of a Berlin restaurant, said the soldiers no longer had any enthusiasm for war.

Plenty of Germans, he added, would desert and surrender if given the opportunity. Many of them are constantly waiting for a chance to desert themselves to the Americans.

Another letter said: "This cannot last much longer." While still another German wrote: "Our losses greatly exceed all the draft Germany is sure to lose very soon."

It is the fact that many letters taken from prisoners, whether written by them to be posted home or received by them from civilians in the interior of Germany, are in the same vein.

BRITISH RECOVERY STAGGERS ENEMY Germans Did Not Believe Haig Could Strike Back.

Special Despatch to The Sun. WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—According to military experts here the continued hammering which Sir Douglas Haig's forces are giving the Germans will have in some respects a demoralizing effect on the Germans.

The French are making an economic war Germany would be ruined. Many of these letters were written before the British began their drive.

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The German experts all but admitted this, but they said that such a situation could not arise because of the submarines and because of the decisive victory which Hindenburg was to achieve before America's strength could be adequately developed.

The whole trend of German activities is toward a final offensive.

OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE BATTLES.

LONDON, Aug. 26.—The official statements of to-day on the fighting in France and Flanders follow:

BRITISH (NIGHT).—Canadian, Scottish and London troops attacked at 3 o'clock this morning on both sides of the Scarpe River from Croisilles to the neighborhood of Gavrelle.

Despite heavy storms of rain, the Canadians pressed on and at an early hour reached Wancourt and Monchy-le-Preux. During the morning the rain ceased and these troops completed the capture of both villages and made progress beyond them.

Meanwhile, north of the Scarpe, Scottish troops, advancing again over the ground where they fought in 1917, carried the German first defensive system south of Gavrelle, reaching the outskirts of Rouex. The chemical works north of Rouex again are in our possession.

On the Canadians' right Scottish and London troops, who during the preceding days have fought their way toward Croisilles and Beninel continued their attacks.

Although they met with vigorous resistance from parties of German infantry and machine gunners, they have made substantial progress and have completed the capture of the high ground between Croisilles and Heninel. In this new sector of attack many prisoners have been taken by us during the day.

On the southern portion of the battle front our advance has continued on both sides of the Somme. Australian troops have taken Cappy and have made progress east of the village. North of the Somme they have entered Suzanne.

Further north English troops rushed forward in the direction of Montauban, and Welsh troops captured Bazentin-le-Grand. On the remainder of the battle front fighting occurred at a number of points. Our pressure everywhere was maintained and our line advanced in certain sectors.

BRITISH (DAY).—Our troops attacked in the Scarpe sector at 3 o'clock this morning and are reported to have made good progress. On the southern portion of the battle front we have advanced our line slightly astride the Somme, and by a successful operation carried out yesterday afternoon have made progress in the direction of Maricourt.

The enemy launched strong counter-attacks yesterday evening south and north of Bapaume, in the neighborhood of Eaucourt l'Abbaye and Favreuil. In both localities the attacks were repulsed. North of Favreuil our troops met the enemy with the bayonet, inflicting heavy casualties upon him and taking prisoners.

Another counter attack attempted by the enemy later in the evening in this latter neighborhood also was unsuccessful. Favreuil is in our hands and we have made progress beyond the village. North of this point we have improved our position southeast of Mory and west of Croisilles.

Heavy rain is falling on the battle front. FRENCH (NIGHT).—On both sides of the Avre we carried out two local operations which enabled us to occupy Fresnoy-le-Roy and St. Maral, despite spirited resistance offered by the enemy. Prisoners counted up to the present exceed 600.

In the Vosges we repulsed several attempts at surprise attacks. FRENCH (DAY).—Very vigorous artillery actions occurred during the night in the region of Roye and Beauvraignes (three miles south of Roye). The artillery fire also was heavy between the Ailette, Oise and Aisne rivers.

Two German surprise attacks in the Vosges sector were without result, and we took prisoners. GERMAN (DAY).—There have been forefield engagements near Baillieu and north of the Scarpe. West of Croisilles enemy attacks were held down by our fire.

RETREAT SHAKES MORALE OF ENEMY

Marshal Foch's Tactics Baffle Plans Made for Orderly Retirement.

ALLIES CONSERVE MEN Germans May Not Be Able to Organize in Previously Fortified Position.

By H. SIDEBOTHAM. One of the Foremost Military Critics in Europe. Special Cable Despatch to The Sun from the London Times Service. Copyright, 1918, all rights reserved.

LONDON, Aug. 26.—We are in the outskirts of Bapaume. In addition we have made progress between the Ancre and the Somme. Still more important we have turned the commanding position at Thiépale and have reached the old Somme battlefield at Contal Maillon.

There is no particular importance to the capture of Bapaume itself, but the capture of the German positions along the Ancre has the effect of turning from the north side all the old Somme battlefields. As hoped, we are winning the third battle of the Somme without fighting over old ground.

The keystone to the battlefield is north of the Ancre. North of that river we made most of our progress two years ago. We began the battle of the Somme with a big check on our north wing that year, but this year we began with a brilliant victory, and as the northern wing of the defence is much more vital than that of the attack, our progress, our advance through the high wood is little less than miraculous.

Allies' Policy Justified. The last time anything like demoralization appeared in the German ranks was early in 1917 and now there are signs of it again. There has been very hard fighting along the Ancre, although for the most part our advance has been easy and our losses light. Allied tactics are thus justified. It is known the enemy wished to retreat and our policy was to exercise a Hittite economy among our troops while encouraging the enemy to use up as many troops as possible.

These tactics have been highly successful. Marshal Foch faced the problem of organizing a general advance without any casualties, which might injure our offensive strength. He solved this by organizing an attack on a narrow front in combination with attack on a wide front. By successive attacks on each narrow front he produced the effect of a big attack on the front, so quickly have the attacks followed each other and so baffling has been the uncertainty as to which area of the battlefield our main strength was to be engaged.

Marshal Foch's success has been amazing. The magnitude of our present success can now be appreciated. It is true the enemy has made a kind of retreat, but his notion of retreating was nothing like what is taking place. The line to which he is retreating follows roughly the line of the Hindenburg line, and we may assume he is fortifying this region, which he hoped we would reach just when winter would put a stop to our advance. He has organized a new tactical training, which is necessary, and if we can keep up the pressure it may be that the enemy will not have time to organize his new tactical training for an army that has committed itself to an offensive to alter its tactics to those of defence.

Reason for Defeat. One very important cause of our own defeat in the spring was that we had been so long on the offensive that we had forgotten how to defend ourselves. An army that has been on the offensive constantly changing its front does not rapidly learn itself to defensive tactics, and the German army is going to suffer from the same cause if it makes a retreat. The motive of a retreat, it must be remembered, is to provide fresh troops for service elsewhere, but when a retreat is as expensive in men as this one is, it is not only dangerous to future offensive plans but embarrasses the defence as well. These features make the present retreat of the enemy when the enemy has retreated he has retained the initiative in his hands. This is not true now. The offensive has definitely passed to Foch's hands and the enemy, if he is being followed so rapidly it is doubtful whether he will be able to rely on the Hindenburg line as he did last year.

PLANS AIR TRIPS SPAIN TO U. S. King Alfonso is Interested in Proposed Passenger Service. MADRID, Aug. 26.—Capt. Herrera, chief of the Spanish military air force, has had an interview with King Alfonso about an aerial postal and passenger service between Spain and the United States. The scheme also has been discussed at Cabinet meetings and it is said that a leading shipping company is willing to finance it. It is expected the trip would take two and a half days.

The plan, if carried out, is to manufacture large airships capable of carrying forty passengers besides the mails. Passenger fare would be 2,000 pesetas (\$336) and the fare for baggage (ninety-five cents) per hundred grams.

POLISH LOYALTY WIRED TO WILSON Message to Mother Nation Warns of Prussian Perfidy. DETROIT, Aug. 26.—In a telegram to President Wilson to-day the Polish National Congress, in session here, expressed its "most profound and complete respect and allegiance" to the American nation.

U-BOAT SINKS 7 FISH CRAFT. Three Were of Dutch Registry—All Crews Land. YUENSHAN, Holland, Aug. 26.—Seven fishing boats have just been sunk by the same submarine. Three were of Dutch registry. The crews have been landed here.

1,000 at Steel Plant Strike. BRATTLE, Aug. 26.—Following the breaking off of negotiations last night between representatives of the Pacific Coast Steel Company and employees of the company engaged on contracts for the Emergency Fleet Corporation a strike was declared at 7 o'clock to-day. They demand pay and working conditions similar to those in effect in the shipyards.

Bank Balances Guaranteed Against Loss By Reason of Your Bank Checks Being Raised

Every banker, merchant and manufacturer should procure one of our NEW check alteration bonds indemnifying against loss through bank checks and drafts being "raised."

We Sign All Kinds of Bonds! National Surety Company 115 BROADWAY "The World's Largest Surety Company"

GERMAN OFFICERS SHOT BY THEIR MEN

Continued from First Page. to point it was not always possible to keep the men in the front lines supplied with ammunition, which naturally was quickly exhausted. When the enemy saw from a slackening of effort that the French were running short they promptly counter attacked if they were in a position to do so.

At another point after a small squad of Germans had surrendered the corporal in command told the French officer who was making a reconnaissance that he would show them where they could capture another bunch of Germans. They followed a short distance when the German stopped and shouted "There's a machine gun in front of you. It's now your turn to yell kamerad!"

Officers Shot by Their Men. Some of the French officers reported seeing a German officer draw his revolver and make a dash for it. At another place they say they saw some German soldiers shoot their officers, apparently without interference from the other officers.

We were the first to reach the town after its capture, and we found it exactly as the fighting men had left it. The machine guns were left behind by the enemy had been collected. Its condition was very different from what it was when I was there last, in fact, it was almost unrecognizable.

As you climb to the hill beyond you can look down on the network of trenches which zigzag across the country in all directions, being overrun with briars in many places. Every few yards is the mark where the French are not battered to pieces they are covered with German helmets, many of them pierced by bullet holes.

Behind the mass, besides the inevitable shattered village and woods and shell ploughed fields which extend far back to the open, the chalky plateau from where Gen. Humbert began his advance there were everywhere great dumps of spoils which had been left behind by the enemy and which the French had not had time to pick up, although they had managed to collect considerable quantities of machine guns and shells which in consequence of the victory had fallen again into their own hands.

Still further back the fields are dotted with the debris of trains which had been harvested well within range of the enemy's guns. The tide of war has now swept far away to the east, and by the capture of Laury and Fismes the long stride has been taken toward a final victory. Hope is written on the face of every French soldier one meets; hope that before long the German will be won back for themselves and their children.

BELLANS INDIGESTION HOT WATER SURE RELIEF

AIR DEPT WINNING CONGRESS SUPPORT

Digest of Evidence Gathered by Investigators Sways Legislators. Special Despatch to The Sun. WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—The rapid development of Congressional opinion regarding the establishment of a Department of the Air along the lines proposed in the recent report of the subcommittee of the Senate Military Committee is apparent at the Capitol since a review of the evidence made public after the filing of the report has sunk into the minds of the legislators.

Members of the Senate are declaring privately that the time has passed when they can accept without criticism or the right of review the appointment to offices of vital importance in the national military structure nominees whose fitness has not been most clearly demonstrated.

A Department of the Air, headed by an officer of Cabinet rank and responsibility, will undoubtedly be proposed and warmly supported by many of the Congressional leaders. Such a movement is assured of nearly unanimous Republican support from the outset and a considerable element of the Democrats is ready to follow through with the programme.

Members of the Senate have reached that stage in their private discussions where the personalities of the men to be entrusted with the administration of the important functions of the proposed new department are being given serious consideration.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, now in France, is strongly favored for the post of Secretary of the Air. His acquaintance with the air situation has been gained through familiarity with the naval aviation service, in which he has taken an active part as an organizer.

Also the suggestion is advanced that Charles E. Hughes' months of effort in probing the conditions surrounding the air programme, entered upon with such confidence by the War Department more than a year ago, should not go for naught, and the former Justice is suggested now as a capable man for Secretary of the proposed department.

TO CONSCRIPT LABOR ONLY FOR UNCLE SAM Post Declares Wilson's Attitude to Commerce Body. CHICAGO, Aug. 26.—The Administration's attitude toward conscription of labor was outlined to-day by Louis F. Post, Assistant Secretary of Labor.

NEWSPAPERS ADVANCE PRICE. Three in Baltimore Go to 5 Cents and Two in Atlanta to 2 Cents. BALTIMORE, Aug. 26.—All three of Baltimore's evening newspapers, the News, Star and Evening Sun, announced to-day an advance in price from one cent to two cents, due to the mounting costs of white paper and general overhead charges of newspapers.

LAUNCHINGS NEAR 3,000,000 TONS

New U. S. Ships Expected to Pass Most Sanguine Hopes for Year's Production. DESTROYED FISHING CRAFT WILL BE REPLACED BY EMERGENCY FLEET CORPORATION. Special Despatch to The Sun. WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—The United States is rapidly nearing the 3,000,000 deadweight ton mark in ships launched this year. Down to August 24 533 vessels totalling 2,922,973 tons had been launched.

Even this figure probably will be passed before the year ends. Launchings and deliveries are increasing week by week as new vessels come into production and as the working forces increase and become more expert. With this fact in mind, and because twice as much tonnage has been launched in the last four months as in the first four, it seems reasonable to suppose that launchings will exceed 3,000,000 tons for the year.

Deliveries of completed ships ready for service are a million tons behind the launchings, largely because of difficulty and delay in getting engines and boilers. The Food Administration asked for the production of completed ships ready for service will pass all estimates.

Figures made public by the Shipping Board to-day show total deliveries of 281 completed vessels of 1,725,731 deadweight tons. In the week ending August 24 eight steel contract ships of 43,300 tons, one requisitioned steel ship of 12,000 tons, eight wooden ships of 24,500 tons and two tug boats were launched.

The same week two requisitioned steel ships of 13,575 tons, five contract steel ships of 22,800 tons and one wooden ship of 3,500 tons were delivered to the Shipping Board ready for service.

Steel production is far ahead of need production both in launchings and deliveries. The gap between launchings and deliveries has been consistently widening with respect to wooden ships because of difficulty in getting machinery.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—Fishing craft destroyed by German submarines off the New England coast will be replaced by the Emergency Fleet Corporation at the request of the Food Administration with deep sea modern trawlers.

ONLY RAIDS ON ITALIAN FRONT. British and French Patrols Active on Asiago Plateau. ROME, Aug. 26.—The War Office announcement to-day says that there was considerable activity by our reconnaissance patrols. On the Asiago plateau British and French patrols carried out raids on the enemy's trenches, bringing back prisoners.

TO BE SOLD BY THE ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN The Property of A. W. FABER Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, A. MITCHELL PALMER, Alien Property Custodian, will offer for sale to the highest bidder, at public sale, on the premises of the plant of A. W. FABER, Dickerson and Hecker Streets, Newark, New Jersey, at 10:30 o'clock A. M., on Tuesday, the seventeenth day of September, 1918, all the property and assets of every kind and description belonging to A. W. FABER as a going concern, including all the real estate, buildings, trade names, good will, machinery, modern plant for the manufacture of rubber goods, stock of crude rubber, supplies and other property.