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HOME EDITION

BRITISH TAKE GUNS AND MEN IN COUNTER MOVEMENT WHILE GERMAN ADVANCE IS HALTED

FRENCH FALL BACK TO THE HEIGHTS NEAR MONTDIDIER

Blocked on Fronts of Lassigny and Noyon on Left Bank of Oise, Seek New Outlet

FRENCH IN HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTING

Unheard-of Ferocity Marks Conflict; Enemy Losses Heavy, Says Official Communication

Paris, March 28.—Blocked on the Lassigny and Noyon fronts and on the left bank of the Oise, the Germans last night threw forward important forces in the region of Montdidier, the war office announced to-day. Here the fighting rapidly took on extraordinary ferocity.

French regiments fought hand-to-hand with the enemy and inflicted heavy losses.

Retreat to Heights

Finally the French fell back to the heights immediately to the west of Montdidier.

Fighting was continued with violence yesterday evening and last night on the battle front, the war office announced to-day.

Enemy Losses Heavy

The text reads: "The battle was fought with sustained violence yesterday evening and last night. The Germans, blocked by the valiant French troops and cruelly punished before the Lassigny and Noyon fronts and the left bank of the river Oise, concentrated all their efforts on the French left and threw forward important forces in the region of Montdidier.

"At this point the engagements soon developed an unheard-of ferocity. French regiments, fighting hand-to-hand inflicted heavy losses upon their assailants and did not falter. Finally they withdrew in order to the heights immediately to the west of Montdidier.

"There has been intermittent cannonading on the remainder of the front."

German Sword Will Win Peace, Says Emperor; God Given Part Credit

By Associated Press

Amsterdam, March 27, Wednesday.—"The deeds performed by the army in the last few days are worthy to rank with the most brilliant feats of the war," says a message sent by Emperor William to the vice-president of the Reichstag.

"We have grievously shaken England's army by God's help. We are advancing daily, notwithstanding courageous resistance. The number of prisoners is great, the booty in war materials immeasurable.

"May the German people, and especially their chosen representatives, derive confidence anew from the greatness of these achievements, that the German sword will win us peace."

THE BOY SCOUTS are coming to QUIZZ YOU about War Savings

What are you going to tell them?

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair to-night and Friday; not much change in temperature, lowest to-night about freezing.

General Conditions

It is slightly colder in the Northwestern States, except Oregon; also in New England, Eastern New York and a few other localities of limited area.

Temperature: 8 a. m., 32. Sun: Rises, 5:40 a. m.; sets, 6:11 p. m.

Moon: Rises, 7:31 p. m. River stage: 5.5 feet above low-water mark.

Yesterday's Weather

Highest temperature, 48. Lowest temperature, 28. Mean temperature, 39. Normal temperature, 42.



The Price

TITANIC STRUGGLE NOW ENTERS UPON THE SECOND WEEK

Beginning of Second Week of World's Most Colossal Attack Finds British and French Holding Tenaciously to Western Edge of Old Somme Battlefield; British Counterattacks in Region of Albert Prevent Advance

By Associated Press

LONDON, March 28.—French troops this morning counterattacked with great dash and drove back the enemy on a front of 10 kilometers to a depth of three kilometers south of Noyon.

London, March 28.—In the last twenty-four hours the Germans have made but one comparatively trifling gain as the result of numerous massed attacks along the whole front, says Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters. For the British there may be claimed several distinct local successes, either in completely repelling enemy blows or in wresting back ground won by counter attacks.

Although the Germans continue to use their infantry with ruthless prodigality, the general pressure along the front is for the moment less determined. This may be attributed in part to the enemy waiting to bring up heavy artillery preparatory to another great effort, and in part of exhaustion.

Nothing can be learned of the appearance of enemy tanks on the British front, while those left by the retreating British were systematically destroyed, the correspondent reports.

The enemy continued to bring troops from far and near to replenish his reserves and along wide stretches the German front is held by a mere screen of troops.

Striking with almost unexampled fury against the allied front near the point where the French and British lines connect, the Germans yesterday and last night drove in a deep wedge to the west and forced the French out of Montdidier.

This town, which lies nineteen miles southeast of Amiens, one of the German objectives, is ten miles west of Roye, which the Germans took on Tuesday.

British Lines Firmly Held

The threat against Amiens in the north seems to be well held by the British along their front north of the Somme where they have maintained their line firmly at all points and even, as indicated by to-day's official report have advanced it in places.

In the Noyon and Lassigny regions and along the Oise to the east, the French are likewise preventing the Germans from getting an opening. The force of their drive thus was diverted to the west of the Roye region and the forward push there developed probably the fiercest fighting of the present battle.

Engagements of "Unheard of Ferocity"

Paris characterizes the engagements as of "unheard of ferocity." The French regiments however, fought with their accustomed bravery and made the Germans pay dearly for every bit of ground they covered in their desperate push for an outlet, the French finally retiring in good order to the heights to the west of Montdidier. News dispatches from the front this morning reported the line in this sector to be holding well.

While this effort to drive in between the British and French armies was being carried out in the south the Germans apparently worried by the salient they were creating and wishing to protect their right wing from a flanking attack, have developed a threat on the extreme north of the present front in the region east of Arras. London reports the beginning this morning of a heavy bombardment of the British lines in this sector, followed by the development of an attack.

The possibility is not lost sight of that this attack so far north on the front may herald the extension of the active fighting front along the lines to the north in the development of a German push for the channel ports. Seemingly, however, the enemy has all he can take care of in the way of opposition in the present field of the offensive and the probability points to the Arras threat proving a protective rather than a new offensive measure.

German Line Extended

Meanwhile the German line is being extended to an apparently dangerous extent on the southern front where a flanking operation has been pointed to as most likely to prove effective.

Checked all along the front of more than fifty miles except at two points the German drive is fast slowing up. The beginning of the second week of the great battle which opened with probably the most colossal attack in history and continues with the most intense fighting, finds the British and French holding tenaciously to the western edge of the old Somme battlefield, while inflicting further losses upon the enemy.

British counterattacks have begun in the region of Albert which the Germans hold, but from which they have been unable to advance because of the resistance of the British who doggedly repulsed enemy attacks all day Wednesday. South of Albert Field Marshal Haig has carried out several counterattacks and has advanced his line eastward between the Somme and Ancre

CONSUMPTION OF NEWS PRINT EXCEEDS PRODUCTION

Washington, March 28.—Consumption of news print paper is exceeding production and mill stocks gradually are falling off. Federal Trade Commission figures made public to-day shipments of 62,993 tons for the first two weeks in March while only 40,518 tons were produced. Mill stocks March 17, amounted to 28,327 tons of which 22,292 were standard news.

Loss of production is ascribed to strikes on the Pacific coast lack of fuel and closing down of mills at Niagara Falls by government order.

COAL ENOUGH TO GO AROUND NOW PROMISED CITY

Flat Rate to Be Fixed to Consumers by County Fuel Administration

Harrisburg will receive as much coal as last year, with enough added to take care of the increase in population occasioned by the presence here of new industries and building activities inaugurated during the present year. This assurance has been given the Dauphin County Fuel Commission by the federal authorities, according to announcement of the local fuel commission this morning.

Unless unforeseen causes, such as

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WOOD STILL WAITING

Washington, March 28.—Major General Leonard Wood still is here waiting for the physical examination at the hands of an army board, which will determine whether he shall return to France in command of fighting troops or remain in the United States on inactive duty. Some of the general's friends have been apprehensive that he would not be returned to active duty.

HIGH BIDS FOR ROTARY CLUB'S MINSTREL SHOW

Boxes May Bring as High as \$830 Each; Governor Endorses the Movement

Governor Brumbaugh, who with his party will occupy a box at the Orpheum Theater, when the Rotary Club gives its big War Stamp Minstrel Show, on the evening of April 23, to-day sent to Captain George F. Lumb, president of the club, his hearty endorsement of the entertainment.

Every penny realized from the sale of tickets will go for the purchase of Thrift Stamps. The club and individual members will underwrite the expense and Wilmer and Vincent, through Manager Floyd Hopkins, will donate the use of the theater.

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INTERNATIONAL DISBANDED

New York, March 28.—The International Baseball League Club owners meeting here to-day, voted to disband.

AMERICANS MAY BE USED IN BIG ALLY OFFENSIVE

Great Counter Drive Against Huns Expected Momentarily at Washington

By Associated Press

Washington, March 28.—American staff officers studying closely the war maps and latest dispatches from the battlefield are of the opinion that developments of moment in the allied counter attack will begin to show themselves on the battlefield to-day or to-morrow.

Washington, March 28.—Late reports that Anglo-French defense is stiffening before the German assault on the western front led American military observers to believe to-day that an allied counter stroke might get under way at any moment.

All depends, officers said, on the forces the allies have been able to muster in reserve. There is every indication that both the British and French have been using reinforcements sparingly in their efforts to stem the German advance, meanwhile conserving their manpower to the day just ahead.

Although no official report has reached the War Department of the participation of American troops other than engineer units, the view here is that Americans may take part in the attempt to hurl the Germans back.

GOVERNOR ENDORSES ROTARY CLUB'S WAR STAMP SHOW

GOVERNOR BRUMBAUGH, in the following letter to Captain George F. Lumb, president of the Harrisburg Rotary Club, heartily endorses the Rotary Club's War Stamp minstrel show:

"I have read with very great interest the plan of the Harrisburg Rotary Club to give an entertainment in the Orpheum Theater on April 23, 1918, the entire proceeds of which are to be devoted to War Savings Stamps. In other words, the club gives the entertainment free and those who have the pleasure and enjoyment of its entertainment will have the stamps for their own use and aid the promotion and successful outcome of the war.

"I can conceive of no more patriotic and unselfish service than this and I commend the plan to all people, and trust that the meeting may be a pronounced success and produce a large return to the Government.

Very truly yours, M. G. BRUMBAUGH.

CONDITIONS AT CITY HOSPITAL TO BE PROBED

Health Officer Admits "Pest House" Is Not Proper Place For Patients

CHARGES ILL TREATMENT

Woman Declares Conditions Almost Unbearable Are Due to Neglect

Commissioner Hassler, who has supervision over the city health department, stated he will begin an investigation at once of the conditions reported at the hospital maintained for smallpox victims in a building south of the county almshouse. Dr. A. Z. Ritzman, acting city health officer in the absence of Dr. J. M. J. Raunick, who is recovering from a long illness, said he will act with Dr. Hassler and members of the health bureau.

Mrs. Edna Lynch, of North Front street, Steelton, a patient at the hospital, who was discharged early in March, made the statements charged.

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Untried Americans Worked Like Veterans in Battle of Somme

By Associated Press

Paris, March 28.—"Entirely new in this warfare, the Americans worked like the best veterans in the battle of the Somme," declared a wounded French captain who has been brought back from the front, according to La Liberté.

Two of the Americans, officers, who were wounded were brought back with the French captain, a member of the dragons. Each American wore a French war cross conferred on the battlefield.

The French captain refused to receive attention until the Americans alongside him had first been nursed. "They are the ones who should be congratulated," he said, calling upon the women of the Red Cross to look after the Americans.

BETHLEHEM STEEL ADVANCES WAGES FIFTEEN PER CENT.

All Labor at Steelton, Bethlehem, Lebanon and Sparrows Point Benefited

READJUSTMENTS COMING

Increases Indicated For "General Labor as Well as All Other Positions"

President E. G. Grace, of the Bethlehem Steel Company, today made the following announcement from Bethlehem:

"Effective April 16, 1918, an increase of approximately fifteen per cent. will be made in the general labor rate. Adjustments will also be made in the rates directly affected by the increase in the general labor rates as well as other positions."

The increase will affect all the plants of the company at Bethlehem, Steelton, Lebanon and Sparrows Point.

Other Advances

General Manager Robbins of the Steelton plants, said this afternoon that this is the fourth advance in wages at that place in little more than a year. The first came in February, 1917, the second in May, 1917, and the third about October 1, of last year. Just what each man will receive as a result of the increase announced to-day will not be known until the schedules of pay have been revised to meet the changes, which will be as soon as the accounting force can do the work.

Entire Turkish Force Captured by British

London, March 28.—The entire Turkish force in the Hitt area, in Mesopotamia has been captured or destroyed by the British, the war office announces. Three thousand prisoners were taken.

DUNCANNON SCHOOL BURNS

DUNCANNON—A PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING, FORMERLY THE REFORMED CHURCH, WAS DAMAGED BY FIRE STARTED IN THE CHIMNEY OR HEATING PLANT, THIS AFTERNOON TO THE EXTENT OF ABOUT \$2,000 MORE THAN 120 CHILDREN IN THE BUILDING AT THE TIME MARCHED OUT IN SAFETY. BUILDINGS NEARBY INCLUDING THE HOME OF MRS. HARRY WOUTZ, WERE SCORCHED BUT NOT VERY BADLY DAMAGED.

45TH AVIATOR DEAD AT FT. WORTH

Fort Worth, Tex.—A cadet of the Royal Flying Corps was killed at noon to-day at Benbrook, a British aviation field. He is the forty-fifth aviator to meet death since the fields were opened here in October.

TO IMPROVE SANITARY HOSPITAL

Harrisburg—Commissioner S. F. Hassler after a trip to the contagious disease hospital this afternoon to investigate reports of conditions there, declared statements of ill-treatment and neglect had been exaggerated, but admitted sanitary and housing conditions are not what they should be. He stated the nine patients under treatment there now all said they were well treated and had plenty of good, wholesome food. Bath equipment is to be repaired, and toilet facilities are adequate he said.

HUNS DON ENGLISH UNIFORMS

Paris—A number of German soldiers who had put on British uniforms in order to create confusion in the battle on the Somme front were taken prisoner and executed, according to the Intransigeant.

SPIES DELAY AIRPLANE PRODUCTION

Washington—Charges that German spies were responsible for this country's failure to maintain its airplane program, were made in the Senate to-day by Senator Overman, Democrat, of North Carolina. He also charged that there were spies in the Cugisign plant.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Harvey K. Wolfe, Landisville, and Sara F. Miller, Manheim; Charles Davies and Annie E. Hoffman, Harrisburg; Frank A. Manley and Viola Redman, Harrisburg; Donald Johnson and Nellie Shippe, Middletown; Gifford V. Lewis and Ada D. Adams, Wilmington, Del.; William Hucker, Halifax, and Mary M. Snyder, Harrisburg.

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