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TAKE MANY PRISONERS.

SIX THOUSAND CAPTURED IN SHARP DRIVE.

Three Mile Advance—British and Australians Wrest Towns From Germans After Hard Fighting.

London, Sept. 18.—The British have penetrated the enemies' defenses northwest of St. Quentin to a depth of three miles and captured more than 6,000 prisoners. Field Marshal Haig reports tonight. The British have captured Fresnoy-le-Petit, Berthaucourt and Petru, and the Australians have occupied La Verquier, Villeroit and Hargicourt. The high ground south of Gouzeaucourt has been carried by the British who reached the outskirts of Villers-Juislain and occupied Gauchewood.

Templeux, le Guereaud, Ronsoy, Epehy and Peziere have also been taken, the troops penetrating to a great depth along the lines.

The German infantry surrendered quite freely in places. In fact in the center of the attack where the Australians were gray coats deliberately charged through the British barrage to give themselves up.

Today's operation cannot be considered as a major operation as compared with recent battles. The objectives sought, however, were important both from the defensive and offensive standpoints.

The assault began at dawn. Unfortunately rain began to fall about 2 o'clock and when the British went over the top the ground was already very slimy and hard to negotiate, especially when the ridges were reached and the men had to charge up them. Tanks accompanied the troops and rendered invaluable service in the early stages of the conflict, which waxed warm from the start.

The British preliminary bombardment was brief and was followed by the customary barrage for the protection of the advancing infantry. The Germans immediately replied with a vicious fire from large numbers of guns concentrated behind the St. Quentin canal.

Airplane observation was virtually impossible during the first hours of fighting from either side, so that the gunners were shooting by map and were greatly handicapped.

On the north Peziere and a strongly fortified sugar factory to the northwest were taken by storm after very hard fighting. Epehy proved a tough nut to crack. Here the famous Alpine corps had been brought up and the German army boasts no better troops than these. It was futile to attempt a frontal attack against this place, which was fairly bristling with machine guns. The British accordingly worked about it to the north and south and squeezed it out. Ronsoy was carried by storm and a hundred prisoners were gleaned from the surviving garrison.

"In the center the Australians had to fight for every inch of ground they took, but they pushed steadily forward until they reached the crest of the ridge. By 3.30 o'clock the Australians had taken a total of 500 prisoners. Most of these were Bavarians and men of the first German reserve division and they appeared to be of a poor class of men as they came straggling back disconsolately through the drizzling rain.

One of the hottest engagements took place just south of La Verquier where the Germans have fortified themselves in a mill. This stronghold was surrounded and 180 of the garrison forced to surrender.

On the right flank there was equally hard fighting. Holnon had been taken yesterday as a preliminary to today's attack and from this point the British went forward.

Last night German airplanes were busy bombing the St. Quentin sector and the enemy utilized a number of new type planes of huge size. Three of these were shot down east of Peronne. They were capable of seating eight men. The most astounding thing about them, however, was that they carried bombs 13 feet long which contained 2,000 pounds of explosives. This is by far the biggest bomb the Germans have yet produced.

AMERICAN PLANES LOST IN LORRAINE.

Five Missing After Bombing Expedition When Attack Was Made in Force by Germans.

Washington, Sept. 18.—Five American planes are missing as the result of an attack by a superior German force during a bombing expedition in Lorraine, Gen. Pershing reported in today's communique received tonight by the war department. With the exception of artillery activity in Lorraine and Alsace the American sectors remain inactive.

The text of the statement reads: "Headquarters American Expeditionary Forces, Sept. 18.—Section A—Aside from artillery activity in Lorraine and in Alsace there is nothing of importance to report from the sectors occupied by our troops.

"In the course of a bombing operation in Lorraine our aviators were attacked by a superior force. Five of our machines are missing.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

South Carolinians Held in Unknown German Prisons.

Washington, Sept. 19.—Among prisoners reported as held in unknown German camps are Privates Fred Roberts of Gaffney, S. C., Thurston McSwain of Blacksburg, S. C., and Mallie A. Averett, of Florida, Ala.

BRITISH AND FRENCH SUCCESS.

MAXIMUM GAIN OF THREE MILES WITH MANY PRISONERS.

Fall of St. Quentin Sure to Come Soon—Although Allies Have Difficult Operation Before Them Important City is Now Menaced on Three Sides—Bulgars and Germans Still Falling Back.

British and French veterans have made another vicious and successful smash at the Hindenburg line. Sweeping forward on a front of 22 miles, they went ahead from one and a third to three miles, taking many prisoners. The most important aspect of the advance is that it makes more certain the capture of St. Quentin, which the Germans have been ordered to hold at all costs. This important city is virtually surrounded on three sides and its fall seems only a matter of days.

Field Marshal Haig's Third and Fourth armies charged over the trench system occupied by the British before they were pushed back by the Teutonic flood last March. They captured, in wide sectors, the outer defenses of the Hindenburg line.

The British assault was over a front of 16 miles, from Holmon, west of St. Quentin, to Gouzeaucourt, north of Epehy. In their advance, which reached a depth of more than three miles at some points, they took more than 6,000 prisoners.

Not only did the blow bring nearer the capture of St. Quentin, which the Germans are struggling desperately to hold, but it went far towards wiping out the only bulge in the British line which resembles a salient. Epehy, at the apex of the bend, has been taken and the same fate has befallen Gouzeaucourt and Hargicourt which stood at the ends of the wings.

The importance which the Germans attached to the territory wrested from them is indicated by the announcement that they launched counterattacks as soon as they could organize, from Hargicourt to the Omignon rivulet.

The success of their efforts remain somewhat obscure, but it is not believed they can recover the ground they have lost.

While the French advance was less spectacular than the British with whom they cooperated they were equally successful in gaining their objectives. They moved forward on a front of six miles to an average depth of one and a-half miles, adding several hundred prisoners to the British bag. They now hold the southern outskirts of Contescourt less than three miles from the suburbs of St. Quentin.

This city, where the troops of von Goeben scored a great victory in 1871 is one of the buttresses of the Douai-Cambrai-St. Quentin-Laon line, beyond which it has been announced the Germans would not fall back. The French in the outskirts of La Fere with St. Quentin invested and with the British battling doggedly for Cambrai, the great Hindenburg defense system is in danger of being breached at three of its strongest points. Once ousted from it the Teutons will have back of them no strong fortifications until they reach the Maubeuge defenses.

The taking of St. Quentin remains a difficult task, however, for the Germans are in strong positions and a captured order from General von Morgen to the Fourteenth reserve corps emphasizes the importance of the terrain they hold. He orders them not to yield another foot of ground in "the imminent decisive battles."

While the British and French were forging ahead relentlessly in the West the Serbs and the French in Macedonia were making more emphatic their defeat of the Bulgars, who have been reinforced by German troops. There is every indication that the offensive in the near East is of major proportions and that it will develop to the limit. It has widened to the west of Sakol and the east of Vrenik until the front extends over 16 miles. The allies have penetrated at some points a distance of ten miles.

The resistance of King Ferdinand's troops is weakening as they are being forced back.

While Marshal Foch was following his policy of striking at widely separated points along the battle line the day was one of comparative quiet for General Pershing's field army. There was no activity of consequence on their front beyond the usual artillery and patrol activity.

CROP SUMMARY.

Synopsis of Weather and Crop Conditions in South Carolina for the Week Ending September 17.

Columbia, Sept. 18.—The past week was one of generally excellent growing weather, and all crops have made satisfactory progress. The nights have been rather cool for best development in cotton, however, but much of the intermediate and late crops are still blooming and fruiting, and a late season will be necessary in order to obtain results from current bloom; the crop is opening rapidly, and picking is being pushed, notwithstanding shortage and high price of labor, with some local congestion at gins. Intermediate and late corn have improved materially, and the late crop is earing satisfactorily; fodder pulling continues. The sweet potato crop is now in generally fine condition, and other late field crops and gardens have advanced correspondingly. Peavine harvest is progressing. Fall plowing has proceeded satisfactorily, with some indications of increased small grain acreage, and some oats and rye are being planted in scattered sections.

PEACE MOVE IN GERMANY.

MAJORITY LEADERS IN REICHSTAG TO MAKE DEMONSTRATION.

Peace Resolution Said to be in Preparation in Consultation With Chancellor to be Introduced in November.

London, Sept. 18.—It is rumored from Berlin that when the Reichstag meets on November 5 there will be another peace demonstration similar to the one in July, 1917, according to an Amsterdam dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph. It is said that the terms of the peace resolution is being drafted by majority leaders in consultation with the chancellor.

BRITISH MAKE PROGRESS.

TAKE MANY PRISONERS AND MACHINE GUNS.

Have Reached Outpost Positions of Hindenburg Line.

London, Sept. 19.—The British night made further progress in their drive on the Hindenburg line and reached the outpost positions of the Hindenburg lines.

Haig's statement adds: "The British in a new attack carried the Hindenburg line outposts. Many prisoners and numbers of machine guns were taken by them. The town of Lempire, four miles west of Lecelles and Gauchy wood was captured after intense bombardment of the area between Gouzeaucourt and the Cambrai road the enemy delivered a strong infantry attack on a wide front northward from the vicinity of the cauld. This was completely repulsed at all points with great loss, strong attack north of Movers likewise driven off."

MORE BRITISH SUCCESS.

8,000 Prisoners and Several Thousand Yards of Hindenburg Line Taken Yesterday's Drive.

With British Forces in France Sept. 19.—Haig's forces up to midnight last night captured more than eight thousand Germans, the result of the drive yesterday on the Cambrai front.

Several thousand yards of the Hindenburg outpost line are in British hands this morning in the Valenciennes sector, southwest of Cambrai.

French Continue Progress.

Paris, Sept. 19.—The French last night continued progress in the region of St. Quentin and penetrated the German positions of Contescourt, 3 miles southwest of St. Quentin.

INVESTIGATE DEATH OF SOLDIERS.

Federal Inquiry to Place Responsibility for Train Wreck Near Missouri Town.

Springfield, Mo., Sept. 18.—A federal investigation to place responsibility for the head-on collision of a freight train and a troop train on the St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad near Marshfield last night, was begun today by the department of justice and the railroad administration. A coroner's inquest will be held tomorrow. No list of the dead was available, army officers in charge observing the strictest secrecy even as to the exact number killed. A revised list of 45 injured was given out by railroad officials.

The cause of the wreck continues a puzzle to railroad and government officials. A report persisted that the block system signal had been tampered with, so as to clear both trains, but there was no official intimation to verify it.

Five Soldiers Killed.

Washington, Sept. 18.—Five soldiers were killed and at least 24 injured in the wreck last night of a troop train near Marshfield, Mo. This was announced tonight by the war department.

SENATE WILL INVESTIGATE BREWERS.

Charged that Unprecedented Sums Were Contributed to Propaganda Activities.

Washington, Sept. 19.—Investigation of political propaganda activities of brewing interests was ordered today by the senate, directed principally at charges that brewers bought a Washington newspaper and contributed through advertising contracts, also paid money to citizens and even government officials obtained pledges from members of congress.

ITALY WILL NOT CONSIDER PEACE OFFER.

The Government Has No Official Knowledge of It.

Rome, Wednesday, Sept. 17.—The Italian government has no knowledge of the Austrian peace proposal except for the text of the document carried by telegraphic agencies the semi-official Staffin news agency has announced. The government, however, is indicated by the agency to be in no mood for opening such negotiations as suggested by unofficial text.

Spanish Influenza at Charleston.

Charleston, Sept. 19.—Several cases of Spanish influenza have made its appearance at the aviation camp near here.

NEED MEN IN NAVY.

GEN. CROWDER ANNOUNCES ORDERS TO LOCAL DRAFT BOARDS.

Men for Navy and Marine Corps to be Called Soon.

Washington, Sept. 18.—Gen. Crowder today announced orders to local draft boards which will permit voluntary induction of draft registrants into the navy and marine corps, and also provide for draftsmen to be assigned to these services if voluntary enlistments are not sufficient to meet demands. Will call men for navy to go out before the end of this month. Marine corps contingents will be called within a few weeks.

TANKS AT ST. MIHIEL.

TANKS OF AMERICANS PLAY DRAMATIC PART.

Pershing's Men Man Three Types of Machines of War With Great Success in Attack on St. Mihiel Salient—Many Difficulties Overcome.

With the American Army on the Lorraine Front, Sept. 18 (By the Associated Press).—Squadrons of American manned tanks, operating for the first time on a large scale, in the attack on the St. Mihiel salient, played an important and dramatic part in the defeat of the Germans.

Divided into brigades—light, intermediate and heavy—the tanks swung out on the field of battle immediately after the barrage. Before the day ended they had entered the villages of Nonsard, Pannes, Lamarche and Binney, considerably ahead of the infantry.

Early in the action difficulty was experienced in getting to the front sufficient gasoline, although a great fleet of gasoline tanks had been prepared to carry supplies. The gas tanks were attacked by the enemy or were derailed and it was here the American ingenuity came to the rescue.

Barrels of gasoline were trundled and rolled over the roadless fields by daring volunteers to meet the most pressing needs. Bobsleds, curiously enough, were found more efficient than wagons in carrying supplies since they could be dragged over the mud without being mired and on them hundreds of gallons of gasoline were conveyed to the fighting tanks.

The advance of the tanks brought the enemy to a halt during the night. The machine with a 37 millimetre gun instead of machine gun violated his orders and went far ahead until he was within range of Nonsard. With one well placed shot he knocked two Germans out of a church steeple from which they were firing a machine gun.

A lieutenant, shot through the left hand by an explosive bullet, was sent to a hospital, but escaped and walked six miles back to the field. He appeared at his tank with the statement that he could "carry on" with his right hand.

Several others were wounded, but remained on duty. No one was killed however, even though a German six inch shell ploughed clear through a small tank, destroying it, but injuring only one of the crew. Another tank captured a battery of "77s" but was so far ahead of the infantry it could not turn over the guns to them.

The story is told of another tank which went into a town with a sergeant armed with a rifle perched on the turret. This machine captured two batteries of "77s," five machine guns, and many men.

Tanks were occasionally as much as two miles ahead of the infantry throwing consternation into the Germans. Part of the success which attended their share in the battle undoubtedly was due to the intensive training given drivers who are taught to operate the machines blindfolded guided only by signals from the gunners. This sometimes is necessary when the drivers are blinded temporarily by splashes of mud.

For several days before the offensive the tanks which were to take part were maneuvered in an interior town while the civilians watched them with amazement with no knowledge of what it portended. Some time before the battle the tank crews were given their final instructions on a hypothetical battle field mathematically divided up into debarking points and supply depots.

THE VAGCAN AND PEACE PROPOSALS.

The Pope Will Act Only at Request of Both Parties.

Rome, Tuesday, Sept. 17.—It is stated by the Vatican today with reference to peace proposals, if the Pope is to act in such matter it will be only when asked by both parties. However, it was added, if diplomatic representations are received from one of the parties, inquiries will be made of the other if it is desired to receive such representation.

GERMAN PEOPLE DESPONDENT.

Letters Found on Prisoners Show the Feeling of Home People.

With Americans in Lorraine, Wednesday, Sept. 18.—Fear lest the American advance will overwhelm them; bitter complaint of bad food and general despondency are the keynotes of letters written from the homes of German soldiers and found on their persons when captured. These letters were never intended for American consumption and showed moral eagerness of Germans running low.

TALE OF BETRAYAL.

LENINE AND TROTZKY WORKED IN ROUMANIA.

Many Hans Released—Documents Revealed Advance Plans of Germany and Her Russian Bolshevik Tools.

Washington, Sept. 18.—The betrayal of Roumania and elaborate advance plans of Germany and her Russian Bolshevik tools for suppressing and murdering loyal Roumanians, Russians and Poles are exposed in detail by today's chapters of the astounding secret Russian documents which the American government is giving to the public.

Other installments of the series have described how the Bolshevik leaders, Lenin and Trotsky, and their associates were bought by the Germans for millions in gold and engineered their bloody overthrow of Russia for the benefit of their masters. Now the story is told of how, while the Brest-Litovsk peace conference farce still was in progress, the Bolsheviks were sending hired agents into Roumania to disorganize the armies of Russia's ally, dethrone the Rumanian king and turn loose the Germans occupied there for service in a great offensive on the Western front.

The second phase of the latest disclosure shows the Bolsheviks, at German direction, undertaking not only to kill refractory Russian generals, but to shoot individually and wholesale Polish soldiers who were refusing to be sold to Germany and patriotically keeping the field against their enemies. One of the documents transmits orders from the German intelligence service to "take most decisive measures, up to shooting en masse, against Polish troops" and to institute surveillance of institutions and persons, including the Roman Catholic Polish clergy.

Explanatory notes by Edgar Sisson, who obtained the documents, add many details lacking in the papers themselves, including a story of how the Roumanian minister barely escaped execution, was arrested by the Bolsheviks and released through the efforts of Ambassador Francis and other diplomats.

ILEGAL TRADING.

Saves German People From Starvation.

New York, Sept. 18.—Starvation would be the portion probably of the German people if it were not for the illegal trading, Deputy von Herzberg-Lottum said in a food debate in the Prussian lower house, according to the Berlin Tageblatt.

"The larger cities of Germany are obtaining one-quarter of their necessary stock of foodstuffs through illegal trading—without that they would starve," the deputy asserted.

"The increasing severity of penalties heighten the risk of indulging in secret trading and raises prices," he continued. "There are now 100,000 persons employed by the war food administration and that under the circumstances we deliver 30 eggs per year per person is really no heroic deed."

Other speakers told of pitiable conditions in Austria-Hungary. Count Stolberg said:

"I have seen now in Austria the poor man nothing. It is a pity to see how the poor people there are suffering from hunger. In comparison to conditions there things in our country are much better."

"In Budapest in rich Hungary, the poor wait in line all night for the 30-gram fat ration, and then they don't receive that. Major Koch of Cassel said:

The total or secret trading referred to probably means that the German cities violate the law which fixes a maximum price for food and prohibits consumers from paying more than that price. German officials have attempted to stop such violations by some cities.

CZECHS CAPTURE PERM.

Fall of Important Russian City Reported.

Paris, Sept. 18.—Havas—A dispatch from Vladivostok announces that the Czecho-Slovak forces have captured Perm.

If the report of the capture of Perm is true it means that the Czecho-Slovaks have advanced across the Ural Mountains about 180 miles from Ekaterinburg which they captured some time ago.

Perm is the capital of the government of Perm and is situated on the Kama river, near it is one of the large Russian ordnance works. The population of the last census was about 50,000.

American Casualty List.

Washington, Sept. 19.—The American army casualty list numbers 263, divided as follows: Killed in action, 59; missing in action, 68; wounded severely, 82; died of wounds, 22; died from aeroplane accident, 1; died of other accidents, 3; died of disease, 17; wounded degree undetermined, 8; prisoners, 3. Corporal Peter Carter, Gocan, S. C., and Robert Farnell, Williamson, S. C., are reported to have died of disease.

The Marine Corps casualty list is as follows: Killed in action, 3; died of wounds received in action, 4; severely wounded in action, 2. Total 9. The Marine Corps casualty list to date numbers 3,122, of whom 102 are officers.

APPROVES TAX PROVISIONS.

REVENUE BILL MAKES DECIDED PROGRESS.

Will be Passed Soon—Final Action Certain to Come Tomorrow With Possibility of Vote Today.

Washington, Sept. 18.—All of the principal tax provisions of the new war revenue bill were approved by the house today almost as fast as two clerks working in relays could read them. With only a few minor provisions and amendments now to be considered, leaders believe a final vote will be reached Friday with a possibility that it may come tomorrow.

After adopting within an hour the war excess profits provisions without change, the house passed important sections raising many millions of dollars without a word of objection or even discussion. Every amendment proposed either was rejected summarily or passed over so that the ways and means committee can consider them before final action is taken.

Pesides the war excess profits section, which yield the greatest returns to come from the bill, provisions adopted today were taxes on estates, estimated to raise \$110,000,000; transportation, \$187,000,000; amusement admissions, \$200,000,000; excess taxes including automobiles, jewelry, luxuries and semi-luxuries, \$18,000,000; beverages, \$1,127,000,000; tobacco, \$341,000,000; capital stock, \$20,000,000, and the federal automobile license provisions, \$7,930,000, and stamp taxes \$32,000,000.

The luxury taxes caused some discussion, some members contending the bill's rates too low and others that they were too high. An amendment by Representative Platt, New York, to reduce the luxuries rate from 20 to 10 per cent, was defeated.

The most important matters remaining to be disposed of are the proposal to tax cotton \$3 a bale and to impose a 5 per cent tax on products of child labor. The cotton tax was formally proposed today by Representative Moore of Pennsylvania and the amendment met with instant and spirited opposition. Leaders predicted tonight that the amendment would be rejected.

Representative Green of Iowa gave notice that tomorrow he will offer his child labor amendment, with predictions general that it would be rejected.

Other provisions of the bill are the gross receipts of automobiles for hire.

An amendment by Representative Bland of Indiana to exempt traveling salesmen from the \$100 annual brokers license tax.

An amendment by Representative Treadway of Massachusetts to levy 10 per cent on gross receipts from billboard, street car, electric signs and similar advertising.

Allowances for depletion of oil and gas wells and mines.

Exemption from income and inheritance taxation of persons in the military service.

AMERICAN SOLDIERS POPULAR.

Applauded and Admired by the Allied Soldiers.

Behind the British Lines in France, Aug. 25 (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—To an American visiting the Western front in these stirring times, it is a surprise and a pleasure to note the interest and anticipation with which the more active participation of the Americans is greeted on every hand.

The Canadian soldiers invariably adopt the attitude of "I told you so" when the official reports chronicle American successes. The Australians also pride themselves on their intimacy with the Americans, and take a personal pride in every good deed, which the Americans do, as if in some way they, themselves, had some share in it.

The English Tommies are content to express delight and satisfaction, but always as if eager to believe the best and give credit for every excuse. The Americans, by their unassuming ways and insistent aggressiveness in the line, have won the good will of the whole Imperial British army.

When a German report came in the other day of five airplanes brought down from a patrol of six American raiders, frank incredulity was expressed everywhere. When the American report verified it, there was nothing in it but hard luck and a basis for further avenging exploits.

The American flying men have a hard time before them to sustain the hopes held out for them by their admirers in the British and Canadian battalions. The kindly applause showered on American methods by the English newspapers—which have from the first ignored the mistakes certain to creep into any war administration—is either accepted in France as the complete story or is a reflection of the feeling here.

Nowhere was the unity of feeling between the Americans and the various British units better demonstrated than at the recent Dominion Day sports behind the British lines. The events of that day are acknowledged to have been the greatest gala-day celebration ever held in the war area.

Special War Tax on Occupations.

Washington, Sept. 19.—The extension of the proposed special war tax of ten dollars a year on business or occupations, to include all persons in professions and trades earning two thousand or more, has been approved by the house committee.