



FISMES, WAR BASE OF GERMANS, FALLS

Franco-Americans Capture Big Enemy Storehouse.

RUSSIAN GUARD SMASHED

Pierce House-to-House Fighting Takes Place in Closing Struggle.

ALLIES NOW ACROSS VESLE

Flanks of Foe Between Rheims and Soissons Appear to Have Been Turned.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE AISNE-MARNE FRONT, Aug. 4, 10 P. M.—(By the Associated Press.)—The town of Fismes was taken late today by the American troops, supported by the French.

The French are across the Vesle at several points to the eastward and the line has been extended northwest of Rheims to La Neuville.

The Germans are resisting sharply from Munzon to Champigny.

Town Entered Saturday.

Fismes was taken after a heavy artillery fight that began in the middle of the afternoon. A few Americans entered the town Saturday afternoon and remained there all night. They were driven out early today.

The Germans threw gas shells and shrapnel into the southern part of the town, making it inadvisable for the little party to remain longer.

Their reconnaissance has been completed and they were ordered to fall back.

A Barrage Aids Yankees.

The Germans had been dropping shells about the town intermittently since daylight. When the Americans decided to advance it was after careful preparation, and under a sweeping barrage of shrapnel and gas, the infantry advanced. There was opposition from machine guns, but the Americans quickly silenced them.

PARIS, Aug. 4.—The town of Fismes, Germany's great storehouse on the Aisne-Marne battle front, has been taken by the French and American troops, according to the French official communication issued this evening.

French Cross River.

French troops also have crossed the Vesle at several points.

The text of the communication follows:

"During the day we reached the Vesle to the east of Fismes. The enemy's rear-guards opposed spirited resistance, especially between Munzon and Champigny. Our light elements succeeded in taking a footing on the north bank of the river at several places.

Fismes is in our possession.

Neuville Strongly Defended.

"Northwest of Rheims we have won ground up to the village of La Neuville, which the enemy is defending with great energy.

"On the left bank of the Avre, between Castel and Mesnil St. Georges, the Germans were forced to abandon a part of their positions.

"We have occupied Braches and penetrated into Hargicourt.

"We have also advanced our line to the outskirts of Courtemanche. We took prisoners."

Both Flanks Appear Turned.

Both flanks of the German forces between Rheims and Soissons appear to have been turned.

After Fismes had been completely surrounded by allied troops, the Germans retained a foothold in the extreme northern part of the town, where there was house-to-house fighting.

Prussian Guard units offered the most desperate resistance before the town fell.

Foe's Front Falters.

Allied troops have crossed the Aisne at several points between Soissons and Venizel.

The German resistance at 1:05 P. M. was faltering on the left wing of the allied advance, while it was growing stubbornly and desperate on the right wing, where the Germans retained a foothold on the southern bank of the Vesle, between Champigny and Ponchery, northwest of Rheims.

German reinforcements are reported

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GERMANS ADMIT ALBERT RETREAT

"FIGHTING CONTACT" ON VESLE MENTIONED.

Official Teuton Statement Endeavors to Soften Blow by Saying Withdrawal Unopposed.

BERLIN, via London, Aug. 4.—The Germans on both sides of Albert have retreated from the western to the eastern bank of the Ancre River, according to the German official communication issued today. The statement says the withdrawal was made without opposition.

The text of the statement follows: "During the night there was a reviving artillery activity, which increased to great intensity at times south of Ypres and on both sides of the Somme."

"On both sides of Albert we withdrew, without enemy interference, our positions on the west of the Ancre to the eastern bank of the river. "In successful fore-field engagements south of Luce Brook and southwest of Montdidier, we captured prisoners. "There have been no fighting operations on the Aisne north and east of Soissons. On the Vesle we are in fighting contact with the enemy."

AUTO FAILS; GIRL DROWNS

Machine Goes Into Sacramento River and All Efforts to Rescue Fail.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—Ages McQuire, 15-year-old daughter of James McQuire, a prominent produce merchant of Sacramento, was drowned in the Sacramento River at Hood when something went wrong with the automobile driven by her father and the machine went into the river from the ferry.

There is a stiff current at the ferry and efforts of McQuire and the ferry tender, Charles Johnson, to rescue the girl were futile. Johnson clutched the girl's arm, but her sleeves gave way and she sank for the last time. The body was recovered some hours later. The father of the girl nearly drowned in his efforts to rescue his daughter.

SMOKES FREE TO SOLDIERS

J. H. Henry, of Portland, Treats Boys in Federal Service.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 4.—(Special.)—The feeling of patriotism ran high in the breast of J. H. Henry, capitalist of Portland, as he stood in the lobby of the Palace Hotel Saturday night and watched crowds of pleasure-seeking Army and Navy men pass.

As a result, Mr. Henry stopped every enlisted man who came into the Palace lobby and made him a present of a "bit" cigar. Mr. Henry gave away cigars for an hour. Then he had to catch a Portland train. The cigar bill amounted to \$40.

"Give all others who come in a cigar on me," said Mr. Henry to the clerk, "and send the bill to me at 260 Cornell Road, Portland."

AIRMAN'S BODY SHIPPED

Funeral of Hood River Youth Expected to Be Held Wednesday.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—J. K. Carson has received a telegram from Fort Sill, Okla., military authorities, stating that the body of his son, Lieutenant W. L. Carson, killed Friday in an airplane accident, left the post yesterday for Hood River. Accompanied by Captain Neville, a comrade of the young man, the body will arrive Wednesday. While definite arrangements have not been made, a squadron of men from Vancouver Barracks is expected here to accord the young flier a military funeral.

TALENTED JEWS JOIN ARMY

Two of Contingent at Camp Lewis Speak Many Languages.

TACOMA, Wash., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—Palestinian Jews have arrived at Camp Lewis in the last draft and are now in training. All of them are able to speak and write several languages. One new recruit writes eight different languages and is a graduate of the University of Jaffa, Palestine. English, French, Spanish, Greek, Turkish, German and Hebrew are at his command. Another of the new men speaks Hebrew, Arabic, Italian, Spanish, Bulgarian, French and English and in addition is a competent stenographer.

PRINEVILLE MAN IS DARING

Major Henry C. Smith Saves Edward Payne From Drowning.

PRINEVILLE, Or., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—Major Henry C. Smith, member of the 16th Depot Brigade at Camp Lewis, who is spending a few days here on a furlough, today saved Edward Payne from drowning near the Echo dam. Mr. Payne had sunk beneath the surface of the water for the third time, when Smith dived and brought him safely to shore.

ALLIED VICTORY ADMITTED

Austrian War Office Tells of Advances in Italy and Albania.

VIENNA, Aug. 4.—(British Admiralty per Wireless Press.)—The following statement was issued from the War Office today: "The enemy penetrated into portions of our positions on Dosso Alto. "The enemy has recaptured the Fier-Berat line in Albania."

LIBERTY'S LEGIONS SURGE OVER FOE

Onslaught of Allies Is Overwhelming.

PERSHING TELLS OF VICTORY

Triumph Complete in Second Battle of Marne.

SPOILS OF WAR IMMENSE

Eight Thousand, Four Hundred Prisoners and 133 Guns Captured by Americans Alone—Casualty Report to Be Rushed.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—"Our troops have taken Fismes by assault and hold the south bank of the Vesle in this section," says General Pershing's communique covering today's fighting as received tonight by the War Department.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—"The enemy has proved incapable of stemming the onslaught of our troops fighting for Liberty side by side with French, British and Italian veterans," are words of General Pershing in the official communique to the War Department today, announcing that the German army had been driven in confusion beyond the line of the Vesle River.

More than 8000 prisoners and 133 guns have been captured by the American troops alone, participating in the counter-drive against the Germans which began at the Marne on July 18.

British-French Figures Lacking.

No estimate is given of prisoners captured by the British and French, who outnumber the American forces in the great fight.

The text of the communique, which is worded in terms somewhat unusual in a military communique, is as follows: "American official communique No. 31, August 3, 1918.

"Section A. The full fruits of victory in the counter-offensive begun so gloriously by Franco-American troops on July 18 were reaped today when the enemy, who met his second great defeat on the Marne, was driven in confusion beyond the line of the Vesle.

Foe Suffers Severely.

"The enemy, in spite of suffering the severest losses, has proved incapable of stemming the onslaught of our troops fighting for Liberty side by side with French, British and Italian veterans.

"In the course of the operations, 8400 prisoners and 133 guns have been captured by our men alone.

"Section B.—There is nothing to report in this section."

The War Department heads received the news with gratification, but no official comment was made.

General March, chief of staff, contented himself with the description of the military situation made public yesterday.

It is expected, however, that more (Concluded on Page 2, Column 2.)

Progress of the War.

(By the Associated Press.) THE German retreat continues unabated, with the allies everywhere in hot pursuit.

Apparently the situation now has resolved itself into a race for the northern bank of the Aisne River by the Germans, who have been evicted from strategic positions along the Vesle River, in the center of the line, and directly east of Rheims, which seemingly renders necessary that they put the Aisne between themselves and their pursuers to escape further large losses of men made prisoner.

After hard fighting the Americans and French have succeeded in taking Fismes, once Germany's great ammunition and supply, midway on the railway between Soissons and Rheims, while to the east at a number of places along the Vesle River the French have crossed the stream, driving the enemy northeastward.

East of Soissons allied troops have negotiated the passage of the Aisne and are in position to harass the enemy as he endeavors to straighten out his line in conformity with that running northwestward.

So fast has been the retreat in the center that already some elements of the German forces have succeeded in reaching the northern bank of the Aisne and getting numbers of their big guns across with them.

All through the salient towns are still ablaze behind the retreating Germans, and even cornfields have been set afire in order to prevent the allied troops from garnering the ripened crop.

One of the most important maneuvers north of the Vesle was the penetration by the French to the village of La Neuville, which releases the German hold on the northern outskirts of Rheims and seemingly delivers the cathedral city from the German menace.

With the Germans now thoroughly vanquished thus far on the Soissons-Rheims salient, eyes are being turned to the regions in the northwest on both sides of Amiens.

There the French and British are keeping up their hard pressure against the armies of Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria and have forced them to two highly important sectors to retreat.

Southeast of Amiens on the old Montdidier sector, the Germans have fallen back across the Avre River over a wide front, while northeast of Amiens, in the region of Albert, a similar retrograde movement has been made across the Ancre.

NOSE IS BROKEN BY JOLT

Bump in Road Throws Pastor's Wife Against Top of Auto.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—To have her nose broken by hitting the top of an automobile while making the trip from Klamath Falls to Merrill was the unusual experience of Mrs. Aaron Wolfe, wife of the new Presbyterian pastor at the latter point. She was on her way with her husband to his new field here.

Mrs. Wolfe was seated in the rear seat and in being shaken on one of the rough spots of the road, struck her nose against a top brace.

ALLEGED SHIRKERS JAILED

Sixty Butte Men Arrested Under Non-Producers Law.

BUTTE, Mont., Aug. 4.—Acting on instructions of the State Council of Defense, city police early this morning made the arrest of 60 men who will be held for investigation.

They are charged with violating the law relating to nonproducers.

SIBERIAN POLICY FAILS TO SUIT ALL

Britain and France Are Disappointed.

PLAN HELD TO BE TOO SMALL

Washington Contends Big Army Would Irritate Slavs.

MISSION IDEA IS CRITICISED

Opinion Expressed That Other Nations Besides America Should Be Represented in Economic Part of Intervention.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—President Wilson's plan for dealing with the Russian situation is regarded here in diplomatic quarters as disappointing to some of the allies, notably Great Britain and France, although they have assented to the proposal that America and Japan shall operate in Vladivostok with a joint military force to guard the port and aid the Czech-Slovaks in a small military way.

While it is known that the French and British also are to send small forces to Vladivostok, they are to operate independently of the American-Japanese force. Protective operations at Murmansk and Archangel by the French, British and Americans are to continue.

Plan Held Not Comprehensive.

The disappointment in the outcome of the protracted negotiations over the Siberian problem lies in the fact that the plan of operations is not sufficiently comprehensive.

This is known to be the feeling of Great Britain and France, although in Washington official contention is adhered to that if the allies sent any large force of troops into Russian territory the Russian people might show their resentment by turning to the Germans and asking their help to expel the allied army.

Another feature of disappointment which it is regarded will certainly develop is the limiting of the economic commission to be sent to Siberia to Americans.

Wider Representation Favored.

Leading men of other allied nationalities who are deeply interested in the regeneration of Russia and salvation surely will look upon the decision of the government to confine this commission to citizens of the United States with regret.

It has been urged throughout the period of consideration of this important problem that the commission should be composed of distinguished citizens of all the allied nationalities headed preferably by an American and one known to the Russian people.

The fact that President Wilson has determined to make it a strictly American commission, therefore, will be criticized abroad in the opinion of the diplomatic world.

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FLEEING FOE HALTS AT VESLE TO DIE

FLOODED RIVER AND ASSAULTING FORCES DEATH TRAP.

All Germans Not Killed Are Captured; Number of Prisoners Will Thrill All World.

PARIS, Aug. 4.—The number of prisoners captured by the allies during the last two days will thrill the allied world when announced.

The Vesle River, which was flooded owing to the recent heavy rains, hampered the German rear-guards, which were unable to ford the stream. Most of those Germans were killed and the rest were made prisoners.

Allied forces in pursuit of the Germans have passed through veritable charnel houses. Bodies of men and horses are mingled with broken down vehicles alongside ammunition dumps, some exploded and others intact.

Bodies of Germans found in clusters beyond the range of the allied artillery indicate that severe punishment was inflicted on the fleeing columns by the aviators.

SAN DIEGO MINE VICTIM

U-56 Responsible for Cruiser Sinking Members of Crew Say.

A CANADIAN PORT, Aug. 4.—The United States cruiser San Diego was sunk off Fire Island last month by a mine laid by the German submarine U-56, which captured and burned the Canadian schooner Dorffonstein in the Bay of Fundy last Friday, members of the crew of the submarine told sailors of the sailing ship who were taken on board the submarine.

The captain and crew of the Dorffonstein arrived here later last night, after having been held on the U-boat for five hours and then ordered to take to their lifeboats.

They said that members of the U-boat crew told them there were four submarines operating off the Atlantic Coast, but they expected more to arrive soon.

HUNS SHIP WHEAT HOME

Thousands of Bushels of Captured French Wheat Sent.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY ON THE SOISSONS-RHEIMS FRONT, Saturday, Aug. 3.—(By the Associated Press.)—Thousands of bushels of French wheat have been shipped home by German soldiers. The French and Americans, during their advance of the last few days, have discovered that systematic plans had been laid by the country from which they have been driven.

The allies have found large stacks of small canvas bags to be distributed among the soldiers to be filled with wheat.

PURSUIT TIRES YANKEES

Boches Run So Fast That Americans Are Out of Breath.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE AISNE-MARNE FRONT, Aug. 3.—(By the Associated Press.)—An indication of the stern chase the allies are forcing upon the Germans was contained in a message which came over the field wires to headquarters from a commander leading an American unit. "My men must rest," he said. "Must rest!" exclaimed headquarters. "Yes," was the answer. "Our men are absolutely tired out running to keep up with the Germans."

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ENEMY IN FLIGHT BEFORE BRITISH

Withdrawals Extend Over Ten-Mile Front.

FRENCH GET GRIP ON AVRE

Slopes Down to Western Side of River Held; Albert Situation Not Clear.

EAST BANK LIKELY TAKEN

Germans Believed Likely to Attempt Stand on Chemin des Dames Ridge.

LONDON, Aug. 4.—On the British front the Germans have withdrawn between Montdidier and Moreuil, a distance of ten miles.

The French hold the slopes down to the western side of the Avre River.

British in Close Pursuit.

The situation around Albert is somewhat obscure, but the British have been closely following the enemy and it is probable that the Germans have by now evacuated the eastern bank of the Avre. The villages of Hamel and Dernancourt are in the possession of the allies.

Foe May Try to Stand.

Indications are that the Germans do not intend to make a permanent stand on the banks of the Aisne, but that they will retreat to the Chemin des Dames ridge, which is one of the strongest positions in France. For the moment the enemy may try to hold the French while getting away with their stores.

The allies captured the Chemin des Dames once.

Patrols Reach Ancre.

The text of the official statement issued by the War Office today reads: "Our patrols have reached the Ancre River between Dernancourt and Hamel and are in contact with the enemy on this line."

"The hostile artillery showed some activity during the night in the sector north of Bethune and south of Ypres."

The distance between Dernancourt and Hamel is approximately six miles.

Raiders Driven Off.

The official report from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters in France tonight says:

"A hostile raiding party was driven off this morning south of Arras, without loss to us. Our patrols captured a few prisoners during the day in the La Basse sector."

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 4.—By the Associated Press.—The Germans are retreating on the left bank of the Avre River between Bourges and Braches, northwest of Montdidier, on a front of five miles in extent.

Allied patrols are keeping in contact with the enemy.

Late reports show that Braches was occupied this evening, while Hargicourt and Courtemanche had been reached.

Everywhere the enemy is being strongly pushed with no respite. After the occupation of Braches, Hill 97, northeast of Mesnil St. Georges, came to the possession of the French, and then Hills 60 and 98 in the same neighborhood. The French occupied the Fiescamp farm, south of Braches, and the Village of Marpart and the Francicourt Wood. The southward limit of the retirement reaches Fontaines-Sous-Montdidier.

Indications of the new German retreat in the vicinity of the Avre have been observed for some time. Since the French attacks on Castel several weeks ago, the Germans had been in an extremely unfavorable position in the valley of the Avre, where they suffered day and night from an enfilading fire. Recent allied victories between the Aisne and the Marne evidently forced them to shorten the line opposite Amiens.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 4.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Germans opposite parts of the British front apparently are changing their operations from offensive to defensive. They have made a purely local retirement in the Albert sector to the east bank of the Ancre. While this is not especially important in itself, it indicates a

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