

ALLY DRIVE SENDS Foe CRASHING BACKWARD

American and French Smash on Marne Front Proving Far More Serious Than German Offensive It Stopped on Thursday.

After Hours of Terrific Fighting Along 15-Mile Front the Huns Give Way and Retreat Becomes More Rapid; Disaster Impends.

By Lowell Mellett
WITH the French Armies in the Field, July 20.—(U. P.)—The Germans south of the Marne have been completely defeated and are retreating across the river before the Franco-American drive.

The allies began their advance between Fossy and Queilly today. The enemy's dogged resistance was unable to withstand the pressure of this 15 mile assault and the Germans retreated slowly northward, contesting every foot.

After hours of sanguinary fighting, the Boche retreat became more rapid and large elements began to recross the river. The allies are still pressing forward and there is every indication that the German defeat may become serious.

Developments reveal that the allied counter attack is more important than the German offensive effort which it stopped, if measured solely by the number of prisoners and regardless of the far reaching consequences in other respects.

(The German war office last night claimed more than 20,000 prisoners.)
Up to today as many happy German prisoners had trudged to the rear as their worried "kenneders" on the other side of the lines had been able to take in five days' fighting.

Battle Largely in Open
The battle on all parts of the front continues largely in the open. The French, enjoying the opportunity to prove their maneuvering ability, are striking swiftly and surely. The French generals are using legions with a mobility akin to that of their own light tanks, and are resting in the forest's folds. One of the finest features of the battle. They have been used almost like cavalry, scuttling over the ground and up hillsides like Boches, discharging their machine guns, sweeping the German defense off its feet and pursuing the demoralized Boches. The dash and courage of the tank crews have won this testimony from the highest quarters.

"The heroism of the crews is above all praise."
Forest Plays Its Part in Battle
When the whole story of the battle is told, it probably will be revealed that the forest played a part like Birnam wood, famous in English history.
The vast French forest did not rise up and drive on the German lines, nor did the French and Americans carry branches to befuddle the enemy, but the effect was the same when the allied hordes swept out from the forest's perfect natural camouflage with a rush that carried them across the German lines.

I visited the forest yesterday evening and saw more Germans than the Americans and French combined, but they were all prisoners. They were marching cheerfully away from the fight, chiefly boys about 18, apparently this year's class.

Enemy Uses 45 Divisions
According to information received at French headquarters, the enemy used about 55 divisions (about 87,000 troops) in his latest offensive. Of these, seven or eight divisions (87,500 to 100,000 troops) were south of the Marne. These latter troops lacked supplies and were forced to retreat north of the river. Since Wednesday the fire of the French batteries which had the range of the enemy bridges across the river, made the German passage of the river extremely difficult and hazardous.

Suffrage Reform Bill Is Accepted, Report

Amsterdam, July 20.—A Budapest dispatch says the Hungarian suffrage reform bill has been accepted by a large majority.

Fighting Yankees in Picture

A page of actual battle photographs showing American soldiers in action in France will be a feature of The Sunday Journal

Next Sunday

Statisticians Figure Central Powers Beaten

Civilian Population Unable to Withstand Ravages of War Much Longer, Is Claim.

Washington, July 20.—Astounding proof that the nations of the central powers are rapidly crumbling and that their civilian population cannot withstand the ravages of war more than two years longer, was disclosed today by Dr. Raymond Pearl, statistician of the food administration.

Through comparison of data gathered by agents of the allied governments and the United States, statisticians have established the following conclusions: The net decrease in birth rates in 1917 was 48 per cent in Germany and 54 per cent in Hungary.

The net decrease in England and France was 24 per cent.
Germany's loss in population was 40,000 per 1,000,000. Hungary's, 70,000 per 1,000,000, and England's, 10,000 per 1,000,000.

The marriage rate in England showed a marked increase but the rate in the central powers declined sharply.
A great decrease in the mortality rate in England coupled with the increased marriage rate will result in a net increase in population in the British Isles as a result of the war.

War greatly increases the death rate among all persons of 70 years or over, due to worry and nervous excitement.
The marriage rate of any country is the surest indication of the morale of the nation.

Deaths among the soldiers of all nations, with the possible exception of Germany, are not greater than if the men were in civil life, due to the increased health conditions.

Ex-czar Nicholas Reported Executed

London, July 20.—Nicholas Romanoff, former czar of all the Russians, is again reported dead, this time on the authority of the British government at Moscow, in a wireless message which says the ex-emperor was executed four days ago by order of the Russian soviet council of the Ural. A counter revolutionary plot to assassinate the former czar from Soviet control and proclaim him emperor again is given as the reason.

15 Persons Killed in Trolley Crash

Chelsea, Mich., July 20.—(U. P.)—Fifteen persons were reported killed and 80 others injured when a Detroit-bound limited passenger car on the Detroit & Chicago Electric railway, and a west-bound freight car collided one mile west of here at 8:30 o'clock tonight. Six of the dead were Detroit soldiers en route to Detroit. Nine bodies have been brought here. Others were taken to Ann Arbor.

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REPORTER GOES OVER TORN FIELD OF BATTLE

Shells Scream Overhead as Trip Is Made Behind the Advancing Americans; German Dead Seen in Thick Piles on All Sides.

Piles of Captured Machine Guns Represent Loot of Battle; Soldiers Advance Merrily Into the Fight; Men Jam the Roads.

By Fred S. Ferguson
United Press Staff Correspondent
WITH the Americans Along the Soissons-Paris Road Near Missy-Aux-Bois, July 19.—(U. P.)—(Night.)—A vast plateau covered with waving wheat, marked by new dusty roads, helmets, guns, battered equipment, heaps of dead Germans and scattered American dead, with rifle butts standing above the wheat where bayonets had been thrust in the ground to mark where others of our heroes lie—such is the battleground over which the Americans advanced southwest of Soissons.

I crossed the battlefield this afternoon from a slight rise on the plateau near Missy-aux-Bois (six miles southwest of Soissons) and witnessed the renewed American attack. American shells, screaming overhead, ribboned the sky.

Two airplanes battled just above. I could see the rolling barrage moving toward another rise, upon which the Americans were advancing.

Yankies Gay as They Advance
German shells broke in Missy-aux-Bois along the road which was jammed with wagons, horses and men. They were obviously intended for the road, but always landed in the wheat field adjoining. The crash, flash and smoke was hardly noticed by the men and horses as they bent to the grim business of making war.

Meanwhile, ahead of us the Americans were advancing. I could see the second wave, or mop-up—I was unable to distinguish which—starting. They walked along as easily as though merely answering a call to arms.

Through my glasses I could see they carried full packs, ready to dig themselves into their new positions.

Screaming Shells Pass Overhead
Just behind them was a big tank, but apparently it was not in action.

The zero hour was 5:30. The barrage started on the minute. The men simultaneously left the holes they had dug in the middle of the wheat, marching steadily toward the Boches.

The shells forming the barrage broke in a steady, straight line ahead, the smoke cloud slowly advancing. A line of trees along the Soissons-Paris road interfered with my view of the first wave, but I knew the boys were making new history.

At 6 o'clock the Boche artillery was becoming more active, while in a slight depression just behind me a long line of American field guns were pounding away with an ear-splitting roar, sending over the barrage.

Further in the rear our heavies were hurling shells that tore by with horrible screams, bound for the German rear areas.

Wires Carried on With Advance
Back at headquarters I knew that reports were coming in every moment, as the signal corps stretched the wires across behind the advancing infantry.

U. S. Casualties in War Reach 12,495
Washington, July 20.—(U. P.)—American casualties in the great war have now amounted to 12,495 and General March today warned members of the senate military committee that for the next 30 days the lists covering the present west front fighting will affect many more American homes.

FRANCO-AMERICAN COUNTER ATTACK

LACK line shows the battle front in Belgium and France as it was when the allied counter offensive was begun Thursday between the Aisne and the Marne, which since has extended ward beyond Rheims to a point near Souvain. Control of the Chateau-Thierry-Soissons highway was a major objective and the shaded section indicates the advance made by the allies between those points. To the eastward the enemy is retiring beyond the Marne.



Fate of Paris Is Again Decided in Marne Valley In Flank Attack on Foe

By Frank H. Simonds
Author of "The World War," "They Shall Not Pass," Copyright, 1918, The New York Tribune Association, The New York Tribune.
New York, July 20.—The Germans have lost their second battle of the Marne. Once more it would seem that the fate of Paris and of Western civilization has been decided in the valley of the river which gave its name to the most momentous struggle of the present world war.

After four days of a desperate but in the main fruitless offensive Ludendorff has temporarily at least lost the initiative, and the Foch who is pursuing the offensive and harvesting a toll of guns and prisoners surpassing the German achievement in the first days of the attack.

First Marne Battle Recalled
Under circumstances strangely recalling the first battle of the Marne, the decisive phase of this second battle of the Marne was fought 46 months and 10 days after the earlier struggle, and on ground which saw the fighting of the other Marne.

The clock the Boche artillery was becoming more active, while in a slight depression just behind me a long line of American field guns were pounding away with an ear-splitting roar, sending over the barrage.

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Idaho-Montana Fires Rage Uncontrolled

Missoula, Mont., July 20.—(I. N. S.)—Electrical storms and continued hot weather have brought the forest fire situation in western Montana and northern Idaho to a climax with hundreds of fires, large and small, raging almost uncontrolled. Serious fires are burning in the Clearwater, Selway, Coeur d'Alene, Kootenai, Kaniklu and Pen d'Oreille forests, covering many thousands acres.

Shortage of fire fighters, which developed Thursday and Friday add menace the success of efforts to subdue the flames, was relieved somewhat today by the importation of several hundred men from Butte and Great Falls.

Seventeen new fires were reported this morning in the Kaniklu forest from lightning, with 11 new blazes from the same source in the Kootenai forest. In the Pen d'Oreille forest lightning started eight new fires. The thunder storm, practically devoid of rain, are the result of hot weather, and are now the forest officials' worst foes.

Ten Americans Take Ambulance From Hun

Paris, July 20.—Ten Americans, led by Richard C. Schreeve of Rochester, N. Y., today rescued two ambulances and 40 American wounded which had been captured by the Germans.

Making a dash at the truck in which the Germans were guarding the wounded prisoners, the Americans beat off the Boches and brought their comrades and the recaptured ambulances back to the allied lines.

Deserters Betrayed Plans, Says Zeitung

Amsterdam, July 20.—(U. P.)—"German deserters betrayed our military plans and the aims of our recent offensive were attained," a Berlin dispatch to the Cologne Volk-Zeitung declares.

The dispatch adds that the offensive was aimed at Paris.

New Wage Scale to Be Rendered July 25

Seattle, July 20.—The decision of Director General McAdoo of the railroad administration on proposed new wage scales for the mechanics' crafts will be rendered July 25, Mr. McAdoo announced here today. He said that the decision had been delayed because of his absence from Washington.

Czernin Still Has Peace Suggestions

Amsterdam, July 20.—(U. P.)—Count Czernin, addressing the upper house of the Austrian reichsrath, suggested that the foreign ministers of Austria-Hungary and Germany and Premier Lloyd George forward their peace conditions to some neutral.

O'Leary Jury Fails To Agree; Dismissed

New York, July 20.—(U. P.)—The jury in the trial of John J. O'Leary, charged with conspiring to assist his brother, Jeremiah, to escape while awaiting trial on a conspiracy charge, was discharged today, when the Premier Lord George forward their peace conditions to some neutral.

87th Anniversary of Belgium Observed

Washington, July 20.—(U. P.)—Confidence in a re-annexed Belgium, free from German oppression, was expressed by President Wilson today in a message of sympathy to King Albert on the eighty-seventh anniversary of the war-stricken little country.

Big Victory Within Grasp

And in the face of all these thousands and tens of thousands, the French and Americans are driving on. They are reported climbing to the outskirts of Soissons, less than two kilometers (a mile and a quarter) from the city itself.

GERMAN HORDES ARE FORCED TO RETREAT BACK ACROSS MARNE

Franco-Americans Are Battering Enemy From Two Sides, Rolling Up German Armies Between Aisne and Marne; Foe Is Beaten in Repeated Counter Attacks

Chateau-Thierry-Soissons Highway Has Been Pierced; Advances Continue With Thousands of Prisoners Reported; Big Guns Command Wide Area on Front

PARIS, July 21.—(U. P.)—12:05 A. M.—The German retreat across the Marne has been completed, the war office announced this morning. The entire south bank has been cleared of the enemy.

Further advances have been made between the Aisne and the Marne. More than 20,000 prisoners have been taken on the whole front and over 400 guns have been captured.

ALL DEAD OR PRISONERS

By Lowell Mellett
WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES, July 20.—(U. P.)—All the Germans who are now south of the Marne are either prisoners or dead.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE AISNE MARNE FRONT, July 20.—"The Germans are burning towns behind their lines in the Chateau-Thierry region.

By Frank J. Taylor
(United Press Staff Correspondent)
With the Americans in the Champagne, July 20.—(U. P.)—The long-expected retirement of the Germans from the Soissons-Rheims pocket may be under way.

American airmen, harassing the Boches back of the front lines, report congested movements of men, artillery and supplies over the German roads, easterly from positions north of Chateau-Thierry and backward along the rest of the front.

The withdrawal of the Germans south of the Marne is being hampered by American and French artillery barrages, which are trained in successive walls of fire from the enemy positions to the river and beyond. The river front is becoming a holocaust for the Boche troops. Many German detachments have hurled themselves at the allied bayonets rather than face the terrible barrages in their rear. Small groups of the Germans have broken through into the woods, but these are being rapidly hunted down and exterminated.

The net result of the German push southward had been only enormous losses along the entire front. Whole German divisions have been broken up.

The allies are still attacking everywhere as this is cabled—from Soissons to northwest of Chateau-Thierry, between Chateau-Thierry and Rheims, and east of Rheims.

Big Victory Within Grasp
The situation south of the Marne is rapidly assuming the proportions of a German disaster, according to the latest reports. The retreat across the river can be accomplished only under the most disastrous conditions, as was proven by the enemy retirement following the Americans' success on a much smaller front earlier in the week. At that time thousands of Boches were caught in a trap and captured or slain, while great numbers were drowned. There is every indication that this coup may be repeated on a larger scale.