

STIFF RESISTANCE INDICATES STRONG LINE ESTABLISHED

Prisoners Insist Most Determined German Stand Will Come Between Rheims and Soissons.

RETREAT STILL PROGRESSES

German Artillery Works With Infantry for First Time Since Rearward Movement Started.

By Fred S. Ferguson
With the American Armies in France, July 31.—(U. P.)—Stiff resistance and bitter efforts are being made to keep the allies from breaking through it, but prisoners insist the enemy will make his most determined stand between Rheims and Soissons.

The orderly German retreat toward Fismes is still in progress, screened by heavy rearguard action along the line from Villenontville through Parcy-et-Tigny, Grand Rovey and Fere-en-Tardenois eastward beyond Sergy and Serignes and on to Rouchères. Americans hold Sergy and Hill 212 nearby. They also have stormed and hold Meurcy farm.

German Artillery Resumes

The battle is constantly becoming fiercer. In bitter hand to hand conflicts the American infantry was at grips with the enemy all day Tuesday. German artillery is working with the infantry for the first time since the retreat started. American artillery is superbly backing up our infantrymen.

Remnants of the Fourth Prussian guards continue to oppose the American advance in the region of Sergy. In the fighting there, our troops charged up one side of a hill and over the crest into strong German forces massed on the opposite slope.

American batteries sent a barrage ahead of the columns which swept on and pushed through the enemy despite vigorous resistance, cleaning out German machine gun nests as they advanced.

Boches Leave Many Traps

In their retreat the Boches left many traps for the Americans. On one section our line bridges over the Ourcq and roads leading to the river were mined in the expectation that United States troops would be blown up when they tried to cross the stream. One of the roads was heavily mined, but the explosion failed to materialize.

The Boche also established machine gun pits—two men to each—in fields and along ridges north of the Ourcq. Working under cover of darkness the enemy organized strong positions into which the Americans were expected to blunder in their advance.

In one section considerable barbed wire was found stretched in front of the machine gun pits. Our artillery did excellent work in destroying these barbed wire and shelters, then the Americans rushed in and routed the enemy in hand to hand encounters.

Ambulances Go to Front Line

Ambulances are being driven straight to the front line so the wounded may be cared for with more speed. The signal corps, working under shell fire, has maintained uninterrupted telephone connections since the start of the battle, stretching new wires as fast as the enemy's bombardment destroys them.

In fact, every unit of the army is distinguishing itself.

Prisoners were brought in during the night from the Fifth Bavarian reserves, the Fifth and Sixth chassours and the Fifth foot guards.

They reported that one Boche company, which was 100 strong before it crossed the Marne at the start of the German offensive, has only seven men left.

Two men taken today said they were the only survivors of their unit.

Air Struggle Is Constant

There is a constant struggle for mastery of the air. German and allied planes are constantly diving in and out of the clouds. Some airmen exhibit great daring, swooping low to turn their machine guns upon the enemy and pack with trucks, from which great clouds of dust roll up, betraying the place where traffic is most dense. Aviators always select such highways for their special attacks.

I passed through miles of American trucks, wagons and marching men, all moving forward. The men hardly looked human, they were so packed.

Military policemen at crossroads direct traffic, so, despite the congestion, there is no confusion.

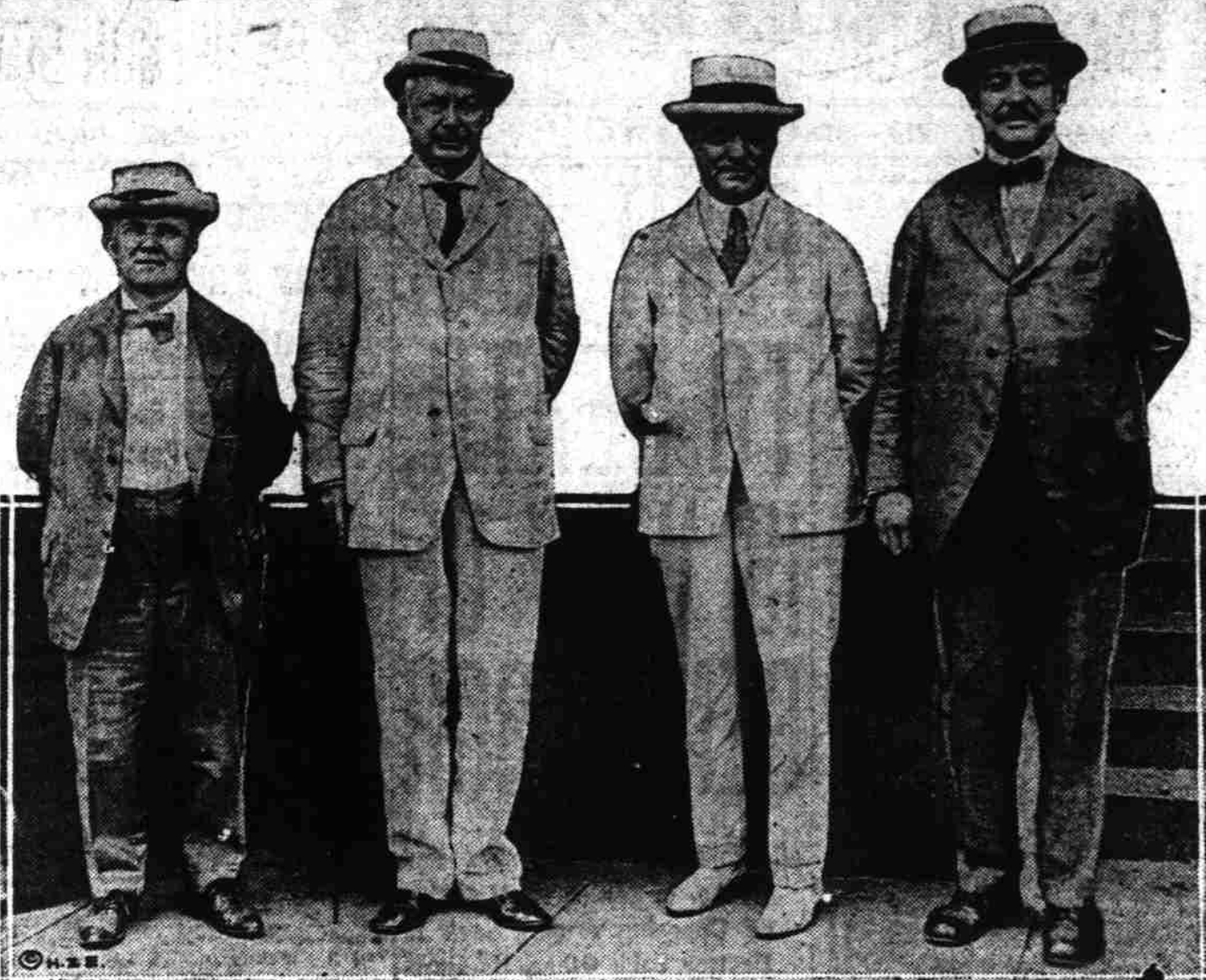
AMERICANS CONTINUE ADVANCE FROM OURCQ

By Newton C. Parks

With the American Army at the Aisne, July 30.—(Night).—(U. P.)—Americans gave the Germans the cold steel in a series of violent hand to hand encounters for possession of the heights north of the Ourcq river, which raged all day, and were still going on tonight.

The Americans continued to thrust northward despite the fact that the

COMMITTEE WHICH WILL TAKE CHARGE OF WIRES



Left to right—David J. Lewis, former congressman from Maryland, now member of the U. S. tariff commission; Albert S. Burleson, postmaster general; John C. Koens, first assistant postmaster general, and William H. Lamar, solicitor for the postoffice department.

Boches had rushed fresh troops into action in motor trucks and laid down a heavy barrage against our advanced elements.

Our progress was not quite so rapid as it had been on Sunday.

At daybreak we had cleared the Germans entirely from Serignes-et-Nesle. During the night the Americans had penetrated the village from the west, taking the Boches completely by surprise. In the meanwhile the Germans were keeping the slopes to the south under heavy machine gun fire, where the Americans had made a demonstration.

After sharp bayonet fighting the Germans were thrown back to the outskirts.

Artillery Clears Wood

The attack which hurled the German defenders back was led by a certain captain from Ohio.

A thick bunch of German machine gun nests in the small wood known as Bois De Brule (south of Serignes) held up the advance of our right flank. The officers saw that the position could not be taken except at considerable loss, so the artillery was signalled.

After 40 minutes of violent shelling the infantry rushed forward, going through the wood with but little resistance. The men found that the machine gun emplacements had been blown to bits.

Then other elements to the right of this attack cleared up many machine gun nests to a creek. Prussian Guard division in Sunday's and Monday's fighting, we made some further progress.

Hill 212 Captured

North of Sergy, where American farm boys administered such a stiff drubbing to a crack Prussian Guard division in Sunday's and Monday's fighting, we made some further progress. East of this village the Americans stormed and captured Hill No. 212, commanding the approaches to Sergy from the north.

With our machine guns playing steadily across this road, the Germans did not attempt to recapture the village which has been the scene of such a desperate struggle.

To the southeast of Sergy, the Germans continue to contest every inch of ground, counter attacking with great violence.

German artillery of heavier calibre has been shelling the areas in our rear, indicating that the enemy has concentrated artillery on the plateau northeast of Fere-en-Tardenois in an effort to impede our advance toward the Fismes line.

Lieutenant Out-Maneuvered Boches

Despite this fire it was possible, with comparative safety, to reach several commanding points, south of the Ourcq river from which to observe our advance north of the stream, while the German barrage was dotting our line with shell fire.

From one of these points of vantage observers watched an American lieutenant leading an attack toward Nesle. He cleverly outmaneuvered the Boches.

He believed that the Americans would climb the slope through the ravine. They laid down their barrage accordingly.

Then the lieutenant simply shifted his men to the left of the ravine thus avoiding the shell torrent. When German air observers had reported this back to the batteries, the barrage was moved westward. Thereupon the lieutenant quickly moved his line of advance back

to the old position and sent the men rushing up the ravine to the ridge above before the German artillery could learn of the move.

Thus far we have captured more than 30 German machine guns in fighting across the Ourcq, which is increasing evidence of the mauling we gave the Prussian Guard divisions. It is having a bad moral effect upon the other German units.

One German guard company went into action with 86 men commanded by a lieutenant. The officer was killed and only 30 of the men remained alive. All the others had been killed by American rifle and machine gun fire.

FIGHT NOW TO DEATH, IS VIEW OF GEN. MARCH

(Continued from Page One)

It was the third division under command of Major General Dickman which met and crushed the attack of the Prussian guards and the picked Bavarian forces. The entire allied forces have done wonderful work, according to the latest reports reaching the war colleges and the general staff here. Discussing the general outlook, General March today made it plain that the developments in the present battle caused both sides to reconsider earlier objectives. In the general's own words:

"Each side is now out to kill as many of the others as possible. This has resulted in the bringing up of reinforcements as fast as possible. So rapidly did the Germans retreat last Saturday on the 20 mile front as the battle was raging that they got out of touch with the infantry of the American and French armies, and it was necessary to throw cavalry into the case to reestablish the contact lines.

In discussing the satisfactory progress of the fighting from the American standpoint, General March also let it be known that there is to be a United States army in the future. The regular army, the national guard and the national army as separate units, are to be done away with. All will be organized by the general staff as the army of the United States. Or, as General March so aptly put it today:

"It is our intention to put the letters U. S. on the collar of every soldier who is fighting for the nation."

Six New Divisions Planned

General March also announced the creation of six additional divisions, which are to be organized in this country. These will be numbered the fifteenth to the twentieth, inclusive, and will be organized at Camp Logan, Kearny, New Jersey, under the command of General Pershing. The divisions will be organized around 15 regiments of cavalry—the Three Hundred First to the Three Hundred Fifteenth—taken from the national army and reorganized as field artillery.

General March stated that it was the purpose of the war department to expedite the sending of all auxiliary units to this country. This will be our reply to the German insinuation that the lists are being concealed. General Pershing, it was stated, has been directed to cable all casualties the moment they become available at headquarters. They will be checked here and, as soon as their accuracy has been established, the names will be made public immediately.

Third Division Is Praised

The work of the third division, which has been at the tip of the spearhead directed by the allies into the German lines, has been most excellent. These troops, made up of regular army men, many of whom were veterans, not only met German force with force, but when forced to retire by sheer weight of numbers, always came back stronger than ever and eventually held the advantage when the German attack slackened and then stopped.

During the last few days the general salient of the Germans has been flattened out east of Vincelles on an eight mile front. Southwest of Rheims the Germans were forced back along the Rheims road. On the west flank the enemy line has been maintained practically unchanged, but on the east flank this angle has been reduced. Since July 18 the allies have gained an area of more than one-half of the Rheims salient.

In reply to a question, General March stated that the 45th division now is under the command of Brigadier General John L. Hines.

German Blow Is Postponed

Paris, July 31.—(U. P.)—The newspaper *Foche* de Paris said today that a semi-official note, emanating from Hindenburg and Ludendorff, declared the German command had been compelled to postpone for some time the decisive blow against the French and British, owing to the new situation.

British Gain in Flanders

London, July 31.—(U. P.)—Successful raids were made by the British during the night in the sectors of Lens

and Bethune (on the Flanders front), the war office reported today. Some German prisoners were captured.

German artillery was active on the Somme and near Merris and Kemmel. The text of the war office's report follows:

"Several prisoners were captured by us during the night in successful raids and patrol encounters in the neighborhood of Lens, north of Bethune, and on the northern sector of our front."

A hostile raiding party was driven off by our fire southwest of La Bassée. "The enemy artillery has been active on both sides of the Somme valley and has shown some considerable activity about Merris and in the Kemmel sector."

Pershing Reports Gains

Washington, July 31.—(U. P.)—Reports of German counter attacks by American forces on the line of the Ourcq and improvement of the American positions was reported today by General Pershing.

"On the line of the Ourcq the enemy has renewed his counter attacks to force back our advancing troops," Tuesday's communique said. "In severe fighting we have repulsed his attacks and improved our positions."

Revolutionary Plot Responsible

Copenhagen, July 31.—(U. P.)—The assassination of Field Marshal Von Eichorn and his adjutant, Captain Dresler, at Kiev, was the outcome of a revolutionary plot, according to Berlin advice today.

Von Eichorn and the adjutant were entering the former's home at Kiev when the bomb was thrown.

The assassin and the driver of the cab in which he was driving were arrested.

Austrians Lose Heavily

Washington, July 31.—(U. P.)—Italian forces in Albania made a successful assault against the Austrians on the road to Elbasan. The Austrians attacked from an advantageous point north of the Semeti, but were hurled backward with heavy losses.

The Italians also took guns and prisoners in several minor raids north of Berat and near the sea.

German Plane Downed

With the American Army in France, July 31.—A German airplane was probably brought down by Lieutenant A. R. Brooks of Farmington, Mass., and Aviator Putnam of Newton, Mass., Monday. They report they saw the enemy fall behind Mount See, but could not see the machine crash, owing to fog and clouds.

14,500 Prisoners Taken By British

London, July 31.—(I. N. S.)—Since March 21 the British have captured 14,500 prisoners on the western front, not counting those taken in the last few days, it was officially announced in the house of commons this afternoon.

The first of Germany's 1918 offensives was launched on March 21.

TELEPHONE TALK MAY BE LIMITED BY U. S. GOVERNMENT

With All Wire Lines Coming Under Federal Control Meter System May Be Adopted.

PACIFIC COAST TALKS MOST

David J. Lewis, Under Postmaster General Burleson, Takes Control of All Wire Lines Tonight.

Washington, July 31.—Americans probably will be asked to do less talking over the telephone soon after Uncle Sam takes charge tonight. They're great little talkers now, with a grand total of more than 15,000,000 telephone conversations each year. Out on the Pacific coast they talk most, and in the eastern, south central states, the least. The big talkers will have to cut down, and maybe little talkers also.

At midnight tonight the wire communication system of the country will pass quietly under control of the government.

For the immediate present, officials say, there will be few changes in the method of operation. Administration will be through the same channels as before and by the same executive officers. Any changes the government undertakes will be with their assistance.

To Consolidate All Lines

The postmaster general and David J. Lewis, who is to be directly in charge of the wires under him, are proceeding slowly in mapping out the alterations they plan. They are studying the policies of the companies and their methods of operation.

A series of conferences have been held with representatives of the companies concerned.

Today, officers of the Western Union are meeting Postmaster General Burleson and his advisers.

Settling to be taken within a short time to consolidate competing companies but in this the government will proceed slowly. Officials said today a mass of details remain to be worked out before action can be taken.

May Install Meters

It wouldn't surprise anyone connected with the companies, nor with the post-office department if one of the first acts of Postmaster General Burleson's committee would be to abolish the unlimited service phone and make all service limited, possibly making it all metered.

It seems probable that the bureau of standards of the department of commerce may be called into conference before any radical change is made in methods of operation.

The bureau has made many studies of the wire methods and electrical discoveries and of the patents controlled by the wire companies.

Telegraph operators, too, are getting ready to see Mr. Burleson. They understand he favors a 25 per cent wage increase for them. So do they, and their committee hopes to find itself in usual accord with the postmaster general when they see him.

Lewis Qualified for Job

Washington, July 31.—(U. P.)—Forty-nine years old, unusually small in stature, energetic, optimistic, unspoiled, a former coal miner, lawyer and politician—that's David J. Lewis, who at midnight tonight assumes the responsibility of administering the great wire systems of the country under government control.

His life, now crowned with one of the greatest tasks of our government, has been, for the most part, one of toil. He learned the point of view of labor when for 14 years he mined coal. He learned the wire business from the ground up by

DANCING

taught by professional instructors at DeHoney's beautiful Academy, 23d and Washington. New classes for beginners start Tuesday evening and Thursday evening. All dances taught in eight lessons—ladies \$4, gents \$5. The only school teaching the entire evening, 8 to 11. Every step and figure of all dances thoroughly taught. Separate step room and extra teachers for backward pupils. Plenty of practice. No embarrassment. You will meet refined people and are sure to learn correctly. One lesson from us is worth six in the average school. Normal instruction for dancing teachers. Private lessons all hours. A full printed description of all modern dances given to all pupils free. War Stamps taken as money. Be sure to start this week. Prices will advance in a few days. Call afternoons or evenings. Phone Main 7555. Circulars mailed. (Adv.)

SAVE YOUR EYES

Complete lens grinding factory on the premises

THOMPSON OPTICAL INSTITUTE

Portland's Largest, Most Modern, Best Equipped Exclusive Optical Establishment.

209-10-11 CORBETT BLDG. FIFTH AND MORRISON SINCE 1908

TO ALL WHO SIGNED W. S. S. PLEDGES

Do not wait for notices. Begin now to make your purchases of War Savings Stamps in accordance with your pledges. Buy from any authorized agent. Every pledge will be carefully checked individually within a few weeks and the stamps you hold will be your evidence of having purchased according to your pledge. The sooner you purchase the full amount pledged the more it will profit you.

Limit club buttons are ready for those who purchased the \$1000 limit. Call at headquarters, 309 Journal building. C. N. WONACOTT, Associate State Director War Savings Committee.

studying it for many years. Today he is charged with applying his knowledge of the worker to his views on wire operation, to develop an efficient system that will bring about the realization of his government wire control dreams.

Special Coffin Is Built for Large Lady

Milwaukee, Wis., July 31.—(I. N. S.)—Miss Gertrude West, whose weight of 650 pounds made her a special attraction in a carnival company, is to remain a "special" even in death.

Carpenters are busy today building a special coffin for her body, as none in the local shops is large enough.

At that, it was a little thing which ended Miss West's life—a mosquito bite which she inadvertently scratched. She died here yesterday.

Hun Women Want No Holland Labor

Amsterdam, July 31.—(U. P.)—German women oppose the importation of laborers from Holland to replace German workmen who are sent to the front.

Thousands of women recently greeted a new batch of these Hollanders with a

Norma Talmadge

in the

"Safety Curtain"

and

Murtagh

on the

\$50,000 Organ

THE SIGN OF PERFECT SERVICE

Eyes carefully examined and properly fitted with glasses without the use of drugs by skilled specialists.

TWO EYES ARE ALL YOU GET

Q This is sufficient reason why you should take the very best of care of them.

Q The eyes are subject to more abuse and get less rest than any other part of the body.

Q Our advertisement will not help; it's only a warning to you.

Q Proper glasses should be secured at the first sign of failing vision.

Q Our many years' experience is at your service.

Complete lens grinding factory on the premises

SAVE YOUR EYES

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shower of stones, according to reports today from Essen. "Down the neutral job-stealers," the women cried. Police, reduced to a tenth of their strength by war's demands, were helpless. Most of the imported labor is sent to the Krupp works.

LIBERTY

NOW PLAYING

AND BALANCE OF WEEK

PEGGY HYLAND

in

'Other Men's Daughters!'

A violation of the Golden Rule that strikes back home

Note.—This feature was advertised two weeks ago, but was delayed in shipment from New York

EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION!!!

Lieut. J. Gallagher

IN PERSON

Will tell two years' experience in Flanders with the Canadian army

4—Other High Class Acts—4

ANIMATED WEEKLY

Till Saturday, then gone forever

MARGUERITE CLARK

as Both Eva and Topsy

in

Harriet Beecher Stowe's Never to Be Forgotten Immortal American Story

Uncle Tom's Cabin

When you started the New Year you were sure you would save money during 1918. Have you?

Isn't it because you have not compelled yourself to make deposits at stated periods?

Thousands of Oregon citizens are saving for a rainy day through

OUR 10, 15, 20 and 25-YEAR ENDOWMENTS

Because, in addition to this compulsory saving system, they provide insurance for the family if they die before the endowment matures.

Start today with an endowment in

Oregon Life Insurance Company

Successful—Conservative—Progressive

Home Office CORBETT BUILDING FIFTH AND MORRISON Portland, Ore.

A. L. MILLS, Pres. C. S. SAMUEL, Gen. Mgr. E. N. STRONG, Asst. Mgr.

We Make It Easy For You to Save Money

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Hearts of the World

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MATINEES—2:15—25c;