

BRITISH OPEN NEW DRIVE ON SOMME, FRENCH GAIN IN SALIENT TO EAST OF NOYON

(Continued From Page One)

German lines. Despite stubborn resistance the British smashed their way ahead last night and early today.

Achiet-Le-Grand, northwest of Bapaume, changed hands twice Wednesday in the fiercest kind of fighting. It finally remained in the hands of the British.

At some places General Byng's men have penetrated the German positions for four miles.

Heavy casualties have been inflicted on the foe. This has been possible because of the stiff resistance he put up. More than 2000 prisoners have been captured and many guns have fallen into the hands of the British.

British losses have been extraordinarily light.

By John De Gandt

Paris, Aug. 22.—(U. P.)—The French have crossed the Ailette river on a mile front between Champs and Guny, and are pushing toward Coucy-Le-Chateau.

(Coucy Le-Chateau is 11 miles directly north of Soissons and two miles east of Guny.)

In the Coucy-Le-Chateau region a German division prepared to counter attack, but a lightning-like French attack forced them to retreat. They fled in a panic, throwing the division immediately in the rear into confusion.

Noyon is rapidly being enveloped. It is now outflanked from the east. French troops are ready to cross the Oise canal, which they have reached between Varesnes and Marincourt (a mile and a half southeast of Noyon).

The Divette river is entirely in the hands of the French. Mangin's men are near Manicamp (at the junction of the Oise and Ailette rivers, seven miles east of Noyon).

Northwest of Soissons the Germans attempted a counter attack on Juigny ridge (four miles northwest of Soissons), but were quickly repulsed. A fleet of 70 heavy tanks at one point in the French advance spread terror among the Germans.

Allies Since July 18 Have Captured 100,000

Paris, Aug. 22.—(U. P.)—Since the start of the counter offensive July 18 the allies have taken 100,000 prisoners, according to statements published today by the Echo De Paris.

By Webb Miller

Paris, Aug. 22.—(10 A. M.)—(U. P.)—The armies of Generals Mangin and Humbert are closing in on Noyon, the bulwark of the German line, from two directions.

At some places they are only a few hundred yards from the town and are heavily bombarding it with field guns. They also are raining shells on the Germans toward Ham, 12 miles to the north. Military writers declare Noyon is already untenable and predict an immediate withdrawal beyond the Somme.

Fighting is continuing along a front of practically 35 miles, extending on both sides of the Oise.

Allied aviators bombing enemy areas beyond Noyon report considerable apparent preparations for a big retirement. In the past 48 hours, the French have taken more than 15,000 prisoners and a vast quantity of material, including thousands of machine guns and hundreds of cannon.

After taking Lassigny the French passed beyond in the direction of Vauchelles (a mile and a half west of Noyon). They have reached Lamare and Mont La Bache and possess Mont Charny, dominating the Oise.

Germans Launch Counter Blow at British Center

With the British Army in France, Aug. 22.—(Noon.)—(I. N. S.)—The Germans launched heavy counter attacks against the center of the British attack line in the sector south of Arras this afternoon.

FOCH SHIFTS THRUSTS TO MEET GERMAN TACTICS

By Robert S. Doman

Paris, Aug. 22.—(I. N. S.)—General Foch is following up his successes by following out his own maxim of "if the enemy has no weak point, make one." He is shifting his thrusts rapidly from Soissons to Lassigny and then to Roye. In each case he is adapting himself to the situation in such a manner as to economize French lives. It is authoritatively estimated that the French losses in the recent fighting have been only a quarter of those usually sustained in similar advances.

Where the enemy is entrenched.

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attacks are reported to have developed opposite Miraumont and Irie.

"Between 2000 and 3000 prisoners and a few guns were captured by us in our operation yesterday."

"Further progress has been made by us east and northeast of Merville. Our troops are on the outskirts of Neu-Berquin. Last night we attacked and captured hostile strong points north of Bailleul. A strong local counter attack delivered by the enemy yesterday morning against Locrehof farm, northwest of Bransoute, was repulsed after sharp fighting. Further fighting took place during the night in this sector."

French Official Report

Paris, Aug. 22.—(U. P.)—General Mangin's troops have reached the Ailette river in their advance between the Oise and the Aisne, the French line office announced today.

Fighting continued last night on the whole front from the region of Lassigny to the neighborhood of Soissons. The French captured St. Paul-aux-Bois (11 miles northwest of Soissons), passing out to the northward and reaching the Ailette at La Quincy-Basse.

(This represents a total advance of nine miles since Saturday.)

The French maintained contact throughout the night with the enemy, which was retreating between the Oise and the Matz and east of the Oise. The communiqué said "Le Piemont, Thiescourt, Cannancourt and Ville (all south of the Divette, between Lassigny and Noyon) have been occupied and the Divette reached."

"East of Noyon, the French border the Oise from Sompiy (a mile and a half south of Noyon) to Bretigny (four miles and a half east of Noyon)."

Further east they took Bourguignon (two miles southeast of Bretigny) and St. Paul-aux-Bois (two miles east of Bourguignon). From the latter we passed out to the northward. The Ailette was reached at La Quincy-Basse.

"Between the Ailette and the Aisne there was no change. The French hold the western borders of Pommeux (two miles west of Soissons)."

Odd Contrasts Behind Hun Lines

With the British Armies in France, Aug. 21.—(Night.)—(U. P.)—Troops that had gone blithely through the German lines on a 10 mile front this morning with the aid of a helpful mist, were pushing doggedly ahead this afternoon under a cruel sun, which proved as serious an enemy as the Boches. The further the British advanced the stiffer became the German resistance.

The area immediately in the rear of the fighting line supplied some odd contrasts. Soldiers were harvesting wheat while some women were working in fields that ended only a kilometer or two farther back. Fresh troops bound for the fight swung along behind bands playing cheerful airs.

WAR WITH U. S. EXISTS, ANNOUNCES BOLSHEVIKI

(Continued From Page One)

rest at the time the dispatch was filed and another was reported to be in hiding.

The homes of the Americans had been searched by the Bolshevik authorities and their property confiscated and destroyed.

The dispatch from Imbrie was practically the first to reach the state department following press reports early in August to the effect that the Bolsheviks had declared that a state of war "for defensive purposes" existed between the government and the allies.

Entente Council Formed

Washington, Aug. 22.—(U. P.)—The allied nations, with Russian cooperation, are rapidly formulating the groundwork for the direct aid to Russia's program. Creation of an "entente council" at Archangel with American Ambassador Francis as its president, has been completed. A similar "council" is to be created at Vladivostok and these two points for the time being would be the directing centers for military and economic aid in Northern and Eastern Russia.

The diplomats and Russian commanders will constitute the council at Archangel. At Vladivostok, General Graves will represent the United States, Charles Elliot will represent England, M. Matsurida will represent Japan and M. Regnaud, former French ambassador to Japan, will care for French interests there.

Military commanders of the allies, Russia and Czech-Slovaks will hold seats in the council.

These agencies will coordinate and direct the work of aid which daily is increasing in magnitude. The Red Cross will be the body through which distribution is carried on, because through this body, perhaps more than any other, can the respect and confidence of the populace be commanded.

Additional troops are being sent to Vladivostok and the French cruiser Kersaint has arrived to augment the allied naval forces.

The American Red Cross and allied armies in Siberia will give the first

Fred Merrill Jr., Killed in Action, His Chum Writes



Sergeant Fred T. Merrill Jr., transferred from the 10th Infantry to the 25th Infantry (Third Oregon), to Company M. Twenty-third Infantry, has paid the supreme sacrifice for his country in France, one of the first Portland boys killed in action.

Although no confirmation has been received from the war department, the death of the gallant young Merrill is vouched for by his chum and fellow sergeant, Kirby Ross, in a letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Ross, 129 North Twenty-first street, who was with the Merrill boy until he died.

Ross and Merrill had been lifelong friends. The latter was with Company B on the Mexican border. He enlisted in company B by consent of his parents when he was 18 years old. Ross and Merrill reached France eight months ago with the 162d Infantry and were transferred to the Twenty-third regiment of picked marksmen some weeks ago, going over the top together at Vaux, July 1, where Corporal Laughlin was killed by their side and Corporal Jane wounded, both of whom were transferred with him.

Merrill was the son of Fred T. Merrill, well known Portland sportsman, and Mrs. Merrill, 1104 East Stark street, and was well known in Portland. He was born February 2, 1898. He was graduated from Sunnyside grammar school and was a student at Washington high school. He was a member of the Multnomah Amateur Athletic club a blue star will be changed to gold in his memory, for he was one of the enthusiastic young members of that club and a number of other organizations.

The date of his death cannot be ascertained. He and Ross were together at Chateau-Thierry, when Vaux and 500 Germans were captured. The last letter received from him was written June 24.

The letter telling of Merrill's death was written July 30, by Sergeant Ross, and mentioned the casualty as follows: "Mother, I want you to do a favor for me. Please preserve the rifle of the rill and tell him that his son, Sergeant Fred T. Merrill, was killed in action fighting for his country like a hero. Tell him I was with his son until the end and ask him to accept my deepest sympathy for the great loss. I cried, mother, all day after it happened. Of course the government will let them know, but you tell them that Fred and I were together practically all the time."

Mr. Merrill has wired the war department seeking information relative to his son's death.

economic assistance to the people of Russia. After the arrival of General Graves, leader of the American forces at Vladivostok, the initial step is to provide food and clothing to the Czech-Slovak troops and to the Russian people who are in the territory to be policed by the allied armies.

To assist in uniting the many factions of Russia in this territory, it is planned to utilize Russian military officers now stranded in this and other allied countries. These men are anxious to serve. Chaotic financial conditions in Russia will reduce trade with that nation virtually to a state of barter, for a time after the allied governments are able to restore economic relations.

Trade in many sections now is wholly based on direct exchange of commodities.

WHEN BRAIN WEARY

Take Hovenden's Acid Phosphate and relieve the headache due to mental strain, worry or overwork. Non-alcoholic. Buy a bottle. (Adv.)

ADAMS OF OMAHA IS NEW HEAD OF G. A. R.

(Continued From Page One)

Installation of the new officers followed the election.

F. H. Hurd of Seattle, Mr. Adams' only opponent for commander in chief, withdrew just prior to the balloting. Resolutions were unanimously adopted calling upon the nation to nationalize its public school system that the basis of democracy may be laid and maintained and the welfare of individuals be promoted.

In this connection the resolutions committee, headed by T. Brouette, called attention to the vast number of men under arms and that three-quarters of a million of these must learn the English language before they can fight intelligently for the cause of democracy.

Big Encampment Closes

Members of the council of administration were duly elected at the close of the other elections, and a meeting was called for 4 o'clock at the Multnomah hotel.

Commander-in-Chief Adams appointed as members of his official staff: Col. R. R. Stowits, Buffalo, N. Y., quarter-master-general; A. M. Trimble, Nebraska, adjutant-general; George D. Kellogg, Newcastle, Cal., patriotic instructor.

After the election of officers the 52d annual session of the G. A. R. adjourned until another year, when it will meet at Columbus.

About 31 resolutions in all were introduced during the morning session. About two-thirds of these were tabled. The remainder were of a general nature, expressions of thanks to all those who helped to make the encampment at Portland such a success, one asking Commissioner of Pensions Salzgaber to reconsider his intention of resigning and continue in the service.

One resolution which passed unanimously was that of W. G. Verner, representing the Farragut Veteran Association, presented by Comrade William P. Griffith, for the preservation of the United States flagship Hartford, which served from 1861 to 1865. The ship now lies in the harbor of Charleston, S. C.

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and is used as a receiving ship. The resolution provides for the restoration of the vessel to its original condition, with rigging and battery, as she was when commanded by Admiral Farragut during the Civil war, and its removal to New York city, to be used as a receiving ship for enlistments and an inspiration of patriotism to the young men of America.

Mr. Verner is the only survivor of the original crew of 350 members that manned the ship in the Civil war, and one of the main purposes of his attending the encampment was to see that the historic ship, otherwise to have been finally relegated to the scrap heap, should be preserved.

Meet at Columbus Next Year

Business of the most strict and serious sort occupied the veterans and all the auxiliaries today. Elections of officers were the features, following the selection Wednesday of Columbus, Ohio, as the next convention city. The Grand Army men were eager to get the routine off their minds, the thought of numerous diversions waiting them being uppermost.

For today is the last of the encampment. That it has been one of the most successful is the ardent declaration of thousands. Daughters of Veterans kept open house at the city hall during the day and many delegates and visitors took advantage of the hospitality.

The "treat" of the week, however, is slated for Friday when all accredited delegates to the encampment will be guests of the people of Portland on a

trip up the Columbia River highway, the most scenic drive in America. That all may see the wonders of the Columbia gorge both by land and water, part of the party will be taken up on a river steamer leaving the foot of Alder street at 7:30 a. m. The other half will be loaded into automobiles and taken to Bonneville. The automobiles will start from the Multnomah hotel at 8:30.

At Bonneville, the automobile riders will board the boats and the boat riders will board the automobiles. Hundreds of encampment visitors who were denied the privileges of the official sessions because of lack of credentials visited the various public institutions all morning. Many were taken over the Columbia river highway, but dozens were disappointed in this because of a lack of automobiles.

One committeeman who felt this lack made a survey of two blocks near the Multnomah hotel, where the headquarters are, and counted more than enough automobiles parked at the curb by the business men owners to take all the visitors over the highway at one trip.

More are promised, however, for Friday.

C. E. Adams, of Omaha, who was elected commander-in-chief of the Grand Army, is a past department commander of Nebraska, and is now employed in the department of the United States army, inspecting overseas shipments of army supplies. He is also state president of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Mr. Adams served in the Civil war

as a member of the 5th Wisconsin battery, light artillery, and the 2d division, 14th army corps. He served throughout the entire war under Generals G. H. Thomas and W. T. Sherman. He has also been a member of the military staff of General Pershing, for whom he has the highest regard and with whom he has been acquainted for 27 years.

Mr. Adams, at the ceremony attendant upon the presentation of a large flag to Omaha, upon hearing a newsboy call, "All about Pershing to Europe," became so impressed with the importance of the position that he made the following announcement to the thousands who had gathered:

"President Wilson, in his wisdom, has appointed a splendid American soldier, Major General J. J. Pershing, to go to Europe, part of the debt we have been owing the splendid nation of France for 140 years for the service of Marquis de Lafayette."

Speaking personally of General Pershing, the new G. A. R. commander-in-chief says: "He is a candid and reliable in judgment and as prompt to put his judgment into execution as General Grant or General Thomas; he is as skilful in tactics and military maneuvering as General Lee, General Sherman, Stonewall Jackson or General Meade; he is as intrepidly brave as was Sheridan, Pickett, Logan or Custer, and is as superb a soldier and a general as General Hancock or General John D. Gordon."

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Hundreds of new Fall and Winter Coats are among the latest arrivals. Some full lined, others half lined. Loose and belted models in great array. Beautiful large self cape or fur collars are the vogue.

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