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MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 1918

NO. 57

FOCH HAS GERMAN DRIVE WELL IN HAND

HUNS WEDGE HALTED IN CENTER WIDENS OUT UPON BOTH WINGS AS RESERVES RACE TO BATTLE

Paris Confident That German Offensive will Be Halted In 48 Hours—Pressure Upon Wings Forces French Back to Outskirts of Soissons and British Behind St. Thierry—Soissons Said to Have Been Evacuated by Civilian Population—Under Bombardment Since Monday—Germans Claim Capture of 15,000 Troops in Present Smash.

PARIS, May 29.—General Foch now has the situation well in hand and French troops are beginning to gain on the German advanced forces in a contest of speed. No important line of communication is yet threatened by the advance of the German crown prince. Those on the scene declare it is not too much to say that another 48 hours will see the German drive definitely stopped. High praise is given the French reserves for the perfect order in which they are coming into the fighting line.

Not the least encouraging news was the brilliant success of the Americans in the Montdidier sector, which all the newspapers feature. It was the first important action carried out alone by the Americans. All reports agree that they behaved like veterans. This is pronounced the best augury for the early future when American help will weigh heavily in the balance.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS, May 29.—There was no letup in the German drive south from the Aisne and both the French and the British have been forced to give further ground. Confidence is expressed in Paris, however, that the allied reserves, now rapidly coming up, will shortly turn the scale and stop the enemy advance.

Apparently the Germans already are being held in the center of their advance, along the Vesle river, in the vicinity of Fismes, where the point of the German wedge has been thrust. The pressure on both the allied flanks, however, has been such that both have been compelled to fall back.

On the west, the French lines have been withdrawn to the easterly outskirts of Soissons, which town is about seven miles south of the nearest point of the battle line as it existed before the new German drive was begun on Monday.

Attacks Shifting. On the east the Franco-British line has been pulled back from St. Thierry northwest of Reims, where it rested yesterday to the heights south and southeast of that town. The bringing of Soissons into the battle area may indicate that the weight of the German blow has been shifted southwesterly in this direction and is being exerted along the railway that leads to Paris from that town.

15,000 Prisoners Taken. Overwhelming numbers enabled the Germans in their first attack to penetrate the allied lines to beyond the Aisne and capture more than a half score of villages and 15,000 prisoners. The greatest advance was made in the center, four miles to the Aisne and then six to the Vesle, a total of ten. As in the offensives in Picardy and Flanders, the enemy advance has assumed the form of a

FIRE DESTROYS WARD OF CAROLINA INSANE
COLUMBIA, S. C., May 29.—Fire early today destroyed a ward at the state hospital for the insane, resulting in the burning to death of at least 16 patients. Eleven other patients are missing and five were badly burned, one of whom afterward died. The ward devoted mainly to the mentally defective, contained 43 patients, of whom 34 have been accounted for. A number of the patients died. The great Presena mountain was burning building after having been taken out.

blunt-nosed wedge with its apex less than three miles in width lying between Bazoches and Plaines. The enemy has not succeeded in widening the "elbow" about Montdidier nor in changing the allied line in Champagne east of Rheims. Direct highways and railroad communications between Soissons and Rheims have been broken by the Germans, but neither of these shell-devastated cities appears to be in immediate danger.

Halt in 48 Hours. Observers assert that 48 hours probably will witness the halting of the forces of the German crown prince. The French reserves are moving forward swiftly and General Foch has the situation well in hand.

French and British troops have completely restored the situation in Flanders where four German divisions Monday attacked on a six-mile front east of Loere. The Germans failed to gain north of Mont Kemmel and were driven from elements they gained near Dickenbusch lake, west of Voormezele, the eastern end of the attacking line.

French Official Statement. PARIS, May 29.—The French troops have fallen back to the eastern outskirts of Soissons where the battle continues with bitterness, the French war office announced this afternoon.

Franco-British troops, the statement adds, have fallen back to the heights south and southeast of St. Thierry, where they are holding positions between the Vesle and the Aisne canal.

Fighting is going on with varying success on the heights on the southern bank of the Vesle river, where the French troops are bravely and admirably defending their positions. American troops to the west of Montdidier, the French statement says, have repulsed two German counter attacks against the village of Cantigny.

British Official Statement. LONDON, May 29.—The German artillery is active north of Albert and in the Flanders salient, east of Robecq, the war office announces. The enemy's fire increased locally east of Arras and south of Lens.

The statement follows: "We carried out a successful raid last night southeast of Arras and captured prisoners and a machine gun. A raid attempted by the enemy at Givenchy Les-La Basses was repulsed. A hostile attack on one of our posts south of the Ypres-Comines canal also was repulsed, after sharp fighting. "The hostile artillery has been active north of Albert in the neighborhood of Avette, east of Robecq and northwest of Merville and has shown somewhat increased activity locally east of Arras and south of Lens."

PRICE OF ALUMINUM FIXED AT 32 CENTS

WASHINGTON, May 29.—A maximum base price of 32 cents a pound for aluminum in lots of 50 tons or more, of the ingot 98 to 99 per cent grade, was fixed by President Wilson today under an agreement between producers and the war industries board. The new price is effective June 1 and will continue until September 1. Differentials for sheet, rod and wire will be increased about 12 1/2 per cent, differentials for quantity and grade and differentials for alloy will remain as approved by the board on March 3 last.

MEDFORD BANNER RED CROSS DISTRICT STATE OF OREGON

PORTLAND, May 29.—Medford district is the premier Red Cross district and Clatsop County the premier Red Cross county in the second war fund of the American Red Cross. Both made 200 per cent of their quotas. With a quota of \$20,000 Clatsop county raised \$40,000. When one county exceeds its quota, \$10,000 less than its quota, Clatsop county voluntarily assumed the \$10,000 and added \$10,000 for good measure. Medford took \$9,000 of Jackson county's \$15,000 quota and then raised \$18,000. Oregon total to noon today is \$911,000.

30 NAMES UPON CASUALTY LIST FROM PERSHING

WASHINGTON, May 29.—The army casualty list today contained 30 names, divided as follows: Killed in action, 5; died of wounds, 5; died of accident, 1; died of disease, 10; wounded severely, 7; missing in action, 2.

The list includes: Private Carl A. Sipher, 1121 Fifth avenue, North, Great Falls, Mont., killed in action. Private George M. Ewing, Auburn, Wash, died of wounds. Private Cleo E. Brundage, 2724 47th street, S. W., Seattle, died of disease. Private Frank Aldridge, Alberta, Canada, wounded severely.

Officers named were: Lieutenant Francis A. McIvaine, Indianapolis, Ind., killed in action. Major John Frank Carmack, St. Louis, and Lieutenant Cholmondeley Thornton, Bennington, Vt., wounded severely. Lieutenant Raymond W. Parker, Champaign, Ill., missing in action. Lieutenants Philip A. Hunter, York, S. C., Franklin Burche Pedrick, Washington, D. C., and Louis M. Edens, Cabool, Mo., prisoners, previously reported missing.

FOUR KILLED IN WRECK IN IOWA

WATERLOO, Ia., May 29.—Four persons are known to have been killed and at least 20 injured when Illinois Central passenger train No. 11, west bound, was wrecked near Aplington, 20 miles west of here, early today. Engineer Alderman and Fireman Golvinaux, both of Waterloo, were killed. Two mail clerks are also reported killed. The injured were rushed to this city and taken to hospitals. The train was running at a moderate rate of speed when it encountered high water. When the engine started over the bridge at Beaver creek, near Aplington, the structure fell. The locomotive plunged on to the bank while the chair car, the only day coach on the train, keeled over on its side.

RETAILERS TO HALT FLOUR SALE A MONTH

PORTLAND, May 29.—Retail flour dealers of Multnomah county, meeting tonight at the call of the Oregon food administration, adopted a resolution to halt all sales of wheat flour for a period of one month, until July 1. They voted also to turn back to the government, for shipment overseas, all white flour now in stock.

YANKEES REPEL GERMAN BLOWS AT MONTDIDIER

Americans in First Offensive Capture Cantigny and Repulse Two Counter Attacks by Germans—Twelve French Tanks Supported Yankees—Prisoners Taken.

WITH THE AMERICAN FORCES ON THE FRENCH FRONT, May 29.—(By the Associated Press.)—Three counter-attacks made by the Germans to re-take the terrain which they had lost in Picardy on Monday completely broke down in the face of the American artillery fire and the heroism of our infantrymen. All the ground won by the Americans on Monday remains in their possession.

LONDON, May 29.—German troops who counter attacked last night against the Americans who captured Cantigny, west of Montdidier, were repulsed with heavy losses, reports Reuter's correspondent at the British army headquarters in France today.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, May 29.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Americans penetrated the German positions to a depth of nearly a mile. Their artillery completely smothered the Germans. The roar of the American guns could be heard for many miles in the rear. Several fires are burning behind the German line. Twelve French tanks supported the American infantry.

First Offensive Blow. WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, May 29.—(By the Associated Press.)—The American line runs 150 to 200 yards east of Cantigny as a result of the successful attack today. The nearest German trench is several hundred yards east of where the Americans have dug in. The Germans, it has been found, had many outposts and machine gun emplacements in Cantigny.

America's first offensive blow was struck in a mist. The French tanks apparently did not have much to do as the American artillery already had prepared the way. A bright sun came out and shone on the Americans as they dug in their new positions. "As the Americans started out across No Man's Land there were many jokes about "eating boche for breakfast." The Americans fought as though they were veterans and there was no hesitation when the officers sprang forward and shouted: "Come on, boys!"

Wonderful Morale. Several officers, describing the scene, agreed that the outstanding feature in their minds was the wonderful morale of the men and their absolute confidence in themselves. The Germans poured machine gun bullets all around the Americans as they were digging in, but no attention was paid to them as jokes and quips were handed back and forth. The demeanor of the men wounded in action was found similarly cheerful when the correspondent visited the field hospitals this afternoon. He saw stretched out on their cots a number of these Americans, for the most part only slightly wounded, who acted like school boys returned from a great day of sport, smoking cigarettes, eagerly relating their personal experiences and laughing loudly at the humorous incidents.

(Continued on Page Three.)

SPRUCE DIVISION UNDER THE ARMY

SAN FRANCISCO, May 29.—Twenty-two thousand men of the army, engaged in the spruce forests of Oregon and Washington have been transferred from the control of the chief signal officer at Washington, D. C., to the western department of the army, according to orders received at headquarters here.

DRAFT SUBJECTS AWAY FROM HOME MUST REGISTER NOW

WASHINGTON, May 29.—Provost Marshal Crowder today notified draft subjects away from home that they must register with the local board in whose jurisdiction they are situated in advance of June 5, to enable the boards to send their certificates to their home boards. Registration is completed at the office of the home boards.

GOD HAS GRANTED US A SPLENDID VICTORY; KAISER

AMSTERDAM, May 29.—Emperor William, who is on the field of battle south of Laon, on the Aisne front, has sent the following telegram to the emperor at Potsdam: "William (apparently Crown Prince Frederick William) has today attacked the British and French on the Chemin des Dames. Strongly consolidated height after being subjected to mighty artillery fire, has been stormed by our glorious infantry. We have crossed the Aisne and are approaching the Vesle. Fritz, with the first guards infantry division, was one of the first to reach Aisne. (This is evidently another reference to the crown prince.) The twenty-eighth division also has again distinguished itself. The British and French were completely surprised. Our losses are small. Tomorrow we shall make further progress. "God has granted us a splendid victory and will help further. Greetings."

CHINA PROTESTS SALE OF RAILROAD

PEKING, Friday, May 24.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Chinese ambassador at Tokio has been instructed to protest to the Japanese government against the transfer to Japan by Russia of a section of the Chinese Eastern railway near the Sungari river. An official announcement from Tokio received in Washington last November 3 said Japan and the Russian government, then under the control of Premier Kerensky, had agreed to the purchase by Japan of a section of the Chinese Eastern railway between Kwan Cheng Tse, near Chang Chun, in Manchuria, and the Sungari river.

SHIPYARD WORKERS TO HELP WIN WAR

PORTLAND, May 29.—Shipyard workers here will celebrate Memorial day by working as usual to help the government win the war, according to officials of the emergency fleet corporation. The employees of shipyards voluntarily called off a number of baseball games scheduled for tomorrow in the shipyard league and decided to report for work.

THREE O. A. C. REGENT GIVEN REAPPOINTMENTS

SALEM, May 29.—Three members of the board of regents of Oregon Agricultural college were today re-appointed by Governor Withycombe. They are J. K. Weatherford of Albany, C. L. Hawley of McCoy and M. S. Woodcock of Corvallis. Each is appointed for nine years. Mr. Weatherford is president of the board. Mr. Woodcock was appointed about a year ago to fill the vacancy created by the death of J. T. Apperson of Oregon City, and the appointment at that time was to fill the unexpired term.

CLOSING ARGUMENTS IN TRIAL OF GRACE LUSK

WAUKESHA, Wis., May 29.—The case of Grace Lusk, school teacher charged with the murder of Mrs. Mary Newman Roberts, is expected to go to the jury tonight. James Clancey today began the closing argument for the defense.

CONGRESS PLANS VACATION FOR HOT WEATHER

Members to Lay Off While House Ways and Means Committee Work On War Revenue Bill—Lobbyists to Be Tagged and Kept Track of—War Profit to Be Soaked.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—After setting June 6 as the date for beginning hearings on new revenue legislation, the house ways and means committee approved today, a proposal for a summer vacation after appropriations bills are completed. The committee agreed that the four billion dollars in additional revenue to be raised shall come chiefly from excess profits, incomes and taxes on luxuries. The committee decided to embody in the bill not only the additional \$4,000,000,000 taxes but the tax provisions of the present laws as well, to prevent duplication and confusion. Recess During Summer. Members of the committee believe the appropriation bills can be disposed of by July 1, and will recommend a recess of both houses then while the committee is working on the bill.

Chairman Kitchin announced that all persons wishing to appear before the committee should apply in advance for a hearing, giving their business, interests represented and the subject on which they wished to be heard. This was taken to mean that the committee would follow out President Wilson's suggestion as to throwing full light on lobbyists. The senate "lobby committee," Senator Overman of North Carolina, chairman, also pointed out today is in position to resume its work if lobbyists become too active. Lobbyists Warned. An informal plan for registration of persons having business with the senate finance committee in connection with the revenue legislation also is planned by Chairman Simmons. The vacation plan contemplates recess of congress about July 1 until August 1, during which the committee will prepare the revenue bill, passage of the bill in the house between August 1-15 and recess of the house then for probably 30 days, pending the senate consideration of the bill.

PATROL ATTACKS REPULSED BY YANKS

WASHINGTON, May 29.—In addition to General Pershing's communique for yesterday, given out by the war department today, reports that two German patrol attacks on May 26 and 27 were repulsed by American troops. Lieutenants Rickenbacker and Campbell, American airmen, downed one enemy machine while fighting six. General Pershing cited an American sergeant, who although wounded, drove off an enemy patrol of four men.

KNOCKOUT BLOW, ONE GRAND DUTY SAYS ROOSEVELT

MILWAUKEE, Wis., May 29.—"We've got one grand duty, to put the war through—a knockout," said Colonel Roosevelt in speaking at a local theater under the auspices of the National Security League, on the subject of "Americanism" to several thousand people this afternoon. All the movements, he declared, must be directed to one purpose—helping the men at the front to win the war. "If three years ago our people had been awake as they are now and had been prepared there would have been no war by this time," said the colonel. "Our business is now to win, to profit by errors of the past so as not to permit them again. "We are getting the troops over there. Don't let's say what we are going to do, let's do it."

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ITALIANS STORM 12,000 FT. PEAK TONALE REGION

Most Brilliant Mountain Operation of War Won By Italians Among Glaciers of Presena Mountain—Battle Remarkable for Highly Specialized Troops and Mechanical Appliances.

ITALIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS, May 29.—(By the Associated Press.)—One of the most brilliant mountain operations since the beginning of the war was carried out by the Italians in the Tonale region, northwest of Trent, early this week. The basin of the Presena Lake was captured by Italian Alpini after 40 hours of fierce fighting. The Austrians were well entrenched and said to have run back into the reached by the Alpini after attacking four times under a heavy fire. The enemy was finally overwhelmed by a bayonet drive. The fight was rendered more difficult by the condition of the ground, which was hard and slippery with late spring snows. The Italians advanced up steep ascents, down precipices and over glaciers. 12,000 Feet High. ROME, Monday, May 27.—The brilliant victory of the Italians in the Tonale region was won in fighting on a round about 12,000 feet above the sea, amid melting snows and everlasting glaciers. The battle was remarkable on account of the highly specialized troops engaged and the mechanical devices applied. The vast wastes of Tonale mountain, dominating the Camonica plateau and the approaches to Paradise Pass, had been neglected by both sides as a field for offensive operations, but now becomes more important. Among the results of the Italian attack were the blowing up by artillery fire of an important Austrian munitions depot and the capture of two telegraph lines which ran through Paradise Pass. The Italians were assisted greatly by a violent fire. It required heroic efforts by the Alpini to carry the guns to mountain tops.

Patrol Attacks Repulsed by Yanks. WASHINGTON, May 29.—In addition to General Pershing's communique for yesterday, given out by the war department today, reports that two German patrol attacks on May 26 and 27 were repulsed by American troops. Lieutenants Rickenbacker and Campbell, American airmen, downed one enemy machine while fighting six. General Pershing cited an American sergeant, who although wounded, drove off an enemy patrol of four men.

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