

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1918

NO. 152

ALLIES RENEW ASSAULT ON ST. QUENTIN

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ALLIES BREAKS HINDENBURG LINE TWICE

British Advance 3 Miles on 15 Mile Front Northwest of St. Quentin, Outflanking City, While French Advance to South—1,500 Prisoners Taken and Many Towns Captured—Counter Attacks in Cambrai and Laon Sectors Repulsed.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, Sept. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—Field Marshal Haig's forces this morning attacked the German positions on a considerable front northwest of St. Quentin. Simultaneously French troops carried out an operation on the right. Successful progress was made on both fronts.

Three Mile Advance LONDON, Sept. 18.—4:30 p. m.—(By the Associated Press.)—In their attack today northwest of St. Quentin the British scored an average advance of from two and one-half to three miles on a 15 mile front, according to reports up to this hour.

The town of Hargicourt was captured by the British. The front under attack runs from Holnon wood west of St. Quentin northwest to Gouzeaucourt. The British attack took them far nearer the line from which the German offensive started on March 21 last. The latest reports placed Field Marshal Haig's troops at an average distance of about a mile from this line.

1500 Prisoners Taken Prisoners to the number of 1,500 are reported. The fighting was continuing this afternoon.

The town of Epehy, toward the northern part of the front under attack, was almost surrounded by the British this afternoon.

The British have crossed the Hindenburg line at two points—at Villers-et-Antoy and at Gouzeaucourt. The depth of their penetration beyond, however, is not reported.

Villers-et-Antoy was taken by the advancing forces, as were Le Verguier, Ronsoy and Berthaucourt.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, Sept. 18.—Field Marshal Haig, two months from the day of the allied offensive on the Marne, has begun a closer investment of St. Quentin. His troops are attacking northwest of the city with the evident intention of outflanking it on the north.

Holnon Captured The new operations followed the British capture of Holnon village on high ground three miles northwest of St. Quentin, Tuesday night. Holnon is on a hill as is Maissemy, captured last Saturday. These hill positions dominate the terrain north of St. Quentin and the road connecting the city with Cambrai.

From these favorable points the British are moving in toward the city. Full details of the operation are lacking but undoubtedly the British will meet with stiff opposition. The Germans here are on or near the Hindenburg line, and captured documents show the enemy troops have been ordered to maintain their positions.

Huns Counter Attack To the north the Germans are un- (Continued on Page Eight.)

FRANCE REJECTS AUSTRIAN OFFER TO TALK PEACE

Clemenceau Says "We Will Fight Until the Hour When the Enemy Understands That Bargaining Between Crime and Right is no Longer Possible"—Just Peace Wanted.

PARIS, Sept. 18.—(Havas.)—"We will fight until the hour when the enemy comes to understand that bargaining between crime and right is no longer possible," declared Premier Clemenceau in an eloquent address in the senate last evening. "We want a just and a strong peace, protecting the future against the abominations of the past."

The premier, who was enthusiastically greeted was given an ovation as he concluded and the senate voted that his address should be posted throughout the country.

Gratitude Toward Troops

In the beginning, M. Clemenceau spoke of the gratitude the people of the allied nations feel "toward those marvelous soldiers of the entente, by whom these nations would at last be liberated from the barbarian menace. He recalled the threatening attitude of Germany toward pacific France which had endured for a half century, "the infamous wounds, brutalities and tyrannies of an enemy who would not forgive us for having saved from the wreck the consciousness of right and our indisputable claims of independence."

He pointed out how without the slightest pretext Germany hurled herself upon French territory, devastated the fields of France, burned and pillaged her towns and villages and enslaved her men, women and children.

Day of Glory Come

"The enemy thought that victory would cause all this to be pardoned," continued the premier, "but fortune has changed. The day of glory has come. Our sons are completing the formidable task of their fathers, and with brotherly nations, are securing a supreme victory. All right minded humanity is with our troops who are liberating the nations from the ferocity of evil force."

The Paris newspapers treat Premier Clemenceau's speech as in effect a reply to the Austro-Hungarian peace note, couched in that of Arthur J. Balfour, the British foreign secretary. They declare that the responses which President Wilson, Secretary Balfour and Premier Clemenceau have made show them in agreement on the question and as unwilling to permit a discussion of peace which would dissipate the storm driving against the central powers.

DAVIS APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO GREAT BRITAIN

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—John W. Davis of West Virginia, now solicitor general of the United States, has been selected by President Wilson to succeed Walter Hines Page as American ambassador to Great Britain.

The announcement of Mr. Davis' selection today disclosed that he had arrived safely in Switzerland, where he is to head the American delegation at the Bern conference between American and German missions on the treatment and exchange of prisoners of war.

Since he came to Washington seven years ago as a member of congress from the first West Virginia district, Mr. Davis has been an active figure. Hardly had he begun his second term when President Wilson appointed him solicitor general, in 1913.

The decision of Ambassador Page to resign on account of ill health was announced three weeks ago.

GRIM APPROVAL GIVEN BY YANKS TO PRESIDENT

Rejection of Austrian Peace Effort Pleases Army in France—"Kaiser Can't Put Anything Like That Over on Him" is Comment—Want Peace Made in Berlin by Army.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Sept. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—From the manner in which the American army received the news of President Wilson's reply to Austria-Hungary's peace note, its attitude might be characterized as one of grim approval.

The report of the Austrian suggestion that a peace conference be held circulated rapidly yesterday and the officers and men expressed the belief that none of the allied governments, certainly not theirs, would yield to what they regarded as a trick of the central powers to gain time.

Want Huns Defeated

As the news of President Wilson's brief answer moved steadily toward the outposts and was passed on by one soldier to another, there was a feeling of relief among the officers of high rank and an air of satisfaction from the enlisted men. The attitude of the soldiers, often repeated was: "Sure he won't. The Kaiser can't put over anything like that on him."

The American army, as yet only slightly scarred by war, has all the enthusiasm that characterizes all troops at the beginning of hostilities. The Americans wish Germany defeated.

Austrians Realize Danger

The Austrian prisoners in the hands of the Americans appear to realize the danger to them of the constantly increasing American army and are not inclined to underestimate the menace that goes with the enthusiasm borne of a victory so easily bought as was that in the St. Mihiel salient. The Austrians continue to insist that the peace offer was not a trick of Germany's but that it should be attributed solely to Austria's determination to get out of what her people think is a bad bargain.

There is no doubt the American soldier would be disappointed if peace were to be made, except on the unconditional surrender of Germany.

WATERTOWN, S. D. Sept. 18.

Snow fell in Watertown yesterday for almost an hour. The snow melted as fast as it fell.

THE BATTLE ZONE.



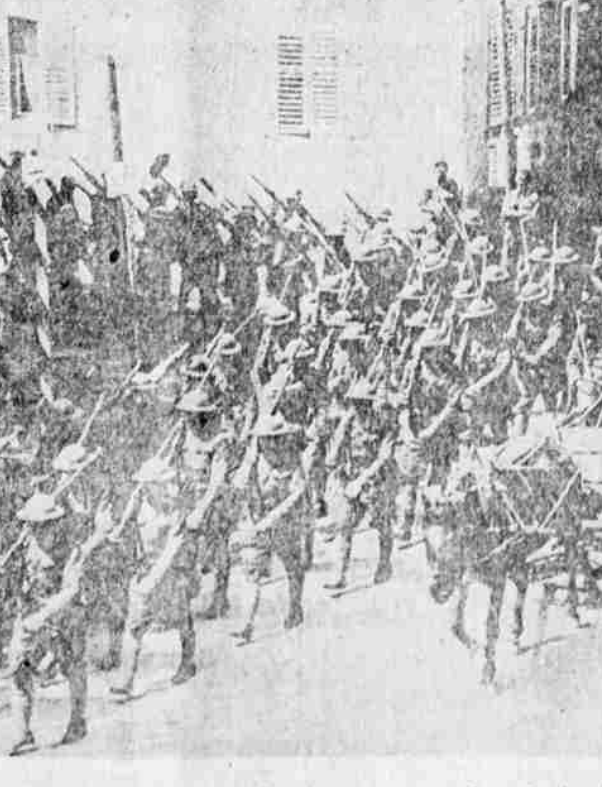
This map shows the immediate danger of capture by the allies in which their advance has placed the cities of St. Quentin, Laon, and Soissons, all bulwarks of the Hindenburg line. The battle line is that before smashes by the allies of the past few days.

BELGIUM SPURNS SEPARATE PEACE WITH GERMANY

PARIS, Sept. 18. (Havas.) The Belgian government after consultation with the allies, according to the Petit Parisien, has decided to refuse without elaboration the reported offer of a separate peace made by Germany.

An Amsterdam dispatch Tuesday said that dispatches received from Berlin declared that nothing was known in competent circles in Berlin regarding the reported separate peace proposal to Belgium.

FIRST PHOTO OF AMERICAN TROOPS ENTERING GERMANY



What a thrill these Yankee dough boys must have experienced when this picture was taken, showing them marching across the French border into Germany! The border post, resembling a barber pole, can be seen a little to the center of the picture.

VISCOUNT MOTONO JAP STATESMAN DEAD AT TOKIO

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Viscount Ichijo Motono, who resigned as minister of foreign affairs of Japan four months ago, died at Tokio yesterday from a stomach trouble with which he had suffered for a long time.

The veteran statesman had been in ill health many years. He had suffered a relapse from what appeared to be a partial recovery recently following the unfavorable reception given his proposition to renew the pressure upon China for adoption of the proposed far reaching Sino-Japanese agreement.

Viscount Motono was born in 1862 and was a typical product of the Japanese system of civil service, having advanced regularly to the various grades in foreign and diplomatic offices from the position of translator, which he filled in 1899. In turn he had been counselor, secretary of legation at Petrograd and minister at Paris and Brussels.

CITIES PROTEST TEARING UP OF RAILROAD LINE

Councils of Medford and Jacksonville Protest to Colonel Disque Order Sanctioning Dismantling of Bulls Railroad—Bondholders and Mortgagees Objects as Does Lumber Mill.

The people of Medford and Jacksonville are up in arms and will fight the proposed attempt of S. S. Bullis to either stop the operation of the railroad between this city and the county seat, or to dismantle it and dispose of the rails to the government.

The city councils of both cities have adopted resolutions of protest which were telegraphed to Colonel Bruce P. Disque, who is the head of the army spruce division and whose headquarters are at Portland. It will be remembered that last week Mr. Bullis announced that the road would have to be discontinued because the government had requisitioned three miles of its rails, and that the work of tearing up the rails would be begun in about two weeks. It later developed that the war department's requisition had been made only after Mr. Bullis had sold three miles of rails through a Portland broker to Grant Smith-Porter Brothers Co., spruce operators, and placed in the market for sale all the railroad equipment.

Other Protests Filed

Besides the protest of the two city councils, protests have also been made by W. S. Barnum, who as bondholder, holds a mortgage against the railroad property of \$63,000 and by the Gagnon Box and Lumber company, whose lumber mill and box factory will be put out of commission if the rails are torn up. The mill has a contract to cut ties for the Southern Pacific, operated by the government and the land on which the timber is cut was recently sold by Mr. Bullis to Gagnon, and was only purchased because it lay along the railroad.

Any attempt by Mr. Bullis to tear up any part of the railroad before an answer is received to the protests filed would be followed by interesting developments it is said. A close watch is being maintained on the railroad. Up to late this afternoon no reply had been received from Colonel Disque, who is giving the subject a thorough investigation.

The resolution of the Medford city council which was adopted unanimously and telegraphed last night to Colonel Disque, read as follows:

Medford's Protest "It is resolved that the common council of the City of Medford hereby makes a special appeal to Colonel Bruce P. Disque to rescind any order that has been made for the removal of any rails from the Medford and Jacksonville railroad or the extension thereof. The people of both communities are a unit in this request. Medford and Jacksonville originally contributed substantially to the building of the road. The road connects this community with the county seat. Medford recently authorized the issue of \$300,000 bonds for the extension of this road to the copper belt. Issuance was prevented through the courts on technical grounds. Medford looks to an extension of this road to the copper and chrome belts.

"The removal of the road at this time would be a serious blow to this community." (Continued on Page Eight.)

PRESIDENT'S PEACE PROGRAM PRESENTED

LONDON, Sept. 18.—American delegates to the Inter-allied labor and socialist conference, today presented proposals that the conference endorse the 14 points laid down by President Wilson as the conditions on which peace may be established and maintained.

SERBS DRIVE THRU BULGAR LINE 10 MILES

Resistance to Allies on Macedonian Front Weakening—Major Operation Underway With Intention of Cutting Off Turkey, Crushing Bulgaria and Freeing Serbia, Rumania and Jugo Slavs—Advance is Made on 15 Mile Front.

LONDON, Sept. 18.—(By Associated Press, 4:45 p. m.) Bulgarian resistance on the Macedonian front is weakening and the allied troops have advanced an average of ten miles, according to the latest reports received from Saloniki. Fifty guns have been captured.

The Bulgarians fought well when the allied attack was launched, but their resistance has become less formidable as the allies have moved northward.

Major Operation

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—It has been hinted in military circles for some months that this autumn would see a major operation on the Macedonian front and from the news of the past few days it appears that the operation has begun. While it is not possible for military reasons to give the number of men intended to participate in this movement, its object is clear: To cut off Turkey from the other central powers, to crush Bulgaria and to free Serbia, Rumania and the Jugo Slavs of southern Austria.

German Helping Bulgars

BERLIN, Sept. 18.—German troops are aiding the Bulgarians in their defense against the allied attacks in Macedonia, according to an official statement from the war office today. The Bulgarians are fighting against the French, Serbians and Greeks.

Drive Progressing

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS, Sept. 18.—In Macedonia the allied drive is progressing. Serbian and French troops after taking the important Sokol ridge, have pressed forward ten miles on a front of more than fifteen miles.

As the allied offensive in Macedonia continues the impression is growing that an operation of major proportions may have been begun there. The front where the fighting is going on, is almost shut off from the world and except for official reports there are few details known as to the progress of the entente forces.

Sofia admits the allies have been successful at some points and says that the Bulgarian troops have been withdrawn to positions further north. Maps of the region where the battle (Continued on Page Eight.)

SEA LEVEL CANALS ASKED FOR EAST

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—A system of government-owned deep sea level canals extending from Massachusetts to the south Atlantic states is recommended in a report submitted to the senate today by Secretary Redfield in response to a resolution adopted last July.

Such action would not only be of wide commercial value, but would be of great military value as well, said Secretary Redfield.

Permanent acquisition by the federal government of the Cape Cod and the Chesapeake and Delaware canals and their prompt improvement, as well as the early construction across New Jersey of a sea level canal having a minimum depth of 25 feet is recommended. The Cape Cod canal is being operated now by the railroad administration.

PORTUGUESE VICTIMS OF U-BOAT LANDED

AN ATLANTIC PORT, Sept. 18.—The first officer and 14 men of the Portuguese steamship Leloux, torpedoed September 12 two hundred miles off the north Atlantic coast, arrived here yesterday after six days in an open boat. The captain and 14 men reached port yesterday. A third boat with 22 men still is missing.