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## GREAT BATTLE BEGINS FOURTH YEAR OF WAR

For a Week the Artillery Duel On Flanders' Front Has Been Most Titanic of the War—Sound of Firing Is Heard In London—Allied Forces Swept Forward Today Capturing Positions They Were After and Taking Many Prisoners—French Make Winning Move

By J. O. Lippert  
Keen, Correspondent.  
London, July 31.—England and France signalled the beginning of the fourth year of the war today with a joint offensive on two fronts that swept forward in full success to first objectives.

In Flanders, beyond Messines-Wytschaete Ridge, the British assisted by French troops on their left, brought to a climax the vast artillery preparation of the past week by a concerted mass attack.

On the Chemin Des Dames, Paris reported a sudden offensive in the Chevregny sector which smashed ahead to German positions on a front of more than a mile.

Field Marshal Haig did not mention the exact extent of the British-French offensive in Belgium, but gave its lowermost point as "north of the River Lys."

Front dispatches indicated fighting was continuing fiercely today. The first men went over the top at 3:50 a. m.

French troops "to the left of the British" means they are somewhere between Armentieres and the Belgian coast—a section heretofore almost exclusively manned by British and Belgian forces. Either French forces have been diverted to aid General Haig in this particular effort, or else a small force of French troops, held to aid in the Belgian defense for purely sentimental reasons, participated in the fighting. There has been a small force of French manning trenches in Flanders since early in the war.

Haig Strikes Again  
London, July 31.—England started a gigantic offensive in Flanders today. Field Marshal Haig struck "over a wide front" north of the River Lys in Belgium.

"The allies captured their first objectives," the British commander in chief reported. "Satisfactory progress was attained in all positions. Considerable prisoners have already been taken."

Field Marshal Haig's report asserted the British attack had begun at 3:50 a. m. today.

His assault—the second concerted offensive in this Messines Ridge sector—followed the greatest artillery duel in the whole war to date. For seven days now British and German guns have been roaring along all this Belgian front. The Germans apparently started the concentrated fire, presumably fearing another stroke in this sector, and the British quickly replied with redoubled activity.

Mention by the British commander in chief of "the allies" capturing their first objectives, would seem to indicate that the British were assisted either by Belgian or French troops.

The River Lys flows northward above Armentieres, joining with the Lille-Ypres canal at Comines. The canal and the river form an obtuse angle in which is included the Messines-Wytschaete ridge. Messines, Hallebeke and Warzeton. It was in this section that Haig struck his big blow a few weeks ago, the tannins sweeping over the domain.

### ABE MARTIN



What's become of that old time wife that kissed her husband good bye every morning at the front gate? There's few people as obnoxious as a learned neighbor.

## STRIKES SETTLED IN SOUND CITIES WILL ARBITRATE

Right of Men to Organize Conceded—Strikers to Have Old Places

BOARD WILL ESTABLISH BOTH HOURS AND WAGES

One From Employers, One From Labor and College President, the Board

Seattle, Wash., July 31.—Seattle and Tacoma strikes were virtually ended shortly before noon today at a conference in the office of C. A. Reynolds, attorney for the strikers, in the Hope building.

Negotiations for the peaceful end of the controversy which has left the city without car service for two weeks and threatened serious rioting and bloodshed on numerous occasions, moved with startling suddenness.

President A. W. Leonard, of the Puget Sound Traction, Light and Power company, met the carmen's general strike committee, composed of James A. Dunnean, John Morgenthaler and A. A. Whiteley, in the office of their attorney an hour before the meeting was scheduled to meet H. C. Bradley, personal representative of Stone and Webster, of Boston, general managers of the traction company, in the room of President Henry Suzzallo, of the state university, and president of the State Council of Defense, in the New Washington hotel.

At noon it was authoritatively reported that the meeting in Reynolds' office had resulted in President Leonard agreeing to the strikers' suggestion that the men go back to work without prejudice or loss of seniority and that matters of wages, hours and working conditions be arbitrated before a board of three arbitrators, one to be named by the company, one by the striking union men, and the third from a joint list of prominent citizens suggested by each side.

Some Things Agreed To.  
At one o'clock this afternoon the following points toward quick settlement of the strike had been agreed upon.

Right of striking carmen to organize fully recognized by company.  
All strikers to return to work without prejudice or loss of seniority.  
Questions of wages, hours and working conditions to be arbitrated by a board of three men.

James A. Dunnean, secretary of the Seattle Central Labor council, to represent strikers.  
C. L. Franklin, of Portland, Ore., to represent the company.  
Dr. Henry Suzzallo, president of the state university, and chairman of the State Council of Defense, to be the third arbitrator.

Question of whether the traction company is to grant a closed shop still unsettled.

Strike leaders enthusiastically declare this means a complete victory for the strikers, as they offered to submit every point at issue except their right to organize, to such arbitration before they went on strike two weeks ago.

Mill Strikes to End.  
Tacoma, Wash., July 31.—A report that the St. Paul and Tacoma Lumber company, which has been closed by the timber workers' strike, will resume operations.

Washington, July 31.—A two per cent sur tax on corporations, increase in sur taxes on incomes over \$15,000, and increase of \$1 a gallon in the tax on distilled spirits and an increase of fifty cents a barrel on beer were agreed upon today by the senate finance committee, as amendments to the revenue bill.

## NEXT CALL TO BE EARLY IN AUGUST

Second Class of 755,700 Registered Under Draft Will Be Called Seven Days After First Call Men Are Examined—Exemptions Will Be Further Restricted

Washington, July 31.—The second class of 755,700 men registered under the draft will be called up for examination early in August.

With examination of the first quota of 1,274,000 progressing rapidly, the provost marshal general's office today announced that seven days after the first call would be posted for examination. The second class, which will number 110 per cent of the 687,000 men needed, will be called for men to replace those exempted in the first group.

Today General Crowder moved to restrict exemptions further. Medical students and men serving in Red Cross ambulance companies have no valid claims for exemption or discharge, he ruled.

Agricultural workers and munitions factory hands also will be greatly restricted in exemption claims, it was intimated. Although these industries are not specifically exempted, appeals are being poured in from the farm district and big industrial centers for favorable rulings. Exemption boards must consider claims of farm laborers strictly on their merits.

General Crowder declared from this date members of local boards must consider themselves as drafted for such service and cannot resign.

ENGLAND'S LOSSES

London, July 31.—	England
lost 71,889 in killed, wounded	and missing of her army forces
as according to the month's	casualty list total today.
The casualties were divided	as follows:
killed wounded missing	
Officers 457 1,679 190	
Men 14,992 51,796 2,705	
Totals 15,549 52,445 2,895	

## How Participants Stand After Three Years of War As Correspondents See It

By Ed. L. Keen.  
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)  
London, July 30.—Britain's part in the past three years of war may be told in three words:

Procrastination; preparation; progress.

In the first year, besides doing many things she should not have done, she left undone most of the things she should have done.

It was not until the second year was well under way that the people of Britain woke up. Having finally sensed that it was a man's-sized war, they began to prepare—almost too late, but with a thoroughness that went far to overcome the effects of their former dilatoriness.

## WHAT OFFICIALS THINK ABOUT WAR AND ITS OUTCOME

Secretary Baker Says: "Men, Money and Materials Will Turn the Tide"

CHAMBERLAIN SAYS ITS ONLY QUESTION OF TIME

Chairman Dent Says Its Airships, and Hoover "We Can Supply Food"

Washington, July 31.—America, great reservoir of fresh strength—men, money and materials—will turn the war tide. The fourth year of the struggle will find her doing her best bit in over turning autocracy and ultimately her reserve strength will win.

This was the message today from responsible officials, backing the declaration of President Wilson and Secretary of War Baker that this nation must forge on to victory and that, without us, the world war must end in a miserable peace.

"The beginning of the fourth year of the war finds the United States doing a noble work toward victory," said Secretary of War Baker in his message to the United States. "We are engaged in a tremendous task, but already much has been done. I feel confident that by united work and spirit we shall triumph."

"We have a force on French soil and other units of specialized men, such as engineers, foresters and aviators, are being sent to aid our allies. Ten million men are registered for service. Our regular army has been increased three fold and our national guard doubled, so that now we have a united force of more than five hundred thousand men. We are in the process of realizing an aircraft program of great proportions, while substantial orders have been placed for all kinds of weapons. Reserve camps are turning out thousands of officers for our new army, and huge cantonments and canvas camps are being rushed to completion for training the new national army and national guard."

Will Control the Air  
Acting Chairman Swanson of the senate naval committee:  
"I have much confidence in the preparation of a big fight if the senate passes the amendment."

Representative Webb, leading prohibitionist, said the amendment would carry in the house.  
The District of Columbia dry bill failed by one vote to get a two thirds majority, but new members have arrived since that and their votes are dry, Webb said.

Representative Randall, California, agreed with Webb the amendment will go over until next session.  
Representatives Longworth, Ohio and Mosker, Missouri, predicted defeat of the amendment. Longworth believes it will go over until next session.

## United States Will Not Mix in Politics

Washington, July 31.—The United States is not obliged to follow France in her ambition to regain Alsace-Lorraine, it was officially stated here today. Nor in the American relation toward the allies such that this government would necessarily demand freedom for certain parts of Austria.

Balfour, in asserting yesterday that England would fight until France regained the territory she held before Bismarck, spoke only for England, it was stated.  
Officials would not say how America stands on the question of Alsace-Lorraine, but they made it plain the United States is not necessarily going to mix in the allies' politics.  
The United States will, however, insist on restoration of Belgium.

## CAMPAIGN STARTED TO ROUND UP SLACKERS

Officers Have List—Fast As Caught Will Be Put at Top of List

Washington, July 31.—Claims of exemptions for service in America's national army are running heavy.  
Initial examinations were and at other points where men are being called show a higher percentage of claims than had been anticipated.  
A great hunt started throughout the country today for draft evaders. Warned by Attorney General Gregory that "thousands of men failed to register June 5 and have been hiding ever since," the United States attorneys in all districts enlisted civilian help and started after the slackers.  
The names of hundreds of youths who thought themselves securely hidden have been forwarded to local authorities from the justice department.  
Among the informants were many mothers whose sons registered for the draft and who couldn't bear to see other boys in the neighborhood slip through Uncle Sam's net.  
The slackers caught will be jammed right up at the top of the lists for exemption whenever possible. This will be done by assigning them the numbers of men early on the list who were disqualified for physical or other disability.

## IT WILL PASS HOUSE WILL IT PASS SENATE

Drys and Wets Each Confident They Will Win In Prohibition Fight  
Washington, July 31.—Drys say it will pass pass. Wets say it won't. That was the situation today in the prohibition fight when debate was resumed in the senate. The senate has agreed to vote on the constitutional amendment tomorrow.

## Corn Drops Trifle Wheat Up Five Cents

Chicago, July 31.—Reports of better growing weather through the corn belt, today sent the corn market below yesterday's close.  
September corn opened unchanged at \$1.95 3/4 and held at that figure. December opened 1-8 down at \$1.18 3/4 and declined 7-8.  
Wheat moved irregularly. July opened 2 up at \$2.24 and advanced 3. September opened 1 3/4 lower at \$2.22 1/2 and sold off 3/4.  
Oats were lower in sympathy with corn. July opened 3-4 up at 79 1/2 and opened 1-8 lower at 69 7/8 and sold down 1/2. December opened 5-8 off at 61 1-8 and declined 3-4.  
Provisions were steady to a shade higher on a slow and steady hog market.

## Jumped Ten Cents

Chicago, July 31.—Shorts in July wheat bid that future up to \$2.74 just before the close of the market today, a jump of ten cents from the opening. The last day of the month also caused a big jump in July oats, in which there has been heavy trading, since the trading in corn and wheat was limited.  
As soon as the Germans capture a few of those Russian women soldiers we shall beyond doubt be given another exhibition of Teutonic chivalry.

## NO ABATEMENT OF TERRIFIC HEAT IN EASTERN STATES

From New York to Nebraska Comes Same Story of Sizzling Heat

FOUR DEAD IN CHICAGO  
NEW YORKERS SUFFER

Temperatures From 90 to 106 Prevail and Hot Winds Scorch Crops

Chicago, July 31.—Despite the weather man's prediction of relief from the heat wave, temperatures today were running as high as yesterday, when the record mark of 98 was reached and Chicago mobilized itself for another sizzling day.  
Four dead and fifty overcome as Chicago's toll from the heat wave for the last 24 hours, while the mercury continued to mount. At 10 a. m. today it was 90, one degree higher than at the corresponding hour yesterday, when a temperature of 98, the highest this season was recorded.

A temperature of 99 or 100 is expected today. Possible relief may come tomorrow when local thunder showers and a lowering in temperature are due for the north portion of the state.

Lincoln, Neb., July 31.—With the temperature reaching 106 in the official record yesterday, cooler weather promised arrived today with an abatement of the hot wind which has been blowing for the past three days.  
Corn in Nebraska is not yet seriously damaged, experts declare, and if rain comes this week very little damage will be caused. Nebraska corn is in Spain did condition to stand the drought.

Des Moines, Iowa, July 31.—Some relief, but not much, said the weather man here today, announcing the average temperature throughout Iowa as 88 degrees at 10 o'clock. Today's maximum will be around 100, he said. He also announced no rain for the next 24 hours.

Milwaukee, Wis., July 31.—The people here today were still waiting for the cool northerly breeze promised by the weather man for last night. The same scorching northwesterly wind that caused two deaths and ten prostrations in the last three days continued and in two hours the temperature jumped from 80 to 86.

New York, July 31.—Seven prostrations today with the mercury at 91 and steadily rising brought New York's total of prostrations for the hot wave to twenty eight. At 10:30 a. m. today's temperature was three degrees higher than yesterday's at the same hour. Thousands slept on the beaches last night.

Springfield, Ill., July 31.—The government thermometer registered 87 before 9 o'clock. The weather man predicted relief tomorrow night.  
St. Louis, Mo., July 31.—Three persons are in a critical condition here today and a fourth recovering from a heat stroke following the hottest day of the year yesterday when the thermometer stood at 95. No relief is promised for today. Temperature at 9 a. m. was 86, with a forecast maximum of 96.

St. Paul, Minn., July 31.—After a brief respite of cooler weather, thermometers here today jumped eight degrees in two hours and stood at 90 at 9 a. m. Farmers in the Red River valley, faced with blasted crops, are praying for rain. Rain followed by cooler weather would save thousands of acres of grain.

Indianapolis, Ind., July 31.—What promised to be the hottest day of the summer was faced by Indiana today. The thermometer at 10 o'clock registered 90 and was rapidly going up. Farmers begin to fear for their corn crop.

Detroit, Mich., July 31.—No relief was in sight today from the heat which caused three deaths in Detroit yesterday. At 10:30 the thermometer registered 90.

(Continued on Page Two.)

THE WEATHER  
Oregon: Tonight and Wednesday fair, warmer. Wednesday except near the coast, moderate northerly winds.

## SENATE OVERHAULS THE REVENUE BILL

Sur-Taxes On Corporations and On Incomes Are Both Increased

Washington, July 31.—A two per cent sur tax on corporations, increase in sur taxes on incomes over \$15,000, and increase of \$1 a gallon in the tax on distilled spirits and an increase of fifty cents a barrel on beer were agreed upon today by the senate finance committee, as amendments to the revenue bill.  
From the sur tax on corporation incomes, the committee hopes to raise \$182,000,000. The boost on sur taxes on individual incomes above \$15,000 is expected to raise from \$25,000,000 to \$36,000,000. The liquor tax increase making the total tax \$3.30 a gallon is expected to yield \$90,000,000. The fifty cent increase on beer, making the total tax \$3.25, is to raise \$25,000,000. The tax on wine will be increased.  
Thus, wealth will be called upon largely to make up the additional \$273,000,000 needed to bring the committee's original bill up to \$1,913,000,000.

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