GERMAN OFFENSIVE BEING CHECKED AT ALL POINTS IN NOYON AREA

Advancing Hordes of Enemy Repulsed With Heavy Loss—Foe Made Some Gains in Aisne Sector But Failed To Improve Them.

A despatch from Paris says: A concentrated fire from the French guns caught powerful German forces attempting a counter-attack between Courcelles and Mery, in the Montdidier sector, and not only drove back the advancing waves, but inflicted very heavy losses, according to the War Office announcement on Thursday night.

During Wednesday night the French in a splendid counter-attack, drove the enemy back to the north bank of the Matz River, farther to the east. The important height of Croix Ricard and the village of Melacocq were also taken by the French.

On the Aisne front the Germans continued their thrust between the river and the important forest position of Villers-Cotterets and gained a little ground, but all their attempts to improve the position have failed. Elsewhere other German attacks have been defeated, the Americans breaking up a particularly violent attempt between Bouresches and Belleau Wood.

The French during the course of the various engagements took many prisoners and consolidated all their gains. A despatch from the front, dealing with the Aisne fighting, says:

"Probably for the purpose of making the Allies move their reserves toward the right flank, the Germans started a big diversion in the vicinity of the Forest of Villers-Cotterets. The enemy progressed slightly, obtaining a foothold in Coeuvres, but this does not improve his position. Five German divisions participated, two of which had just reached the battlefield.

"The attack extended along a front of about four miles, but met such opposition from the French, who fought with stern determination, that the Germans apparently renounced their efforts."

The sole result of the enemy's attack on the Montdidier-Noyon line up to the present is that he has, by the violence of his attacks east of the Oise and the forced retreat of the French from the region west of the stream, blotted out the nasty Noyon salient and brought the battle front more into direct alignment with that beginning at the Aisne. And a terrible price has been paid for this rectification of the line.

Whether the Germans are prepared again to offer huge sacrifices in attempting to bend back the other salient from the Aisne to Villers-Cotterets, and bring the Picardy and Aisne battlefields into a more continuous front, remains to be seen.

There are signs that for the moment the German efforts are waning.

A later despatch says: Only small local actions have occurred along the battle front since Thursday night and it appears scarcely possible that the Germans will recommence serious work for the present on the line of Montdidier-Noyon. Their offensive for the capture of Compiegne, with the eventuality of making further progress toward Paris, from the base that they hoped to attain there, may be regarded as having met a bloody check, costing them thousands of men belonging to their best divisions.

There appears no doubt that the Germans desired to mane an imposing advance toward the capital and at the same time inflict losses on the French and the British before the American army was ready to take the field. They assuredly are anxious in regard to the rapidly-growing forces from across the Atlantic Ocean, and are trying their utmost to use up the old armies in front of them before fresh, trans-Atlantic troops arrive in sufficiently strong force to turn the balance. The heroism of the veteran troops who in these last days have inflicted such terrific losses on the flower of the German army, has given the foe a rude shock. The Germans probably will try to break through somewhere else, but the allies, with their armies under the command of Gen. Foch, are confident that they will check the Germans anywhere.

The Empire Conference of Premiers now in Session in London.

Left to right: Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes, Australia; Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George, Great Britain; Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Borden, Canada; Rt. Hon. W. F. Massey, New Zealand; Rt. Hon. Gen. Christian Smuts, South Africa (representing Premier Botha), and Rt. Hon. W. F. Lloyd, Newfoundland.

BRITISH BOMB GERMAN CITIES

Successful Raids Carried Out Against Metz—Sablons Station and Other Points.

A despatch from London says: The official statement on aerial operations isued on Thursday night says:

"Our flying squadrons on the French battle front Wednesday were chiefly engaged in offensive patrol work, seeking German machines and fighting them wherever found. They destroyed 15 enemy airplanes, some of which went down in flames, others broke in the air. One of our machines on this sector is missing.

"On the British front a good deal of aerial reconnaissance, photography and aerial observation was carried out. We lost two machines and destroyed five German machines. Two other hostile machines were driven down out of control, while a German observation balloon was brought down in flames.

"Twenty-two tons of bombs were dropped by us during the day, the principal targets attacked being the Don junction, railways at Courtrai, Armentieres and Chaulnes, a dump at Bapaume and the Bruges docks. The weather at night was unsuitable for flying.

"On Wednesday two successful raids were carried out by our squadrons against the Metz-Sabions railway station and sidings. Many heavy bombs were dropped. On Thursday one squadron of our airplanes attacked the station at Treves, another dropped a ton of bombs on factories and the station at Dillingen. At the same time factories and the station at Hagendangen were subjected to an attack. At Dillingen direct hits were observed on two furnaces. Successful long-distance photographic reconnaissances were carried out by other machines.

"In the course of attacks made by the enemy on our bombing machines one hostile airplane was destroyed and two others were driven down. One of our machines is missing."

Markets of the World

Breadstuffs

Toronto, June 18.—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, $2.23½; No. 2 do., $2.20½; No. 3 do., $2.17½; No. 4 wheat, $2.10½; in store Fort William, including 2½c tax.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 85½c; No. 3 C.W., 82½c; extra No. 1 feed, 82½c; No. 1 feed, 79½c, in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, kiln dried, nominal; No. 4 yellow, kiln dried, nominal.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 80 to 81c; No. 3 white, 79 to 80c, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—No. 2 Winter, per car lot, $2.22; basis in store Montreal.

Peas—Nominal.

Barley—Malting, $1.31 to $1.33, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—$1.80, according to freights outside.

Rye—No. 2, $2.00, according to freights outside.

Manitoba flour — War quality, $10.95; new bags, Toronto and Montreal freights, prompt shipment.

Ontario flour — War quality, $10.65, in bags, Toronto and Montreal; prompt shipment.

Millfeed — Car lots — Delivered Montreal freights, bags included: Bran, per ton, $35.00; shorts, per ton, $40.00.

Hay—No. 1 per ton, $15.50 to $16.50; mixed, $11.30 to $14.00, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, per ton, $8.00 to $8.50, track Toronto.

Country Produce—Wholesale

Butter—Creamery, solids, per lb., 41 to 42c; prints, per lb., 41½ to 42½c; dairy, per lb., 35 to 36c.

Eggs—new laids, 34 to 35c.

Poultry—Roosters, 28 to 25c; fowl, 28 to 30c; ducks, 25 to 30c; turkeys, 27 to 30c.

Wholesalers are selling to the retail trade at the following prices:—

Cheese—New, large, 23½ to 24c; twins, 23¾ to 24¼c; old, large, 25½ to 26c; twin 26 to 26½c.

Butter—Fresh, dairy, choice, 40 to 42c; creamery prints, fresh made, 45 to 47c; solids, 44 to 45c.

Margarine—28 to 33c. lb.

Eggs—New laid, 39 to 40c; new laid, in cartons, 43 to 44c.

Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 65c; roosters, 28c; fowl, 38 to 40c; turkeys, 40 to 45c.

Live poultry—Spring chickens, 55c; roosters, 26c; turkeys, 30c; hens, 33 to 37c.

Beans — Canadian, hand-picked, bushel, $8.75; imp., hand-picked, Burma or Indian, $6.75; Japan, $8.50 to $8.75; Limas, 19 to 20c.

Maple syrup—3⅓-lb. tins, 10 to a case, $14.50; imperial gallon tins, per tin, $2.25; imperial five-gallon cans, per can, $10.50; 15-gallon kegs, per gal., $2.00; maple sugar, 1-lb. box, pure, per lb., 24 to 25c.

Provisions—Wholesale

Smoked meats—Hams, medium 36 to 38c; do., heavy, 30 to 32c; cooked, 50 to 51c; rolls, 32 to 33c; breakfast bacon, 41 to 44c; backs, plain, 44 to to 31c; clear bellies, 29 to 30c.

Lard—Pure, tierces, 31½ to 32c; tubs, 31¾c; pails, 32 to 32½c; prints, 33 to 33½c. Compound tierces, 26 to 26½c; tubs, 26¼ to 26¾c; pails, 26½ to 27c; prints, 27½ to 28c.

Montreal Markets

Montreal, June 18.—Oats—Canadian Western, No. 2, 96½c; extra No. 1 feed, 94½c. Flour—New standard Spring wheat grade, $10.95 to $11.05. Rolled oats—Bags, 90 lbs. $5.10 to $5.15. Bran, $35.00. Shorts, $40.00. Mouillie, $72.00. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, $15.50.

Live Stock Markets

Toronto, June 18.—Extra choice heavy steers, $15.50 to $16.75; choice heavy steers, $14.50 to $14.75; butchers' cattle, choice, $14.50 to $15.00; do., good, $13.75 to $14.00; do., medium, $12.50 to $13.00; do., common, $11.50 to $11.75; butchers' bulls, choice, $12.50 to $13.25; do., good bulls, $11.50 to $11.75; do., medium bulls, $10.75 to $11.00; do., rough bulls, $7.50 to $8.50; butchers' cows, choice, $12.50 to $13.25; do. good, $11.75 to $12.00; do. medium, $10.75 to $11.25; stockers, $9.50 to $11.25; feeders, $11.25 to $12.00; canners and cutters, $6.00 to $7.25; milkers, good to choice, $90.00 to $140.00; do. com. and med., $65.00 to $80.00; springers, $90.00 to $140.00; light ewes, $17.50 to $20.00; yearlings, $19.00 to $20.00; spring lambs, 23c. to 25c; hogs, fed and watered, $18.00; do. weighed off cars, $18.25; do. f.o.b., $17.00.

Montreal, June 18.—Choice steers, $13.50 to $13.25; inferior, $10.50; butchers bulls, $12.50 to $12.00; butchers' cows, $13.00 to $7.50; choice calves, $15.50 to $8.50; good, $8.50; sheep, $15.50; spring lambs, 21 to 23 cents per pound on hoof. Select hogs, $19.50 to $19.75.

WILL NOT CALL 19-YEAR-OLDS BEFORE AUTUMN.

A despatch from Ottawa says Call to the colors of 19-year-old men is delayed. When the proclamation requiring these men to register was published, it was intimated that they would not be required actually to report for duty before July. It is now considered improbable that many, if any, of the men will be summoned before September or October. Up to the present 51,883 men of 19 years of age have registered for military service. Of these it is estimated 75 per cent. would probably rank in medical category A, that is men fit for general service overseas.

GUNS ACTIVE ON BRITISH FRONT

German Attack in Hazebrouck Sector Repulsed.

A despatch from British Headquarters in France says: The Germans are apparently much concerned over our progressive successes in the Strazeele sector, and have shelled our front-line positions and places in the Hazebrouck area considerably.

Early Friday morning the enemy launched an infantry attack with the object of restoring the situation. A party of about 100 stosstruppen succeeded in driving out the garrison of a new post, but our vigorous counter-attack regained it and secured about ten prisoners. Our casualties were light.

The French in their attacks of Friday on the enemy positions in Ridgewood took prisoners of one officer and 40 men, but later had to relinquish the captured ground.

The hostile artillery is again most active in the Scarpe Valley, Fampoux being heavily shelled with gas shells and high explosives.

ENEMY AVIATORS MAY BE DESERTING.

A despatch from the British Army in France says: The British Air Service has been improving steadily in recent days. This has been due perhaps to an increase in men and equipment. One famous airman recently destroyed three German machines within a few hours. There have been more German planes flying over British territory lately than in any other similar period, but very high in the day time for observation work and photographing. A majority of the flights have been taking place back of the German line.

There is an increasing number of German aviators being captured unhurt along this front.

RECORD PRODUCTION OF SAWN LUMBER.

A despatch from Ottawa says: A report on the operations of the Canadian Forestry Corps overseas received by the Militia Department states that one company in France has made a record production of sawn lumber. In ten hours' sawing they turned out a total of 156,000 feet, board measure, or 372 tons of one-inch, two-inch and three-inch square-edged butted lumber. Logs sawn numbered 342.

AMERICANS INFLICT HEAVY LOSSES ON ENEMY

A despatch from Washington says:—Complete repulse of enemy attacks north-west of Chateau Thierry with heavy losses for the Germans was reported on Thursday night in Gen. Pershing's communique.

The American lines advanced on Wednesday by taking the last of the German positions in the Belleau Wood.

MANY LOST VESSELS MAY BE REFLOATED.

A despatch from Washington says Unofficial estimates by naval experts show that in excess of 500,000 tons of shipping sunk by submarines may be refloated, as a result of salvage operations conducted by Great Britain and the other allied Governments. American naval engineers are to be sent to assist in this work, carrying with them a fleet of powerful sea-going tugs, scows and other equipment.

TO ISSUE WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

Purchasable for Small Coins They Are Redeemed At Profit to Buyers.

A despatch from Ottawa says: War savings stamps will, it is understood, be issued by the Government, although they may not be on sale for some little time. Such stamps are isued in the United States, where they have proved a great success. The stamps are purchasable for small coins and are then stuck in books. They are redeemable eventually at rates which return a profit to the purchaser.

When the stamps are issued Canada will have three methods by which her people can lend their money to the Government. There will be the coming flotation of war bonds in $50 and $100 units, war savings certificates for smaller amounts purchasable at banks and post-offices, and the war stamps.

TROOPS IN RUSSIA RUSHED TO FRANCE

Movement of Forces to Occupy Seven Days.

A despatch from London says:—Germany is about to withdraw the bulk of her troops now in Russia for service on the western front, according to a statement from Maxim Gorky's newspaper, the Petrograd Novaia Zhizn, quoted by the Daily News correspondent at Stockholm.

The Novaia Zhizn claims to give the text of a despatch sent by General Falkenhayn, former chief of the German General Staff, which, it says, was intercepted, in which General Falkenhayn declares that the battles on the western front are critical and decisive, but that in order to ensure definite victory and the end of the war the concentration of enormous forces will be necessary.

It is planned to accomplish the movement of the troops in seven days.

ATTACK U-BOATS 70 TIMES A WEEK

Allies Are Sinking More Submarines Than Germany Can Build.

A despatch from London says:—In an interview with the London correspondent of the Petit Parisien, Sir Eric Geddes, First Lord of the Admiralty, had the following to say with regard to submarines:

"The allied navies continue to sink more German submarines than the enemy can build. It is certainly a fact that since January we have sunk more submarines than they have built. We attack their submarines 70 times a week on the average.

"We base our returns of submarines destroyed only on those we are sure of from having seen wrecks or secured the crews; but most of the other submarines hit are in urgent need of repairs, and it is evident that the results of many of our attacks are unknown. If you have moles in your garden you may put down a thousand traps without catching all of them, and it is the same way with submarines."

PARADE PRISONERS IN RHINE CITIES.

A despatch from Geneva says:—American and British prisoners, together with French colonial troops recently captured by the Germans, are being paraded through the streets of the Rhine towns to impress the population, according to advices from Strassburg received in Basel.

FEWER SUBMARINES IN ENGLISH CHANNEL.

A despatch from Paris says: Enemy submarine operations have lessened greatly in the western and central English channel since the blockading of Zeebrugge and Ostend. The number of submarines operating have also appreciably diminished, owing to the severe losses in recent months.

ZEEBRUGGE MOLE AGAIN SHELLED

Docks at Bruges and Ostend and Seaplane Sheds Also Attacked.

A despatch from London says: The Admiralty on Friday issued the following official statement on naval aerial operations:

"During the period of June 10-12 the operations of our air forces' contingents have been attended by unfavorable weather. In addition to the usual patrol, bombing operations were were carried out during the day and the night time against Zeebrugge, the Bruges docks, and the Ostend docks. In all, 18 tons of bombs were dropped. Two hits were observed on the Mole, and bursts on the seaplane shed at Zeebrugge and at Bruges. Fires were caused at several places. Hits also were observed at the Brugeoise works and bursts were observed at the Bassin de la Marine and the Gare Maritime, Ostend. Clouds at times prevented observation. One enemy aircraft was destroyed. One of our machines is missing."

INTERVENTION BY THE JAPANESE SEEMS CERTAIN.

A despatch from Tokio says: The Entente Governments of Europe are bringing increasing influence to bear to induce Japan to intervene in Russia. Among the several officers who have arrived in Tokio to consult with the general staff is Major Pichon, who was head of the French Military Mission to Russia, and whose recall was demanded by the Bolsheviki. Major Pichon is striving for intervention in Siberia as a military necessity with the same energy that he opposed Rumania's entrance into the war as an ill-advised step. Major Pichon formerly was military attache at Bucharest. Apparently Japan is divided on the question of intervention, but the army is undergoing severe training. Regiments frequently are heard tramping through the streets of Tokio at night on their return from long marches and manoeuvres.

Home From the Huns' Hell.

A repatriated man, assisted by bluejacket, helps a blinded comrade to a seat on the tender ship.

The Doings of the Duffs.