

GREAT COUNTER-OFFENSIVE BY FRENCH AND AMERICAN TROOPS

Advance to Gates of Soissons, Capturing Thousands of Prisoners and Scores of Cannon—One of the Most Brilliant Pieces of Work in the War.

A despatch from London says:—With wonderful vitality and with spirits still high, notwithstanding the big battle of the last two days, Franco-American troops dashed forward at dawn on Thursday along the western side of the salient formed by the German advance in May, and drove back the enemy pell-mell everywhere or made them prisoners.

The depth of the advance certainly is several miles on the average. Many thousands of prisoners were taken, 20 villages occupied and several score guns captured.

The allied commander-in-chief had permitted the enemy to exhaust a large portion of his forces in striking the blows on both sides of Rheims which were intended to be heavy enough to weaken the French army. The blow was successfully parried, and before the Germans recovered sufficient-

ly to fill the great gap in their ranks and make another effort, the allies bounded back and staggered them with a lightning-like diversion from the Marne to the Aisne.

Thousands of prisoners, scores of cannon, hundreds of machine guns and much other material fell into the hands of the allied troops. Besides gaining possession of the heights dominating Soissons from the south a couple dozen villages were reconquered by the allies, who on Thursday were engaged in severe fighting which disconcerted the enemy along the whole line from Chateau Thierry to Soissons.

The French counter-attack is regarded here as one of the most brilliant pieces of work in the war, and it is believed that the results will prove extremely valuable, as the French have obtained most important strategic positions.

EXPECT A STRONG COUNTER-ATTACK

London Critics Think That Germans Are Not Yet Beaten Nor Ready to Give Up.

A despatch from London says:—There is a strong note of relief and of gratitude in the newspaper comment on Friday morning on Gen. Foch's successful counter-stroke between Soissons and Chateau Thierry, which is hailed as the most cheering news for a 12-month—news which it is admitted seemed at first too good to be true.

Heartily tributes are paid to Gen. Foch's fine strategy and leadership, while in several of the newspapers emphasis is laid on the view that his success has been due to the reorganization which placed the allied command under one head.

The courage and dash of the Franco-American troops also are warmly praised.

The rejoicings over Thursday's events, however, are tempered by the belief expressed by the newspapers that the Germans have not yet been beaten, and that they by no means have exhausted their forces. The opinion is put forward that the Germans thus far have engaged only 30 of their total strategic reserves of between 70 and 80 divisions. What will happen when these are brought into action is awaited with keen interest by the military writers.

It is clear from the despatches from the front that there is no illusion of a victory already achieved, and that a fierce German effort is expected to follow as a counter to General Foch's initial success. Seemingly nobody on the front or in well informed quarters here expects the German high command to abandon the game until the last card is played.

NEW YORK BELL

RINGS VICTORY

A despatch from New York says:—The bell in the City Hall tower was ordered rung by Mayor Hylan for fifteen minutes on Thursday afternoon in celebration of the victorious American advance on the French front.

ALLIES HOLD SOISSONS PLATEAU IN BRILLIANT COUNTER-ATTACK

Franco-American Troops Capture 20,000 German Prisoners and 400 Cannon—Several Villages Occupied and Heavy Casualties Inflicted on Enemy.

A despatch from London says:—Notwithstanding the fact that the Germans have thrown large reinforcements into the new battle line between Soissons and the region of Chateau Thierry, they nowhere thus far have been able to stem the tide of the onslaughts the French and American troops are making against them.

Friday saw the Americans and French batter their way further eastward into the deep triangular salient which has Soissons, Rheims and Chateau Thierry as its points and successfully withstand a terrible counter-attack by the Germans on the plateau south-west of Soissons where the allied guns dominate this important strategic town.

The gains of Friday were carried to their greatest depth in the centre of the 25-mile line and on the southern flank north-west of Chateau Thierry, where the Americans are holding forth.

The fighting was particularly violent throughout Friday around Soissons and in the region of Chaudun, where the Germans sent in large forces of reserves in an endeavor to

push back the allied troops. Here the artillery did notable work, killing or wounding many of the enemy and aiding greatly in staving off the Germans.

On the sector where the Americans are fighting north-west of Chateau Thierry, the German line was driven in upon the plateau north-west of Monnes and to the height to the north of Courchamps, the former position representing a gain of 3½ miles from the point of original departure at Torcy. While it is not possible as yet geographically, to delimit with exactitude the gains made in the two days' fighting along the front by the French and Americans, it is known that at its deepest point the penetration has reached approximately seven miles and that over the entire 25 miles it ranges downward to about two miles.

In addition to infliction of extremely heavy casualties on the enemy the French and American forces up to the present have taken more than 17,000 prisoners, including two colonels with their chiefs of staff, and in excess of 860 cannon.

Markets of the World

Breadstuffs

Toronto, July 23.—Manitoba wheat No. 1 Northern, \$2.22½; No. 2 Northern, \$2.20½; No. 3 Northern, \$2.17½; No. 4 wheat, \$2.10½, in store Fort William, including 2½c. tax.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 92½c; No. 3 C.W., 89c; extra No. 1 feed, 89c; No. 1 feed, 86c, in store Fort William.

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

Ontario oats—No. 1 white, 86 to 87c, nominal; No. 3 white, 85 to 86c, nominal, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—No. 2, Winter, per car lot, \$2.25, basis in store Montreal.

Peas—No. 2, nominal, according to freights outside.

Barley—Malting, \$1.35 to \$1.37, nominal.

Buckwheat—\$1.80, nominal.

Rye—No. \$1.90, nominal.

Manitoba flour—War quality, \$10.95, Toronto.

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

Millfeed—Car lots, delivered Montreal—\$35 per ton; shorts, \$40 per ton.

Hay—No. 1, \$13 to \$14 per ton, track Toronto; mixed, \$11 to \$12 per ton, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, \$8 to \$8.50 per ton, track Toronto.

Country Produce—Wholesale

Butter—Creamery, solids, per lb., 42 to 42½c; prints, per lb., 42½ to 43c; dairy, per lb., 36 to 37c.

Eggs—New laid, 42 to 44c.

Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 48c; roosters, 22c; fowls, 23 to 28c; ducklings, 33c; turkeys, 29 to 32c.

Live poultry—Roosters, 18c; fowl, 21 to 26c; ducklings, lb., 30a; turkeys, 27 to 30c. Spring chickens 40 to 42c.

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

Cheese—New, large, 23½ to 24c; twins, 23½ to 24½c; 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 32c.

Eggs—No. 1's, 48 to 49c; in cartons, 52 to 54c.

Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 55c; roosters, 25c; fowl, 34 to 35c; turkeys, 40 to 45c.

Live poultry—Spring chickens, 50c; roosters, 22 to 25c; turkeys, 30c; hens, 30 to 32c.

Beans—Canadian, hand-picked, bushel, \$8.00; imp., hand-picked, Burma or Indian, \$6.75; Japan, \$8.50 to \$8.75; Limas, 18 to 19c.

Honey—comb—Choice, 16 oz., \$3.50 per dozen; 12 oz., \$3 per dozen; seconds and dark comb, \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Maple syrup—8½-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 46c; boneless, 48 to 49c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 30 to 31c; clear bellies, 29 to 30c.

Lard—Pure, tierces, 30 to 30½c; tubs, 30½ to 31c; pails, 30½ to 31½c; prints, 32½ to 33½c. Compound tierces, 26 to 26½c; tubs, 26½ to 26¾c; pails, 26¾ to 27c; prints, 28 to 28½c.

Montreal Markets

Montreal, July 23.—Oats—Canadian Western, No. 2, \$1.02; extra No. 1 feed, 96c. Flour—New standard grade, \$10.95 to \$11.05. Rolled oats—Bags, 90 lbs., \$5.25 to \$5.30. Bran, \$35.00. Shorts, \$40.00. Mouillie, \$67.00. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$14.50 to \$15.00.

Live Stock Markets

Toronto, July 23.—Choice heavy steers, \$13.75 to \$14.50; butchers' cattle, choice, \$13.25 to \$13.50; do, good, \$12.75 to \$13.00; do, medium, \$11.75 to \$12.25; do, common, \$9.25 to \$10.00; butchers' bulls, choice, \$11.25 to \$11.50; do, good bulls, \$10.75 to \$11.00; do, medium bulls, \$10.25 to \$10.50; do, rough bulls, \$7.50 to \$8.50; do, good, \$10.75 to \$11.00; do,

GERMANS RETREAT NORTH OF MARNE PURSUED BY ALLIED FORCES

Chateau Thierry Captured—South Bank of Marne Cleared of Enemy—French, British, Italians and Americans All Participating in Big Drive.

With the French Army in France, July 21.—Chateau Thierry, the corner-stone of the line of the farthest German advance, fell early this morning, when the French occupied the city, driving the Germans before them.

The enemy has begun his retreat northward under heavy pressure from all sides, French, Americans and British are all participating in the thrust which is pushing the Germans back. Where the retreat will end cannot be conjectured, as everything now depends on the will of the allied commander-in-chief.

The German position in the vicinity of Chateau Thierry was doomed from the moment their divisions recrossed the Marne on Saturday. Franco-American troops carried out an encircling movement from the north-west at the same time, which made it absolutely necessary for the enemy to withdraw. In the course of the night reconnaissances were effected by the French to test the strength of the Germans still in the city, and shortly after dawn the allied recapture became an accomplished fact.

London, July 21.—Victories for the allied arms in France continue to multiply. Over the entire sixty-mile front running from Soissons to Rheims the allied troops are fighting with a determination that brooks no denial of their efforts. And the Germans steadily are giving ground, though stubborn resistance is being offered on some sectors. Further goodly sized indentations have been made in the German line between Soissons and Chateau Thierry by the American and French

troops. Germans in their recent drive south of the Marne and toward the vicinity of Rheims have been blotted out under the counter-attacks of the Americans, French, British and Italians. Chateau Thierry, which represents the point in the battle line where the Germans had driven their wedge nearest to Paris, has been recaptured by the French troops, and almost simultaneously the village of Brasles, two miles eastward, and the heights to the north of the village fell into their hands.

Acting in harmony with the movement of Chateau Thierry, American and French troops north-west of the city struck the Germans another hard blow, broke through the German lines and drove through at some points more than three miles. Large numbers of prisoners were taken, and the machine guns of the allied troops literally mowed down the Germans who endeavored to stay their progress.

West of Rheims, where the British were engaged yesterday, the present line leaves the enemy a strip of about four miles deep at the greatest depth on a front of about thirteen miles in the Marne valley. This is all he has to show for the big offensive of July 15.

Paris, July 21.—"The Germans, violently attacked on their right flank and south of the Marne," says the War Office announcement, "have been compelled to retreat and recross the river. The French hold the entire southern bank of the Marne. More than 20,000 prisoners and more than 400 guns have been captured."

U.S. CRUISER SUNK BY SUB.

Fifty Miles Off New York Harbor—Loss of Life Not Yet Ascertained.

A despatch from New York says:—German submarines appear to have renewed operations off the American coast. The United States armored cruiser San Diego was sunk not far from the entrance of New York harbor on Friday. Circumstantial reports reaching here indicate that she was torpedoed.

There were also reports on Friday night, though not confirmed, that other ships had been attacked, one being described as a coastwise passenger ship.

Whether there had been a toll of lives taken on the San Diego was not known at midnight. Two steamships which are proceeding to an unnamed port have aboard 1,156 officers and men. These are in addition to the one officer and 30 men previously reported landed. This leaves 257 of the 1,444 men aboard unaccounted for. The men are said to be in good condition and so far as known none was injured.

The San Diego was sunk at 11.30 a.m., about ten miles south-east of Fire Island light, which is off the Long Island shore, about 50 miles east of the entrance to New York harbor and on the marine highway of trans-Atlantic ships bound in and out of the port.

ANZACS DELIVER SURPRISE ATTACK

Made Easy Capture of Trenches and 33 Prisoners.

A despatch from the British Armies in the Field says:—Further advances have been made by the Australian forces east of Amiens. On Wednesday night they quietly annexed a strip of German defences a third of a mile deep on a front of more than a mile south-east of Villers-Bretonneaux, south of the Somme. Two field guns were captured by them, in addition to 33 prisoners, one of whom was an officer.

The guns apparently had been abandoned by the enemy when they were left exposed near the front line by the last Australian attack, and the Germans were unable to remove them. This has been the only movement on the British front in the last 24 hours.

ITALIANS OCCUPY MONTE STABEL

Rome, July 21.—Italian troops have wrested from the Austrians Monte Stabel and have completely reoccupied Corneo di Cavento, in the Adamello region of the mountain front, according to the official statement issued from general headquarters Saturday.



The Prince of Wales on the Italian Front.

His Royal Highness won high praise by his easy democratic manners with all ranks. Incidentally it may be stated that the Prince told a French aviator, that he had no intention of marrying anybody but a girl within the limits of the British Empire.