

It's an awful war... the remark has been... enemy was prepar... slict and for a ti... of it. The reports... days give a glea... Entente Allies an... to have turned. T... as to the final r... issue, out the m... erful and at pre... predict when the... With the Allies m... the West, the Ru... on the East, the R... than holding the... North, it is hard... war can be long... hardly probable... year, but 1917 i... peace, and after... to see it will fac... of things—but... Are conditions in... tries to be bette... before the war?... improvement; al... provement, but... ment of doubt, b... otherwise. The... all suffer financi... of world conquest... ished by the ene... back a century... all time. Their... laid, but their... and they long s... blunder. A repeti... gle will not com... velops a new c... We'll never see... effort.

Since the spring... have heard much... "big drive" to b... and her allies a... battle line. Thin... ing our way for... but whether or... has actually com... to say. For four... mans have been... at Verdun, but... enemy were co... compared with... of human life at... Germany in kill... during the pr... That the Germa... ground slowly a... mitted by all... by the French a... points along the... line may be the... long-expected c... simply be an ef... a portion of the... at Verdun. W... may have been... been a success... the enemy have... the trenches, w... security for so... Concurrently... on the western... on the east wa... with increased... forces have bee... start, particula... responsible and... critics, who ha... for their tacti... criticism from... it isn't likely t... he made till th... thoroughly eq... and ready for... completed. It... parently, not... unprepared in... against an un... that spent a... themselves in... ever the pres... it has doubtle... ered before it... may not be th... tide seems to

TRIUMPH AT SOMME FOR FRANCO-BRITISH

Kitchener's Men Sweep Over Positions of Strategic Importance—World's Greatest Artillery Preparation

London despatches on Sunday said: A great allied offensive was inaugurated Saturday morning on both sides of the River Somme. British and French launched their assaults simultaneously on a front of about 25 miles and immediately captured the first line of German positions on the entire front attacked and seized many villages. The Battle of the Somme marks the opening of the Franco-British offensive, long expected as a critical if not the decisive stage of the war. The drive is distinctly a British undertaking, the French operations taking the form of a supporting movement to make secure the British right flank, which any considerable advance would lay open to attack. Kitchener's army was having its first chance.

In addition to the military successes the terrain overrun by the Entente allied troops has an exceptional strategic importance. Four of the towns captured by the French are only seven miles west of Peronne, the chief rail highway from the German centre at Cologne to the German front in the region of Noyon and Soissons. The German headquarters is at St. Quentin, 25 miles southeast of Peronne. The fighting lines extend between a great number of small villages which are usually devoted to textile industries, while the outlying agricultural sections are level fields chiefly devoted to beet culture for the extensive sugar production of France. The allies threw up strong earthworks around the villages taken in order to protect them against counter-attacks.

All Ready!

The intense bombardment of the preceding four days was the signal for an advance over the level fields, beginning at 7.30 o'clock Saturday morning. The allied artillery then lengthened the range so as to shut off all communication between the first German line and the German reserves. Beginning at 6 o'clock Saturday morning, the bombardment, which had been incessant for five days from Ypres to the Somme, was concentrated with unprecedented intensity on the 20 miles from a point just above Hebuterne to the River Somme. A devastating fire covered every foot of ground from the German wire entanglements to their second line. The advance works were leveled, their protecting wires blown away and their communication trenches destroyed.

At half-past seven o'clock to the minute the range of all the guns was extended beyond the first line, and the most impenetrable curtain of fire yet seen on a battlefield fell in front of the second line. At the same minute the infantry, which had been held in readiness for the assault for most of the night, jumped over the parapets and with wild cheers dashed across "No Man's Land" and in wave after wave crossed the demolished earthworks which had opposed them in this region for more than a year and a half. Officer patrols preceded the attacks to hold the waves where advance became too hasty and to direct the masking of fortified posts on hillocks and in villages.

As British See It

The first batch of wounded from the British front in France arrived at Charing Cross station in London on Sunday evening. An enormous crowd assembled at the station cheering and waving flags. London papers, however, are reserved, refusing to admit whether a big feat is being made or the "big push" commenced. A wounded man said that battalions had rehearsed their parts for weeks and that wonderful precautions to keep the preparations secret had been maintained. Correspondents recount thrilling exploits of the fighting and write of cheerfulness of all ranks lying in reserve on Friday night. All agree that the battle is bound to continue with great intensity.

Nearing Objective

London despatches on Monday night said: The third day of the powerful Franco-British offensive on the Somme is a record of continued advances and striking new successes. The French army of General Foch operating south of the river, has broken completely through the second German defence line for a distance of three miles, and is within four miles of Peronne, key position of the German front for 100 miles, and the objective of its drive. The British to the north have occupied La Boisselle, made further field gains and brought their number of captives to 4,000. Tonight they are fighting furiously around Ovillers and north of Fricourt. The German losses to date are set at 20,000 killed and wounded and more than 12,000 in prisoners. General Haig, in a report from his headquarters in France, however, declares the British losses are "less than expected." North of the river the allies spent the day in consolidating the ground gained, and the Germans were content to prepare against renewed attacks. The arrival of heavy German reinforcements was reported today. Many of these already have been thrown into the battle before Peronne and on the British front, summing up the situation, General Haig's to-night reports "substantial progress." The most important British gain was the capture of the village of La Boisselle, where a German garrison had held out for three days.

FREE U.S. TROOPERS

Carranza Bows to Wilson's Ultimatum Over Carrizal Affair

An El Paso despatch on Thursday said: Ragged, tattered and unkempt, the 23 United States negro soldiers whose arrest at Carrizal and imprisonment at Chihuahua came near precipitating Mexico and the United States into a war, reached El Paso this afternoon and were released by the Mexican officials. Their return without condition had been the chief demand of President Wilson's ultimatum to the Mexican President, Carranza, earlier in the week.

BRITISH GAS GERMANS AND ENTER TRENCHES

Many Successful Raids and Fearful Gunfire Demoralizes Germans Who Lose Heavily

The British official statement issued Thursday night read: "During the last twenty-four hours a large number of our reconnoitring and raiding parties entered the enemy's trenches at various points along the entire front of the British army. All these enterprises were successful in achieving their object: inflicting heavy casualties on the Germans and capturing prisoners and war stores. In several instances our troops remained for a considerable period in the German lines, repelling counter-attacks across the open. One of these enterprises took place after the discharge of gas. Our troops, entering the German trenches, found a considerable number of dead. Our casualties were insignificant. The artillery of both sides has been active along the front. Hostile trenches were much damaged in many places. The intermittent discharge of smoke and gas has aroused the activities of the enemy's guns and caused him to disclose his battery positions."

Countless Shells Used

All the London newspapers print lengthy accounts of the extravagant use of shells by the British forces in France and Flanders. The Daily Mail says: "The Germans are answering our great bombardment and are well supplied with shells, but they have never before employed artillery on such a scale on so wide a front as we are doing. An extensive, as against an intensive method is on trial and has clearly much agitated the enemy, caused him considerable losses and left our infantry free to enter his trenches at night here, there and everywhere."

The Times headquarters' correspondent says: "The British retain the initiative and are inflicting heavy losses with surprisingly small casualties to themselves. At no point has there been any permanent change in position. The ground almost everywhere is deep in mud, and the trenches full of water and while the British have harassed the enemy badly, no attempt has been made in any of the raids to hold or consolidate ground won. Our object at all points has been to inflict local losses, in which we have been very successful."

"Hour For Action Here"

Premier Bland returned to Paris Monday after a conference with the British Commander, Sir Douglas Haig, on Saturday and Sunday, at the British front. The hour of action for the allies is here, says The Matin. "At least the success of defence on many fronts," it says, "the outstanding facts are that the allies have increased enormously their material supplies, and by close exchange of views have implanted a common directive idea into the operations now beginning along all fronts."

CASEMENT SENTENCED TO HANG FOR CRIME

Former Consular Agent Made Dramatic Plea to Court—Counsel With Appeal—Reading's Charge

Viscount Reading, Lord Chief Justice of England, with the black cloud spread over his head, and his two associates in scarlet gowns, likewise black-capped, pronounced the sentence of death for high treason on Sir Roger Casement Thursday afternoon, half an hour after the foreman of the jury gave the verdict of guilty. Sir Roger had addressed the court, reading his final statement. Daniel J. Bailey, the private soldier who had been held as his accomplice, was afterwards placed in the dock. The Chief Justice directed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty, and Bailey was discharged.

Not Tried by Peers?

Casement declared he did not regard trial by Englishmen in an English court as a trial by his peers, to which he was entitled. With a sweeping gesture of his arm Sir Roger continued: "How would all men here feel if an Englishman had landed in England and had been taken to Ireland, if that man had been placed before a jury in a community inflamed against him, believing him to be a criminal?"

Michael Francis Doyle, counsel for Sir Roger, gave out the following statement: "The verdict, though regrettable to us, was not a surprise. We will take an immediate appeal to the Criminal Court of Appeals, and then to the House of Lords, if necessary, because we feel that the point of law involving a statute 500 years old under which Sir Roger was tried never has been legally tested."

RUSSIANS NEAR KOLOMEJA

Total of Prisoners Rises to 205,000—Desperate Battles

Russian official reports on Friday record the capture of many more prisoners, guns, and machine guns from the Austrians and Germans. The total of prisoners taken by the Russians since June 4 is 205,000. The Russians again are hammering their way toward Kolomeja. With slow but sure strokes, before which the Austrian lines are crumbling, the Czar's forces are closing upon the Galician stronghold, the key to Lemberg. "Yesterday General Letchitzky, after artillery preparation," says Petrograd's Thursday official statement, "inflicted upon the enemy, despite his desperate resistance, a great defeat in the region between the Rivers Dniester and Pruth and took possession of three lines of trenches."

OFFICIAL REPORTS OF GREAT ALLIED DRIVE

Many Villages Taken, and Trenches Overrun on Wide Front With Little Loss—Many Prisoners

The War Office gave out the following statement Saturday night: "An attack was launched north of the River Somme Saturday morning at 7.30 o'clock in conjunction with the French. British troops have broken into the German forward system of defences on a front of 16 miles. Heavy fighting continued all day between the Rivers Somme and Ancre, and north of Ancre to Gommeourt, inclusive. On the right of our attack we have captured a German labyrinth of trenches on a front of seven miles to a depth of 1,000 yards, and have stormed and occupied the strongly-fortified villages of Montauban and Mametz. In the centre of our attack on a front of four miles we have gained many strong points, while at others the enemy is still holding out. North of the Ancre valley to Gommeourt, inclusive, the battle is equally violent. German prisoners include two regimental commanders and the whole of one regimental staff. The large number of enemy dead on the battlefield indicates that the German casualties have been very severe, especially in the vicinity of Fricourt. Yesterday, in spite of a high wind, a large amount of successful work was done in the air. An important railway depot was attacked with powerful bombs."

3,500 Prisoners

Sunday night's report reads: "Heavy fighting has taken place to-day in the area between the Ancre and the Somme, especially about Fricourt and La Boisselle. Fricourt was captured by our troops about 2 p.m., and remains in our hands. In the neighborhood of La Boisselle the enemy is offering stubborn resistance. A considerable quantity of war material has fallen into our hands. The total prisoners already exceed 3,500. Yesterday in co-operation with our attack north of the Somme, and afforded valuable assistance to our operations. Numerous enemy headquarters and railway centres were riddled with bombs. In one of these raids our escorting aeroplanes were attacked by 20 Fokkers, which were driven off."

French Accounts

The Saturday night French War Office statement referring to the drive reads: "North and south of the Somme following artillery preparation and reconnoissances carried out in the preceding days, the Franco-British troops launched this morning an offensive on a front of about forty kilometers (25 miles). North of the Somme the French troops established themselves in the approaches to the village of Hardecourt and in the outskirts of the village of Curly, where the battle continues. South of the Somme the villages of Dompierre, Becquincourt, Bussu and Fay have fallen into our hands."

Sunday afternoon's report read: "North of the Somme the fighting was fierce during the night. The Germans launched violent counter-attacks against our new positions at the approaches to Hardecourt. Our curtains of artillery fire and infantry fire inflicted important losses upon the enemy, who was forced to retreat in disorder. Pursuing our advantage upon the right bank of the Poyviers River we captured after spirited fighting the village of Curly, which we have entirely occupied. South of the Somme we have accomplished some progress between Hardecourt and Asselillers during the night."

Sunday night's French report read:

"North of the Somme the battle continued all day to our advantage in the region of Hardecourt and Curly. East of this latter village we have carried a quarry which had been powerfully organized by the enemy. South of the Somme we have obtained a footing in the second line of the German trenches at numerous places. The village of Frise has fallen into our hands, and also the Mereaucourt wood, farther east. The number of unwounded prisoners captured by the French soldiers during the two days fighting and who have been counted, is more than 6,000, of whom at least 150 were officers. Thanks to the very complete and very efficacious artillery preparation and to the elan of our infantry our losses have been very small."

SWIFT ITALIAN DRIVE

Austrian Retreat Becomes Rout in Trentino—Burning Bridges

London despatches on Wednesday said: Continuing their successful drive in the Trentino, the Italians have captured two important towns—Posina and Arsiero—and have hurled the Austrians from five peaks and the crests of two ridges of commanding position. The fighting has passed to the north of the Arsa Valley. All indications are that the Italian counter-offensive is gathering speed. Despatches from Rome describe the Austrian retreat at some places as bordering on rout. Austrians are destroying the bridges and burning the towns as they quit them. During the disorderly flight of the Austrians Italian guns and machine guns caused horrible carnage. There was no time to capture any prisoners. The losses of the Austrians in the last few days are estimated at 50,000. The Austrians hold only a few positions on Italian territory, and cling to these to cover the retreat of the main body.

Contractor Kelly Guilty

Thomas Kelly has been found guilty of theft, receiving, and obtaining money by false pretences in connection with contracts for the Manitoba Parliament Buildings. A verdict of guilty on four out of the five counts in the indictment was found by the jury in the Assize Court at Winnipeg on Thursday after it had deliberated for three hours. Kelly had spoken in his own behalf, being unrepresented by counsel. Leave to appeal was granted and sentence was not imposed by Justice Prendergast.

THE GREEK CRISIS

Greece is to-day ruled by a King who has usurped many powers and assisted in the usurpation of other powers by a minority in the national legislature.

It was at least possible to defend the King while his course was directed toward keeping his country out of a perilous adventure, even at the cost of national honor, but there is no longer any occasion for fear that Greece will be brought into the war, since she is no longer necessary to Allied purposes.

Greece can no longer bear the burden of the expenditure which her army imposes upon her. She must demobilize. When demobilization comes there must be an election. With an election Venizelos will probably return to power. When he comes the whole influence of the government, aside from the crown, will be pro-Ally.

If the Allies purpose to advance from Salonica they must, as the Evening Post pointed out, take precaution to protect their rear from possible attack. As the nations that gave Greece liberty and continued to supply funds, France, Russia and Great Britain have a good case for insisting that the will of the majority of Greek citizens shall not be thwarted by a Germanophile sovereign who has bound Greece to Teutonic leading strings.

Since the Allies control the sea Greece cannot resist actual pressure. The King has done his best, or his worst. Austrian defeats in Galicia will give new strength to Venizelos, and if Venizelos returns to power the German propagandists in Athens will have to give way.

We are, perhaps, on the edge of very interesting events in the Balkans. Bulgaria may shortly have to rear alone the weight of an Anglo-French-Serb offensive. Conceivably Roumanian troops will also be turned against Bulgaria. If the Berlin-Constantinople railway line is again cut by the Allies, a long step will have been taken toward the end of the war and Turkey's isolation will be complete.

The first incident is important now rather as a sign than in itself. Patently the Allies are choosing the ground for action, and the action will involve the whole German dream of expansion toward the East. The Berlin-to-Bagdad empire is now to be attacked from Salonica and a successful attack may bring us within hailing distance of peace.—The Tribune, New York.

TRAVESTON.

July is doing dandy. Mrs. Wm. Paylor is away on a six weeks' visit to her brothers and sisters at Grand Falls and Echo, Minnesota.

Our last week's budget travelled around in a young fellow's breast pocket, so didn't reach the office.

Mr. Ray Gates of York county was in this vicinity last week getting subscribers for "Farm and Dairy," and he certainly is on to his job. He is meeting with remarkable success.

Nurse Beattie of Inglis' Falls, left on Saturday for her home, after caring for little Graham Timmins since the operation was performed on his jaw for the removal of a cancer. She made a warm spot for herself in the hearts of the people by her care, winning manner, and willingness to work. The little chap was able to attend Zion's picnic on Friday.

R. E. Bryans was down to Varny part of last week, giving his brother a helping hand.

Miss Muriel Correll of Toronto is spending a lively holiday time in our household and enjoys the outing in the country immensely.

Mr. John Ryan invested in a Ford car on Saturday, purchasing from Mr. Geo. Smith of town.

Mr. Frank Meagher has also invested in an auto, but we haven't heard the name of the manufacturer.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hudson and bright daughter, Maggie, were guests of the Peart homes over the week end. They attended Zion's picnic on Friday, and he sang two old favorites.

W. R. Wallace left on Sunday for his home in Normanby. For three and a half years he has taught most successfully in No. 5, and is highly esteemed by young and old.

Mrs. Williamson and two children, of the Queen City, are the guests of Mrs. John Laughlin.

The council fathers have made good use of the grader this season, and it was sorely needed in places.

We regret to announce that Mr. John Meagher is in very poor health, and is suffering intense pain.

Mrs. Ed. Emburn of Toronto is a guest at "Rose Lawn," the Cook homestead.

Mrs. John Colbert arrived from Chicago on Wednesday and is spending the summer at the old home.

Miss Annie Robertson of Molesworth is up on a visit to Grandpa Greenwood's. Mr. Greenwood will accompany her home on Wednesday, and spend a few days at her home.

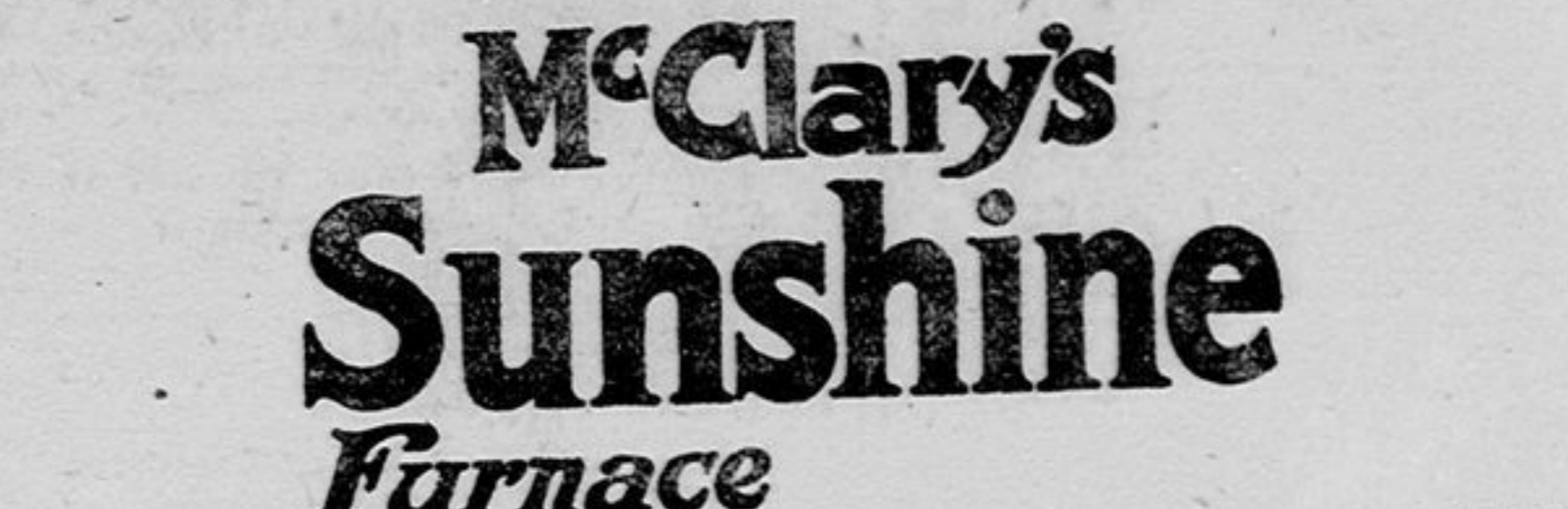
Mr. and Mrs. Curtchley and Mr. and Mrs. D. McArthur were guests at Mr. John McNally's the first of the week.

After an absence of many months Mr. John Delaney is back to the old store on the corner.

Miss Mary Hastie is enjoying a fortnight's holiday with her brother and sister in the hamlet.

Over 50 were present at the Women's Institute meeting, held at the home of Mrs. Geo. Peart on Wednesday of last week. Miss Duncan gave a weighty address.

You can feed the fire with utmost ease owing to the generous double feed doors—no scattering of fuel and room to insert big chunks of wood.



If you have five or ten minutes to spare come in and I'll show you the other advantages of this splendid furnace. For Sale by - J. H. Harding

Miss M. McGirr, Mrs. McLean, and Mrs. J. Hepburn, of town, accompanied her out. There were solos sung and some sweet musical selections rendered, and a big display of cake made away with before the happy company dispersed.

The last of June was the best day of the season, and the big crowd at Zion's picnic enjoyed the afternoon immensely. A program of song, in which the following took part, added a good deal to the day's outing: Solos by Mr. John Hudson, Miss Muriel Correll of Toronto, Rev. Mr. Moyer of town; a duet by Marion Boyd and her brother Johnnie, a quartette by Misses Maud Hamilton, Mrs. Farr Lawrence, Mrs. W. J. McFadden, and Rev. Mr. Moyer.

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