

ANGLO-FRENCH TROOPS GAIN AS FOE'S ATTACKS FAIL

Continued from Front Page

bert), two determined enemy attacks were repulsed, the enemy suffering heavy losses," said the official statement.

A high British officer is authority for the statement that artillery preparation will precede all further infantry attacks, as the resourcefulness, determination and fighting qualities of the Germans, as well as the power of their defenses, are well recognized.

The French army defending Verdun is engaged in particularly heavy fighting, the Germans not having permitted the battle of the Somme to interfere with their operations for the capture of the great fortress.

German attacks at Avocourt and Hill 304, on the Verdun front, last night, have been repulsed, Paris announced today.

FOCH'S OFFENSIVE YIELDS NEW GAINS; GERMAN MAKE TERRIFIC COUNTER DASHES

PARIS, July 5.—The Somme River the steady advance of the French continues in spite of rainstorms and furious counter-attacks by the Germans.

North of the river German trenches east of Curly were captured in a storm attack and the French also occupied Sorfont farm, the War Office stated today in an official communique.

South of the river the Germans, using fresh troops, delivered strong attacks and succeeded in recapturing Belloy-en-Santerre, but were again driven out by French counter-attacks.

There has been no let-up in the savagery of the fighting in Picardy, despite the stormy weather. Although the weather has been foggy the big guns on both sides are in furious action.

This is the fifth day of the mighty offensive movement of the Allies and already the results are so tremendous as to cause widespread amazement.

In brief, the main achievements of the Anglo-French troops are these: First, The capture of nearly a score of strongly fortified villages from the Germans.

Second, The capture of about 15,000 German soldiers, as well as many heavy guns, some of which had been sent north from Verdun.

Third, An advance of from six to eight miles on both sides of the Somme over a front of 20 miles.

According to official information, the most terrific fighting on the part of the line held by the French is in front of Peronne. The Germans are making their utmost efforts to hold the town in order to prevent the railroads and highways centering there from falling into the hands of the French.

Peronne is one of the main junction points on the strategic lines used by the Germans to supply their troops along the Boissons salient.

By the capture of the German trenches on both the first and second lines between Curly and Aseville, the French have driven a sharp salient into the German lines. The French guns behind the apex of this salient are smashing Peronne about the ears of its German defenders.

General Foch, the commander of the French armies engaged with the Germans in the sector of the Somme, has issued a special order congratulating his troops upon their gallantry, which has won them such magnificent gains.

For a time the French delayed their attacks, awaiting reinforcements from the British. When these reached the front the advance was renewed with redoubled vigor.

Germany is rushing all her available reserves to the front. French air scouts report that the railway line between Cologne and Cambrai is clogged with troops and ammunition trains.

The losses of the French and British have been extremely small compared with the importance of their gains. One army corps (4,000 men), which was in the vanguard of the heavy fighting around Flaucourt, lost only 800 men. Some of the regiments which occupied Flaucourt had no losses at all. This is due to the overwhelming accuracy of the Allies' gun fire.

The text of the official communique follows: North of the Somme we resumed our offensive action and captured during the night a line of German trenches east of Curly.

South of the Somme our infantry, continuing their success in the direction of the river, captured Sorfont farm, located on the west bank opposite Cleiry, and all the region to the south between that farm and Hill 63 on the road which leads to Flaucourt. Barleux is in our possession. Last night, after a violent bombardment, the enemy attacked Belloy-en-Santerre, of which he was able to occupy temporarily the eastern section, but a counter offensive put the entire village again in the hands of our troops. The Germans are still maintaining themselves on the outskirts, where the battle is very sharp. Counter-attacks directed against our positions have been broken up by our fire.

The total number of unwounded prisoners taken up to the present time is more than 9,000.

The exact number of guns captured is not yet known, but the single army corps operating south of the Somme has captured 60 guns.

On the left bank of the Meuse an enemy attack late yesterday against the Avocourt redoubt was completely repulsed by our machine gun fire. Between the region of Avocourt and Hill 304 the Germans launched a violent attack. Desperate in the employment of flaming liquids in large quantities by the enemy, the attack was checked, the assaults suffering severe losses.

On the right bank the bombardment continues very violent in the region of the Thiaumont work and the Chenois sector.

BRITISH TROOPS REPULSE TEUTON COUNTER-ATTACKS; GAIN AT SOME POINTS

LONDON, July 5.—German counter-attacks, which were driven home with the strength of a battering ram, were delivered against the British front between the Ancre and Somme rivers last night.

All of these assaults were repulsed, the British War Office announced today.

The most powerful of the onsets were made in the region of Thiepval, which commands the Albert-Bapaume highway, but they broke down under the barrier fire of the British artillery and the sweeping torrents of lead from the machine guns.

The Germans fell back, leaving many dead and wounded in front of Thiepval. The text of the War Office report follows: Headquarters reports heavy fighting

during the night in the region of the Ancre and Somme rivers. We have made more progress at some important points. German artillery is shelling certain sectors with extreme violence. At Thiepval two determined attacks were made against our trenches, but were repulsed. On the remainder of the British front there have been no important developments.

Dispatches from British headquarters this afternoon announced the appearance of German units from the Verdun battleground on the front north of the Somme. The news was regarded as vastly more important than the French and British official statements, reporting further gains in most furious fighting last night.

How many German troops have been transferred from Verdun is not yet known. But British military men have declared that the Allied offensive has already succeeded in one of its objects, the lightning of the German pressure on Verdun. They held that the shifting of troops from that important German offensive indicates a shortage of German reserves and a realization by the Germans of the grave menace of the present Allied offensive.

Over a front of 25 miles the Germans have lost their first-line positions, and in a dozen places their second line trenches have been pierced or rendered untenable by the British and French shell fire.

Thousands of guns of heavy calibre are kept roaring against the Germans' second and third line night and day. The thunder of the bombardment is never stilled. Bray and Albert are kept under shell fire all the time by the Allies, who evidently believe that they can hinder troop movements by shelling these railway centres.

Wounded British soldiers are arriving daily from the front and all speak with amazement of the vigor of the Allied bombardment. From the observation points the horizon along the German front is shrouded with the smoke of bursting shells and the clouds of black earth thrown up by the explosives. The German trenches are sprayed with shrapnel all the time.

At night the darkness is broken by the red glare of the projectiles and from the advanced lines of the English the ground along the ridges held by the Germans is lurid as though scores of blast furnaces are shedding their glow against the night.

There is no scarcity of ammunition on the part of the English. For many months preparations at home and abroad have been going on for the "big push."

David Lloyd-George, Minister of Munitions, announces that at present 1214 factories are working day and night turning out shells and small-arms ammunition of every calibre.

VIOLENT FIGHTING ON SOMME AND LITTLE GAIN FOR ENEMY, REPORTED BY BERLIN

BERLIN, July 5.—Although the British and French armies on the Somme front made repeated attacks against the German positions they have made no further progress since last night.

This announcement was made by the War Office today.

Hard fighting is in progress in spite of the bad weather. The following is the text of the War Office report in full:

From the North Sea to the Ancre there have been minor engagements with lively artillery firing and mine throwing. Unwounded British prisoners taken by us on the right bank of the Ancre now number 48 officers and 867 men. On both sides of the Somme there is violent fighting, but the enemy has nowhere been able to obtain any material advantages.

"The greatest artillery duel the world has ever witnessed is in progress along the West front. In neither the number of guns engaged nor the projectiles thrown has it ever been equaled."

"The Allies' offensive already shows signs of weakening. Their success in the first drive need cause no uneasiness. All that they took were towns and trenches that had been literally 'scorched' by the devastating artillery fire. As they rolled forward to our second line they were met

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CARRANZA PROPOSES TO MEDIATE ISSUES

Continued from Page One

lean expedition now in Mexico and say whether General Trevino in ordering the attack on the 10th Cavalry troops at Carrizal did so in response to orders from Mexico City, will not cause any complications.

Carranza's statement that the release of the Carrizal prisoners was a "proof of sincerity" likely will be accepted as covering this point in view of the general friendly tone of the communication.

OPTIMISM PREVAILS No effort was made to conceal the optimism among officials or their belief that the crisis with Mexico has passed.

Indicating his belief that the differences between the two countries now can be adjusted, Secretary Lansing announced that he would start for his home at Watertown, N. Y., tomorrow for a month's vacation. He will leave the department in the hands of Counselor Frank Polk, who becomes Acting Secretary.

When Mr. Lansing was asked whether the Pershing expedition now would be withdrawn, he said that was a matter for Secretary Baker to decide. The latter upon being told this refused to accept the responsibility, and said Pershing was acting under direct orders from the State Department. Officials say that the probabilities are that the expedition will remain for the present, but will be withdrawn when Carranza announces that he has his troops so disposed that further border raids will be impossible.

As the situation shapes up, it rests with the United States to make the next move, which, following Secretary Lansing's statement, probably will be negotiations relative to the establishment of a strong border patrol and the early withdrawal of the Pershing expedition to the north of the border.

Meanwhile National Guards continue to move toward the frontier.

U. S. GUNBOAT CHASED OFF MAZATLAN, REFUGEES SAY

SAN DIEGO, Cal., July 5.—The United States gunboat Annapolis reached this port today laden with American refugees from the west coast of Mexico. Some of the refugees declared the Annapolis was chased out of Mazatlan harbor by the Mexican gunboat Guerrero. Acting on orders from the Navy Department, it was said the commander of the Annapolis held his fire and had to content to run before his pursuer.

The refugees also brought a tale of the dramatic seizure in the dead of the night of the steamship Sonora, which had been interned six months ago by Carranzistas,

FAMILY SLAIN, AMERICAN FIGHTS WAY OUT OF MEXICO

Railroad Man From West Coast Tells Tale of Outlaw Horror

EL PASO, Tex., July 5.—Carrying all his possessions in a bundle wrapped in oilcloth, John Heathcote has reached the border from the west coast of Mexico with one of the most tragic stories that has come out of there since the first revolution started.

Heathcote, who was a roadmaster on the Southern Pacific Railroad in Mexico, said that his wife, his 4-year-old son and 19-year-old daughter had been murdered by Mexicans, their bodies dismembered and thrown in the end of a private car, where he found them when he returned from a trip over the line.

Before he had time to bury his dead, Heathcote was attacked by the same band

of Mexicans, many of whom had worked for him on the railroad, and he was forced to fight his way out. Fearing he would be killed if he returned to his private car to bury his family, Heathcote walked and rode burros to the Pacific coast, where he caught a steamer and reached Guaymas, making his way from there to the border.

"I had just returned from my inspection trip of the railroad north of Tepic when I saw that the burros of my car were disturbed, and I investigated and found my wife, daughter and son piled in a heap on the floor near the berth," Heathcote said. "Their throats had been cut with machetes, their legs and arms severed."

"The sight of my slain family was so overwhelming that I staggered back to the car door. The Mexicans started shooting at me. Fortunately, they had only a few guns and I was able to keep them off until it grew dark enough for me to escape from the car, whence I made my way to the coast, traveling 400 miles over the mountains."

Heathcote says he was a member of the 7th Cavalry at San Juan Hill.

DID A MARATHON TO ENLIST

Arthur Davis, Chester, Dropped Pen, Closed Books and Ran Mile and Half at Call

MOUNT GRETTNA, Pa., July 5.—Arthur Davis, a member of the 6th Regiment corps (living at 218 West 8th street, Chester, threw down his books and pen the day he heard enlistments were wanted to go to the border

and ran a mile and a half by actual count, without stopping, to the armory and enlisted.

When he heard the news he was acting as clerk in a Chester business house. He turned to his employer, threw down his work and said: "Books are closed, pens are wiped and no more work until after the war." Then he went on his marathon to the armory. Now he is a member of the 6th Regiment hospital corps, the corps which passed physical examination with an average of 99 per cent. for 21 men.

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