THE WEATHER
Washington, May 28.—Partly cloudy tonight and Wednesday; cooler tonight
TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR
8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5
71 72 74 75 76

Evening Public Ledger

NIGHT EXTRA

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ENEMY FORCES WAY OVER AISNE; U. S. TROOPS WIN TRENCH SECTOR

CARMEN GET 2 CENT RISE; MORE AHEAD

P. R. T. Pledges 43 Cents if Fare Increase Is Authorized

FULL RESTORATION TO MEN WHO QUIT

Participants in Walkout May Maintain Seniority by Returning to Duty

COMPANY CITES REASONS

Advance, Effective, as of May 16, to Affect All Employes

An advance in wages of two cents an hour to carmen and all other employes was announced this afternoon by the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company.

With the announcement was the statement that all carmen who joined the "walk-out" because of the controversy over recognition of the union button may maintain their seniority rights if they return to duty by 8 o'clock tomorrow night.

This increase of the carmen, the second within the last month, now makes their maximum wage forty cents an hour.

A still further increase of three cents an hour is promised by the company should an ordinance, now before Councils, which provides for an increase in fare to six cents, be eventually passed.

Citing reasons for the desired increase, the company pointed out that great advance in the cost of maintenance, high prices for material, as the result of the war, and then plan to give the men an increase in wages of five cents an hour actuated the higher-fare action.

This ordinance was referred to Councils' Committee on Street Railways. The committee will hold public hearings on the question before giving a decision.

Company Explains Action

The statement issued this afternoon by the company follows:

"To all employes:

"The management desires to express its appreciation of the loyalty of its great body of employes who have stood firmly against the attempt of outside influence to disrupt the street car service, and, in anticipation of the increased fare for which it is now making application, has decided to advance the pay of all employes, paid on an hourly basis, two cents per hour. The wages of men paid on a monthly basis and receiving less than $200 per month will be correspondingly advanced.

"This advance will be made effective as of May 16, 1918. The Company will endeavor to secure the increased fare at the earliest possible date and upon receiving the same will at once make the further increase of three cents per hour as per its original promise.

"On Wednesday, May 29 (tomorrow), two weeks will have elapsed since the attempted walkout. In fairness to the men who have operated the cars, Wednesday, May 29, at 8 p. m. is hereby fixed as the limit of time during which men, still out, may return to duty without loss of seniority rights.

"Signed:

"T. E. MITTEN, President."

Walkout Without Serious Effect

It is the general belief of the carmen who did not join the present "walkout" that nearly all the men will return to work.

The action of those who stopped work appears to have had little or no effect on the general transit conditions. Despite the scarcity of labor, the company managed to obtain a large number of men to take the places of those who quit.

The only evidence of a delay in traffic during the walkout was on the Girard avenue line last Sunday when the cars ran from ten to fifteen minutes apart.

PLAN YEAR OF REVIVALS

Presbyteries Employ Professional Evangelist to Conduct Services

A year of revivals is planned by the presbyteries of Philadelphia. Philadelphia North and Chester, through the employment of a professional evangelist.

The Rev. Henry N. Faulconer will conduct the revivals, providing the various presbyteries approve the plan adopted by clergymen and laymen. The plan provides a salary of $4000 for the evangelist and $1000 to $1200 for an evangelistic singer.

The plan must be approved by all the presbyteries. It is expected the revivals will begin next October.

Dr. Faulconer conducted similar services in the Chester Presbytery for a number of years and is the creator of the "Chester Plan." For the past year he has been engaged in pastoral work in Baltimore.

RESULT OF HOSPITAL RAID

German Bombing Causes Three Hundred Casualties

London, May 28.—Three hundred casualties resulted from the recent bombing of the hospital at Etaples, France, by German airmen.

This was announced by Andrew Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the House of Commons this afternoon.

He said a full report had been requested.

ANNA HELD STILL CHEERFUL

Actress' Condition Unchanged, Despite Warning of Death

New York, May 28.—Dr. Donald McCuskey, who is attending Anna Held, said last night that the actress's condition remained unchanged, but that because she was restless it had been necessary to give her an opiate. Miss Held rested comfortably Sunday night, said the physician, and ate a substantial breakfast yesterday seated by her window in the Hotel Savoy.

DEFICIENCY BILL PASSES

Washington, May 28.—The Senate this afternoon passed an urgent deficiency bill carrying an appropriation of approximately $60,000,000 with authorization for making contracts to the extent of $33,000,000.

The appropriation covers war expenses of the various governmental bureaus, and includes wages for a large number of temporary employes.

ITALIANS WIN MOUNTAIN TOP AND PASSES

Also Capture Two Cable Railways and Explode Munition Dump

Rome, May 28.

"Italians attacked Austrian positions on May 25, captured the defenses of Maroccaro Pass, gained the summit of Monte Segelan and Maroccaro and drove out the enemy from the Paradise Pass," says a semiofficial announcement on fighting activities.

"The enemy on Hill No. 2432 was surrounded. The whole garrison was destroyed and we captured two cable railways. North of Velon we blew up a large enemy ammunition dump."

Most of the mountain positions mentioned are near the Swiss Alps.

WEEK'S LAUNCHINGS TOTAL 18

These Bring May Figures Up to 55 Ships

Washington, May 28.—Fifteen steel ships and three wooden ships, with a total tonnage of 109,700, were launched during the week ended May 25, the shipping board announced today. These figures bring the launchings for May to thirty steel ships and twenty-five wooden ships.

Ten steel ships, with a total tonnage of 65,486, were completed in the last week. Of this number, eight were requisitioned ships and two were built under contract. All shipping board tonnage figures are dead weight.

AMERICAN FLIERS VICTORIOUS

Destroy One German Plane and Drive Three Others Back

With the American Army in Lorraine, May 28.—Three American aviators defeated four German airmen in a spectacular battle over the lines yesterday, destroying one enemy plane and driving the others back behind their lines.

The fight raged for a quarter of an hour, during which the machines constantly were engaged in thrilling maneuvers.

Just before the Germans fled the wings of one of their machines were entirely shot away, so that the machine dropped like a plummet.

HOME RULE BILL IN ABEYANCE

Chancellor Unable to Say When It Will Be Introduced

London, May 28.—Chancellor A. Bonar Law announced in the House of Commons this afternoon, at the resumption of the session following the Whitsuntide holiday, that he was unable to say when an Irish home rule bill would be introduced. He had no intention of making any statement regarding Ireland at this time, he added.

The Government has instructed its supporters to be seated at 11:30 tonight, prepared for discussion of the Irish revolutionary plot. Edward Shortt, Chief Secretary for Ireland, will handle the Government's case. In case of a general discussion, however, Premier Lloyd George will come to Shortt's aid.

It was rumored today that the Government is now planning to try one or two of the Sinn Feiners under arrest. Previously it had been understood that the prisoners would remain interned without trial.

NAMES JOHN P. WHITE

Will Represent Garfield on the Labor Policy Board

Washington, May 28.—Fuel Administrator Garfield today announced the appointment of John P. White as the fuel administrator's representative on the labor policy board, headed by Felix Frankfurter.

John P. White, former president of the United Mine Workers of America, resigned from that office on October 25, 1917, to join the staff of Fuel Administrator Garfield. As leader of the miners White negotiated the working agreements of 1912 and 1916. He is a native and resident of Iowa.

WILL KEEP CARS MOVING, PLEDGES NEW RAIL CHIEF

Main Object in Coming Here, Says Regional Director

McADOO PLAN INDORSED

Removal of Presidents Adds to Efficiency of System, Asserts Markham

Regional Director Markham Talks on Railroad Needs

Regional Director Markham, in an interview given the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER, makes these significant statements:

Removal of railroad heads will make for greater railroad efficiency.

Railroad rate increases just announced are needed to meet increased expenses.

But higher rates will not pay for additional freight cars, so urgently needed.

New capital must provide for new rolling stock.

Government operation of railroads will help situation all around, and will aid much in relieving labor situation.

In the first interview he has given since his appointment by Director General of Railroads McAdoo as regional director of the "Allegheny District," with headquarters in this city, Charles H. Markham declared today that removal by the Government of Railroad presidents "will make for greater efficiency," since the change will mean a pooling of railroad interests that will "do away with the old spirit of competition."

Director Markham, who will arrive in this city on Thursday to establish central headquarters here, indorsed Director McAdoo's new schedule of railroad freight and passenger rate increases. He insisted, however, that the higher rates will not be sufficient to provide the new freight cars "sorely needed by the railroads" and that such purchases will take new capital.

Director Markham, who was formerly president of the Illinois Central Railroad, is in Chicago today straightening out his affairs before coming to this city. He was interviewed there by a staff correspondent of the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER.

Rate Increases Needed

"We need all the increases in freight and passenger rates to meet the increased expenses of operation and the higher cost of labor and coal and other materials used by the railroads," he said.

"These increases, however, will not be sufficient to provide for new freight cars—sorely needed by the roads. That will take new capital. The rates never have been mad to allow the roads to purchase new rolling stock.

"Mr. McAdoo's action in removing the railroad presidents will make for much greater efficiency. It does away with the old spirit of competition between the roads and compels a pooling of interests; allows the Government to make one great big railroad system, with each separate road contributing its utmost facilities to the others.

"There is, of course, a difficulty in getting an adequate labor supply, due to the fact that the high prices paid by munitions factories and other war

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TAX BILL TO HIT LUXURIES HARD

Revenue Measure to Propose Double and Treble Present Levies

INCOME TAX INCREASES

Washington, May 28.

Congress will strike a terrific blow at luxuries and nonessentials under the new tax bill.

Double—and in some cases treble—the present tax will be placed on automobiles, jewelry, sporting goods, musical instruments, etc. Heavy tax trains will be made on incomes, ranging from $50,000 to $200,000, while those more than $500,000 now tapped up to 66 per cent, will be still further hit, it is understood.

Automobile excise taxes will be increased from 3 per cent to at least 6 per cent of the sale price, leaders declared today, and in the case of pleasure cars, to 10 per cent. Taxes on jewelry will be boosted from the present rate of 3 per cent to 10 or 20 per cent; sporting goods will go from 3 to 10 per cent; perfumes, cosmetics, etc., from 2 to 8 per cent; patent medicines from 2 to 6 per cent; musical instruments from 3 to 7 per cent, according to present plans.

Incomes and excess profits will constitute the greatest problems before the committees.

Scale of Income Taxes

Taxes on incomes more than $1,000,000 are now 66 per cent and upon war profits more than 33 per cent there is a tax of 62 per cent. Owing to other huge taxes paid by men of great wealth, the present tax substantially drains their incomes, and for that reason, leaders declared today, the heaviest new burden will fall on incomes between $5000 and $300,000.

Upon incomes from $5000 to $7500, which now pay a tax of 5 per cent, it is planned to levy 7 per cent; between $7500 and $10,000, present tax 6 per cent, proposed 8; between $10,000 and $12,500, present tax 7 per cent, proposed 10; between $12,500 and $15,000, present taxx 8 per cent, proposed 11, and a like rate of increase up to incomes between $40,000 and $60,000.

Between $40,000 and $60,000, the present rate is 24 per cent and it is

Continued on Page Six, Column Two

CITY MUST PAY OR GO COALLESS

Chairman Lewis Issues Ultimatum on Long Overdue Bills

URGES "TAPE CUTTING"

The city must pay all outstanding coal bills or shift for itself in obtaining its requirements.

This ultimatum has been delivered by Francis A. Lewis, chairman of the Philadelphia County fuel administration.

In a letter to Director MacLaughlin, Department of Supplies, Mr. Lewis pointed out that these bills, amounting to several thousand dollars, and in some instances nearly a year overdue, must be settled before the fuel administratio nwill assist the city in obtaining shipments.

In addition, Mr. Lewis informed Director MacLaughlin, that the city should lay in its fuel supply for next winter to avoid famine conditions, such as experienced last winter in several institutions. Additional storage facilities must be provided also. Coal which has already been shipped here will be diverted elsewhere if the facilities are not provided within thirty days, the latter stated.

$14,000 Remains Unpaid

"I beg to call your attention to the fact that the fuel administration is most anxious to take care of the needs of the city," the letter states, "but is greatly embarrassed by the fact that the city is not prompt in the payment of its bills. To be more specific, we are advised by the United States shipping board that you owe them about $14,000 for coal bills, some of which run as far back as February."

Recently the city attempted to get more coal from this source for dredge operating in the lower Schuylkill, but was refused shipment because of the unpaid bills.

"Second," says Mr. Lewis, "we are advised by the various shippers, who have been compelled to ship you coal that their bills are outstanding from 60, 90 to 120 days, and that they cannot collect them. Upon orders being placed by the fuel administration with various operators compelling them to

Continued on Page Six, Column Four

Pershing Reports "Notable Success" For Americans

REPULSE THREE RAIDING PARTIES

U. S. Troops Drive Picked Force Back to Own Trenches

YANKEES DISPLAY FINE SPIRIT IN FRAY

Counter-Attack Carries Sector of Teuton Lines in Picardy

FOE SUFFERS HEAVILY

Official Statement Sounds Note of Pride in Brilliant Showing of Men

Washington, May 28.

American troops have occupied a German trench sector, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy and taking some prisoners, General Pershing cabled the War Department today in his official communique.

The communique follows:

"In Picady, before daylight this morning, the enemy, after a violent bombardment with high explosives and gas, attacked our positions in three detachments. In two places, they penetrated small portion of our line. Shortly afterward, our troops counter-attacked, pelled the Germans at all points and occupied parts of the German trenches. Heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy and some prisoners were taken. Our casualties are light. In one case, an American was taken prisoner, but was rescued by counter-attack and all of his captors were killed. Our troops displayed a fine offensive spirit at all times and have achieved a notable success.

German Losses Heavy

"During the early hours of the morning in the Woevre, a hostile force, supported by violent artillery fire, attempted a raid upon our lines. This force, which was composed of three officers and about 100 men, equipped with light machine guns, blew up our wires and attempted to capture portions of our trenches. They were completely repulsed by our infantry and our artillery, leaving one officer and four men dead in our trenches and one wounded prisoner in our hands. Fifteen or twenty dead were observed near our wires and ten stretchers were seen being carried from this point. Here also our losses appeared to have been relatively slight.

Enemy Uses Gas

"Yesterday, in Lorraine, the enemy was unusually active in bombarding our trenches with gas and in patrolling. On one occasion the patrolling party approached our lines with cries of 'kamerad,' and our troops replied with rifle fire. One of the hostile detachment was killed and his body secured."

It was pointed out by War Department officials here this afternoon that past experiences have taught American soldiers that they can place no faith in the Germans' cry of "kamerad." In the beginning, it was said, several American lives were sacrificed because they believed in the honor of the Hun.

"It is an old trick," said one high army ocer. "They worked it on the Allies for years—or so long as they could get away with it. We know ofscores of instances where German soldiers were selected to advance in an attitude of surrender, with the familiar cry upon their lips, only to be camouflaging armed men behind them, ready to fire upon whoever advances. In this way, they have managed to secure many prisoners before it became evident that they could not be trusted."

AMERICANS OUTMATCH GERMAN PICKED MEN

With the American Army in Picardy, May 28.

Germany's picked storming troops were outmatched at every point by the Americans holding front line positions here early today in a battle that lasted from six to nine o'clock. Attacking in three sections, the Germans were able to reach the American first line. They were quickly driven out, however, and the Americans immediately counter-attacked and sweep forward well within the enemy lines.

Using hand grenades and their bayonets, the Americans inflicted heavy damage on the Germans. General Pershing's men held their position in the German lines until they were recalled by their commanders. They brought several Germans back with them as prisoners.

The German artillery heavily bom-

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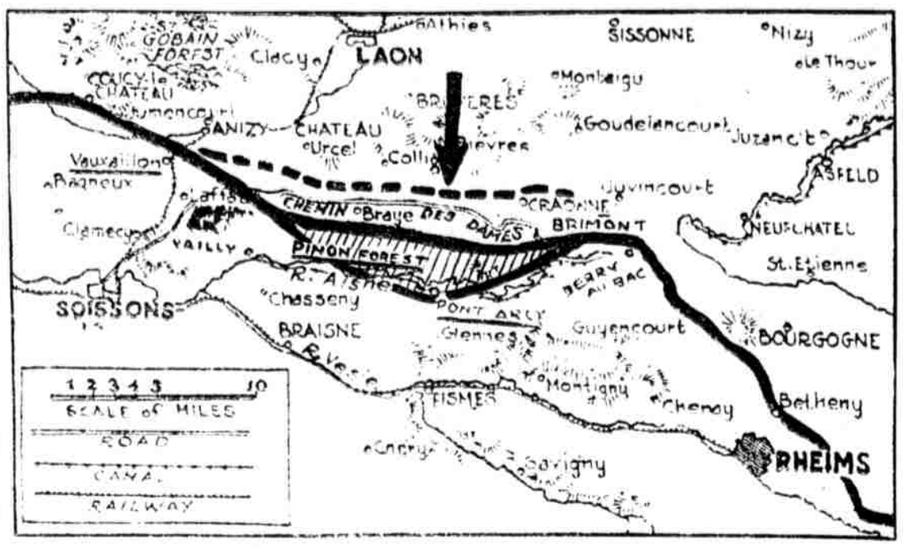
WHERE GERMANS ARE DRIVING IN THE CHAMPAGNE



The area shown in the map represents the scene of the German "surprise drive," renewing the offensive on the western front. The battle line runs from Pinon forest near Soissons to Brimont, in the Rheims sector. The shaded area represents the ground gained by the Germans since yesterday, as admitted by the British and French. The dotted line shows the battleline at the beginning of the battle Monday morning. From Berry Au Bac to Paris the distance is approximately eighty miles. The Berlin official report claims capture of the celebrated highway, the Chemin-des-Dames. The long-range gun again shelling Paris is located in St. Gobain Forest.

FIGHTING CHANCE DENIED WOOD, HE WILL SEE WILSON

Expected to Ask Revocation of Order Keeping Him in This Country

MAY NOT GO TO COAST

General Wood's Career in Present Administration

General Leonard Wood was retired as chief of staff in the Taft Administration shortly after inauguration of Wilson.

Assigned to Department of the East at Governors Island, New York.

Zealous advocate of preparedness and urged establishment of officers' training camp at Plattsburg, N. Y.

Was sharply reprimanded by Secretary of War Garrison for permitting ex-President Roosevelt to make a speech at Plattsburg criticizing the Administration.

Transferred from Governors Island to Department of the South at Charleston, S. C., later to commander of a cantonment in the Middle West.

Went to France as an observer and was slightly wounded by a shell.

Applied for overseas service after successfully passing physical examination and expected assignment to command of the Eighty-ninth Division of the National Army in France.

By CLINTON W. GILBERT

Staff Correspondent Evening Public Ledger

Washington, May 28.

General Leonard Wood has an appointment with the President at 5 o'clock today, when it is supposed he will seek to have the recent order keeping him in this country reconsidered. It is reported now that the detail to San Francisco has been changed and that he is going back to the command of Camp Funston, where he will have a new division of the National Army to train. But the general is so anxious to go to the fighting line that he has sought and obtained an interview with the President.

Only guesses are possible at the reasons for the sudden change of orders with regardto GeneralWood. The general himself naturally is not talking and War Department officials refuse to discuss the subject.

"I am a soldier and I stand ready to obey any orders that are given me," is the only statement vouchsafed by the General prior to his interview with the President.

Surprise at Sudden Change

The surprising element in the situation is that the General should have been ordered to France and then that the order should have been changed after he had reached the port of embarkation. The Administration, if it had a deliberate policy to keep Wood in the background might have got rid of him conceivably at the time of his physical examination, or it might have decided not to send him across the ocean with his division with the explanation that its policy was to send younger officers. But apparently its plan was to let him go, as it is letting all division commanders of the National Army go who are physically fit. Wood received his order to go and then suddenly those orders are changed at the last possible moment.

The suggestion is heard, of course, that Wood is suffering again from the hostility of the Administration which he incurred by his strong campaign for an enlarged army at a time when the Administration was opposed to military preparation. This hostility has kept him in a subordinate position in the war, although he was the most outstanding figure in the American army when the war broke out. But if it is Administration hostility why should there have been a change of mind? Why should

Continued on Page Five, Column Two

ITALIANS WIN ON LOWER PIAVE

ROME, May 28.—The Italians have begun a thrust against the Austro-German armies on the southwestern (Italian) front. The War Office announced today that on Sunday night the Italians broke through the Austro-German defenses in the Caposile sector of the Lower Piave to a depth of 750 yards. Seven officers and 133 prisoners were taken.

CADET FLIER FALLS 2000 FEET TO DEATH

HEMPSTEAD, N. Y., May 28.—Flying Cadet Charles B. Passwater, of Nobleville, Ind., was instantly killed at Mineola aviation field today in a 2000-foot airplane fall. At that altitude he atempted a tail spin, but lost control of his machine andcrashed to the ground.

REPORTS 1000 JEWISH REFUGEES DROWNED

NEW YORK, May 28.—A cablegram received today by ythe Jewish Day brought word that a thousand Jewish refugees from Russia were drowned when the steamship Oriole was sunk recently in the Caspian Sea. The message was from Harbin.

BOCHE SHELL U. S. FIELD HOSPITALS

Batteries and Airmen Make Deliberate Attack Before Picardy Raids

FUNERALS ARE BOMBED

With the American Army in Picardy, May 28.

Previous to the raids made in conjunction with the big offensive, the German batteries had buried so many gas and high explosive shells around two American field hospitals in the Picardy battle zone that it was believed to be a deliberate attempt on the part of the Teutons to wreck them. Both hospitals are filled with wounded and the bombardments bitterly incensed the American troops.

So critical did the situation become that the officials were on the verge of evacuating one of the hospitals, despite the serious character of the cases.

In addition to the bombardment of the hospital zones, the German aviators nightly continue to drop bombs all around the hospitals and the rear line villages, where wounded are being moved. Red Cross nurses, Smith College girls and American ambulance drivers are working every night in the area that is bombed by the German airmen.

Three nine-inch shells almost interrupted a funeral back of the American lines Sunday.

"We hold the funerals at 4 o'clock daily," Major Walter L. Dickson, of Kansas City, a regular army chaplain, said. "We were just starting for the cemetery Sunday, when the boche began dropping big shells around us. The cortege consisted of three ambulances, each carrying flag-draped coffins. I was walking just behind. The band was playing the funeral march, when I heard the shriek of nine-inchers overhead. Three broke so close that splinters flew about me. The band's pluck was amazing. They played on as if nothing was happening. I could not even detect a discordant note. We trudged through to the cemetery and if the boche thought he could stop our funeral he was mistaken. Women and children timidly waited in the doors and gates of their humble homes with bouquets of flowers, which they handed to the pall-bearers. They were scared by the shells, but not too scared to pick wild flowers and pay a tribute to the dead. During the burial service the men who officiated were not a bit afraid.

"Shucks, they can't intimidate the Americans by such methods. They may kill and maim them, but they never will lick them. The spirit of our officers and men cheers me. If a shell picks me off some one else will go on with my work."

H. Percy Meldon Dead

Trenton, May 28.—H. Percy Meldon, known throughout the country as a theatrical director, died today in Mercer Hospital, following operation. He was sixty-five years old and a resident of New York.

FRENCH REPULSE FLANDERS PUSH

Driven Back by Poilus, Who Take 100 Prisoners in Counter-Attack

SHOCK TROOPS BEATEN

By PHILIP GIBBS

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

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War Correspondents' Headquarters on the Western Front, Monday, May 27 (Evening).

The attack on the French today in Flanders appears to have been confined to the area between the Ypres canal and Locre, and I hear that the enemy had very little success. Apparently he got a footing in the French front on a width of about 800 yards south of Dickebusch Lake and tried hard to extend this gain, but was promptly counter-attacked and ejected from a portion of the ground. The French had already taken over 100 prisoners.

Fighting continued throughout the day, and although German shock troops endeavored to work northward from Kemmel they were unable to make any headway. The French have the situation well in hand.

No other infantry attacks developed anywhere on the British front, and there was very little artillery activity this afternoon.

War Correspondents' Headquarters on the Western Front, Monday, May 27 (Afternoon).

As I mentioned in my message of yesterday, the German artillery has been firing with increased violence on several sectors of the French and British front from Flanders to the Somme, and both last night and this morning the heavy fire continued and intensified, as though preparatory to infantry attacks in force.

Warning signals were sent up last evening by some of the British troops near Aveluy Wood, north of Albert, but the Germans did not advance against them. Along several sectors of the line between Arras and Albert the enemy's bombardment has been severe for several hours, but there again infantry attacks have not followed in localities from which up to this time reports are to hand.

At 4:40 this morning, however, there was an assault upon the French lines in Flanders beyond the Hospice of Locre, the object of the enemy being no doubt to recapture the ground gained by the brilliant little action of our Allies on May 20, who pushed out their line on a width of 3000 yards beyond Hospice and brought back 500 prisoners belonging to guard-

Continued on Page Five, Column Two

Crossing Made West of British Positions

FOE SUPERIOR IN NUMBERS

Berlin Claims Capture of Chemin-des-Dames

ENTENTE RESERVES BROUGHT UP FOR FRAY

Hostile Blow Delivered in Lys Zone in Flanders

ARTILLERY IS ACTIVE

Germans Shelling Paris by Air and Distance Guns

Paris, May 28.—Ten or twelve German airplanes attempted to raid Paris last night and some bombs were dropped in the outlying districts, but the city proper was not reached, it was officially announced today.

The long-range bombardment, which was resumed yesterday after a cessation of several weeks, was begun again today.

Three persons were killed and fourteen injured in the bombardment of the city yesterday.

With the British Armies in France, May 28.

British and French troops are counter-attacking southwest of Ypres. The fighting was still under way this afternoon at the time of cabling. At that time the Allies had already retaken virtually all of the ground which the enemy won yesterday.

PARIS, May 28.

"The Germans, aided by the arrival of new forces, have crossed the Aisne between Vailly and Berry-au-Bac," the French War Office announced today.

"The French and British are facing very superior forces, but are drawing back progressively. The battle is going on furiously between the Vesle and the Aisne plateau sector, behind which reserves have arrived.

Vailly is on the Aisne twenty miles west of Berry-au-Bac. Nesle, a small stream flowing past Rheims, is five miles south of the Aisne.

"Active shelling is going on in the Champagne and Woevre regions and along the right bank of the Meuse.

"A heavy German raid on French positions near Chambrettes failed."

London, May 28.

German forces crossed the Aisne River late yesterday, Field Marshal Haig reported today.

"Enemy attacks late yesterday carried them across the Aisne to the west of the British sector, compelling the left of our line to fall back," the statement said.

"The enemy is developing attacks of great strength on the whole Aisne front.

"The enemy exerted continuous pressure against the British on the Aisne front through yesterday. Severe fighting is continuing.

"On the right, the Twenty-first Division, maintaining contact with the French, held its battle positions all day. On the center and left the Eighth, Fiftieth and Twenty-fifth Divisions, in a determined resistance, maintained their second line until a late hour."

(The British sector was astride the Aisne in the vicinity of Berry-au-Bac, about twenty-four miles east of Soissons. The Germans previously were reported to have reached Pont-Arcy, on the south bank of the Aisne, fourteen miles east of Soissons.)

"Local fighting recommenced this morning on the Lys front, in the area south of Dickebusch front.

"On the remainder

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