

GOBAIN NOW GOAL OF FRENCH Great Crescent Massif Is Cornerstone of German Line ALLIES REACH EDGE

French Have Conquered Intervening Points by Lightning Strokes

By G. H. FERRIS Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co.

With the French Army, Sept. 10. I have been considering at a respectful distance the southwestern corner of the Hindenburg line. There are several high points on the west side of the Allette valley from which one has a magnificent panorama of the mountain block of Coucy and St. Gobain, near the slopes of which the French lines now stretch with the Hindenburg system immediately before them.

The formidable character of this massif is due to its shape in relation to the direction in which the armies are moving. From southwest to northeast it is like a crescent, with a tongue inside the horns, and the junction of the Oise and the Allette.

The crescent of heights runs from Amigny-Roy on the north by Hill 155 to St. Gobain village, continues southeast to the highest point of Hill 220, which is the heart of the upper Coucy forest, and then sweeps around to the southwest in a long ridge extending from Bassoles and Aulers to Coucy-le-Chateau. The central tongue comes out from Fresnes westward to Folcembay.

Will Shame Germany When the French first recovered Coucy last year I described how this splendid historic monument, its towering walls and donjon and buildings within had been blown up by the retreating boche on the excuse of depriving us of a useful observatory. The village behind it is still flooded with poison gas and I could not enter it. Besides, our interest lies beyond. Across this ridge you see plainly the higher tongue of the bare slopes reaching west from Fresnes to Folcembay.

Beyond Fresnes, closing the horizon with an olive green expanse of forest, rises the half moon of the St. Gobain and Coucy crests. The French in the last few days have driven the enemy back across all the difficult foreground of the picture to the front of Ternier-Barsis-Fresnes-Bassols-Aulers-Vauxaillon.

Beyond Last Year's Line I said the Germans had been beaten back from the advanced defenses of the St. Gobain massif in the last week. There was never any question of voluntary retirement in this region. General Mangin has swept them back six miles, despite their desperate resistance on ground highly favorable to defense.

We are now half way along the northern horn of the crescent. We hold nearly all the intermediate tongue, and on the south horn we have got beyond last year's line and impinged upon Hindenburg's works at Bassoles-Aulers, and it has taken us not slow months, but a single week to accomplish this much. It is the same old story at La Ferté, at Fort Condé, on the left battlefields. Marshal Foch keeps his own counsel, and I speak only of what is evident to the close student. The British then deliriously recalled by the German Staff to frighten the allied world and inspire their own hungry folk are losing their short-lived terror. It is not only in numbers that the Allies are gaining strength, but in mechanism and the technique of its use, tactical resource, and in moral will, which is an ever-vital condition of victory.

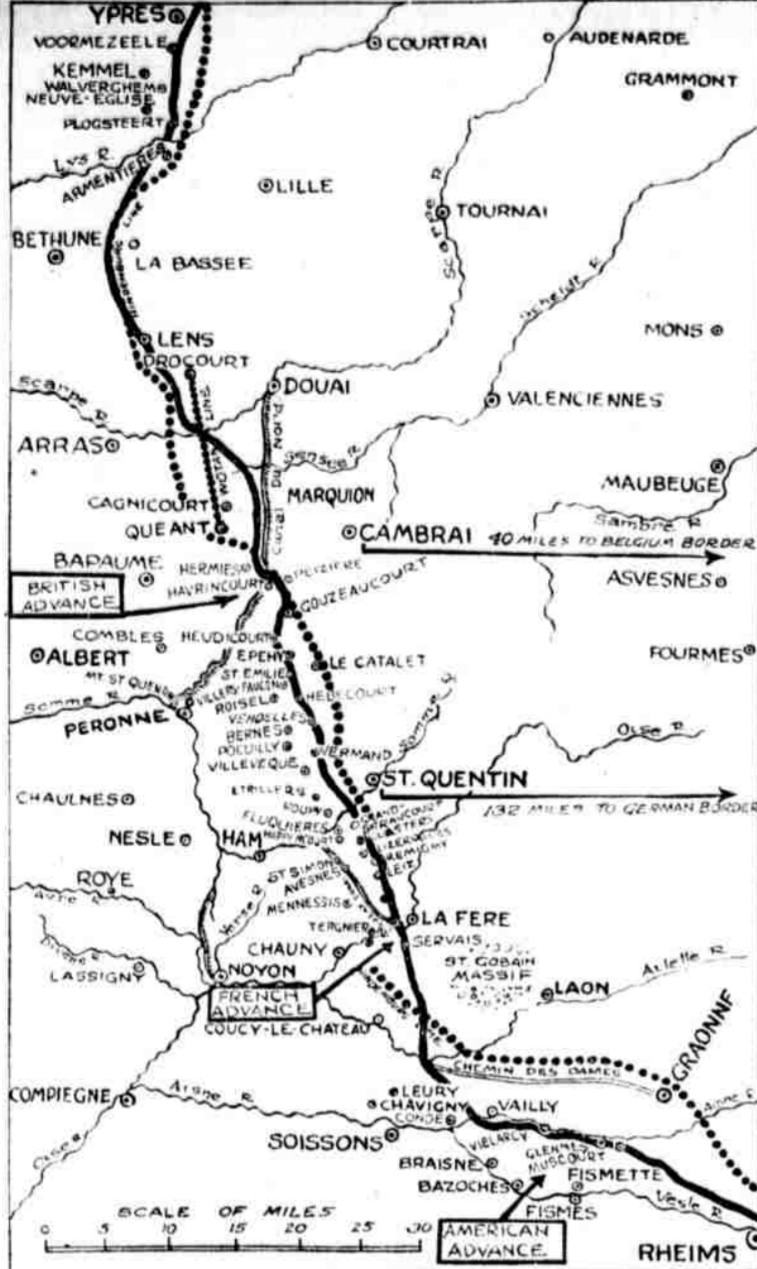
Official War Reports

FRENCH Paris, Sept. 9 (Delayed). New progress was realized today by our troops at various points on the battlefield. North of the Somme we captured the villages of Etreillers and Roupy. Beyond the Crozat Canal we have taken Seracourt-le-Grand, Clastre, Montcourt-Limont and Bény. Our advance elements occupied Hill 103 south of Contescourt Station, Esaigny-le-Grand and Hill 117. North of the Oise we took the fort of Liez, the woods northwest of the Caniers farm and the Rouze farm. South of the Oise we have taken Briquetay and the Servais station. Elsewhere we improved our positions north of Lauffaux and also between the Aisne and the Vesle in the region of Glennes.

BRITISH

London, Sept. 10. Yesterday evening the enemy launched a second counter-attack against the positions gained by us during the morning west of Gouzeaucourt. He was completely repulsed. Our line has been advanced during the night south of Havrincourt. Progress was made by us northeast of Neuve Chapelle and west and north of Armentières. Berlin, Sept. 10. During partial attacks made by the enemy north of Mericourt and north east of Ypres minor trench sections remained in his hands. On both sides of the Peronne-Cambrai road the positions gained by the attacks. The main thrust was directed against Gouzeaucourt and Epehy. The enemy was repulsed. Fresh enemy attacks delivered in the evening from Havrincourt wood and south of the Peronne-Cambrai road also failed. There was partial fighting in Holnon wood and on the Ham-St. Quentin road. Our advanced troops which were withdrawn Sunday night from the Crozat Canal, were in touch yesterday with weak enemy reconnoitering detachments west of the Esaigny-Vendouille line. There were partial fights south of the river Oise. North of the Allette River there was artillery activity. Between the Allette and the Aisne the artillery fighting increased toward the afternoon to great strength. Violent and repeated enemy attacks lasting until evening broke down. Hindenburg Grenadiers especially distinguished themselves in defense. Between the Aisne and the Vesle we repulsed French advances. There were successful enterprises of the enemy on the east of Rheims to the east of the Dolier.

LATEST ALLIED ADVANCES



Three main points of attack, respectively centers of American, French and British activity, as shown in today's dispatches from the western front, are indicated above. In the vicinity of Glennes, extending to Viclary, American gains are reported, with advances, despite German shellfire, about Fismes, Bazoches and Blancy. French forward movements against St. Quentin continue, while St. Gobain with its forest and marshes are in great peril. Haig's troops have extended their gains west of Gouzeaucourt, southwest of Cambrai and south of Havrincourt; also on the Flanders front north of Armentières. Arrows indicate these centers and the direction of attack.

FRENCH DRAW NETS ABOUT BASES AT LA FERRE AND ST. QUENTIN

Continued from Page One This official statement reached the United States today. Additional ground was gained in the St. Gobain region south of the Oise, where the Servais station was taken as well as Briquetay, and a wooded area about a mile and a half to the south. (Servais station lies between La Fere and St. Gobain.)

By the capture of Briquetay the French have pushed almost to within a mile of the village, which lies on one of the highest points of the massif. South of the St. Gobain bastion the French have made new gains north of Lauffaux, opposite the Aisne and opposite the Chemin-des-Dames. Considerable headway toward the center of the St. Gobain massif, the French have made in the last few days. Laon is the keystone of the entire enemy defensive system.

South of the Aisne, where the Franco-American forces are operating, the Allied positions have been improved. North of the La Fere region the French pressed in far, capturing the towns of Romigny, Montcourt-Limont, Clastre, Seracourt-le-Grand, Roupy and Etreillers the last two towns being within three and one-half miles of St. Quentin. The French in this advance at points pressed five miles beyond the Crozat Canal. Esaigny-le-Grand and Hill 107 have been captured as well as Hill 103, south of Contescourt station.

By the Associated Press London, Sept. 10.—The Germans delivered a second counter-attack yesterday against the positions won by the British to the west of Gouzeaucourt, fronting the Hindenburg line, nine miles southwest of Cambrai. Field Marshal Haig announced in his official statement today that the enemy assault had been completely repulsed.

In the same sector the British line was advanced during the night south of the town of Havrincourt. On the Flanders front the British progressed northeast of Neuve Chapelle and north of Armentières. The British line northeast of Nieppe in the Liez salient, was advanced during the night and the British positions in the Ploegsteert region were improved. Kemmel is under fire from the enemy guns. North of La Bassée the Germans

Foch Genius Forced German Retirement

Continued from Page One preparation for bad weather, and the discovery of these bears out my contention that it was Sir Douglas Haig's victories at Bapaume and on the Droocourt switch line which brought the German retreat to its present stage. A good part of the German retirement has been, in a sense, according to plan, and in view of the skillful way in which his intentions have been foreseen and the vigor with which the attacks have been pressed, the enemy has handed his troops well in a very awkward situation. He has, however, thanks to Foch's generalship and to the splendid support which Haig and Pétain have given to the generalissimo, been forced constantly to expedite his plans and has had to pay a far higher price than he intended for permission to carry them through. It is interesting to compare this latest withdrawal of the Germans with their retreat over the same ground eighteen months ago. On August 21 last, the Germans were approximately on the line from which they began their retreat in February, 1917. That retreat to the section of the main Hindenburg line between Cambrai and St. Quentin was not completed until May 10, so that in 1917 it took us about twelve weeks to force the Germans back over the same ground that we have just driven them across in less than a month. It is not surprising that the Germans were so pleased with these captures. The French and Americans have not yet published their capture during September, but our own in the four weeks since August 8 now amount to about 77,000 prisoners, nearly 500 guns, 6,000 machine guns and about 1,000 trench mortars, and these results have been obtained at a cost which is enormously less than we had to pay in the spring of 1917. Nothing could show more clearly than this comparison the change which has come over the face of the war. Everywhere in the German press apologists for their defeat, while paying here and there grudging tributes to Foch's generalship, describe the German withdrawal as a necessary precaution in view of the overwhelming numerical superiority of the Allies. Nothing could be wider of the mark.

U.S. Forces Win Ground in Hot Fight

Continued from Page One are now thoroughly determined to have their revenge.

ENEMY MAY STRIKE AT AMERICAN LINE

Washington, Sept. 10.—With the German army standing substantially in the positions it occupied here last March 21, when its greatest offensive was launched, it appears certain to officials here that the next few days will see the programs of the opposing commanders revealed. The statement in the official German communiqué of yesterday that "our new lines had everywhere been occupied" receives only one interpretation here. Apparently it was intended to mean that the retirement has come to an end and that the Germans expect to stop the Allied advance along the old front. In that eventuality, it is believed that the forces of the French, British and American armies soon will reach this defensive position and subsequent operations quickly show how Marshal Foch's plan to assault the problem that baffled the French and British general staffs—the breaking of this advanced line of defense set up by the enemy on Belgian and French soil. There is a feeling among some officials that the enemy is likely to signalize his intention to stand fast by striking back hard at the advancing French and British forces, or even by an attack at some other point designed to relieve pressure rather than to achieve any decisive result in the way of capturing towns. The German high command has made available a sufficient reserve force by the great withdrawal to permit such operations. A limited drive, possibly on the front of the occupation of Servais, army beyond Verdun, might well be thought advisable. On the Allied side it remains to be seen whether Marshal Foch plans a lightning operation on a wide front to turn the enemy out of his new lines and keep him moving back or will continue to hit at weak spots all along the front. Opinion here is that the latter enterprise is the most probable, since virtually the entire American army is available as a fresh, hard-hitting force with which to deliver a coup aimed at the breaking of the German front. There is no doubt that many officers here regard the days immediately ahead as probably the crucial period of the whole battle of 1918.

Vienna Revolts as Troops Leave

Continued from Page One peace negotiations is the democratization of nations and the abandonment of imperialistic theories. "A second condition is that we should not become slaves to the idea of a Middle Europe, either militarily, economically or politically, and that we should not strengthen our alliance with Germany, which would form the first step toward the realization of the Central Europe. We ought to accept as a basis for negotiations President Wilson's plan."

Amsterdam, Sept. 10.—(By I. N. S.)—Philip Scheidemann, German Socialist leader, and Matthias Erzberger, leader of the Democratic wing of the Clerical party, are to enter the German cabinet, according to a prediction made by the Tageblatt, of Leipzig. At the same time the German newspaper stated that Count von Hertling, the German chancellor, will soon resign.

There have been numerous reports recently that Von Hertling would resign, but this would be of no less importance that the entrance of two such liberals as Erzberger and Scheidemann into the German cabinet should the full prophecy of the papers be fulfilled. Erzberger and Scheidemann have both opposed the policies of the German Government at times in the Reichstag.

Watchman Surprises Safe Robber An attempt to rob the safe in the office of the Cook laundry, 1296 Montgomery avenue, was frustrated early this morning by General Samuel Richards. After making his rounds he heard a noise in the office, and saw a negro trying to open the safe. The intruder fired at the watchman and escaped.

BRITISH ONRUSH SURPRISES FOES

Byng's Powerful Blow Overwhelms Gouzeaucourt Wood ENEMY TAKEN ABACK Expected Only Usual Minor Operations for the Present. Much Rain Falling

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co. With the British Armies, Sept. 10. A successful local attack between Havrincourt Wood and Gouzeaucourt has been the only feature of the latest progress toward the old Hindenburg line. Advanced troops of General Byng's army pushed against Gouzeaucourt Wood and the high ground around the village, and at last accounts were making good progress. As the enemy drew near this region of the old British and German trenches his tired troops were strengthened by the arrival of re-enforcements which had been manning the Hindenburg line. They have shown a greater resistance and are evidently determined to hold the commanding spurs in front of their original defenses as long as possible.

The latest operation, which was of a purely local nature, was intended to clear the approaches to the positions we occupied last spring. Gouzeaucourt Wood was filled with machine gunners, and they lined the slopes east of it, with orders to hold the British infantry. A heavy bombardment was directed on our line south of Havrincourt Wood and in front of Heudcourt, and during the night quantities of gas shells were distributed down the surrounding villages. Apparently the enemy expected nothing more than the usual attempt at peaceful penetration and relied on

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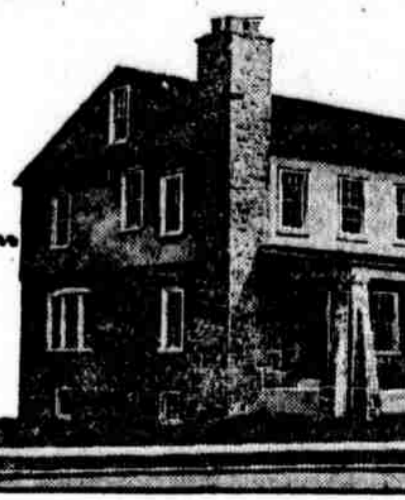
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BURIED WITH HONORS

Pottsville, Pa., Sept. 10.—Bernard Dragalin, the first soldier to be buried in this country who died from the effects of being in battle in France, was interred at Minersville this morning with military honors, the Sons of Veterans performing that office. Dragalin died Thursday last at the Ellis Island, N. Y. hospital from the effects of being gassed while in action in France. He was a member of the Fifteenth United States Cavalry.



NEW STONE HOMES \$35 a Month Carrying Charges

New homes, ready for occupancy, on Marlborough Road, 66th and Market Streets. Trains every 2 minutes on the Elevated in rush hours—every 4 minutes during night. Bright, airy rooms, stone fireplace in living room, electric outlets for floor lamps, table lamps, fan and vacuum cleaner. One 5-Cent Fare, No Change of Cars And Only 15 Minutes to City Hall. Parquet floors, hot-water heat, tiled bathroom with built-in shower. Come out today and see the biggest value in a substantial home that has been offered in Philadelphia. Take Market Street Elevated to Millbourne Station—65th Street—then walk one block south. BEN L. CARROLL, BUILDER, ON PREMISES, OR 63D AND ARCH STREETS.

Mid-Month List



What Yankee Doodle Says He'll Do, He'll Do

A stirring song of action for these up-and-doing days—songs of soldiers, planes and guns, and ships a-splashing off the ways. The Peerless Quartette puts just the right touch of spirit into the swinging melody. On the back, "Bobby the Bomber," a baseball twirler who "put 'em over" the first line trenches. A2587—85c.

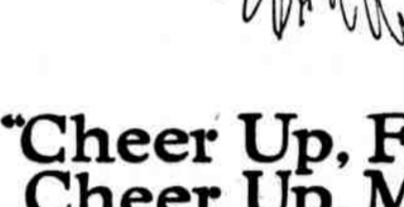
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Cheer Up, Father, Cheer Up, Mother



Here's a record that's almost as good as a letter from France, for any home that flies a Service Flag. Sung with wonderful feeling, and the kind of harmony that only the Peerless Quartette can put into a popular song. A2597—85c.

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On to Victory March, by Fifte, Drum and Bugle Corps



Through the glorious martial fanfare of bugles, the piercing shrill of fifes, and the staccato rattle of snare drums, you recognize such favorites as "Dixie", "The Girl I Left Behind Me", "Rally 'Round the Flag," and other inspiring war-time tunes. A2592—85c.

Other Popular Hits From the Mid-Month List

- Kosovo Waltz { E 3910 }
Jefanovic's Dance { 85c.
In the Good Old Irish Way { A 2568 }
My Rainbow { 85c.
A Rainbow from the U. S. A. { A 2598 }
France, We Have Not Forgotten You { 85c.
Songs of Your Childhood Days Part I { A 2605 }
Songs of Your Childhood Days Part II { 85c.
Good-Bye Alexander { A 2596 }
Ducktown Strutters' Ball { 85c.
Maytime { A 6061 }
Rainbow Girl { Medley Waltz } { \$1.25 }
Medley Waltz { }
Serbian Tambourina Orchestra { }
Van and Schantz { }
Peerless Quartette { }
Hardy Gurdy Melody { }
Wilber C. Sweatman's Original Jazz Band { }
Jasarinba Orchestra { }

Advertisement for GARDOL brand fried potatoes. Text: 'If fried potatoes disagree with you you have your potatoes cooked some other way. It is just as important to avoid the wrong kind of cigar as to avoid the wrong kind of food. Remember—the Gardol is not only a mighty fine Havana smoke, but it never gets on your nerves. Real Havana 11c To retain its goodness Broker size.' Includes image of a cigarette pack.

Advertisement for Peirce School of Business Administration. Text: 'PEIRCE SCHOOL of Business Administration NIGHT SCHOOL Opens Sept. 16th. Make your daytime work count for more. Thorough, yet intensive, night courses at Peirce School will increase your earning power, enabling you to advance more rapidly. Stenographic, Commercial and Secretarial Courses for both sexes, with the same advantages afforded day students. Business men are eager to secure assistants who have a Peirce School training. The office will be open every evening this week except Saturday. Students should register early. Day School now open. New students may enter at any time. PEIRCE SCHOOL AMERICA'S FOREMOST BUSINESS SCHOOL Pine Street, West of Broad, Philadelphia Send for 54th Year Book' Includes image of a school building.

Never gets on your nerves

COLUMBIA GRAPHOPHONE COMPANY, New York