



HUNS BREAK BRITISH LINE AT ONE POINT FOR OPEN FIELD FIGHTING

RETIREMENT TO STRONG POSITION IS ACCOMPLISHED IN GOOD ORDER

Withdrawal Is Forced at St. Quentin, After Some of the Most Frightful Fighting World Has Ever Seen

BATTLE BEGUN AFRESH WHEN NEW MEN ARRIVE

Fresh Troops Brought Up as Fortunes of War Keep Surging From Side to Side With No Decision

By Associated Press Berlin, March 23.—Between Fontaine les Croisilles and Moeuvres German forces penetrated into the second enemy position and captured two villages, army headquarters announced today. British counterattacks failed.

So far the statement announces, 25,000 prisoners, 400 guns and 300 machine guns have been taken. The two villages taken on the Fontaine Moeuvres front were Vaul-Vraucourt and Morchies. (The former village is about 3 1-2 miles and the latter about 2 1-2 miles behind the former British front.)

After two days' terrific battling in their great offensive on the western front the Germans finally have succeeded in bringing the action at one point on the front somewhat more into the open. Field Marshal Haig reports that the British defensive system west of St. Quentin, near the southern edge of the 50 mile front under attack was broken through by the great weight of the enemy infantry and artillery. The British here are falling back in good order. That the yielding of the line at this point has been by no means unexpected and possibly had been foreseen as ultimately inevitable is indicated by the statement that the retirement is to prepare positions further west, across the devastated district.

There is nothing in the report to indicate that this retrograde movement will affect the strong defensive lines to the north in any way seriously, as it is explicitly stated that these positions continue to be held by the British forces.

Effect Not Apparent Just what the effect will be upon the Entente line to the south is not yet apparent. The British hold the front to a point some fifteen miles south of St. Quentin, to the river Oise at where the French line begins. No reports have been received from Paris as to whether the French forces have become involved in the battle. From the nearness of the point of German penetration to their lines, however, it would seem probable that they soon will be found taking part in the struggle. There is another factor to be considered, also, should the German thrust develop more seriously.

A Reserve Army There was created last winter by the supreme war council at Versailles an entente "army of maneuver" understood to be made up of troops of all allies, which was designed to be available for action at any point on the wide front from the North Sea to the Adriatic, where it should be needed. It doubtless has not been the Entente intention to throw this army into action hastily. But it unquestionably stands ready for use in any emergency, and might easily prove the

Tired of Giving? You Don't Know What It Is to Be Tired



FIGHTING Baffles ALL DESCRIPTION

Kaiser Pouring Powerful Army of Fifty Divisions Into Battle Where British Are Meeting Tremendous Onslaught

By Associated Press London, March 23.—The Germans forced their way into Mory, but a dashing counterattack drove them out, Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters telegraphs. A large party was surrounded and probably was captured. There is reason to believe fifty German divisions are flowing into the struggle, the correspondent says, and probably half as many more are in close reserve. Under the tremendous onslaught the British troops are falling back very slowly and in excellent order. At many places they are withdrawing voluntarily so as to maintain an unbroken front. The Germans this morning were pressing hard the British forces and sending Hermies (about two and one-half miles back of the old line.

Attention of All England Centered on West Front

By Associated Press London, March 23.—The attention of all England was centered today on the western front. There was no boastfulness, but the feeling was one of supreme confidence and pride in the army which stands on the first line of defense between democracy and autocracy. The newspapers warn against undue optimism. But they point out that the fighting instinct still lives in the British breast, notwithstanding the long years of peace and ignorance of military training and that when the fighting instinct dies the world will see the death of the British nation. Since it has developed that this is indeed the great heralded German offensive, the most colossal struggle in the world's history, the public and press are unanimously of the opinion that its failure will mean the end of the war.

BATTLE GROWS IN VIOLENCE AS HUNS RUSH IN

British Present Solid Front to Fiercely Attacking Germans; Great Lines Surge

By Associated Press London, March 23, 11 a. m.—The British gallantly fighting, are still presenting a solid front to the fiercely attacking Germans, although the defensive troops have withdrawn their lines in certain places for strategic reasons. All day yesterday and much of last night the conflict continued to rage with increasing violence, as fresh German divisions were hurled into the fray in an attempt to smash through the British defenses. More intense fighting is expected. The operation is so vast and is changing with such kaleidoscopic rapidity as the line surged backward and forward that it is impossible to visualize the scene sufficiently to give a connected and accurate account of it at present. Forty-nine German divisions have been identified thus far on the battle front and prisoners have been taken from eighteen of them. Some estimates place the number of German divisions engaged as high as 90, but it is impossible to say whether this is accurate.

Police Issue Warning Against Building Bonfires

A fire started by a crowd of boys in the lot at Crescent and Berryhill streets, at 11 o'clock this morning, spread until it threatened to ignite the railroad tool shanties built adjoining the lot. The Royal Fire Company was summoned by telephone and extinguished the fire. Later the police issued a warning that bonfires must not be started by boys in vacant lots. Household burning refuse are also warned to be especially careful that the blaze does not spread and cause property damage.

BOY SCOUTS are going to ask you if YOU ARE SAVING and buying THRIFT STAMPS What are you going to tell them?

TERRIBLE RAIN OF TEUTON FIRE BLASTS LINE ON A LONG SECTOR

British Stand Up Well Under War's Greatest Artillery Bombardment and Furious Rushes of Huns

ENGLISH FACE HEAVY ODDS AT DANGER POINT

Defenders whose trenches are blown to bits are outnumbered by massed Hun aggressors

London, March 23.—The artillery preparation of the Germans in the drive against the British lines which now is in progress is described by those who took part in it as the most violent they ever endured, according to the Daily Mail's correspondent on the British front. "The thing that stands out as characteristic of the fighting up to the present," says the correspondent, "is that we did so well under the terrific impact." Continuing the correspondent says: "Up on the corps front there was a gun every 15 yards. The strength of the mortars which the enemy brought up, in such great numbers, sent over such an overwhelming weight of iron and high explosives that in most parts of the front wire ceased to be an obstacle and trench-castles were a very difficult time all of our known battery positions were drenched with gas, but their gas shells failed to reach all of our batteries, nor did they succeed anywhere in breaking down our wire.

Spot Reinforcements "Our relieving corps did valuable work despite adverse weather conditions. One of our men in the early morning reconnaissance spotted several thousand Germans moving westward south of Bullecourt and another reported that he had seen a thousand of the enemy in a sunken road in this area waiting to advance. Few enemy machines were seen and they mostly fled when we opened our trenches with their machine guns. "This is the first battle where British gunners had to serve their guns in the open. It was a very difficult task. At first they did have a hard job to meet the masses of Germans who came on in denser formation than any they had met before. They fought magnificently.

Against Great Odds "South of St. Quentin one of our divisions had to bear up against the repeated assaults of no fewer than six German divisions, possibly 90,000 men, and only when the assaults ceased with darkness did our troops withdraw to strong positions behind the canal system between St. Quentin and Mory.

British Army Headquarters in France, March 23, 11 a. m.—The British gallantly fighting, are still presenting a solid front to the fiercely attacking Germans, although the defensive troops have withdrawn their lines in certain places for strategic reasons.

All day yesterday and much of last night the conflict continued to rage with increasing violence, as fresh German divisions were hurled into the fray in an attempt to smash through the British defenses.

More intense fighting is expected. The operation is so vast and is changing with such kaleidoscopic rapidity as the line surged backward and forward that it is impossible to visualize the scene sufficiently to give a connected and accurate account of it at present.

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An air raid alarm has just been given. The following official announcement was given out: "At 8.20 o'clock this morning, a few airplanes, flying at a very high altitude, succeeded in crossing the lines and attacking Paris. They were immediately pursued by aviators of the entrenched camps of Paris, as well as by those at the front. "The dropping of bombs at several points has been reported. There are several victims. A later announcement will give further details of the raid."

(It is believed that the bombs dropped from airplanes were at first mistaken in Paris for an artillery bombardment.)

GERMANS LAUNCH BIG GAS ATTACK ON THE U.S. LINES

American Artillery Locates Hun Batteries Firing Mustard Shells

DIRECT HITS BY GUNS

Severe Explosions Follow the Shelling of Joli Wood by Sammees

By Associated Press With the American Army in France, Friday, March 22.—The Germans launched a heavy gas attack against a certain town in our lines northwest of Toul last night. No wind was blowing and the fumes of mustard gas from the shells hung low over the lines for several hours. The batteries firing the shells were located to the right of Richecourt and our artillery was busy all morning with a retaliatory shelling. The town shelled in the gas attack contained a certain number of Americans. Our artillery to-day dropped a number of large shells into Joli wood and after firing a few minutes secured direct hits on the target causing a tremendous explosion followed by dense columns of smoke as a big enemy munition dump blew up. The first explosion was followed by two others less severe. Our shells also made direct hits in the enemy's first and third line trenches.

Artillery Fire Accurate The Germans again have been given an example of the accuracy of the fire of our 37 millimeter guns. An enemy machine gun emplacement which has been annoying the Americans for the past two days, was located and destroyed by our "little fellows" as they are known along the front, got into action firing rapidly. They put the emplacement gun crews out of commission. These small guns, which are about the size of a one-pounder, are easily moved from place to place even in the trenches. They also secured direct hits on the enemy's communication trenches as men were passing into the entrance of the dugouts in which a number of the enemy were seen to crawl off and which smoke was issuing. None of the enemy was seen to come out. Intermittent artillery duels had been in progress all day, both on our front and in the Luneville sector where American troops are in training.

Three of our patrols reached the enemy's line early to-day but in the brilliant moonlight they were discovered and were driven out by brisk machine gun and automatic rifle fire.

Drive Off Patrol Our infantry discovered one enemy patrol inside our wire. These Germans were driven off and it is believed they suffered casualties.

There was increased aerial activity to-day. The weather was warm and it was generally clear except for a haze which obscured visibility above the low ground. One machine with an American observer at its gun emptied a stream of fire on a German airplane, which was observed descending rapidly, as though in trouble, behind our lines.

Ten German machines crossed our lines last night and circled around apparently seeking out targets which they intended to bomb, but American anti-aircraft guns kept the enemy so high that no explosives were dropped.

Rev. Mr. Pyles May Be Transferred to Sunbury to Be a Superintendent

By Associated Press Williamsport, Pa., March 23.—The part of the laymen in the advancement of church work was emphasized in strong addresses before the Central Pennsylvania Methodist conference to-day. In a joint session of the ministerial body and the laymen's association, the latter pledged more faithful support to their pastors during the coming year.

Five young men were admitted to the conference and five old ministers were retired at the morning session. When appointments are read on Monday, it is believed Edwin A. Pyles of Harrisburg, and Edgar R. Heckman, of Altoona, will be made superintendents of the Sunbury and Altoona districts, respectively.

The place of meeting in 1919 will be between St. John's Church, Sunbury, and the First Church, Clearfield, with sentiment favoring Sunbury.

LOCAL SOLDIER BELIEVED KILLED ON WAR FRONT

Name of Sylvester P. Sullivan Appears in Latest Casualty List

WITH RAINBOW DIVISION

Relatives Think Name Is That of Harrisburger Who Is "Over There"

While no definite advices have yet been received from the War Department, it is believed that Sylvester P. Sullivan, mentioned in this morning's casualty list, was a Harrisburg boy. Sullivan was in the Rainbow Division, and since he was the only private of that name in the division, his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth K. Sullivan, 526 North street, believes him to be the one mentioned. The casualty list as issued by the War Department states that he was killed through an accident. In Machine Gun Company Sylvester Sullivan was a member of the One Hundred and Forty-ninth Machine Gun Battalion, Company B. He was a member of the Rainbow Division. He enlisted here several days before registration day.

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ARCHBISHOP OF YORK IS GIVEN WARM WELCOME

Primate of England Is Guest of the City and State

RECEPTION IS CORDIAL

Message From King George Brought in Person by Head of Church

Simultaneously with the news of a German triumph in the trenches the city of Harrisburg to-day turned out in many thousands to greet the special messenger of King George in the personage of the Most Reverend Cosmo Gordon Lang, Lord Archbishop of York and Primate of England. The arrival of this distinguished churchman, representing authoritatively the great nation whose brave men are falling at this very moment in desperate struggle to make the world safe for democracy, stirred Harrisburg to its depths. Young and old realized the significance of this personal messenger from the English nation and every one who could secure a British flag displayed it eagerly. It was something to be proud of that Harrisburg

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FRENCH REPULSE ATTACK

Paris—The Germans launched an attack on the French lines in the Woivre district, last night which was dispersed by the French fire. The Germans suffered appreciable losses and left some prisoners in the hands of the French.

PATROL FIGHT IN ITALY

Rome—Numerous patrol encounters have occurred along the Italian front, the war office announced to-day, and there has been some increase in the artillery fire on the mountain line.

WASHINGTON AWAITING BATTLE NEWS

Washington—All official Washington turned its attention almost wholly to-day to the news from the fighting front. Dispatches telling of penetration of the British defensive system, the retirement of British troops, Berlin's claim of large captures of men and guns and finally the news that the Germans were bombarding Paris at the hitherto unheard of range of about sixty-two miles came as one surprise after the other.

KAISER IS IN COMMAND

London—To-day's German official announcement, received here states Emperor William is in command on the western front.

WILLIAM REDMOND SUCCEEDS HIS FATHER

London—Captain William Redmond succeeds his father, John Redmond, the Nationalist leader in parliament. His opponent was Dr. White, a Sinn Feiner.

TAKE OVER DUTCH SHIPS

London—Instructions for the taking over of Dutch ships were sent officially to-day to all ports of the United Kingdom. Between twenty and twenty-five ships aggregating about 30,000 tons are in United Kingdom ports.

FRENCH ARMY NOW ENGAGED

London—Throughout the night the battle front extended southward and it was reported this morning that the French army now was engaged.

London—Newton D. Baker, the American secretary of war, visited King Albert of Belgium and the Belgian front yesterday.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair, continued cool to-night, with lowest temperature about 35 degrees Sunday fair and somewhat warmer. Temperature: 8 a. m., 36. Sun: Rises, 5:56 a. m.; sets, 6:04 p. m. Moon: Full moon, March 27, 10:32 a. m. River Stage: 7.4 feet above low-water mark.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Amos F. Lehman, Hummelstown, and Blanche N. Espenshade, Elizabethtown; Max Litvin, Philadelphia, and Sarah Clompers, Harrisburg; Edward A. Enders and Catherine McMullen, Harrisburg.