

HUNS FLEEING BEFORE OUR MEN IN GREAT BATTLE

The Philadelphia News Bureau today prints the following as coming from Paris: "Dispatches from correspondents with the armies in the field say that the Franco-American offensive enormous number of prisoners has been taken. The greatest feat of Americans which has yet participated in a single engagement is advancing with the French in this offensive, launched at 4:30 o'clock this morning. Eighteen cannons were captured by the French and Americans at Courchamps. Latest reports say the advance continues everywhere. The American commander at Givry, reporting the capture of the town to headquarters, sent the following message: "Met Boche on his line of resistance. Sharp fighting. Boche turned tail and ran like hell, pursued by our troops. Hope have more prisoners. "At headquarters messages were coming in from everywhere asking permission to push on further. "It was essential that the line should be kept straight and in some instances it was necessary to order the troops to hold back until adjustments came in. "The surprise not only was complete but the concentration for the attack was unusually rapid. "Field guns loaded on trucks dashed up to the lines. Horses were carried up the same way. "American airplanes flying over the lines fought the Boches above while the doughboys and machine guns fought below. "Aerial observers dashed through clouds and others carried back messages. "Lines of trucks carrying six and eight horses each have been hurried up in the last twenty-four hours.

AMERICANS GO "OVER THE TOP"

Marne is going at this hour for the most part even better than had been expected. The enemy so far has been unable to withstand the shocks of the Americans and their allies have delivered and still are delivering. As the whole German left flank is menaced the enemy must draw in his troops from the Marne front or risk being caught where they are. This means that the finishing blow possibly has been administered to his dying offensive. Torcy and Givry and the Givry wood were taken by the Americans in their advance. Go Right Ahead Probably the most stubborn resistance to the allied advance developed in the region west of Chaudun, which is four and one-half miles southwest of Soissons. The Americans and French fighting side by side, however, refused to be checked. The American machine guns mowed the enemy down and then our troops went on. The fighting still continued in this region this afternoon, and seems likely to become heavier when the German reserves arrive. In the region of Soissons, where the attack was especially successful the Americans carried everything before them by storm. Early this afternoon the yhad passed their final known objective. From the second to the third objective they swept behind a third barrage. Reach All Objectives The second objectives were usually taken by the troops of the first units who had dug in at the first objectives. The resistance to the south was especially vicious. At some place the American advancing troops were held up, but only temporarily. The final objectives in the Givry and Torcy sector were reached in about two hours of hard fighting. The troops on this part of the

DEFENSE BROKE

Hastily organized counter-attacks against the Americans developed here and there, but all were broken up and our troops continued to advance. In one town alone on the southern part of the front under attack, the Franco-Americans forces captured eighteen guns. General Foch, the allied commander-in-chief, has taken the aggressive on an important scale, attacking this morning on a twenty-five-mile front between the Aisne and the Marne, on the westerly side of the German-Marne line. The attack appears to be a significant counter-attack to the German drive along the Marne-Rheims-Champagne front. From various sources come reports that the battle is progressing favorably to the allied forces, which presumably include American troops. Gain 2 Miles The front of the attack runs from Fontenoy, six miles west of Soissons, to the town of Belleau, on the Chateau-Thierry front. A few details of the battle are yet available, the main fact officially stated being that at various points in the progress of the advance from a mile and a half to two miles has been made and that prisoners have been taken. The situation on this front presents possibilities, that in the battle line, when the German offensive paused at the Marne early in June, closely resembled the letter V, with the German offensive line at its tip. The German offensive line, which had changed the form of the line to the letter A, at the right leg of which is shorter than the left. Serious Threat at Tip From Fontenoy, at the tip of the left leg, to Rheims, on the end of the right, is about thirty-seven miles. The distance from the Aisne to the tip of the left leg is about twenty miles. The distance from the Aisne to the tip of the right leg is about twenty miles. It is along the left leg of the U that the allied onslaught began this morning. Behind the allied lines is the network of strategic wagon roads and three railway lines. In front of them there is an important railroad line running from Soissons to Chateau-Thierry, presumably used as a supply artery for a large proportion of the enemy troops in the region. This railway was about four miles from the allied front when the attack was started today. If the attack of the allies is what it appears to be, it is a serious threat to the whole German position south of the Aisne. Rapid progress by the allies to the eastward would compel the abandonment of the German offensive, which is now apparently directed toward Epernay, to the south of Rheims mountain. It might, if successful, mean the capture of a German retreat route from Soissons-Marne-Rheims salient, with potential disastrous results to the enemy in the loss of men, guns and material. American Factor Unknown During the past three weeks the French have carried out a number of local operations southwest of Soissons, along the line where the present allied effort is being made. By these operations, the French line from the region of Ambligny, south of Fontenoy, to Longpont, nearly eight miles further south, was advanced and strengthened. Before today's attack began the French held positions along a series of ridges on a five-mile line from Ambligny to St. Germer, Aisne, and were in strong entrenched positions further south. The part American troops are taking in the allied counter-blow is as yet unknown. The line mentioned in the official statement from Paris, however, includes a section of the positions held by the Americans in the neighborhood of Chateau-Thierry. General Foch's men are known to be at Belleau, and they have been mentioned as being as far north as Torcy, on the south side of the Clignon river, above Belleau wood. Battle Line 105 Miles Measuring from the Aisne river, around the Chateau-Thierry salient and thence to Massiges in the Champagne, the eastern limits of the present struggle, the length of the battle line is about 105 miles, which is the widest front that has been in active battle on the western front since the early days of the war. Official reports appear to show the German stroke against the Marne-Rheims-Champagne line has

JUDGE KUNKEL'S THREE DECISIONS ARE AFFIRMED Supreme Court Overrules Appeals Taken From Dauphin County

Three decisions by President Judge George Kunkel, two in important state tax cases and a third in a mandamus action were affirmed by the State Supreme Court. In each of the tax cases the order of the higher court was given in one sentence as follows: "This judgment is affirmed on directing it to be entered," while in the mandamus action the appeal was dismissed at the cost of the appellant. One of the appeals was in the case of Commonwealth vs. Smet-Solovy Company, in which Judge Kunkel ruled that the company was liable for state tax on money deposited in banks outside the state and also for funds which were received in payment of taxes done in other states. The company contended it could not be taxed for these amounts but Judge Kunkel's decision to the contrary was affirmed. The second tax case was Commonwealth vs. Harrisburg Light and Power Company. Judge Kunkel in that case handed down an opinion which stated that the company was not liable for taxes received in furnishing steam heat but only for money received in its electrical business. Upon appeal by the tax collector, the Supreme Court affirmed the decision here. In the third action, a mandamus proceeding by the borough council of Gettysburg against the State Highway Commissioner, the court affirmed the decision here. The mandamus was made to compel the state to repair a road in the borough of Gettysburg which was formerly a turnpike and had been abandoned by the state. Judge Kunkel's decision in the case that the State Highway Commissioner, under present laws, was not compelled to have the road repaired in the town of Gettysburg, his order refusing a writ of mandamus against the Highway Commissioner was affirmed and the appeal dismissed by the higher court.

GERMANS FEAR FAILURE

Geneva, July 18.—The newspapers Demote, usually well informed on German affairs, says along the line information from across the Rhine shows mixed feelings in Germany regarding the new offensive. The German people believe the offensive will soon find the game is not worth the candle. front did equally as well as those on the front farther north, taking quantities of material and prisoners, who continue streaming back.

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AMERICANS IMPROVE POSITIONS

In the woods and valley west of the forest of the mountain of Rheims, the great natural obstacle south of the city, the Germans have driven the Italians and French to within five miles of the Rheims-Epernay Railroad, the only line of transportation into the city yet held by the allies. Heavy fighting is taking place about Fonroy and Nanteuil-la-Fosse, which are about five miles from Epernay. The Germans will try to get between the French units for a final bit of progress to the south.

ATTACK AFTER ATTACK

Attack after attack is being hurled against the allied troops in these two important sectors. In many places the enemy has been repulsed completely, while his gains have been made in the face of strong resistance. South of the Marne, despite heavy bombardments and the use of fresh troops, the Germans have made no great gains. In the north, their progress is rather uncertain, as villages and heights are constantly changing hands in the desperate fighting. In the village south of Dormans, where the enemy has made the greatest penetration south of the river—about three miles—French and American troops have gained some ground near St. Agnan. Across the river toward Epernay the Germans are near Montvoin, an advance of about six miles, but they have not been able to spread their progress to the south.

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ALL HARRISBURG LOSES SLEEP TO CHEER FOR ARMY

longer and one by one dropped out and went home. MILLS FORCES DEMORIALIZED Among those who shouted loudest and celebrated the most were workmen from the Penn Harris hotel building. Forgetting the necessity for a good hotel in the city, they laid down the trowel and ran to join the parade. The crowd, which did night work were demoralized when men learned the cheering news. There were many ensuing stories of incidents occurring in the parades. Four men linked arm in arm came up the street running as fast as they possibly could, when they were suddenly halted. They had run into a very stout man. The quartet stumbled and fell and for a few moments there was a free-for-all. The crowd for the most part, however, was very good natured amidst the jostling and bumping which attended the big patriotic cavalcade. "Some Celebration," Says Mayor Mayor Daniel L. Keister was a prominent figure in the big crowd. "Ah boy, that was some celebration to be arranged in twenty-five minutes," he commented to a Telegraph reporter. "That was some fair, wasn't it?" "What a surprise would happen to the stock market?" There were hundreds of speculators who tried to form an opinion. An unfortunate man almost got himself into very serious trouble when he lost his hat on the street. He leaped over to pick it up, putting up his left hand for balance. At that moment the crowd mistook the movement as an effort to strike a nearby woman and he was assailed by the mob. "Lynch him!" was the cry and when an officer took him in charge they shouted "Let us have him for a minute. Tar and feathers for him!" He was taken to the police station and when it was found his action was unintentional he was discharged. There were hundreds of local people in River Park when the bells began ringing. It was but a few minutes until the seats were empty.

Russell Brightbill, of Heckton Mills, Severely Injured on Battle Front



Russell Brightbill, of Heckton Mills, mentioned in yesterday casualty lists, is a son of Mr. and Mrs. William Brightbill. Employed as a watchman at a Pennsylvania railroad crossing at Danphin, he enlisted shortly after the declaration of war. Brightbill, who is 21 years old, is serving with the Machine Gun Battalion of the Ninth Regular Infantry. No details as to the severity of Brightbill's injuries are known by his parents. The first intimation that he had been injured was furnished to them by a letter from the son himself, no notice having as yet been received from the War Department. Previous to the letter announcing his injuries, his parents had not heard from Russell for twelve weeks. William, another son of Mr. and Mrs. Brightbill, is in the army. He is attached to the Second Cavalry.

KEYSTONE DIVISION NOW IS TAKING PART IN FIGHTING WITH AID OF FRENCH ARMY

Members of the Old National Guard Brigaded with Peitain's Poilus Already Making Names For Themselves on Battle Lines Where the Huns Are Attacking

HARRISBURG BOYS CITED FOR BRAVERY IN ACTION

Unofficial Dispatches Indicate Scores of Harrisburg Lads Are Bearing Up Magnificently Under Fire; Are Praised by French Officers Who Are in Command

NATION'S HEART WITH ITS ARMY IN FRANCE

the official account revealed however, the full thrilling story of the dash against the enemy delivered with such gallantry and as such a complete surprise. It was over the first German line, apparently without wavering and rushed on to objectives deep in the territory the Germans have held for months. "Mark Counter Stroke During the day Secretary Baker, General March and War Department officials generally spent much time over the reports. They read every detail of the accounts being sent over the wires and time after time all other business halted while the swiftly changing battle front was traced out by a definite turning of officials were awake receiving every report that came in. A most promising consideration of the counter attack, officers believe, aside from renewed proof of the fighting qualities of the new American armies, is the fact that General Foch now has sufficient force to uncoil a major counter stroke, for the present blow is nothing less than that, however limited its fixed objectives for the day may have been. The supreme commander now has shown clearly that a definite turning point has been reached where his resources in men and munitions are great enough for him to assume at least an aggressive defense. If the present Franco-American thrust should realize all the possibilities seen in it by observers abroad and force the Germans out of the whole Aisne-Marne salient, it seems highly probable to officials here that General Foch might feel warranted in expanding that success through offensive operations on other fronts. It was suggested last night that a thrust from the British front on a far wider scale than anything attempted there since the great German assault began last March might develop as a companion piece to the Franco-American efforts. In that case, it was said, it would be clear that the tide of battle had definitely turned and the German drive of 1918, their greatest military effort of the war and the campaign on which they have counted to achieve victory by arms, had been defeated.

COUNTY TAXES TO BE \$88,000 MORE THAN LAST YEAR

Increase Over 1917 Largely Due to Many Big Improvements Receipts from county taxes for 1918 will be more than \$88,000 higher than in 1917, according to tabulations of the value of personal and realty property in the city and county, completed at the county commissioner's office and to be sent to Secretary of Internal Affairs Paul W. Houck. Improvements Chief Source The total increase in the value of taxable real estate for 1918 as compared with 1917 is \$1,560,094, due largely to many big building improvements. The increase in personal property, including mortgages, bonds, judgments and money deposited on interest, is \$724,113. The total value of taxable real estate in the county and city for 1918 is \$80,590,238; personal property, \$17,915,595; county tax on real estate, \$402,801.59; personal, \$71,661.98; making an increase of \$88,000 in county taxes from realty and \$2,896.46 from personal property, a total increase of \$90,896.45 over the amount for 1917. Due largely to the increase in the tax rate from 4 to 5 mills: Figures Show Increases Totals compiled at the county commissioner's office for the two years follow: (city and county.) Number of taxables, 1918, 447,528; 1917, 446,009. Acres cleared land, 1918, 203,041; 1917, same. Acres timber land, 1918, 101,039; 1917, same. Value all realty, 1918, \$102,337,660; 1917, \$89,459,093. Value realty exempt, 1918, \$26,522,120; 1917, \$26,522,120. Value taxable realty, 1918, \$75,913,540; 1917, \$62,936,973. Number horses, 1918, 8,462; 1917, 8,679. Value of horses, 1918, \$505,185; 1917, \$517,575. Number of cattle, 1918, 8,074; 1917, 8,162. Value of cattle, 1918, \$234,494; 1917, \$220,909. Value salaries paid, 1918, \$3,909,205; 1917, \$3,715,300. Value all property taxable at 5 mills, 1918, \$80,590,238; 1917, \$79,200,145. Aggregate county tax, 1918, \$402,801.59; 1917, \$402,801.59. Amount money on interest, mortgages, etc., 1918, \$17,915,455; 1917, \$17,915,022. Value stamps, hacks, etc., 1918, \$407,197, 8300. Value all property taxable at 4 mills, 1918, \$17,915,495; 1917, \$17,913,382. County tax at 4 mills, 1918, \$71,661.98; 1917, \$68,765.

BRETZ FILES PETITION IN VOLUNTARY BANKRUPTCY

A petition in voluntary bankruptcy for Harry M. Bretz, attorney, charged with embezzlement by a client, was filed by his counsel. It was sent late last night to the clerk of the United States District Court at Scranton. No statement of assets has been prepared, it was announced. Later the case will be handled by John T. Olmsted, referee in bankruptcy in Dauphin county. The agreement to go into voluntary bankruptcy was reached after a conference between attorneys for Bretz's creditors and his counsel. HORSE'S LEG BROKEN New Cumberland, Pa., July 18.—A valuable horse belonging to N. F. Reed, coal merchant, had to be shot yesterday on account of breaking its leg.

MARRIAGE LICENSE TO BE ISSUED

One of the youngest girls to get a marriage license in Dauphin county in months applied yesterday. She is Mabel May Hollerbusch, aged 14, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob E. Hollerbusch, Dover, R. F. D. She will marry Henry W. Geary, 23, of Shippenburg. Her father gave his consent to the marriage. A brother, 20 years of age, took out a marriage license July 1.

COUNCIL REFUSES REQUEST ELEVEN MEN TO GO FROM CAMP HILL FIREMEN MARYSVILLE IN NEXT DRAFT

Marysville, Pa., July 19.—Marysville is hard hit in the draft call for twenty-two men to leave Perry county for Camp Lee, Va., next week. No less than eleven of the contingent will be Marysvillians. John L. Hahn, assistant principal in the local high school during the past term and re-elected for the ensuing term, is one of the men to leave the county. J. Frank Leonard, connected with the Commercial Trust Company, of Harrisburg, is another Marysvillian man. The clerical force of the local preference freight yard of the Pennsylvania railroad will lose two men, Gordon J. Skivington and John T. Wallace. Other Marysvillian men who will leave with this contingent include William P. Smith, Martin J. Clendenin, Charles E. Shouse, Ambrose M. Whitmyer, Edward B. Neff, John C. Lockenbaugh and Charles E. Sommer.

ATTEMPT TO KILL

When a Telegraph reporter today showed the dispatch to Mrs. Werner in which her son was cited, she expressed her satisfaction. "I knew he would do it," she said, and her eyes became moist as she proudly told of the young soldier's life here. A Fighting Brother Another son, Gilbert D. Werner, enlisted several months ago, although he was but fifteen years old. He appropriated a pair of his brother's trousers and passed as being much older than he really is. He was stationed at camp and his mother brought birth certificates and the family Bible record to camp just two days before the contingent sailed, in order to have him released. "I thought Gilbert was too young to fight," she explained. Other Pennsylvanians who distinguished themselves are mentioned in the dispatch. Among them are Privates Samuel Scritchfield, Johns town; Samuel Strauss, Franklin; John Giuzer, Scranton; George Shuster, Potsville; Carl Bullock, Hoedale; and Harry Meenen, 1807 Tostin street, Pittsburgh.

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