



The Star-Independent

LXXXVII— No. 199

14 PAGES

Daily Except Sunday Office at Second Class Matter at the Post Office at Harrisburg

HARRISBURG, PA., SATURDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 7, 1918.

ONLY EVENING ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWSPAPER IN HARRISBURG

SINGLE COPIES TWO CENTS

HOME EDITION

HASTE MARKS FLIGHT OF GERMAN ARMY AS AMERICANS AND ALLIES PRESS ON BEFORE CAMBRAI AND LA FERRE BASES

FIRST ARMY OF UNITED STATES IN FRANCE NOW NEARLY FORMED

Almost 95 Per Cent. of American Troops Brigaded With Haig and Foch Forces Have Been Withdrawn

MARCH WITHHOLDS PLACE OF ASSEMBLY Situation on Western Front Is More Satisfactory Than It Has Been in Months, Senate Committee Hears

Washington, Sept. 7.—Organization of the first American field army in France is progressing so rapidly that General March told members of the Senate military committee today nearly 95 per cent. of the American troops brigaded with the British and French have been withdrawn and are being assembled at a point he did not designate.

The situation on the western front, General March told the committee, is more satisfactory this morning than it has been in months. Good progress is being made, he said, and the outlook is very bright.

At no point along the front where the present battle is raging are the Allies more than twelve miles from the Hindenburg line, while upon the upper part this line has been pierced by the British troops.

The committee was told that there now are between 90,000 and 100,000 American troops with the British forces.

Because of the gradual withdrawal of American troops which have been brigaded with French and British forces, the Senators said they were told only one division—the 32d—now is engaged in the present battle.

"General Retreat," Says March Characterizing the German retrograde movement as a "general retreat," on a hundred mile front from Arras to near Rheims, General

Miss Ellen Walter, Erie, will be state organizer. A flying wedge of trained speakers will be sent to all the cities and towns of the state to outline the work carried on by the Y. W. C. A. for the women of America.

LITTLE NEWSBOYS HAVE BETTER WAR STAMP CARDS THAN SOME FOLKS WHO OWN AUTOMOBILES DO YOUR BIT UNCLE SAM ASKS IT

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair to-night and Sunday; slightly warmer Sunday. For Eastern Pennsylvania: Fair to-night; Sunday fair and somewhat warmer; gentle to moderate north to east winds.

COAL DEALER SHOWS WM. JENNINGS MET EVERY REGULATION

Federal Fuel Administrator Meek Knew All About Order For Fuel; Visited His Office and the Order Was Passed Upon; Shipment Sent Care of S. S. Shelter, of Duncannon, in Regular Procedure; Hickok Says Man Who Buys No. 2 Buckwheat Coal Performs Patriotic Service

William Jennings did not violate the Federal fuel regulations. Evidence produced to-day by J. Q. Handshaw, representative of the Hanna Coal Company, completely vindicates Mr. Jennings, chairman of the Dauphin Committee National Defense and Public Safety, of charges spread broadcast by the Harrisburg Patriot that he had violated the federal fuel regulations in purchasing a quantity of No. 2 Buckwheat coal for use at his country home near Duncannon. Mr. Handshaw made this statement:

"Early in the spring, Mr. Jennings, to whom the Hanna Coal Company for many years had sold buckwheat coal, came to me with an order for about one-third the amount of this coal which he had bought. He told me that while the government had made no price regulation of buckwheat coal I would much sooner that the order be shipped in care of a local dealer. To this he agreed, and suggested S. S. Shelter, a reputable coal dealer of Duncannon. Before placing the order with my company being in Duncannon, I took up the matter with Mr. Shelter. Mr. Shelter said that in view of the fact there was no regulation on No. 2 Buckwheat coal, and that no person in Duncannon, except Mr. Jennings, could buy buckwheat coal of that grade, he was satisfied to receive the order.

"I then forwarded the order and the shipment was made care of S. S. Shelter, Duncannon, Pa., P. R. R., and was delivered to William Jennings and paid for by Mr. Jennings. The company and Mr. Jennings, having more than complied with any fuel regulations then in existence, and since put in force, have nothing to regret. This is all there is to it."

Mr. Jennings' statement that he had taken the utmost precaution in the matter of ordering the coal, and had complied with the requirements, Mr. Jennings today said:

"Early in the spring I wanted to get my winter supply of buckwheat coal arranged for. I understood there were no restrictions, but I wanted to be sure and being informed that there was then no fuel administrator for Perry county, I asked Ross Hickok, the administrator here. I stated the kind of coal I wanted and he informed me there were no restrictions whatsoever on the purchase of that grade. I then went ahead and ordered it. Mr. Jennings was then asked: "When did you give the order?"

In reply, he said, "I ordered it immediately." This was in the early springtime, before regulations of any sort relating to 1918 supplies had been promulgated by the government.

Mr. Hickok, local Federal Fuel Administrator, verified this statement by Mr. Jennings and John P. Guyer, local investigator, said that he was present when Mr. Jennings made the inquiry of Mr. Hickok, and that Mr. Jennings went from the office with the understanding that he could place his order, and that by buying No. 2 buckwheat coal, he was performing a patriotic service by using fuel of a kind that the ordinary stove or furnace will not burn.

Confirming this understanding of Mr. Jennings Administrator Hickok said this morning: "I would regard it as a patriotic service for anyone who can use No. 2 buckwheat coal to do so, inasmuch as it is not under Federal control or regulation." Mr. Meek, the Perry County Fuel Administrator said this morning to a Telegraph representative, that he is "very much put out by the publicity given this investigation, before a final conclusion has been reached in the case." He further said that he had not been able to get in personal touch with Mr. Jennings.

FRENCH AND YANK GUNS TEAR HOLES IN HUN LINES ON THE AISNE FRONT

New Forces Brought Up West of Fismes With Germans Along Canal Parallel to River; Big Guns Set in Play

ALLIES SLOWLY CLOSE ON ENEMY LEFT FLANK German Machine Guns Defend Retreating Army Point by Point; Enemy Divisions Yield Dearly-Bought Gains

With the American Army on the Aisne Front, Sept. 7.—Additional forces and supplies were brought up by both the Americans and French during last night and early to-day the Franco-American line was again advanced. The allied artillery of both heavy and small calibers is being used to tear holes in the enemy lines.

The new forces were brought up along the Aisne to the west of Fismes where the Germans are entrenched along the canal parallel to the river. The big guns behind the Franco-American line were set in play upon formations far to the rear, while every cross road was subjected to a punishing fire.

The Franco-American line continued to close slowly but with unerring certainty about the German left flank that had clung to the sector to the west of Rheims. Particularly determined resistance was displayed by the enemy remaining at the point in the angle made by the line swinging upward towards the Aisne. The Germans used their artillery late on Friday with all possible vigor, and their machine gun crews defended the retreating army point by point. Nevertheless the lines of both the French and the Americans were advanced.

BIG TEAMS LINE UP AT CHICAGO FOR THIRD GAME

Mitchell Plans to Send Hendrix to Mound; Mays For Boston

Chicago, Sept. 7.—The curtain was to be lowered on baseball in Chicago for the duration of the war with the third game of the world series between the Boston Red Sox and the Chicago Cubs, who faced each other on even terms to-day.

FAIR WEATHER TO START AND END COMING WEEK

Washington, Sept. 7.—Weather predictions for the week beginning Monday, issued by the Weather Bureau to-day are: North and Middle Atlantic states: Fair, warmer beginning of week; showers and somewhat cooler by middle of week followed by fair weather and nearly normal temperatures thereafter.

FINNS JOIN THE GERMANS; GIVE MAN POWER

Paris, Sept. 7.—(Havas)—A treaty of alliance has been concluded between Germany and Finland under which the entire manpower of Finland is put at Germany's disposal, according to a dispatch to the Matin from Copenhagen.

Brothers Fall Fighting in France; One Is Killed



JOHN E. WESTFALL, Killed in Action



FRANK WESTFALL, Wounded in France

Private John E. Westfall, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Westfall, Mechanicsburg, R. D., was killed in action in France on August 10, according to official word received from the War Department Wednesday. His brother and comrade-in-arms, Frank Westfall, was wounded and is in a hospital. The degree of his wound is undetermined.

CITY'S GUARDSMEN PLAY FOOTBALL DAY AFTER GREAT BATTLE

Twenty-five Per Cent. of Company D, 112th, Slightly Gassed, a Few Seriously, While Taking Part in Big Drive; Nicknamed "Bayonet Division"

That Company D, of the 112th Infantry, made up largely of men of Company D, Eighth Regiment of the old Pennsylvania National Guard, most of whom reside in Harrisburg, played an important part in the drive between Soissons and Rheims and has done much to accelerate the movement of the Hun toward the German border, is related in a letter filled with thrilling episodes, written by Leroy E. Rife to his mother, Mrs. William H. Rife, 1001 North Seventeenth street.

But the company has not escaped unscathed. In fact more than twenty-five per cent. of the men of the company were injured in the advance against the Germans. No less than seventy men of the company were injured on one day of the attack, August 9, and including some Harrisburgers.

GERMAN FLYERS DROP BOMBS IN HOSPITAL AREA

Patients Taken to Nearby Caves When Enemy Attack Begins

With the American Army in France, Sept. 7.—German aviators scored two direct hits on Wednesday night on the large "Red Cross" hospital between the wings of the French-American hospital southwest of Soissons. There were no casualties.

Bion C. Welker Is Chosen For Special Artillery School

Bion C. Welker, formerly city editor of the Telegraph, member of Battery F, 311th Field Artillery, now in France, has been assigned to an Artillery School for Specialists. He is now under tuition there. The school is situated in a delightful part of France. Mr. Welker hopes soon to get back to his regiment, which is now undergoing training previous to being up active service.

ALLIES WIN ALL GROUND LOST TO HUNS IN SPRING

Retreating German Army Falling Back Faster and Faster With British, French and Americans in Determined Pursuit

London, Sept. 7.—British progress on virtually the whole battle front from Havincourt wood to the river Aisne continued this morning with rather greater rapidity than had been expected.

Accelerating the flight of the retreating Germans the British, French and American armies gained important new ground last night and today along the entire front from the Aisne to the west of Cambrai.

In the northern part of the front the British have pushed for

(Continued on Page 10.)

GERMAN RETIREMENT CONTINUES

With the British Armies in France—The German retirement continues throughout the whole area to the west of Cambrai and St. Quentin and the British advance guards in the zone generally between Cambrai and Peronne are close to the Hindenburg line. Numerous fires still are burning and many more explosions have occurred as the Germans retreat.

FESS SOUNDS CAMPAIGN NOTE

Washington—Representative Fess, of Ohio, the new chairman of the Republican congressional committee, formally opened the fall campaign to-day by presenting arguments for the election of a Republican congress in November. "Republican success," said Mr. Fess, "will not only insure vigorous prosecution of the war, but will be a guarantee against a compromise, and therefore an inconclusive peace."

FIVE MORE LOCAL BOYS WOUNDED IN DESPERATE FIGHT ALONG FRENCH FRONT

Five names are included in the early casualties to-day, only one of which is a death. Abram Martin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Martin, 251 Crescent street, is in a base hospital as a result of being injured.

SENATE PASSES "DRY" RIDER

Washington—As a result of the adoption by the Senate of the emergency agricultural appropriation bill, with its "dry" legislative rider and an announcement by the food administration that President Wilson would exercise his war-time authority to prohibit the manufacture of beer after December 1, nation-wide prohibition was a step nearer to-day.

CHAMBERSBURG SOLDIER KILLED IN BATTLE

Chambersburg—Theodore Crist, a member of Company C, 112 Infantry, and a son of Adam Crist, of 420 East Queen street, has been killed in action in France, according to a telegram received from the War Department. The Chambersburg soldier was killed on August 9. He was a private and had taken part in the earlier fierce fighting against the Germans.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Matthew W. Jones, Martinsburg, W. Va., and Minnie L. Kuhn, Hagerstown, Md.; Chester L. Harbold and Clara R. Smizer, Mechanicsburg, R. D., 3; Marko Drazencovic and Julia Beda, Steelton; Oren W. Brennum and Hannah S. Eichelberger, Siddonsburg; J. Frank Matzinger, Lower Allen township, Cumberland county, and Annie G. Nankie, Steelton; David M. Wirt and Sara L. Decker, Harrisburg; George M. Kramlinger and Bernice A. Dittus, Marysville.