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THE DISPATCH OFFICE

British Keep Forcing Ahead

London, Aug. 11.—North of Bazentin-le-Petit and northwest of Pozieres, on the Somme front, the British have made further progress, it was announced officially here to-day.

On the British Southern Front, July 31.—(Correspondence of the A. P.)—One of the most striking features of the great British drive north of the Somme was the extraordinarily thorough preparation before the offensive was begun. Long before the attack was launched the British staff was busy building up a vast organization which should be complete to the most minute detail. Military experts declare that the degree of preparedness achieved was unprecedented. Seemingly nothing that could be done was left undone, and when a representative of the Associated Press visited this section of the British front to see the captured territory and watch the assault proceed on various activities were being conducted with such coordination that they appeared to be done by clock work.

The collection of huge stores of ammunition, the assembling of artillery and the concentration of troops were but one phase of the preparation. Bases for various supplies were prepared where they could be most easily accessible when the advance began. Emergency hospitals were constructed and enclosures were built for the reception of prisoners. Great numbers of extra motor lorries were provided for transport work over roads which were continually being improved by myriads of workmen, and Red Cross motor ambulances were made ready for the speedy handling of large numbers of wounded, both British and German.

"But it was not only for work in the British-occupied territory that plans were laid. Provision must be made for the troops when once they had forced their way into German ground. The Royal Engineers worked out an elaborate scheme whereby water for the use of the men should follow them into the German trenches all along the line. It is not permitted to say how this was accomplished, but it is stated that it has been done successfully."

"Gun emplacements back of the German front lines were worked out in advance, and routes of least resistance for reaching these points were decided upon. Plans for the consolidation of captured territory were elaborately considered and provision was made for the immediate clearing away of the great quantity of debris of every description that always strews a battlefield. In fact, every scheme possible was applied in order that there should be no loss of time or energy when once the offensive had begun.

"Now that the attack is under way there is intense but methodical activity for miles behind this part of the front. Motor lorries flow in steady streams back and forth along the roads, bringing supplies to the front. The wounded are being moved swiftly but with great care to the base hospitals many miles away after treatment in the emergency stations. And all along the line scores of thousands of soldiers are busy handling supplies, making provision for calls from the extreme front and clearing and consolidating the ground taken.

Peronne Damaged By Artillery Fire

German Great Headquarters, via Berlin, Tuesday, Aug. 8, and London, Aug. 9.—Since Monday the famous old French city of Peronne has been under French artillery fire, resulting in a great conflagration which threatens to wipe it out. Already the fine collection of paintings of Italian and Flemish masters has been destroyed by shells which landed squarely in the city hall, where the most valuable art objects from the museum had been housed for protection.

In addition to the paintings which were torn to shreds, the shells destroyed unreplaceable collections of mediaeval Germanic silver and semi precious stone work, Celtic coins dating from the time of the Roman invasion and medallions. Houses in streets have been reduced to ashes. It has been considered doubtful whether Peronne's celebrated wood houses in the late Gothic style and the Cathedral of St. John can be saved from the flames.

Dutch Ultimatum To German Rulers

London, Aug. 2.—The German government has given a pledge not to hold and not destroy or molest Dutch ships carry

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ing foodstuffs to England, according to a Copenhagen despatch to the Express. This decision is the result of a visit to Berlin of Cornelius J. K. Van Aalst, President of the Overseas Trust, and another Dutch commissioner. The Express says Van Aalst presented an ultimatum to the authorities in Berlin to the following effect:

"Unless Germany agrees not to interfere with Dutch ships bound for England with food cargoes, Holland will close her eastern frontier. Other wise the Entente may stop dealing in exports from America and the Dutch colonies.

The trip of the Dutch commissioner was the result of representations by the Entente that Holland was selling large quantities of foodstuffs in Germany, while her food trade with England had almost ceased. Holland replied that trade with England was made dangerous by German submarines. Van Aalst fearing reprisals by the Entente, then undertook the trip to Berlin, and after a series of conferences obtained Germany's acceptance of his demands.

An Anxious Time For All Parents

Children Often Seem to Fine
Away and Ordinary
Medicine Does Not
Help Them

The health of children between the ages of twelve and eighteen years, particularly in the case of girls, is a source of serious worry to nearly every mother. The growth and development takes so much of their strength that in many cases they actually seem to be going in to a decline. The appetite is fickle, brightness gives way to depression, there are headaches, fits of dizziness, palpitation of the heart at the least exertion, and sometimes fainting. The blood has become thin and watery and the sufferer must have something that will bring the blood back to its normal condition. At this stage no other medicine can equal Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Their whole mission is to make new rich blood which reaches every part of the body, bringing back health strength and energy. Miss Helena Taylor, West Toronto, says: "Two years ago I was so badly run down with anaemia that some of my friends did not believe I would get better. I could not go up stairs without stopping to rest, suffered from headaches, loss of appetite, and for two months of the time was confined to the house. I was under the care of a doctor, but the medicine I took did not help me in the least. A friend advised my mother to give me Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and although I did not expect they would help me after the doctor's medicine had failed, I thought the might be worth trying. After taking two boxes there was such a marked change for the better that people asked me if I had changed doctors, and I readily told them the medicine that was helping me. I continued taking the pills until I had used eight boxes, when my health was fully restored, and I have since enjoyed the best of health. I hope my experience may be the means of convincing some sickly person that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills can restore them to health."

You can get these pills through any dealer in medicine, or by mail, post paid, at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

BEST FRUIT BOXES FOR THE PRAIRIES

Various Shapes and Sizes Discussed
by Dominion Official—Should
Standardize When Possible

A. H. Mack, chief fruit inspector of the Prairie Provinces, writes as follows: The apple box has frequently been discussed and no decision has ever been reached in regard to it. We have for domestic purposes two sizes to select from, both of which are in use in British Columbia to-day. One is the box specified for export in the Inspection and Sales Act, Section 226, which has inside dimensions of 10 1/2 x 20 inches, containing 2,200 cubic inches, while the other is the Oregon box with inside dimensions of 10 1/2 x 11 1/2 x 18 inches, cubic contents being 2,173 1/2 cubic inches. As far as the adaptability of these packages for apples is concerned I do not believe there is a very much difference.

If anything the Oregon box has the advantage. The chief argument in favor of the Oregon box, to my idea, is that the length is identical with the pear and peach box. This is really a very important point, as it enables mills to produce cheaper by utilizing material for other packages that otherwise would be wasted, and is certainly an advantage in warehousing stock and loading mixed cars. It could also be of convenience to the trade in warehousing at distributing points. Some objections may be raised due to the fact that our Australian markets require a different package. It is unfortunate that such is the case, but, nevertheless, I am of the opinion that it will be to our advantage to adopt the Oregon box for domestic purposes.

Peach and Apple Boxes

In regard to apple crates it is quite obvious that some steps should be taken in order to have only one size in use. Undoubtedly several ideas exist as to what constitutes the best package for this purpose. In regard to the peach box we have one in use in British Columbia measuring 11 x 18 inches on side, and another measuring 11 1/2 x 18 inches. I think it would be advisable to agree as to which of these two packages to adopt. It will, of course, be necessary to have several different depths and I would suggest 3 1/2 inches, 4 inches, and 4 1/2 inches. In regard to the width, 11 1/2 inches would be the same as the apple and pear box suggested, with the accompanying advantage.

New Kind For Pears

Regarding the pear box, I would suggest the one measuring 11 1/2 inches wide, 8 1/2 inches deep and 18 inches length inside. This would give us a package of the same length and width as the apple and peach box suggested, in view of the fact that a lug package is now being used for some markets, it would, I consider, be desirable to standardize one. I would favor the Pacific lug, as used by the Pacific Fruit and Produce Company. This package is used largely for cherries and is shipped containing 2 pounds net by weight. It measures 14 inches in width, 5 1/2 inches deep and 16 1/2 inches in length, having a hand gouge on each end, with a cleat 14 x 1 1/2 inches under the cover which permits a free circulation of air.

BUTTER IN THE WEST

Practical Advice on How to Make and Market It

Manitoba markets about 4,000,000 pounds of dairy butter per year. This, at 25 cents per pound, would be \$1,000,000 in value. Much of this butter is not of first grade; it is what is called packing butter. Usually it is injured in the making; some in the handling. The tendency of the butter trade is to go more and more into the creameries; this is a tendency that the country merchant should encourage, for the industry can be built up to a commercial success only when the creamery takes it over. Meantime some of the methods of the creamery should be applied to the dairy. The creamery puts up its butter in solids of about 55 pounds, which gives less surface than the pound prints; they ship frequently in store in refrigerators at a low temperature and keep the butter absolutely clean. And they grade all the butter and keep grades and colors together. Now, if the country merchant would educate the farmer into using good, large, clean new tubs, about 25 pounds to a tub, to line these with parchment paper well soaked in brine, to ship often, and to keep butter of the same class and color together, much good would result. The merchant should keep the butter on hand in a good refrigerator well aired and free from contamination; he should also ship often and keep grades and colors separate. The farmer could be encouraged by the merchant along these lines. Too many candy pills are used for butter packing, even soap boxes are sometimes used. The merchant can study the butter situation in his district and show the farmer where his product can be improved. Some simple things help; if butter is streaked it needs the salt worked into it better; if it is too salt a word to the maker will improve it; often it suffers because the water is not worked out of it.

But, above all, the farmer should be advised to patronize the creamery; that is the hope for the nation's butter industry.—Free Press, Winnipeg.