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WAR OFFICE REPORTS FURTHER BRITISH SUCCESS IN THE WEST

Gallant British Troops Making Further Progress

The Official War Office Report Says Substantial Progress Has Been Made on a Frontage of 1000 Yards---French Report Tells of Hard Fighting.

LONDON, July 18.—Substantial progress by the British on a front of 1,000 yards north of Ovillers was announced today by the War Office. The statement reads as follows:

Thick mist and incessant rain still are interfering with our operations in the neighborhood of the Somme, but, to the north of Ovillers we made substantial progress last night on a front of 1,000 yards. The enemy were driven out of several strongly defended points and we captured some prisoners and machine guns. Near Wyttschaete, Belgium, we made a successful raid into German trenches. Opposite Cunchy, northern France, a similar attempt by the enemy was frustrated by our fire.

PARIS, July 18.—The Germans made an attack last night on the French lines south of the Somme, and gained ground in the vicinity of Biaches, the War Office announced today.

The German attack was delivered against the French positions from Biaches to La Maisonette. Several attempts to take La Maisonette failed with heavy loss to the Germans, the statement says, but groups of the attacking forces spread along the canal on the east side of the Biaches, where the fighting continues. A German raid on Hill 304 on the Verdun front, west of the Meuse, was broken up by the French infantry fire.

German Attacks South of the Somme Were Repulsed After Heavy Losses

The statement follows: "South of the Somme the Germans attacked yesterday evening and last night our positions from the village of Biaches as far as La Maisonette. Notwithstanding repeated efforts, which cost them heavy losses, they were not able to obtain possession of La Maisonette.

"On the left bank of the Meuse (Verdun front) a surprise attack against our trenches at Hill 304 was repulsed by our fire. On the right bank of the river the night was marked by fighting with grenades in the vicinity of the Chapel of Sainte Fine, and west of Fleury. The enemy was repulsed everywhere. There was active artillery fighting in the region of La Laufee and Chenois. On the remainder of the front calm prevailed through the night."

The Italian Forces Continue to Make Progress in the Face of Strong Opposition

ROME, July 18 (via London).—In the face of vigorous opposition the Italians are making further advances, the War Office announced today in the following statement:

"Artillery engagements occurred in the regions of Stelvio and the Tonale. In the Arsa Valley we defeated attacks on our positions at Foppiano.

Notwithstanding the vigorous resistance on the part of the enemy, our infantry has resumed the advance on the northern slopes of the Pasubio. Lively fighting continues in the Postina valley and in the Astico area, where the enemy attempted to check our progress by repeated but fruitless counter attacks.

Small encounters took place near Mesole, in the Suagana valley, resulting in our favor. The enemy shelled villages, causing fires in a villa south of Strino.

On the remainder of the front there were artillery actions which were particularly intense in Carnia and in the upper Fella valley. Hostile aircraft dropped bombs on Ospedaletto without causing any damage. Our aircraft bombarded the railway station at Andrea, south of Gorizia."

GREAT BRITAIN LEADS THE WORLD.

WASHINGTON, July 18.—Great Britain, although hampered by the drain of war and a big naval construction programme, still leads the world in building merchantmen, according to a statement issued today by the United States Bureau of Navigation. Her shipyards have under actual construction now 423 steel merchantmen of 1,423,335 tonnage, and would have more but for the fact that private yards are engaged in building war vessels. The entire world in 1915 launched 743 merchant ships of 1,201,638 tonnage. Of these 84, of 177,460 tonnage, were launched in the United States.

PRESIDENT POINCAIRE AT THE FRONT

Paris, July 18.—President Poincare, accompanied by Gen. Pierre Roques, Minister of War, has spent the last two days on a visit to the Meuse and Somme fronts.

The trip included a brief stop at Verdun and a meeting on the Somme front with Generals Joffre, Foch and Fayelle.

In the course of the trip President Poincare inspected the former German lines and sections of the ground scarred by the traces of recent battles and bombardments.

Before leaving he heartily congratulated both the troops and their commanders.

A. O. H. Convention Opens in Boston

Boston, July 18.—Fifteen hundred delegates from all parts of the United States and Canada attended solemn high mass in the Cathedral of the Holy Cross today, which marked the formal opening of the fiftieth biennial convention of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Ladies' Auxiliary of that order.

Off for an Outing.

Miss Morgan, the well known milliner, and a party of young lady friends, left this morning for Digby, N. S., to enjoy a week's outing.

Some men are like doormats—useful when walked on.

BRITISH SUCCESSES CAUSING GERMANS THE GRAVEST CONCERN

Britain's Paper Army Which the Huns Talked About Has Developed Into a Formidable Fighting Force---Belgian Successes in German East Africa.

(By Leonard Spray.)

ROTTERDAM, July 18.—To say there is a panic in Germany would be an exaggeration, but it is well within the truth to describe the present feeling as one of deepest gloom.

"I am assured that a few days ago there was hardly a man in Berlin who believed that a serious military effort was to be made by the British. The present attitude of the German people is as if a new enemy had entered the field against them.

Their most trusted commentators talked for months about Britain's paper army. Events have now shown the German public that the paper army has materialized into a great host of trained soldiers, who are driving their own best troops from positions they believed impregnable. The result is that there is manifestation of public dismay that is giving the Government the gravest concern.

Now Talking in Berlin of Possibility of Iron Wall in the West Being Broken

In Berlin they are talking for the first time of the possibility of their iron wall in the west being broken. The vast majority of the German people long ago gave up any hope of conquest and any desire for anything further than a speedy peace. They believed in the termination of the war on the ground that the Allies would exert their maximum strength to break their lines, that the attempt would fail, and that they then would be prepared to negotiate a compromise peace.

The possibility of the Allies' efforts succeeding had never been contemplated until last week, when the British captured the second line positions.

Belgian Troops in German East Africa Have Inflicted Decisive Defeat on Enemy

HAVRE, France, July 18.—Belgian troops operating in German East Africa have reached the shore of Lake Victoria, and in a seven-hour engagement fought on July 7 they dispersed the Germans opposing their advance, taking the German commandant prisoner and inflicting a number of losses on the Germans, according to an official statement issued by the Belgian War Office today.

The review covers the operations of General Tombuer's army during a period beginning June 25. Briefly, the statement says, these operations were as follows:

Retreat of Last of the German Forces Holding Out in That Region is Cut Off

"After defeating the enemy on June 25, one day's march east of Biaramulo, Col. Moliter's brigade continued to advance eastward with the object of occupying the southwestern shore of Lake Victoria, and cutting the retreat southward of the last of the enemy's forces still holding out in the region between the Upper Kagola river and Lake Victoria.

"The Belgian troops on June 27th, reached the shore of Lake Victoria at two points, Namirembo and Basira Tombo. They made a number of prisoners. In a sharp engagement lasting seven hours, fought on July 7 the enemy was dispersed. The commandant of the German colony was taken prisoner, and the enemy lost a number of killed.

"The Belgian troops bore themselves admirably. Major Rouling was twice wounded at the head of his regiment. No important news has been received from Colonel Elsen's brigade, operating in the Usumbura-Kitega region."

GERMAN OFFICIAL REPORT.

BERLIN, July 18 (via London).—The official German statement today says that the Franco-British forces on both sides of the Somme devoted yesterday to artillery preparation.

THE CASEMENT APPEAL WAS PROMPTLY DISMISSED

Counsel for the Crown Was Not Called Upon to Reply to Arguments Advanced by Mr. Sullivan on Behalf of the Prisoner.

LONDON, July 18.—Without hearing the attorneys for the crown, the court of criminal appeals today dismissed Sir Roger Casement's appeal from the verdict of the lower court which found him guilty of treason, for which Viscount Reading, the Lord Chief Justice, sentenced him to death.

For a day and a half Alexander Sullivan, Sir Roger's counsel, argued before the court, using many authorities in favor of his contention that the definition of treason depended on whether the accused dwelt under the protection of the King, and that the crime could not be committed without the realm. He abandoned his other points in regard to the Lord Chief Justice's definition of the offence.

Not Necessary to Hear Crown Attorneys.

As soon as Mr. Sullivan had concluded his argument, the court retired to consider whether the attorneys for the Crown would be called on to reply. It soon decided to the contrary, which indicated that the appeal had gone against Sir Roger, who was present during the argument, and when judgment was given.

A further appeal to the House of Lords is possible only if the Attorney General gives a certificate that the decision of the court of criminal appeals involves a point of law so exceptionally important that it is desirable in the public interest that a still higher court should deal with it. This has been done only once since the court of criminal appeals was established eight years ago.

London, Ont. Tired Of Saving Daylight

London, Ont., July 18.—The city council today, after considering six largely signed petitions from citizens and business men, urging that the daylight saving by-law be discontinued at once, took no action.

A big delegation from the Grand Trunk, after denouncing the daylight saving plan as unfair to working men, announced that, by-law or no by-law, their men will all work on Standard time, commencing Monday.

The Lowest Yet.

Cultivated strawberries were disposed of in crate lots here this morning at five cents per box. This is the lowest price in a period of twenty-five years. Strawberries are a good crop this season and the berries are of exceptional quality.