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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 1916

ONE CENT PER COPY

VILLAGE OF FLEURY STORMED AND CAPTURED BY THE FRENCH

French Win Great Victory Over Huns on Verdun Sector

Captured Village of Fleury Which Had Been in German Hands for Over a Month---Verdun Once More the Centre of the War Stage.

PARIS, Aug. 4.—Attacking simultaneously from the northwest and southwest, French troops yesterday stormed the village of Fleury, three miles north of Verdun, and captured several hundred Germans. In the evening, however, the Germans launched a furious counter attack, and after several violent attempts, succeeded in getting a footing in the southern part of the village. The French today continue to hold the northern section of the place, and heavy fighting is still in progress.

Verdun is again the centre of the war stage. The recapture of the village of Fleury by the French, which had been held by the Germans for more than a month, has caused great elation in France.

It is the fruit of the French slow and methodical offensive, which has begun to mark an epoch in the six months battle for the great fortress on the Meuse. The Germans appear to be less and less capable of operating on their old overwhelming scale, and the initiative, military men here believe, is about to pass to the French for good.

While the German artillery continues to be as powerful and as well supplied as ever, the Germans no longer are able to gather the masses of troops necessary to reap the benefit of artillery preparation.

It is twenty-one days since the Germans made their last big attack on the right bank of the Meuse, by which they obtained small results at heavy cost. On the left bank of the Meuse nothing beyond local actions have been attempted by the invaders for a week or more.

German Troops Launch Violent Attack

On the French Positions Near Verdun

PARIS, Aug. 4.—On the right bank of the river Meuse, north of Verdun, the battle continues along the front of Thiaumont and Fleury, the Germans attacking several times during the night with great fury, it was announced officially this afternoon by the French War Department.

At one period of the fighting the French entered Thiaumont earthwork, but withdrew, owing to the intensity of the German bombardment, taking 80 prisoners.

Around Fleury the struggle was equally violent, the statement adds, the Germans attacking the village several times and succeeding finally in getting a footing in the southern part of the village. The French still are holding the northern section and fighting is still going on.

All attempts made by the Germans to drive the French from the station southeast of Fleury were frustrated.

French Bomb Throwers Had Carefully

Paved the Way for Last Night's Offensive

French bomb throwers for a fortnight past, in anticipation of the present offensive, had been creeping forward by the Vignes ravine, west of Froide Terre, with the object of getting near Thiaumont wood by working around Hill No. 365.

The bombers first reached the Bras-Fleury road. They then separated into two parties, one going to the eastward, toward Thiaumont fort, and the second pushing forward toward Vacherauville and Pepper Hill. Last week the first party stormed a redoubt west of Thiaumont, and after a stiff fight went beyond that position. The second party reached the little wood of Vacherauville. The whole section from Vacherauville to the approaches of Souville thus were in the hands of the French, and the higher command judged the time ripe to attack from all sides at once.

Attacked from the northwest and the southeast, the Germans in Fleury offered desperate resistance, but the French bayonets finally prevailed. Some Germans managed to escape to the Vaux le Chapitre wood, but a majority were captured.

To sum up, the French in their day of offensive regained all the ground that the Germans had taken several weeks to conquer. The French also installed themselves in positions southwest, south and southeast of the famous Thiaumont woods.

BRITISH GAIN MORE TERRITORY.

LONDON, Aug. 4.—Minor operations last night by the British on the Somme front resulted in the gain for them of some ground west of Pozieres, the War Office announced today.

P. E. ISLAND TO IMPOSE NEW TAXES

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Aug. 4.—The special session of the Legislature opened this afternoon. The Governor's speech stated that the Legislature will be asked to make suitable provision for the dependents of soldiers; also that arrangements have been made whereby the Charles Dalton Sanatorium will be used for treatment of returned soldiers with tuberculosis.

The Legislature is asked to continue to contribute to the support of the sanatorium, also to provide extra revenue to meet the decline in revenue arising from the war. It is understood that a special tax, equal to one-third of the present rate, is to be imposed all round.

Italian Submarines Have Been Sunk

Rome, via Paris, Aug. 4.—The loss of two Italian submarines is officially announced. The statement says that the undersea craft "left with others on a mission to the enemy coast a long time ago. As they failed to return to their base they are considered lost."

A Vienna despatch yesterday reported the capture of the Italian submarine Giacinto Pullino, by the Austrians in the North Adriatic. It was stated the submarine, one of the largest owned by Italy, was almost undamaged and her crew had been taken prisoner.

Divorce is getting to be as painless as modern dentistry.

There may be no such word as fail, still it's a dead waste of time to look for compressed air in a busted tire.

ANGLO-FRENCH FORCES ON THE SOMME FRONT TAKE BREATHING SPELL

In the Meantime Russians Are Pounding Away on the Eastern Front---Teutonic Forces Now Outnumbered On all Fronts---Interesting Review.

EAST NEW YORK, Aug. 3.—After five weeks it is patent, writes Frank H. Simons in the New York Tribune, that the Anglo-French offensive has come to one of those halts which are the familiar detail of contemporary operations when the attack fails to pierce the enemy's lines in the opening thrust.

Berlin is amply justified in its assertion that the effort to pierce the Somme front has so far failed. It may be warranted also in its assertion that the effort has permanently failed, but of that that is no proof.

We are all familiar with the reasons for the lulls or pauses in these attacks. New stores of ammunition have to be brought up, heavy artillery has to be moved forward to the new lines when a successful attack has gained several miles. Fresh divisions have to be put in to replace those used up by previous efforts.

Anglo-French Drive on the Somme is Only a Part of a Great Offensive Movement

There are resemblances in the thrust along the Somme to the Verdun operation, but it is necessary to emphasize the difference. First of all the Somme operation is not like the Verdun. With no other business on hand at the moment, Germany turned all her resources against France and tried to put her out of the war by a sudden blow at Verdun; but the Anglo-French operation at the Somme is only one part of the great Allied offensive now carried on on all fronts.

Thus, while the Germans have temporarily held up the Anglo-French drive on the Somme, the Russian drive in the east has lately taken on new power.

So Long as Allies Make Progress it Does Not Matter Whether it is in the East or West

Now, in the larger view it is of no consequence whether the Allies make progress in the east or the west, so long as they make large progress somewhere, and inflict great moral and material losses on the enemy somewhere.

Since Austria is the shaky member of the central alliance, more good may ultimately flow from successful pounding at her than at Germany.

Verdun was an absolute failure for the Germans, because it was their whole operation. A year ago the western offensive of the Allies was a failure, relative only, because while it failed to pierce the German lines, it took pressure off the Russians at a critical moment by compelling the Germans to direct attention and bring their reserves toward the west; but it was successful only as a defensive operation.

Germans Have Utterly Failed to Check The Big Russian Offensive in the East

If the Russians continue to advance, the Allied offensive is a success, even if the German lines in the west spread out.

The Germans and Austrians are outnumbered on both fronts. They have been beaten badly in the east and have so far failed to hold up the Russian advance. They have been able to check the western attack so far, but to do it has taken men that were required in the east.

Ultimately, if this situation endures, they will have to shorten their lines very greatly, either in the east or the west; and for the purpose of the Allies it does not much matter.

Actually one battle is going on, nor many. In this battle the Austro-German armies are being attacked along the whole line. They have succeeded in holding at one point; they have been heavily beaten and are in retreat on another. This is what the foreign correspondents have somewhat grandiosely described as the "Battle of Europe." But there is accuracy in the description; and for the moment the parallel of Grant and Sherman in 1864 and 1865 is both illuminating and accurate. Grant's strategy was "pressure at all points, until some sector gave way, until the strain became too great."

(Continued on page 5.)

OBSERVING THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAR

Allies Determined to Continue the Struggle to a Victorious End--Lord Sydenham Reviews the Military Situation After Two Years of War.

LONDON, Aug. 4.—Every town and village in the British Isles, as well as places throughout the Empire, today observed the second anniversary of Great Britain's declaration of war.

Meetings were held and resolutions passed declaring a determination to continue to a victorious end the struggle for the maintenance of those ideals of liberty and justice which are the common and sacred cause of the Allies.

Three meetings had been arranged for London. In the afternoon Sir Francis Lloyd, general officer commanding the London district, spoke to 4,000 wounded from London hospitals.

Lord Sydenham's Review.

Lord Sydenham, in an article in the Times reviewing the military situation after two years of war, says:

"For the first time since trench warfare supervened on the west a position of definite advantage strategically was won by the Allies, opening out new possibilities. Violent counter attacks in which some of the best German divisions have been shattered, and the withdrawal of troops from other sectors, are significant signs of the enemy's estimate of the new situation."

A pause may follow this tremendous effort, but the danger to Verdun has ended.

Alike in the west and the east lines of immense strength have been broken. French and British infantry have again proved their superiority. The artillery of the enemy has been dominated and in the air the Allies have won the ascendancy.

"The third year of the war opens with new hopes for the Allied powers, whose stern resolve is unshaken, whose morale never stood higher, and whose resources have not yet all been brought into play."

Roumania Buying Coal From Huns

Berlin, Aug. 3 (via London, Aug. 4).—According to a special despatch re-

ceived here from Budapest, Roumania has bought 80,000 tons of coal in Austria-Hungary and Germany. The despatch adds that this fact may be interpreted as meaning that the Central Powers are without fear that Roumania will join the Entente Allies.