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VOL. XXII., No. 157

FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, TUESDAY, JULY 4, 1916

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ALLIED ARMIES CONTINUE TO HAMMER GERMAN POSITIONS

Germans Suffered Heavy Losses Near Herbecourt

Heavy Fighting Continues Along Verdun Front---The Allied Forces are Busy Organizing Their New Positions---Terrible Execution by British Artillery.

PARIS, July 4.—The night was quiet north and south of the Somme, with the French organizing the conquered positions, says the French official statement issued today. The Germans made no attempt to interfere with French troops which were consolidating the new positions.

In addition to the batteries already captured three more have been taken, two of which were composed of heavy guns.

The French artillery is proving most destructive. In one dugout, which was wrecked by a shell, forty German corpses were found. The Germans are said to have suffered enormous losses in the fighting near Herbecourt, which the French captured. At one point between the Avre and the Aisne a French reconnaissance penetrated as far as the support trenches.

Heavy fighting continued last night on the Verdun front. The Germans made three successive attacks northwest of Thiaumont Work, from which they were driven by the French recently, a few hours after they had carried it. Last night's attacks were repulsed, the Germans sustaining considerable losses. Southeast of Fumin Wood the French forces made some light progress, and are holding their advantage.

LONDON, July 4.—The Germans last night recaptured a small part of La Boisselle, which was taken by the British in the new offensive. Further to the south, an official announcement says, the British made some progress, capturing a wood. They took prisoners and war material.

Graphic Description of the Opening

Of the Great Offensive of the Allies

BERLIN, July 3, via London, July 4.—The correspondent of the Lokal Anzeiger, telegraphing on Saturday from German headquarters in France, describes the opening of the Anglo-French attack as follows:

"For seven days and nights guns of all calibres, from field guns to long ship guns have unceasingly hammered the German positions, camps and shelters, behind constantly renewed waves of poison gas. The gas drifted over, mingled with the shells, which as they burst threw out corrosive and benumbing fumes.

"The country between Ypres and Roye was one vast hell of fire during the long period of preparation, which was double the length of that which preceded the battle in Champagne last autumn. Only pauses came when sallies were made to determine whether an onslaught was possible.

"The German first line trenches in many places were completely under a hail of missiles, against which the best pioneer work was helpless.

Germans Relieved From an Unbearable Strain When the Bombardment Ceased

"It came as a relief to the German troops from an almost unbearable strain when the bombardment ceased and strong columns advanced. These did not attack the whole front, but broad sections on either side of the Somme and Ancre rivers, from the British northern sector to La Boisselle, along the sector from La Boisselle to the Somme. The first line trenches were so demolished that they offered no support for their hard pressed occupants, and retirement was decided upon and carried out. The ruins of Fricourt, Mametz and Curlu, which lay in line with the front trenches, had to be abandoned to the enemy, who found here his greater success of the first day.

"The struggle continues along the whole front with enormous violence, and the utmost use of artillery both in occurrence and counter attacks."

Germans are Employing Every Kind of Device to Prevent the Allied Advance

LONDON, July 4.—Stories from headquarters pay unstinted tribute to the Germans, who are fighting with desperate tenacity and valor. German resourcefulness is also displayed in numerous devices invented to prevent or delay the Allied advance. All accounts agree that the Germans placed the greatest confidence in their machine guns and made every effort to protect them from the effects of the preliminary bombardment. The Express correspondent says:

"British soldiers emerging from the thick of the fighting

RUSSIANS SHOWING ACTIVITY

Petrograd, via London, July 4.—Activity on many sectors of the Russian front from Lake Narotche, south to the Galician border, was announced in an official statement issued by the Russian War Office tonight.

The beginning of a battle northwest of Baranovitch was mentioned and it was asserted that midway between Sokal and Dubno the resistance of the Teutonic forces was broken and they were driven back to the west.

Two German Spies on S. S. Olympic

New York, July 3.—Passengers arriving here yesterday on the steamer Florizel, from Halifax, declared that on June 30 two German spies carrying explosives were found on the British troopship Olympic as she was about to leave Halifax for England with nearly 6,000 Canadian soldiers.

According to the stories told by the passengers, the Germans were not discovered until the Olympic was about to sail.

The departure of the vessel was delayed until they were brought ashore and lodged in jail.

Cost of Taking Census.

The cost of taking the recent census of children of school age and men of military age, in wages of the enumerators was \$122.35.

A BATTALION OF GERMANS SURRENDERED TO THE BRITISH

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, July 4 (via London).—An entire battalion of the 186th Regiment of Prussian infantry, recruited from the upper Rhine, surrendered yesterday to the British near Fricourt. The prisoners numbered 20 officers and 600 men. The battalion had been assigned for duty only a short time before, to replace heavy casualties.

The fire was so heavy and the trench occupied by the Prussians was damaged so badly that the men refused to fight any longer. The situation this morning is regarded by the British as satisfactory.

Stubborn Resistance.

The British announcement follows:

"The enemy, reinforced by many battalions drawn from other parts of the line, continue to offer very stubborn resistance to us at all points. During the night there was heavy fighting in the vicinity of LaBoisselle. Our troops fought with great gallantry against heavy attacks by the enemy, who recaptured a small portion of the defences south of the village. Otherwise the situation in this neighborhood is unchanged.

"Further south some progress was made during the night. We captured a wood, further war material and prisoners.

"In the vicinity of Armentieres, after a heavy bombardment, an attempted raid by the enemy was repulsed with losses to them."

agree that the machine gun is the bugbear of any advance against enemy positions. They say the German machine gunner dies, but never surrenders. He is content to remain behind after all his comrades have left, in order to pour forth a deadly hail of bullets, and never throws up his hands.

"Up to the present we have captured very few guns. This is one of the signs that the Germans expected us. They have been very busy for several days moving their artillery further to the rear."

ROUMANIA MAKES A SEIZURE.

LONDON, July 4.—The Roumanian government seized 250 cars and six locomotives belonging to Austro-Hungarian railways, which were sent into Roumania while the Russians were advancing in Bukovina, says a Reuter despatch from Bucharest. All exportation to Bulgaria has been suspended.

BRITISH GUN FIRE IS MUCH HEAVIER THAN THAT OF THE GERMANS

Correspondent Tells of terrific Fighting In Vicinity of Fricourt---British Guns Made Terrible Havoc in the German Trenches---Scenes of Horror.

PRESS HEADQUARTERS ON FRENCH FRONT, via London, July 4.—Siege fighting continued today beyond Fricourt. The British, taking Poodle and the Bottom woods, advanced toward the main German second line of defence.

The Associated Press correspondent today went over the territory previously taken by the British from the west of Montauban through the famous Dantzic Alley, where the German nest of machine guns gave the British their greatest trouble in the first day's attack on Mametz and Fricourt, which now are being steadily shelled by the Germans.

Officers and men who have been all through the fighting said they had been regularly supplied with food, but that they needed a "good wash," and that water was unobtainable.

Germans, After Being Hammered With Shell Fire, Threw Up Their Hands and Quit

The soldiers in Dantzic Alley were excited over one of the theatrical scenes which this rolling country affords in this closed-in fighting. When the British closed in upon trenches at Poodle Woods, the German sections, already having been surrounded, came out holding up their hands.

Thus a body of more than 500 men, after having been hammered incessantly with shell fire for four days, dramatically surrendered before the eyes of the correspondents.

The British gun fire, so far as could be seen, was much heavier than the German, while, according to all reports from the front line, the Germans have withdrawn all their guns from the valley, which now is controlled by the British from points on the ridges.

Dugouts Thirty Feet Deep Failed to Save The Germans From the Big British Shells

Both Mametz and Fricourt virtually are levelled. The earth and brick buildings were kneaded by shell fire through into the communication trenches running through the villages where the preparatory bombardment was most severe. Strong German dugouts thirty feet deep did not save their defenders from the big shells, and trenches became formless heaps of earth.

Bits of the green German uniforms, flesh and accoutrements were mixed with rags and churned sandbags in uncanny horror.

British soldiers were gathering the German dead and burying their own in communication trenches. At one spot where the British suffered in charging a machine gun position, the battalion mascot, a black and tan mongrel, lay dead beside his human companions, all of whom had fallen with their faces toward the German trenches.

Germans Claim That the Only Results So Far Have Been Attained by the French

BERLIN, July 3, via London, July 4.—On the basis of information received by the Associated Press, the first results of the long heralded Entente offensive may be summarized as follows:

"No noteworthy successes have been secured on the British front. The only considerable results have been attained by the French, whose offensive as usual was marked by great bravery and dash. Retirement to the second German lines occurred where the French were the opponents.

"In coincidence with the Anglo-French offensive, the Russians have developed activity along the whole north front. Their activity against the northern German armies for the time being appears merely demonstrative, but vigorous fighting is in progress against the front of General Woyrsch's southern army, where at least eight divisions are engaged.

"The battle here is still stationary, with no decisive results in either direction."

AIR RAID ON SOFIA.

LONDON, July 4.—A squadron of French aeroplanes visited Sofia this morning and dropped bombs on military buildings there, says a military despatch from Saloniki.