

The New British Offensive Starts Off Auspiciously

Attack Begun This Morning on a Wide Front --- Courcelles and Other Villages Captured---The Line Advanced From Two to Three Miles

(By Canadian Press direct wire.)

LONDON, Aug. 21.—The British attack this morning was between Merienville and Beaucourt sur Ancre, a distance of about eight and a half miles. It is reported that the British have advanced from two to three miles along this front.

The attack was made without artillery preparation and it was completely successful. The attack was made by the British third army under General Byng.

The British have captured Courcelles, Achiet le Petit, and have reached Merienville and Beaumont-sur-Ancre in their drive north of the Ancre river, according to late advices.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT REPORTS SATISFACTORY PROGRESS MADE AND PRISONERS CAPTURED

The statement is as follows: "We attacked at 4.55 o'clock this morning on a wide front north of the Ancre river. Our troops are reported to be making satisfactory progress. Yesterday afternoon strong hostile attacks, accompanied by heavy bombardments against our new positions south and north of the Scarpe were completely repulsed. We improved our positions slightly in the neighborhood of Fampoux, and captured a few prisoners. We advanced our line during the night between Festubert and the Lawe river, on the southern side of the Lys salient, and are in possession of Le Touret. Early this morning British troops carried out a successful local operation in the Loere sector on a front of over a mile. All the objectives of the attack were taken and a number of prisoners were captured."

FRENCH TROOPS ARE REPORTED TO BE DRIVING AHEAD BETWEEN THE OISE AND AISNE RIVER

PARIS, Aug. 21.—French troops continued their advance along the whole front between the Oise and the Aisne this morning. Carlepont and Cuts have been captured by the French, according to an official statement issued at the War Office today. After sharp fighting further ground has been taken west of Lassigny. The statement follows:

"During the night the situation between the Oise and the Aisne remains unchanged. The enemy did not attempt any reaction. This morning our troops continued their advance along the whole front. Carlepont and Cuts have fallen into our hands. We have taken ground west of Lassigny after sharp fighting. A number of German surprise attacks in Champagne were repulsed."

Huns Talk of Revolution.

British Headquarters in France, Aug. 21.—An order issued by a German military commander and which is more illuminating than anything that has come out of Germany in many months, says: "It has come to my knowledge through a letter addressed to the Royal Prussian ministry of war, that men on leave have spoken publicly of a revolution which is to break out after the war."

TO TAKE CARGO OF CEREALS

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

Washington, Aug. 21.—At the request of the government of the Netherlands, the war trade board has granted permission for the steamship Nieuw Amsterdam to take a cargo of ten thousand tons of cereals to Holland. The permission was granted, an announcement tonight said, after an agreement had been made whereby the Nieuw Amsterdam on its next trip from this country will carry a cargo for the Belgian Relief Commission.

SOUTH AFRICAN MINISTER SEES GRAND FLEET

London, Aug. 21.—Henry Burton, South African minister of Railways, and the Union's representative to the Imperial War Cabinet, has just returned from a visit to the Grand Fleet, and informs Reuters that no one who has not actually had the privilege of seeing the Grand Fleet personally could form an adequate idea of its greatest impressiveness. The spirit of the men is fine and their only anxiety was to "win" at the enemy.

Mr. Burton was impressed greatly by the daring and enterprise which prompted so many men to volunteer for the most difficult and dangerous operations. The men were so cheerful and gay as men could be, but were resolute and keen whenever there was a hard task to perform.

ALLIED AIRMAN VERY ACTIVE

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

London, Aug. 21.—The official statement of the air ministry tonight on raiding and bombing operations says: "On the night of August 19-20 our squadrons again attacked hostile air-dromes and railways. Hangars, trains and various ground targets were bombed and subjected to machine gun fire. All our machines returned safely."

TRAWLER SEIZED BY A GERMAN SUBMARINE

An Atlantic Port, Aug. 21.—By the Associated Press. A German submarine late yesterday seized the fishing trawler Triumph, the crew who have reached shore safely, said they believed that the Germans intend to use the trawler as a raider. The fishermen reported that the U-boat is "playing havoc" with the fleet of fishing vessels on the Grand Banks.

The Triumph was halted on the fishing banks of the U-boat and the crew was permitted to take to the dories. The fishermen said that the trawler was still afloat when they last saw it. An armed guard of Germans had been placed aboard and no preparations were made to sink the vessel. This led them to the conclusion that the Germans intended to use her as a raider. The Triumph is owned by the North Atlantic Fisheries Company, and is one of the crack boats of the fleet.

NO RELIEF IN THE HARD COAL SITUATION

S. L. MORRISON HAS
RETURNED FROM N. Y.

"Too Much Control," in His
Opinion—Somewhat More
That Half Supply for
Fredericton.

Mr. Stewart L. Morrison has returned from a visit to New York during which he endeavored to obtain some information concerning the hard coal situation. To a reporter of The Mail this morning he stated that he had met with little which encouraged him and was inclined to take a pessimistic view of the situation.

Little Satisfaction

"I could get little satisfaction. I was sent from place to place and from official to official without getting any assurance of the quantity of coal which I could get. The situation practically is that a dealer must buy coal from the man from whom he bought in 1916. If that man is dead or has gone out of the coal trade the dealer is in an awkward position. Provision is supposed to be made to meet situations of that kind but nothing definite is done and everything is in an unsatisfactory condition."

"What appears to be the trouble in the coal situation in the United States?" was the question asked of Mr. Morrison.

"In my opinion it is too much control," was the reply.

This led to the comment that Mr. Morrison evidently took the same view that those in the grocery trade take in Canada.

More Than Half Supply

Mr. Morrison stated that Fredericton's annual requirements in American anthracite are about nine thousand tons. What proportion of that can be obtained is problematical but Mr. Morrison believes that somewhat more than half can be got. He states further however that delivery cannot be guaranteed until the coal is actually on the sidings here and that there is no use in the dealers taking further orders from the consumers.

Volunteers for Siberia

Two Fredericton young men have sent in their names as volunteers for the Canadian Siberian Expedition. They are George Tennant and Murray Kierstead.

U-BOAT OFFICER DISPLAYED N. Y. SHOW TICKETS

Nantucket, Mass., Aug. 20.—A story indicating that an officer of one of the German submarines operating off the American coast, may have attended a New York theatre on the night of August 8, was disclosed today by the wife of a well known New York playwright and prominent member of the summer colony here. She was among those who rendered assistance to the fishermen brought to the island August 11, after a submarine had destroyed their vessels the previous day of Georges Banks.

One of the fishermen, a member of the crew of the Lena A, told her, he said, that he was questioned by the German petty officer who boarded the schooner. During the conversation they talked of New York and the fishermen asked the German if he had ever been there. The officer, he said, smiled and took from his pocket two seat tickets for a Broadway Theatre dated "Thursday evening, August 8" two days before the attack on the fishing fleet. In telling the incident today the woman explained that in the excitement of the moment the story had slipped her mind until it was recalled to her by published despatches from Washington today that the raiders were believed to have landed men on these shores.

BRITISH TAKE SIX THOUSAND PRISONERS

London, Aug. 21.—Reuter's correspondent at British Army headquarters cables under date of this evening:

"If the German retreat is proceeding according to the present plan, they are now confronted with a situation which must complicate their calculations. The hasty abandonment of Merville on Sunday was doubtless due to our unexpected possession of the dominating contour east of Merris. Prisoners to the number of six thousand have been captured."

Mr. Ernest Fenety who was called here on account of the death of his parents Mr. and Mrs. W. T. H. Fenety arrived a few days ago. Mrs. Robert McKenzie and little daughter of St. John are visiting friends in Devon.

HUN PIRATES USING A CAPTURED CANADIAN STEAM TRAWLER AS A RAIDER AMONG THE FISHING FLEET

Craft is Fitted Out with Guns and Manned with Men from the U-Boat and is Destroying Fishing Vessels Off the Nova Scotia Coast—Victims Arrive at an Atlantic Port—Crew Given Ten Minutes to Leave Their Ship.

(By Canadian Press direct wire.)

A CANADIAN ATLANTIC PORT, Aug. 21.—The steam Trawler Triumph, fitted with two guns and wireless, and manned by sixteen Germans from the U-boat which captured her yesterday, is raiding the banks off the coast of Nova Scotia, and the crews of the schooners sunk by the Triumph have arrived here. The vessels known to be sunk are the Una P. Saunders, of Lunenburg, the E. P. Andrew, of Gloucester, Mass., and the Frances J. O'Hara, of Boston. Captain Wallace Bruce, master of the Gloucester, told the Canadian Press today that his vessel was held up by the Triumph yesterday afternoon and that he and his crew were given ten minutes to leave their ship. The Germans then sunk her with bombs. The Triumph then moved over to Boston and Lunenburg vessels, sinking them in turn. The dories from the three vessels reached here at ten o'clock this morning. The fishermen say that while making for this port they heard shots, and they believe that a number of other fishing vessels have been sunk.

Captain Myrrhe, master of the Triumph, who landed here with his men this morning, told the Canadian Press today that the captain of the submarine said that his was only one of six U-boats operating on this coast. "We intend to destroy the fishing fleets," the German commander said to Captain Myrrhe.

CANNOT OPERATE VERY LONG.

BOSTON, Aug. 21.—Fishermen here said today that if the German submarine made use of the trawler Triumph as a raider, they would have to recall the craft at least every ten days. The Triumph was manned entirely by a Canadian crew and is owned by a Canadian company. The vessel is 125 feet in length, 15 feet deep, with a 22-foot beam and registers about 250 tons.

NAVAL CRAFT IN PURSUIT.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—Strong forces of swift naval patrol boats and destroyers sped today to the North Atlantic fishing banks, where the trawler Triumph, captured yesterday by a German submarine and armed and manned, is raiding the fishing fleet. Naval officers here think recapture of the trawler or her enforced destruction by the German crew, is a certainty.

GEN. MANGIN'S ADVANCE IS PART OF AN IMPOR- TANT STRATEGIC PLAN

Captured 8,000 Prisoners Besides Guns and Materials --- May Force Withdrawal of Enemy on Larger Scale --- Haig Starts a New Offensive

(By Canadian Press direct wire.)

PARIS, Aug. 21.—General Mangin's advance toward the Oise is an important stroke in the view of military critics, and constitutes a threat at the outflanking of Noyon, from the east as well as a decided help to the army of General Tumbert operating between the Matz and the Oise.

The plan of Marshal Foch, the critics believe, is aimed at consolidating the front of the armies of Mangin and Humbert and forcing the enemy to withdraw probably on a large scale.

The Germans are striving to prevent this at all costs. In addition to the more than 8,000 prisoners captured Tuesday, General Mangin took numerous guns and a large amount of material. In answer to the assertion in the German official statement, the newspapers declare unanimously that the operation was not an attempt to break through the German line, but only part of the strategic plan which had its inception on July 18. The Echo de Paris adds that the plan is not yet completed.

GENERAL HAIG STARTS NEW OFFENSIVE WHICH GIVES PROMISE OF BEING VERY SUCCESSFUL

With the British Armies in France, Aug. 21.—Field Marshal Haig this morning launched an offensive on a front of about 10,000 yards. The high contour between Adienfer and Moyenville was the northern zone of attack and Puisieux-au-Mont, the southern landmark of the front. The enemy here lately has been withdrawing in order to increase the depth of his defences. In the first hour of the offensive this morning, the British troops captured the towns of Ablaineville, Beaucourt and Moyenville. The British attacked on a front of ten miles between Arras and Albert. The attacks extended from the Ancre river at Beaucourt to just north of Moyenville. Some German field guns and 200 prisoners had been taken by the British at an early hour. All the German outposts and positions along the important Dranoutre Ridge have been attacked.

HUNS PUTTING UP FIERCE RESISTANCE, BUT THE FRENCH ARE MAKING STEADY PROGRESS

On the French Front in France, Aug. 21.—The battle is proceeding with fierce resistance by the enemy, but with quick and steady progress by the French. The objectives set by the French command appear to have been attained.

The enemy is suffering severe losses, although his receding line is fighting with marked determination. The French attack between Soissons and Ribecourt was against a line which the enemy desired to hold. It is strongly fortified and is defended by picked Bavarian and Alpine units.

Documents on prisoners show that the enemy expected an attack. Orders were given that the positions must be held to the last man. Despite the German stubbornness the French made rapid advances during the day.

U. S. AIRMEN BOMB OSTEND

London, Aug. 20.—The American navy's air campaign against German submarine bases in Flanders began August 15 with the bombing of Ostend.

While details are lacking, it is said the operations generally were successful and that the results particularly good at night bombing.

SPAIN HAS LOST MANY VESSELS

Paris, Aug. 21.—Spain has informed Germany that because of the serious inroads submarine sinkings have made into Spanish shipping Spain hereafter will use vessels now in Spanish ports in the place of tonnage sunk. This announcement is made in an official statement issued after a meeting of the Spanish cabinet at San Sebastian.

The Spanish government declares that it will continue to maintain strict neutrality. The statement says that twenty per cent of the Spanish merchant marine has been sunk and more than one hundred Spanish sailors killed. The cabinet statement was transmitted from Madrid by the Havas Agency.

VICTORIA LOST TO PINE KNOT

Dr. D. H. McAlister's mare Victoria was beaten in straight heats at Saturday's match race with Pine Knot at Montreal. Regarding this race the Star says: "Pine Knot clearly established his superiority over Victoria in the match between the two trotters."

Summary:
Match, Three in Five, \$200.
Pine Knot, Alex Laavery 1 1 1
Victoria, Dr. McAlister 2 2 2
Time—2.16; 2.15½; 2.20.

COAL THE KEY OF VICTORY

London, Aug. 21.—Marshal Foch, field Marshal Haig and Admiral Beatty, commander in chief of the Grand Fleet, sent messages to the meeting of the federation at Southampton, urging a greater output of coal.

Coal is the key of victory. The miners of Great Britain must help more, was the message from Marshal Foch. Baron Cathcart, the coal controller, told the miners that the supply was 6,000,000 tons short this year. The shortage should be kept down eight or nine million tons by a rationing plan and he hoped there would be a greatly increased output.

Mr. John S. Leighton of Woodstock is in the city.