

For Bridgeport and vicinity: Partly cloudy tonight and Saturday, cooler tonight; moderate west winds.

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# GERMANS ARE EVACUATING POSITIONS IN LYS VALLEY ON FLANDERS FRONT; 14,000 PRISONERS HAVE BEEN TAKEN

## GERMAN LINE ON PICARDY FRONT IS BROKEN BY THRUST

Savage Onslaught of British and French Armies Has Driven Wedge Into Enemy Territory to Depth of Eleven Miles—British Now Only Mile From Chaumes-Roye Railway—Is Main Line of German Supply—Results of Drive Eclipse First Day Performance of Any of Hun Offensives—Successes South of Somme Serious Menace to the German Lines.

(By The Associated Press)

German lines on the Picardy front south of the Somme have been badly broken by the savage thrust of the British and French armies.

A wedge has been driven into enemy territory to a depth of eleven miles along the Amiens-Chaulnes-LaFere railway and early today the British were only a mile away from the Chaumes-Roye railway, which runs southward from Chaumes and forms the chief artery of supplies for the German troops fighting in the Montdidier sector of the front.

London announces that 14,000 prisoners and guns "too numerous to mention," have been taken in the first 24 hours of the drive.

The results of this attack, loosed against the Amiens front Thursday morning, appears to have eclipsed those obtained by the Germans on the first day of any of their terrific offensives of the past spring and summer. So far as reports show the progress of the fighting south of the Somme, the Allies are going forward almost without serious opposition. On the north bank of the stream, the Germans have held their lines strongly, but have lost Morlancourt, their stronghold there, after hard fighting. The French, further to the south, have had their advance retarded at numerous points, but the towns officially reported to have been reached are evidence that the momentum of the Allied drive has not nearly spent itself.

From despatches from the battlefield it now appears that the Allies attacked the Germans with little artillery preparation the method pursued resembling on a grand scale that adopted by General Byng before Cambrai last November. Armored tanks in great numbers tore through the German forest line positions, infantry masses followed and then through the gaps in the enemy line the cavalry and armored motor cars swept into the back area, surprising German detachments and throwing the whole defensive organization of the enemy into chaos.

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## HOSPITALS EQUIPPED TO CARE FOR WOUNDED

Both Institutions in This City Ready For Call By Government—Tuberculous Soldiers Arrive in New Haven.

Both of the local hospitals are well equipped to take excellent care of the wounded men who, after these great offensives, and other offensives to come, will in all probability be sent back to this country to convalesce.

## Y. W. C. A. TO MAP OUT A WAR WORK CAMPAIGN SOON

New York, Aug. 8.—The campaign by the Young Women's Christian Association to raise funds for war work will be mapped out at a meeting of the organization's war work council at Portland, Me., on Aug. 14. It was announced here today. Mrs. Endicott Peabody, of Groton, Mass., and Mrs. E. M. Townsend, of Oyster Bay, N. Y., will outline the program of the hostess house work for men in army and navy camps. Mrs. James S. Cushman, of Newport, R. I., president of the War Work Council, will preside. A special appeal to society women from all parts of the country who are summering at Maine resorts will be made, soliciting their co-operation.

The demand on the hospitals overseas will be greater than they can possibly comply with, and so the hospitals in the United States will be called upon.

A little over two years ago the Bridgeport Hospital foresaw the need of a new ward for the care of the new part of the hospital and prepared a place where wounded soldiers could be cared for. Superintendent Jones said this morning he could not exactly estimate the number the hospital could accommodate but felt that all those sent here could be comfortably placed.

Sister Alice, who is at the head of St. Vincent's hospital, said that while no definite notification had been received by St. Vincent's the addition to the hospital which is to be devoted to the care of the wounded soldiers would be ready about the first of September and that this new part would be able to place at least 150 men.

In New Haven the Allingtown has been taken over by the government and yesterday all of the city ambulances were working transporting men in uniform from the trains to this hospital. The men are not wounded soldiers but suffering from tuberculosis.

## STATE OF WAR WITH ALLIES SAYS LENINE

### GOVERNMENT TO COMMANDEER FOR HOUSE PROJECT

Black Rock Property Owner Not Willing to Sell At Price Offered.

E. J. Murphy, official negotiator for the government, has nearly completed the purchase of the sites for the Federal development. One more owner, who to date has refused to sell at the valuation of the government appraisers, will have his land commandeered as soon as word is received from Washington. It is in the Black Rock district, and the procedure will be the same as that in the case of the Judson property on Carroll and Connecticut avenues.

G. E. Libby, representing the French & Hubbard company of Boston, who are to have charge of the installation of the heating systems in the new houses, was in town today, going over the plans and conferring with the architect.

Work on the sites was in full swing this morning. W. J. Faddis, who has charge of the construction work for the contractors, was on the ground early putting the workmen to clearing and digging the land.

Further projects for the housing of munition workers are to be developed and it is expected that dormitories will be erected as well as homes. It has been announced in Washington that the dormitories will house 1,500 men and that transportation facilities will also be arranged.

### SLIGHT RELIEF FROM INTENSE HEAT IS FELT

Thundershowers At Noon Failed to Bring Full Measure of Relief Expected.

Relief from the extreme hot wave which has been passing over the city for the last few days was experienced during last night, and while by no stretch of imagination could the weather have been called cool it was more bearable than for several days. There was a drop of several degrees in the temperature, the highest yesterday being 92 degrees at 3 o'clock, and a decided drop in the humidity.

Today thermometers mark several degrees lower than yesterday, but the weather is still very uncomfortable. One prostration, Lillian Parson of Pine Creek, Fairfield, was reported yesterday, who collapsed at Main street and Fairfield avenue and was treated at the Emergency Hospital.

Predictions as to whether for tomorrow are conflicting, but it is believed the worst of the present hot wave has passed by.

Thundershowers shortly afternoon brought a further relief from the extreme heat, but added the discomfort of humidity to the air.

### Many Government Positions Open

Wallace A. Smith, civil service agent, is in receipt of a large list from the United States Civil Service Commission of government positions now open. The list includes, bookkeepers, stenographers, cost accountants, library assistants, journalists, typists and a list of outside positions vacant in the government service.

Applicants can obtain further information by applying to Wallace A. Smith, Federal building, or William A. Paul, secretary Civil Service Commission at the registry window in the local post office.

### Urges Quick Action on the Draft Law

Washington, Aug. 8.—Prompt enactment of the draft extension bill so that Sept. 5 may be fixed as registration day, as suggested by Provost Marshal General Crowder, was urged today by Secretary of War Baker.

### American Consul at Moscow Informs Washington of Declaration.

### NOT CONSIDERED WAR DECLARATION

Rather a Declaration of Defense on the Part of Russian Government.

Washington, Aug. 9.—American Consul Poole at Moscow has informed the State Department that Nikolai Lenine, the Bolshevik premier, recently declared before a gathering of Soviets in Moscow that a state of war existed between the Russian government and the Entente Allies.

In response to questions from the Allied consuls, Tchitcherin, commissary of foreign affairs, said the premier's statement need not be considered a declaration of war, but that it rather was a declaration of a state of defense on the part of Russia similar to the situation that existed at one time with Germany.

### NAVY HAS MORE RECRUITS THAN ARE NECESSARY

Sec. Daniels Explains Order to Stop Enlistments to the Correspondents.

Washington, Aug. 8.—Secretary Daniels discussed with correspondents the order stopping enlistments. With 100,000 now at recruiting stations and training camps and another 25,000 at home awaiting call, he said the navy has an abundance of material. Men enrolled up to yesterday will be accepted, he explained, and these with the 25,000 waiting at home will be called to the colors when there is room for them in the training camps and at sea.

All recruiting stations may not be closed, Mr. Daniels added, but their number probably would be greatly reduced and most of the men sent back to active duty.

Since the man power bill was proposed a decided drop in the number of heavy rush to naval and marine corps recruiting stations of men who do not wish to be drafted. In many cases it is understood men of families and with large and important business interests, have sought to enlist on the theory that eventually they would be drafted into the army.

### MISS ELSIE HILL SPEAKS TONIGHT AT SEASIDE PARK

Miss Elsie Hill, daughter of the late Congressman E. J. Hill, will speak from the bandstand at Seaside Park, at 8 o'clock this evening, on "Fighting for Democracy in America."

Mrs. W. D. Alcoug, of Hartford, state chairman of the National Women's Party will also speak. Lynn V. Wilson will act as chairman of the meeting.

The ladies were recently arrested in Washington for holding a suffrage meeting, but there is no charge against them, and they are free on their own recognizance. The arrest was characterized by Judge Ben Lindsey as a stupidity. Several Connecticut women were arrested. Miss Hill is a Vassar girl.

### ARCHITECT GETS COMMISSION.

Torrington, Conn., Aug. 9.—Henry Horbecel, a New York architect, whose summer home is in Harwinton, today received his commission as a major in the Chemical Warfare Service of the National Army. He expects to be sent to France in about three weeks.

### WATER SPORTS BIG EVENT AT SEASIDE PARK

Life Savers Have Some of Best Swimmers in World Coming to Compete.

### CARNIVAL NEAR THE BATHING PAVILION

Duke Kahanamoku of Hawaii Will Be One of the Contestants.

The Bridgeport Life Saving Corps in conjunction with the Bridgeport War Savings committee, have completed all of their arrangements for the biggest swimming carnival that has ever taken place in Connecticut.

A complete program has been arranged consisting of swimming matches at 100 yards, 220 yards, one-quarter mile and half-mile, together with fancy diving contests and relay races between teams selected from the local factories. The program is so balanced and complete that it will give to the spectators a correct idea of form, style and performance of the great swimmers in both the short races and middle distance races, as well as the longer races.

This whole carnival is being conducted under the sanction and according to the rules of the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States. This body has the assignment and awarding of different championship events and distributes them all over the country so that interest in the sports may not be centered in one locality but may be generally distributed. The Life Saving Corps has been particularly fortunate in receiving from the Amateur Athletic Union the award of one of the great events of the country, namely, the Metropolitan Championship for 880 yards (half mile). The Connecticut Championship has also been secured. This race is at 440 yards (one-quarter mile) and carries with it the championship at the distance for all residents of Connecticut. This race will have a very particular local significance and interest.

Many of the greatest swimmers will take part in these races. At the top of the list comes the Hawaiian, Duke Kahanamoku who for several years has been acknowledged as the world's greatest swimmer. He won the swimming events for America in the Olympic games at Stockholm several years ago, and consistently from that time has beaten practically all competitors at every distance. Record after record has fallen before his attack. Only this week he clipped four seconds from the 125 yard record at Brighton Beach, and last night swam the 150 yards at the International Exposition Pool in 24 2-5 seconds after getting off to a very bad start.

Accompanying the Duke will be two other Hawaiians, Clarence Lane and Harold Krueger, both of whom are champions of those water loving islands, and both of whom the Duke (Continued on Page 8.)

### ISSUES ORDER TO STOP ALL VOLUNTEERING

Recruiting Closed At All Stations of Army and Navy Pending New Draft Bill.

Hartford, Aug. 9.—Volunteer enlistment for service in any branch of the U. S. Army or Navy was closed at the recruiting stations in this city today, pursuant to orders from the Adjutant General of the army and the central naval recruiting station at New Haven. Men already accepted for enlistment in the army are to be forwarded for completion of their enlistment without delay. Men passed by the navy station physician including Thursday, Aug. 8, must present themselves for forwarding to the Central Station not later than Tuesday, August 13.

## BRILLIANT COUP OF ALLIES A COMPLETE SURPRISE TO HUNS

Prisoners Captured Behind Lines Harvesting Grain—Brief Artillery Preparation Followed By Sharp Advance—Paris Reports Taking of 14,000 Prisoners and Too Many Guns to Count—Germans Evacuating Positions in Lys Valley on Flanders Front.

Paris, Aug. 9.—Reports received by the Havas Agency from the battle front are that the fighting continues fiercely along the entire Anglo-French attacking front. The French front runs from the Avre north to a point just south of the Amiens-Roye road where it joins up with the British.

The attention of the Germans was fixed on the Vesle attack when the new offensive was opened. There was no reply to the French artillery preparation which lasted 45 minutes.

German soldiers were captured while harvesting grain in the fields, so complete was the surprise. Moreuil and Morisel were overcome rapidly, the French using hastily constructed footbridges. After taking Braches, the French captured La Neuville and the series of hills dominating the plain beyond.

Paris, Aug. 9.—Battlefront:—The battle on the front south of the Somme was resumed early this morning and the Franco-British forces made favorable progress from the start, reaching various selected objectives.

Powerful cavalry forces are in action. The reports received up to 11:30 o'clock show the attack developing victoriously on a great scale.

The number of prisoners taken by the French and British in Picardy now exceeds 40,000, according to the latest news from the battle front. The Allies also have taken an enormous booty in guns and material, says the Echo de Paris.

Paris, Aug. 9.—The French War Ministry at 12:30 o'clock today issued the following statement:

"The brilliant operation which we, in concert with their troops, executed yesterday, have been a surprise for the enemy. As occurred in the offensive of July 18, the soldiers of General Debenedy have captured enemy soldiers engaged in the peaceful task of harvesting grain in the German lines.

"Our artillery preparation was short, lasting less than an hour. The enemy artillery had made no counter preparation at the beginning of the action, merely replying feebly.

"The original front of the attack was only four kilometers, situated south of the Amiens-Roye road, where our infantry went over the top at 5:05 o'clock, but gradually the offensive developed all along the right bank of the Avre in the region of Hargicourt."

London, Aug. 9.—The Franco-British advance on the battle front has reached a front of 11 miles according to news received here shortly after noon today.

Advices from the battle front south of the Somme today report British cavalry, armored cars and tanks, in advance of the infantry, to have reached within a mile of the Chaumes railway junction.

The cavalry, tanks and armored cars, it is indicated, have gone ahead to the line running from Framerville to Lihons.

The total of prisoners captured is reported to have reached ten thousand.

From Lihons the line runs southward to Meharcourt southeast of Rosieres. This represents a total maximum advance of 11 miles.

It will be impossible for the Germans to hold their Montdidier positions, it is believed here. It also is believed the advance on the Picardy front makes Amiens secure against a nememy attack and has removed the threat against Paris.

London, Aug. 9.—Fourteen thousand prisoners and guns too numerous to mention have been taken in the British drive on the front south of the Somme, says today's War Office report. The cavalry still is pursuing the enemy. The Allied progress is continuing.

The French have taken Fresnoy-en-Chaussée, while the British have reached a point east of Lequesnalle and Calx.

The Germans are evacuating their positions in the Lys valley on the Flanders front.

Along the whole front the average advance of the infantry is from five to six miles.

The British have captured Morlancourt on the northern end of the Somme battle front, and the infantry line now runs from that point southward to a point southeast of Moreuil. This represents an infantry advance to the maximum depth of seven miles in the center along the Amiens-Chaulnes-la-Fere railway.

On the Lys front the British now hold Locon, LeCorneil-mais, Quentin, Le Petit Pacaut and Lesart.

Above Lys region, on the front north of Kammel, the British carried out a local operation last night in which their line was advanced somewhat on a front of more than 4,000 yards.

The Germans put up a vigorous resistance north of the Somme, the statement shows, and there was heavy fighting between Chipilly and Morlancourt.

Pressing the advantage already gained in Picardy, the British and French troops in smashing attacks are forcing the Germans back toward the important Peronne-Roye road. The advance Thursday was probably the greatest in territorial extent by the Allies in one day since 1915.

Amiens as a result of the fighting up to the present, has been almost entirely of the German menace and even the German artillery will have trouble in reaching it. The important railway running north from Paris through Amiens and paralleling the Allied battle front can now be used again after being under the fire of German guns for four months.

Ten thousand prisoners have been taken, according to unofficial reports reaching Paris. The Allied losses thus far have been slight and the Germans have been slow and weak in counter attacking. The greatest enemy defensive asset—machine gun nests—appears to have been very well squelched by the British tanks which swarmed through the German lines.

Penetration of the enemy positions have been greatest south of the Somme to Flessiers. This is directly east of Amiens and Framerville, the (Continued on Page 8.)