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AMEINS SCENE OF FIERCEST FIGHTING

After Three Weeks of Preparation Huns Begin Hammering and Make Small Gains.

NO NOTABLE RETIREMENTS

Heavy Fighting All Along British Front South of Somme and North of Ypres—Aviators Make Observations.

After three weeks of preparation in the Somme, during which time they launched an offensive in Flanders, the Germans have resumed their hammering at the front door of Amiens. For days there has been heavy artillery firing along the northern sectors of the Somme salient, and finally the German infantry began their attempts to advance on the line passing Villers-Bretonneux, Hangard, Hailles and Castel. The first attacks were repulsed, but subsequent attacks, centered about Villers-Bretonneux, have caused a British withdrawal from this village, according to a report from Field Marshal Haig. This marks a German gain of about a mile.

Villers-Bretonneux is about 11 miles directly east of Amiens and is on the northern end of the latest fighting front. It is situated between the Somme and Luce rivers, and while it is flanked on the south by low-lying ground, it is backed by rolling hills to the west and northwest.

The fighting on the rest of the front, where the Germans have resumed their drive toward the allied base of supplies in northern France, has not, so far known, resulted in any notable retirement on the part of the allies. The German official report issued on Wednesday was silent as to events in this sector of the front.

An attack on this particular part of the line in the Somme region had been expected, and it is probable that preparations to meet it had been made. The British lines held firm in this region during the last days of the initial drive, while the Germans were able to forge ahead further south until they reached the village of Castel, about three miles from the railroad running to Paris from Amiens. Recently a French counter offensive at Castel won back considerable ground and it was evident that unless the line further north could be advanced materially the Germans had little chance to make important gains in their operations to the south of Amiens.

This new drive has been made at the same time that another blow has been struck at the British and French lines northwest of Ypres. Savage fighting is reported at various points along the line from Baillieu to Merville and Berlin claims that heights to the northeast of Baillieu have been stormed. Coincident with these attacks, there have been assaults in the British forces near Bethune, along the Lawe river, but these have been repulsed.

Some of the uncertainty as to the success of the British exploit in attempting to seal up the harbors of Zebrugge and Ostend has been cleared up by observations carried out by aviators. Grave damage was done to the mole at Zebrugge while the hulks of sunken steamers are said to at least partially block the channel leading out to sea from the port of Ostend.

On the front in France, with the exception of the Somme salient, there has been little fighting of an unusual nature.

The situation between Germany and Holland is still obscure. It has been reported that a virtual ultimatum was delivered to the Netherlands government by Berlin, but this is not as yet known to be a fact. Dispatches from The Hague insist that Holland will not depart from her attitude of neutrality. An unofficial report says that the Dutch minister has left for The Hague and that the German minister has started for Berlin.

Congress, which has been considering a declaration of a state of war with Bulgaria and Turkey, probably will not take any action in the face of opposition on the part of President Wilson.

YORK SOLDIER WRITES OF THE CAMBRAI FIGHT

Lieutenant Hunter, Serving With British Army, in Thick of Battle.

York, April 25.—The first direct news from a York county boy who has been in the sanguinary fighting that marked the mighty German drive at the allied lines south of Arras was received here in a letter from Lieut. Phillip W. Hunter, formerly of York, to his mother, Mrs. J. J. Hunter. Lieutenant Hunter who was graduated from the Medical college of South Carolina in 1914 and did post-graduate work in New York before beginning the practice of medicine here, offered his services to the government immediately after the declaration by the United States of war against Germany, and soon received his commission. He was assigned to the British forces in France and sailed for that country in August. Lieutenant Hunter was with the British army in the fierce struggle around Cambrai, where he had many trying and hazardous experiences. The unit of the army which he was with distinguished itself for conspicuous bravery in the recent fighting and won the high commendation of Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig. Lieutenant Hunter's letter dated "France, March 30," follows, in part:

"I wish I could give you some idea of my share in the battle, but will wait while for that. Our division did splendidly and was one of the first mentioned by Sir Douglas Haig for good work. We feel very proud of ourselves. I assure you. Of course we could not do what we did without some losses, so now we are out to recuperate and get reinforcements before going back at the Germans again.

"The men are in fine spirits and are far from being beaten. We have had some interesting marches through towns and villages and a good train journey. Yesterday, while waiting at one station for our train, King George came to us, congratulated the colonel and spoke to many of the men. I had a good look at him—the first royal personage I had ever seen. Now we are well away from the tumult. Just before going into the battle I received 14 letters, all written last August and September. I certainly enjoyed them, old as they were, when I could snatch the time to read them. The good wishes and assertions of prayers in time of danger could not have reached me at a more appropriate time. I felt that I must be safe with so many prayers being offered for me.

"It is wonderful, the spirit of the men before going into action—quiet and composed, and lots of them so young and full of life. There is no mumbling, no hanging back, although they know some of them will not return. And then, after the attack, each man searches for his own pal to find that he has fallen or at least gone down wounded. But it isn't so bad as you would think, as the gas soon closes and life goes on as before. And then all the noise of battle—shells screaming overhead or bursting near, rifles cracking, machine gun bullets whizzing by. The birds are building their nests and singing as though nothing were happening, and the fields are yellow with daffodils, just as we have our ox-eyed daisies.

"The weather has been glorious, the sunshine warm and bright. The nights have been cold, but after chasing about all day we were able to sleep where we drop in the dewy grass, with no cover at all, and although I would wake up almost frozen I never felt better in my life—not a sign of cold or anything. It's a great life.

"I must stop now and try to get this off."

S. C. YEAR'S FIRE LOSS SMALLEST ON RECORD

Columbia, April 25.—The losses from fire during the year 1917 were smaller than during any other twelve-months period since the establishment of the South Carolina insurance department in 1908, according to figures compiled by W. A. McSwain, commissioner. The losses for 1917 were \$1,175,386.69 as compared with \$1,720,854.29, a reduction of \$545,467.40 in favor of last year.

FIRST HONOR ROLL OF BOND BUYERS

There Are 304 in Lancaster County Who Have Subscribed to Third Loan.

SOME LARGE, SOME SMALL Amounts Are Not Given But the Subscriptions Range All the Way from \$20,000 Down to Fifty Dollars.

Herewith is printed the "First Liberty Bond Honor Roll" for Lancaster county. Only the names are given, the amounts subscribed ranging from \$20,000 down to a single \$50 bond. There 304 names of persons in the county who have bought Liberty bonds of the third loan, these being furnished by the banks of Lancaster, Heath Springs and Kershaw.

Following is the list:

Town of Lancaster.
Henry C. Pardue, J. A. Tillman, Helen Derrick, Sadie Blackmon, R. M. McDermid, W. J. Cunningham, James Crawford Poag, M. Pollakoff, Edwards & Horton, J. D. Funderburk, Hortense Landrum, Walter T. Davis, R. C. McManus, C. T. Ellison, H. T. Morrah, W. R. Thomson, Marion T. Chapman, Waddy C. Thomson, Cora A. Thomson, Waddy T. Chapman, Marion Chapman, Lamar Chapman, Howard E. Chapman, Hattie T. Morrah, Corine Ellison, Eleanor Thomson, James B. Thomson, W. R. Thomson, Jr., P. Bradley Morrah, Jr., R. J. Mobley, W. F. Estridge, Ellen Porter, J. R. Courtney, A. C. Rowell, T. D. Carnes, W. R. Funderburk, R. W. Parker, H. M. Rowell, H. C. Steele, C. H. Rowell, P. C. Neil, R. M. Walters, A. V. Plyler, W. T. Carnes, J. E. Usher, D. E. Walters, T. H. Roberts, R. S. Harper, Oliver C. Blackmon, R. W. White, B. L. Still, M. S. Hull, Irvin Jackson, Ernest Moore, G. W. Williams, Mrs. G. W. Williams, M. D. Lee, W. D. Lemmond, Crawford Rutledge, M. C. Andrews, Mrs. H. E. Coffey, H. H. Horton, Jr., Paul Moore, George B. Craven, Mrs. J. H. Stewart, Mrs. R. C. McManus, J. H. Stewart, Mrs. B. C. Hough, W. H. Long, J. S. Rowell, Leroy Springs, Mrs. Leroy Springs, Mrs. H. R. Rice, H. R. Rice, E. Carnes, R. L. Wertz, A. W. Chance, Marie Caskey, J. B. Mackorell, G. W. Crenshaw, J. H. Witherspoon, Jno. L. Caskey, E. B. Lingle, Mrs. E. B. Lingle, R. L. Crawford, Robert Thrower, J. T. Thomasson, L. N. Montgomery, W. B. Plyler, J. A. McCain, W. C. Corcoran, W. P. Davis, Geo. W. Baker, W. R. Hagler, F. F. Mehaffey, B. F. Saxon, Ranson Arant, Mrs. E. Ferguson, M. R. Blackmon, H. N. Sowell, Mrs. H. N. Sowell, W. H. Rodgers, H. H. Kester, Mrs. R. N. VanLandingham, R. C. Brown, Mrs. R. C. Brown, J. T. Carter, S. O. Harper, W. T. Vaughn, Jasper Cunningham, J. O. Porter, M. W. Scarborough, J. C. Duncan, Jno. D. Arant, Elfre Stogner, T. K. Cunningham, B. R. Funderburk, W. J. McIlwain, J. W. Mehaffey, Jud Barnes, J. B. Craig, H. G. Neely, J. Boyce Cauthen, B. E. Couch, J. R. Everall, W. J. H. Sistrare, W. D. Fleming, Jarvis Cunningham, B. H. Bennett, Reece Stack, H. J. Beckham, H. D. Smith, J. R. Rogers, H. H. Horton, Sr., S. B. Roberts, W. L. Sistrare, L. R. Roberts, A. H. Bailey, J. H. Crawford, Abe Patterson, Berch R. Funderburk, Chas. G. Cochran, E. B. Wright, W. G. Bowers, W. J. Bailey, J. E. Stogner, H. D. Dees, E. D. Bowers, W. M. Barton, Mary Garrison, A. G. Ellison, Mrs. A. G. Ellison, C. P. Caskey, Elizabeth T. Crawford, Geo. B. Jones, Henry P. Luddington, Jno. H. Poag, Robt. P. Horton, Mrs. Theo. R. Humphries, A. C. Carnes, W. B. Arant, J. Ed Stogner, T. M. Cook, Mrs. M. R. McCardell, Miss Ruth McCardell, F. S. Parker, Chas. B. Jordan, P. R. Beckham, R. L. Usher, Mrs. R. L. Usher, J. D. Bailey, J. W. Carnes, Robert Belk, B. H. Plyler, Blanche Craig, Mrs. B. H. Craig, Avis Plyler, Elbert Plyler, Howard Plyler, Mrs. H. C. Stibele, Dixie Council Jr. O. U. A. M., Jason D. Craig, J. S. Bennett, Miss Eunice Flynn, Robert J. Flynn, Mrs. Robert J. Flynn, R. M. Hare, Mrs.

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FRENCH VILLAGE IS CAPTURED BY HUNS

Villers-Bretonneux Reported by General Haig in Hands of the Enemy.

A VIOLENT BOMBARDMENT Enemy Repulsed by British and French Troops Comes Back Reinforced and Captures Small Town at Great Loss.

London, April 25.—Field Marshal Haig reports that the Germans have taken Villers-Bretonneux.

The text of the statement reads: "About 6:30 yesterday morning, after a violent bombardment, the enemy attacked our whole front south of the Somme and the French on our right and was repulsed.

"Later in the morning an attack on our positions in this sector was renewed in strength and, although repulsed with loss on the southern and northern positions of the front, made progress at Villers-Bretonneux, where the fighting has been severe throughout the day. By evening the enemy had gained possession of the village, and the fighting was continuing.

"Other attacks by the enemy this morning on the north bank of the Somme and north of Albert were repulsed; we secured a few prisoners. "By a successful local operation carried out this morning northwest of Festubert a post, captured by the enemy, in this locality on the 22d, was regained. The hostile garrison offered strong resistance and lost heavily. We captured a few prisoners and four machine guns.

"Early in the morning the enemy delivered a strong local attack, without success, against our new positions east of Robecq. Our line was maintained intact and 84 prisoners were left in our hands. Additional prisoners were secured in successful minor enterprises in the forest of Nieppe and in the neighborhood of Meteren."

BIG PATRIOTIC RALLY AT KERSHAW SATURDAY

Program Will Consist of Addresses by Prominent Men and Great Street Parade.

Kershaw, S. C., April 25.—Arrangements are being made for a big patriotic rally in Kershaw next Saturday in interest of the Third Liberty loan. Friday is the day that Sec. McAdoo has asked to be set apart by the governors of the various states as a state legal holiday, that being the day proclaimed a national holiday by President Wilson for a Liberty Day celebration. Those who are in charge of the rally here are of the opinion that Saturday will be a better day to obtain co-operation from the people in the country and it is the desire and purpose to have as many as possible present.

Speakers have been invited to be present and deliver addresses in the interest of the Liberty loan, and in addition to that there will be a parade of floats attended by the Boy Scouts and school children.

The parade will be formed near the Red Cross room and will start at 2:30 o'clock, p. m., at the intersection of Hampton and Marion streets, going north on Hampton street to Richland street; turn to the left at Richland street until Matson street is reached; up Matson street to the graded school; return through Matson street to Richland street, going east on Richland street to Cleveland street; south to Marion street and east on Marion street to Hampton street, the point of starting, where the speaking will be held.

Everybody is asked to join heartily into the spirit of the rally. Don't wait to be asked but consider yourself just as much interested as anyone else and do your part.

Government in Fur Market.
St. Louis, April 25.—A collection of 6,100 government seal skins was sold for \$300,000 here at the opening of the annual spring fur auction, the price per skin being at most 35 per cent higher than at the October sale.

W. B. DUNLAP, NATIVE OF LANCASTER, DEAD

Passed Away at Home of His Son Ira B. Dunlap, in Rock Hill Last Friday.

(Rock Hill Record.)
Col. W. B. Dunlap died at 12:30 o'clock Friday morning at the home of his son, Ira B. Dunlap, on Oakland avenue, aged 78 years. He had been sick only about a week, and passed away peacefully from disabilities incident to old age.

Col. Dunlap was a notable figure in the life of Rock Hill. No man here had ever stood higher in the love and esteem of his fellow-citizens. He was the friend of all who had the honor of his acquaintance, all recognizing him as a man of sterling character and honesty of purpose—the desire to always do the right thing being a predominating trait of the man.

William Benjamin Dunlap was born in Lancaster county on June 6, 1840, being a son of Alexander Carnes Dunlap and Janie Artamesia Massey Dunlap. As a young man his education was not complete, although he took a one-year's course at Princeton University, leaving that university to enter the Confederate army. He had a notable war record.

He was a member of the Lancaster Grays, commanded by Capt. John D. Wylie. This company was among the first to volunteer for service in the War Between the Sections. In July, 1861, the Lancaster Grays became a part of the Ninth South Carolina Regiment, commanded by Col. Blanding. Later this company was placed in Jenkins' Brigade and became a part of the Fifth South Carolina Regiment, commanded by Col. A. Coward, who now lives at Orangeburg. At the Battle of the Wilderness, Capt. Stewart was captured by the enemy, and Col. Dunlap (then a first lieutenant) took charge of the company as captain, and this position he retained until near the close of the war, when Col. Dunlap resigned and went into the artillery branch of the service. During his services in the Confederate army he participated in the battles of Williamsburg, Seven Pines, Seven Days, Malvern Hill, Second Battle of Manassas, Fredericksburg, Pottsylvania, Antietam and Raccoon Valley. Throughout the war he proved himself a soldier of great gallantry and courage.

After the cessation of hostilities, Col. Dunlap returned to Lancaster to take up the task of mending his broken fortunes, and he applied himself to that task with indomitable courage. He was married to Miss Bettie Wells Baskins of Chester county, who died here in December, 1908.

In 1876, when the State was reformed from radical rule, Col. Dunlap was appointed treasurer of Lancaster county by Gov. Wade Hampton, and this position of trust he held through election for fourteen years. His predecessor in that office had been a negro appointed by the radical carpetbag governor, Chamberlain.

In 1890 he moved to Rock Hill, where he had since made his home. During his residence here he was very active in Rock Hill affairs. While Winthrop college was under construction he was secretary of the Winthrop board of trustees. He later was secretary of the Arcade Cotton Mill; then president of the Smith-Fewell Co., now the Rock Hill Grocery Co., and was for some time in business for himself as a wholesale grocer, then retiring from business.

Col. Dunlap is survived by these children: Mrs. W. J. Roddey, Ira B., Herbert M., Walter M., all of this city, and Bernard C., of Tennessee. He is also survived by one sister, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Cunningham of Lancaster.

The funeral was held at the home Friday afternoon at 6 o'clock, with interment in Laurelwood cemetery. The services were conducted by Rev. Alexander Martin, assisted by Rev. L. P. McGhee.

A profusion of beautiful flowers covered the bier, and a very large crowd of friends was present to pay the last respect to one they all loved. Music was furnished by a quartette composed of Mrs. Roy Z. Thomas, Mrs. J. M. Stewart, Prof. W. D. Maggins and J. Wilson Moore.

The pallbearers were: Honorary—J. J. Hagins, W. J.

TERRIFIC STRUGGLE SURGES TO AND FRO

Great Double German Drive With Decision Still Hanging in Balance.

BRITISH RETAKE VILLAGE

Pershing's Men in Thick of Battle and Many Wounded Are Arriving at Hospital Behind the Lines.

The great double German drive, in the Somme and Armentieres sectors, which began Wednesday morning, has developed into a terrific struggle. The tide of battle has surged to and fro during the last two days, with the decision still in the balance. The British, having been forced back out of Villers-Bretonneux, launched a counter attack and swept the Germans back almost to the lines which were held before the present fighting began. The French have been driven back out of Hangard-En-Santerre, but are holding their positions close by, while on the line southwest of Ypres, the British have been compelled to withdraw slightly before furious attacks along the Meteren - Baillieu - Wytscate line.

Wounded Americans are arriving at a hospital behind the French lines in the Somme sector, showing that General Pershing's men are bearing their share of the burden of the great battle.

Notwithstanding the frantic preparations made by the Germans for a continuance of their drive toward Amiens and the extreme violence of the fighting, their gains thus far in that region have been very small. Along the line from Albert south to Castel, except at Hangard-En-Santerre, the German assaults have been hurled back by the allied forces, which are strongly posted on the higher ground to which they retired during the last days of the German drive in Picardy.

Germans in Desperate Effort.

It is unofficially reported that four to six German divisions, or from 48,000 to 72,000 men, have been hurled at the British and French lines near Ypres. The retirement of the British in this sector must have been small, for there are no great gains reported by Berlin so far. It was rumored Thursday that Mont Kemmel, a dominating height north of Wulverghem, had been taken by the enemy, but this has not been confirmed.

That only slight gains have been made anywhere along the two fronts have been subjected to attack is proof that the allies are prepared to defend their positions. In the last three weeks, the Germans have hurled up heavy cannon to the old Somme battle grounds and have marched many fresh divisions to the points where they have been held for the moment of attack. Their failure to do more than gain almost insignificant bits of ground is one of the most encouraging features of the fighting that now is going on and which may be looked upon as the third phase of the great German offensive.

Raiding operations are reported along the French lines east of Montdidier.

Dutch Negotiations.

It is officially announced at The Hague that the negotiations between Germany and Holland are not "progressing satisfactorily." The Dutch foreign minister has declined to give the details of the situation between the countries, which is admittedly quite delicate.

Winston Spencer Churchill, British minister of munitions, speaking in the house of commons, said that notwithstanding the strain on pro-

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Rawlinson, J. M. Marshall, C. R. Starnes, Mr. McNeel and C. K. Schwarz, the first five being Confederate veterans, his comrades in the army.

Active—John T. Roddey, Wm. C. Whitner, Oran S. Poe, J. Harry Foster, J. B. Gaston of this city, and R. E. Wylie of Lancaster.