

# The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1866.

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## FRENZIED FIGHTING FAILS.

### HUNS FIND THAT THEY CANNOT HOLD FRENCH AND BRITISH.

German Losses in Killed and Captured Have Been Heavy—Seizure of Munitions and War Stores is Record Breaking.

Frenzied counterattacks by the foe have failed to hold back the British and French armies who are hard after the Germans on the 75 mile battle front from the north of Arras to the region of Soissons.

All along the front the German line has given way before the pressure of the British and French troops at points where the falling back of the enemy or the capture of towns and roads running eastward adds greatly to his already serious predicament from the standpoint of victory.

Numerous towns, villages and hamlets have fallen into the hands of the British and French in the continuation of the fighting, and scarcely anywhere along the battlefield have the Germans been able to do more than delay the allies when they knock for admittance to the German line. Rear guard actions in which innumerable machine guns are used are serving merely to keep the Allied advance slowed down as far as possible while the main German bodies make their way eastward in retreat toward new positions.

In the region around Arras, the British now are well astride the roads leading to Douai and Cambrai, and farther south along the Somme they have pressed forward until they are almost at the gates of Peronne.

Between the Somme and the Oise the French have broken the backbone of the German resistance at Roye, capturing this pivotal point to an invasion eastward of the plains of Picardy and advancing their lines north and south of the town over a front of about 12 1-2 miles to a depth of more than 2 1-2 miles at certain points.

North of Soissons, the French, although the Germans are fighting them bitterly, again have advanced slightly their line in the outflanking movement, both against the Chemin des Dames region and the Noyon sector.

Everywhere the Germans have lost heavily in men killed or made prisoner and in addition the Allied troops again have captured numerous guns, machine guns and war stores. The prisoners taken by the British from last Wednesday to the present week aggregated 27,000. In fighting Tuesday around St. Mar, west of Roye, the French secured 1,400 captives.

The Canadian troops are fighting in lively fashion between the Seneze and Scarpe Rivers, and to them have fallen numerous German held villages and many prisoners.

Bapaume, one of the strongest points over which there has been much heavy fighting, is still held by the Germans, but the British are now so nearly around it that possibly few of the enemy remain inside the shell torn town. The British on the west are in the outskirts of the place and doubtless it soon will be nipped out of the battle line in the pincer movement that is being employed against it.

## FIGHT TO FINISH.

### Huns are Whining for Peace Since They See Defeat is Certain.

Copenhagen, Aug. 27.—The reply of Lord Robert Cecil, British under secretary of foreign affairs, on August 23, on the address before the German society two days earlier of Dr. W. S. Solf, the German colonial secretary, and the speech of Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, Republican leader of the senate continue to be commented upon by the Berlin press along the same lines—that Germany now must stand or fall fighting.

Theodore Wolff, writing in the Berlin Tageblatt, after referring to Lord Robert Cecil's declaration that he himself is an advocate of peace, says:

"We are confronted with the tragic inescapable necessity of holding out with quiet determination until Lord Robert Cecil's love of peace shall display itself more peacefully."

The Vossische Zeitung of Berlin, asks "where is that peaceful spirit of President Wilson, who once declared there must be neither conquerors nor conquered."

Count Reventlow, writing in the Tages Zeitung, sees in the reception of Dr. Solf's speech by the entente countries justification of the Pan-German view and he says it is a heavy blow for the German advocates of peace by understanding.

"It is possible that this reception of Dr. Solf's speech will form a wholesome lesson for German cherishes of illusions," he adds.

## American Casualty List.

Washington, Aug. 27.—The army casualty list contains 307 names as follows: Killed in action, 89; missing, 7; wounded severely, 171; died of wounds, 22; died of accident and other causes, 4; died of airplane accident, 1; died of disease, 3; wounded slightly, 1; wounded, degree undetermined, 9. John T. Elders, Enoree, S. C.; Robert T. Gillian, Newberry, S. C., wounded severely.

## Marine Casualty List.

Washington, Aug. 27.—The marine corps casualty list totals 34. Killed in action, 2; died of wounds, 2; wounded severely, 2; missing, 28. Summary of casualties to date: Officers, killed 34; wounded, 60; missing, 1. Enlisted men, killed, 852; wounded, 1,862; in hands of enemy, 6; missing, 118. Total, 2,533.

## HINDENBURG LINE BROKEN.

### BRITISH GO THROUGH NEAR HENIEL AND PUSH ONWARD.

Bapaume Entered by Patrols of Victorious Haig Forces, Now Fighting Enemy in Streets—Lines Extended Toward Cambrai—Battle Rages Over Long Front.

With the British Army in France, Aug. 27 (By the Associated Press).—Having been still further extended by attacks launched north of the river Scarpe, the battle today was raging along a field almost 45 miles long, and the British, with renewed vigor, were rolling up the boche before them and sweeping constantly eastward.

Nearly in the center of the battlefield hard fighting has been in progress along the old Hindenburg line in the neighborhood of Croisilles, Fontaine les Croisilles and Bullecourt, and once through the German's strong defenses in this locality, open, fresh ground remains beyond.

The Hindenburg line has actually been pierced at once place, east of Heniel, and the weaker portion of it northwest of Fontaine les Croisilles has been captured and mopped up.

During today's fighting the British captured high ground from which they can overlook the country occupied by the enemy for miles around and have thus attained a great advantage. The Bois-du-Sart, one of these places, lies south of the Scarpe and northeast of Monchy le Preux, and it was feared that here the enemy might hold up the advance for a time. It was captured, however, after a short but fierce struggle in which the Germans lost heavily.

Another similarly valuable point is Montauban, northwest of Mametz, which fell this morning after the Germans had been given orders to hold at all cost. These orders were suddenly changed, and the enemy retired in retreat.

Still another is Dompierre, southeast of Cappy-sur-Somme. Dompierre was reached in the forenoon. From this point there is low rolling country all the way back to Peronne. Incidentally the British at this place are now only six miles from Peronne, where the Somme bends to the south.

Bapaume, having been almost surrounded, has been entered by British patrols and they have been fighting in the streets. The town, therefore, is a sort of no man's land for the moment, but its complete capture seems only a matter of hours.

The Germans are exhibiting still greater anxiety to get away from the advancing British and even the morale of the enemy machine gunners seems to be diminishing as they are not holding to their posts with as much determination as early in the battle.

Various sections of the front saw fresh attacks launched today. North of the Scarpe where the operations taken in conjunction with those south of the river are gradually releasing the pressure of Arras, the outskirts of Plouvain were reached, and the line then ran at an angle slightly west and due north from this point, with the British still going rapidly and the enemy resistance decreasing.

South of the Scarpe the British reached Pelves but the situation there is uncertain. Almost directly south of it, however, the Bois du Sart and surrounding ground have been captured, and thus Pelves can not possibly hold out for long.

London troops approached close to Croisilles, but a hot machine gun fire from that town and other indications that it was held by a large garrison, well protected in prepared positions caused them to pause for a moment. At the same time other troops attacked to the north against Fontaine les Croisilles. Having reached the outskirts of that place they then swung southward to outflank Croisilles. They are meeting with stiff resistance here, but the Germans are rapidly being overcome.

To the south of this place the British have pushed well to the east of St. Leger, and are now fighting just northwest of Ecoust-St-Mein, between that town and Croisilles. Fighting likewise is in progress in the outskirts of Vaulx-Vrancourt.

## ARTILLERY ACTIVE ON SOMME

### Noyon Occupied by French Troops Today.

Paris, Aug. 29.—Violent artillery bombardments along the Somme front are reported in an official statement to the war office.

French troops occupied Noyon today.

## THREATENED CLASH AVERTED.

### Nicaragua and Honduras Agree to Submit Dispute to United States for Arbitration.

Washington, Aug. 29.—Nicaragua and Honduras have averted their threatened armed clash of long standing on account of a boundary dispute by agreeing at the request of the United States to withdraw all troops from the border and submit the controversy to the United States through their ministers in Washington.

## INCREASED WAGES RECOMMENDED.

### Railroad Track Laborers and Clerks Recommended for Higher Wages.

Washington, Aug. 29.—Higher wages for railroad track laborers and certain classes of clerks was recommended today by Director McAdoo by the board on railroad wage working conditions.

## ALLIES REGAIN LOST GROUND.

### TWO-THIRDS OF GROUND LOST IN SPRING OFFENSIVE NOW IN HANDS OF ALLIES.

Interest Now Centers on Wings, Mangin Fighting on the Right and the British on the Left.

Paris, Aug. 29.—The Allies have now won back two-thirds of the ground lost since the beginning of the German offensive in March. It was wrung from them by an overwhelming effort of force and they have regained it by brilliant generalship. The immediate interest in the great battle centers in operations on wings, Mangin fighting hard on the right, in the region of Jumy-Cavagny. On the left the British east of Arras are moving toward Douai and Cambrai.

## BAPAUME FINALLY CAPTURED.

### The English Forces Now Have This Important Position.

London, Aug. 29, 5 p. m.—Bapaume was captured today by Haig's forces.

## BRITISH NEAR PERONNE.

### Most Important Place in Somme Region Under Fire of Allies.

With British Forces in France, 12 o'clock.—Ginchy, two miles north-west of Comblès, is reported to have been captured by the British this morning. The British have also captured Belloy, Assevillers, Hébécourt and Fourilliers. All these are within four miles of Peronne. The British moved forward today along a large part of this battle front.

## IN FULL RETREAT.

### GERMANS DRIVEN FROM ROYE AFTER HARD FIGHTING.

French Outflank Fortified Positions and Pursue Retreating Germans With Unwarred Determination.

With the French Armies in France, Aug. 27, 4 p. m. (By the Associated Press).—Royer was taken this morning by the French in the course of a brilliant attack following an unsuccessful counterattack by the enemy. The Germans also in retreat over a seven mile front north and south of Roye.

The first French army is beating the Germans in their retreat, and now are pursuing the Germans who are in retreat on a line extending from Hallu to the region south of Roye.

At 4 o'clock this afternoon General Debeny's men were in the region of Hattencourt from where the line passes just west of Cremery and Gruny, by Carpi and to the west of Koigleise and west of Verpillieres.

The French encircling tactics overcame the new German system of defense by the profuse use of machine guns. Strongly protected and heavily armed positions were turned one after the other until the enemy was obliged to abandon the first and then the second line of defenses of 1914, upon which he fell back after being driven out of Montdidier.

The Germans are now relying on their aviation to protect their retreat. Their airplanes were out in great numbers today, attacking the pursuing columns and engaging the French squadrons of observation and pursuit planes.

The final break in the German second line came this morning when after repulsing a counterattack upon S. Mard, the French infantry resumed the offensive. They completely encircled Roye and threw the enemy back several miles east of the town.

In spite of fatigue from the long hard campaign, General Debeny's men are going ahead with the ardor and enthusiasm of fresh troops.

## FRENCH GAIN MUCH GROUND.

### Gen. Hubert's Army Takes Noyon, While Mangin's Men Take Morlin-Court—German Attempts to Check French Fail.

With French Armies in Field, 10 A. M.—Noyon was occupied this morning by the troops of Gen. Hubert. Gen. Mangin's men crossed the Oise and took Morlin-court. The French First army took Quesnoy wood just west of the Canal of Burbord. The wood was strongly fortified and from it the Germans endeavored to check the French pursuit.

## GERMAN COUNTERATTACKS REPULSED.

### British Have Captured 26,000 Prisoners and 100 Guns Since August 21.

London, Aug. 29.—German counterattacks east and southeast of Vis-en-Artois, east of Boiry and vicinity and at Gavelle village east of Arras have been repulsed. It is officially announced that south of the Somme the British are keeping up pressure against the enemy, and advancing eastward. Since August 21 they have taken 26,000 prisoners and 100 guns.

## SHOOTING LAST NIGHT.

### Drunken Civilians Held Responsible for Shooting Across the Border—One American Soldier Wounded.

Nogales, Aug. 29.—Drunken civilians on the Mexican side of the border are held responsible for the shooting late last night which resulted in wounding slightly an American soldier.

## FRENCH OCCUPY NOYON.

### CAPTURE OF THIS IMPORTANT POINT ANTICIPATED.

It is Believed That Germans Have Succeeded in Withdrawing Artillery Behind Somme.

Noyon, the southern anchor point of the German armies in the Somme battlefield, has been occupied by the French. The capture of the city has been expected for several days and the effect of this on the great battle of Picardy has therefore been largely discounted. Morlincourt on the north bank of the Oise has been taken by the French.

The situation as it stands today closely resembles that in the Marne sector after the Germans had made a determined stand along the Ourcq. It was found then that their resistance there had permitted the withdrawal of the main army and it is possible that Gen. von Boehm has succeeded in moving the greater portion of his army and artillery behind the Somme river and along the Ham-Chauny line.

## AMERICAN TROOPS IN ACTION.

### Fighting Between American and German Troops Continues With Varying Successes.

With American Army on Vesle, Wednesday, Aug. 28.—American and German troops engaged in spirited action today in the regions of Bazoches and Fismette. According to the latest report the fighting continues. Tonight as the result of a local action the Americans made some gains at Bazoches, while the Germans recaptured Fismette.

## HUNS FLEE IN DISORDER.

### FALL OF CHAULNES CAUSES MUSTARD GAS SHELLS LEFT BEHIND BY HUNS ARE BEING USED TO GOOD EFFECT.

With French Armies in France, Aug. 28 (By Associated Press) afternoon.—The German retreat north of the Aye river has been far more speedy since the fall of Chaulnes than previously. Vigorously pursued by French troops and harassed by their own mustard gas shells which they left behind and which are being fired from German guns by French snipers the enemy is making haste to cross the Aye river.

At least two new German divisions have just been identified in this fighting and more may appear ere long. Put while they are opposing the allies and in most cases are battling hard, there have been some instances in which the enemy troops have shown themselves to be excessively nervous which is as it should be considering the pounding they have had and are still getting from the British cannon and the defeats they have suffered at the hands of the advancing infantry.

A large boche force was brought up to counterattack the British positions east of Monchy. Some of the companies at the last moment, according to prisoners' statements refused to participate and the rest went on without them, the British withdrawing 400 yards.

Later, the British reattacked, paying particular attention to the flanks and drove the Germans out. Then a second time the enemy troops were called upon to counterattack. This time, it was reported, the whole body refused and only a few patrols were seen by the British.

All sorts of troops have been hurled into the battle south of the Scarpe as well as north of that river but many formations have been finished off almost as soon as they appeared. The ground over which the advance was made today is covered with large numbers of German dead just south of the Scarpe one place was carpeted with bodies in field strag.

There was also heavy fighting in the Croisilles region before and after that town was stormed and captured. Fierce fighting has been reported from Croisilles ridge and the beaten Germans are said to be fleeing from Bullecourt and the country to the north and south. The capture of Croisilles eliminates a spot which had been holding the British advance on that part of the battle front. Stiff resistance has been offered during the counterattacks and the British swung around on the flanks driving especially down from the north and following the general direction of the old Hindenburg line and the town became too hot for the enemy to hold.

Sanguinary losses have been inflicted on the Germans in all the fighting in this general region. British guns placed back of Croisilles have had the retreating Germans at many places, particularly in the neighborhood of Hendeocourt, under direct fire. The gunners have had the unusual experience of seeing where every shot fired fell and noting what damage each did. The enemy artillery, retiring from the rear of Hendeocourt, offered a fine target and shells were sent raining into the fleeing columns, cutting great gaps in them.

Vis-en-Artois, which was captured yesterday by the Canadians, was the scene of more hard fighting. The town is completely levelled and many dead Germans are mixed up in the piles of debris.

The enemy has even resorted to blowing great craters in the roads south of the Somme in his effort to check the advance. One 20 foot crater was blown in the road between

## PAY FOR DRAFT BOARDS.

### Members Will Receive From \$50 to \$200 Per Month, According to Number of Registrants on Roll.

Washington, Aug. 29.—Increased pay for local draft boards has been authorized under an order issued to by members will receive from \$50 to \$200 per month, the amount varying with the number of registrants on their rolls.

## FIGHTING WITH VIM.

### VALUABLE GROUND CAPTURED BY BRITISH.

Forces in North Drive Steadily Forward in Spite of Storms Sweeping Country.

With the British Army in France, Aug. 28 (By the Associated Press).—On both sides of the Scarpe River hard fighting continued today, the British launching fresh attacks and wresting from the desperately resisting enemy additional valuable stretches of ground, many more advantageous positions and numerous towns including Croisilles.

"The center of the wide battle field on which three British armies—the First, Third and Fourth—are operating there seems to be a slight pause.

South of the Somme, Fay and Ablaincourt were taken by the British without much difficulty, for the Germans, being hard pressed south of these points before the French were therefore ready to go with slight persuasion.

Since early this morning storm after storm has been sweeping across this section of France, but despite the unfavorable weather the forces in the north have driven deep into the hurriedly arranged enemy defenses, smothering with their fire hordes of the Huns.

These Huns had been thrown into the fighting in this section in an effort to keep the British from penetrating the famous Quant on Drocourt switch line which formed the northern continuation of the old Hindenburg line after the British last year beat the Germans back from Arras. This line has been approached in several places and has reached it in at least one place in the neighborhood of the Seneze River.

The success of this drive here and the breaking through of the old German defense system may have far reaching effects both in the north and the south.

South of the Scarpe the Canadians finally captured all of Pelves after brisk street fighting and pushing eastward their advanced patrols entered Remy and Haucourt. The British are well east of Fontaine, and the main body of the Germans has retired from Hendeocourt eastward.

Extremely heavy fighting is in progress from a point south of Lens southward across the Scarpe River to the Arras Cambrai road, but the British are making progress, everywhere beating down the German resistance.

At least two new German divisions have just been identified in this fighting and more may appear ere long. Put while they are opposing the allies and in most cases are battling hard, there have been some instances in which the enemy troops have shown themselves to be excessively nervous which is as it should be considering the pounding they have had and are still getting from the British cannon and the defeats they have suffered at the hands of the advancing infantry.

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## HINDENBURG LINE WEAKENING.

### FATE OF CELEBRATED LINE OF DEFENSE PROBABLY DETERMINED IN 48 HOURS.

German Withdrawal so Swift That an Organized Resistance is Impossible—Total Number of Prisoners Taken by Allies Since July 1, 130,000 and 1,300 Heavy Guns—Twelve German Divisions Put Out of the Fighting.

Washington, Aug. 28.—Developments on the western battle front during the next 48 hours should determine the fate of the much vaunted "Hindenburg Line" in the opinion of some military officials here. With the strength of the line already materially impaired by the British wedge driven around its right flank and even more telling blows threatened by the steady advance of the French through Nesle towards the Somme and by the British east of Arras, observers here think that the scene of defense popularly held in Germany to be the bulwark of the western front is in fair way to become untenable before the main Teuton forces have been driven back to it.

The impression prevailing in military circles here is that Gen. Foch's tactics have forced upon the enemy the necessity of making every effort along the present front to stop the allied advance, without the option of withdrawing "unnoticed" to a previously selected line. For more than six weeks they pointed out, the main German armies have been under ceaseless pressure which, during the last ten days, has been so great as to necessitate a practically unchecked retreat on a 60 mile front.

The withdrawal on the part of the Germans, while not precipitate, has been swift enough to bring their main concentrations within the zone of allied artillery fire with a consequent effect on the morale of the enemy's men and on his every attempt to organize an effective resistance. The longer the tactics of the past week are kept up, army officers declare, the more difficult will be attempts of the German general staff to stop them.

In view of these facts, the prevailing opinion here is that German resistance will stiffen within the next few hours and hard fought engagements will ensue, on the results of which will rest momentous possibilities.

Prisoners taken by the allied armies since July 1, General March, chief of staff, said today, totaled more than 112,000, while 1,300 guns of heavy calibre, field pieces and machine guns were captured.

Understood that General March's figures included only prisoners passing through detention camps up to the beginning of the present week. Captures reported by the British and French since then have averaged more than 3,000 a day, which would bring the total to date to more than 130,000. This would represent a loss to the enemy of four complete divisions and, if the moderate estimate of one to two be estimated for other casualties, a total of 12 German divisions has been put out of the fighting.

Latest official dispatches reaching the war department did not cover the fighting today, apparently the most successful since the allied advance began. General March said, however, that the French activities reported in the Paris communique this morning had made a new deep salient which was being put "between the pincers." Capture by these troops of the rail-road junction at Roye and the high ground to the east was of great importance to the allied plans, Gen. March said.

## POSTMASTERS NOMINATED.

### Nearly 2,000 Nominations Made by President Wilson.

Washington, Aug. 29.—Nominations of nearly two thousand postmasters for cities, towns and villages were sent to senate today by the president. Most of the nominees are present postmasters continued for another term.

## SPANISH STEAMER SUBMARINED.

### May Bring German-Spanish Relations to a Crisis.

Paris, Aug. 29 (Havas).—The Spanish steamer Crusa has been submersed, it is reported here. Newspapers consider that this event will bring to a crisis the relations between Spain and Germany.

## Germany to Have a Fourth Railroad to Vienna.

### Amsterdam, July 26 (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—The construction of a fourth direct railway line between Berlin and Vienna has been approved by the German war control board.

Arras and Cambrai just outside of Vis-en-Artois.

A group said they arranged among themselves to yell "Kamrad" as soon as the Canadians launched their attack against them. They carried out this arrangement.

Near Vis-en-Artois this morning when an attack was launched a host of Germans suddenly got up out of the ground and ran like so many rabbits leaving only a few machine gunners behind them.

It is impossible as yet to obtain any accurate figures regarding prisoners. One corps is reported to have taken 2,000 since yesterday. But the armies do not have time to count their prisoners or booty while the fighting continues. The British are principally occupied with capturing more,