

## DESTRUCTION IN WAKE OF GERMAN TROOPS



Blackened ruins of a burned farm house near Liege, destroyed by the German troops. This was but one of thousands of dwellings thus wrecked by the Kaiser's soldiers.

## CONDENSED NEWS OF PROGRESS OF WAR IN EUROPE

Events of Importance as Outlined in Dispatches From the Front.

### LONDON HEARS OF VICTORY

Reported Defeat of Section of German Army Would Mean Great Change in the Situation — General Gallieni Claims to Have Driven Off the Invaders, Inflicting Heavy Loss.

The huge German army opposed to the allies to the east and northeast of Paris has been thrown back along practically the entire 120-mile line, according to announcements made public on September 9 by both the British and French war offices. The advance of the allies was being pushed resolutely.

General Gallieni, military governor of Paris, made the announcement. He said that the Germans were retreating over the whole front and that the French and English have assumed the offensive.

The French center, General Gallieni said, defeated the enemy with tremendous losses.

Two causes are thought by experts to have brought about this change, if the information received is correct. One is that the allies have had a chance to bring re-enforcements from England and elsewhere. The other is that the Germans in France are exhausted from their long, continuous fighting and marching, while the French have many fresh troops, reservists from the south.

A Russian army, said to number 250,000 men, is now in France, according to the Rome Tribuna. The Tribuna usually is considered well informed regarding Russian movements. Official confirmation of the report is refused at the press bureau.

President Wilson on September 9 issued a proclamation fixing Sunday, October 4, as a day for praying for peace.

### How War Progresses.

A general summary of the war's standing, so far as it is possible to ascertain the facts, would seem to be as follows:

Nancy, being subjected to an attack, said to be directed by the Kaiser himself, evidently had its means of defense considerably strengthened, and the French must hold strong positions here. Such an attack would appear to be in accordance with the plan of forcing this part of the French army back toward Paris and incidentally against the advancing German right, thus accomplishing the object of cutting off its line of retreat and possibly effecting its capture. There is a certain element of doubt about this attack on Nancy in view of the fact that the Germans had occupied Luneville, a strong fortress about eleven miles from it, some ten days ago and that the fortifications of Nancy are old and obsolete. It would seem more probably if the attack were directed on Toul.

### Big Battle Impending.

At any rate, the presence of the Kaiser in that war zone would mean that some decisive stroke is pending. The French have been apprehensive of determined German action in that terrain and are supposed to have a

## BELIEVE SEA ROUTES SAFE

Great Britain Makes Significant Declaration in Communication to United States.

Britain's confidence that the main trade routes of the North Atlantic have been swept clear of German war craft was clearly demonstrated, when the state department formally was notified by the British ambassador that his government had decided to

strong force there. This force, though possibly inferior in numbers, has an advantage in its defensive position and ought to give a good account of itself in the coming action which, for France, may be the final issue.

Paris reports that the Germans have been forced back in a southwesterly direction by flank movements of General Joffre on the right and by General French on the left wing. Now this is just the direction in which they swung from north of Paris, and it appears by this report that they have been pushed where they intended to go. There is some confusion here, as General French in the same report is reported driving the Germans from Lille. It seems to be certain, though, that a great battle is being fought along an undulating line between Meaux and Verdun.

The explanation of the German success on French territory contained in a London dispatch, which attributed them to relay work, is plausible in view of the continuous stream of re-enforcements of men and war material which has followed in the wake of the advancing forces. Only a perfect organization, though, could have effected the judicious work of replacing, at the right time and point, tired divisions of fresh ones until their recuperation.

Time and other conditions seem to be against the probability of East Indian troops having been engaged in action at Tremonde, 20 miles southwest of Antwerp, as reported from London. Such appearance of Hindu forces is, to say the least, somewhat premature, as was the announcement of the Archangel re-enforcements, unless corresponding arrangements had been made some time before the declaration of war.

### Allies in Strong Compact.

Russia, France and Great Britain have signed an agreement that none of the three would make peace without the consent of all three nations. Following is the text of the protocol: "The British, French and Russian governments mutually engage not to conclude peace separately during the present war. The three governments agree that when the terms of peace come to be discussed, no one of the allies will demand conditions of peace without the previous agreement of each of the other allies."

### Situation in East Galicia.

According to Berlin dispatches the Austrian defeat in eastern Galicia is not quite of the terrifying character reported from Russian sources. It looks, though, as if that defeat had been a thorough disaster, albeit the extravagant claims of Petrograd should be taken "cum grano salis." The Vienna confirmation of the Lemberg defeat, coming by way of Rome, would not appear as the only and striking example of a beaten power in this conflict admitting its reverses at once and without subterfuge. The same Berlin report mentions the Austrians still continuing their attack on Lublin and also speaks of the formation of an exclusively Polish legion at Cracow under General von Vaczynski.

The advance of the Germans by armored trains into Russia in the direction of Alexandrowo-Warsaw would indicate either that the Russian attack on Thorn, reported some days ago, was incorrect or that it has now been checked. A pursuit of German invasion in this direction would mean an attempt to use the Vistula river valley as a line of operation against Warsaw, with the additional object of stopping a direct Russian advance on Posen.

### Italy's Position.

The reduction of Italian troops, mobilized on the Austrian frontier, to a peace footing may be regarded as

disarm British merchant craft plying between England and the United States.

The notification is construed to mean that Britain no longer fears the activities of German naval reserve steamers, designed to prey on the commerce of the allies, and has successfully bottled up German and Austrian cruisers, while her own cruiser fleet is free to guard the ocean lanes.

The arrival of the British steamer Adriatic in New York recently with four guns frowning from her deck led

an indication that the government of Victor Emmanuel is determined to observe strictly the situation to a considerable extent, especially in view of the fact that the threatened war action of Turkey has subsided for the moment. The latter fact may also momentarily dispel British fears in regard to Egypt, where the close relationship of the khedive with the royal house of Turkey and his well-known German sympathies have caused apprehension.

The announcement issued by the official French bureau says:

"General Joffre's plans are being steadily carried out. The allied forces, acting on the offensive, have been successful in checking and forcing back in a northeast direction the German forces opposed to them."

It was officially announced in Paris that the Germans were retreating from the line of Nanteuil-le-Houdouin to Vendun.

### Plan of General Action.

"A general action has started on the line through Nanteuil-le-Houdouin, Meaux, Sezanne and Vitry-le-Francois and extending to Verdun," the official statement said. "Thanks to the vigorous action of our troops, strongly supported by the British, the Germans started retreating."

"The Germans had advanced into the region between Coulommiers and La Ferte-Gaucher."

Nanteuil-le-Houdouin is 25 miles northeast of the city of Paris and 10 miles southeast of Senlis.

Meaux is 22 miles east of Paris and Sezanne is about 55 miles east of the capital. Sezanne is also 25 miles southwest of Epernay.

Vitry-le-Francois is on the bank of the River Marne and 25 miles southwest of Verdun.

Coulommiers is in the department of Seine and Marne, and is 13 miles southeast of Meaux and 30 miles eastward from Paris.

La Ferte-Gaucher is ten miles east of Coulommiers and about forty miles to the east of Paris.

The official communique issued in Paris, telling of the situation along the whole line, says:

"First—The allies have advanced their left wing without energetic opposition from the enemy.

"Second—The situation is unchanged on our center in the region of Verdun, our forces alternately advancing and retreating. There have been some partial successes on our right in the Vosges.

### Allies Force Battle.

The general engagement was brought about when the allies, which had been in continuous retreat for many days, made a stand in a strongly fortified position to the north and northeast of Paris.

The first clash came when the German troops covering the flanks of the main German army encountered advance detachments of the allies at a point near La Ferte-Gaucher and were forced to retire. The main bodies of the opposing armies they took up the struggle and the Germans were forced to retire.

It is estimated that 1,000,000 troops were engaged along the line, which extends roughly 120 miles.

### Opening Engagements.

From official communications given out in Paris it is learned that the engagements which led to the great battle began some days ago to the east and northeast of Paris.

The Germans had reached the region around Coulommiers and La Ferte-Gaucher, respectively, 30 and 40 miles to the east of Paris, when the detachments covering the flanks of the main German army encountered advanced detachments of the allies, who drove them back.

the German ambassador to question the United States as to the status of the British ship.

Without yielding its position as to the right of its ships to carry arms, the British government notified the secretary of state that it would remove all guns from commercial ships in order to relieve the United States of the problem presented.

Miss A. P. Wimple is head of the pure food bureau of the state of Washington.

## RANKS ARE FILLED UP AS ENEMIES ARE MOWED DOWN

By R. M. TOMLINSON.  
Gournay, Near Rouen.—I talked with a noncommissioned officer belonging to a regiment named after an eastern county of England which has been in the front of the fighting almost continuously night and day. And very hard fighting, too.

"Our only rest was when we were on the march retiring," he said. "This German attack is certainly extraordinary. You can throw them down and mow them down, but still they come on, and directly the gaps are made in their ranks fresh men fill them up. There seems to be an inexhaustible supply of fresh troops. It is impossible to oppose successfully such a mass of men."

Allies in Good Spirits.  
Still, from my observation and my talks with men and officers, there need be no concern in England about the enthusiasm and confidence and good spirits of both the British and French forces. They do not minimize in any way the power of the enemy, but it is strange that the rapid and irresistible rush of the Germans, which in England may appear intensely alarming, does not worry the French or the British soldier.

They believe themselves well placed and are surprisingly quiet and confident, and are patiently working away and watching and waiting for their day, which is to come. Nothing that has yet happened in the campaign has made any of them in the least despondent.

### Success for General Pau.

Let us see what seems to have happened since my dispatch from Amiens last Monday. On that day the staff of the famous general commanding the extreme left wing of the allies (Sir John French) was at —

From the north the Germans seemed to be advancing in great force. On the other wing General Pau had had a fine success near Guise, where he handled severely the Tenth Prussian army corps and the Imperial guard in a fight lasting throughout Saturday and Sunday last. I was informed that he circled them and smashed them into the Oise.

On Monday the Germans were forced to retreat with heavy losses, but in the center and left center of the allied forces the British were not so successful. The concentration of Germans was against these points and there was great fighting last Sunday.

### Regardless of Human Life.

But knowing this and more than this, I am not any more alarmed than are the French and British officers and men I spoke with in the course of my unpleasant journey close to the fighting line. They know they are only beginning, but they are still intact and the men who have been working hard and skillfully to stem the German torrent are quite confident that success will ultimately be theirs.

Huge masses of obedient men are flung by the German commanders, regardless of the loss of life, in a fierce and desperate effort to burst through to Paris quickly, and though such enormous masses must necessarily force back all opposition, the allies' opposition meets them resolutely and calmly and with intelligence and military science.

When the history of this war is written it will be seen that, wonderful as the German advance has been, the retirement of the allied forces has been equally magnificent. It is hardly possible to understand why such reckless masses of men and guns (and it is believed that nearly all the German army is in France), continually pushing along, should not overwhelm everything human, however well armed and skillfully handled, which stands before it.

Still it has not overwhelmed the allies. It is almost incredible, but it is true.

### Town Is Deserted Suddenly.

When I arrived at this little railroad junction at noon, after a trip to Paris and back, I was told that, on Monday, the French cavalry were seen on the hills to the south and southwest, and that fighting had been going on to the east, 12 miles away. From what I had heard of the progress of the German advance up till last Saturday, I judged it would be useful to visit the little town of —, down the road.

I found as peaceful a countryside as if it had never heard of war. The sight of a strangely beautiful cathedral standing apart from the town was restful enough, but there was something uncanny about the shut and silent houses. Not an inhabitant was to be seen, and then the cold truth struck us that the town had been evacuated.

Crossing a bridge by the railway station, a French dragoon laughed when he saw our startled looks at what rested below and against the bridge supports.

They were waiting for the Germans.

The streets were strewn with broken glass bottles and barbed wire was coiled everywhere. The little place is in a hollow and one needed but slight imagination to see the flaming hell it could become at any moment.

It was growing dark, and I suppose I have never before felt such an urgent desire to leave a town.

The railway was still intact, but two officials differed widely as to our prospects of getting away. While they argued we heard a mine blow up and then the sound of guns. A friendly engine driver, who merely "thought he could get through," at length got us away about eighteen miles south-east of the railway junction, which is about thirty miles to the north of Paris, and we got into Paris by train after midnight. We passed Creil, which was then alive with English soldiers.

### Defense of Amiens Useless.

The Paris correspondent of the London Mail says:

The capture of Amiens, which is the capital of the department of the Somme, 70 miles directly north of Paris, was made possible by the success of the Germans at Mereuil. The entry was not contested. The mayor, after receiving a German envoy, announced the surrender of the city and urged the citizens to make no disturbance.

"The Germans went to the town hall, where they hauled down the French flag and hoisted the German colors. The German troops began entering the city about midday Monday, singing as they came: 'Die Wacht am Rhine' and 'Deutschland Uber Alles.'

"No time was wasted, however, as the orders were to move swiftly out on the high road to Paris. Only a few men were left to guard the city."

"When the Germans entered Amiens the French retired to Picquigny (eight miles northwest of Amiens). They are reported to have blown up the railway tunnel and to have destroyed a large space along the highway to the south with dynamite."

### Praise for British Charge.

The Daily Mail's correspondent behind the British lines describes the charge of the Ninth lancers, which occurred at an unnamed spot during the recent series of tactical retreats, as a second Balaklava. He says: "Terrible havoc has been caused in our ranks by shells from a battery of 11 German guns posted inside a fortress near the Belgian frontier."

"It seemed impossible to silence their fire until the Ninth lancers made their attempt, riding straight at the guns after debouching into the open and charging under a hail of melinite and lyddite."

"I have not been able to get reliable figures as to the distance they rode, but they reached their goal. Nothing could stop them. They reached the guns, killed the gunners, and put the guns out of action. Then, like their prototypes of Balaklava, they rode back."

### Many Slain on Return.

"On the return they fell in greater numbers still from the attack of other German batteries posted at vantage points around the valley."

"Notable bayonet charges were made at (name deleted) on Wednesday last. Several British infantry regiments occupied an exposed position around which the Germans gradually circled, drawing the noose closer and closer."

"The Britishers decided to cut their way through the cordon. So the men went at it, yelling and shouting, and got through, although the German artillery mowed them down frightfully."

"The German machine guns have been tremendously effective in all engagements thus far. Men who saw the South African war say the hottest firing there was childish compared with what the British troops have undergone since their arrival in France. So far as I can learn thus far the Germans have lost 26 of these guns."

### Tells of Bapaume Fight.

The Paris correspondent of the Mail sends the following dispatch:

"I have just returned from Compiègne. The English have left the town. The bridges over the Oise were blown up this (Monday) morning. The Germans were expected hourly."

"One important section of the battle which drove back the allies' left was fought at Bapaume Thursday and Friday. On Friday morning the Germans brought up many machine guns in a dense fog, and in a six hours' engagement the French suffered severely."

"A British force unexpectedly arrived and occupied the French position and allowed the weary French to retire. Then, though hard pressed, the British continued to fight a magnificent rear guard action."

## MINES IN AIR TO DESTROY DIRIGIBLES

Washington.—It is entirely feasible to "mine" the air against dirigibles and aeroplanes which seek to drop bombs in fortifications or besieged cities, according to a member of the army general staff. A large number of small captive gas balloons, each provided with a sufficient amount of explosive to destroy any aeroplane or dirigible with which it came in contact, would

be sent up each evening, together with a number of box kites, each provided with a tail of malleable wire or other material nicely designed to foul propellers. The suction of propellers would draw balloon "mines" from a considerable distance.

### Kaiser Selling English Orders.

London.—The German emperor and several high German officers are selling their Russian and English orders and turning the proceeds over to the Red Cross fund.

## FRENCH LOSE CITY

Maubeuge and Forty Thousand Prisoners Said to Be Prize of Germany.

### WASHINGTON HEARS REPORT

City Has Been Besieged for Two Weeks—Allies Continue to Press the Germans Back From Paris—Russians Win.

Berlin, Sept. 11.—(By wireless to Sayville, Long Island.)—Official announcement was made at army headquarters that the French fortress of Maubeuge, on the Sambre river, had fallen. The Germans took 40,000 prisoners, including four generals. Four hundred guns also were captured.

### Germans Retreat Twenty-Five Miles.

Bordeaux, Sept. 11.—The following official announcement has been issued: "On the left wing all the German attempts to break the French lines on the right bank of the Ourcq river have failed. We have taken two standards."

"The British army has crossed the Marne and the enemy has fallen back about twenty-five miles."

"On the center and right wing there is no notable change."

An earlier official communication was issued reading as follows:

"On the whole the Germans appear to be beginning a movement of retreat."

"The Germans seem to experience certain difficulties in provisioning."

"In general the French troops seem to be gaining the advantage."

### Indian Allies for England.

London, Sept. 11.—Lord Kitchener's "unknown war factor," heretofore held to be a great secret, which has so altered the situation at the front, is now known to be the arrival of British forces from India. Two divisions of infantry and a brigade of cavalry constitute these forces.

Twelve Indian potentates were selected to accompany this expeditionary force. These include Sir Pertab Singh, Sir Ganga Bahadur, Maharaja of Bikaner and Sir Bhupindra Singh, Maharaja of Patiala.

### Kaiser Makes a Protest.

Washington, Sept. 11.—President Wilson received a personal cablegram from Emperor William of Germany protesting against the use by the allied armies of dum-dum bullets and the participation in the war by civilians of Belgium. The message expressed also the German emperor's deep regret at the destruction of the Belgian city of Louvain.

"My heart bleeds for Louvain" is one of the phrases which the emperor is understood to have used. He declared, however, that the population of Belgium had offered such resistance that his generals had in many cases found it necessary to administer severe punishment.

### Russians Open Way to Berlin.

London, Sept. 11.—Rawaruska, the last strategic obstacle in Austria to the passage of the Russian armies from the south toward Berlin, has fallen. It is officially announced from Petrograd that Russian victory is complete. With Lemberg occupied by the Russians, with Pryemysl and Jaroslav invested, the way has been opened, so far as Austrian opposition is concerned. The Austrian armies are disheartened, demoralized, sick and mutinous.

### Germans Lose Men of High Rank.

Copenhagen, Sept. 11.—The latest German casualty list includes among the killed the names of Gen. Fritz von Totha, General Major Nieland, son-in-law of the Prussian minister of state, and four high Berlin police officials. The premier of Wurtemberg lost his eldest son and Bavarian Minister von Brunig lost his only son.

### Big British Liner Sunk.

London, Sept. 11.—The official press bureau issued the following announcement:

"The merchant cruiser Oceanic of the White Star line was wrecked near the north coast of Scotland and has become a total loss. All the officers and crew were saved."

### Report Luneville Evacuated.

Paris, Sept. 11.—A Bordeaux correspondent reports that Luneville, near the Lorraine border, was evacuated September 6 by the Germans, who also abandoned the surrounding heights.

### More Germans Enter France.

London, Sept. 11.—German re-enforcements, estimated at 60,000 men, are advancing into France in three columns, according to an Ostend dispatch to the Reuter Telegram company.

### Sink German Merchantmen.

Paris, Sept. 11.—The Fourrier news agency announced that the cruisers Descartes and Conde, together with a British cruiser, have sunk two large German merchantmen in the Atlantic ocean. The agency did not state where the naval action took place or the source of its information. The same agency also announced that important movements of troops are taking place in Italy, and that all foreign service on the Italian railroads has been abolished for many days.