

WEATHER.
North and South Carolina: Partly cloudy tonight and Sunday; probably local rains.

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TODAY'S NEWS

TODAY

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ALLIED FORCES ARE BEING MADE READY FOR COUNTER BLOW

General Foch's Appointment as Commander Indicates Allied Offensive

HEAVY FIGHTING IS NOT SO GENERAL

Enemy Attacks Weaken at Many Points Along the Battle Front—German Wings Are Their Weakest Points

The Germans last night renewed their powerful attacks in the Montdidier region, where their wedge had been pushed furthest toward Paris, and a great battle is raging along a 25 mile front on both sides of the salient which has Montdidier at its point. The French backed up by powerful reserves are offering a desperate resistance to the German blow.

Apparently the French line has been forced back slightly on the northern edge of this front, as the Paris official report of the battle mentions the town of Moreuil as forming a part of the line here. This place is on the Avre river, about 11 miles southeast of Amiens, and its occupation by the Germans would advance them slightly nearer that allied base.

On the southerly side of the salient the battle is raging to a point beyond Lassigny, which lies some 14 miles east of Montdidier.

There is no indication of any change along this part of the front. The German assault in this region seems a logical outcome of the strategic position in which the Germans find themselves, as their lines virtually in the open all the way back to the Oise, offered an inviting objective for an allied counter blow. It apparently was a case of attack or be attacked, and they have taken the initiative.

To the north, along the British front, the situation is virtually unchanged. In general the British line stands steady in almost the exactly the same position as yesterday. At only one point, just about where the French and British lines join did the Germans make any advance, pushing a short distance up the Roye-Amiens road in the direction of the latter place and occupying the village of Mezieres and the hamlet of Maison-Blanche, just to the north.

The front was indicated by yesterday's official reports as running near these places and the recession, being but a short one, still leaves the enemy advance here approximately 12 miles short of Amiens. Heavy attacks on Demuin, a little further north, were beaten off. To the north of the Somme there was only local fighting.

The report that the Germans are digging themselves in between Theval and La Boisselle, in the region of Albert, may be significant in view of the general lull in the intensity of the fighting along the northern part of the front.

The possibility suggests itself that, foiled in their attempt to drive a wedge between the French and British armies or effect a break in the Allied line, the Germans may be making an attempt to re-establish their lines on the basis of their present advance, either for defensive purposes or as the jumping point for another plunge into Entente territory.

The line of reported re-trenchment, however, is only a little more than three miles in length, and at present the move is most likely to be judged as a local measure for protection of the town of Albert.

The indicated line brings the German front at this point to just about its position when the first battle of the Somme started in 1916.

Fighting on the battle front between the Scarpe and the Oise having diminished greatly except between Albert and Montdidier, Allied forces are being made ready for a counter blow against the Germans whose strength has given numerous indications of waning. General Foch, who played a memorable roll in stopping the first German rush toward Paris and the channel ports, has been given command of the British, French and American armies in the present operation.

Repulsed in an attempt to widen their salient by pressing back the Northern and Southern wings, the Germans have driven forward in the apex of their wedge toward Amiens and are now astride the Somme about 12 miles east of that important point. Between the Somme and the Avre the British have retired to a line through Hamel, Marcelcave and Neuve. Just south of Albert, however, the British hold to the line of the Ancre, which makes a salient into the German line that may prove dangerous to a further enemy advance.

The French have completely checked (Continued on Page Seven).

LATIN-AMERICANS ARE WARNED OF GERMANY'S AIMS

Viscount Bryce and Lord Northcliffe Send Messages to South America

THIS GREAT WAR IS ONE OF PRINCIPLE

Germany's Plan is to Make Slaves of Mankind—Struggle Between Liberty and Tyranny

London, March 30.—Latin-American's vital interest in Germany's plan of aggrandizement and attempt to crush all world democracies is pointed out in message to the people of all the South American republic by Viscount Bryce, former ambassador to the United States, and Viscount Northcliffe.

"This war," says Lord Bryce, "is unlike any other the world has seen, not only in the vastness of its scale, but in the tremendous issues involved. It is a war of principle; a war waged for liberty against military tyranny; a war to save mankind from being enslaved by one ambitious and aggressive power, whose military chiefs have proclaimed that they mean to dominate Europe first and then the Western Hemisphere. That is what brought the United States to fight beside the Allies in Europe.

"Her war aims are ours, to vindicate the public right which German outraged when she invaded Belgium, to re-establish the faith of treaties which Germany has shown she will violate whenever her advantage requires it; to secure immunity for non-combatants whom the German government has massacred by thousands on sea and land, and to deliver freedom from the greatest peril that ever has threatened it.

"A German victory would vanish republicanism from the world, for the German government rules by force, fear and cruelty.

"The men of South America, where freedom took a new birth a century ago, fellow countrymen of San Martin, Bolivar, O'Higgins and of many another Argentine, Chilean and Uruguayan patriot whose memory is honored today, will surely give their sympathy to those who, in Europe are fighting the battles of democracy and humanity."

Lord Northcliffe, in his message, said: "Latin America is as vitally interested as North America in Germany's attempt to enslave the world. Latin America seems out of the danger zone today, but the defeat of France and the British empire would be followed by an attack upon South America as surely as night follows day.

"The German monster already has cast greedy eyes upon your fair young republics of the south. The monster has his agents already among you prepared for action if success should attend his efforts to crush Europe and the east. The old tyrannies which America threw off were as nothing to those that are being imposed upon Belgium, Serbia, Poland, Rumania and Russia.

"I have no fear that Prussia will succeed in its attempt to dominate the world, but each and every one of us must be watchful and make preparation which costs little while war costs so much. We Europeans are touched and gratified by the sympathy that we receive from the free nations of South America and we know see your sons standing in the trenches beside our children and those of the great republic of the United States."

GERMANS PREPARE FOR ANOTHER BLOW

London, March 30.—The Germans are still rushing artillery and reorganizing their forces. Reuters correspondent at British headquarters telegraphs. The slowing down in the battle he says probably is on a lull before another storm of still greater intensity.

The situation on the British sector of the new battle front this morning was more satisfactorily from the Allied standpoint. The night was comparatively quiet.

ATTEMPT ON ARRAS COST A HEAVY PRICE

Desperate Fighting is Reported on Both Sides of the Scarpe

British Army Headquarters in France, Friday, March 29.—The German attempt to force the British back along the Scarpe and capture Arras cost them an enormous price in casualties, although they used 10 divisions North of the river, the British held to their positions and wavered but slightly before the enemy onslaught. South of the river, however, the British retired slightly between Fampoux and Boisleux.

There was hard fighting on both sides of the Scarpe. To the north the most desperate conflict was staged about Rouex. The Germans succeeded in forcing the British to withdraw from this place. North of Gavrelle, the enemy tried to push the British back on Baillieux, but were repulsed by withering machine gun fire. South of the river the most bitter fighting was about Telegraph Hill, which changed hands several times.

Below the Somme British artillery have been doing marvelous work in getting the heavy guns back during the withdrawal. One battery of heavies was cut off and lost for three days. Although often surrounded, the men worked their way out to the British lines with all the guns.

On high ground near Albert there are five machine gunners who are cut off 600 yards in front of their own infantry but who still are doing great execution among the enemy. Tanks also have been doing a small but important work. They have been traveling in pairs, stemming the advance and taking prisoners.

That sector of the long battlefield lying south of the river Somme continued today to be the crucial zone of conflict. The Germans, following up their small gains of yesterday in their northward drive toward Amiens, were pressing the attack vigorously. They were meeting with the most obstinate resistance on the part of the British defenders, however, and latest reports state there had been little change in the situation since last night, despite the hard fighting. On the extreme north the enemy had desisted for the moment from their assault against Arras, but there are indications that they are only waiting for fresh troops before renewing their drive.

SIBERIA TO HAVE A NEW GOVERNMENT

Shanghai, Tuesday, March 26.—According to the Harbin correspondent of the North China Daily News it has been decided to form a provisional Siberian government for the purpose of assuring continuance of the original program of the Russian revolution and of suppressing the Bolshevik troops. It is expected the new government will ask the assistance of friendly powers in beginning military operations without delay.

HAM CAPTURED BY GERMANS IN GREAT DRIVE



The city of Ham has again fallen into German hands, being recaptured in the great drive the Teutons launched against the British forces. This photo shows the town when the Germans held it before. Gen. von Flack is shown reviewing his troops in the Grand Palace a few days before the French recaptured Ham. Copyright, Underwood & Underwood.

ATTACKING FRENCH TROOPS.

Paris, March 30.—French troops supported by reserves are offering desperate resistance to powerful assaults of the enemy, the War Office announces.

The battle which was resumed with renewed violence during the night is progressing on a front of 40 kilometres (about 25 miles) from Moreuil to beyond Lassigny. On the British front.

London, March 30.—The Germans, attacking yesterday at Demuin and Mezieres, pressed back the British from Mezieres, the War Office announces.

The enemy's attempts to capture Demuin broke down after sharp fighting which lasted throughout the afternoon.

More Satisfactory. British Army Headquarters in France, March 30.—The situation today from the Entente viewpoint is reported more satisfactory. Along the British section of the battlefield last night was comparatively quiet.

LONDON TIMES WARMLY PRAISES ALLIED SOLDIERS

Editorial Comment on Reassuring Factors of the Big Battle

ALL ARMIES ARE FULLY CO-OPERATING

French Troops and Americans Aiding With All Their Power—Fortunate That Baker is There

London, March 30.—Alluding to what it considers reassuring factors in the fighting in France, The Times says editorially:

"The whole front of the German attack has fallen so heavily upon the British army that we naturally are preoccupied here with the indomitable resistance displayed by our own regiments. But the British army fortunately does not stand alone. More and more as the great battle develops the burden is being shared with us by the French forces which are closing in upon the right of our line.

"More and more also does the prospect of turning a retreat into victory depend upon the speed and spirit with which the fresh divisions of British are able to deliver such counter strokes as they began so successfully on Thursday.

"Every account testifies to the amazing rapidity with which French troops are pouring into the struggle. This is exactly the sort of an emergency in which their national characteristics are always most conspicuous.

"And let us add, with full knowledge of the facts and in view of many misleading rumors, that there never was a moment before in the whole war when the co-ordination of the higher commands and of the general staff was so nearly complete.

"The crisis of the past ten days has served only to hasten and to crystallize arrangements for the mutual support under which Field Marshal Haig and Sir Henry Wilson are working with General Foch and General Petain. Also although this factor is necessarily of less importance, let us pay tribute to the promptitude and hearty good will with which the American military authorities have met every claim made upon them.

"It was fortunate not merely for the Allies, but for the entire future of American intervention, that the able Secretary of the American War Department, Mr. Baker, should have been in Europe at this moment.

"The United States Army cannot yet, in the nature of things, play that great part in the present emergency which its officers and men so ardently desire. But we know that everything is being accomplished which can be done at once, whether by expediting reinforcements or by adapting these forces to the present disposition or by supplying technical experts.

"We know, too, that across the Atlantic there is a redoubled determination to throw the entire strength of the great republic into the scales.

"It is well to remember at such a time that the Allies have these gigantic resources steadily mobilizing behind them."

ALL CLOCK HANDS TO BE MOVED UP AN HOUR TONIGHT

SITUATION CLEARER THAN IN PAST WEEK

Reuter's Correspondent Sends Encouraging Message From the Front

Ottawa, March 30.—The situation now is clearer than at any time since the beginning of the offensive," says the Reuter correspondent at French headquarters in a message received here last night.

"The enemy arrested in mid-course has abandoned marching straight upon objectives and breaking down resistance by overwhelming numbers. He now is striking at estimated weak spots in order to drive us back as far as possible before he himself is brought to a standstill. Thus, the enemy drive down the Oise Valley is finally arrested. Attempts to cross the Oise farther north failed and the bridges now are destroyed.

"The village of Pont Leveque below Noyon has been re-captured and the enemy driven from the heights above Suscy, northwest of Noyon.

"The enemy's capture of Montdidier was just too late for him to profit by it, as French forces were able to engage the Germans to the west and bring the advance to a standstill, thus nullifying their efforts to pierce the junction of the Anglo-French armies.

"The hinge between the English and French armies will never be broken as the junction now is covered by French forces strong enough to meet all eventualities.

"Eighty-seven enemy divisions have been identified on 50 miles of battle front, comprising the pick of the German troops. The French steadily engaged three guard divisions, the famous Brandenburgers and some of the best Bavarian division. Before the offensive, the Germans had 49 divisions in line on the British front and 76 division in reserve. The enemy therefore, has already engaged more than the whole of the reserves in France in the present battle and has also denuded certain sectors of his troops. To replace the wastage the enemy possesses about 20 divisions and conceivably 40 of interior of material as useful for filling gaps, but not for winning battles."

PERSHING'S OFFER OF TROOPS APPRECIATED

Newspapers of All Shades of Opinions Reflect Grateful Appreciation

Paris, March 30.—General Pershing's sincere and many words in placing at the disposal of General Foch the entire resources of the American army have gone straight to the heart of the French people who dearly love what the French call "fine gesture." The newspapers of all shades of opinion reflect this grateful appreciation, both by the prominence given the incident and their comments. Echo De Paris says that France as a whole does grateful homage to the United States, adding, "to use the language of surgeons, we may say there has been and there is more than ever today a transfusion of blood between the two countries."

The Petit Journal says: "General Pershing's act asking so nobly to share in the honors and sacrifices of that battle of nations now in preparation is a solemn warning to the Central empires of the grim resolve of free nations to conquer."

"General Pershing's words to General Foch have in their simplicity a deep warning," says the Figaro. "They bring out the magnitude of the stake at issue. On the events on the Somme hangs not only the fate of England and France, but of civilization and progress for which Germany, victorious, would substitute her coarse methods of human exploitation."

L'Oeuvre says: "Certainly the Boches did not foresee such rapid intervention. They will soon have opportunity to judge its growing importance. They shall see these new soldiers, pressing on in serrated ranks, impatient to try their virgin weapons. Turning to the eastward, they will see behind them the Japanese trembling with eagerness, ready to spring."

End of Cuban Racing Season.

Havana, March 30.—Following a successful season of 105 days, the winter meeting of the Cuban-American Jockey Club will come to an end tomorrow. The season has been successful from every viewpoint and has imbued the club officials with the belief that Havana is destined to become one of the greatest winter racing centers in the world.

Turn the Hands Forward One Hour Before Retiring for the Night

IF YOU DON'T YOU WILL BE BEHIND

Add an Hour of Daylight to the Nation's Effort to Win the War—Law Applies to Everybody

Washington, March 30.—Turn the hands of your clocks and watches forward one hour before retiring tonight, and add one hour of daylight to the nation's effort to win the war!

Everybody's doing it, and if you fall, you will be an hour late to church tomorrow, an hour late to work Monday morning and just one hour behind everybody and everything for the next seven months.

The official timepieces, such as the clocks of the Naval Observatory and other official agencies by which time is fixed in this country, will not actually be advanced to the new "clock-time" until 2 o'clock tomorrow morning, but as the average man then will be losing a precious hour of sleep without knowing it, the best and surest way is for every one to turn clocks and watches ahead one hour before retiring tonight and proceed to sleep with the satisfying knowledge that by one hour's sacrifice millions of hours of daylight have been added to the nation's resources for fighting Germany.

Many persons imagine they will be put to confusing inconvenience by the change. Nothing could be further than the truth. After setting the timepieces ahead one hour forget it, until next fall when on a certain date, everybody will turn them back again and regain the lost hour.

There will be absolutely no change in working hours, railroad schedules or in anything else. The clock is merely going to lie to everybody one hour, but everybody has agreed to this deception and will forget that according to the sun it really is one hour earlier than the clock says it is.

If you expect to take a train, don't fall to set your watch ahead or you will miss it. All trains which are caught between terminals at 2 o'clock tomorrow morning, when time officially is changed, merely will arrive again they will be on the new time.

The task of re-setting clocks all over the country will be one of great magnitude. The telegraph companies, which have electrical clocks will find it a mechanical task. Large corporations having hundreds and thousands of timepieces scattered through their plants will find the labor cost of re-setting clocks fast running into money. The government itself has thousands of clocks in public buildings which will keep men working until dawn tomorrow re-setting them.

Despite the fact that daylight saving has been a topic of world discussion for a long time, has been debated on the floors of Congress, and talked about everywhere, especially since the war began, there is still the probability that some persons will fail to comprehend it.

It is too simple to go wrong about. Simply turn the clocks and watches ahead one hour before retiring tonight. Then forget that you ever changed them and go about "business as usual."

Caution to the public to move clocks ahead an hour to comply with the law will be left to the newspapers. President Wilson, it was disclosed today, had considered issuing a proclamation putting into effect the time changing measure, but decided not to do so on the suggestion that newspapers would accomplish the same thing more thoroughly.

FIFTY-FOUR WOMEN KILLED IN PARIS

Paris, March 30.—Rescue parties at work in the church which was struck yesterday by a shell from a German long range gun have found more bodies. It is now known that 54 women were killed.

An official statement issued in Paris last night said 75 persons had been killed and 90 wounded, most of them women or children, by a shell which fell on a church in the region of Paris while Good Friday services were being held.

The shell struck the north side of the church, bringing down part of the roof. Nearly all the debris fell inward upon the heads of the worshippers 60 feet below.

In addition to H. Stroehlin, counsellor of the Swiss legation in Paris, who was killed, it is feared that his wife also is a victim, although searchers have not yet found her body in the debris. Among the injured are Countess Morand, Viscount Molitor and former Senator Louis Gautteron.