

the masses of German infantry as they were sent forward, thus enabling the main body of the British to fall back deliberately and without confusion. Main Army Conserved.

This army, it is declared, has been conserved and up to the present very few counter-attacks have been made gainst the Germans. Where the Britsh have stormed the Germans' newly acquired positions they have driven them back. But each mile of advance makes the bringing up of supplies to the German artillery and infantry more and more difficult, and unquestionably the British strategy, as demonstrated since the beginning of the great at- EAGER INTEREST IN NEWS tack, is to let the enemy, so far as he nay, wear himself ou against a power-

ul defense. Both British and French forces. where their lines meet south of St.

Quentin, are watching events with optimistic eyes. Sanguinary Struggle Goes On.

On the battle line in France the sanguinary struggle still is going on, with the British troops on most of the sectors apparently holding their own, but with the Germans at salient points still pressing forward.

The town of Chauny, southeast of St. Quentin, situated on the road to Compiegne, the gateway to Paris, has been occupied by the Germans and according to the Berlin official communications, everywhere between the Somme and the Oise rivers the Germans are pressing their advantage.

Battle All Day Sunday.

Throughout Sunday along the entire 50-mile battle front the fighting never ceased for a moment, and where Field Marshal Haig's men were unable to withstand the terrific onslaughts delivered by greatly superior forces, ground was given, but always in orderly fashion.

More Than Million Germans.

It now has been definitely ascertain- | the British forces. that considerably more than a milon Germans have been brought to the western front in an endeavor to crush the British army holding the ine from the region of Arras to the south of St. Quentin, but it daily becomes increasingly evident that the enemy in his drive has met with opposition not counted upon and been unable to realize to the full his objec-

Germans Claim Peronne and Ham. In addition to Chauny, the Germans are claiming the capture of both -Pefonne and Ham, and to have increased the number of prisoners taken to more than 30,000, in addition to 600 guns and large stores of war materials.

Defeat Franco-Americans?

is claimed also by the Germans that American and French regiments which were brought up to reinforce the British have been defeated but no further information other than this mere splement has been vouchsafed.

Little Left to Burn.

In their retirement, according to Berlin, the British are burning towns and villages behind them. This statement, nowever, seemingly is capable of being received with reserve, as the Germans themselves in their famous "strategic" retirement left little standing in the territory they evacuated,

even denuding the country of trees. Long Distance Gun Mystery.

THE BIG FIGHTING to make headway, no definite enveloping movement has been outlined, the communication says, and it would be premature to express opinions on the tactical phases with a combat situa-

German Claim That They Were such magnitude.

Has Not Been Confirmed by Desperate Military Venture. "The assault launched by the Germans against the British front has reopened the fighting season in the west, says the communication. "This operation confirms to us that the German

higher command, unable to control the strategic situation through political agencies, has been forced to engage in a desperate military venture in order to maintain its dominion over the peoples of the central empires and force a victorious peace by the fortune of

arms. "The German attack began with a brief but overwhelming artillery bombardment.

"From Croisselles south to Vendeuil, Washington, March 24 .- No confira distance of 47 miles, the Germans concentrated this preliminary barrage mation of German rpeorts that Ameriin which a number of Austrian batcan troops have participated in the teries participated. fight on the British front had reached

place.

nitude.

driven off.

tle front is possible.

"The German infantry divisions the war department up to a late hour the flanks of the salient in front of tonight. Major General March, act-Cambrai. Furious fighting continues. of General Von Below was effected. ing chief of staff, who remained at While the Germans have been able to his office much of the day and night, said that no advices to the effect had movement is as yet outlined. "It would be premature to express

Wider Battlefront Possible.

"Enemy casualties have been exceed-

"Prior to the German attack the al

"Our own forces in training in Lor-

week. In this region our artillery con-

a number of scouting parties which

have penetrated the eGrman positions

report that enemy works have been

"In our sector north of Toul our ar-

tillery has successfully bombarded

made a thrust against the French

forces on our flank. Our own forces

became engaged. The Germans were

Americans Put Down Raid.

against our forces at another point.

"A hostile raid was also attempted

been received.

It was recalled that American railway engineers, in training at the British front, were involved in the German counter-attack on the Cambrai front are inevitable in a battle of such mag- | Somme. some time ago, but there has been nothing to indicate that any other than engineer or other special units

Any Reports to U.S.

President Wilson and All American

Officials Intensely Absorbed in Re-

ports of Battle-Paris Gun

Did Little Damage.

have been employed at any time with Officials generally displayed the

most eager interest in every item of news as to the German drive. It was ber of raids into the enemy lines, provpointed out that any information as ing their alertness and initiative. to British or French operations must raine are still holding on to the be made public by the officials of trenches which were captured last

those two countries. **President Intensely Interested.** Intense interest in press reports displayed by President Wilson himself

that official information was meagre. The Associated Press dispatches were transmitted to him during the even- | considerably damaged. ing. The official British and German reports were taken here as showing that enemy works and billets behind their

a second phase of the great battle had lines. During a raid one of our uabegun and was continued throughout trols reached the German second line and returned without suffering any the day with no decisive results. It was evident that the British second casualties. In this area the enemy

defensive system was being severely tested by German attacks. It appeared, however, that the British line in general was still intact at the close

of the day. The announcement from Berlin that Paris had been bombarded by long range guns seemed to settle any doubt there has been as to what trans- strong barrage. Our infantry well suppired in the French capital yesterday and today. The range of the new weapon-76 miles-exceeds anything trenches were reached. Our troops ever dreamed of by ordnance experts | raided hostile works east of Luneville.

here so far as known. Little Damage at Paris.

of the communication follows: Text of German Statement.

"Western theatre-The battle near the annals of the British army and as Monchy, Cambrai, St. Quentine and La a result they have enabled the main Fere has been won. body of the forces to fall back deliber-"The British Third and Fourth arm- ately and without confusion and occution inevitably changing in a battle of les and portions of France-American pw positions which had been prepared eserves who had been brought up long before the German offensive be-

were beaten and on the line of Bagan. paume-Bouchavesnes and behind the Hun Generals Prodigal of Life. Somme, between Peronne and Ham as

well as at Chauny, were repulsed with the heaviest of losses. "The army of General Von Below (Otto) took by storm Monchy height disregard for life and have followed and south thereof carried forward the into the abandoned positions getting attack in a westerly direction beyond farther and farther away from their Vancourt and Menin. It now is engaged in a fight northwest of Bapaume

for the third enemy positions. Strong British counter-attacks were repulsed. "The army of General Von der Mar-

Witz, following upon the heels of the vanquished army, pressed forward in close pursuit Friday night as far as the third enemy position in the Equan-

court, Nurlu, Templeux, La Fosse, Bernes line. Von der Mar-Witz and Bulow Join. appalling.

"Early yesterday they renewed their attack against the enemy and defeated him, in spite of his desperate defense thereupon advanced to the attack along and continual counter-attacks. A junction with the left wing of the attack "Between Manancourt and Peronne make headway no definite enveloping the troops of Generals Von Kathen! and Von Gotard have forced a crossing

over the Tortille sector and on the an opinion regarding the tactical Somme battlefield are fighting around phases of the operations now taking Bouchevesnes. Peronne has fallen. We must expect further Other divisions have pressed forward changes in the combat situation, which to the south thereof as far as the

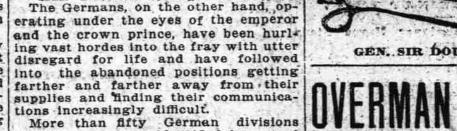
"As early as Friday evening the army of General Von Hutler, pressing closely forward, took by storm the third attacked in the force expected. ingly heavy. The extension of the bat- enemy position, broke through it and

compelled the enemy to retire. "In ceaseless pursuit, the corps of lied troops were successful in a num- General Von Luettwitz and Von Oettinge have reached the Somme. English Reserves Defeated.

"Ham fell after a desperate fight, into the hands of our victorious troops. English reserves, thrown against them in a desperate attack, sustained santinues to batter the German lines and guinary losses.

"The corps of Generals Von Hebern and Von Conte and the troops of General Von Gevl. after a fierce battle. crossed the Crozat canal.

"French, English and American regi-(Continued on Page Eight).



shock troops have been making as gal-

lant a defense as was ever recorded in

already have been identified by actual contact and many of these men were simply given two days iron rations and sent over the top into the frightful maelstrom made by the allied artillery, machine guns and rifles. The slaughter of the enemy infantry as it advanced in close formation over the open has been

Loses No More Than Expected. The British losses have been within the bounds expected, due to the tactics of the commanders. The allies have lost a considerable number of men in prisoners and a certain number of guns. But very few pieces of artillery have been taken by the Germans since MAY VETO THE WHEAT BILL the first day. In fact, the whole withdrawal has been executed in a masterly manner, showing how thoroughly

the British had planned for the very events which have occurred. It is permitted to say now that the

British never intended to try to hold the forward positions if the Germans

Worst Yet to Come. There is every reason to believe that

harder fighting than has yet taken place will develop shortly. The Germans, in the British view, cannot now. war machinery reorganization are the hesitate in carrying on their attack, and it is a case of break through or week. admit defeat. In this circumstance it is interesting to note a statement made yesterday by a German officer, a prismer, who declared that the German offensive was an act of desperation, brought on by the fact that the fatherland must have peace.

Pussy-Footed Americans Slip Up on "Listening" Hun

This operation was preceded by a With the American Army in France, | as good soldiers who were fighting en-Saturday, March 23 .- (By the Associ- thusiastically, as they entered the war ported by artillery, was able to stop the attacking column before our ated Press)-The experiences of a pa- soldiers was poor, he said, and their trol of four Americans who, after morale was for the most part bad. His In the Laon area the enemy used a crawling nearly a mile, surprised a division came to this tront from Bukoconsiderable number of gas shells, German listening post and brought wina.

the churches, which were almost as well filled as usual. The women who sell palm leaves on Palm Sundays did their usual business. People Not Distracted.

At first shells began arriving at intervals of twenty minutes, and the detonations seemed louder than on Saturday. Their power to disturb the equanimity of the populace, however, seemed less, the people refusing to be distracted from their Sunday hab-

For the benefit of that portion of the populace which had been led to believe the Germans had broken through the line and were bombarding Paris from nearby positions, a semi-official note was issued during the day. They warned the people against believing pessimistic reports. "The French front is intact," said the note. "Any assertion to the con-

rary is a lie." Bombardment Ended at 1 O'clock. The bombardment of the capital ended around one o'clock.

Although during the earlier hours of the bombardment the shells arrived on twenty minute intervals, later in the day they began arriving every fifteen minutes, and some of them even fell 12 minutes apart.

"In military circles belief was expressed that the Germans were using two long-distance guns. The Matin says the position of one of the guns was established in the St. Gobain forest, which would place it further south than had been believed. This position would be about 76 miles from Paris.

Streets Full of Life. 'During the early hours traffic in the streets of Paris was curtailed but before noon both the subways and tramways began running. In the afternoon both the streets of the city showed great animation. During the day large numbers of persons unable to secure means of transport walked. An is usual when aircraft warnings are sounded, large numbers of the populace sought sought shelter in subways and basements.

The government has decided that in the future the bombardment of Paris by long distance guns shall not interrupt normal life but that the population shall be warned of a bombardment by distinctive means, differing from the usual warnings sent out in air raids. Drums will be beaten and The fight over war organization the police will sound whistles. The public services, trains, in the subways, tramways and automobile bus continue to be operated normally. The new warning is to be known as warning No. 3. It will mean that any formation of crowds in the streets is prohibitive and that all shelters, except the subway stations will be open. The Determined opposition is expected end of a raid will be announced, as before, by a special trumpet call and the ringing of church bells.

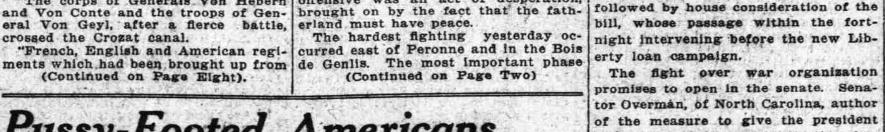
French Capital Confident. The comment of the French press this morning was divided between the big gun which is bombarding the city from back of the German lines and the terriffic battle raging on the British front. The tone of comment on the bombardment was of astonishment at its feasibility. As to the battle, a

bill, whose passage within the fortnight intervening before the new Liberty loan campaign. (Continued on Page Two) promises to open in the senate. Senator Overman, of North Carolina, author of the measure to give the president wide powers for reorganization, has given notice that he will call it up to-

morrow. from several prominent democrats as well as republicans. The senate military committee tomorrow will discuss the attitude of

members of the controversy and whether the war cabinet and munitions directors bills shall be pressed.

Congress also this week expects to Airplanes, with Americans at the take finel action on the bills authoriz- favorable ending of it is confidently



Gen. Wood to Appear.

BILL AND THIRD LOA

These Subjects Will Be the Engrossing Topics Before Congress During the Week.

GEN. SIR DOUGLA SHAIG

President May Threaten to Veto Meas ure Unless Senate's Action Fixing Price at \$2.50 is Eliminated.

Washington, March 24 .-- Liberty loan

legislation and the controversy over

engrossing topics before congress this

Announcement tomorrow by Secre-

tary McAdoo of the size and terms of

the billions of new war bonds is to be

