

A subscription (X) in this space means that your subscription is about to expire, and will be discontinued if not renewed within 30 days.

## ALLIES SMASHING INTO GERMAN DEFENSES ON FOUR IMPORTANT SECTORS OVER 250-MILE FRONT

More Than 27,000 Prisoners Taken in Last Three Days; British Succeeding in New Drive for Cambrai; Belgians Entered Great Offensive Movement Saturday; Germans Are Sorely Pressed.

(By the Associated Press.)—Over a front of more than 250 miles from the North sea to Verdun, the allies are smashing into the German defenses on four wide and important sectors. The enemy is faced with the greatest offensive effort since the beginning of the war.

On all the sectors the British, French, American and Belgian troops are progressing successfully. Serious inroads are being made into the German defensive system north of Ypres, around Cambrai, north of the Aisne and on the Champagne-Verdun sector. Additional prisoners have been added to the allied total of 27,000 for the last three days and several hundred more guns of all calibers have been taken from the enemy.

Vital successes are now being gained by the British in their new drive for Cambrai in which American troops are aiding in the region west of La Catelet. The capture of Cambrai by the British would appear to be near. From the west the British are within one and three quarter miles of Cambrai at two points and all natural obstacles have been overcome. The same is true on the north where the British are pushing forward rapidly.

Southwest of Cambrai Field Marshal Haig's men are fighting for the crossings of the Scheldt canal. Douai, the German base north-east of Arras, and one of the outlying defenses of the great fortress of Lille, also is threatened by the Cambrai operation. The British have crossed the high road between Douai and Cambrai and the railroad connecting them useless to the Germans. Southwest of Douai, the British are reported to have taken Arleux.

Belgian troops entered the great offensive movement Saturday by beginning an operation in conjunction with the British in the Dixmude-Ypres area. The allies are reported to have pushed forward rapidly and were reported fighting their way thru to Houtholst forest, which has been looked upon as the keystone of the enemy defensive system between Ypres and the sea.

General Mangin resumed his slow progress toward the heights of the Chemin des Dames, the southern defense line of the great and important massif of Laon. Ground has been gained south of the high point at Fort Malmaison, and the bitterly contested villages of Jouy and Aizy have fallen to the French.

On the western flank of the Champagne-Verdun offensive, the French are pushing over the heights behind the Hindenburg line. From the Argonne, east of the Meuse, the Americans are forcing their way into the Kreinhild positions. Some ground has been gained near the Argonne forest but the American progress Saturday apparently was slowed down some from the first two days.

## BRITISH-AMERICANS LAUNCHED ATTACK SUNDAY

London, Sept. 29.—Troops from the states of New York, Tennessee and North and South Carolina attacked the Hindenburg lines on a front of nearly three miles, capturing Bellicourt and Nauroy.

This announcement was made by Field Marshal Haig in his report from headquarters tonight. London, Sept. 29.—Dixmude has been captured by the Belgian troops, it was officially announced tonight.

The Belgians have also taken Zorrem (Zarrant), Studenberg, Passchendaele, Moorsledge, and part of Westroosebeke. This means an advance of several miles.

By Associated Press.—American troops—boys from New York, Tennessee and North and South Carolina—were in the thick of the fray Sunday which badly smashed the German positions over a front of more than 50 miles, from the region of Arras to La Fere.

On a three-mile front the Americans stormed the Hindenburg line and captured the towns of Bellicourt and Nauroy, crossing the Cambrai canal in the operations.

Meanwhile, to the south the British stormed the main Hindenburg defenses on the Scheldt canal, crossed the waterway and gained the hills beyond, taking many prisoners. To the north the British have their hands on Cambrai, the important German base over which recently there has been so much fighting. The Canadians are in the northwestern outskirts of the city, while a naval division has reached the southern environs.

South of St. Quentin to La Fere the French have pressed forward their line and taken some 500 prisoners. Along the Chemin des Dames the French have advanced their line for a distance of two miles, capturing the highest point on the famous ridge.

The entente allied troops everywhere are continuing to make progress against the forces of the Teutonic alliance.

In Belgium, Flanders and France material advances have been made on all the fighting fronts; in Serbia the territory of the overran kingdom is fast being reclaimed, while in Palestine the Turkish armies under the attacks of General Allenby and the tribesmen of the king of the Hedjaz have virtually ceased to exist as fighting units.

Additional large numbers of the enemy have been made prisoner and large quantities of stores have been captured.

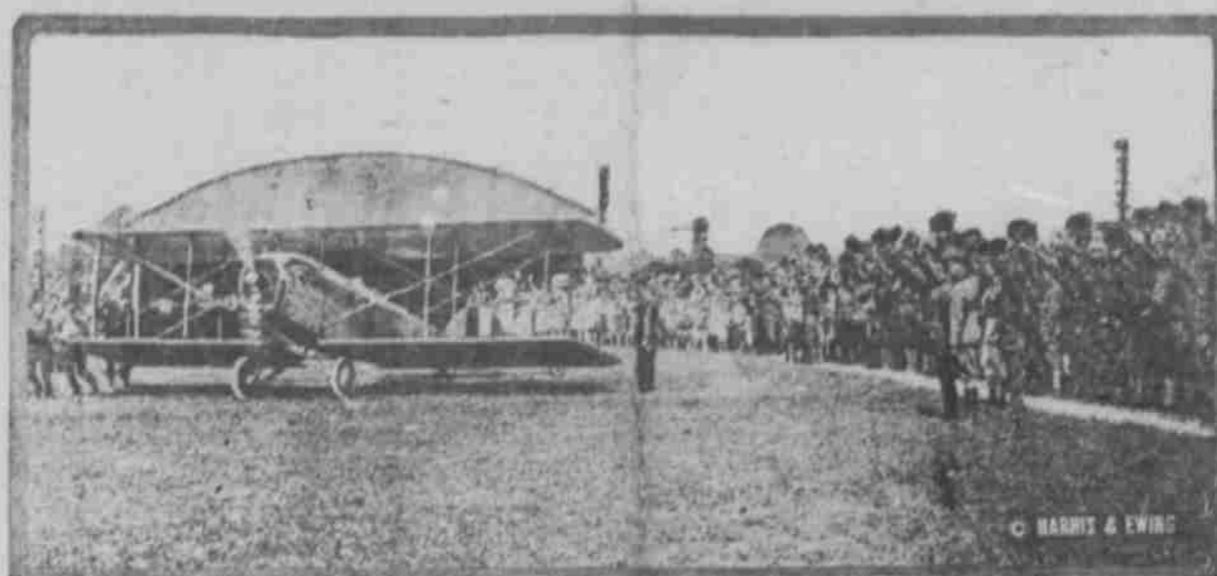
Keeping up relentlessly their violent attacks from near the sea in Belgium to the region of Verdun, the Belgian, British, American and French troops are fast driving wedges into the enemy line.

Marshal Foch thinks necessary.

In Macedonia the allies are pressing the defeated Germans and Bulgarians into Bulgaria on the east, into Albania on the west and toward Uskub on the north. The Serbians, who are at the apex of the salient, are moving toward Uskub, having taken Voles and its garrison. They are also approaching the Bulgarian border from east of the Vardar. In the Doiran region the allies are working their way over the mountains toward the important line of the Struma river.

It is reported that the Austrian forces in Albania are being withdrawn. If true, this is the logical result of the allied drive in Macedonia as the Austrians would be in a precarious position should they attempt to hold their line in southern Albania.

## POST OFFICE TAKES OVER THE AIR MAIL SERVICE



The New York-Philadelphia-Washington airplane mail route passed formally into the control of the post office department August 2, when the first plane left the new landing field near Washington in the presence of government officials and an interested crowd. The mail-carrying planes are encircled by a band with the inscription "U. S. Mail."

## UNIFIED ACTION BRINGS RESULTS

Washington, Sept. 28.—Backed by the concentrated offensive power of the American army, unified military action on the western front under Marshal Foch has forced Bulgaria to seek a separate peace, in the opinion of General March, chief of staff. The defection of Bulgaria, carrying with it the only connecting link between Turkey and the central powers and foreshadowing the probable restoration of Rumania to the fighting ranks, the chief of staff said today in his weekly conference, is due directly to the massing of French, British and American forces on the western front.

"Last week I told you that the news during the week had been continuously good," said General March. "This week it is continuously better."

"The defection of Bulgaria illustrates to a striking degree the results of the concentration of forces on the western front. Previous to this time, whenever any part of the central empires' front was threatened it was possible for Germany to devote and divert some German divisions with German commanders to the threatened front, while they held the western front with a relatively smaller force.

"That day has gone past. By concentrating the entire American force on the western front, that force, together with the British and French armies under General Foch, holds the German army there, and we see the result in Bulgaria demanding a separate peace.

"The obvious importance of this move is perfectly clear to everybody."

Turning to a map of the Balkan front, General March said the military situation in that region was too plain to need analysis.

"That is a tremendous drive," he continued, "and carried out by relatively small forces. In this quick advance the Serbs crossed two rivers, the Czerna and the Vardar, and captured the railroads which follow the valleys of the two rivers and which have been the main lines of supply for the Bulgarians on each side, as well as their chief lines of escape. The result has been a general disorganization of the retreating forces, particularly those caught between the Vardar river and the mountains of Albania.

"The picturesque movement of the British in Palestine has also been a feature of the week, resulting in very large captures of troops, and the whole movement being conspicuous by the flight of the German commander in chief who apparently got out in advance."

In referring to the events of the week on the western front, General March said the American forces in the offensive between Rheims and Verdun had taken 8,000 prisoners while the French captures in men were estimated at 7,000. The American advance, he said, has proceeded entirely beyond the Hindenburg line and now is facing the Kreinhild.

## American Aviators Have Kept Command of the Air

Washington, Sept. 29.—In reporting further advances of the Americans northwest of Verdun for yesterday, received here tonight, says American aviators "have kept command of the air." They have brought down 12 balloons and more than 60 enemy planes, while less than a third of that number of American planes are missing. The statement follows:

"Headquarters American Expeditionary Forces, Sept. 28.—Section A: The attack begun on September 26 continues to develop successfully. Today our troops, advancing in the face of heavy infantry, artillery and machine gun fire, have reached the outskirts of Briailles and Exermont. More than 20 towns and enormous quantities of material have fallen into our hands. The number of prisoners continue to increase.

"American aviators have kept command of the air. They have brought down 12 balloons and more than 60 enemy planes, while less than a third of that number of our planes are missing. In conjunction with French and British aviators, they have, notwithstanding unfavorable weather, rendered valuable service and successfully executed many missions.

"Section B: The following extract is from a German soldier letter, found in the Woivre, September 22: 'Americans are in front of us. To the right of us Indians of the Sioux tribe were identified in one of the last attacks. After the war Karl can write another book about his experiences with his dear Indians.'

## Many Cities Claiming Honor of Being First

Washington, Sept. 29.—Altho treasury department officials today made no attempt to estimate the total sales on the opening day of the fourth liberty loan campaign yesterday, all indications were that the loan had gotten away to a good start.

Only one district committee, New York, had attempted to estimate its sales Saturday, placing them at \$2,000,000, or one-eighth of the \$1,800,000,000 allotted the New York Federal reserve district. From Atlanta, Ga., where sales to the third loan lagged somewhat, came word today that the campaign started "in great shape" with a better selling organization to push the work than was had for the last loan.

In the San Francisco district many cities already were claiming honor flags for having over-subscribed their quotas.

"The spirit of the loan," said a treasury department statement, "is exemplified in a telegram from Worcester, Mass., a city which achieved its quota yesterday. An elaborate voting plan for putting over the city's quota had been worked out there, but it had to be abandoned at the last minute because of an epidemic of Spanish influenza. Without a moment's hesitation the sales committee adopted a new plan of

## DAY MOST DRAMATIC OF WAR

Washington, Sept. 28.—With three great major offensives driving forward simultaneously between Verdun and the North sea and the German military framework in Bulgaria tottering toward complete collapse, today stood out sharply to military observers here as one of the most dramatic of the whole war. Not an hour passed that did not see new advances scored upon the great maps at the war department.

From all fronts except in Italy dispatches were received showing the storm to be spreading so swiftly that events of a decisive nature are to be expected momentarily.

To some observers it appeared that Marshal Foch had seized the psychological moment to hurl against the enemy all the accumulated strength of the allied and American forces, possibly with the expectation that a crash on the western front is close at hand. Among army officers, however, it was said that the launching of the British-Belgian thrust was but a part of a carefully prepared program, which is designed to hold the German army in the north to its lines there while the critical blow of the French and American armies on the Meuse and in Champagne is pressed home.

From every point of view it appeared to military men that the tremendous strain could not long be endured by the enemy. The hour when he must again attempt on a wide front the most difficult military maneuver—withdrawal under attack—appeared not far distant. There is little doubt here that the first stages of the retirement to the Belgian frontier will soon be evident, if the movement has not already begun.

At every critical point Marshal Foch is striking hammer blows. While General Pershing's advance along the Meuse is growing increasingly menacing every hour to the whole German position, the French are battering again at the Chemin des Dames ridge which screens Laon. Should they win the flanking position on the high ground at which they are driving, enemy columns on both sides would be under fire and the withdrawal from the Aisne line might be a rout.

selling and \$15,000,000 was raised.

"Other telegrams from New England indicated that the spirit of Worcester is that of the entire northeast. Up there they are calling this the 'fighting fourth' loan and they are going to fight it through regardless of Spanish 'flu' and all other obstacles."

Rear Admiral Cowie, who is in charge of the campaign in the navy, said today that a new record for first day subscriptions was set in the navy. His estimate was \$2,000,000.

## AMERICANS TAKE A KEY POSITION FROM THE ENEMY

With the American Army, Sept. 27.—The great American offensive carried out by the first American army under General Pershing is developing. French troops operated on the right and left of the Americans, supporting their advance. The line ran from the Meuse above Regville, southwest to Cumierris and up to a point south of Bethincourt; thence south to Malancourt thru Bois De Malancourt to the north of Avocourt, where it curved southwest to the banks of the Bouart and passed south of Vauquois to Bourlilles; thence west to a point north of Fleur de Paris, running in a northwesterly direction to Servon, and south of Vois de Vieilles; thence slightly to the north of Messiges, and west to a point half way between Perthes and Taurant; thence to Aubrerie.

The attack, commanded by General Pershing in person, was preceded by a very thorough artillery preparation. At 11:30 o'clock heavy fire was opened across the Meuse to the right of the American army. This apparently deceived the enemy as to the real direction of the attack. The American and French long range artillery kept up a harassing fire back of the German lines, and at 2:30 this morning thousands of guns have opened all along a 20-mile front, maintaining drumfire for three hours. At 5:30 the infantry attacked with a dash never exceeded on the western front. The men all felt that this was the biggest fight they had ever been in and went to it like wildcats.

Aeroplanes flew overhead in dense formations of 60 to 100 planes. As a heavy ground mist prevented effective observation the planes kept very close to the ground, using machine guns on the Germans, while on the roads below staff officers and dispatch riders dashed at breakneck speed.

The whole attack was characterized by "force without stint or limit," and great speed. Vauquois was carried by assault almost before the sun had risen. Bois de Montfaucon was pinched out instead of being attacked directly. By noon the American troops were at Septarges and soon thereafter Montfaucon itself was carried by assault. Meanwhile the same operation was being maintained around the forest of Argonne, but this attack, which is progressing most favorably, is not being hurried.

The manner in which the field guns were moved behind the attacking infantry was most gratifying, and all around were indications that this operation had been most carefully planned. The whole countryside is alive with Americans and at every road crossing and rail head American hospital Red Cross trains stood ready with their crews of trained nurses ready to care for the wounded. Although it is too early to predict the possible results of this attack, it has already changed the strategic aspect of this sector and has made Verdun a great offensive center instead of a defensive position. The splendid achievement of the capture of Montfaucon wrests from the Germans one of the key positions of his battle line, without which the crown prince would never have been able to launch his famous attack on Verdun.

London, Sept. 30.—Emperor William, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Amsterdam has sent the following telegram to the Westphalian Patriotic Society: "Germany is decided to utilize all force to fight this enforced defensive war until a victorious end is secured and the fatherland protected for all time against foreign oppression."

## BULGARIA SEEKS MORE THAN JUST BREATHING SPELL

London, Sept. 29.—The news from Bulgaria which comes thru various channels compels the belief that the Prussia of the Balkans is not merely seeking a breathing spell but really wants peace. All the evidence indicates that she needs it grievously and must have it.

The German pretense that Premier Malinoff was acting on his own initiative finds no confirmation. King Ferdinand's crown is at stake and he is trying to save his dynasty.

The Bulgarian finance minister and commander-in-chief are now on their way to the front, according to the newspaper Vardar, which adds that an American attaché will participate in the negotiations.

While Bulgaria has been disintegrating for months as a factor in the war, her military defeat has brought matters swiftly to a crisis. Her three armies are separated and not only are beaten but two of them are scattered in flight with their German allies sharing the same fate. Yesterday's official report from the front speaks of the number of prisoners taken and points out that most of them were Germans.

Occupation of Sofia by allied troops is a possibility of the near future.

The terms of the allies are plain but stringent. Bulgaria will not be allowed to withdraw from the war and assume the position of a near neutral. She must surrender and give up what territory she has gained by arms as well as some privileges of transit and the same usefulness she yielded to Germany while professing neutrality. There is even a suggestion that she may be required to use her army on the side of the entente.

The answer of the allies is an ultimatum. "The allied powers have no further conditions to propose," says a semi-official pronouncement.

Germany's policy in this crisis is learned from the newspapers of that country. She is trying to rush reinforcements to Bulgaria. One report says heavy contingents are going and on their way will show themselves in Sofia to reassure the people of the Balkan capital. Germany will not let Bulgaria make peace if she can prevent it by force or persuasion.

There may be a race between the German army and the allies to reach Sofia. Germany is supposed to have six divisions in Rumania which she may be able to send to Bulgaria. She hardly can withdraw troops from the western front during the greatest struggle she has experienced there. Probably Austria also will be called upon for help.

The latest developments seem to confirm reports that King Ferdinand's long absence from his kingdom during the summer was because he was afraid to remain there. German papers are now speaking freely about their allies. "From the day of Malinoff's appointment," says Vorwaerts, "it was well known in political circles that our alliance was in the greatest danger. In addition to the cabinet's pro-entente sentiments, there is an extraordinarily ardent desire for peace on the part of the people, whose food for months has been crumbling and indigestible maize bread. Even if the supporters of our alliance should succeed in getting the upper hand we should indulge in no illusions regarding the value which the preservation of the alliance can still have for Germany."