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The Daily Mail

THE WEATHER.
Maritime—Light to moderate winds fine and moderately warm.

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WORLD'S GREATEST BATTLE NOW IN PROGRESS

Rival Armies Extend From the Noyon to the River Meuse and Consist of Three Million Men---
Germans Repulsed in Their Attack
On Nancy

Official Report Says That all Danger to the Former Capital of Lorraine is Averted
---French Troops Praised for Their Bravery---The Germans Reported to Have Taken up a Very Strong Position---Russians Continue to Achieve Success in East Prussia---The Austrian Army is Completely Demoralized

WAR SUMMARY

Second great battle of the war in progress, with Allies attacking the Germans on the Aisne.

British repulse Gen. von Kluck's attacks.

Kaiser's center still retiring towards the Meuse.

French threatens both flanks of the German host

Losses of both armies in France since Sept 6 have been appalling.

Berlin sends out headquarters report that the general action now in progress is still indecisive.

French statement says that up to last evening the Allies had not weakened at any point.

Austrian losses in Galicia set by Russians at 350,000 killed, wounded and prisoners, and 400 guns.

Defeated Austrian armies of Gens Dankl and von Auffenberg unite 32 miles north of Przemyśl after losing 40 percent of their men.

Russians report Turks have gathered a large army on Bulgarian frontier.

Italians start demonstrations in favor of Allies against present neutrality.

King George signs the Home Rule Bill.

Paris, Sept. 18—An official announcement of the defeat of the Germans in their attack on Nancy is given in a despatch received at the war office office from Gen. Doran, the military governor there. He says: "Thanks to the success of our armies and bravery of our troops all danger to the former Capital of Lorraine is averted."

A GERMAN REPORT

Tokio, Sept. 18—It is reported here that the German cruiser Emden has sunk five British steamers off the coast of India. The passengers of the vessels are said to have been saved.

BRITISH TRAINING SHIP LOST

London, Sept. 18—The Admiralty announces that the training ship Figsard II, formerly the battleship Erebus, has foundered during a gale in the English channel and that twenty one members of her crew were drowned. Boy artificers were training on the vessel. The Figsard foundered off Portland as she was being towed by tugs through a heavy sea. Forty-four of the crew were rescued by the tugs.

STORIES OF SLAUGHTER

London, Sept. 17—The correspondent of the Times at Paris sends this story of the fighting on the river Aisne:

"The enemy has found means to arrest his retreat for the time being and is offering a stubborn resistance on the line which he has prepared strongly for defense. He has received considerable reinforcements, probably from Lorraine, where he seems to have abandoned the offensive."

"The fighting is hottest around Soissons, where the British army is in action."

Terrible stories are reaching Paris enunciate the battlefield of the Marne

of piles of dead and wounded which and the Red Cross is working night and day.

VIOLENT FIGHTING

London, Sept. 18—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Bordeaux says:

"A telegram from Delemont, Switzerland, reports that violent fighting is taking place in Alsace, where the French are gaining ground."

London, Sept. 17—Another great battle, even more vital for the countries concerned than those which have preceded it, is now in progress on a line extending from the region of Noyon, on the river Oise, northwest of Paris, to the river Meuse, north of Verdun.

The front is somewhat shorter than was the case in the battle of the Marne, but this will only result in a more fiercely contested battle, with masses of troops throwing themselves at each other, and every available piece of artillery concentrated in the determined efforts of the armies to break through the lines.

The Germans, who a fortnight ago, had to abandon their first swift endeavor to destroy the armies of France and Great Britain and capture Paris, have now fortified themselves on the mountains north of the river Aisne, through which the Meuse flows. They are in a stronger position than they were for the battle of the Marne and have been strongly reinforced with fresh troops from the north and east. They have attempted some counter-attacks against the allied troops, who, flushed with victory have been trying to prevent them from entrenching themselves.

According to English and French official reports, these attacks have been repulsed, and the Germans compelled to give way at certain points.

HEAVY FIGHTING

It would appear that the western wings of the two armies, the German right and the allies left, are again to bear a heavy part in the fighting. Upon the armies of Gen. Von Kluck and Gen. Von Buelow depends the safety of the rest of the German army. Should retreat be decided upon them, and, besides holding the front, they have to be prepared to withstand another attempt on the part of the allies to outflank them.

These German forces hold a position from a point near Noyon on the Oise, along the district north of the Aisne to the junction of the latter river with the Suppes. Behind them are splendid lines of railway running in all directions, which facilitate the movement of troops from St. Quentin Guise and Mezieres, so that, in this respect, they are well placed.

The allies, on the other hand, it is believed, are bringing in new troops through Rouen and Amiens to threaten the Germans' flank. In fact, nearly the whole of northwest France is now open to the allies, the Germans having withdrawn most of their scattered troops eastward toward the Oise.

Field Marshal Kitchener, secretary of state for war, speaking today, with full knowledge of the situation, at the front, declared: "The tide has now turned," so that he, although telling the public that the war will be a long one, appears to be hopeful of the outcome which is pending.

RE-INFORCEMENTS FOR ALLIES

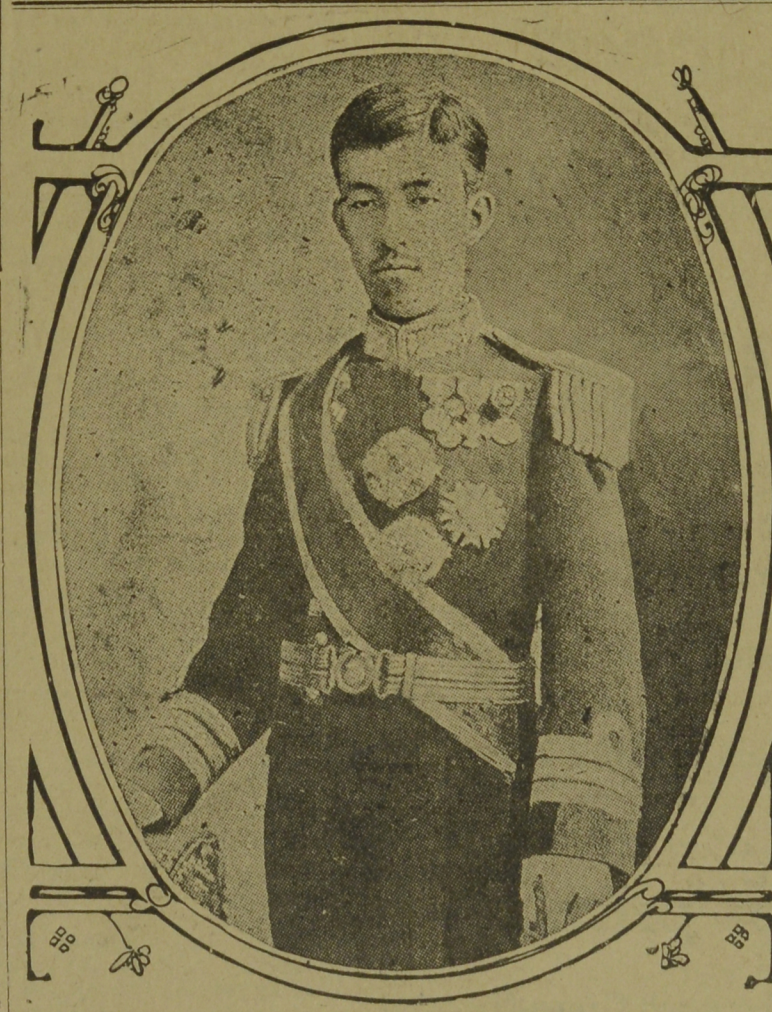
The little British army, that has fought so long and so hard, is looking forward to support the Indian troops, which should soon be at the side of the Englishmen, if not for the present battle, then for the one which must soon follow it, no matter how it goes.

The French troops, who also occupy a valuable center of occupation at Soissons—the engineers having closely followed the army and repaired the railways are being reinforced, and on the whole, both as to positions and strength of forces, the opposing armies should be evenly matched, except for the advantage of the allies in having an army to threaten Von Kluck's flank.

The situation along the rest of the line is much the same. In the centre, between Rheims and the Argonne, the Germans continue to fortify themselves, while between Argonne and the Meuse they are entrenching themselves at Montfaucon.

The French officials warn the public that as the Germans occupy positions prepared for defence, and are supported by heavy artillery, any progress must be slow.

The Germans are preparing for every eventuality, and are maintaining a force superior to that of the Belgian army in Belgium to cover the retirement of the main army, should that become necessary. They are reported to be strengthening the fortifications on the Rhine, where, if necessary they could continue a long defensive.



THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN

STIRRING ACCOUNT OF MARNE RIVER BATTLE

Correspondent Describes the March of the British Soldiers Through a Beautiful Country and the Fierce Fighting That Followed---Wanton Destruction of Property by German Soldiers---British Troops Covered Themselves With Glory in Actions

Paris, Sept. 17.—Details given me by British soldiers enable me to give the following account of the participation of the British troops in the great battle of Marne River. Dawn was just breaking and the men lay curled up in their blankets on all sides. Suddenly a blast of bugles sounded the reveille. After a hasty meal of hot coffee and biscuits the bugles sounded the order to fall in, and long before the sun rose above the tree tops the troops were on the move. Although they had gone through a heavy march the previous day no one showed any signs of weariness for a whisper had gone out amongst the men that before night they would be testing their skill against the enemy, and this worked up sufficient excitement to make them cover the ground as quickly as possible. The march hour after hour was through a country of fields of beautiful golden corn, comfortable farm houses heavily laden with fruit trees and dainty flower gardens. The scene was one of perfect peace. Old men and women, accompanied by bonny girls and fresh-faced children, came to the roadside and waved to the soldiers as they passed.

WANTON DESTRUCTION

As the afternoon wore on they could see the foe had been driven back from the positions they had held. On all sides were signs of their brutal wantonness. Great stretches of charred waste were the remains of what a few days prior were acres of ripened grain ready for the harvest. Broken, charred gaunt walls were the relics of happy homes of hard-working peasants. During a halt at what once had been a peaceful village the troops were given an opportunity of viewing the handiwork of the Germans. One fine old building evidently the home of a well-to-do family, stripped of everything of value before being gutted by fire. Broken picture frames, only partially devoured by the flames, showed edging of canvas where the pictures had been cut. Two fine marble statues too cumbersome to be removed were smashed by the soldiers. In the more humble dwellings evidence of a similar nature met our eye. Twisted bedsteads, smashed pictures, broken crockery ware, parts of children's toys—everything that goes to make the home—was destroyed either by way of celebrating a victory or on finding they were repulsed. Even the head were not held sacred in the hour of retreat. A church on the edge of a village was given to the flames, graves were ruthlessly trampled, tombstones were smashed and crosses trodden under foot.

SCENES INCENSE THE SOLDIERS

As the march was resumed the attitude of the men exhibited a distinct change. No more whistling music, no more light banter. Each man's face was set and determined, individually and collectively, it seemed, planning what to do when they came to grips with the foe. As night drew near the rumbling of guns was audible in the distance. Then came a galloper on a foam-be-spattered horse bearing despatches to the General informing him of the position

he was to take up. After delivering the despatches and receiving others the messenger mounted a fresh horse and disappeared into the darkness. Still the khaki-clad wave marched on every mile bringing the sound of heavy firing nearer. Towards midnight a squad of cavalry came into touch on the right flank, and a little later the men were in what was soon discovered to be the firing line. The army came to a halt, but harder things than blankets were in store for the soldiers.

DAYLIGHT BRINGS BATTLE.

Gallopers came flying from nowhere, and as quickly disappeared into the darkness. The wait was not of long duration. The men dug trenches and threw up breastworks to be ready for the coming fray. Daylight showed in front an almost level stretch of open country, backed up by a belt of growing timber, where the Germans had taken up a position although none of the foe was visible. The woods were alive with armed men and behind the woods lay artillery in trenches protected by breastworks. The British troops waited backed up heavy guns in the rear. Suddenly their booming in the distance was followed by a long-drawn wail as a shell passed overhead to explode with a deafening roar at a safe distance from the trenches, and so the Germans had opened the duel.

BRITISH REPLY PROMPT.

They had not long to wait before the guns of the British began to answer with greater effect. All at once noticeable little spurts of dust were rising in front. The men in the woods were trying to get the range, but still our men had no orders to fire. One of our men unable to control his anxiety to use his rifle, rose from the trenches fully exposing himself to the enemy only to fall back dead. Finding they were unable to draw our fire the enemy advanced into the open only to be met with a heavy volley. They quickly sought cover sover and then the fight became wicket. After two hours continuous fighting the foe got the impression that the spot they occupied was unhealthy and retired into the rear of the woods.

Our guns practically silenced the German batteries thanks to the information received from a French aeroplane. They then turned attention to the riflemen in the woods and under the protection of a grueling fire from our soldiers silenced them. Had they been on parade they could not have shown more steadiness. After covering most of the intervening space at a march they broke into a double and were soon in the vicinity of a thicket. Finding our guns had located them, the enemy retreated. Our left and right flank of cavalry rounded the edge of the woods, while the infantry passed through the centre of the timber. On reaching the far side they fell into close formation and the British troops charged the foe, and what they missed was not enough to fill a liner glass let alone a tumbler. Dead Germans, wounded horses and broken guns made a thrilling but terrible picture. Great gashes torn into the earth were eloquent signs of

(Continued on page five.)