

GREAT ALLIED VICTORY

ALLIES ARE VICTORIOUS ALONG THE ENTIRE WESTERN FRONT—FOUR BATTLES GAINED; OVER TWENTY THOUSAND TROOPS CAPTURED

From the Sea to Verdun, British and Belgian Forces Assume Offensive—Gen. French's Army Takes Five Miles of Teuton Positions and Captures 2,600 Men.

ALLIED ARMIES ADVANCING

Twenty Thousand Germans are Captured in Two Days' Fighting and Many Guns.

LATEST DESPATCHES

By Special Wire to the Courier.

PARIS, Sept. 27, 2.45 p.m.—The new offensive movement is continuing along the entire front in Champagne. The War Office announces to-day that further German positions had been occupied.

London, Sept. 27.—The general offensive movement so long waited on the western front was inaugurated by a series of allied victories on Saturday morning, which were maintained and extended to-day. The net result of the first two days' operations was: Over 20,000 unwounded Germans taken prisoner, of whom the British took 2,600. French troops penetrated the German lines in Champagne along a front of 15 miles and for a depth at some places of 2-1/2 miles. North of Arras, the villages of Souchez were taken by storm, and the last trench still held by the Germans to the east of the Labyrinth was captured. British forces captured German trenches along a front of five miles south of La Basse Canal and east of Vermelles. In some instances, the British troops penetrated the German positions for a distance of 4,000 yards (two and a quarter miles), capturing the quarries north-east of Hulluch, the village of Loos and the mining works around it, and Hill No. 70. In Flanders the British carried the German trenches over a front of 600 yards near Hooge.

THE CHAMPAGNE BATTLE
The details of the operations since Saturday morning can be sketched out briefly by a glance at the statements issued by the War Office. After an artillery preparation, the magnitude of which has never been equalled, not even in the Austro-German campaign in Galicia, the German trenches in Champagne from a point north of Souain as far east as the Argonne forest were reduced to a mass of earth and tangled wire. Huge masses of French troops leaped forward to the assault. The German first line trenches had been obliterated, and the advancing French dashed through as far as the third line trenches. Large numbers of the Germans who endeavored to hold their positions were cut off and captured. This accounts for the unusually large numbers of prisoners taken, a number estimated by the War Office as more than 16,000.

The object of the fighting in the Champagne region is the railway line running from Neuchâtel through Somme and north of the Argonne to the town of Varennes. The French are now only about two miles from this railway, and once it is captured a general retreat in this region will be absolutely necessary. This railway line runs along the rear of the entire German position north of Rheims to the Argonne forest. Its capture would also necessitate a retreat on the part of the Crown Prince's men in the Argonne. The scene of the French attack is in the district around Perthes, Beaujeu and Suippes, in Champagne, where in December they made a considerable gain of ground. Saturday's attack, however, backed by a tremendous artillery fire, gave them possession of more territory than they had taken from the Germans since the latter dug themselves in after the Battle of the Marne.

The Germans were driven out of their trenches over a front of 15

miles varying in depth from two-thirds of a mile to two and a half miles. Apparently the advantage is being pressed still further, as the French communication makes only the briefest mention of the operation.

BATTLE NORTH OF ARRAS.
The fighting north of Arras is a resumption of the French offensive which took place in that district last Spring. Gen. Joffre at that time attempted to cut off or capture the important railway junction of Lens, but this result was not gained. The Germans then were driven back over a considerable front, but as now freely admitted, the lack of munitions resulted in the abandonment of this offensive movement before its conclusion. The French were able, however, to capture the strongly fortified position near Neuville known as the Labyrinth, and the outskirts of the village of Souchez, was extremely important strategically. The Germans by an unusually strong counter-attack were able later to retake and hold the Souchez cemetery, which they had turned into a fort. As a result of last night's operations, the French have been able, not only to retake the cemetery of Souchez, but the village itself, and push forward a considerable distance to the north-east in the direction of Givenchy.

THE BRITISH VICTORIES.
In conjunction with these successful attacks, the British under Sir John French, took the offensive east of Vermelles and Grenay, south of the La Basse canal, and succeeded in driving back the Germans on a front of more than five miles, penetrating the enemy's lines at some places more than two and a quarter miles. The village of Loos was captured, while the British reached the quarries in the western outskirts of the village of Hulluch, which lies a short distance to the north. The latter position changed hands several times, being finally retaken by the British. The German reserves were drawn into the fighting by the fierceness of the attack, thus materially aiding the French in their attack farther south in the Arras region.

This push gives the British's possession of the road from Lens to La Basse, which was used by the Germans for moving troops and supplies north and south, and threatens to outflank the German troops, which now hold the town of Lens. Hill No. 70, one of the positions taken on the road, is less than a mile directly north of Lens, while Hulluch, which also fell into the hands of the British, is at the end of the road near La Basse. It is only twelve miles from Hulluch to Lille, the capital of Northern France.

North of the canal, the British, although they fought all day yesterday, were unable to hold the ground gained and had to fall back to the trenches they had left in the morning. The attack, however, accomplished one purpose, as, according to Field Marshal French, German reserves were sent to check this move, thus giving the British south of the canal an opportunity to consolidate their new positions unmolested.

THE FLANDERS POSITION.
Another and not less important offensive by the British was launched in Flanders. This was a general attack on the German positions along the Ypres-Menin Road, South of the road the British carried the German trenches over a front of six hundred yards. North of the road the British captured the Belle Waarde ridge, an important position, but were compelled to give it up in the face of an unusually strong counter attack. So far the British have taken 2,600 prisoners and many guns.

At the same time British warships and French and Belgian batteries have heavily bombarded the German positions on the coast between Zeebrugge and Nieuport. The highly successful attacks by the Anglo-French forces, it is freely admitted here to-day, are the beginning of the general offensive which has been so long waited. Military critics have pointed out that the tremendous artillery work that has been a feature of the War Office statements for the last three weeks was in preparation for an important movement. The stiffening of the Russian defence within the last few days at a point where the enormous German forces advancing into Russia were far from their own railways and the new Anglo-French offensive campaign which began early Saturday morning are taken here to mean that complete accord exists between the high command of the allied armies.

SECOND ONLY TO THE MARNE
Paris to-day was unusually gay after long weeks and even months of anxious waiting for good news from the front. The early reports indicate that the battle of Champagne is only second to the battle of the Marne and it is hoped that its results will be as far-reaching. It is believed that during these long weeks of waiting, General Joffre has stored up sufficient ammunition for a prolonged offensive.

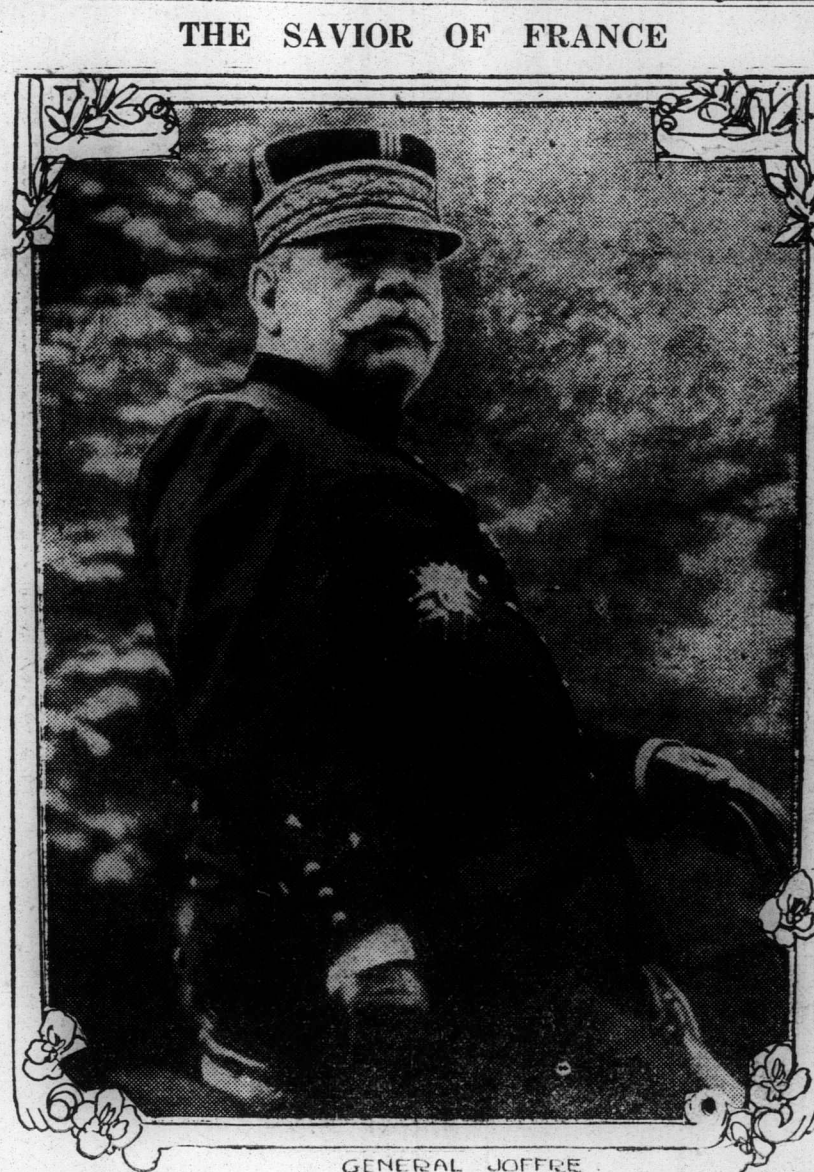
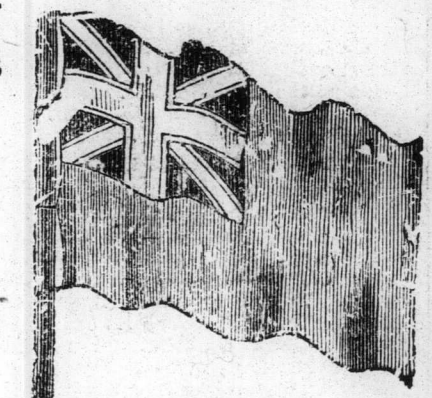
The military worth of the constant bombardment which the French and British guns have maintained in these districts as well as on many other points of the line, for the past weeks was demonstrated when the attacks for which the long-continued artillery fire was a preparation were made. Day after day, the Paris papers read, "The artillery fighting continues north of Arras," etc. The announcement that the infantry has been sent forward to take a part of the enemy's works pounded by the sustained hail of shells was taken as a promise that the allied commanders believed the time had come for making a beginning at the task of showing the Germans out of the lines which they have held for so many months. But the elaborate artillery preparations are considered sufficient evidence that these same commanders are not going at the task without a sufficient recognition of its difficulty. Only when the thoroughly

organized positions of the enemy had been pounded to pieces was the infantry sent forward.

BRITISH OFFICIAL REPORTS

An official report by Field Marshal General Sir John French on the splendid victory of his soldiers over the Germans in Northern France and Belgium, made public Sunday afternoon by the Official Press Bureau, says: "Saturday morning we attacked the enemy south of La Basse Canal, to the east of Grenay and Vermelles. We captured his trenches on a front of over five miles, penetrating his lines in some places for a distance of four thousand yards. "We captured the western outskirts of Hulluch, the village of Loos and the mining works around it, and Hill 70. "Other attacks were made to the north of La Basse Canal which drew a strong reserve of the enemy toward the point of the line, where hard fighting occurred throughout the day with varying success. At nightfall our troops north of the canal occupied

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THE SAVIOR OF FRANCE

GENERAL JOFFRE

THE VICTORY IN BRIEF
Unwounded Germans taken by British and French, 20,000.
Five miles of enemy positions taken by General French, and line penetrated 4,000 yards.
Fifteen miles of trenches captured by General Joffre, and line penetrated two and one-half miles.
British now within twelve miles of Lille.
French imperil army of the German Crown Prince.

SPLENDID SENTIMENT EXPRESSED

Italian Governor Reaffirms Pledge of the Allies.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Naples, Sept. 27.—Signor Barzilai, civil governor of the Austrian territory occupied by the Italian army as spokesman for the government to-day in a speech affirmed Italy's unswerving resolution to spare no sacrifices until the country was "delivered from the pan-Germanic menace forever." His speech was delivered before Premier Salandra, minister of public instruction Grippo, minister of posts and telegraphs, Riccio, and many members of parliament and several thousand members of the general public. The address had been eagerly awaited, as the most important political manifestation since the commencement of the war.

Signor Barzilai traced at great length the international history of the past year in an endeavor to prove that Austria's object had been to crush Italy, and that the present war was carefully prepared with the aid of Germany with that end in view. The speaker said that the Marquis Garrony, then ambassador at Constantinople, received on the 17th July, 1914, a confidential letter from the German ambassador to Turkey, Baron Von Wangenheim, in which it was stated that the note to Serbia would be of such a nature as to make war inevitable. The speaker then justified Italy's entry into the war, and pointed out what he declared would have been the dangers of neutrality.

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NOTHING COULD WITHSTAND BRITISH AND FRENCH BAYONETS—AFTER SIXTY HOURS' SHELLING IN TWENTY MINUTES THE FIRST TRENCHES FELL BEFORE CHARGING ARMY

Britain Rejoices Celebrating First Great Victory Since Rout of the Marne—Extent of This Victory Cannot be Estimated Fully at This Hour.

TRANSYLVANIA IS REPORTED SUNK

Germans Say Big Transport Was This Ship.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

New York, Sept. 27.—The Associated Press says: According to private advices received here, the large British transport reported by wireless from Berlin on September 21, to have been sunk off the Island of Crete in the Mediterranean by a German submarine was the Cunarder Transylvania. This big liner, a 14,000 ton vessel, 548 feet long, had been chartered by the British troops to carry troops to the Devonelles. She was built only two years ago at Greenock. Before the British government took her over she plied on the route between New York and Liverpool.

Bruges Bombed.

By Special Wire to the Courier.
Amsterdam, Sept. 27, via London, 3 p.m. Airmen of the entente allies have again bombarded Bruges, Belgium. The sudden cessation of the flow of gas at Sluis (in Zealand on the Belgian frontier), which is supplied with gas from Bruges, leads to the suspicion here that bombs from the air craft struck the gas works.

Paris, Sept. 27, 11 a.m.—Reports from the front say that only twenty minutes was required for the French infantry to complete the victory prepared for by sixty hours of violent shelling and over run the first line of the German trenches north of Perthes, in Champagne. While waiting the moment for the attack the French soldiers rested behind their lines, joking and putting their arms in perfect order. The bright glow from the slow burning illuminating rockets and glare of exploding projectiles lighted up the entire zone of action during two nights.

BAYONETS SWEEP ON.

"After a few hours of intense fire, our hopes that our batteries were dominating the situation were transformed to certain conviction," says a wounded officer who took part in the battle. "The moment for the attack was set for dawn, when the charge was sounded. Whole battalions, reinforced by reserves, bounded forward. The rush was so impetuous that the Germans still alive and unwounded in the battered works seemed dazed and unable to resist. They were disarmed and pushed back for our reserves to pick up, while the attacking line went on. "There was little or no musketry. The bayonets did most

of the work. The proportion of dead to wounded and prisoners was large. What was left of entire companies threw up their hands at the sight of the deadly execution of the Zouaves."

ONLY BEGINNING.

The general impression of wounded men brought from the field is that the affair of Perthes is only the beginning of the French effort. Parisians received the news of the victory soberly. The newspapers issued unusually large editions and official bulletins were read from the stages of the theatres last night, the orchestras playing the Marseillaise. There were no other public demonstrations.

A report was spread that many trains carrying wounded soldiers were arriving outside Paris, but later it was learned that these trains were filled with German prisoners.

New York, Sept. 27.—A special cable to The Herald from London this morning says: The congregations in every church in England last night, established, Roman Catholic and Non-Conformist, rejoiced over the glorious news from the western front that in terrific and continuous battles along the great fighting line from the North Sea

to the Vosges, the Franco-British forces are dislodging the Germans from their strongly fortified positions, and have advanced more than twenty-five miles of front, penetrating to a depth of from two to five miles and capturing more than twenty thousand and able bodied prisoners. The British advance north and south of La Basse completely overshadows the fighting at Neuve Chapelle in March. In fact, it is the most glorious achievement of the allied arms since the German rout in the battle of the Marne. But while the British advance is a great achievement, it pales when contrasted with the French victory in the Champagne, where the German iron wall has been shattered into fragments by the gallant French, who have penetrated the German lines to a depth of three miles. Apparently the German losses in this great battle are appalling when it is considered the fighting is 'a l'outrance.'

"North of Arras, the French, fighting shoulder to shoulder with the British, have inflicted terrific losses on the Germans, forcing them out of what were considered impregnable positions.

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RUSSIANS GAINING NOW

PETROGRAD, Sept. 26, via London, Sept. 27.—An official statement late last night reads: "Our troops carried by a bayonet charge the fortified village of Ostroff and recaptured the village Ghirty."

GOODS

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