

The Herald

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As will be seen by reference to the account of the progress of the war, tremendous battles are going on. All along the little line fierce fighting has been incessantly waged for a week or more. The Germans are not only offering the most stubborn resistance, but time and time again they have attempted to break through the lines of the Allies. But as often as they have attacked, they have been hurled back with great loss. Stubborn as has been the contest, the allies have made some progress and have pushed the enemy back some seven miles within the last few days.

The meetings, in connection with the Army Field Service Fund, held throughout King's County last week were well attended and much enthusiasm in behalf of the noble cause was manifested. Earnest and patriotic addresses relating to the war were delivered by many speakers. The justice of the cause for which Britain and her Allies are fighting was explained and elucidated, and the response of the people was splendid. At every meeting generous contributions of oats and cash were made. These meetings afforded an admirable opportunity for manifesting the loyalty and patriotism, no less than the generosity, of the people.

Eight tons of gold valued at five million dollars arrived at Ottawa one day last week over New York Central lines and under heavy guard was at once moved to the vaults of the Dominion Government. The shipment was from J. P. Morgan and Company, and was consigned to the Finance Minister who will hold it as trustee for the Bank of England. New York will make payments to London by drawing against these deposits. It is stated that fifteen million dollars in all arrived in Ottawa last week. The placing of this money to the credit of the Bank of England at Ottawa it is believed will help to facilitate business on this side and in the Old Country.

Plans are nearly completed by the military department, Ottawa, for the recruiting and training of the additional troops for service with British arms immediately after the sailing of the first contingent. The Imperial authorities are counting on Canada's maintaining of 40,000 men in the field. That means that a much greater number of men will need to be sent, as the estimate is that about sixty per cent a year require to be replaced. This has regard to casualties in action and men incapacitated through sickness and otherwise. When the first contingent of 24,000 men sails it will be followed very soon afterwards by small contingents of a few thousand each to keep the ranks filled up. The remaining 16,000 to 40,000 will probably leave about the first of the year. These troops will include three infantry brigades of 1,700 men each and the army medical army service corps etc.

The Provincial Exhibition, 1914 is now in full swing. The formal opening proceedings were held yesterday at noon. The children of all the city schools were massed in the galleries, each waving a small Union Jack, and they presented a beautiful and inspiring spectacle. The opening ceremonies

Progress of the War.

London, Sept. 15.—So far as can be made out today the pursuit of the Germans by the allies has reached its limits. The Germans are preparing to make a stand in positions which, if they have time to consolidate them, they will be in some respects much stronger than before. The pursuit did grievous damage to the invaders. It compelled them to abandon doubtful ground and move right back to the front where they could prepare for defence as thoroughly as circumstances admit for what may be even a sterner struggle on the new lines. Their recent disadvantages for the purposes of immediate battle, are reduced, though their peril in case of a defeat would be more sombre than before. They have been sobered by adversity and it would be surprising if they don't make a desperate effort.

Their right, under Gen. Kluck, if he's still in command, seems to stretch toward St. Quentin and Reims, calculated because of its close net-work of rivers, to embarrass an attack. On the invaders' left the Crown Prince's army which was thrust far forward into the Argonne, has retreated northward to make the front more even.

The main forces of the enemy stretch along the Aisne to the heights behind Rheims and on the north of Verdun so as to secure connections with Metz and Thionville. Instead of being menaced as during last week by hostile fortresses on either flank the Germans by bringing the army of the Crown Prince of Bavaria more nearly into line—it has hitherto been practically separated from the rest by a barrier chain—will themselves be covered on one wing by their own huge stronghold of Metz. If they are beaten again half of their forces must be driven into Ardennes with the probability at least of frightful hardships and confusion. In Ardennes they are believed already to have marked out very strong lines for further resistance, if things come to the worst. On their new front they are still covering all their chief railway communications both with Belgium and France. In several respects the enemy is now rather better posted again than was expected.

The Kaiser to Blame.

An interesting opinion on the present war is furnished by Dr. E. K. Dillon in the Contemporary review. Dr. Dillon disposes of the suggestion that the German Emperor was in ignorance of the causes leading to the war and that the sword was "forced into" his hand. He says: "It came to my knowledge as a fact, not as a supposition or as an inference, that the Kaiser himself was kept informed of the various phases of the Austro-Serbian quarrel; that the ultimatum was laid before him in the rough draft, and that, having read it, he made a suggestion to sharpen it, which was adopted. It is worth noting that the Berlin government had no communication of the text of the Austrian ultimatum, consequently Italy could not complain if she too were not consulted. The Kaiser was initiated but not his government." The statement of Dr. Dillon is but one of many scraps of evidence which are gradually coming to light to show that the real responsibility for the present conflict in Europe rests more heavily upon the Emperor of Germany than upon any other. He was acquainted with the progress of Austria's drastic demands upon Serbia; he knew that Russia would resent any Austrian interference in Serbian affairs; he must have realized that the participation of Russia would draw France into the maelstrom of war and that with France would come Great Britain. If he had desired to avoid general conflict it is reasonable to believe he would have advised Austria to "sharpen" the ultimatum to the Serbs? The reverse is more likely to be the case.

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The battle of Aisne, when it opens, must be a very critical affair. We have explained the German position in order to confirm our warning against an over confidence and foolish tendency to think it is nearly all over but the shouting. It is not so even in France and only when France itself is cleared will bring the hardest part of this colossal struggle. But though the result of the coming battle of Aisne cannot be regarded as a foregone conclusion, the allies ought to be no less equal to the new emergency than to their task on the Marne. With the relief of Port-Troyon, Verdun, Toul, the barrier is intact and the natural features of the country give Gen. Joffre every opportunity for another signal combination of defensive and offensive. If Gen. Kluck is crushed again the German hopes in France will be extinguished.

London, Sept. 16.—The German army, which less than a fortnight ago was at the "gates of Paris," and the right wing of which then extended to the southeast of the French capital, is tonight drawn up on almost a straight line extending from the neighborhood of Noyon, in the west, to Bois Forges on the Meuse, north of Verdun, with its left resting on the German fortress of Metz.

Thus, the right wing, at least, has gone back more than seventy miles in two weeks, while the rest of the army has had also to retire before the whole could find ground upon which to make another stand against the advance of the allies.

That the Germans intend to give battle on this line, with the Aisne river in front of their right, upon the hills of Rheims facing their centre and the mountains and forest of Argonne on their left, there seems to be little doubt. They went back steadily before the French and English armies, fighting only rear-ground actions until their right, in command of Gen. Kluck, got across the Aisne. They then turned and delivered several counter attacks which, however, according to the British official report, were repulsed, the Germans leaving 200 prisoners in the hands of the British. These counter attacks were

undoubtedly delivered in the hope of giving the troops of the right wing, exhausted by the long advance, followed by almost as long retreat, the opportunity of resting and preparing positions from which they could await reinforcements before taking up the offensive again.

The Germans are in the hilly country around Noyon, on the plateau north of Vic-Sur-Aisne and Soissons, and north of Rheims, where they are digging strong entrenchments and receiving reinforcements.

But even here this right wing, which has up to the present borne the brunt of the fighting in the advance and the retreat, is not altogether safe, for the French army operating from Aunies clings to its flank, while the British and French forces continue to press in front.

It is essential, however, that they should hold their positions, for they cover the lines of retreat to the north, which would be the only way out, if defeat should be their lot. That they realize this is shown by the fact that they have been contesting every foot of the ground with the allied armies, the last two days, and that both sides have suffered heavily.

The British army, as had been its lot since it landed in France, is taking its full share in this fighting, which on the front has been particularly severe, since the Germans crossed the Aisne and made their first determined stand in the retreat from Paris.

Paris, Sept. 17.—The official statement issued tonight announces that the situation is without change.

London, Sept. 17, 9:07 p.m.—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, north-west 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 effort 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 the plains of Champagne and in the Argonne Mountains through which the Meuse flows. They are in stronger positions 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, which flushed with victory have been trying to prevent them from entrenching themselves.

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

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 or forced 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 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 Meuse. 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.

several combats proceeding incessantly at the strongest points of the Germans defending the line along the River Aisne.

Each encounter, however, influences the execution of the general idea of the commander-in-chief of the allied army. Attacks and counter attacks follow one another in rapid succession every hour out of the twenty-four.

During the course of the night of September 15-16 the Germans attempted a formidable movement in the western sphere but were met by the French and British with courage that was simply marvellous against overwhelming odds. The Germans returned to the attack no fewer than ten times with marvellous tenacity and intrepidity, but were unable to break through the firm line presented by the allies infantry. The fight just before daybreak was the most violent of all. The Germans appeared to throw into the charge all that remained of their energy, but were rolled back with enormous losses. Before retiring behind their big guns they sacrificed many of their number displaying resolution which approached desperation. A vigorous counter attack from the allies ensued, during which a small extent of ground was gained.

On the Battlefront, Sept. 19, Saturday by way of Paris.—Overpowering fatigue and privations, resulting from five days of unrelenting struggle, brought about last night a temporary lull in the combat of the powerful armies that are face to face along the Rivers Oise, Aisne.

The roar of cannon, machine guns and rifles died down early last evening, and the presence of two armies, composed altogether of one million or more men, within touch on an uneven line and ready to spring to a fatal grip, scarcely could be conceived so intense was the stillness broken only by an occasional report.

The soldiers of the allies and the Germans alike were snatching a little rest, huddled up in the strong entrenchments. In some places the trenches were half filled with water.

The French and British, like the Germans, have now entrenched and settled down for the stern fight, which threatens to be even longer and more sanguinary than the battle of the Marne. Progress is being made at some points by the allies, but very slowly, and the developments of the past 24 hours are not important, except that it is officially confirmed that the Germans have received reinforcements from Lorraine.

There were a few isolated encounters today, but both sides appear to have abandoned the rush movements across the open, which marked the early stages of the war. Obviously the deadly machine guns have taught a lesson.

London, Sept. 20.—One of the fiercest battles of all times which has been raging across northern France for a week past remains undecided. The two great armies which have been fighting at Argonne, where the Crown Prince's army is opposed to them, while the Germans rallied beyond the frontier in Lorraine, evacuating Arrivourt.

In all cases these are separate attacks and counter attacks by the armies lying in the trenches waiting for their artillery to compel the other side to slacken its fire. The losses in these attacks must be enormous, for the men cannot move a foot without being made the targets of the heavy guns posted on the hill above them.

The British apparently have learned something from the Japanese attacks on Port Arthur. They make a rush forward and when the fire becomes too heavy for them to make a further advance they again dig trenches for themselves and remain there until another opportunity offers for them to gain a few more yards.

The Germans have had most of their artillery at work, but the French are bringing up more and bigger guns. This kind of fighting, with both sides in strong positions, may go for days yet, but sooner or later one side must find the continual fall of shells and the disconcerting infantry attacks too much for them, and leaving a strong rear guard, will draw back for a breathing spell.

The German cavalry have been showing considerable daring and have been trying to cut the communications of the allies between the Oise and the coast. French reports bring confirmation of reports that the Saxon army,

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The Silent War

The present world-wide struggle in Europe will go into history as the silent war that it will be unique. Times, when armies met in the ubiquitous war corridors was as much a part of the equipment as the combatants. Stories of personal and mighty deeds of valor not difficult to obtain even a very short time after the event. But today the fields of Europe are silent. A mystery deep and impenetrable. Aside from brief messages given out occasionally "the people of the nation" are in a struggle with the fearful impress of the war, as much in the dark as to what is really transpiring. Combatants, were hill tri India or native legions dark continent.

In the exciting days of the war of the campaign which earth was pregnant with the possibilities of Agamemnon, news and news agencies, with their resources at their command their best men to "cover" happenings. They might have remained at home except for despatches from far away from the combatants, these correspondent unable to accomplish anything. What is true of the actual war is also true of the preparation for the war. In the capital of Europe the most rigorous censorship has been maintained, only do the censors careful amine every syllable sent on telegraph wires, but no authority can be found who offer information as to what is likely to happen. In London people see regiments and divisions marching through the streets going no one knows where for how long. There is a general idea that British troops have been sent to France and Belgium after they pass the spectator the streets they vanish from ken of the ordinary man as completely as if the earth had opened and swallowed them.

A Canadian, recently returned from London, saw a fine regiment march into an army. He enquires and was informed they would be there for several days. Having a friend, an officer in the regiment, he called at the armory the following morning was surprised to find it deserted. In the watches of the night fighting force had melted away. And this is one of many incidents.

Orders were given for the ing of the British fleet. The war vessels were seen steaming majestically out into the English Channel, and that time, except for brief cryptic messages received by Admiralty and transmitted they deem it wise to put in the form of bulletins equal brief, there has been no tidings. Whether it is well or ill, Britain's navy can only hope from the fact that British morale is unimpaired, while Germany is practically paralyzed.

Not long ago the passenger returning from Great Britain of great numbers of Russian landing in Scotland from the angel and passing through Belgrade route to France and Belgium. An American writer of repute and credibility saw them and recognized them. Other met them trustworthily told the story. Then, after several had elapsed, the British press bureau announced with the weight of officialdom the report was untrue. The newspapers, however, are inclined to pin their faith to the stories which are supported by much circumstantial evidence. The Toronto World, referring to this particular incident, called it the Russian Mystery, and said: "Even a more baffling mystery than that of Edwin Drood, the man in the iron in history and the Little Julius in literature is that of the Russians in western Europe, weeks tales of the most colossal character. Have been rent regarding the transport anything from 70,000 to 200,000 Russian troops from Archangel on the White Sea, to Britain thence to, unknown destination on the continent. At railway points in England and travellers to this side of the Atlantic declare that they personally witnessed, or were