

able to hold firmly, at least on the Somme and the Ancre Rivers. Further south in the Roye-Noyon region the situation is less well defined, but it is stated that both the French and British are bringing up reserves there. The correspondents also are showing greater confidence that the enemy will be held on this terrain.

The German official communication of tonight was significantly later and reserved. It reports the crossing of the Ancre, but only refers to Tuesday's events, while the British war office statement shows that the French men who had crossed that stream were thrown back today in counter-attacks.

The news from the Somme front is distinctly encouraging. The British having recaptured Morlancourt and Chipilly and advanced to Proyart.

The infantry fighting along the major portion of the British front in the new battle showed a marked slowing down this morning, indicating that the first phase of the German offensive here has been finished. From the southern sector, however, the word that the Germans were still pressing the attack with great fury against the unwavering defence.

The enemy has paused in the northern sector, probably to reorganize and bring forward much-needed artillery before beginning the second round against the stiffening opposition of the British.

Hard local battles were still in progress, but the first fury of the German onslaught has spent itself. Several attacks which the Germans essayed were smashed, and at Sully-le-Sac, where the Germans last night gained a footing, the British this morning delivered a smashing counter-attack which pushed the invaders back.

The spirit of optimism was higher along the front today.

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The British have again advanced their line south of the Somme to Proyart.

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A number of other heavy attacks both north and south of the Somme were repulsed with heavy loss to the Germans.

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PREPARING FOR ALLIED ATTACK

German Newspapers Tell Poets of Coming Franco-British Offensive.

Washington, March 27.—Official French despatches received here today say the newspapers in Germany are preparing the people for a Franco-British offensive, forecasting the entry of a powerful army of reserves.

most terrible bombardment, which lasted until daylight. The gunning along the front for the past week has been appalling, and the zone is shadowed with a towering greyish haze from burning explosives.

These marks have practically no change in the British line since yesterday. The most sensational rumors are continually coming back from the direction of Albert, most of the effect that the Germans were well on the way to Amiens. But the Germans were still sitting under the guns of the British artillerymen the gunfire of Albert, but was thrown back by the British.

Similar activities against the neighboring village of Auchonvillers met a like fate, and the British captured prisoners. The Germans were in force in this sector, the Bavarians being included among the troops.

Attack Flung Back. Another attack was delivered at Ablainzeville, but was flung back. These mark the principal events along the British front. A renewal of the offensive is expected as soon as the Germans have had time to prepare themselves.

Touching scenes are witnessed among the civilian population in the areas affected by the German offensive. For days these civilians have been coming back from their homes, following one another dumbly like sheep towards havens of safety. There has been no stampede and little confusion, for they have been brought out under the guidance of the British military authorities; and many of them probably would have stayed by their own fires in preference to daring adventures in the outside world. The command had not forced them for their own good to move into quiet zones.

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Dineen's Easter Hats for Men

DINEEN'S is an exclusive style and quality shop for men's hats. Only the best makes of hats are carried in stock. Dineen's are the exclusive agents in Toronto for Dunlap, the famous American hatter, and Henry Heath of Oxford street, London, England.

Every Dineen hat represents a better value. Whether the price is \$3 or \$6 the style, or the quality, is better. The firm has been established for fifty years and in that time it has formed world-wide connections with famous hatters.

- Christy Hats—In hard and soft felts—the original "London Christy."
Henry Heath—London's foremost hatter. We carry a large representative stock in hard and soft felts. Exclusive agents in Toronto.
Dunlap Hats—Hard and soft felts. We are exclusive agents in Toronto.
Hillgate Hats—Another particular English selection.

Christy's London Hats Our stock of the famous Christy hats, in hard and soft felts, is widely and choicely assorted. The prices range up to five dollars, but our three-fifty line will probably suit you to a nicety. \$3.50

W. DINEEN COMPANY LIMITED 140 Yonge Street



ENORMOUSLY LONG AMBULANCE TRAINS

Thousands of Wounded Germans Being Moved Away From the Battle Front.

Amsterdam, March 27.—Enormously long ambulance trains are passing thru Liege and Namur, Belgium, on their way to Aix-La-Chapelle and other parts of Germany with wounded men from the French battle front, according to The Telegraph's correspondent.

Many of the wounded have been detained at Namur, says the correspondent, who adds that the hospitals in northern France have not sufficient accommodations for the great stream of sufferers.

The Telegraph's Zevenaar correspondent says the first transports with wounded have arrived at front towns. Commenting on this fact, The Telegraph says that while the German communications speak of the slight German losses, it is significant that even in the most out-of-the-way places in Germany wounded are arriving.

SOVIETS CARRY ODESSA; FIGHT AUSTRIANS HARD

Bloody Battle Participated in by Naval Troops Results in Bolshevik Success.

London, March 27.—Odessa has been recaptured by the Soviet and Ukrainian troops after a bloody battle, in which naval forces took part, according to a Moscow despatch from the semi-official Russian news agency.

The German war office on March 13 announced that Odessa had been entered by German troops. The preliminary peace treaty between Rumania and the central powers contains a provision engaging Rumania to support the transport of troops of the central powers thru Moldavia and Bessarabia to Odessa. Semi-official announcement was then made that Germany had obtained a direct route by way of Russia to Persia and Afghanistan.

Odessa is the most important seaport of the Black Sea, and the fourth city of Russia in size. Its population is about 450,000.

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WEDNESDAY'S NET RESULTS

THE strength of the great German offensive in France apparently is fast diminishing. On the seventh day of the titanic battle there were strong indications that the strain he has undergone and that his power has been greatly impaired thru hard usage.

While the town of Albert has been captured from the British and west of Roye the French have been compelled to give ground in the face of greatly superior numbers, the British have repulsed heavy attacks both north and south of the Somme, and also driven back across the Ancre the Germans who took the stream Wednesday. The fighting still continues of a sanguinary character on both sides, but everywhere the British and French are holding the enemy. Especially severe has been the fighting west of Albert, where the Germans, in an endeavor to debouch westward, were repulsed by Field Marshal Haig's men, with the heaviest casualties.

The British gains between the Somme and the Ancre have been presented by the recapture of the towns of Morlancourt and Chipilly. South of the Somme they advanced to Proyart, which lies to the south of Bray.

All along the 50-m front from the region of Bray to the south of the Somme the British line stands firm. To have been the first stroke at any point by the enemy back to the redeployment of the troops, villages and hamlets thru which the armies have passed.

Westward from where the old battle line ran the Germans everywhere have pushed forward for material gains, but with loss before them they fought with great bravery and stubbornness and ceded no ground unless recompensed at a high price. It is estimated that in the great attacks during the past few days 400,000 of the enemy were killed or made prisoner. It is estimated that in the great attacks during the past few days 400,000 of the enemy were killed or made prisoner. It is estimated that in the great attacks during the past few days 400,000 of the enemy were killed or made prisoner.

About 25 miles represents the greatest point of penetration made at any place by the enemy in his advance, and on the northern and southern ends of the big salient he has left his flanks dangerously open to counter-attacks, which, if successful, possibly might result in a retreat to the line of the 1916 retrograde movement of Von Hindenburg and nullify in its entirety the gains that have been accomplished. It is not improbable that British and French reserves, possibly anti-aircraft troops, known to be behind the battle front, soon will be thrown against the weakened enemy.

Notwithstanding the strength of the German drive, nowhere has the British or French front been even dented. Ground has been given, it is true, but so skilfully and with such precision of movement that from north to south a surveyor could scarcely have worked out a more even line. Still intact in the hands of the allied forces are portions of the old line from which Hindenburg fell back in his "strategic" retirement in 1916.

Just who is in command of the German forces seems to be somewhat in doubt. Later despatches report that Field Marshal von Hindenburg has been making, some excellent theatre, and German war correspondents assert that General von Ludendorff has been planning the offensive, but was on the ground last Friday personally to control the attacks.

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WAR SUMMARY

THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

IN THE battle of northern France yesterday the fighting was heavy from a point north of the Somme to the River Oise, with only minor fluctuations, mostly favorable to the allies, to record. Field Marshal Haig declares that the British troops have fought magnificently and have thrown back the enemy with heavy losses, despite his superiority of numbers and his most bitter and determined attacks.

The British are closely watching vital points like the crossings of the Somme, and a counter-attack between the Ancre and the Somme enabled them to recapture Morlancourt and Chipilly. The Germans, in the previous evening, by massing large forces, made a desperate attempt against Albert and the region to the west, but the British managed to cling to the railway embankment just west of Albert, and so frustrated the enemy design. Hard fighting proceeded all day in the Albert region, and although the Germans made a small advance, the British contrived to hold them generally. Heavy German attacks are also proceeding near and south of Rozières.

His right wing has now attained a point about 35 miles northeast of Jerusalem, making a considerable extension of front. The continuance of this campaign and the gaining of a marked strategical and political success would go far towards bringing home to the German people the knowledge that the British government is not impressed with the mightiest German efforts in France.

Canadian horse artillery, heavy guns and tanks constructed troops had a not insignificant share in making the saving resistance to the first two days' rushes of the German onset. The men had an exciting time, but they escaped with light casualties. The horse artillery cut its way thru the German cavalry and lost only two batteries. A battery of heavy guns did excellent service and escaped capture. A Canadian railway construction battalion took part in a successful stand.

British cavalry has appeared in the fight and it has won a brilliant success. For military reasons news of the time, place and extent of the action is lacking, but the appearance of cavalry seems to herald the coming of the advance troops of the reserve. Fresh troops have already entered the fight, but these appear to belong to ordinary field and trench armies.

They came up just in time for the position of the British north of the Somme and along the Ancre was then extremely critical. The Germans are lining the battlefield like bees, but the bulk of them are immobile with the extreme exhaustion of their long onset. An attack of large forces of fresh troops would find them less capable of resisting than at any time in the near future. The allied guns are making, some excellent shooting against the German communications and back areas, and the British aviators have practically cleared the air of German machines, so that they will practically have it all their own way after this in their incursions against the enemy.

The confidence of the British army in its ability to withstand further German shocks is rising, for it is believed that the enemy has done his worst, although he may attempt other furious rushes with his spearhead before admitting defeat and retiring. The British, the hard pressed in the early days of the battle, managed to carry away all their heavy artillery, and their losses amount to about 600 field guns. The Germans, according to General Maurice, have also exaggerated the number of prisoners taken

by them. The British, on their part, have also taken many prisoners, but for certain reasons they are not announcing the figures.

After the Austrian troops in the Ukraine have become dispersed, the search of foodstuffs at the Bolsheviks arose at several places, including Odessa, and seized control of the situation. Russian peasants are also opposing the enemy exactions of grain, and have fought successful skirmishes with the Austrians. Thus the enemy has begun to encounter armed opposition, and it looks as if soon he will only be sure of occupying the ground on which he stands. The cutting off of the enemy in the interior of Russia would cause a serious diversion in his rear at the time when the situation in France would be becoming critical for him. Von Hindenburg is at Riga, having left Von Ludendorff and the Kaiser to bear the responsibility of the western offensive, and is said to favor an occupation of Petrograd.

In Palestine General Allenby has captured Es-Salt, and probably by this time has cut the Hedjaz railway. His right wing has now attained a point about 35 miles northeast of Jerusalem, making a considerable extension of front. The continuance of this campaign and the gaining of a marked strategical and political success would go far towards bringing home to the German people the knowledge that the British government is not impressed with the mightiest German efforts in France.

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FRESH TROOPS USED TO ATTACK FRENCH

Some Advance Made in Places; at Others, Germans Suffer Complete Checks.

Paris, March 27.—With fresh troops the Germans today attacked the French lines east of Mont Didier, and although their assaults were repulsed several times they succeeded in making some advance, according to the war office communication tonight. Around Lassigny and Noyon powerful enemy attacks were broken up. The text of the statement reads: "The Germans, throwing into the battle fresh troops, today attacked with redoubled violence our positions east of Mont Didier. Our troops with praiseworthy tenacity checked the assaults of the enemy, who succeeded in advancing only by reason of a marked superiority in numbers.

In the regions of Lassigny and Noyon attacks were repulsed, but suffered a complete check, breaking down before the heroic resistance of our regiments."

GERMAN CASUALTIES ESTIMATED AT THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND

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HALF OF RESERVES LOST BY GERMANS

Enemy Units Suffer Terribly in First Stage of Battle.

FIGHTING ABOUT ROYE German Higher Command Aims at Splitting Allied Front in This Region.

British Headquarters in France, March 27.—The Germans last night continued their furious onslaught southwestward from Ham against the allied defenses in the region of Roye and Noyon, having allowed down their attempt to cut thru the British line further north, where such desperate resistance was offered.

The conflict in the sector around Roye and Noyon appears to be of great importance, from the many indications that the German higher command is attempting to split the allied front there and start a rolling-up process either way.

From the average casualties in the various German units, as given by prisoners, one arrives at the conclusion that the German emperor has sent 50 per cent of these men since he gave the signal for the advance.

Hard fighting occurred last night about the town of Albert. Large enemy forces pushed forward toward the place, but at last accounts the British were holding them doggedly at this possible gateway to Amiens. The various Germans have now reclaimed virtually all the territory they held at the beginning of the battle of the Somme in 1916. At some places they have not retaken all the old ground, but at other points they have overstepped it altogether.

The official British statement of yesterday said it had been established that more than 70 German divisions had been engaged in the battle. The usual estimate of the present strength of a German division is 12,000 men, so that a loss of 50 per cent would mean casualties in excess of 7,000,000 for the Germans in less than a week of fighting.

NO AMERICANS TAKEN

Amsterdam, March 27.—The part reported to have been played by American troops in the attempted relief of the British flank near La Perre is referred to briefly by most of the German war correspondents, but so far no mention has been made of the presence of Americans among the prisoners.

NUXATED IRON

You Can Tell the Women With Plenty of Iron in Their Blood—Beautiful, Healthy, Rosy—Checked Women Full of Vim and Vitality.

Dr. Ferdinand King, New York physician should prescribe more organic iron—Nuxated Iron for that