

Why the Allies Must Win

By THE EDITOR

VICTORY must in the end come to the Allied forces, in this greatest of all international struggles. This becomes clearer day by day. When war first broke out the world was staggered. There were only a few men who had thought it out in advance. Lord Kitchener, Sir Edward Grey, and General Joffre must have had a fairly clear idea of what the struggle would mean to the world, and especially to Great Britain and France. Somebody at Petrograd must also have had a tolerably clear conception of how the war would affect the Russian army, the Russian navy, and the Russian nation. There were other men, publicists, journalists, military experts and financiers, who had looked into the future and estimated the force of this possible shock upon the world's diplomacy, the world's commerce, and upon all those qualities and circumstances which are roughly classed under the heading of "civilization."

After all, these knowing and thoughtful men were few in number. The average citizen had no conception of the effect which such a war would have upon the national interests of his particular country or the possible effect upon the business in which he was engaged. Consequently, the world of commerce and business was stunned into inactivity the moment the vast armies of Europe began to move. Even the shrewdest financiers of the United States and Canada were bewildered, while the smaller men, men who have deemed themselves absolute masters of themselves and their destinies, were thrown into a state of mental paralysis.

SIX weeks have passed and the world is fast recovering from its shock. Half the things which men feared do not exist and will not materialize. The universal fear and trembling which swept through the commercial world is disappearing. The shrewdest men in each of the nations were the first to get their bearings, and their clear-sighted confidence in the ultimate result has gradually worked down from grade to grade until it has permeated the whole people. It is to the credit of the British leaders, political, social, and commercial, that they were the first to recover from the trip-hammer blow which the German Kaiser administered to the world. The sublime confidence with which the British race has faced this greatest of conflicts, is magnificent. The wonderful adaptive and constructive capacity of the British people was never exhibited to greater advantage. All that cool, non-temperamental, British indifference was laid aside and the heroic qualities which have made the British people the leaders of the world for several centuries were given free rein. The new conditions were met by new laws, new habits, and unprecedented resourcefulness. A new set of circumstances in the life of the people was countered promptly and thoroughly by new national and personal measures.

It is just these qualities in the British people and their Allies which make for ultimate success. The German Kaiser and his advisers thought to defy the world. They deemed themselves demi-gods who could accomplish every desire. They decided to match their wits, their physical strength, and their highly scientific war machine against those of all other nations combined. The future historian will undoubtedly label their attitude and action as "ridiculous."

WHEN the Germans started to invade Belgium and France, they carried everything before them. They carved their way through the little Belgium army with only slight difficulty. Perhaps they were astonished at the resistance offered by this puny nation, but if so that was but a momentary flash. It required only a few days for the huge German army to crush and twist the face of Belgium almost beyond recognition. Then they wheeled and made a mad rush for Paris.

There is little doubt that they expected to sweep the French armies before them and to repeat the triumph scored by Bismarck in 1870. For a time it looked as if they would succeed, but fates were against them. The French were better prepared and better led than in the previous war. They had the assistance of a British army which made up in quality for any lack of numbers. Moreover, the Germans had against them the public opinion of the world. Under such circumstances a German triumph was an impossibility.

In a military sense the German war machine seems to have broken down in the first place along the lines of communication. The vast quantities of ammunition for rifles and artillery, the still vaster quantities of supplies consumed every day by an army of more than one million men, could not be transported with that speed or precision which was necessary to maintain the German war machine at its best. The farther the German army got from its base of supplies and the longer its lines of communication, the less effective its striking power. In the end it became so enfeebled that the Allied armies were able to hold it in check. Later, the inevitable happened. A re-

treat began and with it came a sad, sad era for the fatuous war lords of Berlin.

YET there were other reasons than those already given why the German defeat was inevitable. The striking power of the great British Empire has never yet been tested. Indeed, in its modern form and strength that Empire does not know its own power. Perhaps Lord Kitchener had estimated it, but if so he never told what he thought. Now we find the announcement made that this non-military Empire, with a standing army of about one hundred and fifty thousand men, proposes to put two million men in the field. The regular army will be increased to 1,200,000; the territorials to 300,000; the reserves to 214,000; the contingent to be brought from India

THE DUKE IN TORONTO



H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught reviewing boy scouts and veterans at Toronto Exhibition. With him (on left) is Scout Commissioner, Noel Marshall, Esq., who is also head of the Red Cross Society for Canada.

will number 70,000, and yet leave huge armies in that country; the Canadian contingents will add 40,000; the Australians are sending 20,000; and New Zealand 10,000. This will make an army of 1,854,000 men available for the defence of Great Britain and for the chastisement of the exponents of "brute force." All this without endangering the local defence of any other portion of the vast British Empire.

Similarly, the Russian Empire is calling up its huge, unestimated military resources. Although less efficient in some respects than the German, French and British forces, the Russian armies are superior to the Austrian, as already has been proven. Given time and numerical superiority, the Russians will crush their way across the Vistula. The reorganization of the last five years has given the Russian army a striking power tremendously superior to that displayed in the Russo-Japanese war.

HAD there been no British fleet, the triumph of the Allies over the Germans would be inevitable. So long as the British fleet rides the ocean it serves only to accentuate the inevitable. It is an essential part of British defence, but it is less essential as a striking force against the heart of the German Empire. Just what will happen when the British fleet proceeds to take active measures and to co-operate with the attacking armies, one does not know. All that it is necessary to say is that the German war lords will be defeated even if the British fleet never strikes another blow.

THEREFORE, let Canadians take heart and be of good cheer. There never was any danger that the Allies would be defeated. There is no possible combination of forces, known or unknown,

which can prevent the destruction of the power of the man who has claimed to rule in Germany by divine right. Germany itself will not be crushed, but the mediaeval feudalism which has hung as a mill-stone about its neck will be removed. There can be no peace until the German army is crushed and the German navy is transferred to other owners. That means a long, long war. Great Britain has made up her mind that the work must be done thoroughly so that it will not be necessary to do it a second time. Indeed, a long war can be prevented only by some accident or event which will remove the Kaiser from the throne of Prussia and from his leadership in the German confederation.

The War Chronicle

Monday, Sept. 7th.—The week closed with German successes at the full but with the Allies taking strong positions. Hot fighting is reported all along the line, Paris to Verdun, 150 miles. In the Marne Valley, near Paris, the Allies are making their strongest efforts, while the Germans were making their severest attacks between Vitry and Verdun, farther east. The Germans are also attacking Nancy. For the first time in the history of the campaign the German line shows signs of weakening and a victory for the Allies is reported at Precy on the Oise, not far from Paris.

Tuesday, Sept. 8th.—The offensive movement of the Allies begins to develop more strongly, especially in the Paris district. The German right wing is being rolled back from the Oise to the Ourcq. At this point the Allies seem to have turned the retreat of the German right wing almost into a rout. The British and French forces in this district, reinforced by fresh troops from the garrison at Paris, are getting their revenge for the indignities that had been bestowed upon them in previous weeks. Farther east, between Vitry and Verdun, where the Germans are still trying hard to break through the French centre, the honours are more nearly even.

Wednesday, Sept. 9th.—Further success is reported by the French in the Paris district and the Germans have been driven back across the Marne River with considerable losses. The attack of the Allies all along the line seems to be reaching a climax. Apparently this is the time when the Allies' plan to make a hot attack upon the tiring German troops, when they would have the lowest possible supply of food and ammunition. On the other hand, the Allies are close to their base of supplies and have been heavily reinforced from the Paris army, from Great Britain, and probably from India. During the first three days of the week the right wing of the Germans has been pushed back about fifty miles.

A report from Petrograd says that Russian Poland is now free of Austrians, but admits that the Germans are still in that territory. Apparently the first move of the Russian army in this district was intended to prevent a junction of the Germans and Austrians. In this the Russians have succeeded beyond their expectations.

Thursday, Sept. 10th.—In France the Allies are holding their own at every point except Nancy. The British captured a battery of field artillery from the German right wing.

From Austria comes the announcement that the armies in Galicia are under the personal direction of Archduke Francis Frederick, the Heir Apparent. The total Austrian loss in killed, wounded and missing is placed at 125,000. This seems to have staggered the Austrian nation.

Premier Asquith asked Parliament to authorize a new call for another half million volunteers, which will bring the British army over the million mark. The Admiralty admit that the "Pathfinder" was destroyed by a German submarine, not by a mine.

Friday, Sept. 11th.—The Allies' left wing continues to drive back the German right wing around Soissons and Compeigne. The Germans are leaving behind them considerable quantities of supplies, wounded and prisoners. The Allies are growing more and more confident every day and unless something unexpected happens the German advance in France has been permanently checked.

Saturday, Sept. 12th.—Further news from the Allies in France indicates that the Germans have evacuated Amiens, occupied on Sept. 3rd, and are falling back very rapidly. The German troops which retreated from in front of Paris are now nearly back to Rheims. In the east of France the Germans are also retreating and the French have re-occupied several towns. The Germans are evidently making an heroic effort to retain Rheims, which is the centre of their lines of communication.

Monday, Sept. 14th.—Further news from Petrograd says that the number of Austrian prisoners now in the hands of the Russians totals about 200,000. This is almost equal to the German success against France in the war of 1870. That Russia should have been able to duplicate such a memorable achievement spells the downfall of the forces of the Triple Alliance.

Recent arrivals in New York tend to confirm the news that Russian troops landed in Scotland and travelled by train to the South of England, where they embarked for France. Similarly New York prints information to the effect that British and Indian troops from Hong Kong have crossed Canada on their way to Europe.