

G.P.

War News.

Messages Received

Previous to 9 A. M.

BRITISH EFFICIENCY.

British Headquarters in France, Sept. 28 (via Reuter's Ottawa Agency).—It has been a notable fact about the two last battles in Flanders that each formed a one-day operation to complete itself. There may have been some mopping up and straightening out to be done on the following day, and always counter attacks to take full of, but surely the highest possible estimate of efficiency is obtained in that the Saxons surrendered during the day with a freedom which evidenced the frame of mind to which they had been reduced. Less resistance was experienced in the block houses and shell holes than anticipated, owing to the thoroughness of the artillery. Sniping is again becoming more prevalent than in the later stages of trench warfare, owing to the opportunities that the new conditions offer. Several captured pill boxes and rifles mounted on tripods were found, in addition, to machine guns. The Australians have met with curious experience on one part of the front where they engaged the Germans actually advancing as they were being marched forward. Our curtain of fire made them fall back upon their own barrage, suffering heavily. The Londoners had to face the heaviest counter attacks. One of the positions they captured was retaken by the enemy, but our barages were again magnificent. German retaliation was late and completely ineffective. Further details of the stand of two companies of the Argyll and Sutherland regiments show they were sent forward to fill a gap when the big counter attack of Tuesday was developing. Prisoners taken by the Corps were identified as storm troops and line infantry of four divisions. When the Germans bent our line, the Argylls were left well in the open with German shells bursting round them and our barrage in the rear. The gallant Scots doggedly stuck to the position and could see our front on both sides pushed back by the weight of German numbers. They might have judged it impossible for supports to reach them, although the commander with another company of the battalion was lying close up to the barrage waiting a chance to penetrate it. Another company on their flank helped them out before the brilliant counter attack launched in the afternoon by the Australians got into touch and repaired the break. Although this counter attack was splendidly conducted in comparison with the enormous superiority of the enemy, it did not carry our line quite forward to the former position, with the result that at nightfall the Argylls were still in the open. They might have been withdrawn, but had been told to hold out as long as possible. So when the battle broke loose the next morning and the whole line moved forward, these gallant Scots were in their places. The battalion boasts that notwithstanding having to bear a heavy share of German assaults it didn't lose a prisoner. Prisoners from German reserves stated that in response to a call for reinforcements their divisions hurried up. Our siren spotted it, and our artillery plastered the assembling Germans. Our fire also laid an intense barrage in front of them, and in consequence the men demoralized before the advance, were so thinned when they got through that they were unable to get in contact with our troops. The ground was strewn with their corpses. The spirit of our men is amazing, because they know as never before, they can drive out the Huns and that the Huns can't come back.

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was holding and consolidating the salient positions won from the Germans in Wednesday's battle east of Ypres, extension of which would give him the dominating point from which to operate against the Ostend-Lille railroad and also the position flanking on both the southern and southwestern parts of Crown Prince Rupprecht, of Bavaria's line. All commanding positions taken by English, Scotch and Australian regiments in the latest drive, have been firmly held by them, despite numerous furious counter attacks, delivered with huge effectiveness, in which the Germans suffered terrible losses in men killed or wounded. The British artillery again has assumed proportions of drum fire, which is always an indication that General Haig has in store for the enemy still further relentless attacks against his lines. Crown Prince Frederick William probably imbued with the idea that at some time he will be able to pierce General Petain's front along the southern portion of the battle line, continues here and there to strike violently. His latest attempt has been in the forest of Argonne, where three times he threw his troops against the Frenchmen as in Chemin-Des-Dames and before Verdun, where similar assaults recently have been made, and the effort of the Germans was fruitless and brought to them only additional heavy losses. Comparative quiet prevails on all the other battle fronts, although there have been a resumption by the Russians of their activities in the Caucasus, where at several points the Ottoman forces have been defeated by the Russians.

GERMAN ADMISSION.

BERLIN, Sept. 28.
To-day's statement: Western theatre army of Crown Prince Rupprecht—On the Flanders battlefield artillery fighting increased this afternoon. In the evening drum fire was directed against points east of Ypres. The English advanced there in the form of strong attacks, northeast of Frez-

emburg and on the road to Menin. Both these attacks were driven back by our fire, but the enemy still occupies some positions on our front. On the east artillery activity was lively also at intervals at several places on the Aisne front.

RUSSIAN OFFICIAL.

PETROGRAD, Sept. 28.
The Russians have captured Crenaru, 24 miles west of Mori, in the Caucasus. It is officially announced in Petrograd. The Russian destroyer Ochotnik was sunk by a mine in the Baltic on Wednesday.

THE IRISH SITUATION.

DUBLIN, Sept. 28.
(Correspondence of the Associated Press).—The Sinn Fein party is extending its activities, and forming local clubs everywhere in the country. It still remains, however, rather a pervading sentiment than a definite organization. Some speakers continue to preach revolution by armed forces. Others appear to aim at a programme nearer the practical limits of politics. The Associated Press correspondent talked with some who were very influential in the movement, to whom a free Ireland under the Crown would be a welcome idea, provided it didn't mean subjection to the British Cabinet. This is not so far from the rule Canada enjoys. There is a hopeful feeling, that the Irish Convention may form a workable scheme of self-government. The conviction is growing that if it does produce an acceptable plan, the irreconcilables will be left without followers. Meanwhile the military is treating the situation on the assumption that the extremists mean what they say. Drilling is absolutely prohibited. Those engaged in it are court-martialled and sent to jail. Arms are being seized everywhere. The Convention is still busy discussing colonial schemes of home rule, but there doesn't seem to be any prospect of any early decision. Delay is

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not caused by any friction between the parties. The motto and mind of the conductors is slow but sure. The slowness, indeed, is regarded by wise judges inside and outside the Convention as a rather hopeful sign. Everybody is anxious for a settlement that can be offered the country

with a reasonable hope that it will capture all sections and provide a basis of a government for Ireland in which all can cordially join.

THE GERMAN CHANCELLOR TALKS
AMSTERDAM, Sept. 28.
Dr. Michaelis, the German Chancellor,

in a speech to the main committee of the Reichstag said, the Pope's peace proposals were inspired by moral seriousness and the pure justice of neutrality, which things were lacking in the reply by Wilson to the Pope, justifying Germany's refusal to state her war aims. He said such action would only have a confusing effect and would injure German interests. American military exertions were availed by Germany with confidence. He strongly attacked President Wilson's reply which only bound the German people more firmly. He dwelt on the satisfactory state of relations with neutrals which were not disturbed by the exertions unprecedented of a hostile press. He deeply deplored the sufferings caused the neutrals by enemy economic war and was always prepared to assume a share of provisioning neutrals. The economic and financial difficulties of France were fast increasing. They were still more keenly felt in Italy. In England there was also exerting a certain inexorable effect. A deceptive hope that dissensions exist amongst us causes the leading British statesmen to continue to adhere to their war aims.

SINN FEINERS CAUSE TROUBLE.

CORK, Ireland, Sept. 28.
A police sergeant was shot in the thigh at midnight last night while he was preparing a squad at the court house to charge a crowd which had been making an attack with stones. He had given the order to fix bayonets when five shots were fired and the sergeant dropped seriously wounded. The shooting was the culmination of night disorders fomented by Sinn Feiners, small groups of whom paraded whistling Sinn Fein anthems and cheering Sinn Fein Thomas Ash who died. Jail windows were smashed and five youths received scalp wounds from police batons. The convention of delegates had left the city before the demonstration occurred.

3 SPECIALTIES.

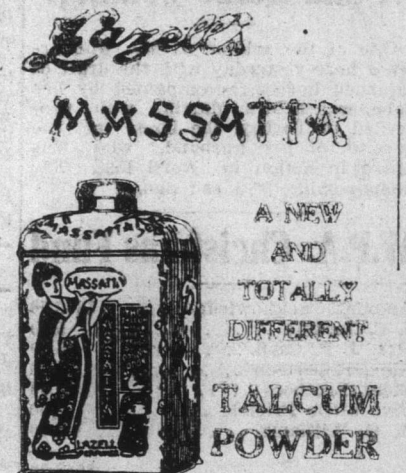
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