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## M C 2035

## The

## ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1918

## VOL. XIV., No. 149 .

## Battle Now Raging Over 70 Mile Front With Tide Turning In Favor Of Allies

Confidence Increasing; Germans Able BRRMG OQW I 31 No Longer to Shape Course of Fight

HUN ARPI ANES

ANO 2 BALIONS
General Feeling is that Germany Has Virtually Lost the Battle and Allies Are About to Begin to Win-British Hold All North of Somme; Retire Slightly South of River- French Cling To Towns Taken and Capture One More

Paris, Mar. 29-The great battle is now raging over a front of more than seventy
miles. This extension A hough thus far no decisive success has been obtained anywhere there is increased conf deve. The impression in semi-official circles is that the Allies have not only held off the
Cernans, but are now no longer compelled to permit the enemy by his manourres to shape the course which the battle shall take. The genera feeling is that for Germany the battle is virtually lost, that for the Allies
the battle is about to begin. the battle is about to begin.
The operations thus far are accepted as confirming the theory that Paris was not the main The obective of the German offensive, ,ut that the plan of the enemy was to break the cont-
nection between the French and British armies, in which he has failed. His main direet nection between the French and British armies, in which he has failed. His main dire
attack was westward toward the sea.. The Germans seek A Aiens because this town is an in portant railway centre of col
convenient, but not vital.
AMIENS REAL OBJECTIVE
Marcel, Sembat, former minister of public works, in L'Heure writes: "The situa-
Litan region is likely to prove a formidable failure.
"Towards Amiens, which is the real objective of the Germans, their attacks are meeting with a stubborn defence. They must have Amiens to cut off the British. They must
reach the sea to attempt an enveloping movement. Nothing will be spared to defend Amiens
to the last".
Thit elightit day of the battle brought a change in the weather, if conditions at the
Tront are the same as in Paris. The wind shifted from the horthwest to the southwest which Front are the same as in Paris, The wind shirted from the horthwest to the southwest, which
II meke i difificult for the Germans to bring up their artilier orver the ground they have
acinired. FRENCH RESERVES IN POSITION
It may now be said that the French armies in reserve have come into positions, and
the numerical superiority which the Germans enjoped in their frist rush is decreasing
London, Mar. $29-$ On the Somme the British have maintained their positions and London, Mar.
gained ground in plese by sucecssful counter-attacks. The war office so announces.
After holding their line all day, in the face of repeated assuals by numerically supe ior enemy forces, the British. retired a short distance from their advanced positions at some
points. The Germans again suffered exceedingly heavy losses. The British took prisoners points. The Germans a
The statenent follows.
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