

TYPHOID HELPING TO FILL GRAVES

INFORMATION REFUSED AS TO WHAT IS GOING ON

Military Authorities are Mum Today as to What Progress Is Being Made in the Battles in France.

CRITICAL SITUATION MUST EXIST

Supreme Effort is Probably Being Made Now to Force Victory or Defeat in One Great Rush.

(By Wm. Phillip Simms, United Press Staff Correspondent.)

PARIS, Sept. 28.—Not since the opening of the war have the military authorities been so chary of information as at present. The usual three o'clock resume of the progress of the fighting was utterly non-committal. It merely emphasizes the fact that there has been no change in the situation. This, however, disposed of the report that by a sudden raid, the allies had driven the Germans from Mons which this particular rumor said was burning.

Military authorities here, who up to until today have been willing to discuss the general outlook, today were mum. They privately admit that the great battle of Aisne is in its closing stages and that every effort is being made to hold the general lines intact while the allies crumble up the German right wing which now, more than ever, resembles a fish-hook. It is obvious that great masses of fresh troops are being pushed into action. But up to the

present they have encountered the German reserves, also in great strength. Both sides are sacrificing men to carry their point and the French authorities here point out that being closer to their bases, the French armies can be brought into action more speedily. This being so, they believe the final result must be the complete outflanking of General Von Kluck and Von Boehm and the withdrawal of the entire German army from north France. Meanwhile it is obvious that the Germans are making a supreme effort to break through the French lines between the Aisne and the Argonne. The official statement says that there have been many assaults there but "all have been repulsed." Naturally, if the Germans should succeed at this point, the pressure on their right must be lifted, as the army that breaks through would in turn be able to envelop the French left.

The extreme character of the present engagement is thus

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What the War Means Mean

By J. W. T. Mason, Former European Manager of the United Press.

(United Press Leased Wire Service.)

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—(11 a. m.)—The report that Mons is in flames may prove the forerunner of the most important development in the battle of the Aisne. At Mons the German battle line running north from the Aisne begins to turn northeastward and moves through Belgium. Between Mons and Antwerp is the northwest corner of the German square. General Von Kluck is defending the southwest corner of the square so successfully there don't seem to be any immediate prospect of the allied armies dislodging him by direct assault. It has been suggested in this column, that in consequence of Von Kluck's success, the allies would turn to the northwest corner of the German battle square and try to break through there. If the reported destruction of Mons is true it probably means that this northwestern attack is beginning to develop.

Von Boehm's corner is there and Mons has been persistently reported as a German headquarters and is probably the military residence of Von Boehm's staff. The German line is here very close to the main railway which supplies the troops along the southern front. A serious threat against Von Boehm's corner would require a strong reinforcement of the German army in Belgium. If this reinforcement can be sent from the interior of Germany, the battle line as

now disposed will not be weakened. But, otherwise a hasty redistribution of troops now engaged to the south will have to be made with the possibilities of weakening the battle line. The German attack on the Meuse fortresses have been moderately successful, more so than the attack of the allies at the other end of the line against Von Kluck. A gap has been made through which the Meuse has been crossed, but the great entrenched camp at Verdun and Toul marking the terminus of the Meuse fortifications have withstood the assaults.

If Verdun and Toul were to be taken, the French would have to increase their resistance to keep from being turned. The French have had the advantage of protection of the Meuse fortifications on their right since the battle of the Aisne began. If they are deprived of the assistance of this steel and concrete wall, they must run the danger of being flanked, or redispersed their troops so as to send reinforcements to the southeast corner of the battlefield.

The higher strategy of both sides, therefore now seems to be developing at opposite angles of the battle square. The allies seem to be preparing a new offensive in the northwest while the Germans are increasing their exertions in the southeast. At one of these opposite extremes, if either side redispersed troops unskillfully, the fate of the entire battle now raging, may be quickly decided.

FRANCE

(United Press Leased Wire Service.)
PARIS, Sept. 28.—Directed by military aviators who are seeking to spy out the weak spots in the French line, the Germans continued their assaults in force on the extreme west and on the east of the allied line throughout last night. The military headquarters here declares that in every case the enemy was repulsed. In addition it is announced that there have been gains in the left, but because of the new ruling regarding news from the front, exact location of these points is withheld for the present. It is rumored here that the Germans have made gains along the Meuse line and that they are in strong force on the west bank of the river near St. Mihiel. Military headquarters, in contradiction of this simply say that St. Mihiel is still held by the French but gave no details. The right center French armies are under constant pressure in the territory east of Rheims where the crack German regiments continue to try to break through the lines. Wounded officers who have come back from there declare the fighting is like the pendulum of a clock, first one side having the advantage, then the other.

Every effort of the allies to gain a foothold either in St. Quentin or in the territory immediately to the north between the armies of Generals Von Kluck and Von Boehm, has failed. As it is considered essential that the German line be broken there, additional reinforcements are being sent, and the battle continues without interruption day and night. The military officials here declare the losses are already so enormous along this part of the line that the Germans must eventually weaken. The enemy is not only strongly entrenched it is stated, but he has constructed almost impenetrable barricades, of barbed wire, sapling, and bare intertwined with trees growing in roads and the sides of fields. These are all commanded not only by field artillery, but the rapid fire guns

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GERMANY

(United Press Leased Wire Service.)
BERLIN (Via The Hague), Sept. 28.—While still maintaining the position that there have been no really decisive changes at any part of the 125 mile battlefield, the report of the German general staff today is a trifle more optimistic than anything issued since the battle of the Aisne began. It stated that there have been distinct gains by the German center, which has driven the enemy back with heavy losses. The armies operating through Verdun have succeeded in forcing the French back on Clermont, on Aisne and on St. Mihiel. On the heights of the Meuse, the Germans continue to maintain their advantage and are in strength on the west bank of the river. Bombardment of the Meuse forts, south of Verdun, continues with perceptible success, according to the general staff.

On the German right, it is stated that the firing is of the most bitter character, with the enemy plaitfully throwing all of his available force into the fight in the effort to break through the German line. It is officially stated that at no point has he been successful, while at a number of points the Germans have advanced their lines.

Attempts on the part of the Belgians to make a successful sortie from Antwerp have been frustrated and many prisoners and an armored car have been taken.

Discussing the actual fighting, the war office declared that heavy losses have been inflicted on the allies by German bayonet charges and that as a result, the allies have been obliged to call upon their reserves to strengthen their lines.

It is stated that although the range and service of the enemy's artillery has materially improved, the Germans continue to gain ground. The allies have been heavily reinforced on the German right, it is stated, and are making a supreme effort to out-

JAPAN

(United Press Leased Wire Service.)
TOKIO, Sept. 28.—It is officially admitted that the fighting along the outer lines of fortifications of Kiau Chau continued with the combined British-Japanese forces endeavoring to make a breach in the outer line of defense. According to the meagre information permitted to become public here, the losses have been very small. This is due to the fact that so far the engagement has taken on only the character of an artillery duel.

The Japanese and British commanders will refuse needlessly to sacrifice their men, believing that the German garrison eventually will be starved out now that it is impossible for them to obtain supplies either by land or sea.

ENGLAND

(By Ed. L. Keen, United Press Staff Correspondent.)

LONDON, Sept. 28.—The end of the battle of the Aisne with the complete success for the allies is declared by military officials to be in sight. They insist that behind the curtain of censorship, new and decisive developments are taking place that must end in the utter defeat of the Germans. But because of this very certainty, all information is withheld in order that the Germans may not benefit thereby. Speculation naturally turns to the new movements of troops. It is easily seen that troops who came by way of the Suez canal and not across Canada, despite all reports to the contrary, have entered the field of action. There are many significant things that will bear out this, but the censorship prohibits this being sent out at the present time. One thing certain is that the war office is far more optimistic than at any time since the closing days of the battle of the Marne.

Rumors of disagreement between General French and the French general staff regarding certain phases of the present conflict are current in military circles. While they are far from definite, the suggestion is made that the army of General D'Amade failed to take position quickly enough in the flanking operations of last Friday with the result that the Germans made a considerable gain and it was necessary to send reinforcements to retake the lost ground. No one in authority naturally will discuss these rumors but they are persistently passed about in circles that have freely commented on the fact that much of the brunt of the fighting to date has been borne by British forces. It is certain that if British troops have landed in force on the western coast of France or in Belgium, they will make their presence felt in the very near future. The battle must be won on the left flank if at all and the

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BALKANS

(United Press Leased Wire Service.)
ROME, Sept. 28.—Despite the official denials by Austria, it is positively known that the Austrian forces on the Italian frontier are being strongly reinforced. All of the regiments made up of troops of Italian birth or from the frontier itself, where Italian sympathy is strong, have been transferred to the battle line in Gallia. Their places have been taken by Hungarian regiments and those from the Russian frontier who because of their pro-Slavic sympathies could not be depended on to fight wholeheartedly with the Russians. While there is no change in the official Italian attitude, there is little doubt anywhere that the date for Italy to enter the war is rapidly approaching. This is believed not only by the representatives of the allies, but also by the diplomatic representatives here of the German and Austrian government. They have used all of their influence to keep Italy neutral, but it is noticeable that they have not been seen about the foreign office recently.

Advices from Roumania confirm reports of last week that the Roumanian army is being mobilized. The active army is being concentrated at the centers, within striking distance of Austrian territory.

Reports are circulated here that Russia is preparing an ultimatum to Turkey demanding demobilization. It is stated that the czar's government has now definitely decided that as its Austrian campaign is successful, it is in a position to withdraw large numbers of men to hold Turkey in check and that as a result, the ports will be given the choice of demobilizing or fighting.

SERVIANS CLAIM VICTORY.
NISH, Sept. 28.—The Serbian government, in an official statement issued today, declares the Austrians who crossed the Drina in force have again been repulsed between Loznitz and Mitrovitz and have retreated across the Drina again, leaving behind many heavy guns and many prisoners. The Austrians have

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DISEASE FIRES A SHOT INTO RANKS OF SOLDIERS

A Foe to All, Who Does As Much Destruction As Bullet and Sword When a War is Raging.

ATTACKING BOTH MEN AND HORSES

Mons Reported Burning and Epidemic of Typhoid Fever Caused From the Infected Water Supply.

(United Press Leased Wire Service.)

LONDON, Sept. 23.—Sixteen days of fighting, fourteen in the battle of the Aisne, and two in rear guard action, have failed to bring decisive victory to either side in France. This is admitted at the war office today, coupled with the statement, however, that all of the advantage remains with the allies. While the censorship is more strict than at any time since the opening of hostilities, it is explained that there are certain evidences, especially on the extreme left, that the Germans are weakening. The allies have been heavily reinforced and are subjecting the forces of Von Boehm and Von Kluck to stern pressure along the line from Soissons north to Mons.

In this connection, a report telegraphed from Ostend that Mons was burning, created a sensation here today. It is at Mons that General Von Boehm established his headquarters when he started south from Brussels with the main army that was operating in Belgium. His army was assigned to prevent Von Kluck being outflanked by the French ar-

my, operating from the northwest, presumably Boulogne, where it had been gathered to support a new British force, the details of which are still withheld from the public. If it is true that Mons is actually burning, it may mean that the British-French armies are in strong force and have raided the German communications far north of the point where up to the present, any fighting has been reported. The English people are placing great hopes on this report but it is not confirmed from any source that carries official weight and Ostend, for the last few days has been a most unreliable news factor.

More significant than anything else, however, are the circumstantial reports received from Belgian sources, that an epidemic of typhoid and allied diseases has broken out in the ranks of the German army and that their horses are suffering from glanders. These reports come from so many sources that they are generally credited. The worst cases are in the valley

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The War at a Glance

Summarized by John Edwin Nevin, United Press Staff Correspondent.

(United Press Leased Wire Service.)

ENGLAND—An increasingly severe censorship has given rise to the belief that important movements of troops are again in progress. Reports are current here that a serious epidemic of typhoid among the soldiers and of glanders among the horses of the German army, has broken out in Belgium. The war office officials insist that the balance of the battle of the Aisne is on the side of the allies.

FRANCE—The war office announces that the German right is still being slowly driven back and it is believed that the attempt to penetrate the German right between the armies of General Von Boehm and General Von Kluck will prove successful. The fighting continues all along the line without material success for either side. Reports are in circulation that Mons is on fire, but are not confirmed.

BELGIUM—The Germans are bombarding the southern line forts of the Antwerp chain with long range siege guns. They have battered some of them, but the damage is characterized by the war office as not material. At Malines they have set fire to a number of buildings including the hospital of the Little Sisters of the Poor by their artillery fire.

RUSSIA—It is officially announced that the Russians now hold all of the six main passes through the Carpath-

ian mountains and have placed strong forces in position to prevent any of flanking movement from Hungary. They have also advanced within fifty miles of Grodno and claim to be driving the Germans out of Russian Poland.

SERBIA—It is reported that the Serbians have again repulsed an Austrian attempt at invasion and have driven the Austrians back across the Drina with loss. They have also checked an Austrian attempt to take Belgrade and the war office says the combined Servian-Montenegrin armies have made material progress in their invasion of Bosnia-Herzegovina and that they are within striking distance of Sarajevo.

ITALY—Officially stated despite Austrian denials, troops are being massed on Italian frontier, replacing those sent from there to Galician theatre of war.

GERMANY—War office denies the allies claims of successes in the battle line in France. It declares that there have been distinct gains by the Germans on the center and that the ground gained by the right wing has been retained. Attempts on the parts of Belgians to make a sortie from Antwerp, it is stated, have proven unsuccessful.

AUSTRIA—Apprehension is felt over the development of additional cases of cholera at Buda Pest.