WEATHER
SHOWERS TO-DAY. TO-MORROW, GENERALLY FAIR. STRONG NORTH-EAST TO NORTHWEST WINDS, DIMINISHING TO-NIGHT.
Full Report on Page 12.

New York Tribune

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Vol. LXXVI No. 25,450. [Copyright 1916—The Tribune Ass'n.] FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1916. * * * ONE CENT In New York City, Newark, Jersey City and Hoboken.

French Win 10-Mile Line Along Somme

MYSTERIOUS 10 KILL DE MARCO AND HIS FRIEND

Sought Rule of Harlem's Little Italy; Found Death.

BODIES SEATED AT LONG TABLE

"Nine-Fingered Charley" Gave Life for Chief, Trapped in Flat.

Joseph de Marco, who aspired to the perilous position of leader of Harlem's turbulent Little Italy, was found dead yesterday afternoon seated at the head of a long table in a vacant flat at 54 James Street. On his right hand was seated the body of Charles L. Lombardi, "Nine Fingered Charley," De Marco's one faithful friend.

One bullet through the head had killed the aspirant to the place left vacant when Giosue Gallucci and his son Lucca were shot to death in Harlem more than a year ago. Ten bullets had riddled the body of "Nine Fingered Charle," and on the wall behind the long table hung ten hats.

Seeks Leadership; Finds Death.

Two bodies doubled up in their chairs, ten hats hanging in a row, a single dollar bill crumpled up under a square of gray cloth in the centre of the table, and ten chairs, scattered and upset, met the gaze of the policemen who hastened from Headquarters in automobiles through the dingy maze of streets that lie in the shadow of the Brooklyn Bridge.

No sooner had word that De Marco had been shot reached Headquarters than detectives familiar with the intrigues of Little Italy recalled that he had long been seeking to levy on Harlem's Little Italy the tribute which Giosue Gallucci is said to have demanded and obtained in incredible amounts.

Curiosity Lures Crowd.

Deputy Commissioner Scull and Inspector Cray were among the first to arrive. A procession of speeding automobiles drew throngs of curious and fearful to the narrow streets. Word of the tragedy flashed from house to house. Fire escapes were thronged. Shawled women and scared men shambled, as if by accident, past the doorway of 54 James Street, genuflecting and crossing themselves unostentatiously. The reserves of the Oak Street station had to be called out to clear a path for the detectives.

Save for the accident of the rain that began to fall about half-past five yesterday afternoon the bodies of De Marco and "Nine Fingered Charley" might still be sitting undiscovered at that long table. No one in the house heard the shots. The closest friends of "Nine Fingered Charley," who is said to have paid the rent of the three rooms, professed ignorance of his habit of going there.

Woman Hears Fatal Shots.

Detectives learned that for six months the rooms, which were unfurnished except for the table, the twelve chairs and twelve hooks on the wall, had been used by De Marco, "Nine Fingered Charley" and others. Heretofore they had not been visited except late at night.

When Mrs. Angelina Janita, whose kitchen at 43 Oliver Street overlooks the narrow areaway, lined by cellar doors, that separates the rear of the Oliver Street tenements from those on James Street, heard the patter of rain she hastened to take in her clothes. As she was drawing in the line a muffled rat-tat-tat came to her ears. She dropped her line, clothes and all, into the yard. In any Little Italy in town where the revolver is the acknowledged fire alarm, the sound of shots is unmistakable.

Running to the street Mrs. Janita found Patrolman Brower. It was not five minutes since Mrs. Janita's clothes had flapped to the courtyard, but Brower found the back room at 54 James Street empty save for its two grewsome tenants. No one had emerged from the front door, but it was evident that the narrow succession of backyards, half hidden from upper windows by the crisscrossed clothes-lines and their burdens, had offered ready means of escape.

Sister Identifies Body.

At first no one in the house seemed to know either of the two men. One after another Brower led such shrinking tenants as he was able to lay his hands upon into the room. All shrugged their shoulders with hands outspread to denote utter ignorance and hastily effaced themselves from the scene. A boy declared, however, that he thought Lombardi's father and mother lived on the third floor.

There the only occupant of the flat was Helen, "Nine Fingered Charley's" eight-year-old sister. She was brought down to the grim twilight scene to see if she could identify him.

"It's my brother! Charley, my poor brother!" she cried, and then, with the precocity which marks the children of James Street and similar neighborhoods, "What will his family do?"

"Nine Fingered Charley," despite his nickname reminiscent of violent deeds,

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Shoots 4, Then Himself, Amid Exploding Bombs

Crazed Inventor, Drenching Body in Gasolene, Sweeps Busy Newark Streets with Volleys—Dies in Blaze His Explosives Set.

For half an hour yesterday. Salvatore Castronava, an aged gunsmith and inventor of submarine appliances, swept the corner of Broad Street and Eighth Avenue, Newark, with an incessant volley of revolver bullets and shotgun pellets.

Four men were shot down. One of them, at least, was mortally wounded. The windows in five buildings were shattered. and the walls of the buildings were riddled with scores of pistol balls and hundreds of buckshot. Fire added to the reign of terror. In the upper room, where Castronava stood, he had set several bombs with time fuses. They exploded while he was training his fusillade on the buildings across the street, and the entire structure at once burst into flames.

An old woman and her nine-year-old son, crouching in their apartment on the floor above, had their escape cut off by the fire. Policemen who had barricaded themselves behind trees and poles to return the old inventor's volleys, saw the flames creep slowly toward him as he stood before the upper window. His clothing, evidently soaked with oil, began to blaze like a torch.

Kills Himself Amid Flames.

Still gripping a brace of revolvers, he raised his burning arms and fired three times more against the buildings opposite. Then he turned one gun against his own forehead, shattering his skull as his burning body sank upon the blazing floor.

The injured are:

George Erhardt, twenty, of 48 Eighth Avenue, Newark; bullets in neck and body; dying in St. Michael's Hospital.

Joseph Ungarden, forty-three, 43 Clay Street, Newark; buckshot in head.

Dennis Allen, twenty, of 204 Twelfth Street, Jersey City; bullets in head and body.

Charles McCann, nineteen, 41 Plane Street, Newark; buckshot in head.

Mrs. Michael Morrison and her nine-year-old son John, who lived in the building destroyed by the fire set by Castronava's time bombs, were overcome by smoke, but were carried to safety by policemen after the inventor had committed suicide.

Always Thought Eccentric.

For many years Castronava has tinkered away with his guns and submarine inventions in his little shop at 371½ Broad Street, Newark. He has always been considered eccentric, and the belief in his disposition was given even stronger color a few months ago when the Fire Department was called to the squalid quarters behind his shop, to find him lying on a burning mattress.

It was shortly before dinner hour last night that he made his way to the second floor of the three story flathouse at the northwest corner of Broad Street and Eighth Avenue, adjoining his shop. To the vacant floor he took four revolvers, two shotguns, between

Continued on page 4, column 4

ROOSEVELT'S SON BLACKLISTS BROTHER

Archie Punishes Quentin for Dropping His Gun.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Plattsburg, N. Y., July 20.—Archie Roosevelt, son of the Colonel, to-day blacklisted his brother Quentin for a breach of soldierliness. Archie is top sergeant of Company H in the 4th Regiment, junior rookies, and as the men stood in formation in the company street the order came for right shoulder arms. There was a militant clatter of pieces as they moved rhythmically to their places, and then suddenly there came a most unmilitary sound.

It was the rattle and bang of a gun falling to the ground. "Who dropped that gun? Who dropped that gun?" stormily shouted Sergeant Archie, whose two tours of duty in last year's camps and one in last month's have made him a stern disciplinarian.

The ranks parted and a heavily built chap, much larger than Archie, stepped forward. Archie's jaw dropped as he realized that the time had come when he would have to apply military discipline to his own family. But he was stanch to the higher purpose, and swept the ties of blood aside. Curtly he ordered his brother back into the ranks, after admonishing him to be more careful of his piece.

But this did not end the affair. The dropping of a rifle is a fearful thing for a soldier to do, and this morning, when the new blacklist was posted, Quentin's name was on it. He was thereby doomed to remain in his company street for three days when not on duty—such being, in rookiedom, the equivalent of confinement in the guard house for regulars.

BATHERS TERRIFIED BY A WOODEN SHARK

Three Men in a Boat Capture a Floating Log.

"Sharks! Sharks!"

This cry rang out yesterday afternoon over the waters of Long Island Sound off Willet's Point, and in less than a minute all the hundred bathers had scurried to the safety of shore. Plainly visible only, fifty yards out, was a long, black something that bobbed up and down with the waves.

Three men, armed with everything from a shotgun to a post hole digger, set out in a rowboat to slay the man-eater. Breathless bathers saw one of the men rise in the boat and strike into the water.

And some time later breathless bathers—not quite so breathless by this time—saw the rowboat put into shore with a captured log in tow.

FAMILY OF KITTENS BORN IN A TREETOP

Flushing Cat's Cradle Will Be Rocked by Winds.

Betty, the cat attached to Mickey Dooley's cafe, "Fort Dooley," in Flushing, proceeded to have a little family yesterday. Mistress Elizabeth is original. She picked out the topmost limb of the tallest tree in the neighborhood as the place most suitable for the birth of her four kittens.

Dooley says he never before took much stock in "this talk about a family tree."

THE MOERIS TORPEDOED, THREE OF CREW LOST

Consul General at London Tells How British Ship Was Sunk.

Washington, July 20.—Consul General Skinner, at London, cabled the State Department to-day that the British steamer Moeris, reported sunk July 3, was torpedoed off Cape Sidero, and that three of her crew were lost.

He gave no details.

GREAT BEAR SPRING WATER—50c the case of six glass stoppered bottles.—Adv't.

HUSBAND KILLS WIFE AND MAJOR

U. S. Army Officer and Woman Shot to Death in Auto.

Alpine, Tex., July 20.—Major M. C. Butler, of the 6th United States Cavalry, and Mrs. H. J. Spannell, with whom he was out riding in an automobile, were shot and killed this afternoon by H. J. Spannell, husband of the woman.

Immediately after the shooting Spannell went to the jail and surrendered. Mrs. Spannell was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Holland, well known residents of Alpine. Spannell is the proprietor of the Holland Hotel here.

Nashville, Tenn., July 20.—Mrs. M. C. Butler, wife of Major Butler, who before her marriage was Miss Margaret Howell, daughter of the late M. B. Howell, one of Nashville's leading lawyers, left this city a short time ago to join her husband on the border. They were married eleven years ago and there is one child, M. C. Butler, jr.

Major Butler was fifty-two years old. He was graduated from West Point in 1888. He was promoted to first lieutenant in 1896, captain 1901 and was made major of the 6th Cavalry June 30, 1912.

Washington, July 20.—Major Matthew C. Butler, jr., of the Sixth United States Cavalry, was a son of Senator Matthew Calbraith Butler, of South Carolina, who served in the Senate from 1877 to 1895, practised law in Washington, and died in Columbia, S. C., on April 14, 1909. Senator Butler served as a major general of United States Volunteers in the war with Spain.

Major Butler was born in South Carolina on May 1, 1864, and was appointed to West Point from that State in 1883.

In the volunteer service in the Spanish war Major Butler was a Major and chief ordnance officer, and was honorably discharged from the volunteers in 1899, when he returned to the regular army. He was the ranking major ofv the Sixth Cavalry.

TWO NAVAL BATTLES ON, SEAMEN REPORT

Heavy Cannonading Heard in North and Baltic Seas.

London, July 21.—Heavy cannonading has been heard off the west coast of Jutland and in the Baltic Sea, between Landsort and the Gottska Sands, by vesselmen arriving in Danish ports, says a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Copenhagen.

"Those from the North Sea," says the correspondent, "saw a large number of German submarines, torpedo boats and Zeppelins sailing northwesterly from the Jutland coast and then heard firing.

"The cannonading in the Baltic continued throughout Wednesday night, the returning vesselmen said. They added that they saw a small German warship sailing southward and expressed the belief that the Germans had an engagement with the Russians."

TO EXHIBIT CAPTIVE U-BOAT IN LONDON

Taking of German Mine Layer Is First Announced.

London, July 20.—The first official announcement that Great Britain had captured a German mine-laying submarine of the U-35 class was made in the House of Commons to-day by Thomas James Macnamara, financial secretary of the Admiralty.

He said one of those vessels would be brought to London to be viewed by the public.

N. Y. WOMEN NEW FACTOR IN CAMPAIGN

Debut Seen in Choice of Two on Hughes Alliance Board.

ACTION MARKS EPOCH IN STATE

City Alive with Signs of Workers' Activity in Candidate's Behalf.

At last woman is out here in New York State as a real factor in a national campaign for President.

Two women, Dr. Katharine B. Davis, chairman of the Municipal Board of Parole, and Mrs. George W. Wickersham, wife of the former United States Attorney General, have been named members of the executive committee of the New York State Hughes Alliance, a men's organization. Such a thing has never happened before, except in a suffrage state, or a committee of the Progressive party. It marks an epoch.

The choice signifies woman's coming-out party in New York politics, and is being reckoned with by Republicans and Democrats, by Progressives and Prohibitionists alike. Not one leader of any party has attempted to deny woman's importance in the campaign.

Hughes Receives Women.

Charles E. Hughes, Republican candidate for President, has received committees of women concerning the Susan B. Anthony amendment, and has predicted that they will be "satisfied" with his stand. William G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, has taken time, this busy week, to hear the women through and to express the Democratic interest in what they have to say. It is also reported that President Wilson is giving the matter more or less thought.

Woman is a political debutante, and certain great men, high in office or in hope, are crowding around her, quarrelling for the ninety-one electoral votes she holds.

All over the city signs that women are taking a profound interest in this campaign, the first in which they have ever been a decided factor, are to be seen. Clubs and organizations of every kind are entering the contest.

Groups for Women.

So many women are coming into the Woman's Roosevelt League in its campaign for Hughes that they are being lined up in groups, doctors in one, authors, business women, artists and architects in others. "Who's for Hughes?" is their slogan, and they expect to have 4,000 members by the first of September, according to Miss Alice Carpenter, president of the organization.

"I feel that I must accept," cabled back Miss Anne Morgan from Paris, asked to be chairman of the executive committee.

"Yes, I think women are of tremendously more significance in this than they have been in any former campaign," Miss Carpenter said yesterday. "Our power has been almost doubled since the last election."

Miss Kellor Kept Busy.

There was equal vigor in the room next door at the Hotel Astor, headquarters of the Women's Committee of the National Hughes Alliance. Miss Frances A. Kellor, chairman of the organization, is probably as busy a woman as can be found in the United States just now. To organize the women of the country into a line-up for Hughes is the rather stupendous duty appertaining to her title.

"It is our object to have 100,000 women come out for Hughes by September 1," was the word given out in the strenuous little office yesterday. "There will be a special committee of 1,000."

Branch organizations are being formed in all the cities and in all the states. Any woman anywhere in the United States may affiliate directly with the organization. Any twenty-five women in the community will be notified that they may organize in a local branch, and obtain a charter.

Object to Elect Hughes.

The election of Hughes is the single

Continued on page 9, column 5

BRITISH DEAF TO PROTESTS ON BLACKLIST

Don't Expect U. S. to Claim Action Is Illegal.

HOLLAND READY TO JOIN ISSUES

Expresses Willingness to Co-operate with Us Against Ban.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, July 20.—Official circles are unperturbed by American criticism of the British statutory list, as a certain amount of protest was expected.

It is not anticipated that any real controversy will arise, because the question has already been argued and official notes exchanged by the British and American governments. No one here expects that the Washington government would seriously argue that any nation is not legally empowered to put a specific prohibition upon its own nationals in time of war.

The bitterest protests emanate from London bankers and traders, who insist that the list is not sufficiently extensive and urge the authorities to add more names to the list.

As far as general opinion goes, it is felt here that the government has a perfect moral right to take such a course at a time when the country is fighting for its life, while as far as the internal dislocation of American trade is involved, it is argued here that the volume of business actually affected is so slight as hardly to cause a ripple upon the surface.

Holland's Protests Also Went Unheeded

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, July 20.—Holland is ready to join with the United States in a protest on the British blacklist. Dutch business houses as well as American are under the ban.

Minister Van Rappard of the Netherlands called on Acting Secretary Polk to-day and is understood to have assured him of the support of The Hague in any action the United States might take with reference to the blacklist or blockade. He was informed that while no definite steps had yet been taken, plans were under consideration.

While the Netherlands has entered into a definite agreement with Great Britain to prevent imports reaching Germany, it considers its interests as a neutral identical with those of the United States. Like Secretary Lansing's notes, its protests to England on the Orders in Council and on the restrictions laid upon commerce have gone unheeded.

Holland Wants to Act.

To overcome this situation, it is understood, informal representations frequently have been made to the United States to head a league of neutrals that more effective results might be obtained. President Wilson always has insisted, however, on the United States acting independently.

Minister Van Rappard is also understood to have discussed with Secretary Polk the question of British interference with the mails. On this and other points Holland is anxious to act with the United States.

Except for a brief cablegram from Consul General Skinner nothing of an official nature has been received at the State Department from London. With no technical grounds of complaint, any protest by President Wilson must be of the broadest nature. Until more definite information regarding the operation of the blacklist is secured no formal action will be taken.

Complaints Pour In.

In the meantime, Secretary Polk announced to-day, the State Department will do its best to secure redress for boycotted firms by taking up the matter informally with the British Embassy. The department literally has been swamped with complaints, not only from concerns on the list made public yesterday, but from many others who, from interference with their foreign affairs, suspect they are on a similar list not yet announced.

For months the Administration has known that the British were following a system of proscription of suspected American companies. While no notice was ever given, the foreign business of these firms, through the operation

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Coney Then and Now

Forty years ago it was an adventure to go to Coney Island. The last train came back at 6:30 and after that you jogged home by horse car.

In The Tribune Magazine next Sunday are pictures of how it looked in those days and a story about what one did. And then, in vivid contrast, is a page of W. E. Hill's caricatures about what happens in Coney Island to-day.

Mora certainly do mutantur—and speaking of changes, have you changed your address at your newsdealer's?

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U-BOAT WAR RENEWAL IS HINTED AT AGAIN

London, July 20.—"According to German newspapers, Admiral von Holtzendorff, retired, has been appointed to a new administrative post in the naval service, which is regarded as a preliminary step toward an active command," says a Reuter dispatch from Copenhagen.

"Admiral von Holtzendorff is a great friend of Admiral von Tirpitz, and his appointment is being watched in connection with a possible renewal of Germany's submarine activity."

FORCE ASQUITH TO YIELD AGAIN

Opponents Win Tigris Inquiry—Irish Crisis Impends.

By ARTHUR S. DRAPER.

London, July 20.—Twice within twenty-four hours the government has decided that retreat is better strategy than fighting. This indicates the strength of the opposition, composed of members of the Unionist, Labor, Nationalist and Liberal parties.

Premier Asquith, who saved the situation by a skilful withdrawal last night, again adopted the same tactics in the House of Commons this evening. He agreed to investigations into the Mesopotamia and the Dardanelles campaigns and thereby shut off debate.

The insurgents, whose strength was negligible while fighting independently, now are firmly united and command the government's recognition for the first time since the coalition government was installed. Only the Premier's willingness to yield when the odds are against him has saved his Cabinet from dangerous shoals. But the most dangerous reef, the Irish settlement, still confronts the ship of state.

The position is extremely interesting, as it comes at the crisis in the military situation, when political considerations are of secondary importance. The feeling prompting the opposition is caused by the idea that the Cabinet has assumed an autocratic attitude insulting to the intelligence of Parliament, meanwhile falling into costly bungles such as that in Mesopotamia. The opposition demands more voice in the war, more opportunity to check plans before they are put into operation.

It seems in a fair way to gain the point. Sir Edward Carson, who leads the opposition, is a fearless, skilful parliamentarian, anxious only for the speedy and victorious end of the war.

To Renew Tigris Drive While Inquiries Are Held

London, July 20.—Demands for investigations into the Dardanelles and Mesopotamia campaign were made in motions planned by Sir Edward Carson and Baron Wemyss in the House of Commons to-day.

Before Sir Edward Carson's motion was moved Premier Asquith said he recognized there was widespread, genuine anxiety regarding these campaigns, and, deprecating any debate which might give an impression that the country was in any way divided, the government thought it right to institute two separate inquiries into the campaigns.

The government had no desire to conceal the past shortcomings of the arrangements in Mesopotamia, or to shield those responsible. The inquiries would be held by small bodies, composed of members of both houses and a representative of Australia, added the Premier, and would be held in secret.

Sir Edward Carson, in expressing satisfaction with the government's position, said he hoped the government was satisfied that everything possible was being done to remedy what seemed to have been a very disastrous state of affairs in Mesopotamia.

David Lloyd George, Secretary for War, said the Mesopotamian difficulties had arisen largely through the peculiar relations existing between the government to India and the home authorities. Thus, he stated, while Sir William R. Robertson, chief of the imperial staff, directed the military operations, the Indian government supplied the forces, and the commander in chief in India was responsible for the supplies.

A new arrangement has been made with the Indian government, Mr. Lloyd George said, by which India would remain the main base of the forces, with General Robertson and the Army Council responsible for supplies and transport and for the direction of operations.

The Secretary for War said he understood there had been ample supplies, and that it was mainly the transport system which had broken down. He said he desired to point out that General Robertson, who was not responsible for the inception of either of these campaigns, had agreed with the Army Council that it was against public interest to publish papers dealing with the campaign.

The first duty, the speaker said, was to put things right, and the second was to fix the responsibility for any negligence or incapacity. It was important,

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BRITISH JOIN IN ATTACK; SEIZE 1,000 YARD FRONT

Heavy Fighting Continues at Longueval—Teuton Counter-Assaults Weaken.

GERMAN LOSSES IN JULY ESTIMATED AT 200,000

Foch Takes 2,900 Prisoners in Day's Fighting—Extends Lines Toward Chaulnes.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, July 20.—Foch and Haig have renewed the joint offensive in Picardy. Both armies slowly are smashing back the German line, as in the first days of the great push in the West, and for the time the Germans have abandoned hope of a successful counter attack.

The French made the greater gain, for the British are meeting the sterner resistance. Foch's troops carried the German first line along a six-mile front south of the Somme, and won trenches along a four-mile sector north of the river.

Haig's men made further progress in Delville Wood and Longueval, the scene of the heavy German counter attack, and then struck northward again, winning 1,000 yards of trenches above the Bazentin-Longueval line.

The joint attack emphasizes the dilemma of the German staff. Troops are needed to meet it, but they cannot be drawn from the East front, for the Russians are assailing the Teuton line from Riga to the Carpathians without pause. The shortening of the German line—probably in the East—seems certain before long.

Germans Lose 200,000.

German losses since July 1 are estimated at more than 200,000. Several regiments have been practically annihilated. Reports from Belgium tell of an endless string of hospital trains going eastward nightly.

As for Allied losses, it is impossible to give an estimate. They, too, must be exceedingly heavy, for an advance under modern conditions, through mazes of redoubts and entanglements, is costly. But the toll of attack and counter attack has not diminished the fierceness of the battle. On both the French and British lines to-night the struggle continues, with the Germans contesting furiously every inch of ground.

The French offensive to-day, in addition to the marked advantages it realized on both sides of the river, relieved the pressure on the British, who have been engaged for forty-eight hours in a death grapple at Longueval. The proof of this was given this afternoon in Haig's advance north of Bazentin.

Germans Slowly Yielding.

The battle in Longueval and Delville Wood still rages. The Germans are yielding the ground they regained only after the most stubborn resistance. But the heavy artillery fire at other points of the front indicates that the British will not be distracted by the opposition they are meeting at Longueval.

To-morrow marks the end of the third week of the biggest operations on the West front since the first months of the war. The results are considered satisfactory here beyond early expectations.

French Gains Squeezing Enemy Out of Peronne

By FRED B. PITNEY.

Paris, July 20.—With the work of bringing up the guns and preparing the lines of communication completed and the British line north of Hardecourt straightened, the French again have taken up the forward movement of the offensive on both banks of the Somme.

North of the Somme the French advanced from Hardecourt to the river until they reached the narrow gauge railroad running from Clery through Maurepas to Combles. This puts them in a position to deliver an enfilading fire on the German lines south of the river defending Peronne and brings them into direct artillery contact with Monte St. Quentin, which is the chief point from which the German artillery operated in counter-attacks on Biaches and La Maisonette.

French Move on Chaulnes.

Meantime, south of the river, the French extended the offensive southward toward Chaulnes, taking German lines from Barleux to Soyecourt, which brings them well on to the flank of Hill 97—the last piece of rising ground held by the Germans in the face of the French, south of the river. The French thus dominate Peronne from the plateau on the west and, having already captured by a series of flanking movements the German strongholds directly defending Peronne, they are moving by an encircling movement from the north and south and squeezing the Germans out.

After two days of intense artillery preparation the battle began this morning at dawn. The Germans on the north, under the direct eye of the Kaiser, tried to drive back the British in an endeavor to stave off the French offensive. But the French, responding to the shrill whistles of the officers, left the trenches in three waves and, rivoting on to Hardecourt, carried their line forward on the south to the railroad. Then a swift movement en echelon, from right to left, swept north along the railroad to the outskirts of Maurepas. At that point the railroad turns northeasterly into Combles, and the French diverged from the railroad line to keep in touch with their positions at Hill 139, north of Hardecourt.

Fighting in Open.

The fighting was over low, rolling ground, sweeping down from the northern plateau to the river valley, and the French, covered by the artillery, went forward over the flat field. Fortunately the storms of the last few days had let up and the French had comparatively clear weather for their attack, with a good opportunity for aeroplane observation. Thus they were able to keep the German artillery under control.

The attack was carried out with mathematical precision. Before 11 o'clock all the German positions were in French hands and being rapidly organized, the destroyed trenches being rebuilt to face the opposite direction.

At the same time an attack was launched south of the river. This was a different proposition. In Barleux the French lines lay in the narrow valley