WEATHER FORECAST.
Fair to-day and probably to-morrow; not so warm to-morrow.
Highest temperature yesterday, 88; lowest, 68.
Detailed weather reports on last page.

The Sun.

IT SHINES FOR ALL

VOL. LXXXV.—NO. 358. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1918.—Copyright, 1918, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association. PRICE TWO CENTS.

ALLIES HAMMER GERMANS ON 50 MILE LINE; THOUSANDS OF PRISONERS, MANY GUNS TAKEN; ENEMY RESERVES UNABLE TO STOP ADVANCE

HOUSE REJECTS RIDER TO INDUCT BOY CLASS LAST

Kahn Goes to Administration's Rescue When Dent and Kitchin Balk.

FINAL VOTE DUE TO-DAY

Plan to Draft Government Employees Stirs Representatives, Forcing Recess.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—With every indication that the man power bill will pass Congress without the restrictions which would hamper the Administration in raising the army with which to win the war, the House almost reached the point of final passage of the measure before adjournment to-night.

The plan had been to pass the bill before adjournment, but Representative Dent, chairman of the Military Committee, forced adjournment because the House was on the point of adopting an amendment preventing the exemption or the giving of deferred classification to Government clerks merely on the ground of their employment.

The Senate continued discussion of the measure also, but the prospect of passing it by the upper branch to-morrow is slim.

The most notable achievement of the House to-day was knocking out the McKenzie amendment, designed to force the War Department to call all the eligibles in the advanced ages before drawing on those below 21 years old, and then to draw them in classes, with the eighteen-year-old boys last. The vote was 167 to 120.

Dent and Kitchin Obstructive.

The Administration, and particularly the military men as represented by Gen. March, Chief of Staff, were strongly opposed to this suggestion, and did not hesitate to say so when they had the opportunity. However, as in the case of the original selective service act, the Administration had to fall back on a Republican—Representative Kahn (Cal.)—to pull its chestnuts out of the fire. Chairman Dent and Representative Kitchin, the Democratic leaders, both voting for every suggested amendment to defer the younger men and to limit the draft to a higher age than 18.

Representative Blackmon (Ala.) tried to have the lower age of the draft remain as it is, at 21 years. There was no discussion of this, the House snowing it under by a vote of 194 to 42. Representative Johnson (Wash.) then tried to have the bill amended to have the lower limit of the draft ages 19 years instead of 18, and this was defeated, 172 to 90.

Not satisfied with this, Mr. Johnson then tried to have the age limit lifted to 50 years. Nobody knew quite how to take this until they saw Mr. Kahn indicate his disapproval. In the faith that he is in close touch with the War Department wants and needs, the House defeated this suggestion, 168 to 118.

Exemption Denied to Officials.

Representative Gregg (Tex.) threw a bomb into the House, though, when out of a clear sky he proposed an amendment to the measure providing that nothing in it should be construed to exempt from military service the legislative and executive officers and officials of the United States or of the several States merely because they hold such offices. This threw the House into an uproar for a moment.

When they realized what it meant, it is to the credit of the House that the amendment was adopted by acclamation. It will affect about 110 members of Congress and a far larger percentage of every State Legislature in the country.

The amendment against which the State Department has consistently fought ever since draft legislation was first proposed was written into the measure to-day, however, on motion of Representative McCulloch (Ohio). His amendment provided that all aliens in the United States owing allegiance to nations allied with the United States in the world war should be placed in Class 1, and that all such aliens already registered should be reclassified and called to the colors immediately. This amendment was passed, 129 to 74.

Representative Doolittle (Kan.) tried to write an unconstitutional amendment into the bill, but Representative Walsh (Mass.) raised a point of order against it which was immediately sustained. Mr. Doolittle wanted to extend the franchise to all soldiers regardless of whether they have reached voting age.

Federal Employees' Status.

When Representative Madden (Ill.) proposed to amend the bill so that exemption should not be obtained for the division or more of Government clerks for whom deferred classification has been obtained, the Democratic side of the House arose in opposition en masse, possibly because of constituents enjoying such deferred classification.

Mr. Madden ably defended his amend-

Continued on Third Page.

Pope Did Not Send Any Benediction to Kaiser

ROME, Aug. 23.—Referring to statements appearing in newspapers to the effect that the Pope, answering a telegram from the German Emperor, who sent him greetings on his name day, had invoked a benediction on "the Emperor's work," the Vatican organ *Osservatore Romano* says:

"This statement is untrue. The Pope thanked the Emperor for his greetings and for the benediction which the Emperor himself had invoked 'on the charitable work of his Holiness.'"

LODGE OUTLINES G. O. P. WAR AIMS

Says American People Want Germany Beaten to Knees on Own Soil.

URGES DICTATED PEACE

Speech Accepted as Embodying Republican Policy in Coming Campaign.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—Senator Henry Cabot Lodge (Mass.) aroused the Senate to-day in a speech covering the aims and purposes of America in the war which was accepted instantly as the first definition of the war policy of the Republican party, of which he has become the acknowledged leader through the death of Senator Gallinger.

Senator Lodge declared irrevocably for a dictated peace rather than a negotiated peace. He asserted that only with a Germany beaten to her knees and ready to accept the will of the Allies as the rule of her conduct for all time; with the rights of the lesser peoples guaranteed; with the despoiled nations which had been crushed under the heels of the Teutonic military power restored to the fulness of their national and international rights and, furthermore, a Germany defeated on her own soil, could the American people be satisfied.

Taken as Defining Party's Stand.

The speech riveted the attention of the entire Senate. It was realized before Senator Lodge had proceeded with more than the opening sentences that he was speaking for his party and defining the issue for the coming campaign, not only next autumn but also for 1920.

Senator Lodge laid down as the cardinal principles for which the American people believed themselves to be fighting and for which the sons of the nation to-day from every quarter of the nation are streaming from schools and farms and factories and offices to cantonments, to the transports and the fields of battle in France the following definitions:

"Belgium must be restored.

"Alsace and Lorraine must be returned to France—unconditionally returned—not merely because sentiment and eternal justice demand it, but because the iron and coal of Lorraine must be taken forever from Germany.

"Italia Irredenta—all those areas where the Italian race is predominant, including Trieste—must go back to Italy.

"Serbia and Rumania must be reestablished in their independence.

"Greece must be made safe.

"Most important of all, if we are to make the world safe in the way we mean it to be safe, the great Slav populations now under the Government of Austria—the Jugo-Slavs and the Czecho-Slovaks, who have been used to aid the Germans, whom they loathe—must be established as independent states.

"The Polish people must have an independent Poland.

"And we must have these independent states created so that they will stand across the pathway of Germany to the East. Nothing is more vital than this for a just, a righteous and an enduring peace.

Russia Must Get Provinces Back.

"The Russian provinces taken from Russia by the villainous peace of Brest-Litovsk must be restored to Russia. The President, as you all remember, has announced with wisdom and foresight the vast importance of sustaining Russia. If Germany continues to hold a large part of Russia the world for years to come will be under the shadow of another great war, which will surely be precipitated upon us when Germany has developed her Russian possessions to the point of yielding her men, money and supplies.

"Constantinople must be finally taken away from Turkey and placed in the hands of the allied nations as a free port, so as to bar Germany's way to the East and hold the Dardanelles open for the benefit of mankind.

"We must not be beguiled into concessions to Turkey in the hope of separating her from Germany. It would be a miserable outcome to have Turkey retained in Europe, a curse to her subjects and neighbors, a plague spot and a breeder of wars. Her massacres must

Continued on Third Page.

CECIL RIDICULES SOLF'S SPEECH ON ENEMY AIMS

Calls German Colonial Secretary's Effort a "Trial Balloon" Essay.

SEES PEACE ATTEMPT

Points to Proof of Changed Outlook Brought About by Defeats.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

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LONDON, Aug. 23.—Lord Robert Cecil, discussing with THE SUN correspondent to-day the recent utterances of Dr. W. S. Solf, the German Colonial Secretary, said he considers it merely a psychological trial balloon essay, a view which seems to be shared by several German papers, including *Vorwaerts*, the *Tageblatt* and the *Boursen Courier*, which complain that the speech is unconvincing and pointless, also that despite the suggested lack of influence by the pan-Germans, the reactionaries and annexationists have steadily maintained the appearance of power. Lord Cecil said:

"What Dr. Solf's speech intended to convey is a plea for a German peace, dictated by Germans, which will leave the Belgian coast in their hands. They will refuse to join in any form of a league of nations. Now, Dr. Solf asks us to believe that he has been converted to humanity and common sense.

"The Allies could tell him that it would be criminal not to attempt some better international scheme than that which now prevails. Not until Germany has been decisively beaten in the field will the Germans realize that their whole military system has been one gigantic criminal error. Dr. Solf's speech is a very remarkable utterance in tone. Of course, as all critics have pointed out, it represents a considerable change in German feeling, which is mainly directed toward influencing American opinion.

Begin to See Disaster.

"As usual the Germans have blundered psycologically, but undoubtedly the speech indicates that the Germans are beginning to realize that the attitude of the pan-Germans can result only in ultimate disaster for Germany. The pan-Germans, Dr. Solf said, were a small and highly influential body formed outside of politics for their own ends, but had always in the last resort dominated German politics.

"Dr. Solf's speech is all the more astonishing when the recent trend of German politics, particularly the Kuhlemann speech, is considered. The Government was forced to explain away his statements regarding Belgium in order to appease the pan-Germans, and only a few weeks before the loudly boomed German democratic policy was quashed for the samet reason.

"Dr. Solf's statement concerning Belgium is an advance toward decency. He states that the German Chancellor dealt recently with the matter in the Reichstag when he said, 'Belgium shall rise again and be vassal to no country.' What the Chancellor really meant, however, is that Belgium shall be held as a pawn by Germany to be exchanged for something, and to be exchanged on such terms that Belgium will remain forever in a close commercial alliance with Germany.

Invites an Open Declaration.

"If Dr. Solf means to reassert this statement there is no advance made in the German proposals. If, however, he intends to restore Belgium and repair the damage Germany has inflicted on that country then let him say so openly to the whole world.

Regarding the Brest-Litovsk peace, the Germans have called into being many small States which they say they intend to occupy only until these States have been set upon their feet. This is different altogether from what the Germans proclaimed hitherto as their intention regarding Russia, which they upheld as the first fruits of the victory of German arms. Any one can see that these German-Russian States have been so drawn geographically that they include notoriously divergent races and create situations where the stronger nations will lean on their neighbors, a policy as evil as it is ill conceived.

"Dr. Solf makes a vague claim for the restoration of German colonies. He is indignant that their former German governors proved themselves incapable of handling backward races.

Have Proof of Barbarities.

"The British Government, however, has proofs of German barbarities in these countries which it intends publishing in the near future. The world will then agree with Balfour in his statement that these colonies cannot be given back to Germany.

"Dr. Solf says that Mr. Balfour has stated that these German colonies will be annexed by Great Britain. No such

Continued on Second Page.

Bavarians Are Called Quitters by Prussians

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 23.—Several prisoners from a Prussian battalion declare that Bavarians fled during the fighting of August 13, before Lassigny, after having declared the evening before in the presence of Bavarian officers that they had become tired of getting themselves killed for others, and would let the Prussians pull themselves out of the difficulty as well as they could alone.

Recriminations between the Prussians and Bavarians have been followed by disputes between the different arms of the Teutonic allied service, the prisoners say, the infantry accusing the artillery of inefficiency. Many prisoners assert their regiments suffered from the short fire of their own guns.

BRITISH FLIERS BOMB AT WILL

Air Squadrons, Unmolested, Wipe Out Enemy Aerodromes and Quarters.

ROAD TRANSPORTS HIT

Men, Train, Automobiles and Ammunition Sheds Are Destroyed.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN *from the London Times Service.*

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WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 23.—The feature of recent air work has been the bombing of enemy aerodromes by overwhelming forces of our aircraft. Two of these raids, on August 16-17, give an idea of their effectiveness.

A large number of our machines started about noon for the Habourdin aerodrome. Arriving there about 1 o'clock, they attacked from an average height of about 200 feet and at this elevation in daylight made good hits with their bombs. No enemy airplanes tried to interfere, but two were seen and attacked; one shot down crashed into some trees close to the aerodrome; the other was driven down and presumably crashed, although it was not observed actually to hit the ground.

Enemy Guns Silenced.

The machine guns and anti-aircraft guns, which were plentiful about the aerodrome, were attacked from above by machine guns on our airplanes as soon as they opened fire or disclosed their positions. All were silenced; none did any harm. Hundreds of bombs were dropped. Three large iron hangars containing numbers of enemy machines were destroyed; six others were known to have been hit and partly wrecked. Two machines on the ground outside of the sheds were hit by bombs and burned.

Fires were caused in the officers' and men's quarters and a building supposed to be the officers' mess was blown up and destroyed. A number of other outbuildings, including one ammunition shed, were set afire and a large number of casualties were caused among the mechanics and other personnel, who when the raid began ran toward a hospital in the neighborhood for shelter.

After half an hour spent in destroying the aerodrome, other objects were sought. A train on the railway was shot at, chased and finally stopped. One staff motor car was shot at on the road and overturned into a ditch; another was made to run up a steep bank, where it stuck; no occupant was left in either, presumably all were killed. Finally several transports were shot at on the road and men and horses were seen to fall. All our machines returned home safely.

The raid on the following day started earlier, the machines going out at 7 o'clock. The objective this time was the Lomme aerodrome, where the sheds were of wood or canvas. More than 100 bombs were dropped, some from heights as low as fifty feet, which was too low because the concussion strained our own machines. Four sheds were set afire and it is believed three others were destroyed. A number of outbuildings were wrecked and the personnel running in all directions, were chased and killed or driven to shelter.

Raid Spreads Terror.

Large workshops near by were hit by several bombs and left smouldering. Two enemy airplanes which were met dived to the ground and crashed on the aerodrome in mere terror, without being shot at. Afterward our men attacked troops and transports. One of our machines was shot down by the anti-aircraft defences; all the others returned undamaged.

It is believed that in each case the result of the raid was the practical obliteration of the aerodrome and the destruction probably of all the machines in them and of a large part of the personnel. These are only examples; there were many similar expeditions.

BRITISH FRONT ABLAZE IN 28 MILE VICTORY

Several Thousand Prisoners Taken, With Enemy on Defensive.

SUCCESSION OF ATTACKS

Attention of Germans Diverted From Point to Point in Series of Attacks.

By PERRY ROBINSON.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN *from the London Times Service.*

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WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 23.—The whole British front now is ablaze from four miles south of Arras to six miles below the Somme, almost to Lihons. Roughly the distance is twenty-eight miles, and it is now all battle front. Everywhere, except in local counter attacks, it is we who are on the offensive; the Germans everywhere are being beaten back.

At all points large captures of prisoners are reported to a total of several thousands. On the greater part of the front English troops are doing the fighting, but the Australians also are at work with unusually brilliant success. Airplanes and tanks, where the ground permits, are cooperating in the fighting.

The fighting is not so much one continuous flame as a succession of attacks in which the enemy's attention is fixed first at one point and then at another until all the sputtering activities are merged into one grand conflagration.

Dovecote Britain Again.

In the fighting from Moyenneville to Beaucourt the total number of prisoners taken in that area exceeds 3,000. On this front the chief fighting in the last twenty-four hours has been the result of German counter attacks west of Achiet-le-Grand and around Meraumont. The poor, harried Dovecote again has changed hands twice, and once more rests in our possession, if the word rest can be applied to a spot continuously gassed, shelled and fought over.

To the right of this area we made a useful gain, pushing across the difficult ground of the Ancre Valley between Grandcourt and Thiepval and clearing out the German system of trenches there.

Yesterday evening we went through the town of Albert, in which and its environs 700 prisoners were taken. They were captured in scattered, separate posts, so that the whole place had to be mopped up in detail. The attack extended southward nearly to Bray. We have taken Meaulte and all the German positions as far as the Albert-Bray road.

The Germans last evening counter attacked strongly and succeeded in making us fall back to Happy Valley, north of Bray, but the ground which counts, namely the Albert-Meaulte high plateau, we hold. In this operation we took 1,600 prisoners and a few guns.

British Casualties Light.

We next flung ourselves last night against Gomiecourt, north of Achiet-le-Grand and before dawn the place was ours. At 6 o'clock this morning the Germans knew that, for their shells were falling in the ruined village, while our guns had lifted far beyond and our men were in positions to the eastward. There we still are.

Tanks rendered valuable assistance in the capture of the place and our

Continued on Second Page.

Wounded Soldiers Grateful to Fund

"JUST a few lines to thank you for the tobacco which we received the other day. I want you to know that we appreciate the gifts of the people at home, and realize you are back of us.

"I am stationed at Base Hospital No. 8, and have a very good chance to see how much good these gifts do. So many of the boys come in without money, and in France, the same as in good old New York, one cannot buy very much without money.

"It is to these patients that the tobacco goes and it is on their behalf that I write to say 'Thank you.' May we not have a line from you?"

The foregoing card was addressed to a SUN Tobacco Fund contributor by Sergeant H. F. Long, attached to a base hospital. Other cards of appreciation will be found on page 5.

WARNING! THE SUN TOBACCO FUND has no connection with any other fund, organization or publication. It employs no agents or solicitors.

"WE HAVE BEGUN, SHALL CONTINUE," SAYS FOCH

Marshal Receives Correspondents and Says He Prefers Facts to Promises—Only Problem With U. S. Troops Is How to Hold Them Back.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 23.—"Everything is going well. We have begun our action and we shall continue," said Marshal Foch to the war correspondents to-day.

The Marshal received the newspaper men in the spacious salons of an old chateau, where there is more business than luxury to-day. The most conspicuous objects in the room were the military maps on the wall.

Advancing to meet his visitors with simple cordiality, the Marshal said: "I am glad to see you, but I do not know just what I can say to you other than that everything is going well, we have begun our action and we shall continue."

Asked concerning prospects for the future, the Marshal said: "Realities are far better than any sort of promise. It is useless to make promises that may give rise to exaggerated hopes. Nothing but realities count."

Reminded of a previous occasion when he said that the German wave had been broken, Marshal Foch replied: "Well, now it is retiring, see for yourselves."

Walking to a map on the wall he pointed out the progress made by the Allies since the offensive began in July. One correspondent having referred to the French soldiers, the Marshal said: "You may say anything you like about them. Whatever you say will never be too much. They are going on without respite, without relief and without rest. We can ask anything of them; they are always ready to go on."

"You may tell the American people that their soldiers are admirable," said Marshal Foch to the correspondent of the Associated Press. "They ask nothing better than to go to their death. They can be reproached only with rushing ahead too fast—it is necessary to hold them back."

Referring to the British troops, Marshal Foch turned again on the map, pointed out the recent gains of Field Marshal Haig's men, and said: "You see they are fighting well just now, in this burning heat. Their ardor is unfailing. They ask nothing better than to march ahead, as you may see from those black marks on the map which show where they are to-day."

ENEMY FIGHTS HARD FOR ROYE

Reenforcements Brought Up, but French Continue Advance Upon Town.

COOPERATION IS PERFECT

Machine-like Precision in the Operations of Generals Mangin and Humbert.

By GERALD CAMPBELL.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN *from the London Times Service.*

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WITH THE FRENCH ARMY AT THE FRONT, Aug. 23.—The Germans have brought up reenforcements and are resisting violently in the region of Roye, where, however, the French have made additional slight progress north and south of the town. South of the Oise Gen. Mangin is continuing his advance.

Gen. Humbert now has before him on his right the system of wooded ridges fifteen miles long and three wide which stretches along the north side of the Oise Valley from Lassigny to four miles north of Chauny.

Gen. Mangin, on the other hand, is confronted by a formidable massif composed of the forests of Coucy and St. Gobain. His front commands the whole road on the enemy's side of the river between Doyon and Chaudy and the greater part of the road between Chaudy and Soissons.

What is to come next lies in the hands of Marshal Foch. In other words, although the position of the front here is the same as it was four months ago the military situation is entirely different because we instead of the Germans are advancing and have the initiative.

The result of the combined efforts of Marshal Foch, Gen. Mangin and Gen. Humbert in the last few days is a wonderful record. The timing of the two operations has been superb; each separate part of the advance has moved with the regularity of clockwork at just the right moment, patiently when there was need of patience, swiftly when speed was the essential factor, but always irresistibly.

After Gen. Humbert had overrun nearly the whole network of ridges between the Matz, the Oise and the Divette, he waited until Gen. Mangin had swept up the Oise before he attacked, first at Lassigny and then at Le Plemont, and so occupied the whole massif. When he did attack, both places fell, not to frontal assaults but by encirclement.

At the same time, Gen. Mangin's advance not only to the Oise but along it up to the Ailette puts him on the south flank of the difficult country north of the Oise between Noyon and Chauny, ready if necessary to combine with any turning movement that may be made upon it from the north.

The master stroke of Gen. Mangin's advance was the extraordinarily neat way in which he began by two innocent looking operations on small fronts, which disposed of a third of the force opposed to him before the battle began, at hardly any cost to his own army. At the same time this gave him a position from which he was able to expand his front and straighten it in such a way as to turn the enemy's right and force him to retire from the two forests between Pontoise and Pimprez.

NEW YORK FLIER KILLED.

J. M. Hacker of Royal Flying Corps Falls With Plane.

DESERONTO, Ontario, Aug. 23.—Cadet J. M. Hacker of New York, a member of the Royal Flying Corps, was killed instantly near Camp Rathbun to-night when his airplane fell.

GERMANS CLING TO VESLE LINE

American Soldier Saved After Eight Foodless Days in Shell Hole Under Fire.

RAKED BY MACHINE GUNS

Enemy Uses Grenades and Flame Throwers in Effort to Halt Attack.

By HERBERT BAILEY.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN *from the London Times Service.*

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WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE VESLE FRONT, Aug. 23.—There are no indications of a German withdrawal from the Vesle to the Aisne. Prisoners taken in a raid on the tannery in Fismes assert they have orders to hold the Vesle line, but the French advance northwest of Soissons menaces this.

In the Fismes region on Wednesday two Americans who had lain in No Man's Land for some time crawled back to the American lines. Private Harold Herman of Mount Carmel, Ill., spent eight days in a shell hole without food and the only water he drank was from a shell hole that contained poison gas. His attempts to regain the lines were observed constantly by the Germans. Snipers on both sides of his shelter fired on him frequently; machine guns were turned on him and the Germans even sent airplanes to pour bullets on him. Eventually he crawled back in the night, weak but in good spirits.

Private Mike Letnanovski of Langley, Ill., spent ten days in a German dugout without food and with but little water before he managed to reach the American lines last night in a state of exhaustion.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE VESLE FRONT, Aug. 23.—The Germans employed hand grenades and flame throwers against the Americans this morning in an endeavor to check a local attack west of Fismes. The Americans used their rifles effectively, killing a number of Germans and putting others to flight, and straightening the line north of the Vesle according to plans.

The American batteries put over a barrage before the infantrymen went forward. A detachment of German infantry tried to head off the attacking Americans, but the latter were too much for the enemy. Twelve prisoners were taken by the Americans.

PERSHING'S FLIERS ACTIVE.

Three and a Half Tons of Bombs Dropped on Foe Bases.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—Gen. Pershing's communique for Thursday says:

Section A—North of the Vesle a successful raiding party brought in eleven prisoners. Hostile raids in Lorraine and Alsace were repulsed.

North of Toul one of our aviators shot down a hostile machine. On August 21 and 22 our aviators successfully bombed the railroad yard at Longuyon, Audun-le-Roman and Conflans. Three and one-half tons of bombs were dropped and many direct hits were observed. All our machines returned.

LIEUT. VERDIER MEETS DEATH.

Former Head of Lafayette Escadrille Killed in Action.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE VESLE FRONT, Aug. 23.—Lieut. Louis Verdier, formerly head of the Lafayette Flying Squadron, a brother of Paul Verdier of San Francisco, has been killed in action, according to information received here.

No details are given in the report.

British Storm Many Villages in Onrush of Two Miles in Picardy.

FIGHTING IS SEVERE

French Attacks Cause Increasing Disorder in Teutons' Ranks.

BIG BLOW IS EXPECTED

Marshal Foch Thought to Be Planning Great Stroke to Rout Foe.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—Most important progress was made to-day in Marshal Foch's grand operation of driving in the shoulders of the Amiens salient and the position of the Germans within that pocket, shallow as it is in comparison with the Marne salient, is fast becoming untenable.

The Germans realize the meaning of to-day's operations, perhaps the most disastrous single day in a strategic sense that they have experienced on the western front, but they are powerless to prevent the peril which they perceive. They are fighting desperately to save themselves as far as possible, and over the whole fifty mile front the struggle has reached an intensity which will give it rank as one of the greatest battles of the war; but it differs from most of those which preceded it in this important respect: There is no question of the result, for the master mind that is directing the Allies' armies has brought about a situation where the triumph of the Allies is obvious and inevitable.

Advance Two Miles.

The brunt of the fighting to-day was borne by the British in the north, in the Albert sector. Despite the most stubborn resistance that the Germans were able to make, aided by heavy reenforcements which had reached Prince Rupprecht's sorely beset troops, the British moved on with the steadiness and sureness of a steam roller, advancing on a front of six miles to a depth of two miles, capturing many villages, including Achiet-le-Grand, where there has been stiff fighting for several days, killing an enormous number of Germans and attaining all their objectives. The slaughter of Germans was on a scale seldom equalled in the war at those places where most resistance was offered.

Noyon's Fall Certain.

On the French sector in the south the advance, although not so spectacular, was very important. Noyon virtually is encircled and its fall now is only a matter of a short time. Crossing the Oise the French have ascended the river to a point nearly ten miles above Noyon and also descended it on the north bank to the outskirts of Morlancourt, a mile and a half from Noyon station.

It is in this sector that the Germans see the greatest menace to them and where they are showing nervousness which closely approaches disorder. They held very strong positions here but Marshal Foch's manœuvres are developing a way of attaining their objectives regardless of the strength of the enemy and this is not without effect on the Kaiser's troops.

All the indications are that Gen. Mangin and Gen. Humbert are getting into position in the Noyon sector to strike a crushing blow. Aside from the crossing of the Divette near Evricourt the French seem to be preparing points of departure east of Bagneux, which they reached today, and west of Crecy-au-Mont. A swift turning movement here, for which apparently all the conditions are ripe, would be likely to throw the whole German line in this region into confusion and might well end in a distaster for the Kaiser's armies.

German Casualties Heavy.

One of the most remarkable features of the operations in the last week or so has been the exceptionally small losses of the Allies and the exceedingly heavy casualties of the Germans. In other words, the Allies' gains, important as they are, have been made by superior strategy and manœuvring rather than by the sacrifice of men. Frontal attacks on German positions have become for the moment rather exceptional; the positions have been taken and on schedule time, but they were taken by flanking and similar movements rather than by direct assault.

So far as the reports show the American forces are not participating in this great battle. This leads some military experts here to surmise that they are being held by Marshal Foch for still another and probably still greater move in some other part of the battle front. Where and when such a movement may be inaugurated can only be conjectured now, and one guess is as good as another.

Gen. Byng's attacks of the last two days are regarded here as having been a great success, although the enemy tried tactics of withdrawal in order to