

Kaiser's Armies Are Holding Their Own as Deadliest Battle of the War Rages; Germany Asks Peace Terms Through U.S.

ASKS WILSON TO PUT PEACE UP TO ALLIES

Germany's Chancellor Answers U. S. Inquiry Through Gerard.

KAISER HIMSELF NOT HEARD FROM

Inspired Statement Indicates Exact Attitude on Part of Russia.

"WAR WILL GO ON SOME TIME YET"

Count von Bernstorff Skeptical of Anything Coming of Overtures Soon.

Washington, Sept. 17.—Germany has suggested informally that the United States should undertake to elicit from Great Britain, France and Russia a statement of the terms under which the Allies would make peace.

The suggestion was made by the imperial chancellor, Von Bethmann-Hollweg, an Ambassador Gerard at Berlin as a result of an inquiry sent by the American government to learn whether Emperor William was desirous of discussing peace, as Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, and Oscar Strauss recently had reported.

No reply was made by Emperor William himself nor did the Imperial Chancellor indicate whether or not he spoke on behalf of his monarch. Ambassador Gerard eabled President Wilson the Chancellor's remarks from recollection, which were substantially as follows:

"Germany was appreciative of the American government's interest and offer of services in trying to make peace. Germany did not want war, but had it forced on her. Even if she defeats France, she must likewise vanquish both Great Britain and Russia, as all three have made an agreement not to make peace except by common consent.

AEROPLANE CHASED OUT OF ANTWERP

Antwerp, Sept. 17.—A Taube aeroplane flew over Antwerp at 7 o'clock this morning, coming from the west. It circled the city, flying low until near the gas works. No bombs were dropped.

MAY SEIZE GOODS HELD FROM MARKET

London Board of Trade Gets Power—Wheat Confiscated at Sydney, N. S. W.

HOLLAND EXPECTED TO JOIN THE ALLIES

Likely to Enter War Soon as Germans Begin Their Retreat.

The Hague, Sept. 17.—Publication here of a report that the Germans are strengthening the fortifications at Cologne, Dusseldorf, Wesel and Duisburg has given rise to much speculation.

SISTER SPEAKS OF SIR JOHN FRENCH

Napoleon Has Taught Him Every Inch of France, Mrs. Despard Says.

London, Sept. 17.—Mrs. Charlotte Despard, interviewed to-day about her brother, Sir John French, commander in chief of the British forces fighting in France, said:

TRAINING VESSEL FOUNDERS IN GALE

Twenty-one Down on British Naval Ship Lost in the English Channel.

London, Sept. 18.—The Admiralty announces that the training ship Figsard II, formerly the battleship Erebus, has foundered off Portland during a gale in the English Channel, and that twenty-one members of her crew were drowned.

GERMANY SETS FORTH CASE TO U. S.

Detailed Argument Given to Tribune by Foreign Office Dignitary.

NOT DYNASTIC WAR, SAYS BARON MUMM

Purely a Business Proposition with Britain, He Declares.

FORCED TO SUPPORT BROTHERS IN AUSTRIA

"We Shall Conquer Unholy Alliance," Official Tells Joseph Medill Patterson.

Berlin, Aug. 28.—The following remarkable authorized interview was granted to-day by the German Foreign Office—comparable to the State Department in Washington—to your correspondent.

The interview was held directly with Baron Mumm, adviser to the German Foreign Office in American, Chinese and Japanese affairs.

Baron Mumm, who speaks English fluently, was secretary of the legation in Washington 1888-92 and Minister pro tem. to the United States in 1899. He was Minister to China 1900-06, in the six difficult and critical years succeeding the Boxer rebellion, and Ambassador to Japan 1906-11.

On that plea the Foreign Office finally and in considerable perplexity assented to the interview, stamped it with the official stamp and it appears herewith.

GEN. DE LA REY'S DEATH AVENGED

Johannesburg, Sept. 17.—The gang of desperadoes, led by the leader of a man named Jackson, who were indirectly the cause of the killing of General Jacobus Hendrick De La Rey, the noted Boer general, came to a dramatic ending to-day.

TWO KINGS PRAISE VALOR OF TROOPS

Albert and George Exchange Felicitations on Conduct of Men Under Arms.

London, Sept. 17.—King George received the following telegram to-day from the King of the Belgians:

BRITISH ARMY DASHING, SAYS AN OBSERVER

Half of Soissons Gained in Night, After Long Artillery Duel.

TROOPS CROSS AISNE ON PONTOON BRIDGES

Report of Field Marshal French's Officer Covers Sept. 10 to 13.

CITY OF RHEIMS GOT DIRE WARNING

Proclamation Threatened 81 Leading Citizens, Held as Hostages, with Hanging.

ITALY MAY JOIN WAR IN FEW DAYS

Call of Reservists for September 28 Supposed to Indicate Time.

Rome, Sept. 18.—Italy's call to the colors of all reservists for September 28 is believed to indicate the time set for a declaration of war against Austria and Germany.

The Italian military attaché at Berlin has been recalled, and the German military attaché at Rome will be withdrawn. It is understood that the Italian attaché was insulted in an official salon by remarks about Italy's action in connection with the Triple Alliance.

The "Messagero" returning to the subject of a grand ministry, comprising men of all parties, under Signor Salandra, who enjoys the universal confidence, openly accuses Berlin and Vienna of employing much gold in Rome to propagate their versions of the war.

AMERICAN FACTORIES UNHURT IN BATTLES

Bordeaux, Sept. 17.—Word was received here to-day that two American factories in France—the International Harvester Company, at Lille, and the Weeks Company, at St. Just-en-Chaux, near Amiens, were not damaged during the recent fighting in that vicinity.

FRENCH TRY AGAIN TO OUTFLANK FOE

London, Sept. 18.—Describing the battle along the Aisne at Soissons, a dispatch to "The Daily Express" says:

GERMANY LOSES MORE WARSHIPS

Antwerp, Sept. 17.—According to information from trustworthy sources, seven German destroyers and torpedo boats have arrived at Kiel in a damaged condition and it is understood others have been sunk in the vicinity of the canal.

SERBS REPORTED OUT OF SEMLIN

London, Sept. 18.—An Athens dispatch to "The Times" says that, according to latest reports, the Serbians have been obliged to evacuate Semlin.

AUSTRIA MAY SEEK PEACE WITH RUSSIA

Reported That Franz Josef Hopes Berlin Will Not Oppose.

Milan, Sept. 17.—The "Giornale della Sera" learns that preliminary steps are being taken toward a possible arrangement for peace between Austria-Hungary and Russia. It is asserted that Emperor Franz Josef cherishes the hope that Berlin will offer no serious opposition, since, apart from the cordial traditional friendship that has marked Anglo-Austrian relations, there is strong ground for believing England really desires the preservation of Austria-Hungary.

Motives constraining to such an initiative are to be found in the remarkable revulsion of public feeling in Vienna, where there are grave symptoms of popular revolt, and in other parts of the empire, particularly Bohemia.

FRENCH GAINING IN ALSACE FIGHT

Violent Engagements Reported—Germans Fortify Mulhausen Again.

London, Sept. 17.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Bordeaux, says:

BATTLE, BELGIUM'S REPLY TO GERMANS

Berme, Sept. 17.—The Germans are strongly fortifying Mulhausen. The International Red Cross Association, at Geneva, has fifty volunteer sorting clerks working day and night dispatching letters sent by relatives and friends to prisoners of war.

GERMAN CRUISER SINKS FIVE SHIPS

Tokio, Sept. 17.—It is reported here that the German cruiser Emden has sunk five British steamers off the coast of India. The passengers of the vessels are said to have been saved.

3,000,000 LINED UP FOR GREATER CLASH THAN MARNE BATTLE

Opposing Armies, Along 150-Mile Front North of Aisne and Eastward to Meuse, Begin Struggle.

ALLIES' ATTACKS OF LITTLE EFFECT

Pursuers Discover They Have to Meet More Than Rear Guard Action—Each Side Claims Slight Successes.

The French official report claims successes for the Allies at "certain points" along the new battle line.

Berlin asserts that the Germans' counter-offensive has been effective, and that their position is favorable.

Paris, Sept. 17.—Another great battle, even more vital for the countries concerned than those which have preceded it, is now in progress on a line extending from the region of Noyon, on the River Oise, northwest of Paris, to the River Meuse, north of Verdun.

The hope of the Allies that the German resistance was only a series of rearguard actions, designed to cover the retreat of the main body, has been dispelled.

The front is somewhat shorter than in the battle of the Marne. But this, as was indicated by the little altered positions after the desperate fighting of the last two days, will only result in a more fiercely contested battle, with masses of troops throwing themselves at each other, and every available piece of artillery concentrated in the determined effort of each army to break through the other's lines.

As the crow flies the front of the opposing armies, which, with the heavy reinforcements that have reached them, still probably number about three million men, stretches for 110 miles.

With allowance for the deviation around Laon, the line must be quite 150 miles long.

The official announcement issued to-night flatly states that the situation was without change. This threw the burden of information back on the report made a few hours earlier, a conservative statement which admitted that the resistance of the Germans had not been broken. This statement follows:

GERMAN RETIREMENT SLIGHT.

"First—On our left wing the resistance of the enemy on the heights to the north of the River Aisne has continued, in spite of the fact that the enemy gave back slightly at certain points.

"Second—On the centre, between Berry-au-Bac, on the River Aisne, and the Argonne, the situation shows no change. The enemy continues to fortify himself along the line previously indicated. Between the Argonne and the Meuse the Germans are intrenching themselves in the vicinity of Montfaucon. In the Woerpe district we have come in contact with several detachments of the enemy between Etain and Thiaucourt.

[Berry-au-Bac is eleven miles northwest of Rheims and about twenty-five miles east of Soissons. Etain is twelve miles to the northeast of Verdun, and Thiaucourt is twenty-eight miles south-east of the same place.]

"Third—On our right wing, in Lorraine and the Vosges, there has been no change.

"Summing up, the battle is being continued along the entire front between the River Oise and the River Meuse. The Germans occupy positions organized for defence and armed with heavy artillery.

"Our progress is of necessity slow, but our troops are animated by a spirit of offensive action and they are giving evidence of vigor and enthusiasm. They have repulsed with success the counter-attacks undertaken by the enemy, both during the day and at night. The morale of the French soldiers is excellent."

The official report and the press dispatches from reliable sources, taken together, furnish an account of the military operations, which, though lacking in minute detail, is generally accepted as true.

INVADERS FORTIFY THEMSELVES.

The Germans, who a fortnight ago had to abandon their first swift endeavor to destroy the armies of France and Great Britain and capture Paris, have now fortified themselves on the mountains north of the River Aisne, through the plains of Champagne and in the Argonne Mountains, through which the Meuse flows.

They are in a stronger position than they were for the battle of the Marne and have been strongly reinforced with fresh troops from the north and east. They have attempted some counter-attacks against the allied troops, which, flushed with victory, have been trying to prevent them from intrenching themselves.

According to English and French official reports, these attacks have been repulsed and the Germans compelled to give way at certain points, but the German General Staff claims just the opposite results. It is certain, however, that the hilly country north of the Aisne offers good ground for such tactics.

It would appear that these western wings of the two armies, the German right and the Allies' left, are again to bear a heavy