

MANGIN'S FORCES NEAR MALMAISON

French Army's Steady Pressure Gradually Wearing Down German Strength

COUNTER-STROKES FAIL

Prussian Guards and Other Crack Troops Break Against Poilus

By WALTER DURANTY Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

When the history of the war comes to be written full justice will be done to the work of General Mangin's army during the month of September...

In fact, so gradual has been the progress and so lacking in sensational incident that were it not for the historic name of the Chemin-des-Dames to mark the goal of the effort Mangin's soldiers might fancy that their advance foot by foot, accompanied by some of the most desperate fighting of the whole war...

It is a parallel of the operation against the equally difficult massif of Thiencourt, where Humbert's men pushed steadily round toward Launoy while simultaneously nibbling their way forward by "infiltration" that is, a pure infantry maneuver, as taught for a century in the war schools...

Counter-stroke after counter-stroke follows every French advance. On the night of the 10th the Prussian Guards attacked six times in a vain attempt to win back the important position of Lafaux. On the night of the 13th another crack division broke five times against the stubborn defense of a French unit that had just won the farm of Mérey.

Yet the advance is as constant as it is imperceptible to the outside world. Now the French army is almost within reach of Malmaison, the true key to the Chemin-des-Dames position. And, what is hardly less important, they are doing their share in a far greater operation. That consists in "nailing" the enemy to battle along the Hindenburg line from Arras to Rheims.

Despite himself, Ludendorff must use divisions to meet the Allied pressure. Every day he grows weaker and sees his chance of constituting an independent mass of reserves this chief hope for slipping new attacks by superior forces) slipping from his grasp.

TOLMAN LEFT \$7,259,344

"King of Loan Sharks" Had Notes Running Up to \$300,000

New York, Sept. 24.—Daniel H. Tolman, known from coast to coast as "King of the Loan Sharks" left an estate of \$7,259,344, according to an appraisal filed here today.

Tolman, who operated loan agencies in sixty-three cities of the United States and Canada, once was fined in New Jersey and later served a term of imprisonment in New York.

INFANTILE KILLS YOUTH

Death Follows Two Days' Illness—Attack Came Suddenly

Chambersburg, Pa., Sept. 24.—On Friday night last Charles Edgar Foreman, aged eighteen, visited his fiancée in Fayetteville. Saturday he was stricken with infantile paralysis and last night he died.

Both arms were paralyzed, then his legs, then his throat. He had been healthy and worked regularly. His home was in Fort Loudon, but he was employed here.

CHANGE IMPERATIVE IN GERMAN SYSTEM

Georg Bernhard Admits Government Must Be Altered and Quickly—This Week Vital One, He Says

By GEORGE RENWICK Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

It is not merely a matter of overthrowing the Chancellor. That is minor business. The point is that the necessities of the time in which we find ourselves force us without delay to undertake a change in our whole system of Government, and this change must come quickly.

Thus Georg Bernhard, political editor of the Vossische Zeitung, of Berlin, writes in a mournful article on the situation. He thinks that this week will be a vital one in the history of the German Empire, and he utters the warning that it is no use making the situation worse by quarreling about the great change which must come and come quickly.

The future Chancellor, he stresses, must have the support of all the great political parties. That is necessary, not only for peace negotiations, but also for the eventuality of the German Empire being forced to gather its full strength for carrying on the war.

With the British Army, Sept. 24. Several actions of a local kind have taken place on the British front, leading to hard fighting in the trenches and outposts, this mainly in the country about Ephepy and Villers-Guislain, where bloody encounters continue.

The balance of events is in the British favor, and the troops have not only improved their positions, but also have taken quite a number of prisoners. In a minor attack, for instance, south of Villers-Guislain, three officers and more than one hundred of other ranks were brought back after a struggle in a muck road there which was severe on both sides.

Near Berthouart another of those muck roads which are common in this country became the scene of sharp fighting Sunday night, at about 7.30, when the enemy attacked and pushed the road. A counter-attack by the British drove him out some 500 yards. Further north of this sector of the front there was much bombing and machine-gun fighting.

But all this conflict is localized to small objectives, and is not of great importance except to the men engaged. The weather is still stormy, with heavy rain at intervals between bursts of sunshine, and the ground will soon be difficult for operations on a big scale. The enemy will be glad of that, and no doubt is preparing already to strengthen the Hindenburg defenses for the winter campaign, during which he hopes to keep the British in the line, to the barrier, while the British divisions are resting after their long period of fighting and while he reorganizes the strength of his own divisions and trains the latest recruits for defensive warfare in the spring.

Whether the British armies will give him this chance remains to be seen.

French Ambassador to Spain Dies. Madrid, Sept. 24.—Joseph Thierry, the French ambassador to Spain, is dead here.

Joseph Thierry, who was minister of finance in the Ribot cabinet, was appointed ambassador to Spain in October, 1917. He was an undersecretary of war in the Briand cabinet and later was appointed minister of subsistence. He was born in 1857.

Constantinople Bombed. London, Sept. 24.—Constantinople was bombed by the British Royal Air Force Friday and Saturday of last week, according to an official communication issued by the Admiralty last night.

The Greek coast operated in the bombing of Constantinople on September 20 and 21, and dropped thousands of leaflets into Samsoun.

A balloon shot down in the European operations in flames set fire to two hangars, which were burned out.

British Admiralty Announces an Attack on Turkish Capital

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Amur Capital Captured. Japanese Take 2000 Teutons Prisoner at Kokka, in Siberia

London, Sept. 24.—Blagoviestchensk, capital of the Siberian province of Amur, 500 miles north of Harbin, and Alexievsk have been occupied by Japanese cavalry, according to information received by the Japanese embassy. Two thousand Austro-Germans were taken prisoner. They laid down their arms at Kokka, Blagoviestchensk is the center of a rich gold-mining district.

The information, which was given out by the Japanese military attaché, is to the effect that Blagoviestchensk and Alexievsk were occupied by Japanese cavalry, converging from Khabarovsk and Taitshar, September 18. Troops moving up the Amur River reached Blagoviestchensk the following day.

Kokka, where the Austro-Germans laid down their arms, is on the right bank of the Amur opposite Blagoviestchensk. Another enemy formation has retreated to the upper reaches of the Zeya River.

STORMS GIVE FOE HOPE OF RESPITE

Bad Weather Making Ground Difficult for Big Scale Fighting

BRITISH KEEP GAINING

Local Actions Continue, Harassing Germans About Ephepy and Villers-Guislain

By PHILIP GIBBS Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

Several actions of a local kind have taken place on the British front, leading to hard fighting in the trenches and outposts, this mainly in the country about Ephepy and Villers-Guislain, where bloody encounters continue.

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But all this conflict is localized to small objectives, and is not of great importance except to the men engaged. The weather is still stormy, with heavy rain at intervals between bursts of sunshine, and the ground will soon be difficult for operations on a big scale. The enemy will be glad of that, and no doubt is preparing already to strengthen the Hindenburg defenses for the winter campaign, during which he hopes to keep the British in the line, to the barrier, while the British divisions are resting after their long period of fighting and while he reorganizes the strength of his own divisions and trains the latest recruits for defensive warfare in the spring.

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Belgium Not Debatable. Arthur Henderson Defines Labor's Stand on Peace

London, Sept. 24.—It cannot be made too clear that British labor has long since placed Belgium outside the category of questions upon which there can be either negotiations or compromise and regards the question of Alsace-Lorraine as essentially one of right and not of territorial adjustments.

Arthur Henderson, the British labor party leader in an interview. His statement was called out by a question from the House of Commons. The German majority leader, that will later and so-called interest ought to try to come to understanding on a common basis program.

This is exactly what we have been asking German majority leaders to do since February, added Mr. Henderson. "And we want that so far as we have had from them the assurance of assistance we were entitled to expect while the existence of the infamous treaty of Brest-Litovsk and Bucharest have created one and another insupportable obstacle to a peace of understanding on an international plane."

Archangel, Sept. 18 (delayed). In an attack against the American outposts south of Archangel yesterday the Bolsheviks sustained considerable losses. Eight dead were found in one heap in front of an advanced position and three other bodies were found in a forest. Most of the Bolshevik dead were left. A wounded Bolshevik soldier declared that a shell from a Russian Allied armor train had killed twenty men on a Bolshevik train.

The Bolsheviks have been shelling the American positions with shrapnel for several minutes today, but did no harm. The Russian railway employees are loyal to the Allies. They are operating the trains under shrapnel and even repair tracks in the open unperturbed by bursting shells.

KAISER SLURS AMERICANS

Declares His Troops Will Give U. S. the Right Answer

By the United Press

Amsterdam, Sept. 24.—The Kaiser, addressing Austrian officers at Bries, while visiting the Alamo-Lorraine front Sunday, expressed his confidence that they would give the Americans "the right answer, at the right moment."

"You have come to fight our battles, as good comrades," he said. "You know, perhaps, that we have heavy fighting before us. You know who are before you. The Americans have promised France that they would give her Alsace-Lorraine, which France alone cannot capture."

"The Americans also wish to add big debts to their big debts. With the help of my troops, you will give them the right answer at the right moment."

The Kaiser distributed 100,000 copies and addressed American Germans. British and French wounded in their respective languages.

Amsterdam, Sept. 24.—Renewed attempts have been made to assassinate members of the Soviet Government in Russia, and as a result there will be fresh magazines in reprint, says a Moscow dispatch received here.

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Harbin, Manchuria, Sept. 20 (delayed).—The Siberian government is reported to have served an ultimatum on the troops commanded by General Horvath to disband or join the forces of General Semenov, the anti-Bolshevik leader in Transbaikalia.

The Siberian government referred to probably is that of Gen. Kozlov, which recently declared war on Germany. It is probable that the ultimatum is an order combining the commands of Horvath and Semenov, both of whom have been active against the Bolshevik from bases in Manchuria.

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