

The World's Greatest Battle

Along a line of fifty miles has raged for over ten days the greatest and the most important battle in the world's history up to this date. During the first three days the Germans had called up most of their reserve forces in order to fill up the gaps made by the terrible losses on the side of the Huns. More than fifty divisions were used within the first three days but without much avail for the British lines have not broken nor have the British used all of their reserves which up to this time they have kept to meet any added assault by the Germans. The British have fought with wonderful courage and have yielded only gradually to the overpowering force opposing them. Just at this moment President Wilson praises General Haig for the wonderful defense made by the British when at the same time Lloyd George cables to America telling this country that the crisis of the war is now at hand and that the importance of getting reinforcements across the Atlantic in the shortest period of time can not be exaggerated.

The British lines have kept moving back and have given up more territory than they had gained during the previous year. This backward movement is probably due to the fact that in sections the Germans are said to outnumber the English 4 to 1. There is a strategic reason for the retreat and that is to get the Germans into the open and there to meet them with machine guns in which the English are vastly superior to the Germans. One specialist says that the mode of warfare has changed from that of position to that of movement.

Huns Hit Line Hard.

The object of the Germans was apparently to break through the Allied lines where the British and the French lines joined and then roll back each line separately. In this the Germans have failed so far utterly for they could not break through the English lines although they hurled great masses repeatedly against the lines. It is later claimed that the Germans used over ninety divisions in this battle and have lost between 450,000 and 650,000 men.

Although the British have retreated this



"Hey, K. P., where you going?"
"Goin' slumming, cook!"

does not place them to any disadvantage for they have given up only war devastated territory which will add to the burdens of the Germans to develop into defensible territory.

News of the battle has thrilled America and every department is speeding up to hasten more men to France, while General Wood thinks that we should not think of stopping this embarkation till we shall have sent at least five millions of men to the aid of the Allies. He feels that since there have been forty millions of men under arms since the war began, any number less than five millions would be far too small for this great country.

At the end of the first week the German forces made an attack at Arras which may be the new center of the battle or it may simply be a feint of the Germans. At any rate the battle is not spent for the Germans are moving up their heavy guns and are preparing for more heavy fighting. The Allies are expecting to make a counter attack but when and where is at present a secret.

The British and French seem confident of the outcome and reports are reaching the Allies that all the Germans captured express their weariness of the war and tell of the extreme difficulty they have in getting supplies.

All eyes are also glancing toward Italy where forty Austrian divisions are slowly moving to attack the Italian lines.

The airmen did some of the greatest service performed at the great battle for amidst the torturing fire they flew over the enemy's lines and attacked reinforcements and supplies thus destroying whole trains and even roads which later were abandoned by the Huns.

THE BROWNING GUN.

The light Browning Gun is a rifle weighing 15 pounds, it takes regular ammunition used by the American rifles, in fact, all the American guns, the Springfield, the Modified Enfield, the two Browning guns use the same calibre ammunition.

The light Browning is automatic or semi-automatic in action for it can be used for continuous fire until the magazine is emptied, or it can be fired by use of the trigger. It is air-cooled, gas operated in design, the energy of the Browning projectile is the same as that of the Springfield. The cartridges are fed from a detachable magazine containing 20. Although the heat caused by the explosion is very intense, yet by the air-cooling apparatus 350 continuous shots can be made without having to stop and to cool the weapon.

The heavy Browning gun is water-cooled, belt fed and is operated by power created by the recoil. It is fed on a cotton belt which contains 250 rounds. The heavy guns 34½ pounds. The recent tests prove them one of the most excellent guns if not the best for general use.

GENERAL PHILLIPS GOES.

Has Been Assigned to Command Coast Artillery in Puget Sound District.

Brig. Gen. Charles L. Phillips has been relieved here as commander of the 52d Field Artillery Brigade and assigned to command the Coast Artillery in the Puget Sound district.

There was no intimation last week as to who will be selected to command the 52d Field Artillery brigade to succeed Brig. Gen. Phillips.

It is not known whether the War Department will select a Regular Army officer for the command or whether one of the colonels of the 27th division will be promoted to be brigadier general and given the command. The brigade is, for the time being, in command of Lieut. Col. Howland, of the 106th Regiment, all of the Artillery colonels being away from camp at present.

A DIVISION EMBLEM.

Major General O'Ryan wishes to express his gratification over the results of his request for suggestions for a suitable emblem or symbol to represent the New York division. There already have been several responses but the General wishes the contest to be a Division Contest so that the final selection will be representative; therefore, he asks for many more contributions. He asks contestants to send drawings, suggestions or descriptions of a suitable design to the Aides of General O'Ryan at Division Headquarters.

Within ten days after this article appears a committee will be appointed whose duty it will be to select the better designs. This list of the better ones will be exhibited to the public at Division Headquarters and one of them will be selected as the best symbol of the Division. Get busy and send in your designs.

J. S. K.

PRIVATE JIM MUGRUMS.

It isn't the bullets that Jimmie fears,
Nor a death unknown to fame,
But the awful thought, when the list appears,
They'll go and misspell his name.

In type it will look, unless it is pied,
Muggins or Migs or Mall—
"If they don't gimme credit for havin' died,
I don't wanna be killed at all!"

—CHARLES DIVINE.

The two soldiers were at mess.

"Say!" said the first. "Are you an aviator?"

"No," said the second.

"Well, then, take in your wings."

Next week's episode in the career of Ethelburt Jellyback, Private, will deal with his troubles and tribulations in going on guard. The "ideas" of Ethelburt are a feature nobody with a sense of humor wants to miss.

There will be lots and lots of news from division units in next week's GAS ATTACK.