

GERMAN ATTACKS FUTILE ATTEMPT TO SPLIT ARMIES

Review of Situation Shows Allied Line Everywhere Unbroken

BLOW AIMED AT JUNCTURE

Single Leadership Remedies Defect of Which Hun Sought to Take Advantage

ENEMY'S FEARS ARE JUSTIFIED

Caught in Right Triangle, He is Exposed on Flank to Strength of French Armies

By COMMANDANT DE CIVRIEUX, Celebrated French Military Critic

In order to understand the German offensive, its direction and its unrealized hopes, it is necessary first to consider the situation of the armies as they faced each other about the middle of March.

Leaving out the Belgian Army, which occupies the Yser front, two great groups of Allied forces were lined up on the stage of the western theater from the neighborhood of Ypres as far as the Swiss border.

Behind his alignment, in regions which may not be designated, were stationed, naturally, the reserves which had been drawn on the total sum of the Allied contingents.

Thus you can see that the Franco-British Armies had their weak point—and the existence of one could not, after all, be avoided—in the sector of the Oise valley, where they were joined together.

To remedy this defect, inherent in all coalitions, the American Government, at the moment when its first units are going to the front, has decided by an act of disinterestedness which it would be impossible to applaud too much, has authorized the amalgamation of its troops with the Allied troops under one supreme command.

However, revolutionary Russia having withdrawn from the war after a collapse that was as much economic and political as military, Germany had won the freedom to hurl almost all her forces against the West.

At the same time, important works prepared the way for the coming movement. The front (which) could be emptied and multiple bridges were thrown across the Oise, the level of which was lowered.

The German Attack

The German plan was clearly aimed at the British Armies. While, between the Scarpe and the Somme, Prince Rupprecht was to hurl the two armies of the First and Second Armies against the Third English Army of General Byng, the Crown Prince was to thrust the army of von Hutier vigorously toward the south, between the Somme and the Oise, in such a way as to overpower the Fifth Army of General Gough, pushing it out of the Oise valley and isolate it from the French.

As soon as the defensive lines of their adversaries should be forced, von Below and von Marwitz were to march upon Péronne and Bapaume in the direction of Amiens, while von Hutier was to advance as fast as he could upon the axis Ham-Breuil in order to cover the principal movement from the certain intervention of the French.

The general attack, conducted with remarkable energy and without any heed for the losses, covered by a terrible bombardment of explosive and poison shells and masked behind clouds of smoke, was launched at dawn, on March 21. The Third English Army from the neighborhood of Cambrai to that of Verdun, held fast to its positions, which were almost everywhere maintained.

But the Fifth Army, round about Saint-Quentin, finding before a shock of which the force had not been fully estimated at its true strength.

In consequence, the enemy's hopes seemed for a moment to have been realized in their first phase. The right wing of the English fell back toward the west, drawing with it in this movement the Third Army. The Oise valley was opened up and von Hutier seemed in an easy position for maneuvering his enveloping turn, all the while gravely menacing Paris, which the long range guns had already commenced to bombard.

But then, with remarkable rapidity, the French troops closed the fissure opened by the first fighting. Before Ham and Tergnier, behind Gaiscard and Chauny, then around Lassigny and Nogent, they held the enemy and finally stopped him. At the same time, carrying out a rapid shift toward the west.

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THESE ARE ALL TAKEN, BUT WE HAVE PLENTY MORE



Marie Gronyer - Twice a refugee

André Cousser, Father killed, home destroyed

Gene and Marguerite Donbinger - Father died a prisoner

George and Clara Mangola, held by Germans eighteen months

Walter and Lucien Gradizier, Father killed in 1914

U.S. ENGINEERS ARE ONCE AGAIN IN THICK OF IT

Tools Give Way to Rifles When German Offensive Begins

YANKS READY IN CRISIS

Onrushing Waves of Foe Riddled as They Get Within Sure Fire Range

STUBBORN FIGHT WHOLE WAY

"They Held On by Their Teeth Until Last Moment," Is British Officer's Praise

American railway engineers, who were working under Canadian command behind the British lines when the present great German drive began, caught up their rifles and for several days fought shoulder to shoulder with their Canadian comrades to resist and slacken the Hun onslaught.

These were among the Americans referred to in one of Sir Douglas Haig's dispatches as having shared in the first days of the greatest battle in history—an opportunity that came to them by the fortunes of war before it was announced to the world that General Pershing had placed all the American forces, present and coming, at the disposal of General Foch.

The American railway engineer is a combatant only in emergency, but for that emergency he is armed, and for this detachment up behind the British lines it required only the lightning change of dropping their tools and grabbing their rifles to form themselves into a fighting unit.

Compared with the incoming Hun multitude, their number was exceedingly small, and they were unsupported by artillery. But they had their rifles and they had a few machine guns, and they used these with deadly effect until they became so hot they could not use them any more.

Enemy Advances in Waves

The enemy advanced in the familiar German close formation, wave after wave. At one place there were seven such waves, each of them ten men deep and none of them more than a hundred yards apart.

The Americans, with no idea of retreating, waited grimly until the first wave of the advance was within sure-fire range and then let the Huns have it, firing as fast as they could and watching the ever-widening gaps in the oncoming ranks as the streams of bullets did their work.

The Germans did not fire a single shot. They simply came on. In the face of a murderous fire which killed or put them out of business by thousands, they advanced undaunted.

Kill or Be Smothered

These tactics were new to the Americans, but it was quite clear that it was a simple question of killing Germans or being engulfed and smothered in the oncoming waves. So they killed Germans steadily until the weapons became too hot, when they retired to another position, halted, turned and went to work again.

Thus it went for several days, a lot of young Americans, new to such warfare, fighting stubbornly all the way from a point near Saint-Quentin to a place near Nogent. When they reached that place, they were nearly exhausted and their equipment hardly any was left.

Then came their chance to rest and be re-equipped. They needed that, for they had done their part in stemming the Hun offensive during the first critical days of the battle now in progress.

"They inflicted terrific casualties on the enemy and then moved back, waiting for the Germans to repeat the performance," a British officer said. "They held on by their teeth until the last moment."

FIRM WAR ADVOCATE ELECTED TO SENATE

Representative Lenroot Scores Clean Triumph in Wisconsin

[BY CARLETON THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, April 11.—Representative Irvine L. Lenroot, Republican, has been elected United States Senator from Wisconsin, to succeed the late Senator Hastings. His plurality over Joseph E. Davies, the Democratic candidate, was 10,000. Victor L. Berger, the Socialist candidate, got a large vote.

It is undoubtedly true that the Wisconsin result presents many important angles and divisions of the vote too complex to be quickly analyzed. It will, no doubt, force extremely earnest study on to politicians of all parties for gaining an understanding of public tendencies. The outstanding fact, however, is that Senator-elect Lenroot's attitude on the war has been consistently logical, and that he has been one of the most able and aggressive members of the Lower House of Congress in the furthering of patriotic legislation. And from that much comfort may justly be derived.

In other political activity the country does not seem to be so rich. True, the undismayed and ever hopeful opponents of woman suffrage in New York have met and have passionately resolved to fight for a resubmission of woman suffrage to the voters of the Empire State.

The speaker's attitude against the dreadful mistake of letting woman vote. But, aside from that, things political—outside Wisconsin, of course—are pretty well dormant.

SURE IT WAS ELSIE! WHO ELSE WOULD?

Doughboy's Delight Finds Brand New Way to Go on the Stage

Down at a certain French town where there are so many American railway engineers that it looks as though the entire personnel of the Pennsylvania Railroad had hastily adjourned to France, they can use the trainshed as an auditorium on great occasions by simply rigging up a stage at one end and letting most of the audience stand. That roomy shed was placarded the other day with the simple poster, "ELSIE JAMES TONIGHT," and that was enough to pack it to the doors.

Long before the appointed hour more than two thousand soldiers were straining their eyes for the first glimpse of Elsie, when there came the signal to clear one of the tracks that run the length of the shed, and with a great foot-tapping and a still greater uproar along the line a locomotive trundled into the shed. In the cab were some grinning engineers, and on the cow-catcher was Elsie James, waving her hand and laughing as if she were having the time of her life, which she probably was. Up the track the locomotive made its way till it was near enough the stage for the agile actresses to make it in one jump. She did. With her black velvet tam perched on one side of her head and her arms held high, she cried:

"Are we downhearted?" They were not, and said as much at the top of their lungs.

SAY "AMERICAN E. F."

Better tell the people at home to address you in care of "American E. F."—not "A. E. F." Particularly, too, when writing to friends of yours in the Army over here, put it on—"American E. F."

The reason is that the abbreviation "A. E. F." is quite similar to some in use by our Allies. If Mother, despite her other excellent qualities, has a habit of making her E's look like I's, the chances are that her carefully concocted plum pudding may find its way into the lap of some hungry Aussie, for "A. I. F." is the designation for those boys.

"Thou shalt" part of the G. O. reads: "Hereafter, all members of the American Expeditionary Forces, in addressing mail to units and individuals of the service, shall, therefore, have got to be specific—also reasonable."

The people back home will be able, as heretofore, to send us smokes and candy and writing paper and fountain pens and knitted sweaters and knitted gloves and knitted socks and knitted tummy bands and knitted earlaps and knitted mufflers and knitted helmets and knitted scarfs and knitted brows and knitted picture frames and knitted lampshades and knitted vanity cases and knitted wristlets and knitted anklets and knitted fingerlets and knitted toeleets; but we will have to specify on separate sheets in our letters to them, just what portions of our well-known anatomies are in need of such sumptuary covering, just what size we desire, just what color we want the wool in order to have it blend into the camouflage scheme. Oh, no; not quite as bad as that; but you get what we mean.

"PLUCKING" BOARDS FOR POOR OFFICERS

Inefficient Heads Will Be Chopped Off by Superiors in Rank

In case a National Guard, National Army or Reserve Corps officer is believed inefficient, and his elimination from the service seems warranted, he will be judged by a retiring or "plucking" board of from three to five officers, all of whom shall be his superiors in rank. The manner of procedure for such a board is laid down in new orders just issued by G. H. Q.

The testimony given before the board members will all be sworn to by the witnesses offering it, and will be recorded in full wherever practicable. In case it is not practicable to do so, a summary of the material testimony of each witness will be recorded in the board's report. The officer concerned will be allowed to submit a written statement to be considered by the board and incorporated in its report. The findings and recommendations of the board will be in each case set forth with the board's reasons for arriving at them.

Power to appoint such retiring or "plucking" boards will be recommended from the service systems warranted, by the board and incorporated in its report. The findings and recommendations of the board will be in each case set forth with the board's reasons for arriving at them.

The case of provisional officers and those holding permanent commissions in the Regular Army are covered by G. O. No. 70, W. D., 1917, and by G. O. No. 62, H. A. E. F., 1917, as heretofore.

NO MORE PARCELS UNLESS SOLDIERS WRITE FOR THEM

Officers Must O.K. Men's Requests for Packages From America

ORDER WILL SAVE TONNAGE

Sweets and Sweaters Will Have To Make Room for Flour and Fighters

No more packages from home unless we write for them.

It's tough, but it's true, like so many tough things. No more parcels post packages will be accepted in the States for shipment to use overseas unless those packages are accompanied by our own written requests, signed with our own John Hancock, and O.K.'d by our superior officers. Our requests, therefore, have got to be specific—also reasonable.

The people back home will be able, as heretofore, to send us smokes and candy and writing paper and fountain pens and knitted sweaters and knitted gloves and knitted socks and knitted tummy bands and knitted earlaps and knitted mufflers and knitted helmets and knitted scarfs and knitted brows and knitted picture frames and knitted lampshades and knitted vanity cases and knitted wristlets and knitted anklets and knitted fingerlets and knitted toeleets; but we will have to specify on separate sheets in our letters to them, just what portions of our well-known anatomies are in need of such sumptuary covering, just what size we desire, just what color we want the wool in order to have it blend into the camouflage scheme. Oh, no; not quite as bad as that; but you get what we mean.

Rule Already Effective

The following English version of the cablegram of the Second Assistant Postmaster General to the postal forces of the A. E. F. may explain away some of the whiffs of the situation. Here it is: "Effective April 1, no parcel post will be sent to parties identified with the American Expeditionary Forces unless the articles offered for mailing have been requested in writing, and the request has been approved by a superior officer. This request must be inclosed with the article in the parcel, which will be opened in New York and the contents certified with the written request. Therefore, I would request that the notice be widely circulated among the troops to have the written requests on sheets which can be enclosed in parcels."

So we've got to write out what we want on a separate sheet, a sheet that will stand the wear and tear of packing, and be presentable for inspection when it hits Mr. Patten's well-known post-office in Park Row, New York, on its way back to us. If the parcel doesn't weigh more than the authorized amount—at last accounts it was seven pounds—the stuff will get to us in due time. But we should be careful not to write home for any baby grand pianos, any pianolas, elephants, thousands of bricks or other bulky articles, because the chances are that they'd never get to us at all, at all.

The move is made in the interest of economizing tonnage space, to save room for steel and wheat and beef and men.

33 MORE WAR WAIFS ADOPTED AS MASCOTS BY AMERICAN UNITS

FOR THE ORPHANS OF FRANCE

Gone are the games that they should be playing; Gone are the trinkets to childhood dear. Hushed are the voices that should be saying Words of parental cheer.

Give them the joy that is theirs by birthright! Give them the smiles they are robbed of! Give them the love that is childhood's earthright— Give them the right to live!

Sergeant Alone Will See That One Orphan Gets Year's Care

AIR CENTER ASKS FOR 13

Infantry Companies Strong on Picking Pairs, Brother and Sister Preferred

SUPPLY TRAINS SPEED THINGS

One Organization Raises 500 Francs in 15 Minutes—Field Clerks Order Child by 'Phone

Thirty-three children adopted. Thirty-three needy French youngsters assured of food, clothing, schooling, comfort, and a home for a year.

Thus may be summarized the progress of the second week since THE STARS AND STRIPES announced its plan to afford units of the A. E. F. an opportunity to take as their mascots French children whose fathers have been killed or permanently disabled in their brave stand against their enemy and ours. With the first houses by the invasion of the Boche.

From every part of France, it seems, and from nearly every kind of organization have come reassuring responses—requests for boys of six and for girls of ten. For girls of six and boys of ten, for brothers and sisters, for best driven from their homes by the invasion of the Boche.

"We are with you," is the tone of all these communications. "We are glad to help."

First Individual Request

The first request from an individual soldier for a child came this week, and right from our own office. Sergeant Richard S. Claiborne, one of the printers on THE STARS AND STRIPES, enthusiastically contributed to the support of the girl we adopted last week. It was a couple of days, and then he announced that he personally wanted to adopt a girl of nine or ten. In peace times Sergeant Claiborne is employed in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington.

"I'm getting along past middle age," said the sergeant, "and just figuring—for about 20 years I've been spending foolishly three or four times as much as it costs to support one of these children for a year."

The sergeant isn't going to put a year's limitation on his adoption. He is going to see that his charge gets an education. And maybe she'll finish it in the States.

Aviators Come Back Strong

The biggest response came from the Air Service. The aviators seemed to go right up in the air when they read the plan. Early this week came this telegram from *Plane News*, the official paper of the Air Service camp: "Staff of *Plane News* adopts one orphan, mademoiselle, and has news of local squadrons adopting 12 others."

Then came news from individual squadrons. The Tenth Aero Squadron wrote:

Enclosed find 612 francs forwarded by members of the Tenth Aero Squadron. We desire to congratulate you upon this idea because it is in entire accord with the principles for which we are fighting, the preservation of the home.

"We, who have journeyed many thousands of miles, know that it is our duty not only to fight for the home and the little ones of the generations to come, but also to see that the little tots of today who have been deprived of the loving care and comfort of parents are given a start in life. Some of us have children at home, others have little brothers and sisters. We desire, in their names, to contribute our mite toward making the life of some little orphan at least a bit happier."

"While we realize that nothing we can do can compensate for the loss of parents, we feel that, in helping some boy or girl to get a start in life, we are not only doing our duty, but also helping for some child that your committee thinks will not be chosen by anyone else. If possible, pick us out a little girl, as all of us realize that a girl has more to contend with in life than a boy, and if the little lady has no name, please call her Miss Aero Columbia. If there are any more little orphans for whom we cannot find a home, let us know and we will occur."

"Three cheers for THE STARS AND STRIPES."

"Yours for Uncle Sam and Miss Aero Columbia."

Letter Goes to French Trenches

When this letter was read at Red Cross headquarters one of the members of the orphans' committee, who is the daughter of a French general now at the front, translated it into French and sent it to her father that he might read it to his troops. It was the most cheering message which could be sent to the French trenches, she said.

The 62nd Aero Squadron wrote: "After reading in last week's STARS AND STRIPES of the plan for units to support French war orphans for one year, the men of this squadron have pledged themselves to support five orphans."

"Enclosed find 500 francs to cover necessary expenses in adoption of child," wrote the 21st Aero Squadron. "We request that the child be a girl between the age of six and ten. The men of this command are very enthusiastic over the adoption of child."

"It is with great pleasure that I write you in regard to the war orphans of beloved France," said the first sergeant of the 64th Aero Squadron. "This organization stands ready to care for three, *En masse*, we want a brother and sister, orphans which could be seven; the other to be cared for by ten soldiers of this command and to be a girl orphan of seven. It is our desire that these children be sent to school. And, again, if the Great Father so wills that we return to the United States and it be

SURE SUCCESS IS PREDICTED FOR NEW LOAN

Third Flotation of Liberty Bonds Being Boomed on All Sides

MARKETS REMAIN SERENE

Business Experiences Little Disturbance Despite Vastness of Enterprise

CITIES FILLING "WAR CHESTS"

Every Indication Points to Intense Desire to See War Through to Victorious End

By J. W. MULLER, American Staff Correspondent of THE STARS AND STRIPES

[BY CARLETON THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, April 11.—Cheerful confidence everywhere is the biggest characteristic of the conditions surrounding the present Liberty Loan drive, cheerful confidence everywhere that this, the third flotation, will be a big and overwhelming success.

There is no slackening of effort in any direction, no cessation of work. The people are pushing it along with every agency that American ingenuity and efficiency can invent.

Speakers everywhere are exhorting; posters and banners are everywhere flaunting their message; war exhibits, parades of soldiers, flights of airships—all are doing their part to spread the message far and wide. Incidentally, it may be remarked that the present lot of posters is very fine—far better than those used in the course of the first drive.

No Tension Apparent

None of the tension that was felt during the first campaign is apparent now. The country has now fallen into the "billion habit," and the amount to be raised bothers nobody. The whole financial machinery is working so smoothly that general business has shown practically no disturbance.

The stock market is quiet, but prices retain the general average level, just as if no bond issue was in progress.

New York's first day subscription totaled \$169,000,000. The National Bank took \$20,000,000; the Corn Exchange Bank, \$15,000,000; the Metropolitan Trust Company, \$7,500,000; the New York Life, \$11,500,000; The Mutual Life, \$10,000,000.

"War Chest" Idea Working

Besides the Liberty Loan, many cities are now doing splendid work on the "war chest" idea, which is excellent. The principle is to collect once and for all in each city for a war chest that shall supply the money needed for patriotic purposes for a year to come.

All this indicates of the intense desire of the people to see the war through and to speed the nation's fighting men without stint or without thought of material advantage. All the people show by their eagerness during these first days of the loan drive that the President was right when, in opening the loan campaign at Baltimore, he said to them: "They are quite disposed to undergo the most extreme sacrifices, even though it should mean encroaching every day upon meager wages. They will look with contempt on those who can and will not, on those who demand a higher rate of interest, on those who look upon the loan purely as a commercial transaction."

"The reasons for this great war, the necessity of seeing it through to a finish, the questions which depend upon the result, are being manifested more clearly than ever. Every man knows, or at least he can clearly see, how the cause of justice presents itself, and to what an imperishable thing he is being asked to consecrate himself."

INJIANNY GOES DRY!

[BY CARLETON THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, April 11.—The Illinois township local option elections have resulted in gains for prohibition. Only three of the formerly dry townships voted to become wet, and 13 of the wet townships went dry.

Indiana has gone dry by State statute, the law taking effect on April 2. The wet have asked the State supreme court to declare the law unconstitutional, but in the meantime complete drought will prevail.

The only Hoosier foot now running full blast is the literary one, the spout of which is at Indianapolis, with Booth Tarkington, George Ade, and Meredith Nicholson as the main spouters in favor of the crystal pure eau simple. Souise Bend no longer lives up to its name.