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GERMANS PIN FAITH TO WORK OF MACHINE GUN

With Flexibility of Trench Communication and Machine Guns they Hold Line.

From a staff correspondent of the Associated Press, in France, April 18.—The flexibility of their trench communications and the effectiveness of their machine guns are the two elements of defence upon which the Germans appear to be placing their greatest reliance in the present fighting. In effect, the various elements of the more important defensive trenches enable the German fighting line to swing upon double hinges so, if pressed too hard, one pivot swings back from the other. In this manner much ground can be yielded in a series of angular or criss-cross retirements, without the fighting front technically being broken.

These trenches are known as switch- es and a great system of them is connected with the Hindenburg or Siegfried position. It was undoubtedly with these strategic switch lines in view that Field Marshall von Hindenburg recently declared that the German lines in the west could not be broken. The preparation and maintenance of the elaborate system requires an untold amount of labor, for each section of trench must have several belts of wire front. The Germans have become so accustomed to fighting behind barbed wire that they would not think of doing otherwise, if it can be avoided. Most of the digging appears to have been done by prisoners of war. As the German lines fall back, the diggers also fall back, to construct still more trenches in which the Germans may later find shelter.

Under this plan, of course, it would be possible to drive back the Germans to the Rhine, and they could still say the line was unbroken. In the meantime, the Germans are employing more machine guns than ever before in their attempt to hold up the British infantry advances.

As high as six or eight of these ghastly weapons are now assigned to each company on the front line, and they undoubtedly constitute the German effort to counteract preponderance of allied cannon. The artillery, however, remains the great unanswerable argument.

That machine guns are the real reliance of the Germans, is shown by the construction of the famed Hindenburg lines, which are mostly saillants, built thus to permit the intensive use of these weapons. Machine guns are being used largely in the defense of Lens.

Although the weather continues atrocious, the airplanes daily brave the gales and snow squalls and carry on the important work of serving as the "eyes" of the army. This work is more important during an advance than at any other time, and without the loyal co-operation of the planes progress would actually be impossible. The airman reflects the offensive spirit of the entire British fighting force and carry out their task with daring self-sacrifice, which will ever be one of the brightest chapters in the history of the war.

Two of them had a new experience yesterday. They were forced to land within the German lines south of Lens, neither the pilot nor the observer being injured. Realizing their position, they salvaged two machine guns from the wrecked plane and drove off two German patrols which attacked them. They held the ground until nightfall, when eventually they returned safely to their own lines.

In addition to its thousands of other duties and activities, the British army is now endeavoring to give the French farmers every possible assistance in getting their crops under way. A bureau has been established where farmers requiring help register. Troops resting in the neighborhood of farms volunteer their help and horses temporarily unemployed are loaned for plowing and other farm duties. Tractors also are occasionally furnished. Some of the principal work consists in reclaiming the battlefields, filling up of trenches and shell holes and leveling the ground.

Notice.

One small farm for sale joining the town of Dobson known as the Susan B. Roberson farm. Also one house and lot in Dobson. The house could be made a nice dwelling or boarding house.

Good terms offered. Call at Mrs. Lottie Robertson, White Plains, N. C. for information.

WARN NATION AGAINST ILL-ADVISED ECONOMY.

Savings are Being Withdrawn From Banks and People have Been Found Hoarding Food Supplies.

Washington, April 19.—Warning to the nation against a real danger in hysterical and ill-advised economy and interference with normal pursuit of the people, is given by Howard E. Coffin, of the advisory commission of the council of national defence, in a statement made public tonight as the first enterprise of the government's new committee on public information.

Just returned from a trip through several middle western states, Mr. Coffin deplores the fact that conditions of unemployment and closed factories should arise as a result of indiscriminate efforts, public and private, toward war time economies.

"After nearly three years of refusal to take the European war seriously," Mr. Coffin said, "we suddenly launched forth in a most feverish activity to save the country over night. Patriotic organizations, almost without number, are milling around noisily, and while intentions are good the results are often far from practical.

"Because of an impending and possible shortage of foodstuffs we have hysterical demands for economy in every line of human endeavor. Waste is bad, but an indiscriminating economy is worse.

"Some states and municipalities are stopping road building and other public work. General business is being slowed down because of emotional response of the trading public to these misguided campaigns for economy; savings are being withdrawn from the banks; reports show that some people have begun to hoard food supplies and thousands of workers are being thrown needlessly out of employment. All this is wrong.

"We need prosperity in war time even more than when we are at peace. We need more business, not less. There is real danger in hysteria. Indiscriminate economy will be ruinous. Now is the time to open the throttle.

"It seems to me, therefore, that a plain statement of general policy is most desirable.

"Upon the industrial side of the war three great problems, or perhaps I should better say tasks, confront us. "First and foremost, we must facilitate the flow of raw materials and finished products to our allies and must provide the means of rail and water transportation therefor.

"Second, we must meet our own great military and naval building schedules.

"Third, we must plan to do all this with the least possible disarrangement to our vast commercial and industrial machines.

"Through it all we must keep a close eye upon the possible conditions of peace following the present war. We must insure the business process and general prosperity of the country during the war, if we are to hold our present strong place among nations in the commercial competition of the future.

"Patriotic service does not of necessity mean the making of shells, or the carrying of a musket over the shoulder. This would soon become a sorry sort of country if it did. There is no doubt of the willingness of any manufacturing plant or individual to serve should the call come. But until the call does come, it is best to stick to the job. Let us make 'better business' our watch word and keep our factory fires burning.

"No radically new conditions confront us. We are still cut off from business relations from the central powers, but that does not mean that we have lost any markets. With the rest of the world we will continue to do a volume of trade greater than ever before. To the billions which have been spent here by foreign powers are now to be added billions of our own. State activities, road building, public work, private industries, all must go on as before. Business must be increased, labor employed and the country kept going strongly ahead as a successful economic machine. We must have successful industries if successful tax levies are to be raised."

Appeal for Enlistment On Loaves of Bread.

Jacksonville, Fla., April 19.—Every loaf of bread sold by members of the Southeastern Mator Bakers Association will contain an appeal for enlistment in army and navy within the wrapper by today's action of the bakers' convention here. They will result in distributing appeals daily.

SEVEREST DEFEAT FOR GERMANS WAS LOSS OF VIMY RIDGE POSITIONS.

Captured German Officer Talks of the Rout.

From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press in France April 19.—A German officer captured Tuesday frankly stated that the Germans regard the loss of Vimy ridge as the biggest defeat they have suffered since the war began. This officer knows the ridge thoroughly, having been stationed on it all last summer, and said he could not understand how any troops could fail to hold it. In his opinion, the garrison must have been demoralized before the British attack began.

The latter statement is thought to be true, for other captured Germans have testified to demoralization in their ranks after several days of the British intensive artillery fire. The Germans continue highly nervous all along the front, the slightest increase in the British fire calling up distress signals.

The German infantry are getting better artillery support since the battle of Arras, as the result of the bitterly worded reports made regarding the lack of this support previously. The feeling is so intense between the German infantrymen and artillerymen that the British have found it necessary to separate the prisoners belonging to the two services to prevent fighting inside the cages.

The newly called up troops thrown into the western line admit that the artillery fire bewildered them. This also is true of the German troops recently transferred from the eastern to the western fronts. Prisoners from the latter forces say that they had no idea what war was actually like until recently, and all became much depressed when they saw the trenches they were supposed to occupy all smashed and torn by the British shellfire.

Prisoners taken in the last three days tell of the spread of discontent in the German army because of reduced rations since April 15. Each man formerly received a half loaf of bread daily. Now he has only one-third of a loaf. This reduction coming after the Somme retreat, the defeat at Arras and the beginning of the great offensive, has caused much grumbling among the troops.

Pass for Two Dogs.

Governor Bickett was today besought at long distance by an Alabama man who is native to North Carolina, for a pass that will bring back to the state one man, one woman, one girl and two dogs.

"Dear Sir," the letter begins in one place, "I Will take Pleasure of rite you a Fuew Lines, dear Sir i Want to come Home and i am asking your ade and aSSistain Fer a Pass Fer me, and my famly and my Things and 2 doGs was raised in 22 miles of New Berne." Elsewhere he writes in another attempt to touch the governor's heart: "dear Gover N C. i am today You i Want to come Home and an not able to pay my fair. i am a Citerson N C. Bond and raised in Craven co." He takes Governor Bickett into his confidence. Bacon is 25 cents, lard compound 12 1/2, "suGer strate 10 cts, gun meetele shoes \$4.75 looking for them go to \$6 a pair. There is many Citersons Bond and raised in N. C. who would get away if they could."

The refugee tells why he wants to bring his dogs. He thinks so little of the Peterman, Alabama section that he is unwilling to leave a dog down there. The poor fellow says he has been making only \$1.25 a day in the turpentine business. The governor hasn't had time to look over the letter. On general principles he would not object to getting another farm hand back in North Carolina.

HERE AT HOME.

Mt. Airy Citizens Gladly Testify to Doan's Kidney Pills.

It is testimony like the following that has placed Doan's Kidney Pills so far above competitors. When people right here at home raise their voice in praise there is no room left for doubt. A. W. Dean, Mt. Airy, says: "I suffered from rheumatic pains. My kidney secretions contained sediment. I had backaches almost all the time. Doan's Kidney Pills strengthened my kidneys and did me a great deal of good in every way."

Price 50 cents at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Dean had. Foster-McBarn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

COL. ROOSEVELT MAY TRAIN MEN IN FANCE.

Former President Offers to Raise Force of 100,000.

Washington, D. C.—Theodore Roosevelt, in letters to Senator Chamberlain and Representative-Dent, chairman of the congressional military committee, details his plans for raising and accompanying a volunteer expedition to join the Allies on the western European battle front.

"It is along the lines proposed by the Administration that we should inaugurate our permanent military policy," he writes, "and it is only thus that we can carry on the war in proper manner, if it should last a year, or two or three years, or over—and no one can foretell how long it will last. But, of course, a great system of this kind, a system entirely new in this country, cannot be immediately inaugurated.

"Many months, probably at least a year or over, must elapse before the army thus raised would be available for use in Europe, in the hard, aggressive fighting campaigns which it is honorably incumbent on us to undertake now that we have entered into the war.

"Meanwhile, let us use volunteer forces in connection with a portion of the regular army, in order at the earliest possible moment, within a few months, to put our flag on the firing line.

"We owe this to humanity." We owe it to the small nations who have suffered such deadful wrong from Germany. Most of all, we owe it to ourselves, to our national honor and self-respect. For the sake of our own souls, for the sake of the memories of the great Americans of the past, we must show that we do not intend to make this merely a dollar war."

Defense Council Seeks Hardwoods in the South.

Memphis, Tenn.—Within a few days the Council of National Defense will ask Memphis dealers and hardwood men elsewhere what woods can be furnished on short notice for military purposes. Anticipating requests of this character, local lumbermen have asserted that orders from the Government will receive preference over all others.

The South has vast resources of woods which will be immediately available. For some time the southern mills have been filling large orders for the Allies, and they are in a position to meet the requirements of both the United States and the foreign navies.

Walnut probably will be in great demand for the manufacture of gunstocks, but a more urgent call for ash is expected than for anything else, for the reason that ash is the lightest, as well as one of the toughest, of hardwoods. The Government uses it chiefly in making gun carriages, aeroplanes and oars. Gum oak and cottonwood, of the lesser grades, will be used in the manufacture of ammunition cases. The cost of this class of lumber has advanced steadily throughout the year.

President Wilson is Also to Wield A Hoe.

Washington, April 17.—The White House is about to join the increased food production movement by planting a garden of its own in which President Wilson may wield a hoe when he finds a spare moment.

With the approval of Secretary Tumulty, White House employes secured permission from the department of justice today to use for gardening purposes a half acre of vacant land in the downtown section of Washington.

Tomorrow the assistance of the department of agriculture will be asked in selecting seed for the land, and these will be a formal breaking of ground Thursday or Friday. The President probably will participate.

Nearly Eight Thousand of The Lewis Guns Ordered.

Washington, April 19.—Nearly 8,000 Lewis machine guns, which have been found so effective on the European front, have been ordered by the United States government.

The army has ordered 1,300 for delivery as soon as possible. The army has given another order for 1,700 for which the department expects to have the funds by the time they are ready.

The navy department also has ordered 3,000 of this type of machine gun, and approximately 2,000 have been ordered for the marine corps. This total of 8,000 represents an outlay of between \$6,000,000 and \$7,000,000.

NATIONAL PROHIBITION NEEDED WAR MEASURE.

New York Members Bolt When Prohibition Suggestion is Adopted.

Washington, April 19.—Democrats of the house caucus late today agreed to consider at the present extra session only such war and general defense legislation as may be recommended by the President.

National prohibition, which is being urged by its advocates, as a necessary war measure, may be included under this list, but unless the President recommends it as a war measure, it has no chance of being taken up.

It also is possible that a rivers and harbors bill embracing such proposed improvements as are deemed essential by the war department for the national defense may be passed. The President has indicated his willingness to approve a measure under certain restrictions and the war department also desires harbor improvements of a limited character. The caucus refused, by a vote of 77 to 71 to approve either a \$33,000,000 or a \$15,000,000 water ways bill, both of which were proposed by Chairman Small, of the rivers and harbors committee.

The caucus agreement was reached only after a bitter fight over prohibition, and after several New York city members had withdrawn because of the adoption of a resolution providing for consideration of a measure to authorize the President to prohibit the manufacture or sale of liquor during the war.

Amid great applause this proposal made by Representative Decker, of Missouri, was carried 87 to 60.

Then the New York Democrats began to protest and walk out. Several declared they would not be bound by a caucus which would declare for such legislation.

A hasty conference of leaders followed in an effort to restore peace. The result was that Democratic Leader Kitchin offered the substitute finally adopted.

Opinions differ in the house as to whether the President will recommend prohibition as a war measure. One of the plans suggested by Secretary McAdoo for providing war revenue was to raise the tax on liquor.

Representative Webb, father of most of the nation-wide "dry" bills which have been proposed in recent sessions, said tonight he did not anticipate the enactment of national prohibition legislation at this session. A bill to prohibit the sale of intoxicants to soldiers and sailors, he said, might be passed.

WILL AMERICAN FLEET BREAK THE BLOCKADE?

German Paper Answers Question by Declaring the Submarine Cure Has not Been Invented.

Amsterdam, April 20.—via London, "Will the American fleet enable our enemies to break our submarine blockade? The answer is, most certainly not," says the Koelnische Volks Zeitung, which says, "the submarine cure has not been invented. Therefore, it cannot be invented because there is none."

The Volks Zeitung examines the possibility that the United States will send a fleet to German ports to attack the submarines in their home bases, and says that they will find Germany prepared. The newspaper then enters into technical details of American battleships, for whose efficiency it shows respect, although it alleges minor faults. The newspaper cannot understand the advantages of a trellis mast.

The number and size of the auxiliaries to the American navy, such as colliers and oil ships, is admired by the Volks, but it says that the greatest American tactical mistake is the lack of great battle cruisers and also of fast scouting cruisers, and enlarges on the German superiority in those arms. The article boastingly concludes:

"All in all if our high seas fleet faced the American fleet in open battle, we would beat them very quickly and thoroughly. But this is unlikely because before that is possible our submarines, with the mailed fist, will have imposed a law of world peace on the enemy and also on America."

Suspends Sentence.

Statesville, April 18.—Judge Boyd is suspending all judgements in the Statesville Federal Court now, so as to allow all men to go home and plant gardens and crops.

AMERICANS SHOOT DOWN MEXICAN ACROSS BORDER

General Bell has Given Orders "To Shoot to Kill When Fired Upon" by Snipers.

El Paso, Texas, April 19.—Snipers who fired at an American sentry stationed at the viaduct in the suburbs of this city, were fired upon in return by a squad of United States soldiers late today. One Mexican was seen to fall after the volley had been fired across the border.

The sentry was patrolling his beat when two shots were fired from entrenchments "Mexican side", according to the official report received at military headquarters. The sentry returned the fire and called the members of his squad. They fired more than 20 shots across the line.

When Mexican Consul Bravo reported the affair to Brig Gen. George Bell, Jr., Gen. Bell informed the consul that the American sentry had been fired upon and had obeyed orders in returning the fire.

"I have ordered the outposts to shoot to kill when fired upon," said General Bell later. "I will courtmartial a man who fires across the border first, and I will also courtmartial one who fails to return the fire when he is fired upon."

Catawba Sues Lenoir For Baseball Returns.

Newton, April 19.—Without precedent, perhaps, in intercollegiate baseball affairs is the action of Catawba college in suing Lenoir college for 50 per cent of the gate receipts of a ball game played between the two colleges at Hickory on March 31 when, because Catawba's team quit the game in the seventh on account of an alleged grossly unfair decision of the umpire, the Lenoir managers declined to surrender a cent of the gate receipts. The Catawba managers placed the affair in the hands of Wilson Warlick, attorney of this place, who made demand in writing for the money, about \$60. His demand was ignored and now suit has been brought by Catawba in her capacity as a corporation capable of suing and being sued, against Lenoir, in similar capacity, and the hearing is set for April 26 before Justice George P. Drum, of this place.

The two schools have always been hard rivals and the incident has caused breaking off all diplomatic relations and intensified the feeling between the two Catawba county colleges. The Catawba folks say never again will they have any athletic relations with Lenoir, and doubtless Lenoir has said much the same thing.

Lenoir Child is Hit in Head By A Bullet.

Lenoir, April 16.—Yesterday afternoon about 4:30 o'clock the five-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. James T. Bently, was shot through the head by a ball from a 32 caliber pistol, which entered from the left side of his head, near the base of the eyeball and came out the right side of the head about even with his ear. It is not known how the shooting occurred, as there was no one in the room except the little fellow.

The accident occurred at the home of a neighbor by the name of Jackson, and it seems there was another boy sitting on the back porch but when questioned about the shooting he said he saw the boy enter the room and heard the pistol fire and that was all he knew about it. In the opinion of the physician who attended the little fellow it was impossible for the boy to have shot himself, as the pistol was hard on trigger and a child as little as the victim would not have the strength to discharge the weapon which was a 32 calibre hammerless revolver.

The child lived a little over 12 hours and died this morning at 6 o'clock.

Was Not on the Dog Jury.

J. A. Jackson, 50 years of age and born and reared in Stokes county, paid his first visit to the capital of his county—Danbury—this week. Mr. Jackson, who is a good citizen and a prosperous farmer, is serving on the jury here in the civil term of Stokes court this week. At this week's term of court C. H. Lunsford, who resides in the same section as Mr. Jackson, was sued by F. Branch for killing two dogs belonging to the plaintiff, and Branch was allowed \$30 damage. In this issue of the Reporter Mr. Jackson has a card in which he wants it understood that he did not serve on the jury which gave Mr. Branch damage. Danbury Reporter.