

Tribune
 PUBLISHED DAILY
 BY THE TRIBUNE PRESS
 100 N. STATE ST., CHICAGO, ILL.
 W. M. SHERBILL, Editor and Publisher
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 SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
 One Year \$4.50
 Six Months 2.50
 Three Months 1.50
 One Month .50
 In advance, if paid at office and not out of the city and by mail the following prices will prevail:
 One Year \$4.00
 Six Months 2.00
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 One Month .40
 All Subscriptions Due in Advance.
FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1918.

LIE MILLS ARE ACTIVE.

In connection with war operations, a splendid plan to adopt is to refuse to believe any report that does not come officially from Washington. The lie mills of the enemy are active, and they are located in all parts of this country. It is the policy of the enemy to stir up discontent, apprehension and terror by any and every means in his power, and he will scruple at nothing in order to carry his point. Well he knows that any cause of anxiety or unrest subtracts from American efficiency.

Every loyal citizen of the United States should be assured of one truth—his government will advise the public freely of every circumstance in connection with war activities that directly affects said public. We do not have to depend on rumor for information, because the Bureau of Information is in existence for the purpose of supplying the people with the truth in every instance.

Just a few instances of needless worry over malicious false reports might be cited. Recently the report was spread that ground glass had been found in the food of soldiers in some of the camps. The report was at once investigated by the authorities and found to be absolutely false and without the shadow of foundation—a malicious lie, deliberately circulated for the purpose of sowing alarm and discontent. When the falseness of the report was proven, the government reassured the public, and we have heard no more of the matter.

Then the report gained currency that some of the camps were located in notoriously unhealthy localities, and that epidemics of measles, meningitis and other diseases were raging. These, too, were given the lie by the government, and it was plainly shown that not in any camp had the death rates been above the normal for the country, and in most instances was in fact far below normal, demonstrating the health efficiency of the entire army cantonments.

America can win the war; she will win the war. But she can subtract from her efficiency and unnecessarily prolong the conflict if she suffers herself to become alarmed over every idle report of malicious lie that is circulated. We must keep cool and apply every ounce of our energy in work that counts in aid of our government and the brave boys who are to fight our battles on the fields of Europe and on the seas.

Trust your government. It is right, and it has a due regard for your peace of mind, and everything that you should know that is calculated to affect that peace of mind will be duly communicated to you by those in authority.

Bury the products of the lie mills in utter unbelief. That way it will be harmless.

THE ENEMY IN THE NET.

Washington Post.
 Every battle between the Germans and French during this war has demonstrated the superiority of French generalship. The Germans have forced their way in France, but always at hideous sacrifice and only by sheer weight of numbers. German generals, in fact, have shrunk from contests in which the armies were evenly matched, for they have been beaten in most instances even when they commanded superior numbers. The German system of fighting and the psychology of the German soldier make it impossible for German generals to exercise brilliant military genius, while the French system develops and encourages superior generalship.

The hour is at hand when generalship as well as weight of numbers is to determine the fate of the world. The armies on the western front are evidently nearing equality in numbers, thanks to the sacrifices made by Germany. There are many fresh divisions remaining on the enemy side, but there are also fresh reserve divisions on the allied side. Of the active forces now in battle the Germans preponderate, but not to such an extent as to endanger any vital portion of the allied programme.

The German armies are commanded by the generals who have won headlines by throwing overwhelming forces against inferior troops. At Verdun and the Somme, where they met armies approaching a parity of size and quality, the German commanders were beaten. In the present battle of Meuse the German advance was made, as usual, by mere weight of numbers, and when the numerical superiority began to dwindle the invasion was checked.

Germany now faces the alternative of sending sufficient forces to smash through the allied lines or being subjected to punishment that may develop into disaster and thence into total defeat. Apparently the enemy is unable to launch the necessary preponderance of troops. The German lines are being extended, over and over again, with terrible risks on both sides, and it is quite probable that a counter-attack by the allied forces is being planned. It may now be necessary to send in the necessary reinforcements.

the front they would not be as well supplied and protected as their antagonists.
 The enemy has passed certain places, but the western front she cannot pass. He has beaten some nations, but France he cannot beat. He has tried hard to strike a mortal blow at England, and he cannot. Besides, there stands the United States, rapidly growing in the power to inflict deadly wounds, and eager to do so.

The local shifting and swaying of the great armies in France means little. Armies may stand or fall without appreciable hastening or delaying the progress of the war cannot be safely based upon territorial changes. The real question at issue is whether the enemy can divide the allied armies and defeat one or both of them. If the French or British army is in danger of defeat then Germany stands a chance to win a victory. If the French and British armies are safe, Germany is in deadly danger. The German army is exposed to a counter-attack, if completely successful, would break the back of the German empire. The German emperor and his captives are compelled to continue the battle, notwithstanding the increasing chance of allied victory afforded by better allied generalship operating on a more even division of forces. In all countries it is common to remark that the fate of those countries hangs in the balance, but this remark applies with greater force to the German empire. If the allies are forced to stand where they are for another year they will not have lost ground, for every moment of the time would be utilized by them, and the United States particularly, in accumulating greater and deadlier forces. But a year's indecision would be fatal to Germany, for it cannot hope to compete with the United States in reinforcing the western front. France and England are strong enough to hold Germany by the throat. What could Germany do with another enemy of full size and perfectly fresh for the fray?

Germany is desperately in need of peace. She has glutted herself on everything but food. Her robberies have not netted her any bread worth mentioning. The German and Austrian populations are terribly enfeebled. Eczeema is almost universal as a result of insufficient and unwholesome food. The German people have just contributed 350 to 500,000 of their sons to the imperial murderer who has thrown them into the graveyard that stretches from Cambria to Montdidier.

The steel ring holds fast, Holenzollern is caught. A clear brain and a fatal hand are weaving the web closer and closer about him. His struggles avail him nothing. France will not let him go. He must pay the debt to God and man.

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CAMP GREENE HEADS LIST FOR HEALTHINESS
 Committee on Public Information Declares Charlotte Camp Has Lowest Sick Rate.
 Washington, D. C., April 11.—In a detailed report on the health conditions at various army camps, the committee on public information today gives Camp Greene the top of the honor roll. It says:
 "Of the regular army, Camp Greene reports the lowest sick rate for the week ending April 5, of all commands of this group."
 The sick rate per thousand was 15.9. The details of the report show 111 with pneumonia, one dysentery

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NOTICE TO LOAFERS.
 Notice is hereby given that all able-bodied men and boys are expected to be employed in some useful occupation. The government is calling for boys to volunteer for work on the farms. There are farmers in this county with idle horses and hundreds of acres will lie idle because of the scarcity of labor. This is to say that the vagrancy statute will be enforced without fear or favor.
 C. A. ROBINSON,
 Chief of Police,
 Concord, N. C., March 22, 1918.

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