

How the Guards Fought In Battle of the Marne

Vivid expressions of the fighting are given by a non-commissioned officer of the Irish Guards, now in a London hospital. He said: "It was our first experience of active service, and without boasting I can say that we have silenced for ever the sneers at us from other regiments because we had no battle honors. After that desperate scrap at Compiègne the men of the other battalions of the Guards brigade vowed that never again would they call us the Peace-at-any-price Battalions, and in the camps that night we were toasted by all the regiments in tribute to the way we had won our first battle honors.

"After Compiègne it was very dull work in the trenches for a time but when we began the week's fight along the Marne things began to brighten up again, and we had our fill of fighting. The prospect of a job to our liking livened us up greatly, and we went off in rattling good form, I can tell you. We got to within two hundred yards of the position we were to take without any incident, but just here the Germans seemed to have discovered us, for it began to rain shrapnel all round. We got orders to make a run for it, and we ran across at the double towards a little knoll up the brae. This brought us within 800 yards of the position we had to take, and the German rifle fire was heavy all round. Leaving a body of riflemen to hold the knoll, the rest of the battalion crept round the left point, we had to rush under the fire of the German position, and at one point we had to rush under the fire of our own guns as well as those of the enemy. We took cover about 500 yards from the enemy's position, and then the men we had left behind had their turn at creeping along. When they came up with us we edged again towards the German trenches, and after another halt the whole battalion lined up within a couple of hundred yards of the Germans for the final rush.

"The enemy was getting desperate now, and the ridge was crowned with machine guns that kept firing away all the time. The welcome order to fix bayonets and charge came at last, and we didn't lose much time in getting at them. As we finished the last lap of our race for their trenches they concentrated a fiendish fire on us, but that didn't stop us at all, and we reached their trenches at last, with a wild whoop that must have struck terror to their hearts. For the first time in my experience they made a desperate attempt to repel us with the bayonet, and their weight seemed enough to hurl us back, but we stuck to them like leeches and at last their line began to waver. They stretched across the trenches in one long line, and when one man fell, another stepped into his place. Near the centre we made a break in the line, and then the whole lot gave way, running like hares, and throwing down their arms as they ran. We bayoneted them by the score as they ran, and shot them down in dozens until we were completely used up. Their officers made many attempts to rally them, but it was no good, and those that couldn't get away surrendered rather than face any more of it."

COMPENSATION FOR INVASION IS TOPIC OF FRENCH ARTICLE

Paris, Oct. 30.—The Journal des Debats examined in a recent article the question as to who should bear the responsibility of indemnifying the inhabitants of territory invaded by hostile troops for the damage caused by such invasion.

"It would seem natural," says the article, "that the nations as a whole should bear whatever burden there is to be borne, and yet there is no actual law to that effect. The result of this after the war of 1870, as well as after the invasions of 1814 and 1815, was that the state only partially intervened, from sheer generosity, and many towns and communes are still burdened with debts incurred after the Franco-Prussian war.

"Since then, however, the principle of the non-liability of the state has tended to disappear more and more from modern jurisprudence, and this fact should certainly have some bearing on the question under discussion.

"Moreover, the ratification of the articles relative to warfare, drawn up by the Hague conference, has introduced," says the Journal des Debats, "a new factor, which has greatly modified the state of affairs since 1870. Article 3 of the convention of 1907 reads: The belligerent who violates the aforesaid stipulations shall be held responsible for the indemnity, should the same be necessary. He shall be responsible for all acts committed by those composing his armed force."

Terrific Cost of Modern Warfare

To the average man there is just about as much difference between \$20,000,000 and \$50,000,000 as there is between a trip to the moon and a trip to Mars. One figure is as stupendous as the other, and therefore it is not important for the purposes of this article whether the daily money loss occasioned by the war is \$40,000,000 a day, as made by Elbert Gary, of the United States Steel Corporation, or \$54,125,000 as made by Dr. Charles Richet, statistician of the University of Paris. Dr. Richet's estimate was to the effect that it was costing Germany about \$50,000,000 a day to carry

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on the war, and if this guess should be correct the total daily expenditure of all the powers engaged would amount to at least \$50,000,000 a day. It is to be observed that no estimates are below \$40,000,000.

On this basis it is interesting to compare the magnitude of the present struggle with some that have preceded it. In fifty-eight days, then, the warring nations have spent \$2,220,000,000. The Franco-Prussian war, which lasted technically for 405 days, cost in the neighborhood of \$3,000,000,000. The United States Civil war, which lasted for 2,456 days, cost about \$8,000,000,000 according to some estimates and this probably does not include the pensions. If the present war were to continue at the present rate as long as the Franco-Prussian war, it would cost \$16,200,000,000, and that it may last this long is a possibility which is taking account of. It would appear to be absolutely impossible for the struggle to drag on as long as the American Civil war, but in that event it might cost in the neighborhood of a hundred billion of dollars, a total that the human mind is unable to comprehend. It is not reasonable to suppose, however, that the expenses in the last days of the war are as great as in the early stages. At least the army that is losing has fewer men to feed and pay and provide for by tens if not hundreds of thousands.

But if the present war continues for two years—it will cost the nations engaged in it as much as the following wars cost: The Napoleonic wars, the War of 1812, the Mexican war, the Crimean war, the American Civil war, Franco-Prussian, Russo-Turkish, Boer, Spanish-American, Russo-Japanese and Balkan. It has been estimated that these wars cost in the neighborhood of \$32,000,000,000 and that some 9,000,000 men lost their lives. It is by dividing the number of dead into the cost that some enterprising statisticians have found how much it costs to kill a man in war and it appears that \$3,650 is necessary. It is impossible to check this estimate in the present struggle, since losses of dead, wounded and missing vary so widely. It has been announced, however, that up to the present time the British casualties have been about 40,000, but the Germans admit only about 100,000. We do know, however, that up to the present the British losses have been nearly three times what they were at the Battle of Waterloo, those of the French greater, and those of the Germans greater probably than in the whole of the Franco-Prussian war. Reverting to the cost, Dr. Richet assumed that about 20,000,000 men

GERMANS AND AUSTRIANS OPPOSE RUSSIANS ON THE VISTULA AND THE SAN



The campaign in Poland and Galicia is developing on lines somewhat similar to those in Belgium and France. Instead of rapid marches the operations are beginning to partake of the nature of a siege. The main Russian armies occupy strong positions along the Vistula and the San rivers. The German positions are extended on a line from Skierniewice, near Lodz, to Sandomir, on the Galician border.

would be called to arms, of whom at least half would be sent to the front. To provision them would cost \$12,500,000, he figured, and to pay the soldiers, \$4,250,000, with \$1,000,000 more in wages for those at arsenals and seaports. The cost of mobilization is rated at \$2,000,000. Transporting foodstuffs and weapons would aggregate \$4,000,000, and the horses would consume \$1,000,000 in provender daily. The daily cost of ammunition is placed at \$5,500,000 divided as follows: Infantry, ten cartridges a day, \$4,000,000; artillery, ten shots daily, \$1,200,000, and the marine artillery, two shots daily, \$375,000. Dr. Richet believes that \$4,000,000 daily is required to equip the armies, that ambulances are needed for 500,000 wounded or ill at \$1 for each patient, and that a like sum of \$500,000 is necessary for the movements of the navies. Then come the figures that are not entirely caused by war, but must be figured as war cost. These include a deficit in taxes of \$10,000,000, help for the poor population, \$6,750,000 for the destruction of towns bridges and improvements, \$2,000,000. And each of these items is for one day only.

But the fullness of trying to figure out the losses occasioned by war is made plain when one reflects that all these estimates of wars ancient and modern, do not include industrial losses. It is obvious that as long as Britain controls the sea Germany's losses in this respect must far outweigh those of the Allies. At the present time Germany's foreign trade has ceased to exist. Last year it amounted to more than \$500,000,000, while Great Britain's was more than \$800,000,000, which undoubtedly will be reduced to some extent. France's foreign trade must suffer grievously, even though the sea is open for her ships, because the men who maintain her industries are on the battle line. Belgium's export trade of \$65,000,000, has also been wiped out, but we should imagine that after the war

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