

## ARMY OF FRANCE GAINS CONSIDERABLE GROUND

**German Attacks in The Champagne Fail—French Advance in Upper Alsace—Airplane Battles—Bulgars Defeated.**

Paris, April 29 (2.03 p.m.)—French troops last night attacked German positions near Courcy, northwest of Rheims, the war office announced. They gained considerable ground and took 150 prisoners. German attacks in the Champagne failed. In Upper Alsace the French advanced as far as the second German line at several points, inflicting losses on their adversaries and bringing back prisoners.

The text of the statement follows: "Between the Somme and Oise intermittent artillery engagements occurred. German attacks in the region of La Fausse and north of Carpiac-Lacoste were broken up by our fire. In the sector of Croisne patrol encounters and grenade fighting occurred."

**Heavy Artillery Fighting.** "Northwest of Rheims operations carried out by us in the region north and south of Courcy enabled us to enlarge our positions appreciably. We took 150 prisoners in the course of these attacks. "There was heavy artillery fighting in the Champagne, between Prunay and Auberville. Two German attacks on small French posts near Tathure and in the vicinity of the Navarin Farm were without result. "In Upper Alsace our detachments

penetrated points as far as the second German line. Spirited grenade encounters terminated to our advantage and cost the Germans losses. We brought back prisoners."

**Saturday's Statement.** Paris, April 28 (10.20 p.m.)—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads:

"The artillery action was intermittent over the greater part of the front, with violent outbursts between Wille in the Alsace and Champagne regions. "On the Chemin-Des-James we made progress in the neighborhood of Ostel and took prisoners. Everywhere else the day was calm, without infantry actions. "On April 27 two German airplanes were brought down in an aerial engagement. Six others were compelled to land in a damaged condition. It is confirmed that four German machines reported as damaged were really destroyed by our pilots on April 24, and three others on April 26. "Belgian communication: There was an artillery action in the region of Dixmude. "Eastern theatre: On the 26th the Bulgarians, after a violent bombardment, succeeded in gaining a temporary foothold in the trenches recently captured by the British troops west of Lake Doiran, but an immediate counter-attack drove them out with heavy losses. The bad weather has grown worse. The snow on the hills has reached a depth of six or eight feet."

der it. I wish to see us owe our safety to our own strength and our own courage and to the respect we inspire in our foe. We shall inspire no respect if we merely try to parry that foe's blows and not to return them. The only way in which we can return them is by immediately sending an expeditionary force to fight in Europe. It would be a scandal and a shame if the war ended now without part in it."

## WANTS FLAG OF U. S. ON FIRING LINE

(Continued from page 1) home, from volunteering to go to the front if they can render good service. Under the bill proposed to Congress by the War Department, many millions of excellent fighting men would be exempt from service, while a long time would elapse before the others are sent to the front. Under these conditions, we ought to use the volunteer system to fill the gap. It opens to us at once a grand possibility; let it be used, and used exclusively, to give to those who would otherwise be exempt an opportunity to go to the front without claiming exemption. "I most earnestly hope that we shall avoid any policy of delay. Congress has passed, without a dissenting vote, a bill to appropriate seven billions of dollars as representing part of our contribution to the great war. This is fine; but only on condition that we also put our men into the fighting line. Half of this great sum is to go to the Allies; that is, it is to be spent by them in getting their men up against the German and Austrian and Turkish shells and bullets. Now, we Americans have always prided ourselves on being able to do our own fighting. It is right to help others to fight in the common cause for which we are engaged. But it is even more necessary that we should fight ourselves. "It would be an evil thing, a lasting calamity to this country, if the war ended, and found us merely preparing an army in safety at home, without having sent a man to the firing line; merely having paid some billions of dollars to other people so that with the bodies of their sons and brothers they might keep us in safety. "Wants Fighting Force "I ask that we send a fighting force over to the fighting line at the earliest possible moment, and I ask it in the name of our children and our children's children, so that they may hold their heads high over the memory of what this nation did in the world's great crisis. I ask it for reasons of national morality no less than for our material self-interest. I ask it for the sake of our self-respect, our self-esteem. Our children will have to read the history of what we have done during this war. Let us make the chapter that yet remains to be written one that our children shall read with pride; and they will read it only with a feeling of self-assertion unless they read that in the times that tried men's souls we have shown valor and endurance and proud indifference to life when the honor of the flag and the welfare of mankind were at stake. "At the earliest possible moment send an expeditionary force abroad, show our German foes and our Allied friends that we are in this war in deadly earnest, that we have put the flag on the firing line, and that we shall steadily increase the force behind that flag to any limit necessary in order to bring the peace of victory in this great contest for democracy, for civilization and for the rights of free peoples. "Wants Real War "Now that we are at war, let us make it a real war, not a make-believe war, not a war of limited liability. We have walked into the ring; and now we must fight. No fight ever was won yet except by hitting. We have gone into the fight; we have determined to hit; and we must not hit soft. "We owe our safety at this moment to the British fleet and the French and British armies. I, for one, am content to rest under that kind of obligation; and I do not believe that my fel-



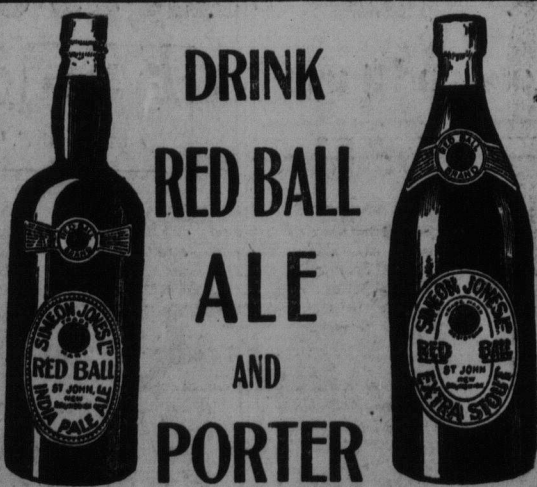
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