

taken to mean that the German command fears that such a movement would only lead to another catastrophe.

Long periods of fighting without the slightest respite, the annihilation of whole formations and the thorough hammering they have received have served to fix the idea of saving themselves foremost in the minds of the German troops. Every prisoner in his comments on the great battle seems to bear this out. Almost every diary and every letter taken from Germans killed shows that the enemy troops on the western front have suffered from the long-continued fighting as never before.

Many letters end with the word: "Poor Germany."

Shortage in Men.

The German shortage in men in this locality may well be imagined by the fact that among the prisoners taken are men who were received as drafts in the infantry formations after having been combed out of the field bakery establishments and motor transport columns.

One man in a typical letter complains that the strength of his own, and several other companies has been reduced to less than 20 each, yet they were forced to hold on. He concludes: "If the 'Tommys' knew that, we would not be here long." As a matter of fact the "Tommys" do know it, and the allied commanders are well aware of the depletion in the German ranks. The German soldiers, so far as they can be judged by the prisoners taken, realize fully the nature of the present retreat.

German Army Despairing.

The German armies have obviously put this year or at any other time. No more boasting is heard in the prisoners' cages. There are always from both men and officers now frank forebodings. Some of them are couched in terms of the darkest despair. Thus the German soldiers, despite the declarations of their newspapers and some of the higher officers, are coming more and more to understand what awaits them when the full force of the American effort is felt.

How far the Germans in the north are going back voluntarily or in response to pressure is uncertain. Hill 63 is well in British hands and the village of Ploegsteert has been captured. Lens is still in enemy hands, and there is no indication that the enemy intends to leave Lens in the immediate future. But the Germans there cannot hope to have a happy time, for the British are steadily moving eastward, leaving Lens in a tight-drawn salient, into which the British guns are already pouring their steel.

Shell Casualties Heavy.

The German casualties from the

British shell fire all along the line have been extensively heavy, especially in the area where they are retiring to the Hindenburg line. More than once within the past two days the British gunners have seen German masses moving and have laid on their guns over open sights, the shells crashing into enemy formations.

The British troops continue to advance east of Neuve Eglise and Wulverghem and southwest of Steenwerck, where another mile has been gained. There has been rather sharp fighting west of Wytschate, where the British have held the ground gained and added to it. Posts have been established on the embankment of La Bassee Canal.

The Valley of the Trinquis River, north of the Sensee River, has been flooded and this obstacle, together with the Sensee marshes at the top of the Drocourt battle zone, might enable the Germans to hold on here. Three miles south of this place the Germans stretched along the Canal du Nord are offering such a show of strength on the nearly completed section that a readjustment of the British lines about the marshes may be entailed, while holding on to the finished section of the canal as a sort of spearhead to the salient.

FRENCH AIRCRAFT AID IN ROUTING GERMANS

Paris, Sept. 5.—A French official communication tonight says: "Aviation—On Sept. 4 our aerial squadrons took an important part in the battle. Our planes flying at a low altitude, used their machine guns on enemy troops and troops withdrawing east of the Canal du Nord, especially in the region of Flavy-le-Martel, Jussey, Bois L'Abbe, Caillouel and Mennesses. Thousands of cartridges also were fired at the enemy retreating north of the Vesle and on bivouacs and cantonments on the north bank of the Aisne. Our squadrons fought numerous engagements over the German lines. Fifteen enemy machines were brought down or put out of action and four captive balloons were burned."

WHEAT PRODUCTION COSTS HIGH IN U. S.

Washington, Sept. 5.—The average cost of wheat production was estimated at \$2.25 a bushel by E. H. Thompson, acting chief of the bureau of farm management, testifying today before the senate agriculture committee. Mr. Thompson said, however, that most of the wheat produced cost considerably less, and that even with a further increase of ten per cent. in costs, the farmers of the central western states would be able to "break even" at the primary market price of \$2.20 fixed by President Wilson for next year's crop. In the north central states the cost for the crop year of 1917 ran from \$1.50 to \$3.50 a bushel, the committee was told, while for a majority of growers the cost ranges from \$1.75 to \$2.50 a bushel.

CASH NOT SUGGESTED IN G.T.R. NEGOTIATIONS

Montreal, Sept. 5.—Reports that the shareholders and directors of the Grand Trunk Railway in the recent negotiations carried on in London, insisted that the only basis upon which they would sell their property to the Dominion Government was for cash, are declared here on the highest authority to be absolutely untrue. It is stated that there was no suggestion made by either side of a cash settlement in payment for taking the system. The only terms discussed were those regarding a fixed annuity to be paid to the owners of the property.

WAR SUMMARY THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

Since the British operations have lagged a little, the French have taken up pursuit of the enemy on the whole allied right flank from a point near Soissons to the Canal du Nord. Along the Canal du Nord and the Somme Canal, which they have crossed, the French have made a general advance of three miles and a half in some places during the day. They now stand near the road to Ham at Falvy and Offroy. On the Allette front, the French achieved another victory, for early yesterday morning the German line, which had experienced a hard pounding for the past 16 days, began to give way and the French in a rapid pursuit liberated 30 villages. Near nightfall they had reached and captured Pierremans and Autreville and had occupied the greater part of the lower Coucy forest. On the east of these points the French also occupied the well-known geographical points of Folembry, Coucy-le-Chateau, and Coucy-le-Ville and advanced more than 1000 yards south of Frennes. They also advanced in conjunction with the Americans several miles on the front south of the Allette and also north of the Vesle, where they have reached the Aisne below Conde and Vill-Arcy on a front of eight miles.

In their operations yesterday the British chiefly thrust forward their right wing in a considerable advance north and south of Peronne. They drove back the German rearwards and are approaching the high ground on the front between Athies and Nurlin. This brings them about half way to Ham on the road from Peronne and also well across the Canal du Nord on the Peronne road towards Cambrai. In their centre and on their left wing, the British engaged the enemy in minor actions along the Canal

du Nord, made a slight advance on the spur north of Equancourt and fought locally about Neuville, Bourgonval and Moivreux. Near Marquion British patrols crossed to the east bank of the canal and captured a German post. In Flanders the British in a sharp action repulsed the enemy on the sector north of Hill 63, captured Ploegsteert village and pushed forward a short distance during the day at points south and southeast of Nieppe and northeast of Wulverghem.

The French pursuit in the south will probably continue some days until the British work round from Peronne in a turning movement of Cambrai. The enemy appears to have stopped the British progress on the left wing by flooding the Sensee river and creating a marsh, so the right and the centre will proceed to outflank these other positions. The Germans may attempt another stand by constructing a line of trenches athwart the Hindenburg line. Their army, however, it is said, is indisposed to make another stand, for it has received about as much punishment as it can endure.

The battle plans of Foch are summed up in five words, "impetuous pursuit of the enemy." Envelopment may not be necessary, for effective unremitting pursuit has always a disintegrating effect on the pursued. By driving the enemy far enough backwards, his military organization will fall to pieces, his army will disintegrate under the continuous torture of punishment and suspense. Already Foch is able to declare that the German rush which menaced Paris and Amiens has been broken. Yet the allies are only preparing for their decisive blow. No person knows whether this decisive blow will fall against the already broken section of the German army, or against some other section hitherto left unattacked.

The immediate strategic objective of the British and the French is apparently to separate and isolate the army formerly commanded by Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria. The French are coming up for an attack on Laon. If this movement succeeds, they will cut off the army of the German crown prince from the army of the German other. The British are coming up for an attack on Cambrai, and if this movement succeeds they will cut off the German army in Flanders from the army of Prince Rupprecht. Upon the attaining of these results the allies would have the option of rolling up two of the three German armies which confront them between the North Sea and the Argonne.

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NEW OR OLD RAGS GET MY PRICES E. PULLAN TORONTO



Miss Ida Gardner, the internationally famous concert contralto, as she appeared in the new Masonic Temple last evening, proving by direct comparison that no human ear can detect the slightest difference between her own voice and the new Edison's 'Re-creation' of it

AMAZING! Why It Was Almost Unbelievable!

Two thousand pairs of ears at the new Masonic Temple, last evening, strove in vain to detect the faintest shade of difference between the charming contralto voice of Miss Ida Gardner and the New Edison Phonograph's "Re-creation" of it. It was the most daring and disarming test ever attempted by a phonograph. It was almost unbelievable.

There, on the broad platform, was the beautiful instrument—the favorite invention of the world's greatest inventor. And there, beside it, affectionately resting her arm on the instrument, was Miss Ida Gardner, an American Concert Contralto of international prominence.

The sound of music fills the auditorium. It is the introductory to a well-loved song: "Just a-Wearyin' for You." And then a voice is heard, commencing the first line of the song. Standing there beside the instrument, the lips of the great contralto are moving—they are forming the words of the song—it is Gardner, singing to the eager assemblage the appealing sentiment of that lovable old song with all the warm, caressing sweetness of her charming contralto voice.

But see, the song continues, yet the lips of the artist stop moving. They are shut—tightly shut. It is Gardner's voice, it is that same warm caressing contralto, but Gardner, the living, is silent.

Can it be that the instrument is actually— But now, again, the lips are moving, the artist is singing, yet none could tell just when she recommenced.

Again the tight shut lips, and again the song continues without a break. It is—it is the instrument, alone continuing the song NOT in a mere resemblance, a flimsy imitation of the voice of Ida Gardner, but in that warm, caressing sweetness now so characteristically Gardner.

It was the same all through the delightful programme. When Miss Gardner sang in duet with her own voice on the New Edison, or when she and her talented flute accompanist performed together in company with the New Edison, or when Lyman alone, in flute solo, accompanied the instrument.

The climax came when Miss Gardner and the New Edison commenced the first bars of "Sweet Genevieve"—artist standing beside the instrument. One by one the lights go out. The auditorium is in utter darkness. But that old familiar heart-song continues to fill the hall.

The end of the song is drawing near. The lights flash up. And there! Why!—well, the whole amazing miracle is laid bare as the back of one's hand. The instrument was alone—Miss Gardner was gone—she had left when, at the beginning of the song, the lights had been turned out and darkness hid her exit.

The wonder of it! It is almost unbelievable—that an instrument could provide, could "Re-create," the actual, living voice of an artist so truthfully as to deceive an entire audience of music lovers. This is MUSIC. There is nothing more in music to wish for. There is nothing more to be obtained.

Think what the New Edison would mean to your home, when at your wish you could have, not a mere imitation, not an approximation, but the actual voices and playing of the great musical artists of today.

Don't trust your imagination. Hear the New Edison. You can believe the miracle of it only when you are standing before it yourself listening to its literal "Re-Creation" of all forms of music.

Come then and hear Miss Ida Gardner, hear Mr. Harold Lyman, hear any of the great artists whose performances are "Re-created," and "Re-created" only through Mr. Edison's favorite invention, the New Edison Phonograph. Make the time to suit your convenience.

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Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including "AIR" and "R.A.F." and a small advertisement for a naval officer.