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On the Western Front.

War Outlook To-Day Reviewed by Frank H. Simonds — Allies Following Grant's Plan and Wearing the Enemy Down.

(By Frank H. Simonds in New York Tribune.)

In his memoirs General Grant set down his conviction of the method it had been necessary to apply to reduce the Confederacy. His method, which was called into operation when he became commander in chief of the Northern army, was simple but heroic. It was a strategy based upon strength, by which the weaker of two contestants was to be worn down by constant pressure on all fronts. From the spring of 1864 to the collapse at Appomattox the armies of the North were constantly striking, suffering great losses, but drawing upon great reservoirs of human material which were lacking to the South.

If we are to understand what is now taking place on the Western Front, it must be by recognizing that the British and the French are there putting into operation the Grant idea. When Grant started from the Rapidan for Richmond the North believed the final campaign of the war had begun and that the summer would see the end of hostilities. Much the same expectation now exists in many minds as to the European campaign. There is a growing belief that we shall this year see the collapse of German resistance and a decisive victory for the nations which are fighting for civilization against Germanism. But it is well to remember that the North was mistaken as to the time limit of the

Civil War, and that the world may easily be similarly mistaken now. Looking backward, it is clear that Grant's campaign of 1864 broke the back of the Confederacy. Unless the Allies are equally successful this year, there will be cause for real depression. But it was not until April, 1915, that the real achievement of Grant was apparent, and it may not be until next summer that we see the real consequence of the pounding that is now beginning.

Just as the North expected the fall of Richmond, the world is now looking forward to the piercing of the German lines and a consequent colossal disaster. This may come. But it is to be remembered that this is the maximum of the expectation of Allied strategy. The minimum is far different. Between the two there is a wide range of possibility.

Great offensives hitherto in the present war have had for their purpose some definite object, such as the piercing of a line at a given point. In the case of the Allies such offensives have almost invariably been made not merely because of the situation on the immediate front, but because of necessities elsewhere. Thus the Allied attack in September, 1915, was made in advance of adequate preparation because of the Russian situation. And the offensive at the Somme a year later was made primarily because Verdun was in sore straits.

To-day the Allies have no time limit to face. They have no condition elsewhere which calls them to move in advance of complete readiness, and there is evidence that they have no intention of making any forced drive. We have seen the British attack and win the most notable victory of trench warfare in the West, and we have seen them having achieved a great success, pause and begin methodically to collect their artillery and their munitions for another blow. We shall presently see the French, now attacking, doing the same thing.

It is well to put aside any overemphasis of the value of the map in the present campaign. The primary object of Allied strategy now is not to pierce German lines, but to break German resistance on any line on which Hindenburg elects to stand and fight. Possessing superior numbers, superior artillery and an enormous advantage in ammunition, the Allies propose to use these deliberately and methodically to break down not merely the physical but the moral strength of the foe before them with the least expenditure of life consistent with achieving this object.

The great losses in offensives in trench warfare have invariably come after an initial attack has met with material success. In the Battle of Champagne the French took twenty-five thousand prisoners and one hundred guns in the first attack at a relatively low cost. They suffered very heavy losses with no great gains when they tried to continue their attack—to "stretch" their success—with out further adequate artillery preparation. At Verdun the Germans scored very heavily in the first five days at a relatively moderate cost, and the subsequent gains were purchased at a frightful expense and were inconsiderable.

It is one of the most hopeful signs of the war that the British have not made a similar mistake before Arras, and having taken the maximum of possible profit from their original attack have halted, consolidated their position and permitted the Germans to expend thousands of lives in fruitless counter attacks. We shall have some time in the next week or ten days, another British blow. At that time we shall probably see the French pause on the ground that they have gained, methodically and deliberately consolidate their positions, bring up their artillery and prepare for a new blow.

The simple question that we have to face now is whether the Germans can long endure the constant pounding which is to be their portion this year. In ten days they have lost nearly thirty-five thousand prisoners and more than three hundred guns. They have been driven from some of the strongest positions on their front and they have been, unable, despite desperate efforts, to regain any of the lost territory. We have the testimony of figures as well as of eyewitnesses to show an unmistakable lowering of the German morale. The conviction of the German soldier that the German machine was invincible, that his generals could not make mistakes, and that his enemy was beneath contempt—these ideas have passed away. For the moment the question of where a battle takes place is of lesser interest. We are seeing the final test of endurance. It may be a long test or a short test, as German morale yields quickly or slowly to superior numbers and guns. But for the present our measure of Allied progress must be primarily the number of guns captured, and secondly, the number of men captured. The surrender of more than two hundred guns at Arras, many of them large pieces, was a disaster the like of which no German army has suffered since the Napoleonic times. It demonstrates a breakdown in morale and in organization which, however, local it may prove to be, would have seemed incredible a year ago and beyond conception before the Battle of the Marne.

At the end of the present campaign the Germans may not yet be out of positions, having yielded only an inconsiderable area. But the decision of the Somme was demonstrated in their subsequent retreat. Every possible effort the Germans can make they will make to hold on until the fall with the purpose of arranging another peace campaign. It may be that the fruits of the present offensive will not be gathered until next spring, although those already gathered exceed the fruits of six months of fighting at the Somme last year. We are going to have periods of activity, periods of pause. It is unlikely that we shall see again immediately any such sweeping progress as has been made in the last ten days. The positions which the Germans are now being driven into may hold for many weeks. But it is well once for all at the beginning of this great summer campaign to bear in mind that the result is not to be measured by ground captured; that the main Allied purpose is not to pierce the German lines; but that the Allies are applying the Grant method, which won the Civil War for the North. Under that treatment the army of North Virginia, while it was still undefeated, was worn to a



WHEN CLERGYMEN SPEAK

in favor of a remedy, it is safe to conclude that the remedy has more than usual merit. Clergymen who have used Zam-Buk have found it so excellent, that they have not hesitated to give their opinion.

Amongst them is the Rev. A. D. McLeod of Harcourt, N.B., who, in a letter written recently, refers to the remarkable popularity which Zam-Buk enjoys in the homes of that people of his parish. "Really," he writes, "I know of nothing that can compare with Zam-Buk. Having charge of an extensive mission, I meet with many sick and afflicted people, and have been amazed at the good which Zam-Buk is doing daily. For bad ulcers, old wounds, eczema, and skin diseases of all kinds, the healing power of Zam-Buk are simply marvellous! For piles, also, it is excellent. I have known Zam-Buk give almost instant relief, and am confident if Zam-Buk were kept in every home it would save many a doctor's bill."

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"frazzle." While the North still looked despondently at the lines before Richmond—lines recalling the present trenches—the victory had in fact been won and the collapse was on the point of taking place.

No man can say whether modern Germany will endure defeat as the French republic endured it for the long months after Sedan, when all hopes of victory had vanished. After Napoleon's victory at Jena and Auerstadt the Prussian army melted away in a wild flight, and a single blow destroyed the military structure of Frederick the Great. It is always possible that such a collapse may come again. Many who know Germany well have predicted that the first defeat would be followed by a complete breakdown. But this is not an expectation to be counted upon by wise observers. Germany has still millions of soldiers, enormous reserves of munitions and of guns, and there is no military reason why she cannot hold out through next year. After the North had established complete superiority over the South at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, the South resisted for two years. The parallel to-day is 1864, and not 1863, but almost a year separated the Wilderness from Appomattox. Americans will best understand the situation in the present campaign in Europe by comparing the position of Germany to-day with that of the South in 1864, and the strategy of the Allies with that of Grant when at last he moved southward on the road that led to Petersburg and Appomattox.

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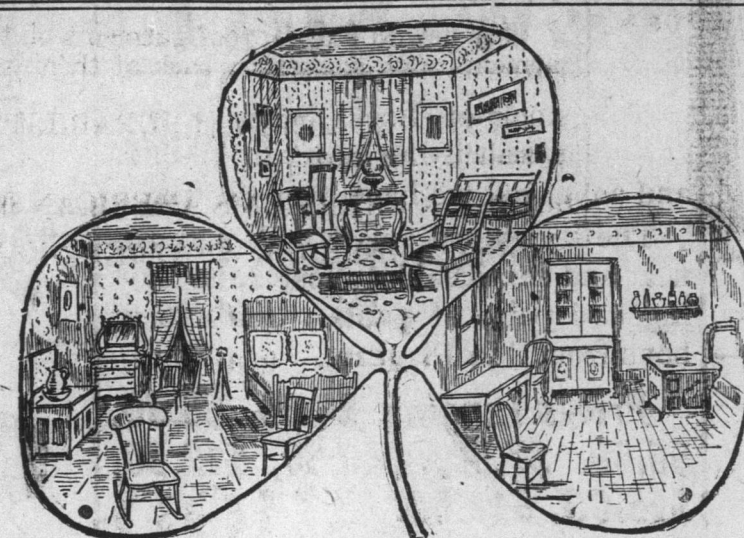
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Household Notes.

When fruit leaves a stain on the teeth, it should be removed at once by rubbing on a little salt.

When boiling a custard add about half a teaspoonful of cornstarch; this will insure its not burning.

A little ball of sealing wax on the end of a knitting needle will keep the knitting from sliding off.

Try fastening the elastic on your motor hat with a hook and eye and see what a convenience it is.

A tiny amount of lemon juice added to cream while whipping will help it to "fluff" more rapidly.

The dishcloth is a poor thing with which to wipe pots and pans; it is not free from soap and grease.

Every bathroom should have a clock in it as a gentle reminder to each occupant not to waste time.

In preparing dates for dessert wash and drain them; they will be much juicier and more palatable.

Sprinkle a little flour in the hot fat before frying with it and it will not be nearly so likely to spatter.

Press butter through an ordinary potato ricer as the first step toward creaming it and you will save time.

Choose the lightest kind of carriage for your baby, otherwise you will be tired out wheeling her about.

When cross-stitching long lines in one-color work the first half to each

cross all the way along, then return.

Have the kitchen shelves placed a half inch from the wall and you will find it the greatest help in cleaning.

A clean and satisfactory method of mending broken china is said to be to melt lump alum and use while hot.

If you wish to paint tinware, first rub the tin with pumice stone or sandpaper and apply a thin coat of varnish.

Syrup from spiced fruit can be used for basting meats. This will give the meat a new and interesting flavor.



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What the Airmen Found

Westminster Gazette: A British officer on duty with the Air Service in East Africa sends home a graphic description of an immense valley filled with Arum lilies over which he has flown somewhere in the region of Zanzibar. As he passed over the spot he was 8,000 ft. high, but the perfume reached him. By means of his glasses he found that the lilies were "as large as elephants' ears," and that the whole of the valley had been monopolized by the beautiful flowers. The luxurious vegetation was remarkable. He discovered later that the scent of the flowers, combined with the decaying vegetation, was so overpowering in the valley that not even the natives dared to live within its borders.

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War News

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WAR SUMMARY

NEW YORK, May 7.—The British and German out Monday were still in violent fighting for possession of Bullecourt, near Arras and Cambrai, and the immediate region at Roubaix. Between Fortaine and Reims, British forces are now at western and eastern outposts, leaving only a narrow end of it available for the Germans who are still in the reports assert. The British well into the town, and the hand fighting was going on in this sector the Germans were heavy British attack on Fortaine and Reims, and during the day with casualties, while still further north the region of Lens the British cords the repulse of the German counter-attack on the new British positions. South of the River British the British gun fire entirely without human forces which attacked while the supporting were taken under the fire and barrage and forced up the effort. Monday's continuation of heavy artillery but Sunday night not even sons in the region of the faux and along the Dames, the artillery moved rear in a mighty dual. There and everywhere the fighting their gains and a fresh thrust against the lines. The Berlin was off that in Sunday night the Germans obtained local numerous points, notably a burg on the northern slope was recaptured, and the slope from which they were forced to retreat. German troops of former Russian in conjunction with German have occupied Bulgarian positions from which they were the Serbian theatre of Bulgarian counter attacks to annul the advantage. The announcement which was made Paris war office, is the most such as it shows for the first time that the followers of the Entente actively under arms and Entente forces, fighting in

