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Our First Duty to Armies in France

IS TO MAINTAIN STRENGTH.

Colonel Repington Draws Lessons from Desperate German Effort in West—Enemy Still Realizes Decision is to be Sought in France or Flanders—All Other Programmes set at Naught if Allied Failure Here—The Battle Described.

London, Dec. 4.—Colonel Repington, the Times military critic, writes as follows of the battle of Cambrai:

"The German offensive which announced in the usual grudging manner the victory of Haig at Cambrai a fortnight ago, took occasion to re-assure German opinion by stating measures to retrieve the disaster were in progress. The German second army which was defeated consisting of some eleven divisions, could not pretend to alter the fortune of war. The German armies of late have not had so free a control of divisional reserves as was formerly the case, so the German headquarters was beset to find troops to re-capture the lost positions.

"Though it may be nearly forty German divisions were in reserve on the western front at the moment of Byng's attack, it took time to collect the necessary reserves and reinforce them with guns. Crown Prince Rup-

precht, who commands the northern group of armies, was compelled to detach five divisions from his Flanders front to strengthen his broken army. Other divisions on the French front were added until some fifteen divisions were available for the intended counter stroke. The total of German divisions in reserve in the west seems large, but they really do not allow much more than for active defence of all the various sectors.

Preparation Took Time.
Drawing down fifteen divisions to repair defeat is a strain on even the German armies and takes time. Even the days which elapsed between the British victory and the counter stroke time was allowed Byng to strengthen the hold gained but, necessarily, the new line did not have the strength which belongs to positions occupied for months nor could all obstacles be accumulated which usually break the rush of hostile troops. This fact gave the Germans a sporting chance which they took.

Hindenburg and Ludendorff were evidently out for blood when they lodged the great massed attack of Friday. We have seen nothing like it on our front since 1914. It speaks well for the heroism of our troops that on two-thirds of the front of this powerful German enveloping attack the enemy was beaten back, suffering immense losses and the hostile breakthrough the south was promptly countered to deprive it of most of its gain. We have admitted and must always admit that first success in an attack is always practicable for either side, given wise preliminary dispositions. The trouble always comes when the enemy's reserves are encountered. There can be no doubt that the capture of the Hindenburg front support line by Byng filled with rage the entourage of the German main headquarters and they intended—and doubtless intend still—to recover the lost ground. They have not succeeded, but they fought right well and gained a meritorious, short-lived triumph.

The reserves will now take the field on both sides. We compelled the enemy to attack and suffer heavy loss, not in gaining ground but attempting to recover it. Anger is a bad councillor. Reverting to the old massed attack, the enemy suffered heavy losses.

Dearest German Wish.
It is no disadvantage to us that this great German counter stroke should have taken place. Everything points to the fact that the overthrow of Haig's armies is the dearest wish of German hearts. Nothing will be squired to accomplish it. This battle shows the Germans are still capable of delivering massed attacks on a grand scale and suggests the suspicion that the long German defensive on the west, broken only since 1914 by the fruitless Verdun enterprise, may be drawing to a close.

This battle also warns us, once more, that the Germans know the decisive front is in the west, and think the fate of the war will be decided there. It suggests, too, that large drafts upon the reserves for the purpose of extending his front and succeeding it, cannot be admitted without reserve.

In any case, our first duty to our armies in France is to maintain their strength. Were such misfortune to happen us as defeat in the west, then the whole scaffolding of our strategy would tumble down. We should realize in a flash the precise value of all our other distant operations would be completely nullified by failure in

the principal theatre. The battle equally warns us that the vast programme in nearly all our departments will be labor lost if by withdrawing or withholding men from the army they deprive us of a victory which carries everything else.

We have looked so long upon "Fritz" as a sort of toy with whom we can play when we like, and who will lie in his trenches inert when we do not want to play with him that it is well to have a reminder that he is alive and to remember that trench warfare has not always that unchanging character we too readily ascribe to it. The right man and the right idea—even a tank—and all is changed in a trice.

Living Mass of Huns Torn to Shreds.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN FRANCE, Dec. 1.—British troops, holding ground between Meuvres and Bourlon to-day, are clinging to a field of horrors.

The ground is littered with German dead. The British are "dug in" amidst shattered human bodies and broken implements of war.

A great German wave moved across this ground in a counter-attack against the British last night. The wave receded to leave behind a quivering foam, literally composed of strips of flesh, bits of bodies, uniforms, metal and cloth.

Using their old storming methods, the Germans charged full into the British machine gun positions in densely-packed masses.

Into the wall of humanity the machine guns poured a steady fire. British artillery, far behind, accurately caught the wall with heavy shells. They exploded, tearing to pieces the sections of the German line that still stood in the face of the tearing of the machine guns.

The advancing wall melted away. Exploding shells flung bits of what had been human beings over the field. Machine guns fire continued to slice holes in the quivering columns. Then the pitiful remnants turned and dissolved in flight.

This was only one of numerous, almost continuous German counter attacks. All were heavy. Crown Prince Rupprecht evidently had determined on every effort, by the massing of every available man, to regain some, if not all, the ground lately won by the British.

Imperial Commission Formed to Take Care of Them.
The Prince of Wales has been chosen President of the Imperial War Graves Commission.

This body has been charged with the duty of caring for the graves of officers and men of the military and naval forces of the Empire who fell in the war.

The Commission consists of nine officials members, viz.: The Secretary of State for War (chairman), the Secretary for the Colonies, the Secretary for India, the First Commissioner of Works, and the following persons appointed by the Governments of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Newfoundland, respectively:

The Hon. Sir George Perley, High Commissioner for Canada.
The Right Hon. Andrew Fisher, High Commissioner for Australia.

The Hon. Sir Thomas Mackenzie, High Commissioner for New Zealand.
The Right Hon. W. P. Schreiner, High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa.

Dr. E. F. S. Green, Newfoundland.
Seven unofficial members are: Sir William Garstin, Mr. Harry Gosling, Mr. Rudyard Kipling, Lieutenant-General Sir C. F. N. Macready, General Sir Herbert C. O. Plumer, Admiral Sir Edmund S. Poe and Brigadier-General Fabian Ware.

GIRLS! GIRLS! TRY IT! STOP DANDRUFF AND BEAUTIFY YOUR HAIR

Hair stops falling out and gets thick, wavy, strong and beautiful.

Your hair becomes light, wavy, fluffy, abundant and appears as soft, lustrous and beautiful as a young girl's after a "Dandruff" hair change. Just try this "moisten" a cloth with a little Danderrine and carefully draw it through your hair, taking one small strand at a time. This will cleanse the hair of dust, dirt and excessive oil and in just a few moments you have doubled the beauty of your hair.

Besides beautifying the hair at once, Danderrine dissolves every particle of dandruff; cleanses, purifies and invigorates the scalp, forever stopping itching and falling hair. But what will please you most will be after a few weeks when you will actually see new hair—fine and downy at first—yes—but really new hair growing all over the scalp. If you care for pretty, soft hair and lots of it, surely get a small bottle of Danderrine from your drug store or toilet counter for a few cents.

The Man Who Has Not Slept is Irritable and Nervous

He is Worried-Digestion Fails--The Nerves Are Starved

The Food Cure

Mr. Harry Edward Trotman, First Street, Chillingwood, Ont., writes:—"It is with great pleasure I write to tell you the splendid results I have secured through the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food. Before I commenced this treatment I suffered from nervousness, was restless, easily worried, had frequent headaches and neuralgic pains through my body, especially in the back. I could neither sleep nor eat well, my circulation was poor, and the heart action seemed weak. I also had attacks of indigestion. I tried several different remedies, but could not gain permanent relief. At last I started taking Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, and this treatment, together with an occasional Kidney-Liver Pill, worked wonders in my case. Five boxes of Nerve Food cured me. My wife has also derived great benefit from the same treatment, and we shall never be without these medicines in the house as long as we can get them."

SLEEPLESSNESS, like insanity, is greatly on the increase. Modern life, with its hurry and worry and noise, brings an enormous strain on the brain and nerves.

More and more people are crowding into the cities, living huddled together in poorly-ventilated houses, and taking insufficient natural exercise. The blood becomes thin and vitiated, and with a little extra strain the nerves collapse.

The man who has not slept is irritable, vacillating, and lacks self-control. He is in no condition to fight the battles of life. He is worried, digestion fails, and so the exhausted nerves are further starved.

There may be no pain, no marked symptoms, but you cannot sleep, and without sleep it is impossible for the nervous system to restore the nervous energy wasted by the process of living.

The temptation to depend on sleeping powders or tablets must be fought off if you would avoid

catastrophe. Means of reconstructing the starved nerve cells must be sought. Since the digestive system fails to supply nourishment to the blood and nerves it is necessary to employ such treatment as Dr. Chase's Nerve Food to instil new strength and energy into the tired nerves.

Nature can only use certain ingredients to rebuild the wasted nerve cells, and these are found in happy combination in this great food cure. Gently and certainly this reconstructive treatment increases the nerve force in the human system, until the organs resume their functions. Digestion improves, appetite is sharpened, you eat well, sleep well and find your old-time vigor returning.

You have only to follow the reports in the newspapers to learn of the great good Dr. Chase's Nerve Food is accomplishing among persons who have suffered from sleeplessness, nervous headaches, indigestion and forebodings of the future which border on insanity.

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50 cents a box, a full treatment of 6 boxes for \$2.75, at all dealers, or Edmansson, Bates & Co., Limited, Toronto. Do not be misled into accepting a substitute. Imitations only disappoint.

Woman Stole Secret of Tanks.

Those of us who had heard that the Germans were in a measure prepared for the British tanks when they first appeared, recently learned more of the facts when we read that Mata-Hari, a Dutch dancer, had been shot as a spy, her chief offence being that she informed the Germans the British were about to introduce the tanks. The German preparation for the tanks consisted in the manufacture of guns specially designed to pierce their sides, mobile guns throwing shells of small calibre and tremendous penetrating power. These were scattered about the German lines when the tanks made their debut, and although the tanks did all that was expected of them, several were put out of action, and it was plain to the British officers that their appearance had been expected. Prisoners admitted that the Krupps had prepared special guns for their reception, and a later investigation pointed to Mata-Hari as the spy who communicated the news to Germany.

Mata-Hari is a Japanese name for "Eye-of-the-Morning" and was adopted by Margarete Zelle, Zelle Macleod when she went on the stage. She achieved considerable success as a dancer, and was well known in several European cities. Where she was when the war broke out is not known, but she was in Paris most of last year. She had many admirers, and it is said that one of them was a deputy. It is suspected that it was from this deputy that she got her first hint of the tanks. The manufacture of these engines was a closely guarded secret. The workmen employed in their construction in England were virtual prisoners until after the machines had reached France. It was almost an impossibility that one of them could have given any information as to the work they were engaged on, but necessarily there were several men in England and France who knew what was going forward. The deputy may not have known much, but apparently he knew at what French ports the new monsters were to arrive.

With this information, Mata-Hari visited the English cities where the tanks were being made, but apparently got no information there. So she proceeded to Rotterdam for a spell, and investigations have shown that her Dutch husband there with the Scotch name was strongly pro-German. She returned presently to Paris and became again the centre of a circle of admirers. A new moth appeared, a British officer, who wore on the lapel of his collar a little twisted brass dragon. At that time it was

not known what branch of the service this insignia proclaimed, but after the tanks arrived it was noted that the tank officers thus denoted themselves. Not long afterward, it is said, this charming dancer was wearing a gold dragon, with emeralds for eyes and a ruby for a tongue, as a modest intimation, perhaps, that her heart was in the keeping of the British officer.

Several weeks before the tanks were to make their appearance on the battlefield, Mata-Hari persuaded a magistrate to give her a safe conduct to a certain port, telling him that her betrothed, an English officer, lay wounded there. She arrived about the same time as the first tanks. She strolled about the town, especially at night, and is supposed to have seen or in other ways learned something more about the tanks. At any rate she was ready to make her final report, and returned to Paris. She next provided herself with a passport to Spain. It appears that she wished to visit San Sebastian for the races. She arrived safely, and it was while at the race track that the French secret service first became suspicious. She was seen in company with a man who had long been under observation. He visited her frequently at her hotel, and it is

said he bet large sums for her on the races. After a short and pleasant visit to San Sebastian she went back to Paris, and the deputy and others resumed their visits.

When it was discovered after the Battle of the Somme that the Germans had advanced information about the tanks, a thorough enquiry was made. This resulted in the arrest of the Dutch dancer. At her trial it was contended that she had gone to Spain for the purpose of having wireless messages sent from Madrid to Nauen, Germany, and that in these messages she warned her employers of what was to come. Evidently she could not give a satisfactory account of her travels, so it did not take long to find her guilty.

The Cards on the Table

Washington, Dec. 5.—America's cards on the table. If Germany is to escape being crushed, she must as freely and as frankly state exactly what she is fighting for, as President Wilson outlined the war aims of the United States.

The way is open for the German ruling powers to respond—explain to the German people and the world exactly what they are fighting for, or

admit America's indictment, and fight it out.

The table is likewise waiting for Great Britain, France and the other Entente Powers to put their cards upon it, as the President displayed America's.

This is the official view of the President's epochal address before Congress. It is the most powerful blow of the political offensive against Germany that has yet been struck. It was addressed to German people as much as to the other people of the world. The war will be considered won when a peace based on justice—to enemy and friend alike—can be made and guaranteed by "spokesmen of the German people whose word we can believe."

There is no mistaking the meaning of President Wilson's outline of America's war aims. American blood is not to be shed, and American money is not to be spent toward realization of any selfish aims. The President did not mention the restoration of Alsace-Lorraine.

This question according to the official view, may take care of itself when Germany is brought to the final reckoning, but the restoration of territory lost forty years ago is not in the category of American aims. The President said nothing of colonies. These subjects are not considered among essentials of the war.

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London Daily News: "Why the 'can't you say 'Yes' or 'No'?' wrote an inquirer to a certain legal department of the Government, after he had been endeavouring for months to get a direct answer to a question about the Military Service Act. He received a reply acknowledging his communication and stating that the contents of the same had been duly noted and his request was being carefully considered, but meanwhile, to avoid any misunderstanding, he was referred to the previous letter. The "Civil Service Gazette" tells this story.

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