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La Scie, October 13th, 1914.

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Dear Sirs,—I saw by Advocate where you stated you would wish to hear from every user of a "FERRO ENGINE," and receive the number of same, and you would send a Spark Plug of your own make, so I thought I would let you know the number. (The No. is) 3263, it is a 7 H.P., and to just give you the truth about the Engine, it is the best one made. We used it last Summer on a large Motor Boat, a Deck Boat about 7½ ft. wide, and about 3½ ft. deep and towed a trap skiff that would bring about 16 or 17 barrels of round Fish after her, and did good work fast enough, too good for the 9 H.P. F. Engine, and this year we have the Engine in a new trap skiff about 20 ft. long, 6 ft. 10 in. wide, 33 inches deep, and cares for nothing here, and there are lots of Engines here of different quality.

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Estimated Strength and Losses Of the Opposing Armies in Europe

By the Military Expert of The New York Times.

THE fighting in Belgium is now becoming a deadlock similar to that along the rest of the entrenched lines. The Germans seem unable to muster sufficient strength to break through the lines of the Allies, while the latter seem not yet ready to adopt the aggressive tactics which are the only means by which they can hope to win a decisive success.

In Poland the Russian success continues. They have driven the Germans back fifty miles from Warsaw to a line running from Plock, on the Vistula, through Kutno, Rawa, and Radom, to Sandomierz, on the Vistula.

German Plan.

The German plan was to crush the Russians and then turn westward in full force against the Allies in France. The failure to carry out this plan in Poland makes uncertain the next steps that she will take. It is certain that she cannot remain on the defensive in both theatres of operation without risking disaster in both. It is more probable that she will sacrifice one campaign to some extent in order to increase the chances of success in the other.

Since her enemies in the west can do her more harm than the Russians can, it is not improbable that the rumor of the transfer of German troops to the west is based on facts. If Germany wishes to deliver a telling blow against the Allies in France she must count on moving to the west a force of 600,000 men, or one-third of the German armies now fighting in Russia.

Strength of the Armies.

The strength of the opposing armies in the western operations is much more difficult to approximate than it was in the first days of the war. It was then definite that the fighting was being done by the first line troops whose strength was well known. The vigorous German raid against France was made by about twenty-two army corps, reinforced by two Austrian corps, a total fighting force of about 840,000 men.

This onrush was stopped on the Marne and on the eastern French border by twenty-one French and three British corps. The 50,000 French reservists from Paris and the remaining Belgian troops swelled the total of the active armies of the Allies to about 980,000 men.

Wave of Reinforcements.

Since then both sides have rushed to the front wave after wave of reservists and recruits as fast as they could be mobilized. The total numbers at the front would easily be trebled if it were not for the constant returning stream of sick and wounded.

The war has now lasted for ninety days, and full time has been given for all of the nations to have in service all of their trained men that can be

equipped. In France and Germany the numbers at the front are now limited only by the numbers that can be supplied and controlled. Russia seems to have nearly reached this limit: Great Britain, however, will probably double her fighting armies before Spring.

The French Army.

Since the first great effort in August France has augmented her active army by three classes of reinforcements. In the first call were included the army reserves, the trained men of 24 to 31 years of age.

Next were called the reserve army, composed of the ex-soldiers of 31 to 38 years; and the third class is composed of the young men of 19 and 20, called to the colors ahead of the normal peacetime date.

This last body of 800,000 young men is now being called on to replace the losses at the front. Being sent in small numbers to each company, their services are valuable in spite of their short training.

The above classes of military forces amount to 3,400,000 men, but from this total must be subtracted the losses to date and the numbers that are needed for the noncombatant duty.

The rigid censorship prevents definite news from being stated, but an approximate estimate can be formed, the principle difficulty being in setting a figure for losses.

The German losses have been estimated at 1,000,000; the French losses must be very much less, but certainly not less than 500,000, nor more than 800,000. If the average has been one half of 1 per cent a day for the seventy days' fighting, the loss would be about 700,000.

The detachments in the fortified cities and the coast forts take at least 100,000 men, in addition to the garrisons from the reserve army. Of the remaining 2,600,000 in the armies at the front, approximately one fourth are employed in auxiliary services, leaving 1,950,000 as the fighting strength.

The British Force.

Of the 480,000 men in her regular army, Great Britain must, by now, have landed 400,000 on the Continent. To these must be added the Hindoo troops, estimated at one corps or 30,000 men. If the British have had the same average losses as the French their strength on the Continent is about 350,000.

The Belgian strength can be estimated only from the news despatches, checked by the length of front occupied by them. The ten mile front from Dixmude to the coast calls for a force of about 70,000 men, but part of the troops holding this line are British, while French reinforcements are at Dixmude. The Belgian strength is not over 60,000, and is more probably the 50,000 given in the despatches.

Strength of Allies 2,350,000.

The total fighting strength of the Allies is at present about 2,350,000. The enrolled strength, or the ration strength, includes drivers, clerks, hospital servicemen, etc., and amounts to about 3,130,000 men at the front.

The German strength is less definite because she has made some shifts of strength from west to east and back again as needed for carrying out her strategic plans.

If the Germans had strength in the centre equal to that of the Allies, they would certainly force the fighting there, as early successes would be doubly valuable to them. This relative inferiority is especially noticeable along the Lorraine border, where the Germans are fighting a defensive campaign, apparently with the



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intention of falling back on their Metz fortifications if the attacks develop in strength.

It is only on the northern flank that the military operations indicate that the Germans are equal to or superior to the Allies in numbers. Estimates based on military operations tend to confirm the statement from Switzerland of fifty-four German army corps west of the Rhine. This means a total force of 2,322,000, of which the fighting strength is about 1,800,000 men.

Her Entire Strength.

While the figure seems small, it will be found to call for very nearly the entire military strength of Germany when account is taken of the forces in Russia and of the losses in the previous fighting.

The armies sent against Russia are estimated at 1,800,000, and the losses in Russia at 250,000, as given in European despatches. This means that Germany has sent to the front a total of 5,372,000 men, as against 3,400,000 by France. It is more likely that the figures for France are too small.

In the fighting in France, Germany is now holding back the Allies, in spite of being largely outnumbered by them. It seems probable that Germany will soon weaken her strength in the east in order to strengthen the armies in the west sufficiently to strike a telling blow. This strategic move must soon be attempted, however, or the chance thereof will pass.

BRITAIN NEEDS 1,000,000 TROOPS TO BEAT GERMANY

British Papers Urge Necessity of Having That Number of Trained Men Ready for Next Spring

London, Nov. 6.—In view of the re-assembling of Parliament a week hence, when an important debate on military matters is expected, it is interesting to note the trend of opinion as expressed in the newspapers which, with almost complete unanimity, are not adequate to meet the crisis.

With only one or two exceptions the entire London press today published editorials pointing out the need of more men being recruited, and even such radical organs as the Chronicle and the Daily News urge that steps be taken in this direction.

The Chronicle says that to beat the Germans back into their own territory we must be able to put in the field early next year more than a million men, and have at the same time vast numbers in reserve for reinforcements.

The Parliamentary correspondent of the Glasgow Herald, generally well informed, makes the assertion that an interesting document has been prepared in the form of an appeal, signed by both Premier Asquith and Mr. Bonar Law, leader of the Opposition, whose object is to obtain information concerning civilians suitable for military service. This document will be circulated by post, over selected areas, the Herald says.

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