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## Is There any Proof That Enemy is Making Shells Faster than the Allies?

By HILLAIRE BELLOC in "LAND AND WATER."

Have we any proof that the enemy can produce shells, new linings, for guns as those linings get worn out, new big pieces, etc., can fill and fit the same at any greater rate than can the Western Allies? It is, to say the least of it, doubtful; and until one has very good proof to the contrary one would—knowing the character of the various nations involved—doubt it. The enemy has made a mighty effort in Galicia. In spite of that effort he has not succeeded in breaking the Russian line, and therefore he has lost enormously in men—certainly not less than half a million—without so far having obtained anything like a decision, and he has expended in six weeks ammunition which it took him, perhaps, twenty weeks to produce. Italy alone has been for five months producing munitions with a clear comprehension of what this type of warfare has become and what is needed for it. The French people have devoted their whole energy to that end. Have we any proof that the enemy have done more? That they had an advantage over Russia in this matter, seeing that Russia can only with difficulty obtain supplies from abroad, that her industrialization is not that of the West, that her communications and the rolling stock upon her railways is not that of the West, we all know. But would the higher command in the West regard the enemy's supply and accumulation of shell superior to its own? I doubt it.

Next we must ask the question, can the production, such as it is, be increased in the West? Whether it can be increased in France or in Italy may be doubted. Those nations are conscript for war, and are prepared with their utmost energies. That it can be increased in this country is obvious, for this country is highly industrialized, and is making a great many things, apart from those needed for the war. The economic support which this country can give to the great alliance demands active production in every field. But there is obviously a margin for the increased production of shell. What that margin is only the authorities know.

Again, can the enemy obtain supplies from outside his own territory for the production of shell? If he can it is the fault of the blockade. That he has gotten cotton through for his propellant explosives we know. Why it has been allowed we do not know. But has he also got

his material for shell? Italy has allowed nothing to go in since December, and if the enemy is getting for his production what he cannot and with his own boundaries, then it comes through the North Sea, and the answer to that question is therefore political. It will not be discussed here, because it is highly controversial, and depends upon elements in the international problem of which no layman has cognizance.

But the situation is quite clear. If the blockade is fully enforced the enemy cannot get supplies from outside his own territory, whereas the Western Allies can, and do.

But the production of shell does not only consist in the supply of shell cases, of copper bands, and fuses. It also consists in the high explosive for the bursting charge of a large shell.

Is there a shortage among the Western Allies in these high explosives? In order to answer that question it can only be suggested that one form of high explosive, and one alone, can show some shortage, and that is T.N.T. It is not the most violent, but it is the safest form. It is that mainly used in the British, German and Austrian services. Its basis is the destructive distillation of coal. In this country it has not paid manufacturers and coal owners in time of peace to produce the raw material for this explosive in sufficient quantities. That there is any shortage in other forms of high explosives is doubtful in the extreme, and no shadow of proof that there is any such shortage has appeared. Without some evidence, we do well to disbelieve.

I repeat that a belated newspaper panic or the commoner wind of political rhetoric may, or may not, be necessary here as a spur to the production of high explosive shell. One would have hoped not. They are not necessary elsewhere. If such means are necessary, by all means let them be employed for those upon whom they are useful effect. But let sober judgment recognize that while you cannot have too much of these munitions—always supposing that the guns and their repair keep pace with the possible rate of discharge—the probability is against the enemy's having in the West a superiority in munitions.

It is probable—I have not the authority to say it is certain—that in this, as in every other matter, the more developed and the more active nations have the advantage over the enemy. Whether this judgment is

right or not only the development of the offensive in the West, when it takes place, can decide.

Meanwhile we may note that every very heavy and successful bombardment in the West, followed by an advance, has come from the Allies and has been against the enemy for weeks and months past, while the single example of a considerable enemy advance—that north of Ypres—has taken place, not through superiority of high explosive munitions but through the unexpected use of poisonous gases, which novel method is now comprehended and met.

## Football.

St. Bon's and B. I. S. Play Fastest Game for the Season—Result: a Draw.

The Irish failed to score on a penalty kick in last evening's contest with the St. Bon's, thus depriving themselves of a point, the first one they lost for the season and probably the championship. The result at the close was one goal each. The game was easily the fastest and hardest fought that has been witnessed so far this season.

B. I. S.—Walsh, goal; Kavanagh, Thomas, backs; Jackman, Duggan, Kavanagh, halves; Simms, McGrath, Duffy, Jackman and Burke, forwards. St. Bon's.—Knight, goal; Power, Higgins, backs; Rawlins, McGrath, Fox, halves; Kelly, Furneaux, Smith, Callahan (2), forwards.

Play began with St. Bon's, who defended the eastern territory assuming the offensive. They made several dashes west but the B. I. S. back division made them retreat. The Irish forwards then controlled the ball and confined play in their opponents' quarters. Burke controlled the ball and had a try for goal, and missed by a narrow margin. Resuming their rushes the B. I. S. succeeded in getting two corners, without result. The St. Bon's then took possession of the ball and displayed some excellent combination. Callahan of the right wing got away and sent ball to the mouth of the B. I. S. goal, Walsh captured it but in clearing gave the ball to Kelly who netted the first goal for St. Bon's. Play then became furious and the Irish were seen to better advantage in the hope of equalizing, but the half closed in favour of St. Bon's.

## SECOND PERIOD.

The St. Bon's again started the aggressive and kept the Irish backs busy. A few of the players behaved contrary to the etiquette of the game and the referee had to call order and lecture those at fault. Continuing play the B. I. S. worked west. Burke and Duffy called on Knight to save which he did splendidly. Simms next shot and an opponent back stopped the ball with his hand. A penalty kick was awarded, but the ball was poorly placed, much to the delight of St. Bon's supporters. The Irish resumed their attacks. Burke broke away and passed to Jackman. The latter returned the ball to Burke who banged in the equalizing goal. The balance of the game was fast and about equally divided.

Mr. J. Condon acted as referee.

## NOTES.

A fine game, though a little wild and rough at times.

All things considered the St. Bon's deserved to win, as they were the best balanced team.

The attendance was fairly good, in view of previous games, and the gate receipts amounted to \$30.

Players of all teams complain about the wretched and dangerous condition of the field. The League should get busy.

The Collegians and Saints will play this evening, lining up thus:—

Collegians.—Goal, Wornell; backs, Heath, Pike; halves, Pike, Barnes, Pike; forwards, Ellis, Coultas, Kendrick, Searle, Gear.

Saints.—Goal, Ewing; backs, Spry, Foster; halves, Reid, Mann, Elton; forwards, Ferguson, Kerr, Bastow, Ewing, Smith.

If the Collegians win, they and the B. I. S. will be the closest runners up for championship.

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Yours, &c.,

WILFRID GAGNE.

Prop. of Grand Central Hotel, Drummondville, Aug. 3, '04.

LORD BISHOP LEAVES.

His Lordship Bishop Jones leaves here by this evening's express en route to the Labrador on his biennial visitation. After detouring at Bay of Islands he will join the Church ship Amazon which left here yesterday for that place. His Lordship will be absent about two months, and a half.

## Pastoral Play.

Having had the privilege of seeing the dress rehearsal of the beautiful Pastoral play, to be given under the patronage of His Excellency the Governor and Lady Davidson, at the residence of Mrs. Browning, King's Bridge Road, in aid of the fund for cots for the wounded, to-morrow, Wednesday afternoon the 14th, we advise all who possibly can, not to miss this rare treat. Those who avail themselves of this exceptional pleasure of spending the afternoon watching a most picturesque play out of doors, acted by so many of our favorite amateurs, will also have the opportunity of purchasing smoked and other dresses for their children and plain work, the work at the Avalon Nursing Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, who have worked unwearingly to supply the tables. Admission, tea and play, 50c, inclusive, commencing at 3 o'clock.

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Proceeds of afternoon Sale of flowers, candy, ice cream, etc., held at Devon Place on June 26th, by Miss Florence Reid . . . . . \$ 70 00

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## YOUR BOYS AND GIRLS

Sometimes a girl of sixteen finds her dream embodied in a youth of her own circle. He is the untrained boy of whom the mother knows little or nothing. This time is often fraught with danger though neither boy or girl wish evil to the other. The boy is only an inexperienced young creature, thirsting for life like herself. They often look forward to a life of love together, heedless of the fact that neither is fitted for life's responsibilities.

Sometimes when a mother discovers one of these youthful romances, her first sensation is that of anger. Yet if ever a girl needed gentleness and kindness and consideration, it is at this time. She should not be scolded like a naughty child taking forbidden fruit for the right treatment will make her a loyal friend of her mother at all times, turn her into the way which leads to good and noble womanhood, and save her from other and more serious mistakes. The wrong treatment may forever alienate her confidence and trust.

SHOULD BE CAREFUL.—Masters of vessels should exercise a little more care when turning where the work of raising the submerged steamer Stella Maris is being carried on. A few days ago a schooner, through carelessness, damaged the schooner Jemoux, which is used as an auxiliary in removing the Stella Maris.

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- 4th—We have our Springs made from the wire by the only Weaver in the country; also the Oxford or Copper Wire Spring by machines too.
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- 7th—We are also selling agents for the celebrated Ideal Beds and Springs and sell at factory price.
- 8th—We also have the COMBINATION LATH and SPRING BED, the only thing of its kind in the country.
- 9th—Having the factory in the same building, we can handle all sizes all repairing; in fact you can choose your own Coverings for Parlour Suites, Mattresses, etc., and have it made to order.
- 10th—Our motto (last but not least) is to sell at the lowest possible prices, and despite the serious advance in prices all round, we are, where possible, reducing the prices, WHICH SHOULD APPEAL TO EVERY HOUSEKEEPER when in need of Furniture and Furnishings, as we now by arrangement work from the "Tree to the Home," thus cutting out all middlemen's profits.

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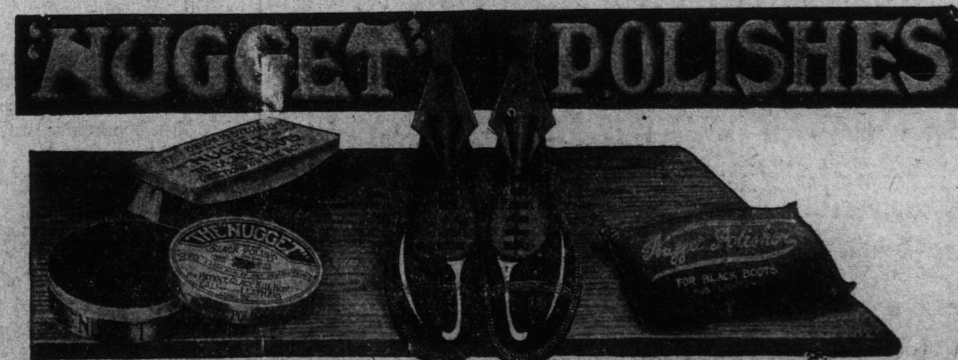
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