

Once we thought work was a curse; then it came to us that it was a necessary evil; and yesterday the truth dawned upon us that it is a privilege.—Hubbard

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British Arms Are Factors That Will Decide The War

British Reserves at Last Are Ready After Years of Preparation and Great Drive is Expected to Decide Issue, Says Capt. M. E. Hanna, Member General Staff of the U. S. Army

Stamford, Conn., July 15.—For the first time since the war began the allies are on the offensive on all fronts in Russia, the Caucasus, Italy and France.

The Russian drive into Austria has been under way for some weeks and is still making progress. The Austrians drive into Northern Italy that started off with so much dash a few weeks ago was stopped; half a decisive success had been scored and the Austrian armies in this region are now finding it difficult to maintain their positions against the renewed Italian offensive; and on the western battlefield in France the great combined French and British offensive appears to have been launched with a momentum well nigh irresistible.

Success of Germans Rested on Offensive During the first two years of the war the interior position of the Teutons and their allies in Southern Europe, Bulgaria and Turkey has given them a great advantage over their opponents, an advantage which they have made the most of, and which, from the military standpoint, is largely responsible for the great successes that they have achieved.

The German war lord and his advisers have dominated the military from the very outset of the war, and operations of the Teuton powers have secured co-operation and co-ordination that have been impossible of attainment among the widely separated allies.

They have been working at cross purposes while a single mind has been in control of the widely separated battlefields and team work has prevailed among the Teutons.

These factors, combined with German organization, preparation and ferocity, have been the cause of the Teutons and their allies on every battle front to push their enemy further and further from their frontiers.

But this is not the case. On the contrary, the operations of the allies are directed by a council made up of representatives from the allied powers and the decisions of such a council are frequently determined by other than military reasons.

Can the efforts of Russian, Italian, French and English be co-ordinated and concentrated? We are told that the long promised British offensive has begun and the strategists on the sidelines long ago made up their minds that this would be the signal for the combined offensive of the allies on all fronts, a pressure of such force and from so many directions that the Teutons would find it impossible to stand up against it.

Military critics have admired the iron determination of the allies to refuse to be led into a premature grand offensive campaign. The war found England unprepared except on the sea, and it was most fortunate for the cause of the allies that she had a man like Kitchener with sufficient imagination to form something like a correct estimate of the duration of the war and the part Great Britain was to play in it.

Kitchener Realized Need of Huge Reserve To his mind it was clear that the English soldier must be the final reserve with which the war would be won and he set about creating a vast army from raw materials. This stupendous work has gone on for nearly two years with all the energy of the British empire behind it, and Russians, Italians and Frenchmen have fought a stubborn defensive warfare while awaiting its completion.

Even the on-looking neutral world has often grown impatient at the delay, but with a determination and wisdom worthy of the highest praise England has refused to begin the operations on which so much depends before she was prepared.

Is the British army now ready for a protracted campaign in France? Any prediction as to the immediate future of the war seems to depend on the answer to this question, for unless we have completely misjudged the fighting ability of Teuton powers nothing less than a prolonged campaign of many months, possibly extending throughout the coming winter, can come winter, can overthrow their military power.

TEXAS GAS WELL IS LIKE VOLCANO

Impossible to Control It—Took Fire and Was Only Put Out By Flow Of Salt Water

Stanton, Tex., July 15.—Upon the level plains country, close to Corpus Christi Bay and adjoining the 185,000 acre ranch of Charles R. Tarr, of Chicago, a gas well has been struck which is being brought in by a method that has every appearance of having been caused by a tremendous volcanic outburst.

It is the ruins of what is said to have been the largest gas well in the world. The estimated flow when the well was brought in was 75,000,000 cubic feet of natural gas. The giant throbbing subterranean monster could not be held in restraint. It belched forth one earth-quaking outburst that threw rocks and dirt hundreds of feet into the air and instantly converted the hole into a veritable volcano.

The well drilling rig, engine, boiler and all disappeared in this outburst. The gas caught fire in some manner and a column of flame shot upwards until it almost reached the clouds. The roar of the escaping gas shook the windows of houses for twenty miles around. The light from the flame made night almost as bright as day at Stanton, four or five miles from the well.

The original gas blowout was succeeded by many others until the hole reached a diameter of 200 feet, and surrounding it was formed a high cone of mud and rocks. After burning for three months the fire was finally extinguished by the boiling, seething salt water that rose in the crater. It has now become a hot water geyser, the overflow finding an outlet through a channel that has been formed that carries the water to the nearby bay.

This was the second well in the same locality to have been destroyed by blowouts and fire. The first hole, drilled by Harry Cuttle, chief engineer of the Texas Oil & Gas Co., was destroyed by a similar blowout. The gas caught fire and the well was destroyed.

ADMITS PERIL TO GERMANY Berlin Telegraph Is Not Overconfident That Allies Will Fail

Amsterdam.—The Berlin Telegraph, discussing the Anglo-French offensive, lays stress upon the splendid railroad communication which it says are at the disposal of the British and French armies. The paper says that the railroad to the allied lines is very favorable to the development of an offensive, and that the Allies possess numerous connecting lines between the wings of the operating armies.

While asserting that the British gains in ground and prisoners is slight, the Telegraph says that about the probable course of the offensive nothing can be said. "We find ourselves," it says, "at the beginning of the great national cause at heart, as is awaited by him with great expectations, but we have no occasion to doubt the power of our resistance."

The Munich Nachrichten publishes a statement under a Berlin date, saying that the British offensive is nothing more than an attempt to stave off the utter collapse of France, which "Germany has bled to death at Verdun." Germany and Austria, the statement adds, must also reckon with fresh Russian sacrifices on the Eastern front, all of which it declares will be in vain.

WOOL, ARRIVING HERE FOR THE BIG SALE ON JULY 28 Shipments of wool are beginning to arrive in Calgary for the big annual sale of wool which will take place on July 28 in the horse show building. This year's sale will be a much bigger thing than any other time previous. Last year there were but 14,500 fleeces brought in, while this year no less than 40,000 are expected. Buyers are coming from all over the continent, the United States sending purchasers as well as eastern Canada, and European houses may be represented.

Because wool is becoming a scarcer article each year in proportion to the demand, it is expected bidding will be keen and the sale a very profitable one to growers. The fact that this year's offerings are so much in advance of previous years argues well for the appreciation that farmers show in this new system of joint selling. Prior to 1912 there was no united vending in the province, and farmers were left to make their sales as best they could at whatever prices they could get.

Since the Sheep Breeders' association has taken the matter in hand, the farmers are bringing their year's clip to the city, where they are assured of getting top returns from buyers, who will assemble for a large sale, whereas they could not be present at individual vendings.

French horse buyers are in Calgary in quest of Alberta horses for the French army. They will visit Cochrane of the 24th and Calgary on the 25th.

REIMS LOSES NEARLY 100,000

Belgium, France, July 15.—The population of Reims, which was 115,778 according to the census of 1911, has, according to a new count just made, been reduced to 19,932 of whom 10,012 are women, 5,861 men, and 4,110 children.

DOMINION RAILWAY BOARD TO MEET AT CALGARY Sir Henry Drayton and A. S. Goodwin, of the Railway Commission of Canada, will be in the city on Monday to hear complaints that have been made at the regular sittings.

The chief items that will be heard at Calgary are the complaints of W. F. Stevens, live stock commissioner for the province of Alberta, relative to condition of stockyards of the Canadian Northern railway, Canadian Pacific railway and Grand Trunk railway at certain points along their lines.

There will be some further complaints with regard to proposed rates of freight.

Canada last year imported dolls and toys valued at \$487,265.

BASEBALL AT SARCEE The 138th baseball team has a perfect percentage of 1000 so far, having won their third game last evening.

GERMAN TRANSATLANTIC SUBMARINE According to information just given out a number of submarines of this class will be built and equipped for carrying cargoes across the Atlantic. The above is a photograph of the Deutschland which arrived off Baltimore on Sunday last with a cargo of drystuffs and medicines consigned to the North German-Lloyd Company.

Mighty Guns Destroyed Trenches In Incredibly Short Time

Required Nine Months in Some Cases to Build Trenches Which Were Wiped Out in a Few Minutes By Anglo-French Guns of Unheard-of Calibre

Berlin, July 15.—An eyewitness account of the Anglo-French offensive is given in dispatches from Lieutenant Danbitch, one of the editors of the Zeitung am Mittag, whose company was stationed in the trenches near the Somme river.

The lieutenant was wounded during the preparatory bombardment but was there long enough to witness the almost indescribable destruction wrought in the front line trenches by the allied artillery.

He says that the massively built positions had been regarded as virtually indestructible and impregnable, but the event proved that the progress in the development of offensive tactics since the September offensive had not been realized.

"Right at the beginning of the artillery preparation," says the lieutenant, "the enemy showed the Germans a new thing in the destruction of observation balloons. An aviator swooped down on one of these and shot fire balls from above, a burst of flame marking the end of the balloon."

"The second day's bombardment, June 26, brought another surprise in the shape of aerial mines of unheard-of calibres, which were thrown in incredible numbers. The explosion of the first air torpedo shattered by its tremendous detonation the windows of the bomb-proofs and threw up a massive pillar of black earth, perhaps a hundred yards. This showered the whole neighborhood roofs with bricks and earth. This was a regular Vesuvian eruption."

"The destructive effects of this uninterrupted throwing of the heaviest mines were almost immediately visible. The entrances to the two bomb-proofs were buried and the inmates had to be removed."

A few minutes later an orderly, sent by a message to the left of a company, returned, reporting that the trench had been completely levelled. Lieutenant Danbitch, going to observe, saw as far as the eye could reach crater after crater, six feet deep, the earth between being torn up in a wild, high chaos of trench-timbers and with entanglements as usual.

"The work of day and night for nine months," says the chronicler, "was destroyed in a few minutes. Report after report arrived of bomb-proofs demolished by aerial torpedoes, burying the inmates. The trenches became rapidly leveled; communication between the sections was extremely difficult. The third lines were so heavily shelled that it was impossible to traverse them."

An orderly sent to a captain was hoarse on the way. On the left flank the company trench was so obliterated that it was difficult to trace it. The only means of progress was to dash from crater to crater, fully exposed to the enemy fire while crossing the intervening ridges. Finally, he arrived after a period of intense danger, and found the left platoon of the company in the same condition as the right platoon. A number of men were still buried in the demolished bomb-proofs. Their comrades worked for hours extracting them."

"During this work an intrepid battalion surgeon arrived with an oxygen apparatus and stood for hours under a heavy artillery fire, ministering to the half-buried and attempting to revive those asphyxiated."

"The bombardment continued without cessation, aerial torpedoes being hurled from ranges such as was never before known by mine throwers and the French artillery pounded every yard of ground with an intense fire of big shells."

"The lieutenant described how reinforcements were sent that night, 'quite as much to assist in digging out those buried as to contribute to the defence.' He was leading them to positions among the demolished trenches when he and his orderly were wounded by an exploding torpedo. They were sent to the hospital, thus missing the infantry attacks."

Alberta Pays Up Well Toward The Canadian Patriotic Fund

The following statement of receipts in this province to the Patriotic Fund account for the last ten months will be read with interest by all who have this great national cause at heart. As is well known, the amount required from the province was allotted to the various constituencies last year, having regard to their population and ability to pay.

The statement of amounts allotted and paid up by the various constituencies is as follows:

Table with columns for Constituency, Amount Assessed, and Amount Paid. Includes entries for Beaver River, Edson, Camrose, Clearwater, Grouard, Lacombe, Ladang, Lac Ste. Anne, Ribstone, Sedgewick, Sturgeon, Peace River, Pembina, Victoria, Vermilion, Vegreville, Whitford, Wetaskiwin, and Wainwright.

Summary City of Edmonton 90,000.00 86,778.76 Towns and Rural Districts 83,908.64 Alberta Civil Service and University of Alberta 46,957.36 \$217,644.75

LEADING CANDIDATES

Table with columns for Constituency, Amount Assessed, and Amount Paid. Includes entries for Acadia, Bow Valley, Calgary, Cardston, Claresholm, Cochrane, Coronation, Didsbury, Gleichen, Hand Hills, High River, Inniash, Little Bow, Lethbridge, Macleod, Medicine Hat and Redcliff, Nanton, Okotoks, Olds, Pincher Creek, Red Deer, Rocky Mountain, Stettler, Taber, and Warner.

Provincial Government 44,462.41 Staff of University of Alberta 2,788.03 Personal Contributions 505.93 \$277,162.96

Constituency Assessed June 29, 1916 Amount Paid Sep. 1-15, 1916

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From the present indications it appears that either Roosevelt for Hughes will secure the nomination for president from the Republican Convention.

THE FAMILY CIRCLE SHATTERED

Family dinners are rare in England. They flourish only at weddings and at funerals, especially at funerals, for mankind collected enjoys woe. But other occasions—birthdays, Christmas—are abandoned; Christmas especially, in spite of Dickens and Mr. Chesterton, is not what it was, for its quondam victims, having fewer children, and being less bound to their aunts' apron strings, go away to the seaside, or stay at home and hide.

That is a general change, and many modern factors, such as travel, intercourse with strangers, emigration, have shown the family that there are other places than home, until some of them have begun to think that "East or West, home's worst."

There is a frigidity among the relations in the home, a disinclination to call one's mother-in-law "Mother." Indeed, relations-in-law are no longer relatives; the two families do not immediately after the wedding call one another Ritty or Tom. The acquired family is merely a subfamily, and often the grouping resembles that of the Montagues and the Capulets, if Romeo and Juliet had married. Mrs. Herbert said, charmingly, in Garden Gate, "Our in-laws are our strained relations."

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

SUPREMACY JUSTICE HUGHES

From the present indications it appears that either Roosevelt for Hughes will secure the nomination for president from the Republican Convention.

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WHY USE NO ICE ON THE BOOR GOT A SCHEME SCARE HIM OFF T ME EVER HAVIN' SPEAK TO HIM!

