

BRITISH HAVE TAKEN TOTAL OF 30,000 GERMAN PRISONERS

During Four Months' Offensive Upon Somme Front—Casualties Have Been Comparatively Light—"The Briton Will be on Top"

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British Front in France, Oct. 13—Via London—More than three and one half months of battle on the Somme with the heaviest concentration of artillery, infantry and every type of war material, and the most skillful and desperate fighting the world has ever known, has resulted in marked development of British fighting efficiency and of means for reducing the losses of the attackers. In the way of concrete achievements the British have taken 30,000 prisoners, or a little less than 1,500 for each of the twenty-one villages captured with an average population of about 200 souls. They have taken 125 guns, 10 trench mortars, and trench guns and 42 machine guns. They have not lost a gun.

The task of the British was made especially difficult by the fact that they were confronted at the outset with a most powerful line of trench fortifications. Moreover, every village was a fortress which had to be besieged and stormed. The British have driven back the Germans on a front of eleven miles, to a depth of four to eight miles and when spring comes peasants will plough and seed ground behind the lines which for two years had lain fallow under the storm of shells. In Fricourt and Mametz, villages taken on July 1, trees with their trunks and their foliage blasted by shells have bravely thrown out fresh shoots, while fresh crops of grass are hiding the shell craters in neighboring fields and carpeting the seamed earth trodden by the British in their early charges. Former citizens of captured villages are requesting that they be allowed to return to them and build new homes on the ruins of their old ones.

The offensive consisted of intervals of preparation and siege work after each big general attack to prepare what is called a "jumping off" place for another general attack. Through July, owing to the heavy cost of taking the first line trenches, the British casualties probably were heavier than the Germans. Through August, when over a large part of the front the Germans were out of their second as well as their first line systems of defenses and the battle became one of digging and fighting in the open for both sides, casualties were about even. As the British kept up the offensive their exposure necessarily was greater. Yet, from all information the correspondent can gain both from British officers of all grades who have been in the fighting and from German prisoners, the German losses were not less than 25 and possibly 50 per cent. higher than the British during the month of September when the British gained most ground.

This contradiction of the previously accepted idea of a higher ratio of casualties for the side on the offensive, which is usually considered as necessarily not less than two to one, is due, according to the British officers, to the superior power of British shell fire, the numbers of British aeroplanes, the increased skill of the British soldiers and the use of the tanks. The British staff did not place much reliance on these new contrivances, which aroused such world-wide interest, but regarded them as an experiment which might fail altogether. They are only one of the inventions aiding the offensive against modern fortifications which will be used next spring when the British are fully prepared. Calculations as to the value of the tanks are hard to make but, taking the average opinion of experts at the front, these weird new motor cars have saved a loss of 20,000 men, or more than a full division, in the reduction

of strong points and machine gun positions. The offensive at every step has proved that no army can have too many guns, which will kill and demoralize an enemy with projectiles fired from a distance from anywhere from 2,000 to 20,000 yards. The great value has also been proved of portable machine guns manned by skillful and cunning soldiers. Men posted in shell craters with their weapons have a formidable power whether their side is acting on the defensive or offensive.

Not in ground gained or prisoners or guns taken does opinion at the front lay most emphasis after nearly four months ceaseless fighting, every day bringing its lesson. Officers are always using the word morale, which means the spirit and team play an army puts into its work. It is the thing which at the end of the tenth round of a twenty-round fight, when both pugilists are still standing up well to each other, indicates the winner. The British, after nearly two years of stalling, have been fighting week after week on soil taken from their foe. Thus the British morale has become the morale of attack. This offensive has been the school of war with death as tutor. As one staff officer said: "We had July 1 to do over again, we should accomplish the same result with less loss."

Before the grand offensive the British staff and commanders, those few professionals who were trained to direct the small regular army, realized fully their immense responsibility in sending an army trained in theory against the experienced German organization. At that time one commander recalled to the correspondent a saying of Von Moltke that although the German as a soldier might not be better than his enemy, the German army would always win because of a superior staff system. "We have met the German staff," said the same man recently, "and I assure you none of us are suffering from stage fright these days. We thank the German staff for what they taught us in the days of our unpreparedness and of late they have been learning a few things from us."

Actual battle conditions have revealed as no theoretical tests could which officers are fit to lead. Those who are not, however good fellows and themselves transferred. The route to promotion has become success in action. Generals in the thirties and forties now direct the fighting in the field, and battalion commanders who are not yet thirty, have ceased to be uncommon. To the correspondent, the improvement in the army week by week has been one of the most interesting and evident features of his long stay at the front. The taking of Thiepval was the most sentimentally important of the capture of any village because it was part of that redoubtable first line where the British failed to break through on July 1. But the hardest fighting was at such places as Gullefont, Delville and High Woods, and at Pazieres and Moquet Farm, where the struggle lasted for weeks to gain the coveted ridge, which is now entirely in British possession. But the British officers think only of the experience gained for the future and keep repeating that word, morale.

A wounded British soldier sitting beside the road recently said to the correspondent: "May be the time will come when only one Britisher and one German will be left alive, if so, the Briton will be on top." This is what the officers mean by morale, and explains why they judge the summer's work of the new army in the light alone of that word.

"Feast and Famine"



:- SIDE TALKS :-

By Ruth Cameron

We were talking about a form of social injustice which particularly arouses a friend of mine.

"Sometimes I think I will try to start a crusade against it," she said, "but what can one unimportant person like me do against a great evil?"

"If you have enthusiasm enough you might do a great deal," I said. "Oh, I don't know," she said, "doubtfully. I have enthusiasm enough, but what can one person accomplish even if she is enthusiastic?"

"Almost everything," I said. "And I meant it."

The World Has Been Moved By One With Enthusiasm

World-wide movements have been started by one person and enthusiasm.

That is because one person with enthusiasm is not long one person. Enthusiasm is contagious.

Take the Sunshine Bulletin and the nation-wide work for blind babies. Both of these exist to-day because when Cynthia Westover Allen found in the course of her newspaper work that there was no home to which to send a blind baby whose parents could not take care of it, she was not satisfied to say, "This is terrible, but what can one person do about it?" Instead she set about arousing the world to this need. She has done it, and incidentally produced that world

blessing, the Sunshine Bulletin.

One Man And Ten Thousand Babies

When Rufus P. Tobey saw the babies in the Boston streets dying of the heat and thought of his own little girl safe at the seashore, he was not content to say, "This has to be." Instead, he set his heart on giving these babies a chance at the sea breezes, and the Boston Floating Hospital, the wonderful hospital ship which carries hundreds of sick babies down the harbor every day, is the outcome of that determination.

Everyone knows what came of Mrs. Rice's determination that the unnecessary noises of the world should be lessened.

One Woman And A Million Mothers

And did anything ever spread more like wildfire than Miss Anna Jarvis' wish to do honor to the mothers of the world?

I don't know who started the "Anti-Tuberculosis" and "Do Your Shopping Early" crusades, that have had such tremendous results in the last few years. Perhaps some reader friend can tell me if it was one enthusiast who got the world started.

How I wish these words might give the final impetus to someone! Do not be afraid. Remember this: The sense of this word among the Greeks affords the worthiest definition of it—"Enthusiasm signifies 'God in Us.'"

RIPPLING RHYMES

BY WALT MASON

I bought an ax of Ezra Wax, who said to me, "Now, sonny, if it's no good at chopping wood, come back that turns out punk, the buyer is no loser; I'll make it good, as dealers should—I'm that sort of a snoozer." With that new ax I took some whacks at divers kinds of lumber; the edge was spoiled, and I was rolled, and said things without number. I took the ax to Ezra Wax, and showed him it was pestered, and for an hour with wrathful power, I roared like baseball rooster. My spiel

he heard; without a word, he handed me a new one; an ax so neat, so bright, so sweet, a keen one and a true one! Said Ezra Wax, "You bet your yaks, warthogs, and dromedaries, that I make good, as dealers should—my system never varies!" I buy my licks of Ezra Wax, my hoes and rakes and oil meal cakes, my seed of grass and thistles. He would not break the pledge he'd make, or tramp a promise under, so I make tracks to Ezra Wax for every kind roared like baseball rooster. My spiel

OUR DAILY PATTERN SERVICE

Valuable Suggestions for the Handy Homemaker—Order Any Pattern Through the Courier.

LADY'S WAIST.

By Anabel Worthington.

This waist with the becoming open neck will draw favorable attention whether made of one or two materials. The design offers big opportunity for carrying out the smart idea of the season—to have the waist match the skirt in color or else be in harmonizing tones.

It is cut in two sections at back and front, the front having the more novel treatment, with the lower section extending to the neck in vest effect. Another touch that counts is bringing the color of the vest to the sleeve with an epaulet and a very novel cuff.

Although a dressy blouse, this is a serviceable one. For morning wear it may be developed in linen, cotton voile and like fabrics. For better service Georgette crepe promises to hold the favor of fashion during the entire fall and winter. There is also a tubular white as well as flesh color crepe de Chine that is well in the lead. In harmonious combination of light and dark tones, such as navy with yellow or with rose, green with gray, this model may be developed in sheer silk crepe with a half lining of net or Japanese silk for afternoon wear.

The waist pattern No. 7,950 is cut in sizes 34 to 42 bust measure. To make in



LADY'S THREE GORE SKIRT.

By Anabel Worthington.



This model is especially to be favored because it may be made with or without the applied yoke. The yoke is a note

worthy fall feature in separate skirts, and, as it shows unmistakable style when employed, you will no doubt like it. The garment pictured is cut in three gores and has plenty of fulness brought in with two forward and two backward turning plaits introduced at each side. The front closing is indicated by the decoration with fancy buttons from belt line to lower edge, which measures in size 24 3/4 yards. The buttons alone are high style note, and with the yoke effect and stylish flare this model is indeed most interesting.

Serge, worsted, mohair, taffeta and voile, also wool poplin, are among the favored fabrics for developing a skirt for dressy wear, not really formal. You can be certain of excellent results by following the pattern guide. The skirt pattern, No. 7,963, is cut in sizes 24 to 30. To make in belt size 24 will require 4 1/2 yards of 36 inch goods if with "up and down," or 4 1/2 yards without "up and down." To obtain the pattern send 10 cents to the office of this publication.

VERY SUCCESSFUL

Was the Sock Shower and Tea of Dufferin Chapter.

Dufferin Rifles Chapter Daughters of Empire, held a most successful sock shower and tea, at the Armouries on Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Palmer, Regent, was assisted by Mrs. Frank Howard in receiving the large number of guests. Miss Jones had charge of the sock table, which was piled high with sixty pairs, destined for Brantford boys in the trenches and more to come in, will make the total one hundred.

Mrs. George D. Watt had charge of the tea table and tea was poured by Mrs. Newman and Mrs. Coghill. Their assistants included Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Biffett, Maude Cockshutt, Irene Miller, Winnifred Palmer, Muriel Watt, and Isabel Palmer. Mrs. Colquhoun had charge of the cooking table, assisted by Mrs. Dunlop, Mrs. Sager, Mrs. Eumons, Mrs. Rowe and Miss Ball.

The spacious room was very prettily ornamented with flags and red and green barberries—the colors of the 28th Battalion. The proceeds were over \$75 and will also be devoted to socks.

OLD-TIME REMEDY MAKES PURE BLOOD

Hood's Sarsaparilla has been and still is the people's medicine because of its reliable character and its wonderful success in purifying, enriching and revitalizing the blood and relieving the common diseases and ailments—scrofula, catarrh, rheumatism, dyspepsia, loss of appetite, that tired feeling, general debility. Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies and enriches the blood, and in so doing renders the human system the greatest service possible. This medicine has been tested for years. It is perfectly pure, clean and absolutely safe, as well as of peculiar and unequalled medicinal merit. Get Hood's, and get it now from any drug store.



A Tip for the Soldier Lads

Take the advice of seasoned chaps. They will tell you that the secret of keeping fit and hearty is—an occasional piece of

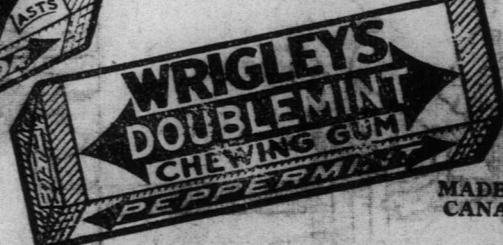
WRIGLEY'S THE PERFECT GUM

It's the best little refreshment a soldier can carry. The sealed package keeps it always full-flavored, fresh and clean.

The delicious mint flavors sweeten the breath, prevent acid mouth and make smoking doubly enjoyable.

It cleanses the teeth, aids appetite and digestion.

Two flavors



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