

GOOSE STEP TO VERDUN CHANGE TO DEATH DANCE

Crown Prince had said French Defence Pulverized and Teutons had but to Enter Town as if on Parade—80,000 German Dead Before Fortress.

Verdun, Mar. 5.—Many nine-inch shells are falling around the Gath bridges and railway stations of Verdun. They come from long-range guns—seven miles away and drop methodically.

The German gunners are busy breaking the communications through Verdun. Strangely enough not a bridge nor an entrance to the abandoned fortifications has been struck directly. Splinters from shells have damaged some of the structures but none of them has been destroyed.

Verdun a Ghost of a City.

The city is vacant. It is more like the ghost of a city, than a modern, well-built town. There are no civilians and no soldiers here. Firemen have remained, however, and are busy stopping the work of the incendiary bombs. A detachment of gendarmes is on duty as a precaution against any stray plundering.

Twenty-two thousand persons locked their doors, and with a small allowance of personal baggage, left the town by order. Transportation was provided for them without deranging the enormous military requirements of the moment. One can walk through miles of streets with shuttered windows without seeing a person either in uniform or out of uniform.

The city is little damaged. The Associated Press correspondent did not see a building that had been hit in the Rue Mazel, the principal business street of Verdun, where only one place was open. It was the Cafe de la Paix, and its doors were wide open for the convenience of the firemen and gendarmes. In front of it stood the apartment proprietor, the single civilian remaining in the city.

"The Sturdy Cock" Annex Struck.

But off the Rue Mazel in various quarters houses had been struck by shells. One shell had hit the annex to the hotel "The Sturdy Cock," well known to tourists. It was one of the first of the 12-inch shells that reached the city. The four-story corner building had collapsed into one outland building material.

Numerous other shells had fallen on the eminence where the Cathedral of Notre Dame and the church buildings stand. One of the cathedral had been knocked off and the hand some stained glass windows shattered by concussion. Otherwise the cathedral had not been injured. A girl's seminary adjoining it, however, was a mass of ruins.

Joan of Arc Statue Escapes Fire.

In one large house a life-size statue of Joan of Arc holding the flag of France stood upright among a wilderness of stone and woodwork. A child's doll, beheaded, lay near by.

The Associated Press correspondent with the officers of the general staff, went to one of the forts defending Verdun. It was on the heights of the Meuse. On a clear day the whole field of the fighting which began some days ago could have been easily visible, but in the sombre weather with occasional flurries of snow Douaumont which has been taken and retaken several times, was barely discernible.

A tremendous cannonading was going on. Many hundreds of guns on both sides were in action, mostly of the heavier calibre. The detonations were not counted. They were great and small and near and remote. Two or three houses were burning in the valley. Occasionally a flash of wire was perceived on the edge of the horizon.

An artillery officer in the party in describing the bombardment on the last day of the action said:

"Eighty thousand shells fell in one sector only a thousand yards long and

two of six hundred yards deep. These eighty thousand shells fell in seven hours and were so disposed that the crater of one cut into the crater of the other, pulverizing any resisting substance.

"As a matter of fact many shells did not explode because they struck the soft earth which is saturated by the spring rain. There was a ripping sound in the air at this moment, like the tearing of parchment, and something fell about 200 yards away.

"There," continued the officer, "is an example. The shell did not burst."

There was talk among the officers present as to the number of shells which had been used. The civilian remarked that he had heard that the Germans had thrown two million, but this was regarded by the technical observers in the party as a low estimate. The number was thought to be somewhere between four and six million.

"The difference between the French attack in Champagne last September and the German attack here," explained a general staff officer, "is that our adversaries made no reply virtually to our three days' preparatory bombardment, while we have replied continuously with ever-increasing power, so that now our artillery dominates."

Cool Guns With Drinking Water.

Some mention was made of the Caudron and the artillery officer told of how a battery was in continuous action there for five-eight hours and how the men cooled the guns by slowly dropping their drinking water on them, enduring intense thirst rather than drink the water. They retired slowly, saving their pieces.

Confidence at the headquarters is absolute. The small progress made during the first three days' attack enabled every disposition to be made to meet it and if occasion arises to counterattack. Nothing, of course, may be said concerning what these preparations and dispositions are, except that they are on an enormous scale and as the commanders seem certain, more than adequate.

Expected to Find French Pulverized.

The Associated Press correspondent saw many German prisoners. They appeared to be in good spirits, and in the town. There were formerly 90 bathing-rooms and now each family is lodged in one. A few planks of wood with straw thrown over them provided for a bed, where five or six members of the family sleep.

"Still worse is the life of the unfortunate families living in the cellars of the town. I went down into several of these cellars. They are pitch dark and often filled with smoke blown back from the chimney. The beds are identical with those I have mentioned, but there is also the additional misery of the terrible dampness of the walls. One woman showed me the covering of her bed, from which she could wring. The whole place is overcrowded and one has a suffocating feeling of terrible mental and physical misery. What I saw is not only true of Sermaize but of most

French Shell Supply Limitless.

The correspondent has been to the front many times, but has never seen yet such activity behind the lines. The

train service between Paris and the Verdun region for civilian passengers has been suspended and it was necessary to come here by automobile. All the roads behind that part of the front are crowded with transport. There are three or four times more of these than at the usual encampments. Near one station were shells piled up like cord-wood in regular tiers about four feet high. They were mostly of large calibre, and in what to the inexperienced eye looked like limitless thousands.

"The food of our big pets," was what a runner called them.

There were to be seen detachments of German prisoners and an infinite variety of material, including poles for the making of corduroy roads across the soft fields for the moving of the artillery which the French manage to shift about with amazing facility.

REHOUSING THE WAR VICTIMS IN FRANCE

What the Twentieth Century Club of Washington is doing with the help of other cities of this country, to relieve the distress of French peasants in the recovered districts of that country, is outlined in a report from the Countess de Bryan, head of the work in France. It is a work that has a ringing appeal to all persons living in comfortable homes and suffering none of the distress of war. Following is her report delivered at Hotel Meurice, Paris:

"I have been asked to say a few words of the work, 'Le Bon Gite' is doing. Before attempting to describe what we are doing, I would like to tell how this society came into existence. I wonder whether you have heard of the remarkable work undertaken by 80 English Quakers in the devastated departments of the Marne and Meuse. I spent a week among them and would like to give you some idea of the conditions I met there. Several Quakers came out from England and settled at Sermaize-les-Bains—formerly a town of 3000 inhabitants, now a heap of ruins. About 200 families have remained in Sermaize; 80 families have found refuge in a bathing establishment, about a mile from the town. There were formerly 90 bathing-rooms and now each family is lodged in one. A few planks of wood with straw thrown over them provided for a bed, where five or six members of the family sleep.

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Live Sporting News and Notes

LAST NIGHT'S BOXING.

Billy Donahue's decision last night in the Sullivan-Hopkins mill seemed to meet with the approval of the boxing fans, who assembled in the Odd Fellows' Hall to witness the bout, which was a draw.

In the preliminaries Young O'Toole and Bryson boxed three stiff rounds to a draw and Young Latham succeeded in pinning McKell's shoulders to the carpet in thirteen minutes in a wrestling match.

The main grid did not start until 9.45, but it was well worth the wait, both boys handled themselves in scientific style and the footwork of Sullivan saved him on more than one occasion.

It is understood that these boxers will meet again for a fifteen round bout.

en huts erected in this region. The poor people are most grateful and are so happy to have neat little homes after the horrible lodgings in which they have lived since the war began.

Our headquarters in Paris, Quai Voltaire, have been freely given up by L'Arbitr, an old well-considered society, whose treasurer acts as our treasurer. So that practically every franc given us really goes directly to the poor people.

The Princess de Poix, Marquise de Gagney, Mme. Saint-Rene Tallandier, Dr. Jacques Berthillon and myself are members of the executive committee. One hundred francs will furnish a home, and three hundred (60 dollars) will build and furnish, with linen and crockery, a home for one family.

LOCAL BOWLING

In the City League on Black's alleys last night the Tigers walked away with the four points from the C. P. R. team. The scores follow:

C. P. R.		Tigers.	
Stevens	96 73 93 262 87 1-3	Lumley	95 83 113 291 97
Duffy	76 83 106 265 88 1-3	Belyea	106 95 115 316 105 1-3
McDonald	82 106 87 275 91 2-3	Howard	102 105 112 319 106 1-3
McGovern	72 89 89 251 87	Coughlan	83 99 87 279 93
McIntyre	94 83 97 274 91 1-3	Balley	97 87 99 283 94 1-3
421 434 472 1327		493 469 526 1488	

The Wanderers and Easterns play tonight.

Athletic Meet.

The following events were run off last night at the Y. M. C. A. in the Senior North American Hexathlon athletic meet: Running, high jump—1st, Knodell, 5 ft. 2nd and 3rd, Morton and Lightford, 4 ft. 10 in.; 12-lb. shot put—1st, Lightford, 40 ft. 7 in.; 2nd, Knodell, 35 ft. 2 1/2 in.; 3rd, Johnson, 31 ft. 5 in.; 60-yard potato race—1st, Phillips, 15 2-5 sec.; 2nd, Johnson, 16 sec.; 3rd, Knodell and Lightford, 16 1-5 sec.

Y. M. C. A. BASKETBALL.

In the Junior B League yesterday the Wanderers won from the Maple Leafs by a score of four to three. The line-up was:

Maple Leafs	Wanderers
Burpee	Forwards.
Jordan	Markham
Centre.	Centre.
Smith	Evans
Guards.	Guards.
Grant	Cromwell
McKee	McKay

High School League.

In the High School League the Beavers won from the Masons by fifteen to twelve. The line-up was as follows:

Beavers	Masons
Seelley	Forwards.
Cochran	McCavour
Centre.	Reagan
Fleming	Wetmore
Guards	Guards
Stephens	Jordan
Taylor	McIntosh

Ladies' League.

In the Ladies' League Miss Bates' team won from Miss Smith's team by thirty-six to six. The line-up was:

Miss Bates	Miss Smith
Miss Thompson	Forwards
Miss Leonard	Miss Staples
Centre	Miss Dunlop
Miss Barber	Miss Smith
Guards	Guards
Miss Flewelling	Miss Dick
Miss Bates	Miss Belyea



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"HE'S FAKING THAT HE'S SICK - I'LL FIX HIM -"

"I'M GONNA GIT AWAY WITH IT!"

"DO YOU KNOW - YOU LOOK EXQUISITE IN MOURNING!"

"I JUST HAD IT MADE - MY HUBBY IS VERY LOW!"

"MAGGIE - ME DARLIN' - I'M FEELIN' BETTER!"

"I THOUGHT SO - NOW GO AND PUT YOUR EVENING SUIT ON - YOU'RE GOING TO THAT RECEPTION!"

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