

Today

Sharp Prussian Axe. It Will Grow Dull. Human Trees Grow Quickly. Many Millions of Them.

The sharpest axe becomes dull with overuse. It may cut down and chop up five, ten, or more cords of wood, but it is dull and dented in the end.

There are indications that the sharp, clean, well-managed Prussian axe is getting dull.

If the owner of one axe started out to cut down all the forests of the world he would earn discouragement. That is the undertaking that now occupies the distinguished German Kaiser.

Trees grow up and forests renew themselves too fast for any one axe to stop them.

Human beings are born, grow, and think with an energy that no one Prussian axe swinger can conquer in the long run.

There are sixty-odd millions of Germans, and their energy, great as it is, is limited.

They will have against them for ALL TIME the hundreds of millions of human beings of other kinds—human beings that have no intention of submitting to Prussian rule.

On the west there are more than a hundred millions of intelligent human beings in France, Italy, and England.

Farther west, in this country, there are another hundred millions.

In Russia there are close upon two hundred millions that hate Prussia now, and will hate her more and more as time passes.

Prussia is more efficient in arousing hatred than in any other way—which is saying a good deal.

The scores of millions of Russians breed more rapidly than the Prussians themselves. They present a problem for "William the Axe Swinger."

There are in Japan tens of millions, only too anxious for the chance to march into Russia, and convince the Kaiser that a Japanese is as efficient as a Prussian and as able in the game of killing.

Suppose the Kaiser should conquer a hundred million educated western Europeans, and a hundred million people in America—three thousand miles away, and a hundred and fifty million Russians of various kinds, he would still have the thoroughly armed, well-trained, tens of millions of Japanese to deal with.

And behind Japan there is China, another great human forest that would offer long and painful chopping to the Prussian woodman.

There is an amount of fighting capacity and philosophical indifference to pain bottled up in four hundred million Chinese that ought to worry the "All-highest."

In order to realize that Prussia must lose in the end, it is not necessary to deny any of her claims to efficiency, or to assert that the nations she has attacked are individually as able as herself at the game of murder.

Prussia is trained to fighting and killing. She prepared for forty years, and comes with the rush and power of forty years' preparation back of her.

It will take time to stop that rush, a long time perhaps, but it WILL be stopped.

A thoroughly trained fighting man may dash into a crowd and do great damage. But give time enough and the crowd will take care of him.

With one country, or two, the Kaiser might have dealt successfully.

His distinguished ancestor, Frederick the Great, did it.

But Frederick lived in a different time, and had a different kind of head.

He knew how to get the consent of England for certain arrangements that he desired. And he knew when he had enough.

To the Kaiser that important knowledge is still lacking.

He and his people were doing well. They were selling goods to all the world, getting rich and powerful rapidly.

They had valuable monopolies, the world was theirs to trade in.

But their Kaiser was not content to be known in history as "William the Merchant," or "William the Manufacturer," or "William the Prosperous."

The name that he wanted was "William the Great." He did not realize that the day of such fancy titles had gone by.

He is trying to cut down a whole forest with one axe, throwing his powerful but limited nation against hundreds of millions of human beings that do not intend to yield.

He is bound to learn that the thing he wants to do cannot be done.

The fact that the Kaiser's effort is hopeless should be realized by every intelligent American, along with the other fact that as long as he is at work in the game of murder, every nation and individual is disturbed, every young man is in danger of death in the line of duty.

HE CAN'T WIN. The question is, "How long can he keep on trying, and what can the United States do to discourage the trying, and give the Prussian people something to think about besides imperial bulletins announcing "My Greatness."

GERMAN TROOPS MASSING AT VERDUN

WEATHER:
Partly cloudy today and tomorrow; temperature slightly above 47 degrees. The temperature at 8 a. m. today, 41 degrees; average temperature for March 30 for past 30 years, 47 degrees.

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GERMANS DIGGING IN ALONG NORTH FRONT

ALLIES UNDER GEN. FOCH TO FORCE FIGHT TO A FINISH

HINDENBURG HAS FAILED TO TAKE HIS OBJECTIVES

Wholeheartedness of America's Concurrence in Naming of Generalissimo Indicates Intention to Battle to End.

Information Shows That Great German Offensive Has Been Checked Long Ahead of Teuton Staff's Plans.

By DAVID LAWRENCE.
(Copyright, 1918, by New York Evening Post Company.)
Whether or not General Foch of France becomes generalissimo of the allied forces in France, including British, French, and American armies now holding the battle line, or is given command only of that portion of the reserves known as the army of maneuver subject at all times to the disposition of the allied council of war, the mere fact that a centralized command on the part of the allies has been found necessary for emergency purposes will go far toward establishing a principle for which this Government has contended ever since it entered the war.

By WILLIAM P. SIMMS.
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)
WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN FRANCE, March 30.—In the last forty-eight hours I believe Hindenburg's cohorts have been fought practically to a standstill.
Carefully sifted information from widely different sources convinces me that the German war lord's battle plans have signally miscarried.
The present spasmodic thrusts are due partly to recombination of the enemy's fighting forces and readjustment of its offensive scheme.
From prisoners it is known the Germans expected to occupy Amiens on the fifth or sixth day of the offensive, cutting the Calais-Paris railway. Yet, Amiens still stands.
Similarly, Arras, which was yesterday's immediate objective with Vimy, remains in the hands of the British.
The Kaiser's storm troops were checked by the withering fire from machine guns and artillery.
Further cyclonic fighting is expected along the whole line. The first flush of the enemy's enthusiasm is past. Prisoners say the offensive is not going as well as was expected. While their losses are high, German discipline will, undoubtedly, continue the offensive, though their spirits are somewhat dampened.
Nearly a million men have already participated in their offensive and fresh divisions are being hurried toward the battle, while the enemy, though tired, is trying to advance everywhere possible, particularly south of the Somme, in an effort to reach the Amiens-Paris railway.
Against the British alone forty-one divisions were hurled the first day of the battle, eleven more the second; four more the third; nine more the fourth, six more the fifth; six more the sixth; one more the eighth, and about five thereafter.
Slowly but surely the enemy is steadily losing headway. On the contrary, Hindenburg was expected to gain momentum as the first strongly entrenched positions were passed.
The situation was not materially changed throughout the British line this morning, while the Germans, like frightened moles, their passage overland checked, were digging in like mad in places.
Nearly at midnight the enemy put down a heavy trench mortar bombardment southwest of Cite-St. Auguste, near Lens.
The distance is about a mile due north of Lens, near Hill 76, and about the same distance east and south of Loos.)

Where British and French Have Halted the German Drive



LATEST WAR BULLETINS

WOUNDED DEPRESS GERMANS.

AMSTERDAM, March 30.—The stream of wounded being carted back from the Picardy front and hauled by motor and train to scores of cities in Germany is the greatest in the history of the war, and is very depressing to the German people who have been told of great victories.

Advices received here today from the Belgian frontier and from the interior of Germany indicate that the thousands of wounded are being distributed far and wide, even very small villages with slight accommodations for their care drawing their quotas.

GERMANS USING "ARSENAL TANKS."

AMSTERDAM, March 30.—"Arsenal tanks" are being employed by the Germans in the great western front battle. These huge armored cars move along behind the infantry and supplies of bombs and cartridges are handed out from them to the soldiers.

FRENCH AIRMEN PLAY BIG PART.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES IN THE FIELD, March 29.—French bombing planes have dropped sixty-five tons of explosives on German communicating lines and depots during the enemy offensive.

MARCH CASUALTIES ARE LOW.

LONDON, March 30.—British casualties published during March totaled 14,588, according to computations made today from official lists.

This is the smallest British casualty list since last August, and obviously does not include the total losses in the present German drive.

BRIDGE OF GERMAN DEAD.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, March 30.—At one point on the Crozat Canal, where the Germans eventually gained a crossing, they made sixteen different attacks on one day.

Finally the British corps which was holding the position fell back, absolutely exhausted, and the Germans crossed over a bridge of piled-up bodies of their own comrades.

KAISER BULLIES PRISONERS.

LONDON, March 30.—Dispatches from The Hague today pictured the Kaiser as swaggering about on the Picardy battlefield behind the German lines, talking in a loud voice to British prisoners.

ENEMY MAKES SLIGHT GAIN TOWARD AMIENS STRATEGIC R. CENTER

Heavy Concentration Of Men At Verdun May Mean New German Offensive There

The Germans are digging in. While dispatches do not state how extensive were the German entrenching operations, this may be a tacit acknowledgement by Hindenburg that, for the present at least, the enemy drive is "through."

Further, it may indicate that the Germans, in meeting the expected allied counter offensive, will try to force Foch's armies to a renewal of trench warfare, rather than to try conclusions in the open—which the Germans, themselves, have openly stated they prefer.

An extension of the fighting from farther to the north—at Cite-St. Auguste, a mile north of Lens, opposite Loos, is also reported. The protection of the north point by intense bombardment is being carried out.

A heavy German concentration on the Verdun front was reported by the correspondent of the Amsterdam Handelsblad, who personally visited that sector. Shortly after the start of the drive, German military officials publicly announced that attacks on even a greater scale would be made "on other fronts," and intimated these fronts probably would be at Verdun and Italy.

Haig today admitted a short retirement at Demuin and Mezieres, south of the Somme, but said the British took a number of prisoners in a counter attack at the latter place. North of the Somme, which bisects the battlefield, Haig characterized all the operations of the past week as only "local actions."

BATTLE RESUMED ON 25-MILE FRONT

PARIS, March 30.—"The battle was resumed with fresh violence last night and is progressing on a forty kilometer (24.84 miles) front, from Moreuil to beyond Lassigny," the French war office reported today.

"Our troops, supported by continually arriving reserves, are offering desperate resistance to the enemy's powerful assaults."

Despite the bad weather French aviators continued their attacks, the statement said, dropping bombs on and pouring machine gun fire on the enemy's battle front concentrations. About 34,000 pounds of projectiles have been thrown on the Noyon, Guiscard, and Ham regions.

Thirteen German machines have been brought down.

PRISONERS TAKEN IS HAIG'S REPORT

LONDON, March 30.—"We were pressed back at Demuin and Mezieres, south of the Somme, but at the latter village we counter-attacked and took a number of prisoners," Field Marshal Haig reported today.

"Our cavalry has fought with great gallantry, both in the Somme region and in the Mezieres area, north of the Somme."

Allies to Force Fighting.

In the absence of definite information as to just what General Foch's status will be, or what the war council may finally decide to do to counter the German offensive, army officers here, nevertheless, fully expect to see some strong commander appear in the field shortly at the head of an allied army which will wrest the initiative from the Germans and force the fighting for an indefinite period. The German challenge to allied action, while not in doubt, may not be begun by the Germans will not be ended by them, but by the allies, according to the universal opinion here, and the final decision of the conflict, while not in doubt, may nevertheless, be reached until the summer campaign has been fully developed. In a sense the German offensive is merely a prelude to a long and hard battle, which may continue until fall.

The feeling of nervousness being manifested by the German lines to the north of Arras and to the east of the "salvo" now crooked at Noyon instead of La Perre, shows plainly to the military experts here that the German high command is draining its forces along the western front for the great offensive in the west, and, possibly, for a second blow either in the region of Verdun or in Italy. Behind the scenes of the present German drive a battle of wits between the war councils on both sides is now in progress in which the present battle is only a consideration. Apparently the allies are more in meeting the Germans in the west now with a view to stemming the tide while, at the same time, preparing a counter blow which is already giving the German army a nervous feeling from the chance to Switzerland.

Germania Alert.

Attacks by the Germans yesterday on the small American sector are evidence of the alertness of the Germans from one end of this line to the other. These attacks are typical of what is going on on the entire French and Belgian front as well. A five-hour bombardment of the American lines accompanied by unusual activity behind the German lines can have only two meanings in the opinion of the experts. They are either intended by a show of strength to camouflage a withdrawal of German reserves for the western drive or they are evidence of fear that the Germans anticipate a drive by the allies on a front not now involved in the fighting. The fact that American raids have repeatedly shown the Germans alert.

Warm and Clear is Forecast for Easter

There is every chance that the new "toppers" and gay Easter bonnetry will have a warm, pleasant day tomorrow for the annual Connecticut avenue "parade."
The weather forecast promises that Easter this year will be at least as warm as the average for Washington, that is, it will be somewhere above 47 degrees. The Weather Bureau is not so sure of the conditions of the skies. It is probable that the day will pass without rain. But there is a chance. Rain is promised for the section south of the State of Virginia. The forecaster does not believe it will reach Washington, but says the day will be "unsettled," that is, clear and cloudy skies will be mixed.

French Call Class of '19.

PARIS, March 30.—French soldiers of the class of 1919 will be called to the colors on April 15. The Chamber of Deputies decided late yesterday. M. Raffin-Dugens, Socialist leader, opposed the bill calling the new troops to service and read a paper on the subject of disarmament. It brought forth laughter from some deputies and sarcastic remarks from others.

(Continued on Page 12, Column 6.)