

FRANCESI DOMINANO SAINT QUENTIN DAL SUD

Tedeschi Tentano Inutilmente di Cacciare il Generale Nivelle dalle Alture di Essigny

SULLA FRONTE ITALIANA

Russi Sono Preparati per l'Offensiva di von Hindenburg—Avanzano nell'Asia Minore

ROMA, 27 Marzo. Anche la giornata di ieri sulla fronte della Somme, dove si combatte la grande battaglia per lo sfondamento della linea di von Hindenburg, e' stata favorevole alla forze francesi ed inglesi. Nonostante il cattivo tempo e le strade fangose che impediscono la manovra agile e rapida, i francesi hanno guadagnato terreno in alcuni punti ed hanno respinto violenti contrattacchi fatti dai tedeschi. Anche le truppe inglesi hanno fatto progressi.

Le truppe del generale Nivelle hanno continuato la loro manovra per l'avviluppamento della foresta di St. Gobain tra La Fere e Laon, che costituisce una vera fortezza tedesca, ed hanno occupato i villaggi di Folembay e di La Feuille, a poche centinaia di metri da Coucy. Durante la notte i tedeschi hanno attaccato violentemente le posizioni francesi nel settore di St. Quentin, sull'altopiano di Essigny, ed hanno ripetuto l'attacco parecchie volte. Però essi sono stati sempre respinti o dalla cortina di fuoco della artiglieria francese o da un attacco meno vigoroso contrattacchi delle truppe di Nivelle, che hanno mantenuto tutte le loro posizioni.

I francesi hanno fatto progressi anche nella zona di Vreigny, a nord di Soissons, dove hanno avanzato per coprire il fianco destro della truppe operante nella foresta di St. Gobain e per colpire i tedeschi nel punto dove cercavano di concentrarsi dopo il loro ripiegamento.

Nel circolo militari francesi si ritiene che il successo dei francesi nel difendere le loro posizioni a sud-ovest di St. Quentin può avere serie conseguenze giacche' le posizioni di Essigny-Benay dominano St. Quentin dal sud e per conseguenza la fortezza tedesca rimane esposta dal suo lato meridionale. Ad ovest la città e' virtualmente senza difesa naturale, giacche' il terreno e' piano e consente una rapida avanzata da parte dei francesi, ma a nord un torrente che scorre in un'ampia vallata coperta di boschiglie e di paludi consente una certa difesa. Una mossa di Essigny i francesi potranno costringere i tedeschi ad evacuare questo importante deposito della linea di von Hindenburg. Ieri sera il Ministero della Guerra pubblicava il seguente rapporto del generale Cadorna circa la situazione alla fronte italo-austriaca:

Nella Val Lagarina (valle dell'Adige) si ebbero ieri vivaci azioni di artiglieria che furono pure abbastanza violente alla testata della valle del Traviagnolo e sul Carso.

Nella valle del Cordevole il nemico riuscì a penetrare in una delle nostre posizioni più avanzate sulle pendici del Monte Sief, ma ne fu immediatamente cacciato da un nostro vigoroso contrattacco prima che potesse fortificarvi.

Sulla fronte Giulia i nostri reparti di ricognizione operarono diverse fortunate incursioni contro le linee nemiche. Uno di questi reparti attraverso il Vipacco (Prigol) e si impadronì di un posto avanzato nemico prendendovi armi e munizioni.

Mentre continuavano a correre voci secondo cui il maresciallo von Hindenburg preparerebbe una grande offensiva contro le linee russe, le forze russe continuano la loro marcia nel villeggiato turco di Mosul, minacciando seriamente la città di Mosul. E' giunto notizia che il maresciallo von Mackensen e' giunto a Costantinopoli allo scopo di riorganizzare l'esercito turco e metterlo di nuovo in condizioni da poter fronteggiare l'offensiva del russo e degli inglesi.

Telegrafano da Petrograd che il nuovo ministro della Guerra russo Guchkoff e' giunto a Riga per vedere l'organizzazione della difesa della linea che si dice von Hindenburg avrebbe intenzione di attaccare. Nella capitale russa non si e' affatto impensieriti delle intenzioni del maresciallo tedesco e si ritiene che i russi sono preparati a far fronte ai colpi di maglio che essi credono di assistere sulle linee che difendono Petrograd. E nel frattempo egli dovrà pensare a difendere la fronte di battaglia in qualche altro punto, forse in Galizia ed in Rumania.

GOLDEN GATE GIVES HI JOHNSON GODSPEED

Senator-Elect Tells California He Will Do His Best

SAN FRANCISCO, March 27.—"Good-by, God bless you, Hiram Johnson," was the banner strung across the front of the ferry building here when United States Senator-elect Johnson left on the Overland Limited for Washington to participate in the deliberations of the extra session of Congress Monday. Johnson is spending across Nevada today and will reach Chicago Thursday.

"I am going into a new world, to do the best I know how," was Johnson's parting word.

TIME TAKEN FOR HOME GARDENING NEED NOT ROB AMATEUR OF LEISURE

Much Can Be Accomplished by an Hour a Day Through Week—Half Holidays Help a Lot in More Extensive Operations—Queries Answered



CONSTRUCTION OF HOTBED

A serviceable hotbed for starting vegetables early. For a very small garden half the size would do. The sash can be bought in standard size. Another method is to sink the hot manure below surface of ground.

BY JOHN BARTRAM

THE home garden must not be a burden or a bore. It will require some time to operate, but nothing is got without some sacrifice of energy or effort. Certainly not crops! But on the scale that these articles have set of back-yard gardens on truck patches in the suburban home to reduce the cost of living, the value will be lost if the amateur gardener loads himself up with too much work and is exhausted so from his efforts that his regular occupation suffers.

There need be no such difficulty or exhaustion if the garden is planned out so there will not be too much room to be cared for and if the plan is followed systematically. Furthermore, it is quite possible and agreeable to consider the garden the substitute for outdoor exercise which most sensible people prescribe for themselves during the spring, summer and fall months.

Gardening is one of the most fascinating of outdoor sports. There can be no doubt of that. And instead of registering merely a golf, baseball or tennis score it registers so many pecks of tomatoes or beans.

Personally, I spend eight to ten hours a day toiling in the big city, yet have time—and without being a serf to my soil—to keep things successfully moving. Other members of the family can give a lift in the gardening and will enjoy the work and the results. None of my work is "shired out" except the plowing and harrowing, and I have about 40 by 100 feet under cultivation. And this does not include flowers, fruit trees and various berry bushes and grapevines.

ONLY A FEW HOURS A WEEK An hour or two three or four evenings a week will be enough time for keeping a garden 20 by 50 feet in good shape if it is properly planned in advance. The Saturday half holiday, which is now nearly universal, can be utilized for large jobs.

Personally, I do a lot of gardening on Sunday mornings after church. I see no spiritual harm or religious error in this. Some have different views and they need not devote any of their Sundays to garden work if scruples inhibit.

The cool of the evening is a fine time for cultivation, stirring the soil, weeding, etc., or the hand hoe, is sufficient. This should be done on half holidays or Sunday morning, if there is not conscientious objection. One can have either an early dinner prior to setting about the garden work or one to setting about the garden work or one towards of labor with a somewhat late dinner, if Friend Wife is not crabbed on punctuality at meals. Most wives are such enthusiastic gardeners that they do not object to deferring the dinner hour.

Sometimes it is advisable to get up about 5 in the morning to do a job of special urgency. This is not such a hardship as it sounds. There is nothing more pleasurable than working outdoors on a fresh, fragrant early morning. It is a tonic for the entire day that follows.

Half a dozen hours per week will be sufficient time to put in a small backyard garden in the city.

To get over the ground once a week, every row of it, with the wheel cultivator or the hand hoe, is sufficient. This should be done when the heavy wet is out of the ground after a rain. This tith or stirring of the soil keeps the weeds down, releases plant food and conserves moisture.

MORILIZING HOME GARDENER In this hour of limited food production and national crisis a movement is afoot to create a million home gardens. The president of the National Emergency Food Garden Commission says its work aims to assist in making food more plentiful in villages, towns and cities. There are a great many associations and clubs throughout the country interested in school gardens, home gardens, backyard gardens, vacant lot gardens, flower gardens, etc. He says:

"We believe that this year all these associations and a great many other persons should plant food gardens to a greater extent than ever before, and flowers should in many cases make way for vegetables. The Americanization of our country is proceeding at a swift rate and with thoroughness. A war spirit is developing. Wickedness in power in Europe is at our doors and within our homes, both as a poison of the soul and as a robbery of life

Farmer Smith's Column

THE TURNIP My dear—Once upon a time there was a little girl who always turned up her nose at everything she did not like.

One night she turned up her nose at the dessert her dear, kind, patient mother had prepared for supper. Then she TURNED UP her nose because her mother had not TURNED DOWN the corners of her bed.

Well, the little girl went to sleep and when she woke up she was in the ground! What do you think of that?

Next to her was a funny-looking round thing, and on the other side were some yellow things which looked like sheets of paper. Poor thing!

Her shoes were gone and her dainty dress was now a funny-looking covering of dirt. SHE HAD TURNED INTO A TURNIP!

I always think of her when I see things I don't like.

Your loving editor, FARMER SMITH.

WOODLAND STORIES THE WARNING

By Farmer Smith

As soon as Father Duck got out of his house he answered David Crow's warning cry and flew as fast as he could to the tree where David was seated, wildly giving the wigwag signals of danger.

When Father Duck reached his side David Crow was too excited to speak, so the Duck waited for the black fellow to get his breath. Finally he said, still panting and while on my way I heard some more talking. Drawing near I discovered that they were hunters and I stopped to listen.

"How brave and how kind!" exclaimed Father Duck.

"Thanks," answered David. "The men had just started for the river. They were complaining that there wasn't a thing to be found in the woods and that it was a waste of time to look in the traps. They said they were going to sail down the river in search of wild ducks."

"They did?" said Father Duck, excitedly.

"Yes, and they meant it, too, for they seemed terribly provoked, for it seems they have lost a lot of money this year.

"I knew that if they went down the river they would pass very near your home and some of you might be shot."

"How kind of you," said Father Duck. "It worried me almost to death. I couldn't come home, so I sent a message to Mister Jay Bird—he knows the wigwag signals and HE promised to give the signal—but he signaled 'Go away from the river at once!' and that wasn't what I wanted, for if you did that, you might run right into the hunters."

"Just like Mister Jay Bird!" shouted Father Duck. "But I must be going—thanks, a thousand thanks."

"Hurry!" shouted David Crow after the Duck.

Father Duck flew a little way and then returned.

"Where shall we hide?" he asked, breathlessly.

"Come up into our home—the hunters will not look for wild ducks where crows are likely to make their homes."

"Sure enough! How good of you," said

Father Duck. Then he suddenly added: "But we can never fly that far."

"Try—there is nothing like trying, especially in a case of life and death."

"Oh! thank you so much," answered the Duck as he flew away. As he did so he heard a laugh high in the tree above him. It was Mister Jay Bird!

Tuesday's Questions 1. . . . . to make hot. 2. . . . . to make easy. 3. . . . . small snakes.

Fill in the missing words: "If a flea can . . . can a fly . . ." "Will it be so funny? He wrote on the typewriter. "The general said, 'Company lath!'" What did he mean?

Tuesday's Answers 1. HEAT 2. FLY 3. TEST

Police Court Chronicle

Isaac Diller is a little rusty on Philadelphia geography. When he's on Tenth street he thinks it is Seventh, and while traveling over York street he often imagines its McKean, which is just about forty-four squares to the leeward.

Isaac started for his home at Seventh and McKean streets, but got his latitude and longitude mixed. He landed before the house of Walter Zukosky at Tenth and York, and tried to open the door, it is said.

Mrs. Zukosky told her husband that a stranger was trying to enter the house. He was not only amazed, but indignant.

Isaac is a policeman. It was bad enough for a man to try and break into the house of a lay citizen, but to attempt such a thing on a cop's house—well, words failed him.

The cop darted from the house in time to see the strange visitor dart through a nearby window. He grabbed him by the heels and pulled him out in the air.

At the Park and Lehigh avenue station Diller said he thought he was at his home downtown. He could not explain why he made such a long mistake in distance.

Diller had a habit of blinking his eyes when Magistrate Carson looked him in the face. He was about to launch into a long explanation along scientific lines, but the Judge cut it short with \$500 bail for a further hearing.

Mad Dog Outbreak at Woodbury WOODBURY, N. J., March 27.—Alvin Black, son of Israel Black, a farmer here, has been taken to Pasteur Institute, New York city. The boy was bitten by a strange dog on Friday.

The animal was killed and its head examined. It was found to have had rabies. This was the fourth dog killed in this vicinity within a week that showed similar signs.

POOR NEGROES DUPED BY BOGUS PREACHERS

Employment Bureau and Insurance Commission to Crusade Against Swindlers

Bogus negro ministers in Philadelphia have been making small fortunes for months by swindling negroes arriving in this city from the South, according to James J. Moran, Inspector in the Bureau of Employment.

Mr. Moran said a round-up of the swindlers would start today or tomorrow. Many arrests have been predicted. The crusade will be directed by J. Jenny O'Neil, State Insurance Commissioner.

The swindling scheme usually was to "land" negroes fresh from Southern States who came here seeking promised high wages. The victims, Mr. Moran said, were "steered" by confederates into the hands of bogus negro ministers, who inveigled them into taking fake insurance policies and applying to fake employment agencies.

An investigation of the cases has been made. It is predicted that many of the swindlers will be arrested and sent to jail. Mr. Moran said:

"In many instances the 'preachers' were collecting fifty cents and \$1 a week from the victims. For the purpose of joining fake benevolent societies, hundreds of the negroes gave \$2, which went into the pockets of the 'preachers.' Those men who have been operating employment agencies without a license will also be prosecuted.

"When a negro arrived he was met by one of these fake preachers and asked to join a bogus church society. For ten cents a week, or whatever amount he got out of the victim, they promised to insure their lives and also promised to find employment for him.

"Although operating under the cloak of

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