

WAR CAN CONTINUE EASILY UNTIL 1919 Such is Unanimous Opinion of Nine American Officers Now Back Home STANDSTILL IN THE WEST Issue Will Continue Draw There Until Maximum Strength of U. S. Is Exerted

WASHINGTON, July 25.—The European war easily can last until 1919. That is the unanimous opinion of the nine American officers who returned yesterday from a tour of the western battle front. These men, all officers of the General Staff, made a preliminary report to the War College last night and amplified it today. Later they will reduce their observations to writing and will tell in detail just how the war now is going on.

While much of the matter they have back is of a confidential nature, it is possible to make public the following conclusions which these trained observers drew:

There is not the slightest indication that the Entente or the Teutonic Allies have weakened at any point. All along the western battle front from the sea to the Swiss frontier, both sides are constantly increasing their man power.

The British and French offensives revealed that the German entrenched line—the Hindenburg line—is well held and impregnable under existing conditions and the offensive of the Germans has shown them that it is impossible to retake any of the ground lost to the Anglo-French forces. Consequently, each side now is waiting and utilizing artillery in the hope of a weak spot can be developed.

Both sides are constantly increasing their man power. The German answer to the American draft, as has already been pointed out in news dispatches, having been to call up more than 2,000,000 of her younger classes to report to the colors next March. The German submarine menace is still very grave. It must be met if the United States is to transport troops to the front and maintain it there, which will be in keeping with the promises that already have been made.

American troops are very badly needed on the western battle front. The American drafts have made it seemingly impossible for the United States to get to exceed 100,000 men on French soil by July 1, next. The observers suggested that every effort be made to get additional recruits, even if it had to be drafted from the Allies, so that this figure can be made 600,000.

America's opportunity to shorten the war, these officers pointed out, lies entirely in finding a real remedy for the submarine menace and in creating an aerial fleet that will be better than any now in use. The latter proposition is the easiest, it was suggested, as the submarines seem to be able to keep pace with all suggested remedies and to outdo them. If the United States is able to construct a standardized aeroplane engine of high horsepower, as the experts now believe can be done, it will be possible to smother the German artillery fire even through the Hindenburg line. But until such a course is possible, these officers say they believe the situation on the western front must continue about as it is with minor successes for one side or the other at certain points.

Officials of the war college also realize that the Russian situation now must be considered a real factor. They are the first to say that the Russian army is not as strong as to oppose the German advance. However, there is no general belief among officers here that Germany plans any wide occupation of Russian soil. To do so would take too much of her man power, which is so badly needed on the western front.

The various reports carried from Washington, which tell of enormous drafts of soldiers to be sent to the front at once, is welcomed by the army staff. They say that not only does it do damage in making the people of the country underestimate the task ahead of the nation, but that it has interfered with bringing the regular army and the National Guard up to war strength. Yesterday's story that the second increment of the national army was immediately to be called to the colors was characterized as utterly absurd by officers who knew the facts.

It is violating no secret to state that there is a complete shortage of everything needed to make an army in this country. The war department will have difficulty furnishing uniforms, blankets, arms, ammunition and the like to the National Guard and the first 100,000 men of the national army. It will be next year before it will be possible to start on the problem of outfitting the second 500,000.

The army observers who have brought back first-hand information for the General Staff were headed by Colonel W. B. Graves, who was in the trenches of the British along the western front and were given every opportunity to observe what was going on. Their reports make no effort to minimize the task before the United States. They all agree that when this country's maximum strength can be exerted on the side of the Entente, and is coupled with an energetic prosecution of the war in Galicia, which has been provisioning Germany and supplying her with war materials, the end of the war will begin to come in sight.

Russians Push Great Drive on Dvinsk Line
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When the Russian offensive would begin. I replied that I did not know. My reply was received with disfavor, but I saved our offensive power."

AMSTERDAM, July 25.—Tarnopol, abandoned to the Teutons by the Russians in their Galician retreat, was still burning today, according to the Berlin Local Anzeiger.

Some of the Russians violently resisted the Austro-German advance, the newspaper declared. "South of Dvinsk the enemy is assuming a strong offensive over a wide front, indicating no lack of munitions. Fighting is developing in the direction of Vilna."

The onward sweep of the German troops in Galicia has carried them to the Glinerna River, near the Russian frontier. They are now fighting to force a passage of the stream near Mikulince, south of Tarnopol, according to advices from Vienna today.

everywhere, hunting down deserters and spies. It was apparently at his suggestion that the closest scrutiny was given every one of the 800 delegates who attended an All-Russian meeting of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Congress today.

Tscheideze, of the meeting, directed each delegate to examine and approve the credentials of his neighbor. Meanwhile the people of Russia are busy. I saw several speakers against arrested or severely beaten by crowds on the Nevsky Prospekt. One "Jew-baiter" was seized and formally handed over to the police.

The whole nation is engaged in a gigantic man hunt—the man being Nicholas Lenin, the pacifist agitator, now comrade agent of the Government as a paid German agent. In almost every town in western Russia soldiers and townsmen are making a house-to-house search for the man who formerly swayed street audiences in Petrograd. Steklov, Lenin's closest associate, was the first fruit of this nation-wide search. He was taken in custody in a Finnish town.

Lenin evidently realizes his peril where he is. Today's issue of Maxim Gorky's newspaper printed a letter from Lenin denying he was a German agent. "No one knows yet whether Madame Semenovna (named in official statements recently as one of the heads of the German propaganda service in Russia, or her associates received a cent for herself or her party," the letter asserted.

"We want our cases to be considered by the Workmen's and Soldiers' Congress. If we are handed over to the military it means death for us—and that would be sheer Dreyfusism."

Immediate introduction of iron determination to achieve order and discipline in the army was resolution demanded by the telegrams from the War Office from the commissaries of the seventh and eighth Russian armies on the southwest front today, according to wireless messages received from Petrograd.

"After the army had reached a condition where it was possible for it to assume the offensive it is now in full flight," the message said. "We demand the immediate introduction of iron determination to achieve order and discipline, to prevent deserters exposing the front, causing the death of whole detachments and covering with unforgivable ignominy the revolution and the fatherland."

"No choice should be given malecontents," the telegram continued. "Capital punishment should be meted out to those refusing to risk their lives for the fatherland. Thus they would only guarantee that the blood already shed has not been shed in vain."

Representatives of the Russian Battle front personnel, assembled at Helmsingfors today, adopted resolutions denouncing recent "demonstrations" in Petrograd as "political criminality." The nation at large was warned there was "urgent necessity" that the people rally to support of the all-Russian executive committee of the congresses of workmen, peasants and soldiers. There must be no more demonstrations, the resolution declared, without governmental permission.

The provisional Cabinet today appointed a special commission to investigate the demonstrations.

Admiral Razovozoff was today appointed commander of the whole Baltic fleet. The significance in the Baltic fleet resolution lies in the fact that it was sailors from Kronstadt who first started the rioting in Petrograd last week.

A delegation from Kronstadt arrived today bearing a resolution of loyalty from that fortress to the provisional Government. They asked that a board of inquiry be sent to Kronstadt to find out the cause of the rioting in the recent insurrectionist move there.

The food situation in Petrograd was temporarily grave today owing to great congestion on the railroads.

KERENSKY MUST ACT QUICKLY TO AVERT GREAT ARMY DEBACLE
LONDON, July 25.—Premier Kerensky must move fast in his campaign of merciless extermination of discordant elements in the army or the cave-in of the Russian line in the Tarnopol-Stanislaw sector may be so staggered by the enemy as to cut off Russia's forces to the south in the Carpathians.

Petrograd dispatches today gave a ray of hope that Kerensky would yet succeed in averting the demoralizing routings, the encouraging factor was the evident loyalty of Russians on the Carpathian, Rumanian and Vilna-Dvinsk battle lines.

Kerensky's "Bismarckian policy" of retaining discipline and order, has found its first expression in the passage of death sentences upon a number of mutinous soldiers and pro-German anarchists, said a dispatch from Petrograd today.

Orders have been issued to all Russian army officers to deal with mutinous soldiers in the sternest possible manner, as Kerensky is convinced that drastic measures are necessary to stop the defections on the front.

Proclamations have been posted in Petrograd, Moscow and other important cities as well as on the firing line announcing the new attitude of the Government toward offenders.

"Every person guilty of attempting to thwart the efforts of the Government to restore order and discipline will be adjudged guilty of treason and dealt with accordingly," said the notice.

Germany evidently planned her intrigue to center around Tarnopol, hoping for a complete breakdown there and penetration of the Russian lines for flanking movements in both directions.

Front advices today indicated that the Russian armies are retreating along a front of nearly 150 miles from the upper Serezh River to the wooded Carpathians—in some places in utter route, in others by orderly retreat.

Evacuation of Stanislaw by the Russians was officially admitted by Petrograd. A defeat at Mikulince, south of Tarnopol, was reported by the Russian War Office. Semi-official dispatches told of the heroism of

NORMAL SCHOOL GIRLS AID HOOVER CAMPAIGN



many Russian officers, striving to re-form their regiments and eject the mutineers. The suggestion is being urged upon the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Deputies that public funeral services be held in Petrograd for the Russian officers who perished in great numbers while trying to rally their mutinous troops.

MICHAELIS UNDER FIRE OF GERMAN RADICALS AS PEACE SENTIMENT GROWS
COPENHAGEN, July 25.—Chancellor Michaelis, successor to Bethmann-Hollweg, is under fire of the German radical press. The attacks on him are led by Theodor Wolff, editor of the Berlin Tagblatt, and followed editorially in the Kreuz Zeitung and the Tagliche Rundschau, in which these two Pan-German organs declared that the Chancellor's speech in the Reichstag was a repudiation of the policy of "no annexations." The German radical and Socialist press now demands that Michaelis repudiate the assertions of the two militarist organs.

Premier Lloyd George's skepticism regarding Chancellor Michaelis's good faith, his doubts whether the Chancellor's reply to the Reichstag resolution really means what it pretends to mean, his belief that the reference of peace-professing statesmen to the security of frontiers, capable of being extended at will to cover the absorption of Belgium and any other desired annexations, received unexpected justification and corroboration from German sources in the growing frankness of criticism.

It was declared yesterday that Chancellor Michaelis's speech was ambiguous and open to two interpretations which Lloyd George mentioned. It was added that the policy of silence of political aims adopted by former Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg and continued by Herr Michaelis had laid the German policy open to that dubious reputation which Lloyd George criticized.

His picture of German parliamentarism under the formula of Herr Michaelis may be distorted, so it was declared, but it contains enough truth to serve as a warning to the German people.

The Berlin Tagblatt reprints the full text of Lloyd George's reply to the German Chancellor, explaining this is advisable because remarkable errors of distortion and omission in the sense desired by the Government were crept into summaries of earlier declarations from the opponent camp, which were supplied by the semi-official Wolff News Bureau. The Kreuz Zeitung, under the fire of the radical papers, slightly modified, but did not revoke, statements about the Government's war policy. No official declaration was made.

A remarkably frank article by the Berlin correspondent of the National Tidende, passed by the Foreign Office censorship, discusses the seamy side of the submarine campaign and the effect it has upon neutrals.

It is generally recognized, he said, that the longer the campaign continues, the fewer friends Germany will have after the war. This consideration and other thoughts of many persons, which under the six months' war would cost were the two principal factors which contributed to bringing a majority of the Reichstag line upon a bid for immediate peace.

The correspondent said that the effect of the campaign has been miscalculated, not regarding the amount of tonnage destroyed, but as to the time required to make its effects felt in England. The German people are still in England. The German people are still in England. The German people are still in England.

RUSSIAN SOCIALISTS ON BRITISH MISSION
LONDON, July 25.—Russia's Socialist workmen delegates here want representatives of the British Independent Labor and Socialist parties to attend the Russian-called international Socialist congress at Stockholm September 1. Conferences today developed this as one of the chief aims of the mission. The Russian hope to induce the British Government to grant passports to British representatives.

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BLACKSMITH IS LEADER OF REGIMENTAL BAND

Lieutenant Molar's Players Selected From Trades Found in Ninth Engineers
From hammering the anvil to leading a regimental band was not a long step for Lieutenant Molar, of Company D, Ninth Regiment United States Reserve Engineers (Haitway), which is encamped at the Commercial Museum, Thirty-fourth and Spruce streets, and eagerly waiting the order to embark for France.

Lieutenant Molar is a member of the blacksmith company, and a number of his twenty-five band players were drawn from it. Others are from the companies of boiler-makers, machinists, bricklayers, electricians, carpenters and clerical workers. Sergeant Privatons is a machinist, was once in the navy, and served some time on Admiral Fletcher's flagship.

But if the band goes on strike, or the members get lost in the trenches, the regiment will not lack entirely for entertainment. They have two Victrolas and a moving picture machine. Also a piano at their present barracks, but it is not likely this will be taken to France.

When the engineers are not on endurance hikes or studying the details of military organization, many of them are putting in their time studying French. Classes are held every day by instructors furnished by the University Christian Association. Among the members of the regiment who are helping the French instruction is Yves A. Bouquet, a sergeant in the truck company.

All the officers of the engineers' regiment except two are men familiar with the various lines of railroad equipment on which the men will have to work. The two exceptions are West Point men, who organized the regiment and maintain the discipline so necessary to a group of men encamped within short distance of an enemy. These men are Colonel Herbert Deakins, from the War College at Washington, and Captain William F. Tompkins, adjutant, who for six years was connected with the First Regiment Engineers' barracks at Washington.

Captain Andrew R. Lockhart, adjutant of the second battalion of the Second Pennsylvania Field Artillery, who is in charge of a recruiting squad at the armory, Broad street and Susquehanna avenue, although not old in point of years, is a veteran in military service. He first joined the Second Regiment twenty-one years ago and has spent six years in the regular army. He saw service in the Philippines and in China during the Boxer uprising.

Captain Lockhart has recruited twenty-five men in two days and hopes to get at least 100 this week. The recruits are to take the place of members of the regiment who are being rejected through physical disqualifications or on account of demerits. A reserve over the required regimental strength will also be maintained.

Chaplain Robert J. McPetridge, of the Second Regiment, is busy providing accommodations for the 500 books donated by John W. Wainmaker for a regimental library. Suitable carrying cases must be prepared. The chaplain particularly de-

WORK OF CONSTRUCTION RUSHED AT CAMP MEADE
Philadelphia Engineer Corps Renders Timely Aid in Clearing Site for Quarters
BALTIMORE, Md., July 25.—Construction work at Camp Meade, the cantonment where Pennsylvania troops will be trained, is progressing rapidly, according to an announcement made today by Major Ralph Proctor, in command of the regular forces at the camp.

Two of the large barracks, several of the warehouses and the spacious officers' quarters at the east end of the camp have been completed, and work is being rushed on a score of other buildings as fast as the lumber reaches the site. It is generally believed that the entire cantonment will be finished within two months.

The first contingent of "rooties" can be quartered at the camp within four weeks, according to the military authorities.

In the meantime a large gang of men, under Major W. W. Crosby, the personal representative of Adjutant General Wainfield, is gradually clearing the site of all obstructions in order to make way for other cantonment buildings. Philadelphia engineer corps, together with the motor transportation corps, are greatly assisting in the work of clearing the south end of the camp site.

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