YD GEORGE OVERWHELMS FOES IN COMPLETE AND SWEEPING REPLY TO MAURICE CHARGES

of Premier Lloyd och in the House of letter follows:

had left that office, state-ade by two Ministers during he was in office. During the was in that office he never and this statement, when he merely access to official docu-ut when he had access to the themselves. (Cheers.) Gen-arics was in office for weeks had delivered that speech in so of Commons. He attended of the cabinet, in the ab-the chief of staff, every day delivered the speech and after red he never called attention he never asked me to correct

ments were incorrect.

Ing that he did not care to the presence of the whole was in dainly contact with an business of the war. We matantly discussing questions the authority, and it was his to come to me, especially if the come to me, especially if the was as important that lifted a great breaking of the regulations and setting an extended in the man-power at the business first of all the man-power of army at the beginning of 1917 in France. There was a great increase in the man-power of the British army throughout the world increase of man-power of France in 1918 as compared with 1917, and the increase of man-power in France in 1918 as compared with 1917, and the increase of man-power in France in 1918 as compared with 1917 was greater than average throughout the whole area.

A distinction between what that the compared with 1917 was greater than average throughout the whole area.

it not his business first of all to the cabinet, or at any rate Minister impugned, and say to fou made a mistake in the of Commons on a most importunation of fact?" He might have quite nicely, and said: 'I dare ou were misled. You had better right.

wer a syllable until I saw it in swapapers. (Cheers.) I say I been treated unfairly. (Renewed i) I will say more than that, iht that possibly General Maufhe did not care to talk to me, have talked to his immediate first of all, the Secretary of or the chief of staff. So I interest of the chief of staff. So I interest of the chief of staff.

t that you must set up a mmittee to inquire into it. by a great and distinguished at who has held one of the most itial positions in the war of-

whole army.
ropose before I sit down to give
hole sources of information upon
I and my right honorable friend
these statements to the House invite the House of Commons here I agree with the right le gentleman opposite that it estion for the House of Comind I propose to ask the House mons to judge, and to judge

Gives All His Reasons

am going to give the reasons we proposed a committee of I am going to put the reawhy we oppose a select com-lam going to give the rea-thy we are taking the course to take today.

lenging not the Ministers, but made by Ministers, when a written by a distinguished offinittee would have the for, and we were anxious to stall for, and we were anxious to all the documents at the disposal impartial committee, because we perfectly well that once these doc-wers placed at their disposal build be absolutely no doubt in the any tribunal as to the veracity statements which had been made. statements which had been made, if reason was that the most im-texternent of all, with regard to ansion of the front, involved our and it would be very difficult to it without making some statement might offend their susceptibility.

Commons Not Adapted

was one reason why we were any sorry that the controversy over have been raised. (Cheers.) as came to the question of the appart of a select committee or jurisumal, we felt that a committee House of Commons, adapted under the control of the contr hen passions were aroused. It is maying that it is bringing a against the House of Commons, as a matter of time to the conclusion long ago questions like election petition, arty passions or when any passors aroused, she House of Commons and Adapted to an examination facts.

ht honorable friend came to chusion himself in regard to mia. I think he was right; her the best tribuns! set up is another matter. This is no upon the House of Commons. Accustomed to examine facts. all it is only a question of

that if there was to be an tion it should be short and that you should get a decision

doubt at all, if there were so doubt at all, if there were pation by judges, what would it wit. But what has happened of any, it has become clear from of the press, which supports honorable friend. He talks as so were supporting the Governable he has got a press, too. If he does not mind my say seems to think that all violationes, is with the press that aprece with him. Why?

to Evening Public Ledger of things that have been going on outto be the New York Times Co.
London, May 10.

the way.

"Two challenges have been made as to figures. One is in regard to the comparison I made of the British forces in France January 1, 1918, and January 1, 1917. The other is the comparison I drew between the enemy and Allied forces on the western front. Both of them are of vast importance and both of them virtually parts of the same question General Maurice stated:

"On April 3 the Prime Minister: What "Well, now I will give here again the source of my information. The state-

"The figures I gave were taken from the official records of the War Office, which I sent for before I made the statement. If they were incorrect, General arral Maurice was as responsible as anybody else. They were not inaccurate. I have made inquiries since.

The figures I gave were taken from the self-statement about there being three British divisions in Egypt was made in the presence of General Maurice, who made no correction, and I have no correction either from him or anybody else on the subject. (Cheers.)

batants. I am going to consider that as well later on, but before I do so let me say at once I do not accept that distinc-tion. When you talk about fighting strength, who are combatants and who

"Let me first of all deal with the question. Who are the combatants? Are these men who stopped the advance of the German army to Amiens the other day—are they combatants? (A voice.

"Are the men who are under fire every Are the men who are under are every day making and preparing roads, tram-roads and railways, and who suffer severe casualties—are those combatants or noncombatants? In most lists that are printed they are noncombatants.

of April 18. This question was put:

"Sir Godfrey Baring-I wish to ask 1918, than on January 1, 1917, he was including the labor battailons and the other noncombatant units, and whiter the combatant strength of the British army was greater or less at the beginning of this year than at the beginning of tast year?

Haig were thereby overruled?

"That is the real point. There is not a word of truth in it. I think it is time this matter should be cleared up (cheers) and with the indulgence of the House' I propose to do so.

Sent Question to Maurice

Confirmed by Maurice

"This comes from General Maurice's department nine days after I made that department him days after statement. I am not depending on the fact that all these men ruled out as noncombatants are an essential part of the strength of the British army in France. I am not depending on that France. I am not depending on that. As a matter of fact, there was an in-crease as between January 1, 1918, and March, but it just happened that I thought I would take the first month of

"Now I come to the second statement which was made by General Maurice. There is a very important question of comparison of the Allied and enemy forces, and it has a bearing upon the question later of the extension of the

front.
"I have been charged there with misleading the public to believe that at the
time when the attack took place by the
enemy on the Allied position on the
western front we had a slight superiority
in infantry, a considerable superiority. I
think, in cavairy and a superiority in artillery, and I also said a superiority in
the air.

"If there was anything in these figures got them from official sources for

"On April 2 the Prime Minister: What was the position at the beginning of the battle? Notwithstanding the heavy cas. unlites of 1917, the army in France was considerably stronger on January 1, 1918, than on January 1, 1917."

"This is his comment:

"That statement implies that Sir Douglas Haig's fighting strength on the eve of the great battle which began March 21 had not been diminished. That is not correct."

"Well, now I will give here again the source of my information. The statement about one British division is in the official record. With regard to Egypt, that statement was made at a cabinet meeting, which was examining the position, by a member of the staff. It is the custom of the Secretary of the War Cabinet to send these statements to all these who are present for correction, and I want the House to bear in mind is not correct." "Now the issue is a very clear one. I said that perhaps he time to read it, but he was a following day, and he never y attention to the fact that it mad diminished as compared with the previous year.

"The figures I gave were taken from the official records of the War Office was in dainly contact with the previous of the War Office which I say."

"Now the issue is a very clear one. I said that the fighting strength of the number of division in the various theatres of war. This statement was sent to General Maurice for correction, if there was any correction to make. He telephones to the secretary (this is the note) that he added no remarks.

"The figures I gave were taken from the official records of the War Office which I say."

the statement made about the ex-

discussion as to all the facts, but Hau-sard's report of the incident concludes: tered into at the Versailes war council? Versailles war council.

"Then General Maurice said: "In the first place. I think that any that that was the first time we had discussion with the French ministers. clusion that General Maurice was present at the meeting. He was at Versailles, it is true, but he was not at the meeting. I have looked at the official record since and it confirms what I say, He was in Versailles. He was in a or the chief of staff. So I in the theorem a word until he left.

During the whole time these combatants. Those are General charmed any representation to the made any representation to t Gough's army, to which albusion has been made, was never discussed at that council at all. There was a demand tor a further extension, but that particular extension had taken place before the council ever mol.

King are printed they are noncombatants. In most lists that Does any one mean to tell me that they are no particular of the fighting strength of the army?

Take the men who, when the British army retreated and had to abandon the field Marshal Haig reported to the army retreated and had to abandon the Field Marshal Haig reported to the fineses and the gunfire to relieve the impact of the fighting strength of the council had taken place. There was not a single yard taken over as a result of the Versaliles and the gunfire to relieve the impact of the fighting strength of the same taken over the line from place. There was not a single yard taken over as a result of the Versaliles with the place of the more of them, and they are not a part of the fighting strength of the category.

If decline absolutely to accept that definition, and will leave out the ordinary technical distinction between combatant and noncombatant.

A question had taken place before the sugrestion of the chief of the imperial staff that he should reply to Field Marshal Haig staff that he should reply to Field Marshal Haig staff that he should reply to Field Marshal Haig staff that he should reply to Field Marshal Haig staff that he should reply to Field Marshal Haig staff that he should reply to Field Marshal Haig staff that he should reply to Field Marshal Haig staff that he should reply to Field Marshal Haig staff that he should reply to Field Marshal Haig staff that he should reply to Field Marshal Haig staff that he should reply to Field Marshal Haig staff that he should reply to Field Marshal Haig staff that he should reply

'A question which put in the House Commons by the noble gentieman, a member from Barnston, eight or he days after I delivered my speech April 18. This question was put:

Attnough General Maurice and not say so, the real point, the one which it put by my right honorable friend with characteristic bluntness and straightforwardness, is this: Is it the fact that when this portion of the line held by when this portion of the line held by General Gough's army was taken over, the war cabinet insisted upon its being the war caoine insace of taken over and therefore, objections of Sir William Robertson and Sir Douglas I links were thereby overruled?

That is the real point. There is not

"Of course, the Field Marshal was not

defense of Paris was left to us, and the defense of some of the most important centers, but there was the fact that you had this enormous front held by the French army as compared with what looked like the comparatively small front of ours.

French on British Front

"In addition to that, the French army at that time was holding. I think, a two-division front on our line in order to enable us to accumulate the necessary reserve for the purposes of the attack in Flanders. That was part of the line which. I believe, was held before by the British and French.

"The French were pressing in order to withdraw men from the army for purposes of agriculture. I ought to explain that their agricultural output had fallen enormously, owing to the fact that they had withdrawn a very large pro-

think, in cavalry and a superiority in artiflery, and I also said a superiority in construint of the war.

"With the exception of the air—I did not get that from General Maurice—the holes of the figures upon which I based that statement came from General Maurice—the has statement came from General Maurice, I asked for them. I do not suggest that he was the man who worked up those figures, but he was responsible for documents given out by his own deared my right honor ungreating that he statement shimself on this subject since and any select companies and the other to empressed the statements himself on this subject since the hattle began. They have been published, I believe, in America, I did not face before to give the statement of the subject since the hattle began. They have been published, I believe, in America, I did not face whether General Maurice has really ald so and I find he was completed, but they should withdraw a very large proportion of their men from the cultivation of the fields and they felt it essential that they should withdraw a very large proposed that any very large proposed to the portion of their men from the cultivation of the fields and they felt it essential that they should withdraw a very large proposed of the they should withdraw a very large proposed to the portion of their men from the cultivation of the fields and they felt it essential that they should withdraw a very large proposed they had withdraw a very large proposed they had withdraw a very large morphish they should withdraw a very large morphish that they should withdraw part of their army for the purpose of cultivating the soil, and they wer



Former Premier, who sought in-vestigation of Maurice charges.

cabinet accepted them without any mure. I say without hesitation t the cabinet never swerved one tota fr

"Mr. Borar Law. This particular was under the impression that the conduct of the war, matter was not dealt with at all by the cabinet had taken a decision without his "Make no mistake abo then General Maurice said:

T was at Versailles when the question that sent the following memorandum to the war cabinet. I will read it, but first, with reference to the Houlogne conference, I may perhaps, say that that was the following memorandum to the war cabinet. I will read it, but first, with reference to the Houlogne conference, I may perhaps, say that that was the first war the first war.

Robertson's Explanation

"The fact that Sir William Robertson had explained and Sir Douglas Haig had stated that the explanation three new

"When Sir William Robertson discovered that the Field Marshal was under the impression that we had come to a decision without his consent he sent the war cabinet a memorandum, in which he save:

"When Sir William Robertson discovered that the Field Marshal was under the impression that we had come to a decision without his consent he sent the war cabinet a memorandum, in but the save that the consent had been supported by a discovered that the Field Marshal was under the officer who has had some of the army? At any rate, he ought to have tried the war cabinet a memorandum, in but the field Marshal was under the impression that we had come to a decision without his consent to the field Marshal was under the impression that we had come to a decision without his consent to the field Marshal was under the impression that we had come to a decision without his consent the sent the war cabinet a memorandum, in the field Marshal was under the decision without his consent the sent the war cabinet a memorandum.

duty it was to answer this question on the behalf of the War Office, sent that question to General Maurice with the answer (Cheers). I am not giving the answer which he gave, because that is on the records of the House.

Did he? (Cries of 'no.') Did he first come to whom he wanted to correct? Never.

"There was not a single meeting be raised by the French representatives. The reply given was that while in principle we were, of course, ready to do extension, but the pressure from the whatever is to be done, this matter.

miles.

That is not the whole statement, because the Germans were much more densely massed in front of ourselves, Not only that, but the line we held was much more vulnerable. Virtually the defense of Paris was left to us, and the defense of series as the series of series as the series of the communication. Sir Dougliss Haig communicated, and said that it firew a new light on the Boulogne position. I think that we have a right to complain of the way in which it has been rumored about that Sir Dougliss Haig communication.

"They made it difficult for the field marshal to carry out the promise he made to General Petain for certain extension of the front. Then the present French Prime Minister came in and he is not a very easy gentleman to refuse. (Laughter) He was very insistent that the British army should take over the line.

ter.) He was very insistent that the British army should take over the ilno.

Suggest Compromise

"We stood by the position that that was a matter to be discussed by the two commanders-in-chief. We never swerved from that position. At last M. Clemen-ceau suggested that the question should be discussed by the military representatives at Versailles, and that the Versailles council should decide if there was any difference of opinion. The military representatives at versailles discussed the question, and the only interference of the war cabinet was to this extent. We communicated with the chief of staff, if who was then in France, and with Sir Douglas Haig to urge on them the importance of preparing their case for the other side, so as to make the strongest possible case for the British view.

"The military representatives at Versailles suggested a compromise, but coupled with it recommendations as to steps which ought to be taken by the French army to assist the British if they were attacked, and by the British if they were attacked, which was even a more important question that recommendation came up for That recommendation came up for That recommendation came up for Those country. Well, we declare roundly that no one in France will understand General Maurice's action."

Mr. Snowder.—"What paper?"

Mr. Lloyd George—"La Liberte (Loud laughter). The quotation proceeded:

"No more on the Left than on the Right, no French party would admit that in the midst of war a general on active service should permit himself to take his voice in public to contradict that the midst of war a general on active service should permit himself to take his voice in public to contradict that the midst of war a general on active service should permit himself to take his voice in public to contradict that the midst of war a general on the Erift than on the Right, no French party would admit that in the midst of war a general on the midst of war a gen

That recommendation came up for discussion at the Versailles council of February 1. Before that meeting Sir Douglas Haig and General Petain mer and entered into an agreement as to the extension of the front to Brissy, and Sir Douglas Haig reported that to the Versailles council. When the discussion took place there no further extension of the fine was taken at all as a result of the

"After all, they have got their own lews about their superiors. Sometimes they are right and sometimes they are wrong, but they disagree as to the wis-dom of certain actions. A soldier might even challenge the accuracy of state-ments made by his superiors. He might also write to the papers and say that ecause my grandfather was a democrat. iter). It is my duty to forget the regulations and discipline and

"I wonder what would have been said if a poor, ordinary soldier did this sort of thing? And this is a new army. That must not be forgotten. It is an army where you cannot possibly give the time, as in the case of a regular army, to harden their fibers in discipline. It is to an army of this kind that a high-distinguished office sets an example by saying. 'Although I am a soldier, I am first of all a citizen, and, therefore, I am going to break the King's regulations.'

"That resolution was communicated to Sir Douglas Haig by Sir William Robertson, and we never departed from it. After that came the Cambrai incident and the Italian disaster, which necessitated our sending troops to Italy.

"The subject of discussion was a rather important foreign office. It was not summoned in the least to discuss an extension of the lines. We never knew that was to be raised. Sir William Robertson and I represented the British Government, and M. Painleve, the Prime Minister, and General Foch its Prime Minister And M cause it has forgotten discipline in the army. (Cheers.) Is this the time to

tween the French generals and ourselves which he gave, because that is on the records of the House, but the pressure from the extension, but the pressure from the extension and that was done was ended that for continually every week and almost every finded where, of course of Sir Douglas Haig or during the continually every week and almost every finded where, of course of Sir Douglas Haig or during the continually every week and almost every finded which could not be desurese of Sir Douglas Haig or during the continually on the pressure operations, and that due regard must also the pressure from the extension that the continual

formally and who repudiated in the strongest manner this sort of action (Cheers.) When we talk about the army the army is not two or three men. army is five millions of men, and it is vitally important that discipline be maintained.

"There is a letter which appeared it There is a letter which appeared in one of the papers today, not a letter, but a quotation from a French newspaper, which I will read to the house. This paper says:

"France is more than any other a

"That is the view of a democratic country like France. May I say that I wonder whether it is worth my while making another appeal to all sections of this House, to all sections of the country. Sweet Emalina, My Gal One-step Graveyard Blues Medley of Old Waltz Songs-Part I Medley of Old Waltz Songs-Part II

of the Chyerment and the season in the season of the seaso



Mid-Month List Columbia Records

"N'Everything,"Al Jolson's Hit of Sinbad The latest Jolson joy song in Jolson's

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