

FACTORY WILL LIE IN ALLIED SWORD Force of Arms and Determination to Win Will Crush Germany

BOCHE NOW A FATALIST

Teuton Fighting Machine Is Beginning to Show Fissures, but Is Still Strong

By EDWIN L. JAMES Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

With the American Army, Sept. 9. The people of the Allied nations were told some months ago that when the German army had tasted defeat it would go to pieces, that fighting well upon the wine of success it would stop fighting when its cup was drained to the dregs of failure, and that when he began to be whipped the boche would turn upon his leaders. A distinguished American visitor here in June said: "The German is a bad loser. I once knew a defeatist keeper who lost \$1 and went into a cellar and hanged himself."

These prophets said, and their audiences were great, that when the Allies had once turned the tide the war would be as good as won because the German military machine would crack and crumble.

One recalls recent proof that much of the talk of a German revolution in America was used to get came from propaganda sources.

Seven weeks of German defeat have failed to justify the prophecy of revolt. One may say the contrary is true. Instead of revolting or quitting when he sees he cannot achieve a military victory the German fighting man has become imbued with a spirit of fatalism, acceptance of his fate whatever it may be, and is fighting on. This proves the far-sightedness of those who Allied victory lies not in anything that the Germans may do within their ranks, but primarily in the force of Allied arms. The war will not be won by a revolution in Germany or by a revolt in the German army. It will be won by the Allied sword, backed by the determination of the Allied spirit.

Allied Machine Is Best The results of seven weeks of German defeats have proved that the Allies must not further depend on promises but only upon results. Instead of being demoralized, the German military machine is still an efficient machine, and as far as one can see at present, capable of fighting on and on. Its wheels may not be running quite so smoothly, but they are running pretty well. The boche machine loses only because the Allies' machine is running better and has more fuel.

It may be true that the boche doesn't like being whipped, but he shows up on the firing line. It may be true that workers brought from munition shops do not fancy their change of occupation, but they are shooting allied soldiers on the western front. It may be true that the internal situation in Austria does not encourage the sending of troops to the German front, but Austrian divisions are facing Allied soldiers in France.

True, the Allies have driven the Germans back over much territory, but it is just as true that their line is yet a long ways this side of the German boundary. More has been accomplished much, but it is just as true that we have to accomplish more.

No one means to say that the German morale is as good now as it was eight weeks ago. Morale is not as good when losing as when winning. But the question for the Allies is not the condition of the German fighters' disposition, but the condition of his military performance.

While it is perfectly true that the Germans have been forced to withdraw from the Marne and Amiens salients, it is just as true that the withdrawal has been done well from a military point of view. It could

only have been done well if the German soldiers had fought well.

Crisis in German Morale

The crisis in German morale does not show itself either in a feeling of revolt against the military chiefs or hatred against the enemy, but by fatalistic acceptance of destiny and the belief that they must still fight on. The boche does not fight quite so well, perhaps, but he still fights fearfully. I may say that the latest military opinion of all the Allied armies support this view.

A large factor in this psychological situation is the willingness of the German soldier to believe whatever he is told by his chiefs. He is made that way. When told two months ago that the Germans were fighting a class-war, that they would soon be in Paris, and the war soon won, he believed it. Now that the Allied armies have smashed that hope, he has been told that the German army will fight and fight backward until it shall have worn out the Allied armies to a point where the Germans can have a negotiated peace. Now he believes that implicitly.

This applies to the majority of the German army. There are exceptions. The German "Prussians" who say: "We will win the war or go to hell." They will probably keep on saying that until they are killed, while their alternative is to an Allied victory.

Then there are Danes and Alsacians. Lorrainers who do not want to fight longer for the Kaiser, but they were never keen about doing it. The great majority of the German army is still willing to do what it is told. Our prophets should be glad that this will be true. When it does well and good. For the present the Allies must depend upon their own military power and not upon German defection.

Germanies Beginning to Crack Fissures are beginning to show in the German army. Perhaps the first to be now appearing in the Allied army were it not for the enormous support coming so rapidly from across the Atlantic. These fissures in the German force, however, must grow larger before the Allies can depend on passive victories.

In considering the conditions of the Kaiser's army a study of 12,000 prisoners recently captured is interesting. The officers may be divided into two classes—first, remaining officers of the old regular army and very young officers, and second those who are really tired of the war.

They are uneasy. The diminution of officers, the use of very young recruits and the effect of America's military force—all these things are worrying them. But while they talk of all sorts of eventualities, they do not talk of Germany surrendering. They are quite sure that Germany can fight on until a favorable peace is made. The second class, while tired of the war, are not doubting its outcome. They are nothing to do but to keep on fighting.

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Man With Initiative, Tact and Ability Wants Position With Essential War Industry.

38 years, married, three children; 18 years' business experience. Now general manager non-essential business of national reputation. Extensively traveled on business deals, U. S. and Canada. Good executive. Position in buying, selling, advertising or adjustment department preferred. Address for interview, B 315, Ledger Office.

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RETREATING BOCHE WANTONLY LEFT NOYON A MASS OF RUINS

Mines Complete Destruction Begun by Shelling of City. Town Hall and Public Square Deliberately Blown Up—Cathedral Escapes

By WALTER DURANTY Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co. With the French Army, Sept. 9. "Mines. Danger of death. Entry forbidden," ran an inscription in letters two feet high on barricades that shut the main street of Noyon as the correspondent's automobile jolted over a temporary structure which had replaced the causeway, destroyed by an enormous mine crater, across the unfinished canal and halted in the square on the outskirts of the town. Another car had just arrived, and by it were standing two civilians, Senator Noel, the aged Mayor of Noyon, and his deputy, M. Jouve. In his black suit, a fit emblem of mourning for that scene of devastation, the Mayor seemed very frail as he waved his hand sadly toward the ruins.

"I am glad you have come to tell America what the barbarians have done to our city," he said. "Perhaps more than any town in France Noyon loves and admires your country, which has done so much for us, and I would remember that first of all towns in the war when the United States entered the war. For more than a week I have been waiting permission to enter last year's inhuman practice of scattering mines everywhere, and we cannot enter until they have been located and made harmless."

"I am expecting instructions from my army headquarters at any minute," put in a captain beside him. "I think they have been allowed to penetrate the city, and we are now working to locate them electrically controlled. It appears that the boche electrical station for the region was at Crilloles. The unexpected swiftness of our advance caught the enemy napping, and enabled us to disconnect the mines unexploded at the switchboards, so that the danger is now virtually over."

Allowed to Enter City They had hardly finished speaking when a cavalry arrived with an order which contained the desired permission. I accompanied Senator Noel down the Rue de Paris leading to the central square. Despite his age and constitution enfeebled by captivity, he made his way nimbly over the single plank that bridged a chasm torn by a mine in the main sewer that ran beneath the roadway. Devastation was as complete as the enemy could have wished. Houses on both sides were shells of crumbling walls, and the road was piled high with rubble and heaps of stone.

"It is natural that much would be destroyed when the town was taken by

what had been its glory, now departed. Town Hall Destroyed by Mines "It is pure wantonness," said Deputy Jouve. "We have an aerial photograph taken ten days ago, just after the boche was driven out, which shows this square and the town hall virtually intact. Now look at it. Mines have destroyed what the shells spared. I was the last man to leave town in a car with the Senator on March 25 and now I am the first to enter it. Our hearts were saddened enough then by defeat, but now in the hour of victory they are sadder still."

After noting that the wooden structure erected by the American Red Cross near the Town Hall were mere heaps of ashes we moved on to the cathedral, which had been preserved as by a miracle. The roof had been pierced by a dozen shells, and the interior stone work of the right hand tower has been smashed. The porch before the left tower was well-nigh obliterated by a huge shell, but the interior of the building suffered little. Chairs were still arranged in the rows, the high altar was wholly intact, and though the floor was covered with broken glass and rubbish,

the work of restoration will not be difficult. "I remarked a strange thing in one of the side chapels, where no shell or splinters seemed to have penetrated. A picture of Christ, ten feet square, was pierced with seven round holes, one exactly in the left side, and I wondered whether the revolver of some boche brute had not added sacrilege to vandalism."

With the exception of the cathedral and a little side street from the Rue de Paris, called Rue de Saint Etienne, there is not a single building in Noyon that escaped injury, and the Mayor reckoned less than 10 per cent capable of reconstruction. Before leaving he made a suggestion of particular value at this time when the German retreat from other French towns seems imminent. "Cannot your President," he said, "or the Allies collectively address a formal warning to Germany that full and terrible punishment will be exacted for such wanton destruction? Homes can be rebuilt, hard though it will be, but nothing can replace those relics of art and poetry of previous generations that were our pride and glory."

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38 years, married, three children; 18 years' business experience. Now general manager non-essential business of national reputation. Extensively traveled on business deals, U. S. and Canada. Good executive. Position in buying, selling, advertising or adjustment department preferred. Address for interview, B