

HINDENBURG LINE BARRIER IN WAY TO HUN CAPITAL

Germans Compare It to the Chinese Wall; Broken Last Year by the British

Washington, Sept. 13.—The celebrated Hindenburg line or Siegfried line, barring the Allies' road to Berlin, has been compared by the German leaders to the great wall of China.

Until the British broke it in the spring of 1917 they believed it impregnable to assault as was once the Chinese wall and regarded it as the eighth wonder of the world.

The Hindenburg line as generally defined is about 60 miles long running in a general north and south direction across the Picardy Plains in France.

Its northern extremity was guarded by the heavily fortified bastion of Vimy Ridge and by the mining city of Lens whose underground corridors and chambers long have barred the British.

The southern end of the Hindenburg line, proper, is in the vicinity of La Fere or Laon. That end is protected in part by the forest of St. Gobain and the fortifications around it.

Between Vimy Ridge on the north and La Fere on the south the line passes west of Cambrai and St. Quentin so as to protect those two important industrial and railway centers which are routes for bringing up supplies for the German Army.

Some war correspondents describe the German line as continuing southward eastward from La Fere to the Aisne river and Rheims following the line of the Chemin des Dames. They call that part of the line southeast of La Fere the Alsbeth line. This would add about 45 miles, making a total length of more than 100 miles.

Generally, however, the Hindenburg line has been described as running only from Vimy Ridge to La Fere.

Switch Is Wotan Line. Fearing that the northern end of the line might be turned the Germans established a "switch" line connecting with the Hindenburg line at Queant and running north about 25 miles to Drouart. They called this switch the Wotan line.

The northern end of the Hindenburg line and the Wotan line both have been broken more than once by the British Armies and both are now in possession of the British Armies. Long ago the Germans lost Vimy Ridge and have failed to retake it.

The Hindenburg line is not a trench but a system of field fortifications. In places it is said to be ten miles deep, consisting not only of the trench system but of multiple lines of barbed wire entanglements, concrete positions for artillery deep dugouts capable of housing a battalion of troops, numerous pill-boxes for machine guns and, in fact, every device the Germans have been able to assemble to block the way to Ger-

Tunnel Connects Trenches

Near Bullecourt was a formidable underground fortification known as the "Tunnel Trench" which the Germans believed to be impregnable. This tunnel, connecting the trenches was more than a mile long and was mined for its whole length, lighted with electricity and had entrances at short intervals. It was reinforced by concrete pill-boxes and support trenches. The British captured it in November, 1917.

Below Craucourt the British troops found great catacombs along the Hindenburg line. These were elaborately fitted up as battalion headquarters, electrically lighted and protected by concrete trenches. In front of Cambrai, the villages, behind the line had beneath them great chambers which it would be a slender call to digouts, at short intervals. Like hotels, fitted with electricity, water, sewers, drying rooms and kitchens. They were shell proof and bomb proof. The trenches there were built along the banks of the Canal Du Nord which runs north and south near Havincourt.

Important German strong-holds along the southern section of the line near La Fere. The forest of St. Gobain presents an almost insuperable obstacle in attacking this end at short intervals.

Laon, lying within the "Big Corner" where the line turns eastward along the Chemin des Dames is regarded as the keystone of the whole German system. Hundreds of German batteries were installed in the screened ravines around that city and in the forests of St. Gobain.

Massif Protects Town. Southwest of Laon the town was protected by Massif of Menampéuil behind whose crest are huge underground shelters some big enough to hold a whole regiment. The forest west of Laon was crammed with a vast store of munitions and supplies. Divisions of troops could concentrate in it unseen.

Recently the Germans discovered that the big dugouts along the Hindenburg line were nothing but death traps. An order by the German Divisional Commander forbade the German troops to occupy dugouts which descended more than eight steps underground.

Behind the Hindenburg line the Germans are credited with three other lines of defenses.

Germans Cut Off Little Boys' Hands. Each of the victims was photographed and the pictures are on record.

Captain Harris is invalided home as unfit for active duty, owing to rifle and shrapnel wounds. His subject was "Killing Germans" and after hearing some of the brutalities of the Germans in France as he described them, his audience ceased to wonder that his ascription of a presiding officer at a Chamber of Commerce gathering got such an ovation.

Captain Harris passed through Harrisburg on his way from Australia to France in 1914 and said he was happy to be back as he was in too great a hurry at that time to pay much attention to local surroundings. Most of his talk was devoted to personal experiences in France, Belgium and the eastern theaters of war, during which he went over the top six times in big operations, acted as chief of scouts where the lines were only thirty-five to one hundred yards apart in France, was gassed once and wounded four times.

Germans Treacherous. The German soldier is a treacherous creature, the Captain said, willing enough to surrender when caught but ever ready to kill his captor if the chance occurs. The Saxon, he said, differs from the Prussian in this, being a somewhat unoffensive creature who has been dragged into the war by the Prussian. As illustrating the point, he said when the British troops were opposite Saxons the lines were quiet and there was little fighting and when the Saxons were to be relieved by the Prussians the Saxons would send over a message reading something like this: "Dear British—The Prussians are going to take over our trenches tonight. Give them hell."

Cooties and rats, said Captain Harris, are the great enemies of the men in the trenches. "When a man is wounded," said Captain Harris, telling of his own experiences, "the first thing he thinks of is his mother. Before he goes over the top he thinks of his mother, and his sister and perhaps of some other fellow's sister. Then he thinks of all the little things he did in his early days which he should not have done and he is sorry for the fellows who will fall in the fight, but always he is perfectly certain in his own mind that he will come through all right, and he is the most surprised person in the world when he is hit."

Most Deadly Gas. "We are now experimenting with a gas so deadly that until we improve our own gas masks we dare not use it," he said. "But when we get the new masks ready we shall make Fritz wish he had never started the use of poison gas."

Smoking, the Captain said, is encouraged in the army to keep down the frightful odors of the front line trenches and to steady the soldiers' nerves. The Germans cannot understand how the British Tommy can go into the fighting with a "rag" in his mouth, he said.

Captain Harris made an earnest plea for the next Liberty Loan, the Y. M. C. A. funds and the other war chest activities of the community as absolutely necessary to back up the boys over there. He will speak at the Laitnce-Groesjan plant at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, to the Pennsylvania railroad shoppers at 11:30 and at the Central Iron and Steel plant at 1:30.

WM. JENNINGS IS VINDICATED

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graph to-day the following letter vindicating Mr. Jennings. New Bloomfield, Pa., September 11, 1918.

To the Editor of the Telegraph: Sir,

The matter of the shipment of a carload of coal to Mr. William Jennings at Duncannon received much undesirable publicity. I have made a thorough investigation of the transaction and brought the witnesses face to face. The facts are as follows:

Early in spring of 1918 Mr. Jennings ordered a carload of buckwheat coal from a wholesale firm. The quantity ordered was within his reasonable requirements and carried no suggestion of hoarding. At the time of the order this grade of coal was subject to no Federal Fuel Administration ruling as to price, but Mr. Jennings was advised by the coal company's representative that the company would prefer to make the shipment through a local dealer. The representative himself secured a Duncannon dealer's consent to receive the shipment and deliver it to Mr. Jennings. All this was prior to the Fuel Administration's order of May 29 requiring that all shipments of coal be made through a dealer. The coal company shipped the coal in June after the order was issued. Whether the shipment was actually made through the local dealer or direct to Mr. Jennings is immaterial. The Fuel company's representative claims that the coal was shipped in care of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's record shows the shipment direct to the consumer.

Mr. Jennings received the coal without knowledge of the requirements of the order of May 29 and without knowledge that the coal had not been shipped through the local coal man, as he had been assured it would be. He is entirely without blame in the transaction. Whatever fault there may be lies with the coal company, if in fact it shipped the coal direct to the consumer in violation of the order of May 29.

I published a statement that I officially approved the order before the shipment was made in fact, I approved nothing of it until long after the coal had been delivered. This statement, made by the coal company's representative, says that I was assured by him that "the order would be in care of a local coal dealer. If it was so shipped, as Mr. Jennings was told it would be and as the coal company's representative claims it was, no regulation was violated."

I am sending an identical letter to the Harrisburg Patriot, and to the other newspapers which have given the same degree of publicity that was accorded the original "bang."

Very truly yours, Fuel Administrator for Perry County.

To Mr. Jennings. Mr. Meek at the same time sent to Mr. Jennings the following statement completely vindicating him of the charges spread broadcast by the Patriot:

I beg to advise you that I have made a complete investigation of the shipment to you by the M. A. Hanna Coal Company of a carload of buckwheat coal, delivered at Duncannon in June last, and find that it was shipped without fault in the transaction.

Herbert Plimpton, assistant in the office of State Fuel Administrator Potter, in Philadelphia, who was acting for Mr. Potter during Potter's absence, says that while his letter to Mr. Meek of September 5 led the Perry county administrator to believe that the shipment was in violation, on September 11, he specifically stated that there is no regulation on the sale of No. 2 buckwheat coal.

This first letter was a "silly" one, he admits, and adds: "No regulations at present cover the sale or purchase of No. 2 buckwheat, barley or culm." He erred in his letter to Mr. Meek and Meek erred in making the matter public before the completion of his investigation. Meek's letter was published at the solicitation of the Patriot, which was not on the trail of Mr. Jennings and apparently intent upon proving him a slacker.

As verifying the stand taken by Fuel Administrator Hickok that "it is a patriotic service to use No. 2 buckwheat coal," H. F. Quikell, of this city, representing the Spencer Heater Company, the apparatus of which burns this kind of fuel, has received a letter from headquarters saying: "The Fuel Administration at Washington are very anxious to have as much buckwheat coal as possible used for domestic purposes to prevent shortage of domestic sizes," and urging all Spencer users to lay in large supplies early, it having a license to ship buckwheat to any vicinity for owners of this style of furnace. This letter is accompanied by another from A. S. Lear, director of anthracite distribution, at Washington, saying: "No. 1, Buckwheat is not charged against the allotment of any state."

Today the Patriot, faced with facts it could not dodge, crawled out of its untenable position with what grace it could and was forced to admit Mr. Jennings entirely blameless in the purchase of his winter coal supply.

Yanks Are Everywhere. The front under attack was about 45 miles in length. The French were the county roads, but it was found that the officials lacked legal authority to do so. Later the Directors of the Poor said that they needed men at the county almshouse and it was arranged to transfer six of the jail inmates to the county poor farm to work during the summer.

These men helped on the farm, did harvest work and at the present time four of them are still employed at the almshouse. A plan to use a large number could not be worked out with the Directors of the Poor as only a few additional men were needed. Officials hope by next year to have legislative authority to use prisoners serving jail sentences to do road or other repair jobs in the county.

There has been much agitation in favor of the plan especially for men who are given short sentences of from 10 to 30 days for violation of city ordinances.

Prosecutor in Assault Suit Was Treated Here; Only Teeth Knocked Out. William Condren, a Lancaster man admitted to the Harrisburg Hospital last June for treatment of injuries inflicted by William Fox, a boarding housekeeper, of Lancaster, must share the costs of an assault and battery suit with Fox. A jury at Lancaster so decreed yesterday. Condren testified that Fox called him harsh names and then attacked him, knocking out the only two teeth he had and compelling him to come to the local hospital for repairs. Fox told the jury Condren struck the first blow after being ordered to leave the boarding house. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty and divided the costs.

Use McNeil's Pain Exterminator—Ad.

"SNOWBALL" SURE HAS BAD LUCK ON FRIDAY, THE 13th

Working at Street Cleaning Is Hard on Familiar City Character; Old Hoodoo Day Brings Woe to Bill the Boche

Who said Friday the 13th was unlucky? The Girl Scouts at Third and Walnut streets. Should say not! Why, when that big brown limousine came shooting down the highway anyone could guess something would happen. And it did. B-r-u-p! A loud explosion, some fancy vitriolic language, and out leaped a stout man to find that he had "ripped the stuffing" out of a gas rubber tire.

"Here you are, girls; throw it on the pile," he puffed, lugging over the valuable junk, and Friday the 13th looked pretty good to the Scouts.

"It's a has-been," declared police headquarters. "There ain't no such thing this year. Haven't had an arrest today; streak of good behavior must have struck us. Other years we had a drawer full of rabbits' hind legs taken from unfortunate. To-day, nary a leg. Good luck for the bunnies, too."

The toughest piece of misfortune that came to notice was the indentation of "Snowball," mascot for the Steelton ball team and rooster extraordinary. The close of the baseball season left "Snowball" without a job and he was corralled to work at street cleaning.

"Ah had mah rabbit's foot in mah hip pocket when the man come and grabbed me," he wailed to-day with great effort he brandished a shovel.

The general opinion seemed to be that all the bad luck was being saved for the Feast of Berlin.

AMERICANS REPULSE HUN COUNTERATTACK

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the battle from the vantage point of a French fort close behind the middle of the line.

Try to Save Guns. The Germans last night and early to-day were attempting to remove their artillery through the town of Vigneville, under the stress of the American attack on the St. Mihiel salient. They were meeting with the greatest difficulty, however, being hampered by airplanes as well as by artillery fire.

The enemy already has lost a number of cannon and trench mortars besides a huge number of machine guns.

Brilliant Prelude to Drive. The front over which the attack was made was so extended that the brilliant bands of vivid light soon stretched from the German lines toward lighting up the clouds. Soon there began to rise star shells signal rockets and flares thrown up by the American attack on the St. Mihiel salient.

The enemy's color scheme there soon was added a reddish glow as ammunition dumps exploded and buildings set on fire behind the enemy lines began to blaze and an ammunition giving off this color exploded about four o'clock.

Hun Star Shells Burst. The character of the artillery fire changed slightly, lessened a little in intensity and German star shells burst with more frequency as five o'clock approached as though the enemy suspected that was the hour set for the infantry attack. More and more ammunition dumps exploded just before five, the artillery bombardment suddenly resumed its original intensity and as the sky was beginning to be tinged with dawn it again took on a white look along the horizon. Precisely at 5 o'clock the thunder of the guns accompanying the glare of light stopped and the sudden silence the Americans went over the top. All along the lines could be heard the chattering of German machine guns and then suddenly the machine gun fire commenced again when a barrage was laid down to protect the soldiers as they approached the German trenches.

Every Element Engaged. "Into the battle have been brought all the elements of the army. While the artillery was playing its role the airmen and the tank crews worked over the machine gunners' territory to taking their part in the big "show" the Americans have given. There was no question of aerial supremacy, or should not be, French planes and French airmen supplemented the American forces, and daylight saw them already in operation. It rained in the night, and the early hours of the morning did not afford the best opportunity for the aviators, but despite the mist the squadrons appeared with the dawn, ready for observation of the defense and for offensive combats.

There was a high wind during the day, but the balloons were able to remain up for observation. One American balloon broke away and drifted eastward. One of the German balloons was aloft near St. Mihiel, but it remained up only about five minutes.

Use Smoke Screen. The smoke screen the American gunners placed about Montsec appears to have been successful in preventing the enemy observation from that commanding point.

While the heavy attacks were being made on the north and south lines of the St. Mihiel sector a force around the point of the angle was inaugurating a series of raids, rushing far into the sides of the German body. The strength of the Germans is not known but it is certain there are at least seven divisions in the salient. It has been learned that the enemy had collected a quantity of stores in the sector and will doubtless attempt to remove them.

Yanks Are Everywhere. The front under attack was about 45 miles in length. The French were

in the line at allotted points, but the Germans was such that wherever the Germans turned they faced American troops.

Just how much the Germans were surprised by the offensive in a sector so long inactive is uncertain. It seems not improbable, however, that they had noticed the indications given for many days past that some new plan was being adopted. The mobilization of the big force was accomplished, however, almost wholly in night marches, the men slipping from other sectors into positions in front of the enemy here, often times without even the population of the districts through which they passed being aware of the movement.

The guns that opened the artillery preparations at one o'clock continued for four hours to hammer the Germans, not alone their nearby positions but nearly every crossroad, village and town within range. The roads ever which the enemy might bring up reinforcements or retreat were broken up with high explosives.

This Is the Birthday of General Pershing. Washington, Sept. 13.—This is Pershing's birthday. General John Joseph Pershing, commander-in-chief of the American Army in France, who launched the first all-American drive on the German lines yesterday, is fifty-eight years old today. He laughs at Friday the thirteenth. He is a "show me" general. He came into the world in Linn county, Mo., September 13, 1860.

Schools, industrial plants, department stores and shippers will pause for a time to-day to honor his name in patriotic speech and song.

POSTOFFICE CLERK RESIGNS. Marietta, Pa., Sept. 13.—John C. Gouling, for a number of months clerk in the Marietta postoffice, has resigned his position and accepted a position at the Marietta furnace. His position is being filled at the postoffice by G. Luther Roth.

Perry County Men Go to Army Camps For Training

New Bloomfield, Pa., Sept. 13.—Lewis Shearer who has been studying motor mechanics at the University of Pittsburgh, has been selected to go to an officers training camp for machine gunners.

Edgar Garber who is studying motor mechanics at State College, spent Sunday at his home here.

Charles A. White and Hugh Bell, of Rye township, will leave for the University of Pittsburgh.

Edward Charles Hake goes to Lehigh University next Thursday to study electrical engineering.

MEETING DAYS FIXED. Newport, Pa., Sept. 13.—Officials of the Newport Red Cross Society have issued announcements that their meeting days henceforth will be on Tuesday and Thursday of each week.

Schleisner's Men's Shop advertisement featuring a man in a suit and a woman in a dress, with text: 'We've Exceeded All Previous Efforts In Our Men's Shop' and 'Schleisner's Men's Shop 28-30-32 N. Third St.'

BELL-ANS Absolutely Removes Indigestion. Druggists refund money if it fails. 25c



Every Woman Desires a Necklace of LA TAUSCA PEARLS

Selection can easily be made from our large and complete stocks. La Tausca Pearls are guaranteed. Every strand is fully tested before being placed and therefore guaranteed in every respect. \$2.50 to \$25 The P. H. Caplan Co. 206 Market Street

APPLY POSLAM STOP ALL WORRY OVER SICK SKIN

The use of Poslam for skin disorders should be your trustworthy health-aiding habit. When you are troubled by eczema or other itching trouble remember that Poslam supplies at once a soothing, cooling, itching, and emollient to rid your skin of its evil condition. Poslam will not, can not, injure and it takes only a little to prove its benefits. Sold everywhere. For free sample write to Emergency Laboratories, 242 West 47th St., New York City.

NIGHT SCHOOL OPEN EVERY NIGHT Buckley's Business College THE OFFICE TRAINING SCHOOL KAUFMAN BUILDING, 121 MARKET ST. BELL 604R

MANY PRISONERS ABLE TO WORK

(Continued from First Page.)

the county roads, but it was found that the officials lacked legal authority to do so. Later the Directors of the Poor said that they needed men at the county almshouse and it was arranged to transfer six of the jail inmates to the county poor farm to work during the summer. These men helped on the farm, did harvest work and at the present time four of them are still employed at the almshouse. A plan to use a large number could not be worked out with the Directors of the Poor as only a few additional men were needed. Officials hope by next year to have legislative authority to use prisoners serving jail sentences to do road or other repair jobs in the county. There has been much agitation in favor of the plan especially for men who are given short sentences of from 10 to 30 days for violation of city ordinances.

Instant Postum

has a peculiar importance these days, not alone on account of its wholesome purity as a table beverage, but because of its labor-saving convenience.

No Boiling Necessary

Made instantly by placing a level teaspoonful in a cup of hot water, stirring, and adding cream or milk. Little or no sugar is needed. "There's a Reason"

The New Fall Styles Are Here YOU DON'T NEED THE CASH

A complete presentation of the new Fall and Winter styles for Men, Women and Children awaits your inspection. Scores of new models such as only an organization of this kind with it's many branch stores can obtain are represented.

PAY-A-LITTLE EACH-PAY-DAY

The most important question confronting the majority of people to-day is how to meet their expenses. There is no better way to solve your clothes problem than our pay-as-you-earn plan. There is no inconvenience or red tape attached to opening a Charge Account here. You can have your new outfit RIGHT NOW at the beginning of the season and thus get the greatest amount of joy and comfort by being well dressed.

A WORD TO WOMEN:

The new styles which we are showing embody every new fashion fad brought out this season. The materials range in such weavers as will give the very best service. All the new colorings are shown in dainty street and elaborately trimmed styles. Smart styles in Ladies' and Misses' Suits, Coats, Dresses, Skirts, Waists, Millinery.

MEN---We're ready!

Come in and let us show you the new models. You can find just what you want at the price you want to pay. Take every point into consideration; compare the price, the quality, the fit. Then remember that by reason of our big chain of stores we can save you the middleman's profit.

ASKIN & MARINE CO. advertisement featuring a man in a suit and a woman in a dress, with text: 'The new styles which we are showing embody every new fashion fad brought out this season' and 'ASKIN & MARINE CO. 36 North Second St., Corner Walnut'