

# FLANDERS BATTLES SEEN AS CLIMAX

Constitute Greatest Offensive Operation Undertaken by Allied Forces.

## GRIP OF TEUTONS IS BROKEN

Ultimate Fate of German Armies on West Front No Longer Open Question, Declares Military Authority.

By JOHN LLOYD BALDERSTON. (Copyright, 1917, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

London.—The desperate efforts of the Kaiser's autocracy to secure peace before winter, have been regarded here as the direct results of the British victories in Flanders. It is because these epoch-making successes reveal such comparatively little movement on the map, and result in hauls of prisoners very small compared to the standard set in the campaigns in Russia, that the general public here and abroad has failed to realize all that Sir Douglas Haig's autumn offensive implies for the future of the world.

This great turning movement that began in Flanders on July 31, it may now be said, is regarded by the allied staffs as the first major or decisive offensive operation undertaken by the allies on the west front since the battle of the Marne. The Somme campaign last year, with its half-million casualties, more than double the number suffered in Flanders, was a subsidiary operation. It was carried out in order to make the Ypres offensive possible. And the Ypres offensive has already succeeded.

This is England's year. Next year, at least in the closing phases of the campaign, if it lasts so long, England may have to share the honors with America. France did her full share and more in 1914 at the Marne, and in 1915 when her desperate frontal assaults on the German line wore down the enemy's manpower, in 1916 when her glorious resistance at Verdun broke the Kaiser's last bid for a decision. England took over the burden in the closing phases of the Somme battle; the battle of Flanders overshadows everything else in the history of the present year.

### Seen as Climax of War.

I am able to give American readers a brilliant analysis of the Flanders operations, prepared by a most competent authority who must be nameless. This expert makes clear why it is that the statements made above are true; he shows how the Flanders battles which show the German line back, for the moment, only a few miles, represent the climax of the war and constitute the main push, for which Loos and the Labyrinth and Champagne, the Somme and Vimy and Arras, were only intended to pave the way. The statement follows:

"When the allies passed tactically to the offensive on July 1 last year upon the Somme, the German front rested on the Alps at one extremity, and on the coast at the other. And the front, while apparently it could not be turned on either flank, was supposed to have been made impregnable to assault. The effect of that state of things was that the line, as a line, could be held with a minimum of troops, and that although the total enemy force might be of no more than moderate dimensions, the fortified character of the front still made it possible to employ an important percentage of that force, and the best of it in point of quality, as a movable reserve to be used either for a tactical counter-offensive or to meet attack wherever attack might develop. Thus there were some one hundred and twenty German divisions on the west front altogether, and yet there were such assaults as those upon Verdun.

### Front Found Not Impregnable.

"But the battle of the Somme having finally and conclusively demonstrated that the front was not impregnable to assault, the state of things was radically changed. The change did not come about all at once, but when the Somme was followed by its sequel, the loss of the Vimy ridge, and that in turn by the loss of the Aisne ridge and the Champagne ridge, the position became this: the enemy had at once to increase the number of men holding his line, and found his resources in the form of movable reserve cut down. He increased his total force on the west by some thirty divisions, but, despite that, he had fewer troops whom he could play about.

"Now a movable reserve is a very important part of the German defensive, and that defensive, by any change which cuts down such a reserve, is materially weakened. The change makes resistance to attack the more risky, by making it more difficult to provide against attack. Further, the necessity of thickening the troops in the line has meant, in the face of the superiority of the allied fires, a consistently heavier rate of losses.

"Evidently, as a matter of plain common sense, these effects had to be brought about before the operation of attacking the enemy front with the object of turning it could be entered upon. Further, there had to be the reasonable assurance that attack would be stronger than the strongest defense the enemy could put up. Without some such reasonable assurance, the attempt would have been a courting of failure.

"As to the point of the front where this operation was to be looked for, there was never any mystery. The point was the sector east of Ypres. It has always been manifest that the Germans violated the neutrality of Belgium because, without the roads and railways through Belgium, their expedition into France, dependent on the route through Metz, could not have been on a larger scale than the attack of 1870. It had to be on three times the scale at the very least. And the present application of these facts is

that for all essential supplies the Germans on the west are absolutely reliant on the Belgian routes.

"Now the question of whether they might continue to rely upon the Belgian routes was in this attack to the east of Ypres to be put to the test. If they could defeat that attack, well and good. They might then consider themselves secure, their hold on Belgium secure, their armies in the west safe so far as supplies were concerned, and, what is more, the German alliance or confederacy assured by the effect of this success, and the way opened for peace negotiations more or less in accordance with their own views.

"But if they could not defeat the attack, then equally all this was altered. They were insecure; their hold upon Belgium must become precarious; their entire force on the west must be jeopardized; the effect of defeat undermining the faith of their allies must undermine their confederacy; and the hope of a peace upon anything like their own terms must be destroyed.

### More Than Fight for Territory.

"It will be seen that the battles east of Ypres are much more than a fight for a system of ridges; certainly much more than a fight to decide whether the British or the enemy shall through the winter stand on wet ground or dry; much more even than a struggle for the coast, or for presumed submarine bases; much more than the impressing of German public opinion. These battles decide whether or not a vital operation is possible; a vital operation, because to the whole German force on the west it is a matter of life and death, and a matter of life and death to the modern Prussianized and militarized German empire.

"A test, when it comes to the shock of battle, is always tactical. Let strategic schemes be as sound and well conceived as they may, if the troops who are to carry them out are not up to the work, the plans cannot be realized. With this tactical test, so far as it has gone, we have every reason to feel in the highest degree satisfied. So far we have not missed a step.

"Further, we knew that although there has been singularly little vicissitude of fortune, we have compelled the enemy to put forth and have met his utmost effort. Five divisions have been identified east of Ypres as just brought from Russia and from Champagne. It is telling evidence of the strain this defense has imposed. A stronger defense than that hitherto offered may be dismissed as wholly improbable.

"In a case like this, the German command is not accustomed to lock the stable door after the horse has been stolen, and it is idle to suppose that we should have been allowed to advance as far as the outskirts of Passchendaele and the Houthulst wood if any means of the enemy's command could have prevented it. The men are not at the enemy's command, and if they are not now, they never will be.

### Test Has Been Decisive.

"In brief, this tactical test has been decisive, and that decision is the decision of the war. The fate of the German armies on the west is no open question. Before the assault on the Messines ridge it might have been so regarded. It cannot be so regarded now.

"And what is the authoritative German view of the matter? Let us judge as usual by acts. First of all there is the distribution of 'Fatherland Party' pamphlets among the German soldier. The morale of the German army needs to be re-inforced. The procedure has no other meaning. Why does the morale need to be stiffened? Because of the effect of the repeated shocks it has undergone. Shocks are not caused by victories. All the detailed accounts agree that the morale of the German troops is patchy. Some fight well; others fight badly. The morale of an army which is sinking always takes this form of rotten spots, which tend to spread. It leaves a force unreliable, for an army is a chain of linked units and unities, and if some of the links be rotten the chain will break to a certainty. The 'Fatherland' propaganda is apparently an attempt at cure.

### Know They Are Beaten.

"Next there is the official representation in the German newspapers of the resistance east of Ypres as a 'victorious' resistance. Seemingly it is victorious because we do not accomplish everything at one bound. There could not be a grosser military absurdity, and of course the men who write bulletins of that kind know that such stuff is nonsense. The fact that they write it, and feel constrained to write it, discloses their real opinion. They know that they are beaten.

"To pass on, there is the reported conference of enemy rulers at Sofia. The military reverses of Germany on the west, the main and deciding theater of war, are so many hammer blows at the confederacy. Will Germany's allies follow Germany all the way to ruin? It is doubtful.

"Lastly there are the rumored further impending peace offers on more liberal terms. Why should there be such offers if the military situation is 'excellent'? Do they arise out of the peril of the German army on the west, the German army, and the peril of the Prussianized German empire? It involves? If we take the defeat of the German army as now foregone, these proceedings are harmonious and consistent with each other. On any other supposition they are inconsistent and inexplicable. There is a theorem which fits them all. That theorem is the truth.

### As Germans View It.

To turn from this authoritative English view of the Flanders campaign, one of the most vivid pictures of what the British attacks in Flanders mean to the unfortunate German soldiers crouching in the mud under an unprecedented volume of fire has been written by a German correspondent, Professor Wegener of the Cologne Gazette. Despite his effort to put the best face possible on the situation, it is not necessary to read between the lines with which the enemy must look forward to new and greater attacks in the spring, in which the American army will play its part.

"It was plain, above all," wrote Professor Wegener in describing the latest attack, "that the enemy would con-

time to put his hope not in the moral superiority of his troops, but in material superiority. The incomparable fighting strength of the German soldier was to be broken, and must be broken, by a tremendous development of mechanical weapons and the unheard-of accumulation of guns, ammunition, mines, gasses, armored cars, and the like. This is all in accordance with the English way of thinking, for their battle is fundamentally a battle of money.

### Recognize Bravery of British.

"The natural dislike, mingled with contempt, which we Germans have for this way of thinking, must not prevent us from understanding that the conception is exceedingly serious. Anybody who formerly followed English Colonial wars, English voyages of discovery, and English sport, knows how much of the successes of the English in these spheres was always due to brilliant preparation and equipment. Of course all depends upon whether there are behind the material and the machines real men to use them. But we all know that this is the case with the English, and we are far from wanting to deny it; on the contrary, we should be diminishing the achievements of our own men if we did so.

"Even earlier the fighting was well described as a super-material battle, but since the end of August it has become quite plain that the English intend to increase their efforts still further by still more gigantic guns and still more enormous masses of munitions and all the engines of war. On our maps of the ground behind the enemy front, upon which we mark from time to time his new camps, batteries, strategic railways, and so on, one sees how all of Belgium that remains unoccupied, and especially the area of Ypres and Poperinghe, has become really one enormous war camp, crossed in every direction by a close network of strategic railways that have sprung out of the ground.

### Sees French Activity.

"There was a further considerable expansion of all this recently. Fervish activity could be seen among the English. Bridge after bridge appeared across the Ypres canal, new roads crossed the country, branch lines advanced further, the enemy artillery was brought closer to the front, and new battery positions were prepared. New munition dumps were laid down, new aerodromes, and new encampments, thickly sown though the encampments already were. As regards troops as well as material, the Englishmen hopes to get his results by the employment of masses.

"During the period of preparation the bombardment of our front was incessant. From the methods of the new artillery, it was realized that the enemy had thought out a new tactical scheme to meet the Hindenburg-Ludendorff defensive tactics. This is not the place to go into details about that. But a feature of the scheme was that the enemy tried constantly to broaden the zone of his artillery destruction behind our front. The increasing frequency of the bombardment, which often developed into drum fire, and was directed against our lines of approach and command positions, gradually showed that the new attack was near. The drum fire assaults on the whole battle front increased so much in strength that they were obviously preparing for the new infantry storm.

### Attacks Nerves of Defense.

"The drum fire was different from former drum fire, not only in its more terrible mass effect, but also because of its peculiar employment in the rear. It was not, as formerly, an almost unbroken thunder, but a series of fire storms of tremendous violence but of limited duration, alternating with periods of comparatively small activity; both the fire storms and the pauses varied, so that one could realize the intention of destroying the nerves of the defense, by the element of uncertainty.

"Of airmen also the English had prepared masses in excess of anything known before. This development was sudden, and it took some time before we had caught up with the numerical superiority. The enemy airmen tried to advance in swarms over our lines, but the perfect bravery of our men was able to force them back, and in the main to keep them behind their own lines."

So much for Professor Wegener. The Herr professor doubtless knows, if his readers do not, that the "unheard of accumulation" of material, the "masses" of airmen in "excess of anything known before," will next spring be still more unheard of, and still more in excess of anything known before.

### Stone Age Blotter.

Instead of blotting paper we soon may be using a piece of stone to dry our letters. This is not as unreasonable as it sounds, for there is a kind of stone found at the bottom of certain hot springs which is excellent for blotting purposes, observes an exchange. The stone is a sediment that has formed in the bottom of the springs, and may be had in inexhaustible quantities. It is highly absorbent, though not soft in the ordinary meaning of the word. When placed on a sheet of paper that will absorb freshly written upon it will absorb the surplus ink more quickly and satisfactorily than the usual blotter.

The scarcity of all kinds of paper caused by the war and the growing demand for varieties more important than blotting paper makes it probable that we may be buying a yard of stone before long to use as a blotting pad. When one side becomes heavily inked it can be cut off with a knife and the remainder of the stone used again.

### His Certificate.

"President Wilson hates kaiserism as bitterly, and, by Jove, he raps it as hard and well, as was the case of Whistler with the Royal Academy."

The speaker was George Luko, the fashionable New York painter.

"An American admirer of Whistler," he went on, "once wrote to our great man in care of the Royal Academy in London. The letter had a hard task to find Whistler, but it did find him at last, and on the envelope Whistler said that the Royal Academy people had malleously written:

"Not known at the Royal Academy," "Whistler enclosed the envelope to a newspaper with the comment: "Behold, my certificate of merit!"

# MORE LIVE STOCK, UNCLE SAM'S AIM

Experts Consider Methods That May Be Used to Encourage Production.

## ACCESS TO MARKETS NEEDED

Investigators Believe Co-Operative Shipping Organizations Are of Greatest Aid to Small Producer.

At this time above all others, it is pointed out by experts of Uncle Sam's department of agriculture, better marketing facilities are essential to the increase in live stock production, especially in the South, which is desirable from every point of view.

Various methods of improving the present situation in this respect have been tried out. Among the most important are the organization of co-operative shipping and marketing clubs and of local live stock buying companies, the establishment of local packing houses, the custom of holding live stock sales on advertised dates, and the use of local ice plants in curing farm meat.

### Co-operative Shipping Best.

Of these, in the opinion of experts of the department, co-operative shipping is one that is being most generally adopted in the United States, and the one most worthy of consideration. Associations for this purpose have met with marked success in the middle West, and are equally well adapted to conditions in some parts of the South. They enable the small producer to ship his animals to centralized live stock markets at no greater cost of transportation than is paid by the dealer who ships in carload lots. In this way the farmer is made independent of local buyers. Another great advantage, it is pointed out, of such associations is that they are simple in organization and require no capital to do business.

In one Mississippi city the board of trade has created a somewhat more complex organization, in order to provide the farmers of the surrounding country with a good local market for their live stock throughout the year. A company has been organized with a paid-in capital of \$2,500, provided by local business men, in the hope of increasing production of live stock in the section. No dividends are paid and the operating expenses of the company are reduced to the minimum. On two days of each week throughout the year the company buys live stock for cash in any sized lots, at prices which are the equivalent of those prevailing at the large centralized markets, less the cost of sending the animals to those markets.

### Brings Higher Prices.

The immediate result of this movement, it is said, has been higher prices paid by local butchers, and their willingness to pay cash for live stock, instead of insisting that payment be made by extending credit to the producer. Incidentally, the operations of the company have shown that live stock can be bought and shipped to the large markets, and a number of private dealers have undertaken to compete with the company. This has, naturally, stimulated live stock production in the surrounding country.

These and similar methods are designed to afford the farmer easy access to the large outside markets. Without them he is practically dependent on the local butcher and the local dealer or shipper. In selling to the butcher frequently little or no attention is paid to market conditions. Hogs and cattle are slaughtered on numerous farms when the weather turns cool, with the result that the market is glutted. This means low prices, because the farmer must accept because the product is perishable. To some extent, it is suggested by the department's experts, a remedy for this situation may be found in better methods of curing meat at home, and also by taking advantage of the refrigeration facilities afforded by local ice plants.

## NO POOR IN NEW ZEALAND

Greater Demand for Appliances That Add to Comfortable Living Provided by Uncle Sam.

A more widespread use of electricity in New Zealand and a greater demand for the various appliances that add to comfortable living are predicted in a report on New Zealand's markets for electrical goods made public by Uncle Sam's bureau of foreign and domestic commerce.

The standard of living is good in the island, says the report, and there is an absence of a poor class, but there are some modern conveniences of which the people have not generally taken advantage. In the electrical field this is quite noticeable, a fact attributed in part to the rigid requirements of the fire underwriters and in part to the natural conservatism of the people.

Of the total imports of \$2,300,000 worth of electrical goods in 1913, the United States supplied 15 per cent, England 65 per cent, Germany 5 per cent and Sweden about 5.4 per cent. In 1914, during which the war made itself felt on shipping, the total imports were valued at \$2,130,000, of which the United States contributed 14.4 per cent.

### A Huge Shadow.

Shadows, naturally enough are of various sizes, and one can imagine that mountains throw very large shadows indeed. It is said that the peak of Tenerife, on the largest of the Canary Islands, throws such a huge shadow that it stretches as far as 50 miles across the water, partly overlapping some of the other islands.—Christian Science Monitor.

### Knows No Bounds.

Wherever the tree of beneficence takes root, it sends forth branches beyond the sky.—Saad.

## GIVES ARMY WEAPONS

Ordnance Bureau Important Branch of War Department.

Intrusted With Duty of Providing Big Guns and Small Arms, With All Necessary Equipment.

In common with other branches of Uncle Sam's military service the ordnance division of the war department is of interest at this time. The chief of the ordnance of the army is charged with the duty of procuring, by purchase or manufacture, and distributing the necessary ordnance and ordnance stores for the army and National Guard.

Ordnance and ordnance stores include cannon and artillery vehicles and equipment; apparatus and machines for the service and maneuver of artillery; small arms and ammunition, and accoutrements. Horse equipments and harness for field artillery, and horse equipment for cavalry and other mounted men; tools, machinery and materials for ordnance service, and all property of whatever nature (including specially equipped motor trucks, motorcycles, tractors and rail-road cars) supplied to the military establishment must be provided by the ordnance department.

More than 800 students installed on the campuses of eight American colleges have been taking the preparatory course to fit them for ordnance work in the enlisted reserve corps. These students have been trained to become storekeepers in that branch of the service which will supply the new American armies with guns and munitions.

In connection with those who have had some training and who wish commissions as either captains or first lieutenants the department wishes to have mechanical engineers, chemical engineers specially qualified in explosive chemistry, and metallurgical engineers; also men with special knowledge of the manufacture of leather goods and cloth material. In accepting men for these commissions the department prefers graduates of a recognized college or university, and also prefers those who have had sufficient experience in the manufacture or investigation of ordnance material to qualify them to take up at once such duties in the ordnance department.

## SPARE HOSPITALS AND CHURCHES WHEN THEY SHELL "ENEMY" CITIES

Uncle Sam's marines are busy bombarding enemy cities and the only buildings left standing after the terrific fire are churches and hospitals.

They are only miniature cities, to be sure, and the buildings are not more than a foot high. Cities in miniature are used as objectives by marine corps artillerymen in training at Quantico, Va., and the little buildings in them are plainly labeled "gun factory," "barracks," "church," "hospital," etc. The marine gunners are careful in training to avoid hitting buildings marked "church" or "hospital," and in practice they show wonderful marksmanship in razing buildings adjacent.

## WAR BOOMS DYE INDUSTRY

American Plants Not Only Supply Domestic Needs, But Sell Large Quantities Abroad.

The American dye industry has not only grown big enough to supply practically all domestic needs, but is now exporting important quantities to other nations, Uncle Sam's bureau of commerce reports.

Of all the industries created or developed as a direct result of war conditions, none has shown more rapid progress than American dyestuffs. From only seven establishments in which 628 people were engaged in producing 6,610,729 pounds of coal-tar colors, valued at \$1,128,639, in 1914, the industry has developed until now it not only supplies the domestic demand for colors, but has even invaded the foreign market in European, neutral and allied countries, Canada, Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, British India, and Japan.

### Everything Within Its Walls.

So much for history. Now for its reality, at least up to a few months ago. The Chateau de Coucy is the most perfect example of the self-contained mode of existence on earth and should make the coming suburbanite blush for his wandering life. Everything for the requirements of the dwellers within was held also within its mighty grip, surrounded by its four towering stories of defenses, taller in its ensemble than many a cathedral spire. First the enclosing outer wall, behind which in the old days lived the serfs in their wooden huts, but today inclosing the sleepy little village so typical of northern France. There was a rampart promenade, along which we followed, punctuated with the thirty-two towers of other days, and with but three gateways, one leading to Laon, one to Soissons, one to Chauny, all of them towers which are making rapid history at this moment. Here were gathered the tiny shops, the markets where provisions were brought from where they were grown in the fields below the walls.

Next the second ring of walls, surrounded by a deep moat opening only at one massive gateway. We crossed this drawbridge, still hung by the rusty chains of other days. These inclosed the working parts of the chateau, an orchard and a quaint formal garden in which the family took their airings. Circled about were the stables, retainers' quarters, gunhouses, armory, poultry yard, dairy, the falconry, cellars, storerooms, kitchens and all the

### Stove-Heated Garden.

The garden of James Swartz of Holter Dam, Mont., is heated by a stove from the inside, and is protected on the outside by a curtain which is lowered about it on a frame. The garden is seven feet square and consists of a series of terraces built around a hollow center to a height of ten feet. Mr. Swartz believes this arrangement will permit a longer growing season.

### Strict Accounting.

A business man requires those who handle money to account for all expenditures, holds an employee responsible for the full amount trusted to him and demands vouchers for all disbursements. Even then he may not be satisfied without a cash audit by an accountant. Material should be accounted for on exactly the same theory as cash itself (although possibly less rigorously), says Stephen Bilman, in Industrial Management.

### Bad Tasting River.

In Colombia, South America, there is a river whose waters are so tainted with sulphuric acid that it has received the name Rio de Viagore or River of Vinegar.

# FAMED CHATEAU DESTROYED by GERMANS



Ruins of the Chateau de Coucy.

THE Castle of the Sires of Coucy razed to the ground, bombed by the fleeing enemy.

This was the brief, bald communication which struck a blow to the hearts of the French people that delivered by the shower of steel aimed for two years and a half on the famous cathedral at Reims, writes Blanche McManus in the Chicago Herald.

It was the spring before that summer cloudburst of war. We had opened that day for the first reading the "Balades Francaises" of that eccentric and celebrated poet of the "quartier"—legitimate successor of him who gave fame to the long-departed Cafe Procope—Paul Fort; opened it, too, at his adorable musical tribute dedicated to this same grand old Chateau de Coucy.

Built some 600 years ago by a naughty seigneur by the name of Enguerand, third of the line of Coucy, it was handed down for two centuries. Then a royal Louis of the reigning Orleans family, who evidently had a pretty taste in castles, having just built his splendid rival, the neighboring Chateau de Pierrefonds (also in the zone des armees but not yet liberated), bought it for 400,000 livres tournois, a unit of reckoning comparable to the franc of today.

After the usual marital vicissitudes of the times Cardinal Richelieu, in the seventeenth century, gave the fabric its first hard knock by ordering it dismantled as a fortress of the time. But its mighty walls resisted well, although the interior was gutted. Thereafter its debris served as a quarry for all the neighborhood, and it is easy to see that the solid houses of the little town building about the walls were built chiefly of its stones. Some sixty years ago it entered into the public domain of the French government, who commissioned the great French architect, Viollet-le-Duc, master of modern Gothic, to restore it to the extent of consolidating its stately shell against further disintegration; then, too, it came to be officially classed as a monument historique and remained the most splendid feudal castle of all Europe and a joy and a marvel to the eyes of all who came within its spire.

As the horizon-blue lines of the French vagues of soldiery came within sight of the huge pile of their nation's proudest medieval monument, so long hidden from their sight, thunderous explosions rent the fair sky of spring-time above Coucy, and they saw with horror its great towers totter and fall through the veil of smoke. With an almost human groan there came to their ears the rending crash of the enormous fissure which broke through the stern heart of the great donjon. And so at last was cracked the kernel of the nut which had remained impregnable for 600 years.

## COAST LINE OF BELGIUM

Nearly All of It, in Peace Time, Given Over to Seaside and Rest Resorts.

Perhaps in no other war in modern history have a few miles counted for as much in the scales of victory as in the present contest in west Flanders, says a bulletin of the National Geographic society. The distance which separates the allied forces from full control of the coast of Belgium is only thirty miles. Possession of these thirty miles of coast line would not only wipe out the German submarine bases in Belgium, but it would also give the allies a new front upon which to attack in an effort to drive the enemy out of Belgium and northern Europe. Possession of this coast, therefore, would be a double victory to the allies, solely hampering the enemy's submarine operations, and at the same time affording an opportunity to roll up his right flank on land.

Nowhere else may be found a more striking contrast between peace and war than that afforded by the Belgian coast in 1913 and 1917. Practically the entire coast line in normal times is given up to the pleasures of the seaside cities and rest resorts. La Panne, Coxyde-Plage, Ost-Deinkerke, Neuport-Bains Westende, Middelkerke, Le Coq-sur-Mer, Wenduine-sur-Mer, Blankenberge, Heyst-sur-Mer and Knocke-sur-Mer are all places which remind one of the seaside cities of New Jersey.

### Early Day Buttons.

The ancients lacked buttons—one wonders, indeed, how they got along without them—but evidently they possessed studs of modern pattern, such as those with which we fasten our cuffs and collars. And, in truth, they did even have a kind of button (though not sewn on), which fastened garments with a pin and hook exactly in the way our brooches and clasp pins operate.—Exchange.

### Dream Makes Author.

A well-known dream in which the facts are vouched for is that of R. L. Stevenson. This popular writer could dream when he liked, and could dream an unfinished dream of the previous night. According to Mr. James Lavin, himself a famous author, Stevenson had a nightmare of a dim personality, and on that basis wrote the novel of "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."—Tit-Bits.

The cultivation of repary beans is something new in the state of California. This legume came up from old Mexico.

attendant paraphernalia necessary to the care and comfort of the thousands of lieutenants that rallied about the standard of Coucy.

In the center rose a chapel the original nucleus of the chateau. Foundations and a grass plot are all that remain. The fourth defense was the chateau proper, a great quadrangle as spacious as most chateaux in their ensemble. Each corner was crowned with a great cylindrical tower more than a hundred feet in height, their walls nearly five yards thick.

Then came the final defense, the great donjon tower, the kernel of the impregnable nut which has never been cracked, nearly 200 feet in height, 100 feet in diameter and at the base 300 feet thick, the most nearly perfect example of the medieval architecture of defense.

In 1914, a month after the opening of hostilities, the gray wave of the German army of invasion had swept over Coucy. Its great towers command the greater part of the battlefield over which write three armies in their titanic struggle. For this reason the enemy placed their anti-aircraft guns and searchlights on the topmost tower. When in the middle of March they finally uprooted them, selves for the first time since the beginning from their trenches and began their backward goosestep out of France, it was not likely that in the holocaust of destruction which they left in their way, which included children's toys, family photographs and the doghouse, they would forget the Chateau de Coucy.

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