

FIGHTING HARD BRITISH WITHDRAW

To Stronger Positions and Wear Out Enemy.

GERMAN LOSSES HEAVY

Peronne And Ham Have Fallen, According To The Berlin Report, And Germans Claim To Have Defeated The British Third And Fourth Armies And To Have 30,000 Prisoners And 600 Guns.

The withdrawal of the British forces along the battlefield in France was long ago planned in the event of the Germans attacking in great force. This announcement comes from a masterly withdrawal, made possible by gallant shock troops in the front lines, who checked the advance of the Germans, while artillery, machine gun and rifle fire worked appalling slaughter among the masses of German infantry as they were sent forward, thus enabling the main body of the British to fall back deliberately and without confusion.

This army, it is declared, has been conserved, and up to the present very few counter-attacks have been made against the Germans. Where the British have stormed the Germans' newly acquired position they have driven them back.

But each mile of advance makes the bringing up of supplies to the German artillery and infantry more and more difficult, and unquestionably the British strategy, as demonstrated since the beginning of the great attack, is to let the enemy, so far as he may, wear himself out against a powerful defense.

Both British and French forces, where their lines meet, south of St. Quentin, are watching events with optimistic eyes.

The town of Chauny, southwest of St. Quentin, situated on the road to Compiègne, the gateway to Paris, has been occupied by the Germans, and according to the Berlin official communications everywhere between the Somme and the Oise River the Germans are pressing their advantage.

In addition to Chauny, the Germans are claiming the capture of both Peronne and Ham and to have increased the number of prisoners taken to more than 30,000, in addition to 600 guns and large stores of war materials.

MONSTER GUN IS LOCATED

In Forest Of St. Gobain, West Of Laon, 76 Miles From Paris City Hall.

Paris.—The German "monster cannon," which has been bombarding Paris, has been located in the Forest of St. Gobain, west of Laon and exactly 122 kilometers (about 75 miles) from the Paris City Hall. The gun bombarded Paris during the greater part of Sunday. The day was ushered in by loud explosions from the 16-inch shells, and immediately the alarm to take cover was sounded.

This occurred at 6:55 o'clock and many persons sought shelter, but greater numbers of them appeared in the streets on their way to the churches, which were almost as well filled as usual. The women who sell palm leaves on Palm Sundays did their usual thriving business. At first the shells began arriving at intervals of twenty minutes, and the detonations, considering the Sunday calm, seemed louder than those of Saturday. Their power to disturb the equilibrium of the populace, however, seemed less, the people refusing to be distracted from their Sunday habits to any great extent.

200 AMERICANS IN HUN PRISONS.

Names Of Many Captives Are Made Public.

Washington.—An official list of 200 Americans now prisoners in German camps, made public by the State Department, records the death of Charles Hemphill, shot while attempting to escape in September, 1917, and the death of Andrew Campbell Mutoy, an aviator, brought down near Pargny September 30, 1917.

The only American officer in the list is Lieut. Harold Willis, of Newton, Mass., an aviator, captured at Verdun on August 18, 1917. He is interned at Camp Guterloh. Evidently Willis was an officer in a French escadrille.

CUT WHEAT USE BY HALF.

Latest Restrictions Allow Only One Pound And A Half A Week.

Washington.—Further reduction in the consumption of wheat was asked of the public by the Food Administration, that the scant supplies available before the next harvest may be stretched to meet the needs of the army, domestic consumers and the Allies. Every American is asked to cut his average ration of wheat by 50 per cent., which would reduce the total normal consumption of 42,000,000 bushels a month to 21,000,000.

POUNCE UPON SENTINEL.

American Patrol Captures Hun In Listening Post.

American Army in France.—A patrol of four Americans crawled nearly a mile, approached a German listening post from the rear and jumped on a German there, throttling him before he had a chance to make an outcry. They returned to their line as quietly as they went, bringing their prisoner with them. He was put through an examination by the intelligence officers.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE ITEMS

Sellinggrove.—George C. Wagen-seller has filed papers for a Republican nomination to the legislature from Snyder county.

Easton.—The school board has decided to employ an overseer of home gardens at \$100 a month.

Ringtown.—Howard L. Fuhrman, a brakeman on the Reading railway, was crushed to death under his train at Lakeside. Fuhrman lived at Ringtown.

Lebanon.—Representative Asa Welmer has announced his candidacy for the Republican gubernatorial nomination on a liquor platform.

Harrisburg.—Some of the seven counties of Pennsylvania whose special closed season on deer will expire this year will ask for extensions to further propagation plans.

Harrisburg.—Heavy government demands for trucks for military use has not diminished registration of solid-tired motor vehicles at the state highway department.

Milton.—What is believed to be the last large acreage of full-grown virgin timber left in Northumberland county is being cut on the H. E. Billmeyer farm, near here.

Wyoming.—Joseph Foote, superintendent of the Wyoming division of the Erie railroad, has resigned his position to accept a commission as captain in the railroad division of the army.

Lancaster.—Rev. Francis X. Freer, assistant rector of St. Mary's Catholic church, has been appointed by Bishop McDevitt, assistant rector of St. Patrick's cathedral, Harrisburg.

State College.—The shop equipment and teaching facilities of State College engineering school have been accepted by the war department for training enlisted men in the mechanics of airplane construction.

Pottstown.—The Reading Transit company has been ordered by council to operate its cars on certain sections of street or remove its tracks within thirty days.

Easton.—According to an announcement by President MacCracken, there are now 562 Lafayette men in the fighting forces of the nation, including Major General Peyton C. March, chief of staff, Lafayette, '84.

Nesquehoning.—Ben Davis, a traveling auditor for the United Mine Workers of America, will probably be a candidate for state senator from the Fourteenth senatorial district, comprising the collieries of Carbon, Monroe, Pike and Wayne.

Allentown.—War gardens will be cultivated as extensively throughout the Lehigh valley as last year, when all vacant lots and back yards were planted with vegetables.

Allentown.—Prices at Lehigh county farm sales continue to reach top-notch figures, there being an especially big demand for good cattle and horses.

Birdsboro.—The Birdsboro Steel Foundry and Machine company is constructing an addition to its foundry in the shape of an "L," 135 by 60 feet, and another of 70 feet long to the steel foundry, with a third extension of 50 feet, and a fourth of 60.

Harrisburg.—Over twenty units of the reserve militia have been mustered into the state service.

Northampton.—John K. Shearer has been appointed justice of the peace for Northampton borough.

McClure.—The H. J. Stennert company has received an order from the war department for 40,000 coats.

McVeytown.—Robert Wagner lost a valuable horse when the animal stepped on a live wire that had blown down.

Locust Gap.—Ray Rein, driver at Locust Gap colliery, lost his right eye and had his face otherwise disfigured when kicked by a mule he was untying.

Lancaster.—Joseph Rupp, eighty-seven, who was assaulted with a club by Alex Henry, a hired man, is dead from the injuries and Henry is in jail.

Shindler.—Mrs. Charles McElhose killed her first snake of the season when the temperature registered thirty above zero, and she saw and dispatched a copperhead.

Harrisburg.—The public service commission has fixed April 4 at Northampton for hearing the complaint of that borough against the fare increase of the Reading Transit company.

Carlisle.—With 300 members and waiting knights present, the fifth anniversary of the founding of True Friend's Lodge, No. 56, Knights of Pythias, was observed.

Bethlehem.—A Chinese commission headed by Lieutenant General Chiang Ting Tsu, visited the Bethlehem Steel works and was shown through the plant.

Laurysburg.—A huge prize-winning Holstein bull owned by the Middle Coal Field Poor district, and kept on the farm of the district here, became unwell and had to be slaughtered. He weighed over 1200 pounds, dressed.

Easton.—Three young women, employed at the Redington fuse plant, appeared at the Easton recruiting office and asked to be enlisted in any branch of the service, saying that their sweethearts were at the front, and they wanted to go, too.

Pottstown.—The death in France of Sergeant Howard Peck, Jr., a son of Dr. Charles Howard Peck of New York city, and a member of last year's graduating class at the Hill school, makes the seventh from that institution who have given their lives for their country in the great world war.

Girl of Ten Started to France. Marion, Ind.—After deciding to become a Red Cross nurse for service in France, ten-year-old Geraldine Gerrel packed her suitcase and started for Indianapolis. She was caught at Alexandria and was returned to her parents, despite her protests that she wished to "do her bit" on the battle field.

Greensburg, Pa.—Louis Hope is in jail here because he "borrowed" a wife and baby to evade the selective draft law.

BAKER GETS BAPTISM OF FIRE

Visits First Line Trenches Held By Americans.

HE ENTERS A LISTENING POST

"On Frontier Of Freedom," He Says, Gazing Out Over No Man's Land —Calls On Archie Roosevelt In Hospital.

American Army in France.—Secretary Baker had his baptism of fire in the front-line trenches, and while he was returning a German shell burst within less than 50 yards of his motor car. He was not injured.

The Secretary went into the trenches in a sector, the location of which must not be revealed, where American troops face the enemy nearby. For half an hour he plodded over the duck boards. The Germans maintained an active fire with heavy pieces and machine guns. Nevertheless Mr. Baker made his way to an advanced sap, entered a listening post and talked for several minutes with the soldier on duty there.

But the narrowest shave was on his return to headquarters. The German shell of 165 millimetres roared down and burst cleanly less than 50 yards from the automobile containing the Secretary of War and the escorting officers. The shell hit a roadside dug-out, digging a big crater. Mr. Baker wished to stop and ascertain whether there were men in the dugout, but the chauffeur, realizing the danger, opened the throttle and made his best speed until the danger zone was passed.

It was the Secretary's hardest and most exciting day in France. On Monday evening, accompanied only by a general commanding a division and one other officer, he motored to a point accessible to the sector selected for his inspection. He dined and slept in the chateau of French friends of the officers. Retiring early, the Secretary arose at 4 o'clock in the dark of an overcast, chill March day. Taking breakfast quickly, he drove through the misty dawn to his destination.

As the lines were approached the steady reverberation of guns signaled great activity of the artillery. This was confirmed when, on arrival, it was found that the road selected for approach to the trenches was under brisk shelling. Indeed, the firing was so active as to cause the General considerable apprehension for the safety of his distinguished guest. He endeavored to dissuade Mr. Baker from going on with the expedition, explaining the danger. But the Secretary overrode his protest. Accordingly another route was reluctantly selected.

The party re-entered the motor and was driven to the selected point as far forward as motoring was safe. With the General and the other officer Mr. Baker walked over the shell-cratered region to a communication trench. He wore civilian clothes, covered with a trench coat, khaki breeches and boots borrowed from a colonel of about his size. He also put on a shrapnel helmet.

The Secretary was first put through the regular gas mask drill. He carried his mask slung at the prescribed position when he went in. A sentry halted the party as it was entering the trench and demanded a pass.

"Divisional Commander and Secretary of War," replied the General. Troops from Ohio were among those in the trench. Several of the men were known personally to Mr. Baker and he talked freely with them about their homes and families. One man said he was from Iowa, another from Chicago. The Secretary kept up running comment upon the strangeness of the circumstances under which men from all over America were fighting in distant France. "Once he remarked: 'I have been from farm to factory at home, and now I am in the front line.'"

"Finally, notwithstanding the protests of the officer, Mr. Baker made his way through the sap to the listening post. Peeping over the parapet into No Man's Land, he said: "Now I am on the frontier of freedom."

The Secretary asked the listening-post sentry if he saw Germans often. "Not very often, sir," was the response. Then he asked whether the Americans' shooting was better than that of the enemy and seemed greatly pleased at the emphatic reply "Yes it is."

WHEAT BILL PASSES SENATE. Measure Now Goes To Conference Between Both Houses.

Washington.—The Agricultural Appropriation Bill, with the Gore amendment increasing the 1918 government guaranteed wheat price to \$2.50 was passed by the Senate. It now goes to conference between the two houses where there will be another fight over the wheat price. The wheat price amendment was adopted 49 to 18 after five days' discussion in which its advocates urged the necessity of stimulating production, and criticized government price-fixing.

England Hunting Oil. London.—Active tests to discover oil will be made soon in England with the government's approval, according to the morning newspapers.

The Daily Express says that drilling operations must await the arrival from the United States of machinery ordered last July, but which is still in storage in New York. Lord Cowdray, owner of the important British petroleum interests, will spend £250,000 in drilling for oil in England.

Temperance Notes

(Conducted by the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union.)

BEER AND THE WAR.

Save, save, save! These are words that we face at every turn, says Corn Stoddard in the Union Signal. Money for Liberty loans; food for the allies and the war-tossed peoples; and for the boys and youths who are to fight the battle for democracy. Save!

Through all the grave or sometimes gay aspects of this many-sided thrift endeavor there recurs a jarring element. Questions arise which will not be silenced. What of the money, the food, the man-power involved in the production and use of beer?

We know from government statistics that the amount of foodstuffs used in making beer was greater in 1917 than in 1916 or 1915. We knew the world's food supply was low yet we allowed the brewers to use more foodstuffs last year than in either of the two preceding years.

A 30 per cent reduction in the grain used in brewing has been ordered for 1918, but this still leaves an amount of food material to go into the brewery vats, appalling under the circumstances.

Take the single item of barley. The barley used by American breweries last year, if made into flour or sent into France for bread, would have been equal to the normal bread ration of 8,000,000 people for a year. This we learn from no less an authority than a new book on food written by Vernon Kellogg and Dr. Alonzo E. Taylor of the United States food administration, which gives the bread values for 50,000,000 bushels of barley—bread enough for our army many times over, or more than enough for all Belgium or the smitten people of the French war zone.

WORSE THAN WASTED.

The liquor men are wasting food. Last year the waste amounted to 7,000,000,000 pounds of foodstuffs.

They are wasting labor. About 200,000 men are engaged in the manufacture, sale and distribution of booze in breweries, saloons and restaurants, as brewers, bartenders and waiters—at a time when every man is needed in some useful occupation to help win the war.

They are wasting life. Bartenders, brewery workers and waiters in saloons lose an average of six years of life on account of their occupations. If the 200,000 men who make and sell booze lose an average of six years of life, it makes a total of 1,800,000 years of life. The average man works about 30 years—so that the liquor traffic is using up the equivalent of 60,000 men in each generation. And this is too great a price for the nation to pay.

For these reasons—(1) the waste of food, (2) the waste of labor, (3) the waste of life—we have a right to demand that the liquor business be abolished.—From Publicity Material Sent Out by the Federal Council of Churches in its "Strengthen America" Campaign.

RATIFICATION PLAN CONSISTENT WITH AMERICAN DEMOCRACY.

"Prohibition in the organic law will forever destroy the keystone in the arch of true democracy," is the charge by the opponents of the federal amendment. They deplore the fact that a big, populous state like New York should count for no more than a small, sparsely settled state like Nevada in the matter of ratification of the amendment. They go even farther and insist that such a method of procedure is undemocratic and un-American. It is certainly too late in the history of the nation to make such a claim. As has been logically said, this method of amending the Constitution not only is not opposed to the American system, it is inherent in that system. If the principle involved in this method is wrong, if it is against public policy, the way to remedy it is to amend article 5, which provides this method of changing the fundamental law, rather than to denounce the provisions of the article as inconsistent with American institutions.

FOE MOST TO BE FEARED.

"The foe that I fear most," said Arthur Mee, author of "Defeat or Victory," at a recent meeting in Queen's hall, London, "is the man who is destroying the food I shall want for little Marjorie Mee when famine comes." And an outraged audience cheered to the echo Mr. Mee's indictment of "a trade which from the first day of the war till now, has never strained a nerve to help this land; has hindered it, hampered it, kept back ships and guns, caused the loss of thousands of our soldier's lives, and has all the time been the greatest pro-German force outside the German army."

SHOULD WE?

In the face of the terrific struggle for human freedom should we spend approximately a billion dollars a year for beer when this money is needed for Liberty loans, the Red Cross and those thousand and one beneficent agencies essential to all humanity in this crisis? Should we give the brewer foodstuffs that a hungry world could use, or coal needed for heat, light and power, or transportation needed for men, food, fuel and munitions.

A LONESOME PAIR.

"My goodness, but this is wonderful," ruminated Justice John of the Lincoln (Va.) police court on Monday morning, December 31, as he eyed the two lone drunks before him, the entire result of the police vigilance for Saturday and Sunday. "And this during the holidays," he continued. "Never in my long career on the bench has such a thing occurred before."

Alcohol leads to Nowhere Land. Far better that your boy should be somewhere in France.

Easter at Cradle of Christianity



WITH the celebration of Easter this year it is of interest to trace that observance to its source and note the manner in which it is commemorated in Jerusalem. Particularly is this survey of interest at the present time as the attention of the reading public has been drawn to the capture of the Holy City and its occupation by the British.

For many centuries the season of Lent has been a very important period of the year in the Holy Land, and especially in the city of Jerusalem. At this time the city is filled, often to overflowing, with pilgrims—Jews, Christians and Moslems—from all countries of the world to worship at its sacred shrines.

The Holy City is essentially and strictly religious every day in the year, but particularly during Lent. To declare oneself to be without any religious creed in Jerusalem is to invite and gain distrust and thinly veiled contempt, and an intangible ostracism from all classes and creeds of the citizens.

The Jewish pilgrims are the least in numbers. Their chief point of sacred interest is that portion of the ancient wall of the fortifications of their former temple on Mount Moriah, commonly known as the "Wall of Wailing," or "Jewish Wailing Place." The Mount of Olives, the Tombs of the Prophets, and other minor landmarks of bygone ages when they owned the land are objects of veneration. Added to these is the rare opportunity of celebrating the Passover among their Hebrew brethren in Jerusalem.

Moslems From All the World.

In normal times, when the world is not rent by war, the Moslem pilgrims come from every country of earth, as well as from the surrounding towns and villages of Palestine and Syria. They come to worship in companies in the same manner of making a pilgrim journey as was done thousands of years ago, with the music of lutes, tabrets and cymbals, of harps and drums, chanting sacred invocations and carrying enormous flags on which are inscribed or brocaded the attributes of and praise to God. Thus they journey to and walk into the Holy City. "Samuel said unto Saul: 'After that thou shalt come to the hill of God it shall come to pass when thou art come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet a company of prophets (religious orators) coming down from the high place (sacred shrines) with a psaltery and a tabret and a flute and a harp before them and they shall prophesy.'" (I Sam. 10, 5.)

The ecclesiastical year of Islam, consisting of twelve lunar months, causes all the other feasts and fasts to rotate around the solar year. But this annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem during Lent, to the Mosque of the Holy Rock on Mount Moriah and to the tomb of Moses, the great lawgiver, on the west bank of the river Jordan, is an exception. It is always arranged to take place during the Lenten season of the orthodox Greek church. The reason

given for the exception of this pilgrimage from the lunar calendar is that the change was instituted after the final expulsion of the Crusaders from the Holy Land as a precaution against any renewed attempts of the Christians to wrest Jerusalem from the Moslems.

Rival Pilgrims Meet.

From Christmas until Easter pilgrims from Greece, Russia, the Danubian provinces, France, Italy, Spain and all other orthodox Greek and Catholic communities used to come by tens of thousands, all armed, and full of religious zeal and enthusiasm, to worship at the Tomb of the Savior, the Calvary, and all other sacred shrines connected with the history of his life and teachings. Consequently the Moslem pilgrimage at the same season was not an unnecessary preparation.

Religious services were almost continuous day and night through Lent, all mosques and Christian churches being open to the worshippers. The fast of Lent is rigidly observed by the Greek, Russian, Armenian, Syrian and Coptic sects. Their diet is limited to bread, vegetables, fruit and vegetable oils, and on special days, only a little fish is allowed. The Catholic community abstains from animal flesh diet, but not from eggs, butter and milk.

This season is also important in a commercial sense. The manufacture of all kinds of relics and souvenirs occupies many of the citizens of Jerusalem and Bethlehem during the rest of the year. These are bought by the pilgrims in great quantities, not only for themselves, but also for those at home who could not make the pilgrimage. These devotees, who, as a rule, live in the Holy Land from Christmas to Easter, visiting all its sacred shrines and hallowed cities, bring much money into the country, also merchandise for sale, hence the failure of the pilgrim visitors since the beginning of the devastating European war has caused unmitigated suffering in Palestine.

Early in the morning of Palm Sunday the patriarchs of the above mentioned Christian sects give personally a genuine date-palm branch to any person who will come forward to the officiating hierarchy and accept it. This beautiful ceremony takes place in the Cathedral of the Holy Sepulcher in celebration of the triumphal entry of the Savior into Jerusalem.

An Easter Hope.

I feel in myself the future life. I am like a forest once cut down; the new shoots are stronger and livelier than ever. I am rising, I know, toward the sky. The sunshine is on my head. The earth gives me its generous sap, but heaven lights me with reflection of unknown worlds.

You say the soul is nothing but the resultant of the bodily powers. Why, then, is my soul more luminous when my bodily powers begin to fail? Winter is on my head, but eternal spring is in my heart. There I bethink at this hour the fragrance of the lilacs, the violets and the roses as at twenty years. The nearer I approach the end the plainer I hear around me the immortal symphonies of the worlds which invite me. It is marvelous, yet simple. It is a fairy tale, and it is history.

For half a century I have been writing my thoughts in prose and verse; history, philosophy, drama, romance, tradition, satire, ode and song—I have tried all. But I feel I have not said the thousandth part of what is in me. When I go down to the grave I can say, like so many others, "I have finished my life." My day's work will begin the next morning. The tomb is not a blind alley; it is a thoroughfare. It closes on the twilight; it opens with the dawn.—Victor Hugo.

Child and Flowers Symbols of Purity



TODAY. Arise, O Soul, this Easter Day! The Lord is risen! Forget the tomb of yesterday; The Lord is risen! And thou from bondage art set free, Thou sharest in his victory; The life eternal is for thee, The Lord is risen! —Sarah Louise Arnold.

YOU'LL LAUGH! DOESN'T HURT TO LIFT CORNS OUT

Magic! Costs few cents! Just drop a little Freezone on that touchy corn, instantly it stops aching, then you lift the bothersome corn off with the fingers. Truly! No humbug!



Try Freezone! Your druggist sells a tiny bottle for a few cents, sufficient to rid your feet of every hard corn, soft corn, or corn between the toes, and calluses, without one particle of pain, soreness or irritation. Freezone is the mysterious ether discovery of a noted Cincinnati genius. Great!

CHILDREN WHO ARE SICKLY

Mothers who value the health of their children should never be without MOTHER GRAY'S SWEET POWDERS FOR CHILDREN, for use when needed. They tend to Break up Colds, Relieve Feverishness, Worms, Constipation, Headache, Teething Disorders and Stomach Troubles. Don't accept any Substitute. Used by Mothers for 37 years. Sold by Druggists everywhere. 25 cts. Trial package FREE. Address THE MOTHER GRAY CO., LE ROY, N. Y.

PATENTS

Gas trusts would be unable to declare dividends if people didn't have money to burn.

Garfield Tea is Nature's laxative and blood purifier; it overcomes constipation and its many attendant ailments. Adv.

If a man dresses well and hasn't very much sense, he is usually dubbed as a "ladies' man" by others.

Acid Stomach, Heartburn and Nausea quickly disappear with the use of Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills. Send for trial box to 372 Pearl St., New York. Adv.

Between Girls.

Betty Wilde—Jack declares he'll go crazy if I don't marry him. Her Friend—Al! Then there's no hope for him either way.

Going to Be Something.

A colored man in Philadelphia requested his employer to release him so that he could go south.

"What do you want to go for, Lafayette?" "Cos I've called to a church down dar'."

"Called to a church? What are you going to be?"

"Ise goin' to be sumfin. I dunno whether I be de pasture or de sextant or de vestryman, but Ise goin' to be sumfin."—New Success.

Showing His Ignorance.

It was after five o'clock and the Illinois street car was crowded with passengers who were patriotically carrying their purchases home. At about Fourteenth street the car stopped and the conductor called out: "Here's a veil someone has lost."

"As no one claimed it, he cried again, 'Has any lady here lost a veil?'"

With that he innocently displayed the filmy article to those who were near.

"Oh, it's a waist," came in chorus from the women.

"He's surely not married," suggested one.

The owner of the waist had left the car at Eleventh street, but had so many bundles that this one was left behind in the crowd.—Indianapolis News.

Wakeful Nights

-go out of style in the family that once drank coffee but now uses INSTANT POSTUM

This wholesome beverage of delicious flavor contains no drug elements to upset heart or nerves and its cheery goodness is just the thing in a hot table drink

There's a Reason!