

## Verdun Central Point Of War

Paris, June 1.—Verdun is more than ever the central point of the whole war, and critics here are confident that the enemy is making a supreme effort to win a quick success. The fighting increases in violence with each fresh onslaught, attack follows attack, with only sufficient pause for the preparatory bombardment and with unexampled fury. The fury, who was so parsimonious in bringing up fresh corps to reinforce the force, which undertook the original operation, is now announced to have thrown in no less than eight divisions from other fronts during the last twelve days. The three battles which were fought on April 9, May 3 to May 8, and May 18 to May 30 took place on the left bank of the Meuse. The tide has ebbed and flowed over a fixed line formed by the Betincourt-Cumieres road, and the situation remains unchanged.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County, ss.  
 Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE. FRANK J. CHENEY  
 Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1896. A. W. GLEASON,  
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to all intents and purposes from what it was three months ago. The French first line is still unbroken. The Germans can obtain no military result until they force the second line and reach Charney. There only can they hope to carry the battle to the right bank of the river and determine the main issue. The objective is so remote that in the opinion of military observers it is altogether out of the reach of the enemy. The Germans, it is pointed out, have stripped the Russian and British fronts, the latter so dangerous a proceeding that the German general staff hesitated a long time before making their decision, and the present situation cannot be continued without serious risk. The Crown Prince is now in a position where it is imperative that he deal the French such a blow before Verdun as to disable them at least for a sufficient time to permit Germany to cope with the Russian hosts, which are growing more formidable daily. France faces the prospects with equanimity. Contrary to reports published in Germany, the French main reserves are by no means all engaged at Verdun. Fresh British divisions are completing their training every day and swelling the allied ranks, while Germany daily is forced to throw more troops into the Verdun melting pot. Paris, June 1.—The Germans were completely repulsed in an attack delivered upon the French positions at Dead Man Hill, about eight o'clock last night, according to an official statement, issued by the French war office to-day. A violent bombardment continued in

this region throughout the night. An intense artillery duel is in progress on the east and west fronts at Douaumont. The text of the statement follows:  
 "On the left bank of the River Meuse the bombardment continued with great violence last night in the territory around Dead Man Hill. A determined German attack, delivered yesterday evening at 8 o'clock against our position upon the eastern slopes of the hill, was completely repulsed by our fire.  
 "On the right bank of the river the artillery fighting has become exceedingly intense to the west and also to the east of Fort Douaumont.  
 "The night passed in relative quiet along the remainder of the front.  
 "During the night of May 31—June 1 a French air squadron threw down twenty shells on the railroad stations of Thionville, Audun and Lecrotoy and fifty other shells upon the commissary headquarters of the enemy at Azannes."  
 London, May 29.—"Irresponsible peace talk received its quietus from Sir Edward Grey last week, but no doubt President Wilson's speech before the League to Enforce Peace will revive the discussion in certain quarters," says the Liverpool Post. "Its definiteness in certain particulars is arresting, but perhaps to many of his own countrymen the air of definiteness which the President gives to some of his phrases may seem elusive.  
 "One can imagine many being especially disappointed when he says that with the causes and objects of the war the United States has no concern. To us, who believe we are opposing an attempt at world domination it is hard to believe that the cause for which we stand is not of some concern to the great republic of the west."  
 The Post argues that the Entente Allies are fighting for virtually the same object for which President Wilson proposes a league of nations.  
 The Manchester Guardian says this plan of the President is almost as old as the first formulation of the ideal of organized peace, but that it never before in any part of the world has commanded the support accorded it in America to-day. This newspaper says further:  
 "The President inevitably has confined himself to cautious and general terms, but it is impossible to miss the significance of his declaration that the United States would be ready to become a party to any feasible league of nations. Twenty-one months of war have done much to undermine even the rooted American aversion from alliances and leagues."  
 The Westminster Gazette says that if one is to understand what President Wilson is driving at, his speech must be considered from two points of view—the immediate point of view of the war and the more remote one of reconstruction after the war.  
 It continues:  
 "This proviso is necessary for the President's neutrality in mind and thought is an ice-cold abstraction for a belligerent who believes he is fighting in the fair cause of law and right. We do not understand how a neutral can expect to influence these events if he begins by declaring himself not to be concerned with their causes and objects. We do not see how he is to control this stupendous flood if he is not interested to search for or explore the obscure fountains from which they burst forth."  
 Presenting the argument that the entente allies cannot be expected to welcome the implied judgment that they really are responsible with their enemies for starting the war, the Gazette continues:  
 "We must guard ourselves in advance against being thought unreasonable or aggressive if we are unable to accept peace overtures based on the assumption of equal guilt. That being said about the immediate prospect we should be extremely foolish to write off as unimportant or impracticable what the President says about reconstruction after the war."  
 The Gazette considers President Wilson's declaration that the United States is willing to become a partner in any feasible association of nations as a momentous one and asserts that Great Britain's record for a century is an endorsement of his suggestion for establishing the security of the highways of the seas. It adds that if the President means sea power in war is to be deduced and limited in such a way as to deprive us of the principal weapon and means of defense, we naturally have a

good deal to say on the subject. But the association of nations to prevent war has the hearty assent of this influential newspaper, who says that if the President's speech can be taken as a declaration of the admission of the United States to this idea it has high significance. For it brings the United States definitely into world politics and makes her from henceforth one of the nations that must be reckoned with in any scheme of international politics, balance of power, association of nations or what ever it may be.  
 Pointing out that an association of nations would be compelled to use force to prevent any nation from committing an act of aggression, the Gazette says that if the United States joined with European peacemakers economic weapons would come into play.  
 The Pall Mall Gazette says:  
 "The Enforcement of peace is precisely what we ourselves are pursuing in what we believe to be the most effective, indeed, the only way. But it is worth while noting that if the President is not a partner to that undertaking and is obliged to limit his interest in the subject to an academic sphere his aspirations seem to coincide closely enough with those objects for which the allies are making their heroic sacrifices."  
 The allies are fighting, the newspaper says, for precisely President Wilson's doctrine of the autonomy of individual nations.

## Food Situation Is Threatening

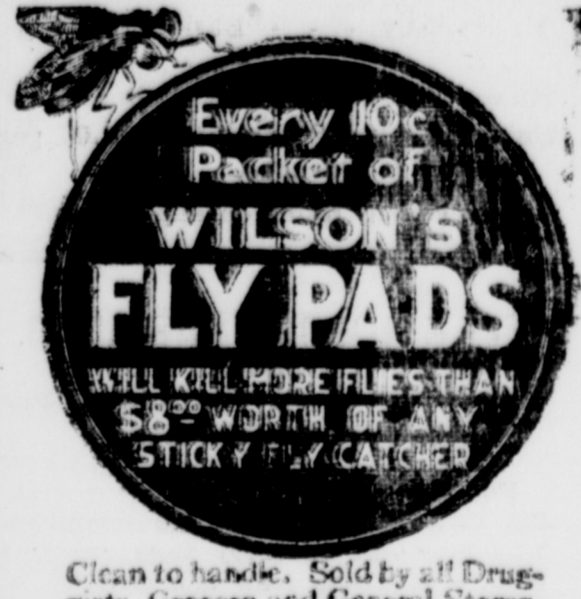
New York, June 1.—A London despatch to the Sun says:  
 Investigation of reports on the actual food situation in Germany reveals the fact that conditions are becoming worse daily. The food situation is threatening to become the most important factor of the great war.  
 A perusal of the German newspapers discloses a wealth of occurrences revealing the real conditions. Complaints are heard everywhere over the difficulty of obtaining supplies, which are constantly dwindling.  
 The news of the arrival of traveling soup kitchens circulated in Berlin was the occasion of wild rioting, which the Berliner Tageblatt reports as follows:  
 "An attempt by the Charlottenburg authorities to relieve the general distress by a distribution, through perambulating kitchens containing meals of pork, peas and potatoes, ended in an utter fiasco. Each kitchen contained four hundred pints of stew. A few minutes after the kitchens arrived the neighboring streets were thronged by thousands eager to secure a share.  
 "Drivers and attendants were helpless in the face of the mob of thousands of shrieking men, women and children demanding the steaming stew with pots, crockery, kitchenware of every description and even with bare hands. Hundreds of old men and women, as well as many children, were knocked down and tramped upon. Their cries of distress and pain were heard on all sides.  
 "The 'battle of stews' was soon over. Within a quarter of an hour the only evidences of fighting were broken parts of kitchen vans, smashed crockery and shreds of clothing littering the roadway.  
 "The authorities now announce that the affair was an experiment and that it will not be repeated. But this is a pity. They did not adopt any precautions which have prevented the scandalous scenes instead of causing still further suffering to the people."  
 The war office has issued a notice ordering merchants and manufacturers to furnish it with a list of all wool and wool products in quantities exceeding 5,000 pounds in weight in their custody or control.

## French View Of The Situation

Paris, June 1.—What the United States is on the eve of an election, which will prove vastly important to the world, I would like to lay before them the following points, which summarize our viewpoint of the whole war situation:  
 1.—The Verdun offensive has lasted three months, and people are astonished that it has not persevered in with such obstinacy, since it has been demonstrated that the strategic importance of this position cannot induce a decision, in so far as the issue of the war is concerned. The reason is that the Hohenzollern dynasty needs a victory, and the Crown Prince must save his marshal's baton, no matter what the price. Four hundred thousand men will perish, and even more, if necessary in order to satisfy the vanity and ambition of one man. That is what the American democracy must realize in order to have a clear vision of these great events.  
 2.—The German promises to the United States, on the submarine question, are not sincere. They are only the means of gaining time in which to build a fleet of high sea submarines, by which she hopes to become the mistress of navigation, even in any waters. When this fleet is ready, Germany will unmask her batteries.  
 3.—It has been said that the European war is an act of madness on the part of the powers engaged therein. We in France, on the contrary, believe that by fighting for the right, for the weak people, and for the respect of treaties, we are acting with profound wisdom, and we believe that those who think otherwise, and express their thoughts, in such rough language, are not wise.  
 4.—There has been talk of a mediator. There will not be any mediator. There cannot be any mediator.

## The Russian Czar.

Mr. Hamilton Fyfe, the English journalist representing the London "Daily Chronicle", in Russia, writes as follows of the Czar, who has just celebrated his birthday—  
 In spite of his years and his two decades of reigning, there is still in the Czar's manner a touch of shyness. He shows no sign of fear or suspicion. I recollect that the first time I saw him at close quarters—it was at Reval, where he met King Edward in 1908—I was surprised by his jolly smiling, care-free expression.  
 His shyness is soon rubbed off by intimacy. When he likes people he is frank and natural with them. One whom he likes very much spoke to him lately about being photographed and "kinematographed".



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 "grouped" with his soldiers. The Czar had related some incidents that occurred during a visit to a Siberian regiment. "What a pity," said the friend, "that there was no camera there!"  
 "But I do so dislike advertising myself," the Czar pleaded.  
 The friend insisted, however, on the advantages of making a sovereign's personality familiar to his people.  
 A few days afterwards the Emperor, sitting down to supper, with a twinkling eye, said to his adviser, "I've been doing some good advertising today. About two thousand feet of film I should think."  
 The Emperor is not a genius, not a despot, not a double-dealer by intention, but a ruler simple straightforward, sincere. Each of these qualities contributes in equal measure to the efficacy of his present resolve that Germany and her dupes must be soundly beaten before the war can end. He does not often speak of this resolve. When he does his words carry conviction. Once more I will quote Witte, who said: "He will not fight until he is forced, probably until the enemy cross the frontier. But when he does begin he will never leave off."  
 Sir Ernest Shackleton, the Antarctic explorer, has arrived safely at Port Stanley, Falkland Islands.

## Wheat And The War.

One of the most comprehensive articles in The Agricultural War Book of 1916 deals with the subject of "Wheat and the War". It is written by Mr. T. K. Doherty, M. L. B., Commissioner of the International Agricultural Institute. The author traces the course of events, as regards the wheat market, in the momentous years 1913, 1914 and 1915, the best named, sharing with the last two years some of their importance—although preceding the war—by reason of the decline of prices from those of 1912. In 1914-15 prices per bushel of British wheat jumped from \$1.05 to \$1.61. In the connection Mr. Doherty asks readers to examine a table giving quotations of prices since the year 1800. In 1812 the figures reached their zenith, Britain having wars with France and the United States on her hands. Wheat was then \$3.85 a bushel, or more than three times the standing of to-day. During the first quarter of the nineteenth century the lowest price was \$1.37, this was in 1822. In the second quarter, the lowest figure was reached  
 Concluded from page 7.

# "SALADA"

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