

## German Salients Are Being Crushed

Paris, April 20.—The uniform failures of the Germans to resist the methodical pressure of the French is the outstanding feature of the operations to date in the great offensive on the Aisne and in the Champagne. It is clear that General Nivelle's armies are in no danger of losing the initiative, and that gradually but surely all the salients along the Soissons-Aubervive front are being crushed.

The principal salient to which the enemy had clung formed an angle where the front, running south from St. Quentin, hinged to the line running eastward toward Rheims. Caught as in a vise by the troops advancing northeast from Lefaux and northwest from Vailly and Cavonne, the angle collapsed and Forte Conde was cap-

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tured. Substantial progress was made in the centre, ground being won east and west of Craonne, which is gradually being enveloped.

In the Champagne section on the right, strong positions still held by the enemy are falling one by one. All this work would only have been done at a heavy cost in life under former war conditions. It is being carried out with comparatively small loss now thanks to the new tactical methods used by the French.

Paris, April 20, noon.—Violent fighting continued during the night in the course of which the French made further gains in the regions of Lefaux and the Vaucleve Plateau, the war office announces. Several lines of trenches east of Loivre were captured.

Heavy counter-attacks by the Germans in the Champagne were repulsed, severe losses being inflicted on the enemy.

### "Their Little Evening Shoot"

I rode into Festubert, which was full of noise, says Capt. W. H. L. Watson in his "Adventures of a Dispatch Rider," and hastily dis-

mounting, put my motor cycle under the cover of an arch and reported to the general. He was sitting at a table in the stuffy room of a particularly dirty tavern. At the far end a fat and frightened woman was crooning to her child. Beside her sat a wrinkled, leather old man with bandaged head. He had wandered into the street, as he had been hit by shrapnel. The few wits he had ever possessed were gone, and he gave, every second, little croaks of breath. Three telephone operators were working with strained faces at their highest speed. The windows had been smashed by shrapnel, and bits of glass and things crunched under foot. The room was full of noises: the crackle of the telephones, the crooning of the woman, the croak of the wounded old man, the clear and incisive tones of the general and his brigade major, the rattle of not-too-distant rifles, the booming of guns, and occasionally the terrific, overwhelming crash of a shell bursting in the village.

There was the sharp cry of shrapnel in the street and a sudden rattle against the whole house. The woman and child fled somewhere through a door, followed feebly by the old man. The brigade major persuaded the general to work in some less unhealthy place. The telephone operators moved. A moment's delay as the general endeavored to persuade the brigade major to go first, and we found ourselves under a stalwart arch that led into the courtyard of the tavern. We lit cigarettes. The crashes of bursting shells grew more frequent, and the general remarked in a dry and injured tone:

"Their usual little evening shoot before putting up the shutters, I suppose."

But first the Germans "searched" the village. Now, to search a village means to start at one end of the village and place shells at discreet intervals until the other end of the village is reached. It is an unpleasant process for those in the middle of the village, even if they are standing, as it were, in comparatively good shelter.

We heard the Germans start at the other end of the village street. The crashes came nearer and nearer, until a shell burst with a scream and a thunderous roar just on our right. We puffed away at our cigarette for a second, and a certain dispatch rider wished he were anywhere but in the cursed village of Festubert by Bethune. There was another scream and overwhelming relief. The next shell burst three houses away, at our left.

The Germans finished "their little evening shoot." We marched back very slowly in the darkness of 1916 Farn.

### Calls Germany to Account

Buenos Aires, April 21.—The government has sent to Germany an energetic note demanding complete satisfaction

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for the sinking of the Argentinian sailing ship Monte Protegio. The Argentinian minister is instructed to immediately break off relations if Germany attempts to evade responsibility for the loss of the vessel. The instructions are sent to the minister to the effect that Argentina will permit no evasion or delay on the part of Germany. He is informed to instruct the Berlin government that if prompt satisfaction is not granted Argentina will follow the course of the United States and Brazil and will arm its ships against submarines.

## End of the War Is Predicted

London, April 19. (New York Sun.)—Predictions of a speedy end of the war are general here today. They are helped along by the news of immense victories on the British and French fronts and of heavy German losses. The newspaper are full of such headings as "War Drawing to a Close" and are selling like hot cakes.

Many circumstances bear out the feeling that the end is approaching. Germany not only has failed to seduce Russia to a separate peace, but is faced by internal dangers exactly like those she tried to propagate in Russia. The Kaiser is reported very ill at Hamburg. The peace advocates in Germany are emboldened and utterances stronger than ever before are permitted.

Especially important are the great captures of German prisoners. "Well, I always wanted to see England," said one German officer, starting from a front trench. "What do you mean?" asked an Englishman. The German did not reply, but held up his hands suggestively. He was taken prisoner soon afterward. His case is typical of thousands. The German soldiers are deeply affected by America's adherence to the Allies. The French and British are overwhelmingly superior in morale, ammunition, supplies, numbers, guns and machinery. They are winning now without great losses.

Renewal of the reports that Turkey, Bulgaria and Austria are seeking a separate peace, the acute disaffection in Berlin and Hamburg, anger in Bavaria because of the revival of reports that the German staff is deliberately sending Bavarian troops into impossible positions and sacrificing them recklessly, contribute to this result.

The carnage among the Germans is the greatest in the war. French reports of whole divisions swallowed up are confirmed from English sources.

London, April 19.—(New York World.)—A Geneva despatch to the Daily Express reports: La Suisse states that a neutral diplomat who has just arrived at Geneva from Berlin declares that within the next four to six weeks Germany will be without wheat and potatoes and the government will be forced to face a famished population.

Berne, Switzerland, via Paris, April 19.—Swiss Socialists with close German relations, learn on what they regard as indisputable authority that the representatives of about one-half of the strikers in Berlin formulated demands under which the German government was called upon to confiscate all foodstuff, re-distribute them equitably, and revoke the order reducing the bread supply.

## "Ninth of April Historic Day"

CANADIAN ARMY HEAD-QUARTERS, April 19.—(By Stewart Lyon, Canadian Press correspondent in France.)—Having heard somewhat of their achievements from the outside world, the Canadian troops have now had an opportunity of hearing, in an order of the day, the opinion of their army commander on the operations last week.

The general commanding the first army, Sir Henry Horne, says that he desires to express his high appreciation of the splendid work carried out during the days immediately preceding.

"By the troops of the first army," he adds, "the Vimy Ridge has been regarded as a position of very great strength. The Germans have considered it impregnable. To have carried this position, with so little loss, testifies to soundness of plan, thoroughness of preparation, dash and determination in execution and devotion to duty on the part of all concerned. The ninth of April will be an historic day in the annals of the British Empire."

This statement, read to the troops in orders, has been even more welcome than congratulations from a non-military quarter, welcome as they are, for the order represents the mature judgment of the army commander on the operations on the Vimy Ridge last week. It has produced in the ranks the smile that won't come off.

There is little change in the situation on the front to-day. In the region south of Avion, a suburb of Lens, a detachment of the fifth Prussian Guards attacked an outpost during the night. The attack was repulsed, and this morning the bodies of several members of this regiment were discovered in front of our position.

## Exterminating Couch Grass

(Experimental Farms Note.)  
With the land for the Experimental Station now located at Morden, Man., was purchased in 1915, it was found to be badly infested with couch grass (also called quack, twitch or quack, grass). In an effort to exterminate this weed, sixty-five acres of that part of the farm which appeared to be the worst infested was treated as follows:  
About the first of June, it was ploughed four inches deep and well harrowed.

## PASSED STONE FROM BLADDER

Joliette, P.C.  
"During August last, I went to Montreal to consult a specialist as I had been suffering terribly with stone in the bladder. He decided to operate but said the stone was too large to remove and too hard to crush. I returned home and was recommended by a friend to try

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ed. The spring tooth cultivator was then used, serving to draw the roots well to the top of the ground. Next a chain harrow was employed. This implement brought all the loose grass to the surface and left it in large rolls all over the field. These rolls were then forked into heaps to dry and were burned about August 1st.

Immediately after this the land was again ploughed and again given the treatment outlined above, and was finally ploughed a third time late in the fall.

In the spring of 1916, it was well harrowed then sown and cross-sown with barley at the rate of 1-1-2 bushels per acre each way. There was a good crop of grain and it was almost impossible to find a blade of couch grass on the whole area.

## Hungary on Eve Of Revolution?

New York, April 21.—A news Agency despatch from Rome, published here to-day, says:

"A revolution is imminent in Hungary, according to Vatican advices to-day.

"As a result of various disturbances, the information here asserted, Budapest and twenty-five other cities and towns had been proclaimed in a state of siege."

## German Workers Grow Desperate

Interest in the great French offensive on the Aisne to-day is second only to the startling news from the interior of Germany. Veiled though the situation is in the mists of a rigid censorship and obscured by the shackled condition of the German press, sufficient has leaked through to indicate that the German Empire is facing a great economic and political crisis.

The latest information received is that 10,000 striking munition workers have engaged in a bloody riot in the great Prussian fortress town of Magdeburg and were only prevented from burning the city hall after a sharp clash with the military. This story comes from the Dutch frontier with sufficient detail to make its claim to authenticity impressive. On its heels arrives the account of demands made by the leaders of the Berlin strike, demands of such a revolutionary character that compliance with them would mean a prompt ending to the military regime in the German empire.

Similar demands have not been voiced publicly in Germany since the imprisonment of Dr. Karl Liebknecht on a charge of treason. It is significant that they include a requisition for the release of all political prisoners which would include, of course, the noted Socialist leader.

The exact status of the strike movement in Germany is unknown, but it is certain that a very considerable portion of the munition workers have been affected. There are reports of a new strike at Essen and Magdeburg, the site of an important branch of the great Krupp establishment. An indication of the seriousness of the situation is afforded by the fact that Field Marshal von Hindenburg has considered it necessary to make a personal appeal to the workers in which he denounces strikes as inexcusable crimes against the fighting forces.

In the meantime General Nivelle maintains his unrelenting pressure against the enemy at the most vital point of his defences, the sharp angles at which the German line running south from Lens turns east toward Rheims.

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