

GERMAN STRENGTH CLEARLY DECLINES

Resources Failing at Very Moment When Situation Calls for Increase.

BREAK FEARED IN WEST

British and French Forces Strong and Capable of Holding Until American Army Makes Victory Certain.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—Germany's military strength now shows a clear decrease for the first time since the war began, according to a review based upon data of the French general staff made public here tonight by the French High Commission.

Worn down and driven back by the never-ending pounding of the allies on the Western front, the statement says, the Germans have made their supreme military effort after drawing heavily upon their inactive armies in the east and calling out their 1918 and part of the 1919 reserves.

Thus, while the allies have reached and are prepared to maintain their full strength while awaiting the coming of America's great army, the enemy's resources are diminishing at the very moment when the military situation demands that they increase.

"This shows," concludes the statement, "the active character attending the operations in 1918, when three great democracies, England, France and America, will unite their entire strength in attacking the enemy, in conformity with the only sound principle of war."

Two Fronts Are Compared.

The Commission's statement, issued through the committee on public information, follows:

"Both Franco-German fronts, on the Aisne, 1917, and Verdun, 1918, have already been compared, and it has been noted that they are practically of the same length. It has been stated that the German forces occupying them before the attack were equally comparable. Twelve and 14 divisions. It is known today that during the same period, from May to September, the Germans engaged 25 fresh divisions at Verdun and that they have been obliged to engage 45 on the Aisne. Furthermore, during an equal period, the French took 552 prisoners at Verdun and 852 on the Aisne.

"This comparison included only a small sector of the French front. But it showed a very interesting result, due to the increase of the material forces of the allies and the improved French fighting methods since adopted by the other armies and also as testified by the German staff itself, scraps of the battle of the Somme, in explaining their defeat: To the perfect use of technical methods."

German Losses Growing.

"If the above comparison is extended today to the entire Franco-English front; if you consider that from April 15 to June 15 the enemy engaged 108 divisions against the Anglo-French forces, and, finally, if one bears in mind that the successes of the British offensive at Ypres obliged the enemy to engage 15 divisions during the last 10 days, you can understand why the German losses on the western front grow heavier and heavier. (They admit the loss of 116,000 men during the month of May, 140,000 men are estimated by the allied staff during the month of June, etc.)

"This is because the fighting on the western front, as a matter of fact, practically never ceases. Whether in the French sector of Verdun or the Aisne, or in the British sectors of Arras and Ypres, the fighting is only discontinued at one point to be taken up at another. In addition to the big attacks a quantity of carefully prepared small actions which have been crowned with success and of which the battles are not able to give a clear idea increase the attrition of the Germans.

"This constant activity, coinciding with the weakness and inactivity of the Russians, also explains why the Germans are obliged to maintain, and succeed in effecting, maintaining, three times larger forces on the French front than on the Russian front. (In the beginning of the summer there were 156 German divisions to 700 kilometers on the French front, as against 130 Austro-German and Bulgarian divisions, 77 of which were German, on the eastern front.) It is known that the Russian winter practically puts a stop to all active operations, and that the reaction of the intense fighting in Russia on the eastern front has allowed Germany to consider it during four months as a veritable reserve for the western front.

Break Feared in West.

"It clearly appears at present that the German staff, remembering the critical situation in which they found themselves following the Anglo-French success in the Somme in 1916, fear to see their western front broken by the allied offensives in 1917.

"All the measures they have taken have been defensive in character, intended to strengthen their resistance in the face of Anglo-French forces. Not content with declining to give battle and withdrawing a portion of their front on the Hindenburg position, they have transported to the western front

EUGENE PUTS ON "MESSENGER GIRLS," SINCE BOYS ARE AVAILABLE NO LONGER.



EUGENE, Oct. 9.—(Special).—The messenger girl is one of the effects of the war in Eugene. Two of them made their appearance on the streets yesterday, wearing uniforms with divided skirts and riding bicycles. They are Margaret and Mary Turnbull, twin sisters, aged 17 years. Manager J. A. McKevitt, of the Western Union Telegraph Company's Eugene office, stated that it was impossible to secure boys above the age of 16 years and that other girls will be given employment when additional messengers are needed. Brothers of the Turnbull sisters were formerly employed as messengers in Eugene. The girls receive the same compensation for their services as given the boys. In rainy weather the girls will be given long waterproof coats to wear over their uniforms.

between January and April a certain number of divisions drawn from the Eastern front. As this did not suffice they have drawn the picked men from each of their companies on the eastern front and with the assistance of the class of 1918, have formed 27 new divisions, 26 of which have appeared in France.

"They have then exchanged their picked troops of the Eastern front for the inferior ones of the western front (Landwehr). Finally, once the battle began, in order to hold out they have successively replaced, number for number, 16 exhausted divisions from the French front by fresh divisions from the eastern front.

Supreme Effort Made.

"However, in spite of using all these methods, of which the latter have only been possible this year, due to the trouble made by the Russian revolution, Germany has made her supreme military effort.

"This is evidenced by the two following statements, which should be compared for future enlightenment:

"First—After the formation of the 27 divisions above mentioned, Germany had intended to create 10 more divisions with the remnants of the series 401-402. Not only has she been obliged to abandon the latter part of her programme, calling out a portion of the class of 1918, but she has been obliged to break up several newly formed regiments to reinforce her fighting units, and, for the first time since the beginning of the war, a clear decrease in the total strength of the German forces is in record.

Allies Are Stronger.

"Second—At the very time that her total strength is diminishing, Germany finds herself obliged to increase her reserves on the French front to 10 divisions with the sole aim of providing relay and resistance. Therefore, just as the offensive strength of the Germans has been broken in the open fields on the Marne and Yser and in the trench warfare at Verdun, her facilities for maneuvering, that is to say, the policy of transporting valuable reserves from one front to another, is prevented at present by the continuity and intensity of the Anglo-French offensive. Germany has still great powers of resistance which will take all the allied forces to break. She is capable of executing very vigorous local offensives. But her resources are diminishing at the very moment when the military situation requires that they should increase.

That is the principal point.

"On the other hand, British and French armies have reached their full strength in men and material, and are capable, with the help of America, of maintaining the enormous strength which they have gained to the end of the war. To this strength will be added the great American army, which will arrive as quickly as possible, as three years of war have demonstrated the value of time and the advantage of each day gained.

"This shows the decisive character attending the operations of 1918, when three great democracies, England, France and America, will unite their entire strength in attacking the enemy, in conformity to the only sound principle of war."

BULO PASHA IN NEW RULE

Alleged Spy Said to Have Posed as American in Paris.

NEW YORK, Oct. 9.—The assertion that Bulo Pasha, under arrest in Paris as an alleged spy and peace propagandist on behalf of Germany, posed as an American representative at a congress in Paris a month before the war started was made in a statement issued here tonight by Daniel Blumenthal, president of the World League for the Reconstitution of Alsace-Lorraine.

Mr. Blumenthal, who is in the United States to advocate the return of Alsace-Lorraine to France, said he first met Bulo Pasha at the Paris assembly, which was made up of representatives of oppressed peoples. Bulo Pasha, Mr. Blumenthal said, was taken into the conference of the delegates, and what messages he sent back to Wilhelmstrasse no one can tell.

MEN ELIGIBLE FOR SERVICE

Tennes Mathison and Sitton Linville Sent to American Lake.

ASTORIA, Or., Oct. 9.—(Special).—Notice has been received from the District Exemption Board that Tennes Mathison, of Seaside, and Sitton Linville, of Astoria, have been certified as eligible for military service and they will be sent to the American Lake training camp with the fourth contingent from this county.

The District Board also reported that Sundry Kahn has been exempted from service temporarily and Orlea O. King has been discharged.

Read The Oregonian classified ads.

BIG NAVY PLANNED

Programme Just Issued Calls for 787 Vessels.

TOTAL COST \$1,150,400,000

List Includes All Types From Super-dreadnoughts to Submarine Chasers, and Some Are Finished Already.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—The American Navy's war construction programme consists of 787 vessels, including all types from superdreadnoughts to submarine chasers.

In making this announcement today, Secretary Daniels said some of the vessels have been completed within the past few weeks and are now in service and that the remainder of the programme is being rushed. The total cost is estimated at \$1,150,400,000.

Many of the vessels are destroyers, and arrangements have been made for carrying out the \$350,000,000 supplemental destroyer programme which the Navy expects to be completed in 18 months.

Examination of contracts by the legal representatives of the builders prevented the formal signing of the agreements today with the six companies which are to build the craft, but Mr. Daniels said only minor details stood in the way of getting the vessels under construction.

All the companies have had experience in destroyer building and this is expected to make for rapid work.

Secretary Daniels said he expected the first of the new destroyers to be launched and commissioned within nine months. They will be of the latest, largest and improved type, which have just been tried by the American Navy, he said, and found to be unsurpassed by any destroyers in the world.

"Thousands of men will be required to man these destroyers," the Secretary's statement said, "and we are now busy training them. By the time the vessels are completed, the men will be ready."

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Lemon Juice is Skin Beautifier, Also a Whitener

Many women use just the juice of lemons to bleach or whiten the skin, but pure lemon juice is acid, therefore irritating, and should be mixed with cream.

At the cost of a small jar of ordinary cold cream one can prepare a full quart of the most wonderful lemon skin softener and complexion beautifier, by squeezing the juice of two fresh lemons into a bottle containing three ounces of cold cream. Care should be taken to strain the juice through a fine cloth so no lemon pulp gets in, then this lotion will keep fresh for months. Every woman knows that lemon juice is used to bleach and remove such blemishes as freckles, sallowness and tan, and is the ideal skin softener, smoothen and beautifier.

Just try it! Get three ounces of cold cream from any pharmacy and two lemons from the grocer and make up a quart of this sweetly fragrant lemon lotion and massage it daily into the face, neck, arms and hands. It should naturally help to bring back to any skin the whiteness, the sweet freshness and flexibility of which it has been robbed by carelessness or trying atmospheric conditions.

—Adv.

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