

U. S. SECTOR OF HIGH STRATEGIC VALUE

American Offensive Would Strike Direct at Heart of Teuton Power.

HUGE FORTS SUPPORT LINE

Great Importance Attached to Future Operations in Which Soldiers From United States Will Have Conspicuous Part.

Now that the American Army has taken over a section of the battle front in France, interest of the people of the United States is focused upon the sector which they occupy.

According to official announcement just made, the Americans are holding a sector extending east and north from St. Mihiel toward the German border. No statement has been made of just how many miles of front the Americans have taken over from the French, but assuming that the American sector extends to the German border, it may be seen by the map that approximately 25 miles of the line are now held by the Americans.

The sector where American troops are now fighting, although for the first year and more of the most quiet of the active battle front, is regarded as the most vital point of the line as it bears upon possible menace to the Germans.

Position Regarded as Strong. The battle front relinquished by the French to General Pershing's forces generally is located about 16 miles north of Toul, the great French fortress. The city of Nancy is 14 miles east of Toul. Toul is the capital of the department of the Meuse at Moselle.

The American Army has been placed in a part of the line where the surrounding country is of a rolling, hilly character, scattered throughout which are forests of considerable size.

Crossing the battle line on the eastern end of the American front is the Moselle River, flowing northward to a junction with the Rhine River in Germany.

Backed by the great chain of forts extending south from Verdun to St. Mihiel and thence to Nancy, the Toul and Nancy to Belfort, another French stronghold of the first class, the American sector is regarded as practically impregnable to direct assault by the Germans, although had the Germans succeeded in their attack upon Verdun the French might have been forced to relinquish Toul and Nancy.

Wedge Extends in Line. As the battle line now runs there is an awkward salient in the French line. A wedge with its point at St. Mihiel and sides extending along the edges of the Moselle plain north and west, respectively, has existed in the line practically since the Germans halted in their retreat from Paris at the beginning of the war.

The German attack upon Verdun was an attempt by the enemy to widen this wedge.

Directly south and back of what is believed to be the eastern end of the sector occupied by the Americans is the forest of Le Foy on the left bank of the Moselle River. Villages between St. Mihiel and the Moselle River close to the rear of the American sector are Sully, Apreval, Regueville and Pont-a-Mousson.

Strategic Value Great. The region of the American sector is roughly bounded by the Moselle River on the north, the Meuse River on the west. St. Mihiel is on the Meuse River. By railway, Nancy is 213 miles from Paris.

A successful offensive by the Americans and French jointly along the St. Mihiel salient would strike directly at the heart of German power.

The powerful fortress of Metz lies due north of Nancy and the battle line now runs within about 16 miles of Metz at its closest point of approach. Verdun is directly west of Metz.

Between Verdun and Metz is the watershed of the Meuse-Moselle, part of which is the main line of the German front. From this plain Germany dominates the iron mines of the Basin de Briey to the east and the Moselle valley to the west. Germany's armaments come from these. Without these mines it is admitted by the Teutons themselves that Germany could not carry on the war three months.

Metz Probable Objective. A joint French-American offensive would aim to eliminate the St. Mihiel salient by capture of the Moselle plain. If successful, General Pershing probably would push north along the Moselle River and invest the fortress of Metz.

That part of France where the Americans are located is one of the richest in natural resources. Nancy, ancient capital of Lorraine, is the seat of a bishop and court of appeal and the seat of a military division dependent on the Chalon corps d'armee. It is also a university town, with the four faculties of medicine, literature, science and law, and as an educational center has risen since 1871.

To Americans this city should possess much interest. It possesses a large library, archives of antiquarian interest, a botanical garden and a museum of natural history, an academy, a geographical society and an important school of forestry. The first agricultural station founded in France in 1827 is at Reville, in the vicinity.

Industrial Resources Large. Timber, grain and hops are largely grown in this district. Hops for paper mills in the Vosges and embroidery, which was its earliest industry, long have been objects of an extensive trade at Nancy.

Industries adding to Nancy's importance are iron works, foundries, cotton and woolen mills.

TO RELIEVE CATARRHAL DEAFNESS AND HEAD NOISES

If you have Catarrhal Deafness or head noises go to your drug-gist and get one ounce of Parmerol (double strength) and add it to hot water and just a little sugar as directed in each package. Take one tablespoonful four times a day.

This will often bring quick relief from the distressing head noises. Clogged nostrils should open, breathing become easy and the mucus stop dropping into the throat. It is easy to prepare, costs little and is pleasant to take. Anyone who has Catarrhal Deafness or head noises should give this prescription a trial.

SECTION OF BATTLE LINE IN FRANCE ALONG PORTION OF WHICH AMERICAN ARMY IS FACING GERMANS.



Official Announcement Says That United States Troops Occupy Sector From St. Mihiel East Toward German Border.

chemical works and glass works. Before the war large numbers of persons were employed in making straw hats, artificial flowers, boots, shoes and hosiery.

The commercial importance of Nancy is enhanced by its being an important railway junction. The railway from Paris to Strasbourg skirts the city on the southwest, and to the east and north lie the Meuse and the Moselle, supplemented by the eastern canal between the Meuse and Moselle, which always to Metz, at Epinal by Mirécourt to Chateau Salins, join the main line in the neighborhood.

Toul City of Antiquity. Toul is one of the oldest towns in France, having been an important city under the Romans. It is of great historic interest and has been the object of attack during wars since the fourth century. In medieval times it was sacked successively by Goths, Burgundians, Vandals, Huns and Franks. In the Franco-Prussian War of 1870 Toul capitulated to the Prussians after a 12 days' siege.

BARRAGE HALTS TEUTON RAID Silent Attack Anticipated and Repulsed by American Troops.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Feb. 4.—(By the Associated Press.)—German plans to raid the American trenches were frustrated early this morning. The American artillery put down a heavy barrage in front of and on the German lines, which are believed to have been filled with men and officers awaiting the signal to attack.

It was discovered at a certain hour that the Germans intended to carry out a "silent" raid. Fifteen minutes before the time set all the American guns concentrated their fire where, according to the information, the enemy was massed. It is believed heavy casualties were inflicted on the Germans.

The Germans are using gas shells freely and endeavoring to envelop one of our battery positions with gas, but without success. They have dropped a number of shells in the roads behind the American lines.

During the German bombardment of Saturday a number of Americans who were wounded slightly by shell splinters were treated in the lines with their first-aid packets, and included on remaining at their posts until the light was finished.

American in German Camps Receive No Mail. Spirits Unbroken, but Worried Over Failure to Hear From Home.

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—American prisoners in German camps are facing hardships with unbroken spirits, but are worried about their failure to receive mail from relatives in this country, according to letters in possession of the prisoners of war aid department of the Y. M. C. A. of this city.

The letters, sent to E. Wilson, associate secretary, recently returned to this country after spending two years in war work in Europe, were mailed by the Y. M. C. A. of this city. Barnaby Boyle is known officially as an American prisoner of war No. 1. He claimed to have gone through the Sittling Hall camp and the Spanish War without a scratch and to have met misfortune only when he turned sailor.

Probably the youngest American held as a prisoner of war is Henry H. Henderson, 16 years old, in a prison camp at Lubeck, Germany.

One of the most human letters of the batch of 148 was from a wife who lives in East Boston, Mass., to her husband in a prison camp in Germany. He asked the Y. M. C. A. to find out why she did not write. Here is part of what she wrote:

"If you have not received the letter I sent before, I will have to tell you that I am a very busy woman. My baby daughter was born to me on April 28, 1917. I had her baptized—the name of Mary. I had her hope for her picture especially to send me a picture of her. I don't suppose you received that either.

"Mary is a beautiful baby. I could write a book about all the cute things she does and you believe, Tom, she is sitting up by herself and wearing soft shoes and only four months old."

GERMAN PLOT SNIFFED Registrant Falsifies About Nationality and Is Being Investigated.

TACOMA, Wash., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—A premeditated plot to get into the regular Army for the purpose of giving Germany information is suspected by a Tacoma exemption board which turned a man's name over to the Department of Justice today.

The man, whose name is purposely withheld, stated in his registration card that he was not in sympathy with the central government and that he was a German.

On his questionnaire all deferred classified as "C" and "D" and he claimed to be a citizen of the United States.

Baker Grand Jury Reports. BAKER, Or., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—The Baker County grand jury, which reported at 3 o'clock this afternoon, indicted Emley McDonald and G. W. Donnelly for gambling, J. J. Burns and Edgar T. Pearson for larceny by ballot, and Walter Hainman for the larceny of a steer. It also brought in seven sealed indictments. Ployd Polard, charged with larceny, was released on account of lack of evidence.

AMERICA REJECTS BRITAIN'S TERMS

Nation Fears to Make Move That May Result in Neutrality Peril.

U. S. PROPOSALS ANSWERED

Commercial Agreement Offered by This Country Provided Conditions Relating to Dealings With Teutons.

CHRISTIANIA, Feb. 5.—Norway's reply to the alternative American War Trade Board regarding supplies from the United States to Norway, published today, emphasizes the firm resolve of various Norwegian people and government to remain neutral.

"Norway, in her commercial policy, cannot break with one belligerent," the reply says, "without imperiling her general neutrality."

The Norwegian government entertains no doubts that the United States and her allies understand war. Norway's difficult situation, Norway justifies its claims that the country should not go without bread, thus being confronted with the alternative of complete distress or an agreement that might endanger her neutral position and possibly expose the country to war, which in short might destroy what the Norwegian people have taken centuries to build.

Benefits to United States Cited. The reply also emphasizes the important benefits rendered to the United States and her allies by Norway, and especially by Norwegian commercial shipping, which have been attended by great sacrifices in human life and ships.

The reply points out that Norway has endeavored to accommodate the United States so far as she can reconcile this with her vital interests, saying:

"Norway offers to the United States and her allies the greater part of her exports in return for supplies necessary for her national health and productivity."

The proposed agreement between Norway and the United States, as recently announced by the American War Trade Board, made a definite allotment of various commodities, including food supplies, which it would be permitted to export to Norway from the United States.

Agreement for War Period. This agreement was intended to operate for the period of the war, but was to be subject to termination by either at the expiration of one year from the date of signing.

It is pointed out that the central powers by Norway was virtually prohibited. No foodstuffs could be sent to the central powers, except 45,000 tons of fish and fish products a year, but such exportation was prohibited of fish, or products of fish, in any way prepared with supplies imported from the United States.

Strong restrictions also were placed on Norway's export of copper to the central powers.

BEND SEEKS AIR SCHOOL Army Officers Inspecting Locations to Hear of Central Oregon.

BEND, Or., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—If possible the Army officers, who were in Portland on Saturday looking for a location for an aviation school, will be brought back to Bend by an effort made to have the school located somewhere in Central Oregon.

Bend meets all the requirements of the school, says J. H. Crabtree, who headed the party. The general headquarters of the school, according to reports, are in Bend, and the school is to be located in the vicinity of Bend.

Special agents were being placed at their disposal, it was added, to bring about explosions and fires.

AUTOSHOW IS NEAR CREW OF FIFTY MEN BUSY PREPARING AUDITORIUM. Governor Withycombe Will Turn On Lights at Opening Hour; Seattle Will Send Big Delegation.

A crew of 50 men went to work last night to make ready the city Auditorium for the big Portland automobile, truck and tractor show, which will open there tomorrow night for one week.

The men worked all last night removing all the seats from the main floor of the Auditorium and marking off the spaces for the cars. Bright and early this morning the work of bringing in more than 100 automobiles and putting them in their assigned spaces, will begin.

The show, which will be the largest ever held in the Pacific Northwest and the only one in that territory this year, will be opened by Governor Withycombe. The Governor will press his foot against an automobile self-starter on the stage, whereupon many lights both inside and outside the building will flash on.

Judging from the interest already displayed, the show will be well attended. M. O. Wilkins, manager of the show and president of the Dealers' Motor Car Association of Oregon, under whose auspices the show is to be held, received a telegram last night from Seattle to the effect that President A. S. Eldridge, of the Seattle association, and 50 Seattle dealers will charter a special car and come to Portland in a body Saturday.

Special rates during show week have been granted by all the railroads from Northwestern points. One of the particular features of this show will be the truck and farm tractor exhibits, which are more than ever important at this time.

Youth Charged With Purse Stealing. ASTORIA, Or., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—John Merila, a young man who had

save that Shovel of Coal a Day for Uncle Sam

That liberty loan bonds are not acceptable as Federal taxes, inasmuch as the revenue ends of the Nation would be defeated by such procedure is announced by Milton A. Miller, collector of internal revenue, in response to the erroneous impression that the bonds are acceptable for such purpose.

Mr. Miller quotes from advice received from the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, as follows: "Correspondence received from this office indicates that persons have been erroneously advised that liberty loan bonds will be accepted in payment of taxes due the United States.

"Liberty loan bonds cannot be accepted in payment of such taxes. To accept these bonds for taxes would defeat the revenue ends."

Umbrellas at Sale Prices. All our Fancy Colored Umbrellas must be closed out before our new Spring stock arrives. at 1/4 Off. Each Umbrella is fully guaranteed to be sun and rain-proof, and to wear for one season, the same as if sold at regular price. Colors included in this sale: Dark and light green, lavender, plum, dark and light blue, red and gray.

Don't wear yourself out running a Sewing Machine. Buy a POLAR CUB HOME MOTOR and make sewing a pleasure. Complete with rheostat \$10.00. Be Sure and Buy a DeVine Sewing Razor This Week—SPECIAL HALF PRICE

Valentines. Nice lacy ones, such as you sent years ago, for Sweetheart, friend, grownups, children, mother, father, husband, wife—with Serious, frivolous, sentimental; and formal greetings. One Cent to One Dollar. Artistic table decorations, Seals, Stickers, Stick-ups, Place Cards, Crepe Paper. Knickerbocker Bath Spray and Shampoo, all in one. \$1.75 to \$6.00.

WAR AIMS EXPOSED Documents Disclose Teuton Designs on U. S. MANY OUTRAGES PLANNED Unlimited Credits Opened at German Banks in 1914 to Finance Destruction of Property in Neutral Countries.

THE OLD RELIABLE UNION You Will Not Get Hurt if You Find This Number. PLATES Porcelain Crowns \$3.50 to \$5.00 Porcelain Fillings \$1.00 to \$1.50 22-K Gold Crowns \$3.50 to \$5.00 22-K Gold Bridge \$3.50 to \$5.00 Extracting \$1.00 to \$1.50 We Guarantee Our Work.

UNION PAINLESS DENTISTS 231 1/2 Morrison, Cor. Second—Entire Corner—Dr. Whetstone, Pres. LOOK FOR THE BIG UNION SIGN

GREEK REVOLT CRUSHED HUNDRED AND FIFTY ARRESTS MADE FOLLOWING LAMIA UPRISING. Several Former Cabinet Ministers in Custody in Their Homes and Guarded by Police.

TELEPHONE RATES RAISED Oregon City Hard Hit by Increase of Toll to Portland. OREGON CITY, Or., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—Local and long distance telephone rates in Oregon City have taken a sharp advance, involving an increase of 100 per cent in the rate to Portland, and business interests of the city, and the weekly luncheon of the live wires of the Commercial Club here today, adopted a resolution directed to the Public Service Commission protesting against the rise.

LANE COUNTY BOYS DEAD James W. Morgan and Earl Lewellyn Succumb in Training Camps. EUGENE, Or., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—News of the death of two Lane County boys in their country's service has been received within the last 48 hours. A message was received at Coburg Sunday night, announcing the death of James W. Morgan, 21, at Mare Island, Calif., from typhoid pneumonia. Word was received at Junction City last night of the death of Earl Lewellyn, 21, at Waco, Texas, resulting from a complication of scarlet fever and pneumonia. Morgan, who was a son of J. W.

FRASIER'S CHARGE IS 'JOKE' Bondsman Say No One Will Take Statement of Forger Seriously. EUGENE, Or., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—R. L. Bogart and E. U. Lee, bondsman of E. J. Frasier, convicted forger, who forfeited his bond by flight to California and who was subsequently arrested at San Diego, do not believe that anyone will take seriously Frasier's statement made at Corvallis yesterday to the effect that he refused to provide additional bond for Frasier, when it was asked by the court, because they feared a "political bunch" would ruin their business.

NOT SO LONG AGO we walked moderate distances—and walking promoted health. Now the taxi or your own auto is waiting at the door—lack of exercise is the result. This leads to digestive congestion. Ameroil For Constipation. Ameroil (pure paraffine oil) is the logical relief for constipation. It is a lubricant which goes direct to the intestines and aids the natural functions. Full pint bottle 65c. Sold in all Owl Drug Stores and by other good druggists.

BONDS NOT LEGAL TENDER Internal Revenue Collector Issues Ruling on Payment of Taxes. That liberty loan bonds are not acceptable as Federal taxes, inasmuch as the revenue ends of the Nation would be defeated by such procedure is announced by Milton A. Miller, collector of internal revenue, in response to the erroneous impression that the bonds are acceptable for such purpose.

AMEROIL For Constipation. Ameroil (pure paraffine oil) is the logical relief for constipation. It is a lubricant which goes direct to the intestines and aids the natural functions. Full pint bottle 65c. Sold in all Owl Drug Stores and by other good druggists.

JAMES O. SPENCER IS DEAD Well-Known Resident of Dundee Succumbs at Daughter's Home. DUNDEE, Or., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—James O. Spencer, 67, died today at the home of his daughter at Dundee on Otterbrook farm, his boyhood home. He lived with his daughter, Mrs. Rev. George H. Green, Frasier, when it was after cremation at Portland, burial will take place in the family cemetery at Otterbrook farm.

AMEROIL For Constipation. Ameroil (pure paraffine oil) is the logical relief for constipation. It is a lubricant which goes direct to the intestines and aids the natural functions. Full pint bottle 65c. Sold in all Owl Drug Stores and by other good druggists.

AMEROIL For Constipation. Ameroil (pure paraffine oil) is the logical relief for constipation. It is a lubricant which goes direct to the intestines and aids the natural functions. Full pint bottle 65c. Sold in all Owl Drug Stores and by other good druggists.

AMEROIL For Constipation. Ameroil (pure paraffine oil) is the logical relief for constipation. It is a lubricant which goes direct to the intestines and aids the natural functions. Full pint bottle 65c. Sold in all Owl Drug Stores and by other good druggists.