

BOGHES BALKED IN PLANS FOR VICTORY

War Department Asserts That British and French Tenacity Spoiled Hun Schedule.

RESULT IS YET UNCERTAIN

Position of Allied Armies Is Declared to Be Improved Strategic Standpoint, but Further Enemy Attacks Are Expected Soon.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—French and British tenacity has upset the ambitious plans of the German high command for the battle of Picardy, says the War Department's weekly military review tonight, and now the enemy determined to get in some sort of success at any cost, is throwing fresh forces into the battle in an effort to win limited objectives. Because of this, the situation is expected to remain uncertain for some time to come.

Huns Behind Schedule

"At the opening of the third week of the German offensive, we find that the enemy is still far short of attaining his principal objectives," says the review.

"It is now evident that the German high command contemplated overwhelming the British at the outset between the Oise and the Somme, and driving a wedge into the Franco-British forces. The enemy fully expected to achieve a decision in the field in the course of one great battle.

Attacks Hurl Back Hun

(Continued From First Page.)

it was possible with the naked eye to see them forming for the attack, and in every case the British artillery and machine guns played havoc among the assembling troops.

Near Heisterne German concentrations were caught in machine gun barages on three occasions and badly smashed.

The British artillery continues to pound the Germans all along the battlefront.

The second phase of the great battle along the Somme which the Germans began on Thursday last has died down. It lasted less than three days and the fighting has resulted in no more serious engagements in which the French and British allies have more than held their own.

Meanwhile General Foch, the commander-in-chief of the allies, is bidding his time, meeting the German assaults with powerful resistance, and here and there conforming his lines to the necessities of the battle. It is confidently stated at Paris that Foch will not be drawn into any false move—where each move is of such vital importance—but will strike with his reserves at the moment chosen by him.

YANKEES CONFRONT GERMAN TRENCHES

Official War Reports.

British.

LONDON, April 7.—The War Office tonight issued the following statement concerning operations in France:

"Counter attacks carried out by us yesterday successfully re-established our former positions in Aveluy wood and resulted in the capture of more than 120 prisoners and several machine guns.

French.

PARIS, April 7.—The War Office statement tonight says:

"Last evening the French repulsed a German attack in the region of Grivesnes.

"In the course of the night the artillery of both sides displayed great activity between Montdidier and Noyon. West of Noyon a German detachment which had succeeded in getting a foothold in the advanced trenches was immediately ejected by a counter attack.

German.

BERLIN, via London, April 7.—The official communication from general headquarters reads:

Western theater.—On the battle front violent artillery duels developed in the afternoon, followed by strong British attacks on the Ancre and Avre. The British forces, storming in thick masses, collapsed north of Beaumont-Hamel and before our bridgehead positions on Albert.

"South of Villers-Bretonneux an action by enemy storming troops which had assembled did not develop on account of our fire.

"French divisions which had been brought up from other fronts stormed in vain on the western bank of the Avre between Castel and Mailly, east of Thury, near Cantigny, and five times near Meuil.

"With the heaviest losses, their attacks broke down many times, after desperate hand-to-hand fighting.

"The troops of the army of General Boehm attacked yesterday morning enemy positions on the southern bank of the Oise near Amigny. While some of them forced a passage over the broad and very marshy Oise sector and took by storm the suburbs of Chauny, other troops in an attack from the east took strong positions near Amigny and in the northeastern portion of Coucy wood. They reached the line of Biehan-court, Autreville and the northern border of Barisis.

"As a result of the overpowering fire of our artillery and mine throwers, the French suffered very sanguinary losses. To the present more than 1400 prisoners have been brought in.

Strong Points Held on Meuse Heights Within Sound of Guns of Verdun.

ARTILLERY FIRE PERSISTS

Fourth American Organization to Strike on Western Front Takes Over Sector That Had Been Held by the French.

BY FLOYD GIBBONS.
WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, April 7.—(Special.)—The fourth American organization to strike on the western front is stationed within sound of the guns of Verdun.

German Trench in Sight

I was directed upon another flight of dark steps and after a considerable climb emerged in a camouflaged post where the guard stood by his machine gun. Looking through the aperture in front of the muzzle, I was able to see one full section of the German trench on the small hill opposite.

Teuton Gunners Alert

There are spots where the Germans from the heights opposite commanded the American line and drenched it with machine-gun bullets whenever a head is shown.

Noted Geographer Is Dead

PARIS April 7.—The death of Vidal de la Blanche, the noted geographer, is reported. He was 73 years old.

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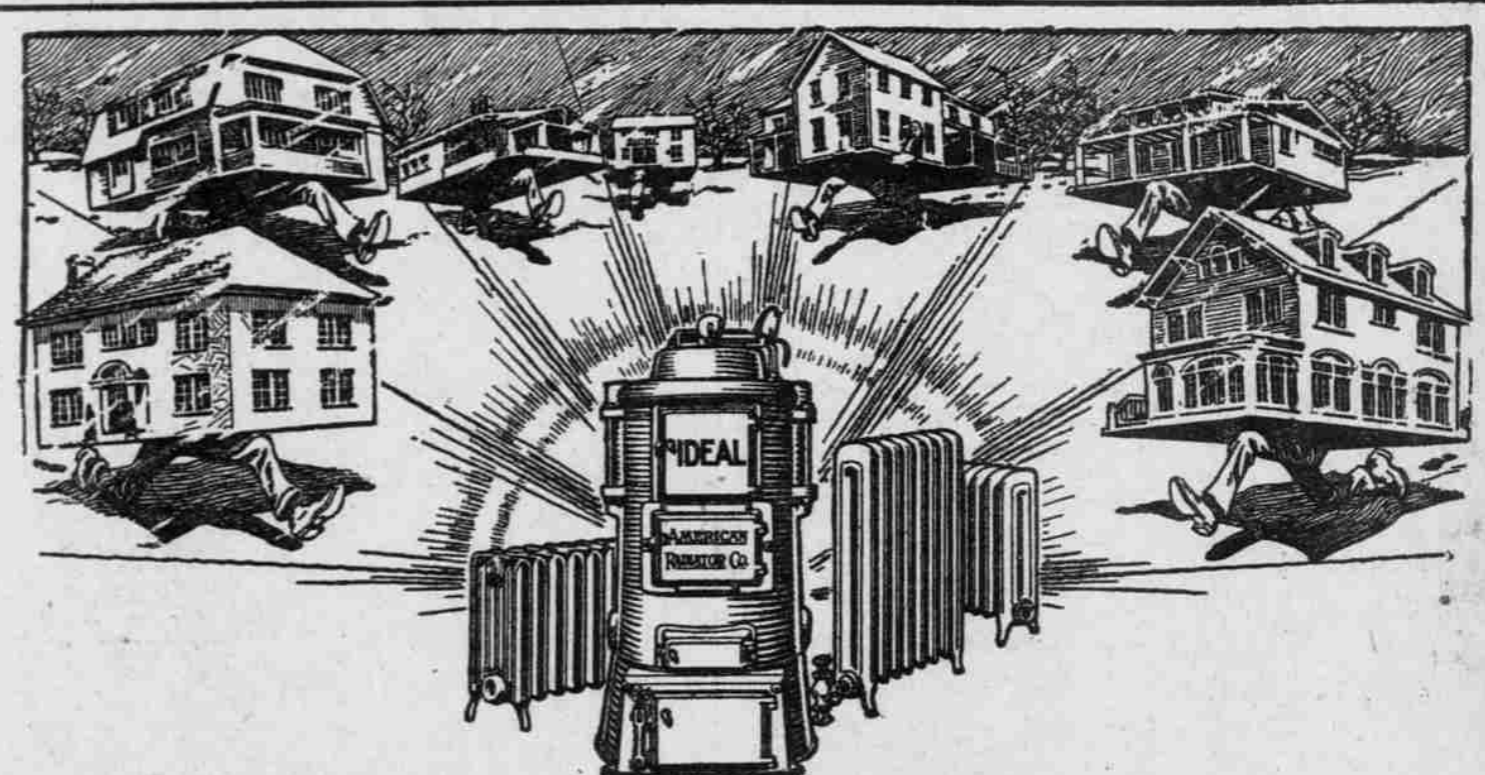
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