ALLIED COMMISSIONERS EMPHASIZE HOW UNITED STATES CAN HELP

M. VIVIANI. ©I.N.S.

BRITISH COMMISSION ©N.E.

Left to right—M. Viviani, former premier of France, who heads the French commission; the British commissioners, seated, left to right: A. A. Paton, Lord Eustace Percy, A. G. Anderson, Flavell, Sir George Foster, Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, Major Gen. G. T. M. Bridges, Rear Admiral Sir Dudley R. S. de Chair, Sir Joseph Pope, W. T. Layton and Major H. H. Spender Clay. Standing back of Mr. Balfour (with mustache) is Sir Eric Drummond.

ANOTHER YEAR OF WAR NOW SEEMS CERTAIN---BY FRANK H. SIMONDS

Germany Relies on Continued Success of Submarine Activities and Possible Defection of Russia as Favorable Factors—Present Indications All Point to a Campaign in 1918

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THE thousandth day of the war passed a fortnight ago quite unnoticed. Less than a hundred days remain before we shall observe the third anniversary of the outbreak of the great conflict. This was the measure that the late Lord Kitchener fixed for the duration of the war. Is there any prospect of a termination within his limit?

Frankly, I do not think so. All the evidence of a military sort points now to a fourth year. Last year I said that all evidence then available pointed to a struggle enduring at least as long as our own Civil war. It now seems to me that present indications confirm that earlier view.

In examining this question of the probable length of the war, the question which has been uppermost in the minds and the hearts of millions for nearly three years, it is necessary at the outset to make certain reservations. There are factors that we cannot yet measure. It is conceivable, for example, that starvation will bring Germany to an absolute surrender within the next eight weeks. But if Germany does get through the next eight weeks, 10 at the most, without being forced by food shortage to surrender, then a new crop will be coming in, and, however short this may be, it will serve to keep the country going for a number of months.

Britain's Peril.

Now the allies have hoped, some of their leaders have believed, that the German collapse was due in May or June. But quite as clearly the Germans have believed, and many of them still believe, that the submarine campaign is bringing Britain to the point of starvation, and will wind the war before the summer is over. We may say that the allies are encouraged by what they hear and hope about German conditions, but we must quite as clearly reckon that what the Germans hear and hope points quite as strongly toward British starvation. We know that German calculations, as to time, are wrong, and that Britain can last this year, at the very least, but there is at least sound reason for believing that Germany will also pull through, and that allied calculations are also beside the mark.

German Internal Conditions.

Conceivably there will be an explosion within Germany. We hear much of the undercurrent of dissatisfaction and worse among the laboring classes; we perceive evidences of unrest that may lead to some sort of change in the German government, may even lead to revolution, although those who know Germany best least expect revolution. But to reckon on peace that comes from German internal disturbances is to reckon unwisely, all things considered.

And at the precise moment that the outside world is thinking most of German internal weakness, German public opinion is buoyed up by the unmistakable collapse of Russia. The greatest single fact in the war history of 1917 has been the collapse of Russia as a military force, and there are signs that are unmistakable that, whatever be the ultimate outcome of this revolution, the Russian army has been disorganized so completely that it is no longer wise to count upon it as a necessary factor in allied campaigns.

If Russia Makes Peace.

It may be that next spring Russia will have found herself and have reorganized her resources and her armies. If she shall have accomplished this, the peril to Germany will be very great. But, on the other hand, it is at least as possible that Russia may make a separate peace with Germany and the allies of Germany, and that there will be released for service against the French and the British both the German and Austrian troops now on the eastern line, to say nothing of Turkish and Bulgar troops.

Nor is it outside of the range of possibility that, given a Russian defection, Italy will make a separate peace or succumb to an attack made by Austrian and German troops released from the Carpathians and the Lithuanian fronts. Terms such as Italy might be forced to take would easily be procured from Austria by Germany, if she desired to buy off Italy. I do not mean to suggest that Italy would betray her present allies, but it is possible that they might be unable to give her the necessary aid to defend her fronts against an attack such as laid Roumania in the dust last autumn.

Separate Peace Scouted.

Personally I do not believe, judging from such information as I can gather, here and abroad, that either Russia or Italy will make a separate peace. Neither do I believe that there will be a German revolution, nor that Germany will be starved into surrender by the end of June or July. Recalling what the south endured in the last days of the confederacy, it seems to me doubtful if Germany can be expected as yet to yield to food exhaustion, and she has no such industrial collapse to face or fear as struck the south in 1864.

Laying aside the question of accidents, which is a double question, as I have tried to explain, we have this situation. On the military side there is no reason to expect that Germany can be conquered before the end of the campaign of 1917. We should not be misled by the pleasing reports that come from the allied nations. In the last month the British and French have been more successful than at the Somme and the British have won a really impressive victory. But having won their original success they have not been able to follow it up by a swift drive and the battle of Arras is now sinking to the level of the battle of the Somme; it is becoming a pounding operation in which all the gains are British, but the gains themselves are not of the sort to hold out promise of the collapse of the German army or an immediate and far-reaching reterat.

Germany at the Frontier by Winter.

Given the rate of progress now being made by the British, given a campaign, more successful than the Somme, but of the same general character, we may see the Germans back at the French frontier before snow flies. Save for bad weather they would have had to retreat last autumn, but in any event they were compelled to retreat in the spring and they seem certain to end by making a similar withdrawal before this campaign ends. But if the Germans are compelled to withdraw to the French frontier, if, and this is an extreme expectation, they are compelled to retire to the line of Antwerp, Brussels, Namur and the Meuse, they will still be provided with admirable defensive lines, and they will have shortened their front and thus reduced their responsibility in men; that is, reduced the number of men needed to hold the front by several hundred thousand.

Germany Well Supplied.

Always there is the possibility of a German disaster, of a sudden collapse of German morale. Such a collapse is not in the least impossible, and we have German testimony to prove that it was perilously near at the end of the Somme fight last year. But, again, it is not a thing on which to calculate. Save for accident, the Germans have the men and the munitions to defend themselves for the present campaign. They have recently rallied after initial defeat by the British, and they have been able to hold the French with little gain in the greatest offensive that the French have yet undertaken, and the failure of this offensive to win a decision has led to a modification of French military command.

I do not wish to seem to minimize recent allied success. Forty thousand prisoners, 400 guns, Vimy Ridge and its accessories are the biggest bag in the west since the Marne campaign closed. The British performance demonstrates that in the long run the new British armies must win the war, for the man power of Britain is now greater than that of Germany, including British colonies, and besides there is the considerable remaining man power of France.

Submarine and Russia Give Hope.

But the German reckons that before the allies, given their present rate of progress, can reach Germany, Britain will starve. He calculates upon a separate peace by Russia, or, at the least, Russian quiet. If the submarine campaign were a demonstrable failure, if there should be a Russian offensive like that of Brusiloff of last year, he would probably make peace on terms that he would not now think of. But he has two solid reasons for expecting to escape ultimate defeat, the submarine and Russia, and he is likely to keep on, unless he starves or is defeated in the field until both hopes have vanished.

And it is not demonstrable to him or to the world that the submarine campaign will fail. We know it cannot succeed this year. If by next year American aid and British effort combine to establish the fact that Britain will not starve, then we shall have a German surrender because there will be left no German hope of success, if Russia has not made a separate peace. But if Russia makes a separate peace, there is an end of starving Germany and the man power of France and Great Britain will not be able to tear down Germany and Austria with their fringes of allies; not even with Italy could this be expected.

A separate peace with Russia means that the United States must supply the man power to defeat the central empires, and it means that unless the United States, in addition, can supply the food for Britain, the steel for France, and the coal for Italy, there can be, at the least, a drawn battle in Europe. We shall have to take Russia's place in the battle line, and we shall not be a complete substitute, for we cannot exclude Germany from Russian wheat fields.

New Peace Campaign in the Fall.

Germany expects to hold out until winter. She expects by her submarine campaign to bring Britain, at the least, to the edge of famine. She plans to renew her peace campaign of last year with the end of the present campaign. She expects that the end of this campaign will find her still fighting far within enemy territory. Her campaigns are now directed to holding, to the defensive on land; she relies only upon the water for her offensive, but she relies heavily upon it.

If the United States decides to send troops at once to Europe, if she begins at once the transport of these troops, and if it becomes clear to the Germans that we can send and maintain troops in France, that we are going to send masses and that sometime next year American armies will take their place on the front, then the outcome of the war will be plain to all Germans, on the military side. This will be true even if Russia has made a separate peace.

Blow to German Hope.

If the United States, acting with Britain, can, by building ships, by using German ships, by employing its fleet, by all means conceivable, demonstrate that the submarine cannot blockade Britain, that the British people can continue for a year or two more, then the German hope will expire. But it will take not less than a year to establish these things, and in all this time the German army will still be able to defend Germany and the German people may easily be convinced that Britain is at the end of her resources.

Examining the present campaign before Arras, it is well for all of us to note its resemblance to Verdun, and the assertions now made by the British inevitably suggest the German statements when they had failed to get the French fortress by a single thrust. At that time the Germans saw the extent of their first success and the gain to them in the fall of Fort Douaumont. They asserted (falsely, it seems now) that they had taken 40,000 prisoners. As they continued to gain ground, and they did continue to gain ground right up to the moment of the Somme attack, from February to August, they claimed that they were bleeding France white.

Encouragement for Germany.

There are many points where the parallel is not good. The Germans sought to take a fixed objective, the British are fighting to destroy a military force, but just as the French were comforted and encouraged by the resistance of their troops, who did, in fact, slowly yield ground, the Germans will now be encouraged, are encouraged, by the resistance of their troops. The German line does hold, as did the French. It has not yet been pierced; the chance of piercing it before Arras probably has ended, for the element of surprise is gone.

We must all of us guard against an optimism which will do no good, and may have infinitely harmful consequences. Reading our dispatches every day, we may easily conclude that so many victories must assure the immediate collapse of Germany. But Germany sees it quite differently, she sees that in distant France her armies are still contesting the ground they have long held. The loss of a French village or town means much to the French and British who take it. It does not mean much to the German people who learn they have lost it.

In the United States we easily imagine that the news that we have entered the war must have a profound effect upon Germany morale. It will have, but we do not understand that this is balanced by the effect upon German morale of the collapse of Russia and the plain possibility, believed to be a certainty by most Germans, that Russia will shortly make a separate peace. Eventually we shall be a worse foe than Russia, but today Russia has millions of trained soldiers where we have hundreds; she has cannon, armies and a common land frontier with Germany; we are thousands of miles away, without armies, cannon or a road to German trenches, save by the submarine infested ocean lanes.

Britain at Peak.

Viewed as a military problem, the war is advancing toward a satisfactory solution with unmistakable regularity. Britain has come into the field this year organized, her armies and her generals are trained, her man power is at its maximum, she outguns the Germans and her armies, unlike the French and the German, are made up of young men, the best of her manhood, German armies are retreating and German hopes of conquest have long ago faded into the hope of a drawn battle. The nation that hoped to conquer Europe now hopes to last long enough to escape destructive peace terms.

But it is not yet time to expect a German collapse, granted that the collapse must ultimately come. When the war is over the cost to Germany in manhood will be beyond that of all other nations. She spent huge numbers against France in the first campaign and before Verdun; her losses in her Russian campaigns were very great, particularly in the first years. At the Somme she suffered mainly at British hands, while the French loss was relatively small. Today her great losses are being made to the British, who are, in turn, bearing the heaviest burden. Tomorrow Germany may expect to lose to the American troops that are to come.

Germany's Human Sacrifice.

When the war is over the percentage of men killed and disabled in Germany will vastly exceed that of any of her foes. But since the lines that she holds are relatively short, she is still able to man them. She had more than 8,000,000 to start with. Her own lists show a loss of more than 4,000,000, which means a permanent loss of above 2,000,000. Such figures as I can get suggest that her loss has been much greater, perhaps her permanent loss has been 3,000,000. But 5,000,000 are all that are needed to hold her lines and give her such reserves as she yet needs, however greatly she may be outnumbered.

The military and political masters of Germany have decided that even the great human sacrifice, disproportionate to that of all other nations fighting, shall be borne by Germany rather than that they shall have to concede defeat or give up stolen territory. So far they have been able to persuade their people to stand by them; they have been able to do this because of the submarine and the Russian revolution. We believe Germany is beaten, but we have no means of convincing the German people. They believe that the allies must give over the battle before numbers win it for them. Even though we refuse to accept their logic, we must recognize that they accept it, and that their determination to continue rests upon just as firm ground, so far as their minds are concerned, as does our determination for us.

Campaign for Next Year.

In sum, the present indications all point to a campaign of 1918. Despite German shortage of food, it now seems likely that Germany will weather the crises of June and July and survive until the new crop begins to come in. This means that there will be no surrender due to famine this year.

On the military side there is no present promise of a German collapse before snow flies, despite the steady progress of British armies and the unmistakable superiority of the British over the Germans in material and men. Further German retreats are assured, but there is no present indication that these retreats will bring the allies much beyond the Belgian frontier or within striking distance of Aix-la-Chapelle and the lower Rhine.

We Must Prepare for 1918.

A complete Russian collapse would, if followed by a separate peace, make it inevitable that the United States should send vast armies to Europe and the French and British armies would have to play the role of the French army from the Marne to the Somme; they would have to hold up Austro-German numbers until the new ally was organized and on the field. A Russian attack, on the other hand, unlikely as it now seems, might end the war this year. So might an Anglo-American demonstration of success in feeding Britain and disposing of the submarine.

But, laying aside all those elements which represent the chances and looking at the situation purely from the military point of view, it seems to me that Germany has the men, the guns and, so far as it is now safe to calculate, the will to carry on for the present year and to begin the campaign of 1918. It is for this campaign that the British were preparing when I was in London. It is for this campaign that the United States must prepare; for the Russian situation remains so confused that for many months it may be at least possible that there will be a Russian defection, and therefore a break in the allied line, that can be filled for offensive operations only by American armies.

Coal Shortage Serious.

Buenos Aires, May 12.—Coal is so scarce in Argentina that the dredging of the country's navigable rivers and of Buenos Aires harbor has practically been suspended. This is a particularly serious matter here, as it was necessary originally to deepen the local harbor to permit the entrance of large vessels and a constant continuation of dredging is required to prevent it from refilling.

SIX FRENCH CITIES IN THE WESTERN WAR ZONE

German Destructiveness Ignores Traditional and Historic Association

By Wallis Nash.

LENS, Lille, Douai, Cambrai, St. Quentin, Laon. These six situated on, or within striking distance of the Hindenburg line in the eastern district of France, were, up to three years ago, among the most prosperous and useful of French cities. The largest of them—Lille—had a population of 216,807, by the census of 1908. The smallest—Laon—15,000. Their total population was, by the same census, 371,607.

To what numbers they, have been reduced by German cruelty, rapine and devastation it is impossible to say. All France looks on with mingled horror and rage to see them meet, by German bomb, torch and conflagration, the fate of their smaller neighbors and dependents, already reduced to ruin by calculated methods.

Let us see what manner and grade of civilization these cities showed the world in which they and we lived happily together only three years ago.

Lille, the greatest of them, was founded in the dark ages, the eleventh century. But the present city is modern, and a worthy rival in city purposes and attainment of the best of our American cities. The church of Notre Dame is a splendid edifice. The university had 1100 students, and the Catholic seminary 500. The public library is worthy of its home. The textile industries of the city employed in 1913 over 20,000 workers. In addition the city produced machinery, dyes, paper, sugar, beer and her industries had a world wide renown.

Lens, the most northerly of the six, was the center of the coal mines of France. Her population was 27,800. Of her varied industries sugar was the most important. When that city was approached by the British armies in their victorious progress northward the edict went forth to destroy the coal mines, rather than that, they should return to their rigthful owners. So, bombs and high explosives were served out on their shafts and engines in abundant doses.

Douai Seems Doomed.

Douai cannot expect to avoid sharing her neighbors' fate. She stands 20 miles from Lille and had 33,000 inhabitants. But as there was an arsenal located there, and a cannon foundry as well, her fate can hardly be in doubt. The city has a history of more than 500 years. Ancient houses and beautiful public buildings border her streets. The public library had on its shelves more than 100,000 books, and 3000 manuscripts collected from long past ages. Her Catholic college stood from 1568 to these days and her students went forth to the whole world. The Douai Bible is known by the name of the city where it was translated. Her industries were chiefly in lace, cotton, oil, soap and machinery. Cambrai. Here was a population of 28,000 people. Her glory rested in her cathedral, the city hall, the college, public library and a multitude of ancient houses which visitors came to see and admire from far and near. The city's industries were in textiles, such as linen, cambric and thread; she produced also large quantities of sugar and leather.

St. Quentin boasted a population of 53,000. Employes in the factories of embroideries, other textiles, of sugar, paper and machinery totaled 13,000 work people. This is also a very ancient, but well preserved and admired city. It is a grievous pity that its proper owners and inhabitants should be brought to look eagerly on its destruction by shell fire to oust the German captors whose tenure has outraged and degraded them for three miserable years.

Laon is the most southerly of the six cities. She may be expected soon to return to the possession of her proper inhabitants. This is a beautiful city of the ancient time. In 1913 there were 15,000 inhabitants. A cathedral of old Gothic architecture, and the old palace of the bishops, were the most highly prized buildings of the old city. By this recital we may better appreciate the immediate prizes for which the French armies, and their allies, are spending willingly their best blood and treasure.

Germany's Destructiveness.

But ancient and irreplaceable buildings, traditions of civilization, reaching down through many centuries, associations with great deeds in past ages, and clustering round thousands of homes, will not save these cities, or the countries surrounding them from brutal and reckless destruction. The Germans ignore what is very plain to the rest of the world that each fresh act of brutal destructiveness postpones by yet another stage that peace that they profess to desire. On their shoulders rests the responsibility for these daily growing floods of the blood of men.

THE ARRAS BATTLEFIELD

The shaded area indicates the Arras battlefield.

RASH ON FACE ITCHING INTENSE

Caused Disfigurement. Lost Sleep. Cuticura Healed.

"My face broke out in a rash which caused disfigurement for the time being. The skin was red, and the itching was so intense that I lost sleep.

"I tried ——Salve and ——Salve but they did not do any good, and the trouble lasted about three weeks. Then I sent for a free sample of Cuticura Soap and Ointment which helped so I bought a bar of Cuticura Soap and a box of Cuticura Ointment which healed me." (Signed) Jos. P. Bolger, 2429 W. Polke St., Chicago, Ill., Oct. 16, 1916.

Cheap soaps, harsh soaps, coarse, strongly medicated soaps are responsible for half the skin troubles in the world. They make little irritations into great ones. Stop the use of all doubtful soaps. Use Cuticura for all toilet purposes. Help it, with touches of Ointment applied to any redness, roughness, pimples or dandruff.

For Free Sample Each by Return Mail address post-card: **"Cuticura, Dept. H, Boston."** Sold everywhere.

"I'll Give You 3 Minutes To Remove Blackheads!"

"A Surprise in Store for Those Who Have Been Trying to Get Rid of Them for Years," Says the Stage Beauty Queen, Valeska Suratt.

BY VALESKA SURATT.

REALLY, I lose patience sometimes when I receive letters from some of my friends, stating that they have been steaming their faces and pinching the skin in a ceaseless endeavor to get rid of those obstinate pests, blackheads. Of course, I know it is because they do not know how. Nevertheless, I see as a result of these practices thousands of otherwise smooth skins becoming covered with large pores, which face steaming always causes. And pinching causes spot which take a long time to disappear. Small blackheads are usually present by the thousands. Now the remedy for this condition is simple, and it never fails. A little powdered neroxin sprinkled on a wet sponge and rubbed over the blackheads removes them all in only a few moments. It may be difficult to believe, nevertheless it can be proven by anyone. Try it and you will see.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

MISS B. B.—Sprinkle liberally some hydrolized talc in your armpits every morning and you will be free all day from that terrible armpit perspiration, and all disagreeable odor will be removed instantly and prevented from forming. This is indeed a wonderful article.

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EVANGELINE D.—I have often been told that I could make a "mint of money" with my complexion formula if I only half tried. But I guess I'm not cut out for that kind of work. I prefer to let those have it who need it, and Heaven knows there are millions who do need it. This formula produces startling results on the complexion in a few days, making it spotless and beautiful, no matter how "bad" it was before. It is made by mixing an ounce of zintone with two tablespoonfuls of glycerine in a pint of water. Your freckles, too, will vanish quickly.

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GENEVIEVE T.—Why not face the facts? There is only one thing which will force hair to grow, and which will stop falling hair. I, myself, tried in years preceding, almost everything sold for making hair grow. You now are going over the same ground. Save your hair, your years, and your money. Do as I say now, and get from your druggist one ounce of beta-quinol, and mix it with either a half pint each of water and alcohol, or one pint of bay rum. What it will do to your hair in a short time will astonish you. Your hair will be queenly, grow abundantly, and you'll be the envy of your friends. You have the secret now. It costs little, and never fails.

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MRS. B. G. F.—Hairy arms are unpardonable when you can free them in only a few minutes, completely and without injury by a new simple means. Moisten the hairs with sulfo solution, and in a few moments the hairs will be entirely dissolved. There is nothing else known so remarkable in its action as this. It leaves no redness or spot such as is invariably caused by the superfluous "hair burners" so commonly sold. The skin, no matter how sensitive, is always left smooth.

CURIOUS.—It is almost impossible to find a face powder that is not "chalky" and that does not lay on in spots after a few hours. Some time ago I had my own face powder made, so exquisitely fine that it is invisible when applied, always "stays on," and of course has no chalkiness whatever. I was prevailed upon to allow it to be sold, and you can now get it in drug stores, as "Valeska Suratt Face Powder," for fifty cents, in flesh, white and brunette.

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MISS T. A. S.—There's no reason in the wide world why you cannot get rid of the wrinkles, my dear, not in the least. That is, if you do as I say. Get two ounces of eptol from your druggist, and dissolve in half a pint of water, adding one tablespoonful of glycerine. This will make a cream. Apply this freely every day. Stop worrying about it, and in a very short time your mirror will begin to call you to have a look at yourself. Deep wrinkles, crows' feet, lines of age, will surely and quickly vanish. It surpasses anything known for this purpose.

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IN DOUBT.—You're right. Soaps do dry up the natural secretions of the hair, and cannot remove the film of fatty substances and scales forming on the scalp. These must be dissolved away. This is done in a wonderful way by using a teaspoonful of eggol in a half cup of water. This makes an extraordinarily rich shampoo. A douche or more of these headwashes can be obtained from a 25 cent package of eggol at the drug store.

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MRS. H. O.—For bust development make up a mixture of two ounces of ruetone, half a cup of sugar and half a pint of water. Of this, take two teaspoonfuls three times a day and at bedtime. This will develop the bust if anything can, although this cannot always be guaranteed.

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MRS. H. T.—You can get one of the beautiful Suratt pillow-tops, in orange and purple, with my large photo and signature in the center, at the special price of 50 cents, by sending the price to "Secretary to Valeska Suratt, Thompson bldg., Chicago."

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SORROWFUL.—In the future whenever your druggist cannot supply you with eptol for making my wrinkle-remover, send the price, which is 50 cents, to my secretary, to the address given in the preceding paragraph, and you will get the article by return mail.