DITTERLY COLD WEATHER HAS PASSED AND GROUNDS ARE READY FOR BATPLE.

According to All Precedents, This Ha the Appointed Time for Some His-ary Making Drives. (By J. W. T. Mason, Written for the

United Press.)

NEW YORK March 2.—The time of major offensives has come in the war sone. March is the month of the press fishing and of the initial development of great strategic plans. Henceforia, the war news may carry any say the first intimation of America's forthcoming drive assing

carry any day the first intimation of America's forthcoming drive against the German front. The bitterly cold have ceased, for the most part, to the seesten battle line and the thaws. Last March, the French and Britmake quagmires of the shell holes in front of the tenches. Which ever side desires to move first to the new attack will probably select this month for the initial assault.

moved forward and March 11 capturish made their most effective joint

ish made their most effective joint attack of the war, in the west, which was followed by the great German retirement to the famous Hindenburg line on March 18-20. At the same time, the British army at the other end of the war area, in Mesonotamia, har weak in Pobritism for the purlast week in Pebruary, for the pur-ed Bagdad.

In 1916, March saw the maximum effort put forth by the Germans to capture Verdun. The beginning of the attack on the fortress was ad-vanced by the Crown Prince to the last week in Februay, for the purpose of securing the benefit of a sur-prise assault. But, the heaviest fighting fell in March and it was the March defensive of the French army that broke the back of the German

movement.

n March, 1915, the British sirted their first spring offensive, which resulted in the capture of Neive Chapelle. The Russian advance in Galicia broke through the Austro-Hungarian defences, in March, 1915, and captured the great fortress of Przemyal, and further to the sputh, invaded Hussary.

Grain Tax Puzzles **Washington Farmers**

WALLA WALLA COUNTY WOULD ASSESS FEDERAL WHEAT; AUPHORITIES CLASH.

OLYMPIA, March 1. - State and federal authority clashed here today over the question of whether wheat still held in storage subject to gov-ernment order on March I shall be assessed for faxation.

According to a report made to the of Walla Walla county, the Portland agent of the Food Administration Grain Corporation has directed warebouseness and growers holding when to inform assessors that the grain is held for government account and is plt to be assessed. Various other as-sessors, of grain countles, report 2 similar situation.

Clark R. Jackson, state tax com-missioner, today directed all county assessors to assess grain on hand, notwithstanding its detention in the state by government direction. He holds that the grain is not classed as government property and thus exprivate property subject to taxation. If the owners have been unable to nieve their wheat out of the state, the commissioner states, it is their mis-fortune due to unusual conditions.

Approximately \$25,000 in taxes will be lost to the state, it is estimated, if the grain levy is not made this year. About nine million bushels are still nantpped, according to last report.

d. H. Darwin, state fish commis-loner and Game Warden since April 1912, was today reappointed by Gov-ernor Lister for four years, beginning March 1 Darwin is a former news-

Not being able to guess what Russin meant, the irritable Teuton relieved his tension by delivering a swat.

IF YOU'D BE SMART WEAR PLAIDS



No bit of feminine wear is up-to-the minute, and is easier to make or wear than the separate vest—built or many materials—but pref-ctably plaid. Not only something plaid but something silk should be the law of the vest for a large part of its eason for existence is the saving of

This checker-board confection is of heavy silk or sutin in dull blue and white plaid. It is uncompromisingly severe and buttons close up to the chin with white bone ball buttons—in an effect that is a cross jection of the child silk. tween the military and the lockey air.

It's a poor widow that can't remar The rich ones are soop gobbled the second point and the

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THE WOMAN'S W

You, madam, are only one of a thousand women today who are deluded by the long-distance bargain. Don't be carried away by a beautiful picture in a catalog. You can get better bargains from your own home merchant, where you see the goods before you pay for them, where you are assured of a fit and satisfaction in every respect. In trading at home you are doing your share in building up your community. your work.

> These concerns are aiding the development of Umatilla county their interests are your interests

of and keepings