

LIFE STUDY TO BEAT GERMANY

Foch Began at 20 to Work for Downfall of Teutonic Power.

FLEXIBILITY IS HIS MAXIM

France in Debt to Generalissimo of Allied Armies for His Military Instruction—Keen Student of Napoleon's Campaigns and of German Staff Methods, He Accepted Neither, but Pruned and Grafted the Two Together—Sense of Propriety.

"My center gives way, my right recedes; the situation is excellent; I shall attack."

The writer of this message to his commanding officer was either a criminal braggart or one of the greatest of generals, depending whether his attack succeeded or failed. If it failed, a country would have clamored for the life of a general who sent his command to certain destruction. If it succeeded, his dispatch should rank with other historical battle messages, such as "Don't give up the ship," "England expects every man to do his duty," and "We have met the enemy and they are ours."

The attack did not fail. The author of this dispatch had said several years before: "A battle won is a battle in which one refuses to admit that one is beaten." After writing the dispatch he gave the order to attack, then, while his men were going forward, he took a young staff officer for a walk and discussed metallurgy and economics. His men pushed back the enemy at a vital point in the line, the enemy withdrew and Paris was saved.

The message was sent during the first battle of the Marne in September, 1914. It was written by Ferdinand Foch, marshal of France, then a general commanding the Ninth French army holding the allied center.

Second Battle of the Marne.

The offensive begun by Foch at La Fere-Champenoise represents the turning point of the first battle of the Marne. But the allied generalissimo was in a similar situation on the evening of July 17, 1918, while a second battle of the Marne was being fought. At that time he might have paraphrased his earlier message by writing: "My left in Flanders gives way, my center recedes, Paris and the channel ports are menaced. The situation is excellent. I will attack."

And attack he did on the morning of the 18th with two French and two American divisions. He continued to attack until the Germans came to him and asked him to stop, and his attacks did not stop until 10:59 a. m., November 11, 1918. And had the armistice failed, he had yet another and more disconcerting attack planned in every detail for November 14, in which French and American divisions would have swept past Metz and into Lorraine. Since he was twenty, Marshal Foch had been working for the defeat of Germany.

Of the many generals who achieved prominence during the war, Foch and Hindenburg were military school teachers before 1914. Here comparison ends. Hindenburg was a retired officer during the war. When the Germans moved toward Paris the Russians swept into Prussia, and the German high command was in a near panic. Then some one remembered the grizzled individual with a close-cropped head and generous mustache who for year after year at the staff college had annihilated the enemy in a paper campaign in the Masurian lake-region, then invaded by the Russians. Hindenburg was summoned to Berlin. He refreshed himself with his lecture notes, took command of the eastern forces, and the Masurian lakes campaign was won for the Germans. Hindenburg's military reputation rests upon this one campaign that had been a German general staff exercise for years before the war.

Flexibility Foch's Maxim.

With Foch, on the other hand, it was one of his principles that war against a skillful enemy cannot be waged successfully according to blue print alone. He had been teaching for years to young French officers, candidates for staff positions, that, above all else, modern warfare demands flexibility. Plans go wrong, and surprises occur constantly which must be met as they arise. These were the principles he set forth in his works on the "Art of War," as Foch prefers to term what is called more often military science. Like other French officers, he saturated himself with Napoleon's campaigns, but in addition he had been a painstaking student of German staff methods. As a result he accepted neither Napoleon nor the German general staff slavishly, but rather pruned and grafted the two together. The fundamental of his principles of war was the insistence upon morale, that as much intelligence and spirit are needed to carry out orders as to issue them.

It is doubtful whether the French army should be more grateful to Foch for his services during the war or for his work as an instructor at the Superior School of War during the years previous to 1914. He was the first Frenchman, and probably the first military student of importance, who was able to dissect the German operations in the war of 1870. Until Foch went to the Ecole de Guerre in 1894 as a teacher, it is impossible for

French officers to study the German operations of 1870 calmly. Honest attempts had been made, in fact the Ecole de Guerre was established just after the Franco-Prussian war as a part of the reorganization of the French army, with a view to discovering just what happened in 1870. But until Foch was detailed to the school in 1894 it was just like trying to find out the manner in which Mr. William Patterson had been assaulted. It was too soon after the war, for the hearts of both officers and students were too heavy with sadness over the loss of Alsace-Lorraine to investigate the facts dispassionately.

Foch's Anti-German Strategy.

Foch was the first man to fill the French with hope that French generalship might be a match for German. As calmly, as mathematically and as cold-bloodedly as the German general staff itself, Foch set to work to analyze for his pupils German military science. He arrived at a conclusion just the opposite to what might be expected. Instead of declaring that in the next war France must beat Germany at her own game, he emphasized that French strategy must be the opposite of German, that iron-clad plans must give way to flexibility.

These principles had an enormous effect upon French staff work during the war, for the young students, who were filled with enthusiasm over Foch's maxims laid down in the School of War in the late nineties, were the division commanders and the corps and army staff officers of the World War. That France alone of the allies had well-trained and active-minded staff officers in 1914 is largely due to Foch.

Marshal Foch was born in Tarbes, October 2, 1851. Boyish enthusiasm over the campaigns of Napoleon—he had mastered Thier's "History of the Consulate and the Empire" before he was twelve—filled him with the ambition to enter the army. The year previous to the Franco-Prussian war he was studying at St. Clement's, a Jesuit college in Metz, where more candidates for army commissions were taught than at any other school in France. He enlisted as a private in the Fourth regiment of infantry which never got into action. Alsace-Lorraine lost and with it his beloved school at Metz, he entered the Polytechnique at Fontainebleau, and after the usual garrison life he was detailed to the Ecole de Guerre as assistant professor of military history and strategy.

His Sense of Propriety.

Two stories may be told to illustrate Marshal Foch's sense of fitness of things. There is the incident at his headquarters on the night the German commissioners arrived to negotiate for an armistice. The military delegate was wearing, among other decorations, the cross of the Legion of Honor which had been conferred upon him before the war. The Germans fled into the small room in Marshal Foch's car and sauntered. Foch made no sign, but stared at the red ribbon that seemed so out of place among German decorations. While his associates fidgeted, the German officer finally saw a great light and in silence removed the French decoration. Then Foch acknowledged the salute and entered into a discussion of the armistice terms.

Then there was his tactful, punctilious behavior the day of the Victory Fete in Paris, July 14, 1919. Preliminary plans had Foch selected to lead the allies' march through the Arc de Triomphe, but some friends of Joffre threatened to make political capital if the senior marshal of France did not have a place at the head of the procession. It was a delicate matter to decide which should precede the other. Foch was generalissimo of the allied land forces, yet in the French army he was outranked by Joffre.

It was finally decided that the marshals should ride side by side, but, thanks to the tact of Foch, neither outpaced the other. As supreme commander of the Allies, Foch had the position of honor on the right, but throughout the whole five miles of the march through the streets of Paris, Marshal Foch was careful to keep his horse at least a yard behind Joffre. Foch's right of the line was offset by his allowing Joffre to ride a few feet ahead, and the difficulty was solved.

FAMOUS TUG GETS REPRIEVE

Furnished Inspiration for Stevenson's Story, "The Wreckers."

The old South Sea trading schooner Equator, famous as the vessel on which Robert Louis Stevenson is said to have received the inspiration for his story of "The Wreckers," has been granted a reprieve from Davy Jones' boneyard of worn-out ships. The Equator, for many years a Puget Sound steam tug, was about to be discarded, when it was decided to open up her hull. The frames were found to be of Port Oxford cedar and as good, according to marine men, as when she slid down the ways at Benicia, Cal., in 1888. As a result the vessel was recently rebuilt, her steam engine replaced with a Diesel power engine, and she will shortly resume her career as a tug.

The story goes that Stevenson, making a voyage in the Equator—then a schooner—among the "islands of romance," was sitting in the cabin one night with a gathering of traders, pearl fishers and others and heard an old South Sea yarn that gave him the idea for "The Wreckers." Later he recorded that fact in his diary.

Years later the Equator was equipped with steam engines and in course of time made her appearance on Puget Sound.

Her owners say she is good for many more years of service.

LET GERMANY BECOME A MEMBER OF LEAGUE, SAYS SIR G. P. COLLINS

By SIR GODFREY P. COLLINS C. M. G., M. P.

(Written for the International News Service and London Daily News.)

LONDON, Nov. 29.—Captains of industry and the working classes the world over agree that an international industrial conference which ignored Germany would be folly. For that reason Germany was represented at Geneva recently.

They see clearly enough that the success of internationalism depends upon the hearty co-operation of all countries. What is less generally evident is that in the political field the absence of a similarly complete co-operation may have quite a disastrous effect upon industry.

Yet the main problem of our workers today is not so much to fight employers and determine their share of profits as to stop artificial conditions in Germany from bringing down the general standard of living.

A Lower Level

The fact is that allied policy has created artificial conditions which compel Germany to be a blackleg among the nations. The threat of an armed occupation of their country which hangs over the German people is largely responsible for driving them to work at a much lower level of subsistence than they had before the war.

It is not a simple affair to say precisely how far the standard of life for the German worker has fallen below his 1914 level. The federal statistical office calculates that the most of living was nine times as high in February-March, 1921, as in 1913-14. After a careful inquiry, on the other hand, the general federation of trade unions estimate that, although wages have increased by eight the cost of living is fifteen times what it was before the war. Discrepancies so wide preclude any exact statistics. We can, however, form a rough general idea of German conditions today from the known daily wage in marks, because although it is impossible to say accurately what the mark is worth to the German worker, from the point of view of international labor its value is one penny. On that basis, according to the tables issued by the ministry of labor, we find the following rates of pay per day in Cologne:

Coal miners, 2s.4d to 5s.; moulders, 4s.8d.; fitters, 4s.2d.; cotton spinners, 2s.8s.; tanners, 2s.8d.; potters, 2s.3d.; malsters, 4s.3d.; skilled builders, 4s.10d.; painters and decorators, 4s.3d.; compositors, 3s.9d. to 4s.3d.; bakers, 4s.8d.; agricultural workers, 2s.; paper mill workers, 2s.6d.; cutlers, 3s.4d.; and makers of leather goods, 3s.8d.

A Menace to Trade

What is the significance of these figures? Clearly, so long as we hold over the German people the threat of armed occupation, so long, as has been recently argued in the house of commons, do we place in the hands of every reactionary German capitalist a weapon to depress still further the industrial conditions of that country, and consequently of this country. Does not our domestic finance depend upon our overseas trade; does not that in turn depend upon Europe producing goods? It is the vivacious spirit behind the peace treaty that has so gravely arrested European productiveness. Inevitably Britain, whose existence hinges on her ability to sell goods to the nations of the world, is seriously menaced by the German workers' low standard of living. If the threat of armed occupation was removed the German worker would naturally endeavor to raise his standard of living again, and so, incidentally, allow our own workers to maintain theirs.

A reasonable working existence in Germany is not a German affair only; it is a British affair; it is a world affair. If, then, the nations agreed upon the Geneva conference with Germany about the international industrial issue, surely the time has also arrived for them to admit her to those other deliberations which, as all Europe since Versailles has seen, have so grave an economic meaning, not to Germany alone, or to Britain, but to Europe and the world. International prosperity depends upon international good will. International good will can be obtained only if nationalism be kept in its proper place, and that

is the special mission of all the nations leagued together. If in a democracy passing gusts of nationalism must be taken note of, neither should the finer instincts of our people be ignored. It is true that they want the kaiser's head; it is also true that both in the first days and in the last days of the war, they most movingly arose to the call of a great ideal. It is a statesman's duty to foster the latent idealism of the British public.



HE KNEW.
Sunday School Teacher: Why should we all be charitable?
Small Boy: Because charity covers a multitude of sins.

\$1.00 Profit Christmas Sale at Orres Tailor Shop now on. Don't Miss It.

A Business Service Station

We like to think of this Institution as a business service station—where anyone can come for advice and assistance in order that his business may run just as smoothly as possible.

The Citizens Bank

Ashland, Oregon

The Office of the

Oregon Gas & Electric Co.

has been moved to

Provost Bros.

Where all business will be transacted and gas bill will be paid.

Mr. Provost has been appointed agent for the company.

With acknowledgments to K. C. B.

"Oh Boy! Ain't this the life!!"

I LIKE my job.
BUT DAYS do come.
WHEN SKIES are blue,
ABOVE THE city smoke,
AND BREEZES stir,
THE PAPERS on my desk,
AND THEN I think,
WHAT I would do,
IF I were boss,
I'D OPEN shop,
AT TWELVE o'clock,
AND CLOSE at one,
WITH ONE hour off,
FOR LUNCH, and I
WOULD GET old Sam,
TO RUN me out,
IN HIS big six,
AND DROP me off,
UNDER A greenwood tree,
BESIDE A babbling brook,
AND THERE I'd lie,
AND EVERY once,
IN A while,
ROLL OVER,
OR MAYBE sit and think,
BUT MOST likely,
JUST SIT,
AND EVERY once,
IN A while I'd light,
ONE OF my Chesterfields,
AND OH Boy,
I GUESS that wouldn't,
SATISFY!

COMPANIONSHIP? Say, there never was such a cigarette as Chesterfield for steady company! Just as mild and smooth as tobaccos can be—but with a mellow "body" that satisfies even cigar smokers. On lazy days or busy ones—all the time—you want this "satisfy" smoke.

Chesterfield

CIGARETTES

They Satisfy

LIGGETT & MYERS TOBACCO CO.

Did you know about the Chesterfield package of 10?