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TUESDAY, JULY 30, 1918.

OREGON WEATHER

Fair; gentle westerly winds.

THE SOLDIER'S CHANCES GOOD

In this summer of mighty conflicts, the wires are burdened with stories of great losses on the western front. We read that the salient held by the Germans between Rheims and Soissons is strewn thickly with the bodies of the dead and there are gruesome tales of the Marne choked with the bodies of Huns who are on their way to Paris by a different route from that planned by the high command.

These are large figures and their effect is increased by the fact that we are looking at them alone with nothing to give us the proper perspective. In a similar way Spencer Butte, standing alone above the lesser hills to the south of Eugene, bulks in the view as rather a notable eminence, but if it were seen by the side of the Sisters it would appear so small as to be hardly worth noting.

The United States government has just issued some figures along this line that are highly interesting to the mothers and fathers of the boys in France. They are based on the mortality statistics of the allied armies and show that the soldier has 29 chances of coming home to one of being killed; that he has 49 chances of recovering from wounds to one of dying of them; and that he has only one chance in 500 of losing a limb.

The difference between these figures and reports of losses in great battles is that they are based on averages and take into consideration the whole number of men involved, whereas the casualty lists and the stories of losses concern only those who are killed or injured. The mother who is worried over her boy in France can take considerable comfort from the thought that he has only one chance in 29 of being killed and only one in 500 of coming home minus a limb.—Eugene Register.

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REVIEW OF FOURTH YEAR

(Continued from Page One.)

Germans began their attack from the vicinity of Arras, on the north, to La Fere, on the south, and centering their heaviest columns against the British forces, under General Gough at St. Quentin.

Staggering before the impact of the blow, the British army fell back rapidly. For eight days the Germans poured through the old allied line in an effort to crush the lines to the south. Then came a period of reaction and the Germans came to a stop. They had driven ahead for 35 miles, along a front extending more than 50 miles before they were halted.

Hardly had their legions been held before Amiens than a new offensive was begun in Flanders on April 2. It swept the British back through Armentieres, but did not break their lines. The British, with the French who were rushed up to the front, stopped the Germans after they had reached the hills southwest of Ypres. There, on April 9, the Germans suffered a terrible defeat that halted their offensive in that quarter.

Foch in Supreme Command
In the midst of the drive in the sector toward Amiens the allied nations took a vitally important step. They named General Ferdinand Foch, hero of the first battle of the Marne, generalissimo of the allied forces on the western front, which includes all the line in Italy as well as in France. Even the Murman coast, in northern Russia, has been held to be under his command.

After a period of quiet, the Germans attacked once more, this time on the Aisne river, and in seven days they reached the Marne at Chateau Thierry, making a penetration of about 28 miles. At the Marne they were checked and the impetus of the blow was broken.

With hardly a day's pause for reorganization of their forces, the Germans again attacked, choosing the sector between Montdidier and Noyon, on the southern side of the salient driven into the allied line during the March offensive, as the stage of their onslaught. This offensive ran for five days and was stopped north of Compiègne after losses which were described as unprecedented had been inflicted upon the Germans.

From June 14 until July 15 the Germans were engaged in shifting their forces and then they again struck. This time the line of attack was from Chateau Thierry eastward, around to the north of Rheims and then down the Vesle river to Prunay and from that village eastward to Massiges. This attack at the close of the year developed into one of the most ambitious of the German strokes.

German forces crossed the Marne over a wide front, but were unable to make ground against American troops near Chateau Thierry and could not advance rapidly further east. They did, however, force ahead on the north side of the Marne and between that stream and the mountain of Rheims. It appeared for a time that they might reach Epernay.

Then General Foch struck a counter blow which is still in progress. American and French troops attacked the Germans between Pontenoy in the Aisne west of Soissons and Belleau to the Chgon northwest of Chateau Thierry. So sudden and powerful was the blow that the Germans fell back rapidly until their reserves could be hurried up.

The rapid advance of the allies, however, so menaced the German forces further south that on July 19 the enemy began a retreat across the Marne. On Sunday, July 21, French and Americans entered Chateau

Thierry and pressed on after the retreating Germans.

Since that time the allies have gained slowly but steadily not only south of Soissons but also north of the Marne and between that river and Rheims. There was indication that a German retreat from the salient is now under way.

Italians Stand Firm

On June 15, the Austrians began a drive against Italy. It was a failure. The Austrians crossed the Piave, but on the west bank met with such stubborn resistance that progress was impossible. Slowly the Austrians were driven back toward the river, and then the Piave, swollen by rains in the mountains, completed the overthrow of Austria's hopes. After suffering terrible losses the Austrians retreated to the eastern bank of the Piave from the Montello plateau to the Adriatic.

Minor Operations

Among the year's operations of comparatively lesser importance were the British drives in Palestine and Mesopotamia; the Turkish advance in Caucasus; the French and Italian offensive in Albania; and the fighting in the German African colonies. Jerusalem was captured by the British on December 10, and shortly afterward the fall of Jericho was announced. Since the taking of Jericho the British forces in Palestine have not been active on the offensive.

General Maude led the British troops into Bagdad on March 11, and shortly afterward died from Cholera. His forces pushed further up the Tigris until the intense heat of summer terminated operations.

The Turks after the collapse of Russia took advantage of the demoralized condition of the Russian forces to advance through the Caucasus and obtain possession of the regions subsequently ceded them by the treaty of Brest-Litovsk.

The French and Italian drive in Albania began on July 6 and is still in progress.

During the year British forces in Africa drove German forces before them in German East Africa and in German Southwest Africa and finally compelled them to disperse or surrender. This took from Germany the last of the vast colonial possessions held by her when the war began.

(To be continued.)

HAWAIIAN TROOPS ARE FROM MANY NATIONS

Honolulu, T. H., July 30.—Military units now being organized in Hawaii through the operation of the selective service act probably are the most cosmopolitan, size considered, in the world.

Porto Ricans, Portuguese, Koreans, Japanese, Chinese, Hawaiians, part-Hawaiians, Filipinos, and Spaniards are wearing American uniforms and are rapidly being trained in the mechanics of modern warfare.

The Orientals, their American officers declare, will make splendid

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fighting men and show a surprising aptitude for military service. Without exception they display great pride in their uniforms and military bearing and present a smart appearance in khaki.

It has been commonly reported that these units would replace the regular troops stationed in the islands and would not see service in Europe. Many of the Orientals will be greatly disappointed if they are not given an opportunity to test themselves in action against the Hun.

All kinds of legal blanks at the Courier.



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