WAR ENTERING PHASE OF FINAL BLOOD LETTING

Famous Authority on War Discusses Present Situation—Allied Efforts Bent to End Conflict by Attrition —Sheer Man-Slaying Power Expected to Humble Kaiser.

BY J. W. T. MASON,
(Famous Authority on the European War.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—The best used word in the war vocabulary now is "attrition."

It means the European conflict is passing out of the stage of novel strategy, and tactical genius, and entering the phase of final blood-letting.

The allies are trying to put so many Teutons out of the fighting, that in the end, quite irrespective of ground gained, the Germans must abandon all hope of a victorious peace in order to save what remains of the nation's fighting manhood.

Financial pressure is playing its part toward bring the war to a close, and so is the British blockade of Germany. But, these measures for the present are incidental. Destruction of man power, without cessation is now the major purpose of the allies.

By sheer man-slaying power, the allies expect to bring Prussian militarism to its knees.

To Make Sacrifice.

And unquestionably, the allies are going to make the sacrifice which the use of this power necessitates, unless before the end, a new spirit of democracy arises to power in Germany and overrides the militarists.

The population of the allies from which thei rtroops are drawn, is 330,000,000. This figure does not include India, although many thousand of Indian soldiers are in the English army. Neither are the French Turcos and other colonial troops of France counted in the reckoning. Nor is the 68,000,000 population of Japan although Japan will undoubtedly come in if the emergency and necessity arise.

The strength of the allies, therefore, at 330,000,000 is very conservatively estimated. The population of the central powers is 145,000,000. It is customary to reckon ten per cent of a country's population as its available manhood, which can be drafted for war.

Hence the total possible troops of the allies number 33,000,000, while the available forces of the central empires cannot exceed at most 15,000,000.

In potential fighting units, therefore, the allies outnumber the central powers by more than two to one. This disproportion is far too great for the Germans to overcome. It is the answer to the German declaration that they will "fight to the last man."

War of Attrition.

The end would be quicker in arriving if the allie scould arm all of their available men at once. But this is beyond their capacity.

Even the Germans, with their genius for organization, cannot equip the total forces of the central powers, but must be content with utilizing only a part of the available fighting strength at one time.

This means that the war of attrition, or of nibbling, now in full operation, must be won by reserve strength.

At present, as men on both sides are killed, their places can be taken by troops in reserve. But, the longer the slaying goes on, the less reserves will the Germans have, with which to oppose the constantly full ranks of the allies. The time, eventually, must come if the war continues long enough, when all the German reserves will be exhausted, while the allies will still be able to keep their ranks as full as ever.

This is the reason why it is not essential for the allies to continue gaining territory, constantly in order to win the war. It also explains the undiminished optimism which prevails in Great Britain and France, despite the meagre retirement of the Germans in the west.

Longer the Better.

The more the Germans stick to their long western front, the better will it be for the allies' policy of attrition. If the Germans were to move backward toward the Rhine, they could conserve, perhaps 6000 men for every mile that would be shortened of their front. By holding fast, the Germans present a larger surface of men for the allies to continue slaying.

So thoroughly aware are the allies of this vitally important factor in the final result, that they are now said to be driving wedges into the German line, not for the purpose of breaking through, but in order to change the contour of the front from a straight line to a zigzag course.

A zigzag trench system requires more troops to hold than does a straight trench. It is estimated that possibly 50 miles can be added to the German western front, by zigzagging, which would demand 300,000 extra men to defend!

The allies no longer throw men away with the rashness required to smash the enemy's line, as in the earlier days of the war. Their losses are, therefore, little if any greater than the Germans.

Wearing Them Down.

The allies' new program of attrition does not call for the actual breaking of the German front. Its purpose is to keep as many Germans as possible within range of their guns. Against this project the Germans cannot counter by military measures.

Their only hope of ending the deadly policy of attrition is to persuade Russia to make a separate peace. If that were done, the man power of the belligerents would be too nearly equal to permit attrition to continue.

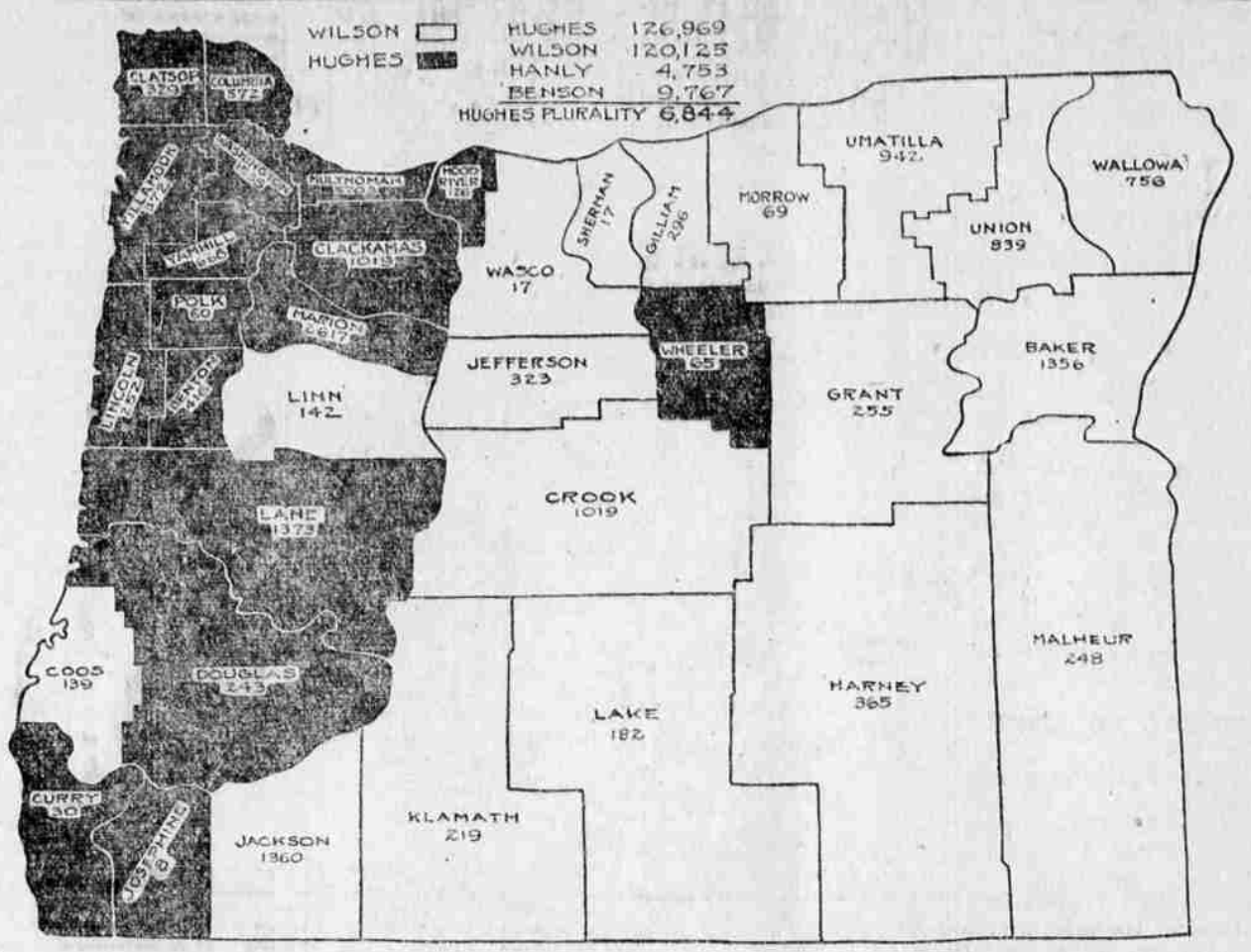
But the Germans seem to have abandoned hope of inducing the czar to desert his allies. Otherwise, it would be very difficult to explain why the central powers have proclaimed Poland an independent kingdom.

The table shows the population from which belligerents draw their fighting strength:

Allies.	
Russia	183,000,000
Great Britain and self governing colonies	65,500,000
France	40,000,000
Italy	35,000,000
Belgium	7,500,000
Romania	7,500,000
Portugal	6,000,000
Servia	3,000,000
Montenegro	500,000
Total	330,000,000
Central Powers.	
Germany	67,000,000
Austro-Hungary	50,000,000
Turkey	21,000,000
Bulgaria	5,000,000
Total	143,000,000

Japan and India omitted, are not now taking active part.

HOW THE 35 OREGON COUNTIES VOTED FOR PRESIDENT



A total of 261,611 votes was cast for president in Oregon at the election November 7. Hughes receiving a plurality of 6844. The total Registration in the state is 293,007, from which it is seen that more than 89 per cent of the registered vote was cast. The 18 counties that gave Wilson a plurality are shown in white; the 17 counties that went for Hughes in black. The figures indicate the plurality in each county.

(Courtesy Portland Journal)

LONDON SNEERS AT AMERICAN PEACE

LONDON, Nov. 28.—Reports received from the United States that an organized effort is being made there with peace the objective has brought several editorials in opposition to such a move.

"If the allies are even reduced to an armistice by the American intrigues" says the Morning Post, "they would regard the United States a traitor to the cause of world freedom. Therefore, we suggest to our American cousins that, as they have decided to take no part in the war, except to make money out of it, it would be wisdom for them to leave us to fight out what is, after all, their battle."

The Morning Post argues that the Germans are willing for peace immediately and would give the entente everything they desire, but only on one condition, namely, that Germany be allowed a free hand in Central and South America.

"We understand," the newspaper adds, "that the condition has been put forward, of course, discreetly and unofficially, by the German government, and that it has been rejected by the allies. But why should it be rejected? We are selling out South American securities and if the Americans really want peace and do not object to having Germany for a neighbor, why should England intervene? * * * any time in the last ten years we could have had an agreement with Germany by allowing her a free hand across the Atlantic. Great Britain stands between America and Germany like the counter scrap of a fortress, and if the Americans induce us to peace before the job is finished what they will have accomplished is to destroy their best defense against Germany.

"The Americans who, if we may say os with politeness, are rather ignorant of European affairs, do not seem to realize what Germany is fighting for—not merely, the domination of Europe but the domination of the world. And if the allies are defeated what is there to stand against Germany?"

Every Woman Thinks

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W. W. Kinnicut

W. W. Kinnicutt, formerly of Myrtle Creek, now of Jacksonville, age 31 years, died Monday, Nov. 27, 1916 from injuries received last Wednesday, when a team he was driving ran away. He is survived by a wife and son, and mother and six sisters. Funeral notice later.

TWO ZEPPELINS LOST

(Continued From Page One.)

Durham coast, was first seen at midnight. It was located by searchlights and soon a shell from the anti-aircraft guns hit her. She burst into flames and fell into the water in two pieces.

A correspondent on the northeast coast says the Zeppelin which approached from a southerly direction, was picked up by searchlights and subjected to a severe bombardment by anti-aircraft guns and air planes. Within a few minutes her nose dipped and she burst into flames. The airship slowly fell into the sea, the whole district being brilliantly illuminated by the flare.

One woman was killed and sixteen persons were injured in the Zeppelin raid. The airships dropped 100 bombs.

Shortly after noon the news spread rapidly through London that a German air plane was dropping bombs. Crowds gathered quickly at points where the bombs fell. The four injured persons were taken to a hospital. The material damage was very slight, consisting largely of broken windows.

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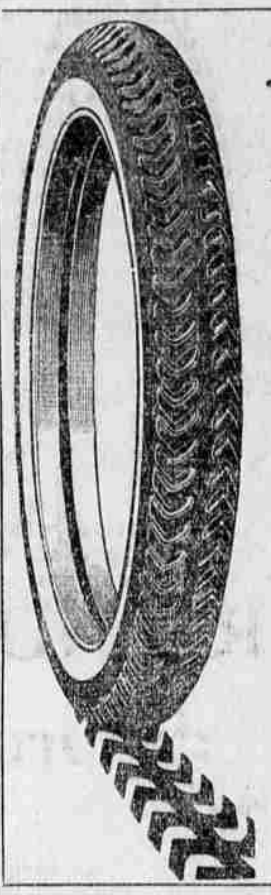

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