

FRENCH VICTORS IN SIX MONTHS CONSTANT FIGHT

Battle of Chemin des Dames Ranks Above That of Verdun in French Estimation—German First Line Losses Over 200,000—Fighting Is Hand-to-Hand.

FRENCH FRONT, Sept. 5.—(Correspondence.)—To say "I come from the battlefield of the Chemin des Dames"—the Ladies' Road—stamps a French soldier in the popular mind today as a hero. Verdun had seized the popular imagination owing to its position as the door through which the Germans hoped to break to reach the heart of France. Even the battle of Verdun, in which the French by their long-suffering determination to resist, succeeded in thoroughly defeating the Germans, is considered by some observers a lesser operation than that of the Chemin des Dames, whose possession means the command of the great road to the north by which the Germans must retreat.

The outcome of this great battle has at the date of writing not been finally determined. All that the correspondent of The Associated Press, who has followed the operations closely, can affirm is that the French after their first capture of the famous road with all its observatories as a result of their offensive begun on April 16, have been able to hold all their gains, to inflict almost unbelievable losses on the picked troops of the Crown Prince's army and to resist successfully all the furious counter-attacks of the Germans.

Fighting Incessant.
During the months of April, May, June, July, August and September the fighting has been incessant. In the first attack by the French, when they started their offensive on the Aisne, about 30,000 German prisoners and 200 cannons were captured. Since then attack has followed attack, either from the French or the Germans, and when the total of these operations is summed up the result is shown that every four days during four months there has been a battle on a more or less extensive scale. The net result of these fights is that the French today hold all they gained at their first assault.

The Germans have utilized on this battlefield forty-nine divisions, which have been sent in to the combat and withdrawn when exhausted—that is to say, when a division had lost in casualties at least 4000 men. This gives roughly on the German side 196,000 casualties among the front line troops, without taking into account the killed and wounded caused by the extremely heavy artillery fire directed on the lines of communication in the rear, in the period since the first French assault on April 16. This is almost double their losses before Verdun during the similar period of 1916, when severe fighting was going on there.

Character of Fighting.
The character of the fighting on the Chemin des Dames is totally different from that at Verdun. At Verdun it was always possible to retire without great disadvantage for a certain distance—which may be called the "flanking area"—owing to the narrow ground with its successive hills and intervening valleys. On the Chemin des Dames it would be necessary to hold on, for the side which retired for more than a few days, the other side gaining a position of the observatories, went on to watch over all that are here no deputy's lines. There are no fields of battle, no trenches, and the two sides and no shell-ways open to snipers are all to fight hand to hand and have positions.

PARIS, Oct. 8.—Louis Turmel, representing Cotes-du-Nord in the chamber of deputies, was arrested today accused of commerce with the enemy. The warrant was issued by an examining magistrate.

An official statement issued by the chamber of deputies Sept. 17 said that an envelope containing 25,000 francs in Swiss bank bills, had been found in Turmel's locker in the building. Later a news dispatch from Paris stated that M. Turmel refused to explain how he came into possession of the money.

FORCE BELGIANS TO WORK UNDER ZONE OF BATTLE

HAVRE, Sept. 5 (correspondence of the Associated Press).—Male civilians in the Belgian towns of Lange-marek, Staden, Elverdinghe, Woumen and Roulers, which recently were evacuated by the Germans, have been forced to work near the German first line trenches in Belgium, with the result that many have been killed by exploding shells, according to information received by the Belgian government.

The civilian population of these towns was ordered to go to the railroad stations. The women, children and old men were packed into the forward cars of the trains, while all men and boys between 16 and 60 years were placed in the rear cars. When the trains started the rear cars were uncoupled and the occupants forced to undertake the hazardous work near the first lines.

In most cases the women and children did not know that they were separated from their husbands and fathers until they arrived at their destinations.

The forcible conscription of Belgian civilians has become most widespread in the regions of Courtrai and Menin, where about 2000 men already have been compelled to perform military work.

COLONEL SARGENT TO VISIT MEDFORD

Colonel H. H. Sargent, U. S. A., formerly a resident of this city, who for the past year has been an assistant to the department quartermaster of western department at San Francisco, Cal., and who during that time has been chief of the finance and accounting division for the Pacific slope and Alaska, has been detailed professor of military science and tactics at Princeton university and will be placed at the head of the new military work and instruction at that university. He expects to leave San Francisco about October 10 for Medford, and after a stop here of a couple of days, where Mrs. Sargent, who is now here, will join him, will proceed to Princeton university.

TURKEYS FOR SOLDIERS ON BATTLE FRONT

CHICAGO, Oct. 8.—That United States soldiers and sailors now in service are not to miss their Thanksgiving turkey dinner is evidenced by an announcement today that Chicago poultry commission men tomorrow will make bids on 1,000,000 pounds of the birds that will be required to feed the army at home and in the Philippines. A consignment of 164,000 pounds of turkey is said to be already on the way to the soldiers in France.

Theaters and Movies

MAY BUCKLEY IN EUGENE WALTER'S POWERFUL AND FASCINATING DRAMA, "THE KNIFE"



Which Comes to The Page, Tuesday Evening, October 16th.

"OPEN PLACES" AT PAGE TODAY WITH JACK GARDNER

Thrills aplenty are provided for thrill-loving audiences in "Open Places," the Essanay feature in which Jack Gardner, the former musical comedy star, is appearing at the Page today. Hinging on a romance between a little New England school teacher and a member of Canada's celebrated Royal Mounted Police, this picture presents rapid-fire western action from start to finish. The scenes are laid in the mythical town of Rawhide, Mont., along the Canadian boundary. To this little outpost of civilization comes Mollie Andrews, a prim Massachusetts miss, "to teach the west its manners." She is attracted by the mountain-like stature and picturesque manners of Dan Clark, a typical "wild and woolly westerner," and falls in love with him. They are married, and even before the honeymoon has waned, Clark turns out to be a brute. He mistreats Mollie, then flees across the boundary to escape arrest on a charge of murder. In the year that passes no word is heard from Clark, and Mollie finally gives him up as dead. Constable Callhoun of the mounted police enters her life. His kindness and generosity win her love. They are planning to get married, and happiness seems on the horizon for the little woman, when Clark again puts in an appearance. One of those clever two-reel O. Henry stories rounds out a very pleasing bill.



VIRGINIA PEARSON

Rialto Today and Tomorrow.

MEXICO READY FOR FRIENDSHIP SAYS GENERAL OBREGON

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Oct. 8.—Out of Nogales, Mex., ostensibly for a tour of the United States, has come in the guise of a humble commission merchant a man so distinguished that the national government has assigned an army major to accompany him throughout his visit here.

The man is General Alvaro Obregon, former minister of war in the southern republic, who says there is no political significance to his visit. "I am merely here to tour your country, to visit your foremost cities, to pay you a friendly visit," he declared. "It is the first time I have ever been in the United States. Until now affairs in my own country, both in my private life as a rancher



General Obregon.

and during my military activities, have so engrossed my attention that I have had no time to travel."

General Obregon is accompanied by Major Harvey W. Miller, U. S. A., former instructor in Spanish at West Point and personal friend of the Mexican warrior. He expects to be in this country about two months.

"If I have any mission whatever in this country," says the general, "it is to extend the hand of friendship on behalf of my country to Uncle Sam. Mexico desires to the utmost the friendship of the United States."

General Obregon states that Mexico will remain unequivocally neutral in the world war. All efforts of Germany to incite Mexican feeling against the United States, he states, are being squelched by Carranza.

"Mexico wants no more fighting," says the warrior-statesman. "Wet blood has been a blight on the country. We desire now only to establish peace. We want industry to thrive, we want happiness to come to our people, we want our homes to echo again with the merry laughter of children."

"President Carranza is rapidly bringing about the rehabilitation of the nation. Our greatest problem now is probably the matter of finances, but in time this need will be met.

"Villa is no longer a menace; his

outlawry is confined to a very small locality and in time he will be run down. Perhaps the thing that we want most now is the friendship of the United States; we are neighboring nations, and therefore the bond of brotherhood should be strong between us."

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It is now used as the preferable type of roof for office buildings, factories, hotels, stores, warehouses, garages, farm buildings etc., where durability is demanded. CERTAIN-TEED is guaranteed for 5, 10 or 15 years, according to thickness (1, 2 or 3 ply).

There are many roll roofings on the market, but only one CERTAIN-TEED. It pays to get the best. It costs no more to lay a CERTAIN-TEED roof than it does to lay a poor roof, but there is a vast difference in the wear. You can't tell the quality of a roofing by looks or feel. Your only safety is the label. Be sure that it is CERTAIN-TEED—then you are certain of quality and guaranteed satisfaction.

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Milk Prices Advance

Prices After October 10, 1917

First, owing to the high cost of feed; second, the high cost of living, the milk men of Medford have fixed the price of milk, to-wit:

- 1 quart of milk, \$3.00 per month.
- 2 quarts of milk, \$5.50 per month.
- 3 quarts of milk, \$7.50 per month.
- 1 pint of milk, \$1.50 per month.

Coffee Cream: Half pint daily, per month, 12 1/2c day. Not by month, half pint, 15c; pint, 25c. Whipping Cream, 30c pint. Wholesale Milk will be 30 cents per gallon. Bottles to be put out every day. No milk left second day unless bottles are returned.

All bills due by the 10th.

- WHITE'S VELVET ICE
- J. H. BELLINGER
- C. W. PERT
- F. VAN DYKE
- J. W. SNIDER
- CREAM CO.
- C. C. HOOVER

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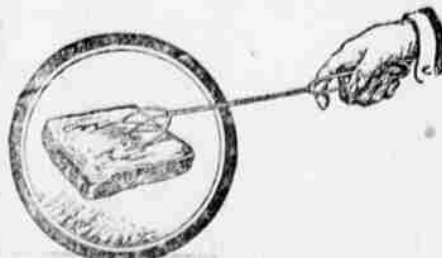
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