

Spirit of France of '92 Lives in Trenches To-day

"Marseillaise" Heard at Front Evokes Heroic Beating Back of the "Cohortes Etrangères" From the Soil of the New Born Republic.

ALAN SEEGER DESCRIBES A BAYONET ATTACK

By ALAN SEEGER, The Sun's Special Correspondent with the Americans in the French Foreign Legion.

On the night of March 21—among so many hours in the soldier's life that modern warfare makes monotonous and unvaried—there comes that one when the heart expands with accessions of enthusiasm that more than compensate for all his hardships and sufferings. Such was the afternoon of the review we had the other day before the trenches of our army corps.

All the morning in the bayonet of our equipment we labored cleaning from the evidence of the week. The French Foreign Legion, at noon under the most beautiful of spring skies we marched out of the village two battalions strong. It was pleasant this little promenade to see for a while from the narrow compass to which we are so strictly confined and get a glimpse of the outer world. The French Foreign Legion, at noon under the most beautiful of spring skies we marched out of the village two battalions strong. It was pleasant this little promenade to see for a while from the narrow compass to which we are so strictly confined and get a glimpse of the outer world. The French Foreign Legion, at noon under the most beautiful of spring skies we marched out of the village two battalions strong. It was pleasant this little promenade to see for a while from the narrow compass to which we are so strictly confined and get a glimpse of the outer world.

Roads Teeming With Life.

The roads were teeming with life, bustling wagons and mule trains mingling with thundering motor lorries and Paris auto buses in the immense work of re-arrangement, motor cyclists whizzing back and forth with despatch, children loitering in the depths of bourgeois limousines that were once a pride of the boulevards. Whereas in the days of the last war, when his sense of terrible detachment; here we could feel reassuringly the nation working behind us, the tightened sinews of that great complex system of which we are the ultimate points of pressure in the night effort it is making.

Grenade Throwers Lead Attack.

Suddenly the guns are silent and simultaneously the enemy pours out of the ditch forty, thirty yards away. Some carry wire cutters, others hold the rifle in the left hand and with the right shower the trenches with grenades that they draw from sacks slung over the shoulder. The French rush to their crevasses. The roar of rifle and machine gun fire bursts out, and a brief, furious struggle ensues, which is simply a question of the speed and number of balls that can be discharged in a given number of seconds and the speed and number of men that in the same time can be rushed against the position.

The Week in the War

SUNDAY, April 11.—The capture of Les Eparges and the surrounding intrusions is announced by the French War Office. Thirty thousand Germans are said to have been killed and wounded in the engagement. The Germans report heavy French losses in fighting along the Meuse. Rumors that Austria is seeking to conclude a separate peace with Russia continue. The French schooner Chateaubriand is sunk off the Isle of Wight by a German submarine.

MONDAY, April 12.—The French War Office admits that the Germans have taken a line of trenches in a surprise attack near Albert. Germany announces the capture of three Belgian towns near Drie Grachten, and heavy French losses in fighting in the Ailly wood. There are riots in Rome when the police and military prevent open air demonstrations favoring war. The British steamer Harpyhee is sunk by a German torpedo without warning, and the German commerce raider Kronprinz Wilhelm puts into Hampton Roads after a cruise in which fifteen steamers were sunk.

TUESDAY, April 13.—The Germans fail to recapture the positions lost at Les Eparges and suffer severe losses in killed and wounded. French attacks on the heights at Combres are repulsed, according to Berlin, and Petrograd learns that a general Austrian retreat from the Carpathians has begun. The British steamer Wayfarer, supposed to be a transport carrying troops, is struck by a German torpedo, but not sunk. Gen. Pau returns to Paris after a trip to Petrograd and Balkan capitals.

WEDNESDAY, April 14.—While the French War Office reports that the day has been spent in strengthening the positions recently won along the St. Mihiel wedge, the German War Office says that there have been French attacks in the region and that they were all repulsed. A squadron of trawlers flying the Norwegian flag and laying mines in the North Sea is sunk by British patrol ships. French attacks near Combres are checked, according to Berlin. Petrograd learns that the Kaiser has taken command of the German and Austrian forces in the east.

THURSDAY, April 15.—The Russian War Office announces the capture of all important heights in the East Beskids and the presence of Russian forces within three miles of Uzok Pass. A German Zeppelin drops bombs on several towns near Newcastle on the Tyne, doing practically no damage. The French announce further gains in the Champagne district and the Germans report the repulse of fresh French attacks near Les Eparges. In a review of the battle at Neuve Chapelle Gen. Sir John French says that the British casualties would have been much less had the orders of the commander of the First Army been more strictly observed.

FRIDAY, April 16.—The Dutch steamer Katwijk is sunk by a German submarine and talk of war is heard in Holland as a consequence. Berlin announces that the entire Russian advance toward the Hungarian plains has been checked. French forces make an advance of one mile in Alsace and French aviators drop bombs on the headquarters of the Imperial General Staff of the Germans at Metzlers. Petrograd says that the Austrian forces in the Carpathians are in full retreat.

SATURDAY, April 17.—The capture of two more heights in the Russian progress toward Uzok Pass is announced at Petrograd, while Vienna reports the capture of trenches on the lower Nida. Allied destroyers bombard the Belgian coast, but are driven off, says Berlin, by the land batteries. Italy has 1,200,000 men under arms, according to advices from frontier towns. German aeroplanes make a daylight raid on English coast towns, but do little damage.

To be continued next Sunday.

of this affair from my comrade of the "Marseillaise" ran through the ranks. "Bayonette au canon!" "Presence—absence!" went from captain to captain. Again the flash of the 4,000 bayonets. And while the battalions stood there, silent, motionless, the band broke out into the "Marseillaise."

Troops in Fine Spirits.

All were in high spirits as we marched home that evening. We took a short cut, cross-country, for it was already getting dark enough to traverse without danger the field where we passed a while exposed to the distant artillery. The last glow of sunset shone down the gray valley, illumined with a brazen lustre the windings of the river as we tramped back over the pontoon bridge and into cantonment again. Something breathed unmistakably of spring and the eve of great events.

More British Casualties Reported.

LONDON, April 17.—The names of 194 officers were included in the list of casualties since March 24 published today. This number added to previous figures, 1,915 officers killed, 3,418 wounded and 738 missing.

PADEREWSKI TELLS OF POLAND'S PLIGHT

"I Cannot Play; I Cannot Write," He Says, Because of War Suffering.

APPEAL TO U. S. FARMERS

"The suffering in Poland is greater, very much greater, both in extent and in degree, than is the case in Belgium," said Ignace Paderewski to a reporter for The Sun in his apartment at the Hotel Gotham yesterday. "It is greater in extent because the ravaged districts are ten times the size of Belgium. It is greater in degree because the struggling armies have swung across it many times, so that it has suffered seven invasions."

friendly nations near its borders that are able and willing to send immediate help. The Poles too are a nation of peasants, of farmers. They have little or no ready money; a farmstead, perhaps a couple of horses, a few cows, the land—that is all. They cannot flee to some place of refuge. They have not the money to get there. They must suffer and starve among the ruins of what were their homes until another whirlwind of battle sweeps down upon them. I think—"

Mr. Paderewski suddenly became silent and passed his hand thoughtfully over his still luxuriant hair. "I wonder how we could best interest the American farmers in the cause of Poland," he went on after a time. "There is, after all, a brotherhood of occupation. No one could better understand what the farmers of Poland are suffering than could their brothers here. The great pianist has grown older and sterner since the war devastated his home land. There are sharper lines about his mouth and the gaze of his steel blue eyes is more intent, more concentrated. "I cannot play; I cannot write," he said, "I must give my all to what we need in you, we need advertisement. If the people of America but knew I should have no more anxiety. But how

can we best bring it home to them? Ten million people staring by minutes. Who knows how many are dead of hunger since I have been talking to you. There is so much to do—so terribly little time to do it in!"

Asked his opinion in regard to the charges that the Poles have shewn hostility to the Jews in Poland Mr. Paderewski said that he entirely disbelieved them. "At the same time," he added, "I do not say that they have been dishonestly made—only those making them have been misled."

HAVE MOVIES AT THE FRONT.

British Soldiers Enjoy Bath and Pictures in Rest Periods.

LONDON, March 28.—The British at the front are nearly all devotees of the "movies" and now they have a picture palace of their own. It is situated in the town hall of the village which is the headquarters of the Fourth Division and is crowded every day with soldiers taking their rest from the trenches. In the same village is a brewery fitted up as a bath house. The first thing the men do after issuing from the steaming vests and putting on fresh clothes is to look at the picture show. At first films were obtained at great expense from Paris and the mechanism was staged up by soldiers who were movie operators before the war. Afterward one of the London agencies acquired some 16,000 feet of film and presented it to the brigade. Returning officers now make a point of bringing back fresh films with them.



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- played by hand as the regular Piano
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a Player-Piano, its miraculous ability to reproduce automatically the actual playing of great artists—that an entire week has been set aside at Aeolian Hall to demonstrate it.

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