

DECISIVE STAGE NOT YET REACHED

Battle for Hindenburg Line Will Be Climax of Allied 1918 Campaign.

DEPENDS ON TWO FACTORS

Present Hour Best Since War Began for Entente Cause. Insures Victory.

(By Frank H. Simonds.) New York, Aug. 28.—(Copyright, N. Y. Tribune.)—There is no mistaking the fact that the whole German resistance at critical points shows signs of cracking, and I am informed from Paris that there is a very general belief in that city that the Hindenburg line will be in Allied hands by Oct. 1. This is obviously extreme optimism, but it finds an interesting confirmation in the message Clemenceau has just addressed to the general councils of France.

The German is still fighting bravely and with skill and determination, but the hopeful and significant thing is that despite his colossal efforts he is being defeated heavily and continuously.

The British offensive south of Arras, which developed last week, and is still going forward unchecked, has now extended to the scene of the battle of Arras of April 9, 1917. It is the most considerable and important movement since Aug. 8.

The proof of this is the frank statement in the German official statement of Saturday that Ludendorff had accepted battle before Bapaume and in front of the old Hindenburg line. Having accepted battle, probably because he was unable to make a successful retreat, he has been beaten and driven straight across the old battlefield of the Somme in an engagement which will hereafter be of utmost interest to all students of the campaign of 1918.

Rare Incident. Rarely, if ever, has a general had a chance to try again on a battlefield identical in front and extent and under conditions closely resembling that of his first trial. Marlborough once maneuvered over what was a century later to be the field of Waterloo, but no battle was there held.

Five days after Gen. Byng struck, Bapaume is reached; the Germans have surrendered Thiepval, with all three of its redoubts, Mouquet farm, Martinipluch, all the positions famous in the deadliest phase of the first evacuation of the whole of the old Somme are in British hands, and the Somme battlefield is going forward rapidly and under a pressure which is manifestly disorganizing the German forces.

Every day's official report narrates the capture of half a dozen positions, each of which was the scene of weeks of effort in 1916. High Wood, Contalmaison, Mametz, Wood—these have all fallen, briefly.

There is every probability that in due course of time we shall see blows by the two armies, those of Horns and Plumer, north of Arras, and not improbably by the Americans between Rheims and Soissons, and by the French army east of Rheims.

The decisive stage of the allied campaign of 1918 has not yet come. The battle for the Hindenburg line begins. That battle may begin at any moment, but if it does, it will be on new fields, in both regions, thus recalling the double thrust of Champagne and Loos in 1918. In a word, Ludendorff's center is now that beaten host retiring upon the Hindenburg line, which offers it a possible rallying ground. But in the nature of things an allied attack upon the flank, turning the Hindenburg line and abolishing the position to which the beaten center is retiring in manifest disorder, is the stroke to be expected.

REAL DISASTER TO FOLLOW. If it comes, then it will be followed by a real disaster. The beaten center will then have no respite short of the Meuse, and this means a new retreat without any chance to reorganize and rest.

All now depends upon two things—the extent to which the center can be harassed and demoralized before it gets to the Hindenburg line and the ability of Foch to strike on the flanks and thus abolish the German line in France from Lille to Verdun.

A more interesting and a more critical fortnight than that which is before us is impossible to imagine. More than this, recognizing how futile is forecast at such a time, we can yet see that events are at least tending rapidly toward producing another Leipzig, not a Sedan or even a Jena, but a Leipzig, a defeat which threw Napoleon back into France and settled the fate of his ten years' struggle for the supremacy in Europe.

Watch the flanks, keep track of the prisoners and guns taken; by contrast, pay little attention to ground gained in front of the Hindenburg line. This is the advice all military commentators are giving today.

The present hour is the best since the war began for the allied cause; it insures ultimate military decision over the enemy, absolutely and unqualified.

GETTING USED TO HUNS' BIG SHELLS

Sergt. Robert Mason, a Chattanooga Boy, Writes Home From Trenches.

Things look pretty bright to us, and if we keep going like we have started we will be home for Christmas dinner," writes Sergt. Robert Mason, son of Mrs. Josephine Mason, a former Chattanooga boy, who is now in France. He is with the 105th engineers.

In speaking of how the French people are treating the American soldiers, he wrote: "The people here are very kind to us and I have gotten so I can speak French very well. I can ask for anything I want and think I shall soon be able to carry on a conversation."

DEPUTY CRIMINAL COURT CLERK CHOSEN BY SELMAN

Matt Gerlach, Secretary of Trades and Labor Council, Appointed to Position.

Criminal Court Clerk-elect Tom Selman Wednesday morning announced the appointment of Matt Gerlach as deputy clerk. It was known that Mr. Selman had for some time hesitated about making the appointment as he was undecided between Mr. Gerlach and Guy Landis. However, it was stated Wednesday that Mr. Landis had withdrawn saying that he did not feel that he could accept the place in preference to his present position.

"Y" MEN AT PARK MAKE EXCELLENT RECORD

Camps Here Second to None in Country as Compared to Men Reached.

According to figures which have been given out from the headquarters of the southeastern department of the army Y. M. C. A., at Atlanta, Fort Oglethorpe ranked second for the month of July in the departmental statistics on the number of soldiers reached through the physical activities of the Y. M. C. A. A total of 353,942 men were reached through these activities during July, made up of 136,751 participants in 1,227 games, meets, bouts, etc., and witnessed by 223,191 men. In popularity, boxing ranked first, participants and spectators for that sport showing 100,962 men reached, made up of 2,454 contestants participating in 1,227 bouts and being witnessed by 98,508. Baseball came second with a total of 70,560 men reached, and volley ball third with 67,177. These figures show the great good that the Y. M. C. A. is performing in the southeastern camps in furnishing entertainment, amusement, and recreation for the boys in the service, through the physical department alone. Besides baseball, volley ball and boxing, other popular sports in July were track and field events, gym games, quills, indoor baseball, wrestling and basketball.

SOUTH TROY, N. Y., COWS FIT FOR TANK SERVICE

Troy, N. Y.—(I. N. S.)—South Troy cows may be drafted into the tank service soon if they continue displaying such prowess against automobiles as has been displayed recently.

Mrs. Klein Recommends Chamberlain's Liniment

"I keep a bottle of Chamberlain's Liniment in the house at all times, and have used it for years. It will relieve rheumatic pains quicker than anything I ever used. I have also recommended it to my neighbors and friends, who have used it successfully," writes Mrs. N. M. Klein, Chillicothe, Mo.—(Adv.)

DEATH TAKES LITTLE SARAH BETTY JONES

CHILD INJURED BY ELEVATOR LOSES FIGHT

Though Terribly Torn and Mangled Made Courageous Fight for Life.

In a room well light filled with beautiful flowers, little Sarah Betty Jones, who is now in France, died at 7 o'clock Wednesday morning from injuries received last Saturday in an elevator accident at the Hamilton National Bank building.

The child, in some manner, was caught in the space between the elevator and the iron grating in front of it. With quick presence of mind, J. V. Trotter and Carl Cliff, passengers on the car, grasped her by the foot and dress and kept her from falling to the basement—a distance of thirteen floors.

Terribly torn and mangled, she was hurried to Erlanger hospital, where everything possible was done to save her life. Her physician, Dr. E. E. Reisman, stated that the terrible ordeal was too much for her. Since about midnight Tuesday she had been sinking rapidly and died this morning.

The body was removed to Wann's funeral residence and prepared for burial. Funeral services, conducted by Dr. T. S. McCallie and Rev. J. L. Hudson, will be held from the family residence, 2002 McCallie, at 9 o'clock Thursday morning at 9. The body will be sent on train No. 42 to Knoxville for interment. Pallbearers are announced as M. C. Monday, Cal Turner, J. L. Dargatz, and T. H. Dargatz.

Surviving the deceased are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Jones, Jr., and two sisters, Edna and Eunice. The family has resided here about three years. The little girl, who was 6 years of age, was born at Knoxville.

Eugene Sharpe Dead On French Field

The sad news that Eugene Sharpe was found dead on the battlefield "over there" is contained in a letter Miss Jennie Sharpe, of Chattanooga, has received from a French soldier.

Sharpe, who gave his name as Trucot of the fifteenth regiment of artillery, Third battalion, S. P. 236, stated in his message that while he was reconnoitering he discovered the body of young Sharpe.

"From the letter at his side," Trucot wrote, "I surmised that there were ties of relationship between you. I join to this letter a small photo which bears his name."

"I am at your disposition for anything that you may have to ask of me. It is with sincere regret that I announce this cruel news, but you may have the consolation that your brother fell gloriously and victoriously for the most noble of all causes, that of liberty and right."

Eugene Sharpe was 22 years of age and his home was at Oakdale, Ga., in Feb. 4, he enlisted in the marines in Chattanooga. He became a member of the 17th company, Fifth regiment of marines, and arrived over there in April. His letters indicated that he had been on the firing line for some time. He has a brother, Fred Sharpe, on the battleship Maine. His mother, Mrs. J. Delphine Sharpe, and a sister, Mrs. J. C. Whitwood, are residents of Johnson City. Yet Sharpe, another brother, resides in Danville, Ky., and a sister, Mrs. Clarence Goldston, is a resident of Oakdale.

OFFICE PROBLEM WORRIES INCOMING OFFICERS

The legislature which created the office of criminal court clerk thereby placed the duties of circuit court clerk from criminal court clerk did not say how the offices should be divided or located and this is a matter that is now giving the clerks-elect much concern. There is only one office for both clerks now at the first floor of the county court house next to the circuit court room. However, a suggestion was made Wednesday that the office of criminal court clerk be placed on the first floor and the superintendent of public instruction now is located and that office be moved into the offices in the rear of the county judge's office. This arrangement would make the criminal court clerk on the same floor with the criminal court and would place the office of superintendent of public instruction convenient to the county judge's office, of which one is considered a subsidiary. The mention of making a clerk's office of the rooms adjoining the office of Judge McReynolds is not a good one for the reason there is not a room in that building. However, some arrangements are being made whereby the office of circuit and criminal court clerks will be separated.

INCIDENT OF CHARLES M. SCHWAB'S VIEWS ON THRIFT

If it is true that thriftless ways are hard to give up, it also is true that habits once acquired never forsake one. A story is being told about Charles M. Schwab that illustrates this point. He was being pushed along the boardwalk in Atlantic City by a colored man. Suddenly they came across a policeman lying on the boards. The colored man saw it, too, but made no move toward getting it.

"Why don't you pick it up?" Schwab exclaimed. "I didn't think it was worth while. It is only a penny."

"My man, you must never talk that way," said the ship clerk who was looking out for the pennies and the dollars will come to you.

Thriftlessness does not consist altogether in waste on a large scale. Thrift consists mainly in looking after the little leaks. Schwab began to think that he was a miser because he was thrifty—because he understood the value of making the little things count—of stopping up the little wastes—that he placed himself in a position to earn the largest salary ever paid any man in the world, and later to undertake one of the greatest patriotic tasks ever placed on the shoulders of one human being.

BETTERTON PROTESTS AGAINST LAX OFFICIALS

COMMISSION TAKES NO ACTION ON HAYES

City Budgets Held Over for Special Conference—Commissioners Figuring.

In the manner in which Charles L. Hayes, circuit court clerk, has been conducting his office was again brought up at the meeting of the board of city commissioners Tuesday afternoon, and Commissioner T. C. Betterton urged that the city make a protest against public officials conducting their offices in like manner. He said that he has never seen a public office conducted in such a slovenly manner and he felt that some action should be taken to relieve the situation. Members of the board received the report in silence and no action was taken.

John Stagmaier, president of the board of directors for Pine Breeze and also president of the Associated Charities, made a report to the board of the operations of these organizations, and said that, despite the fact that all materials and medicines used had advanced, he felt that both of these organizations could operate for the coming year on an appropriation of \$3,000 each from the commission.

The matter of budgets for the coming year was brought up and it was decided that a date for a conference in regard to the subject should be set at the next meeting of the board. The mayor stated that the commissioners should have a definite idea of the amount of money which is absolutely necessary for the operation of their departments for the coming year. It is his idea that before any appropriations are made for outside institutions.

Mr. Jones is district engineer for the Southern railway. His headquarters have been in Chattanooga, but was recently transferred to Lexington, Ky.

Sarah Betty Jones was a bright, lovable child and a veritable ray of sunshine in the home. Her tragic end has filled the hearts of loved ones with grief and sorrow, for her sweet presence, childish prattle and sunny smile will be sadly missed. Chattanoogaans watched her brave fight with synthetic interest and people who did not even know her sent beautiful flowers to the hospital, that her hours of intense suffering might be brightened.

Mrs. Hortense McDonald, who has covered the city hall round for the past several years for the Chattanooga Times, was presented with a steamer trunk by members of the city commission and employees of the city hall. The presentation speech was made by Mayor Littleton, and Mrs. McDonald, in a few words, expressed her appreciation of the gift, and assured the members of the commission that she would never forget them.

K. OF C. DANCE AT POST GREAT SUCCESS

Varied Plans to Entertain Boys in Khaki—Veteran to Speak.

A dance for the soldiers was given last night at K. of C. building No. 2, by the ladies of the chaplain's aid. A large number of khaki-clad boys, and the affair was a great success. Music was furnished by the "pork chops" orchestra. The moving picture program which was presented by the K. of C. company of Secretary Cummings every Tuesday and Thursday evening are proving to be very successful, and the audience of enlisted men are increasing at every performance. The combined efforts of Secretaries McFall, who is in charge of the hospital work; Cummings and McDermott, of building No. 1, and Private George Sumner, of the Dental company No. 1, are being devoted toward arranging a show for the convalescent soldiers at the hospital. The performers will all be soldiers, and the show will be given in the open air on Wednesday evening, Sept. 4. This entertainment is expected to be high-class one, as nearly all the talent is from the professional stage.

The men at the post will have a chance to hear about the war from one who has had a close-up view of the whole thing, when Private H. Davidson, who served for thirty-two months in the western front, gives a talk tonight at 7:30 in K. of C. building No. 1. Davidson, who was a sergeant in the Canadian army, has served in Canada, England, Belgium, and France. He has been wounded three times, twice in the right arm and once in the right shoulder. He was wounded at Ypres on June 4, 1916, at the battle of the Somme on Oct. 9, 1916, and at the battle of Arras on Oct. 1917. He is also the possessor of a military medal for bravery.

SAMUEL GOMPERS AND PARTY REACH ENGLAND

American Labor Leader to Seek to Harmonize European Labor Bodies.

London, Aug. 27.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and his party have arrived at an English port.

Purpose Explained. The purpose of Samuel Gompers' visit to England, it was explained here today by Robert Maisel, director of the American Alliance for Labor and Democracy, is to bring the union leaders of England, France and Italy to a better understanding of the aims and principles of the American labor movement in the support of the war.

His task has been simplified by the fact that the American labor mission which several months ago helped to bring about a more unified sentiment in England, France and Italy.

"I have called to leaders in each of these countries to attend for Labor day meetings next Monday. Mr. Gompers for the first time in thirty-four years, or since he was elected president of the American Federation of Labor, will then deliver a message to workers on foreign soil."

ALLEN TERRELL ASKS PAYMENT OF POLICY

Brings Suit Against Southern Insurance Company for Collection of Wife's Principal.

A suit seeking to compel the payment of the policy on the life of Mrs. Martha Terrell was filed Wednesday morning in the chancery court by Allen Terrell, the husband, against the Southern Insurance company. The complainant charges that the company has failed to pay the policy, and he has looked out for her and made the policy, upon her death, payable to him. The complainant charges that through neglect and carelessness the defendant company never delivered the policy despite the fact that the wife had made all the necessary payments on it.

The bill charges that when the wife died the defendants were called on to pay the policy, but failed and refused to do so. The bill charges that the policy was issued by the company in 1911. The suit was filed through Tatum, Thach & Lynch.

Working on Hospital Plan

Specification for Crittenton Building for Women to Be Out to \$10,000.

As yet plans have not been perfected for the erection of the venerable hospital at the Florence Crittenton home in St. Elmo. Geo. Patton, chairman of the building committee, has the matter in charge and has called upon the contractors to make bids for the hospital as low as possible from a patriotic standpoint. At present, \$10,000 has been appropriated by the city and county for the new building; however, according to the last figures, the building could not be put up for this amount. In the meantime, the majority of the venerable patients are housed in the old Crittenton home building and are receiving treatments. About twenty-five women were moved to the home last week from the county jail. There remains in the jail something like twenty.

Indigestion.

"A few weeks ago I used a bottle of Chamberlain's Tablets when I was having a bad spell of indigestion. These tablets strengthened my stomach and toned up my system generally. They are easy to take and most effective," writes Mrs. D. S. Dart, Skaneateles, N. Y.—(Adv.)

"Tailor-Made in Chattanooga" All Wool Suitings Made For You, \$35.00 THEY LOOK BETTER AND LAST LONGER BURKE'S 17 and 19 West Eighth Street

Mills & Lupton Supply Company Electric Fans "A few weeks ago I used a bottle of Chamberlain's Tablets when I was having a bad spell of indigestion. These tablets strengthened my stomach and toned up my system generally. They are easy to take and most effective," writes Mrs. D. S. Dart, Skaneateles, N. Y.—(Adv.) Phones—Main 115, 608, 1475, 6966

NOTICE JUST ARRIVED Two carloads 4-90 CHEVROLETS. Not enough to last this week. Get your order in quick. Cash-Melton Hardware Co. DISTRIBUTORS 38 East Eleventh St. Phone Main 1145

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