

BATTLE OF VERDUN GREATEST OF WAR

French Have Made Wonderful Progress in Struggle of Last 18 Months.

GERMAN LOSS GREAT
600,000 Teutons Dead or Wounded—Many Taken by Victors.

(Correspondence of the Associated Press)
VERDUN, Sept. 22.—The greatest battle ever fought, an eighteen months' struggle for Verdun, which has been in progress since February 21, 1916, has been a brilliant triumph for the French army. Today not only the famous city, but its outlying belt of forts are in the hands of the victorious French defenders, while the discomfited German assailants lie behind their shell-shattered lines suffering severely from the hard hits they have received and unable to do anything more for the moment to retrieve their most recent defeat than to try to hold back their antagonists while they recover breath.

Among the one-time wooded valleys and hills in the vicinity of the fortress no fewer than 600,000 Germans have fallen dead or wounded. Tens of thousands of their bodies were buried where they fell, only to be disinterred again by shells tearing up the ground in the course of the incessant bombardments and then once more covered by earth thrown up by other exploding projectiles. The correspondent of the Associated Press had frequent evidence, while crossing the turn-up battlefield, during the fighting of the temporary character of the graves.

The Struggle Last Summer.
In the battles of August and October, 1916, Verdun had freed itself of some of the heavy pressure of the German hosts, but the outer line of hills and woods surrounding the city was still in the occupation of the enemy. The great Planers battle this summer was well under way when the French commander-in-chief, General Petain, decided that the time had arrived for a new push at Verdun, before which a strong German army under the orders of the Crown Prince was sitting.

Preparations were carefully made and the artillery began its work of destruction of the German positions about the beginning of the second week of August. The Germans replied vigorously and the reciprocal cannonade gradually increased in volume until the morning of the day fixed for the French infantry to go "over the top." That dawn when the writer made his way across the seared and scorched earth towards the front line in order to observe the opening of the engagement every noise conceivable by the human imagination seemed to have combined to break the ear-drums and shatter the nerves, while all about great slugs of steel fell and scored and wracked the soil.

11,000 Prisoners Taken.
The result of this last battle may be told in a few words. On a front stretching in a straight line just about twelve miles territory of a depth of from 1,500 yards to 3,000 yards had been recaptured by the French, the villages of Champneville and Samogneux, as well as the woods of Malancourt, Avocourt, Camard and Cumieres had been occupied, Goose Hill and Talou Hill had been taken, Mort Homme and Hills 304 and 344 had been stormed and occupied, over 11,000 prisoners had been rounded up and nearly fifty German cannons had been taken or destroyed, together with more than 200 machine guns and about forty trench mortars.

Verdun had been freed from the constant menace of the Germans and the French troops had shown their marked superiority to the Germans both on the defensive and the offensive. They defended the citadel with tenacity and wonderful courage when it was threatened by apparently overwhelming forces, and when their own time came they executed a brilliant offensive movement which pushed the invaders back until at the moment of writing the nearest German line northward is over six miles away from the city, while to the eastward the Germans are only slightly closer. The French, however, are in possession of all the commanding hills and are thus able to observe the enemy's movements and to take the necessary precautions against any further attack.

MOON MOTION IS DISCUSSED
Prof. T. J. J. See, M. U. Alumnus, Gives Astronomical Proofs.
By Associated Press
ST. LOUIS, Mo., Sept. 22.—The cause of the fluctuation in the motion of the moon in its orbit, which has long been a puzzle to astronomers, has been discovered by Prof. T. J. J. See, director of the naval observatory at Mare Island, Cal., according to a statement which he gave out today. Professor See is visiting his mother in Montgomery City. He has made many important astronomical discoveries, a particular series being those by which he upset the old nebular hypothesis in 1909.

Professor See says that the electro-dynamic waves of the sun, which he announced two years ago are the force of gravitation in the solar system, are modified as to the moon because the force is exerted through the mass of the earth. This interposition of the earth between the sun and

moon causes the electro-dynamic waves of the sun to undergo circular refraction, dispersion and absorption. This, said Professor See, weakens the action of the sun on the moon when that satellite is near the shadow of the earth, as at the time of lunar eclipses. This weakening of the gravitational force of the sun on the moon, he stated, causes the fluctuations in the moon's revolution in its orbit.

"For fifty years," said Professor See, "the motion of the moon has defied calculation, and astronomers have been greatly puzzled by the departure of the moon from its predicted place. In 1878 Simon Newcomb finished an elaborate investigation showing that the moon's motion is irregular, and from that day to this the irregularities of the moon have defied all astronomers and mathematicians."

Professor See's announcement states that the irregularities in the moon's motion may be calculated, and that thereby the accuracy of the predicted places in its orbit may be increased twelve-fold.

"No irregularity," says the announcement, "now remains in the moon's motion large enough to be seen in the transit circles used by astronomers. Thus with the previous mathematical development carried out by Newton, Laplace, Hill, Newcomb, Brown and others, the lunar theory will be entirely perfected."

Professor See regards his discovery as to the cause of the lunar fluctuations, and his successful working out of tables that indicate the place of the moon in its orbit more accurately than has been done heretofore, as corroborative of his theory of the cause of gravitation. He has sent a report on his discoveries to the Royal Astronomical Society, London, and to scientific societies in Paris, Stockholm and Edinburgh.

Professor See received the degrees of A.B., S.B., L.M., '89 from the University of Missouri. He is now professor of mathematics of the U. S. N., Vallejo, Cal.

WILL GIVE DEMONSTRATIONS

U. S. Government and College of Agriculture to Place Agents in Cities.

Provision has been made by the United States government and the University of Missouri College of Agriculture to place home demonstration agents in the larger cities of Missouri. These agents will correspond to the home demonstration agents who will be provided in the counties. The federal appropriation will cover the salary of the demonstration agent. The Agricultural Extension Service of the College will administer the work. The city which is offered the services of the woman agent will be required to furnish an office and money for the necessary local expenses.

The woman who is assigned to a city will conduct demonstrations and give lectures in any part of the city free of charge under the following conditions: Requests for such work should be written or telephoned to the agent at her headquarters at least one week in advance. Some local woman or organization must assume responsibility for arranging the meeting and providing the necessary equipment.

The demonstrations will cover canning and drying fruits and vegetables, canning meats and soup mixtures, war breads, economical dishes and similar subjects. The lectures will cover such subjects as storing of food products, elimination of waste in the

household, food values, planning economical meals.

Want Slogan for Apple Eating.
SPOKANE, Wash., Sept. 22.—Eleven bushels of the finest apples grown in the Pacific Northwest are offered as a prize in a world-wide competition to the person who suggests the best slogan urging the use of apples during the war period. The fruit, specially selected from ten of the best known varieties, and packed in standard western boxes, will be delivered at the home of the prize winner anywhere in the world. There are no conditions of any nature attached to the contest, except that all suggested slogans must be received by November 5. Any number of entries may be made by one person. There is no restriction on the number of words for the slogan.

Daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Burress.
A daughter was born September 13 to Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Burress of Gary, Ind. Mrs. Burress was formerly Miss Bease Smith of Columbia. Mr. Burress received the degree of B.S. in mechanical engineering from the University in 1911. He is now assistant superintendent of the Indiana Steel Company at Gary.

University men, hear Mr. N. T. Gentry at the Presbyterian Church at 9:45

Stephens College Announcement.

Students from Columbia and from the University who are planning to take courses in any of the departments at Stephens College may now enroll. The following departments are open to special students: Conservatory of Music; Expression Department; Art Department; Physical Education Department; and Literary Department. For information or for appointment with the head of the department in which you are interested, phone 263, or call at the College office.

JAMES M. WOOD, President.

Attend the University men's Bible class at the Presbyterian Church this morning at 9:45.

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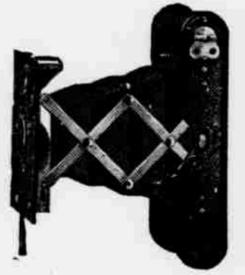
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