

HOW AMERICAN BIG GUNS WORK

Reporter Lyon Writes about a Sample Bombardment.

By C. C. LYON.
The West Virginian Reporter With General Pershing's Army.)

WITH THE AMERICAN TROOPS IN FRANCE, March 18.—(Controlled American)—The American railroad artillery on the western front is there with the big punch. It has just given the Hun a wallop they'll not soon forget. And not an American artilleryman nor an American gun has been lost.

It may be some time before full details of our first railroad artillery encounter with the enemy becomes available, but this much may be said at this time:

American shrewdness has won out over German methodical red tape. America's railroad artillery is kept behind the battle front—at a point that offers exceptional railroad facilities in reaching any place in the line. Word came that a big action was impending.

"Well, ho there," was the terse answer of the American general.

And in sequence, this is what happened:

That night, several hundred artillerymen left for the scene on a special train, which carried cars for them to sleep in, besides flat cars and tool cars in which were piled every sort of paraphernalia for the hasty construction of side tracks and gun emplacements.

Practically no work was done during daylight hours because Hun airplanes were constantly flying in the vicinity and the least activity behind the allied front would be sure to lead to a Hun bombardment.

But for four nights the job of get-

ting ready for the battle was crisscrossed with feverish activity.

The American general, keenly aware that his forces should give a good account of themselves, came around occasionally and noted the progress.

On the fifth day everything was ready. Nothing was left to be done except bring up the guns and the shells.

It was decided that the batteries should open up on the German positions the next afternoon at 2:10 o'clock. Just why 2:10 should have been fixed instead of 2 o'clock is probably a military secret.

That night about 9 o'clock engines without headlights pulled us out of the railroad yards, where the railroad artillery is kept and headed for the front.

Every mother's son, from the general himself down to the newest private, was on tip toe. It was to be their first "show."

We arrived some miles behind the front before daybreak the next morning, and there waited for orders to proceed to the firing positions.

The day proved to be leaden. Dark, low-hanging clouds and mist made every aerial observation impossible.

"Just the sort of a day for our operations," declared a battery commander gleefully. "They'll never wake up until our shells begin hitting 'em."

During the morning the heavy railroad cars on which were placed the big guns, some of which threw shells weighing half a ton more than 18 miles, were pulled to their respective positions, and the shell carrying cars also were brought up.

On the temporary curved sidetracks which had been built, it was possible to maneuver the gun cars into any position to cover various objectives on the enemy front or behind his lines.

Telephone wires were quickly connected up putting artillery headquarters in direct communication with every gun.

Charts were brought out from headquarters and each gun commander was instructed in what he and his men were expected to do.

At exactly 2:10 in the afternoon every gun opened fire.

A major furnished verbal explanations.

"It's impossible to see what we're shooting at," he said, "but every yard of the enemy territory is charted and

TODAY'S POEM

THE BOY-LOOK.
By Edmund Vance Rooker

Bud, you are against the hardest game
That ever a man may buck.
I want to call you the old chum-name
And I want to wish you luck.
It's just plain hell you'll be going through,
But if you out-last the muss,
There's something, Buddy, I'm asking you,
A something to bring—to us.

It isn't a feat of arms, I ask;
It is more of the heart and head;
It's a sort of a token to show your task
Is the work of a thoroughbred.
O, you'll smash the German! The German yields
In a fair fight, line to line;
You will drive him back from the fair French fields,
You will beat him beyond the Rhine.

But when you have triumphed by sword and
And our proud cheers ring like mad,
Bud, bring me back not the head of a Hun,
But the heart of a Yankee lad.
No matter how proud your martial art,
No matter what else the prize,
I want the American hope in your heart
And the clean-keen look in your eyes.

I have seen men march to the wars, and then
I have watched their homeward tread,
And they brought back bodies of living men,
But their eyes were cold and dead.
So, Buddy, no matter what else the fame,
No matter what else the prize,
I want you to come back through The Flame
With the boy-look still in your eyes!

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section was the result of a "National Officers' Creed Contest" approved by President Wilson. Speaker Clark and a host of famous Americans. The author of the creed, who wins the \$1,000 prize is William Tyler Page, of Friendship Heights, Maryland, near Washington. It reads:

"The American Creed—I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, for the people, and by the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

"I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag; and to defend it against all enemies."

The idea of laying emphasis on the duties and obligations of citizenship in a national creed originated with Henry S. Chapin and was first announced by him in September, 1916. The idea was approved by the President and endorsed by "The Vigilantes," a non-partisan organization of authors, artists and others for patriotic purposes.

Baltimore, as the birthplace of the "Star Spangled Banner," offered, in March 1917, through Mayor Preston, a \$1,000 prize. Committees were appointed to pass upon the creeds submitted including a committee of Porter Emerson Brown, Henry S. Chapin, Hermann Hagedorn and representatives of magazines; a committee on award, comprising Matthew Page Andrews, Irvin S. Cobb, Hamlin Garland, Ellen Glasgow, Julian Street, Booth Tarkington, and Charles Hanson Towns and an advisory committee, consisting of Commissioner Claxton, of the federal Bureau of Education, and other national and state officials.

Several thousand proposed creeds were submitted and fifty of them were turned over by the manuscripts committee to the committee on award in an envelope opened in New York City March 6, last, was selected as the best.

The creed awarded the prize was selected because it was not only brief but remarkably comprehensive of the best in American ideals, history and traditions, as expressed by the founders of the republic and its greatest statesmen and writers. Its language is a composite of ideals taken from the constitution of the United States, the Declaration of Independence, the Federalist, the federal oath of allegiance, Washington's Farewell Address, Lincoln's Gettysburg speech, Webster's speech in the Senate January 26, 1850; Edward Everett Hale's "A Man Without a Country"; "The Star Spangled Banner," the army and navy regulations, a War Department circular on flag etiquette of April 14, last, and the great seal of the United States.

William Tyler Page, the committee on awards announced, is a descendant of a President of the United States, John Tyler, and of a signer of the American Declaration of Independence, Carter Braxton. He was born in Frederick, Maryland, the birthplace of Francis Scott Key, and he attended the public schools of Baltimore.

Hear the story of the war tonight at Presbyterian church.—Adv.

85 Women's Fine New Spring Suits At Noteworthy Price Reductions

New Serge Suits at ... \$15

New Fashionable Models at ... \$25

A number of good suits of French serge, poplin and gabardine in rookie, navy, copen, tan and black. Many are plain tailored. Trimmings are of beau de cygne or fancy braid trimmed and buttons trimmed with coats. From the first tailored models to the last dressy styles, these suits are remarkable at their price. All worth at least \$25.00, many worth \$35.00.



"A STORE FOR THE PEOPLE"
HARRISON'S
ON "ECONOMY CORNER"

SPADING YOUR GARDEN WELL LEADS TO BIG PROFIT CROPS



The accompanying lesson teaches amateur gardeners how to spade.

GARDEN LESSON NO. 10.

Prepared Under the Direction of The West Virginian's Food Department.

Spading is something more than the mere turning over of the earth. It is the breaking up of the ground, crumbling it into as near dust as it is possible to get it.

You will need a shovel spade if your soil is very loose, but ordinarily a spading fork is the better. Less energy is expended in pressing it into the ground and it isn't as apt to make clods as is the case with the old-style spade if the soil is rather moist clay.

How deep to dig? The full length of the fork if the top soil is that deep. Don't turn up much of the subsoil, usually clay or stone, and in many filled-in back yards, gravel, cinders, etc. But by going half an inch deeper each year you will in time make the top soil of greater depth, thereby giving your root crops more room for growth.

The advantage of good spading lies in the making of a good bed in which the roots may branch out, or in the case of parsnips, carrots, etc., so the roots may shoot downward evenly.

Begin spading in that part of the garden where the soil is dryest. Take a little in your hand, press your fingers together. If the soil crumbles spading is in order. If it sticks together wait a day or two.

Don't try to take too large a spade in digging. A shallow spadeful is easier to break up and becomes less cloddy. After turning over each spadeful of earth use the spade or fork in crushing it. By doing that your garden will be freer from clods later on.

After each evening's spading make liberal use of the hoe and rake, breaking the clods into the smallest possible bits.

If you are spading under manure, ashes or lime, try to get some beneath

we have only to follow our range sheets and train our guns according to our charts, and the shells will do the rest.

"Now, that first target we shot at is more than nine miles from here and is, or was, a big ammunition dump behind the German lines.

"We American artillery officers don't believe in keeping our gun crews in ignorance of what they are shooting at. Otherwise, long-distance artillery would bore everybody to extinction.

"On clear days, our airplanes will be able to tell us what damage our shells have done and we'll immediately give the information to the gun crews. We find it keeps up their enthusiasm and efficiency."

A little later a captain was overheard telling his men:

"Now we're going to give the Hun railroad yards a few of our calling cards. There's a lot of enemy artillery in those yards and we want to smash it."

While it was impossible for our airplanes to operate during the shelling, owing to atmospheric conditions, yet from time to time, the Americans had the satisfaction of being able to hear distinctly the noise of their bursting shells.

The shelling lasted from 2:10 until 5 o'clock, and in that time each gun fired some 45 rounds at the different Hun targets.

Within a few minutes after the firing ceased, the Americans were "pulling up stakes," preparatory to beating

a hasty retreat.

"This is a hit-and-run game — this railroad artillery fighting," said one officer. "The Germans haven't the idea as to our range and by the time they get it we'll be back at our base, far out of harm's way."

Early the next morning, when the skies had cleared and aerial observation was possible again, Hun airplanes came over and spotted the places where the American guns had been. Thinking, however, that the guns were hidden under camouflage, German guns opened a terrific bombardment and today the ground is torn with immense shell craters.

But the American railroad artillery had gotten away during the night.

AN AMERICAN CREED FOR ALL AMERICANS

Maryland Man Gets \$1,000 For Writing These 103 Words.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—The "American Creed" for which the city of Baltimore offered a prize of \$1,000 was made public here today. Its se-

Moose to Line Up Strong in Parade

Fairmont Lodge, Loyal Order of Moose, at its meeting last evening made final arrangements to participate in the Liberty bond parade on Saturday afternoon. Every indication points to a large turnout of the members. The Moose will meet at Cunningham Hall at 1:30 o'clock. Ray D. Hardin, secretary of the lodge, will act as marshal. The Moose delegation will be headed by three large flags—"Old Glory," a service flag with seventeen stars on it and a large Moose flag. The members will carry Moose pennants.

The lodge is planning for its big initiation on Sunday, April 7, at 1 o'clock. Thus far there are 300 candidates in the class and it is probable that the 400 mark will be reached before Sunday. With these additions Fairmont Lodge of Moose will have 1300 members on its roll. The lodge is aiming to obtain 1500 members by the time the "big drive" closes.

Every Fairmonter who marches in Saturday's parade will float a flag from their home, if you cannot go in the parade you certainly should put out a flag. Every one should do something.

Capt. Hunter will entertain and instruct at his lecture tonight.—Adv.

The Big Parade Saturday is for a most worthy cause. Put out a flag.

DON'T BE BALD

HOW TO MAKE HAIR GROW STRONG, THICK AND LUSTROUS ON THIN SPOTS.

If your hair is falling out don't wait another day but get from your druggist a package of Parisian sage, the really efficient hair restorer. Don't say—"It's the same old story—I have heard it before," but try a bottle without risking a penny.

Parisian sage is guaranteed to grow hair, to stop falling hair, cure dandruff and scalp itch or money returned. It's a scientific preparation that supplies all hair needs. There is nothing better.

Parisian sage is in great demand by discriminating women because it is delicately perfumed, not sticky or greasy, and makes the hair soft, lustrous, and seem twice as heavy and attractive.

If you want to save your hair and beautiful it by all means use Parisian sage—you will not be disappointed.

Mountain City Drug Store will supply you and guarantee money refunded if not satisfied.

"The Moral Climax of the Final War for Humanity and Liberty Has Come"

WOODROW WILSON, the President of the United States is speaking! The halls of the colossal capitol echo with the words of the spokesman for the world's democracy. It is the voice of our President calling us to duty—to fight the battles of democracy and justice. "The moral climax of this the culminating and final war for human liberty has come and we are ready to put our own strength, our own highest purpose, our own integrity and devotion to the test."

To Fight or to Save is the Duty of Every American Worthy of the Name.

If you cannot be a U. S. Soldier or Sailor you can at least be a U. S. SAVER—one of that vast army of millions of loyal Americans who are doing away with waste and luxury, and who are putting thrift and saving foremost in their daily lives. The U. S. SAVERS are not alone helping their country onward to victory, but are helping themselves onward to personal success. They are saving more money than ever before by putting a share of their savings in

War Savings Stamps

If you have not already enlisted in the great army of U. S. Savers, RIGHT NOW is the time to begin. War Savings Stamps and U. S. Thrift Stamps may be had and information obtained at the post office, or any bank, trust company or authorized agency in the city. Do not let this day end without pledging yourself to the sacred duty to which your President has called you—the duty of saving for self and country—"The moral climax of the final war for humanity and liberty has come."

Dedicated to the sale of War Savings Stamps and Thrift Stamps by

The McCloskey Drug Store

FOOD FACTS

MRS. COMMON SENSE DEALS HERE

Mrs. Commonsense feels quite favorable toward this food shop. She knows that the best food has a more concentrated food value and that this Grocery store is the proper place to purchase superior provisions. We want to thank her for telling her friends about us.

This store is required by the Food Administration to sell with each pound of wheat flour a pound of other cereals.

Corn Meal	Rice
Corn Flour	Rice Flour
Hominy	Buckwheat Flour
Corn Grits	Soy Bean Flour
Oat Meal	Barley Flour
Roll'd Oats	Potato Flour
Edible Corn Starch	
Sweet Potato Flour	

No Longer Substitute (Potatoes, Puffed Rice or Corn Flakes)

Premier Salad Dressing 3c per jar.
O' Cedar Polish 3c and 5c.
Fried of the Sea Cod Fish 3c.
Climax Wall Paper Cleaner 25c for two.
White Onion Sets, per lb. 20c.
Garden rakes, garden spades, garden hoses, garden seeds of all kinds, Lime, loose salt, chicken feed.

(One delivery a day to a customer)

This store will close Saturday from 12 until 4 P. M. Liberty Loan Day.

BELL PHONE 1278 & 1279